

# The HUB

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Volume 68

Issue #42



## BASIC LITERACY COURSE, MAURITIUS

A PROJECT OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BEAU BASSIN - ROSE HILL  
PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF RYDE



President Rotary International

District 9685 Governor

Ron D. Burton  
Rotary Club of Norman, USA

Graeme Davies (Kincumber)

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HUB Contributions	<a href="mailto:editor@ryderotary.org.au">editor@ryderotary.org.au</a>

CLUB INFORMATION

Chartered 22nd April 1946    District 9685    RI Club #18039

**MEETINGS EVERY TUESDAY 6PM FOR 6:30PM**

**MEETING LOCATION:**

Next Generation Club (Level 2)  
Ryde Aquatic Centre  
504 Victoria Rd, Ryde

**POSTAL ADDRESS:**

Rotary Club of Ryde Inc.  
PO BOX 90  
Ryde NSW 1680

**RSVP EXTRAS OR ABSENCES TO JULIE THORP: 9871 1109**

**May 13** Fellowship Night  
Board Meeting to follow

### TONIGHT'S ROSTER

**Welcomers** Ian Henderson & Graham Metcalfe  
**Loyal Toast** Bob Carroll  
**Introduction** -  
**Vote of Thanks** -

**Upcoming duty roster is on Page 10.** If you are unable to fulfill any duty, please arrange your own swap and inform President Adrian of the change.

### ADRIAN'S ADDENDUM

Dear Rotarians and Rotary Friends,

Our meeting last Tuesday really had it all. One minutes silence was observed to reflect upon the life of Past President Michael Nelson. Michael's funeral service was held on Friday with many of his Rotary friends, both past and present, in attendance.

Our meeting was also attended by District Governor Graeme Davies, who surprised Kathryn Dodd with a small token of appreciation for all the hard work she had put in behind the scenes working on the printed material artwork for District Conference.

The Guest Speaker for the night was Ali Yunespour, who was the catalyst in our schools project in Afghanistan. Ali was joined by the Project Manager from Borjegai, Mr. Mohammad Anwar Haidari. Other guests were Mr Hassan Zada (Mr Haidari's Secretary) and Cynthia Grant from the Indigo Foundation. Ali spoke about the Schools project and showed a short video. Mr Haidari, through Ali, thanked Ryde for their support on the project and hoped we could continue "Building Communities, Bridging Continents".

To cement our Rotary relationships and demonstrate our Rotary themes, "Building Communities, Bridging Continents" "Peace Through Service" "Engage Rotary, Change Lives" "Lend a Hand" and "Rotary Cares". I was honored to present to both Mr. Anwar Haidari and Ali Yunespour, Paul Harris Fellowships. Having our DG assist me in this presentation also demonstrates how well respected our Schools project is and how it clearly fits the various year themes.

Next Tuesday we welcome our exchange student's family to Australia and to Ryde Club – the Richard family (Dad – Olivier, Mum – Valerie, brother – Loris and sister – Leonie). It is not often that we get to meet the families of our exchange students but on Tuesday we have this opportunity.

To those on the sick list, we extend our best wishes and hope to see you soon.

Adrian

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR

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- May 17th (Sat)** Community Fundraiser : Bunnings Rydalmere BBQ  
8am - 4pm / Please contact John Dodd to volunteer
- May 24th & 25th (Sat/Sun)** **Red Shield Appeal**  
Please contact John Dodd to volunteer as a driver for an Interact team
- May 27th (Tues)** 2014 Pride of Workmanship Awards  
6 for 6:30pm / \$30 / Next Generations, Ryde Aquatic Centre
- June 3rd (Tues)** **RI Convention Host Hospitality Night - PARTNERS NIGHT**  
Details TBC (In place of regular meeting)
- June 14th (Sat)** **Crosslands Rotaract 10 Year Anniversary Changeover**  
7pm / \$60 (\$50 Earlybird) / Hornsby RSL / Contact Charles Kilby to RSVP
- June 15th (Sun)** Community Fundraiser : Bunnings Rydalmere BBQ  
8am - 4pm / Please contact John Dodd to volunteer
- June 28th (Sat)** **District 9685 Changeover 2014**  
6:30 for 7pm / \$55 / Castle Hill RSL / Register online or via Julie Thorp
- July 6th (Sun)** Graffiti Removal (First Sunday every month!)  
Meet 8am West Ryde Car Park in Ryedale Rd

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION : HELP NEEDED!

The convention organising committee are looking for a small group of medical professionals doctor, nurses or pharmacists to take blood pressures of delegates at the stroke foundation booth at the international conference.

All the equipment is provided and we are not of course making any diagnosis. We will take accurate blood pressure and ask the delegate to talk to their doctor if it is out of range.

Each volunteer will be asked to cover the booth for half a day each.

**If you have a medical professional in your club please ask them to contact Ross Pearse on 0408 416 906.**

## WE'LL BE SAD IF WE DON'T SEE YOU NEXT TUESDAY!



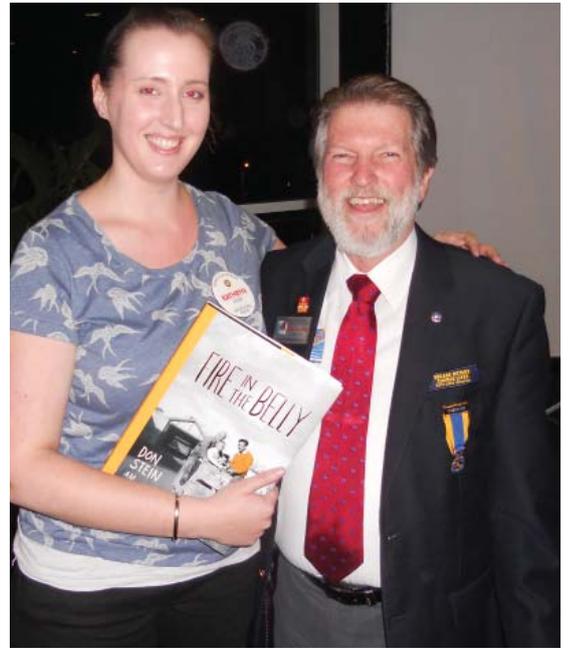
If you need to give a late apology for non-attendance at any meeting, please contact **Julie Thorp** before **10am Monday**.

**9871 1109 0416 208 332 [j.thorp@bigpond.net.au](mailto:j.thorp@bigpond.net.au)**

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?**

Our distinguished guests joined our club members in a respectful minute's silence for **PP Mick Nelson**, before **President Adrian Hallett** started the meeting with Rotary Grace. **DG Graeme Davies** then presented Rotarian **Kathryn Dodd** with Don Stein AM's inspirational book "Fire in the Belly" with a \$100 donation to Polio Plus as thanks for her services to the District Conference. Past President **Burkhart Foertsch** attempted to sell off two tickets to the Eggtober foundation dinner at the Liverpool Catholic Club, then circulated raffle tickets for the same charity.

**Rtn Victoria Gouel** announced there is to be another open day at Barangaroo - more on this later. **Rtn Kathryn Dodd** reported on her progress on the half marathon, both physically and financially successful. **Rtn Siddharth Maheshwari** arrived at this point, just as **PP Burkhart Foertsch** bit the end off his "spare" bread roll. While this drama unfolded **PP Peter Cooper** took the winning spackle ticket to **Serjeant Geoff** and proceeded to cut the King of Hearts, taking a bottle of Red to his table and the Jackpot total to \$1000. Geoff proceeded to fine late arrivals, and then cross-fines revealed Burkhart's heinous bread-napping crime: "He may look like Father Christmas but he was taking, not giving, tonight!"



