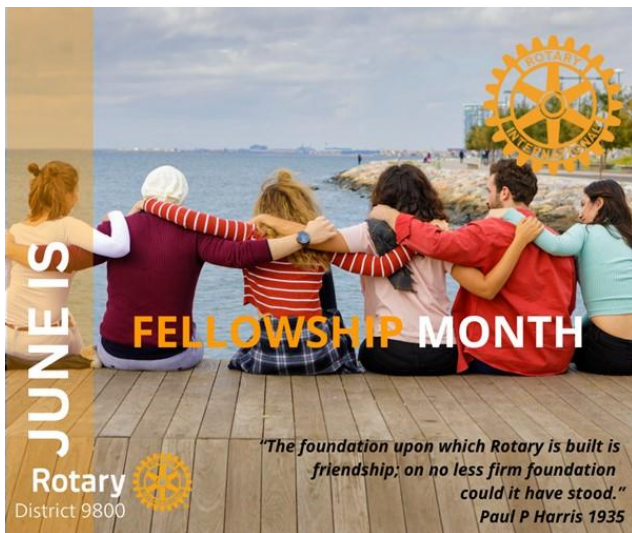


C O N T A C T

Club meeting 04/06/2024

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

Rotary International Theme June 2024. **Rotary Fellowships Month**



This is the last ordinary meeting of the club which President Michael Portelli will be leading.

We thank Michael for his dedication and enthusiasm for the club, his support and friendship to the members and his leadership over the last year.

Michael has definitely been the best president we've had this year!

To celebrate Michael's year and see the passing of the Presidential



baton to incoming President Tony DeFazio you must attend the gala event of the year; President's Night!

You have all received an invitation with a link to register and if you haven't done so yet you'd better get to it as there are only a few limited spots left. "I've lost the email" I hear you say??? Fear not as you can go directly to our website to register and pay.

Dress code is formal wear. <https://rce.org.au/event/presidents-night-4/>

[International committee delegation to Myanmar 2024](#) Invitation to Rotarians, Family and Friends - Come to Myanmar this November 18th to 25th 2024

You will be a part of the Rotary Club of Essendon delegation to review our Myanmar Projects.

Experience the people, culture and wonderful Burmese food of this different Asian country. Stay in great accommodation, visit incredible pagodas such as the magnificent Shwedagon Pagoda pictured above, and see the best British colonial



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buildings left in Asia. And most of all review the amazing RCE projects including the Children's Home, Liver Foundation, Deaf School and Step In Step Up Program; all projects that help the impoverished people in this country.

For details speak to Richard Lawrence 0418 369-290

Review of the meeting held 04/06/2024

At our meeting Peter Baker welcomed all and introduced President Michael Portelli and noted that this would be his last club meeting as President.

President Portelli welcomed members and guests and guest speakers

Wellness Report

Maria Kouppas provided the wellness report noting all members are well

Royce Abbey Scholarship and hosting

Veronica spoke about the Royce Abbey scholarship student and recipient in Greg and displayed a spreadsheet requiring members to volunteer arrange activities and to host Greg during his stay in Australia. Please contact Veronica to put your name down to assist and support the program

Art Show

Regina reminded members of the Rotary Art show on 11 October 2024 and that it requires an all member effort to make it a success. As coordinator she is seeking support with attracting sponsors and is prepared to call on sponsors if members are prepared to help and provide contacts.

What have YOU done to secure sponsorship for the Art Show?
If you haven't done anything then the time to get in touch with Regina and let her know who and when you will approach a potential sponsor, get the sponsorship pack ready and just get on to it.

IF NOT YOU, THEN WHO?
IF NOT NOW, THEN WHEN?

<https://mooneevalleyartshow.com.au/>



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Strategic Club Planning Session outcome report and Service Committee Charters and Membership

President elect Tony thanked all who participated in the planning session and contributed comments through the questionnaire. He advised he had emailed the outcome report to all members for information and comment. The next stage is for Veronica and Tony to get together to develop a one-page plan to be then circulated to members and board for comment and endorsement.

Tony also mentioned he would circulate the proposed service committee charters and membership for consideration and endorsement. He explained the membership was a Captain's pick and asked members to support and go with it and if there was a need for any change to discuss and refer it to the relevant Committee directors.

Please see the attachment to the email to read a summary of the planning session.

