



## BULLETIN

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### GUEST SPEAKER TUESDAY 5th AUGUST



#### **Dr Ken Walker, Museum Victoria**

#### **The role of the 'citizen scientist' in caring for Australia's flora and fauna**

Citizen science is a collection of large-scale research projects in which ordinary folk do the grunt work of fossicking for information. Professional scientists rely on this work to build big pictures of what is happening with biodiversity and species migration.

Over the past year on-line forums and magazines around the world have hailed the rise of the citizen scientist for making costly survey work viable. There are big issues to be overcome, such as the reliability of data. Technology has assisted in the vetting process where data can more easily be cross-referenced before being used.

Ken Walker is Senior Curator, Entomology and Arachnology at Museum Victoria. He is endeavouring to build up the museum's collection in areas that were previously under represented. This is being done through field trips, purchases and donations, and exchanges with other institutions.

Ken was also responsible for the establishment and ongoing management of the citizen scientist website, Bowerbird. He recently confirmed that a couple of amateur naturalists had discovered a new species of flatworm.

[Read more...](#)

### DUTY ROSTER AUGUST 5th 2014

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| Chair    | Marjorie Gerlinger |
| Sergeant | Bernie Gerlinger   |



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| Greeter                      | Sat Mishra     |
| Reporter                     | Frank O'Brien  |
| Photographer                 | Tony Thomas    |
| Door                         | Greg Cuthbert  |
| Director Report - Foundation | Neville Taylor |
| Bulletin Editor              | David Jones    |
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## **MEETING REPORT 29th JULY 2014**

*Posted by Bruce McBAIN*

The meeting under the Chairmanship of Greg Cuthbert opened at 7.40am with 26 members and two guests, joint speakers Cameron Sinclair and Karen Robinson of Road Trauma Support Service Victoria.

### **Directors Report.**

Neville Taylor outlined a conceptual framework for Community Service in 2014-15. The Framework has categorized CS activities over 3 categories:

1. Community Safety & Cohesiveness includes community village and opportunities flowing from the recent IFTAR dinner and our contracts with the Moslem Community.
2. Building Community Infrastructure includes Camp Getaway, McAuley House and a possible indigenous project at Fitzroy Crossing in conjunction with the International committee.
3. Supporting Transition and Hardship includes the Royal Talbot Sensory Garden, Christmas hampers, the Melbourne Mens' Shed and the Tree of Joy.

Some projects would by nature straddle categories.

Overall there were 9 active projects plus two being assessed, Patrick Barry was looking at developing an asthma awareness programme for rural medical practitioners and the International committee was evaluating the proposed Fitzroy Crossing programme.

### **Presidents Announcements.**

President Roy;

- reminded forgetful members that their membership dues were payable
- noted a recent Austin Hospital publication had highlighted our clubs gardening contribution at Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre
- noted that we had participated in gardening projects at Royal Talbot since 2005.

### **Other Announcements**

- Kevin Walklate advised that he expected to defer the date for the working bee at Camp Getaway owing to lack of volunteers for the coming weekend. Kevin also advised that due to his restructuring departure from Australia Post, his current email address would not work but his mobile number would remain the same.
- Over fine wines and culinary delights, 6 members had enjoyed dinner at Roy and Annie Garrett's and contributed \$1200 earmarked for RAWCS to the 2014-15

fundraising programme.

- George Mackey shared his experience of the joint hosting by club members of Ed Pettit and the 6 young aids sufferers who had accompanied him from Botswana, George drew a stark contrast from his recent involvement with candidates to the Science Summer School whose were focused on their future careers which lay ahead and the young visitors from Botswana whose basic focus was survival but who despite this adversity had inspired and delighted their Rotarian Hosts. *[Editor: More in a separate item in this Bulletin]*

### **Sergeant**

Acting Sergeant Kevin Walklate then conducted a vintage Walklate sergeant's session, at one stage lurching into a debate with Tony Thomas, amusing all and suitably extracting gold coins from member's pockets.

### **Guest Speakers**



Greg Cuthbert introduced Cameron Sinclair the CEO of Road Trauma Support Services Victoria (RTSSV) and Karen Robinson, North West Metro Regional Coordinator.

Cameron, who has qualifications in Science Nursing and Management, indicated he would put RTSSV in context and then Karen Robinson would explain the needs of victims and how they were addressed by RTSSV.

