

Contact

PO Box 161 Essendon VIC 3040

Rotary
Club of Essendon

ABN 91036600532



D9800

Dear Rotary Club of Essendon Members & Friends,

It has been an absolute pleasure to serve you for all as President of the Rotary of Essendon for the last year, and I would like to thank you all for your contributions!

It has certainly been a year of enormous and sudden unplanned change. What makes me extremely proud to be a member of the Rotary Club of Essendon is how we as a group have innovatively adapted to change and continued to serve both our community and the wider world. More than ever what we do for others as Rotarians is important.

Below is a list of just our major fundraisers and contributions for the year. It's amazing what we can achieve when we work together and support each other. A full detailed report will be submitted at our Annual General Meeting in November 2020. In summary:-

- * Virtual Monee Valley Art Show with the Rotary Club of Keilor East
- * Distributed Free Donated Hand Sanitizer to Community Workers and Local Business
- * Barefoot Bowls Bushfires Fundraiser together with the Rotary Club of Keilor
- * Club visits to Myanmar and Sri Lanka to view projects and experience culture
- * Sri Lanka in country Cleft Lip Surgery funding completed by Rotary Global Grant in partnership with the Rotary Club of Battaramulla and our Club's Curry Night Fundraiser.
- * Supplied Myanmar Liver Foundation with new portable Ultrasound; Myanmar Anesthetists Association with 75 Oximeters now used to assist with Covid-19 Patients; Myanmar Hope for Children home with Days 4 Girls Kits, School & Sporting Equipment, Clothing & Food; Myanmar Step In Step Up funding for Vocational & Community Training
- * Provided equipment funded by both Club monies and Rotary District Grants being
 - * Photocopier for St Bernadette's Remedial School in Peru
 - * Irrigation Equipment for sustainable farming at Bahay Tuluyan in Philippines
 - * Food & Clothing for disadvantaged families supported by Caroline Chisholm Society
 - * Domestic Violence refuge house equipment for McAuley Women's Services
- * Raised Funds for Australian Rotary Health – Lift the Lid on Mental Health
- * Supported Days 4 Girls; Strathmore Mens Shed; Youth Projects for the Homeless
- * Supported local Youth development via Rotary Programs of NYSF and RYLA and disadvantaged Student Scholarships

So again; thank you all and well done!!!

Kel

Kelly Abfalter – President of Rotary Club of Essendon 2019/2020



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President's Change Over – Tuesday 7th July 2020 at 7:30 pm on Zoom

After much discussion by Board, the reality is that Presidents Change Over and Presidents Night will be a combined Online Event due to Government social gathering restrictions.

The Event will commence with Presidents change over and I believe will be followed by the SKIT !! Time for a good laugh.

Below are the log in details. Please save the date.

Time: Jul 7, 2020 19:30 Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/5681231948?pwd=aDFNTXJjdWJHOgpmQ3lpaFF3eThUQT09>

Meeting ID: 568 123 1948

Password: rce1935

Online Club meeting June 16 2020

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting in progress. The main window displays a grid of 20 participants in a 5x4 layout. The participants' names are visible below their video thumbnails. The chat window on the right shows a conversation with the following messages:

- From Peter Condos to Everyone: Hi everyone! am doing this meeting and a google tutorial simultaneously PC
- From David Abbey to Everyone: Who turned the lights off at Maria's house? Peter B. are you about to operate?
- From Maria Kouppas to Everyone: hiding from the family snick

The bottom of the screenshot shows the Windows taskbar with various application icons and the system clock displaying 1:24 PM on 15/06/2020.



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Meeting starts

President Kel welcomed all those on screen. She noted that it was good to see Bev Smyth back on line. David Abbey headed up a version of Rotary Grave and a toast to Australia and Rotary International.

In a slight departure from our normal procedure, President Kel introduced our guest Speaker.

Guest speaker: Dr Jennifer Weber, CEO Caroline Chisholm Society

Here is a very brief overview of the Caroline Chisholm Society (CCS) taken from its Home Page.

Established in 1969, the Caroline Chisholm Society is a charitable organisation, both privately and government funded, and is non-denominational. The Society offers support to pregnant women and parents with children up to school age. The Society provides a range of programmes for families in need, including counselling, housing, material aid and in home family support. The families that the Caroline Chisholm Society works with are typically lacking in wider social and family supports and are very grateful for the practical, emotional and financial supports the Society can offer.

Jennifer Weber gave an interesting and informative talk about the Caroline Chisholm Society that adds a lot of more detail about this most valuable and needed society.

Jennifer has been CEO since 2017, having gained over three decades of experience in the not-for-profit and university sector. She first explained that the CCS operates out of three locations and related catchment areas: Caroline Springs, Essendon and Shepparton. Since the outbreak of Co-vid 19, Jennifer has been working from home in seeking to ensure that CCS continues to provide support, care, interventions (where needed) and activity packs for children. Unfortunately this need for home-based work has prevented CCS from providing some services to some clients.

Another negative consequence of Co-vid 19 is that CCS has put material donations on hold. By mid-July CCS is hoping to set up procedures for being able to receive such gifts.

CCS has thirteen practitioners. Jennifer notes are very much the unsung heroes in this Co-vid 19 environment, in providing needed services, especially to women without health cards and/ or with limited English language skills.

CCS does not use the term 'social distancing' for cultural reasons but does discuss physical distancing issues.

A most alarming statistic that Jennifer provided is that currently there are over 20,000 children in Victoria that are in out-of-home care arrangements. Even more concerning is the projection that this figure will double in the foreseeable future. Jennifer noted that while the Victorian Government is reluctant to fund agencies like CCS, it will fund \$1 million in support for children up to 18 years old who are out-of-home.



