

THE ROTARY CLUB OF RYDE—DISTRICT 9680 CHARTERED 1946

The HUB

Tuesday 10th January 2012

Volume 66

Issue No. 26



January is
**ROTARY
AWARENESS
MONTH**

Rotary International Officers 2011 — 2012



President Rotary International.....	Kalyan Banerjee Vapi, Gujarat, India
District 9680 Governor	David Rands

Rotary Club of Ryde

Directors

President	Ken Allen
Administration	Burkhart Foertsch
Foundation	John Mazlin
Membership	Allen Horrell
Public Relations	Adrian Hallett
Projects	Siddharth Maheshwari
Secretary	Bob Kaye-Smith
Treasurer	Graham Metcalfe
Immediate Past President	Allen Horrell

Avenues

Community Service.....	Nora Etmekdjian
International Service	Erdem Toner
Vocational Service	Ron Thomson
Youth Service.....	Charles Kilby

Communications

Bulletin Editor—The HUB	David James
Photographer	John Mazlin
Serjeant-at-Arms.....	Steve Thorp
Programmes	Martin Aston
Attendance.....	Ross Rocca
Social Secretary.....	Peter Cooper
Historian & Archivist.....	Doug Thompson
Conference Co-ordinator	Patrick Longfield
Public Officer.....	John Dodd
Webmaster.....	Stefan Sojka
Web Address	www.ryderotary.org.au
E-mail address for HUB contributions.....	editor@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, NSW 1680
RSVP extras or absences to: Val Payne 9874 5787



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

This Week... Members' & Partners' night

Tonight Jan 10: **New Year Rendezvous**
6 for 6.30 **All attending members have been sent details by e-mail**

Tonight's Roster

Welcomers	—
Loyal Toast by	—
Guest Speaker introduced by	—
Guest Speaker thanked by	—



If you are unable to fulfill this duty, please arrange your own swap and inform President Ken what you've done.

The "Meeting Night Roster" for the next 3 meetings appears on Page 11



Ken's Korner

Warm Greetings and a happy new year to all as we get underway with the second half of this Rotary year. I trust you all have had a restful and enjoyable break. Thank you to all who helped with the Christmas gift wrapping and to Nora for coordinating it. Our next big project is The Charity Golf Day at Oatlands Golf Club on Friday 10th February. Ron Thomson and Mick Nelson are coordinating it. Ron would like all members to bring a bottle of wine to our next meeting on the 10th Jan. to be used for prizes at the Golf day.

Our first meeting for the year is a wives and partner's night at Richard and Carolyn's home. It is BYO but with coordination from Bob Kaye-Smith, so ring him if you have changed your plans. This will be a relaxed way to begin the year. The following week the 17th our guest speaker will be a volunteer from the Sisters of the Good Shepherd Orphanage at Kotahena in Sri Lanka, an orphanage which has been in continuous operation for over 40 years.

Hoping to see many of you on the 10th.

Ken

Rotary Leadership Course

The leadership course is strongly recommended for President Elects but is very useful for anyone in the club who wishes to learn more about Rotary or will have other leadership roles in your clubs next Rotary year.

The three part course costs \$105 and is run at the district office in Thornleigh. The next course starts 21st January. Clubs will be invoiced at the end of the course. Any member wishing to attend should select the course set out below and notify Michael Schwarcz by email on DGaide@rotarydistrict9680.org



Last Christmas as recalled by Allen Horrell

Our Ryde Christmas Party used the full second floor as we had 99 Rotarians, children and grand-children in attendance. President Ken presided over our dinner and celebrations and welcomed us all to our Christmas Yuletide Saturnalia. Strangely for a man of the cloth he dispensed with our Rotary Grace in favour of a sober moment of silence while we contemplated our good fortune to be here at the Rotary Club of Ryde, in the lucky country. Few in the world are as fortunate as we blessed few.

