

Guests

Lisa Harkin – Principal of Marist-Sion College

Violet Pyle – Student and Guest Speaker who has walked the Kokoda Trail.

Carol Fenwick – guest of Pauline Maunder

Pauline Maunder's daughter Meagan and lots of Partners of the female variety.

Mike & Helen Playdon, Roger's brother and sister-in-law.

Secretary's Notes

Drouin Secondary College Breakfast Club -volunteers needed. About 1.5 hours for two people .

Require OHS Induction and Working with Children certification.

Committee for the Market: Judy Alexander is coordinating a committee to work on better sharing of the load for the organisation of the Market.

Announcements:

President Roger:

Thanked members for the messages of support about their son in the USA who has been ill.

Tony's Trek – coming through Drouin on Sun 12th Mar. Members might choose to walk from the memorial in Drouin at 2:30 pm to Warragul with Tony and enjoy a BBQ at the Warragul RSL. Funds



Director of Projects Bill Petschack-

Working Bee to paint Market Rotunda on Weds 15th Mar at 9:30 am

Two additional seats also need painting.

BYO Paint Brush if possible and your old clothes.

The Mouse Trap: Glynn Fankhauser is seeking expressions of interest in going to see this famous production in mid-April.

Golden Whistler Reserve Community Planting

Day see the Flier attached to the email with the Bulletin.

Friends of Drouin Trees FODT Book Launch -Flora Fauna and Fungi Mon 3rd April

5:30 pm Keith Pretty soundshell



Volunteers Needed See list of Events in Separate Attachment

Farmworld. Fri 24th March to Sun 26th Mar.

Lists were circulated seeking Volunteers.

Gary Scanlon is handling the **Car Parking** and **Pedestrian Traffic Management**

Kevin Roberts is handling the **Drivers of People Moving Tractor and Trailer.**

On each Shift Kevin needs 2 drivers and 2 assistants to manage the safe entry and exit of passengers .

Volunteers also needed to assist at the Rodeo on Sat 25th March from 6:15 to 9:30 pm

WE NEED YOU

This week's Program. INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



International Women's Day is celebrated annually on 8 March as a global day focussing on the women's rights movement as well as addressing and celebrating the achievements of women.

International Women's Day has grown in prominence and reach, touching women in every corner of the world. The growing international women's movement has helped make International Women's Day a central point for action, to build support for women's rights and their full participation in the economy, politics, community and in everyday life.

In March 8, in 1908, women workers in the needle trades marched through New York City's Lower East Side to protest child labour, sweatshop working conditions, and demand women's suffrage.

In 1910 a second International Conference of Working Women was held in Copenhagen. A woman named Clara Zetkin (Leader of the 'Women's Office' for the Social Democratic Party in Germany) tabled the idea of an International Women's Day. She proposed that every year in every country there should be a celebration on the same day - a Women's Day - to press for their demands. The conference of over 100 women from 17 countries, representing unions, socialist parties, working women's clubs - and including the first three women elected to the Finnish parliament - greeted Zetkin's suggestion with unanimous approval and thus International Women's Day was the result. And to be marked annually on **March 8**.

In 1914, further women across Europe held rallies to campaign against the war and to express women's solidarity. For example, in London in the United Kingdom there was a march from Bow to Trafalgar Square in support of women's suffrage on March 8, 1914. **Sylvia Pankhurst** was arrested in front of Charing Cross station on her way to speak in Trafalgar Square.

Australia's first International Women's Day was held in 1928 in Sydney, the next year Brisbane was included and then for Melbourne in 1931. International Women's Day was marked for a first time by the United Nations in 1975.

2023 and beyond - The world has witnessed a significant change and attitudinal shift in both women's and society's thoughts about women's equality and emancipation. We now have female astronauts and prime ministers, school girls are welcomed into university, women can work and have a family, women have real choices.

And so each year the world inspires women and celebrates their achievements and the future for girls is bright, equal, safe, and rewarding.”

Resources:

<https://www.internationalwomensday.com/Activity/15586/The-history-of-IWD>

<https://unwomen.org.au/get-involved/international-womens-day/about/>

Welcome to International Women's Day and especially to Women in Rotary.

