

# C O N T A C T

**MEETING – 16<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022**

## **Rotary Pledge**



## **Welcome**

New President Vera Maljevac welcomed members to the lunch time meeting of which there was 18 attendees.



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President Vera highlighted a few matters including:

## **Regionalisation Project**

By now you would have heard about Regionalisation via the several articles in RDU, social media or websites. Things have changed as the preparation has progressed and previously held opinions may be inaccurate, so ensure you are up to date by finding out more.

There are ample opportunities to learn more about Regionalisation. Learn the facts from fellow Rotarians in your district with a club visit, attend a webinar or via a recorded presentation link.

The basic information is that RI has approved Rotary Zone 8 (Australia, NZ and Pacific Islands) to engage in a regional program to explore opportunities for Rotary in the future.

The Regionalisation pilot is a proposal to explore new ways of doing things in Rotary with the aim of reducing duplication and saving money. It seeks the opportunity to try a few things over the next few years and assess how these work- good or bad. This vote is to explore some options and help create the Rotary of the future.

In a few years after the pilot is completed there will be an opportunity to vote again on the positive changes to become permanent. This vote is to give things a go and explore some options. Take control of your Rotary future.

The timeline is related to a vote by each club in September where Presidents will be making the vote on behalf of your club to proceed with the Regionalisation pilot. It is important to understand what is being planned so your club can make an informed decision.

- Every club vote will be counted.
- Not voting will count as a No vote- so it's important to vote.
- The pilot will only progress with a positive vote by more than two-thirds of clubs

This is also the place for any Rotarian to have your say (My Say button on the main page). Ideas and comments are encouraged. **More information including a Fact sheet can be found at the website <https://creatingtomorrowrotary.org/>**

## **CONTACT**

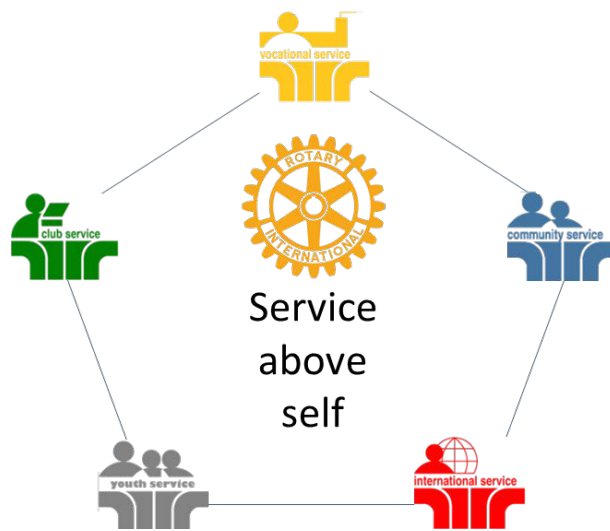
Another editor is required. Maybe a new member might be interested?

The current editor John Odgers is due for a break, anyone with some free time would be appreciated!

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## CLUB COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Rotary Club of Essendon operates via five (5) avenues of service: Community, International, Vocational, Youth & Sustainability and Club Services.



The following are reports from each committee chair updating the status of each committee year to date:



### CLUB SERVICE – Veronica O’Sullivan

#### Club Roster

There is now a club roster for all members to follow, please don't forget to do your part helping the club. It is important also for each meeting that at least 10 x visitor badges are placed at the front desk for visitors.

#### Alternate Venue

The Board is currently investigating venue options i.e. Windy Hill. Currently there are three (3) other Rotary Clubs conducting meetings at the venue which has ample parking and storage options.

#### Better RSVP please

It's tough organising meetings at the best of times, even harder for the meals for the meetings. It would be appreciated if members could book their attendance at meetings a lot earlier than leaving it the "day before"!

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 **COMMUNITY – Christine Hilbert**



**Moonee Valley City Council Careers and Leadership Program.  
Rotary Club of Essendon Member's Visit.**

**The Shed-Wingate Avenue Community Centre  
Wednesday 21st of September 12pm to 1pm**

An opportunity for Migrant and Refugee Women to showcase their food and business ideas, and explore ways Club members may provide assistance and information to help start and or promote businesses and careers.