Then **President Adrian Hallett** introduced **Mohammed Anwar** and **Ali Reza Yunespour**, before Ali spoke on Borjagai, quoting my president's year's RI theme "Building Communities, Bridging Continents!" We then watched a video about the Hazara people and the schools built in the Borjagai region with the assistance of Ryde Rotary and the Indigo Foundation, including seeing our guests at the opening ceremony for the Salman-e-Fars school. It was deeply moving, even for our guests: Mr Anwar was reduced to tears, before being comforted by PP Burkhart. Ali finished with three points:



- 1) Our project has brought about massive social change for the better for girls.
- 2) The return of their University graduates to teach in the schools they graduated from closes a loop of sustainability for ongoing education in Borjagai.
- 3) The support of the Mullahs for education, especially girl's education, at first exceptional, has now become mainstream.

**Ali** would not have believed any of these were possible ten years ago.

Ali then translated a speech from **Mr Anwar**, where he thanked us for inspiring the positive change in his community. **President Adrian Hallett** spoke well on our behalf, saying how gratifying it has been for Ryde Rotary to see the effects of the project spreading hope and peace, far beyond the educational aims we originally planned. I think we were all reminded of why we are proud to be Ryde Rotarians.

He then invited **DG Graeme Davies** to the podium to present **Mohammed Anwar** with a well-earned Paul Harris Fellow recognition pin, medallion and citation. President Adrian then went on to speak of **Ali Yunespour's** history with our club, from MUNA and RYLA to Indigo Foundation, Borjegai Project and DFAT. Ali exhibits all the qualities that Rotary seeks to promote, his Paul Harris Fellow recognition was very fitting, and it was nice to see the two Hazara comrades honoured together. We found that Mr Anwar did know one word of English. That word was "Thankyou!"



PHF recipient Mohammad Anwar Haidari



PHF recipient Ali Yunespour



Cynthia Grant, Ali Yunespour, DG Graeme Davies, Mohammad Anwar Haidari, Hassan Zada, &amp; President Adrian Hallett

## ALIREZA YUNESPOUR

We have known and worked closely with Ali since 2009.

He came to our notice, of course, via MUNA and RYLA, but the big involvement has been with the Borjegai Schools program. Ali has been a key player in the initiation and conduct of this program, now successfully delivered and serving the educational needs of thousands of children.

His well-considered, mature approach to dealing with the cross-cultural challenges of the project has been crucial to its successful outcome. He has performed a key linking role between stakeholders in Australia, our project partner indigo foundation, and the community in Borjegai.

The Club considered Ali to be a person of such special character and achievement that we nominated him for a NSW Volunteer of the Year award which he received in 2010.

**He has also, unquestionably, contributed greatly to developing peace, goodwill and understanding amongst the peoples of the world, and is thus a worthy recipient of the PHF award.**

## MR MOHAMMAD ANWAR HAIDARI

Mr Haidari was born in Borjegai and lived most of his life there. Since 2001, he and his family live in West of Kabul where he owns and manages Maqsudian Property Agency. Like many of his generation in Afghanistan, he does not have formal education but he is guided in his conduct and practice with a strong passion for quality education.

As such, he has dedicated his time and energy voluntarily to make a contribution in the education of Borjegai community since 2003. For the past decade he has held the role of indigo foundation's Financial Trustee and he is responsible for the financial management, reporting and material acquisitions of the School Project in Borjegai. He has demonstrated his professional, fully accountable, transparent financial responsibilities and performed outstandingly in fostering the indigo-Borjegai partnership as well as completing all the various projects on time and within the allocated budget. It is a credit to him that the School Project has not experienced any incident and setback since its inception.

Working with the Project Advisors, Mr Haidari has successfully initiated and managed to build a team of Borjegai volunteers who help him with this work. This is a milestone achievement to drive such a Project to assist it move beyond the control of and reliance on one particular individual.

Mr Haidari has also been crucial in bringing the various Borjegai tribes together. His continued efforts in this regard have served the Project to flourish beyond our initial expectations. It also served Mr Haidari to be officially recognised and elected as the Malik (Chief of Elders) by the Borjegai community since 2010. In his role as Borjegai Malik, he helps the community with lobbying for more resources from District, Provincial and Central governments and helps to resolve local disputes when they arise.

