

Chartered 24th September, 1956

Rotary District 9675

Humanity in Motion

Monday 28th September 2020





Positive notes from the Liverpool Plains

It's nearly October and how dry it was in January seems a very distant memory. Rain has been enough to produce some spectacular crops around the area. Since our last report winter has

Since our last report winter has come and gone and we hope at least for no more frosts.

Canola is in full flower and there are paddocks of yellow dotted across the landscape. Wheat and Barley are yet to start producing their head but will be happening very soon and the rain over the weekend was very welcomed.

Groundwater and surface run-off is still of concern and this shows the landscape is still quite dry underneath. Expectations of a La Nina forming are high and this generally means we get wetter that average conditions from now through to March.

Given the winter crop harvest happens during this period we are hoping for drier conditions during November and December – then it can rain all it wants.

from this...











Remember it's generally very difficult to keep all farmers happy but as the maxim goes "you make more money from mud than dust". Farmers are very grateful for the concern, support and generosity that our city cousins gave during the extended drought.

Tourism has been steady in the Liverpool Plains, with travellers from Sydney and Newcastle "escaping" the Big Smoke to spend their money in regional Australia.

The hardship of the drought is still in people's minds, and they are relieved when they are greeted by green hills and lush crops! The Liverpool Plains Shire Council is supporting tourism and local businesses by waiving the advertising fee in the new tourism brochure, which hopefully will be on the shelves by January 2021.

The mood in town is positive with an optimistic outlook, we are looking at a good harvest starting soon. The only thing slowing us down is Covid-19 - but it is not stopping us.

On reflection, in my humble opinion (I know, I know, but I CAN be humble now and then) one of the most rewarding projects this club has taken on over the years that I can remember was when we decided to support a country town reasonably accessible to us which was extreme hardship due to the devestating drought that had gripped the entire country.

While in the scheme of things, our support was probably just a drop in the ocean I feel we DID make a difference at the time and it is most uplifting to watch the area once again come to life.

Over the past 18 months or so we have been able to offer financial support to the local schools and the community at large, we managed a club visit over a weekend in early May 2019 leaving a little money behind in the process as well as making new friends, Jim Robertson arranged two separate visits for daughter Denise and her chiropodist business partner who held free clinics for those in need and recently

awarded an OUTREDS Scholarship to Marika Horsstrom of Quirindi who was an enrolled nurse at Quirindi Hospital and has now commenced her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing through Armidale University by remote learning to become a Registered Nurse. This project in particular will be ongoing with more scholarships being awarded as situations arise.

I have for some time now been including Rob Lewis from the Rotary Club of Quirindi when distributing the Channel anything of interest can be shared through his own club bulletin and conversely I include his information in the Channel when relevant. Hence the report which begins this edition.

While rains have come at last to ease the drought conditions, much more will need to be done for the town to fully recover and we are looking forward to working with the Rotary Club of Quirindi in the future. Hopefully thay will join one of our Zoom meetings in the coming weeks.

Some more club news

Two weeks ago we had our first non face-to-face induction when Garry Ferguson was welcomed as a member

Garry is a former member of the Rotary Club of Drummoyne and has for a number of weeks prior to his joining Concord been a regular participant in our weekly meetings, a volunteer in setting up the previous three Farmers Markets and together with wife Jennifer, joined the select few who made it to Putney Park for our last club picnic.

On the basis of his market involvement alone there was absolutely NO way he was escaping our clutches (and it was most appropriate for President Angela to present Garry his Certificate of Membership and Rotary pins), but that aside, he is a most welcome addition to our number and we look forward to working with him and enjoying his fellowship in the years to come.

Garry and Jennifer are residents of Breakfast Point, their birthdays respectively are 16/10 and the 3/12, their wedding anniversary is the 10/4 and Garry's classification is **Geological Science**.



The Rotary Club of Concord's entrants for the Best Dressed Participants in an Induction Ceremony



Angela with Garry and his hard working band of "Heavy Lifters"

Some thanks for those who ease the burden

For many years now thanks to Peter Smith the set-up and pack-up at our Farmers Market has been made very simple for our members with the volunteers every market from the Homebush Boys School Interact club and from Strathfield Rotaract Club and while these clubs benefit from the charity colllection each market, without their cheerful assistance with all the heavy lifting



Photos supplied by P. Smith



I doubt very much that we would have endured.

