

19th March – 2nd April 2024

PRESIDENT PAULINE's PONDERINGS

Last Tuesday 's Meeting was a lovely night, acknowledging International Women's Day, and we welcomed our female guests - wives, partners, daughters and friends.

International Women's Day started in 1911 and continues to strive for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

Rotary has supported and inspired leaders in our organisation and continues working to help educate and improve economic outcomes for women in developing countries.

We live in a world where many women have been able to reach their goals without barriers, but we can still do better, by working together we can all make a difference.

The work for full equality and inclusion continues.



A huge *Thank You* to all Rotarians, Partners and Friends for your attendance and commitment to filling the roster for Farm World. What an amazing effort, especially by our Team Leader Kevin Roberts.

Next Tuesday April 2nd - 6:00 for 6:30 Drouin Golf and Country Club.

ANNIVERSARIES

Between 19/03 & 02/04: Colin Gardner celebrated his birthday on 20th and Diane Cook will celebrate hers on 2nd April.

DATES for the DIARY

TUESDAY 2nd April	70 th Anniversary Dinner at Drouin Golf & Country Club
FRIDAY 5th April	Foodbank deliveries
TUESDAY 9th April	De-badging working bee at the Ambulance Victoria Drouin Branch, Darcan Way
TUESDAY 9th April	BOARD Meeting at the Hong Kong Inn -- 5.00 pm
TUESDAY 16th April	18 th Dinner Meeting at the Hong Kong Inn
FRIDAY 19th April	Foodbank deliveries

SERVICE & PROJECTS

2024 Farm World Field Days: A great success. Under the leadership of Kevin, and Mike with the people-moving tractors, thirty-six Drouin Rotarians, two former Drouin Rotarians, two partners, two 'Friends' of Drouin Rotary and one Assistant Governor donated in excess of 280 hours in support of this club.

Thank you to all who gave of their time so generously.

I know it is not a really good idea to single any individuals out for special mention, as many of our members donated many hours over a number of days ... but special mention must go to some who gave way above the call of duty ... *but I'll leave that to Kevin.*

Ambulance uniform De-badging: now be held **every second Tuesday of each month**, and the next is **9th April** – 10.00 to 2.00 at the Drouin Ambulance Station, Darcan Way. *If you like, come down and collect a box for de-badging at home.*

Longwarry Lions Foodbank Delivery Roster: Russell is again preparing the roster for the morning of Friday 5th and Friday 19th April. There is always room for more help, even if only occasionally. A little over two hours of your time providing "Service above Self" ... *that's rather a catchy motto wouldn't you agree?*

Drouin Secondary College Breakfast Club: Thank you Pauline & Brian, David & Pauline, Roger & Jane, Lois and Judy and, John T for your generous support this month. Happy to involve anyone else who is interested and can make time in May....or any future month.

PROGRAM – 19th March Carolyn Turner – ‘The History of the Warragul Gazette’



Chair Carol Fenwick was very pleased to introduce Carolyn Turner - a woman of great drive, tenacity and enthusiasm for hard work. She was Chief Editor of the Warragul & Drouin Gazette and has a great passion for region and community. She is also a person with a great sense of humour.

Carolyn began “Allow me to begin by saying, in response to an earlier report and particularly on a day celebrating International Women’s Day (IWD) that Drouin Rotary has always staffed (not “manned”) the gate at Farm World and, given that ‘International Men’s Day’ is every day, I am pleased to celebrate IWD.”

The History of the ‘Gazette’ a dot-point summary

125 years last July, Albert Harvey founder as eyesight forced career change, his brother offered journalist expertise, three shire’s advertising was vital support, Ladies’ column noted - “*T’is temper that kills love*”, 1890’s major town was Warragul – home of the original Gazette office, paper included 8-page supplement and added to 4 pages printed locally, earned early praise.

1914 - reporting on WW1- nurses requiring socks for injured soldiers, very general in reporting losses at war, Nov 1918 - Germans surrender: “This will mean the saving of much blood”.

Bert Harvey, founder’s son sold to James Vincent Gaynor from Drouin.

Women’s column put back in paper -- *How to bring up a sensitive child?: Mix with other children, play sport, when everyone makes mistakes, he will learn he is the same as others and lose his self consciousness.* Sport played prominent part in paper.

WW2 - Full front page: Robert Menzies’ - Declaration of War Feb 1941, return on leave from HMAS Sydney, Feb 2 - listed sailors lost in HMAS Sydney, Escape at Crete - lived 7 weeks with locals, Aug 1945 - Warragul celebrates peace

Due to poor health – James sold to Keith and Brian Hopkins, Keith started his career at 17 years of age and his wife and sister ran Leongatha’s Chronicle during the war.

1954 - edition marking Queen’s visit to Warragul Showgrounds, First visit of reigning monarch, Prime Minister also there

New office - 1965 bought the Trafalgar paper to add the Guardian into the Gazette
Keith worked 90 hours a week and could do every job, Retired in 1980, Died 1995

Centenary - Hopkins family bought back the paper
Gazette first to publish winners of Melbourne Cup

Some memorable highlights in Carolyn’s reporting: covered floods of 1934 floods and difficulty of getting the information, 1962 bridge collapse, Warragul Post Office pulled down in 1966, 1974 - Gough Whitlam at Warragul Field Day, 1989 - Bob Hawke, Lionel Rose and role of sport in regional papers 1968 page 1 of Gazette - welcome for Champion, 1990 - Kathy Watt cyclist photo sent by rail via train driver for paper, 1944 Parker Jean fell from bicycle due to three dogs - the dogs were shot !!, March 2022 – Covid: Home schooling, Masks worn in all photos - unable to recognise.

News Corp closed over 100 newspapers, Journalism has changed, Independents thriving in regional areas, 72-page paper today. “*Best public asset is a local paper reporting on local events!*”

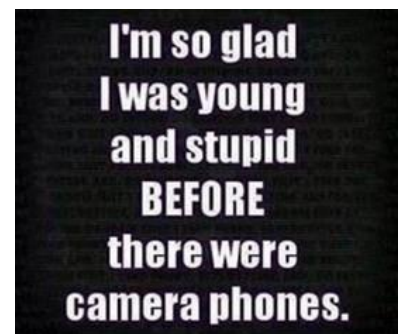
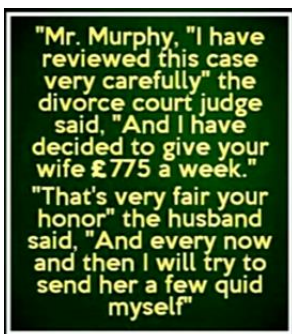
Drouin's Recycled Playground officially launched.

Rotarian Wayne Jenkins, Coordinator of RORP (*Rotary Overseas Relocated Playgrounds*) has reported: "We harvested this out of Civic Park, Drouin back in January 2021.....Sri Lanka has been hit pretty hard with economic and health issues over the last few years, hence the time delay in re-installation. This was opened just last week at Rajabima in Sri Lanka (via the Columbo Rotary Club). As you can see it's a big deal for the local community, particularly the kids."



And then.....

- I've just finished reading a book about the world's greatest basement It was a best seller.
- My laptop caught pneumonia apparently because I left the Windows open.
- I thought swimming with dolphins was expensive until I went swimming with sharks It cost me an arm and a leg.
- The word "incorrectly" is spelled incorrectly in every dictionary.



And finally...

Gordon & Gwenda Williams with
Janny van Leeuwen at the 50th
Anniversary Civic Reception

