

Rotary

Club of Footscray (Inc)



March Bulletin 2021

Dear Rotarians,

Hope you are all doing well and had a lovely Easter with family and friends. I went on my first sort of holiday (sort of because I was working and studying remotely) earlier last week with a friend as we spent a few days in Ocean Grove with her Maltese doggie, Cheeky. The weather was just beautiful and for once in a really long time, it felt like time was standing still.

Happy to share that I have managed to secure a placement at Footscray High and get started in a week's time. I look forward to sharing my experience with you all.

The preparations for the Footscray Arts Prize to be held on the 8th May (save the date!) are in full swing, many thanks to Maria and Suzanne. The weblink for ticket sales is up and running, [click here](#) to find out more. As Maria shared with me, an important fund-raising part of the dinner are the silent auctions. We need to collect lots of items for the auction and would like you all to see if you could find something at home that would make a suitable auction item:

- Unwanted presents
- Paintings/drawings
- Jewellery
- Wine, spirits, liquors
- Antiques
- Handmade items
- Vouchers that you are not going to use
- Certificates related to your business skills. e.g. 1-hour financial planning
- Board games - new

Lastly, remember to save the date for the District Changeover Ceremony scheduled for Sunday 27 June 2021 (Lunchtime, venue TBC, face to face event) It will be an opportunity to bid farewell to Philip Archer and his team and to welcome in Dale Hoy and his team.

Have wonderful April ☐

Editor

Pragya

New update on Frank and Ann Brown

An update on Frank and Ann Brown from Graeme Thompson:

Frank had heart issues last week which resulted in him spending a few days in hospital but is at home now and much brighter.

Ann who injured her neck in the car accident prior to Christmas had the neck brace removed two weeks ago. We wish them both a speedy recovery.

The Future of Peace Leadership

In this centenary year for Rotary Down Under, it is worth reflecting that for 100 years Rotarians in Australia and New Zealand have promoted the advancement of international, goodwill and peace through numerous humanitarian aid and education programs.

This centenary of peacebuilding is a source of pride for Rotarians and is worthy of celebration. More importantly, it gives us an opportunity to reflect on what we can do in the future. The *Future of Peace Leadership* symposium will bring together leaders in peace and conflict resolution to provide perspectives on challenging global and domestic issues and they will discuss how we can all contribute towards building a more peaceful world. The symposium will be held on April 21 and 22. It will appeal to Rotarians, peace practitioners, students and others.

Key points:

- **Title:** □□□ □□□□□ □□ □□□□ □□□□□□□□□□
- The event will run over two half days the afternoon of 21st and the morning of 22nd April 2021.
- **Registrations** are now available online via the conference website:
<https://peaceleadership.org.au/>
- Only \$66.00 per person for the two days
- An incredible line-up of leaders in peace and conflict resolution will provide their perspectives on challenging global and domestic issues.
- **Speakers** will include RI President Holger Knaack, Chair of the Rotary Foundation, PRIP Ravi Ravindran, PRIP Ian Riseley, Nobel laureates Jose Ramos-Horta and Tilman Ruff
- Journalist Ali Moore has agreed to facilitate a thought provoking panel discussion titled "How can we reverse the Doomsday Clock?"
- **Optional sessions on:**
 1. Indigenous reconciliation
 2. Family violence
 3. Economics and peace
 4. Humanity & humanitarian aid
 5. Business & human rights law
 6. Peacebuilding projects.
- **Website:**

For program details, speaker profiles and registration please go to <https://peaceleadership.org.au/>

- **Follow us on social media:**
- Facebook Group: The Future of Peace Leadership: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/thefutureofpeaceleadership>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RotaryMelbourne/status/1363815102646939658>
- LinkedIn Event: <https://www.linkedin.com/events/thefutureofpeace6769576026029867008/>
- Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/p/CLmDupsAovM/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link
- Tags: [#peaceleadership](#) [#rotarypeacesymposium](#)

Attached are some images that can be used in your club's newsletter and social media.

This special event is already generating a lot of interest from Rotarians and Peace Fellows around Australia, in New Zealand and in other countries.

District Governor's Message - Centenary Coins and Stamp Launch Success

Centenary Coins and Stamp Launch Success

The Rotary Centenary Coins and Stamp launch was held on Thursday morning and was truly a wonderful event. The seamless online communication link between the Melbourne and Sydney UBS boardrooms was impressive and allowed us to showcase the best of the two centenary clubs of Rotary Melbourne and Rotary Sydney. I would like to acknowledge the leadership of those clubs dating back one hundred years. Sir John Monash, the second President of the Rotary Club of Melbourne, and indeed every president since charter, has led a broad church of members who have been able to assist the growth of Rotary in Victoria and across Australia, chartering new clubs and implementing a range of impressive projects that have brought significant benefits to the communities they have served. I congratulate the current Rotary Melbourne leadership team of President Marion MacLeod, Immediate Past President Kevin Sheehan and Hugh Bucknall, all of whom have been so active in the promotion of Rotary's 100 years of giving and leading our centenary celebrations. They have helped to lay the foundation for the next century of giving.

The multi-District conference, Virtual Victoria, is fast approaching and will be staged over four hours between 11am and 1pm on Saturday 1 May and Sunday 2 May. Under normal circumstances, clubs would have a dinner during the conference week and whilst this year's conference is virtual, I would like to encourage clubs to still consider holding a dinner the Friday or Saturday night of the conference. Pick somewhere special and invite all your Rotary friends including community and business partners to celebrate in-person a century of service.

I want to take this opportunity to thank my *Networker* team who work tirelessly each week to put together this newsletter. I am so delighted with the positive analytics showing how many Rotarians across the District are opening it. Going forward however, *Networker* will be released first thing Monday mornings...a great time to read it over your morning cuppa!

Enjoy the week ahead in Rotary service.

Rotary District 9800 Governor Philip Archer

Ruth Carlos Martinez – a tireless and inspirational Rotary ambassador

By Tony Thomas, Rotary Central Melbourne

Ruth Carlos Martinez of Melbourne Rotary had an early introduction into humanitarian work through her mother. She helped as a volunteer at age 14 in Manila's slums, and even then, she learnt something about pushing back on bureaucracy and establishment.

Ruth came to Australia from the Philippines in 1979. With a BSc and MBA, she progressed to senior IT roles in a career spanning 24 years with Coles and Wesfarmers. She also qualified in professional counselling and ran a regional women's wellness retreat.

Ruth was never just a wage slave: she also had a sideline interest in property development. Her biggest project was subdividing a foreshore farmland block opposite French Island.

"It was challenging. I had no idea on the complexities of surveying, dealing with Westernport Water, Met Water Sewerage, SES and Shire planners", she says.

Joining Rotary in 2004, Ruth went straight into overseas projects. She became Club President in 2009-10, and was for years a member of the Paul Harris Society.

"Rotary's such a powerful engine with its humanitarian mission, infrastructure and global network," she says. "Its vital RI aid reaches the poor, and my background in due diligence helps."

While Ruth's projects are mainly in the Philippines, she is a charter member of Rotary International's Water and Sanitation Action Group. As Chair for Southern Region RAWCS on Sustainable Development, Water and Sanitation, she has worked on projects in Thailand, Uganda and Nepal.

In 2018, Ruth was the first recipient of Rotary International's Zone 8 (Australasia) Humanitarian Service Award. She has been recognised with multiple awards for her humanitarian work, including from DFAT and the Philippines Government. In 2010 she received a Presidential Award conferred by the Philippines President Benigno S. Aquino III for successful projects carried out across infrastructure, livelihood, women and children empowerment, education and combating child slavery. She is the first and only Australian to receive this award.

