

# Wahroongler

**Bulletin of The Rotary Club of WAHROONGA**

***We meet Wednesdays, at 7 for  
7.15 am at the Warrawee B.C.***

**Vol 39 No 23,  
Wednesday Dec 4, 2013**



## Jim's Jottings

### Thank you, thank you, thank you

We've had a busy time over the past several weeks and want to express my sincere thanks to everyone for their commitment to our wonderful club. First there was collecting for our bushfire appeal (Springwood club has acknowledged receipt of about \$12,600 from us). Then there was the typhoon disaster in the Philippines - our team was again out there collecting to fund ShelterBoxes (collectively, we've funded about nine boxes; but please help us sell the remaining stock of wine). Now our members are on the street again selling raffle tickets to support our St Lucy's and St Edmund's bursaries - thanks to Len Stanley for his organisation. And then there was the wonderful quiz night where Anne Prescott and her team raised \$7,700 to fund the construction of toilets for a girls' schools in Nepal.

So, just another three Saturdays selling raffle tickets to go, plus a big night at the San Christmas Carols collecting for ShelterBox and we'll have 2013 knocked over. Please provide as much help as you can with these remaining efforts.

Next Saturday evening it will be time for some fun as we enjoy our Christmas Party at Rochelle and Jonathan Wiley's home. Getting together for no other reason than enjoying ourselves once in a while, provides the glue which cements us together as a club, enabling us to work better together.

And, a last reminder to register today for the District Conference. As there was some difficulty with the website last week, early bird discount has been extended to midnight tonight. - **Jim Verco**  
*"If you're trying to achieve, there will be roadblocks. I've had them; everybody has had them. But obstacles don't have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it."* - Michael Jordan



Our speaker today is Councillor Chantelle Fornari-Orsmond, who represents Wahroonga Ward on Ku-ring-gai Council. She moved to Ku-ring-gai over 10 years ago with her husband and they are now raising their two daughters in Wahroonga. She is a former sales manager in the corporate food industry.



### Let the Fair be open!!

**Santa (aka Max Lake) and the  
Town Crier, Geoff Keating,  
Stir up the crowd at the official  
opening of the Wahroonga  
Street Fair on Sunday  
See more pictures down there**

## WE VISIT ST EDMUND'S AND LEARN PLENTY

# Our support helps great work by students and staff

We visited St Edmund's last week to present the school with a cheque as our contribution for this Rotary year, and we learned so much about the school's work.. President Jim said the club had decided to increase the payment a little this year and it would be \$4500.



The presentation was made to Karen Houlcroft, who is the pastoral care co-ordinator for student and staff wellbeing. Our honorary member, Kathy Freeman was unable to be present – she was undergoing a particularly painful foot operation.

Karen said St Edmund's wanted to thank the Primary Club for its generous donation towards the athletics field – which we could see through the doors – artificial grass, a running track and various pieces of athletics equipment.

She said that there was a girl in her class named Shannon who is visually impaired. A number of years ago she was quite an elite athlete – she loved running. “Then she got to the teenage years when she liked to sit around and play her iPad and listen to music.

“When we got that running track out there, I got Shannon on it and she just ran. And she ran. That track is going to make a big difference to Shannon's life, because she has so much potential as an athlete. She is rediscovering that potential.

“The oval is beautiful, and I went home to my husband and told him, “I want some of that artificial grass on my front lawn.”

Karen said there were many aspects of the pastoral care program at St Edmund's. There's one program happening this week called an Immersion Program. We've liaised with Pius X at Chatswood and they've got four beautiful young men who have come to spend a week with us in the Immersion Program.

“The aim of the program is for them to appreciate

and value our students, first as individuals with their disabilities as secondary. They're doing a mentoring program with Year 10 boys, they're playing Soccer with them, they're cooking, they're doing music, and they're getting to know those students. They're building their self-esteem, and their confidence.

“In the afternoons the four boys were allocated one student each and their case studies. They had to research that student's disability, they get to know the student, they talk to the student, and they get a bit of time to research that disability. The aim of that is to get to know the person within. The boys have just been overwhelmed.