Speaker: Peter Walsh

Nola Spicer introduced the guest speaker—Peter Walsh a renowned international organising expert who has written 8 best-selling books, bringing practical wisdom and invaluable insights to the journey of decluttering and simplifying home clutter.

Peter began by applauding Rotary for the work we do and for the opportunities given to him as a Rotary exchange student 50 years ago with the Rotary Club of Keilor. His early experiences gave him the confidence which led him to 20 years of work a professional organiser between USA and Australia.



He explained about homes overrun with clutter can be categorised as follows:

- Garden Variety—closets/garages
- Excessive—Piano—haven't seen it for 7 years
- Extreme—team of 80 people taking 10 weeks to declutter
- Hoarding—mental health condition.

He has decluttered 5,000 homes and about to shoot the 5th season of the TV show space invaders.

Peter made a number of relevant points relating to clutter and decluttering such as:

- Every event of importance comes with a gift
- Not one signal event do we remove something
- Taught happiness comes from stuff we accumulate
- More is a sign of success

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- We buy a product but we invest in a promise
- Our stuff has the power to evoke memories both positive and negative
- There is a paradox i.e. stuff makes us happy. Too much stuff suffocates us and is life stealing
- If you focus on stuff then you will never get organised. It becomes a power play with winners and losers
- Nothing wrong remembering the past of preparing for the future, unless it stops you living NOW, creating new memories and building a future
- What is the vision you have for the life you want?
- Not what you need FOR a space but what do you want FROM a space?

Peter was thanked by the President and presented with a gift which meant he received ‘more stuff’!

So how many of you went home and did a big clear out? Remember that a lot of your old “stuff” can be reused, recycled and utilised by many who are in need.

Contact WERN – Western Emergency Relief Network – or RIMERN – Rotary Inner Melbourne Emergency Relief Network - to donate all your old crockery, cutlery, kitchen ware, sheets and blankets, furniture such as beds, bedside tables, kitchen tables and chairs, couches – make sure they are small only as most of those who will be receiving them will be living in a unit. For more details on what they need and can accept go to these sites before you take them. There are definitely some items which will not be accepted due to regulations.

<https://www.rimern.org.au/rimern-home/donate/donate-goods/>

<https://wern.org/donations/>

For all your preloved baby and children’s clothing contact Caroline Chisholm Society Essendon. The clothing needs to be in good unstained condition. For details go to <https://www.caroline.org.au/>

If you have old towels and blankets that are unsuitable for passing on to other people there are lots of dogs and cats needing bedding in our shelters during winter. Try the North Melbourne Lost Dogs Home to do a drop off during their Big Blanket Drive which is now on. <https://dogshome.com/>

For old but still wearable clothing that is of no use to you because the wardrobe fairies shrunk them overnight contact your nearest op-shop or take to Helping Hands in McIntosh St, Airport West.

<https://www.helpinghandsmission.org.au/donate>

Speaker: Catherine Scerri

Nola then introduced Catherine Scerri who presented on our global supported project Bahay Tuluyan---House of Welcome established in 1987

Catherine explained Bahay Tuluyan is a children’s right organisation that believes in the dignity of all children. The



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organisation works to prevent and respond to abuse and violence against children and to ensure all children's rights are fulfilled and protected.

Catherine went on to talk about:

- the 3 sites in the Philippines they own and manage
- the achievements in 2023
- their programs
- the resilience of the children and the facilities and programs available to them
- programs to empower youth
- programs to keep families safe
- initiatives in creating child friendly communities

Catherine concluded by proudly showing photos of the recently renovated Tala Camp and Eco-Retreat funded by our club, Rotary Club of Leeton, Rotary Club of Balwyn as well as a district grant.



DISTRICT 9800
CHANGEOVER

Sunday 30 June 2024
12:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Ultima Function Centre
Ely Ct, Keilor Park Victoria 3036

\$79 PP
Includes a 2 course meal and entertainment

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY

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Rotary District 9800

THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

Coming up soon...

Incoming President Tony and Elena are going to the District Changeover.

They invite all members to join them.

Date: Sunday 30th June

Time: 12:00pm to 3:30pm

Venue: Ultima Function Centre, Keilor Park.

Cost: \$79 per person

To book, go to: www.trybooking.com/CRYMY

Bookings close: 16th June

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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;

Interested in being a sponsor?

[Download the website sponsorship guide](#)

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