



Maria Kouppas  
President 2016-17

## Volume 82, Issue 36

April 11th 2017

President Maria was invited to the podium by sergeant Michael Cariss, President Maria welcomed the guests Anne McCormack a guest of Jenny Foster, Stefan Romaniov, S Sui a guest of Tim Anderson, Charlotte Salome visiting ex-exchange student, Jane Odgers & Paul Dalmau.

After welcoming all Rotarians and friends President Maria asked PP Boris Struk to come forward to be presented with his new dinner badge with the Paul Harris recognition that he was awarded for his work with Muscular dystrophy Australia.

President Maria enlightened & entertained all present about how she was the designated driver to Geelong for the Rotary Club of Geelong Central meeting together a few male members of our club, Roger Leask, Michael Cariss, Sunil Perera & past member Jorgen Bobenko. She said she recalled her school days when the boys sat at the back of the bus..... she said 1 hour to Geelong and 1 hour back the conversation ranged from Footy to food and jokes bordering on "blue" on the way back. She said that one of the members said that this was the best fellowship he has had in a long time.

All the "gentlemen" who were in the car were fined!!!

President Maria said that the all went very well on the visit to Rotary Club of Geelong Central who celebrated Foundation and also had their clubs induction of their new board on the day. We were met there by Glenn Smith and David Abbey.

Another Royce Abbey Award was presented bringing the total presented to over 300 with a few more in the pipeline to be presented. Over \$300,000 has been invested into the R&J Abbey Scholarship fund. A special congratulations to the R&J Abbey Committee and of Course the tireless commitment of Roger Leask.



**"The Rotary network is amazing in how it connects and supports local and international communities"**

Cathy Nicou - RC Essendon



Maria said that our past member Jorgen sent his best wishes to all.

President Maria reminded all of the Greek night next week on the 20<sup>th</sup> April the week after Easter and asked that members contact past members, friends and neighbours as all are welcome. Please contact and RSVP Jane Carbone or President Maria.

## **Other matters**

Alistair Fraser gave an update on the Royal district nursing MVCC project and a big thank you to Cr Richard Lawrence for his help and assistance to bring the project to this stage.

A big thank you also to Jane Odgers for giving her time and helping out at the recent ART Show

Grant Stephenson won the raffle and drew the joker as well!!!



Birthday boys Neil Henderson 15<sup>th</sup> April and Steve Chandler 19<sup>th</sup> April, Glenn Smith & Jack Honson were all fined for enjoying another year and we hope to fine them for many years to come.

Sergeant Michael spoke about the trip to Geelong where the Sri Lankan Council General in Melbourne was the guest speaker who spoke about the devastating tsunami and how Rotary helped the Island recover from the aftermath. He gave a detailed account of the destruction and how a school was built with the money collected.

He said a total amount donated by the Rotary Clubs of Australia amounted to \$600,000.

## **The Speaker for the day**

The speaker for the day was Stefan Romaniov - Chairman of Australia Day Council.

### **Stefan Romaniw OAM**

Mr Stefan Romaniw OAM currently holds the position of Executive Director of Community Languages Australia. He served terms as Chairperson of the Victorian Multicultural Commission. He has a teaching qualification and, prior to moving into senior government positions and senior management, worked in a range of school settings. He is Chairman of the Australia Day Committee (Victoria).

Currently he serves as Chairman or is in leadership role of a number of committees and organizations within broader

Australian and Ukrainian communities:

- Chair Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organisations;
- Chair, RMIT Languages Advisory Board;
- Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) General Secretary

He currently is a member of the:

- Starlight Children's Foundation Victoria Advisory Board
- Victorian Ministerial Advisory Council on Multicultural Affairs (MACMA)
- Board member of the Association of Ukrainians in Victoria

He was a board member of Multicultural Arts Victoria for 15 years and was chairman for 10 years 2006-2016 and led the organisation to being one of the 10 lead Arts' agencies in Victoria





He has a successful career in brand building, change management, community building and strengthening, networking and strategic planning. He also has been a strong proponent of using spheres of influence as a strategy for building and influencing relations.