“The first thing they noticed was how warm and embracing all the students were. They are getting to know them on an intimate level, getting to know their gifts, and their strengths. It's been truly inspiring.

“One of the boys who has been studied has what is known as Prader-Willi disease. He is Jack and he is 16. It's a genetic disorder. When they are born they have low muscle tone and they fail to thrive.

“As they develop, a whole lot of behavioural issues occur, but the most dreadful thing about Prader-Willi is that these children are permanently starving. They are starving 24 hours a day. As you can imagine, when you are hungry, you eat. Students with Prader-Willi would do anything to get food – stealing other children's lunches, going through garbage bins, stealing money, and any other objects as well.

“This, as you could imagine, for teachers this is an enormous challenge, to set up a school where we ensure that children with Prader-Willi are not tempted, and to reach their potential.



***The St Eddie's Drummers in action for their visitors***

"One of the boys who studied the Prader-Willi student has been overwhelmed. This student has been telling him about his disability, and telling him he hates having Prader-Willi. He's ashamed.

"So all the money that you contribute to our school goes towards helping us set up a system within our school for all our students. Jack is just one of many students, but he is very challenging but he is such a wonderful young man. His mother, who has been such a fierce advocate, has got him into a Prader-Willi specific home, with roller doors in the kitchen, and locks so they cannot steal the food.

"A lot of these boys end up in jail, because they will go out in the community and take whatever. " Karen said one of the boys from St Pius said to her the other day: "Mrs Houlcroft, when I leave school I want to become a special ed teacher."

She said," I figure that if these boys [from St Pius] can actually learn from our students, and become advocates for them in the future, then we've done a wonderful thing."

## **Abbox team at work on Dec 10**

It's next Tuesday, December 10 - Abbox, a box of fun involving Abbotsleigh and Knox senior students who give over several days of their holidays to look after and entertain handicapped children, to give their parents and/or carers a break. It's at Abbotsleigh this year, and we are there on to feed the multitude – barbecue and other food preparation. The barbecue is for an estimated 200, setting up near the Old Gym from 11 a.m. and serving at noon. Helen Clarke 0404839 762 is running our end.

### **A SPONSOR FOR MUNA THIS YEAR PLEASE?**

Model United Nations Assembly - MUNA – is on again in April, Ian Paterson tells us. It has been sponsored for many years by Macquarie Community College, but they have decided to forego the pleasure this year. Does anyone know of a suitable sponsor?

### **REMEMBER – THE SAN CAROLS COLLECTION DECEMBER 8**

A REMINDER - The San's Christmas Carols are on the night of Sunday, **December 8** and once again we can collect, with half going to the hospital, half to us. Experience has shown that the more people we have collecting, the more we raise – so 15 to 20 collectors are needed. More details will come about meeting time and place.

## **Registering for the Convention**

**We understand there have been problems registering for the Convention - If you are having problems, you will be best served if you:**

- Go to our Wahroonga ClubRunner website.**
- Go down the left hand side of the Home Page and click" "Convention Website".**
- Go to "Register Now" (in an amber box a little way down the left hand side of the page) "click on" "Register Now".**
- Proceed with the registration by following the prompts from thereon in.**

**If in trouble or getting frustrated do not hesitate to ring Ian or John Cameron.**

# How a batsman's misfortune can turn into happiness

An unexpected speaker last week at St Edmund's was the younger brother of our President – Geoffrey Verco. He used to be in Rotary at the Northbridge club, but was with us to tell us about the Primary Club, of which he is a member.

The Primary Club is the cricket charity supporting sports people with a disability. It provided \$40,000 towards the building of the athletics track which had been opened only two days before our meeting at St Edmund's.

"The Primary Club started in the U.K. about 55 years ago, when members were levied £1 into a jar if a player got a primary duck, and that would go to support blind cricketers in the UK." "We borrowed the idea, almost 40 years ago, and now it's a \$5 donation every time an Australian in an international match, scores a golden.

"You may think that Australians being Australian, this will not happen very often, but if you add up 20-20s, ODIs and Tests, in the last 12 months we had 19 golden ducks. Who had five of them? Michael Hussey, who had three in Sri Lanka. We have a couple of major events, including 30 hours solid cricket at the SCG.

