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## Upcoming events

**RC Echuca Moama Steam Rally**

Jun 08, 2013 - Jun 09, 2013

**Club Planning Forum**

Montague Continuing Education Centre

Jun 16, 2013 09:00 AM - 01:00 PM

**Police Mentoring Wind up breakfast**

RACV City Club

Jun 18, 2013 07:15 AM - 08:45

Club meetings: 7.15 for 7.40 am at the RACV Club  
501 Bourke Street, Melbourne

## MEETING ROSTER 28 MAY

Posted by Bruce McBAIN

Chair	George MACKEY
Sergeant	Michael BROMBY
Greeter	Richard STONE OAM
Reporter	Kevin LOVE
Photographer	Robin STEVENS
Door	David JONES
Director Report	Michael WELLS

## THIS WEEKS SPEAKER 28 MAY

Posted by Bruce McBAIN

[Ahmet Polat](#)

"Australian Intercultural Society: a comprehensive outline"

Ahmet is Executive Director of the Australian Intercultural Society (AIS) The Australian Intercultural Society was founded by second generation professional Muslims and encourages links with people of Islamic, Hindu, Buddhist, Christian and Jewish backgrounds, it aims to bring people together from different backgrounds to help improve social cohesion and community harmony and overcome prejudice and stereotyping, it has been operating since 2000 and works to establish a better future for the common benefit of humanity and to enhance mutual understanding and respect.

## MEETING REPORT 21 MAY

Posted by Kevin WALKLATE

AM
<b>Changeover Dinner</b> Athenaeum Club Jun 28, 2013 07:00 PM - 11:30 PM
<b>District 9800 Changeover and Awards Night</b> Ultima Reception Centre Jun 29, 2013 05:30 PM - 11:30 PM

Photo Albums

<a href="#">Rotarians and Friends at Work Day</a>
<a href="#">District Conference Albury</a>
<a href="#">Fundraising Sizzles</a>
<a href="#">Picnic In The Park</a>
<a href="#">Christmas Breakfast</a>
<a href="#">Paul Harris Breakfast</a>
<a href="#">Vocational Visit Police College</a>
<a href="#">Laos school project</a>
<a href="#">Charity Gala</a>
<a href="#">Camp Getaway Working Bee</a>
<a href="#">McAuley House Working Bee</a>
<a href="#">25th Changeover dinner</a>
<a href="#">25th Anniversary Lunch</a>

Editor Robin STEVENS  
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President Kay Stevens opened the meeting at 7.40 AM: Welcoming all and called on Chairperson Gerard Hogan to propose the toast to Rotary International:

Gerard presented his individual thoughts on peace and service through our involvement with Rotary International and asked us please join with him in a Toast to Rotary International.

President Kay invited recognition of visitors. There being no visiting Rotarians, Roger Thornton presented Valerio and Carlo, Carlo was able to attend as he was on relief from his weekly trips to Sydney. Kay then requested that we enjoy our Breakfast.

At 7.55 AM Chairman Gerard Hogan called the meeting to order and commenced the proceedings with a call for announcements. Robin Stevens requested further volunteers for the Working Bee at McAuley House on Saturday 25 May, there was plenty to do and a couple more willing hands were needed. Doug Robinson announced that he and some members of his committee had attended a meeting of Southbank Rotary and noted that the Docklands club and Southbank were no longer having joint meetings he also thanked all the helpers especially Lyn McBain & Wendy Bowen for their assistance with the Know Your Numbers at the RACV over the last week. Doug advised that District Assembly held was on 13 May 2013 and 11 members of the club attended that weekend. Alan Seale announced that he & Robin had returned from their month in New York & presented a Club Banner from a younger age group Rotary club that meets on Manhattan Island, he said they had many different nationalities visiting (approximately ten) and the club had an average age of 29 years, and emphasized that it was a very exciting club to visit.

President Kay then made several announcements in relation to the last board meeting commenting on our attendance over the last month being 65.8%. Kay also acknowledged and thanked Ian Angus for his support & contribution to the clubs E Bay program. The Board had received and accepted with regret the resignation of Kathy Ilott due to work and family commitments, Kathy who works in Noble Park intimated that if her work circumstances changed back to the CBD she would seek membership again. John Meehan and Keith Frampton had also resigned. The Board accepted all resignations with deep regret and voted to make John and Keith, Honorary Members to acknowledge their huge commitment to the club. Leave of absence was granted to Tony Thomas & Kay and Robin Stevens for approximately one month during July August. Kay advised that the club would be making a Donation of \$200.00 to the formation of the new E Rotary Club and that their first meeting was Wednesday 22 May 2013. It was also announced that the footings for our international project in Laos had been poured and that the District New Generations Committee had returned funding from the RYPEN camp due to the donations gained by the efforts of Mik Wells.

