

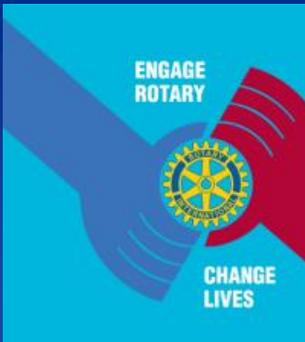
THE ROTARY CLUB OF RYDE—DISTRICT 9680 CHARTERED 1946

The HUB

Tuesday 4 June 2013

Volume 67

Issue No 45



2013-14 Rotary Theme

June is
Fellowship
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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 Administration Adrian Hallett
 Foundation John Mazlin
 Membership Patrick Longfield
 Public Relations Kalma McLellan
 Projects Allen Horrell
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 Treasurer Maureen Mulheron
 Immediate Past President Ken Allen

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Community Service Nora Etmekdjian
 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
 Serjeant-at-Arms Duncan Taylor
 Programmes David James
 Attendance Ross Rocca
 Social Secretary Peter Cooper
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 Conference Co-ordinator..... Julie Thorp
 Public Officer John Dodd
 Webmaster Stefan Sojka
 Web Address www.ryderotary.org.au
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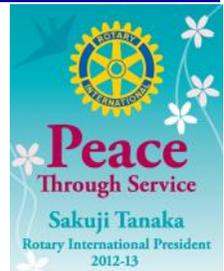
Club Information



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 . . .

4 June Thoughtful Adventures – contemplating life at a walking pace - Rob Mitchell

Tonight's Roster

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Welcomers | Bob Carroll, Peter Cooper |
| Loyal Toast by | Erdem Toner |
| 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 we had the finals of our 8th Annual Ryde Rotary Primary School Public Speaking Competition. The four finalists Natalie Green and Laura Dimarco, Nina Loone and Natalia Reale-Bryant together with their parents, other family members, friends and teachers, gave us an excellent night and we thank them for it.

Tonight we will hear and see from our very own Rob and Judy Mitchell their travelogue from France and Spain, walking the "Camino de Santiago de Compostela". Following last Fridays Presidents' meeting, we will have a board meeting tonight.

Have an enjoyable evening.

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 2013 Ryde District Junior Primary Schools Public Speaking Competition brought us a crowded meeting with many guests to support each contestant. Black tablecloths helped give the venue a sense of occasion, and the guests took their places with the four young ladies in their school uniforms.

We started with the Rotary Grace and I noted the guests sang along. **Steve Thorp** toasted the Queen, then **Adrian Hallett** took the floor to announce Shelterbox week, and suggested we could help raise \$5000 for Shelterbox Canada by linking it on Facebook at the following link: <http://www.facebook.com/ShelterboxCanada>. He said that Polio Plus was winning the war against Polio, with only 33 cases worldwide this year.

Maureen Mulheron reminded us that EOFY is fast approaching so tax deductible donation to ARHRF and ARF should be made before June 30 so they can be claimed at tax time.

My Projects report covered the Speaking competition, the Red Shield collection, run so ably by Nora Etmekdjian over the weekend, and the fact that the Polio Plus project was not invented by Bill Gates, but by Rotary.

David James announced that our program is now full for the year second half of this Rotary year.

Bob Carroll reported that he already has a full complement of volunteers for this month's Meals on Wheels. Onni Kivimaa gave a non-report, saying he was tuckered out after Safari and will report next week.

Serjeant Duncan had a guest draw guest Eastwood Heights Public School Headmaster Lawrence Van Ryn's spackle ticket, and he accepted a well-deserved bottle of wine, a fitting thanks for hosting our JSPSC heats for the last 6 years. After the fines session, I introduced Kalma McLellan to MC the competition.



Nina Loone spoke on "Being a kid is hard work," but conceded that being an adult probably isn't easy either. **Natalie Green** told us that "When I grow up" she would be a Lawyer for the stars, but no, that would be too hard studying all that boring legal stuff, that she would be a Real Estate Agent, but she doesn't like wearing high heels, so maybe a Movie Star, but she can't remember her lines...and so it went.



