

the networker

Rotary
District 9800



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Camp Getaway Kitchen opening
VALE Del King

District Governor Peter Frueh

This edition of Networker has some great stories from the recent District Conference in Warrnambool. Thanks to the over 700 who attended and participated in some way as delegates, partners, speakers, volunteers, etc. We aimed to have a fun conference which had interesting and diverse speakers, Rotary ideas, some local tours and events as well as plenty of social interaction. The feedback has been very positive on these aspects and will help planning the Multi District Conference in Feb 2019. Anne and I would like to thank the many volunteers and participants who made it such a good event.



The **22nd of April is Earth Day** and marks the end of the formal period of Rotarian tree planting that Rotary International World President Ian Riseley has encouraged. If your club hasn't yet done a tree planting, there is no reason not to do so still. Planting conditions vary around the world and the world needs more trees.

The April 2018 "Rotarian" magazine has a special focus on trees. Most Australian Rotarians receive the "Rotary Down Under" magazine in hard copy delivered to their home or work. However both are available online for no cost. If you wish to read the "Rotarian" magazine you can click on the following link:

<https://my.rotary.org/en/news-media/magazines/rotarian>

The article "When is a tree like a Rotarian? All the time" by forester Peter Wohlleben is well worth a read. If like me, you thought a forest was made up of individual trees, think again! He explains that:



Tree roots find roots of other trees of the same species

Trees then interconnect and exchange nutrients, including at times of individual need

Trees identify not just their own species but other individual trees, building social networks

Trees interconnect to better cope with weather, environmental and other threats and to create a favourable microclimate

Tree branches grow respectfully of other adjacent connected trees' branches

Sound familiar?

When we grow up we strive for independence. As we grow wiser we understand the need for interdependence. Collectively we are stronger and we can reach out to help others. Sometimes we will need help and others will reach out to help us.

Peter Frueh
District Governor 2017-2018



2018 District Conference Wrap

This year's District Conference has ended with outstanding results and feedback for the organisers, the Rotary Club of Balwyn lead by District Governor Peter Frueh, Anne Frueh, Di Gillies and a stalwart team.

Organising and running a District Conference is a 2 and a half year journey and one of the first responsibilities set a District Governor Nominee. From choosing the location deadlines kept the team on task—an advertisement for inclusion in the 2017 conference booklet, a flyer and marketing material for the 2017 conference marketplace, a website to set and registrations to open. With nine months to go, they were well down the road. The team expanded almost exponentially, and the pace picked up as detailed planning progressed—tours, speakers, presenters, food, beverages, logistics, budget, uniforms.

With two months to go, everything was on schedule. The Balwyn team arrived on mass to a sunny, windless Warrnambool delivering the fun filled, inspiring conference that they had promised. Approximately one million dollars was injected into the local economy. "Days for Girls", a North Balwyn sewing group earned \$1,900 for making the uniforms. \$1,500 was raised towards the Maremma Penguin Project. Bonds were created with the Warrnambool Central Rotary Club. Lunches were sent to the fire evacuation centre in Warrnambool. Almost 20,000 meals for disaster aid were packed using the For-A-Meal method.

Many thanks to District 9800 stalwarts Peter Shephard and Ian Hovey, who have vast experience and provided invaluable help and expertise behind the scenes.

To all members of the Rotary Club of Balwyn, congratulations on a magnificent Conference. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive from all and congratulations must go to Conference Organiser Di Gillies. Coordinators Anne Frueh, Clarke Ballard, Anthea Rutter, Bill Goodwin, Brian Pollock, Phillip Lambers, Brian Matheson, Sue King, Kevin Walsh, Kevn McQualter, Peter O'Brien, Andrew Miles, David Jones and Murray Wilkinson for their work.

Feedback from Past District Governor Brian Hall—Rotary International President's Representative and a member of the Rotary Club of Covington, Louisiana—said



"I can't tell you how much I enjoyed the weekend. The conference was easily the best conference I have attended as a President's representative. It was a stellar conference from top to bottom and you should all be very proud of the job that you did in making this conference happen. It was fantastic. It has been a pleasure to meet many of you, it's been wonderful to be with you; your hospitality has been astounding and I've made so many friends this weekend. It's been wonderful to be part of this. We will certainly miss Melbourne; I got to tell you the Great Ocean Road is one of the most spectacular things I've seen; it was just fantastic."

Thank you again for your hospitality, thank you for your friendships. I do look forward to our Districts continuing to work together and cooperate. I think there is a lot of room for our Districts to work together. I think there's a bright future for that. I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you."

By Anne Frueh



Reflections from the District Governor Elect

What a superb conference! It was unique attending as District Governor Elect and I wonder if it is of interest to others know how that felt? Here goes....

It is a great sense of camaraderie saying hi, hugging and shaking hands with so many Rotary friends that are well known. I remember in my first conference in 2009 at Launceston being vaguely bewildered. Never had I known people to be so friendly and caring "en masse". Now to have visited so many Clubs, and have got to know so many of you through Donations In Kind volunteering it is quite natural to be one of those huggers.

The other overwhelming feeling was that of admiration for the skills of those volunteers in our organisation. Those were particularly backstage this weekend and not seen. Ian Hovey (Rotary Club of Werribee), Peter Shephard (Rotary Club of Altona) and Di Gillies (Rotary Club of Balwyn) were working the entire weekend for our education, enjoyment and inspiration.

While I was thoroughly enjoying what they created – an engaging and fun filled conference, they were still working hard and making it happen. Ian, the digital media you create is of the most professional quality. Our district is so fortunate to have you capturing our stories and bringing them to life for us all to share.

It is a fantastic quality of our organisation that we develop a genuine care for each other. Rotarians continually through the weekend greeted me with well wishes and good natured comments such as "This will be you next year Bronwyn...are you ready?"

No, I'm not quite ready, but the 2017-2018 team are doing an exceptional job while the 2018-2019 team are settling into place and will be ready come July 1st.

Bronwyn Stephens
District Governor Elect
Rotary Club of South Melbourne



Bob Fels receives Outstanding Service Award

Rotary International President Ian Riseley marked his visit to Melbourne and to the Rotary Club of Melbourne by presenting Bob Fels with **Rotary's "Outstanding Service Award"** for outstanding service to District 9800, The Rotary Foundation and Rotary International.

