

THE ROTARY CLUB OF RYDE—DISTRICT 9680 CHARTERED 1946

# The HUB

Tuesday 22 June 2010

Volume 64

Issue No. 48



**2009-10 THEME**  
**The Future of Rotary**  
**Is In Your Hands**



## **A letter from Andrea Müller**

**Plus... Club Assembly notes from our  
Incoming President, Rtn Allen Horrell**

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## Rotary International Officers 2009 – 2010

President Rotary International ..... John Kenny  
(Grangemouth, Scotland)  
District 9680 Governor ..... John Cameron  
(Wahroonga)

## Rotary Club of Ryde

### Directors

President ..... Bob Carroll  
Vice-President ..... Allen Horrell  
Foundation ..... Alex Sawyer  
Membership ..... Charles Kilby  
Projects ..... Geoff Brennan  
Public Relations ..... Stefan Sojka  
Secretary ..... Bob Kaye-Smith  
Treasurer ..... Steve Thorp  
Immediate Past President ..... Steve Thorp

### Committee Chairmen

Community Service ..... Patrick Longfield  
International Service ..... Paul Burnett  
Vocational Service ..... John Mazlin  
Youth Service ..... Ron Thomson

### Communications

Bulletin Editor ..... Stefan Sojka  
Photographer ..... John Mazlin  
Sergeant-at-Arms ..... David James  
Programme ..... John Higgins  
Attendance ..... Ross Rocca  
Fellowship ..... Peter Cooper  
Social Chair ..... Ashley Peake  
Web Address ..... [www.ryderotary.org.au](http://www.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 1680 NSW

### This Week... GSE Team

We welcome back the Returning GSE Team from Brittany (Leader Howard Sullivan) - and look forward to hearing about their adventures, achievements and experiences in Australia since they last visited our club.



### Last Week — As recalled by Allen Horrell

The meeting started out well with Jan Cutler toasting the Queen of Australia and Nora reciting the Four Way Test. President Bob reported on Emma's departure from Sydney, saying he hadn't heard from her yet, which proves he hadn't read his Hub yet! The meal would have been appropriate for the previous week, Schnitzel und Gemüse! PP. Ross Rocca reported that this week's attendance was down to a miserable 85% - try to do a make-up at another club if you can't make it to our own meeting. It helps our attendance figures and you get to meet new Rotarians! John Mazlin had the spackle ticket and Serjeant David James asked him to "Walk this way, and shuffle if you want to." "He can't do both", I thought to myself! Perhaps the ambulatory confusion spoiled his draw as he was unable to locate the Joker, and had to settle for a particularly good bottle of Shiraz.

John Mazlin also won the auction for the History of District 9680, with Stefan Sojka following soon after with the purchase of "Rotary - 50 Years of Service: 1905-1955". A fines session followed where I found to my surprise that in last week's Hub I had promoted David from Web Designer to Major Retailer!

The Club presentation was a carefully scripted one built around two DVD clips and a presentation of the Club planning Guide for next year. This turned into yet another President-Elect training session, the lesson this time being "What to do when technology lets you down!" In case the message was lost after the projector rebelled, some of the questions we sought feedback on were:

1. Should we continue reciting the Four Way Test each meeting, or replace it with a Vocational 4 minute talk on the rostered Rotarians' choice of his career, or the Four Way Test?
2. I would also like to have a weekly roster for a two minute "Elevator Talk", where you describe Rotary in general, or Ryde Rotary in particular, to a stranger in a lift. I think it would be a great membership tool for us to all to have an answer ready when someone asks us what Rotary is about.
3. As PP Rob Mitchell asked us, do we need a 5 year plan, or a Club Visioning exercise? It will require half a day to run through the District visioning process, so it depends whether enough



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of you are prepared to dedicate the time to it on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon. We do need to improve our continuity from year to year, and at a minimum, we need a 1 year plan: that is why I am determined to complete the Club Planning Guide document, both to present to District, and to pass on to Ken Allen as a guide for next year. — Cheers, Allen Horrell

**Club Assembly**

**At the Club Assembly on July 6** we will be sitting in our Committees and reviewing the Projects each committee is responsible for and setting out a timetable for the next year. Each Avenue of Service Chair will report back briefly to the Club after their committee meeting. Ryde Rotary is quite a complex organisation and there's a lot to consider: What Projects will we run? Which beneficiaries will we support? What Partnerships shall we concentrate on strengthening? What are our strategic Objectives? **See the following list and let me know if I've left anything off:**