He has been a member on a range of Boards and committees including; Board of Council of Adult Education, Commonwealth Ministerial Standing Council on Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters Board, Multicultural Issues Forum with Hume City Council; Victorian Ministerial Advisory Council Multicultural and Multilingual Education; Victorian Ministerial Arts Advisory Council; Centenary of Federation Victoria, the City of Melbourne Safe City Task Force, Good Food Advisory Board. He has been an Australia Day Ambassador in Victoria (Life Member) and has also fulfilled Australia Day Ambassador responsibilities in Tasmania.

He has a very wide based network through all levels of Government, education, media, sport the arts fields and NGOs.

In the Ukrainian Community he was principal of the Ukrainian Community School North Melbourne for 17 years, Chair of the Ukrainian School Council of Victoria, President of the Melbourne Branch and subsequently National Executive of the Ukrainian Youth Association and served as President of the Association of Ukrainians of Victoria for 10 years.

In 2001 he was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for his contribution to education and the CALD communities and in 2003 received the Centenary Medal for services to the community. He has received the three levels of Orders of Recognition and Medals from the President of Ukraine for services to Ukraine. He also received the Foreign Affairs of Ukraine medal for services to international relations.

In 2013 He was inducted into the St Bernard's College Hall of Fame.

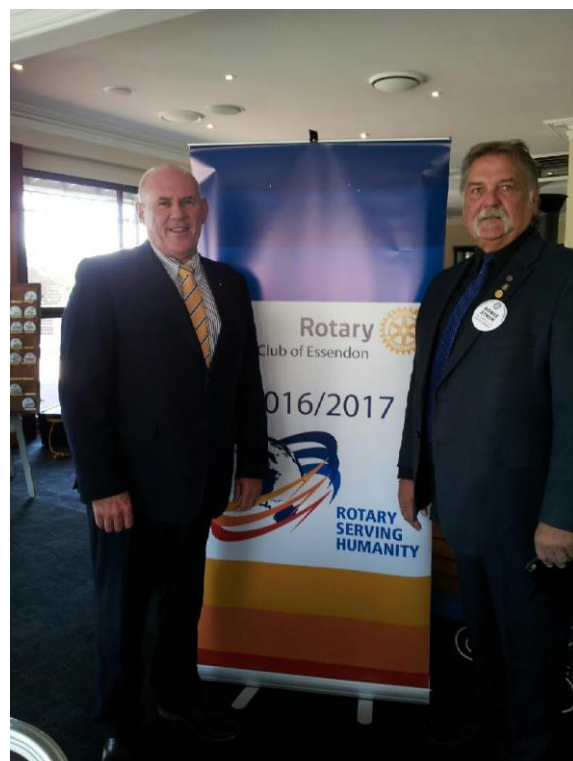
He travels extensively internationally and nationally promoting his areas of expertise and has participated in delegations to China, Germany, USA, Canada, Hungary, Greece, Great Britain and Ukraine.

He holds membership with -

- RACV Club
- Essendon Football Club

His interests include -Australian Rules Football, running, gardening and spending time with his family.

He has been married to Anastasia for 39 years. They have two married children Peter and Theresa and four grandchildren.



Stefan Romaniov with President Maria (left) & Stefan with PP Boris Struk (right)



## Stefan spoke about the following matters:

1. Building a strong Australia
2. Australia Day Purpose – Values, Commitment & Recognition
3. Diversity, its place role and responsibility
4. Building a stronger community
5. Planning for the future – Population policy, Build around strategy, plan for immigration, infrastructure, education, social and economic reform
6. Ukraine situation – Stefan explained the current situation in the Ukraine
7. Stefan also reminded all of the Rotary Moto “Service above self” and to use this to continue to serve the community.