While Ruth is reticent when it comes to self-publicity, she does not shy away from promoting her projects. "We make a living by what we get," she says. "But it is through hard work, effort and wilful tenacity to help the underprivileged that we make a life by what we give."

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/ruth-carlos-martinez-%e2%80%93-a-tireless-and-inspirational-rotary-ambassador/>

Rotary North Melbourne is Turning Dirty Water into Clean Water

By Club President Neville Page

North Melbourne Rotary has been involved in many significant international projects for over fifty years, but none has been more effective than our current water filter program in Colombia. The distribution of just ten water filters to indigenous communities has transformed the lives of thousands of people.

The innovative project grew from a visit to Melbourne by Andrea Mayorga, a Rotaractor originally from Colombia. Andrea had developed close ties with North Melbourne Rotary and shared stories of her work supporting disadvantaged indigenous communities in her native hometown. Rotary North Melbourne saw the potential to help with her outstanding efforts.

When Andrea went home to visit family, she took with her ten water filters provided by the Club, distributing them among indigenous communities in the Guajira region. More than 2000 people have benefitted from just ten filters!

The filters are so simple to operate. Each connects into a plastic bucket and once a hole is cut and the filter connected, the bucket is filled with dirty water, and, hey presto, clean water (99.9% pure) comes out.

These simple filters have totally transformed the lives of entire local communities. Previously, the people had no access to clean water, other than what was available at an exorbitant

cost. Before the filters, locals constantly suffered from water-borne diseases, including cholera, due to contaminated water.

North Melbourne Rotary is thrilled that the project has been such a resounding success. Andrea is planning to not only continue her work but to extend it in other areas in Colombia.

The water filters cost approximately AUS\$50.00 each, which makes carrying out some very effective and highly impactful projects well within the budget of most clubs, as long as they can find suitable recipients for them.

If you would like to know more about providing water filters to indigenous communities, contact tedd@contourstravel.com.au or page@ghp.biz

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/rotary-north-melbourne-is-turning-dirty-water-into-clean-water/>

Rotary Richmond's 'Next Step' Project a Proven Success

By Jo Cowling

The Rotary Club of Richmond has been serving the Richmond community for over 54 years, working with local groups, businesses and government to support people in need in the community.

The **Next Step Program** is one of the Club's signature projects and is designed to support, guide and prepare disadvantaged young people living and attending school in the City of Yarra for a career matching their interests and capabilities.

An experienced Youth Worker is employed to work with Collingwood Secondary College and teachers to identify those students who would most benefit from the program. The Youth Worker then builds a relationship with that student lasting two or three years, helping identify a career direction that matches the participant's interests and capabilities using career guidance testing. Using City of Yarra and broader Rotary club networks, matching work experience is then identified. Business volunteers support the program with the development of job application/interviewing skills.

The program includes the development of interview skills, how to communicate effectively and how to apply for a job. Program participants are assisted with securing employment and further education. Results are fantastic with a success rate of 70% of participants completing the program commencing a career and/or further education.

The program has been supported by a number of local organisations, including sponsorship from the City of Yarra and Bendigo Bank's Clifton Hill/North Fitzroy Community Bank® Branch.

During the COVID-19 period of 2020, the program was suspended, but Rotary Richmond is on the way to recommencing Next Step at Collingwood Secondary College in Semester 2 of 2021.

If you would like to know more about this highly successful project, contact the Project Chair, Jo Cowling at: jocowling@optusnet.com.au

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/rotary-richmond%E2%80%99s-%E2%80%98next-step%E2%80%99-project-a-proven-success/>

Caulfield Story

By John Granger

Hearing the name 'Caulfield' resonates in different ways. There's the Jewish community who have, for a number of generations, made Caulfield and surrounding suburbs significant areas of worship and havens for wonderful Jewish cuisine. As well, the architecture of the area's houses – particularly the retained and restored California bungalows – celebrates the rapid development from the 1900's through to the 1920's. Caulfield has also been a significant area for all levels of education with Caulfield Technical School (founded 1922) after a series of amalgamations, becoming Monash University (Caulfield campus) in 1990.