The citation reads:

"Through your pioneering role in making the Peace & Conflict Resolution program a signature program for District 9800, with its unmatched success rate throughout the Rotary World of having at least one candidate accepted into the program every year since its inception.

Also through your contribution at an international level as a member of the Rotary Peace Centers Committee from 2007-13. During this time, you were also Leader of the International Task Force to review the Peace Centres.

On behalf of Rotarians in our District and worldwide and on behalf of Peace Fellows everywhere, we extend our sincere appreciation for your outstanding contribution, your service and through your service in Rotary, making a difference in the world."



Bob, a Rotary Club of Melbourne stalwart, in June 2014 was conferred with a Citation for Meritorious Service by the Rotary Foundation and in May 2017, was elevated to Paul Harris Ruby.

Congratulations Bob.

By Tony Thomas and Dorothy Gilmour

Melbourne Hosts Stellar Visit by Rotary International President Ian Riseley

The Rotary Club of Melbourne hosted a packed 3 day program for Rotary International; President Ian Riseley and Juliet, showcasing Rotary's profile in the city.

Ian's schedule: included

- Interviewed by Jon Faine on ABC Radio;

- Entertained by the Governor of Victoria at Government House;

- Commemorated a special tree at Rotary Park;

- Provided the Angus Mitchell Oration at Rotary Club of Melbourne special meeting;

- Presented the District 9800 Recognition of Outstanding Service Award to RC Melbourne's Bob Fels.

On 13 March, Governor Linda Dessau and her husband Mr Tony Howard hosted an afternoon reception for Ian at Government House. The Governor, an Honorary Member of the Rotary Club of Melbourne, invited every Rotary Club in Victoria to nominate 4 Rotarians as guests.

<https://governor.vic.gov.au/all-speeches/welcome-ian-riseley-oam-president-rotary-international>

Almost 900 Rotarians filled the ballroom and created quite a buzz! Rotarians then enjoyed a sunny autumn day mingling on the terrace lawn. All the State Rooms were opened so that the guests could experience the beauty of Government House.

This Vice-Regal recognition on such a scale is a first for Rotary in Victoria. Securing a visit by a Rotary International President requires advance, flexible planning which the Rotary Club of Melbourne initiated 22 months ago.

As Rotary International President, Ian travels the world receiving invitations from thousands of Clubs and Districts as well as overseeing Rotary's operations so securing a visit is something special.





RI President Ian Riseley on March 14th dedicated a tree at Rotary Park in the Royal Botanical Gardens. He was the 28th RI President to be commemorated in the Rotary Park after Paul Harris planted the first tree in 1936. This is a Brush Box tree and still thriving. Each of the five Australian world Presidents have also commemorated a tree. Ian, with his love of fauna was delighted to unveil a plaque with his name attached to an indigenous *Ficus Platyoda* (native fig), commonly known as a desert fig or rock fig endemic to Central and Northern Australia. It is unusual to have such a fine national specimen so well established in the City of Melbourne. Being such a mature tree, Ian had difficulty giving it a big hug.

Celebrating the First 100 Years of Rotary Service in Australia and NZ

The first century of Rotary Service is worth celebrating. And we will do this in grand style on Wednesday 21st April 2021. **Save The Date!**

You will be invited to a big event in Melbourne along with 1000+ Rotarians across Australia and New Zealand to celebrate and reflect upon a century of achievement, community building and fellowship. International Rotary dignitaries, Vice Regal representatives, business and community leaders plus Friends of Rotary are being invited. Ambitious? Yes, but we only have one chance in a lifetime to celebrate such a grand affair.

And much, much more is in the pipeline. Watch this space to find out more and how you and your Club can get involved in a wide range of events and projects. We are celebrating the first 100 years of Rotary Service and we are also creating a legacy that will take us into the next 100 years of community service.

We are here for the long term. Let's mark the occasion with a grand celebration.

Hugh Bucknall
Team Leader
R100; Rotary Club of Melbourne

Rotary
Celebrating
100 Years



**Australia &
New Zealand**

DISTRICT 9800 CHANGEOVER

Sunday June 3rd 2018 11.30am for 12 noon - 3pm



**ROTARY
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**



BE THE INSPIRATION

**Brighton International 81 Bay Street, Brighton
Featuring The Barking Dogs
LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER WITH LOTS OF FUN**



www.trybooking.com/367423
Early Bird price: \$68 per person
\$75 per person (after 18th May).

Brighton BMW 

This year the District Changeover is celebrating our District and all we have achieved together – Rotarians and Clubs, with assistance and support from the District Leadership Team.

There will be fun, special projects and Rotarians honoured.

Entertainment by our own sensational “Barking Dogs” with Sue Foley.

Dress to impress but don't feel you need to be uncomfortable, AND bring your dancing shoes.

In true Rotary style, there will be funding opportunities for two projects of \$1,000 each. Submit a short, informal project plan, register a table of 10 before May 18th. Be ready to claim the prize and announce the project to all our District Rotary friends. Maybe you will gain support from other Clubs and possibly receive a Foundation District Grant 😊

**Please join District Governor Peter Frueh and Anne,
District Governor Elect Bronwyn Stephens and Mark
as we whoop it up at “The International” in Brighton.**

Scott Bolton—District 9800 Global Grants Scholar



"I am an educator with a track record of working to further the Rotary Foundation's goal of improving basic education and literacy in disadvantaged school contexts, and a clear commitment to building a career as a reforming school leader in Australia's public school system."

Australia needs a coalition of public school system leaders, committed to improving student outcomes by investing in teaching and school communities

What an inspirational and aspirational goal for the recipient of the 2018 global scholar program.

Scott Bolton was the successful candidate this year. He will receive \$60,000 from Rotary Foundation funds.

It was a joy to be on the panel interviewing Scott and the other very impressive candidates that applied for this enormous pot of money.

We sometimes think that Foundation funds are limited to our club projects and what they achieve, even dare I suggest, only international projects. The global scholars, peace scholars and vocational teams are other important programs.

Scott worked with disadvantaged and migrant students in Australia. He has spent time researching models of teaching. This is where he found his passion for improving education for being at the forefront of leadership. He used an interesting analogy.