Therefore during the market held on Sunday 20th August President Angela was on hand to present Certificates of Appreciation from our club to those volunteers. Needless to say, some of our early volunteers have missed out, I think Mr. Smith will be supplying those names so all will have some recognition of their Community Service for their resume.

I believe all were extremely pleased with the certificates and as proof I insert the following reply to a letter from Peter to one of the recipients.

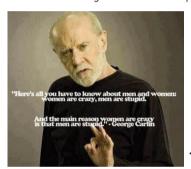
Dear Peter,

Thank you so much for such wonderful news. Titus has always enjoyed volunteering at the market. I just so want to THANK YOU SO MUCH for giving him that opportunity!!!

I will pass your email on to Titus. He will be very thrilled.

Warm regards Teranun (Titus' mother)

While I acknowledge everything Peter has done for our club over the years, I have to say that I can no longer use him as a photographer. He has done his dash!







An explanation...

As I mentioned in the last Channel, Rotaractor and great friend of our club Nicola Byrne has offered to supply a few articles based on an assignment she produced proposing "A new waste management policy targeting packaging".

In the meantime Nicky has sent me a piece she wrote about the early history of the Rhodes/Concord area following her discussions with Lorna and Alan Wright, suggesting our members may be interested in bits of it and that I could edit it for the Channel if I deemed it appropriate.

Well, I read it and decided that anything I did to the manuscript would in no way enhance it and anyhow our members deserved to read it for themselves. So here is part 1.

A short narrative history of Rhodes and Concord

by Nicola Byrne

The grass still yellows around the waterfront high-rises, off-setting the olive murk of the bay. Signs planted in the saltmarsh warn strollers on the bitumen walkway: no fishing. 'Industrial pollutants' is the short explanation, in bold blue and red repeated in twelve languages. These are the memories of chemical contaminants etched into Rhodes, which council remediation and private development could not erase.



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Rhodes is one of the villages in the City of Sydney. Functionally, though, it is more like three: railway tracks slice through the centre of the suburb. isolating the waterside to the west. Concord Road further divides eastern Rhodes into a central business area, and the waterside east which blurs. into Concord West. On another level, it operates as part of the defunct Municipality of Concord, now consolidated into the City of Canada Bay.



Concord West railway station 1933

Most of Sydney wears the clothes of its past in plain sight. Federation bungalows still dot the grassy streets of the inner west, their house plan borrowed from California in the 1920s suburban boom. Former businesses live on in retained signs and building facades, or leave empty shopfronts to hint at stories once told.

The history of the Rhodes peninsula is more hidden. It dwells beneath layers of glass and steel towers reflecting the bay. It lies under wide tree-lined footpaths of white concrete and dog-friendly parks just a twenty-five-minute train ride from the city. A 'dynamic new hub for urban village life', one advertisement reads, targeting the freshly arrived international student, skilled worker and young family.

'The plants don't grow well there,' Richard, a former resident, observes. The murky water and yellowed wildlife made sense to him once he found out about the past industry of the area. The Union Carbide plant came up in his reading – American chemical manufacturers who produced the highly toxic Vietnam War-era defoliant, Agent Orange.

You can see the former factory blocks. It's really obvious if you know about the history.' He adds that he isn't surprised the knowledge is not wide-



Rhodes Union Carbide plant

spread, because 'the investors weren't going to be the ones to mention it'. This chapter of Rhodes' history remains in the water, and the factory-shaped streets.

Oh, everyone knew when you crossed the bridge on the train, you knew...' A wicked grin curling his lip, Alan Wright, former Mayor of Concord, and Berger Paints and Dulux employee (before they merged), readily jumps back to a past Rhodes known for its smell. But there were two different smells, you see. One of them could've been the rubbish in the river, but when the tide went out and the sun got on the weed, it smelled as bad as the factories.'

