

# C O N T A C T

## Club meeting 17/10/2023

Peter Baker opened the meeting with a toast to the Rotary Club of Bacchus Marsh. This club is another of RCE's daughter clubs, chartered in 1955.

Roger Leask was asked to remind us of Rotary's Four Way Test

Peter then introduced President Michael Portelli. President Michael welcomed Jeanette Eid as guest speaker for the meeting. Susan Condos, Marguerita Portelli, Kerry Roe and Oulla were also welcomed as guests.



President Michael announced that the Club is planning to have a vocational scholar visit from the Rotary Club of Ruban in Kenya. The club is proposing to apply for a Royce and Jean Abbey Vocational Scholarship for an employee of the Ruben Centre.

We are looking for two people to join a small working party to make an application to the Scholarship committee for consideration.

It will involve developing the application in conjunction with Frank O'Shea Ruben Centre Director and President RC Utawala, Kenya. We will need to ascertain the appropriate program for the scholarship including, training venues, observations, organisations to visit as well as accommodation, transport, logistics, hosting, and budget.

If you would like to learn more about the scholarship and are interested in being involved in developing the application please contact Shirley Kukuk by 26 October.

Stephen Roe announced that Past President Sunil Perera is Secretary in 2023-24 and he, Stephen, will act as Club Secretary. All Board positions will be announced at the 2023 AGM.

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Maria Kouppas was then invited to present a wellness report. Fortunately no serious illness were reported with previously unwill Rotarians, partners and friends all on the Maria followed by noting that Shirley Kukk was hosting four Estonian students aged between 18 to 19. As Maria noted their appetites are seemingly bottomless. Last but not least Maria reminded all those attending that the international notes and coin collection is ongoing and that any such currency can be taken to her place or passed over through some other mutually agreeable process. mend. John Odgers was presented with a very high quality pair of socks in celebration of his recent birthday.

Maria announced that the club will be involved in awarding on Friday November 17 at 6.30pm to 9.30 pm the five hundredth Royce Abbey award, with AU\$1,000 going to the Royce and Jean Abbey Endowed Fund within The Rotary Foundation Permanent Fund

The next speaker was our club historian Stephen Chandler. Stephen presented an interesting and informative sketch of Sir Angus Mitchell.



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Angus Mitchell was Chairman of Mitchell and Bellair, successful grain brokers when he joined the Rotary Club of Melbourne in 1927. A very philanthropic man he was responsible for establishing and being a sponsor for many children charities including to do with unemployed youths, scouts and the Lord Somers Camp. In 1934-35 when the Rotary Club of Essendon was in the process of being formed, Angus Mitchell was the District Governor for District 65 which covered most of Australia and so was heavily involved in the formation of The Rotary Club of Essendon. He is featured in the middle of the front row of the photo of the Foundation members of The Rotary Club of Essendon and became a frequent visitor to the club, so much so that a special badge with the classification of Visitor was made for him. He wrote articles about the projects of The Rotary Club of Essendon which were submitted to The Rotarian, giving the young club an International profile.

In 1947- 48 Angus Mitchell was inducted as President of Rotary International and during his presidential year he travelled over 100,000 miles meeting many clubs as the world began to rebuild after the devastation of the 2nd World War. His mantra was that only through Friendliness, understanding and goodwill could the world rebuild. Angus was determined to re establish Rotary in Japan and Germany after the war and had constant dialogue with former Rotarians from both Countries with 5 Rotary Clubs being re established in Japan and 2 in Germany during his Presidential year.

Angus Mitchell was Knighted in 1956 for his Charity Work and being the first Australian President of Rotary International. Sir Angus Mitchell continued his visitations to the Rotary Club of Essendon and there are photos of him in the Club History with Rotarians at Edenhope in 1957, Cutting the cake at the 25th Charter Night in 1960 and opening the new wing of Gladswood Aged Care Home.



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In 1954, a fresh-faced Royce Abbey was introduced to Rotary and at his 1st meeting he met Sir Angus Mitchell who took a liking to him and became a mentor, explaining the many facets of Rotary to Royce. Royce often mentioned that Sir Angus was a great influence on him and possibly helped him believe that Leadership of Rotary International was within his abilities.

## **Guest speaker: Jeannette Eid, Principal Wainright, Ryan Eid Lawyers**

Nola Spicer introduced Jeanette Eid, a very experienced and professionally committed lawyer. Jeanette spoke on the topics of

Jeanette is partly of Lebanese background and was awarded the Australian Lebanese woman of the year in 1997-98. She joined the law practice in 1980 and became a partner soon after.



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Jeannette's first insight is that 'succession planning starts today' and that informed advice is strongly recommended.

She covered a range of topics. One of the most concerning changes to the settlement of wills is that bank will now not release money from a deceased estate without probate. Jeannette advises that wills should be reviewed whenever personal circumstances change.

