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The HUB

Tuesday 8th November 2011

Membership Extension - PDG Tony Castley

In this issue,... you can browse the entire edition of The HUB or skip to the bits you want to read now, and come back later to the others:

[Ken's Korner](#)

[Last Week as seen by AH](#)

[Notice of Annual General Meeting](#)

[PP Eric Bond MBE - 50 years of Rotary Service](#)

[The Rotary Leadership Institute](#)

[Letter from Anna Gossweiler](#)

[The Tamil Nadu Project](#)

[Art Appraisal Day Project - 20th November](#)

[Volunteer Graffiti Cleanup Squads for NSW](#)

[Dare to laugh?](#)

[Rosters](#)

[Program](#)

[Other Events](#) for your diary

[Celebrations](#) - Birthdays and Anniversaries

[Attendance](#) last meeting

[Useful Links](#)

How do I advise an [Apology?](#)

[Ken's Korner](#)

This week we welcome Past District Governor **Tony Castley** to our club to speak to us about membership extension. Welcome Tony !

There were some significant outcomes from last week's Board meeting. Perhaps the most significant was that PP **Rob Mitchell** has accepted appointment as General Manager of the Indigo Foundation and so we offer him our club's warmest congratulations. Rob has decided to step down as Project Director of our club to avoid any possible conflict of interest. I am pleased to announce that **Siddarth Maheshwari** has agreed to become Project Director for the rest of the year and I am in the process of filling the vacant International Director role. The **Annual General Meeting** of the Club will take place on the **13th December**. Please give consideration if you would like to nominate people to next year's board.

The club is donating \$250.00 to the **Eggtober Appeal** and to **The Hunter's Hill Men's Shed** project the Board has decided to donate \$1000.00 cash plus purchase the Docking Saw at \$1200.00 and a lathe at \$1494.00

We are sponsoring two students to **RYLA** including David Horrell (Allen Horrell abstained from voting). Rob Mitchell spoke of the **Rotary Leadership Institute** (see item this issue) and no doubt will fill us all in soon at a club meeting on the worthwhileness of this venture.

The subject of an official Club Grievance Policy and Procedure was raised and is being investigated Our membership currently stands at 46 with several prospective members

Burkhart reported that the **Tree of Joy** arrangements are on track.

I trust this keeps you all up to date with things. Please look at the upcoming events and decide which ones you can be part of.

In Rotary

Ken

Last week, as recalled by Allen Horrell

The meeting didn't get off to a good start – **Rayne** was locked out of the bar, the meeting started late and apparently there was an error in the Hub: it wasn't Paul's Birthday on the 2nd!

The meeting started with **Geoff Brennan's** "Q&A" interrogation of **Stefan Sojka**, who was so nervous about being put to the question that he had tucked his shirt in for the interview! He cracked almost immediately, admitting he was going into fulltime multimedia design (that is making web-sites to the rest of us) and abandoning his musical performances, except of course for our annual Changeovers! He revealed that there is a wealth of musical talent on his mother's side of the family and that his Dad knows Morse code. Geoff accused him of writing for Nett magazine, and he confessed not only to this, but also to being a "blogger", whatever that is – the internet equivalent of graffiti, perhaps? Well done Geoff: you could teach your police officer sons a thing or two about questioning suspects!

A reminder that **Les Whitcroft** has Rotary Christmas cards for sale, and then we were enjoying a very nice chicken dinner, all of us except for resident "Jack-in-the-box" Geoff who was dragged from his meal to the

podium to spruik the Australian Rotary Health Christmas Dinner. **Ron Thomson** circulated a list for the Partner's night ***Apprentice of the Year***, which he is unfortunately unable to attend himself, but everything is under control!

Our first guest speaker, PP **Duncan Taylor**, addressed us all on the Hunter's Hill Ryde Men's Shed, and is seeking funding for \$30,000 worth of improvements and tools for the shed.

The report from Meals on Wheels last weekend revealed that Rtn **Richard Henricus** was a hit on his first run, and is now permanent spare for this project.

