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President: Sunil Perera president@rce.org.au

www.rce.org.au

Annual General Meeting November 30 2021

President's message – Membership night

The membership night was celebrated with awards presented by Past President David Abbey to Vera Maljevac a Royce Abbey award and Kelly Abfalter and Jenni Mann received Paul Harris recognitions, all well deserved.

A warm welcome was extended to our guests Cindy Abbey, Kerrie Roe, Susan & Damian Nippard, Regina Davern, Geoff Gray, Stephen Saunders, Clancy Saunders, Mark Ropper and Patricia Fraser.

The next highlight for the evening was the induction of the two new members Regina Davern and Christine Hilbert, the two new members were inducted & welcomed by all and allocated to a committee of their choice.

I am indeed happy to note that our club membership is growing now with 50 members including the new two members inducted on the 30th November with a further two members to be inducted in the new year in February bringing the total to 52 members.

Our club membership gender percentage is currently 16 female and 32 male soon to increase to 20 female and 32 male which represents 40% females in our club.

Comparing our membership gender diversity to our Cluster Group 9800 Gateway East the ratio of female to male is 29% (this includes our club data which if excluded this ratio will be lower)

Considering our first female President was elected in 2005/06 we have come a long way going in the right direction towards more diverse membership participation including gender equality in our membership.

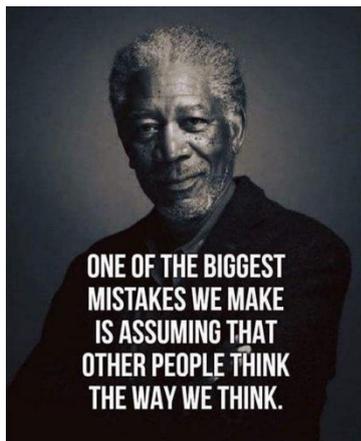


Other matters

Past President and current Vice President Lisa Lowcock informed all members to donate gifts for the children at Caroline Chisholm for Christmas.

Vera Maljevac & Nola Spicer informed all present of the market stall at Moonee Ponds Central on the 4th December.

Some thoughts to ponder



Maria Koppas presented the club's welfare report, with two positive reports of steady recovery about Peter Duras who was thrilled to receive out get well greetings, and Carmel La Manna who is on the mend and also extends sincere thanks to our Club. Maria also mentioned the very wet condition in which Cindy and David Abbey are having to contend with in their Yarraville home. We extend our best wishes to them for a quick, complete and quality restoration of their Melbourne home.

Maria as Chair of the Royce Abbey Awards Committee also reported that two RA awards were conferred last evening, November 29. These bring the total to 460 RA award, generating a total of some \$460,000 of funds into the RA Foundation. Maria informed us that the two recipients from the Rotary Club of Keilor East delivered a very moving jointly crafted thank you speech.

Both of our inducted new members, Regina Davern and Christine Hilbert, expressed their gratitude for the warm welcome they have received since starting to become familiar with our club, and the honour they feel in being accepted as members.



The two deserved Paul Harris recognition awardees, Kelly Abfalter and Jenny Mann both relatively new RCE Members with Past President David Abbey and Maria Kouppas.



Lisa Lowcock was asked to update us on the state of the Caroline Chisholm 2021 toy drives donations. The main target group is children less than five years old. Lisa is still happy for donations to be taken to her home address for sorting and delivery to Caroline Chisholm. Lisa comments that the toy gifts do not have to be expensive.

Nola Spicer and Vera Maljevac updated the meeting on the St Vinnies market stall update . So far \$500 has been raised. Nola has successfully negotiated with Moonee Pond's Central management which has allowed the stall to operate on Saturday December 5 opposite Coles in Moonee Ponds Central. RCE Member are encouraged to drop by and may be buy something.

As President Sunil noted in his message, next year's President Vera Maljevac was presented by Past President by David Abbey a Royce Abbey award. At the end of the meeting Vera managed to overcome her tongue-tiredness to thank Past President David and RA Chair Maria Kouppas for believing in her. Vera noted her honour in receiving the award.



Norm Mollica was presented with another congratulatory letter on his 50 years of outstanding achievement to Rotary International. Its author was the current RI International President.

Norm in his normal humble and quiet way again thanked all those who had helped and guided him over this journey and wished us all well.

Contact

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Rotary
Club of Essendon

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Upcoming events

- **Market Stall at Moonee Ponds Central (Coles)**

Moonee Ponds Central Coles

Dec 04, 2021
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

- **Christmas Party**

Angler's Tavern

Dec 07, 2021
6:00 PM – 10:00 PM

- **breakfast meeting**

Dec 21, 2021
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

- **Family Tennis day**

KETC

Jan 30, 2022

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Thank you to !!!



Rotary Opens Opportunities

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Time for reflection from Maurice Mollica

Christmas is a time of reflection on the mystery and meaning of God's gift of existential freedom and on the birth of Christ and on the guiding values He preached importantly of forgiveness, charity and most of all love for our families and our fellow humans. As Christians we can be guided by the example of the lived life of Jesus as well as by His spiritual message as we navigate the challenges of our modern world. For many of us, when we look deeply into those messages we must come to the view that the very foundations of Christianity require us to consider, defend, modify and pray and to deepen and assess our values in order to do good not to abuse power or be self engrossed at the expense of others. Reflect and act.

Elder abuse presentation

On Monday December 6 from 10 AM to 3PM the Moonee Valley Legal Services will be conducting a Moonee Valley Senior's day. The topic is elder abuse and a presentation is scheduled for 12 PM. The venue is the Crown Street Stables at 49 Crown Street Flemington. Over the five hours stalls, services, a bake stall, food and drinks and legal information will be available.

Further information is available by phone on 93767929, email on admin@2mvls.org.au or the internet on www.mvls.org.au.



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