Some people buy BMWs and Mercedes cars. They drive them for a few years. At the first sign of trouble they trade them in. Others buy a car. They listen for trouble, check them regularly, fine tune them and maintain them to get the best from them for great performance for a long time. Scott likes to approach the students in his care with the same individual attention.

In Scott's words

"To achieve these professional goals, I need the knowledge of what is best practice, the skills to put this knowledge into action, and the mentors and partnerships to sustain these efforts over time. The potential to experience a world-leading school leadership development program first-hand is what draws me specifically to Harvard Graduate School of Education: a one year, professionally-focused degree that equips emerging school leaders with the tools needed to lift student outcomes in a diverse range of school contexts. I want to learn from experienced professors who can challenge my assumptions about what it means to both "do" school leadership and "be" a leader, and observe practicing principals in action as they drive evidence-based school reform. In the same way that Rotary's international community makes it stronger, I want to bring what I learn in an American context back to enhance efforts to address educational disadvantage in our community."

Scott's initial professional goal is to return to the Australian public school system – first as a Leading Teacher with responsibility for curriculum design & professional development, and then as a Principal turning around educationally disadvantaged public schools. Longer-term, he would like to use his knowledge and experience as a school leader to drive system-level reform. He believes Australia needs its first Lab School, a place where teachers could experiment with and disseminate fresh approaches to teaching and teacher training across the country.

Scott values Rotary. He asked of us the possibility of a Rotary Club helping establish a multicultural cafeteria in the school he returns to work in for the community. Clearly he had thought through wider possibilities for his school community than just the students' education.

Rotary International and District 9800 combined investment is of USD\$60,000 to fund Scott to study at Harvard University. Scott's pledge

"If given the opportunity to work with the Rotary Foundation as a Global Grants Scholar, I would dedicate myself to translating Rotary's investment into tangible improvement in outcomes for the most educationally disadvantaged students in Australia."

What a diverse and wonderful Rotary world this is where Scott is funded to **Make a Difference** in his speciality. He will "**Be The Inspiration**" for sure in 2018.

The interview panel for the Global Grants Scholar comprised District Governor Peter Frueh, Past District Governors Keith Ryall and Denis Shore, District Governor Elect Bronwyn Stephens, former Global Grant Scholar Lien Trin and Bob Fels

Bronwyn Stephens
District Governor Elect

Vocational Training Team Cambodia 2018

On the 5th of January Audrey Bugeja, Louise Matthews, Matthew Scott and Pat Sourivong left Australia to deliver a two week program to one hundred and forty eight eager teachers from remote village schools in Cambodia.

For the first time the team was joined by a local teacher, Linda Sok, who supported Team Leader Audrey in organising resources, snacks for the program and helping with the interpreters gain knowledge of and confidence in the implementation of the program. This year some translators were local teachers and some had assisted before and the mix ensured that the Training team from Australia were ably assisted by these fabulous people. It is worth noting that this is the second of a two year Global Grant funded literacy based Vocational Training Team initiative and the intention to apply for another Global Grant was dependent upon the outcomes of this program related to impact and sustainability.

Over time Audrey has developed a three stage sequentially based program. Many teachers who complete Stage 1 return to do Stage 2 and then Stage 3. This in itself is a testament to the perceived value of the program. Some excellent feedback was received and that included 98% of the participants maintain that the program was useful, 95% thought that the content was well presented and 83% agreed that the content was easy to follow.



The Vocational Training Group quickly became a cohesive, supportive, and flexible team who engaged participants and achieved outstanding evaluation results. Passionate Cambodian teachers and translators were also really motivated, showing flexibility and commitment to the program.

After every program we have received requests for more programs in September, October or July, the local holidays in Siem Reap, with the January time frame fine for Kampong Speu. The extent of the funding and the availability of the Team makes this challenging. The participants ask that workshops are provided twice a year to maintain motivation, consistency, engagement and momentum.

Initial contact with Local Government Education organisations and teacher training institutions has been made and it is exciting to note that both, in Siem Reap and Kampong Speu, there is much enthusiasm to include the Vocational Training Team program within the training for local teachers.

The Vice Director of the Training Capacities for Elementary Teachers in the Kampong Speu Province is happy to allow approximately 110 Year 2 students to participate in our program. Whereas in Siem Reap should teachers be willing to give up their holidays for extra professional development, the local Training Institute will provide rooms for training.

This is a really important development as the main challenge in delivering our program is the lack of certainty related to number of actual teachers attending until the first day of each program and then the actual numbers for each Stage of the program.

So this Vocational Training Team initiative is really making a difference and I believe is an inspiration to all who are able to be part of the program.



Let me conclude with some powerful testimonials:

As long as the trainees enjoy the classes, the project will always be useful and very important.

Ponly {Interpreter}

Working with a local teacher as an interpreter was very powerful and will be another step in working towards sustainability **Louise Mathews {Team Member}**

I myself also used some activities from that training to apply in my classes like "Bingo with numbers" and "guessing what is in my mind" by asking questions: Thank you Louise for the good class!!! What I saw you have done which I thought it was great is: you will change from doing the training with the State School teachers but with the trainee teachers which I thought it will be more important for them and also useful for those teachers who really need the new things and experiences before starting to teach in the school. I love this idea so much!! Last but not least, on behalf of Cambodian and working as a teacher too I really need more people like you to come and help us more and we hope that you will still find the way to come and hope that you also can learn something new from us.

Nesa {Translator and teacher}

Matthew Scott {Team Member} valued the following:

The opportunity to develop my own personal teaching experience and confidence in my vocation

The opportunity to learn more about Khmer and Cambodian culture

The opportunity to meet and work with such great people.

A consulting class with only **principals** would be good so they could better understand what will be taught and what Australian teachers need. **Ponly {Translator}**

Past District Governor Julie Mason



Thank you to the Steinicke Family

The Donations in Kind team were delighted to take delivery of a new forklift through a generous donation from the Stienicke Family.



**KINDLY DONATED BY
THE STEINICKE FAMILY
DECEMBER 2017**

Camp Getaway Kitchen Renovations a winner

The new **Camp Getaway kitchen** was opened with a round of thunderous applause as Rotarians from across the District gathered on April 7th

The new kitchen was completed over 3 years with significant work done by Leon Scott and his team from Eaglehawk.