George Mackey gave a summary of what the revamped club website would look like, he advised that the local web site survey was not all that helpful but he had also searched international sites to see what was on offer. The revamped website reflects our breakfast club nature. George then provided a visual preview of the new Web Site homepage and explained the attributes of each part of the display and there positioning. George's presentation and the webpage design were well received by the members present.

Sergeants Session:

Sergeant Michael Started his session with his usual introduction of wondering if his machine would work properly, he commenced with a who am I summary for us to identify whose music was that. After several leads two members were astute enough to pick the information as a description of Johnny O' Keefe, having then played one tune it was tasked to guess who 's favorite tune it was. After some random comments and clues it was deduced as Brian Downie. Brian advised that he selected Johnny O'Keefe because his music was so very different and catchy compared with what he had heard prior to Johnny O'Keefe bursting on the scene. Michael then played another tune written by Brian Wilson as a 19 yr old and related how the Beach Boys records always had a surf related song on one and the flip side had one about cars. This song was revealed as the favorite of our old surfer Neville John.

Guest Speaker.

Gerard Hogan introduced our speaker, Mr. Alan Davis the Principle of Mount Alexander Secondary College at Flemington to talk about his experiences in reestablishing this school in the context of the broader education approach.

Alan commenced his talk with a brief summation of his experiences in providing educational support and expertise to many and varied countries throughout the world including many of the Arab States. Alan started his career in providing education as a principle at Geelong and then was involved with many National and International Education Advisory Committees. Alan had a long association setting up the education system in the Maldives and his deep affection for that nation led him to return to assist the authorities in setting up new schools and programs after the Tsunami. After that, he was asked to go to a school in Dubai working under extreme pressure and very tight KPI's to get the school up to a vastly improved standard, this led to further educational advisory roles with Emirate States. After the lifestyle shattering experiences of developing schools in the Indian Ocean and Emirates, he and his wife retuned to Australia expecting to retire, however he then went to do advisory work at the Transport Accident Advisory Authority. He was then approached and asked to reestablish, Debney Secondary School where educational achievements had slipped to substandard and return it a vibrant coeducational establishment.

Debney secondary school, was like a third world school, whose students found it overwhelmingly difficult, many of the girls from the Horn of Africa had never attended school and the boys had been

child soldiers. At the time Alan took over, there had been a massive enrollment decline to 157 students. Alan spent three months talking and researching why the decline in numbers and standards had occurred. Boston Consulting Group had provided a report several years before and nothing had been done about it, Alan used this as a resource tool.

Alan began the turnaround with a marketing strategy and rebranding of the school with a new name and a school uniform. The school had not had a uniform for 35 years, initially students were reluctant to have been identified as Debney Park, hence the need for a new name as central to the rebranding. Alan established a new approach to schooling initially there were some staff redundancies and sackings but generally staff were hard working, they were simply worn out. Alan reinvigorated the staff and developed IT, new technologies and innovative strategies.

One of the strategies was to set up parents and friends associations. After the first call he ended up with 40 people who did not even have students at the school but were willing to help.

The overall aim was to improve the result for year 12 and improve the education over the full spectrum of the student body. Today the School is selective entry and accelerated learning school. The School now has students and parents from all walks of life, refugees, others with university PHD parents, there are 25 nationalities represented by the students (Chinese, Middle Eastern, Caucasian) with over 22 different languages. There has been a 50% increase in enrolment. From 17 New Year 7 enrolments in 2011, it grew to 50 in 2012 and further growth is expected in 2014. An important aspect is that that people are talking positivity about the school. Alan emphasized the importance of ongoing community communications in developing a positive image of the School. Since these early days when the school failed to even gain students from a primary school across the road and other feeder schools, the innovative approach has enabled a new perception of the school. The students wanted to have a uniform and new name which reflected the schools resurgence. Mt Alexander was selected. An important aspect of regeneration was the school re-engaging with its community; it now conducts several community events including a monthly farmers market.

Doug Robinson asked about the Rotary relationship. Alan's response was that Rotary gave their students an opportunity to mix with students outside their immediate surrounds and has had a really good effect on the children involved with the recent Rotary projects.

Chairman Gerard thanked Alan for his enlightening presentation and presented the gift of cottage industry soap.

