



April & May Bulletin 2021

Dear Rotarians,

Here we go again! Lockdown diaries are back, the Sydney Morning Herald's Covid live blog is back and so are the lovely walks in the Footscray Park. If anyone knows how to survive a lockdown, it is the Victorians.

In all honesty, I think my long-awaited trip to meet my family and friends in NSW and ACT is jinxed. It was only last Monday that I booked my bus ticket from Sydney to Canberra begging Murray's to extend my ticket credit by a month and was overjoyed when they did it! But my happiness was short lived and now, I sit here as I receive news about the lockdown being extended further. Not knowing what my aunty will tell my cute little cousins for the fourth time. However, my uncle and aunt's strict instructions to me are to not cancel my tickets. So, we will see. Anyhow, Y11 & 12s are back on campus on Friday so I am really looking forward to it.

Rotary Footscray has been quite busy having successfully organised the Footscray Art Prize and Fundraiser Dinner raising a little over \$3000. Many thanks and congratulations to Suzanne and Maria for a splendid evening. It was absolutely wonderful meeting everyone after almost a year. We also welcome Jamie Robertson as the new President of the Club, Jamie thank you for reaching out to the members and including us in your plans for the next year. We are all equally enthusiastic to work together in the next year!

If you haven't already, I encourage you to save the date for Club Changeover dinner scheduled for the 2nd July 2021.
See you at the meeting tonight.

Editor

Pragya

Footscray Art Prize Exhibition and Auction Dinner

The Rotary Club of Footscray fundraising dinner for youth projects – held in conjunction with the 2021 Footscray Art Prize was organised on the 8th May 2021. The event began with a special viewing of the Footscray Art Prize exhibition at the Footscray Community Arts Centre followed by dinner and an auction at the Australian Croatian Club.

We raised just over \$3000 from the dinner, this includes tickets sales and silent auctions.

Suzanne would like to applaud the generosity of the club members who attended and their guests, for donating goods, time and their skills to make it a very enjoyable evening.

For those who have been unable to visit the Footscray Art Prize in person, [here](#) is a link to the catalogue and a virtual tour of the main prize exhibition at the Footscray Community Art Centre.

The catalogue includes the Young Artists entries, the prizes sponsored by our club.

Club Meetings

The Club has been consistent in organising meeting throughout this two-month period. In April, a zoom meeting in the first week was followed by a dinner meeting at The Plough Hotel later in the month. The Footscray Rotary Board Meeting was organised on the 13th May.

Tommy Quick is the guest speaker for tonight's zoom meeting. **Tommy Quick** is a young 28-year-old stroke impacted man, who is riding a recumbent bike 9000 across Australia and up the East coast with the goal to raise \$1m for stroke research. He only has 62 days until he starts in WA and heads to Melbourne.

Looking forward to meeting Tommy and listening to his story.

District Governor's Message - Ensuring the Wellbeing of Members

Returning to lockdown has been a stark reminder of what a privilege it has been to be able to visit clubs in person over recent months. I have been so impressed with the resilience and optimism Rotarians have shown in what has been a pretty difficult year. Nevertheless, it is important that we continue to care for one another and understand that Rotary membership does not come with a defined amount of input to the Rotary cause.

Most of us would say that we joined Rotary because we wanted to give back to, as well as become more connected with our communities. When we became members, we found that not only did we have the first two opportunities, but we also developed or improved a range of new skills, developed as people, had exposure to, and hands-on involvement with inspiring projects both locally and overseas, met new people and built incredible friendships. Outside of our immediate clubs, there is a larger organisation that also gives us new learning experiences and opportunities to expand our horizons. Conferences and assemblies allow us to hear exceptional speakers from so many different walks of life that give us a broader view and expand our thinking. As a result of all these benefits, we as individuals become fully engaged in life, satisfying a basic human need of connecting with others whilst feeling productive and valued. It is this last point that I feel we all need to be mindful of with fellow club members.