Stefan said that the Rotary club of Holroyd in Sydney West raised funds by holding a function during the International Congress of Rotary in Sydney in 2015 at which himself and the John Hewko General Secretary Rotary International (who is of Ukrainian background) from the USA raised US\$5,000 and together with the Rotary Club of Germany and a Rotary Club in the USA led by Rotary Lviv bought several medical refrigerators for a proposed bone marrow transplant centre based in Western Ukraine.

Stefan spoke how his father a first generation migrant was involved in community work and how he involved himself in raising money starting in a small way to help the people in need in Tullamarine and was associated with the Essendon Football Club and new the previous coach Kevin Sheedy and how he mispronounced Kevin’s surname.

Stefan said that people migrate to Australia for a better life and a fair go to all, as such there must be one society where everyone embraces the Australian way of life and abide by the rules of the country and at the same time be proud of ones heritage and be able to celebrate same as well. He said there are approximately 200 nationalities in Victoria alone and Australia is a very welcoming place and there should be one law for all Australians.

Stefan talking further about the situation in the Ukraine said they have been dominated for the last 300 years and independence was obtained from the USSR in 1991, he said a complicated war was going on in Ukraine affecting about 2% of the land. He said ANZAC day biscuits will be distributed to the soldiers in the front.



Club members with President Maria, Steve Chandler guest Paul Dalmau and Neil Henderson





## Our visit to the Rotary Club of Geelong Central



President Maria with the Sri Lankan Council General



Royce Abbey winner Jane Cox PDG with the members of the Rotary club of Essendon





## Visit to South America

A delegation from the Rotary Clubs of Essendon and Keilor East are heading to South America in October, 2017.

The group depart on Friday 6 October for Santiago, Chile then on to Lima, Peru to visit St Bernadette's school (we obtained a District Grant and have purchased and installed 12 computers at the school). We will also be meeting our project partner The Rotary Club of La Molina and the Australian Ambassador to Peru.

The group will then undertake a short holiday. Some of the highlights of the tour include:

Machu Picchu, Lake Titicaca, Iguassu Falls and tango in Buenos Aires. An opportunity exists for you to extend the tour by visiting the Galápagos Islands.

If you are interested in joining the delegation please contact Veronica, Lisa or Shirley to secure your place.





# CELEBRATE GREEK EASTER

A special night for the Rotarians, family and friends. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy

A night of beautiful food, good fellowship with a touch of Greek Easter Traditions

## Your GREEK FEAST will include

**Entrées** - Tzaziki, Taramosalata, Melzinosalata serve with warm pita bread, Saganaki, Dolamades, Spetsofai, Char Grilled Octopus.

**Mains** – Roasted Leg of Lamb, Chicken and Lamb Souvlaki, and Fried Calamari

Provincial Greek salad and a Cypriot Cabbage Salad

**Dessert** – Loukoumades topped with Honey, walnuts and cinnamon, served with Halva Ice Cream

Tea coffee or a “metrio”

## To RSVP;

Jane Carbone on 0417 329 005 or

Maria Kouppas on 0416 122 523

by the Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April

Please invite your friends for a wonderful night of Greek Food and Easter Treats.

Rotary Club Essendon



**Philhellene**

**Greek Restaurant**

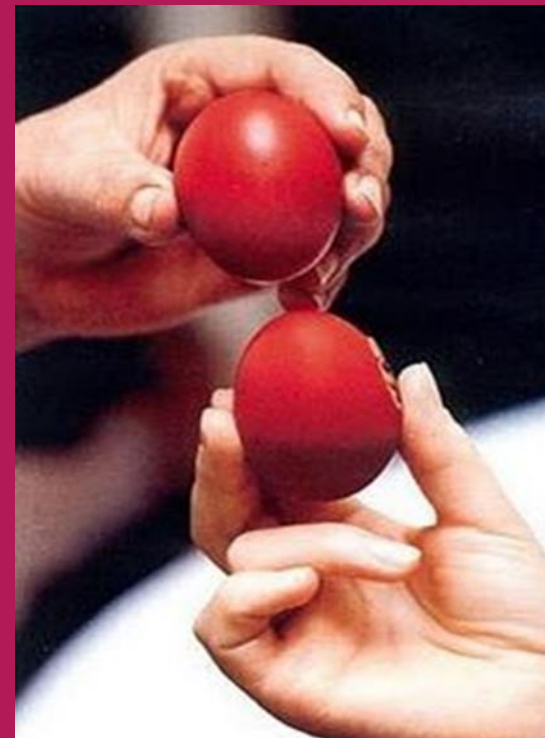
551/553 Mt Alexander Rd,  
Moonee Ponds VIC 3039

