

The HUB

Tuesday 7th April 2015

Volume 69

Issue #37



**JUNIOR SCHOOLS PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION
GRAND FINALS 2015**



President Rotary International

Gary C.K. Huang
Rotary Club of Taipei, Taiwan

District 9685 Governor

Ian Scott (Central Blue Mountains)

ROTARY CLUB OF RYDE

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President	Kalma McLellan
Administration	Victoria Gouel
Foundation	PDG John Dodd
Membership	Kathryn Dodd
Public Relations	Tony Abboud
Projects	Bob Kaye-Smith
Secretary	Stephen Thorp
Treasurer	David James
Immediate Past President	Adrian Hallett

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International Service	Ken Allen
Vocational Service	Jan Cutler
Youth Service	John Brown

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The HUB Editor	Kathryn Dodd
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Programmes	Duncan Taylor
Attendance	Ross Rocca
Social Secretary	Peter Cooper
Events Co-ordinator	Julie Thorp
Public Officer	Stephen Thorp
Website Administrator	Stefan Sojka
HUB Contributions	editor@ryderotary.org.au

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 GUESTS OR ABSENCES TO JULIE THORP: 9871 1109

April 7th Ryde SES
Warren Smith

TONIGHT'S ROSTER

Welcomers Erdem Toner & Bob Kaye-Smith
Toast to Rotary Bill Payne
Chartered April 7th 1966 : The Rotary Club of Gibraltar
Introduction Julie Thorp
Vote of Thanks Jan Cutler

Upcoming duty roster is on Page 11. If you are unable to fulfill any duty, please arrange your own swap and inform President Kalma of the change.

KALMA'S KORNER

Dear Rotarians and Friends of Rotary,

A BIG Thank You to everyone involved in making the Junior Schools Public Speaking Competition Final such a raging success last week! All the schools involved, the sponsors for the generosity (including Stylemaster!), the parents for their support, the many Club members who filled myriad roles in making everything happen, the many partners who came along to support the night and of course Patrick Longfield for co-ordinating the big event.

Melrose Park School is absolutely delighted to have the winner this year and are delighted that we are to present the trophy to them early next term. So thank you to everyone!

Kalma

A SNAPSHOT OF : THE ROTARY CLUB OF GIBRALTAR

The Rotary Club of Gibraltar (RCofG) received it's charter to become part of Rotary International in 1966 and over the years formed close social ties with The Rotary Club of Bromley in England plus social contact with a great many other Rotary clubs in U.K.

On the 1st of July 2014 RCofG joined District 1120 which is part of Rotary International British Isles (RIBI). District 1120 is a large and active group of clubs in Kent, East Sussex and South London.

2015 to 2016 is their 50th Anniversary year!



April 11th (Sat) Ryde Rotary BBQ @ Ryde Aquatic Centre for Rainbow Club
Volunteers Needed - see Adrian for more information

April 12th (Sun) District 9685 Assembly
Club Directors & Avenues of Service Chairs must attend training

April 18th (Sat) Australian Turkish Music Ensemble : The Stories of Gallipoli
7:45pm / \$40pp / The Concourse / Book Online at www.theconcourse.com.au

April 19th (Sun) Lindfield Rotary Fun Run : 5km run/walk & 10km run
\$30pp / Earlybird Rates Online / www.lindfieldrotaryfunrun.org.au

May 3rd (Sun) Graffiti Removal (First Sunday every month!)
Meet 8am West Ryde Car Park in Ryedale Rd

May 9th (Sat) Northbridge Rotary Fireworks
\$10pp \$25 family ticket / Gates open 4pm, Fireworks from 7pm

May 15th (Fri) E-SatRYDE Golf Day
Save the date (but don't cancel your work day) / More information online!