This is also an opportunity for the women to practice pitching their ideas. This is a great hands on project for club members. It would be great to be well represented. Please let Cathy Nicou know if you will be attending. Contact details: Cathy Nicou [cathynicou@icloud.com](mailto:cathynicou@icloud.com) or Mobile: 0425 728 782.

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## **It's Bunnings Sausage Sizzle time again!**

We have been allocated an incredible day and we are sure to make mega bucks!  
But we need YOU to make it work.

Bunnings Maribyrnong has graciously given us the prime day of Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2022. It will be a huge day as people will be doing their last-minute shopping for Christmas and needing a quick snag and drink with the kids to keep their energy up so we are sure to get a lot of customers.

We need to set up a roster and as we are acutely aware that we may also be doing some last-minute pre-Christmas jobs we have made the roster in 2 hour shifts. You are more than welcome to sign up for two shifts – or more – if you are able and willing.

The roster will be coming to your email inbox soon so make sure you check for it, secure your shift/s and get it back to me asap.

This promises to make us thousands of dollars but it cannot happen without all members supporting it. Your club and your favourite project needs YOU!

Contact Tony DeFazio for any queries. [Tony.defazio55@gmail.com](mailto:Tony.defazio55@gmail.com) M 0419 750 989

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## **INTERNATIONAL – Tony Defazio**



### **PURPOSE**

International Service encompasses efforts to expand Rotary's humanitarian reach around the world; through Rotary's avenues of services and aligning with the Rotary Foundations areas of focus, the clubs in our district are supported to research, design, implement and review projects globally. 🌍 This is what our club has been doing for many years in helping those less fortunate overseas

This year's committee comprises myself as chair, Richard Lawrence, Peter Condos Fong Loong, Nola Spicer, Tim Anderson, Peter Haleseh, and with special support and guest appearance from Shirley Kuk

### **Financials**

We have some \$200,000 for Myanmar and \$25,000 for Ethiopia in investment accounts with Bendigo Bank Balanced Fund (Sandridge Trustees).

There is also some \$15,500 with RAWCS that needs to be spent on education in Myanmar and a further \$400 in RAWCS to be spent on medical equipment/supplies.

So we are committed to projects in Myanmar, Philippines and Ethiopia.

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## UPDATE ON MYANMAR

Richard Lawrence has been the mover and shaker in connecting with Myanmar and has been over and led delegations and we thank him for his continuing commitment.



## Children's Home

Road into the property completed allows 12-month access which previously was not possible during the wet season.

Since December of last year, they have been able to construct some dormitory type buildings at the farm and this has allowed them to move from their previous rented building to the farm which they own themselves and removed the burden of rent.

They now have 34 children in care and they are able to grow their own vegetables and fruits (bananas and pineapples etc...) and this all reduces the costs on the organisation immensely. This was always the plan for the resulting building the wet season road into the farm.



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They have plans for a fishpond to grow fish to eat also. Richard Lawrence on his next visit to Myanmar will see how things are progressing and what other projects we can potentially look at.

## **Step-In-Step-Up Group**

This organisation operates in Yangon in the poorer “ghetto” parts of the suburban areas over the river. There is a great need to protect children from “people smugglers” who prey on the poorer families and who ultimately use the children for human organ selling into India and China where they can make massive amounts of money.



The organisation which is organised by a South African lady named Jackie Appel has grown enormously during Covid and have now taken over a local school for their vocational training programs. The training includes:

- Hospitality and Banqueting training
- Sewing and clothes making
- Trainee Chefs
- Health Care Aid workers
- Agriculture/ Horticulture 101 training
- First Aid Training
- Baby and Childcare workers
- Office and administration training
- Financial literacy
- Retail worker training
- Travel and Tourism training

Being based in a ghetto area the organisation aims at training the local community in village clean up, hygiene, emergency relief and local sanitation improvements.



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The training education programs are short and specific and the whole idea is to get young people into work and earning money in attempt to help their families as well avoid the clutches of the people smugglers. RCE International Committee has supported this group in a very small way on our last visit to Myanmar in 2020, donating \$2500.

## **Yangon General Hospital – Anaesthesia Dept**

RCE has supplied on two previous years Blood Oxygen Testers or Life box Pulse Oximeters as they call them to the Yangon General Hospital – Anaesthesia Department. Last visit in 2020 we donated 200 of these small but vital machines which are used all over Myanmar.