Rotarians are volunteers ... they put in as much as they are able to give within the context of their broader commitments. There will always be those in Rotary who give a staggering amount of time and energy to club activities and indeed the wider Rotary organisation. While this contribution is admirable and needs to be acknowledged, it is also important to be mindful that we do not impose expectations on these individuals to continue going beyond that subsequently leads to burn-out or a desire to leave. At the same time, no Rotarian should feel guilty if they cannot take on certain club activities, nor feel less than those who put in a super-human effort. Rotary is made up of people who have wide and varied backgrounds and equally wide and varied life commitments. We need to respect this and be grateful for whatever involvement an individual is able to give willingly. If we do this, we are less likely to lose members who feel they have given too much, too little, or have been taken for granted. While 'Service Above Self' is our motto, it should not be interpreted as a forced requirement that results in a sense of guilt or obligation that could be detrimental to the wellbeing of any individual. All club Presidents and leadership teams should be aware of club member wellbeing and ensure there remains a feeling of satisfaction in being a Rotarian. This will also ensure member retention.

Have a great week in Rotary service everyone.

Rotary District 9800 Governor Philip Archer

Establishing a Men's Shed – a Rewarding Community Service Project

By Rotarian Tony Hart, PHF

Men's Sheds are community based, non-profit, non-commercial, non-political and non-religious organisations accessible to all men. Their primary activity is the provision of a safe and friendly environment where men are able to work on meaningful projects at their own pace in the company of other men. A major objective is to advance the wellbeing and health

of their members.

Sheds offer a range of activities from woodwork and metal work to cooking classes, art classes, computer training and any other activity in which members wish to partake. Some participants attend simply for the social interaction and company.

With more than 1000 sheds around Australia, the Men's Shed movement is strongly supported by all levels of Government due to the proven mental health benefits of membership. Significant Government grants are available to assist with establishing, expanding and equipping new and existing Sheds.

Establishing a Men's Shed is a rewarding and worthwhile Community service project for Rotary clubs to undertake, as Rotary North Balwyn discovered. After local council research and a subsequent community forum, the Club established that a Men's Shed would be welcome, as few activities were available for local retired and semi-retired men.

The Club and the City of Boroondara (owner of the site) worked collaboratively to ensure the necessary approvals and funding were obtained to establish a Shed. It took several years to raise the necessary funds and combined with generous support from Council, the construction of a purpose-built Shed was finalised in 2017. Federal Government support was also obtained to assist with the fit-out cost.

The Shed has proven to be a great success with 90 members who engage in a variety of activities that have been recently enhanced by the construction of raised garden beds. The Shed connects with the local community in a variety of ways including repairing furniture for residents, helping local schools and kindergartens with items such as boot racks, and engaging with the local disabled community.

An Incorporated Body, the Shed is managed by a board, which at first consisted totally of Rotarians, but now has 50% non-Rotarian board members.

Rotary Hawthorn also runs a Men's Shed and, like Rotary North Balwyn, has found this project extremely worthwhile, adding a valuable asset to the local community.

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/establishing-a-men%E2%80%99s-shed-%E2%80%93-a-rewarding-community-service-project/>

The Kew Story

By Henry Drury

Push on through the gentrifying eastern end of Victoria Street, Richmond, until by crossing the Yarra River you are immediately in the leafy surrounds of the long-time gentrified suburb of Kew. Fashionable Kew in London is in the Royal Borough of Richmond and so, when in 1851 early settler Nicholas Fenwick purchased his Crown allotment across the river from Richmond, what else would you name your new estate but Kew?

Since the mid-1850s Kew has seen steady and in the main elegant residential development, including such mansions as Wren House (now part of Xavier College Junior School) and the even grander Italianate Raheen ('little fort' in Irish Gaelic) sited on Studley Park Road. Beginning life as a brewer's residence, it was for many years the home of the Catholic archbishop before acquisition by the Pratt family as their stately Melbourne dwelling.

That period also saw the construction of a magnificent structure in the French Second Empire style known as the Willsmere Lunatic Asylum. This was a cutting-edge institution for the treatment of 'lunatics, inebriates and idiots' and while that description may be regarded today as totally un-woke, it was seen to demonstrate that the colony of Melbourne was a 'civilised and benevolent city'. Willsmere today is still a gated community, but those grim wards and halls are now unique apartments in a grand setting with attitude.

