PRESIDENT’S REPORT
Our guest speaker this week gave an excellent summary of how Rural Northwest Health (RNH) is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Jo Martin certainly impressed with her grasp of the issues and her response, at very short notice, to being thrust into the Acting CEO role dealing with a serious international community health issue. It has been a challenging time for all the RNH staff. It was also heartening to hear about the very close co-operation with Woodbine and the essential role our own Rotarian Mandy Morcom played in preparing the hospital for not if but when. We are lucky that our community is clearly in good hands with their good teamwork and respect for the whole team.

It was sad to have to announce that Jean Wise wishes to retire from Rotary at the end of this Rotary year after some twenty years of community and Rotary service. Jean has been a real trailblazer with a long list of firsts: female member, female president, president three times, female PHF, etc. At the first opportunity we will celebrate what she has contributed to Rotary and our Club.

The Rotary Change-over evening will be on 1 July. Although the guest speaker is locked in (Australia’s Chief Scientist Dr Alan Finkel), the venue is not as there is still uncertainty about the restrictions and what is possible – it may yet be a late decision!

It was disappointing that we could not get the schedule to work with exchange student Simon Ossing next week. Hopefully we can reschedule our international night to a coming weekend to make the connections to Germany more convenient.

In lieu of next weeks program we decided to have a clean-up of our section of the Henty highway: 4.30 pm start at the Rotary shed with pizzas afterwards at Rotary House at say 6.15 pm; don’t forget to bring gloves and bags for the rubbish.

Yours in Rotary,
Tony
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<tr>
<th>DUTIES</th>
<th>Wednesday 3rd June 2020</th>
<th>Wednesday 10th June 2020</th>
<th>Wednesday 17th June 2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>Rotary Park, Kelsall St</td>
<td>Home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>4:30pm</td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reception/Visitors</td>
<td>Tony Gregson</td>
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<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Peter Martin</td>
<td>Christine Gunn</td>
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<td>Invocation</td>
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<td>Heads &amp; Tails</td>
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<td>2 min talk ‘My First Job’</td>
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<td>Mandy Morcom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>4:30-6:00pm Highway Clean up 6:15 Pizzas at Rotary House</td>
<td>Tim Hewitt “Maiden Speech”</td>
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<td>Vote of Thanks</td>
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<td>John Liersch</td>
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**Inductions :**
Birthdays : Narelle Drage 30 May, David Drage 31 May,
Anniversaries :

**Two Minute Talk—My First Job**
Rob McRae

Being a farm boy I had all those normal jobs that you grow up with in those days, from milking cows, driving everything and marking lambs. Due to the incentive of borrowing money to buy land in 1967 and then having a severe drought, my first real job was shearing. I attended shearing school in Warracknabeal and Longerenong College the following year. I shear in local shearing sheds and then moved onto the surrounding areas. I was mentored by a local shearer and friend named Eric Woods. Shearing taught me discipline and endurance. Through shearing I met many characters like Mo and Alex, two rouse-a-bouts who were able to talk all day keeping us entertained. They were in Grime’s Shed at Gerang Gerung where we shear for an entire week which was unusual because most of the sheds we shear in had only small flocks, with one or two days’ work.

The day I managed to shear my first 100 tally, Mo and Alex kept counting one less of my tally for each run with the intention of making me try harder. We were paid 22c per sheep back then. With the money I made, I was able to buy my first car, a Cortina. Like many farmer’s sons, I shore for about 10 years, fitting it in around farm work and playing sports such as football and tennis.

In the finish I shear our own flock for several years, and lucky that we didn’t have too many sheep. I foolishly still do a bit but I think it’s to prove to my kids that I started off shearing and can still do it just in case they never believed me!
Meeting Wed 27th May 2020

Attendance: 21 Rotarians, Jo Martin, Ray Duffield
Apologies: Ben Bentley, Chris Gunn, Jean Wise

REPORTS

Secretary (Sue)
- Our annual report is being collated, so could all reports be emailed to Sue ASAP.
- President, Treasurer, Foundation, Youth, Vocational, Fellowship, Community Service, International, Australia Day, Sheep flock, Exchange students- Laura’s and Simon’s counsellors, CEF, Photos from Wendy and anyone else.

