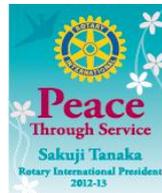




STRATHFIELD ROTARY NEWS

The Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Strathfield Inc.
District 9690, New South Wales, Australia



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 6.15 p.m. for 6.30 p.m.

Wednesday, 6 February 2013

February is World Understanding month - emphasising Rotary's goal of world understanding and peace



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?

Last Week's Meeting

Our Guest Speaker was *Greg Brownless*, whose topic was "Confessions of a Tour Guide".

Greg was born in New Zealand where he worked as a Funeral Director. He moved to Australia and set up a similar business in Hurstville.

As a 20 year old, Greg set out for London where he worked as a tour guide for Contiki Tours. Contiki started in the 1960's with one bus offering camping tours of Europe. In the 1980's when Greg worked for them they had a fleet of

buses offering continuous tours of Europe. Depending on the price of the tour, the accommodation varied from tents to Chateaus' or even hotels. The clientele were mainly 18 to 35 year old Australian and about 80% female.

The tours started at 7am from London and proceeded by ferry to France. Many experienced their first taste of Europe with pay-for toilets and pay for beaches. Greg took a break from his talk to play his piano accordion to put his audience in the mood with French tunes.

After Paris, the bus continued on to the French Riviera and then onto Italy. In Italy the usual visits to Pisa, Florence and Rome. Most Australian tourists were moved by the visit to the war cemetery near Naples. From Italy the bus moved into Spain and then back to London. Greg finished his talk with his piano accordion; this time with the Italian melody "Funiculi Funicular". Greg was thanked by Peter Van der Sleseen on behalf of the Club.

Announcements

President Ray

- 28th February 2013 will be the District Golf Championship
- Raffle tickets to each member @ \$5 per ticket. First prize Samsung TV. Second Prize overnight bag
- The resignation of Peter Foss from the Club has been accepted.

WOULD MEMBERS WHO WILL NOT BE ATTENDING A MEETING BETWEEN NOW AND 27 FEBRUARY, PLEASE CONTACT PRESIDENT RAY TO ARRANGE TO COLLECT RAFFLE TICKETS

Secretary Joe Saad

- The monthly District News Letter has been issued.
- The Club has received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Salvation Army.
- Graham Doran (husband of Marlene) is not well.

Acting Treasurer Rod McDougall

- Only 21 annual dues paid to date.
- Two members still owe half-yearly dues from last year.

International Director Anuradha Kamkolkar

- A Korean Night is planned for Saturday 13th April 2013.

Tony Lanzafame

- Our Club will link with Strathfield Council to organise "Youth Achievement Awards" for a Wednesday Night in May 2013.

There were 3 member reports relating to recent events.

Grahame True on the Croquet Night

The Croquet Night was held on 16th January 2013 with special guest Charles Casuscelli. Rotary provided the BBQ and the Croquet Club provide the side dishes. The Croquet Club was started by Mrs Firth at her home and then was moved to the Redmyre Road site by Strathfield Council together with the Baby Health Centre. The Croquet Club has 40 members and is always happy to see new members/visitors.

David Croft on the Restaurant Night

The Restaurant Night was held on 23rd January 2013 with 40+Rotarians and guests. The location was "Il Locale" run by Adrian and Angelina Risi. Thank you to Susanne Freund for organising the night.

Allan Teale on RYLA last week

Allan attended a dinner at the RYLA Camp held at Blue Gum Lodge last week. There were three nominees from our Club and they will be at the Club meeting next week.

Congratulations to the following for birthdays and anniversaries next week:

Birthdays

11 February Welwyn Petersen

Anniversaries

8 February Ray & Ann McCluskie
Joseph & Grace Kim

9 February Andrew & Maria
Kowalski

Rotary Anniversaries

11 February Allan Petersen

FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

Date	Topic
6/2/2013	RYLA Attendees
13/2/2013	TBA
20/2/2013	TBA

FUTURE CLUB EVENTS

Date	Event
28/2/2013	Rotary District Charity Golf Day Strathfield Golf Club Shot gun start at 12.30 following Lunch(11.30 am)
13/4/2013	Korean Night
15/5/2013	Youth Achievement Awards

GOOD MANNERS IN ROTARY

Do we really need to write about this topic? It is my belief that our attention should be drawn to recognised ways of doing things that are appropriate for the occasion. Some would refer to these as formal or informal **Rotary Protocols**.

