

C O N T A C T

Club meeting 19/09/2023

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

Rotary International Theme September 2023. Basic Education and Literacy Month.

Go to <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-causes/supporting-education> to find out some of the ways our great organisation raises people out of poverty through education.

From our President...

It was lovely to have visiting Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Strathmore attending our meeting. Also visiting was our past president Jenny Foster who is now a member of RC Albert Park where her father is also a member.

Come along to our next meeting to help save the site at 2 Grice Cres. Essendon which was formally the Royal District Nursing Services site. There is a lot we all need to do to retain this historically significant site. Find out why and how we need to get to work on this matter immediately.

Looking forward to seeing you then.

And from our committees...

International Committee

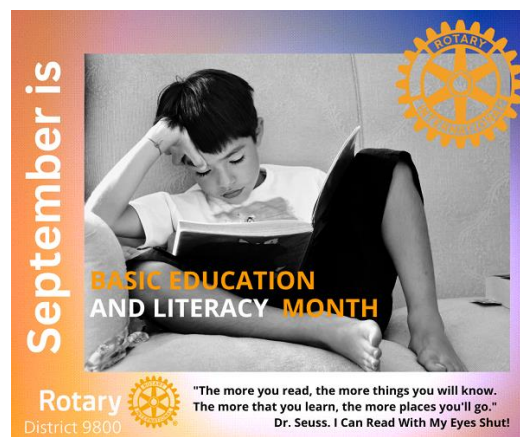
Myanmar Delegation Trip November 2023

The Rotary Club of Essendon Myanmar Delegation Trip is happening from November 12th to 19th 2023. It's not too late to join us if you want to come and see all the projects the RCE are doing in this poor country, as well experience much of the culture, food and people. Everyone who does this trip comes back enriched by the experience. There is nothing like seeing first hand how our efforts make such a huge difference to the lives of the people in Myanmar – especially the children. But you will need to get organised now.

This year's projects include:

- Yangon General Hospital medical equipment donation \$45,876
- Step In, Step Up Vocational Training presentation and tour of campus and ghetto - donation of 200 x solar lights for students to use during the many black outs and funding of \$39,788
- Hope for Myanmar Children's Home visit and tour plus supply of food, children's clothes and sports balls etc.... \$1,000
- Visit to Yangon Rotary Club dinner meeting
- Visit to Myanmar Liver Foundation and donation of consumables \$500
- Visit to Mary Chapman School for the Deaf – inspect the Dishwasher donated by RCE \$8,400

For further details contact RICHARD LAWRENCE – 0418-369 290



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Did you know...

That whenever our club has a project overseas we always go to check that our money and goods end up helping the people we want to help. Sadly, it is in some of the poorest countries where corruption occurs most. We pay for all of our own expenses to ensure that there is complete transparency and accountability in all we do. Our club must always partner with a Rotary club in country so we also attend that club's meeting to meet those who we work with in projects. By being a part of the delegation to Myanmar you can see first hand how we are helping those in need of a hand up in life.

Coming up soon...

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

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

- **Club meeting Tuesday 03 October** Sadly we have had to change the date for Bernadette Schwerdt to be a speaker at our club. This meeting will now be dedicated to the Friends of Caroline Chisholm group who are working to save the site of Caroline's first Victorian shelter for women in Essendon from sale and development.
- **Friday 03 November Days for Girls Essendon** Race Day at the Kilmore Racing Club
- **Tuesday 17 October** Jannete Eid, Partner of WRE Lawyers, Estate Planning and Updating your will.
- **Tuesday 24 October is World Polio Now day.**
- **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!!!
- **Sunday 24 March 2024** Fellowship day for Rotary Club of Essendon, an opportunity for families past and present to come together. The lunch will take place at Drusilla Mansion, known as the 'jewel of the crown' in Mount Macedon the day will feature a spit roast feast and time to enjoy the beautiful gardens.



Do you know who this woman is?
Clue; we have had a very close association with a society which is named in her honour because they support women and children in need. Read on to learn more about why she is so closely linked with RCE.

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Friends of Caroline Chisholm

This is a new group working to save the historically significant site just next to the rain bridge at the corner of Mt Alexander Rd and Grice Cres. in Essendon. The site had been the location of the Royal District Nursing Service for many years. The Rotary Club of Essendon raised the most amount of funds to erect the building initially and then a few years later also gave significant funding to the upgrade of the site. We have put a lot of work and money in to having a location which assists local families. This is all now at risk. Here is a little about Caroline Chisholm (1808-1877)

Caroline Chisholm arrived in 1838 in the colony of New South Wales, where she was appalled at the conditions that greeted poor and vulnerable women migrants. Aged just 30, Caroline Chisholm commenced working on improving the women's lot, setting up job schemes and campaigning for better working conditions.

In 1841, she established the Female Emigrant's Home in Sydney which not only provided shelter but helped unemployed young women find work both in the city and in rural areas where work was more plentiful. Caroline Chisholm worked on improving conditions on the ships and arranged for the families of convicts to be transported free to Australia so they could be reunited with their loved ones. In order to foster independence and resilience among these new arrivals, she established the Family Colonisation Loan Society, a version of which still operates successfully today.

