

18th July – 1st August 2023

PRESIDENT PAULINE's PONDERINGS

- Bunyip-Garfield Rotary Club have their Changeover and 40th Anniversary Dinner on 2nd August. A number of Drouin members will be attending. If you would like to join them, call Secretary Tim.
- On 17th July Council officially launched the new interpretive signage in Civic Park, Drouin. John Franklin spoke on John Grubb and Keith Pretty and sons unveiled the Sound Shell signage. Great to see how much Drouin Rotary has contributed to the park, starting with *Parks&Gardens* boss Rotarian Leo Boeyen.
- Attended 85th Anniversary celebration of RC Warragul at the Warragul Rotary Park with Secretary Tim. The club also passed on a painting by Dr Aunty Eileen Harrison to Baw Baw Shire Council. It is the basis of design of the 'Indigenous Art Garden' within the park being constructed by the Rotary club.



- Slade Baylis** became our newest member: Slade and his wife Tessa are a young couple who moved here around 18 months ago. They are both wanting to connect and contribute to the community. Tessa is one of our market stall holders and this is one of the reasons why Slade decided to explore Rotary as a positive way for him to establish his community involvements. They have two children and Slade is a Senior Sales & Website Executive at Micron 21's data centre in Kilsyth South. Slade's interests include Gaming, Woodworking, Making Music, Drawing and Programming.
- Thank you to Ian Symons and Brian Maunder for their work lifting the old linoleum off the floor at *The Crossing* in preparation of laying a new covering. Saved the organisation at least \$500. Well done.

ANNIVERSARIES

In this period: Pauline Proposch and Rex Greenland celebrate **birthdays**.

DATES for the DIARY

SATURDAY 29th July from 9am - RC Casey 'Antique & Collectible Fair' - Pakenham Cultural Centre

WEDNESDAY 2nd August – RC Bunyip-Garfield Changeover & 40th Anniversary Dinner, Bunyip Hall \$35 pp

TUESDAY 8th August – Dinner Meeting - HKInn 6.30 PM **PROGRAM:** Jessie Harman's 'Top 10 Tips...'

WEDNESDAY 16th August – AmbulanceVic *De-Dadging* at Darcan Way facility: 10.00 AM till 2.00 PM

TUESDAY 22nd August - Dinner (partners) Meeting - HKInn 6.30 PM **PROGRAM:** Marika Furnell - 'Lifeline'

WEDNESDAY 30th August - Dinner (partners) at *Food4Thought Restaurant*, Drouin Secondary College

WEST GIPPSLAND CLUSTER News

Cluster de-badging working bee at Ambulance Victoria's Drouin Branch facility in Darcan Way, Drouin from **10.00 AM on Wednesday 16th August**. *Volunteers should bring their own chair and their un-picking device.* The more the merrier....Rotarians, partners, friends.

ZONE 8 & ROTARY INTERNATIONAL News: August - **Membership & New Club Development Month**

- Zone 8 has provided all members with an update on Regionalisation through an email last Tuesday. In case you missed it and would like to learn more on progress to the 1st January launch, go to <https://creatingtomorrowrotary.org/latest-updates/july-update>
- RI President Ian McNally reminds us that "Research shows that performing acts of kindness is an effective step any of us can take to protect our wellbeing."
- SEPTEMBER** is Rotary's **Basic Education and Literacy Month**



ACTIVITY Captured



Playdon at play



Rotarians celebrate new signs in Civic Park



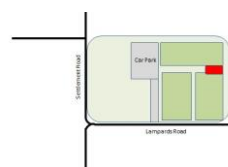
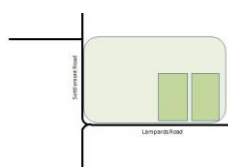
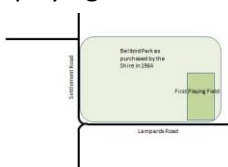
Lois' poem



Ian cleans up

PROGRAM – Don Kelly on Bellbird Park - 40 YEAR ANNIVERSARY and much more

Buln Buln Shire Council purchased a piece of swampy farmland at the edge of town in 1964 and built a field, initially used by the *Drouin Marching Band* and the hockey club. Four years later the 'Drouin Hawks Softball Team' was formed and needed somewhere to train and play. And so, through the enthusiasm and hard work of a number of locals, the sports "precinct" was soon after born a.k.a. a slashed paddock with pan toilets for players and spectators. Development of an "association" called for a proper player fields and then the subsequent interest from junior football led to another field and a small change room with connected toilets. And finally, in these early stages, a carpark, led by the Bellbird Park Committee, chaired by Don Kelly. 'Soccer' development, and John Lieshout's knowledge of explosives, led to a fifth playing field and social rooms.