Determined to out-Q&A Geoff, President **Ken** turned Exchange Student **Victoria Blichfeldt's** report into a Question and Answer session, revealing Victoria and her friend **Magda** enjoyed the weekend away with the club in fabled Lithgow, where Coal is King, especially the visit to the Mount Piper Coal-fired Power Station and the Zig Zag Railway Steam Train. Her best experience in Australia so far was **Michelle Dodd's** Hen Party, followed closely by sailing on John's yacht on Sydney harbour. The hardest thing to get used to is the distances to traverse in Sydney, an hour by bus to visit a friend.

The Spackle failed to strike the jackpot, but PP **Jan Cutler** took the red in consolation, then Serjeant **Steve** went on a fining spree, fining everyone who took part in a Melbourne Cup Sweep – I think that got us all, and Ron Taffa for his run of luck in the weekend, winning every raffle in Lithgow! \$30 worth of Vouchers were raffled to Tony Abboud for \$35 – he couldn't believe his luck, and some books with burger vouchers were auctioned too.



Tony introduced our second Guest Speaker, **Leah May**, the Top Ryde City Customer Service Manager, who spoke on the history of the demolition of the old shopping centre and construction of the new one. Ryde Rotary has been involved from the inception, since 2005, and our people acted as guides at the opening. She spoke of the two negatives in perceptions of Top Ryde City: they are in receivership, and many people have trouble with the car-parking, many driving to smaller shopping centres further away where it is easier to get in and out. Leah said the parking at Top Ryde is actually very good, "once you get to know it!" Rtn **Maureen Mulheron** suggested they use pictures rather than letters on the posts to guide you back to your car, others that Red J gives you only two coordinates in a three dimensional grid: If they numbered each pole, Red J 12 would give you the exact location of your vehicle and tell you in which direction to head. In spite of these negative perceptions, numbers of shoppers are growing and Top Ryde City no longer just a weekend Shopping Centre. **Leah** was advised to get the good news out there so the local papers have something to balance the picture. Leah was thanked by **Ron "Raffles" Taffa**, who while being loyal to the West Ryde Shopping Centre, conceded that Top Ryde City deserved to prosper as well. We finished the meeting early in spite of the late start, but the Board meeting that followed ran well over time!

Allen Horrell

[Take me to the TOP](#)

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is given that the Annual General Meeting of the Rotary Club of Ryde
will be held on Tuesday 13th December 2011 at 6.30pm

Next Generation Function Centre

Nominations for board positions are encouraged. Forms will be available from Bob Kaye-Smith on
and from Tuesday 8th November

[Take me to the TOP](#)

Celebration of PP Eric Bond's 50 years service to Rotary

At a "surprise" afternoon tea Sunday 6th November PP **Eric Bond** MBE was honoured with a Paul Harris Fellow Sapphire. About 50 Ryde Rotarians and partners, Eric's family and District Governor **David Rands** were on hand to help Eric celebrate the occasion. Story and more photos in next week's HUB.



The Rotary Leadership Institute

I have mentioned previously that I am a faculty member of the Rotary Leadership Institute, and that I believe that the training it provides will help to answer the “club training” issues identified in our strategic overview. At last week’s meeting of the board, there was strong support for utilising this facility, and I have included here some basic information to introduce the concept to our members.

The Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is a multi-district, grassroots leadership development program of member districts organized into regional divisions in various parts of the world.

RLI seeks to have Rotary Clubs in its member districts identify those Rotarians who appear to have the potential for future club leadership (not necessarily as club presidents) and provide those so identified with a quality education in Rotary knowledge and leadership skills so important in voluntary organizations.

Established in 1992, RLI has become a worldwide organization with divisions in every continent of the world. While it is an unofficial program of Rotary International, it has substantial support of a number of past Rotary International Presidents and current, past and incoming R.I. Directors. The R.I. Board has adopted a resolution recommending RLI or similar programs to the districts, and the Council on Legislation has twice recommended RLI to the Board.

RLI believes that excellent CLUB leadership (all types of club leaders) is essential to the future of Rotary in a complex and fast changing world. Most Rotarians have not been exposed to the great scope of Rotary around the world and have not considered what leadership skills are necessary to move Rotary forward.

RLI strongly believes that a good Rotary Club leader must know the evolution of Rotary, its current status and activities in the world and have a vision for what Rotary can be in the future. To achieve this, RLI provides a three day non-consecutive basic course in both Rotary knowledge and leadership skills, especially for voluntary organisations. In addition to the specific leadership skills sessions, all the RLI sessions have a leadership component.