Over tea and store-bought lemon slice, Alan and Lorna Wright speak in tangents, travelling to council meetings and conversations half a century ago. Thoughts relevant then swim across Alan's words, changing the direction of sentences. 'We' begins most sentences – we, him and Lorna; the Municipality of Concord; Concord Council; Liberal Party branches at North Strathfield and Concord West; Concord Senior Citizens Welfare Association; Meals on Wheels; City of Canada Bay Heritage Society; Society for Providing Service to Needy and Neglected Children; North Strathfield Public School Council; Cabarita Swimming Club; Holy Trinity congregation; Concord West Toastmasters; and the Rotary Club of Concord.

We organised for Rotary two big fairs once, he recalls. And we invited everyone to take part, we would do the organising and they'd get the money. The boy scouts—'

From Rhodes, Lorna adds. On occasion, she corrects his account with her own memories as Mayoress, or directs him back to the question. He does not always hear her.



'—collected all the empty beer bottles, and got labels printed and sold "Rhodes Air," Alan pauses while we laugh. 'And it sold out like hotcakes—and didn't it go?'

'Now it's so expensive out there,' Lorna muses.

'Yeah, now it's squeaky clean.'

The greatest clean-up in Australia's documented history. Sydney Morning Herald reported in 2010. This contrasts with Greenpeace's comments after the Sydney Olympic games, which noted the failure of the NSW government to meet their own environmental guidelines for Homebush Bay, Real estate group Domain also leapt to praise the success funded by the developers and construction contractors, but quietly conceded the contamination contributed to fishing restrictions in Sydney's waters and added risk to boating in areas with toxic sediment.

The modern battle against the contamination of the area was preceded by earlier conflict with the natural environment. An opinion in an 1892 issue of the Australian Courier argued the swamps and bays were 'a cess-pan for the drainage of Burwood and Concord' and 'the hot bed for germs of fever'. The same individual suggested reclaiming the land so that it could be repurposed for community recreation.

No action was taken until 1928, when Council Health and Building Inspector Charles Massey proposed draining these areas and removing the mosquitoinfested mangroves which were an 'offence to the senses.' It is perhaps for this reason Massey Park Golf Club, one of the parks developed on the reclaimed land, is named after him.

'Mum worried when we were down at Concord West on Victoria Avenue, close to the water there,' Lorna remembers, as the reclamation continued through her childhood. 'I ended up with diphtheria and scarlet



Massev Parl Golf Club

fever, my brother got diphtheria too... yes, Mum blamed the horrible mosquitoes down there.'

In this environment, with the perceived hostility of insects carrying diseases and sludge washed in from the mangroves by frequent flooding, the appeal of the Federation bungalow is clear. Their hipped roofs and shaded verandas exclude as much light and heat possible. Freeland explains in Architecture in Australia (1968) that they were designed not for living within the outside environment, but to escape it.

....to be continued....





Yes, this actually happened.

Yes, they dressed the truck up with the guy tied down on the roof.

Yes, the driver & passengers put on Moose heads. Then they went down the toll road causing 16 accidents.

Yes, they went to jail...

Yes, alcohol was involved...

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International Peace Day Zoom Meeting

Each year on the 21st September, the United Nations Secretary-General rings the Japanese Peace Bell to announce the International Day of Peace. The echo of the bell vibrates across New York's UN Headquarters inviting all citizens of the world to observe a day of peace.

To celebrate this day and encourage peace, a Multi District Peace Forum was held, via Zoom last Sunday 20th September at 4pm AEST.

The event was organised by the Rotary Club of Granville co-ordinated by Assistant/Area Governor Renga Rajan and President Sris Ponniahpillai and involved over 70 participants from 4 countries, across 3 time zones which included Australia, India, Sri Lanka & Singapore.

At the commencement of the forum we were reminded that true enemies are not people from other countries or cultures. True enemies are those who threaten our health, security and way of life and "to create lasting peace we must begin with the children" Mahatma Gandhi. We were also reminded that when peace is disturbed at a club level it is disturbed at the district level, Zone and International levels thus threatening true global peace.

Opening remarks were delivered by Warwick Richardson, District Governor 9675 and Jessie Harman of District 9780 and recently nominated Director of Zone 8 – Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands for 2021-22.