For many years road trauma was accepted as inevitable and in an attempt to change this mindset RTSSV had been established in 1994. In 1999 TAC had begun funding counseling services and in 2004 education services working in conjunction with Magistrate's Courts began to be provided.

The Association supports 3000 people annually through counselling and education and a number of events such as "Shine a Light" which raise public awareness of road safety and trauma, whilst another event "Time for Remembrance" provides an opportunity for those affected by trauma to meet together for reflection and support. This year it will be held at Parliament House on 16 November 2014.

Although RTSSV has validated expertise, dedicated staff and volunteers and provides a niche product of counselling in a collaborative environment, it must compete in a very competitive philanthropic and government funding environment for funding which results in year by year funning which does match CPI increases and is demonstrated by reliance on antiquated and fragmented IT systems. Opportunities for increased funding sources have been identified in merchandising, education programs and building corporate

relationships.

Karen then gave some thought provoking statistics. Since 1987 11,215 people had died in road accidents and 79,658 had been hospitalised. She then went on to share her own experience of losing Ben, her 26 year old son, in a road smash and the ripple effect of each death which follows the trauma not only through the immediate family but friends, workmates, sporting clubs, emergency workers, medico's and nurses

Karen said that the Road Trauma Seminars which RTSSV run were of 2.5 hours duration, with each session attended by about 12 people who were predominately male and compulsorily sent at the discretion of the Magistrates Court. Attendees were expected to pay \$350 but this was often a sentencing factor.

Anecdotally, the programme's were considered effective but there was a need for empirical research on the recidivism of those attending compared to those not attending a seminar.

Karen concluded her presentation by saying the seminar aimed at expressing reality to attendees by pointedly saying "you don't want to be a plaque" (in a crematorium memorial park).

Greg then presented the speakers with a gift of soap supporting cottage workers in Timor Leste and the Alola Foundation.

President Roy formally closed the meeting at 8.47am by reminding members of this year's theme "Shine on Rotary".

## **GRAND GARRETT GOURMET GASTROFEST**

The Grand Garrett Gourmet Gastrofest was attended by Greg & Chantelle Cuthbert, Rob & Tess Hines, John & Raylee Ilott, Frank & Pauline O'Brien, Roger & Pippa Thornton.

Hosts were Roy & Annie.

The theme was Asian Fusion & Annie cooked up a storm! Gravelax with green mango salad, beef fillet with sweet potato and minted green vegetables, black sticky rice with mango and ice cream. The conversation flowed at high volume. Much laughter, good wine (but some, like the host, getting on a bit). A sufficient amount of Rotary business was done but not to excess.

A total of \$1,200 was donated for our Laos school projects. It's nice to raise money for a good cause in such a totally enjoyable way!



### **HOW THE CEO CIRCLE TEAMS WITH RCCMS**

When the head of a group of nearly 200 Australian chief executives wanted to make contact with Rotary at the end of last year he sent an all-person email "Are you, or anyone you know, a member of Rotary?"

The response was overwhelming; no one was a member or had links to anyone who could make an introduction.

John Karagounis, Managing Director and owner of The CEO Circle, was hoping to explore the possibility of a partnership with Rotary to disburse funds raised by The CEO Circle for charitable purposes.

"I was surprised," he says. "I thought a number of our members would be active in Rotary. Is it because CEOs are already aligned to other causes or charities, and are already time poor? Or are they not aware of the excellent work Rotary does in the community?"

Following a particularly lively discussion in one of The CEO Circle groups chaired by Rob Hines, it was decided that members of The CEO Circle should explore reaching out to their connections to raise funds for charity, and to become more involved at a community level. The first initiative was a corporate golf day and auction at Riversdale in March 2014. With the assistance of donations of goods and services by member companies of The CEO Circle, the day raised over \$30,000.

The funds were raised with two specific projects in mind, an orphanage in South Africa and an Indigenous project in Fitzroy Crossing, WA. Meetings with lawyers clarified that insurance and liability issues were problematic, and The CEO Circle also lacked infrastructure and templates for efficiently spending the money. Hence it was suggested that a partnership with Rotary might benefit both parties.

A chance meeting between Hines and an old colleague, our club's George Mackey, provided a solution. Hines soon joined the club and now The CEO Circle has an exclusive Victorian relationship with it. Planning is under way for both an International and Indigenous project in 2015 to use some of those funds raised at the golf day.