So, Kew while being a well-established residential locality was regrettably not seen to have enough citizens with local businesses to support a Rotary Club with the ideal of diversity of vocation. However, the passage of time and persistence eventually saw the Rotary Club of Kew receive its charter on 16 June 1967 with 30 new members, who quickly cemented the club as an integral and valued part of the community.

Kew, being the virtual epicentre of both public and private schools particularly in Melbourne, has always had youth and youth activities high on the club agenda, such as debating

competitions, mock-job interviews, scholarships, the usual list of programs with Rotary acronyms and Youth Exchange.

The Kew Rotary Art Show from the early days was an immediate and successful fundraiser.

Police mentoring, producing spinal health videos, tree planting and Clean Up Australia Day are just random samples of broad community service. A particular source of pride is the establishment of a Sustainability Enterprise by way of a Fair Trade Shop at 650 High Street, Kew East. It supports the DIK store and Camcare in recycling equipment and goods to assist disadvantaged communities both here and overseas including East Timor, Nepal and Laos, with the slogan 'every purchase will help someone less fortunate than ourselves'.

The blockbuster biennial club fundraiser is the Garden Designfest. Beginning in 2004 under the stewardship of club member and landscape architect John Patrick as a largely local open gardens program, it has evolved to be a Melbourne-wide spectacular, including the Mornington Peninsula and regional Victoria over two weekends in November. This hugely successful event is now jointly managed by the Kew, Brighton North and Central Melbourne clubs, with Youth Suicide Awareness to be the main beneficiary this year.

Its website modestly and succinctly sums the club up in the words: 'Kew Rotary is a lively organisation where we mix good work with firm friendship'.

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/the-kew-story/>

Rotary Brighton Skills Young Women to Make a Difference

A District 9800 Recognition Award Project for Vocational Service

In partnership with Young Change Agents (a NFP social enterprise), Rotary Brighton late last year hosted an opportunity for 58 young women aged 12–18 years to participate in The Bayside Academy of Enterprising Girls, an immersive workshop experience to learn social entrepreneurship skills.

To select participants, Rotary Brighton invited female students from Brighton Secondary College, St Leonard's College, Star of the Sea College and Firbank Grammar to provide an Expression of Interest on why they wanted to make a positive change in the world through business. The selection process allowed Rotary Brighton to identify a new generation of future leaders (and potential Interactors) who want to make a difference in their community.

In the one-day workshop, the participants were given the opportunity to develop the skillset, mindset and toolkit for social enterprise. They were able to learn resilience, understand the art of problem-solving, and develop the confidence to bring their ideas to life and how their ideas could change the world.

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/rotary-brighton-skills-young-women-to-make-a-difference/>

Rotary Caulfield Completes the R100 Murrumbeena Art Wall Project

Come and join in for its official opening on 5th June!

In edition 22 of Networker, we brought you the story of the collaboration between well-known artist and author, Anthony Breslin, and Rotary Caulfield on an inspiring R100 community project involving the creation of a mural on the 50-meter-long black wall on the corner of Murrumbeena Road and Railway Parade, Murrumbeena.

This visual gift to the community is now complete.

Decorated with the artwork from Anthony Breslin's children's book *Brezania*, the name of Big Frog, the story's main character who encourages children and adults to follow their dreams. Murrumbeena was known as the area of frogs, which have now unfortunately disappeared

with urbanisation.

The Mayor of Glen Eira will officially open Anthony Breslin's Wall Mural of *Brezania* at 11.00 am on 5th June, 2021, Railway Parade, Murrumbeena.

Copies of *Brezania* will be available for sale on the day and there will be numerous activities happening including a 'Smoking Ceremony'. Free coffee is also available for all who attend at Daniel Son Café.

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/rotary-caulfield-completes-the-r100-murrumbeena-art-wall-project/>

The Australian Honours and Awards System

Australian Honours

Know someone who constantly puts others ahead of themselves. Ordinary people doing extraordinary things. Sound familiar. Sound like a Rotarian you know. How about you nominate them for an Australian Honor!

