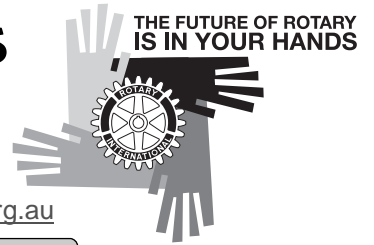


Strathfield Rotary News



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

President: Kevin Freund

Website: www.strathfieldrotary.org.au

February is World Understanding Month

Kev's Conveyances

Wednesday, February 10, 2010

The high esteem for Past District Governor Harry Pickett was reflected last Friday with a large number of family and friends gathering to commemorate and celebrate his extraordinary life and listen, reflect and share in the memories of a man who had an impact on so many and leaves a lasting legacy from his time on earth. In recognition of Harry, your Board of Directors has donated an amount of \$500 to Australian Rotary Health, whose programs and research he strongly supported.

A reminder to members that next week's meeting is a transfer meeting to Thursday 18th February, for the Trish Multiple Sclerosis Research Foundation Golf Day and Dinner. This event is the culmination of the tireless, energetic and enthusiastic work of Niall King, Ray Wilson and Les Hockley in providing a major fundraiser for our club where we gain considerable support and recognition from the broader community, for a truly worthy cause.

I must say it has been a pleasure to witness and experience the positive response received from members of the public when selling tickets in the MS raffle. The conversation generally runs "Oh Rotary again! What is it this time?" "Oh MS, give me \$10.00 worth, or give me a book."

I encourage members to support Niall and his team and make this event the success it deserves to be and enjoy yourselves at the same time.

Tonight is our Club Assembly, when we open the meeting for all members to discuss and debate what our club is doing and where we would like it to go in the future.

This Week's Meeting

Club Assembly

Thanks to the many hours of work by Peter Smith and Rod McDougall in conducting The Membership Survey and the responses received from members, we are in a fortunate position of having a considerable amount of relevant information to digest.

We look forward to a night of vibrant and vigorous discussion to gain some purposeful result from our endeavours, remembering always, that **The Future of Strathfield Rotary is in Your Hands.**

Cheers, **President Kevin**

Last Week's Presentation

Recorded by Ian Johnson

Market Cycles and Other Investment Information

Our guest speaker was Oliver Ward, who was introduced by PP Rod McDougall.

Oliver works for RBS Morgans and trades every day on the stock market. He started by telling us about stock market trends and how to spot them.

The market is cyclical with bear markets followed by bull markets. These markets can last for many years.

The average return from shares over a long period has been 7.75%. Usually, the actual rate is well above or well below this figure.

Oliver then listed the factors that affect the share market including interest rates, inflation, earnings and GDP.

Oliver advised us that, on average, inflation has been 4% over a long period and that GDP growth has been 3%. He advised us that the change in EPS (earnings per share) over 12 months was a very important indicator. The commodities



President Kevin with Oliver Ward

boom which commenced in 2004 saw the stock market double between 2003 and 2007.

Oliver informed us that the average PER (price earnings ratio) over time has been 14 to 15 with a low of 6 to 8. If the current PER is low this may be a good indicator for a good run in the market. People have to ask themselves "What am I willing to pay for future earnings?" As a guide ten times earnings is cheap and twenty times earnings is expensive.

Oliver advised us that many people analyse market fundamentals as part of their trading system. For example, the

following criteria yielded a list of 13 shares to buy:

- Market capitalisation over \$20M
- PER less than a certain figure
- Revenue growth over 20%
- Profit growth over 20%
- EPS growth over 20%
- Return on equity over 10%
- Rolling monthly value over \$20M

Oliver stated that the market is nothing but people's beliefs. He suggested a good basic strategy is to hold on to winners and to get rid of losers quickly. He also told us that any system to be used should be proven by back testing.

Oliver suggested that it was important to write down the reason for making a trade including what is expected to occur and the worst case scenario. Periodic reviews can then be held asking the question "Am I holding this stock for the right reason?"

In conclusion, Oliver noted that earnings are starting to move up again and that it is probably a good time to buy shares. However, volatility is going to be a factor in the market for some time.

Oliver was thanked by PE Peter Smith.

Last Week's Proceedings

Recorded by Janelle Watson

From President Kevin

The guest speaker, Oliver Ward, was welcomed. President Kevin also made welcome the President of South Strathfield Probus Club, Mr Sam Chelvathurai, and his wife Leela. A guest of PP Joe Saad, Dr. Ben Balza, was also welcomed, along with a visitor to the club, Mr Dinesh Garg.

