

STRATHFIELD ROTARY BULLETIN

DISTRICT 9675
14th July 2021

www.strathfieldrotary.org.au

info@strathfieldrotary.org.au

<https://www.facebook.com/strathfieldrotary>

Rotary, United Nations and Australian Themes

<i>Year 2021</i>		
-	UN	International Year of Peace and Trust
-	UN	International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development
-	UN	International Year of Fruits and Vegetables
-	UN	International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour
<i>Month of July</i>		
-	Rotary	Start of new Rotary Year
-	Aust	Plastic Free July
<i>Weeks of July</i>		
4th – 11th July	Aust	National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week
<i>Days of July</i>		
11th July	UN	World Population Day
15th July	UN	World Youth Skills Day
18th July	UN	Nelson Mandela International Day
20th July	UN	World Chess Day

President's Report



Thaya Ponniah
President

My Fellow Rotarians...

We are all still feeling down and devastated by Peter's demise. It was good to have spent the whole of last week

bidding farewell to Peter. The best tribute we can pay Peter is to continue with his dream of helping others without losing the momentum he created.

President Usha – you led our club well during this uncertain time with Covid-19. Thank you. I would also like to thank the outgoing Board for the excellent job our club did under their guidance. We innovated new programs like the International Women's Day celebration and responded to the worst pandemic

calamity in India with our Indian Covid Relief Appeal. These are just a couple of highlights.

One of the key milestones of last year was developing a comprehensive Strategic Plan

In short, we developed a few key characteristics for our club:

1. Truly **diverse membership**
2. Strong and sustainable **financial base**
3. Powerful **fundraising engine**
4. Genuinely warm and satisfying **fellowship**
5. A **pillar of service leadership** in our community
6. A **modern club**, leveraging technology to do good

Our club is ready to execute the Strategic Plan over the period of the next 3 years.

What inspires me is the generous spirit of our Rotarians. Whatever the project is, be it a Foodbank for the homeless, a publicity initiative amongst the locals, rehabilitating the war victims in Sri Lanka, educating school kids in Colombia – our Rotarians contribute very generously – not only with finance but with time, talent and touch as well.

We have a great Board for this year, who will take the lead in implementing our Strategic Plan. Thank you, my friends, for stepping out – however busy you all are. We have a few experienced past presidents – and we have a few capable future presidents. We also have prospective district governors on our board.

Our President-elect will be **Andrew Aravanis**. A busy corporate leader, but his heart is to serve people, in spite of his busy schedule.

Our Secretary will be **Nick Hamilton Kane** – our legal eagle who just completed as an excellent sergeant at arms. We will be part of the President's Train for the next 3 years in executing our strategic plan.

Our Community Service Director will be Assistant Governor **Rick Vosila**. Despite being busy, Rick has agreed to lead community service and introduce some landmark projects.

Our Vocational Service Director will be **Alexey Prokopenko** who has plans to work with the indigenous community this year, in addition to our normal programs.

Our Treasurer is **Rod McDougall** – Rod is very tight with Rotary money but very liberal with his time and efforts for our club. As you all know, he is into everything related to all club matters and careful on how money is spent. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rod for all his efforts in arranging Peter's funeral. As you all know, Rod is a very resourceful and a great asset to our club, especially during difficult times.

Our International Service Director is **Roy Ellis**. When I asked Roy to join my board, initially he refused, quoting his age. But after considering it, he accepted the position happily and confidently. He is an inspiration for all of us.

Our Youth Service Director will be our energetic **Ying Ho**. Ying brings many diverse talents into the club and to the board – as a musician, music teacher, young lady member, relatively new Rotarian.

Finally, our Club Service Director is **Arie Pappas** – the man who introduced me to the Rotary Club of Strathfield and the man who led our club to achieve "Club of the Year" last year.

My fellow Rotarians and FRIENDS OF ROTARY - as your new president, I assure you that I will work for a cause, not for applause; I will lead our team to impact, not to impress; we won't strive to make our presence noticed, just make our absence felt. We have great challenges and great opportunities ahead.

Let's do everything possible to be the catalyst between the haves and the have nots. And with your help, we will make this year a great one.

Yours in Rotary,

Thaya Ponniah

The New Board for 2021/2022



Member Announcements

Bradley Ayres

In addition to the photos taken by Steven Argyris and myself at the 50th anniversary celebration night, a video of the evening has been produced. If you are interested in receiving a copy, please contact me and advise if you want a DVD (mpeg2) or USB flash drive (mpeg4) version. Please note that

I will need to charge to cover the cost of the raw materials, ie DVD and case is \$12 and/or the USB flash drive is \$13.

