

# Contact

Rotary  
Club of Essendon



PO Box 161 Essendon VIC 3040

ABN 91036600532

D9800

## For your diaries

Dates (Day)	Event	Venue & time	Contact / notes
August 20 (Tu)	Club Lunch meeting: Allen Warrener speaking on wellness	Angler's Tavern 12.45 PM – 2.00 PM	
August 28 (W)	Project visit to Days for Girls Sew in	Baptist Church 138 Buckley St Essendon	RSVP to Kelly
August 31 (Sat)	Fellowship 70's dinner party	Starting at 7 pm. Space is limited. Book early Bring a classic dish from the Women's Weekly Dinner Party Cook Book	12 Pumice Court, Keilor East Bring Please RSVP to Kelly to reserve a seat.
Sept. 03 (Tu)	Club night meeting: Peter Duras speaking on homelessness	Angler's Tavern, 6.45 PM – 8.30 PM.	
Sept. 17 (Tu)	Club Lunch meeting	Angler's Tavern 12.45 PM – 2.00 PM	
Oct 1 (Tu)	Club night meeting: John Baressi speaking on Laughter revisited	Angler's Tavern, 6.45 PM – 8.30 PM.	
Oct. 15 (Th)	Club Lunch meeting: District Governor Visit	Angler's Tavern 12.45 PM – 2.00 PM	
November 7 (Th)	Days for Girls Oaks Day fundraiser	To be held at a beautiful private garden in Keilor East – see below for more information	Jane Odgers jjodgers@optusnet.com.au
November 12 (Tu)	Club Lunch meeting: Lifetime honorary membership presentation and Myanmar projects	Angler's Tavern 12.45 PM – 2.00 PM	
November 15 (Fri)	Rotary's Longest African Dinner	DIK, Shed 39 400 Somerville Rd, West Footscray: dinner 5.30PM – 9 PM	Show casing the Projects of Africa Jenny Foster
March 27-29 2020	District 9800 Conference	Ulumbarra Theatre, 10 Gaol Rd, Bendigo	rotaryconference.org.au
<b>May 27-31 2023</b>	RI -Convention	Rod Laver Arena and Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre	Hugh Bucknall hbucknal@bigpond.net.au

If you have a story and / or interesting photos that you're happy to share please let any of these people know: Kelly Abfalter, Peter Condos, Daniel Gangemi, Lisa Lowcock, and John Odgers.



## Evening meeting on August 6

Maria Kouppas introduced President Kelly who in turn welcomed a number of guests, including guest speaker Randolph Clements and his wife, and Walwin Buultjens, who will be shortly inducted into our Rotary Club. A very warm welcome was provided to Tim Anderson and his wife Sandra. Tim is recovering from a serious illness and it is great to see him becoming active again. Another guest was Steven (forgive please if I have misspelt) Peter Baker's brother in law. Daniel Gangemi's partner Jess was welcomed, as was Kerry Roe, Steve's Roe's wife.

A lot has been happening since our last meeting. President Kelly first noted that there is Exciting news that Kate, Peter Baker's daughter, is expecting soon! Many ladies from Kate from the club have been knitting wool that her Mum Leigh purchased before her Death and they took Kate for a Baby Shower dinner to present Kate with all the Are now all waiting for the arrival!

Another positive outcome President Kelly shared was the fun Christmas in July Trivia Night. It was a great turn out from our Rotary Club Members . Thank You and well done to our Members Boris & Maria at Muscular Dystrophy!!

A succesful MVCC community engagement took place at the Essendon Traffic School on Sunday July 21 2019. President Kelly extended a thank you to Alistair, Lino, Daniel and Roger Priestly for helping on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> of July 2019. While not a big turnout, it meant that we had plenty of oppportunity ourselves to get to know our local council community engagement team. Subsequent meeting discussed assistance with marketing our next Art Show.





The next very positive element of the meeting was the induction of RCE's newest member, Walwin Buultjens. President Kelly proceeded through the formal process and noted that Walwin's classification is nursing. Walwin thanked the club for accepting his application and noted that our club's aspirations and projects in both community and international are quite similar to his own. He looks forward to contributing well into the future.



President Kelly then turned the discussion to seeking initial views and reactions to a concept first floated by Roger Leask some four years ago. Briefly 'Hire a Rotarian' enables Rotarians to identify their skills, expertise and testimonials and to offer their services in the first instance to other Rotarians. This would be handled through a web site: a prototype can be found at <https://www.hirearotarian.com.au>. There are advantages and disadvantages of this concept. Included among the later are that it is a long term project and once started needs to be maintained for years and would be a serious commitment. More discussion will occur before a final go/no go decision is made.

President Kelly then invited Maria Koupas to present an overview of the chronology and quantity of Royce Abbey Awards presented annually since 2004. Up to the end of 2018, 358 RA awards were presented. Until the end of June 2019, 34 awards have been presented. The highest annual total thus far has been 36 in 2018, so 2019 looks set to clearly break that annual record. Given that each RA award generates \$1,000 for Rotary Foundation, this will be a great result, as have the 358 presented between 2004 and 2018.

The next item for discussion was an update on the new van that has been presented to the Bahay Tuluyan (BT) project. Shirley Kukk explained that RCE contributed financially to the project, and that amount doubled with the receipt of a District Grant. BT itself contributed \$40,000. In sum the new Van which will make a positive impact on so many vulnerable children for many years to come has arrived to so much excitement.