Recently the Twelfth Man, the patron, suggested that in an Ashes series, when an Englishman suffers this face we should kick in \$10." When Prior was out first ball in the Brisbane Test, it raised half the cost of the running track.



## CLUB AND DISTRICT DIARY

**December 4: Club meeting Cr Chantelle Fornari-Orsmond.**

**December 7: Club Christmas Party at Chez Wiley.**

**December 8: The San Carols – we make a collection.**

**December 10: Abbox, where we feed the multitude.**

**December 11: Club meeting - Angus M. Robinson on eco-tourism.**

**December 18: Club meeting – Kristina Mazzaferri on Christmas.**

**January 8: Club meeting – Catalinas and Chile.**

**January 12-18 : RYLA at Vision Valley, including –**

**January 14: RYLA Dinner at Vision Valley.**

**February 5: Membership meeting – Barry O'Farrell is our speaker.**

**February 23: D9685 Conference, Chatswood. Register now!!**

**June 1-4: World Rotary Conference, Sydney. Register now!!**

## RECEPTION AND HOSPITALITY ROSTER

**If you are unable to attend any day please arrange a substitute and inform Len Stanley at [lstanley@med.usyd.edu.au](mailto:lstanley@med.usyd.edu.au) or 0420 849017, 9144 4049**

	Set-up and Put Away	Hospitality	Reception (2 Rotarians)
<b>December 4</b>	Barry Whitlock	Janet Grundy	John Welch, Dick Webb
<b>December 11</b>	Marlene Carty	Ken Broadhead	Janet Grundy John Baikie
<b>December 18</b>	Leon Clark	Marlene Carty	John Baikie Ken Broadhead

## WHAT WE DID LAST WEEK (November 27 2013):

**Attendance** 60.7% . **Apologies:** Mike Brownlow, Jenetta Russell, Doug Reid, Rochelle Wiley, John Collins. **Visitors:** Angus Hordern, Geoff Verco.

**Anniversaries** (for the week starting December 4): **December 5** – Barry and Rosemary O'Farrell (wedding). **December 7**- Margaret Fuller (birthday). **December 8** - Liz Starr (birthday).

# What a busy weekend!!!

Last weekend was one of the busiest of our year, as these pictures show. On SATURDAY, a hardy team of Kerri Hodge, Haydn Donnelly, Ian Cameron, and DG Graeme Davies took part in the StudioArtes "Spend a Day in My Wheels" time trial at Hornsby Mall. Our team finished third, well ahead of a team of politicians. On SATURDAY NIGHT, Anne Prescott's quiz night to raise funds for Nepalese schools, with nearly 180 people present, at Abbotsleigh. Then on SUNDAY our raffle ticket-sellers were out in force at the Wahroonga Street Fair.



Ian, Haydn (with son), Oliver House from StudioArtes, Graeme and Kerri.



An exhausted DG seeks succor from the ambos – and Kerri gets a ready for a quick start. Below, Ian Cameron and Haydn Donnelly





**The 23 tables of the Nepal Quiz Night hopefuls. The night raised \$7,700 to build toilets for girls In Nepal schools, and Anne Prescott t already had \$2,200 in kitty - nearly \$10,00, a great result.**



**Anne Prescott and Bob Howe draw the raffle (the Wahroonga club tales didn't win a brass razoo**



**ABOVE: The learned markers, Sue Owen, Liz Richards and Judith Kaine – and yet not one of our club's tables won. What were they doing?? RIGHT: And the President's Rip-off of the Concorde didn't win the paper plane competition**





## THE ROTARY CLUB OF OF WAHROONGA

Verco's Vanguard (that's the 1944 Vanguard! at right)  
Board and Committees 2013-2014



**President:** Jim Verco. **President-elect and Director, Club Administration:** David Russell. **Secretary:** Mike Brownlow. **Treasurer:** Ian Paterson.

**Vice-President and Immediate Past President:** John Collins. **Membership Director:** Jenetta Russell. **Partnerships and Fundraising Director:** Peter Smith. **Projects Director:** Chris de Zylva. **Public Relations and Marketing Director:** Leisa O'Connor. **Rotary Foundation Director:** John Cameron. **Public Officer:** Judith Kaine.

