

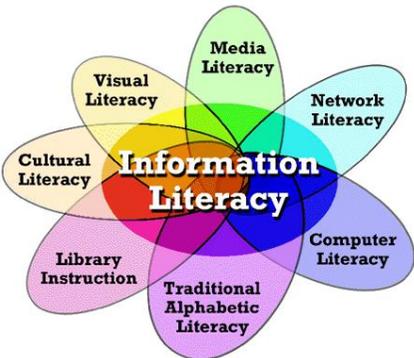
THE ROTARY CLUB OF RYDE—DISTRICT 9680 CHARTERED 1946

The HUB

Tuesday 26 March 2013

Volume 67

Issue No 35



**March is
Literacy
Month**

Rotary International Officers 2012 — 2013



President Rotary International Sakuji Tanaka
 Rotary Club of Yashio, Japan
 District 9680 Governor.....John Dodd (Ryde)

Rotary Club of Ryde

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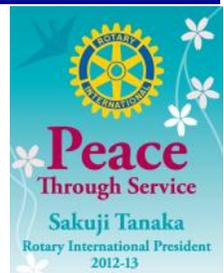
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 Attendance Ross Rocca
 Social Secretary Peter Cooper
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 Public Officer John Dodd
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 Web Address www.ryderotary.org.au
 E-mail address for HUB contributions editor@ryderotary.org.au

Club Information



Chartered: 22nd April 1946
 Club: #18039 / District: #9680 in NSW, Australia
 Meeting Place: Level 2, Next Generation Club, next to
 Ryde Aquatic Centre, 504 Victoria Road, Ryde
 Meeting Time: Every Tuesday — 6:00pm for 6:30pm
 Postal Address: Rotary Club of Ryde Inc.
 PO Box 90 Ryde, NSW 1680

**RSVP extras or absences to:
 Val Payne 9874 5787 (or as advised)**



This Week . . .

Tonight - 26 March Patrick Longfield will present to us this evening, Education and Learning for Sustainability

Tonight's Roster

Welcomers	Martin Aston, Geoff Brennan
Loyal Toast by	John Brown
Introduce Guest Speaker	-
Guest Speaker thanked by	-

If you are unable to fulfill this duty, please arrange your own swap and inform President Burkhart of the change.

The "Meeting Night Roster" for the next 6 meetings appears on Page 11

Burkhart's Blog



Greetings to all Rotarians and Rotary friends. Following the Conference theme 'Peace Through Service', we heard Ray Moore speaking last week about Palestine and Israel and the lack of peace in that region for at least 60 years with no solution in sight—very sad!

Tonight our very own Patrick Longfield will be talking about 'Education and Learning for Sustainability' and will emphasise on our environment rather than sustaining political peace although a lot of politics is involved as well.

Next week we will have a presentation from Cassandra Birch from the Prostate Cancer Foundation and will receive a cheque for the proceeds of our recent Golf Day.

Have an enjoyable night.

Burkhart

We'll be sad if we don't SEE YOU ON TUESDAY



If you need to give a late apology for non-attendance at any meeting please ring Val Payne (9874 5787) **before 10am Monday**. Club policy is that you will be expected to pay for your meal if you are absent without timely apology. Isn't that **fair to all concerned?**

Last Meeting . . . as recalled by Allen Horrell



The meeting kicked off with a particularly hearty rendition of the Rotary Grace, perhaps to make up for its lack at Conference. Birthdays and Anniversaries were read out, and Tony Abboud's absence was noted by the President: "He didn't put in an apology, make him pay!" The meal he missed consisted of roast pork, kumara, chat potatoes and broccoli.

The mood was jubilant after Conference, with **Bob Kaye-Smith** rising to thank the entire club for being the Conference committee: "I'm proud to be a member of Ryde Rotary, you all worked hard all weekend and on Tuesday you all turn up to Rotary as if you didn't have a make-up!"

DG John Dodd recalled the Past District Governor's dinner the night before where RIPPR Bhichai Rattakul said it was the "Best Conference ever!" John thanked us all for our support, then presented Bob Kaye-Smith with a Vocational Excellence Award from RI.

Patrick Longfield told us how he had attended the Youth and Social Media breakout sessions: "There was nothing on Community Service!" he said. That was because the Community Q&A session was on Sunday morning, the one no one came to.