Warwick spoke of the origins of world peace day, the meaning of the dove in-flight carrying an olive branch in its beak, which is the symbol of World Peace Day and represents a messenger. He also spoke of the many good things Rotarians around the world do and continue to do through COVID to promote peace. Jessie Harman spoke of Peace Building as a corner stone of Rotary and of the Rotary Peace Fellowships developed in the late 1990s to provide support for Masters and Certificate level students working in areas of peace promotion and conflict resolution.

The four keynote speakers were led by the Venerable Galkande Dhammananda Thero, who is a Sri Lankan national and a monk of Theravada Buddhist tradition. Dhammananda Thero spoke of Social Healing and Peace Building. Social Healing seeks to build peace by viewing human transgressions as an issue of wounding and healing instead of good and bad or right and wrong. He described how in losing his brother, a police officer, who had always wanted to be a teacher, he initially saw himself and his brother as victims.

However, after listening to the story of his brother's combatants he realised they were also wounded and perhaps even more so. He stressed that we must always ask ourselves who is the perpetrator and who is the victim by viewing the parties at different points on a timeline. If we do this, we will see that all are victims, including children being punished and women being disadvantaged in schools, workplaces and families. All have a wounded nature and all need healing and whenever notions of "this land", "my community" or "my religion" become a part of "my" victimhood then "I" am the perpetrator.

Luigi Greco then spoke of the Australian Man Cave (https://themancave.life/), a support group he founded for men after the suicide of a close friend. In Australia suicide is the



largest killer of men aged between 15 and 45 with, on average, 6 men taking their lives each day. The group meets once a month to bring people together to help them correct behavioural problems and learn to express their emotions by any means possible. It allows men to speak and express their feelings at their own level in a non-judgemental environment without ridicule. It is men helping men, reminding each other how important it is that "mates help mates: and "it's not weak to speak". The Australian Man Cave is currently working with neuroscientist Dr Charlie Theo to learn whether children diagnosed with ADHD actually have PTSD and is also launching Australian Man Cave refugee support.

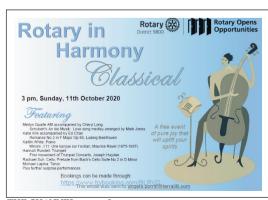
Lu is also the instigator of the following Gecoisms:

- If we respect each other 1% more we would all change the world.
- Thinking for you is controlling. Thinking of you is caring.
- Show how you feel without hiding your feelings.

Third keynote speaker, Gayatri Sriram, Mentor and Coach of Female Entrepreneurs, spoke of Women's Economic Participation and Peace Building. She defined peace as an active, energetic, thriving, growing state that is more than serenity or the absence of war. A place where people can positively engage with today and dream of tomorrow. Gayatri described how it is supported by work, food, culture, art, economy, business, governance and structure. How economic, political, legal and social structures must work together for peace to prevail and how when peace does prevail, families thrive and when peace is not present families are broken. As such women are stakeholders in peace, the custodians and enablers of peace who must therefore be encouraged to take up leadership and community engagement roles so that they are involved in decision making and ownership because when women work they lead using peace. To encourage more women into these roles we must experiment and educate each other and advocate for women to speak up so that we can build an eco-system that works for every woman so we can work together to build peace.

The final note came from District Governor Rajamohan Munisamy of District 3310 – Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore who spoke of how international peace and understanding is promoted through Global Grants. DG Rajamohan asked us to consider, when problems seem too big, that Rotarians have human power woven into the human fabric of community and that Rotary is a global peace building force setup for success through the 7 areas of focus: promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, saving mothers and children, supporting education, growing local economies and supporting the environment.

Each time Rotary clubs support an area of focus Rotary Builds Peace. He encouraged us to join Rotary Action Groups and to join in networking and fellowship to connect with each other across the globe in this common goal. Angela Porritt President



Rotary in Harmony Classical Concert

Rotarians, families and communities are invited to a free Zoom concert to aid ARF.

In this year 2020 when many have found themselves in trying times, the value of the enjoyment of music on one's mental health has prompted a group of D9800 Rotarians to gather vocalists and musicians together for an afternoon concert to uplift the soul.

This concert is FREE but all are encouraged to donate to Australian Rotary Health.