Gerard then handed the meeting back to President Kay who also expressed her appreciation & thanked Alan for his excellent presentation and thanked Valeria & Carlo for their visit and invited them back whenever they can. Kay then closed the meeting and reminded members of the Rotary theme, peace through service reflecting in three ways self, family & rotary.

The meeting closed at 8.45 AM.



Smile Kay, another banner for the collection



The Sergeant unmask Brian Downie as Johnny O'Keefe rocker



The Guest Speaker Alan Davis

#### VOCATIONAL VISIT RACV KITCHENS

Posted by Bruce McBAIN

Hosted by Executive Souse Chef Banqueting Stevie Carew, 10 members enjoyed a behind the scenes tour of the RACV Club after breakfast last week. With over 70 staff the kitchens operate virtually 24 hours a day. The Banqueting area has capacity for 270 people on the second floor, up to 400 on 17 and 120 on level 1 with bookings and materials controlled by sophisticated IT systems. The RACV invests in people also, spending up to \$1million in training and have had many successes in culinary events. Typically one apprentice pastry chef is selected per a three year cycle compared to 4 apprentices per annum in other aspects of food preparation



What is Kay saying that has Stevie in awe?



Answer. Tony's not from the 7.30 report

First visit was to the Set up Kitchen on the second floor which services delivery of up to 270 people. Meals come to the set up point from the main kitchens. Stevie explained that a senior chef was stationed at each end and up to 8 platters could be on the station. The Senior Chef at the start of the process plates the key component and at the end of plating another senior chef checks for consistency and to ensure all items are on plate. Great emphasis is put into ensuring restaurant quality in a banqueting setting. To orientate platters pictures of the completed dish are prominently displayed. In banqueting each menu runs over a two year cycle. From the Set up Kitchen we went to the Hot Kitchen where Stevie explained the cooking process and stringent OHS and Hygiene procedures. Each computerized oven costs between \$70-90000. After cooking meats are rested in a rapid chiller to prevent further cooking and loss of moisture before transfer to a set up area.



Hygiene control is an ongoing audit even to extent of inspecting delivery vehicles. Due to an older clientele more susceptible to illness, the clubs hygiene protocols are very strict. Continuing on through the storage area Stevie explained that to minimize smell and rodent risk, waste was kept in a cool environment. We then found our mouths watering as we toured the Pastry Kitchen where we witnessed but unfortunately could not taste the signature chocolate mousse cake being produced



In the dish washing section we were envious when we saw a cutlery polishing machine. The tour concluded in the Bistro which serves over 1200 meals per day. Stevie explained that the Club food was ranked at 4.5 stars and only missed being 5 stars because due to their clientele they haven't up to date found it necessary to provide 24 hour room service. The major Event Day is Christmas Day where lunches for 1100 are provided in the Bistro, Club Conservatory and Fine Dining

#### PICTORIAL REVIEW DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

Posted by Bruce McBAIN





Doug get a few tips for his year or maybe its just disusing Highway 101



Sure you don't need a coffee Greg



It might be early Sunday Morning but our crew are wide awake and ready to get all the gen for 2013



Who's the Girl in Black

**McAULEY HOUSE WORKING BEE 25 MAY**  
Posted by Bruce McBAIN





Pictures, top left and right, Bernie and Roger have made the fence secure. In the middle are we happy? its 1pm and we achieved it. Bottom, Herb tests his paving.

On a grey Autumn Morning 12 Rotarian and a few other volunteers associated with the House gathered in the grounds of McAuley House. Convenor Robin Stevens had set a daunting program ahead of us in just over 3 hours we were repair the western boundary fence, lay pavers in the Chapel garden, mulch the Chapel garden, clear an old overgrown garden area, cut out creeper vines, trim some trees, relocate some stone edging and then establish a new garden area this involved laying and compacting a granitic sand path, digging over the garden area, loaming, planting and mulching. At 10.30 when we snatched 10 minutes for cupcakes, lemon slice, banana and fruit cake and coffee even the ever optimistic convenor wondered whether we could achieve our targets. Reinvigorated by our tea break the crew, comprising Yanpu Zang, Tom Callender, Bernie Gerlinger, Neville Taylor, Neville John, Roger and Pip Thornton, Herb and Leonie Greenwood, Bruce McBain and Robin and Kay Stevens assisted by some other volunteers and residents were soon digging up the old garden area laying new edging and moving a few hundred barrow loads of granitic sand, loam and mulch and literally before our eyes a new garden retreat emerged. Meanwhile after some "technical difficulties" Bernie and Roger got stuck into the fencing and the Neville John and Herb got the pavers down, the plants recommended by Steven Wells were in the ground and Robin was let loose with the compactor. As 12 o'clock came the end was in sight and with a new thresh of activity by 1pm it was all complete and Neville Taylor had his trailer loaded with the old greenery ready for the tip. Another great project achieved.