In 1987 the US Supreme Court ruled that Rotary Clubs may not exclude women from membership on the basis of gender. By 1990 there were 20,200 female Rotarians worldwide. In 2022 30% of members are women. Together we can make the world a better place.

55 year old Jennifer Jones, a Canadian, is the first female Rotary International President. Her husband Nic, a physician, mum, dad, brother and sister-in law are all Rotarians. I watched an interview with her at the Rotary Conference - she is warm, engaging, outgoing and a great communicator and connector. As a young radio reporter in the 80's she covered Rotary meetings where all members were men. Fast forward to 1996 when she was invited to join, she realized she had found her home in Rotary.

Jennifer aims to advance the need in Rotary for greater Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. She has been promoting Rotary's Global Health Programs by visiting Rotary health workers in places like Pakistan, Uganda and Zambia. In August she was in Pakistan interacting with children whilst they received their Polio vaccinations. She also visited Zambia where Rotary is supporting a malaria-free community. Jennifer tells the story of meeting a father called Timothy with his young son Nathan, who had just received medicine from the community health worker which saved his life. Unfortunately, his other son a few years earlier didn't make it to the clinic. His father had carried him on his back for eight kilometres, but the boy died before the clinic was reached. This program is now saving lives as 2500 volunteering health 'workers are being trained to diagnose and treat malaria.

In Uganda, Jennifer shared the dire statistics on girl's education. Most girls don't get through Primary school — many being sold into child marriage to pay for food for their families. Our work in Rotary is about empowering and enabling girls and women to receive health care and education, as these are basic human rights.

Worldwide, hundreds of projects are taking place across all Rotary's Areas of Focus. These are making a meaningful and often life-saving difference.

JENNIFER'S THEME FOR THIS YEAR IS "IMAGINE."

Lisa Harkin is the current Principal of Marist-Sion College and has been since the start of 2022. Lisa has had many years of teaching experience, both nationally and internationally, and leads by example with fortitude, respect and spirituality.

Lisa is paving the way for future female leaders by showcasing belief, empathy and support in her role as first female Principal of Marist-Sion College.

Violet Pyle – Violet’s Kokoda Trail Experience:

Violet is studying Year 12 at Marist-Sion College. Typifying her excellent leadership skills, Violet is co-captain of the College for 2023 and already has addressed students and staff in assemblies.

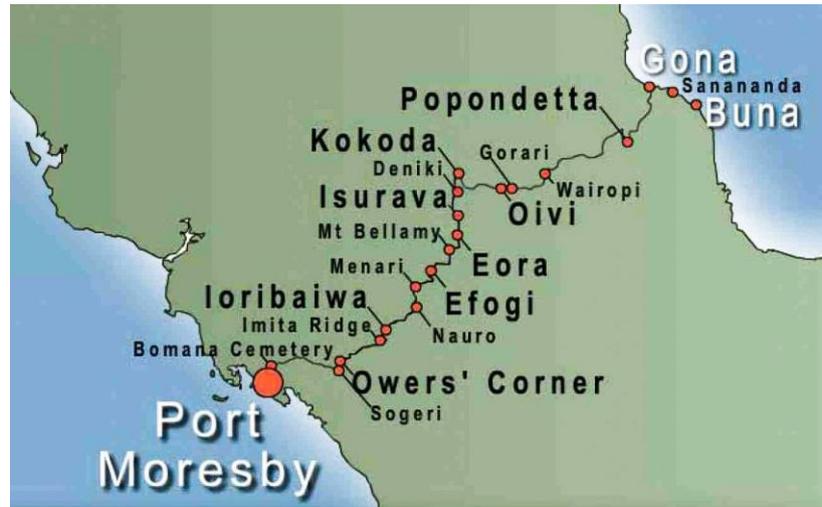
Violet exemplifies the new generation of female leaders in our community with her affable, diligent and determined manner to not only her studies, but also to her job outside of school as well as to her role as this year’s Captain.

In 2022, Violet had the memorable opportunity to travel to Kokoda and tonight, will share her experiences with us all.

Violet's Kokoda Trail Experience:

The text of Violet's talk is attached as a separate File.

