



August Bulletin 2021

Dear Rotarians,

Hope everyone is doing okay, keeping sane and is in the company of their loved ones. I was happily surprised when I received Maria's voicemail just after I finished a study session one fine Saturday morning. Maria's voicemail said that the call was a care call to check on me and to see if I was doing okay. It almost made me smile and cry at the same time. You see like many other people trying to make, remake and then with a leap of faith attempt to plan another family visit, I feel hopeless to say the least. I try not to think too much of these now empty 'yes it's the right thing to do' and 'good Lord thank God Gladys isn't making our decisions' feelings but then of course, there are those loving feelings I miss when you see your family and get treated and pampered with food and hugs. I think I miss the hugs most. Well, that's enough of moping I think.

Now onto better brighter and cheerful things! The zoom meeting that I finally made to with Lesley McCarthy as our guest speaker was a wonderful evening listening to all the sensational work being done at Flemington/Kensington Club and the hope that we can march on and work on something together. I am definitely keen on getting my hands dirty and learn a thing or two about keeping plants alive. Today is the first day of the final week of my placement at Footscray High which means I wrap up my Secondary School placement experience at the end of the week. Sad as it is that I am having to do this in the remote space but I have to admit, I have learnt a lot and, in all honesty, seeing students everyday even though they are not in the happiest of moods (can you blame them?) has saved me in this never-ending lockdown.

Jamie and I will be attending the Writing Workshop on Tuesday, 14th Sept evening. It looks exciting, I will be sharing my learnings with you. I don't think Jamie needs it to be honest, there is definitely a lot I need to learn!

Until then enjoy reading Jamie's message for you all. It definitely cheered me up (like always!).

Enjoy and be safe!

Pragya

Editor

Message from the Club President

The COVID pandemic continues to play havoc with Rotary meetings. As I wrote previously, the Plough meeting for August 5 was programmed, the speaker primed and the menu orders placed when the evening collapsed due to the start of lockdown 6 at 8pm. Faster than a speeding bullet, Secretary Rodney arranged a Zoom meeting.

There we were, having successfully negotiated from The Plough to The Zoom with a Gateway cluster President's Zoom meeting thrown in for good measure, waiting for the end of a short sharp shutdown and clear blue skies and a tropical Footscray welcome for the District Governor's visit on August 19. But Dan wrote the script, not me. It was meant to be a seven-day lockdown but, as they say, "what's the worst thing about a seven-day lockdown? The first six weeks!" I had hoped to have an all-singing, all-dancing meeting for the DG's visit and two new members were lined up for induction.

At least we were forewarned that an in-person meeting was impossible; so, we Zoomed again. Happily, we had an excellent substitute speaker in Lesley McCarthy, President of Flemington/Kensington Rotary. Lesley has successfully guided environmental projects and was willing to share information and be open to the possibility of a collaborative project with her club. A major discovery of the evening was that one of our "almost-members", Nada Stojkovic, told us that she is a horticulturist and has already directed community garden projects. This is a very promising start.

Countless years ago, I was a District Governor's Representative and had a group of six clubs to visit. Since then, nomenclature has changed, to Assistant DG, and now we have clusters of geographically matched clubs. This makes good sense as it allows the possibility of

combined efforts to reach a common goal or shared wisdom to reach our goals individually. This too is a welcome change as I remember too well a general feeling of, "let them do their thing and we'll do ours" whenever a flyer came from a club asking for help or cooperation. Frankly, we don't have the workforce to do large scale projects. There will be times when we need help from other agencies or other Rotary clubs to achieve ambitious goals – and I don't want our ambition to shrink back.

This brings me to our speaker for a Zoom meeting next Thursday, September 2. She is Dr Thu-Trang Tran, CEO of Volunteers West. After completing a Law degree in Sydney, TT moved to Melbourne and taught at Melbourne Law School while completing a PhD. She has run her own online business and has worked in her present position for two years. She is a family friend, hence my reference to TT. There is the possibility of synergy of effort. We may not want military boots on the ground but we could certainly use gum boots on the ground.

And now a sad sports report. After raising my hopes with two early season wins, Partick Thistle has dashed them down again with successive losses. Sic transit gloria...

Jamie

Out & About with DG Dale

Hello Everyone in District 9800,

I hope everyone is managing the COVID lockdown 6.0 which started on 5th August all over Victoria, relaxed in regional Victoria from 11th August and then reimposed last Saturday 21st August. Clearly very challenging times.

