

Wednesday 4 December 2024

The email address for the bulletin@rotaryhamilton.org.au

President Noel was busy with shearing, so James Dishon welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Guests included Marcus Little (son of Rotarian Barry Little) Keryn Little and Sue Irvin. Kevin Safe introduced our Guest Speaker. Kevin first met Marcus as a young man starting his career with the Water Board. There were a few stories to tell!!!



Domestic Violence Walk – Kevin Safe

Due to the weather the walk was cancelled but over 100 people attended at the PAC for the speeches.

Kevin thanked all those involved.

We will continue raising awareness and sending the message that “it starts with RESPECT”

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Coming club events

11 December Christmas Dinner cost \$48 per head
Partners and friends invited It will be a social night.
Please reply on shared drive.

2025

12 January Harness Racing Gate

15 January First meeting of the year at Parklands Golf Club

16 January Board meeting on Zoom

Weekly social events

Bike Riders: meet each Thursday morning, 09:00 at the Ansett Museum, finishing for coffee at Tosca Browns, around 09:35

Friday Coffee: meet each Friday Morning, 10:30 at the Roxburgh, all welcome



Birthdays

Sue Irvin 8/12

Simon Wilson 9/12

James Dishon 11/12

Induction Anniversary

Murray Menzel 4/12

Congratulations!

Recycling cans/bottles
scheme
Our club has raised \$480



GUEST SPEAKER MARCUS LITTLE

Mineral Sands 101: Critical Minerals

Marcus Little, the Environmental Approvals Lead at Iluka, guided us through the fascinating world of mineral sands and the critical minerals that play a pivotal role in modern technology and industry. Iluka Resources, an established Australian company with over 70 years of experience, is renowned for its sustainable practices and significant contributions to the mineral sands industry.

Mineral Sands Products and Iluka's Market Position

Iluka is a leader in producing high-grade titanium, zircon, and rare earths. These minerals are essential components in various industries and everyday products:

- **High-Grade Titanium:** Used in aerospace, medical implants, and coatings due to its strength, light weight, and resistance to corrosion.
- **Zircon:** Employed in ceramics, refractory materials, and foundry casting. Its heat resistance and durability make it invaluable.
- **Rare Earths:** Crucial in manufacturing electronics, magnets, and renewable energy technologies.

Uses in Everyday Life

Mineral sands products from Iluka find their way into numerous everyday applications:

- **Smartphones and Electronics:** Rare earths are vital for producing small, powerful components.
- **Energy Efficient Lighting:** Phosphors made from these minerals enhance lighting efficiency.
- **Sustainable Energy Solutions:** Used in the manufacturing of wind turbines and electric vehicles.

Critical Mineral Operations in Australia

Iluka's operations span across Australia, focusing on key project locations rich in critical mineral deposits. These projects are integral to maintaining Australia's position as a leading supplier of mineral sands globally.

Project Locations

- **Victoria:** A hub for mineral sands operations since 1982.
- **South Australia:** Known for its abundant mineral resources.
- **Western Australia:** Home to some of the largest mineral sands deposits.

Timeline of Operations in Victoria

Iluka has been operational in Victoria since 1982, continually evolving to meet market demands and environmental standards. The timeline of operations showcases the company's commitment to sustainable development and innovation in the mineral sands sector.

Formation of Heavy Mineral Deposits

Heavy mineral deposits are formed through natural processes over millions of years. They typically originate from:

- **Weathering of Rocks:** Releases mineral grains that are transported by water.
- **Sedimentation:** Minerals settle in riverbeds and coastal areas.
- **Concentration Processes:** Natural forces like wind and water sort and concentrate the minerals into deposits.

Current Project: Wimmera Project

Marcus Little is currently engaged in the environmental assessment and approvals for the **Wimmera Project** near Toolondo. This project is pivotal in expanding Iluka's portfolio and ensuring sustainable extraction and processing of mineral sands.

Environmental Assessment and Approvals

The Wimmera Project is committed to minimizing its environmental impact through comprehensive assessments and adherence to stringent regulations. This involves:

- **Impact Studies:** Analysing potential effects on local ecosystems.
- **Community Engagement:** Involving local communities in project planning and decision-making.
- **Sustainability Initiatives:** Implementing practices that promote long-term ecological balance.

By focusing on sustainable practices and innovative approaches, Iluka continues to lead in the mineral sands industry, ensuring the availability of critical minerals for future generations. *(This article is AI generated from my notes – Editor)*



INTERNATIONAL REPORT

Jenny Barke reported that her committee has recommended that we donate \$250 to supply mosquito nets to the Gulf Province in PNG, which is experiencing a severe outbreak of malaria follow recent flooding earlier this year. The bales of LLIN (Long Lasting Insecticide Nets, each with 50 family sized mosquito nets) will provide protection for families in the Gulf Province of Papua New Guinea. We have previously donated to this project actioned by the Rotary Club of Torquay.

District 9780 Donations in Kind has changed its name. We are now operating as RARE (Rotary Australia Repurposing Equipment). This brings us in line with other RAWCS (Rotary Australia World Community Services) facilities operating around the country. However, our operation at the depot in Geelong serving D9780 will still function the same with Ewen Urquhart (RC Geelong) as site coordinator and Tony Austin (RC Warrnambool) as the District Coordinator.

Peter and Wendy Radley recently visited RARE, and this is a letter we received from Wendy

Hello Noel,

Peter and I delivered a small quantity of medical equipment to Ewen Urquhart (and helpers) in Geelong today. What an inspiration this group of volunteers is.

As we arrived, negotiations were taking place between Ewen and "Rashidi", who had been in a Tanzanian refugee camp for 10years. He and his daughter Anna had heard of the work of Geelong Rotary in supplying medical equipment to needy countries and both had travelled from Shepparton to request donations to Congo.

Rashidi arrived in Australia in 2005 as a qualified primary school teacher, but was unable to speak English. He has educated himself in language and many other skills and has almost finished his Master's degree. Although most of his family were killed in the war in Africa, he has a passion for helping those still unable to leave. He showed us a video on his phone of the building of a new medical centre in his hometown.

Pete and I were both touched with his enthusiasm and positive attitude. I think the equipment we delivered today will go to either Tanzania or the Republic of Congo.

Just last week a whole truckload of equipment was delivered to Geelong from Horsham.

I would love to see a district person who is able to contact and co-ordinate hospitals, dentists, ambulances, medical clinics, bush nursing centres etc to encourage a clean- out and donation of redundant, but useable equipment in good condition as well as consumables (still in sterilised packets that simply may have reached expiry) to such a worthy cause.

It may even be helpful to ask if Ewen could come and speak at a Rotary meeting at some stage.

Today was such an eye opener for us. I just wish our contribution today could have been larger.

Best regards. Wendy Radley