## Guest speaker: Randolph Clements

Randolph Clements, Victorian Chairman of Raine & Horne spoke about both his personal and professional life journey and how he maintains the same level of energy and enthusiasm for this exciting industry as when he first started.

Randolph was born in India in the late 1940s. His father was a high ranking police officer and his mother a nurse. Randolph spent over a decade of his early life as a boarder at Saint George's College in the hill town of Mussoorie. The College was run by Irish Patrician Brothers. Randolph excelled at sports of a broad scope, but in his own words achieved only average academic results. His sporting endeavours and prowess rendered him a strong competitive spirit that was to stand him in good stead in his later professional life.

His family moved to Australia in the late 1960s, but were only able to leave India with the equivalent of AU\$5 per per emigrant. Randolph and his brothers pledged to earn and save enough money to enable their parents to purchase a house. This was achieved and 17 Churchill Street Tullamarine was purchased.



Randolph's first job was in the Taxation Department, but he was not sufficiently stimulated to seek to make a career in it. In fact he spent his spare work time playing snooker and earning money therefrom.

Randolph has been married to his wife for almost thirty years. Randolph has several children. His father turns 101 this year and maintains good health and a challenging mind.

Randolph entered the real estate industry at the age of twenty five and very quickly ascended the profession to the extent that he purchased real estate office at a relatively very young age. He mortgaged his house to finance the purchase but managed to redeem the mortgage at a very rapid rate by working very long hours and displaying initiative.

Randolph's overall work philosophy is that one needs to put willingness to work ahead of expectations of personal entitlement.

#### **Report from Shirley Kukk on wellness status of members**

Gayle Leask is going for more radiation treatment.

Lyn Priestly is returning home within a week after open heart surgery.

June Bilby (Ian Thomas' partner) is happy to be contacted.

Jane Carbone's father died – funeral was a private one.

Andrew Lowcock's brother died.

Carmel LaManna's mum is in and out of hospital.

Steve Chandler's mum is now in rehabilitation and progressing well.

#### **District 9800 news**

The latest edition of 9800 Bulletin (July 30, Edition 1) announces that bookings are open for the District 9800 Conference in Bendigo from March 27-March 29 2020. The early bird price available until 31st November 2019 is \$300 which includes the entire conference, welcome reception and Saturday dinner.

Rotary District 9800 is encouraging all Rotary members to donate \$5 (more if appropriate) to Rotary Foundation. Donations are tax deductible. For "How to Donate" go to: <https://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/page/gimme-5-campaign>

The Bulletin also advises that a new research project funded by Australian Rotary Health will look at factors associated with cognitive decline as we age. This research project 'will use data from the ongoing Geelong Osteoporosis Study, which includes extensive medical, lifestyle, socio-demographic and clinical information from a sample of 3,200 adults.

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The Bulletin also features the following brief on our Maternity bags project penned by Sunil Perera.

*A simple curry night organised by the Rotary club of Essendon on the 28th Feb 2019 in an Indian Restaurant called Magic Mint in Moonee Ponds in Melbourne and an accompanying American auction yielded \$2,666. With a District 9800 grant of \$1,334 a total of \$4,000 was sent over to the Rotary club of Battaramulla Sri Lanka who were able to purchase 83 maternity bags for underprivileged and impoverished expectant mothers.*

*There is no better example than this project to exemplify the true internationality of Rotary. The distribution took place on the 26th June 2019 at the Thalangama divisional hospital where the would-be mothers received maternity bags with grateful thanks to the Rotarians of Essendon for their magnanimous gesture.*

*Due to the tough economic conditions most of these mothers cannot afford these bags which contain the bare minimum for the new baby & the mother to enter hospital for a safe delivery.*

*In the past most would shy away from admission and suffer undue stress and mental strain and even resort to non-hospitalised deliveries which sometimes add to the infant mortality numbers.*

*Hence the Rotarians of Battaramulla are indeed very committed to continuing this programme in the Battaramulla area in the years to come and look forward to support from like-minded persons, corporates and partner clubs overseas.*

*The Rotary Club of Battaramulla extend their gratitude to the Rotarians club of Essendon for supporting this project and look forward to partner in similar programmes in the future.*

## **A Glass of Wine**

When you watch the sunset with a glass of wine  
You enter a place of space and time  
Quite beyond description – in many ways  
Is a great reward at the end of the day

The natural calmness opens your mind  
To all things possible – you can find  
Worries disappear – or ideas will flow  
A creative genius will tell you so

Ask and you will receive - To get what you need  
Comes deep inside – from your spiritual guide  
This age old nectar in moderation  
Has the power to heal a troubled nation  
So take a step in this right direction  
Encourage others - it will change their perception



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Life can be fine  
If you take your time  
To savour the gift called  
A Glass of Wine

Roger Leask  
27<sup>th</sup> July 2019

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This information is intended for use for Rotary purposes only and we ask that you respect others privacy by not sharing their personal information.

If you do not wish for your personal information to be available for other Rotarians to view, you can log into your member profile at <https://www.rce.org.au> and change accordingly, however please note that this is the main data base for all club data.

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[www.rce.org.au](http://www.rce.org.au)  
President – Kelly Abfalter



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