



## WHAT'S IN THIS BULLETIN

### 7th April 2020

- **NEXT MEETING (via ZOOM)**
- **Meeting report**
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### March 31st Meeting Report

ROTARY CENTRAL MELBOURNE – MEETING REPORT 31 March 2020

Posted by Neville John

This was Central Melbourne Rotary's second Zoom meeting with fifty people signing in.

Guests: Corrado Minikus RC Wettingen (Switzerland), Flavia Minikus (2016/17 Youth Exchange student), Adele Le Roux.

Chair, President Warwick Cavell opened the meeting at 7.40 am with a toast to Rotary International.

Warwick welcomed members and guests, Corrado and Flavia Minikus who logged in from Wettingen, Switzerland and Adele Le Roux, who was inducted as a new member today in the club's first on-line member induction. We also welcomed to the meeting our Queensland members, Bernie and Marjorie Gerlinger.

#### Announcements

- Gerard Hogan announced birthdays and anniversaries. Daniel Lim and Allan Driver both have birthdays today.
- Gerard Hogan asked that members provide him with feedback on how to improve the experience of the Zoom meetings. He also outlined the virtual seating idea whereby members will be sent a list of member names and they are asked to contact the people either side of their name to check how they are.
- Neville John announced that a previous speaker, Tony Nicholls for Good Talent Media, has offered to provide complementary crisis management

## Upcoming Events

### School Holidays

*Apr 01, 2020 - Apr 19, 2020*

### Board meeting – Zoom meeting

*Apr 08, 2020 5:30 PM*

### Royal Talbot Working Bee

*Apr 18, 2020*

*8:30 AM – 1:00 PM*

### Dementia Australia BBQ - RCMC Volunteers required

*May 03, 2020*

### Cancelled -Sports night

*May 09, 2020 7:00 PM*

### Mothers Day

*May 10, 2020*

### Board meeting – TBC Time & location

*May 13, 2020*

### IDAHOBIT Day

*May 17, 2020*

### Cancelled– social activity

*May 30, 2020 7:00 PM*

### Camp Getaway Working Bee

*May 31, 2020*

*9:00 AM – 5:00 PM*

### [View entire list](#)

## Speakers

Apr 07, 2020

### [Peter Duras](#)

The Melbourne Olympics - a bumpy ride from chaos to triumph

### [View entire list](#)

advisory services to any business that has been impacted by the Corona pandemic. If members know of anyone interested please let Neville John know.



#### President Warwick:

- Warwick advised that he would contact those who aren't attending the Zoom meetings to ensure they are not having any accessibility issues.
- District 9800 is conducting Zoom meetings at 6 pm each Monday and Wednesday evening.

#### Brett's Inquisition – About Our Members

Brett invited Roger Thornton to outline a summary of his life and career so far:

- Schooled in Nairobi
- Studied at Edinburgh University in Scotland
- Moved to Adelaide to work for South Australian Department of Mines
- Greatest thrill was when the company he was working hit a large oil discovery in the Bass Strait (100 million barrels) South Australia
- Met his wife Pip while in South Australia
- Worked for Esso in Sydney for 10 years before moving to Melbourne
- Started retirement in January 2012; continued consulting for a while before finally hanging up the boots.

#### Induction of New Member (via Zoom video conference) – Adele Le Roux

President Warwick introduced Adele Le Roux and read the new member induction. Adele will join the Community Service Committee; her mentor is Rohan Williams and vocational classification is Commercial Management. Warwick advised that Adele's Rotary badge would be physically presented to her at the earliest possible time. Members unmuted to acclaim Adele's membership with a round of applause. Adele thanked the club for their warm welcome and explained that she came from South Africa with her husband and two children, four years ago and works as Chief Commercial Officer for HR recruitment group, Hallis. Adele is looking forward to being part of the club's efforts in helping the community and for opportunities to have Hallis collaborate where possible. Welcome Adele.

#### Guest Speaker – Stuart Ellis (Club member)

Chair of the day, Mary Voice introduced Stuart Ellis to present of the topic, National Emergency Management capability and the recent fire season. Stuart was Chief Executive Officer/Chief Officer of the South Australian Country Fire Service. In 2002 he established a consultancy company focused on operational leadership and has been involved in over 20 operational reviews including the Canberra Bushfires, the Victorian Bushfire Royal Commission and the Christchurch Earthquake. The main takeaway points from Stuart's presentation were:

- Presently, each State and Territory is responsible for emergency services in their jurisdiction.
- There has been a rainfall deficiency prevailed across Australia throughout 2019, making the undergrowth dry and more easily combustible.
- Fires were concurrent, compounding, consecutive and occurred during a drought.
- Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia, Victoria and ACT were all impacted over a period from December 2019 to February 2020. New records were reached in NSW and Qld as to the extent of the fires.
- A Royal Commission will be held into the fires and it is possible that the Federal Government may have some authority in future emergency situations.
- These were the most significant fires since 1939. 30% of forest area was burnt; 33 human lives lost and over 1 billion wildlife animals.
- More attention needs to be focused on wilderness protection (animal, flora, fauna) given the extent of the loss caused by the fires.
- Fire fighting volunteers are mostly organized locally, although 7,000 moved between States and Territories to assist.
- On one of the worst fire days, 327 water-bombing flights were conducted. Usually this was around 250 flights per day making it a huge flight logistics task.
- In terms of future fire concerns, there is still a lot of forest fuel available and more controlled burning will be a matter that needs careful consideration, as people also can die from smoke related illnesses.
- Hopefully this situation is not the new norm, but it could be the new extreme situation.

There were many questions and answers and there could have been many more given the interest in Stuart's presentation, which was aided by power point slides throughout.

Mary Voice thanked Stuart for his interesting and highly engaging presentation and handed the meeting back to the President.

President Warwick closed the meeting thanking Corrado and Flavia Minikus for logging in and inviting them to do so again any time. Warwick congratulated Adele again on becoming a member of Rotary Central Melbourne and asked everyone to be safe and healthy. He also reminded us to take whatever opportunity we can to embrace this year's theme - 'Rotary Connects The World'.

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### **NEXT MEETING (virtual) - TUESDAY 7th April**

*Posted by Gerard HOGAN*

zoom meetings



Following on from the success of last week's Zoom meeting and the necessity to remain out of public spaces, where possible, we are continuing our weekly Zoom breakfast meetings next week.

**Peter Duras:** The Melbourne Olympics - a bumpy ride from chaos to triumph

Peter is a retired sports physiotherapist with experience in a variety of elite sports, including 8 years with the Bulldogs and Essendon. He has travelled extensively overseas with Australian teams, including 4 World Athletic Championships and 7 Commonwealth Games.

Peter has been an active Rotarian for 47 years. He is a member of the International Society of Olympic Historians, and a keen collector of sports memorabilia and autographs. He has been a volunteer guide at the National Sports Museum for 10 years.




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## **GALLERY**

### **Photo Gallery**

Some of the folks who attended last weeks online meeting:



