

ESsential News June 2021

E&S Committee:

Co Chairs:

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Anne Frueh, RC Balwyn

Donna Martin, RC Bacchus Marsh

Lesley McCarthy, RC Flemington
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Ted Waghorne, RC Canterbury

As we transition to a new Rotary year, it's a great time to recognise outstanding Rotarians. Rob Anderson, a fellow Executive of the ESRAG Regional Chapter and member of the Rotary Club of Canterbury deservedly received with a Paul Harris Fellow recognition from ESRAG.

The Centenary Project District 9800 Powerful Planting Guide has been specifically developed to suit the three bio-regions of Metropolitan Melbourne. It'd be great to see Clubs to make use of this valuable resource which is freely available to all for any 'greening' activities.

The **#I Fix the Planet** world video competition was an innovative idea with both Rob Anderson and Ted Waghorne playing pivotal role. Congratulations to the winner but also to all those who contributed.

A reminder to all clubs and especially to the new Environment Chairs and committees that the team are available to support you.

We can offer resources and information on getting started, and also offer guest speakers and videos/short videos to assist and inspire your members. Get in touch—you just have to ask!

[Like the ESRAG LinkedIn page](#)

[Like the ESRAG Facebook page](#)

Dates for your calendar:

ESRAG ANZPI Chapter Meeting

Tuesday 22 June 2021: 7.30pm AEDT
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84902521635>

Sunday 18 July

Melbourne Pollinator Corridor visit to Emma Cutting's Heart Garden Project.
Contact pberg8@bigpond.net.au

Tuesday 10 August
Climate and Peace Forum
<https://climateandpeace.com.au>

[Department of Agriculture, Water & Environment Calendar](#)

Co-Chairs, Environmental Sustainability Committee

Fabienne Nichola

John McCaskill



Congratulations to Rob Anderson from the Rotary Club of Canterbury who was honoured with a Paul Harris Fellowship at the recent ESRAG Annual General Meeting.

[ESRAG Facebook](#)

Rob has worked incredibly hard in the last 12 months supporting ESRAG with the website, communications and the #I Fix the Planet challenge, as co-chair of Project Drawdown and in developing websites for regional chapters. Rob also created the ESRAG ANZPI website and managed distribution of the ESRAG ANZPI and District 9800 newsletters.

Rob is usually seen in a chef's apron from his work at Four Nonnas Pasta, and is the founder of Cause Good Things, a not-for-profit venture to empower and enable purpose among government, people, businesses, causes, community and institutions.

Congratulations Rob, so well deserved!

Join ESRAG:

<https://www.esrag.org/membership-form>

US\$30 per year or

US\$125 for 5 years.

Just US\$15 per year for ages 17-25.

Powerful Pollinators - A Planting Guide for Melbourne

As a Centenary project District 9800 worked with the WHEEN Bee Foundation to develop a Planting Guide for urban Melbourne to help Rotarians *Colour Your World* with flowering plants and support our pollinators. This guide is available free to download and use to help you select plants suitable for your area, and ones that can support pollinators throughout the year. **So get going.** Select an area, [download the guide](#) and take action.

Across Victoria the recent catastrophic fires had a significant impact on the habitat of all forms of wildlife, including birds, bees and other pollinators. These fires and the loss of habitat will increase the rate of decline of pollinators that are so important for our world.



'Pollination is a vital support system and without it we could not exist'
Sir David Attenborough

Did you know?
An estimated *one third of our food* is pollination dependent.

But is it any better in our cities where living density is increasing, houses are larger and sub-division blocks are smaller. These are all contributing to the loss of gardens. During COVID-19 lockdowns we all noticed how important gardens, parks and open space were for us as well as for pollinators – but don't forget they need appropriate flowering habitat. Many of our gardens, nature strips, parks, and open spaces have reverted to grass and there has been a reduction of flowering plants that are essential to support pollinators.

With a little help we can redress this situation.

To support the *Colour your World* program the Wheen Bee Foundation (WBF) were engaged to develop plant selection guides to suit urban Melbourne. Local plants have been selected that offer pollen and nectar to attract birds, insects, bees and other pollinators.

There is a guide for each urban bioregion in Melbourne:

- Suburbs on the western basalt plains,
- Eastern suburbs with sedimentary soils, and
- Those elevated areas to the north and east.

The Guides discuss the role and importance of pollinators, how to encourage them to your garden, and notes on different flower forms. In each Guide there is detailed information about each plant, its height, flower colour, flowering period, appropriate aspect and likely visitation by one of our pollinators.