**He has truly provide an outstanding contribution to fostering goodwill and better understanding amongst the peoples of the world, and is thus a worthy recipient of the PHF Award.**

Buongiorno a tutti!

The festivities of Carnevale started up the month for me and the experience left a lasting impression! On the 1st March, the exchange students of District 2060 were invited to an outing to Venezia where we were keenly anticipating the bright and colourful displays the word 'carnevale' and our imaginations promised. At Trieste, pizza was on the Rotary bill with several Rotarians and then we all split to our separate accommodations- I had the privilege of staying with the Paglino family and their small but loud dog, Muffin. The next day, we travelled to a small town Muggia where we finally saw an example of the famous carnevale parade, with confetti and all! This year, to celebrate carnevale, there was a short holiday until the Wednesday, 5th March and my host family had decided to spend their entire long weekend in the mountains so I spent the following days with Alisa, an exchange student from Finland. With five more months experience in Italy, she showed me around Trieste, a beautiful city once the site of an ancient kingdom and Fascist occupation after WWI, and around her town, Cordovado. The days I shared with her included a mix of different families (I stayed with her host family and her host family's relatives), a disco (carnevale-themed on Tuesday night), baking (Finnish dessert of cinnamon rolls) and late-night snacks (we bought a lot of Italian goodies)!



Returning back to normal life was surprisingly comforting after the hectic few days moving around everywhere! I've discovered that I have almost taken gelato everyday - Irene and I have found that the local gelateria is a little too close to home! Also, we've finally passed the rainy days and I've been so happy to see the bright sun and clear sky close to everyday of this month (a gelato a day is an apt way of celebrating, right?)! I truly love spending my time with the Menegazzi's - the crazy, loveable and musical father, the warm, sweet and masterchef mother and the young, energetic and cool sister! Everyday I share with them has been a wonderful mix of surprises, good food, selfies and interesting conversations - they have made it a point to instil in me a good music taste and an interest in Italian politics. My host grandparents (parents of Alessandra) are also wonderful blessings - since they can't speak any English, it forces me to speak with

only the vocabulary I know in Italian but they are sweet and forgive my mistakes! I also received my first present here, a beautiful bracelet, from them, and shared a wonderful night with them and the extended family for the grandmother's 79th birthday.



As family life is getting increasingly more comfortable, life at school is also picking up! Whilst I still sit out of most of my classes, working alone on Italian exercises, I find that I can understand more of the lessons and have even been involved in several group tasks. I am honestly thankful that I am placed in this school and in the position of participating in different classes as there is no other way that I can learn about Italy and the Italian way of life as in such a interesting and enjoyable atmosphere. It always brings a smile to my face whenever I walk around

town and am greeted by the classmates of all my classes (Italians are so polite when it comes to greetings)! Just as I started the month with a grand trip to a big Italian hotspot, I also ended the month with a grand trip, this time to Rome with the class! The four days went by in a roller-coaster fashion - we began with the view of a cloudy capital after a 5 hour train ride and by the end, we said goodbye to a city enjoying summer! We visited the main sites such as the Colosseo, the Pantheon, Fontana di Trevi, Piazza di Spagna, Fontana dei Quattro Fiumi etc. I had such a good time revisiting these places and appreciating anew both the deep history and rich culture of Italy (important factors which motivated me to choose Italy in the first place). During the trip, there was the rule that I had to speak only Italian with them and this had frustrated me at times but to both mine and my host family's surprise and happiness, my Italian picked up! I received a call from my host mum the second night into the excursion and she couldn't stop wondering in awed amazement at my improvement and I could only laugh in response! It also broke the barrier of being embarrassed that I found whenever I talked to my peers in Italian and I'm happy to say that I no longer rely on English as much :)

Speaking of language, I had my funny and not-so-funny moments! My understanding has improved a lot and in most conversations, I can catch the topic and the questions, however one time I was describing some Chinese dishes such as stir-fry chicken with nuts and unfortunately, I mixed up the word 'nuts' with the word 'knees' and puzzled looks and loud laughs ensued!