President Kevin spoke of the passing of PDG Harry Pickett and the close association to this Club. Harry Pickett was the DG who chartered the Strathfield Club in 1971.

Club dues, from January to July, are due now. Invoices are being distributed this evening. Thank you to PP Keith Stockall and Shirley Del Prado for their work.

The date of the "Tie up the Mountain" project for the Mount Panorama circuit is Thursday the 11th of February – not the 18th as previously advised. Any spare neckties to President Kevin please who will pass them on to PP Keith Byrn who will be attending the event following recovery from his accident.

Regards go to the wife of PP Grahame True, Penny, who has recently been in hospital.

The Rotary Club of Cabramatta is

celebrating its 50th birthday on Monday the 1st of March. An invitation is extended to this Club. If anyone is interested in attending contact President Kevin. The cost is \$50pp and 6:30pm for 7:00pm. PP Ted Ingall was a charter member of the Cabramatta Club.

A reminder that next week is Club Assembly. President Kevin thanked PE Peter Smith for all the work undertaken in putting together the results of the survey.

Another reminder from President Kevin is about the forthcoming District Conference. Details are in the Bulletin.

On Tuesday the 2nd of February, President Kevin went with Niall King, Ray Wilson and Les Hockley over to the Sydney Markets at Flemington with George Helou and sold over \$3,000 worth of raffle tickets. Kevin reported that it was indeed quite an experience.

From PP Peter Foss

Peter spoke of some of the highlights of the late PDG Harry Pickett.

From PP Brian Driver

Brian gave a welcome from the Rotary Club of Cowra with which he has an association. The President of the Cowra Club purchased 6 bottles of high quality local wine to donate to Strathfield Club. One bottle will be included in the raffle each week. Cowra Club extends an

invitation to Strathfield Rotarians to visit.

From PE Peter Smith

Peter distributed the results of the survey this evening so that members have an opportunity to go through the results and comments prior to the Club Assembly. Those not in attendance tonight will have the results posted to them. The minutes from the last Club Assembly, held on the 15th of July 2009, will be distributed next week.

From Niall King

The Trish MS Research Foundation Golf Day is on the 18th of February. This will be followed by a special dinner that evening. A commitment sheet is circulating. Dinner is 6:00pm for 6:30pm. Cost \$60pp.

Niall reminds members that the raffle tickets need to be back to him by next Wednesday, February 10th.

From PP George Hallworth

George has been a member of Probus since 1983 and was involved with the establishment of the three Probus Clubs in our local area – Strathfield, South Strathfield and the Strathfield Ladies Club. Probus clubs meet once a month and have regular outings and trips and George says that great friendships are formed. George and Sam Chelvathurai would be very pleased to provide more information about Probus to Rotarians.

Trev's Trivia

Haxey Hood Game

This is played in January each year in the village of Haxey, Lincolnshire. It is a variant of medieval football in which a canvas hood is

thrown to the crowd, all of whom attempt to grab it and take it to the nearest pub, eluding 12 colourfully clad players known as 'Boggons'. Twelve canvas hoods are thrown, after which comes a leather one, and after this has been taken to an inn, the

game is over. Said to have originated in the 13th century when the hood of a local aristocrat, Lady de Mowbray, blew away as she returned home from church, and was retrieved by 12 labourers.

Fotheringham's Sporting Trivia

Last Meeting's Statistics

Attendance

34 Rotarians

Visitors

Oliver Ward (Guest Speaker)
Sam Chelvathurai
(President of South Strathfield Probus Club)
Leela Chelvathurai
Dr Ben Balza (Guest of Joe Saad)
Dinesh Garg

Raffle raised \$245.00

Winners

Eve Dutton
Ray Wilson (Declined acceptance)
Charles Pitt
Niall King (Declined acceptance)
George Hallworth
Charles Pitt (Declined acceptance)
Kevin Freund (Declined acceptance)
Andrew Kowalski (Declined acceptance)
Kevin Beltrame

The Sergeant Raised \$119.00

News of Rotarians

Vale Harry John Blackburn Pickett, OAM 1911—2010

Rotarian Extraordinaire

A parent's hope when a child is born is that they will have a long and useful life. Nearly one hundred years ago Harry was born in Stanmore and he certainly realised that hope.

Harry was a most successful businessman working in the meat industry and in his latter years he became a farmer on the family property at Warren, and for the last fifty years he has been a member of Rotary, being the District Governor for our District in 1970-1971.