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April**

**6.30 For 7.00pm**

**\$50.00 pp**

**Drinks at Bar Prices**







## ROTARY CLUB OF ESSENDON VISIT TO:

**Western Emergency Relief Network premises (WERN)**  
A District 9800 project

**WEDNESDAY 3rd MAY, 2017**

**Venue: 3 Cross Street, Footscray, VIC 3011**  
**At 9.30am**

**Followed by morning tea at the Western Bulldogs coffee shop**  
**the tour will be conducted by PDG Ross Butterworth.**  
(Ross will be a guest speaker at the club on 16 May)

**Please contact Shirley Kukk to register your attendance**

## WHAT IS WERN?

**Western Emergency Relief Network (WERN) - Rotary District 9800**

WERN provides emergency relief and assistance through supplying good quality second hand furniture, electronic and whitegoods, to people in need.

The people assisted are those who have been identified to have an urgent need as a result of experiencing trauma or loss, where they have a need to move or perhaps cannot afford basic living requirements, where they are struggling to buy essentials such as furniture and other household goods.

WERN manages a group of volunteers responsible for the collection, assessment, the repair and cleaning of donated goods. WERN facilitates the supply of all appropriate items to be available to individuals and families in need through a network of Member Welfare Agencies.



**HAPPY & SAFE EASTER TO ALL MEMBERS & FRIENDS**





## EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	SPEAKER/EVENT	VENUE
18 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	Easter Tuesday	NO MEETING
20 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	Greek night	Philhellene 551 Mt Alexander Road Moonee Ponds
25 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	ANZAC Day	NO MEETING
May 2017	Graffiti clean-up day	Date, time & venue TBC
2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2017	Peter "Grubby" Stubbs – 3AW & Radio fame	The Anglers Tavern 12.30 pm to 2pm
9 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Charter Night – Speaker Neil Comrie	Ascot House
16 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	WERN – Ross Butterworth	The Anglers Tavern 12.30 pm to 2pm
23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2017	Bill Kuszniczuk – Town Planning	The Anglers Tavern 12.30 pm for 1pm to 2pm
31 <sup>st</sup> May 2017	Rotary Presents – Susan Alberti AO	Australian Events Company Essendon Fields Start time 7pm
6 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	DG Visit & Fellowship	The Anglers Tavern 12.30 pm for 1pm to 2pm
13 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	Nina Lovengreen	The Anglers Tavern 12.30 pm for 1pm to 2pm
20 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	President Maria's final meeting	The Anglers Tavern 12.30 pm for 1pm to 2pm
30 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	President's night	St Andrews Conservatory

### President Maria's quote for the day

"When we belong, we believe. When we separate we doubt" – R A Delmonico

### Thought for the day

**I'M NOT A PERFECT  
PERSON, I MAKE A LOT  
OF MISTAKES; BUT STILL,  
I LOVE THOSE PEOPLE  
WHO STAY WITH ME  
AFTER KNOWING HOW  
I REALLY AM.**  
*quoteslife101.net*



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Strathmore **Community Bank®** Branch



Help yourself and help the Club by banking with Strathmore Community Bank. For example, take out a home loan and the club will receive up to \$500. Take out a 3 month fixed term deposit and the club will receive up to \$50.

For more details drop into the branch at 337 Napier St or call branch Manager Philip Stewart on 9374-2607.



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