PDG Murray Verso was there to turn the first sod in 2015, grabbing the chance to be in charge of the machinery. But it was the dedication and efforts of a team lead by Ian Scott who completed the challenge. A significant donation by Geoff and Judy Steinicke which made the difference.



*Leon Scott, District Governor
Peter Freuh and Wayne Smith
cutting the ribbon to open the
kitchen.*



Medical Working Bee at DiK clears the shelves!

President Jenny Foster of the Rotary Club of Essendon together with Deb Sloggett coordinated an outstanding working bee at Donations in Kind on Saturday 7th April. With an attendance of in excess of 25 Rotarians and non-Rotarians from across the District, they achieved so much.



How long it would have taken us to sort all those instruments, dressings & so much more on those many pallets without a large team to assist us. At the same time I believe we all had fun & we can thank DIK for us all leaving a lot more dirty & tired than we started the day.

"Many hands make light work" & that definitely can be said about our work on Saturday. It was terrific to see such a difference in age from Patrick's 9 year son & Gordon's 18 year old Grandson to who knows what our upper age was. I do believe that Patrick's son took more photos that would be good to share with this group if Gordon could organise this please, and anyone else that did the same. I took a few that are attached but now realise I should have taken more as I missed a few people. Maybe I was too busy talking.



It was wonderful to also have 10 Doctors & Nurses on the team. How valuable all this knowledge was to sort the most incredible amount of different items. It was also fantastic to see Rotarians from 4 different Clubs (Essendon, Keilor East, Camberwell & Hawthorn) come together with non-Rotarians to work together to achieve so much.

So much chatter about projects being helped by this group in Cambodia, Vietnam, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia...just to name a few. How interesting all these conversations were & how wonderful to be able to share information between each other.

I loved it when I saw 2 of the young girls who came for the first time helping each other. Tess who has just returned from 2 months spent training Nurses at the Handa Emergency Hospital in Battambang, Cambodia assisting Victoria to pack lots of First Aid items for a large school in Kenya that have nothing like this that she will take to Kenya at the end of this month.



So many people there that Sue Gray (nurse who does heaps of project work in Vietnam) didn't even realise that Dr Peter Lugg was there in the other aisle - they used to work together. Sue was so pleased to find out that Peter was able to recently send 2 containers of medical equipment to Cambodia & currently we are working towards the next one.



We had many of you asking if we could have more of this fun again, obviously everyone loves getting dirty!! After most people had left,

Sue Gray, Deb Sloggett & I decided to pencil in another working bee for **Saturday, 2 JUNE** Stay tuned for a date confirmation.

Many, many thanks again everyone.

Jenny Foster, President, Rotary Club of Essendon

Working Bee transforms Talbot grounds

Twenty-two members and partners of Rotary Central Melbourne made a big difference to Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre's outdoor areas on Saturday April 14. Royal Talbot is a campus of Austin Health. Unkempt, unloved courtyard gardens were transformed during the morning. We put in about 60 person-hours of labor, creating neat and eye-soothing vistas of paths, garden-beds and grounds.

It was the 14th year in a row that our club has pounced on the grounds to create new gardens in place of dreary lawns and concrete, and to give existing gardens a thorough spruce-up.

The weather threatened but downpours held off until the job was done. As early as 8.30am the grounds were thronged with our members wielding barrows, picks and hoes. Members unfit for heavy labor provided soups and sponge treats.



Compared with previous years The 22 people were a great turnout. In earlier years Normally the numbers have been swelled with helpers and visitors from Melbourne Park and Melbourne Rotary clubs (one year we had a total 26 with a dozen from elsewhere).

During the working bee, one raised garden bed was readied for vegetable-growing that has been planned by staff and patients for the units' kitchens. Austin's coordinator Steven Wells said it was a passion of spinal unit staffer Anton to create a "plant to plate" opportunity with a "period of dreaming" from planting to harvest and cooking sessions. There would now be plenty of space for pumpkins to run, for example.



Other areas worked on would be filled with strong tough plants involving low maintenance, and sensory plants like curry, coriander and herbs, he said.

"Thank you, it's been fantastic to have your time and labor," Steven said. "We really appreciate and value it."

Tony Thomas
Rotary Club of Melbourne Central



Banking Breast Milk in the Philippines

Proposal for a Breast Milk Bank facility at the Amang Rodriguez Medical Centre, Markina Government Hospital in the Philippines

An initiative of the Rotary Club of Markina East, Philippines and the Rotary Club of Hoppers Crossing, Victoria

Is your club interested in supporting a very worthwhile project which will greatly assist malnourished infants in Markina, Philippines? Then consider supporting a project organised by the Rotary Club of Hoppers Crossing which is aimed at funding a Human Breast Milk Bank facility in partnership with the Rotary Club of Markina East. This Human Breast Milk Bank project will be located at the Amang Rodriguez Medical Centre, Markina Government Hospital and has an objective of providing milk from a Human Milk bank to sick undernourished infants admitted to the neonatal intensive care unit in Markina.

The Markina East club, who are the leading club for this initiative, have indicated that they are intending to apply for a global grant to support this project which requires a contribution from a district outside the Philippines. This global grant joint proposal requires a US\$15,000 contribution from the Hoppers Crossing Rotary and other clubs in district 9800 and contributions of US\$15,000 from districts 3800 and 3780 in the Philippines. If these contributions are met this proposal will be eligible for a US \$45,000 global grant. The Rotary Club of Markina East in the Philippines will be the lead agency for this proposal which is aimed at establishing a Breast Milk Bank program at the Amang Rodriguez Medical Centre which is located at the Markina Government Hospital. The total cost of this project is US \$90,000. The Rotary Club of Hoppers Crossing is the lead club for this initiative for district 9800. It is proposed that the contribution from local clubs of \$13,300 would be supported by a 2:1 district grant of \$6,700.

Background information on establishing a Human Breast Milk Bank project has been obtained from Dr Gillian Opie, the manager of a Breast Milk Bank facility at the Mercy Hospital for Women in Heidelberg. Representatives from the Rotary Club of Hoppers Crossing visited the facility at the Mercy Hospital and were provided with detailed information on the establishment and management of the human milk bank project.

Dr Opie indicated that detailed procedures were needed to identify each sample, to store the milk samples and to identify and deactivate any pathogens. She also described the need to provide back up plans for power black outs so that the samples were kept frozen at all times. The selection of donor babies was provided by Neonatal Care Units who specialised in the care and support for new born babies.