The silence was soon replaced with members and guests singing the "12 Days of Christmas" with our Choir of **Bernadette, Danielle and Judy** lead by **Jordan Metcalfe**. While the Carol is repetitive in the extreme it is less trite than it seems, with each line having a hidden meaning, which our editor may print elsewhere.

Victoria Blichfeldt distributed home-made Norwegian Ginger Bread, while Rayne and her crew served the children their chicken nuggets and chips. Then we helped ourselves to the buffet, one table at a time, and it soon became apparent that we had over-catered the event. The variety and sheer volume of food reminded me of a lyric from a Nickelback song When We Stand Together: "We could feed a starving world with what we throw away!" Maybe that is what President Ken's moment of silence was all about.



There were more Carols, then **Marli Taylor** won the door prize, a bowl almost too artistic to use for anything other than display. Due to the generosity of an absent member we also had table decorations which doubled as gifts. Soon tables with surplus children were raiding other tables for surplus teddy bears to establish a toy/child balance at each. Between more courses President Ken gave a super sermon on the meaning of Christmas though the ages, culminating in the rhetorical question "Is it a J? Is it a Shepherd's Crook? No, it's a Candy Cane!" The origin of the candy cane goes back hundreds of years to when sugar became freely available throughout Europe, cheaply sourced from slave-operated sugar cane plantations in colonies such as Jamaica, and Christians began using straight white sugar rock candy as a symbol of Christmas. Over the years they created various hidden meanings of the progressively curved and coloured designs: The red and white represented Christ's blood and purity. The three red stripes symbolized the Holy Trinity. The hardness of the candy represented the Church's foundation on solid rock and the peppermint flavour represented the use of hyssop, an herb referred to in the Old Testament. There is no historical evidence to support any of these claims, quite the contrary, but they make a good story, a sermon in every cane. Apparently the origin of the sugar did not in those days inspire any moments of silence, but it should have done.

PP **Patrick Longfield**, in a Clark Kent moment, was unaccountably out of the room when he won the Layette in our raffle. Although the word means "tiny box" in French it turns out to be a complete outfit of clothing, bedding, etc. for a newborn baby. Since the Christmas Season is to celebrate the birth of a very special baby, what could be more appropriate? I reflected too on the obvious enjoyment the children got from meeting Santa, and just how good Santa was with the children. Our guest and prospective

Last Christmas as recalled by Allen Horrell ... *continued*

member **Adrienn German** (from Hungary) was amazed at her three year old daughter Julia's acceptance of and enthusiasm for our Rotary Santa.

By the time you read this Christmas and New Year will be a fading memory, but I hope you all had a Merry and Holy Christmas, and a Happy and Blessed New Year.

The true meaning behind the '12 days of Christmas' lyrics

The twelve days of Christmas are the twelve days between Christmas Day (December 25), the birth of Jesus, and the Epiphany (January 6), the day Christians celebrate the arrival of the Magi (wise men) and the revelation of Christ as the light of the world.

The Christmas song, The Twelve Days of Christmas may sound silly and contrived to many of us. But it actually had its origins in religious symbolism - and with a serious purpose. It dates from a time of religious persecution. The song was written as a kind of secret catechism that could be sung in public without fear of arrest - a learning or memory aid to Christians in fact.

The song can be taken at two levels of interpretation - the surface meaning used or misused in the Bonds underwear advertisements, or the hidden meaning known only to the Christians involved. Each element is a code word for a religious truth.

- ◆ The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus.
- ◆ The two turtledoves are the Old and New Testaments.
- ◆ Three French hens stand for faith, hope and love.
- ◆ The four calling birds are the four gospels.
- ◆ The five gold rings recall the Hebrew Torah (Law), or the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Old Testament.
- ◆ The six geese a-laying stand for the six days of creation.
- ◆ The seven swans a-swimming represent the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ The eight maids a-milking are the eight Beatitudes.
- ◆ Nine ladies dancing are the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ The ten lords a-leaping are the Ten Commandments.
- ◆ Eleven pipers piping represent the eleven faithful apostles.
- ◆ Twelve drummers drumming symbolise the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostles Creed.