The mission of RLI is to have the clubs in the member districts identify those with the potential for future club leadership and send them to RLI courses at club expense. All member clubs may send any club Rotarian to RLI courses and any Rotarian may attend any course at his/her own initiative.

The overriding goal of the courses for club Rotarians is to create ENTHUSIASM for Rotary by opening up to them the world of Rotary outside of their own clubs and also showing them the great potential of Rotary service for the benefit of the world that can be furthered with excellent leadership in our clubs.

RLI is a general education program, while most Rotary International training programs are "job-specific"; that is R.I. trains Rotarians for specific positions. RLI is not a PETS or any other district training program, but graduates of RLI bring a greatly enhanced background in Rotary when they later attend job-specific programs.

Members wishing to understand more about the program should access the RLI website at:

www.rotaryleadershipinstitute.org

Rob Mitchell

[Take me to the TOP](#)

Letter from Anna

Hi David, I will write a longer message to you all very soon, before christmas I promise :) Uni keeps me pretty busy, but I really enjoy it :)

so just a short note: I had my presentation at my sending club today and it was so weird because I was so familiar with all the members

of Ryde Rotary and I always loved the meetings, it felt so familiar :) and today, at my sending club, everything was sooo unpersonal, it so boring when

you don't know the members and you can't make little jokes and I didn't know their names etc. ... I really really missed the australian meetings!!

--> main message: Ryde Rotary is so much more fun than every rotary club i've been to! ;)

Please say hi to everyone at the meeting :) I miss you all and hope you're all well, lots of love Anna

[Take me to the TOP](#)

The Tamil Nadu Project

We have recently obtained some pictures of the year 10 coaching program and a couple of Village Education Centers (VEC), which helps younger students. Both these activities are a part of the Program for Education and Awareness Building (PEAB) project in Tamil Nadu, India. Ryde Rotary has started supporting the project from this year.

We have also obtained information about some students who completed the year 10 coaching program. The case-study of Thenmozhi, who was one of the students passing out of the program, helps us understand the problems these students face and the impact of the coaching program on them. The stories of the other students are also quite similar.

Thenmozhi, lives with her parents and sisters in Keezhandai Colony in a small thatched low roof house, which has one room and is dark even during the day time. Besides her studies, she assists her mother in the house and fetches 6 to 7 pots of water every day. She also does cooking and she said that she is good in making tomato rice. But mostly she can afford to eat only Rice Kanji (Porridge).

The major disturbance that she faced at home was the quarrel between her parents as her father would beat her mother demanding money for buying alcohol. Her dream was to become a nurse and in her personal statement she stated that "I have the talent to study well but my father and mother are asking me not to study. So please help me to continue my higher education".

Thenmozhi did quite well in her year 10 exams, scoring 390 out of 500 in her year 10 exams. In particular, she scored 87/100 in Science and 80/100 in Mathematics and credits the year 10 coaching program for helping her score good marks.

She is now doing her Bachelor of Science in Medical lab Technology. The funds for this, which is currently outside the scope of the PEAB program, were mobilized by Semmalar Selvi, who is the program coordinator for PEAB. Semmalar also mobilized funds for higher education for two more students who did well in their

year 10 exams.



10th coaching Center



VEC at Kathricheri



VEC at Uzhuthumangalam



Thenmozhi

Siddharth Maheshwari

[Take me to the TOP](#)

Art Appraisal Day - Sunday 20th November

Rotary Club of Ryde offers the community an Art Appraisal Day on Sunday 20th of November 2011 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at Addington House, 813 Victoria Road, Ryde.

Look through your house and select an item or more to be appraised by fine art experts Mr. David Hulme and Ms. Brigitte Banziger of Banziger Hulme Fine Art Consultants.

David and Brigitte are offering their services for the Rotary Club of Ryde to raise funds for the ongoing projects that the Club supports such as Eradication of Polio, Tree of Joy and Borjegai School in Afghanistan just to name a few.

The artworks to bring in for appraisal can be sculptures, paintings, watercolours, photos and prints such as

lithographs, etchings and screen prints. If the artwork is large, you can take several photos and bring those in for appraisal. You will also receive advice on how to care for the artwork.