The number we donated seems large, however the need is far greater. They need at least 500 more as they are sharing the current number between about 50 large and small regional hospitals throughout Myanmar. The last two times we supplied the Oximeters Richard and co “muled” the machines into Myanmar in their luggage so as to get them through the Myanmar Customs system in a quick and timely manner. 200 Oximeters supplied last time would save over 5000 lives! For only cost around USD \$50 each.

## **NEXT STEPS**

The IC through Richard will put forward a proposal to the RCE board for a Royce and Jean Abbey scholarship grant of US \$10,000 to help pay for training in addition funding for 500 oxygen testers and egg machines. We will also consider the use of the outstanding RAWCS funds.

## **ROTARY CLUB OF BALWYN CENTENARY GRANTS**

Proceeds from Camberwell Market

Joint project with RC of Leeton Central to assist Bahay Tuluyan a children’s rights organization in the Philippines.

Grant request \$50,000.

A big thank you to Shirley for developing and preparing the proposal and application

The project will refurbish and equip an existing house to become a place for healing and recovery for children in need of special protection, ‘Tala Camp and Eco-Retreat’. Bahay Tuluyan, a children’s rights organization in the Philippines, works with children who have experienced abuse, violence, and neglect. It aims to help these children and their families to recover from their experiences so they can live happy, healthy lives. Each year at least 500 children and youth access Bahay Tuluyan’s various services.

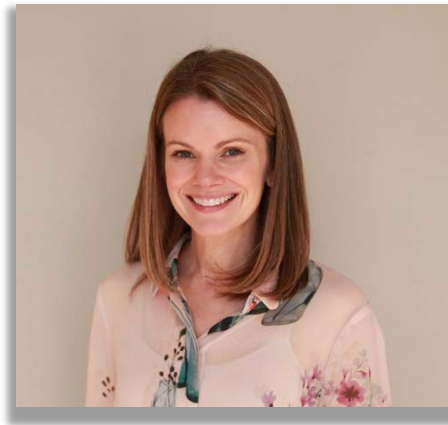
Bahay Tuluyan has been gifted a house on a 1-hectare property for its work with children and young people. Bahay Tuluyan’s dream is to turn the property into a camp and eco-retreat where children and families can

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undergo healing and therapeutic activities. However, in order to be safe and appropriate for use the house needs to be refurbished and repaired.



**VOCATIONAL – Joanne Westover**



### **Essendon Rotary Club LinkedIn page**

Kunal to create the shell of the page and send to all for comment. Use Rotary Imagine banner and ERC logo etc. Once page is created, we will discuss who/how content is to be uploaded going forward at next meeting.

### **Rotary meeting to be held at the Maribyrnong Bowls Club**

One of the Rotary dinner meetings to be held at the Maribyrnong Bowls club. Either in Sept or Oct. A few members have already confirmed they can make/bring food dishes. Irene will provide wine for the event, plus a case to raffle. Will also be other raffle prizes. We also have some beer/soft drinks/water from MVAS.



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Waiting for Lisa to confirm date and then the Vocational committee to organise dinner. It will be a fundraiser as all funds will go toward Club projects as no catering/venue costs.

Committee members raised concerns about raising funds from our own members.

## **'Hire a Rotarian' Project**

Proposal to launch a website which will be a marketing platform for Rotarian's vocations/businesses and also properties available for holiday rental.

Kunal to send Irene relevant details requested asap. Irene will produce draft business plan and send to committee members and Roger Leask for comment. Business Plan to be finalised by mid-August so that it can be submitted for consideration at the next Board meeting.

## **Visits to interesting businesses**

Look at organising vocational visits to the following organisations this year:

- Qantas training facility (Michael Portelli)
- Digital Ink Technologies (Michael Mahoney)
- Ryman Healthcare's new Raelene Boyle Retirement Village (Irene)
- William Angliss College (Susan Nippard)

Where possible, we will try to organise refreshments or meal etc. and raise funds for the Club.



