PRESIDENT’S REPORT
Changeover 2019 - what a night of celebration. The three main Awards were richly deserved. Peter Martin with the Royce Abbey Award has been an outstanding Rotarian, not only as Chief Shephard but also as a hardworking and conscientious Rotarian over many years. Our two new Paul Harris Fellows were in total shock when announced but Gwen Hewitt and Joan Bentley, both long standing Rotary spouses have both been dedicated to Rotary and their community for a very long time and certainly deserved their standing ovations.

And we now have a formally launched Country Education Foundation of Warracknabeal and District which will help post secondary school students further their education and career opportunities. Over the coming months the Committee will map out our program for the coming 6 months or so. And of course all donations gratefully received –there are plenty of tea-towels for sale!

This coming week will be fire-side meetings to allow Committees to map out their programs for the coming year. Could all Directors please email me the time and where you plan to have your meeting so that a Presidential visit can be arranged..

Yours in Rotary, Tony

COMING DATES
Fri-Sun 4-6 Oct RCW visits RC Kyneton
Sep 23-25 Defy The Drift, Longrenong

From the Bulletin Editor:
A BIG THANK YOU to Helen Peters for doing the next four bulletins for this Rotary year while I am away. Wendy

Club Meets:
Creekside Hotel
Scott Street, Warracknabeal
Unless otherwise noted
Contact Jean to confirm venue
Wednesdays
6.00 for 6.30 p.m.

APOLOGIES / GUESTS
Jean Wise
By lunchtime Tuesday
0487 159 242
or email to
wbealbulletin@gmail.com

Breakfast 2019
No breakfast due to school holidays.
Resumes 23 July.

Membership Fees are now due for 2019/2020
Fees are $210.00 p.a.
They can be direct deposited
Acc. Name:
Rotary Club of Warracknabeal
Bank: CBA BSB: 063 544
Account No: 1002 1494
Note Surname / Invoice Number when paying via bank transfer
See Treasurer if you wish to pay in instalments.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DUTIES</th>
<th>Wednesday 10th July 2019</th>
<th>Wednesday 17th July 2019</th>
<th>Wednesday 24th July 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Creekside Hotel</td>
<td>6:00-6:30 Fellowship meal at The Royal Mail Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>6 for 6.30 pm</td>
<td>7:30 BOARD MEETING at The Rotary Shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reception/Visitors</td>
<td>‘Fire side’ meetings for committees.</td>
<td>John Aitken</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Directors to contact committees re time and venue etc.</td>
<td>Chris Hewitt</td>
<td>Club Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invocation</td>
<td>Directors to contact committees re time and venue etc.</td>
<td>Peter Martin</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heads &amp; Tails</td>
<td>Directors to contact committees re time and venue etc.</td>
<td>Bernie O’Connor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 min talk</td>
<td>Directors to contact committees re time and venue etc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote of Thanks</td>
<td>Directors to contact committees re time and venue etc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tony Gregson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Inductions**

**Birthdays:** Julie O’Brien 4/7, Ruth Shaw 10/7

**Anniversaries:**

---

**Rotary Club of Warracknabeal**

**CHANGEOVER 3 July 2019**

After 12 months of leading our club, Chris Hewitt reflected on a very successful and enjoyable year as President, highlighting the many programs, events and initiatives. Chris then inducted incoming President, Tony Gregson for the 2019-20 Rotary year. Tony congratulated Chris, outlined his vision for the year ahead, and announced the new Board members to the gathering.
ROYCE ABBEY AWARD – PP PHF Peter Martin

This award was established in recognition of the inspirational leadership of the late Royce Abbey, a past member the RC of Essendon and Past RI President. The award is available to Rotary clubs wishing to recognise Rotarians showing enthusiasm and commitment to the ideals of Rotary. By doing so the club contributes AUD$1000 to the Royce and Jean Abbey Endowed Fund, which finances agricultural scholarships to assist communities in developing countries in the Asia Pacific region.

With Peter’s dedication to all Rotary projects, and in particular, being the instigator and manager of our Sheep Project in 2014 which has raised over $45,000 for the club and community projects, Peter was a worthy recipient of this award. Such vision and commitment is inspirational. Funds have supported such projects as Moldova, Linc Munro, Secondary School Scholarships, Cambodia Water Wells, Polio Plus, and a new club computer. RC Essendon President, Kelly Abfalter presented the award.

SHEPHERDS RECOGNISED

Andrew King, Bernard Lindsay were present to receive Certificates of appreciation for their voluntary work caring for the Rotary sheep. Tim Hewitt and Bradley Holland were apologies.

PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY SAPPHIRES

Rotarians Ben Bentley and Tony Gregson receive PHS pins from DG Rosanne Kava in recognition of their annual pledge of $US1000 to The Rotary Foundation.

LONG SERVING ROTARIANS

Rob DeVries was recognised for his 40 years (nearly) of service to the Warracknabeal Rotary Club, and before that, the Rotaract Club. Both Rob and Pam will be missed by the club, as they now make their home in Wyndham. We look forward to keeping in touch through our friendship with the RC Wyndham.

Certificates were presented to Rotarians for their long years of service:

- 40+ years: Calvin Muller (43)
- 30+ years: Rob DeVries (39), Ben Bentley (38), Tony Gregson (37), John Tonkin (32), John Liersch (32), John Aitken (31).
- 20+ years: Jean Wise (20), Peter Martin (24).
PAUL HARRIS FELLOW RECOGNITIONS

It’s hard to keep secrets in the club, but the surprise presentation of PHFs to two outstanding contributors to Rotary and our community, was a highlight of the Changeover night.