Natalie Reale-Bryant reversed the topic saying kids have it easy, since adults do all the hard work paying the bills and keeping food on the table, and spoke with lots of humour. **Laura Dimarco** started her speech with a song, and said if "Being a kid is hard work" then being the youngest in her family was even harder.



... last meeting (cont'd)

They were then taken away to prepare their impromptu one minute speeches, all on the same subject "Is a glass half full or half empty?" Their speeches were brilliant, and showed that in the main they got the meaning of the idiom and related it back to a positive or negative outlook on life.



Our adjudicators **Stacey Konstantopoulos** and **Therese Bennetts** had a tough time deciding on ranking the four speakers but after lengthy deliberation announced the **winner was Natalia Reale-Bryant**. Note that they did not know she had won the same event last year.



Second was Laura Dimarco, third was Natalie Green and fourth was Nina Loone. Natalia's prize was a \$200 Harvey Norman gift voucher and the other three girls got a \$100 voucher. The teachers from each school received Book vouchers for \$250, \$150, \$100 and \$100 for their school libraries.

In the great scheme of things, this is a very small project, when compared to Polio Plus or building schools in Afghanistan, but it is also very local, and very heart-warming. The feel-good factor is there for the members, the speakers, their families, the teachers and the adjudicators. The summing-up speeches by the adjudicators were inspiring and aspirational for the four children. It was nice to hear veteran adjudicator Therese speak of her pride in the achievements of her former PLC student Stacey, now a second year International Studies student at UNSW. Stacey has a social conscience and would make a great recruit for Rotary one day. PDG Les Whitcroft also observed that she was "good looking!" As a married man, I can see how he might have formed that opinion, but I couldn't possibly comment!

Allen

Rotary Statistic

A statistic from Africa.

In the past 12 years Rotary International has achieved a remarkable growth — 301 new clubs and 7572 new members.

We know that there has been a growth in middle classes, not in all parts of the Continent, still riddled with wars and corruption, that dominate our medium, yet silently there is a progress that does not warrant headlines in the media.



Contributed by Alex Sawyer

Report from John Goris - our Youth Exchange Student in Finland



I need new standards of awesome to rate my life with because I'm having best days of my life on a fairly regular basis. Compared to the life I was living in 2012, even average days are usually much better than what they once were and the awesome days lack words to describe them. The intensity of my exchange has risen exponentially since the St Petersburg Russia tour, and alongside this it's like I've experienced a years' worth of life in since then. If I were a Pokémon, I would have just evolved.

In Russia, I met about 80 new exchange students, many of whom became my friends and some I became best friends with overnight. St Petersburg is a city of massive social contrast. We saw really dodgy areas right next to buildings that were literally gilded and we got to see all this from the bus tour. The events we did that were on the formal agenda were seeing a folk play which had absolutely unbelievable Russian dancing; watching the Russian ballet perform, visiting the Peter the great museum and the hermitage museum. One of the amazing things in the Peter the great museum was this model of the solar system that is over 300 years old and shows the planets revolving around the sun in real time. We saw some of Da Vinci's work in the hermitage and realised that the reason so many old paintings were done of naked people was so that the artist wouldn't get bored painting someone for weeks on end. Utterly morbid much! One of the morbidly horrific things we saw was a collection of preserved babies and foetuses. They looked so real. Also they had a collection of "monsters" – babies born with birth defects (Russia's a bit more lax on political correctness). It makes me feel horrible just thinking about it but there was this morbid fascination that made it really hard to look away.

On the first of May I turned 18. In Finland the first of May is a holiday called Vappu. It's essentially an excuse to get drunk but everyone does it the night before so they can have Vappu as a hangover day. So my family and I went to my host sister's apartment in Helsinki to have a party. We just stayed there until about 10:00 and I don't think I've ever drunk so much coke before. Anyhow I got to talk to a bunch of Elli's friends and then trained it home for midnight. By then the coke had hit my bladder and I started adulthood with the longest toilet break in recorded history. On my actual birthday, I woke up early-ish (I'm pretty sure I was the only one in the town who was conscious before mid-day) and Skyped with my mum and my cousins. In the afternoon, we went into Tampere to see the Vappu market. We also had McDonalds which made my day.

