

6th December 2023 to 23rd January 2024

PRESIDENT PAULINE's PONDERINGS

- Our **Christmas Dinner** at the Drouin Golf & Country Club **19th December \$40 pp** ... let me know if attending please. **6.30 for 7.00 PM**

Please pre-pay to BSB 633-000 Acc.175 311 851 and reference "*your name Xmas*".

- Unveiling of our **Peace Pole**. Thank you to all Rotarians and friends who attended the unveiling of the Peace Pole. Thank you to Russell Ford for being our MC and for the planning of the ceremony. Thank you to Keith Pretty for unveiling it. The Peace Pole donated by The Rotary Club of Drouin, bears the message "*May Peace Prevail on Earth*" in 10 languages: English, Braille, Mandarin, Dutch, Afrikaans, French, German, Italian, Japanese and Kurnai (*Peace & Tranquility*). We were thrilled to have 16 students, along with their Principals from Drouin Primary and St. Ita's Schools to take part in the Ceremony. If you haven't already visited it in Civic Park Drouin in front of the Children's Playground it is worth a visit and its message of Peace is very relevant today.



- I was very pleased to acknowledge **Keith's 65th year** of Rotary membership. A gentleman, our historian, the 'Father' of Drouin Rotary. His regular and ongoing personal engagement with each member of the club has been much appreciated by all. Also a pleasure to recognise Shane Candappa's 20 year's of membership.



- Some of the many children's books we donated to Lions, originally collected by Terry Blundell, were given away to children at a recent event at Bunnings, Warragul. Very
- The Board's decision to donate **up to \$ 25,000 to WGHS** is being actioned after members' endorsement.
- Polio Koala to be auctioned at the Christmas Dinner as no one guessed the name.
- '**Party in the Park**' on **Australia Day** is being organised by an enthusiastic team. We are keen for all Rotarians to help on the day, if are available.
- Our **Christmas Market December 16th** is well booked by stallholders. It should be another successful event, weather permitting. Come down to Civic Park and join in.
- RC **Warragul's Christmas trees** will be available at December's Drouin Market...\$50 each.
- On behalf of all members, I thank William, Christine, Sam, Grace and the behind-the-scenes Hong Kong Inn staff for all their service and consideration, making our meetings all the more enjoyable.
- The Bike Fellowship held their last ride for 2023 last week and the annual presentation of '*The Clarrie*' for 100% attendance went to Kevin "*What car back?*" Roberts.

ANNIVERSARIES

Between 6/12 & 23/01: William Wong, Helen Ambrose, Karen Howes, Mark Howes, Jo McKechnie, John Franklin, Keith Pretty, Tim Wills, DvL, Russell Ford, Lynne Davine and Jean Haughton celebrate birthdays. Wedding anniversaries are celebrated by President Pauline and Presidential Consort Brian and, by Peter & Linda Konjevic. And members who have joining anniversaries are John Franklin, Colin Gardner and Gary Surman.

DATES for the DIARY

THURSDAY 14th December – de-badging Working Bee - Ambulance Vic station, Darcan Way 10.30 am

SATURDAY 16th December – Drouin Rotary Market

TUESDAY 19th December – CHRISTMAS DINNER at the Drouin Golf & Country Club 6.30 for 7.00 pm

TUESDAY 9th January – Barbeque Get-together in Drouin Civic Park 6.00 for 6.30 pm

TUESDAY 23rd January – Dinner Meeting # 11 at Hong Kong Inn 6.00 for 6.30 pm

FRIDAY 26th January – Party in the Park Australia Day in Civic Park, Drouin

SERVICE

Drouin Rotary Market

TASK	Description of Activity	WHO
Supplies	Meat, bread, eggs, drinks, condiments, cleaning ONIONS PREPERATION	John Tricarico Mike Kelleher
Signs before Market – Advertising No Parking (Friday night)	Banner signs at Town entries	Town Entry: Kevin Roberts Parking area: Ian Haughton
Traffic Signs and A-frames	Saturday AM (6ish) Young St and Carpark entries <i>Kept in Rec Reserve shed.</i>	Ian Haughton
Collect BBQ Trailer	Plus 2 x car fridges, soft drinks, chairs and pergolas/weights	David Proposch
Stallholder Management & Collection of fees		John Tricarico, David Veal Mike Kelleher
Rotary Ambassador	A roving speak to the public role to talk about Rotary and where appropriate the prospect of membership	Sharryn Marshall & Jacqui Veal (Raffle) Pauline Maunder
1st Shift BBQ – 6:30 to 9:30		Cooks: Peter Konjevic & Josh Denehy Server: Tim Wills Cashier: Carol Fenwick Food Health & Safety: Josh Denehy
2nd Shift BBQ – 9:30 to 12:30		Cooks: Brian Maunder & volunteer ???? Server: Lois Ryan Cashier: Dick van Leeuwen Food Health & Safety: Mike Kelleher
Signs after market – collection and return	Town Entry, Parking & A-frames:	Kevin Roberts
Clean, service and return BBQ trailer	Pick up from storage, including filling water tank, replace low/empty gas cylinders so ready for next use	Bill Petschack