Bulletin Editor (Wendy)
All new board members to send a report from the District Assembly to the Bulletin by June 1.

International Service (Helen)
Link up with Simon on June 3rd has been postponed to a later date as there were difficulties doing the link up on a school day for Simon. We may have our link up on a weekend.

Vocational Service (John A)
Tonight is a vocational Service night. One more to come before the end of the Rotary year.

Club Service (Tony)
Incoming directors for 2020-21 should be doing their online courses.

President Elect (Tony)
Change over date is Wed 1 July. Plans are underway and hopefully by then we could meet with 50 people at a venue. Watch this space for updates.

Community Service (Peter)
This coming Wednesday will now be a Community Service meeting. For those who are able, we will be doing the Henty Highway roadside clean up that was postponed in March. Please meet at the Rotary Park shed at 4:30pm. BYO gloves and tongs and a bag if you have one. Afterwards we will meet at Rotary House for a take away pizza meal. $10. That’s at 6:15. If you can’t come to the clean up, just come for pizza and fellowship.

For catering purposes, all apologies to Chris Gunn please by Tuesday noon.

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Melbourne
2. Uneven watering, especially on tomatoes
3. Gold
4. Essentials, of course, in 1979
5. Nicole Kidman and Hugh Jackman
6. John Deere
7a. CIMMYT
7b. Centro Internacional de Mejoramiento de Maiz y Trigo
8. The One Belt One Road Initiative
9. Orange
10. Red & green
11. Elizabeth Blackburn (chemistry and genetics), Howard Florey (physiology), James Watson (biology), Francis Crick (biology), Marie Curie (physics), Albert Einstein (physics), Curie (chemistry and physics), James Watson (biology), Francis Crick (biology), Marie Curie (physics), Albert Einstein (physics), Curie (chemistry and physics), James Watson (biology), Francis Crick (biology), Marie Curie (physics), Albert Einstein (physics), Curie (chemistry and physics), James Watson (biology), Francis Crick (biology), Marie Curie (physics), Albert Einstein (physics), Curie (chemistry and physics), James Watson (biology), Francis Crick (biology), Marie Curie (physics), Albert Einstein (physics), Curie (chemistry and physics), James Watson (biology), Francis Crick (biology), Marie Curie (physics), Albert Einstein (physics), Curie (chemistry and physics), James Watson (biology), Francis Crick (biology), Marie Curie (physics), Albert Einstein (physics), Curie (chemistry and physics), James Watson 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Jo Martin began working at RNH in 2014, with a range of clinical and managerial skills and experiences in the health sector. She has a masters in Health Promotion and Business and in 2018 Jo was appointed RNH Executive Director of Community Health.

In March 2020 when the RNH CEO was on leave overseas, the COVID 19 virus was suddenly with us. Jo Martin, having previously being acting CEO, was appointed in charge of the RNH response.

We were so fortunate to have Jo with us at our meeting to talk about the challenges, preparation, action and vision for RNH during the COVID 19 pandemic.

Planning:
The speed of the COVID responses was far quicker than expected. We had general discussions one weekend in March, not really expecting much for a while. By Monday morning things had escalated to emergency planning levels… the pandemic was at Australia’s doorstep for us to deal with. On Tuesday all Victorian health service CEOs were meeting to discuss and develop action plans. This was a new experience for everyone, and we weren’t sure what was really coming. Lots of information was coming in from Federal and State governments… we had up to 500 emails daily and meetings galore- at local, regional and state levels.

Changes came so quickly, some without notice. Dealing with conflicting information was the biggest challenge. We are now up to version 21 of health documentation and it’s still not over by a long shot.

All staff in all areas and at all levels have been impacted- nurses, administrators, cleaners, caterers and so on. Everything doesn’t line up as expected. Processes for urban health care services didn’t always work for rural services. It was a seven day working week with long hours ..we had a lot to do.