Prior to 5th August, I have been based in Regional Victoria during renovations of our Melbourne home. Under COVID restrictions, renovations can take place if the house is vacated and under strict COVID guidelines. The renovations were originally planned to be finished by July, but with COVID challenges it is turning out to be a different July!

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/out-about-with-dg-dale/>

Tommy's Journey

Tommy Quick has started his epic journey from SA/WA border town. As Rodney reports, due to Covid border restrictions he cannot get into WA yet. He will be continuing his exceptional journey through SA and Victoria then head north and cover WA last, if he can get into there by that time. For those of us who attended Tommy's presentation in our meeting couple of months ago would remember, Tommy has embarked on a 9000kms challenge of cycling to the 4 points of Australia to promote social inclusion and increase stroke awareness. He is raising money to help stroke survivors and improve stroke victim services.

As of 25th August, Tommy had completed 968kms over 17days of riding! Find out more and cheer for Tommy - <https://www.the4points.org/>

You can individually donate via the Footscray Rotary team page at this link.

<https://www.fundraise4stroke.org.au/fundraisers/rotarycluboffootscray/the-4-points-australia>

Local Rotary Clubs Make a Cubby House Wheelchair Accessible

By Gus Garnsworthy, Rotary Altona

The Rotary Clubs of Altona, Williamstown and Yarraville combined to improve student access to a playground facility at Williamstown North Primary School, in particular a Cubby House.

A current student and his sister, who will attend next year, are both confined to wheel chairs as part of their treatment for Perthes Disease.

Particular focus for the project was to improve access for students with mobility issues. It is envisaged that all students will benefit from the Cubby House upgrade. Find more

<http://portal.clubrunner.ca/50232/Stories/local-rotary-clubs-make-a-cubby-house-wheelchair-accessible>

Rotary Keilor Donates \$100k+ from Trust to Celebrate our Centenary

In recognition of the significance of the 100 years of Rotary in Australia, Rotary Keilor decided to distribute the funds in its Keilor Community Trust to several projects. The Trust had been established in 1985 with some of the profits from a successful Melbourne Airport Open Day and over the following years had funded many projects.

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/rotary-keilor-donates-100k-from-trust-to-celebrate-our-centenary/>

Rotary International's Initiatives Overview

Presidential Initiatives

The following are the Rotary International's Initiatives Overview

- Empowering Girls
- Grow Rotary – Each One, Bring One
- Rotary Days of Service
- Areas of Focus Presidential Conferences

<https://my.rotary.org/en/news-media/office-president/presidential-initiatives>

September Birthdays!

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Cameron McDonald – 9th

Fred Maddern – 16th

Community Event Open Day

October 9, 2021, 8:00 am to October 9, 2021, 4:00 pm

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Join us to celebrate 100 years of Essendon Airport

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 100 Family Day-Yarra Bank Reserve Hawthorn

September 12, 2021, 12:00 pm to September 12, 2021, 3:00 pm

The Rotary clubs of Glenferrie, Camberwell, Hawthorn, Canterbury, North Balwyn and Balwyn invite you to the grand opening of the new all-abilities playground at beautiful and historic Yarra Bank Reserve Hawthorn, featuring the Rotary centrepiece interactive sculpture crafted by renowned playground specialists Agency of Sculpture, a gift to the community from Rotary to mark 100 years of Rotary in Australia and New Zealand.



Contact: [Richard Blakeman](#)

The playground will be opened by the Mayor of Boroondara Cr. Garry Thompson and District 9800 Governor Dale Hoy at 1pm. The opening will be accompanied by fun for all the family, with music, magic, face painting, the famous Bees Waggle Dance, and the world famous Rotary North Balwyn Sausage Sizzle.

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/event/family-fun-day-at-yarra-bank-reserve-hawthorn/>

[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...](#)

DIVERSITY EQUITY AND INCLUSION WORKSHOPS

September 19, 2021, 9:30 am to September 26, 2021, 1:00 pm

Help Build a Better Rotary

The workshops are for Rotary club Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Champions or Rotarians who have an interest in creating change and ensuring their Rotary club is more inclusive and supportive of the community.

- **19th September in Melbourne**, registration at: <https://www.trybooking.com/BSZOD>
- **26th September in Woodend**, registrations at: <https://www.trybooking.com/BSJQN>



These *FREE* workshops are led by 'Courage to Care' and 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”*

Each Workshop is funded by D9800 and will conclude with a light lunch.

[Read More...](#)

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