

21st November – 5th December 2023

PRESIDENT PAULINE's PONDERINGS

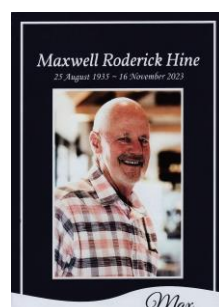
- Congratulations Michael Kelleher on your election as the club's 2024-25 President and thank you for accepting the nomination after only a year as a member. Congratulations and thank you also to others elected: Tim Wills (Secretary), Carol Fenwick (Treasurer) and Ian Symons (Director).
- Congratulations to the **Market Committee and all volunteers** on a very successful event, raising over \$2,500 from sites and barbeque. As agreed by members last meeting, the proceeds have been equally shared/donated to the Longwarry Lions Food Bank, St Vinnies Drouin and, The Crossing in support of their Christmas food hampers for those in need. We have received expressions of thanks and gratitude from them all.
- Disappointing to hear the final District 9820 Conference in Warrnambool has been cancelled. Cost and distance were apparently factors for many. At the District AGM I was proud to hear that D9820 donated over \$100,000 for Australian flood relief, New Zealand storm recovery and recovery projects in Turkey, Syria and Ukraine.
- Thank you, Dianne Wallace, for your presentation on 'Housing Homeless Women in Warragul'. We are proud of your achievements and grateful that you are a member of our club.
- Our 'Peace Pole' has been installed in Civic Park by Council. WE will have an official unveiling ceremony on **WEDNESDAY 6th DECEMBER** at **10.30 am**. Students from Drouin Primary School and St. Itas have been invited to participate. It is located in front of the children's playground at the eastern end of the park, near the park's barbeque area. MEMBERS & partners are invited to attend and bring a picnic morning tea – bring a thermos and a plate of something to share.



- Thank you to Shane Candappa for passing on some of the commission for sale of Ian & Helen Gaffney's unit AND, thank you Ian for naming the club as the recipient.
- **19th December** will be our Christmas Dinner at the Drouin Golf & Country Club \$40 pp ... let me know if attending please. Please pre-pay to BSB 633-000 Acc.175 311 851 and reference "*your name Xmas*"
- **RC Warragul's Christmas trees** are available for order and will be at December's Drouin Market. If you would like to order one, and they will cost you \$50 each, please let Secretary Tim know a.s.a.p



- Farewell and thank you Max. You are greatly missed.



ANNIVERSARIES

In this coming period: David Proposch & Sharryn Marshall plus Christine, Marie Franklin, Judy Symons & Sue Howe all celebrate birthdays; David & Jacqui Veal celebrate their wedding anniversary; and, on 4th December sixty five years ago Keith pretty was inducted into the club by then-President Fred Phair, who also acted as his sponsor.

DATES for the DIARY

MONDAY 4th December – Board Meeting

TUESDAY 5th December – Dinner Meeting # 11 at the Hong Kong Inn 6.00 for 6.30 pm

WEDNESDAY 6th December – Official unveiling of the DROUIN PEACE POLE in Civic Park 10.30 am

TUESDAY 19th December – CHRISTMAS DINNER at the Drouin Golf & Country Club 6.00 for 6.30 pm

SERVICE

Drouin Rotary Market was attended in November by fifty stallholders and activity was still strong at 12.30 when marquees started to come down. Volunteers in preparations and on the day were Kevin Roberts, Ian Haughton, Mike Kelleher, Max Scott, Judy Alexander, John Tricarico, David Veal, David Proposch, Ian Symons, Roger Playdon, Jacqui Veal, Josh Denehy, Colin Gardner, Peter Konjevic, Bob Vogt, Maggie Vogt, Jo McKechnie, Lois Ryan and Bill Petschack. Thank you all.

Food Bank Deliveries were undertaken in November by members & partners: Russell Ford, Bill Petschack & Gwen Kelly, Lois Ryan, Allan Storti, Pauline & Brian Maunder, Tim Wills, Josh Denehy, Jane & Roger Playdon, Rob & Glenda Stewart, Peter Konjevic and Bob Vogt. Thank you.



11/11/2023



Shift 1 at Market



Raffle ticket sellers



Family visits



Nice to welcome 'guests'

PROGRAM – Rotarian Dianne Wallace – Housing Homeless Women in Warragul

In 2018, Rotarian Dianne Wallace moved from the Southern Highlands of NSW to join the Fairview Hills Village board and soon after became the CEO.

On her initial orientation tour she noticed four of the original units (82 units and 16 apartments in the Village) were in a poor state and used only for storage.

Dianne was aware of the plight of over-55 women, who are the fastest growing cohort of homeless due to partner's death, family violence, divorce, separation or simply changes in circumstances. And they are the cohort least likely to have a credit history or any financial backing for 'retirement' – *around that time I heard that there were about 19 'older' women sleeping in cars around Warragul, some with children (Ed.)* – and she asked why could these not be fixed up and made available for the homeless women.

There was initial resistance but, with research, persistence and the engagement/enthusiastic backing of Gary Blackwood and Wayne Farnham, whose family business had been heavily involved in the original village construction, the village community and Board were won over and got behind the project.

Over 50 local tradies volunteered their time and many local retailers donated goods (around \$300,000 in-kind) which finally saw the four refurbished units officially opened on 13th October 2023.

This is seen as a “transition” program for those involved and Quantum in Warragul will provide a case worker (at their expense) to work with the women over 12 to 18 months so they can move into permanent arrangements.

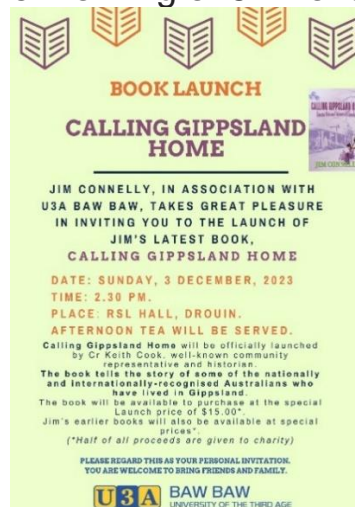
Dianne will be promoting this project to other retirement villages as time progresses and the first three occupants, who will be screened and nominated by Quantum, are due to move in before the end of November.

Congratulations and well done Dianne.



REMINDERS

1. **Christmas Dinner** – let Pauline know you are coming and please pre-pay
2. **Christmas trees** – let Tim know if you would like to order one for 16th December delivery to Drouin Market
3. **Peace Pole** launch on the morning of 6th November in Civic Park, Drouin



A few funnies

A visit to Bunnings?

