

C O N T A C T

Club meeting 15/08/2023

Windy Hill Venue, Cnr Napier & Brewster St, Essendon 3040



Rotary International theme August 2023. Membership and New Club Development Month
Last edition I asked you to respond with some ideas of how to increase our membership
and increase member engagement. Here are some of your wonderful thoughts.....

Well it seems you all need more inspiration and ideas so use this link to see what RI has
developed to help us out. There is so much online to assist us develop our own skills.
Check it out! <https://my.rotary.org/en/learning-reference/learn-topic/membership>

From our President...

President Michael was a guest at the 40th birthday celebration of Rotary Club of Keilor East. It was a packed house with many dignitaries of Rotary in attendance including our DG Ron Payne and AG Tony Laycock. Keilor East President, David Dippie spoke well and was grateful for the collaboration with the Rotary Club of Essendon at the annual Moonee Valley Art Show. We were pleased to see Gerard Mahoney being recognised with a Paul Harris Fellow for his outstanding work for the club.

And from our committees...

Are you or has someone you know been a philatelist? Do you have old stamp collections which you no longer want? Nola Spicer will take them off your hands and arrange to have them valued and sold to raise funds for the club. Contact Nola for more information.

Did you know...

That Rotary International has both a Vision Statement and a Mission Statement?
If you are the first person to email me and tell me what they say you'll get a prize.

Next time someone sees you wearing your Rotary pin and asks you what Rotary is and what Rotarians do you can start with this!

Start with what I hear you say?

Well read on and see what our club members are achieving. It is very impressive!

And for the more official response you can go to the last page of Contact to find out!

We need more members and we need you to spread the word about what we do.

Invite a friend, colleague, associate or even one of your local traders to our next meeting.



C O N T A C T

NEWS FROM THE STRATHMORE MEN'S SHED

The Strathmore Men's Shed will celebrate the AMSA (Australian Men's Shed Association) 30th birthday with a BBQ on Saturday 9th September.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank some of those people and organisations that have very generously supported the Strathmore Men's Shed and invite you to join us on the day.

We would plan to start the BBQ around 11.00am to be ready for 11.30am lunch.

To assist with catering could you please email a response with your intentions. RSVP BY 2nd SEPTEMBER.

Be sure to check out the Shed's website to see what the Sheddies have up to. You may be surprised to see the scope of the projects they have completed!

Strathmore Men's Shed 144A Mascoma St, Strathmore, Vic, 3041

e: strathmoremensshed@gmail.com <http://www.strathmoremensshed.com.au/>



on

been

DAYS FOR GIRLS ESSENDON

Everyone loves getting in to the fun of the Spring Racing Carnival. But if you don't want to put up with the hassles of crowds and traffic around Flemington here is your opportunity to join in with a more relaxed day out in the country.

Days for Girls Essendon are holding a race day fundraiser at the Kilmore Racing Club located less than an hour from Melbourne on 03 November 2023 and would like to invite any Rotarians, partners and friends to attend what will be a great fun day.

This is the team's biggest fundraiser of the year so please come along to help make the lives of hundreds of girls and women better through the provision of the Days for Girls kits that the volunteers produce.

Along with this day the team is conducting a special fundraising effort with the main prize being a beautiful handmade quilt lovingly made and donated by the members of the Essendon Quilters. Tickets are \$5 each. See Lisa to purchase a ticket.

The team also needs some strong helpers every last Wednesday of the month at the sewing day to assist with set up and packing up the room. Boxes of fabrics need to be lifted to shelves and trestle tables need setting up and packing up. Usually assistance is needed for half an hour in the morning around 9-9.30am and in the afternoon 4-4.30pm. If you can help please contact Jane Odgers.

If you want to know more about what Days for Girls is and what the great volunteers do go to

<https://www.daysforgirls.org/australia/> The team is always looking for more people to join them so contact Jane Odgers if you would like to know more. Ph; 0403924389



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Coming up soon...