Joan Bentley PHF

Since her husband, Ben joined the Rotary Club of Warracknabeal in 1980, Joan has been a tremendous supporter of the club and has been actively involved in many Rotary events and projects.

Joan would name her significant involvement with the Youth Exchange program as a highlight for her. Joan and Ben have hosted 12 Youth Exchange students over the years, an amazing contribution. They have enjoyed maintaining friendships with these exchange students, often visiting then in their home country, thus furthering the promotion of the world wide family of Rotary.

Joan has been only too happy to assist with any Rotary event, often in the catering area. Joan warmly welcomes Rotary visitors into the Bentley home, hosting numerous guest speakers, District Governors and visiting Rotarians from around the world.

When the Bentleys moved to Warracknabeal in 1976 Joan immediately became involved in community service and over 40 years later is still very active in the community. Three examples: the Woodbine Ladies Auxiliary where she received Life Membership of Woodbine in 1990 in recognition of her outstanding service; she was an inaugural member of the Warracknabeal St Mary’s Church Ladies Club, and an inaugural member of the St Vincent de Paul Society in 1991, receiving a 20 year service award in 2012. Joan was the Shire’s joint citizen of the year in 2015.

Joan’s philanthropy continues to assist many people and organisations in our community. Her generous and caring support to numerous families goes mostly unnoticed by the general public, but is much appreciated by those who benefit.

Gwen Hewitt PHF

Gwen has been associated with the Warracknabeal Rotary Club since her husband Des was inducted in 1977. Although not a Rotary member, she supported Des in his weekly ritual of attending Rotary and always assisted with food and the preparation for Rotary functions and events. Gwen volunteered her time over a period of 34 years while Des was an active member and although he passed away in 2011, she has still been a strong advocate for Rotary and has become an Honorary member of the club. Gwen still attends special events and is always willing to assist in any way she can. After Des, who was himself a PHF, passed away Gwen made a significant contribution to the Rotary Foundation. At the time she received no recognition for her donation even though she and her family understood the purpose of Rotary and the Foundation and what Rotary International in general is trying to achieve, not only locally, but worldwide.

As you can imagine, Gwen has been involved with the community for a long time. Gwen was Secretary of the Primary School Mothers Club for a number of years and was a much loved primary school teacher for almost twenty years. Gwen initiated an ecumenical Kids Club which ran weekly for over sixteen years. This Club had a profound impact on hundreds of young children’s lives, providing games, craft, Church time and a meal each Friday night. Her work with Kids Club was acknowledged in 2009 when she was recognised as a Yarriambiack Shire Citizen of the year.

Gwen has been an Elder of the Warracknabeal Uniting Church for many years and continues to be an active participant in the choir. She regularly provides support and meals for children and family activities provided through the church. She has also been a volunteer at the Wheatlands Warehouse since its opening almost twenty years ago.

Joan and Gwen, for your dedicated and long standing support of Rotary and your outstanding service to the community, the Rotary Club of Warracknabeal would like to recognise you as Paul Harris Fellows. In your honour, $US1000 each will be donated to The Rotary Foundation to further its charity work for those in need around the world.
Launch of
the Country Education Foundation of Warracknabeal and District (CEFWD)

A new education foundation in Warracknabeal will offer further education access and opportunities via the national Country Education Foundation of Australia. It is the 45th CEF in Australia, but Victoria’s first.

In an historic move, the Country Education Foundation of Warracknabeal and District was launched at the Warracknabeal Rotary Club Changeover night on Wednesday, July 3 2018.

An initiative of the Rotary Club of Warracknabeal, the CEFWD has been formed with additional financial support of the Rotary clubs of Geelong East and Essendon, as well as funding from the Birchip Cropping Group; with volunteer support from Warracknabeal Secondary College and Yarriambiack Shire Council CEO Jessie Holmes.

CEFWD inaugural committee members include: President:Chris Hewitt, Secretary:Tony Gregson, Treasurer:Jessie Holmes, Louisa Ferrier, Casey Phelan, Ben Bentley, John Aitken, Bernie O’Connor, John Tonkin, Mandy Morcom and Wendy Hewitt.

CEFWD founder, Rotarian Tony Gregson said the metropolitan Rotary clubs look to support their country friends suffering during drought; believing in Country Education Foundation of Australia’s vision of fostering the further education, career and personal development opportunities for rural and regional youth.

With this financial support, the CEFWD will be offering up to $6000 worth of education grants in the next year to local students from the Yarriambiack Shire to assist with their further education journey.

At the launch, CEF Australia CEO Wendy Cohen commended the vision of the local community and Rotary Club in particular, for working towards the goal of enabling rural and regional Victorian young people to succeed. Wendy maintains that “your postcode shouldn’t determine if and where you can go for further education, or limit the career path you take”.

Former Deputy Prime Minister and proud Ambassador for the CEF, Tim Fisher, was an apology for the launch but donated $1000 to the Warracknabeal foundation to help boost fundraising efforts. “It’s important to have strong local leadership and above all education” (in rural areas) Mr Fisher said.

CEFWD applications are now open for 2020 study support via the Country Education Foundation of Australia website: www.cef.org.au.