Moving her focus to Victoria in the 1850s, she successfully lobbied the government here to set up shelters along the roads to meet the demand for adequate accommodation prompted by rush to the goldfields of Ballarat and Bendigo. **The site in Essendon was the first site to be constructed for women and children moving to the goldfields and as such is of national historical significance.**

Caroline Chisholm's work in the early days of the colonies has continued to be celebrated and commemorated in Australia, with her face adorning a collection of stamps and appearing on the original \$5 bank note. In 1994, she was posthumously awarded the Order of Australia.

As the club has a very close association with this site – previously the Royal District Nursing building. See this Essendon Historical Society newsletter featuring the old RDNS site and the Rotary Club of Essendon link with it. <https://esshissoc.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/E.H.S.-Newsletter-No.-247.pdf>

We need everyone to pull together to reinstate the site to perpetuate Caroline's vision as a place for women and children in need. The need is more urgent than ever during these difficult times.

To see why Caroline Chisholm and her achievements are so important go to

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caroline_Chisholm and <https://www.vic.gov.au/caroline-chisholm>



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Congratulations to Veronica O'Sullivan who won the sweet prize from the last edition of Contact. Veronica sent in the winning answer only one hour and ten minutes after Contact was sent out! You're all going to have to get in quicker next time if you want to win.

TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER IS WORLD POLIO DAY. <https://www.endpolio.org/>



ONE DAY. ONE FOCUS. ENDING POLIO.

For many years Rotary International's major world project has been END POLIO NOW. Rotary worldwide has contributed significantly to the effort to deliver and administer the polio vaccine which has seen the wild polio virus almost eliminated. We are so close but the work is not over. Support the End Polio Now campaign by wearing your new promo clothes or pins. Go to <https://rdusupplies.com.au/end-polio-now/>

Be a part of world history by helping to eradicate polio forever. Rotarians are people of action. Be one now. To win this week's sweet treat you need to be the first to email and tell me the current status of reported wild polio cases worldwide. CLUE! There are two countries to be named. You will find the answer at

<https://www.endpolio.org/>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Ray Whiting on the occasion of his 100th birthday from all of the members of the Rotary Club of Essendon.

Ray's birthday is on 29th September 2023 and he is currently living in the Ryman Retirement Village in Aberfeldie. Ray was a member of the Rotary Club of Essendon family for many years and contributed greatly to the club. We wish him a wonderful day celebrating with those closest to him.



Were you one of the 14000 people to be here? Where was this? Read on to find out.

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GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speaker this week was Emma Davis.

Emma is a member of the Rotary Club of Moreland and will be the DG of 9790 in 2025-26. She was the Chair of the House of Friendship at the recent Rotary International Convention in Melbourne. She had the responsibilities of Tours & Experiences, Entertainment, Merchandise and the Exhibition Booths. To say that Emma had a lot of responsibilities and a big workload would be an understatement but this superwoman took it all as a challenge to rise to.

The Rotary International Convention in Melbourne has been listed as the most valuable business event in Melbourne in the last 10 years. Fourteen thousand Rotarians from 120 countries from all around the world attended. Two thousand staff and exhibitors were involved putting \$91 million to our economy. Six years of planning went in to this huge event and it all paid off becoming one of the most amazing events Rotarians have ever attended.

Emma's presentation included an explanation of amount of work needed to first of all be the successful bidder to hold such a prestigious event so far from most of the countries that Rotarians would come from. A team attended last year's convention in Houston USA to convince attendees that spending much time and effort to travel to Australia would be worthwhile. Once here the work to prove to the attendees that their decision to attend was a good one, Emma had to provide experiences that would long be remembered. Partnering with tour operators, entertainers, local businesses and the stallholders in the House of Friendship was required to make the event financially sound and Emma found her negotiating and organisational skills to be a great asset. To learn more about Emma's involvement in RICON23 see her pdf slide presentation here and use the links provided to see the clips presented on the night.

See what the Melbourne Convention Bureau has to say about it;

[https://www.melbournecb.com.au/blog/post/how-melbourne-hosted-14000-delegates-from-120-countries/Rotary Slide Deck Convention September 2023 .pdf](https://www.melbournecb.com.au/blog/post/how-melbourne-hosted-14000-delegates-from-120-countries/Rotary%20Slide%20Deck%20Convention%20September%202023.pdf)

The three videos, can be found here:

Slide 7

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/emma-davis-76608637_rotaryinternational-volunteer-rotarian-activity-7005330736505380865-57ah?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

Slide 18 There is a 60 second version

<https://brandcenter.rotary.org/en-us/asset?id=149503783&lang=EN>

And a 30 second version

<https://brandcenter.rotary.org/en-us/asset?id=149503536&lang=EN>

Slide 20

<https://boardroom.global/australias-rotary-connection-melbourne-hosts-ricon23/>

We thank Emma for her time to present at our meeting but moreover for her time and effort in being part of the great team who put together RICON23 in Melbourne.