You and your family and friends are invited to visit us at an upcoming meeting

<https://www.rce.org.au/Events>

- **Marketing and Membership** committee meeting Wednesday 16th August 7.30pm at the home of John Odgers
- **Norm Mollica Mental Health Fund** committee meeting Thursday 17th August 5pm home of Lisa Lowcock
- **Fundraising dinner for Bahay Tuluyan.** For further information contact Cathy Nicou
- **Friday 01 September Ruben Clinic Kenya** fundraiser dinner at IPOH Restaurant, 192 Keilor Rd, Essendon North. See attached flyer for details to register.
- **Club meeting Tuesday Sep 05** our guest speaker is our own Deanhna Culshaw
- **Saturday 09 September Strathmore Men's Shed** 30th anniversary of Australian Men's Shed Association BBQ 11am 144A Mascoma St, Strathmore, Vic, 3041 RSVP by 02/09/23
- **Tuesday Sept 19** our guest speaker is Emma Davis, D9790 DG 2025-26
- **Club meeting Tuesday 03 October** our guest speaker is past member Bernadette Schwerdt who was recently named in the Top 50 Small Business Leaders in Australia. A professional actor and founder of The Australian School of Copywriting Bernadette is a fantastic speaker not to be missed.
- **Friday 03 November Days for Girls Essendon** Race Day at the Kilmore Racing Club
- **Tuesday 21 November** is our club AGM
- **Club meeting Tuesday 28 November** Ron Payne, the District Governor of 9800, will make his official visit.
- **Friday 08 December** is our **Christmas Party**; better make sure you're being nice not naughty!!!



President Michael Portelli with PHF recipient Gerard Mahoney, Lynne Mahoney and MP Ben Carrol at the Rotary Club of Keilor East 40th anniversary of charter lunch.

Pres. Michael Portelli congratulating Tony DeFazio on the successful grant application to help fund a medical incinerator and dental chair for the Ruben Health Clinic situated in the Mukuru slums in Nairobi, Kenya.



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The Rotary Club of Essendon has had a long association with the Ruben Clinic in Kenya. Club delegations have visited the centre a number of times and members can verify that the clinic is doing a most amazing job. It is located in the Mukuru slums, one of the largest slum settlements in Nairobi.

The health centre provides much needed care to the residents who must deal with diseases caused by the extreme pollution in the slums. There is a high prevalence of respiratory diseases, malaria, HIV AIDS, Covid 19 and other waterborne diseases.

They live largely in one room corrugated iron shacks with many other relatives, sewerage runs freely along pathways between the shacks and clean water facilities and the very few latrines located in the slums are shared by twenty families or more. Very few have electricity so food sanitation is also a cause of illness. Crime, drug abuse and prostitution plague the area as many children are left without parents and many babies and mothers have died due to lack of sanitation and appropriate care in pregnancy and childbirth. This clinic is improving the lives of these people. Help improve the lives of these people.

Come along to dinner and help raise funds for medical equipment that WILL save lives.

For more information about the great work the Ruben Centre is doing go to <https://www.rubencentre.org/>

BIG NEWS!

The Rotary club of Essendon in partnership with The Rotary Club of Utawala Kenya, were successful in receiving a District International Grant to support Ruben Centre Clinic, Kenya. The club's contribution is \$14,000 and The Rotary Foundation \$7,000.


The grant will purchase much needed medical equipment: a medical waste incinerator and a dental chair.

Ruben Centre is in Mukuru, one of the largest slums in Nairobi, they strive to provide educational, health, and community development programs to the residents of this community. Their efforts are geared towards helping individuals and families living in poverty to improve their quality of life.

They believe that through education, healthcare, and community engagement, they can create a brighter future for the Mukuru community.

Congratulations to all involved in this project and grant success.

C O N T A C T



Project Rainbow
Creating a Place of Healing for Child Survivors of Trauma

Project Rainbow


Project Rainbow will convert a dilapidated house in Ula-Batagan into a retreat and place of recovery for children. It will repair and upgrade the existing structure to provide accommodations, dining and meeting spaces for up to 25 people aged 10-18.