The breast milk bank facilities in the Philippines will be constructed by a Malaysian company which has had extensive experience in building and equipping human milk bank facilities in a number of countries. A number of queries have been raised with Tess Bernardin from the Markina Club in the Philippines. In response to a question on who would pay for the ongoing expenses it was indicated that once the facility was established the Milk Bank would be fully supported by the government since the Markina is a public hospital.

We also asked a question on how undernourished babies and donor mothers would be selected. We were subsequently advised that the Amang Rodrigues Medical

Centre selects babies that are undernourished and who have been referred from the Neonatal Intensive Care Unity. We were also informed that the Markina Hospital has a policy of accepting all donors for the Human Milk Bank facility and would install equipment that eliminates and deactivates viruses and bacteria pathogens.

In this application we are seeking contributions of A\$13,300 from district 9800 clubs and A\$6,700 for a district grant to support this project at the Amang Rodrigues Medical Centre, Markina General Hospital. This project is aimed at treating undernourished infants in Markina.

If your club could provide a contribution to this worthwhile project, require any additional information or would like to have a presentation on this project please contact Bob from the Rotary Club of Hoppers Crossing.

Dr Bob Fairclough OAM

International Chairperson, Rotary Club of Hoppers Crossing

Email: bobfair@bigpond.net.au

M 0409 252 872

Rotary North Balwyn revved up at the F1 Grand Prix

Each year, members of the Rotary Club of North Balwyn provide a catering service for officials at the Grand Prix. This year over 40 members, family and friends took part in a project which raised over \$30,000 for the club. Congratulations on a fantastic event and result.



Glenferrie provides Emergency Care Packs for the Homeless

Our project was to deliver 100 packs of 52 items for Emergency Care for the Homeless to Camcare and the Salvation Army in Camberwell. Both of these organisations do a wonderful job in distributing much needed items to the Homeless people of Boroondara city. We were staggered to learn that under the definition of "Homeless means no fixed address" that there were some 400 people in this category in our city.

- Many are in temporary public housing.
- Many are in temporary rooming houses
- Some are in precarious situations using couch surfing or sleeping in a car.
- About 10 people have no other option but to sleep on the street.

This is often the result of family violence, marriage breakdown or other personal problems. The items included: Basic personal necessities such as: toiletry items (eg toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, comb), clothing items (eg socks, underwear), towels, non-perishable food with long "best before" dates (eg muesli bars, pasta, soup, noodles, juices).

The following steps were taken by the 7 members our Community Service Committee:

- Meeting with Boroondara Council officers to determine the extent of the homeless problem
- Meetings with both care organisations to determine which items would be most beneficial.
- Visits to local retail stores for research on prices.
- Community Service Committee meetings to finalise our spreadsheet of items.
- Order and collect 100 of each of 52 items from 6 retail stores and DIK.
- Deliver items (not packed into emergency packs following requests from the two organisations as they prefer to hand out items on a needs basis) to Camcare and the Salvation Army in Camberwell.

Up to 400 Homeless people will benefit from our project. We were also delighted to receive a local Rotary Foundation Grant of \$2500 to match our contribution of \$2500. The expected long-term community impacts of the project are:

As well as giving vital short-term relief to the Homeless our aim was to gain publicity locally (Leader newspaper) to highlight the extent of the problem in our local area. A side benefit will be a possible increase in our Club membership that this publicity may bring.

Is the project sustainable?

Given the gratitude shown by the homeless recipients and the two care organisations our Club will look to repeat this project in future years.

How was the role of Rotary and the Rotary Foundation recognised?

Both organisations sent letters of appreciation to our Club.

We will gain publicity in our own Bulletin for our many community readers as well as aiming to have items published in our local Leader newspaper, our District Networker and our RDU magazine.

Don Heath
Community Service Director



The opportunity that changed my life

Sometimes, all you need is a chance – that one opportunity of a lifetime. Rotary gave me that chance.

I grew up in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where human life has little value. Children are taken from their families and forced into the army, women are raped daily, and men are killed in front of their loved ones. Massacre is the norm. The only way to survive this brutal environment is to flee the country, and when I was nine, that's what my family and I did.

We moved to South Africa, a country that was foreign to us on so many levels. The language and the currency were different. We knew no one. Of the few people that showed us kindness, most were Rotarians. They came forward and helped us when we needed it most. At that time, I knew nothing about Rotary. In 2007, [Rotary Youth Exchange](#) students from Australia, France, Germany, and the U.S. came to my school for their year abroad and it was through them that I truly became interested in Rotary.

I learned about fellowship, the value of friendship, and what it means to serve. The more I learned of the work of the Rotary Club of Durban Berea, the more my interest grew. When I completed high school, Rotary International gave me the opportunity to be an exchange student in Duluth, Minnesota, USA.

My life changed in so many ways during my exchange. I grew as a leader by surrounding myself with Rotarians who were leaders of action in their professional field and their community. I contributed to hands-on projects that made immediate impact in the community. When I met other youth exchange students, I was exposed to new cultures, traditions, and languages. My experience built my self-confidence, allowed me to be more globally competent, and it gave me an opportunity to make lifelong friends.

When I returned to Durban, South Africa, after my exchange, I joined the [Rotaract Club of Durban Berea](#) to be with people my age who knew the value of serving others. This allowed me to further develop my leadership skills, to network, and to continue having fun with like-minded people.

I was accepted at the University of Minnesota-Duluth, allowing me to return to the U.S. in 2013. I built upon the relationships that I had developed during my exchange year with host families and Rotarians to found the [Twin Ports Rotaract Club in Duluth](#). I started this club because I felt empowered by Rotarians from Durban and Duluth. My goal was to form a group of vibrant and dynamic individuals who enjoy serving their community, a group that does not discriminate based on gender, race, or nationality.

Twin Ports Rotaract has done several service projects in Minnesota, South Africa, and recently in Guatemalan communities. When I look back, I can see how my life has been completely transformed by the generosity of the people I met through the Rotary Youth Exchange program. Today, I am more passionate about empowering others and making a significant impact in the lives of the people I meet because of the Rotarians who took the time and believed in me.