The attractive new garden

For before and during scenes, see the photographic collage.

#### McAULEY HOUSE THE MORNING IN PICTURES

Posted by Bruce McBAIN









EVENTS

Posted by Bruce McBAIN

<b>RC Echuca Moama Steam Rally</b> Jun 08, 2013 - Jun 09, 2013
Forum Montague Continuing Education Centre Jun 16, 2013 09:00 AM - 01:00 PM
<b>Police Mentoring Wind up breakfast</b> RACV City Club Jun 18, 2013 07:15 AM - 08:45 AM
Dinner Athenaeum Club Jun 28, 2013 07:00 PM - 11:30 PM
<b>District 9800 Changeover and Awards Night</b> Ultima Reception Centre Jun 29, 2013 05:30 PM - 11:30 PM

STEAM RALLY ECHUCA

Posted by Bruce McBAIN

In June Club Members will join our Sister Club Echuca Moama in celebrating 50 years of Steam Rally Echuca and in the process help make, bake and sell 2,500 scones jam and cream, gallons of vegetable soup, pumpkin soup, tea and coffee from the Country Kitchen. Whist Echuca in June can be cold continually feeding 2 combustion ovens and maintaining baking quality makes for warm work over an exhausting but enjoyable few days of great fellowship and numerous scones strictly for quality control of course. Although working hard and sometimes smelling like burning wood at the end, you have a sense of having enjoyed great fellowship and doing something worthwhile for the rural community

The event is held in Rotary Park which is owned by the Echuca-Moama club and delightfully situated on the Campaspe River and fully equipped to host the 700 exhibits of steam engines big and small, vintage cars, working horses and many other attractions including the vintage railway which runs on the site regularly throughout the year. The highlight of the afternoon is the Grand Parade of exhibits culminating with the exploding dunny

The proceeds of the Rally benefit a number of local groups. Each year a major beneficiary is announced in 2012 it was the Echuca Specialist School – purchasing interactive whiteboard for a classroom

Previous beneficiaries and identified causes include:

Murray Human Services – to purchase a hoist for support staff to transfer adults  
Echuca Regional Health –funds towards the Health Education Centre  
Woodbine Inc – funds towards providing accommodation to people with intellectual disabilities

Echuca Specialist School – buying equipment to assist their students  
\$10,000 towards establishing Court Network in Echuca

\$15,000 over three years to Cunningham Downs Village for the Aged

\$9,000 to Rotary's International Polio Plus campaign aimed at eradicating polio

Beacon Foundation – encouraging students to stay at school

Reconstruction in East Timor and tsunami regions through Rotary programs

Bicycles for the local Police

Holidays for drought-affects farm families

Rotunda and landscaping for Hopwood Gardens

Rotary Liver Cell Bank

Murray to Moyne cycle relay

Local School Chaplaincy group

Local Fire Brigades

Variety Club Children's Fund

Relay for Life cancer research

#### **POLICE LEADERS MENTORING PROGRAM**

The annual breakfast to celebrate the wind-up of this year's program for the Victoria Police Leaders Mentoring Program will be hosted by our Club on **TUESDAY 18th JUNE AT RACV 2nd Floor at 7.15am for 7.30am at cost \$27 each (hot breakfast).**

All Club members including partners and friends are urged to attend and hear the experiences of some of the participants including a representative of the Police Mentorees, Business Mentors, Rotary Mentors and meet Presidents from 21 other Clubs in our District.

Certificates of Appreciation will be presented to all the participants by District Governor, Dennis Shore and Assistant Police Commissioner, Andrew Crisp.

Our members will have enjoyed this particular event from previous years and we expect that about 100 people will be in attendance. Therefore the event is regarded by the RACV as a "booking event" and they require firm numbers prior to the event or will charge for non attendances or extra for those attending but not booked.

Please respond to me by email **before 11th June at latest** if you wish to attend **OR** if you are unable to attend. Alternatively you can register for the event on our Club website. However be firmly aware that if you accept by email or register and do not attend or cancel **AFTER 12th June** then you will be expected to pay. If you do not register but turn up there will be a \$10 surcharge.

We look forward to your support for this special Rotary program. (Note earlier starting time)

Regards,

John MEEHAN [meehanj@bigpond.net.au](mailto:meehanj@bigpond.net.au)

Rotary Club of Central Melbourne-Sunrise

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