Bookings: https://www.trybookings.com/BLRVQ



USA History Captured by Photography





















- 1. Bubblegum cigarettes and lighter toy from the 1960's
- 2. Gas prices in 1939
- 3. Posing in front of 1,341 years old , 331ft tall giant Sequoia, California 1892
- 4. Harley Davidson Mobile Booking Cage 1920
- 5. Lucy and Dezi Phillip Morris cigarette ad, 1952
- 6. Great Depression self promotion during the 1930's
- 7. How babies travelled on airplanes during the 1960's
- 8. In 1898, Bayer begins mass production of heroin as a remedy for coughs and colds
- 9. 1904 Joint venture between Charless Rolls and Henry Royce
- 10.First drive-in theatre in Los Angeles, California



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This week's politically (in)correct story

I am aware that I have used this story on some previous occasion but when Peter Smith sent it to me I realised that it is so good that it deserves to be re-broadcast.

The following is an actual question given on a University of Arizona chemistry mid term, and an actual answer turned in by a student.

The answer by one student was so 'profound' that the professor shared it with colleagues, via the Internet, which is, of course, why we now have the pleasure of enjoying it as well

Bonus Question: Is Hell exothermic (gives off heat) or endothermic (absorbs heat)?

Most of the students wrote proofs of their beliefs using Boyle's Law (gas cools when it expands and heats when it is compressed) or some variant.

One student, however, wrote the following:

First, we need to know how the mass of Hell is changing in time. So we need to know the rate at which souls are moving into Hell and the rate at which they are leaving, which is unlikely. I think that we can safely assume that once a soul gets to Hell, it will not leave. Therefore, no souls are leaving.

As for how many souls are entering Hell, let's look at the different religions that exist in the world today.

Most of these religions state that if you are not a member of their religion, you will go to Hell. Since there is more than one of these religions and since people do not belong to more than one religion, we can project that all souls go to Hell.

With birth and death rates as they are, we can expect the number of souls in Hell to increase exponentially. Now, we look at the rate of change of the volume in Hell because Boyle's Law states that in order for the temperature and pressure in Hell to stay the same, the volume of Hell has to expand proportionately as souls are added.

This gives two possibilities:

- 1. If Hell is expanding at a slower rate than the rate at which souls enter Hell, then the temperature and pressure in Hell will increase until all Hell breaks loose.
- 2. If Hell is expanding at a rate faster than the increase of souls in Hell, then the temperature and pressure will drop until Hell freezes over.

So which is it?

If we accept the postulate given to me by Teresa during my Freshman year that, 'It will be a cold day in Hell before I sleep with you,' and take into account the fact that I slept with her last night, then number two must be true, and thus I am sure that Hell is exothermic and has already frozen over.

The corollary of this theory is that since Hell has frozen over, it follows that it is not accepting any more souls and is therefore, extinct..... leaving only Heaven, thereby proving the existence of a divine being which explains why, last night, Teresa kept shouting 'Oh my God.'



The student received an A!

AUSTRALIANS ALL LET US REJOICE FOR WE ARE YOUNG AND FREE CREVEGOLD ESDIVAND WARLING FOUL OUR HOME IS GIRT BY SEA OUR LAND OF BEAUTY ABOUNDS RICH IN NATURE'S GIFTS AND RARE CRESCOWN STRAIL FAIR IN JOYFEL STRAINS THER LET HE SURE "ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR IN JOYFEL STRAINS THE LET HE SURE "ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR IN JOYFEL STRAINS THE LET HE SURE "ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR IT HOSE WHO'VE COME ACROSS THE SEAS WE'VE BOUNDLESS PLAINS TO SHARE WITH COURAGE LET US AT UCOMBINED TO ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR IN JOYFEL STRAINS THER LET HE SING "ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR IN JOYFEL STRAINS

Just gotta love the Irish

The Irish are always the first ones to come to the aid of their fellow man.

Shortly after take-off on an outbound, evening Aer Lingus flight from Dublin to Boston, the lead flight attendant nervously made the following painful announcement in her lovely Irish brogue: "Ladies and gentlemen, I'm so very sorry, but it appears that there has been a terrible mix-up by our catering service.

