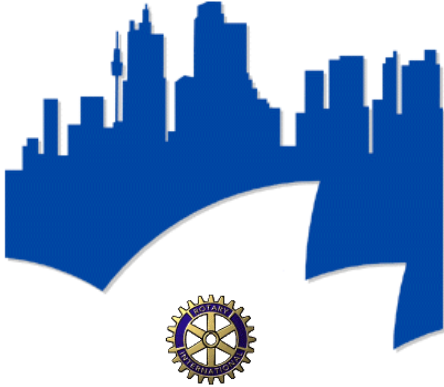


ROTARY CLUB OF SYDNEY CBD

BULLETIN

*The City of Sydney based Rotary Club
actively addressing community issues in partnership with business*



**The Rotary Club of Sydney CBD
Meet 1st & 3rd Monday
6pm for a 6.30pm start
The Sydney Harbour Marriott
30 Pitt Street Sydney
Tel: +61 2 9181 3128
www.rotarysydneycbd.com.au**



**TONIGHT WE CELEBRATE
"AMERICA'S 4TH JULY"
THIS WEEK'S SPEAKER
WALTER JENNINGS**

Walter Jennings brings 25 years experience in communications with in-depth financial services and international experience. He worked in-house at a Fortune Top Ten Company and in global public relations agencies in New York, Sydney and Hong Kong. Today Jennings is active in the social media arena and is author of the blog, [WallyDownUndy](#). The widely read on-line chronicle covers public relations, social media and acts as a bridge between USA and Australian audiences.



Before founding his strategic communications consulting firm Perception Counsel, Jennings led the Australian operations of one of the world's largest public relations firms. He managed two offices and forty people advising clients including Accenture, Hewlett-Packard, SAP, Jetstar, and Beam Global Spirits & Wine among others. He returned to Australia in 2005, having served five years as Vice President of Global Communications for Ford Motor Credit Company in Detroit. Here he was a direct report to the CEO of this financial services arm of Ford Motor Company, which held over \$200 billion in receivables and operated in 40 countries. He managed communications during the largest restructuring in the financial services industry and the biggest case of identity fraud of their times. Born in the United States, he migrated permanently to Sydney with his family and took up Australian citizenship in 1995.

SYDNEY HARMONY

The Sydney CBD Rotary Club is pleased to be hosting a Barbershop Quartet from Award Winning Sydney Harmony. Barbershop quartet music is a quintessentially American musical form. Having roots in the American Black Church, this a cappella musical style came about when gospel quartets started to form in neighbourhood barbershops. It quickly moved throughout the US and became part of main stream American society during the 1940's. Under the musical direction of international vocal harmony specialist Vicki Dwyer, Sydney Harmony is a well established and successful men's a cappella chorus of 50+ singers aged 16 -78. Sydney Harmony sings with one aim in mind - excellence. They compete in bi-annual national barbershop choral conventions and annual eisteddfods such as the Open Choirs Section of the McDonald's Performing Arts Challenge. **(Pictured- Sydney Harmony members)**



They also perform in concerts and at corporate functions, social events, weddings and fund-raisers.. Their wide musical repertoire includes Peter Allen's "I Still Call Australia Home", Bob Troup's rhythm & blues standard Route 66, Billy Joel's For the Longest Time and Freddy Mercury's classic "Crazy Little Thing Called Love".

American Independence Day



American Independence Day or, more commonly known as simply the "4th of July" commemorates the signing of the "Declaration of

Independence" by America's founding fathers declaring independence from Great Britain and forming the sovereign nation of the United States of America.

It is arguable America's most loved holiday. **It's certainly Kim Smith's most loved holiday as her own birthday falls the day before prompting a two day celebration for most of her life.**

This American holiday has always been celebrated by picnics, parades, music, speeches and, of course, fireworks. Indeed, John Adams, one of the Founding Fathers, wrote to his wife Abigail around the time,

"The second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more."

He got the date wrong (the Declaration was written on the 2nd of July but not approved until the 4th), but his predictions of how Americans would celebrate came true and comes true every year on this day. But the holiday is more about picnics, parades and fireworks. The "Declaration of Independence" is encoded into every American's DNA. Their sense of patriotism, known the world over and sometimes admired, sometimes derided, stems from this very document.

