



Maria Kouppas  
President 2016-17

**Volume 82, Issue 40**

May 9th 2017

## President Maria's message

Welcome fellow Rotarians and friends.

### **Charter Night**

Tuesday night saw our club celebrate 82 years since our charter on the 21st May 1935. Since our beginning we have had 81 Presidents lead this club, each making a difference and making the club stronger and stronger. We had a wonderful attendance on the night and was truly honoured host this very special night in our Rotary Calendar.

Grace was presented by Michael Cariss, and the Toast to Rotary International by Past Assistant Governor Sam Tartaglia.

We had last minute apologies from our own Assistant Governor Colin Styles and his wife June as Colin was unwell to travel from Daylesford on the night. We wish him a speedy recovery.

The first part of the night saw the club honour its own. The recipient of a Paul Harris Recognition went to a relatively a newer member of the Rotary Club of Essendon who has contributed significantly to our club. Recently taking on the role of chair of one of our service committees, but this recognition is for what this person does through his own commitment to making a difference and in keeping to the theme of this year "Serving Humanity". One of nature's gentlemen, quite, caring and a deep thinker, always considering the finer details and impact with everything he says and does. Every week he spends hour after hour working in a less than comfortable setting, never complaining, just getting the job done. Through the Rotary Club Essendon he is making a difference locally, but also a major unheralded difference on the International arena. Yes if you haven't heard John Odgers was presented with a 'Paul Harris Recognition'. As part of his receiving this award he was surprisingly joined by his daughter Kate and his brother Des.

This year marks 100 Years of Foundation for Rotary International and in celebrating 100 years of Foundation, I chose to award three PHF's to three long standing members who have served this club and the community epitomizing the true meaning of Rotary.

Just as every sporting club has their annual jumper presentation I had the pleasure of presenting MY TEAM 100.

The total sum of service by the following Rotarians actually adds up to 104 years of continuing Rotary service and commitment to the community both locally and international.

First awardee with 26 years was Roger Priestly - Relay for Life, Art Show, Steam Train Day, Caroline Chisholm Foundation, Essendon Traffic School, Moonee Valley Festival and many more events where Roger is quietly in the background making things happen, and the many generous donations that so many are not even aware of (Breakfast for all the participants in Relay for Life, and all those sausages donated each and at every opportunity.



Roger was presented with a Double Sapphire Paul Harris Recognition.

The second awardee and member of my Team 100 is Peter Condos with 35 years of service to Rotary International. My wonderful Vice President – I want to honor and recognize Peter for his support and counsel throughout my Rotary Presidential year. Peter has served on many committees and his work in Community this year has been appreciated by all concerned. Whether it was setting up for the Steam Train day, selling sausages at the Easter Egg Hunt for the Royal Children’s Hospital. He is a quiet achiever and an amazing Rotarian totally committed to the meaning of Rotary.

Peter was presented with a Sapphire Paul Harris Recognition.

The third member of my team 100 with 43 years of Rotary service is none other than Roger Leask.

A member since 1974 and serving as President in 2006. So many of us remember “Welcome to the wonderful world of Rotary International” a catch cry we all heard week after week. The tireless inspiration behind the Royce Abbey Awards now numbering well over 310 in total bringing in \$310,000 for International Scholarships. Week in week out he makes the meeting happen. Setting up, packing up, the sound man with the largest quantity of recorded music, keeper of the Rotary Cookbooks and the one who ensures everyone who walks into our meetings is met with a welcoming smile and the handshake of Rotary. Roger is well known and respected not only in district 9800, but also in the other districts who proudly call him a friend. Roger was presented with a Triple Sapphire Paul Harris Recognition.

And the night continued with a special welcome to Mr Uddhav SHIWAKOTI from the Rotary Club Kathmandu, Nepal. He was warmly welcomed by all the members and has networked successfully as he seeks support for his Cancer Research Foundation.

Our Dinner speaker was retired Police Commissioner Neil Comrie who commenced his presentation by declaring his longtime connection with the Essendon area, and even today his daughter works at the Aberfeldie Special Needs School. He also remembered coming and speaking to our club a number of years ago. Neil is a third generation Policeman and his approach to policing was one of understanding, respect and making a difference. Since retirement he has headed a number of high level inquiries one of which was a secondment to investigate the Queensland Police Force. Diplomatic and professional even when answering a few of the tricky questions posed to him on the night.

And then there was the cutting of the cake- of all plans made by man you need to always have a plan B. I was to invite Maurice Mollica who was one of the earliest Presidents present on the night who led this club in 1980 -1981 to help me in cutting our Birthday cake. He had to leave a little early so we quickly checked the Directory to find who was the next most senior Past President - thank you Michael Cariss for stepping in and our exchange student Nina Lovengreen for helping to cut our birthday cake.

Thanks you to Jane Carbone and the fellowship members, Michael Cariss and Cariss Printing for the printing of PHF Recipients Mementos.

Again congratulations to the Paul Harris Awardees on the night.

The following was an article which appeared in the Melbourne Argus newspaper on 29<sup>th</sup> May 1935:

‘Rotarians of Uxbridge Massachusetts (USA) are sure that there is no language that would baffle them, not even the tongue of the inhabitants of Essendon. In a letter to the Rotary Club of Essendon they said:

“We would welcome a few lines from yo telling us something about your own country and community and in case you should be unable to write us in English, you may do so in your own language as we will always find ways and means of translating same”

This letter was read by the Rotary Club of Essendon Secretary Mr Nelson Wellington at the weekly luncheon yesterday. It was one of many congratulating the club on having received its charter from Rotary International.