The house and lot were donated to Bahay Tuluyan by a generous local family.

Through the project Bahay Tuluyan will transform the house and surroundings into "The Camp and Zoo Retreat" a safe place for children, youth and families to access programs and activities that aid in their recovery from various forms of trauma. Bahay Tuluyan will also provide assistance in organic farming for produce support. It will register, harvest, package and coffee to help sustain the operations of the camp in the longer term.

At least 500 children every year will be supported to heal and recover from the impacts of trauma and grow their hopes for a healthy, well and peaceful future in the Philippines.

Bahay Tuluyan is a 31500-accredited NGO with 25 years of experience working with Filipino children.




Project Rainbow

Progress Report
August 2023

Completed

- Site preparation
- digging of basic tanks
- Installation of water
- Installation of electrical system building
- Start of roofing and walls in meeting room

Next Steps

- Structural work complete
- Roofing work
- Start of painting and tiling
- Finishing

Project prepared by Victoria Lowcock 5 August 2023
RCE, further information @preceptservices.com.au




Guest speaker Catherine Scerri from BAHAY TULUYAN

This week we had the pleasure of the company of a dear friend of our club, Catherine Scerri representing Bahay Tuluyan in Manila, The Philippines. With her also from BT were Clang and Abbey. They are all here to visit the supporters of BT in Australia and attend the fundraising dinner on Friday 18/08/2023.

Many RCE Rotarians have visited Bahay Tuluyan in Manila and seen firsthand the great work they do with children living lives of extreme neglect, abuse, trauma and poverty. In a country where an estimated 20.6 million people are living in poverty, equating to 18.1% of the population, the need for an organisation such as BT is essential. Children involved with BT's programmes are given hope and a brighter future. Catherine gave a comprehensive presentation of the inspirational range of work BT is doing in the poorest communities in Manila.

This series of photos highlights the latest involvement of the organisation, Project Rainbow. A house donated to BT is being transformed in to a space that will benefit children who have faced significant trauma.



Project Rainbow

Progress Report
August 2023



Let's celebrate a new chapter in the life of a child survivor of trauma. The house is being transformed into a safe and healthy space for children to live and grow.

Bahay Tuluyan has been able to provide a safe and healthy space for children to live and grow.

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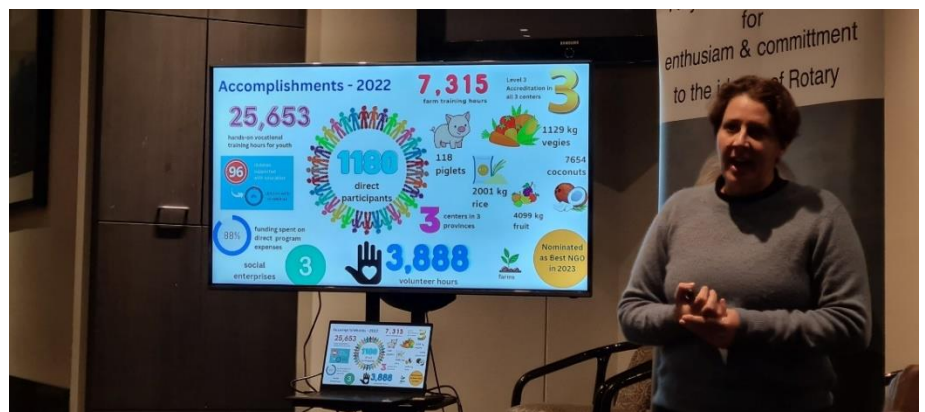
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RCE, further information @preceptservices.com.au



Check out www.bahaytuluyan.org/ to be inspired by this dedicated team and be sure to donate to enable them to continue their lifesaving work with these vulnerable children.

And if you want to know more about how you can connect with other great Australians supporting Bahay Tuluyan go to www.btpa.org.au/ There is always a need for people wanting to help BT.