He also told us he knows nothing about Facebook, then told us all about it. He was impressed that Stefan Sojka, a bona fide expert on social media, kept his mouth shut for the entire session while a Rotaractor lectured us on Facebook. **Allen Horrell** spoke on the Sunday session and how disappointed the Peace Lecturer had been to have no one to lecture to. Allen added that there will be a Junior School Public Speaking Competition committee meeting after the next club meeting, the members to be the same as last year's if you can make it.

Martin Aston reported on the inaugural meeting of the Ryde Secondary College Interact Club, and the process whereby their first president was elected. **Julie Thorp** told us Janelle Dodd would like the epaulettes back, but we can keep the hats.

John Brown won the spackle again, choosing the Verdelho but not the Joker. **Serjeant Duncan** fined all the Club, wedding, birthday and anniversaries for the month to date, and me for allegedly conspiring with Julie to dress the entire club in black shirts on Saturday night. It was well worth \$2 to achieve an 'All Black club', I responded.

Val Payne was repeatedly (some would say excessively) fined for her and Bill's infractions, and John Dodd was fined for Janelle's cunning 'pinkie' painting table at Conference which apparently raised considerable funds for Polio Plus.

Bob Kaye-Smith paid for his award, and for winning the Subaru raffle umbrella and first aid kit, while John Mazlin paid for what he had thought was a free jacket. Geoff Nix was fined for looking scruffy in his officer's whites and captain's hat before Stefan Sojka was hit for impersonating the late Colonel Gaddafi – no doubt rumours of Muammar's survival are already spreading across the globe, Elvis style! Les Whitcroft was fined for greeting every Rotarian arriving at Conference by name.

"I was proud of my Club" Les said as he paid.

In the cross fines, **Kalma McLellan** got Serjeant Duncan for being a misogynist, then **Geoff Brennan** apologetically called on John Dodd to explain why Bob Kaye-Smith had received the District Vocational Excellence Award. It was for excellence in the vocational service area apparently.

... last meeting (cont'd)

Ken Allen was fined for leading the best and most appropriate ecumenical service ever run at a Rotary Conference.

After 7 years of being fined hundreds of times for wearing a black shirt, it was my pleasure to fine everyone who wore a black shirt on Saturday night. Stefan Sojka was the only one who attended conference to escape – he looked as smug as a rat with a gold tooth as everyone else paid the Serjeant. **John Brown** then fined himself for leaving his black shirt at home and having to borrow one of my spares. I only had four left, as the rest were in the wash. **Geoff Nix** then fined himself for miscounting the show bags, resulting in a last minute panic assembly of the missing packs, another drama that was invisible to the Conference-goers.

Rob Mitchell introduced UN Refugee Camp inspector Ray Moore who gave us a challenge: “Revenge, Reprisals and Retribution are the three R’s that should be removed from the English language!”

These days all terrorists are “Connected to Al Qaida.” It used to be to the Communists, now Al Qaida is the smear word of choice. “My friend Ali lost 9 of his family to an Israeli bomb, joined Al Fatah and was killed in the Golan Heights by the Israeli Army. Was he a Terrorist, a Freedom Fighter or a Friend?” In the Middle East world, where the Three R’s are alive and well, he was probably all three, but he was killed as a terrorist.

Palestinians blame the Jews from Europe and Russia for taking their land. For some reason they don’t blame the Europeans and Russians for their holocausts and pogroms that drove the Jewish people back to their ancestral homeland. Everyone is a victim and everyone is an oppressor in the Holy Land; this is profoundly sad.

Ken Allen spoke of the need for forgiveness to replace the cycle of Revenge, Reprisals and Retribution. “Blessed are the Peacemakers!” I thought, then remembered the fate of Anwar Sadat, murdered by his own side for making peace with Israel.

We sang the Anthem, nearly as well as we sang the Rotary Grace. We may be tired, but our spirits are high!

Allen

Can you answer these questions?



- * What was the best thing before sliced bread?
- * Does the little mermaid wear an algebra?
- * Do infants enjoy infancy as much as adults enjoy adultery?
- * How is it possible to have a civil war?
- * If one synchronised swimmer drowns, do the rest drown too?
- * If you try to fail and succeed, which have you done?
- * Whose cruel idea was it for the word 'lisp' to have an 's' in it?
- * Why are hemorrhoids called 'hemorrhoids' instead of 'assteroids'?
- * Why is it called tourist season if we can't shoot at them?
- * Why is there an expiration date on sour cream?
- * If you spin an oriental man in a circle three times, does he become disoriented?