Earlier this year I was fortunate enough to be elected for the George Collins Kokoda award. George Collins was a young local boy who fought in Papua New Guinea in World War 2 along the Kokoda trail. The Kokoda trail holds way more significance than this country gives it credit for and it is only through this experience that you are able to understand what truly happened during this time. The Kokoda trail is a 140km track that travels from Ower's corner, just out of the city of Port Moresby all the way to the town of Kokoda. Within these 140ks are about 2200m of elevation, numerous dangerous river crossings and all the while is consumed by strenuous heat and unbearable humidity.



We travelled in a group of about 75. There were 25 trekkers, 10 of those trekkers were just like us, wide eyed, 16year olds, ignorant of the journey we were about to make. The other 15 consisted of many different people who had come from all over Australia and one from Sweden to take part in this pilgrimage. We were just everyday people, who in truth had no idea what we were expecting. The other 50 people consisted of our porters, our chefs, our medics, to ensure that we were delivered to safety.

Violet talked of the physical and mental challenge of the trek as well as the beauty of the jungle and terrain through which they walked.

She also talked of the emotion of trying to imagine what the soldiers (and her own great grandfather) endured.

One of the most memorable moments along this journey was the war memorial Isurava. Whilst the scenery is breathtaking, and the stones that greet us read: mate-ship, endurance, courage and sacrifice.



at

Anyone who has visited a large War Cemetery cannot help but pause and think of the sacrifices made and lives lost in war.

Violet found the Kokoda experience to be emotionally and physically challenging and something she will remember forever.



Upcoming Programs:

Date	Description
21 st March	Pauline Maunder has organised a Speaker from Disaster Aid Australia
4 th April	

Report from District Conference at Cape Schanck

The team from the Rotary Club of Drouin



District 9820 Conference

The penultimate (big word for second last) District 9820 conference – Leadership in Action - was held at Cape Schanck Resort on 25/26 February with around 250 attending. On July 1st, 2025, this district merges with eastern metro district 9810.

The day commenced with a presentation from the inspirational siblings Julia and Jordy Kay who spoke of ‘Great Wrap’ their business, built from scratch and gaining international recognition producing potato-based, bio-degradable cling wrap. On the horizon is the development of silage wrap. <https://greatwrap.com.au/>

Other speakers from both Rotary and beyond included Kate Roffey, President of Melbourne ‘Demons’ Football Club, Kevin Sheedy and, Samuel Johnson (Love My Sister) <https://www.loveyoursister.org/> whose emotional presentation left not a dry eye in the audience.

The evening dinner & dance party was themed a “Beach Party” and Drouin Rotarians attending made the effort to look the part. However, Sorrento Rotary Club took the prize with their “Still Looking for Harold” lifesaving outfits.

David Proposch talked about the quality of the ~~feed~~ speakers at the Conference and what a great ~~social event~~ learning experience it was. Tim was seen with Kate Roffe (President of the Melbourne Football Club) trying to get finals tickets.



Program Groups

April

Group 4

Gary Scanlon

Ray Howe

Russell Ford

Glynn Fankhauser

William Wong

Max Hine

May

Group 5

John Tricarico

Ian Brooks

Ian Bennett

Keith Pretty

Gary Surman

Request from Bulletin Editor:

When you make at Rotary that you would like placed in the Bulletin can you please provide a copy to Ian Haughton. ianhaughton@dcsi.net.au

That way your announcement can be ACCURATELY included in the Bulletin.

I will accept handwritten notes provided I can Read them.

Our Lucky Dip Raffle

raised \$175.00 towards the Rotary Foundation Disaster Relief Appeal for the Turkey/Syria Earthquakes & Australian/New Zealand Floods.

Contributions from all Clubs will assist member-led projects that provide supplies and health care for people who have been affected.

Congratulations to winners:

Ian Bennett, Mike Kelleher, Suzy & Shane Candappa, Russell Ford and Ian Symons .

Enjoy spending the Vouchers.

Much appreciation to Lois & Maggie for assisting me and to everyone for your support. Bob V.

Thoughts From President Roger:

It's amazing what a woman can do if only she ignores what men tell her she can't.

Author Carol K. Carr