Food Bank Deliveries – Rotarians

Drop Off	December 8 th .	December 22 nd .
Drouin – Residentials	Pauline & Brian Josh & Rob C.	Peter & Friend, Carol & Allan Tim
Longwarry	Russell	Russell
Warragul – Residentials	Gwen & Bill Rob & Dick	Pauline & Brian

Ambulance Uniform De-badging

NEXT THURSDAY 14th December from around **10.30 AM** there will be another working bee at the ambo station in Darcan Way. It would be great if more could join in, even if only for a couple of hours. *Bring your own chair.*

BUT, if you can not stay, perhaps you could come and collect a couple of boxes of garments to de-badge at your leisure in front of the TV at home.

PROGRAM – Rotarian Mark Howes – Aged Care

Mark started his career as a registered nurse, subsequently meeting Jo McKechnie and, after a time jointly establishing 'Alliance Care'. In 2003 that organisation opened an aged-care facility in Drouin with 60 aged-care beds, subsequently adding 35 more. That was *Amberley* where many Rotarians have entrusted relatives over the years.

They went on to build the 91-bed *Heritage Manor* in Morwell and the 120-bed *Abbey Gardens* in Warragul. All three were sold to Baptcare in 2019 and Mark headed off to life as a 'farmer' on the Mornington Peninsula.

Mark said that his professional relationship with Jo was truly the greatest part of the aged care experience. They both worked on the basis that the residents in their care always came first. A guiding principle for their facilities was "Would it be good enough for a member of our family?" which helped establish them as favoured locations.

Mark and Jo were also strongly committed to engaging with the resident's family, keeping them informed and involved.



Also essential for their success was training of staff and maintaining a work environment that kept them with the facility. Mark and Jo recruited staff who had limited experience so that they could be trained by them, within their environment. Mark suggested that this led to staff feeling more committed and involved with their facility which, he said, is perhaps a downside of reliance on agency staff for your workforce. Although well qualified and capable, they do not necessarily come to work with any knowledge of or specific commitment to the facility or the residents.

Mark also pointed to the increased weight of 'reporting' "everything", to the point of exhaustion and the difficulty in filling Board of Management positions as two other key issues in the sector now, and increasingly into the future.

Mark thanked Jo for all the great years together and the Rotarians for their friendship and support.

And as a final comment, Mark advised all members to be aware there is a need to "prepare to go into care", personally and family members. Do not leave it for others to make the decisions e.g. after a fall and time in hospital...very common cause of the need to take up care residency.

REMINDERS

1. **Christmas Dinner** – please pre-pay
2. **Summer Recess** – our first get-together in 2024 will be a picnic barbeque at the Civic Park BBQ area near the children's playground from 6.00 pm. We will have our first formal meeting on Tuesday 23rd January in the Hong Kong Inn 6.00 for 6.30 pm

A few (potential) entertaining items



We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes,
But the plural of ox becomes oxen, not oxes.

One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese,
Yet the plural of moose should never be meese.

You may find a lone mouse or a nest full of mice,
Yet the plural of house is houses, not hice.

If the plural of man is always called men,
Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?

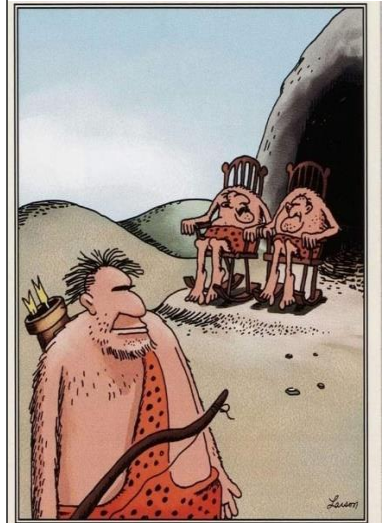
If I speak of my foot and show you my feet,
And if I give you a boot, would a pair be a beet?

If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth,
Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?

Then one may be that, and three would be those,
Yet hat in the plural would never be hose,
And the plural of cat is cats, not cose.

We speak of a brother and also of brethren,
But though we say mother, we never say methren.
Then the masculine pronouns are he, his and him,
But imagine the feminine: she, shis and shim!

Let's face it - English is a crazy language.



'Look at that! ... Give me the good ol' days when a man carried a club, walked semi-erect, and had a brain the size of a walnut.'