Glimpse of the final conference for District 9680



To view all the 477 photos taken by the District Photographer Bill Forsyth, go to:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/rotarydistrict9680/8570492298/in/photostream/lightbox>

Shoalhaven 15-17 March 2013



Update from our Outbound YE John Goris



really don't think I have enough time to really write about everything that has happened in the past month so I'm going to try and organise it thematically. Holidays, School, Family, Extra-curricular, Rotary related and maybe general feelings.

After two weeks at school came my first winter break. I would have preferred to stay at school a bit longer before going on holidays to really settle in but holidays are holidays and these we're probably the best I've ever had. My host family and I went on a five hour drive north to Tahkovuori which is a very famous ski resort in the north of Finland (but not in Lapland) The previous week I had been taken to the neighbouring town of Valkeokoski to go on a relatively small slope to learn the basics; that slope was nothing compared to the size of the Tahkovuori slopes! However, on day one Oskari and I went skiing for about two hours in the afternoon and I am glad that it was snowing so heavy I couldn't see the top. It made it a lot easier to find the courage to kick off. On day two we started our first full day of skiing and my technique improved a lot. Some of the definite highlights was getting some serious speed going straight down some of the really steep slopes, going off a jump with Elli my host sister and having both of us crash spectacularly and at lunch some Finnish guys were dancing on wooden tables in this traditional-ish Finnish ski restaurant (or at least it looked traditional) and I jumped up and had a quick dance too. That night my legs were exhausted and I can say I slept very well. Day three can be best summarised as agonising but awesome – it was the day we got to drive ski mobiles. Well I didn't drive it I was sitting on the back of the machine holding on for dear life but it was still the most epic thing. I felt like James bond minus the suit. This is probably enough detail for my holiday but in summation I will say that I became a lot more confident in myself with taking risks and doing things that daunt me a bit.

School is pretty awesome in that I've made friends, gotten into a friend group but I'm still meeting new people every day. Because I take some classes with the older group and some with the younger I've been able to meet lots more people and I've also got some friends from the younger years. However, most of my classes can get a bit boring so I take my laptop in to do some online Finnish study. The only lesson I really like is the woodwork one where I'm making a chessboard.

My Family here is very awesome most of the time I spend with Oskari playing video games, volleyball and talking in the sauna. They always make sure to involve me in activities the family is doing. I feel comfortable here and there are no issues to report.

I think I mentioned this in the last report but I'm doing something every day as an activity. I've written the list down below and to comment on it. Ultimate Frisbee is my absolute favourite; It's such an awesome sport. I'm terrible at Volleyball but I've made the commitment to get good at it by the time I leave so I'm just working at slowly improving my skills.

Drama is fun mainly because the other people are really outgoing but I only have a small part in the actual play. If you've ever seen the movie elf and there's that scene where Will Ferrel is sitting like a giant in class around a lot of small elves, well then you'll have a good idea of what my scout group is like; I'm 17 and everyone else is about 11. It is really awesome though I get to learn a lot of valuable life skills that I wish I had learnt when I was younger.

... cont'd

Most of it is simple stuff like how to tie a certain knot or keep a knife sharp but nevertheless more practical than anything I've learnt in maths this year.

Unless something is happening with my family I attend the rotary meetings. The Akaa meetings are very traditional and only men attend (except on the first meeting of each month where the Rotarians wives attend too). When I go, I usually go a bit early to play a gentlemanly game of billiards beforehand which is pretty fun. Two major things I've done with Rotary have been seeing a knife factory where they make industrial blades for cutting wood and we saw Moulin rouge in Tampere at a very fancy theatre restaurant place.

I am adapting to small town life. The best part about it is everyone knows everyone and I pretty much always get to see someone I know when I go out. Something I find a bit strange is that everyone already knows me and someone told me today I was like a small town celebrity... I wasn't sure how to respond to that. Anyways, people I don't know often know what conversations I've had with friends of their friends. Coming from a big city, I really don't know if I should be behaving differently because of this or should I just enjoy the attention. Otherwise I'm loving Finland and Finnish people.

John Goris

Attendance Last Meeting

Percentage Attendance Last Meeting: 89.13%

Makeups: Siddharth Maheshwari, Bill Payne, Charles Kilby, John Higgins, Tony Abboud

Apologies: Siddharth Maheshwari, Surinder Joson, Artin Etmekdjian, Bill Payne, Charles Kilby, John Higgins, Ron Thomson, Tony Abboud, Nora Etmekdjian, Rob Senior

Guests: Onni Kivimaa

EASTER HOLIDAY WEEKEND

Deadline for contributions to **The HUB** is
WEDNESDAY 5pm unless otherwise arranged

... news from Rayne Small



Hi All, or ahlan in Arabic!