(Friendship has long existed between America and Australia. Pictured:



Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd on a



visit to American President Barak Obama to the White House in the United States)

TONIGHT'S PROGRAM	
6.00	REGISTRATION
6.30	CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME: CHAIRPERSON – SAA Kim Smith

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
I wish to acknowledge we are holding this meeting on the land of the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation. I wish to pay my respect to their Elders, past and present, and to all the Gadigal people and the Eora Nation.
By: Rotarian: Lyndsey Douglas

THE TOAST AUSTRALIA	
WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS BY PRESIDENT AMY HING-YOUNG	
REPORTS	
ENTERTAINMENT – SYDNEY HARMONY	
SPEAKER: Mr WALTER JENNINGS	
INTRODUCTION:	ROTARIAN KIM SMITH
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: ROTARIAN ANDREW SIH	
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	
PRESIDENT AMY HING-YOUNG	
CLOSE: ROTARY 4 WAY TEST	

THE ROTARY CLUB OF SYDNEY CBD MULTI-CULTURAL EVENING

The Multi Cultural committee was created to formulate and implement outreach strategies bringing to Rotarians information of diverse cultural groups within Rotary. Its role is to also bring about a better understanding by Rotarians of the cultures of people from other countries now living in Australia.

As with our indigenous Australians, we as Rotarians have a lot to learn about other people's cultures and traditions. We all know that with education comes understanding and with understanding comes tolerance and of course – if we have tolerance – we have peace! Let it begin at home!

We have often quoted that we have a good Multi Cultural diversity within the membership of our club – at last count it was 15 members of a different country of origin.

In the coming year we will again highlight and acknowledge the cultures of our members by celebrating at our meetings, the various national days which will include a Speaker on that country together with other interesting highlights.

Tonight we highlight America – the country of Origin of our new **Sergeant at Arms Kim Smith** and Benjamin Pittman's partner **Brian Murphy**

(American Independence Day cont.)

The second sentence in the American "**Declaration of Independence**, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness" has been called "one of the best-known sentences in the English language" and "the most potent and consequential words in American history". The passage has often been used to promote the rights of marginalized groups, and came to represent for many people a moral standard for which the United States should strive. This view was greatly influenced by other American leaders, such as Abraham Lincoln, who considered the Declaration to be the foundation of his political philosophy, and promoted the idea that the Declaration is a statement of principles through which the United States Constitution should be interpreted.

So, while the 4th of July gives Americans a day off work and wonderful celebrations in the midst of summer, it gives them something much, much deeper. It gives them a sense of the greatness of the ideas set out by the Founding Fathers, a sense of identity about themselves and their place in the world.

We can only hope that as a country, their actions live up to those great ideals set down on that piece of parchment 231 years ago.

LAST WEEKS CHANGEOVER DINNER

What a night of "firsts"! Beginning with the new venue The wonderful Sydney Harbour Marriott. We were well placed in the Thomas Keneally Room where over 70 members and friends gathered to hear IPP Jim Harrison deliver an outstanding Presidents report for the 2008-09 Rotary year.

It was the first time ever that we were fortunate enough to have "the power" of District 9750 all in attendance, including the then District Governor Barney and Lorraine Koo, Incoming DG Glen Wran and Fern and Incoming DG Elect David Brawn and Suzanne.

DGN David proposed the Toast To Rotary International and eloquently responded to by DGE Glen Wran

What a thrill to learn that the Rotary Club of Sydney CBD was chosen as Rotary Club of the Year - District 9750 where there are more than 50 clubs!

When re-presenting the trophy DG Barney explained just why we were the winners. It did not occur to us that we had done anything out of the ordinary – but upon listening to the long list of achievements – one could see why!

In presenting end of year donations President Jim advised and congratulated the Fund Raising Committee. Various donations were given out during the year including ; A for a Life, The Sydney Street Choir, Victorian Bush fires, Shelter Box, Australian Rotary Health, and the Opera Prize \$10,000 for a young rising opera singer as well as various others. On the night a \$5,000 donation to the Rotary Foundation was presented to District Governor Elect Glen Wran and \$5,000 to Sister Annette for the Mary McKillop New Hope Project to help build a crèche for street children in the poorest areas of Brazil



(above - Pres. Jim hands a donation to Sister Annette of the Mary McKillop Mission)
(below - DG Elect Glen Wran receives the Rotary Foundation donation from the President)



President Jim especially thanked the Rotary Club of Sydney CBD Nathan's Bequest Committee who raised \$70,000 for Mental Health Awareness and Youth Suicide Prevention. The Sydney Street Choir whose members suffer from mental health problems received \$25,000 to employ a part time social worker and a major donation will be presented to Prof. Ian Hickie Director of The Brain, Mind Research Institute, later this year.



