

THE ROTARY CLUB OF RYDE—DISTRICT 9680 CHARTERED 1946

The HUB

Tuesday 28 May 2013

Volume 67

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**May is
International
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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 International Service..... Rob Mitchell
 Vocational Service..... Graham Metcalfe
 Youth Service Charles Kilby

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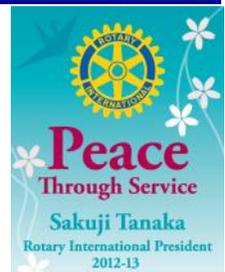
Bulletin Editor—The HUB..... Jan Cutler
 Photographer..... John Mazlin
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 Programmes David James
 Attendance Ross Rocca
 Social Secretary Peter Cooper
 Historian & Archivist Doug Thompson
 Conference Co-ordinator..... Julie Thorp
 Public Officer John Dodd
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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 . . .

28 May Primary Schools' Public Speaking Competition (Final)

Tonight's Roster

Welcomers	Ken Allen, John Brown
Loyal Toast by	Steve Thorp
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 5 meetings appears on Page 9

Burkhart's Blog



Greetings to all Rotarians and Rotary friends.

Last week Penelope Hodge, the CEO of the Muscular Dystrophy Association of NSW and Joab Holding, an amazing and courageous young ambassador for the Association and a sufferer of this disease himself, were our guest speakers, talking about causes, treatments, therapies and research to stop progression of this disease and increase quality of life for the sufferers.

Tonight we have the finals of our 8th annual Ryde Rotary Primary School Public Speaking Competition. The four finalists **Natalie Green** and **Laura Dimarco**, both from Northcross Christian School, **Nina Loone** from Holy Spirit School and **Natalia Reale-Bryant** from St. Michaels Primary School will battle it out for the first, second and third prize. We wish them well and welcome them together with their parents, other family members, friends and teachers.

Next week we will hear and see our very own Rob and July Mitchell's travelogue from France and Spain. We will also have a board meeting afterwards.

Have an enjoyable evening.

Burkhart

Last Meeting . . . as recalled by Allen Horrell



President **Burkhart** opened the meeting, welcomed our guests and read a long string of apologies, after which **Ross Rocca** announced a 91.11% attendance. "That's a rough approximation," I explained to Jill and Mike Whitworth, our guests for another week.

Adrian Hallett spruiked the invitation from Hunters Hill Rotary Club to hear US Consul General Marquardt speak on the US/Australian Alliance "past present and future", the very next night. **Maureen Mulheron** spoke on the same topic, but circulated a list so she could advise Hunter's Hill how many will attend. At this point dinner of steak, mashed potato, carrot and broccoli interrupted the reports.

After it was consumed, I was next up, and not to be outdone by the previous two speakers, pointed out that Hunter's Hill is our daughter club, and deserves our support. They realise that "this is a once in a lifetime event of such a high ranking person visiting Hunter's Hill Rotary Club" – more like once in a century, I'd say. It would be embarrassing for all concerned if an American Consul ended up giving an important address to a nearly empty room.

Charles Kilby gave his Youth report, read a post card from Onni Kivimaa on Safari, and thanked Nora Etmekdjian for her achievement in starting the Ryde Secondary School Interact Club. **Julie Thorp** spoke on the two Changeovers in the first week of July, ours on the Tuesday 2 June and District 9685 on the Friday 5 June at Castle Hill RSL. Our attendance at District changeover "is our last opportunity to do anything for John Dodd!" I felt an interjection coming on, "he's not dead yet!" I pointed out.

Nora Etmekdjian explained her plan for Red Shield this weekend; faced with a shortage of Rotarians compared to the numbers of Interactors needing to be collected, she has organised four buses with drivers, all being paid for by local businesses as sponsorship for the event. This project increases in complexity each year, and Nora's logistical and problem solving abilities are legendary.

Serjeant Duncan Taylor spoke on the Primary Schools Public Speaking preliminary competition the previous Wednesday, and fined everyone who had not attended this wonderful event. Realising that I had attended the JSPSC, so had escaped this week's wholesale fine, he fined me for lateness, and for my speech not having subtitles. Guest speaker Penny Hodge noted "I think he's taking the Mickey about our lack of an accent!"



On the plus side Serjeant Duncan did thank **David Johnston** for so ably filling in for his absence the week before, and managed an almost convincing show of sympathy when spackle winner **Julie Thorp** drew the 9 of Diamonds. He fined **Kalma McLellan** for being a good MC and **Charles Kilby** for being appointed District 9685 Interact Chair for next year.

... last meeting (cont'd)

After a few more fines he switched roles to introduce **Penelope Hodge** from Muscular Dystrophy NSW, who being from New Zealand, hadn't forgotten the subtitles crack. "Perhaps I should take my red jacket off, so I will be dressed in All Black!" she suggested to the dismay of the audience. She relented, and went on to grab our attention with the following statistic: only 1 in 1000 Australians has Muscular Dystrophy, but that means over 20,000 Australians do suffer from this debilitating disease, which is still incurable, progressive, and invariably fatal. Muscular Dystrophy NSW has a motto "We try to add years to their lives, and to add life to their years!"