Jeanette answered a number of questions around the legal aspects of wills and how contesting a will has become lot more complex and contestable since a change of law in 1998. She recounted a couple of examples where people unrelated to the deceased legally contested the will on rather tenuous grounds. Fortunately their excessive claims were not allowed.

A full copy of her talk will be emailed separately

President Michael Portelli thanked Jeannette for a very interesting talk and closed the meeting. She was very knowledgeable, captivating, and entertaining.

## **Coming up soon...**

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

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

- 📅 **Tuesday 24 October is World Polio day.**
- 📅 **Tuesday 24 October Maribyrnong River fund raising walk**
- 📅 **Friday 03 November Days for Girls Essendon Race Day** at the Kilmore Racing Club 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](mailto:essendonvic@daysforgirls.org)
- 📅 **Rotary Club of Essendon North Oaks Day Luncheon** at the Hyatt Event Centre in Essendon Fields  
Thursday 09 November [www.trybooking.com/CLKGR](http://www.trybooking.com/CLKGR) Contact: Barry Coleman 0427 852 062
- 📅 **International Committee meeting 14<sup>th</sup> Nov2023.** Host and Venue TBA
- 📅 **Membership & Marketing Committee meeting** Wed 15th November 7:30 pm at Peter Condos'
- 📅 **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.

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## Fund raising walk for medical equipment October 24 2023

The Rotary Club of Essendon, with the generous support of The Rotary District Foundation 9800, and in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Utawala is raising funds for medical equipment for the Ruben Clinic in Kenya.

The fundraiser in conjunction with St Bernard's College students will be in the form of a walk or bike ride relay around the Maribyrnong River starting at the Maribyrnong Bowls Club car park on The Boulevard in Moonee Ponds. We will start at 8am and conclude at 12 pm

Please invite friends and family to join in this event.

A \$10 donation is requested, but not compulsory or you can pay on the day to join us.

Let's have some fun and fellowship together as we enjoy this worthy event.

Please register on our club website as usual.

Hope you can bring some friends, family or even your four legged friends to join us.

### *Did you know...*

**That October 24<sup>th</sup> is World Polio Day.** Eradicating polio is one of the biggest and most challenging projects that Rotary International is involved in. Since 1979 when the first project to vaccinate children in the Philippines began we've reduced polio cases by 99.9%. Make a difference and donate AU \$160.00 annually to become a member of the newly formed D9800 PolioPlus Society. This is such a small amount to give to make one global disease history. Go to this site to read more about the new district society. [rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/the-polio-plus-society-has-arrived-in-district-9800](https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/stories/the-polio-plus-society-has-arrived-in-district-9800) For more information Contact Jane Pennington [Jane.Pennington@rotary9800.org](mailto:Jane.Pennington@rotary9800.org) or go to <https://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/sitepage/foundation/polio-plus-society> to see the brochure and commitment form to organise your annual contribution. To learn more about Rotary International's involvement in eradicating polio go to <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-causes/ending-polio>

Michael Cariss has requested that members bring along as many gold coins as they can carry to meetings. Come along to our next club meeting and you'll find out why...



Christine Hilbert won the sweet treat from our last newsletter correctly asking "How are you really?"

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If you are like many people who suffer in silence and don't want to bother anyone with your troubles or think that there are lots of people worse off than you so you just put up with feeling sad or lonely or dwell on things that happened a long time ago and feel like your mind just swirls and swirls then maybe you could do with a bit of help to feel better. Talk to your doctor to find out what help is available for you. And until then talk to a trusted friend or relative. A problem shared is a problem halved. Help is available.

Speak with someone today Lifeline Australia 131114

As the Spring Racing Carnival has kicked off I thought I'd give you some fashion inspiration.



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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>

If you stumble when people ask you about being a Rotarian or wonder what Rotary does you can use this short “elevator pitch”. Then of course ask them to join us to make a positive difference in our world.

**“ROTARIANS; We are People of Action**

Our global network of 1.4 million neighbours, friends, and leaders volunteer their skills and resources to solve issues and address community needs.

**WE CONNECT PEOPLE – Rotary International has 1.4 million members worldwide**

**WE TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES – Rotarians provide approximately 47 million volunteer hours each year**

**WE FUND SUSTAINABLE PROJECTS – US\$333 million awarded for global service initiatives in 2020-21  
Solving some of the world’s most complex and pressing problems takes real commitment and vision.  
Rotary members believe that we share a responsibility to take action to improve our communities.”**

For information about the Rotary Foundation Australia – which is where our grants money comes from – go to

<https://www.rotaryfoundationaustralia.org.au/>

**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/](http://www.rce.org.au/)**

**For further information contact [president@rce.org.au](mailto:president@rce.org.au) or [secretary@rce.org.au](mailto: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.**



# C O N T A C T

## **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;

Proudly supported by  
**Strathmore  
Community Bank** Branch  
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Interested in being a sponsor?

[Download the website sponsorship guide](#)