A word from the President

It is with great sadness that I advise that Lynne Rodda passed away in the early hours of Thursday morning after a long battle with cancer.

Lynn was a wonderful Rotarian and a past President of our Club, the first woman to hold that role.

Her efforts in relation to our District Conference were outstanding and well recognised by the subsequent award of a sapphire pin to go with her PHF.

She was a warm friend to all and will be greatly missed.

President Tony

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The loss of a loved one doesn’t mean they are gone, their spirit still lives within us.

Katelyn Spotten
Our Speaker Kayla Heffernan – Monday 19th February 2018

Kayla is a UX designer, and is undertaking a PhD at the University of Melbourne in the Department of Computing and Information Systems, which looks at devices that go in, through and under the skin, to monitor and store personal information.

The human body has emerged as a platform for these devices – both for wearable wellbeing devices, and implantable medical devices (IMDs). IMDs include pacemakers, cochlear implants, deep brain stimulation for the treatment of Multiple Sclerosis and Parkinson’s Disease, dental implants, orthodontics and implantable contraceptives to name only a few. Technological size and cost reductions, along with power and battery improvements, has seen items that were once strictly external, now become wearable, and of course, even insertable. We have instead of placing a device on the body when needed, and taking it off again when no longer required, it is now possible to augment the body in a semi-permanent way, with an insertable device. This augmentation is typically not visible to others, and is comparable to those who insert contact lenses rather than wearing glasses. The future will be rich and creative in many ways.

Thank you, Kayla, for a most stimulating and creative address.

We may judge your contribution by the extensive list of questions from the floor by Members of the Club.
VALE LYNNE RODDA

As most members will know Lynne passed away at approximately 1.00am on Thursday morning after a two year battle with multiple myeloma.

Whilst I only met Lynne when she joined Rotary in 2004 it quickly became clear that she, throughout her life, was a woman of great spirit, of sharp mind and of high ethics. She was proposed to the Club by her then business partner Max Campbell who also had the same personal attributes.

She was our first female member and our first female President (2012-2013) and has acquitted herself admirably in those roles. The presentation to her in 2015 of a Paul Harris Award followed by two second awards, one from the club and the second from District for her work in organising the 2016 district conference is testament to her dedication to Rotary and her professionalism in what she did. On the final day of the 2016 conference (which due to severe muscular back pain she only got through with heavy doses of analgesics -- what a misdiagnosis) a District Governor made this comment (amongst others) "District Conference was in real trouble, you have saved it and you have set the bar so high at this conference I am not sure anyone else will be able to achieve it" - we all, as a club, certainly pulled together, but Lynne drove it for which we have much to thank her for.

Lynne was not unused to physical pain and suffering. She had been a cancer survivor in her thirties and also survived being hit by a car in Bell Street (having been thrown 25 feet) about 10 years ago.

Her upbringing was not one of privilege, in fact the exact opposite. Everything she achieved in life was through hard work, a keen mind and the fortitude to stand up for, and express her beliefs and opinions. Her ethical compass was to be admired and I know that on at least one occasion she put those ethics above a highly lucrative position

Of course, our condolences go to her children Greg and Gavin as well as their respective families The family has been at Lynne's side since her diagnosis and she couldn't have wished for more loving attention - Lynne's grandchildren were her pride and joy and she spoke to me of them regularly.

I, and others, joked (sort of) after District Conference with Lynne about how good a District Governor she would have made and that we would put her name forward. Her retort was "are you out of your mind -- no way " - and she meant it -- however had she not become ill I am sure that would have happened in time.

Over time our club has lost many hard working, committed, valued members. Lynne unfortunately has joined that select group and she will be sadly missed as a member, friend and confidant.

Geoff Cook