May 19th (Tues) Ryde Rotary Pride of Workmanship Awards
6 for 6:30pm / \$30 / Next Generations, Ryde Aquatic Centre

May 24th & 25th (Sat/Sun) Red Shield Appeal
Please contact John Dodd to volunteer as a driver for an Interact team

June 2nd (Tues) 2015 Combined Services Dinner
6 for 6:30pm / \$30 / Next Generations, Ryde Aquatic Centre

June 7th (Sun) Graffiti Removal (First Sunday every month!)
Meet 8am West Ryde Car Park in Ryedale Rd

June 27th (Sat) District 9685 Changeover
6 for 6:30pm / \$50pp / Hornsby RSL / <http://changeover.rotarydistrict9685.org.au>

Mar 19th, 2016 Great Lakes Rotary Club : Opera By The Lake
Tickets will go FAST! / www.operabythelake.com

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 as early as possible!**
(10am Monday at the absolute latest)

9871 1109 0416 208 332 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?**

PP Martin Aston, in leading the Toast to Rotary International, first explained that **The Rotary Club of Thunder Bay** was in Canada, not the Hub-advertised Tasmania. **President Kalma McLellan** thanked him and welcomed our speakers and other guests, before **PP Duncan Taylor** reported on **Ian Henderson's** progress: the bruises are slowly fading but his temper is fully recovered!



Chicken, mashed potatoes and string beans were eaten with relish, or with some green stuff that might have been relish, anyway.

Felix gave his report of non-events of his week: there was only school during the week, but he went to a Lebanese restaurant in the weekend with his host family. That was all right. "So a teenager spent the week eating and sleeping!" summarised **President Kalma** helpfully.

The **Junior Schools Public Speaking Competition** got off to a great start with **Xavier Watkins** from **St Therese's** expounding the topic of "Be careful what you wish for!" After pointing out that wishing for a South Sydney victory in the NRL championship went unanswered for 42 years before they finally came good, he gave the example of Queensland farmers wishing for a predator to eat their cane beetle: they got their wish, in the form of a plague of cane toads!

Jenevieve Liem from **St Anthony's** argued that "Mathematics is the most important subject," and convinced us that it was her favourite one.

Harrison Bowen disagreed, arguing that "Mathematics is not the most important Subject," sport is! He admitted that his Dad liked maths, and after analysing the cricket results, found that cricket is all about numbers, and conceded that his Dad had a point, maybe even a decimal point!

While the three contestants prepared their impromptu speeches, **PP David James** spruiked the e-Club's virtual golf day, for some reason reminding me of the "Compare the Meerkat" ad on TV.



PP Adrian Hallett thanked the Meals on Wheels volunteers for last Sunday, announced the cancellation of Graffiti clean-up on Easter Sunday, and reminded us that our club is running a BBQ for the Rainbow Club on April 11 at the Ryde Aquatic Centre, and **need volunteers to help run it.**

PP Martin Aston, having texted the Serjeant to remind him to draw the raffle, found he had the winning ticket, thus proving to the club that he has ESP, but not to Serjeant Patrick’s satisfaction.



The impromptu speeches were on “My least favourite chore is...” and all three children covered cooking, washing the dishes, hanging out the washing, taking out the trash, etc, but Harrison Bowen nailed it with “My least favourite chore is picking up dog poo with a plastic bag; it feels disgusting, and don’t start me on the smell!”

The adjudicators returned and Harrison Bowen from Melrose Park was the winner: “He had me at Dog Poo!” confided one Rotarian. Second was Xavier Watkins from St Therese’s and third place was Jenevieve Liem from St Anthony’s. All who heard them speak would agree that all three were winners on the night, through their demonstration of excellence in Public Speaking.



ESAT RYDE : VIRTUAL GOLF DAY



Our Golf Tournament Mascot - Rory Mackelmouse, MOA

In virtual golfing circles, Rory is currently the top-ranked golfing mouse. His career started as a thought bubble in the minds of couple of frustrated human golfers who felt they would probably be better “playing with their mouse”.

Since that first moment of clarity, Rory has been the inspiration for the development of our virtual golf experience, and, with many of his rodent colleagues, has provided hours of challenging fun for humans seeking 18 holes in 45 minutes.

In recognition of his unstinting support for virtual golf as a community service activity he was recently awarded an MOA (Mouse of Australia).

He encourages as many of you as possible to participate in The Ryde e-Cup tournament on May 15. Registrations are open and the only way to book is at www.trybooking.com/HBNZ.