Joab Holding, a young ambassador for the Association, described his life and the massive impact of MD on his quality of life. Pain, deformity and operations led to a dependency on opiate painkillers, which ultimately put him in intensive care after a heart



attack. Only his mother's CPR kept him alive till the ambulance arrived with the defibrillator: he is lucky to be alive. Heroically he spoke about his determination to achieve a Duke of Edinburgh Award, by getting out of his comfort zone. "What comfort zone?" I asked myself. It is fairly clear he doesn't have one. I wasn't the only Rotarian in the room to think "There, but for the grace of God, go I."

Penny went on to describe how they have partnered with the Duke of Edinburgh foundation to offer the challenge to the MD sufferers to attain a Duke of Edinburgh Award. Giving back to their community is very important to these kids and very rewarding for those usually on the receiving end. At their annual camps they are partnered with University and TAFE students in medical or disability care courses, in a collaboration that is good for both partners.

Val Payne spoke of her two cousins, "lovely boys" who were struck down by MD many years ago: there was no help in those days, apart from what a dedicated extended family could offer. She thanked Penny for giving so much help to today's sufferers.

Noel Dunn gave the official vote of thanks with evident emotion, and explained that a donation to Polio Plus would be made in her name, to help eradicate another debilitating disease. Several of us after the meeting discussed how grateful we should be for our relatively challenge-free healthy lives. Joab's story helps put our problems in perspective.

Allen

Rotarians work together to restore sight to the blind in Ghana

“**M**edase me adamfo” is Twi for “Thank you, my friend.”

We heard and said these words many times on our recent medical mission to Apam, Ghana, 4-11 May.

We heard them from the 87 patients who received cataract, pterygium, or glaucoma surgery, and from the patients’ family members, hospital personnel and administrators, and village elders. And we said them to everyone who worked so hard to make our trip a success, and to the patients who trusted us with their eyes and their hopes for better vision.



Dr Albert Alley, director of World Blindness Outreach, and six villagers who received free cataract surgery during the mission.

The goal of the mission was “to treat preventable and correctable blindness and eye disease.” Rotarians from District 9100 (Ghana) and 7390 (Pennsylvania, USA) spent 11 months organizing the trip in partnership with World Blindness Outreach. The medical mission involved two Rotary districts and five Rotary clubs (Accra, Apam, Lebanon, Manheim and Lancaster Sunrise) working with World Blindness Outreach and host ophthalmologist Dr. Boateng Wiafe. The entire team was pleased this first mission to Apam was successful.

A highlight of the mission was visiting six of our patients in their remote outlying village. Sister Veronica, St. Luke Catholic Hospital ophthalmic nurse, drove us the 45 minutes over dirt roads to the tiny village. We were welcomed into the home of three siblings, a brother and two sisters. They, and three others from the village, had been blind with very advanced cataracts, and were unable to afford cataract surgery. (Health Insurance in Ghana covers doctor’s appointments, medications, and surgeries. It costs US\$10 a year, out of the reach of many.)

Because of our mission, all six were able to receive the surgery at no cost, and to regain their sight. The brother was so happy with the surgery on his first eye that he begged to have the second eye done. As we were taking photos of our patients, many of their neighbors came to help celebrate. They were all jumping up and down chanting their “Medase!” (“Thank you!”) You can see this on a video we uploaded to YouTube.

We were struck by the writing over the family’s front door: “Oh! I’m alive.” The conditions of the home and the village were so modest that it is hard to imagine the difficulties of life there. How wonderful and humbling to know that we were able to ease some of the struggles.

By Sue Carlson, MD

Courtesy Rotary International Updates

Dead Duck!

A woman brought a very limp duck into a veterinary surgeon. As she laid her pet on the table, the vet pulled out his stethoscope and listened to the bird's chest. After a moment or two, the vet shook his head and sadly said, "I'm sorry, your duck, Cuddles, has passed away."

The distressed woman wailed, "Are you sure?"

"Yes, I am sure. Your duck is dead," replied the vet...

"How can you be so sure?" she protested. "I mean you haven't done any testing on him or anything. He might just be in a coma or something."

The vet rolled his eyes, turned around and left the room. He returned a few minutes later with a black Labrador Retriever. As the duck's owner looked on in amazement, the dog stood on his hind legs, put his front paws on the examination table and sniffed the duck from top to bottom. He then looked up at the vet with sad eyes and shook his head.

The vet patted the dog on the head and took it out of the room. A few minutes later he returned with a cat. The cat jumped on the table and also delicately sniffed the bird from head to foot. The cat sat back on its haunches, shook its head, meowed softly and strolled out of the room.

The vet looked at the woman and said, "I'm sorry, but as I said, this is most definitely, 100% certifiably, a dead duck."

The vet turned to his computer terminal, hit a few keys and produced a bill, which he handed to the woman.

The duck's owner, still in shock, took the bill. "\$150!" she cried, "\$150 just to tell me my duck is dead!"

