

Rotary

Club of Footscray (Inc)



June & July Bulletin 2021

Dear Rotarians,

Hope everyone is enjoying the lovely sunny days we have had the past couple of days. I might completely skip acknowledging the crazy winds we have had, you see I'd like to focus on the sunny side. Well, at least for the next couple of minutes as I sit in my favourite local café and pray the rain Gods can hold on for me to publish this bulletin.

Last couple of months have been exciting for the club. The changeover ceremony of Jamie Robertson as the Club President was big highlight of this new Rotary year that has commenced on a positive and enthusiastic note. Congratulations to Jamie and his lovely family for pulling off a fantastic event. I must extend my congratulations to Jama for accomplishing fantastic outcome of the Horn of Africa project, to Suzanne Zammit on her very well-deserved Paul Harris Award, Graeme and Rodney and rest of the team for making the last year of Rotary a success! We have had some incredible speakers come and spend their valuable time with us sharing their contributions to the community, their personal and professional commitments and have cheered us on the work with do. Tommy Quick is one of those speakers and his journey has inspired many of us and continues to. Please find out more about his journey and the milestones he is aiming to achieve by clicking [here](#).

I have learned a lot in the past year about myself and the world around me and am forever grateful for this association. I kick start my final semester of my Masters of Secondary Teaching next week and I am extremely anxious. I have waited for the finish line, it has been a tough year to say the least and now that it is getting closer, I am overcome with mixed emotions. Thank you for joining me on this journey!

This bulletin addresses the highlights of the month of June and July. I hope to not make this 'publishing for two months together' a trend, so fingers crossed next one is all just about August. Belated Happy Birthday to our July folks! I hope there was cake and music ☐

Enjoy and be safe!

Pragya

Editor

A few words from the Club President

It seems only a few weeks since Jama Farah asked me to be president elect (PE) for his year as president. In a fit of absence of mind, I said, yes. We are now nearly at the end of my first month having had the Changeover night, the District's changeover night, a second meeting at The Plough Hotel and soon to come, my first Zoom Board meeting. Apart from that, there's been a Zoom meeting of our cluster's Presidents and a veritable e-blizzard of emails from everywhere except someone in Nigeria offering me a fortune.

Our last meeting happened just in time before captain Dan closed us down. It was your last meal out for nearly two weeks and happily it was very enjoyable. Somehow this last lockdown has felt emptier than previous ones (it's sad that we can compare lockdowns) with no spring cleaning of shed, sorting old clothes for op shops or even completing jig-saw puzzles; I've felt as though I was in a rehearsal for an old folks' home. Even so, there were plenty of Rotary affairs to occupy my old brain.

It seems to me that our club has many things to do to remain relevant and viable. Priorities are,

1. To start or continue sustainable projects which will
2. Require many active hands and minds so that we can
3. Raise funds for targeted or contingency purposes which in turn will
4. Attract new members and retain the interest of current members.

You have heard me talk of making a strategic plan for the club. It will come to light in the near future I hope will give us a sense of direction and template to measure our actions against. I don't want it to be just another motherhood vision statement; these litter corporate walls, seen but unread by all who pass. I'm introducing another piece of bureaucracy, a project processing and risk management plan. The only novelty is that it sets down what most of us have been doing in the past as a matter of course. It will take a few

minutes for the Project Director to complete but it will also give cause to reflect, may stop rushing in, and will give others a practical manual of how to do it, i.e., continuity.

In 1937 when our club was founded, Footscray was Melbourne's workshop in the west. There was much industry and small retail trading with the professions to support that base. Today the demography, economy and environment have changed. Many industries have closed, to be replaced by education, health, hospitality services and all the professional help these activities need. Our potential new members will come from these newer occupations and are likely to be ethnically diverse. But they will still want to make a difference to the community for the benefit of themselves, their children and grandchildren and a whole array of people who need a helping hand at some point in their lives.

There's a lot of work for us to do out there.

Jamie

Welcome from District Governor Dale

Welcome to the new Rotary Year of 2021-22, the Centenary year of Rotary here in Australia and New Zealand in which we follow the lead of our Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta and **'Serve to Change Lives.'**

In between two Covid lockdown restrictions, on 10th July at Hyatt Essendon Fields, 250 Rotarians came together to celebrate the District 9800 Changeover. It was wonderful to enjoy face to face friendship and fellowship again.

