

First meeting of 2020

David Abbey (almost) led the meeting in Rotary Grace and the Loyal Toast to Australia.

President Kelly was welcomed and then greeted the many guests and speakers who attended the meeting. Two previous RYLA participants supported by RCE were welcomed, namely Miguel who was accompanied by his Mum Suzette and Reggie. President Kelly also welcomed two students who participated with our support in the very recent NYSF activities — Jaiden along with his Dad John and Rakshan. President Kelly introduced and welcomed Richard Mason, Rotaract Gateway President.

The last speaker introduced and welcomed by President Kelly was Tanya Matthias the Community and School Engagement Officer of McCauley Women's Services. Tanya has always hoped to advocate for the rights of women and children, and has worked in a range of contexts as an educator, case worker, project leader and operations manager. She is passionate about collaborating with others in creatively advocating for justice. We were fortunate that Tanya openly sketched a part of her life story. Perhaps Tanya's own lived experience that includes seeing domestic violence first hand as a child, becoming homeless after finishing her teaching qualifications but then slipping into bad ways and being suspended from her teaching post has kindled her passion. Tanya's way back was certainly helped by her discovery of McCauley house. She is now doing Post Graduate studies.

The floor was then handed over to Shirley Kukk and Cathie Nicou for an update on what was brought from our generous donations to McCauley Women's Services that were augmented by a Division grant. Shirley reported that a great day of shopping was had, made more pleasurable and productive by the great service offered by KMart staff. Equally positive was the 5% discount offered on the \$2,000 of purchases made on the day. We will also be spending a \$1,000 at Bunnings. Cathie Nicou pointed out that these donations will help women affected by family violence and homelessness who are supported by McCauley Women's Services to establish their 'forever' homes. Cathie assured the meeting that our donations are 'always appreciated'.



On that note Tanya Matthias was also presented at the meeting with a large amount of Manchester and towels and the like that has been donated by individual RCE members. Tanya acknowledged that The McCauley Women's Service is so thankful to the Rotary Club of Essendon and its continuing support.

Bushfire Fundraiser

President Kelly next introduced RCE's planned bushfire fund raiser to be held at the Moonee Valley Council Chambers, Floor1, Civic Centre, 9 Kellaway Avenue Moonee Ponds. MVCC is providing the space at no cost. For more details please refer flyer below. Bookings are to be made online at www.trybooking.com/BHZXW. Please direct any enquiries to Alistair Fraser at the number shown below.

Supported in conjunction with the City of Moonee Valley Council

Rotary Club of Essendon Inc.

Rotary Gippsland Bushfire Appeal fundraiser



Friday 28th February 2020, 6.00pm

- Moonee Valley City Council Chambers, 1st floor, Civic Centre, 9 Kellaway Avenue, Moonee Ponds, VIC 3039
- \$50 per person, includes food & drinks (no spirits)
- Guest speaker, raffles & silent auctions
- Online Bookings by the 21st February 2020 at :- <https://www.trybooking.com/BHZXW>
Enquires to :- Alistair - Rotary Club Essendon 0411117881

Bushfires Fundraiser

***Our Clubs Major Effort
Please support the
Rotary Clubs and
Communities of East
Gippsland as per flyer
on the table.
Well done to Alistair,
Roger, Richard, Maria
and Michael Mahoney***

Please book Online



There will be a variety of other ways for us to help bushfire victims. One is opening up of country/ coastal or other similar properties for rental with the net proceeds being donated to bush fire victims. Veronica O'Sullivan for instance has agreed to make her family's country property available.

Barefoot bowling evening at Aberfeldie Bowling Club

On January 28 2020, ninety people from three Rotary Clubs, including RCE, had a great night trying to lawn bowl and having a good chin wag. We raised \$3,500 on the night for the East Gippsland Bush Fire Appeal. Special thanks go to the Aberfeldie Bowling Club for hosting the evening and patiently teaching us how to bowl.

Barefoot Bowls

90 People from 3 Rotary Clubs had a great night bowling and having a yarn. We raised on the night \$3,500 for the East Gippsland Bush Fire Appeal. Thanks to the Aberfeldie Bowling Club for hosting the evening and teaching us how to bowl.