The vet shrugged, "I'm sorry. If you had just taken my word for it, the bill would have been \$20, but with the Lab Report and the Cat Scan, it's now \$150."



Notice Board

Graffiti Days for your Calendar

Graffiti Clean Up teams meet the first Sunday of the month
The next Graffiti Clean Up will be Sunday 2 June
(Meet 8 am at Church Street Car Park opposite L J Hooker Real Estate)

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!

District Changeover 2013**ROTARY DISTRICT CHANGEOVER 2013
DISTRICT 9680 TO DISTRICT 9685**

DISTRICT 9680 GOVERNOR JOHN DODD &
DISTRICT 9685 GOVERNOR ELECT GRAEME DAVIES
INVITE YOU TO THIS HISTORIC EVENT

**ENGAGE
ROTARY**



**CHANGE
LIVES**

**FRIDAY 5TH JULY 2013
6:30 FOR 7^{PM}**

**THE LYCEUM
CASTLE HILL RSL CLUB
77 CASTLE STREET
CASTLE HILL**

\$50 PER PERSON

PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE: www.changeover.rotarydistrict9685.org.au

**HANDMADE QUILT & YEAR'S SUPPLY OF CHOCOLATE RAFFLE
BY JANELLE DODD IN SUPPORT OF END POLIO NOW**

District 9685

Rotary District 9685 will be one of two districts covering the Sydney metropolitan area in Australia from 1 July 2013. Its boundaries will stretch from the Blue Mountains to the Sea north of Sydney Harbour, reaching across the Hawkesbury River and north to Toukley on the Central Coast.

Within its boundaries are the business districts of North Sydney, Chatswood, Gosford and the Ryde industrial area. The Blue Mountains define its western boundary, beautiful beaches define its eastern border, and rural communities make up its western and northern borders. The District contains 79 Rotary Clubs and over 2,260 Rotarians. Rotary District 9685 will commence on 1 July 2013 and will incorporate the former Rotary Districts 9680 & part of 9690.



Clubs in District 9685 are:

Beecroft	Kurrajong/North Richmond	Richmond
Chatswood	Lindfield	Roseville Chase
Chatswood Sunrise	Lower Blue Mountains	Ryde
Epping	Manly	St Ives
Erina	Mosman	The Entrance
Frenchs Forest	Narrabeen Lakes	Turrumurra
Galston	Nepean	Umina Beach
Gosford	North Sydney	Wahroonga
Gosford City	North Sydney Sunrise	West Pennant Hills & Cherrybrook
Gosford North	Northbridge	Windsor
Gosford West		

Attendance Last Meeting

Percentage Attendance Last Meeting: 90.70%

Makeups: John Dodd, Bob Carroll, Geoffrey Brennan, Martin Aston,
Patrick Longfield, Jan Cutler

Apologies: John Dodd, Surinder Joson, Artin Etmekdjian, Bob Carroll,
Geoffrey Brennan, Ken Allen, Martin Aston,
Patrick Longfield, Tony Abboud, Geoff Nix, Rob Senior,
Stefan Sojka

Guests: Jill and Mike Whitworth



Birthdays & Anniversaries



May 29 23 year Club Anniversary for Martin Aston 

June 3 Birthday Celebration for Carolyn, partner of Graham Metcalfe

Meeting Night Duty Roster

Date	Welcomers		Loyal	Intro	Thanks
04/06/13	Bob Carroll	Peter Cooper	Erdem Toner	-	-
11/06/13	Jan Cutler	Kate Dodd	Les Whitcroft	Ron Thomson	Adrian Hallett
18/06/13	Noel Dunn	Artin	Tony Abboud	-	-
25/06/13	Adrian Hallett	John Higgins	Martin Aston	-	-
02/07/13	Allen Horrell	David James	Ken Allen	-	-

If you are unable to fulfil any duty, arrange your own swap and then advise President Burkhart

Contributions to the HUB
before Friday 5pm
jancutler@bigpond.com
(unless otherwise arranged)

Rotary and Other Events ...

► Grafitti Day

Date: **Sunday, 2 June**

Where: Meet 8 am at Church Street Car Park opposite L J Hooker Real Estate

Details: Charles Kilby 0412 401 664

► 2013 Sydney Metro RYDA Program (Volunteers required)

Date: **Thursday, 6 June**

Where: Sydney Olympic Park — Riverside Girls High School

Details: Charles Kilby 0412 401 664

Friday Night Roster for Onni Kivimaa

**Onni is presently being hosted by Daniel & Kristina Graham
10 James Street, Carlingford - Phone: 9873 6096**

Who	When	Who	When
...	31/05/13	Kalma McLellan	14/0613
Maureen Mulheron	07/06/13	Onni home to Finland	20/06/13

Looking Ahead till the end of the Rotary Year



June	4	Rob & Judy Mitchell's Travels
	11	FRASIL - technology with the heart for the disabled, seniors and the disadvantaged
	18	Onni Kivimaa — My Year in Australia
	25	Vocational Exposure
July	2	Club Changeover
	5	District 9680 Changeover to District 9685

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**?

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!