All the photos from the night, the majority of which were taken by Steven, can be found at:

<https://www.flickr.com/gp/159392105@N08/1p3xph>

Event from last week: Tribute to Peter Smith

A wonderful evening of anecdotes and tributes about the late Peter Smith.



Speaker for this week: (Zoom) Member Job Talks: Harpreet Bhatia & Saroni Roy

Hear tonight from our two newest members.

District news

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
Rotary District 9675 Vocational Training
Team Leader
Tonga: Disaster/Emergency Preparedness
Project 2022-23

A Vocational Training Team (VTT) offers a hands-on approach to Vocational Service. In VTTs, groups of professionals travel either to learn more about his/her vocation or to train local professionals about a particular field. A VTT helps create sustainable change

by strengthening the knowledge and skills of individuals and communities, thereby improving his/her capacity to serve. In addition to experiencing a new culture and fostering global connections, Rotarians participating in a Vocational Training Team have the opportunity to make an impact long after his/her travels and the project concludes.

Background:

Rotary Vocational Training Teams (VTTs) are groups of professionals who are funded by Rotary to travel abroad to train local professionals in a particular field and to learn more about his/her own area/s of expertise.

This project is an initiative of Rotary District 9675 which covers the Sydney CBD, Western Sydney, Sutherland, MacArthur, and Illawarra regions of New South Wales. The project will extend the existing close relationships Rotary has with seven (7) NSW Emergency Service Organisations through Rotary's NSW Emergency Services Community Awards (RESCA) and the recently established Australian Rotary Health, PhD Research Scholarship investigating Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in Emergency Services personnel.

It will also develop relationships with Rotary Districts 9510 (South Australia) and 9920 (New Zealand / Tonga).

Goals:

Learn about the types of emergencies facing Pacific Island Nations and to study the impact of recent emergencies and natural disasters in Tonga.

Facilitate the training of Tonga (and possibly other Pacific Island nations) emergency services professionals in the latest thinking, best practices for disaster/emergency preparedness and current training needs and development.

Identify and formalise a sustainable exchange program to address current and future needs.

Team Composition:

The Australian District 9675 Team will comprise of a Rotarian as Team Leader and seven representatives from the following Emergency Services Agencies:

- Fire and Rescue NSW
- NSW Rural Fire Service
- Marine Rescue NSW
- NSW State Emergency Service
- Surf Life Saving NSW
- NSW Ambulance
- NSW Volunteer Rescue Association

It will also include a member of South Australian Fire Service.

An incoming team from Tonga, will be selected from Tonga Fire and Emergency Services and relevant partnered agencies. The Australian District 9675 Team Leader will be expected to work and assist the Tongan team as necessary to support the training programs, the program content, itinerary, travel, Rotary content and support.

Proposed Schedule:

Subject to COVID and travel arrangements the VTT is being planned/proposed for March/April 2022/23

The Australian District 9675 Team is expected to spend approx. 3 to 4 weeks in Tonga to deliver the training program and content for the VTT. It is proposed that the Tongan Team will spend about the same time in Australia, where its planned they will receive training in both NSW and SA.

The in-country exchanges are being aimed to occur to allow members of the teams to attend the District Conferences for D9675 (usually in March) and D9510 (usually in April).

Expenses:

Rotary will cover travel and accommodation costs.

Role:

The objective of this project is to help build Emergency and Disaster Preparedness capacities for Tonga and possibly other Pacific Nation countries. A multi-agency (i.e., Tonga Government Agencies plus private sector agencies) approach will be used to customise and address the identified training needs which should include Nationally Accredited Training units from the Emergency Services Training Package.

Team members will conduct a series of workshops, training sessions that will focus on planning and the operational/practical skills to be used when dealing with localised emergency situations such as road accidents, rescues, plus, when responding to mass disasters such as cyclones or earthquakes.

The Rotarian Team Leader will be responsible for being a member on the panel selecting, training, and leading a team of emergency service personnel who will deliver subject matter, expertise and organisational capacity to partner agencies in Tonga. The Team Leader will be pivotal in organising the team's training deliverables, establishing and maintaining productivity relationships with key stakeholders – including the Rotary content and social activities.