I'm sorry to read in the Hub about the passing of Mr Bond. A delightful gentleman who was always good to me. He will be missed by everyone in the club and me here.

Just touching base so you know I'm alive and well.

I spent the weekend in Oxford with a friend for her hens party. Very laid back compared to the Aussie ones I've been to before!

Tea, scones and champagne. And rain. Lots and lots of rain. How English! Woke up in the morning to find it SNOWING! The biggest snowflakes I've seen! About the size of a 20c coin! Big fat floaty ones! Attached is a pic.

In other news, we went to Dubai last week for some much needed sunshine. I think Russ raided his piggybank because we stayed on the Palm in a very lavish hotel. Infinity pool, in-room Hammam (which I've now decided I need to install one in my flat - think I can convert my spare room?!) the works. It was pure opulence and I loved it. I got stared at like I was an alien walking through the gold souk (market) but wow what an experience to see how the other half live. Cheapest gold in the world apparently. I didn't buy any!

So... I've got some news....We got engaged in Dubai.

Attached are some pictures

- Abra boats - I called them the boats of death - cheap and the local way of crossing the Creek. I wouldn't be surprised if they sank from time to time.
- We went up the Burj Kahlifa - worlds tallest building. Below they have a water fountain to rival the Vegas Bellagio fountains.
- A hazy Dubai city from the top of the Burj
- A desert sunset after a safari
- The camel I rode on the safari. I don't seem to have pictures of being ON the camel however!



Anyway I wanted to touch base, share our news.and pass on our condolences.

Love,

Rayne

Notice Board

Can't attend a meeting?

Who do you call ... before 10.00 am Monday mornings?

Val Payne - 9874 5787

Club policy is that you will be expected to pay for your meal if you are absent without timely apology!

Rotary and Other Events ...

▶ **Anzac Day Service**

Date: **Thursday, 25 April**

Details: Adrian Hallett

▶ **2013 Sydney Metro RYDA Program (Volunteers required)**

Date: **Thursday, 6 June**

Where: Sydney Olympic Park — Riverside Girls High School

Details: Call Charles Kilby 0412 401 664

Friday Night Roster for Onni Kivimaa

**Onni is presently hosted with Malcolm & Kathleen Goris, 17 Pearl Avenue, Epping
Phone: 9877 0852 (Onni's Mobile: 0431 748 914)**

Who	When	Who	When
Easter—Good Friday	29/03/13	Rob Mitchell	26/04/13
Kalma McLellan	05/04/13	Maureen Mulheron	03/05/12
John Mazlin	12/04/13	Geoff Nix	10/05/13
Graham Metcalfe	19/04/13	Val & Bill Payne	17/05/13

Looking Ahead



April	2	Cassandra Birch from the Prostate Cancer Foundation will make a presentation and receive the proceeds of our Golf Day
	9	Club Forum—Rob Mitchell
	16	Monika Barthwal-Datta - Food Security in Asia

Meeting Night Duty Roster

Date	Welcomers		Loyal	Intro	Thanks
02/04/13	Ron Thompson	Erdem Toner	Paul Burnett	Ashley Peake	Bob Carroll
09/04/13	Noel Dunn	John Higgins	Ian Henderson	-	-
16/04/13	David Johnston	Patrick Longfield	Nora Etkmekdjian	Ross Rocca	Peter Cooper
23/04/13	Tony Abboud	Peter Cooper	Adrian Hallett	Rob Senior	Jan Cutler
30/04/13	Nora Etkmekdjian	Allen Horrell	David Johnston	Stefan Sojka	Kathryn Dodd

The Rotary Club of Ryde



The Rotary Vision

Rotary is a worldwide organisation of more than 1.2 million business, professional, and community leaders. Members of Rotary clubs, known as Rotarians, provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

There are 33,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Clubs are non-political, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds. As signified by the motto "Service above Self", Rotary's main objective is service — in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world.

Rotary Grace

O Lord and giver of all good
 We thank you for our daily food
 May Rotary friends and Rotary ways
 Help us to serve you all our days.

The Four-Way Test

of the things we think, say & 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?

Advance Australia Fair

Australians all let us rejoice, for we are young and free;
 We've golden soil and wealth for toil;
 Our home is girt by sea;
 Our land abounds in nature's gifts,
 of beauty rich and rare;
 In history's page, let every stage, Advance Australia Fair.
 In joyful strains then let us sing, Advance Australia Fair!