Multicultural BBQ at the Struk cabana on February 2 2020.

President Kelly reported that a small but cheerful group enjoyed a lovely afternoon of eating, drinking, chatting and generally socializing at the cabana of Ineke and Boris Struk.

Multi Cultural Australia Day BBQ at the Struk Cabana Thank You Boris and Ineke for hosting the Day





The Bunnings BBQ's – Saturday 11th January 2020

We started 2020 in sizzling style, and made over \$ 1,500 after costs on the day!!!

A big thank you to all that came and helped, at times we actually had too many cooks in the kitchen.

Special thanks to Cathy & Nick Nicou for donating the bread, Boundies for supplying and storing the sausages and also to Peter Duras for sharing his know how and special BBQ tools.

Given how much we all enjoyed the day, we are booking another BBQ at Bunnings for later in the Year.

Guest speaker 1: Reggie Chang on RYLA District 9800 September 2019

Reggie gave a brief bio that included his roles as a photographer and film maker, his personal description of himself as a mid 20s queer, with an active role in representing the LGBTI community. Reggie is 'passionate in advocacy around mental health and youth out-of-home care'.

Reggie participated in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) in 2019. He found the five day program quite challenging but rewarding. One of the main challenges was the need to participate in a range of different topics, presented as part of end to end courses every day. Another component of RYLA is camping overnight.

Among the benefits of RYLA for Reggie are the potential to make new lifelong friends, and to learn a lot more about youth participation and positive leadership qualities.

On the other hand several challenges dampened these benefits. One was the challenge of staying engaged throughout the five days, since there was insufficient time for thinking, reflection and recuperation. Another challenge was the lack of time to really get to know other attendees.

In closing Reggie thanked RCE for its sponsorship and support of his RYLA attendance and participation. Finally Reggie thanked Gateway Rotary for its support in helping him through a difficult time since his RYLA experience.

Guest speaker 2: Miguel on RYLA

Miguel participated in RYLA in 2018 with our support and subsequently has become a RYLA team member. In hindsight Miguel loves RYLA for enabling a focus on creating insight and passion. As a team member Miguel has had a wonderful opportunity to learn about cultural differences and backgrounds and the need for us to recognise and accommodate these especially in work place settings in order to stimulate creative sparks and positive energy.

Guest speaker 3: Richard from Gateway Rotaract

Richard himself participated in RYLA in 2013 and was a team leader in 2018 and 2019. Richard sees RYLA as different for everyone and is an individual journey with everyone getting something different from it.



Guest speakers 4 and 5: Jaiden and Rakshan on NYSF

RCE has supported both Jaiden and Rakshan to participate in the January 2020 element of the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF).

Jaiden was involved in the five day program that started in Canberra on New Year's Day.

Jaiden was involved in lot of team building and networking and had 'a lot of fun.' Some lifelong friendships were potentially started in the last night's dance party.

Rakshan's NYSF participation was double that of Jaiden's and involved more science work. Rakshan and his co-NYSFers stayed at the University of Queensland for 10 days and did quite a bit of science including bio-medical science. Rakshan quite enjoyed engaging as part of a team, in some bio-medical design work at the Idea hub of Queensland's Idea hub. From Rakshan's perspective, however, NYSF is more about networking and meeting people rather than learning a lot of science.

Jaiden and Rakshan both thanked RCE for its support and sponsorship.



Upcoming meetings

Please note the following in your diaries.

Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday 18th February 2020 – Lunchtime Meeting from 12:45 pm at Crown Stables

Tuesday 3rd March 2020 – Dinner Meeting from 6:45 pm at Anglers Tavern

**Tuesday 10th March 2020 – International Women's Day Breakfast with MVCC at the Clock Tower Centre
We are sponsoring 2 schools – Rotarians and Friends welcome at \$ 50 per person. Please let Kelly know.**



Also please note the request from Maria Kouppas to bring along any spare/ excess foreign coins over the next few weeks. The aim is to secure 85 kilograms of such coins which will be and forwarded to UNICEF to help with polio injections. A separate flyer will be produced.