The next Saturday I did my presentation speech for Rotary. I think it went very well; they laughed at my jokes and seemed very interested in Australia. My plan was that, because not all of them spoke English (and my Finnish is not good enough to give a complicated speech) I would bring some Australian things in to show them. I had a boomerang, Some Aussie money, my school jersey and a surf lifesavers uniform. Later in the day, Oskari and I had a joint birthday party in Hameeniinna with the family. We went bowling, swimming then to a nice restaurant.

We had another day off on the next Thursday so I trained it to Turku about 100km away with another Exchange student from Melbourne called Matt Dudley. We met up with one of the coolest American's ever called Erik Youmans. He's one of my oldies and we got to spend the day in Turku together with them and another 10 ish Exchange students. We met up with one of the old Rotex from the karkku language camp which was awesome.

Pretty much straight after this, I had to travel back to Toijala then another 100km in the opposite direction to Jyväskylä for an Ultimate Frisbee tournament. It was so awesome, we got to stay the night at this camp in the middle of nowhere where it was late till midnight and we practiced Frisbee for 3 hours. Then the next day we drove into the centre for the tournament. Our team is a bit like a family team because we have people in it from all different ages. Our oldest is 40 and our youngest is 12. Other teams are usually comprised of just a group of 20 something. Despite this we held our own and hand improved so much since the last tournament. When I figured out that it was diving didn't hurt that much, it became the only thing I did in the game and by game 3 and 4. In these games I got man of the match and a lot of bruises. The motto for the day was "leave everything on the battlefield" and I left so much I forgot how to talk. But I'd rate this as the best sporting day in my life; I've never tried so hard in a game before without getting overly competitive. At one point I'm pretty sure I discovered a new emotion. I was so determined to stop a long distance throw that could have scored that I sprinted even though I was exhausted, saw red (literally) and my entire world just revolved around that point. I've never felt that determined to do something before in my life. The next day I was wasted and felt like I'd given yesterday everything I could. I want to die with that feeling.

I got my first taste of Finnish compulsory army service when I and three other exchange students visited Pori's army brigade for a day. There were other school there so I decided to make some new friends. I really don't think Finn's are half as shy as people think they are. I find that whenever I have a day out I'll talk to at least three strangers and if it's a big day or an organised day some of those strangers will become friends. Anyways, at the army we got to visit a military weapons museum that had some items that were over 400 years old. Then we were shown these armoured jeep/tank things that made me feel as if I was in Call of Duty. Then they let us ride in the back of one whilst they took it through a mud track course. It was so awesome! I was really gee'd so Johannes and I ran round pretending to shoot everything. I enjoy being childish. Later in the day they brought out weapons, body armour and Kevlar for us to try out and feel the weight of. Cos being 18 is just a number, I went pew pew pew with the guns and all the soldier guys were laughing at me.

John on Youth Exchange in Finland (cont'd)

Since we were having so much fun a soldier who was the brigade's journalist came and asked us for an interview. So I think the things we said might end up in a military magazine or something which I'd rate as pretty flippen floppen awesome.

On the Friday after, I went to Turku to stay with Erik again and then on the Saturday I was allowed to go to the district picnic. It was such an awesome day, we went to a beach (beach by Finnish standards at least) and got to explore the place, climb trees, play Frisbee and had general adventure! Unfortunately the ending was a bit sad because I had to say goodbye to some of the most awesome people I've ever met. Especially Erik. I'm not sure when I'm going to see them again.

When I got back from that day, my host bro was having his 23rd so I hung around for that and made some friends there. Again I had the coke all to myself. One of the big changes that has happened since coming on exchange is that I don't really think about people's age when I talk to them anymore. Like in school it really mattered what year you were in. Now I've got friends who are pretty much every age between 12 and 30. I really don't feel awkward talking to them at all.