DG Barney presents The Rotary International Presidential citation – presented only to clubs who have accomplished the number of projects set for the year (note the new theme Banner)

Three new members were inducted, Bridgette Baylouni (Real Estate), Mei Tsang (Investment Banking – IT Technology) and Garry Phillips (Specialist Restorations). They were warmly welcomed into the club.



(Pictured L-R: President Jim, Bridgette Baylouni, Mei Tsang, Garry Phillips and PP Joan Richards OAM)

PAUL HARRIS FELLOW RECOGNITIONS were presented to Dr Benjamin Pittman and to PP Joan Richards OAM.

Benjamin who has worked tirelessly for the club since his induction and especially with the formation of the Maori Satellite Group, was totally surprised to receive such an honour from the Club. He was “speechless” as was PP Joan Richards as she was presented with a double Sapphire PHF pin (in fact it is the first time anyone has seen Joan “speechless”).

They were both very humbled by the honour and extend their sincere thanks to the Board and the Club.

(Pictured L-R President Jim as he declares Benjamin a PHF and DG Barney presents Joan with her double PHF Sapphire)



As is tradition, The Maori Satellite group honours the two Paul Harris Fellows with a Maori cultural song.

The Changeover of Presidents was a highlight when Jim Harrison presented Amy Hing-Young with the President’s regalia and the tools of office. Amy Hing-Young then outlined her vision for the year which was to continue with the Leadership plan and enlarge on the excellent work of IPP Jim.

(Jim pins on the President’s Badge)



President Amy with DGE Glen Wran as she shows off our awards



President Amy thanks and congratulates the DG partners Lorraine Koo and Fern Wran for their tremendous contribution to Rotary District 9750 (L-R Amy, Fern, Lorraine and “flower girls”, new Board members, Sally Hetherington and Sasha Miroshnikoff)



To compliment the whole evening our “Resident Diva” Kaye Gordon entertained.

She sang a special song for both Jim and Amy following their speeches. She also entertained during the Musical interlude.

As usual – the “usual suspects” could not contain themselves and they jumped up to dance as Kaye and her beautiful voice led in song.

(I think that we are the only Rotary club in the world that this seems to occur – it is all great fun and the way that Rotary should be!!!)

(Pictured: The Board members for 2009- 2010)

In conclusion President Amy introduced the Incoming Board for the 2009-10 Rotary Year. Immediate Past President Jim Harrison, President Elect Joaquim Smith, Secretary John Hepworth, Treasurer Sasha Miroshnikoff, Membership Chairperson PP Joan Richards, Club Administration Director PP Michelle Kilburn, Club Service Projects PDG Roger Kilburn, International and Rotary Foundation Kaiser Ahmed, Fund Raising Sally Hetherington and Public Relations Lyndsey Douglas and Sergeant at Arms – Kim Smith.

CLUB NEWS

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE

Some members tell me that they have not received their subscription notice for the 2009-10 year, **so we will re-send notices to ALL members. Please do not be offended if you have paid but it is the most time effective way to do it at this stage as some people have received it and others have not..**

So the notices will be sent to all members via email in the next couple of days – and then **please pay promptly** as we must meet our commitments to Rotary International and Rotary District 9750

Resignation – It is with regret that we received a resignation from **Toni Adams** who is now inundated with work and cannot make the attendance requirements. However she has asked to become a Friend of Rotary CBD (her request will be put to next Board).

Leave of Absence – a few members are on leave due to either illness, going overseas or a special request -; Doug Kerr, (Illness) Caroline Soucek, (family illness) Jim Harrison (O/S) Ben Fung (O/S),Kaiser Ahmed (O/S), Clare Patterson (Exempt) Dr Sev Ozdowski (Illness) Carrie Bendeich (O/S)

REPLIES TO ROTARY MEETINGS ESSENTIAL

It is imperative that all members and Friends reply to the notice sent out by email before each Rotary meeting - immediately by return email – ONE WAY OR ANOTHER. It is very unfair to those who are trying to give the hotel numbers for the meeting and it is “unfair to all concerned” when our pleas are continually ignored by some members.