The Team Leader will be responsible for coordinating such visits and any other relevant activities that benefit the VTT or as requested by the Emergency Service Agencies, Rotary District Governors and the District 9675 VTT Committee.

The Team Leader will also be responsible for providing reports and delivery of presentations to partnered agencies, the Rotary Districts, the VTT Committee and project stakeholders.

Selection Process

The team leader will be selected via a merit-based selection process open to applications

from Rotarians who are members of Rotary District 9675.

Applicants will need to provide:

an Expression of Interest (no more than 2000 words) that addresses the Selection Criteria (below),

a copy of his/her current Resume; and
the names and contacts details of two (2) referees (one of these should be his/her current Club President).

Any leave required to be taken by the Rotarian Team Leader from his/her employer is his/her own responsibility. Rotarians taking leave for the purposes of the VTT must provide confirmation of leave approval, with his/her application.

The contact officers, for any questions/queries regarding:

Technical criteria – Superintendent Brian Graham, NSW Rural Fire Services;

Mobile 0407 216 835

brian.graham@rfs.nsw.gov.au;

Rotary criteria - Dorothy – Dot - Hennessy OAM:

Mobile 0412 120 314

dothennessy@gmail.com;

Applications are to be lodged with PDG Graham Wilson, by 5pm Friday 6 August 2021.

graham@ghwilson.id.au

Selection Criteria:

Essential

- Must be a Rotary member of District 9675 and have the support of his/her Club President.
- Must have extensive and sound general knowledge about Rotary its areas of focus and be able to assist in developing a Global Grant.
- Must have demonstrated leadership/management experience and have had experience in a training environment.
- Must be able to develop and foster productive and collaborative

partnerships, that ensure goals are met.

- Must possess a valid passport, be eligible to obtain all required travel documents.
- Must be generally fit and healthy and have had or be prepared to have any necessary inoculations.
- Must be prepared to work flexible hours which may include evenings and weekends.
- Must be prepared to travel to Tonga for up to four weeks and support the Tongan Team when it returns to Australia.
- Must be a good “team player” and demonstrated the ability to work with colleagues in proximity for extended periods.
- Must have the ability to write meaningful report/s and make presentation/s about the exchange.
- Must be socially adaptable and be accepting of cultural differences.
- Must be prepared to act as an “ambassador” representing his/her country, Rotary International and his/her family.

Desirable

- Demonstrated “Service Above Self”. For example, service in more than one Emergency Service Agency, Surf Life Saving, Scouts/Guides, church, schools, sport, children’s activities, community organisations, etc which depicts a volunteering ethos.
- Ability to identify and apply accurate knowledge and experience gained in the exchange to apply to both Rotary and partnered agencies.

Jeremy Wright
2021-2022 Governor
Rotary District 9675
9 July 2021

Rae-Anne Medforth
DISTRICT SECRETARY 2021/22
Rotary International District 9675 Australia
Mobile: 0411 054 119
Email: medforthraeanne@gmail.com



Dates for the Calendar



<i>Rotary Events</i>				
<i>Day/Date</i>	<i>Event/speaker</i>	<i>To introduce</i>	<i>To thank + Speaker write-up</i>	<i>Venue</i>
Wed 14th July	Harpreet Bhatia & Saroni Roy Vocational Talks	TBA	TBA	Zoom
Wed 21st July	Social Event	-	-	TBA
Wed 28th July	Mr. Manish Gupta Consul General of India	Thaya Pooniah	Jaya Challa	TBA

<i>Birthdays</i>	
-	-

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
-	-



The Rotary Statistics

Attendance last meeting (07-07-21) – Zoom	30
Club membership	46
Partners	1
Guests	8

<i>Funds raised</i>	
Raffle	n/a
Sergeant's session	n/a

Your Committee 2021-22

President	Thaya Ponniah	Secretary	Nick Hamilton-Kane
President Elect	Andrew Aravanis	Sergeant	Keith Byrn
Immediate Past President	Usha Garg	Treasurer	Rod McDougall
Youth	Ying Ho ¹	Community	Rick Vosila
International	Roy Elis	Vocational	Alexey Prokopenko
Public Officer	Rod McDougall	Club Service	Arie Pappas

¹ Position was held by the late Peter Smith

Bulletin Editor	Bradley Ayres	Web master	Raymond McCluskie
Bulletin Printer	SelectPrint	Apologies	Peter van der Slessen
Social Media	Alexey Prokopenko	Programs Chair	Gulian Vaccari

Bulletin kindly printed by