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Jennifer noted that CCS works with hundreds of women per year. It is very rare for children to be taken away from their mothers when CCS is actively involved. CCS does work very closely with the Department of Health and Human Services.

In a very positive sense, Jennifer noted that VCCS often has families coming back to it to return donated clothing so that other disadvantaged mothers and their children can make use of them.

Finally from this year CCS will conduct follow up interviews after months of care and a one month and six month check after active CCS involvement has ended.

A good question and answer session followed. There were several examples mentioned that show that RCE has been actively and willingly involved in supporting CCS over several decades. Currently Vera Maljevac is RCE's main member in CCS liaison with over \$2500 of food and clothing having been secured for CCS. Jenni Mann also volunteers and spends lots of time sorting materials, washing clothes, cleaning shoes before they are suitable for CCS use.

Happy birthday wishes

Michael Cariss turned 75 on June 18. Many happy returns young fella!

Update on gold coin collection

Maria Kouppas let us know that currently there is 28.5 kilograms of coins and around 50 currency notes in store. Maria informs that we can keep this project rolling so if you have any unwanted (international) currency please drop it off at Maria's.

District Grant writing seminar

David Abbey spoke to this topic. These seminars are very important to attend for any club seeking District Grants.

Days for Girls thanks RCE for its donation'

Lisa Lowcock extended a sincere note of thanks to RCE for its donation of \$1000 to the Keilor East Days for Girls project. This project delivers great benefits to girls and women in developing nations.

Next meeting

July7 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm Combined Zoom meeting for the Changeover and the President's night.
August 7 TBC 6pm – 9 pm Cocktail Party at Moonee Valley Chamber



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Men's Shed update

The benefits of the fellowship and camaraderie developed through Strathmore Men's Shed environment with support from our three affiliated Rotary clubs was very evident recently when we were able to support one of the shed members who was suffering some mental anxiety particularly due to the shed being closed due to the pandemic. The shed committee organised some care packages for our members and during the course of distributing them, Barry Coleman identified the problem and called on some fellow sheddies and Rotary members to provide support. The outcome of these actions has been very positive with possible opportunities for some volunteering work for the shed member identified and with the shed reopening this week, some normality has now returned to his routine.

As a slight aside, this week has seen 10-15 members return each day under a new operational protocol. As the anxiety under Covid19 reduces, more members are expected to return. The protocol allows for 20 members plus facilitators. We believe we will slowly build to those kinds of numbers as we had pre-Covid19.

Valediction to Sir Clem Renouf

Hello District leaders, Council of Governors, Club Presidents and fellow Rotarians

It is with much sadness that I report to you that PRIP Sir Clem Renouf passed away last night.

As a founding member and charter secretary of RC Nambour, Sir Clem became District Governor in 1965-66, and went on to serve as President of Rotary International in 1978-79.

Sir Clem was a giant in Rotary history as the instigator of the 3-H program that led to the polio eradication effort. We know him as the person who started the goal of Polio Eradication.

What a tragic loss, but what a fantastic life that impacted and bettered the lives of those around him and around the world. Sir Clem made a difference and changed lives now and into the future.

Everyone in the Rotary world and more broadly will be saddened by this news but also thankful that we were connected through Rotary.

Details of his funeral are unknown at this time, but I will keep you updated as details come to hand.

Regards

Grant Hocking ASM (Melissa)



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Acts of Kindness - A community recovery program by Moonee Valley City Council

Hi there,

I hope you've been well.

I thought you may be interested in Council's new program called *Act of Kindness*.

We're running 12 free online workshops with our partners Laneway Learning that anyone in our community can attend.

Each workshop will teach you something new: from learning to keep your house plants happy to creative writing.

See workshop dates here:



We are also on the lookout for community members who have a craft, skill or passion they'd love to share with our community. No facilitation or teaching experience required!

See below for workshop and program details in the link below!

<https://mvcc.vic.gov.au/kindness/>

Cheers

Ilz Aslan

Team Leader Neighbourhood Engagement

Phone 8325 1876 Mobile 0438 914 291 Email iaslan@mvcc.vic.gov.au



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SAVE THE DATE: Rotary Australia's Centenary

Rotary's Centenary is a time of celebration! It is a time to reflect on our past, and take pride in all that has been achieved. It is a time we play our part in the history of Rotary.

Our centenary is also the time to lay the foundations for our future, as we still have much to do. The key project in our centenary year will focus on stopping the one in 16 children who die in 9 Pacific nations before the age of five.

We invite you to join Rotarians across Australia on 10th July for virtual fellowship, as well as meet our R100 Centenary Ambassadors, the Governor General and Mrs Hurley, as they launch our national centenary campaign. By joining us, you will witness the "Passing the Baton" ceremony. The baton that will carry the symbols of our centenary and will travel far and wide across Rotary clubs and Districts.

Please pass this invitation on to as many Rotary clubs as possible so that they too can join this event. We ask too for your support in helping us raise funds for our R100 Centenary project, "Rotary Give Every Child a Future"; saving young lives in Pacific nations.

Please expect registration details on how you can join within the next week.

We look forward to you joining in and making your mark on history!

Kind regards,

Garry Browne Chair - National Centenary of
Rotary Committee

Hugh Bucknall Founder - Centenary of Rotary Campaign

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Drop into the branch at 337 Napier Street, Strathmore or call Manager David Porter on 9374-2607 for details



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