The cost is \$5.00 per work of art.

Rotary Club of Ryde greatly appreciates Friends of Addington House for making the venue available on Sunday 20th of November 2011.

For any enquires please contact Rtn. Nora Etmekdjian on nora@summitconsultants.com.au.

Hope you can join us and have fun watching some of the artworks that people will bring in for appraisal.

Light refreshments will be served by the volunteers of the Friends of Addington House.

[Take me to the TOP](#)

Volunteer Graffiti Cleanup Squads for NSW

The NSW Government will team up with Rotary Clubs and Dulux Paint to establish volunteer graffiti removal squads across the state, under a plan announced recently by Attorney General Greg Smith SC.

“This is an opportunity for people who have felt powerless against the scourge of graffiti to unite and restore pride in their community,” Mr Smith said.

Mr Smith today met with representatives of Turrumurra Rotary, who formed a volunteer graffiti squad in 2008, and Dulux, which provides free paint and materials to the squad.

“With the support of Ku-ring-gai Council and local businesses, the Turrumurra Rotary squad has cleaned more than 3,000 square metres of graffiti in their area,” Mr Smith said.

“This success story can be replicated in other parts of the state with an identified graffiti problem and the NSW Government is encouraging local councils and businesses to form similar partnerships with Rotary to combat graffiti.”

With funding from the Department of Attorney General and Justice, Rotary Turrumurra will help other Rotary Clubs in NSW establish volunteer graffiti removal squads in their area. Dulux Paint will support the expansion of the program.

The team leader of the Turrumurra Rotary Graffiti Removal Project, Roger Norman said there has been a groundswell of support for community-driven graffiti removal.

“Over the past three years, the Rotary Club has helped establish graffiti removal squads at eight locations in Sydney and on the Central Coast and many other Rotary Clubs have expressed interest in the program,” Mr Norman said.

“There are many more law abiding citizens than there are vandals and we can prevail over the destructive minority.”

Turrumurra Hardware proprietor, Don Wormald, who has raised awareness about the local graffiti removal squad and organised sponsorship to ensure its viability, applauded the expansion of the project.

“This is a major step in the fight against graffiti,” Mr Wormald said.

Dulux Australia General Manager Patrick Jones said Dulux was proud to be supporting Rotary and local communities in restoring public spaces.

“We know that graffiti has a negative impact on how people feel about a place and it’s great to see local

communities taking the initiative to clean up and improve the look of areas in which they live, work and play," Mr Jones said.

Almost anyone can become involved in a Rotary volunteer graffiti removal program in their local area.

[Take me to the TOP](#)

In Other News -

[World Polio Day Report](#)

[ShelterBox](#) - Progress on Creating ShelterBox Australia as a Multi-District Project

[Australian Rotary Health Newsletter - November 2011](#) (PDF - 1.6MB)

Dare to Laugh?

POOF! THE LIGHT GOES OFF !

A very senior man goes for a physical. All of his tests come back normal so the doctor says,

"Harry, everything looks great. How are you doing mentally and emotionally? Are you at peace with God?"

Harry replies,

"God and I are tight. He knows I have poor eyesight, so he's fixed it when I get up in the middle of the night to go to the bathroom, poof, the light goes on. When I'm done, poof, the light goes off."

"Wow, that's incredible," the doctor says.

A little later in the day, the doctor calls Harry's wife. "Mrs White," he says, "Harry's doing fine. But I had to call you because I'm in awe of his relationship with God. Is it true that he gets up during the night and poof the light goes on in the bathroom: and when he's done, poof the light goes off?"

"OH GOOD GRIEF!" Mrs White exclaims, "He's peeing in the fridge again!"

A STORMY NIGHT

You are driving along in your car on a wild, stormy night. You pass by a bus stop, and you see three people waiting for the bus:

1. An old lady who looks as if she is about to die.
2. An old friend who once saved your life.
3. The perfect man (or) woman you have been dreaming about.

Which one would you choose to offer a ride to, knowing that there could only be one passenger in your car. Think before you continue reading. This is a moral/ethical dilemma that was once actually used as part of a job application.

You could pick up the old lady, because she is going to die, and thus you should save her first; or you could take the old friend because he once saved your life, and this would be the perfect chance to pay him back.