**Other roles.** **Sergeant:** Judi Johnston. **Speaker program:** Ken Broadhead. **Risk Management/Insurance Officer:** Phil Easton. **Historian:** Gordon Fuller. **Quartermaster:** TBA. **Wahroongler:** Editor, George Richards. **Web Master:** Ian Cameron. **Welfare Officer:** Rob Ferguson (*call him about members having troubles*). **Attendance and rosters:** Len Stanley.

**International: Chairman:** Richard Jackson. **Members:** Anne Prescott, Jo Karaolis, Peter Edwards, Neil Davis, David Russell. **Community Service: Chairman:** Ron Wainberg. **Members:** Greg Starr, Kristina Mazzaferri, Dick Webb, Judith Kaine, Max Lake, Steve McGregor, John Julius, Ian Faulks, Leon Clark, Carol Johnson, Len Stanley, Ian Davidson. **P.R. and Marketing: Director:** Leisa O'Connor, **Members:** George Richards, Ken Broadhead. **Partnership and Fundraising: Director:** Peter Smith. **Members:** Ian Perrett, Marlene Carty, Richard Pitt, Barbara Ward, Janet Grundy, Jenetta Russell, Phoebe Alexander, Barry Whitlock, Rob Giacometti, Garry Webb. **Youth: Chairman:** Bob Howe. **Members:** Phil Comfort, Helen Clarke, Ian Paterson, Barbara Salisch, Sue Owen, Doug Reid, Ross Grant. **Membership: Chairman:** Jenetta Russell. **Members:** Margaret Sachs, Haydn Donnelly, Rob Ferguson, John Baikie. **Vocational: Chairman:** Terry Hodge. **Members:** Angus Robinson, Gordon Fuller, John Welch, David Cooper. **Foundation: Director:** John Cameron. **Members:** Ian Cameron, Kerri Hodge. **Social and Fellowship: Chairman:** Rochelle Wiley. **Members:** Sandy van Dijk, Judi Johnston, Phil Easton.

**PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS:** The late John Doherty, Jack Rashleigh, the late Bill Leventhal, Gordon Fuller, Rob Ferguson, the late Ern Hoy, Hilton Krone, the late Stan Penberthy, the late David Gardiner, Rob Giacometti (Sapphire Pin), the late Martin Forrow, David Cooper, the late Phil Dean, Tom Love, the late Gordon Johnston (Sapphire Pin), Ross Blackmore, Jim Mein, the late Henry Salisch (Sapphire Pin), Ian Davidson, Peter Weekes, Richard Lombard (Sapphire Pin), George Richards (Two Sapphire Pins), Ian Cameron (Three Sapphire Pins), Dr Charles Sharpe, Jill Everett, Richard Davies, Bob Quodling, Joan Giacometti, Graeme McLean (Sapphire Pin), the late Lionel Lever, John Cameron (2 Sapphire Pins), Paul Cave, David Maclean, John Welch, Dick Webb, John Baikie, Bob Howe (Sapphire Pin), Bruce Grime, Ken Broadhead, Phil McCarroll, Vic Deeble, Peter Edwards, Pat Edwards, Garry Webb, Richard Pitt, Jon Phegan, Peter Smith, Micheal Schwarcz (Two Sapphire Pins), Sue Owen, Anne Prescott, Janet Grundy, Phil Comfort, Arthur Pearce, Allan Waldon, Margaret Sachs (Sapphire Pin), Margaret Cameron, Jim Verco (Sapphire Pin), Leon Clark, Jan Cameron (Sapphire Pin), Matthew Webb, Barry O'Farrell, Bob Potter, Richard Jackson, Paul Murphy, Chris de Zylva, Greg Starr, Leisa O'Connor, Philip Easton, Jan Rowling, Angus M. Robinson (Three Sapphires), Michael Sobbi., Jo Karaolis, Ian Perrett, Rob Hamilton, Brian Freeman, Max Lake, John Julius.



**Please ponder upon this . . .**

**If you shoot a mime, should you use a silencer?**