Clubs across the District, in many cases forced to juggle dates due to COVID restrictions, hosted their changeover events. Both Maureen and I, plus other members of the District Leadership group attended all Changeovers across the District and we were all impressed by the extent of community activity and impact over the last 12 months especially during the difficult COVID period.

The District Networker Newsletter will be issued twice a month commencing the first and third week of August.

Our District website has been updated and District events will continue to be published under 'Upcoming Events' on the home page.

The popular **Morning Tea with the DG** will continue on Saturday mornings commencing August varying the format to include themed events and some interactive sessions.

Any other feedback on enhancing communication across the District will be gratefully received.

On behalf of the District Leadership team, we look forward to working with clubs and Rotarians to help increase our community impact over the next 12 months.

Dale Hoy

Thank you for a wonderful year 'Opening Opportunities'!

We are now in the peak of club changeovers and DGE Dale, DGN Amanda, DGND Ron, partners and I have been greatly enjoying every event. I know I speak for all the G-train members when I say how amazing it is to see the incredible spread of Rotary activities across the District; to take in the atmosphere of every club; and to learn about the many successes that clubs have achieved during the 2020/21 year with the projects they have undertaken that make such a difference in the world. We are also buoyed by the plans that club leadership teams have for the year ahead.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to all Centenary Presidents and club leadership teams for your incredible efforts in 'Opening Opportunities' through what has been a challenging year.

My gratitude also goes to the District Board and Leadership Team for all that you have contributed to ensuring the incredible work of Rotary in D9800 has continued over the year, despite the pandemic...you have been inspiring!

To the *Networker* team...every week you have ensured Rotarians have been kept informed

about the many projects, clubs, members, and partnerships happening in our District and I thank you for this and to accommodating my communication strategy in a year that has seen us in lockdown and in need of connection. It has been a tremendous team effort and I know first-hand from the many members such as PDG Des Hosking and Rotarian Elaine Bird from Rotary Williamstown (pictured), how they look forward to reading *Networker* every week with interest and pride.

I would also like to thank all District 9800 Rotarians for giving me the opportunity to be your Governor this past year. While it has been a year of challenges, especially under COVID, it has also been a fantastic year because of each one of you and the passion you have for Rotary. Tricia and I have so enjoyed the last three years as I have moved from District Governor Nominee to Governor. I have no doubt that we will continue to enjoy our Rotary journey for many years to come.

To District Governor-elect Dale Hoy and Maureen, I know you will have a tremendous year ahead. I also know that the District is in very good hands as you both "Serve to Change Lives."

Again, thank you to all and...enjoy the week in Rotary service!

Rotary District 9800 Governor Philip Archer

Highlights of the District 9800 Changeover 2021

By Dale Hoy

How fortunate we were, after having to change the date of the District 9800 Changeover to Saturday 10th July, to be able to have 250 Rotarians meet between two Victorian COVID lockdowns for an enjoyable face to face day of celebration and fellowship and the wonderful location of Hyatt Place in Essendon Fields.

The event commenced with a stirring rendition of the National Anthem performed by Liz Barrow followed by an Acknowledgement of Country and Inclusion Statement by PDG Grant Hocking which was especially pertinent as this was NAIDOC week. We were extremely fortunate to have Past Rotary International President Ian and Juliet Riseley, and Rotary International Director Jessie and Andrew Harman join us for our Changeover.

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/highlights-of-the-district-9800-changeover-2021/>

Southbank Rotary

By Henry Drury

Things happen on riverbanks. On Monday 8 June 1835, John Batman wrote in his journal "...that I am glad to state about 6 miles up found the river all good water and very deep. (sic) This will be the place for a village".

That river was of course the Yarra and the village, Melbourne. Unsurprisingly, the south side of the river became South Melbourne and supported the young city with breweries, engineering works and food processing while shipping utilised the newly constructed docks and warehouses.

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/southbank-rotary/>

Melbourne Pollinator Corridor

A group of Rotary Clubs have been invited to collaborate and create an 8-kilometre Melbourne Pollinator Corridor (MPC) from the Botanical Gardens to Port Melbourne. This initiative is inspired by Emma Cutting who has led a street garden project in the very densely populated urban area of South Melbourne. For more details see the The Heart Gardening website and Emma's Instagram page.