Rory McIlmouse MOA

The Rainbow Club Australia is a non-profit organisation offering regular swimming session to young people whose disabilities make it difficult to attend mainstream clubs. Swimming gives the children both all-round exercise and recreational opportunities. Rainbow Clubs provide each and every one of its members with a sense of belonging to their own club. They also give the children and their families an opportunity to meet other families in similar circumstances thereby creating a real working network with immeasurable benefits.

Rainbow Club Australia was founded by Ron Siddons, OAM, MBE in 1969. Ron was working then as a Life Guard with the Sutherland Shire and had spent a life in and around the water. Swimming, for him, was a big part of his life and that of his friends.

One day he met a father struggling to teach his child to swim. The task was made difficult by the child's disability, which meant that he could not participate in other swimming classes. Ron felt that this was unfair and offered to help this father teach his child to swim. Ron met the family at the local pool in Cronulla each week. Others came to join Ron – both families with children who wanted to learn to swim and instructors who wanted to help. Rainbow Club Australia now has 17 Clubs in NSW and 2 in Victoria.

On Saturday the 11th April, Rotary will be providing a sausage sizzle from 12:30 – 1:30.

We expect to be cooking for about 150 – 200 people and need to be on-site from 11.00 am to set up and be ready for lunch. It should take about 30 minutes to pack up so you will be needed between 11am and 2pm.

ARE YOU AVAILABLE? Please see Adrian or Julie to volunteer.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2015 IN REVIEW

Only 350 delegates attended this year's Conference, and that is a shame, because it was one of the best I have attended. Future Conference committees should consider sending club members to every club in the district to personally spruik the event. Emails do not have the immediacy of a personal appeal, and often a face-to-face appeal is required to overcome the inertia that seemingly afflicts many Rotarians.

Conference got off to a stuttering start with the first speaker proving the adage that reading PowerPoints is pointless, but our second speaker set the standard for the weekend. Miriam Silva, a self-described "Small Muslim Woman" spoke on diversity, and her CV is certainly diverse: Pharmaceutical supplies, banking, agriculture, transport and TAFE: what hasn't she done? Sadly at every position in a stellar career, she faced prejudice because she was a woman and a Muslim.

Born in England, raised in Adelaide, she has had an endless supply of complete strangers telling her to "Go back to where you came from!" Her response to this intolerance is to be more tolerant of her fellow Australians and their sometimes ignorant attitudes. Her



advice to leaders is to “Have the courage to do something, rather than wait for someone else!”

Rob Byrne gave us an update on Polio Plus, starting with his Father’s advice “Don’t speak unless it improves on silence!” It has been 30 years since Polio Plus was launched, originally called Polio 2005 as an estimate for when the eradication of polio would be completed. There have been no reported cases of polio in Nigeria since 24/7/2014, but the Boko Haram insurgency makes it impossible to know if there are unreported cases. The Pakistan polio program is a disaster, partly due to governmental incompetence (“Their program is a masterpiece of obscurity”) but mainly due to Taliban opposition to inoculation programs: they spread the lies that polio vaccination is a Western plot to sterilize Muslims, that it is Haram, and that vaccinators should be assassinated. Their cowardly thugs have murdered many vaccinators, mostly women and girls. This, and the remote locations make it very expensive to inoculate the last 0.05% of the population but we are this close.

The Vocational Excellence Awards to a doctor and an educator included a surprise RI Presidential award to the organizer, Margaret Sacks for her services to the Vocational Avenue of Service. This was followed by the finals of the 4 Way Test speech competition: we were blown away by the year 11 students’ mastery of public speaking. Francesca used multiple quotes from the seminal minds of the 20th Century to support her argument that it is not fair that the empowerment of education is denied to many children, especially girls, in the third World. Kevin spoke on Political Correctness and how it “conceals, rather than eradicates discrimination.” “Holiday Trees” suck the Christianity out of American Christmases, and as a Muslim, Kevin has no objection to Christians wishing each other and him a Merry Christmas. His use of humour helped him take away the prize.