Karagounis and Hines agree that Rotary's insurance, tight financial controls and charity know-how make it an ideal partner. Hines likes Rotary's ability to keep overheads down, and the well-established templates and coordination for projects, such as through Rotary Australian World Community Services (RAWCS).

An initial donation of \$10,000 has been provided by The CEO Circle for the RCCMS Fitzroy Crossing women's shelter and men's shed projects, and a further \$5000 for school renovations in Laos. Further funding is possible.

The CEO Circle has confirmed a 2015 golf day and auction for March 20 at Riversdale and hopes to raise a similar amount. Given the strength of The CEO Circle in Sydney, planning is underway for a similar event there later in 2015.

Hines says, "When I retired from full-time work as Managing Director of Racing Victoria Ltd in 2012, I moved from a member of The CEO Circle to the Chairman of a group. We had many discussions about the opportunity for our members to become involved directly in a hands-on way with community activities. Once that direction was agreed, it was an obvious step to activate some fund raising activity which has exceeded our expectations. Now we have the opportunity to take a number of chief executives to Fitzroy Crossing to provide first hand support to the indigenous community there."

Karagounis says he and Hines have complete trust that funds channelled through Rotary will be fully accounted for and will make a difference on the ground. "I'm thrilled with Rob's initiative with Central Melbourne-Sunrise and the wonderful work it does," Karagounis says.

The power of The CEO Circle lies in its influential member base, resources and extended networks. Golf provides an ideal fund raising activity for this group as that is the number one leisure activity amongst senior executives.

About The CEO Circle.

The CEO Circle marks its twentieth anniversary this year. Rob Hines is Chairman of one of the eight Melbourne groups, each of which has about fifteen or so members. Membership is by invitation only and is limited to chief executives and senior business leaders only, from a diverse range of industries. There are also groups in Sydney and Brisbane.

Members are top-drawer executives. Each pays a substantial annual fee to belong, which is usually funded by their company. Karagounis says, "The CEO Circle offers an intimate forum where business leaders can discuss ideas, share experiences, and exchange advice with their peers, in a spirit of openness, and in a space where confidentiality is guaranteed."

CEO Circle meetings are held six times per year for half a day. If members can't attend their own group meeting for any reason, they are free to attend any other Circle around the country, as long as there are no conflicts of interest. Exclusive CEO Circle events are also held throughout the year featuring presentations from global thought leaders.

## **WISDOM FROM YOUNG AFRICANS**

Rotary Club of Central Melbourne-Sunrise had a lot to do with six youngsters from Botswana and Malawi who came to Melbourne for the Global AIDS conference in July. All six, aged 16-21, acquired AIDS at birth.

Member Alan Seale took three to the zoo, and afterwards asked them what they liked best. One replied, "The kangaroos were nice but I liked your car best."

Alan: "Why?"

Youngster: "Because it's clean and there are no (he groped for the English word 'insects' but couldn't recall it) beetles in it."

Alan also took them to Healesville Sanctuary where they admired the open-for-viewing animal hospital there. "It's a much better hospital than we have," a youngster remarked.

Member George Mackey visited the group at the "Global Village" of about 100 AIDS display stalls at the Convention Centre. While there, he asked one lad, "What do you want to do in your life?" expecting to learn about their career goals.

The lad replied, "I want to live till I'm 40." The lad then looked at George appraisingly and added, "Maybe older." George, who's nearing 64, felt the lad was thinking, "But not as old as you, thanks!"

The club hosted the lads on request from Ed Pettitt, from Houston Skyline Rotary Club, Texas. Ed coordinates AIDS projects in Botswana. His club sponsored Global Scholar Michelle Heard to Melbourne, and RCCMS is hosting Michelle here. Ed was our guest speaker two weeks ago.







## **NEW MEMBERS - FUTURE CLUB LEADERS**



### ***Rotary International District 9800 Learning, Leading and Development Pathways***



#### ***Free District sponsored seminars for New Members & Future Club Leaders***

**The New Member Seminar**, [Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August 6.30pm] is an interactive 2 hour seminar giving new Rotarians a better understanding of Rotary's Philosophies, Core Values, Avenues of Service, Priorities and Goals.

The **Future Club Leaders Seminar** [Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 6.30pm] is another interactive 2 hour seminar designed to give potential club leaders some understanding of leadership in general, how Rotary trains and supports its leaders and how you can lead a club committee or the club itself.

***IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND REGISTRATION FOR BOTH SEMINARS IS DUE NOW – contact David Jones or Roger Thornton.***