We are encouraging each Rotary Club to ultimately contribute to the Melbourne Pollinator Corridor in their local area by filling any undervalued and undernourished public space such as nature strips, lane ways, dedicated garden areas and any available land with green, biodiverse, pollinator-friendly plants.

Plans are in place to start a 'prototype' street garden which forms part of the MPC by the Rotary Club of Melbourne South. Surrounding Clubs will be invited to share in the Project journey and assist with the hands on planting in the next few weeks for learnings for their own project.

To assist clubs build their knowledge and understanding a street garden walk to view the Emma's achievements was planned but has had to be cancelled (twice) due to the COVID lockdown. We intend to reschedule a new date subject to lifting of restrictions. Participating in the Pollinator Corridor is the most significant street garden environmental project to be undertaken by Rotary District 9800 and we hope it becomes the model for other high density urban areas throughout Victoria and Australia.

For more information, please email Peter Berg pberg8@bigpond.net.au Fabienne Nichola, District 9800 Environmental Sustainability Committee in collaboration with Rotarian for Bees

Blindness Prevention in India

By Past District Governor Julie Mason AM

It is always delightful to welcome new members to Wyndham Rotary – new members bring new project ideas. And so it was that we found out about an opportunity to make a difference in India.

The new project was to prevent avoidable blindness across all age groups, with beneficiaries located in remote villages in India that had no access to primary or tertiary eye care. This project motivated Wyndham Rotary for the first time to apply for an International Grant from The Rotary Foundation.

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/blindness-prevention-in-india/>

Rotary Castlemaine Keeps on Trucking

Each year Rotary Castlemaine's national Truck Show brings over 200 trucks (and lots of spectators) to the Mount Alexander Shire and raises in excess of \$40,000 for a range of community projects and local charities. With COVID-19 restrictions, the 32nd annual Truck Show scheduled for 28-29 November 2020 had to be reimaged.

To pay tribute to the trucking industry that worked particularly hard during a challenging year to keep goods and services available to the public, Rotary Castlemaine decided on an alternative online program ... one that would reach over 40,000 people.

A photographic competition titled 'At Work with Trucks' was launched in October with sponsored prizes that attracted 54 photographs from as far away as Queensland and South Australia. A panel of judges had great delight in assessing a wide range of photographs submitted by small trucking families, big tracking companies, farmers, student employees, and even a worker on the Monash Freeway works.

To engage online trucking enthusiasts, the top 28 ranked photographs were publicised via a video clip on the Club's [Facebook](#) page with a link to a People's Choice vote on Survey Monkey to determine the winner. A sponsor was obtained to print a calendar designed by local artist, Geoff Hocking, to feature the competition photographs (the competition entry fee covered the cost of the calendar with extra printed for additional fundraising). With general information about the Truck Show and the 2021 and 2022 dates, the calendar has proven excellent marketing.

The Club Truck Show Committee also pursued a program of online speakers through Zoom, which was simultaneously broadcasted with Facebook Live – it was a great hit with fans. On 29 November, 'At Work with Trucks' was streamed continuously for two hours and a local resident provided a behind-the-scenes insight into heavy vehicle research. Rotarians came online to announce the winners of the raffle and photographic competition and there was an interview with South Australian author, Lorraine Day, about her recently published book, *The High & Mighty*, the story of Noel Buntine's iconic trucking business in the top end.

The news that restrictions were easing and that the Club could also conduct a small 'Truckies Breakfast and Convoy' on 29 November was met with great celebration and locals came out in force.

Overall, the event attracted 11,500 Facebook views, raised \$9000 and was awarded Community Event of the Year at the Mount Alexander Shire Australia Day Awards.

The Fitzroy Story

By John Granger

History and culture have weaved wondrous paths in Fitzroy. Football club photographs at the North Fitzroy Arms Hotel provide insights of the old town showing flint-eyed teams of serious, tough men with laser-parted oiled hair. The 1944 premiership team was Fitzroy's last and, nearly 80 years on the team's remnants reside in Brisbane.

Until around 1960, Fitzroy was a 'working man's suburb'. Rows of single-fronted terrace houses ... the wood merchant and the iceman 'delivered' and the baker's carriage 'clip-clopped' around the streets. Fitzroy's Brunswick Street oval was a mud heap after a light shower but weather, or mostly inadequate team performance, never deterred the faithful.