And, of course, there's the famous racecourse and the Caulfield Cup. Generally regarded as Australia's toughest flat race, it's where, since 1879, the hopes of owners, trainers and punters have been either wildly celebrated or rudely dashed. The area that incorporated the

old Caulfield council (now Glen Eira) boundaries is huge and includes parts of Kooyong, Glenhuntly, Hawthorn, Orrong, Glenferrie and North Roads. Also within the bounds is the Brighton General Cemetery, the resting place of Sir John Monash.

The Rotary Club of Caulfield was chartered on 23rd February 1962 and, as a compact unit, the Caulfield Rotarians have tended to steer their endeavours towards hands-on local projects. Significant amongst these is the 'Bee Aware' project that involves educating the community on the role and critical importance of bees in environmental sustainability. Two beehives have been established and a continuing partnership with Rotary Canterbury aims at furthering the program.

In May this year, the Club, with local artist Anthony Breslin, will reveal a 75 panel 'Mural for Murrumbidgee' to celebrate the 100 years of Rotary in Australia and New Zealand. Rotary Caulfield was also involved in a city presentation and a walk around Albert Park to publicise Rotary's continuing crusade to end polio worldwide and with other Rotary clubs, has been prominent in assisting with drought relief.

Engagement with the community has continued with the recent provision of a free Australia Day Brunch and the financing and refurbishment of a garden water reticulation system at Caulfield South Community House.

President Ian Kirkwood advises that club meetings are still in 'COVID-mode', but a return to weekly Thursday gatherings at The Meeting Hub (Thursdays at 12.45) 438 Neerim Road, Murrumbidgee is imminent. Rotary Caulfield is small, but unstoppable, and its achievements reflect a close-knit band of friends who 'just roll up their sleeves and get stuck in'.

April Birthday

Celebrating Rotary Club Of Footscray Birthdays:

Ron Hunt - 10 April

Elia Andriotis - 20 April

Graeme Thompson - 23 April

SPECIAL CLUB MEETING - FOCUS ON VACCINES

April 13, 2021, 6:30 pm to April 13, 2021, 8:00 pm

Hosted by the Rotary Club of Glenferrie

Contact: John Hudson

Guest Speaker: Dr Marc Pellegrini Topic: Vaccines and Research

Bookings via

TryBooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/BQFIQ>

Professor Marc Pellegrini is an infectious diseases physician and Head of the Infectious Diseases and Immune Defence Division at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research. His research focuses on improving the management of infectious diseases that threaten to become the major contributor to morbidity and mortality globally. Activities in his lab include developing and delivering new diagnostic tests, interventions, treatments and cures for infectious diseases.

<https://rotaryglenferrie.org.au/event/club-meeting-2/>

[Read More...](#)

Morning Tea with the DG

April 17, 2021, 10:00 am to April 17, 2021, 11:30 am

10am - 11.30pm - Saturday 17th April, 2021

LOCATION

The link to the online event to be provided by the event organiser.

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=648813&>

[Read More...](#)



Peace Leadership - Online Symposium

April 21, 2021, 2:30 pm to April 22, 2021, 3:00 pm

In celebration of its centenary in Australia, Rotary has invited leaders in peace and conflict resolution to provide perspectives on challenging global and domestic issues and how we can all contribute towards building a more peaceful world over the next 100 years.



21 APRIL 2021, 2.30PM START (AEST)

<https://peaceleadership.org.au/>

[Read More...](#)

Fundraising Dinner

May 8, 2021, 5:30 pm to May 8, 2021, 10:00 pm

In association with the Footscray Art Prize our club will hold a fundraising dinner and auction on Saturday 8th may. The evening begins with drinks at Footscray Community Arts Centre viewing entries in the Art Prize prior to dinner at Croatia House. Full details and on-line booking :

<https://www.footscrayartprize.com/dinner>

[Read More...](#)

