



MEETINGS: MONDAYS AT 6:15PM FOR 6:45PM AT ST JOSEPH'S CONFERENCE CENTRE ST JOSEPH'S RD BAULKHAM HILLS NSW 2153

WEBSITE: HTTP://WWW.HILLSROTARY.ORG.AU

FACEBOOK: HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/HILLSKELLYVILLEROTARY/

Welcome Desk: 15th July: Jim Sifonios

22nd July: Wilf van Emmerik

ISSUE 16 N° 3 15TH JULY 2024

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It was wonderful to see our partners at the meeting last week. Our past President Fran Broadbent gave an inspirational talk on the project "Cows 4 Cambodia" a project that is being supported by the Baulkham Hills Inner Wheel Club. As Joan and I will be travelling to Cambodia shortly we will be on the lookout for villages which have received the cows.

As you will see later in this Newsletter we have received a donation from Rheem Australia 24 LPG room heaters. These have been transported for distribution to disaster areas by Turbans 4 Australia. Looking forward to Monday night's Guest Speakers, Phil Isaac and I have been on a number of RAWCS trips together, to Vanuatu, I think their talk will be a different experience.



Just a little reminder if you have not done so please send me your Working With Children Number and Expiry date ASAP.

John

Thought for the week.

"Rotary is of great value. It changes the course of human life It changes the life of every Rotary beneficiary, as well as he life of each Rotarian"

- An Uncommon Man, The Rotarian July 2001

CLUB PROGRAM:

Table with 4 columns: JULY, Maternal and Child Health Month, EVENT INFORMATION. Rows include dates from 1st to 29th July with event details and times.



In July we wish the following Members & Friends a Happy Birthday: Allan Walker 4th (91 yrs old), Jim Sifonios 6th, Robyn Mackey 10th, Michael Richardson 13th. We also wish a Happy Anniversary to Ian and Ellie Pascoe 10th, Barry and Jennifer Philips 10th, Michael, and Cherry Richardson 13th.

As we celebrate Maternal & Child Health, in July, tonight, we toast The Rotary Club of Calcutta Metro City who are promoting awareness and treatment of thalassemia, an inherited blood disorder when the body doesn't make enough of the protein hemoglobin, hurting red blood cells that carry oxygen throughout the body. They aspire to eradicate the disease in India. In February the club coordinated an educational event attended by 50 young women and mothers in Sonarpur, West Bengal. The gathering was one of dozens of such events since 2022. Please join me in a toast to the The Rotary Club of Calcutta Metro City, India.

From Our Club Meeting, Monday 8th July:

Apologies: Michael Griscti, Sheila Krishnan and Michael Richardson.

President John van den Burg welcomed members and PP Fran Broadbent, our Guest Speaker for the evening. He also welcomed other visitors, Kathy Wilson, Barbara Edge, Lyn Stapley, Joan van den Burg, Margaret Van Emmerik and Robyn Scoble.

Members of The Rotary Club of The Hills-Kellyville are ordinary people achieving extraordinary results through projects within local, national, and international communities. We constantly strive for the ideal of "Service Above Self" through our humanitarian projects.

NSW Budgerigar Society Annual Auction BBQ:

President John thanked members who assisted with the BBQ held on Saturday 6th July, to support the NSW Budgerigar Society, on their Annual Auction 2024. The Budgerigar Society had a very successful day with approximately 140 birds auctioned, at an average price of over \$700 each. Our effort was not arduous but an excellent social opportunity for those in attendance. As a bonus, our Project Account is a little healthier.



Treasurer: Keith reminded members that the Semi-Annual Fees are Over-due.

Jazz at The Pines and Garden Competition Committee Meeting: Keith reminded members that meetings of the Jazz at The Pines committee and the Sydney Hills Garden Competition will be held at Glenhope on Wednesday 10th July. Please confirm your attendance.

Keith advised that the Hills Shire has agreed to sponsor the attendance for up to 42 some Seniors' to attend the September event, as part of the Hills Shire's Orange Blossom Festival activities.

Working With Children Check status: Pres. John advised members that new requirements of the WWCC process, place greater responsibility on all Rotary clubs to check the WWCC registration (with Services NSW) of all members.

He has requested that every member advise him of their WWCC Registration Number and the Expiry Date.

Gang Show: John reminded members who have nominated to attend the 2024 Cumberland Gang Show that we will gather at the 350 Restaurant and Lounge (Novotel, Parramatta) from 6pm and that the show at Riverside Theatre will commence from 7:30pm.

Rheem Space Heaters: John Collignon advised that He was able to acquire a donation of 25 Space Heaters from Rheem Australia for distribution to flood and bush-fire victims who are still in rebuild phase.

The total value of these Heaters is more than \$20,000.

These were delivered to Turbans 4 Australia who will assist with the selection of and delivery families



Raffle: Cathy Wilson won the raffle.

Guest Speaker: Fran Broadbent "Cows for Cambodia" (C4C).

Fran Broadbent is a past president of our club and was a member from 2015 to 2020. Since then, she has been a valued member of the Inner Wheel Club of Baulkham Hills. While President, Fran inspired us to lobby the Hills Shire Council and to build the Baulkham Hills Community Garden, which our club achieved and is still supporting. As a passionate supporter of the Cows 4 Cambodia project, she assisted our Club Service Director in his attempts to enlist Founder, Andrew Costello to be a Guest Speaker at our club but due to his extremely busy schedule, this was not possible. Fran volunteered to present the history and details of this charity on Cosi's behalf.



July is Maternal and Childcare Month

Our club meetings are designed to allow members to interact and enjoy "Rotary Fellowship". We welcome family members and friends, and we hold many social events, each year to enhance such opportunities.