Birthday greetings

These three lucky RCE members were presented with birthday donuts by President Kelly: Nola, Vera and Lino.

Meeting closed

President Kelly closed the meeting at around 8.40 PM. She flies out to Myanmar on Wednesday February 5 and then to Sri Lanka on February 11 as part of our first RCE delegation, comprising seventeen delegates.

Art Show 2020

Our biggest fundraiser of the year, the annual Moonee Valley Art Show is on again in 2020. We are currently seeking support from members and friends who can access sponsorship for this magnificent event. For its sixth show we want to make it the biggest and best yet but we cannot do that without sponsorship to assist us to cover costs. The Art Show committee has some great resources to assist you in approaching the companies you know that can be a part of this event.



Contact

Rotary
Club of Essendon



PO Box 161 Essendon VIC 3040

ABN 91036600532

D9800

The bigger the better! - Please contact Pres. Kelly if you can help.

6th ANNUAL MOONEE VALLEY ART SHOW 2020



ART EXHIBITION & SALES

Saturday 18 April	11 am – 5 pm
Sunday 19 April	10 am – 4 pm

North Park Mansion, 69 Woodland St, Essendon

PLUS - Live music
- Food and beverages
- Devonshire tea

To enter art or purchase Gala Opening tickets
mooneevalleyartshow.com.au

Exhibition tickets at the door

Entry: Adults \$10, students & pensioners \$5, family \$20, under 12 free

Call 0412 165 912 for more information

Gala
Opening
Preview
Evening
Friday 17 April
Spectacular
Entertainment

MOONEE VALLEY

Art Show

Rotary 



Rotary Club of Keilor East

Rotary Club of Essendon



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www.rce.org.au
President – Kelly Abfalter

Contact

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Please add to your diaries where appropriate or interesting.

Date	Event	Venue & Time	Contact & Notes
Feb 05, 2020	Myanmar Trip - Projects visit by Delegation	Yangon, Myanmar	Richard Lawrence
Feb 12, 2020	Sri Lanka Trip - Projects visit by Delegation	Colombo, Sri Lanka	Sunil Perera
Feb 18, 2020	Club Lunch Meeting	Crown Stables Cafe Flemington	David Abbey
Feb 26, 2020	Days for Girls Sew In Day	Baptist Church Buckley St	Jane Odgers
Feb 28, 2020	RCE Cocktail Party for Bushfire Appeal	MVCC Chambers	Alistair Fraser & Richard Lawrence
Mar 01, 2020	Strathmore Men's Shed Market Stall	Sunday Open Day at Pascoe Vale Gardens	Daryl Lee or John Odgers
Mar 03, 2020		Anglers Tavern	David Abbey
Mar 17, 2020	Club Lunch Meeting - Club Forum on St Patricks Day	Anglers Tavern	David Abbey
Mar 27, 2020	Rotary District 9800 Conference in Bendigo	Ulumbarra Theatre, 10 Gaol Rd, Bendigo BOOK NOW!!	https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/site/page/conference2020 David Abbey
Apr 07, 2020	Club Night Meeting	Anglers Tavern	David Abbey
Apr 17, 2020	Art Show Gala Night	North Park Manor	Kelly Abfalter
Apr 18, 2020	Art Show at North Park Mansion	North Park Mansion Woodland St Essendon	Kelly Abfalter
Apr 19, 2020	Art Show at North Park Mansion	North Park Mansion Woodland St Essendon	Kelly Abfalter
Apr 21, 2020	Club Lunch Meeting	Anglers Tavern	David Abbey
May 5, 2020	Club Night Meeting Bahay Tuluyan Visiting	Anglers Tavern	David Abbey
May 8, 2020	Strathmore Men's Shed	BBQ Bunnings Coburg	Daryl Lee or John Odgers
May 19, 2020	Club Lunch Meeting	Anglers Tavern	David Abbey
Jun 02, 2020	Club Night Meeting	Anglers Tavern	David Abbey
Jun 16, 2020	Club Lunch Meeting	Anglers Tavern	David Abbey

Strathmore Community Bank® Branch



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