PRESIDENT’S REPORT
What a wonderful celebration for Australia Day at Anzac Park on Jan 26th. The band provided the perfect atmosphere for the breakfast, the egg and bacon rolls were delicious, Josh Gunn delighted the audience with his presentation, Sofia Laursen-Habel entertained us again with her amazing musical talents (and I didn’t hurt myself!) and we witnessed three inspirational locals receiving Australia Day awards.

Three well-received additions to the program were the acknowledgement of one of our newest local Australia citizens, Clyd Batincila, the launch of Walter Sholl’s book celebrating every day Warracknabeal and the address from Emma Kealy MLA.

Once again our club, with the help of partners, Rotaractors, Honorary Rotarians, Friends of Rotary and community members, presented a well organised and entertaining morning for our community. Thank you all, and a special thank you to Ian and his committee for coordinating the event.

A special congratulations to Ian Penny on being awarded an OAM for his significant services to our community and beyond. Well deserved Ian.

I will miss this week’s meeting as I’m in the UK, so thanks in advance to Chris Hewitt for filling in for me. See you on the 12th Feb.

Yours in Rotary,
Tony
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<tr>
<th>DUTIES</th>
<th>Wednesday 5th February 2020</th>
<th>Wednesday 12th February 2020</th>
<th>Wednesday 19th February 2020</th>
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<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>The Creekside Hotel</td>
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<td>Time</td>
<td>6:00-6:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reception/Visitors</td>
<td>Chris Hewitt</td>
<td>Wendy Hewitt</td>
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<td>Chairman</td>
<td>John Liersch</td>
<td>Mandy Morcom</td>
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<td>Invocation</td>
<td>Kelsea Wall</td>
<td>Ian Penny</td>
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<td>Heads &amp; Tails</td>
<td>Jack Daniel</td>
<td>Tim Hewitt</td>
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<td>2 min talk</td>
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<td>‘My First Job’</td>
<td>Peter Martin</td>
<td>Chris Gunn</td>
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<td>Program</td>
<td>New Member’s ‘Maiden Speech’</td>
<td>Cam Whelan - CFA</td>
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<td>David Drage</td>
<td>Strike Team at Walwa</td>
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<td>Vote of Thanks</td>
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<td>Ian Penny</td>
<td>Peter Martin</td>
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Inductions: Jean Wise 3/2/1999-21 YEARS.
Birthdays: Malcolm Watts 25/1, Chris Gunn 26/1, Sue Watts 30/1,
Anniversaries: Ray & Leora 28/1, Ian & Lorraine 1/2, Graham & Marion 2/2,

SHEEP REPORT (Peter)
Our RC lambs were shorn on Jan 22 by a local shearer who volunteered his services. Thank you to our shearer.
A correction from a previous bulletin. We have purchased 50 sheep, not 15. They’re looking very healthy, thanks to all of our shepherds.
REPORTS/NOTICES

JAN 15th BOARD REPORT
- Donation to Walwa bushfire relief $5000. Also hay will be carted up there. Local contact is Cam Whelan.
- Australia Day gold coin breakfast donations to go to bushfire relief.
- Garage Sale at Rotary Shop 14th March, Woodbine also included. DATE CHANGED TBA
- RYLA 3 applicants accepted Harry Butcher, Mark Pendlebury and Isabel Niven.
- Simon’s biscuits raised over $400 for rotary’s mental health program Lift The Lid.
- Plaques presented for Australia Day recipients this year instead of certificates.
- April 8th special meeting booking Brim Sporting Centre- Clem Quick’s 50 years in

TWO MINUTE TALK Jan 22 - ‘My First Job’- John Tonkin
When I was 15 my dad encouraged me to get a part time job, suggesting I inquire at the local Woolworths store in Bentleigh. Part of the application involved taking a test to check basic arithmetic.
It was quite easy so I did the calculations in my head... but the boss wasn’t so pleased. He wanted to see my working!
However, I did get the job and worked part time for years, earning $2.04/hr!
I worked in several departments, moving around to areas of need. The boss was quite impressed with my application so I was offered a full time position. I had to say no as I had definite plans to go to uni. My boss was disappointed but understood. He said “Next week my pay cheque might have a little extra”. And it did.

VISIT TO WYNDHAM (4-6 April)
So far: Tony, Peter, Ian & Lorraine, Chris & Glenda, John T?,.. Anyone else???

COMMUNITY SERVICE ( Peter)
Request from Emmetts to do a BBQ for a customer’s night on a Friday night- Date TBC.

LEFT AT ANZAC PARK ON JAN 26 - WOMEN’S NAVY VEST. Size 10
See Wendy if you know the owner.

SIMON’S MINI SAFARI…. and more
Simon recently travelled around the south coast of Victoria/SA with 12 other exchange students. The group were hosted by Rotarians in our district and enjoyed the sights of Mt Gambier, Portland and Warrnambool. Activities included surfing and water skiing.
AND..... Simon was pretty excited last week as he had a reunion with someone very special ..... his mum was in Melbourne!

RAFFLE REPORT ( Jean)
Raffle tickets are on the way to Ballarat with all books sold, less one lost book.
Raised a total of $2,384. Well done everyone. This is a great fundraiser for our club.

FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE ( Sue)
Rotary D 9780 Rotary Friendship Exchange is planning with Rotary 5970 Iowa USA for an Outbound team to visit Iowa from the 21 Sep - 4 Oct 2020 and we are asking for Expressions of Interest from interested Rotarians. As a member of a team your main financial commitment is to cover the costs of your travel to and from the District plus spending money for extras during the exchange. There may be costs for entries to museums, attractions, transport and meals. Going on an RFE is a once in a life time opportunity to visit other countries and learn about their culture, life and spend time with Rotarians as part of their family. It is a truly amazing experience and one that you will never forget.
If you can get the Expressions of Interest back to me by the 30th April 2020 that would be great. A team of 10 Rotarian couples or singles is requested.

Gail Barrett-Chair, Rotary District 9780 Friendship Exchange.

RC KERANG EASTER ART SHOW- April 10-12.
High standard exhibits. If you know someone who would like to enter, contact rotarykerangartshow@gmail.com.
How can you help?

Rotary Districts across Australia encourage you to donate to the Rotary National Bushfires Appeal, a single fund established by the Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS). It enables you to specify the area to receive your donation and it is tax deductible. You can donate via the RAWCS website, https://rawcs.org.au

You can also donate directly to the Rotary East Gippsland Fire Aid Fund - BSB 633 000 Ac #165960451

To donate Hay, visit www.needforfeed.org to arrange it.
District 9780 CONFERENCE
April 20-22, Swan Hill

Come along:
If you’ve never been to a District conference, or haven't been for many years, consider coming along this year. Some new faces would be great. These weekends are always entertaining, informative, inspirational and fun!

Who’s going so far….
Tony, Sue, Helen, Wendy & Robin, Chris & Glenda, Jack & family (Including Laura) have been booked in by Wendy. Simon?
John & Marie Aitken can no longer attend so there is a room available ..... Please contact Wendy ASAP to keep the booking.

For those going....
DIY registration for the program, conference dinner, golf, laser light show.

Check out the details of the weekend. Be inspired. The promotional video is very funny.
Visit the website: www.rotary9780conference.com.au

FRIDAY
• Optional social golf in the afternoon at Murray Downs golf course. Anyone want to join Wendy?
• Dinner. Own arrangements? At golf club? Pub?
• Conference opening.

SATURDAY
• Conference program
• Conference Dinner. Boogie at the Flying Catalina Boat Museum on Lake Boga. A 40s war theme. Dress up ideas for our team?

SUNDAY
• AM. Closing program