About the author: Jireh Mabamba lives in Saint Paul, Minnesota, with his wife, Kayla, who is finishing her doctorate degree in physical therapy at the University of Minnesota. He works for the University as an Associate Development Officer for the College of Education and Human Development. His primary responsibilities are to connect and reconnect with alumni of the college – to assist and advise them with their philanthropic goals and priorities regarding the college.

<https://blog.rotary.org/2018/04/17/the-opportunity-that-changed-my-life/#more-8746> From Rotary Voices

Food Plant Solutions Australian Action Group



Food Plant Solutions provides a self-sustainable solution that empowers people to make informed choices about what plants to grow and eat that will nutritionally feed their family. Detailed information is available on www.foodplantsolutions.org.

Food Plant Solutions was the first Australian Action Group registered by Rotary International. Funds are urgently needed to enable the continued development of information and resources to support programs being developed in countries throughout the world. Emails are received every week asking for assistance.

This District Foundation Committee is asking Clubs to consider providing \$500 to help fund this valuable resource to many of our overseas Projects

Mark Stephens
District Foundation Grants Chair
d9800foundationgrants@gmail.com

District 9800 VALE - READ THE FULL TRIBUTES at rotarydistrict9800.org.au/content/4/latest-news

The Rotary Club of Flemington mourn the passing of Past President and Paul Harris Fellow Del King following an exacerbation of an ongoing illness.

Del was a member of PDG Murray Verso's Group Study Exchange to India in 2013, a long term member of the District Youth Exchange Team and current co Chair of the Community Service portfolio.

A serving police officer, Del epitomised Service above Self especially in regard to her work with youth and disadvantaged communities. She walked the Kokoda Track 3 times with students and fellow officers from the west.

She was farewelled at a celebration of her life at Abbotsford Convent on April 9th with a crowd of more than 300 in attendance. Former GSE Team Member James Mephram of the Rotary Club of Warrnambool South organised a number of fundraising events and a Facebook page to keep friends updated during Del's illness. He also organised for the ceremony to be video recorded for those unable to attend in person. <http://www.belindajanevideo.com/client-video/del-king/>



Assistant Commissioner Andrew Crisp attended together with a large number of officers. Inspector Cindy Mullen of Victoria Police read her service history and gave an eulogy. District Governor Peter Frueh and Anne lead the district mourners along with Past District Governors Julie Mason, Neville John, Keith Ryall and Gabrielle, District Governor Elect Bronwyn Stephens; members of the Youth Exchange team and District Leadership Team. Murray Verso represented Rotary in his eulogy.

The cortege was escorted by a mounted police escort and pipe band between a guard of honour.

On behalf of all Rotarians in the District and the many Youth Exchange students she has hosted and supported over the years, our sympathies are conveyed to her partner Sean, son AJ and daughter Milla.

The **Rotary Club of Bendigo** mourns the passing of member Bev Figg whose funeral was held last week. They paid *tribute to her extraordinary courage and offered support to her devoted husband, Brian, and their children Breadon and Merryn.*

Did you know?

Rotary Down Under April 2018 out now, see

<http://digitaledition.rotarydownunder.com.au/?iid=158538#folio=1>

Rotary On The Move—Rotary Coordinators Newsletter Zone 7b and Zone 8 has an excellent article by Zoner Director Noel Trevaskis on how every club is individual.

<http://rotaryclubofmiltonnulladulla.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/2018-04-Rotary-on-the-Move-Newsletter-Zone-7B-and-8.pdf>

Interplast Program Updates & Amazing Opportunities, see

<https://mailchi.mp/9f8c5d8417d3/interplast-program-updates-amazing-opportunities-1293329?e=b0ded5d636>

The Autumn edition of the **Australian Rotary Health newsletter** is out now with some excellent stories to share.

https://issuu.com/australianrotaryhealth17/docs/arh_newsletter_autumn_2018?e=31587428/59827024

The April issue of The Rotarian is now available:

<https://my.rotary.org/en/news-media/magazines/rotarian>



Can't get to Toronto, then get to your computer and register for live streaming.

Everyone can now enjoy the upcoming International Convention in Toronto! For the first time, Rotary International will livestream inspiring general sessions and key breakout sessions from the 2018 convention. You can watch them live or whenever you have time for up to three months after the convention ends.



<http://www.riconvention.org/en/toronto/livestream-convention>

Did you know you can register online to receive a wide range of Rotary newsletters and updates? Go to My Rotary, login and select your news—delivered to your Inbox regularly.

<https://my.rotary.org/en/news-features/newsletters>

Rotary Radio goes live to air each Friday 6-8pm on 3WBC 94.1FM.

You can livestream via www.3wbc.org.au or listen to past podcasts on iTunes:

<https://itunes.apple.com/au/podcast/rotary-radio-doing-good-in-victoria/id1345768077>

Don't forget to SUBSCRIBE and REVIEW the 'Rotary Radio | Doing good in Victoria' podcast!



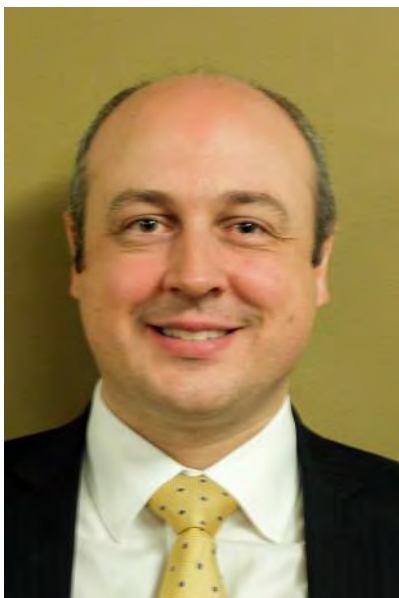
Around the Clubs Welcome new Rotarians

The **Rotary Club of Hoppers Crossing** inducted Clare Johnstone at a recent meeting. Clare will fill the vocational category of 'Travel Consultancy' and will sit on the Fundraising and Social Committee

Picture shows Clare with husband Craig being congratulated by President David Robson.



Laverton Point Cook also welcomed **Khadijia Awan**. Khadijia has a strong service club background with her husband, Ejaz Awan's involvement in Apex. Khadijia's vocation is Dental Services, her sponsor is Chris Egger and her mentor is Rosemary G. Kinyua. She will serve on the Communications Committee.