Vegetation type	Height	Flower colour	Flowering													
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		
Grassland, Woodland	0.3 m	Cream														
Open Woodland, Outcrops, Salt lakes	< 0.5 m	Grey-Green														
Woodland, Forest, Heathland	2.5 m	Mauve-Purple														
Woodland, Forest, Heathland	< 0.3 m	Red														
Woodland, Shrubland	0.1 m	White														
Dry Forest	0.1 m	Yellow & Red														
Woodland, Riparian	0.3 m	Yellow														
Moist Forest, Heathland, Woodland	< 0.3 m	White & Purple														
Forest, Woodland	< 0.5 m	Mauve														
Grassland, Herbfield, Woodland	0.3 m	Blue														

The Planting Guide is a great resource for Rotary Clubs, Rotarians, Rotaractors, sponsors, partners and stakeholders for their own use in their gardens, nature strips, balconies or even in Council Parks. Please inform your neighbourhood, council, Rotarians or community groups who may benefit from the planting guide.

It is up to you to take action to put flowering plants back into our city.

Ted Waghorne
District 9800 ES Committee

Quick links:

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/sitepage/environment-sustainability>

The District Conference video

<https://vimeo.com/542061915>

Webinar recordings:

Operation Pollination

<https://vimeo.com/475395701>

[The Climate and Peace Forum videos](#)

[WHEEN BEE Foundation](#)

[Powerful Pollinator Planting guides](#)

[Victorian Indigenous Nursery Co-Op](#)

View the ESRAG ANZPI video created by Rob Anderson for RICON, [MD Environment Video.mp4 on Vimeo](#)

<https://www.esrag.org/esrag-unep-handbook>

[ESRAG AGM](#)

[ESRAG at RICON](#)

Environmental News from around the world:

From bottles to bricks:

Lego expects to begin selling toy building bricks made from recycled plastic bottles in less than 2 years after finding a suitable green alternative to oil-based plastic.

[Bottles to bricks: Lego finds the right fit with recycled plastic \(sbs.com.au\)](#)

Unlocking the mystery of the Regent Honeyeater:

Ross Crates, a scientist at ANU's Difficult Bird Research Group has explored the changing songs of the Regent Honeyeaters and how this has impacted on breeding.

[Unlocking the mystery of the Regent Honeyeater – Atlas of Living Australia \(ala.org.au\)](#)

Explore the Atlas of Living Australia. www.ala.org.au

Congratulations Ted Waghorne from Canterbury Rotary who was selected as a judge for the **#I Fix the Planet** video competition. Ted had many years working in the mining industry and the rehabilitation of mines and brings his years of experience to ESRAGANZPI {Pacific}.

Ted is also a member of the executive team of ESRAG ANZPI and the District 9800 Environment Committee. He will take on the role of ESRAG ANZPI Chair on 1 July.



The winners were announced on World Environment Day and were:

1. **Capture Pollution before it escapes** from the Rotary Clubs of Boise and Boise South West.
2. **Restore and repair coral reefs off the coast of Panama** by the Rotary Club of Newport Beach
3. **Next generation owner's manual to Global Warming** by the Rotary Club of Sidney by the Sea.
4. **Solar Panels Provide Renewable Energy to Hydroponic Freight Farm** from Twin Cities Rotary Eco Club
5. **Recurring Global Cleanups** with the Rotary Club for Global Action
6. **End Plastic Soup** call to action from the Rotary Clubs of Amsterdam
7. **Trees, Trails, a Nature Centre, Observatory and Planetarium** by the Rotary Club of Guelph.



There were several videos submitted from clubs in Australia including the Waggle Dance from Canterbury Rotary and Donations in Kind Circular Economy by David Dippie. [See all the videos here.](#)

Google Earth has released a new 3D time-lapse feature that lets you observe how Earth has changed from 1984 to 2020. It allows you to see how much the devastating effects of climate change have already shaped the geography of the planet. [Google Earth](#)

The feature which Google calls "Timelapse" is accessed using the Voyager TAB on the left-hand menu [shaped like a ship's wheel.] Search for a place of interest or view one of the five tours showing forest change, urban growth, warming temperatures, mining and renewable energy sources, and the Earth. [Exploring Timelapse in Google Earth - YouTube](#)

The 2021 Premier's Sustainability Awards are open for entries.

The award categories have been revamped this year to reflect the current focus of sustainability activity in Victoria and align with global best practice.

The 6 categories represent exceptional sustainability outcomes that can be delivered by projects and initiatives, and link to the globally-accepted [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#).

Entries for the 2021 Premier's Sustainability Awards close on Friday 30 July.

[Premier's Sustainability Awards | Sustainability Victoria](#)