Former NSW Liberal Leader “Chika” Kerry Chikarovski spoke on the RYDA program and the newer “Blue Datsun” presentation for Year 10 kids. President Kalma learned that a tragic road accident that killed four boys from her own high school in Dural was the reason RYDA was started in the first place. It is a small world.

Dr Luc (Luke) Mulimbalimba Masururu from the Congo spoke movingly on the problems faced by his homeland - 6 Million people died in the recent war, and the country’s infrastructure was destroyed. He returned home, built a hospital, several bridges, a power station, an orphanage and a school. This man is a true blue Hero.

In the afternoon there were breakout sessions. I watched the movie “I am a Girl” which covered the lives of 6 girls from different countries as they grew into young women. Apart

from one happy young woman marrying the man she chose in Cameroon, all the other stories were tragic to a greater or lesser degree. One girl was forced into prostitution to feed her family, another was disowned by her family for becoming pregnant, an American teen struggled to escape the New York dead-end of the Housing Projects and an Afghan girl's father was murdered by the Taliban. Ironically when so many were taking desperate actions just to survive, the Australian girl from an affluent family with loving parents and no physical wants or needs attempted suicide.

After this profoundly depressing but enlightening movie, we headed off to the "Roaring 20's" Dinner and dance, which was a fun night with everyone dressed as Mafiosi or Flappers, and so many feathers on the floor that it looked like a cock-fight had been held. One club came dressed as Lions (Roaring, get it?) and were nearly refused entry, it being a Rotary Conference, not a Lions one! I reckon they should have been disqualified under the Four Way Test: Is it the Truth? No, they were Lion!



On the Sunday morning at 8:15am, we gathered to pay our respects to Rotarians called to higher service in the last year, which had our President Kalma laying two flowers on the memorial for Ryde Rotarians Mick Nelson and Ron Thompson. I did the same for a member of Thornleigh Rotary Club. This year they returned to the practice of showing a photograph of each Rotarian, which I applaud. It was a simple and moving ceremony, which left some in tears.

The first speaker discussed Soap Aid's twin mission: to recycle bars of soap currently discarded by Hotels and Motels, to keep them from polluting our environment, and to remanufacture them into new soap bars to distribute to the third world: 40% of child deaths can be avoided just by washing their hands with soap. It is a win-win idea.

The District is organising a Vocational mission to Turkey to bring medical practitioners from Australia, Turkey, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tanzania and Kenya together to fight the modern scourge of type 2 Diabetes. The four members of the Turkish delegation spoke to us of the words of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk and showed us a movie of a Turkish soldier helping a wounded Australian in no man's land at Gallipoli. This vocational trip is a fine way to recognise the centenary of Gallipoli.





Former Wallaby Peter Fitzsimons is probably the most entertaining speaker I have ever heard. Since his rugby career ended, he has specialised in writing biographies of Australians and military histories of our greatest battles. After writing a biography of Kim Beazley, he boasted to an artist “I’ve just finished my first book!” looking at the rugged Rugby boy, the artist replied “Well done. You should

try reading a second one soon!” He reported WW2 French Resistance heroine Nancy Wake’s brief speech when presented with an award by General Peter Cosgrove: “I killed a lot of Germans. I’m just sorry I didn’t kill a lot more!” He has written accounts of Tobruk, the Kokoda Track, and Gallipoli, commenting that “Australia was the first to stop the German army - at Tobruk, the first to stop the Japanese army - at Kokoda, but everyone just wants to talk about the one time we were thrashed by the Turks! He related how a journalist Keith Murdock managed to get the Gallipoli story out (that it was a disaster) and was directly responsible for the evacuation. He also told a great story about training for Gallipoli in Egypt ending with the punch-line “Twist his left ear!” He said Bob Hawke’s most moving moment was when he witnessed a bus full of 95 year old Aussie veterans arrive at Lone Pine for the 75th anniversary of Gallipoli, when a further two bus-loads of Turkish veterans arrived. The Aussies and Turks spontaneously met with handshakes and hugs, greeting their old enemies with mutual forgiveness and respect. He pointed out that Aussie mateship is our core value as a Nation, and went out to define that as “Helping your mates when there’s a forest fire, a hurricane or a flood. Rotary goes one better than mateship: you work to lend a helping hand to people you will never see!”