In matters technological he was certainly ahead of his time. He had a fascination for radio, computers and up to his death he was trying to get computers to perform functions that the computer did not yet know about.

In the mid sixties when returning from the Sydney to Hobart yacht race the yacht was dismasted in Bass Strait and the aerial destroyed. Harry had all the gear in his kit bag to make the necessary repairs and so a passing tanker soon rescued them.

I think he felt he had found the key to "Eternal Life" because very recently he renewed his membership to Burwood RSL for another five years.

It is important for us all to remember that Harry and Lilian's long life of independent living would not have been possible without the loving support of Janice and Roger, Valda and Graham and Barbara.

Harry may you Rest in Peace.

Peter Foss

Dates for Your Diary

For catering purposes, please remember to send apologies or details of extra attendees by
4.00pm Tuesdays to Eric Khu 9746 0397

email: brontin@bigpond.com

Late apologies by 5.00pm Wednesdays to Kevin Freund 0412 494 125

17th February (Wednesday)

No meeting
Transferred to Trish Golf Day

17th March (Wednesday)

Reading, Rugby League and Role Models
Susan Hirsch

18th February (Thursday) ► Partners Night ◀

Transfer meeting from 17th February
Trish MS Research Foundation Golf Day

19th to 21st March

District 9690 Conference, Forster, NSW

24th February (Wednesday)

History of Rare Coins and Bank Notes
Nicholas Tham

24th March (Wednesday)

Special Olympics NSW
Peter McGhee and Mary Lou Carter

3rd March (Wednesday)

Asylum Seekers Foundation
Virginia Walker

31st March (Wednesday)

Amnesty International

10th March (Wednesday)

Tales from Overseas
Paolo Giammarco

7th April (Wednesday)

Images of the floating world - an impression of Japan
PDG Harley Tarrant

21st April (Wednesday) ► Partners Night ◀

Youth Awards Night
► N.B. 6.15pm for 6.30pm ◀

**The Rotary Club of Strathfield meets every Wednesday evening at Strathfield Golf Club, Centenary Drive, Strathfield.
Visitors welcome**

If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
Inside every older person is a younger person wondering what happened.

A Message from DG Paul Reid

The Haiti Relief Effort

On behalf of PDG Maurice Hill, Chairman of The Australian Rotary Foundation Trust (TARFT), I am pleased to announce that The Rotary Foundation (TRF) through TARFT will accept direct donations for the Haiti relief effort. The RI regional office recently received approval from the Australian Tax office to be able to give tax deductible receipts for donations.

It is important to note that the donations will be tax deductible for Australian taxpayers. Donors will receive a receipt. The donations will not accrue PHF credits or count towards becoming a Major Donor. Donations to the Haiti fund-raising will not be recorded as a part of the club or district Annual Program Fund contribution and, of course will not be part of our \$200m Polio Challenge. This is something above and beyond club and district commitments to OUR Foundation.

Please indicate in your correspondence that you want this money to go directly to the Haiti relief efforts of The Rotary Foundation. Please do not add any other words to the cheque. We will account for

Haiti contributions separately and transfer them on.

Please send your remittance by :-

1. Post: Cheques should be made out to "The Australian Rotary Foundation Trust"

Please mail to: PO Box 1415,
Parramatta, 2124 NSW.

2. Email: Credit card details to :

risppo@rotary.org

3. Fax – 02 9689 3169.

The contribution forms for payment by email or fax can be obtained from President Kevin or Frank Pezzimenti.

Further information from:

Frank Pezzimenti
Regional Head
Rotary International
South Pacific & Philippines
P.O. Box 1415
Parramatta NSW 2124
AUSTRALIA
Ph : +61-2-9635 3537
Fax: +61-2-9689 3169

Congratulations

Birthdays

11th February

Welwyn Petersen

22nd February

Anne Manenti, Darrell Slater

23rd February

Bradley Ayres

Wedding Anniversaries

18th February

George and Afaf Helou

Rotary Anniversaries

11th February

Allan Petersen

15th February

Peter Douglas

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.

Have a Laugh

As Time Goes By From Kevin Beltrame and Peter Smith

A group of 40 year-old buddies discussed where they should meet for dinner. Finally, it was agreed upon that they should meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because the waitress's there had low-cut blouses and were very young.

Ten years later, at 50 years of age, the group once again discussed where they should meet for dinner. Finally, it was agreed that they should meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because the food there was very good and the wine selection was good also.