I was indeed fortunate to have been invited to join Rotary in 1977 by the now deceased Past President of Strathfield Rotary club and Past District Governor Bob Taylor. Bob was regarded by many as a stickler for formality and protocol but fortunately many of Bob's 'lessons' have been retained by those of us who were around at the time. We should never forget that Rotary is an organization of volunteers and while many prefer to serve inconspicuously and unnoticed, most are satisfied with a "thank you" or an acknowledgement of their contribution and effort in the presence of their peers. So it is important to refer to the President of the club as "President Brian" or a previous officer as "Past President Rod" or a visiting dignitary as "District Governor Jennifer" when referring to such person in public. This not only recognises their position but also recognises the individual's contribution to that position. This may appear overly formal but in truth Rotary is a very egalitarian organization.

"From the earliest days of Rotary, members have referred to each other on a first name basis. Since personal acquaintanceship and friendship are cornerstones of Rotary, it was natural that many clubs adopted the practice of setting aside formal titles in conversations among members. Individuals who normally would be addressed as Doctor, Professor etc. are regularly called Joe, Bill etc. by other Rotarians." (Extract from "The ABCs of Rotary" – available from RDU, a must read for every Rotarian.)

So in simple terms, what were some of the points pressed by PDG Bob Taylor?

*Always **stand when addressing the President or Chair of a meeting** (my parenthesis)

*Recognise by (Rotary) title present, future and past officers of Rotary when referring to them in public

*It is important and courteous to follow an order of precedence for Rotary officers, dignitaries and visitors at Rotary functions.

RDU has printed a booklet "Good Manners in Rotary" which sets down the order of precedence (or 'pecking order') to be used to introduce, recognise, present and seat all current, past and future officers of RI and their partners. Good Manners in Rotary is a worthwhile reference publication.

Did you know that "at Rotary functions, officers should be addressed according to protocol only once" and that "partners of deceased persons should be given the same respect and position as if their Rotarian partner were there"? Also "when representatives of (local, state or federal) government are invited to attend Rotary gatherings, those representatives, as local custom may dictate, may be given precedence" (over Rotary dignitaries).

Guest Speakers

We are indeed fortunate that our meetings have very high quality guest speakers who give their time in preparation, travelling and presentation to our members. It goes without saying that we must show our guests every courtesy even if we do not personally share their public views. It is important that we all follow a few common courtesies in regard to our guest speakers.

*The guest speaker (indeed all visitors) should always be greeted on arrival. In the event that the President or other responsible Rotarian is not immediately available we all have a responsibility to make them welcome.

*Normally the Rotarian responsible for the introduction will sit with the guest speaker over dinner. This enables him/her to gain first hand information which could assist the introduction.

*Most guest speakers welcome questions from the floor at the completion of their presentation

*Any questions to a guest speaker should be **directed through the Chair of the meeting** (“through you President Brian, Professor Jane what----”))

*Questions should be clear, concise and **to the point.**

*Questions should not seek **to debate points presented by the speaker.**

*Persons asking questions **should not attempt to enter into discussion/debate** with the speaker or to pose a second or follow up question without the clear approval of the Chair.

Vote of Thanks

Members may not be aware of the protocol and courtesy appropriate to a vote of thanks.

“Above all it should be **courteous to the speakers and make them feel their effort has been appreciated and their contribution worthwhile.**”

A few pertinent points from guidelines from **CEDA**, the Committee for Economic Development of Australia, are:

*A good Vote of Thanks should be all but prepared before the function.

*The audience does not need to hear a paraphrase of what they have heard.

*Never speak longer than 10% of the time taken by the guest speaker (i.e. **about two minutes for a 20 minute speech.**)

*The point of the Vote of Thanks is **to pay tribute to the guest speaker.**

PDG David Croft.

January 2013