The Rotary Leadership Institute

The Rotary Leadership Institute

The Rotary Leadership Institute Program presents a wonderful opportunity for experienced Rotarians, new members and indeed people interested in finding out more about Rotary to take some time to experience the history, current and new initiatives related to this great organisation we call Rotary.

This four-part program is now available online.

Part 1 & 2:

Growing and strengthening Clubs through developing a Plan for the future of your Club.

Looking at Rotary Leadership through examining the styles and characteristics of great leaders.

Becoming a confident Club President or another club leader through understanding the roles and responsibilities and characteristics of effective and happy teams.

Part 3: Focussing and Increasing Humanitarian Service whilst learning more about **The Avenues of Service** and **The Rotary Foundation**.

Part 4: Enhancing Public Image and Awareness of Rotary and **Sharing and promoting what we do**

The next Rotary Leadership Institute will be conducted on the following dates:

Part 1 and 2 on Sunday the **8 August at 11am** and will run for one and a half hours.

Part 3 on Sunday the **15 August at 11am** for one hour

Part 4 on Sunday the **22 August at 11am** for one hour

To register you need to email Jane Pennington jane.pennington@rotary9800.org by Friday 30 July. There is a limit of 20 people for each program.

July & August Birthdays

Happy Belated Birthday to our July birthday folks!

Angus Scott-Walker -9th

Emanuel Tumino – 11th

Robert Newman – 28th

Maria Silber – 29th

August Birthdays!

Diane McGrath – 20th

Rotary Leadership Institute Program

August 8, 2021, 11:00 am to August 8, 2021, 12:30 pm

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This four-part program is now available online.

RLI - Part 1 & 2

Aug 08, 2021 11:00 AM- 12:30 PM

RLI - Part 3

Aug 15, 2021 11:00 AM- 12:00 PM

RLI - Part 4

Aug 22, 2021 11:00 AM- 12:00 PM

To register you need to email Jane Pennington jane.pennington@rotary9800.org by Friday 30 July. Please note that there is a limit of 20 people for each program.

[Read More...](#)

DIVERSITY EQUITY AND INCLUSION WORKSHOPS

August 15, 2021, 9:30 am to August 15, 2021, 1:00 pm

Help Build a Better Rotary The workshops are for Rotary Club DEI Champions or Rotarians who have an interest in creating change and ensuring their Rotary club is more inclusive and supportive of the community.



The FREE workshops led by 'Courage to Care' will explore:

- Creating awareness of the dangers of prejudice, racism and discrimination
- Educating to challenge attitudes and behaviours
- Demonstrating that every individual can make a difference
- Transforming “bystander” behaviour to “upstander”

Sunday 15th August -Melbourne 9.30am-1pm Registration at: <https://www.trybooking.com/BSZOD>

Sunday 29th August – Woodend 9.30am -1pm Registration at: <https://www.trybooking.com/BSJQN>

[Read More...](#)

Community Event Open Day

September 4, 2021, 10:00 am to September 4, 2021, 3:00 pm

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Join us to celebrate 100 years of Essendon Airport

10AM – 3PM
SAT 4 SEPTEMBER



A day celebrating our past, present and future.

VOLUNTEER SHIFTS

9.30am - 12.30pm

12pm - 3pm

On site parking, event entry, coffee and lunch vouchers provided.

All event parking proceeds go direct to the Rotary Club.

To register to volunteer contact:

Rod Gurry

Rotary Club of Essendon North

0412 338 844

rodgurry@hotmail.com

[Read More...](#)

Rotary Zone 8 Virtual Conference

September 11, 2021, 10:00 am to September 12, 2021, 4:00 pm

Enjoy the online Zone Conference from anywhere you choose - alone or together with others.



Learning, Leading, Action is this year's Zone 8 conference theme, putting a spotlight on the essence of Rotarians and the way we get things done.

To celebrate our Centenary, this year's Zone 8 conference is all about sharing the wonderful impact of Rotary. There are some great reasons to attend this year's event:

- Be inspired by Rotary projects in communities around our Zone;
- Meet some of our Rotary heroes – dedicating their lives to making a positive difference;
- Learn new ways to deepen engagement and impact from Rotary's senior leaders;
- Connect with Rotary friends old and new;
- Be inspired to deepen your engagement and make an even greater difference through Rotary.

- Share the 'big picture' of Rotary impact with your newer members

[Read More...](#)

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