

 <p><b>Rotary</b> Club of Hamilton District 9780</p>	<p>District Governor: Stephen Lamont Assistant Governor: Lorraine Wilson President: Noel Howard. Tel: 0355724623. Mob. 0439311053 Email: <a href="mailto:noelrosehoward@gmail.com">noelrosehoward@gmail.com</a> Secretary: Bob Penny. Tel: 0355711823 Email: <a href="mailto:rotaryhamilton9780@gmail.com">rotaryhamilton9780@gmail.com</a></p>	 <p>ROTARY SERVING HUMANITY</p>
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## WEEKLY BULLETIN 41, Monday May 22nd 2017

<b>MEETING 3875</b>	<b>MEETING 3872</b>
<b>SATURDAY May 27th 2017</b>	<b>MONDAY June 5th 2017</b>
<b>Chair:</b> Kevin Safe MC	<b>Chair:</b> Willis Duncan
<b>Program:</b> Changeover and 80 <sup>th</sup> Birthday	<b>Program:</b> TBA
<b>Cashier:</b> Peter Walsgott	<b>Cashier:</b> Glenn Howell
<b>Bulletin:</b> Rose Howard	<b>Bulletin:</b> Kevin Safe
<b>Bar:</b> John Addinsall, Peter or Matthew Wilson	<b>Bar:</b> Rose Howard
<b>Fines:</b> None	<b>Fines:</b> Damien Meagher
<b>Set up:</b> Everyone to help	<b>Set up:</b> Murray Menzel
<b>Coming Dates</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hamilton 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday 27 May 2017</b></li> <li>• Casterton Art Show opens Thursday 8th June</li> <li>• Casterton 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday and Changeover <b>Saturday July 15<sup>th</sup> at 3pm (twilight event)</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Changeover dates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunday 25 June DG Changeover Mount Gambier</li> <li>• <b>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>Hamilton</b></li> <li>• Wednesday 28 June Mount Gambier</li> <li>• Thursday 29 June Millicent</li> <li>• Monday 3 July Mount Gambier Lakes</li> <li>• Tuesday 4 July <b>Mount Gambier West</b></li> <li>• <b>Wednesday 9 August</b> Hamilton North</li> </ul>

## REPORT OF MEETING NO. 3874

Chairman John Addinsall opened meeting 3874.

Murray proposed the international toast to the Rotary Club of Dubai. The club meets at the World Trade Centre on Monday lunchtime. It was founded in 2002 and is in district 2452. Murray's interest was sparked by President Trump's visit to the Middle East. It is interesting that Bob has visited the club.

President Noel welcomed our guest speaker Simon Wilson.

Anniversaries; A wedding anniversary for Peter and Lorraine Wilson and Birthday for Caroline Safe.

Club visits; Lorraine, Rose and Noel attended Millicent's 60th anniversary.

The District Governor's changeover will be at Mt Gambier on 25th June and Warrnambool East will be having a 50year celebration and changeover on July 1st.

At our 80th and changeover next Saturday Noel asked if PHF recipients could wear their medals please.

They will be no meeting on Monday 29th and our next meeting will be Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June

## REPORTS

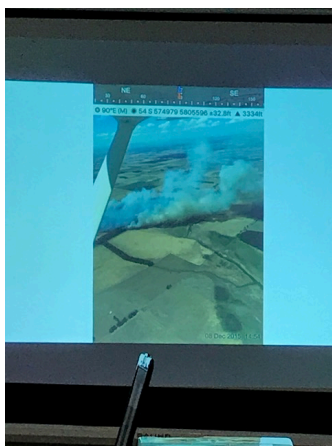
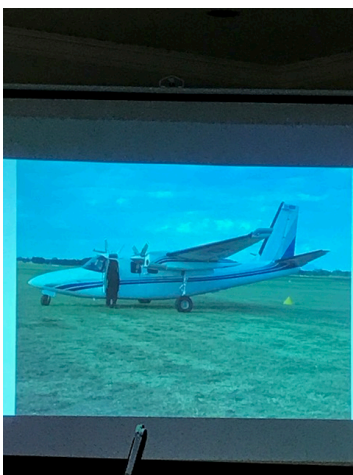
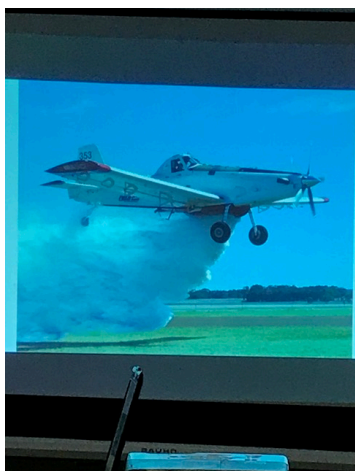
- Lorraine noted that jobs were being allocated for our 80th next Saturday, to be circulated by email. She also noted that the directors and service committee chairmen need to prepare their reports and email them to her for inclusion in the annual report. The youth exchange program is still looking for host clubs.
- Noel reported that we will need people for the Harness racing on the Queen's Birthday Monday (12th June).
- May is bowel scan month and it seems to be going well, but reminders to anyone who has not yet participated.
- Kevin reported that the HDSC project for transporting the Casterton students will be assisted by Jodie ringing to remind drivers.
- Murray then ran a quick fines session.

John then introduced Simon Wilson to talk about his role as an Air Observer for fire spotting with the CFA.

The air observers are a small group of volunteers who act as eyes in the sky to report any fire activity. There are both CFA and DELWP observers, they are both trained and accredited to the same standards. This training needs to be updated every 5 years and they need to be flying at least every 15 months to remain current. Simon's role is based at Hamilton airport and covers district 5 for the CFA, although occasionally they will get called out to assist in other districts. These CFA volunteers go into action on bad fire days. They are members of the headquarters brigade. Hamilton air base is one of the best in Victoria and is fully staffed by CFA volunteers and that is quite unusual. All aircraft in the aviation fire service are under the control of the State Aircraft Unit.

On a typical fire risk day, they start with a briefing in the morning and then do a patrol around region 5 taking 1.5 - 2 hours, come back for lunch and then do it again in the afternoon. This will be looking for new fires and reviewing old ones. Of course, if they spot something then the action happens and they report it in. Basically, they are looking for smoke or blackened areas, because flames are quite hard to see from the air. They will usually be the first people to see a fire and they report it in to the incident control centre, then hang around to assist. An interesting recent improvement is the ability to use a phone app to photograph the fire and automatically note its location using the built-in GPS ability. The planes are flown by very experienced pilots and they need to be because flying conditions on these days can be quite poor. On most days, nothing happens and it is relatively boring, but that is a good result.

When there is a fire, the airspace can become quite crowded with fire attack bombers and an air attack supervisor as well as any ground crews in tankers etc so a lot of co-ordination is required. The CFA has recently adopted Pre-Determined Dispatch (PDD) for the air tankers. This means that they are notified at the same time as the ground trucks and they can usually get the fire before the trucks, this means that the fire can be slowed down giving the trucks a much better chance to achieve quick control. Simon believes this DPP system has revolutionized fire-fighting - quick action keeps them small! They use several different types of planes but the common one is a Cessna 337 with a push pull engine/propeller system. Although it is an old plane it is kept up to date and very suitable for the purpose. Simon's work space in the plane is very limited and he juggles notepads, maps, GPS, iPads, log books, many pens and 3-4 radios. Thanks Simon for an interesting talk and it was good to see some aerial photos of the fire scenes.



**PRESIDENT NOEL WITH SIMON WILSON, & SOME AERIAL PHOTOS TAKEN DURING FIRE SPOTTING.**