



# Community Networker

Rotary Club of Parramatta City, District 9675 | [www.parramattacityrotary.org.au](http://www.parramattacityrotary.org.au)  
Meeting 10 November 2014

## The Toast

Bob Rosengreen proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Versailles, where the treaty was signed in 1919 that effectively marked the end of the Great War. The anniversary of the surrender was to be signed the following day, November 11.

## President Ron

President Ron reminded us of the PhD Scholar speaker on November 24 and also the meeting on December 1 when we would try to get State MP Geoff Lee to turn up to be formally inducted as a member. Also on December 1 we will hear from Scott Gregg. Scott is, until the end of this week, the Director of the UWS Office of Commercial & Real Estate Development. Prior to that he was Director of Major Projects for Parramatta City Council. Originally, he qualified as and worked as an Architect. He will speak about the UWS Vertical Campus to be built in Parramatta CBD and other areas, and how they link with plans developed by the university. A lot of people would not be aware of the potential influence that UWS will have on the future character of Parramatta, Ron said.

On Wednesday, December 10, our meeting for the 8<sup>th</sup> will be transferred so that we can attend Australian Rotary Health Christmas Dinner at the Epping Club. Greg Ross, a well-known actor, will comper the evening and Associate Professor Felice Jacka, will fill draw our attention to the link between what we eat and our mental health – check the menu!

Ron reminded us of the Multi-District Conference in Canberra next weekend and the Christmas Tree sales program coming up.

## The Rotary Four-Way Test

The Four-Way Test challenges Rotarians, in everything they do, to ask themselves:

Of the things we say or do:

- 1 Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2 Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3 Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- 4 Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

## Secretary Joy

Joy has had a variety of correspondence, including a note of appreciation to the club for its role in the elimination of polio, and a nice note from Ray Reed who is fighting his way back to good health telling us how much he appreciated the bowl of fruit we sent him.

## Christmas Trees

We are to sell Christmas trees at the normal place at 9 Glenhope Road, West Pennant Hills, from Friday, December 5. Selling will continue then on December 6 and 7, then 12, 13, 14, followed by 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21. Trees will be sold for \$60 each and flyers have been prepared for distribution.

Volunteers for cleaning of site and erection of signs will be needed on 29th November.

## Honorary Member Don Champion

On Thursday 6th November Ralph Cadman received a message conveying the sad news that Don's wife, Maurine, had passed away that morning, following a stroke.

Don and Maurine will be fondly remembered from our earliest Parramatta North Rotary days. Don was a Charter Member, having transferred from Parramatta RC to be part a small and dynamic group from Parramatta to be the core for the formation of our Club.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Don and his family at this time.

## Sister Club – Rotary Club of Ramon Magsaysay

On Thursday 13th November our sister club in Manila is holding its 11th Handover & Induction Ceremony.

In addition to club members, the function will be attended by many District 3810 Presidents and officers. Six members of their other sister club, Rotary Club of Indera Mahkota, Malaysia, will also be present.

President Sol Tugano, who has been at the helm since 1 July, will be formally inducted into the role.

We wish her and the Club a successful year.

# Club Updates

## Dates for Diaries

**14 – 16 November.** District conference in Canberra.

**18 November.** Board Meeting 4.30 pm 2nd Floor, 43 Hunter St, Parramatta

**21 November.** Australian Rotary Health Corporate Golf Day at Twin Creeks Golf and Country Club, Luddenham.

**22 November.** Pre PETS 1 (President Elect Training)

**28 November.** Christmas Party at The Olive Greek Restaurant and Bar at Harris Park.

**29 November.** Christmas Tree Sale preparation, 9 Glenhope Rd, West Pennant Hills

**1 December.** Annual General Meeting

**5 December.** Christmas Tree sales begin

**8 December.** No luncheon meeting – transferred to 10th December event.

**10 December.** Australian Rotary Health Christmas Dinner – Epping Club.

**23 February 2015.** Houses and mountainsides are to be lit up to celebrate the 110th anniversary of the foundation of Rotary.



## Frederik Andersen

Frederik, our exchange student from Denmark, gave us some facts and figures about his home country, so small that 180 Denmarks could fit into the geographical space of Australia!

But it has more islands than we have – 140 to be exact – and even the capital, Copenhagen, is on an island, the island of Zealand. Frederik, son of a graphic designer, comes from the town of Kolind, population 1,800, on the island of Jutland. He came as an exchange student just to please someone but is now glad he did. Having completed his 10 years of compulsory schooling, and about to embark on secondary education and university, he has developed a great interest in social studies and enjoys the travel.

Denmark, Frederik said, had the “world’s oldest democracy” and has its first woman prime minister, Helle Thorning-Schmidt. She leads a coalition of the Social Democrats Social Liberal Party, with support from the Socialist People’s Party and the Red-Green Alliance. That is all very well, but the Rotarians are all male, with women

confined to the “Inner Wheel”. Tut-tut! It was suggested from the floor that perhaps with a woman prime minister, Denmark Rotary might become a little more progressive.

Frederik told us about the Danish Royal Family, including Prince Frederik and Princess Mary. Of Mary, he said everyone in Denmark “loves her” “I don’t think that you here in Australia like her as well”. Frederik’s younger brother Christian has the same name as the royal baby, but despite the identical names, Frederik does not quite know what the Royal Family is actually doing, seeing it is outside politics and makes no executive decisions. (You have forgotten about all the women’s magazines, and the millions upon millions gawking at the images, Frederik!).

Exports from include bacon, fish, furniture, medical products, Carlsberg beer and

Lego. Denmark is well and truly connected with the rest of the world. English is taught from Form Four and German from Form Five. But there were some individual features. Eight degrees C was considered summer, at 15 degrees people put on shorts and tank tops. Frederik himself got his first-even sunburn at Bondi. "If you were a Dane, he said, "you start to think that tall, blond and blue-eyed is starting to get a bit boring". It is certainly not boring at Frederik's host school, Parramatta High, where the girls are fighting to get beside him for a photographs.

Other things you might like to know about Denmark is that it has the world's biggest taxes, there are 30,000 marriages a year, and of those 50 percent are destined to fail. With Australia, the most striking difference Frederik has found has been the multiculturalism. "I

put the photos [of myself and my schoolmates] on Facebook and my friends in Denmark have said, 'My God! Do you have Asian friends?' I said, 'Yes, ikt is so cool!'" Frederik is no great fan of vegemite. But when he had Danish licorice sent out, it was not immediately popular, though then he had noticed that someone had been coming into his bedroom to pinch it.

Frederik, whose sports are swimming and gymnastics has a lot of travelling to do yet. He is to visit the home of a Callum, former Australian exchange student who stayed with his family. Callum's home is in Melbourne and his family have promised to take Frederik to New Zealand. He also has ahead of him a visit to the Gold Coast, the Hunter Valley, and a safari to take him into the inland.

**Malcolm Brown**