If you think Jesus being symbolised as a partridge in a pear tree sounds blasphemous, remember: "Jerusalem! Jerusalem! How often would I have sheltered thee under my wings, as a hen does her chicks, but thou wouldst not have it so." (Luke 13:34 and Matthew 23:34)

The "true love" in the song refers to God Himself. The "me" receiving the gifts is every Christian. So that "silly" song we sing at Christmas time has more meaning than we thought.

Allen Horrell

Christmas Party



Photo centrefold



Christmas Gift Wrapping at Top Ryde City



Rotary's 107th at the 'Best Exotic Marigold Hotel' !

To celebrate Rotary's 107th Birthday on February 23rd, 20th Century Fox has offered Rotary the pre-release rights to a movie that will not be nationally released until March. The movie, **The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel**, has the hallmark of an outstanding entertainment event suitable for a wide range of tastes. We have the opportunity to arrange screenings for a Polio Plus Film Night between Wednesday February 22nd until Sunday February 26th so we have levels of flexibility not previously given. The movie night would be a fundraiser for Polio Plus – so this is not only an opportunity to celebrate Rotary's 107th birthday but to raise much needed funds to support our polio eradication efforts.

It tells the story of a group of misfit British pensioners who are enticed to retire to a fabulous hotel in Jaipur, India, where they are promised to live a life of luxury for a bargain price. Upon their arrival, they are dismayed to find that restoration of the once elegant Marigold Hotel has stalled. There is water sometimes. And electricity sometimes. The hotel's eager manager, a young Indian entrepreneur, is quick to tell them that his ambitious renovation is going to turn the place around. Surprisingly, the retirees find themselves settling into this strange new world and creating bonds with each other. What their new life lacks in luxury they come to find is plentiful in adventure, stunning beauty, peace and love.

The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel stars Judy Dench, Bill Nighy, Tom Wilkinson, Maggie Smith, Penelope Wilton, Donald Pickup, Celia Imrie and Dev Patel (*Slumdog Millionaire* –2008).

Watch The HUB for further details. In the meantime, have a look at the movie trailer - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dDY89LYxK0w>



Semi-Annual Fees are DUE



Treasurer Graham Metcalfe would like to remind members that their semi-annual membership fees of **\$125** are **NOW DUE**.

You may write a cheque, give him cash or pay by direct credit to —

Rotary Club of Ryde, Inc.

BSB: 112-879

Account #: 000589388

Can't attend a meeting? — Ring Val

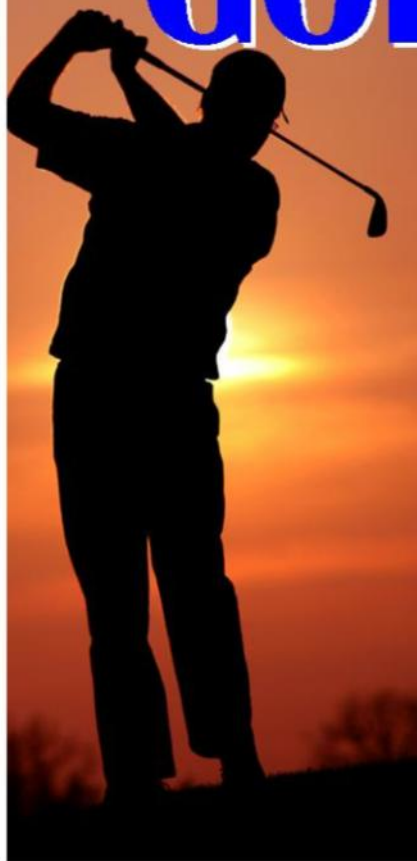
If you need to give a late apology for non-attendance at any meeting please ring Val Payne (**9874 5787**) **before 10am Monday**. Club policy is that you will be expected to pay for your meal if you are absent without timely apology.