The **Rotary Club of Laverton Point Cook** welcomed their newest honorary member, **Cheryl Nash**. Cheryl has been a terrific supporter of the club over the years, including of course as first lady in 2010-2011 when her husband and current member, **Michael Nash** was president.



The **Rotary Club of Central Melbourne** recently welcomed Keith Kendall to the club.

Welcome new Rotarians

The **Rotary Club of North Balwyn** welcomed back to the Club newest member Terry Keyhoe and Maree. Terry is a past president of RCNB, and we look forward to his involvement with our projects



The **Rotary Club of North Balwyn** welcomed new member Majid Behzadnia and partner Nagumah (Melody).

The **Rotary Club of Richmond** welcomed 2 new members this month, Joan Kennedy and Melinda Dunkley



The **Rotary Club of Central Melbourne** has welcomed Bettina Cruise as a new member.



Around the Clubs In our District



The **Rotary Club of Camberwell** recently acknowledged Richard Gray's 40 years of active service with a social evening at the Kew RSL. Frank Leigh (inducted 1978) delivered an entertaining and achievement filled member behind the badge presentation. Congratulations Richard.



The **Rotary Club of Bendigo South** were hard at work at the Bendigo Easter Festival in Rosalind Park. Thanks to the members who coordinated and volunteered for this event, plus Anne's granddaughter Chloe who has become a regular for this event.



The **Rotary Club of Bendigo Strathdale** have continued their tradition of storytelling with the students in Prep at Kennington Primary School for Easter. Following the storytelling, books are distributed to each of the children.

146 Birthing Kits prepared by members of the **Rotary Club of Brimbank Central** have been distributed in the Philippines.

There were 32 packs for Baybay Leyte, Visayas for the Franciscan Sisters who educate Indigenous people who are qualified to become a Midwife, from different mountain areas all over the Philippines.

75 packs for Babuyan Group of Islands, 7 Barangay coastal areas in the Northern part of Luzon

39 Packs for the Indigenous people on the mountain areas of Dona Remedios Trinidad or DRT, Bulacan.



The **Rotary Club of North Balwyn** welcomed Paulina Solarska, their exchange student from Poland in 2008—2009, with husband Lukasz. They are here on a brief holiday and are catching up with Paulina's host families.



John McCaskill of **Rotary Canterbury** was a recent guest on the Rotary In Action program on 96.5Inner FM

He is a Director of the Boroondara Cares Foundation (created by the eight Rotary Clubs that meet within the borders of the City of Boroondara) and spoke of the important work of the Foundation and also about the On With Life program ('OWL') that addresses social inclusion.

www.boroondaracares.org.au

Past President of the **Rotary Club of Flemington** and Networker Editor Lesley McCarthy recently visited Chicago and took the opportunity to do some special makeups.

The first was a visit to Rotary headquarters in Evanston where she took a tour. {Bookings essential—tours are taken by Rotary staffers}

She was delighted to meet John Hewko, and Steven Snyder Chair of the Finance Committee who showed her the Boardroom. She also visited RIP Ian Riseley's office, the replica of Room 711 and the Arch Klumpf display.



Her second make up was to the Rotary Club of Chicago—Rotary One where she was warmly welcomed by Vice President Khaled Akkawi and members. Banner exchanges were completed as well as some very positive discussions.

I strongly encourage any Rotarian visiting Chicago to take these opportunities to learn more about Rotary and visit Rotary One.

Then in Cleveland, Ohio she discovered a memorial to Arch Klumpf on the 75th anniversary of Foundation.

#Rotarynerd





The **Rotary Club of Altona City** recently presented Alan Hall, representing Very Special Kids, with a cheque for \$7,500. This was the proceeds from their Annual Golf Day and brings the total donated to VSK to \$91,700.

Charter member of the **Rotary Club of Richmond** Geoff Clarke and Jan were recently visited at BUPA Aged Care by a group of 6 Richmond & Melbourne Rotarians. Geoff will celebrate his 100th birthday on 24th August, the same date the club was chartered in 1964. Over afternoon Coffee/Tea & Hot Cross Buns they reminisced with our Rotary adventures, the changing face of Richmond & many personal memories over more than 50 years. Geoff & Joan are beacons of lives being well-lived & deeply treasure the lasting friendships they have made through our Club. Both Geoff & Joan are in good health although Geoff is restricted mostly to a wheelchair however his mind is still sharp (quickly calculating the maximum loadability of “White Crow” tomato sauce on a pallet) with the ever-present twinkle in his eyes! The Rotary Club of Richmond presented Geoff with a Certificate of Appreciation for his service to our Club, his dinner badge confirming his current membership & a bouquet of roses for Joan.



Thanks to a very successful Golf Day, the **Rotary Club of Werribee** was able to contribute \$20,000 to the Werribee Mercy Hospital.

Peter Copp is the Executive Director of the Werribee Mercy Health Foundation and received the cheque from President Ross Conley towards critical care facilities. The foundation target was \$2 million and, with only several months to go, approximately \$1.5 million has been raised.

Gwen and Ted Rankins of the **Rotary Club of Bendigo** were recently acknowledge on celebrating the Diamond Wedding Anniversary—that’s **60 years!** Congratulations from all Bendigo Rotarians and family.



Congratulations to **PP Maria Kouppas & PP Stephen Chandler of the Rotary Club of Essendon** on being presented a “**Royce Abbey Award**” at the Clsuter Foundation dinner. They are certainly 2 members of RC Essendon whot display the enthusiasm & commitment to Rotary that Royce Abbey himself would absolutely applaud as we did together last night. It was very special to be able to announce these Awards in front of so many Rotarians & have David Abbey present them

TOGETHER, WE

INSPIRE

Rotarians, partners and friends from four Victorian Districts will celebrate Rotary at the 2019 Multi District Conference.

Together, we will have the opportunity to hear inspirational world class speakers, listen to presentations from Rotarians and others about connecting and transforming communities.

CONNECT

Multiple breakout sessions will be offered on a variety of topics with underlying themes that will inspire Rotarians to serve their communities.

Throughout the sessions entertainment will have us laughing, singing and possibly even dancing with joy. There will be something for everyone in the innovative spaces available at the Melbourne Convention Centre.