C O N T A C T



The Rotary Club of Essendon North are holding their annual Oaks Day Luncheon at the Hyatt Event Centre in Essendon Fields on Thursday 09 November 2023.

Always a great day out and very popular so get in quick to organise your table. Funds raised on the day go to Cancer Research.

Bookings are Essential - Numbers Limited.

Bookings-Go to Trybooking:<https://www.trybooking.com/CLKGR> or

Contact: Barry Coleman

Mob: 0427 852 062 Email: bgdcoleman@gmail.com

WESTERN EMERGENCY RELIEF NETWORK REQUEST FOR HELP

Hello WERNies,

Our Team of drivers is expanding, and we need Truck Jockeys who are happy to volunteer 5 to 6 hours per day Mondays through to Fridays on any day to suit. WERN has continued to grow with bigger demands than ever and is struggling to keep up with donation offers. We also have several of our regular volunteer jockeys away so if you or someone you know, can assist even short-term starting this Thursday for a day or two please let me know or if you have some queries please contact me.

Regards, Ross ph; 0411 228311

To learn more about WERN go to <https://wern.org/>



Just a few holiday pics from our members enjoying the best life has to offer.

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The Days for Girls Essendon Team is having its major fundraiser for the year.

The team invite all of our members and friends to attend a Spring Carnival Race Day on Friday 03 November at the Kilmore Racing Club.



DAYS FOR GIRLS
ESSENDON VIC AUSTRALIA TEAM

11AM, FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3, 2023

JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUNDRAISING AND CELEBRATING SPRING IN THE TRADITIONAL MELBOURNE WAY - AT THE RACES!

Raffles - Silent Auctions - Prizes for best dressed female and male

TICKETS \$75 includes entry, glass of bubbles, antipasto platter, main, dessert & race book

BOOKINGS by 24 October
<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1116818>

Enquiries - Janice Young
0414 782 557 or essendonvic@daysforgirls.org
www.daysforgirls.org

KILMORE
RACING CLUB
Trackside Bistro, East St,
Kilmore, Park on site

XTRA SPACES



Less than one hour from Melbourne the track is set in the beautiful Victorian countryside and will offer the racegoers a lovely day in the country with all the fun of the Spring Carnival but none of the troubles of traffic and crowds.

Register now as places are limited.

TICKETS \$75 includes entry, glass of bubbles, 3 course meal, race book and your own bookie and bar in the room. Prizes for best dressed, plus more!

BOOKINGS are essential by 24 October via this link

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1116818>

Enquiries - Janice Young ph; 0414 782 557 or

essendonvic@daysforgirls.org

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO CARMEL LAMERS; 100 YRS YOUNG!

Carmel Lamers, wife of past member Jim Lamers, turned 100 recently. Here is a bit more about Carmel as the link in the last edition didn't work.

Carmel Marie Lynch, born 19 September 1923

Carmel was born and raised in Bendigo VIC. She was the second of 3 children, with an older brother and younger sister.

When she was 3 years old, her mother died and the children were cared for by their father, their grandmother and an aunty.

When Carmel was 13, her father remarried and eventually a second brother was born. At the age of 14 Carmel left school and became an apprentice dressmaker. During the period of WW2 she worked hard at this profession and became head dressmaker of the business.

In 1945 she met Jim Lamers at a church dance in Bendigo. A year later, Carmel and Jim were married at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo and the couple moved to Footscray. When Jim qualified as a physiotherapist in 1951, they moved to Essendon and spent the next 60 years of their married life living and working in the area. After Jim's death in 2011, Carmel moved to Keilor Retirement Village, and 2 years ago she moved into her current home at Rosary Home in Keilor Downs.

The couple had 3 children and Carmel now has 7 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren, aged between 1 and 15 years. She is very proud of them all and deserves to be so, as she was a wonderful mother and grandmother, always loving, patiently guiding and staying calm.

The highlights of Carmel's life are numerous but some of her fondest memories relate to camping holidays, hosting many Rotary exchange students and sailing with Jim in a 26-foot motor cruiser from Melbourne to



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Hobart and return.

And the secret to a 100-year life well lived?

1. Family, friends and service to others
2. Walk everywhere, never drive a car
3. Accept life's highs and lows, don't stress

The club sent Carmel a card and flowers to recognise this wonderful milestone.

We thank Roger Leask for presenting a bit of the history of our club. Having been around for years and years.....a very long time.....a long time..... well, let's say he is a member who can tell us a lot about what has happened in our club over many years because he has a good memory.

And thanks to Steve Chandler who is our unofficial club historian who has also been around for a good while.

It is wonderful to keep the history of our club alive. We can be inspired by those who went before so we may see the future ways we can achieve the ideals of Rotary.



Rotary **4 Way Test** of the things we think, say, or do:

Is it the **TRUTH**?

Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?

Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

What does the 4 Way Test of Rotary mean to you?

Send in your thoughts.

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

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

We would like to thank our official sponsors

Proudly supported by

**Strathmore
Community Bank Branch**

 **Bendigo Bank**

Interested in being a sponsor?

[Download the website sponsorship guide](#)