However, you may never be able to find your perfect dream lover again.

The candidate who was hired (out of 200 applicants) had no trouble coming up with his answer.

He simply answered: "I would give the car keys to my old friend, and let him take the lady to the hospital. I would stay behind and wait for the bus with the man (or woman) of my dreams."

[Take me to the TOP](#)

Rosters

Meeting Responsibilities - tonight (8/11/11)

If you are unable to fulfil this duty, arrange your own swap and then advise President Ken.

Welcomers	Rob Mitchell, Maureen Mulheron
Loyal Toast	Adrian Hallett
Introduce Guest Speaker	Allen Horrell
Thank you to Guest Speaker	David Johnston

Friday Night Roster for Victoria

Victoria is currently staying with the Dodd family. Feel free to swap as long as everyone is advised.

Richard Henricus	11/11/2011
John Higgins	18/11/2011
David James	25/11/2011
David Johnston	2/12/2011
Bob Kaye-Smith	9/12/2011
Charles Kilby	16/12/2011

Meeting Responsibilities - next week (15/11/11)

If you are unable to fulfil this duty, arrange your own swap and then advise President Ken.

Welcomers	Mick Nelson Ashley Peake
Loyal Toast	Ian Henderson
Introduce Guest Speaker	Martin Aston
Thank you to Guest Speaker	David James

Can't fulfill your duties? Just find a substitute, but don't leave a vacancy, please.

[Take me to the TOP](#)

Forthcoming Program

Looking Ahead

- Nov 15** Apprentice of the Year Awards -
Guest Speaker **Nicholas Gleeson**
 - Nov 22** Sydney's Ferries - Past and present - Bill Allen
 - Nov 29** Polio - A Personal Story
 - Dec 6** Riverside Rotary Clubs' Ethics Debate - Round 1
 - Dec 13** Philately will get you Everywhere - Patrick Longfield
[Annual General Meeting](#)
 - Dec 20** Annual Christmas Party, with Santa and partners
-

Other Events for your Diary

Ryde Rotary Art Appraisal Day

When: Sunday 20th November 2011
Time: 11am - 2pm
Where: Addington House, 813 Victoria Road, Ryde
Details: Nora Etmekdjian
Website: [Ryde Rotary's website](#)

Australian Rotary Health Christmas Dinner

When: Wednesday 7th December 2011
Time: 6.30 for 7pm
Where: The Epping Club
Cost:
Details:

Ryde Rotary Charity Golf Day

When: Friday 10th February 2012
Time: from 7am
Where: Oatlands Golf Club
Cost:
Details: Mick Nelson, Ron Thomson

District Conference - 2012

When: Friday 16th - 18 March 2012
Where: WIN Sports & Entertainment Centre Wollongong
Details: Patrick Longfield

[Take me to the TOP](#)

Celebrations

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Nov 9 35 year Club Anniversary for **Ross Rocca**
Nov 11 8 year Club Anniversary for **John Mazlin**
Nov 14 60 year Birthday Celebration for **Mick Nelson**

Attendance Last Meeting ... 93.18%

Makeups:	Artin Etmekdjian, John Higgins, Nora Etmekdjian
Apologies:	Artin Etmekdjian, John Higgins, Mick Nelson, Patrick Longfield, David Johnston, Hameed Fazal, Eric Bond Nora Etmekdjian, Terry Kerim
Guests:	Victoria Blichfeldt
Rotarian Guests:	
Guest Speaker:	Leah May - Top Ryde City

Useful Links

Rotary International	www.rotary.org
Rotary Down Under	www.rotarydownunder.com.au
ShelterBox Australia	www.shelterboxaustralia.com.au
School of St Jude	www.schoolofstjude.co.tz
District Conference 2012	http://conference.rotarydistrict9680.org

[Take me to the TOP](#)

Can't come on Tuesday?

You may tell as many people you like about your absence, but the only way you'll avoid paying for your meal for non attendance is to advise **Bob Kaye-Smith (0411 263 294)** by **10am Monday**.

[Take me to the TOP](#)

Back issues of The HUB are available on our website -

<http://ryderotary.org.au/media-bulletin>

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 Rotary 4-Way Test

Of the things we think, say and 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?

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