Young people from across Victoria will gather together in a Youth Forum aimed at Engaging and Empowering Youth to strengthen Victorian Communities.

An Interact Conference will also be organised on the same weekend in the Conference centre.

Rotarians and young people will together be involved in several hands on Projects involving birthing kits, emergency meals and kits for the homeless of Melbourne.

The Conference Dinner will be a spectacular event overlooking Melbourne on the Saturday night.

This is definitely a Rotary Conference that should not be missed.

TRANSFORM



Rotary

Club of Rochester



Incorporated No. A0021076T

is having an evening of fellowship at the
home of the Rotary Club of Rochester
the Former Court House

23 Moore Street, Rochester
(opposite Graeme Nelson Motors)

President Bryan Griffiths and members
invite

President, members and partners of your Club
to join them in fellowship
for the

PIE AND PORT NIGHT

Saturday 5th May 2018

at

6:30pm for 7:00pm

\$30 per person

RSVP Friday 30th April (for catering purposes, thank you)

Please enclose payment with your snail mail reply or
use electronic banking 633 108 1321 85521 and please label Pie & Port and your name
and email the names of attendees to:

Secretary Heather Watson (Pie & Port)

PO Box 74

Rochester 3561

ph: 0439 842 177

email: ghwatson1@bigpond.com

Cut here

Attendance return for PIE and PORT

Number of persons attending at \$25 per person

Names:

.....

.....

.....

Please find cheque enclosed for total of \$.....

Please indicate any dietary requirements

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**

Rotary
Club of North Balwyn



Join Us for Our Birthday Celebration

On Thursday May 10 2018

At Kew Golf Club - 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm

The Evening Includes :

- Entertainment from PDG Greg Ross
- Summary of our History by PP & Charter Member Peter Cleary

Cost - \$37 per person

Bookings, normal advice of partners attending & apologies
to Hugo Goetze at hugogoetze@netspace.net.au

*aspire
to
inspire*

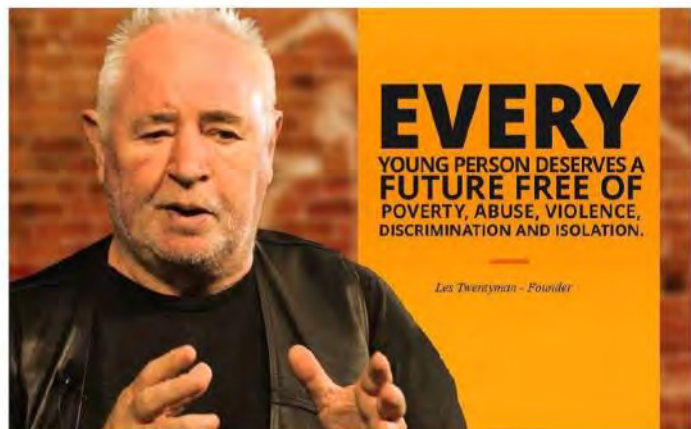
- Where: The Club Caroline Springs, 1312-1322 Western Highway, Caroline Springs
- When: Sunday, 6th May, 2018
- Time: 2.00pm
- Price: \$40.00 per head
afternoon tea included

Further information, dietary requirements
and bookings contact :
Annette on 0401 031 917 or
Kathy on 0425 717 886

BSB: 633-000 Account: 155646672
(Please include your name against your payment)

RSVP with payment:
22nd April 2018
(no door sales)

Come join us for an Afternoon with
Les 'Twentyman



Rotary
Caroline Springs

All funds raised go towards the Rotary Foundation

COME ONE, COME ALL TO THE CARLTON ROTARY BOOK FAIR



Books, CDs, DVDs & Vinyls for sale

- Your opportunity to help great Rotary Community projects including the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund (Mental Health)
- Donations of books, CDs, DVDs and vinyls can be dropped in the donation box in the foyer at Kathleen Syme Centre (No text books or magazines thanks)



Partner sponsors



CITY OF MELBOURNE

Date: Saturday 5 May and
Sunday 6 May, 2018

Where: Kathleen Syme Centre,
251 Faraday St,
Carlton VIC 3053

Hours: 10am to 5pm Saturday
10am to 5pm Sunday

More Info: Carlton Rotary carltonrotary.org.au / Find us on Facebook

Proudly sponsored by



FRIDAY 25 MAY 2018

THE BRIGHTON LUNCH

#stigmastopswithme
Raising awareness on Mental Health

Proudly presented by



12 noon start at
The Brighton International
81 Bay Street Brighton

Jeff Kennett AC
Former Premier of Victoria
President of Hawthorn Football Club
Chairman of The Torch and
Founding Chairman of beyondblue.

Grant Hackett OAM
Former Australian 1500
Olympic Swimming Champion.
One of the greatest distance swimmers in history.



Wayne Schwass
Former VFL/AFL premiership footballer, mental
health advocate & founder of PUKA UP.



Olivia Rogers
Miss Universe Australia 2017,
Speech Pathologist and author.



Mercedes-Benz
Brighton

After Party Entertainment:
The Chantoozies

Bookings:

www.brightonlunch.com.au

Geoff Bentley - 0408 991 641

gbentley@trident.com.au

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KAY & BURTON

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BENEFICIARIES:



Printed by **avenuepress**

Our Contributors

District Governor Peter Frueh is recovering from a magnificent District Conference.



Bronwyn Stephens, District Governor Elect, Member of the Rotary Club of South Melbourne



Julie Mason, Past District Governor, 2015-2016 and past VTT member



Hugh Bucknall is a member of the Rotary Club of Melbourne and Team Leader for the R100 Campaign A&NZ

Dr. Bob Fairclough is a member and Past President of the Rotary Club of Hoppers Crossing and International Service Director. He is a former councillor of Wyndham Council and Deputy Mayor 2010-11.



Tony Thomas, Perennial contributor is a member of the Rotary Club of Melbourne Central.



Anne Frueh, DG Peter's right and left hand helper.



Don Heath is a member of the Rotary Club of Glenferrie and their Community Service Director. He is a former Assistant Governor.

Mark Stephens, is a member of the Rotary Club of Brighton North and is District Foundation Grants chair, and a member of the World of Difference Team



Jenny Foster, is President of the Rotary Club of Essendon.



Many thanks to the wonderful Bulletin Editors who share the stories and amazing work of your clubs every week.