So this weekend was heckers cos it continued with the Tampere district picnic. This one was a lot more chill. We had icecream and stuff in the park next to the world's 2nd ugliest church. (Mum, if you're reading this I think you can guess the first). But it was a nice day. We played a lot of Frisbee, chatted, and ate food. Afterwards a few of us went to watch the USA vs Finland ice hockey game which had to be the closest sporting match I've ever seen. But this was another day with an unhappy ending cos I had to say goodbye to some of my Americans again, including Gunnar who gave me my hero clothes.

The last awesome thing I'll talk about is the day I was a primary school teacher. My 2nd host mum asked me to give a presentation to the year 6 classes at the younger school. So I appropriated my Rotary presentation and then gave it both the classes. I used the same things that I brought to the Rotary presentation to get the kids involved and I think it went really well. They were all attentive; they asked a lot of questions and answered the ones I gave them. It was weird how much fun I had doing it. Anyways next Wednesday I'll be giving the presentation to another, younger class.

To summate, I find it hard to believe a month has passed. It feels closer to a year at least. I didn't have a single normal day in this entire time and I've met so many new people and always made sure to try something new every single day. Compared to last year, I'd say one of my Finnish days equals one week of Australian days. If you've ever seen the movie 'Yes Man' then that is what I've become.

John Goris

*The District RYEP Country Coordinator had this say about John's progress:
"John Goris is truly embracing youth exchange and having a wonderful experience."*

Regards

Jan Duffy

Country Coordinator— Finland, Mexico & USA

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**

A selection from The 'Rotarian's' 2013 photo contest winners



Luckmore, India



Drinking at Mosque, New Delhi, India



Child in Lahore receiving



School children in Kenya



1st PRIZE
On the bus to Lushoto, Tanzania



Rough hands handling tiny ladybug with tenderness.



Syrian children at a refugee camp in Iraq



Family life in Santa Cruz, Belize



Polio eradication in Sonipat, India



Struggles of an impoverished family



Reading fliers on polio eradication Bangalore, Inidan



A child in Batey Brador, Dominican Republic

Attendance Last Meeting

Percentage Attendance Last Meeting: 95.24%

Makeups: John Dodd, Artin Etmekdjian, Kathryn Dodd,
Nora Etmekdjian.

Apologies: John Dodd, Surinder Joson, Artin Etmekdjian, Ken Allen,
Rob Mitchell, Ian Henderson, Kathryn Dodd,
Nora Etmekdjian, Rob Senior.

Guests: Laura Dimarco & family, teacher Emma Davenport;
Natalie Green & family, teacher Anne Evans; Nina Loone &
family, teacher Meena Kim; Natalie Reale-Bryant & family,
teachers Leanne Raynor & Sarina Testa; Onni Kivimaa,
Lawrence van Ryn, Glen Westcott.

Rotarian Guests: Dee Brown, Lorraine Carroll, Margaret Cooper,
Patricia Foertsch, Carolyn Metcalfe, Janis Redford,
Rose Rocca, Lata Sojka, Margaret Taffa.



Birthdays & Anniversaries



| | | | |
|------|----|--------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| June | 3 | Birthday Celebration for Carolyn, partner of Graham Metcalfe | |
| | 6 | 35 year Club Anniversary for Duncan Taylor | |
| | 7 | 25 year Club Anniversary for Ian Henderson | |
| | 11 | Birthday Celebration for Danielle, partner of Ken Allen | |

Meeting Night Duty Roster

| Date | Welcomers | | Loyal | Intro | Thanks |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|
| 11/06/13 | Jan Cutler | Kate Dodd | Les Whitcroft | Ron Thomson | Adrian Hallett |
| 18/06/13 | Noel Dunn | Artin Etmekdjian | 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 |
|------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|
| Maureen Mulheron | 07/06/13 | Kalma McLellan | 14/06/13 |
| | | 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 |

Useful websites

- Rotary Club of Ryde www.ryderotary.org.au
- Rotary International www.rotary.org
- Rotary Down Under www.rotarydownunder.com.au
- Shelter Box Australia www.shelterboxaustralia.com.au
- School of St Jude www.schoolofstjude.co.nz

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!