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STROKE WEEK

Staying healthy and recognising symptoms of disease and illness is something the Strathmore Men's Shed focuses on every week. ASMA publishes a podcast called The Shed Wireless every month to connect men across Australia. John Paul Young is the host and our own shed has been highlighted in the past. This episode focuses on STROKE. Do you know the signs of a stroke and what to do? Listen to the podcast and read the associated webpage to get yourself and your friends and family educated – just in case.

<https://mensshed.org/the-shed-wireless/> Find out more about stroke at strokefoundation.org.au

The first person to tell me via email the acronym for how to recognise a stroke will get a prize!

WHAT HAS OUR BOOK CLUB BEEN READING LATELY?

Why is a massive bridge being built to connect the sleepy island of Bruny with the mainland of Tasmania? And why have terrorists blown it up?



When the Bruny bridge is bombed, UN trouble-shooter Astrid Coleman agrees to return home to help her brother before an upcoming election. But this is no simple task. Her brother and sister are on either side of politics, the community is full of conspiracy theories, her mother is fading and her father is quoting Shakespeare. Only on Bruny does the world seem sane. Until Astrid discovers how far the government is willing to go. Bruny is a searing, subversive novel about family, love, loyalty and the new world order. It is a gripping thriller with a jaw-dropping twist, a love story, a cry from the heart and a fiercely entertaining and crucial work of imagination that asks the burning question: what would you do to protect the place you love?

Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman.



In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing as an *average* woman. But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one: Calvin Evans, the lonely, brilliant, Nobel Prize-nominated grudge holder who falls in love with—of all things—her mind. True chemistry results.

Like science, though, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother but also the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show, *Supper at Six*. Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking ("combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride") proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because, as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women how to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo. Laugh-out-loud funny, shrewdly observant and studded with a dazzling cast of supporting characters, *Lessons in Chemistry* is as original and vibrant as its protagonist.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY from all of the current members of the Rotary Club of Essendon xxx

PAT O'CONNELL IS TURNING 94 YRS OLD THIS WEEK. He is still living in Parkville.

Pat was a long-time member of the club and contributed enormous amounts of time and energy to the successful completion of many fundraising and project events. We thank him for their efforts over the years and wish them all a very happy celebration of their birthday. Pat would love to receive a phone call from any of his old friends in Rotary.



Rotary started with the vision of one man — Paul Harris. The Chicago attorney formed the Rotary Club of Chicago on 23 February 1905, so professionals with diverse backgrounds could exchange ideas and form meaningful, lifelong friendships. There are many stories about the reach of Rotary internationally. Here is one such story involving our club. Thanks to Stephen Chandler for the story and pictures.

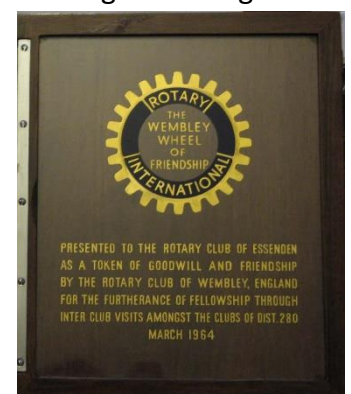
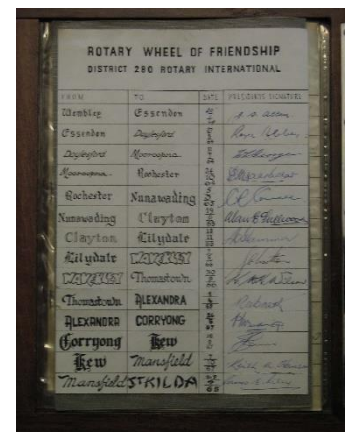
The Wembley Story

Dr Sydney Newing, who lived at 13 Riverview Rd in Essendon, was a foundation member of the Rotary Club of Essendon who had retired as a doctor & was now running an investment company.

In 1937 he decided to head to the RI Convention in London with his wife Rene but due to the Coronation of King George VI being planned for late May the RI Convention was moved to Nice in France. Teddy Garner of the Rotary Club of Wembley England was to host Rotarians during the London convention and when he went to the Nice Convention he met Syd Newing while boarding a train and they struck up a friendship with the Newings returning to stay at his property Andlows in Wembley.