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## Interesting speaker suggestions

- Dr Frank Davis (US resolution 21)  
Topic [Agenda 21 :: Sustainable Development Knowledge](#)
- Javier Rojas (previous owner of McDonalds on Keilor Rd for many years) and about to build and open a new chain of Mexican restaurants.
- Stuart Hayes (Stuart Hayes Leadership)
- Melbourne Airport
- Manyung Gallery (MVAS 2022 sponsor) art appreciation/investment
- MNG Lawyers – estate planning
- Vice President Port Melbourne Life Saving Club (ex head of Vic Police -Road Trauma)
- Sergeants from Brimbank Road Traffic – Andy Oakley and Bill Joannidis. Andy is now a celebrity as he appears on Chanel 7s Highway Patrol and is also very funny - Irene
- Access the Speakers bank (Rotarians from other clubs talking about their projects)

It was noted that speakers need to be more fun as a number in the past 12 months have been quite serious and dry. Committee members (particularly newer members) would also like more experienced Rotarians present on areas that they have worked in and have experience in. For example, Peter speaking about the Youth Committee etc.

Also, Rotarians presenting on recent holidays or other aspects of their lives which may be fun and informative.

## Induction for new members

It was suggested that a mentor panel of experienced Club members (3-4) be formed who could mentor new members, particularly as the current system does not appear to be working too well.

This mentor panel to hold induction sessions twice a year which new members are invited to, but also be available to new members at other times, as required.

## Excellence in Service Awards

Irene stated that this may be a good marketing / PR tool for the Club but noted that the MV Council and others are doing similar awards.

Although the Committee noted the potential value of this project, it was decided not to pursue these awards this year. The main reason being that the timing for businesses at present is not good with staff shortages, Covid impacts etc.

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## **Joe Bradbury Award**

In lieu of the Excellence in Service Awards, the Committee preferred to sponsor a school student to fund year 12, and 3 years post-secondary. Project previously implemented by the Club and known as the “Joe Bradbury Award”.

\$1,000 per year to the successful student to go towards study or vocational pathway reimbursement of fees.

Schools to be included:

- Essendon Keilor College
- Ave Maria
- Rosehill College
- Strathmore College
- Buckley Park College

Michael Mahoney committed to funding this project for the next 12 months.



**YOUTH & SUSTAINABILITY – Andrew Panjkov**



## **YOUTH PROJECTS**

Current projects last year - NYSF Momo Zhou, RYLA Julia Peters, St Columba's college and District 9800 Scholarship Y12 Essendon Keilor college student final year.

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This year's Board approval of \$7,675 budget and kind donations from Michael Mahoney & Regina Davern.  
Proposed project:

- 2 x District 9800 scholarship for local schools - This will be managed by Terry
- 1 or 2 RYLA candidates & possible NYSF if they apply & RYPEN if any nominations - This will be managed by Regina 1 MUNA school in 2023

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (ES) PROJECTS**

ESRAG Carbon Calculator

MVBC activities & Progress

- Submitted for District 9800 Project award
- Presentation made to Aberfeldie Primary School
- Monthly meeting gaining momentum
- Investigate Bee storage area in Essendon Airport

GORDON Horse Shepherd Equine Sanctuary fundraising investigation.

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## WELLNESS

### ROYCE ABBEY AWARD - Shirley Kukk



## WELLNESS

- Thank you from Pereira family for card and wishes on the death of Past President Sunil's Mother
- Thank you from Cathy Nicou for her get well card – 'it made my day'
- Thank you for condolences from Val Saunders, widow of Past President Jim Saunders
- Alistair Fraser and John Kouppas have recovered from Covid
- Treasurer Kel has the flu
- Lisa is unwell and we wish Kel and Lisa a speedy recovery.

### Latest from Jenni Mann

- Managed to take Peter out for a walk-in the park on a beautiful Perth sunny day
- Pete's clavicle operation went well
- His last appointment is on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>
- They are hoping to fly back to Melbourne soon.