I don't know how this happened, but we have 103 passengers on board, and unfortunately, we only received 40 meals for dinner. I truly apologize for this mistake and inconvenience, as well"

When the muttering of the passengers died down, she continued, "Anyone who is kind enough to give up their meal so that someone else can eat, will receive free and unlimited drinks for the duration of our 10 hour flight."

Her next announcement came about 2 hours later: "If anyone is hungry, we still have 40 dinners available."

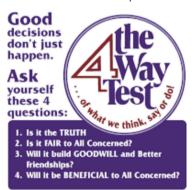
Rotary Grace

O Lord Thou Giver of all good, We thank Thee for our daily food. May Rotary friends and Rotary ways Help us to serve Thee all our days

ROTARY'S CODE OF CONDUCT

As a Rotarian, I will:

- 1) Exemplify the core value of integrity in all behaviours and activities.
- 2) Use my vocational experiences and talents to serve in Rotary.
- 3) Conduct all of my personal, business and professional affairs ethically, encouraging and fostering high ethical standards as an example to others.
- 4)Be fair in all dealings with others and treat them with the respect due to them as fellow human beings.
- 5) Promote recognition and respect for all occupations which are useful to society.
- 6) Offer my vocational talents: to provide opportunities for young people, to work for the relief of the special needs of others and to improve the quality of life in my community.
- 7) Honour the trust that Rotary and fellow Rotarians provide and not do anything that will bring disfavour or reflect adversely on Rotary or fellow Rotarians.
- 8) Not seek from a fellow Rotarian a privilege or advantage not normally accorded others in a business or professional relationship.



BOARD MEMBERS 2020/21

President: Angela Porritt
President Elect: Cornelia Day
Secretary: Allan Petersen
Treasurer: Ken Wright

Immediate PP: Charmaine Langley Farmers Market: Helen McCaffery

Farmers Market: Helen McCaffery

Club Service: James Chin

Community Service: Daniel Music New Generations: Peter Robinson Vocational Service: Peter Reynolds

Membership: Michael Brown

Assistant International Service Director: Maree Ohlin

CLUB MEMBERS

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Brown David (Beverley)
Graphic Art (Retired)

Brown Michael (Liane) Graphic Art (Pre-Press)

Cassaniti Santino (Marie) Funeral Services

James Chin

Medicine - Health & Lifestyle

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Gilkes Ian (Sue) Printing Commercial

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Hughes Don (Judith) Education - Science

Hunter Dianne Accountancy - Admin

Kane Ray (Judith) Transport (Retired)

Kang Alice Director Marketing & Community Relations, Concord Hospital

Langley CharmaineProject Manager Higher Education

Legey Patrick (Annmaree)
Pest Control

Long Kevin (Anna)
Promotional Products

Love Judy Aged Care Aministration

Ly Steven
Planning Logistics

McCaffrey Helen (Bill) Corrosion Control

McCarthy Phillip (Jillian) Accounting - Chartered

McIntosh Graham Pharmacy (retired)

Murray Ken Education - Secondary (ret)

Music Daniel Facilities Management

Ohlin Maree (Peter) IT Project Management

Paterson Bill (Doreen)
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Petersen Allan (Welwyn) Education - Primary

Petrie Stephen (Cathryn) Mechanical Engineering

Porritt Angela (Rhys) Database Development

Reynolds Peter (Mariana) Education - Languages Rez Simon

Robertson Jim (Florence) Mediation Services

Robinson Peter (Barbara) Marketing and Sales

Rogers Peter (Mary) Mystery Shopping

Scott Evelyn Govt Services (Retired)

Williamson David Building Administration

Wright Alan (Lorna) Paint Manufacture

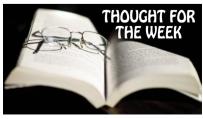
Wright Ken (Georgia) Accounting Services

Xu Grant (Cynthia)
IT Professional

HONORARY MEMBERS

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- # Davidson, Carole
- # Kistan, Nesan (Cheryl)
- # Michel, Lois McCaffrey, William (Helen)
- #* Rodway, Barry (Norah) Spence, Wal (Elaine)
- #** Smith, Peter (Marlene)
- * Past President # Paul Harris Fellow
- ** Past Pres. Rotary Club of Strathfield





If a deaf man has to go to court, is it still calles a hearing?