<p><b>What Projects will we run?</b></p> <p><b>Membership/ Public Relations:</b> Anti-Graffiti Project, West Ryde Easter Parade, Fords in the Park, Granny Smith Festival, Gladesville Aquatic Festival</p> <p><b>Foundation:</b> Centurions, Paul Harris Society, Foundation Alumni, Polio Plus, Matching Grants, District Simplified Grants, GSE Teams, Ambassadorial Scholarships, Peace Fellows</p> <p><b>Community:</b> Tree of Joy, Red Shield Appeal, Circus Quirkus, Meals on wheels, Bowel Scan, Mental Health Forum, Mothers' and Fathers' Day Visits</p> <p><b>Vocational:</b> Apprentice of the Year, Pride of Workmanship, Vocational Visits, Four Way Test Speech Competitions, Vocational Excellence Awards</p> <p><b>International:</b> Afghanistan Project, School of St Jude, Antibiotics to Samoa, Shelterbox</p> <p><b>Youth:</b> Rotaract, Youth Exchange, Primary School Public Speaking, RYLA, RYPEN, RYDA, Interact, etc.</p>	<p><b>What Partnerships shall we concentrate on?</b> Ryde Council, Ryde &amp; West Ryde Chambers of Commerce, Top Ryde City, Eastwood Mall, West Ryde Mall, Ryde Secondary College, Meadowbank TAFE. Projects, PR and Club meeting speakers/visits should be designed to strengthen these.</p> <p><b>Which beneficiaries will we support? This year:</b> Borjagai School, Operating Theatre upgrade for Ryde Hospital, \$3000 to Kingsdene, \$2500 to Operation Hope, \$2000 to Riding for the disabled, \$1000 to the mental Health forum and an agreement to support Shelterbox, and to donate \$1200 to The School of St Jude when we have funds available to do so. We also have an obligation to support the Rotary Foundation to the tune of \$100 per Rotarian per year, or currently US\$4500 each year.</p> <p><b>What are our strategic Objectives?</b> "Doing good in the World", or as RI put it: "We provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders."</p> <p><b>We plan to develop a Strategic Plan this year, and will want input from all our members in doing so.—Allen Horrell</b></p>
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## A letter from Andrea

My dear Rotary Club of Ryde, dear President and Members, Surprise! Here I am, finally, writing the letter to you which is far over due. Yes, it's the Swiss girl Andrea who had the honour of being your exchange student two years ago (already!). Not that I'd think you were forgetful, but it's been quite a long time since I have been in contact.

So where should I start? Should I start with my Tuesday nights, when I always sit in orchestra rehearsals, thinking how much more fun the Rotary meeting with you would be? Or better with my exciting plans for my future as a French speaking anthropologist? Or with my new 'title'? Well, first things first, I am in the middle of final exams. You might wonder, why I write this mail to you in the most stressful time of my school career. The truth is, I needed a break from studying and so I was looking at pictures from Australia. That always cheers me up! Do you remember the Rotary weekend in Yass? The District Assembly in Bathurst? Wonderful times. Now I will soon be finished with school. And I hope wonderful times are awaiting me.

As I mentioned before, I want to become a cultural anthropologist. Yes, my host-mother's, Nora Etmektijan's influence has had an impact. But I would say, mainly my exchange year in general made me choose this direction. French speaking, because I am going to study in Neuchatel, a city in the French part of Switzerland. Of course I could study it in German too, in Zurich or in Lucerne, but why should I take the easy way? That's what I asked myself and so I decided to walk a bit slower but farer, as I hope. If I can learn English in one year, I should be able to do the same with French. I am really excited about my plans. Next to that, Neuchatel is probably the third most beautiful city in the world, after Sydney and Lucerne.

During my studies I will share a flat in Neuchatel with two French girls. It's a relief that this part is already settled. Finally moving out - my mum is a bit scared. Of course, she is used to have me far away, but suddenly she fears that our home is going to be all quiet. I guess most of you know that feeling. To me it's very exciting of course. Finishing school and moving away means, that I have to leave my orchestras and ensembles. With my flute ensemble we had an exciting ending, as we won the ensemble championship in our canton in May. Now we won't exist as a musical group any more. The youth orchestra is participating in a competition in Luxembourg in July so I will have an unforgettable ending in this formation as well.

In the past few months I also had to learn one of the important lessons in life. This is, that one should say no sometimes. Instead of looking at my schedule, I kept accepting more and more tasks and roles. I ended up playing two concerts (in each one two French horn solos), three theater performances and one mass during three days in a row. It was the weekend of my little brother's confirmation too. And that just before the exams... well, I became sick, and had to rest a couple of days in bed. Looking back, it was probably a good and instructional experience.