It’s here...
There was one COVID 19 case identified in our shire. But was it going to escalate to 10? 100? No one knew. Drills for staff were carried out regularly, rehearsing scenarios with ‘patients’, all staff, ambulances etc. We’ve also been working very closely with our GPs, Aged Care, Woodbine, schools and the Shire. Dedicated RNH rooms and staff were allocated and prepared. We have had screening questions for all staff and visitors for months now, plus temperature checks for staff every shift. It has been a very stressful time for staff, and they have all been amazing.

Now...
With the number of positive COVID 19 cases decreasing, more knowledge about the virus and more facilities and testing equipment available, we have ben able to look towards a more positive future…. At RNH we now allow visitors to aged care residents and acute patients, with restrictions, and we are resuming Community Health services. While there are no COVID cases locally, we must remain vigilant until a vaccine is available. Has there been something good coming out of this? The big winner has been the new technologies we have used, and hopefully will continue to develop in the future. The mutual respect for all RNH team members has also been outstanding. Thank you.

Thank you Jo
Mandy Morcom. Our RNH Nurse Practitioner, said ….. It is imperative the community recognises the great work by Jo, as she was thrown into this position when the CEO was away. The response at RNH has been so well managed with Jo as the leader, especially as official advice has been changing almost daily. Now is a timely reminder for the community and health service that we cannot be complacent. We all need to be aware of a ‘new normal’ as we move forward.

Bernie O’Conner, Woodbine CEO also responded……..In my view, Jo Martin is the leader of the COVID-19 response in this district. She has been a wealth of knowledge and never-ending practical assistance.

For Woodbine, Jo had been invaluable, right from the beginning. Jo has opened many doors to Rural Northwest Health expertise. Woodbine has benefited from inspections, advice of preparing an end to end flow chart to respond to symptoms of the virus, direct training in terms of sanitisation, cleansing and the donning and doffing of personal protective equipment PPE and selflessly providing sanitary products and PPE. Jo Martin should be formally recognised for stewardship.
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TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION
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DISTRICT 9780 - THE AUSTRALIAN ROTARY FOUNDATION TRUST

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Click on  and type in required information.
Double click on  to open ‘check’ box.

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PDG Chris Sims
[Chair TRF Fundraising - 2019/20]  Received… / / 201
P. O. Box 322 Torquay, 3228, Victoria  Cleared… / / 201
Cel Phone No. 0439 209 036  Register No I19-20
Email: chrisjanjuc@gmail.com
1. In what city did the Commonwealth Parliament first sit?

2. What is “blossom rot or drop”, especially on tomatoes?

3. What colour is a snitch in Quidditch?

4. What team won the first VFL premiership? (hint...Bernie’s question!)

5. Name an Australian born Nobel Prize winner.

6. Which tractor manufacturer has a factory in Waterloo Iowa?

7a. This framed photo of our Rotary President was in the International Maize and Wheat Research Centre in Mexico. What is the six letter acronym that this place is known by?

7b. Super hard Question!!! What are the Spanish words that this acronym represents? (Tony, you better get this one!)

8. What is the name of the agreement that was signed on October 23rd 2019 by Premier Andrews and the Chinese Government.

9. What flavour is Cointreau? Orange, Lemon, Juniper berry

10. Which of the following is a pair of complementary colours? Red & green, black & white, purple & orange

11. Name the two lead roles of the 2008 Australian historical drama movie, 'Australia'.

12. If travelling to the US, you need an ESTA. What is it for?

13. What common bodily function is impossible to do with your eyes open?

14. When was Warracknabeal Rotary Club chartered and by what Club?
VIRTUAL TRAVEL

Travel may be off the agenda for a while, but you can visit a Rotary Club anywhere in the world by visiting them online. Join their meetings and see what they’re up to? The virtual Rotary world is open to you.

Pick a club to visit . .. Australia, India, Canada, USA, UK, Germany, Israel, Malaysia, NZ, Potugal, Austria, Uganda, France, Brazil etc.


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Do you find that:

- when you want to ring a fellow Rotarian, you don’t have their number?
- when you’re on your way to Rotary you suddenly remember that you are on duty tonight for something but can’t remember what?
- when sending in your apology for Rotary you need to check if you need to organise a replacement for your duty?
- while waiting for an appointment wouldn’t it be handy to be able to catch up on what’s happening in D9780?

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