The Australian Honours and Awards System

"Service Above Self" is second nature to Rotarians. But we all know fellow members who go "above and beyond" in service to their community and indeed our nation. They seek no reward beyond mere satisfaction that they have made a difference in the lives of individuals or society in general. We recognize their commitment by Clubs contributing to our Rotary Foundation or by a District or sometimes a Rotary International Award.

But while many Rotarians have also been honoured through the **Order of Australia**, certainly there are others well deserving of recognition who have never been nominated or sometimes nominated unsuccessfully.

The procedure for nominating is, at first glance, daunting but should not be a barrier to acknowledging deserving service. Only a percentage are successful, so wording needs to be succinct and point scoring, and time from lodging an application to successful announcement can take eighteen months to two years, so planning is critical. Nominations should be kept confidential, and at no stage should the nominee be alerted.

To help you find out more we have organized Barbara Abley to do a presentation on Saturday the 19th of June at 12 noon on Zoom. Stay tuned for more information as to how to register.

Any Rotarian or Club that is considering nominating a Rotarian, or a worthy person recognized by Rotary, should first access the website <https://www.gg.gov.au/australian-honours-and-awards> and then if assistance is required, contact the D9800 Liaison Person PDG Julie Mason. Mason.Julie.M@edumail.vic.gov.au

May Birthday

Celebrating Rotary Club Of Footscray Birthdays:

Edmond Lobaza – 15 May

Rotary International Convention 2021

June 12, 2021, 11:00 pm to June 17, 2021, 10:00 am

Due to ongoing restrictions with International Travel, this year's Rotary International Convention will once again be



online.

Events include:

Opening ceremony from 11pm until midnight
(Saturday 12th June, 2021 AEST)

General ceremony from 11pm until midnight
(Sunday 13th June, 2021 AEST)

Closing ceremony from 9am - 10am (Thursday 17th June, 2021 AEST)

Break out Sessions at 11pm, 3am & 8am each day
in between (1 hour)

House of Friendship open each day (night) between 11pm and 9am.

Note: Times published on the RI website are in American Central Daylight Time (GMT-5) (15 Hours behind Melbourne)

There is also an optional Preconvention from 10-12/3 featuring Rotaract, Youth Exchange and Inter-Country Committees.

The cost of this years' convention is \$49 USD (up to 7 May) and \$65 USD thereafter. (Prevconvention extra).

<https://convention.rotary.org/en/taipei>

[Read More...](#)

Morning Tea with the DG (2020-06-19)

June 19, 2021, 10:00 am to June 19, 2021, 12:00 pm

The Morning Teas have been well supported this Rotary year with over 3,500 attendees to date. This final extravaganza will be a great variety show filled with project updates, Rotary information, music, fun and fellowship.



The Morning Tea team and I would love to see you participate in the final show by registering on <https://www.trybooking.com/BKXUJ>

We have lots of surprises in store including the following prizes:

- A dinner voucher for two at Red Emperor, Southgate valued at \$200
- A family portrait gift voucher from Muka Portraits, Bayside valued at \$375
- Three bottles of Preece Shiraz

[Read More...](#)

Rotary District 9800 - Changeover Lunch

June 27, 2021, 12:00 pm to June 27, 2021, 3:30 pm

Come and celebrate at the District Changeover event. Farewell Philip and his Team and welcome in Dale and his Team. The event will include a two-course lunch, drink on arrival and two bottles of wine on each table. Parking is free opposite the hotel or \$5.00 in the hotel car park. Arrive at midday for a 12.30pm start.

On Sunday 27 June 2021 at 12:00 PM to 3:30 PM

LOCATION

Hyatt Place Melbourne, Essendon Fields
1 English Street, Essendon Fields, Victoria 3041

District Changeover 2021



<https://www.trybooking.com/book/sessions?eid=759723&>

[Read More...](#)

If you no longer wish to receive messages from Rotary Club of Footscary,