Ten years later, at 60 years of age, the group once again discussed where they should meet for dinner. Finally, it was agreed that they should meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because they could eat there in peace and quiet and the restaurant had a beautiful view of the ocean.

Ten years later, at 70 years of age, the group once again discussed where they should meet for dinner. Finally, it was agreed that they should meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because the restaurant was wheelchair-accessible and they even had an elevator.

Ten years later, at 80 years of age, the group once again discussed where they should meet for dinner. Finally, it was agreed that they should meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because they had never been there before.

Burglars Beware!

A burglar broke into a house one night. He shined his flashlight around, looking for valuables when a voice in the dark said, 'Jesus knows you're here.'

He nearly jumped out of his skin, clicked his flashlight off, and froze.

When he heard nothing more, after a bit, he shook his head and continued.

Just as he pulled the stereo out so he could disconnect the wires, clear as a bell he heard 'Jesus is watching you.'

Freaked out, he shined his light around frantically, looking for the source of the voice.

Finally, in the corner of the room, his flashlight beam came to rest on a parrot.

'Did you say that?' he hissed at the parrot.

'Yep', the parrot confessed, then squawked, 'I'm just trying to warn you that he is watching you.'

The burglar relaxed. 'Warn me, huh? Who in the world are you?'

'Moses,' replied the bird.

'Moses?' the burglar laughed. 'What kind of people would name a bird Moses?'

'The kind of people that would name a Rottweiler Jesus.'

George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill

"I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend....if you have one."

Winston Churchill in response

"Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second....if there is one."

From Peter Harries

George Bush and The Queen's Riddle

George Bush meets with the Queen of England. He asks her, "Your Majesty, how do you run such an efficient government? Are there any tips you can give me?"

"Well," says the Queen, "the most important thing is to surround yourself with intelligent people."

Bush frowns. "But how do I know the people around me are really intelligent?"

The Queen takes a sip of tea. "Oh, that's easy. You just ask them to answer an intelligent riddle."

The Queen pushes a button on her intercom. "Please send Tony Blair in here, would you?"

Tony Blair walks into the room. "Yes, my Queen?"

The Queen smiles. "Answer me this, please, Tony. Your mother and father have a child. It is not your brother and it is not your sister. Who is it?"

Without pausing for a moment, Tony Blair answers, "That would be me."

"Yes! Very good," says the Queen.

Bush goes back home to ask Dick Cheney, his vice president, the same question.

"Dick. Answer this for me. Your mother and father have a child. It is not your brother and it is not your sister. Who is it?"

"I'm not sure," says Cheney. "Let me get back to you on that one."

Cheney goes to his advisors and asks every one, but none can give him an answer. Finally, he ends up in the men's room and recognizes John Kerry's shoes in the next stall. Cheney shouts, "John! Can you answer this for me? Your mother and father have a child. It is not your brother and it is not your sister. Who is it?"

John Kerry yells back, "That's easy. It's me!"

Cheney smiles, and says, "Thanks! Then, he goes back to speak with Bush. "Say, I did some research and I have the answer to that riddle. It's John Kerry."

Bush gets up, stomps over to Dick Cheney, and angrily yells into his face, "No, you idiot! It's Tony Blair!"

The Longest Password?

From Kevin Beltrame

During a recent password audit, it was found that a blonde was using the following password:

"MickeyMinniePlutoHueyLouieDeweyDonaldGoofySydney"

When asked why such a long password, she said she was told that it had to contain at least 8 characters and one capital.

The Last Request

John as on his deathbed and gasped pitifully.

"Grant me one last request, dear," he said.

Of course, John" his wife said softly.

"Six months after I die" he said, "I want you to marry Bob."

"But I thought you hated Bob," she said.

With his last breath John said, "I do!"

Editor: Trevor Duxbury

Email: news@strathfieldrotary.org.au

Contributors: Peter Douglas, Ian Johnson, Harley Tarrant, Roger Vince, Janelle Watson

Photography: Steve Taylor ^(ST), Bradley Ayres ^(BA), Rod McDougall ^(RM)

Production: Rod McDougall

Printed by Selectprint

Printers, Typesetters since 1977

16 The Crescent, Homebush

Ph. 9746 6434

All correspondence to:

The Secretary
The Rotary Club of Strathfield
PO Box 268,
Strathfield,
N.S.W. 2135

Website: www.strathfieldrotary.org.au

Webmaster: Raymond McCluskie