If you are interested, contact us, or peruse our Web page (www.hillsrotary.org.au).

Inquiries John van den Burg (President) 0419 621 314 or Wilf van Emmerik (Secretary) 0428 477 000

This project has been the International Charity of the Baulkham Hills Inner Wheel club for some years.

C4C was founded by Andrew (Cossie) Costello (known for his TV show “South Aussie with Cossi”) in 2013. Cossi has helped hundreds of families break the poverty cycle and continues to be passionate about those in need, both here and abroad. A former “South Australian Young Journalist of the Year” Cossi was also the “South Australian Local Hero” winner in 2018 and was a finalist for the “Australian of The Year” where he was honoured in Canberra for his achievements in charity and tourism.



12 years ago, while on holiday in Cambodia (one of the poorest nations in the World) Cossi asked a Tuk Tuk driver to show him around Siem Reap. After checking out the normal tourist sites, the driver showed Cossi real people in real villages. The driver explained that Cambodians live an extremely simple life. Women work in factories, mass producing clothing for export. Thousands of men, women and children, work 8-hr days, sifting through rubbish to salvage food scraps for their pigs and then clean recyclable material, for sale. Most earn just \$1:50 per day.

The Tuk Tuk driver (Jett) inspired this charity, explaining how one cow can make a difference.

With a philosophy that “randomly, throwing money at people doesn’t ensure results however, giving them an opportunity and responsibility to earn a living delivers far better outcomes” Cossi returned home with a desire and passion to make a difference in Cambodia.

His vision, C4C, is essentially a COW BANK. “We loan families a pregnant cow, they must look after it and when it has the baby, they get to keep the calf and we take our cow back. It’s more about providing an opportunity to break the poverty cycle rather than a direct handout.

The success of this project has been overwhelming, so much so that the long-term goal is to have 1,000 cows in the project which will make Cows for Cambodia one of Asia’s biggest Agricultural charity projects. But we need your help”.

He started to buy cows at a cost of US\$650 per head, aided by a donation arranged by Wallave Gunthorpe. The first 68 people (mainly women with children) were illiterate and signed with a thumb-print.

As funds grew, Cossi purchased land and erected a cattle shed. Jett is now the Farm Manager and identifies prospective recipients of livestock from, C4C.

Cossi’s biggest problem was, lack of knowledge about cattle (breeding and care). Then, 7 years ago, Cossi met a Queensland beef producer, Wallace Gunthorpe who gave C4C the expertise they needed to grow. The first change was to cease use of local cattle breeds (as, due to disease and poor husbandry) had poor pregnancy rates and calf survival rates. They introduced 4 bulls and two heifers (Australian Brahman) into C4C to improve the herd.

Whilst better management and feed improved pregnancy rates, the improved genetics from the introduction of the Brahman cattle could increase this by 85%.

The herd has since grown to over 400, thanks to the purchase of a further 150 Brahman Breeders, from a Northern Territory research farm. It is expected that with higher fertility, many more families can “break free from the poverty cycle”.

In early 2024, Cossi wanted to expand the breeding program to include goats, which he sourced for Vietnam. He also wants to include Wild Buffalo from N.T.

The charity also built a school, originally with 16 students, teaching English. The students now numbers 400. As the mother’s now have a cow to support the family, the children can return to school. This is a further step in breaking the poverty cycle. The demand is now so great that a bigger school is nearing completion. It is hoped that they will have over 1000 students.



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Obviously, ongoing funding and volunteers are the key factors in the continued success for C4C. Cosi's high profile (in TV and the public speaking circuit) has allowed him to tap into significant corporate sponsorship. His documentaries about C4C have raised the profile of the charity.

Cosi started running tours of Cambodia and he includes the farm and villages in the program, as well as interaction at the school, preparing and serving meals for students; rice runs (delivering 50Kg bags of rice to families in need); hands-on help to build new homes for villagers. One tourist donated \$3000 towards the cost of one home. Cosi also enjoys delivering random acts of kindness, especially to needy children, such as a bike so they can get to school. On one occasion he took a group of 50 children (who previously had not left their village) to a water park.

Always on the lookout for donations, Cosi was recently able to convince a business owner to donate a cattle crush. More donations are needed.

Cosi and Wallace Cunthorpe are now looking to start "Cows for Botswana" and have the support of the President of Botswana to do so.

The Inner Wheel Club of Baulkham Hills has not only given on-going support to C4C but have also sent 130 Pocket Pals, (knitted by Lyn Stapley and Fran) for distribution to children in Cambodia.



On behalf of the club, Keith thanked Fran for her presentation and presented our Certificate of Appreciation. He assured her that the Board would give consideration to supporting Cows for Cambodia.



SAVE THE DATE

Monday 15th July, 2024
Jennifer Hartnett & Phil Isaac
"It's not just a Cookbook"
 St Joseph's Conference Centre 6:15 for 6:45pm



Monday 29th July, 2024
Patricia Veale
"Woodside Sanctuary"
 St Joseph's Conference Centre 6:15 for 6:45pm



FREE EVENT
COMMUNITY CONNECT
 Your chance to discover the community groups of The Hills
SUN 28 JULY 2024 @ 10AM - 2PM
HARVEY LOWE PAVILION CASTLE HILL SHOWGROUND
 Hosted by: NorWest Sunrise Rotary
 Proudly Supported by: THE HILLS Sydney's Garden Shire
 MORE INFO



Monday 5th August, 2024
Michael Jeh
"Hannah's Story - Small Steps 4 Hannah"
 St Joseph's Conference Centre 6:15 for 6:45pm



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