ROTARY CLUB OF RYDE

2012 CHARITY

GOLF DAY




**Proudly hosted at
Oatlands Golf Club**

**Friday
10th February 2012**

**4-ball Ambrose
Complimentary Bunker Clinic
Registration 7am + breakfast
Shotgun start 8am
Lunch approx 1pm**



Proceeds to community projects of the Rotary Club of Ryde. The Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia will receive \$50 from this registration which will be a tax deductible donation for you.



Attendance last meeting

Attendance Last Meeting: 84.44%

Makeups: Geoff Brennan, Hameed Fazal

Apologies: Surinder Joson, Artin Etmekdjian, Eric Bond, Geoff Brennan, Ron Thomson, Tony Abboud, Hameed Fazal, Paul Burnett, Stefan Sojka, Terry Kerim

Guests: Victoria Blichfeldt

Guests of members: Danielle Allen, Angie Aston, Lorraine Carroll + family, Margaret Cooper + family, Cutler family, Janelle Dodd, Faye Dunn, Linda Hallett, Ruth Henderson + family, Caroline Hawkless, Elinor Higgins, Bernadette Horrell + family, Sally James, Victoria Kilby, Carolyn Metcalfe + family, Judy Mitchell, Marie Peake, Janis Redford, Rose Rocca, Margaret Taffa + family, Alex Tautu, Marli Taylor

Leave of Absence: Tony Abboud, Terry Kerim


Looking Ahead...

2012

Jan 17: The Good Shepherd Sisters' Orphanage at Kotahena in Sri Lanka -
This has been in continuous operation for over 140 years and we will hear from a volunteer at the orphanage.

Jan 24: TBA

Jan 31: RYLA candidates will speak to the Club about their recent experiences at the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (to be confirmed)




Any suggestions? Contact Martin Aston: maaston@optusnet.com.au 02 9808 2574

Birthdays and Anniversaries

January 2: 11 year Club Anniversary for **Charles Kilby**

January 4: Birthday Celebration for **Angela Aston**

January 14: 23 year Wedding Anniversary for **Allen and Bernadette Horrell**



Useful websites

- 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>

Other events ...

- ▶ **Meals on Wheels**
Sunday 29th January, 10.45am
Contact: Bob Carroll
- ▶ **Paint Vandalism (Graffiti) Removal Day**
Date: Saturday 4th February (first Saturday in the month)
Time: 8am-10am
Details: Charles Kilby
- ▶ **Ryde Rotary Annual Charity Golf Day**
Date: Friday 10th February 2012
Venue: Oatlands Golf Club
Details: Ron Thomson, Mick Nelson (see notice Page 9)
- ▶ **Annual District 9680 Youth Exchange Dinner**
Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club
Date: Friday 10th February 2012
- ▶ **Sailing Day for Youth Exchange students**
Date: 12th February 2012
Venue: Royal Motor Yacht Club, Broken Bay
- ▶ **“End Polio Now” Fundraiser Movie Preview**
“Best Exotic Marigold Hotel” [PG]
Meal and Movie preview
Date, venue & cost: to be confirmed



Meals on Wheels



If you have a Rotary-related item for this calendar, please e-mail it to editor@ryderotary.org.au

Friday Night Roster for Victoria

Victoria is presently hosted with Daniel & Kristina Graham — 9873 6096

Who	When
Siddharth M.	13/1/2012
Kalma McLellan	20/1/2012

Who	When
Graham Metcalfe	27/1/2012
Maureen Mulheron	3/2/2012

Meeting Night Roster

Date	Welcomers		Loyal	Intro	Thanks
17/01/12	Jan C	Noel Dunn	Martin A	Geoff B	Bob C
24/01/12	Artin E	Nora E	Geoff B.	Paul B.	Peter C.
31/01/12	Burkhart	Adrian H.	Paul B.	Jan C	Noel Dunn

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

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!