When the new Shire Engineer (Gary Surman) arrived in town, he enthusiastically promoted the need for an indoor stadium. In March 1979 Council was approached to initiate a development on farm land over Settlement Road which, under the enthusiastic guidance of Keith Pretty, was purchased, with a land exchange involved. A community committee was formed and Don Kelly was elected chair.

Initial approaches to State government achieved little but, subsequently a commitment of \$250,000 (over ten years) was secured. \$60,000 was raised from the community, with "outstanding support" coming from the Drouin Lions and Apex clubs and, the Drouin & District Race Club. But the Buln Buln Shire Council deserves full credit for being the principal backers.

On the 24th July 1983, the first indoor sports pavillion in this area was opened and Bellbird Park was quickly fully committed to a diversity of users in sports and community activities.



OFFICIAL OPENING 24 JULY 1983

Subsequent expansions saw a BMX track, a second stadium, a meeting/social room for Gippsland Unpires and the Drouin Cricket Club, a new playing field, cricket facilities, new carparks and much more. And extensive works continue today, particularly on the original site, notably the synthetic hockey pitch...with more on the way



BELLBIRD PARK COMPLEX

BOOKINGS and APOLOGIES

Members are reminded that they need to make contact with William Wong 0418 391 586 not later than 11.00 AM on the Tuesday of our meeting if you are not going to attend, or if you will have a guest.

You will be charged if no apology has been received.



PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT PREVENTION



DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT



WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE



MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH



BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY



COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



ENVIRONMENT

ROTARY RIDERS

I dips me lid to the Rotary mob that cycles every week,
They persist in spite of awful weather, as fitness is what they seek.
Out they drive to Longwarry, bikes in the boot of the car,
Cos the roads are flatter there you see, and it isn't very far.

What a hardy lot they are, rugged up against the cold,
Lycra, helmets, gloves and coats, glorious to behold.
Fourteen K's in all they told me ... 7 there and back.
Pedalling hard and keeping up, staying on the track.

Legs pumping up and down like pistons, and round and round as well,
Tho the batteries help a few of them,.... perhaps I shouldn't tell.
Yes, some have bikes with motors, that helps when you are old.
Now the cat's out of the bag, perhaps I shouldn't have told.

Too late now the deed is done, my apologies everyone!

Dick sits there like royalty and rides with alarming speed,
It's the motor of course that does all the work, his truly, trusty steed.
The little team of electric cyclists enjoys every turn of the wheel,
A recent advocate of the joys of the motor is Mr David Veal.
There's also Bill and Roger, Jane and Peter Konjevic,
Whose bikes are quick, look very slick, zoom along and do the trick.

NOW, I dips me lid again once more, to the Human Powered Team,
Who pedal hard and still persist, tho weather is extreme.
There they battle, on their own, no battery in sight,
Legs keep turning, lungs keep burning, they'll sleep well tonight.

Many names are on this list, there's Max, Ian, Kev and Bill.
But that's not all, there's more to come and then there's some more still,
There's Gary and there's ladies four, a most impressive list,
With Jackie, Glenda, Julia and Gail, hope there's no-one that I missed!

That's the full contingent, but they weren't all there that day,
There were only five who rode their bikes, I really have to say,
Some like me joined them just for brekkie on that cold and wintery day.

Ian offered me a bike on loan if I'd like to ride in style,
But I really think I'm past it, tho I'll ponder it a while.
I'm into table tennis and smashing that little white ball,
But this is about you bikies and not about me at all.

I think the highlight of the bike ride is at the very end,
When they all get off their bikes and on Soul Sisters they descend,
To have a hearty breakfast and a steaming cup of brew,
And talk about the week that was and what is still to do.
Until the next ride comes around and they hope it never ends.
A super morning's ride and a good chat with great friends.

Lois Ryan



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