## ROYCE ABBEY AWARD

- Meeting held last week
- Finances are all up to date, when clubs award a Royce Abbey Award they pay \$1000, which is then transferred to Foundation.
- Stocktake of Award pins and packs have been completed
- Advertorial discussed and to follow up on, to promote both the Award and the Scholarship.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

*You are invited to come and hear*  
**JOSH MAHONEY**  
ESSENDON FOOTBALL CLUB GENERAL MANAGER

**TUESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2022**

6.30 for 7.00-8.30pm | \$30

2 course meal | Drinks at the bar

Anglers Tavern, 2 Raleigh Road, Maribyrnong

Come dressed in your club colours,  
it's sure to be a great night

**SCAN THE  
CODE TO  
BOOK**



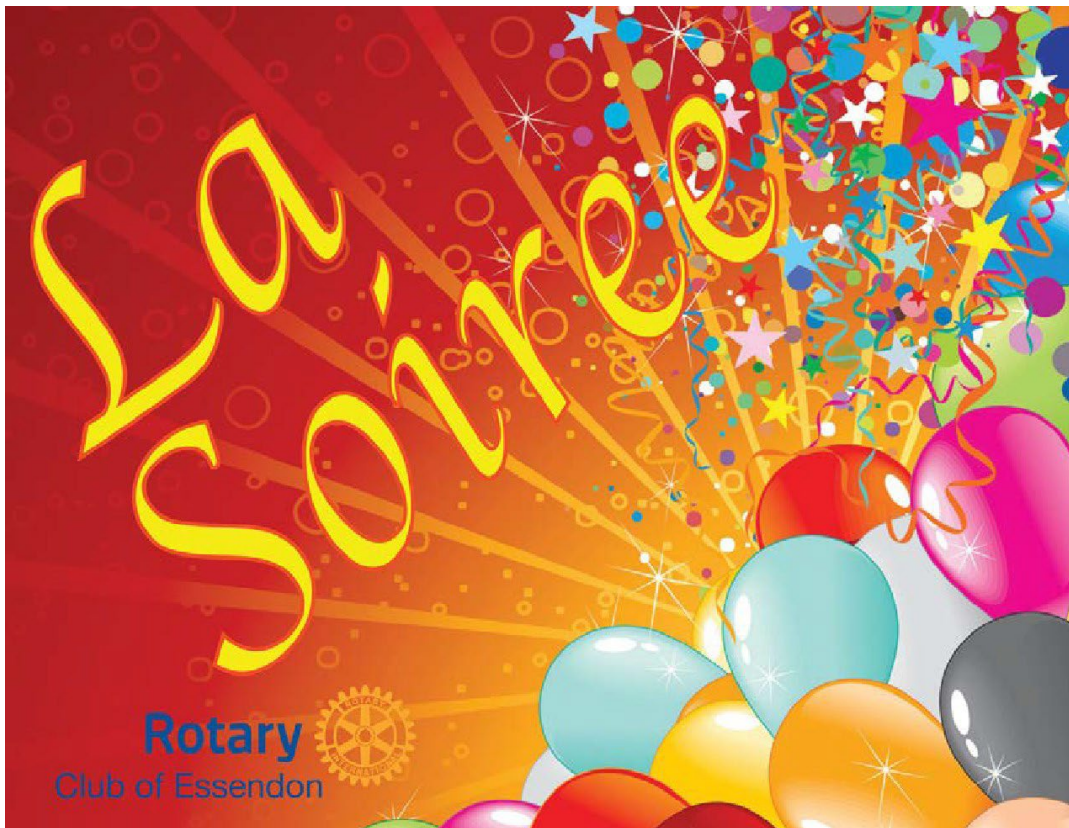
**20 September – Lucia Di Mao, Fund raising and use of funds**

**15 November – RCE AGM**



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## ROTARY SOIREE



- Friday 14th of October
- Moonee Valley Council Offices
- Time and price to be advised

We need people to tell friends, family and wider community and attend. Supporting Ukrainian Refugees in Victoria, Youth Projects and other Rotary projects.

We need 3-4 people with RSA to help with service of alcohol and people to help serve food.

We need donations for live and silent auctions.

More details after sub-committee tomorrow evening.

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## **ZONE 8 CONFERENCE:**

Speaking of our Rotary Zone, the Zone 8 Conference will be held in Canberra 28-30 October 2022. It promises to be a weekend of great fun and highly entertaining speakers, along with a final dinner to be held in Old Parliament House.

There are 14 RCE members and partners registered for the event. If you would like further information, please contact Steve Roe.

## **HELP YOURSELF & THE CLUB**

Strathmore **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch



Help yourself and help our Club by banking with Strathmore Community Bank. Take out a home loan, open a term deposit or bank account and the club will receive up to \$500.

For more details drop into the branch at 337 Napier St or call the Manager David Porter on 9374-2607.