In 1938 Jack Edgar, Essendon Rotarian & Headmaster of Essendon High School was attending a meeting at the Rotary Club of London & coincidentally sat next to Teddy Garner who was also a visitor. This led to a great friendship between the Rotary Clubs of Wembley, Essendon, Syd Newing & Jack Edgar, (who was a District Governor from 1946-48). After the war the RCE sent food parcels to Wembley Rotary Club & Wembley sent 208 pounds to Essendon to assist with the building of their Pioneers Retreat on the banks of the Maribrynong.

In 1956, Teddy Garner was trying to assist a friend's brother Jakob Kaldor, a Jewish Yugoslav to escape the Communists. He attempted to get them into the UK, to the USA, to Brazil & other countries but they were knocked back each time. He then decided to call upon his friends from the RCE who willing agreed. Approach was made to Harold Holt the then Immigration Minister and eventually permission was



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granted with the RCE providing employment for 12 months in Percy Jurss's presidential year with Jakob working as a research scientist at the Fairfield Infectious Diseases Hospital on Hepatitis.

In 1964 Teddy Garner travelled by boat to Australia and bought with him a Secret Gift which he presented to the then President of the RCE, Royce Abbey, The Wembley Wheel Of Friendship. His wish was that each new club sponsored in District 9800 would hold the wheel until another club was sponsored. The 1st Club in 1974 was the Rotary Club of Brighton and it continued until the Rotary Club of Docklands was sponsored in 2007.

In 1991 Teddy Garner wrote to President Michael Cariss to advise him that in his will he was going to leave an amount of US\$200,000 in the Rotary Foundation for a Teddy Garner Scholarship to be awarded in turn by The Rotary Clubs of Essendon, Wembley, Melbourne North, Aylesbury District, Grovedale and Great Missenden with students from London to be sent to a Melbourne University & students from Australia to be sent to a London University. It was the interest earned on these invested funds that was to be used but it is not known whether they have been called upon or if the fund still exists, but we have a copy of the letter sent to Michael Cariss & a copy of what was intended to be in his donation to the Rotary Foundation.

To Be Continued.....

If you are a newish member be sure to log in and have a look at what being a member of a Rotary club can mean for you. <https://my.rotary.org/en/learning-reference/learn-role/new-member>

For members who have been around a while, check out the <https://www.rotary.org/en> website. You will be amazed at the information and resources there. You will also be able to get up to date with the focus and direction of Rotary International and read about the ways our club and members can be relevant in a society where there are so many charity options out there for people to support.

Do you know someone who would make a great Rotarian? Direct them to the RI website to learn more about Rotary. <https://www.rotary.org/en>

For information about the Rotary Foundation Australia – which is where our grants money comes from – go to <https://www.rotaryfoundationaustralia.org.au/>



C O N T A C T

The Rotary Club of Essendon meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month for dinner at 6pm in the bistro of the Windy Hill Venue followed by our meeting 7:00pm to 8:30pm.

Cnr Napier & Brewster Streets, Essendon VIC 3040

Find out more about us at www.rce.org.au/

For further information contact president@rce.org.au or secretary@rce.org.au

Rotary International Mission

We provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

Rotary International Vision Statement

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

We would like to thank our official sponsors;



Interested in being a sponsor?

[Download the website sponsorship guide](#)

Rotary is a global network of 1.4 million neighbours, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

Solving real problems takes real commitment and vision. For more than 110 years, Rotary's people of action have used their passion, energy, and intelligence to take action on sustainable projects. From literacy and peace to water and health, we are always working to better our world, and we stay committed to the end.

Rotary members believe that we have a shared responsibility to take action on our world's most persistent issues. Our 46,000+ clubs work together to:

Promote peace, Provide clean water, sanitation, and hygiene, Fight disease, Save mothers and children, Support education, Grow local economies, Protect the environment.