I also got a new 'title'. And since you are probably responsible for it, I think you should know about it. It's tradition that the year 12 students produce a journal in the end of the year, in which the students can get even with the teachers (in a fair and respectable way) and every student is presented once again. By the way, I have been in responsible for the sponsoring - more stress. In my portrait my grade decided to call me 'the rhetorical talent'. It's not funny, because I think they have never heard a truly good speaker.

*(...continued on next page)*

## A letter from Andrea – Continued

Nevertheless, it's the expression the people in my region will read. Now, why do they call me that? I am pretty sure you all know! Because I was forced (in a nice way) to practise it for one year in a foreign language. Thank god! I want to add, that it's a bit easier when I can do speeches in my mother tongue, so that might make a difference. But John and Geoff are still my idols concerning public speaking!

I know, I keep repeating myself, I can't remember what I have already told you in my last email, but it feels good writing to you. If my style of writing is a bit informal, it's because I want to write to you the same way I would speak, and I hope you can feel a little bit my heart beating while reading it.

I enjoy reading the weekly HUB, you are just as active as two years ago, if not even more. Congratulations to John Dodd's election as future DG, I wish the Club just the best for the coming challenges.

**Very kind regards, Andrea Müller**

*PHOTO: My flute ensemble, with the championship goblet. (Mirjam, me, Karin - Karin is going on youth exchange with Rotary this year, though she is still waiting for a confirmation from a Club)*



## Wise words!

**Never**, under any circumstances, take a sleeping pill & a laxative on the same night.

**Don't worry** about what people think, they don't do it very often.

**Artificial intelligence** is no match for natural stupidity.

**It is easier** to get forgiveness than permission.

**For every action**, there is an equal and opposite government program.

**If you look like** your passport picture, you probably need the trip.

**Bills travel** through the mail at twice the speed of cheques.

**A conscience** is what hurts when all of your other parts feel so good.

**Eat well**, stay fit, die anyway.

**Men are from Earth**. Women are from Earth. Deal with it.

**No man has ever been shot** while doing the dishes.

**Junk** is something you've kept for years & throw away 3 weeks before you need it.

**There is always** one more imbecile than you counted on.

**Experience** is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognise a mistake when you make it again.

**Someone** who thinks logically provides a nice contrast to the real world.

**If you had to identify**, in 1 word, the reason why the human race has not achieved, & never will achieve, its full potential, that word would be "meetings."

**There is** a very fine line between "hobby" and "mental illness."

**The one thing** that unites all human beings, regardless of age, gender, religion, economic status or ethnic background, is that, deep down inside, we ALL believe that we are above average drivers.



### Attendance last meeting

**Attendance Last Meeting: 82.5%**

**Makeups:** Nora Etmekdjian

**Apologies:** Dr Surinder Joson, Mr Hameed Fazal, Mr Tony Robertson, PDG Les Whitcroft, PP Artin Etmekdjian, PP Duncan Taylor, PP Graham Metcalfe, PP Graham Rushforth, PP Martin Aston, PP Mick Nelson, Rtn Ian Henderson, Rtn Victoria Gouel



### Looking Ahead...

**June 29:** Club Changeover

**July 2:** D9680 Changeover 6:30 pm @ Hornsby RSL Club—Bookings essential

**Jul 6:** Club Assembly

**Jul 13:** Rotary Foundation Centurion Scheme - PDG Bruce Allen

**Jul 20:** My Vocation - Fazal Hameed, Tony Robertson & Siddharth Maheshwari



Any suggestions? Contact John Higgins: [john@higginssurveyors.com.au](mailto:john@higginssurveyors.com.au) Ph: 9264-8044

### Birthdays and Anniversaries

**June 24:** PP Patrick Longfield's 69th Birthday

**June 28:** Rtn Ian Henderson's 70th Birthday!!



**Home delivered meals:** Deliver meals (with a driver) to people who are frail, aged and younger people with a disability who live in the Ryde Municipality in their own homes. **Hours:** 11am - 1pm  
Our Club has volunteered to do the 5th Sunday each month.

**Dates we are committed to are:**

Sunday 29th August 2010

Sunday 31st October 2010

Sunday 30th January 2011

Sunday 29th May 2011

Sunday 31st July 2011

Sunday 30th October 2011 - **PLEASE** keep these dates free

### Absentee Advice



If no apology is received the Rotarian is obliged to pay for their meal. Please phone apologies to Rtn Val Payne no later than 10:00am Monday, the day prior to meeting. **Phone 9874 5787**

## Congratulations!



Ron & Margaret Taffa on the morning of Friday 18th June, again became grandparents. Their daughter Julianne gave birth to her first child, a girl - Hanna Grace (4kg). Mother and baby doing well. Dad's probably over the moon as would be grandma and grandpa.

## 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 4-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!