My time here in Italy feels so real and unreal and slow and fast. I truly love living here and am so thankful for the people who care, look out and teach me. I'm starting to use my hands to speak a lot more and I know the correct way to eat is to fold my pizza slice in half. Seeing shops close at midday for a three-hour lunch break and being on the left side of the road no longer surprises me! This was a packed month and I think I can expect the same for April!!

Ci sentiamo! Ciao



**Percentage Attendance 6<sup>th</sup> May: 86.84%**

**Makeups:** PDG John Dodd.

**Apologies:** Dr Surinder Joson, PDG John Dodd, PP Artin Etmekdjian, PP Doug Thompson, PP Jan Cutler, PP John Higgins, PP Rob Mitchell, PP Tony Abboud, Rtn Erdem Toner, Rtn Nora Etmekdjian.

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

**May 15th** 52 Year Club Anniversary for **Ashley Peake**

**May 18th** 58th Birthday for **John Dodd**

**LUCILE RICHARD - FRIDAY NIGHT ROSTER**

**Lucile is currently hosted by Steve & Julie Thorp**  
**9871 1109 / 4 Maralinga Place, West Pennant Hills**

Please confirm your plans in advance with both Lucile and the Thorp family!

**May 16th** Peter & Margaret Cooper

**May 23rd** Martin & Angie Aston

**May 30th** Ian & Ruth Henderson

You are never too old  
 to set another goal  
 or dream a new dream.

- C. S. Lewis

**CLUB MEETING DUTY ROSTER**

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

<b>DATE</b>	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	<b>LOYAL TOAST</b>	<b>INTRO</b>	<b>THANKS</b>
<b>20.05</b>	Patrick Longfield & Duncan Taylor	Noel Dunn	Kathryn Dodd	John Dodd
<b>27.05</b>	Rob Mitchell & John Brown	Martin Aston	David Johnston	Victoria Gouel

Study this paragraph and all things in it. What is vitally wrong with it? Actually, nothing in it is wrong, but you must admit that it is most unusual. Don't just zip through it quickly, but study it scrupulously. With luck you should spot what is so particular about it and all words found in it. Can you say what it is? Tax your brains and try again. Don't miss a word or a symbol. It isn't all that difficult?

**IF YOU CAN'T WAIT UNTIL NEXT WEEK FOR THE ANSWERS, FEEL FREE TO EMAIL YOUR SOLUTIONS TO [EDITOR@RYDEROTARY.ORG.AU](mailto:EDITOR@RYDEROTARY.ORG.AU)**

### TEST FOR LAST WEEK : SOLUTION

Consider an arrow in flight towards a target.

At any given moment of time, a snapshot could be taken of this arrow. In this snapshot, the arrow would not be moving. Let us now take another snapshot, leaving a very small gap of time between them. Again, the arrow is stationary. We can keep taking snapshots for each moment of time, each of which shows the arrow to be stationary. Therefore the overall effect is that the arrow never moves, however it still hits the target!

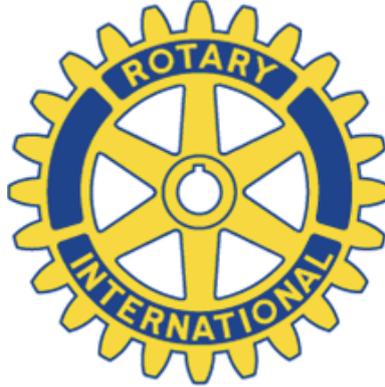
Where lies the flaw in the logic?

The arrow clearly reaches the target.

This is a classic paradox, attributed to Zeno of Elea, a Greek philosopher from Italy. Great minds over the centuries have pondered this paradox, and the scope of a solution is beyond the space available here. It is not even clear that a solution to the paradox actually exists.

By three methods may we learn wisdom:  
First, by reflection, which is noblest;  
Second, by imitation, which is easiest;  
and thurd by experience, which is the bitterest.

- Confucius



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## **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, non-religious, 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.

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### **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 say, think & do

1. Is it the Truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill & better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

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## **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!

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