After morning tea, our President Kalma McLellan was inducted into the Paul Harris Society, demonstrating her commitment to supporting the work of the Rotary Foundation. After this we were introduced to the future leaders of our District, DGE Gina Growden and DGN Bruce Lakin, and the Conference Flag was passed to the organisers of next year’s Canberra Conference. Save the date: 11-12th March 2016.

Francine Bell was a fitting last act, singing “That old time Religion:” in spite of Rotary being a non-religious organisation, no-one complained. Her message was about positive thinking and focussing on our strengths, not our weaknesses. It is important to tell ourselves positive messages so that we don’t limit our own achievements. She quoted Cassius Clay (later Mohammed Ali) as saying: “I am the greatest! And I started saying that even before I knew I was!”

Her advice was: “Make the most of Today! Tomorrow isn’t promised to any of us!” “Don’t sweat the small stuff,” she said, and in the end, we know it is all small stuff. “People will forget everything except how you made them feel.”

About talents: “This gift is not for you: it is given for serving others!”

Francine gave us good advice, and a positive end to a positive Rotary District 9685 Conference. The only negative was the attendance: only 350 attendees compared to 600 at Nowra. For such a close, excellent venue, with such a great programme, why weren’t more Rotarians there?

PP Allen Horrell

Percentage Attendance 31st March: 88.89%

Makeups: PP Rob Mitchell, Rtn Elisabeth Curcic-Daher.

Apologies: PDG Les Whitcroft, PP Artin Etmekdjian, PP Bob Carroll, PP Burkhart Foertsch, PP Charles Kilby, PP Jan Cutler, PP Rob Mitchell, PP Tony Abboud, Rtn Erdem Toner, Rtn Ian Henderson, Rtn Swati Maheshwari.

FELIX MORLOCK - FRIDAY NIGHT ROSTER

Felix is currently hosted by the Jenkins family

Felix: 0420 286 303

April 17th Ross & Rose Rocca

April 24th John & Dee Brown

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

April 1st Birthday Celebration for **Lorraine (Bob Carroll)**

April 2nd 13 Year Club Anniversary for **Geoff Brennan**

April 3rd 14 Year Club Anniversary for **Bob Carroll**

April 3rd 62nd Birthday for **Charles Kilby**

April 4th 48 Year Club Anniversary for **Les Whitcroft**

April 5th Birthday Celebration for **Judy (Erdem Toner)**

April 5th 21 Year Club Anniversary for **Jan Cutler**

April 8th 1 Year Club Anniversary for **Elisabeth Curcic-Daher**

April 9th 24 Year Club Anniversary for **John Higgins**

April 10th Birthday Celebration for **Ruth (George Bouckley)**

April 10th 16th Wedding Anniversary for **Artin & Nora Etmekdjian**

April 10th 32nd Wedding Anniversary for **Tony & Sylvia Abboud**

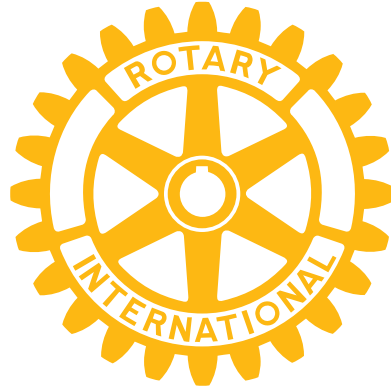
April 12th 12th Wedding Anniversary for **Patrick & Yvonne Longfield**

CLUB MEETING DUTY ROSTER

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

DATE	WELCOMERS	TOAST	INTRO	THANKS
14.04	Allen Horrell & Noel Dunn	Graham Metcalfe	Ron Taffa	David Johnston
21.04	(Club Birthday Party)	Ashley Peake	-	-

Rotary



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 over 34,000 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.

ROTARY THANKS

For good food,
For good fellowship, and the
opportunity to serve through Rotary,
We give thanks.

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?

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!