# Rotary Presents



Brought to you by

## Rotary Club of Essendon Inc

A fascinating evening with

### *Dr Susan Alberti AC*

Susan Alberti AC is one of Australia's pre-eminent philanthropists, having donated millions of dollars to medical research and other charitable causes over her successful business career.

Susan developed a passion for research when her only child, Danielle, was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes in the 1980s.

Danielle tragically died from the complications arising from the chronic disease.



On Australia Day 2016, Susan was awarded the Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) Award in recognition of her eminent service to the community, particularly through philanthropic and fund-raising support for a range of medical research, education and to young women as a role model and mentor.

Retired Vice President of the AFL Western Bulldogs Football Club, Director of the AFL National Women's League Advisory Group, Director of the National Australia Day Council.

**Wednesday 31st May 2017 - 6:30 -7pm**

*The Australian Events Centre*

Larkin Street Essendon Fields

\$95 ph

\$950 Table

10

A 'not-to-be-missed' event brought to you by:

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More details found at :  
[www.facebook.com/RCofEssendon](http://www.facebook.com/RCofEssendon)  
RCE.org.au  
RotaryPresents@RCE.org.au



### Rotary Presents speaker

We are very lucky to have Dr Susan Alberti as this year's 'Rotary Presents' speaker. Susan is an excellent speaker and will cover aspects of her personal life, business success, motivation and women's football.

The evening event will be held at an exciting new venue on Wednesday 31 May 2017, 6:30 pm for a 7:00pm start.

The dinner is one of our major events for the year and is our best opportunity to showcase our Club to friends and associates. For this event to be a success, WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT. Please invite friends, family and business associates to this dinner, the topics discussed will be of interest to almost everyone.

Further information about our speaker and the dinner is included in the attached flyer. Booking is via the [trybooking.com](http://trybooking.com) website. We have worked hard to get a great speaker, please do your best to get a table of 10 or a smaller group of people together and make your booking as early as possible.

Let me know by return email if you have any questions or need any assistance with the booking process.

Glenn Smith

### **BLANKETS AND SHEETS URGENTLY REQUIRED**

Western Emergency Relief Network ( WERN) are desperately needing blankets and sheets to meet their client needs for winter. Ross Butterworth PDG from WERN will be guest speaker at the club on Tuesday 16 May, if you have any blankets or sheets please bring them on 16th and we can make a presentation to Ross on behalf of the Club.

Your support is appreciated.

Shirley Kukk

Essendon Rotary Club,

I am writing to thank you for your donation to the "Apprentice of the Year" awards that were recently held by Kangan Institute at 'Aerial', in South Wharf.

Having received the award for Apprentice of the year: Engineering, I was delighted to open the envelope and find enclosed a congratulations letter, and also a gift card to the value of \$500.

As an apprentice, saving to buy tools to better my skills is quite difficult, especially in the engineering field where large jobs require large machines such as press brakes, guillotines and expensive welders. This money has gone to help me purchase a new TIG welder.

A little bit about myself: I am a 25 year old male, living in Greensborough. I started my apprenticeship at the age of 22, as a metal fabricator. I am lucky to be employed at Prodrive Racing Australia, a V8 Supercars team that runs 6 cars across two disciplines of racing.

Here, I am one of four fabricators, and the only travelling fabricator. We build 95% of components in house, ranging from complete chassis builds, exhaust systems, radiators, engine mounts, through to small bracketry and factory body panel manufacturing. We also have a machine shop that operates 6 large mills/lathes to produce all our machined parts. I have been here now for 4 years, traveling as part of the team around Australia and New Zealand, working as a tyre technician, refueller at the race track, and on the irregular occurrence when we crash, I take over repairing of the chassis to get it back to a strong, and safe condition, ready to race the next day.

Once again, thank you for the \$500 donation, I have worked extremely hard throughout my apprenticeship, so to be awarded as apprentice of the year, as well as receiving your donation, has meant a lot to me.

Mat Williams

Apprentice of the year, Engineering – Kangan Institute.



# WANTED

Have you taken any photos on your iphone, or camera in this past Rotary Year?

Can I please have them forwarded to:  
M.Kouppas@hotmail.com

Many of these photos will form a special memento of this past year, and I would like to use them as part of the year in summary.

I appreciate your help with this. Remember any Rotary function or event....

Thanking you in anticipation

**Maria**



**“Making life long friends, serving others, growing personally and creatively helping build a better community and world.”**

Richard Lawrence - RC Essendon



Our thoughts are with our fellow Rotarians and friends as they are experiencing difficult and sad times with the loss of their loved ones;

Leigh and Peter Baker – on the loss of Leigh's dear mother.

Shirley and Ray Kukk - on the passing of Shirley's uncle.

Larry Marshall and family - on the passing away of his uncle.

Anne Seeley – on the passing away of dear friend and Rotary supporter Harold Seeley.

Flowers, cards and welfare calls have been made where applicable.

#### EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	SPEAKER/EVENT	VENUE
May 2017	Graffiti clean-up day	Date, time & venue TBC
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

**Thought for the day:** *The early bird gets the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese*

# Rotary Club of Essendon

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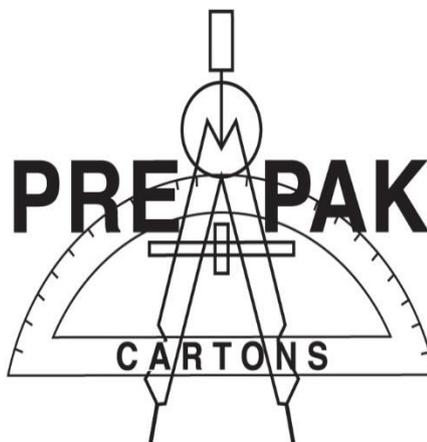
### Strathmore Community Bank® Branch



## Bendigo Bank

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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