



## WHAT'S IN THIS BULLETIN

### 22nd JANUARY

- NEXT MEETING - MEMBER TALK
- OUR NEXT MAJOR FUNDRAISER on 2nd MARCH
- GOLF EVENT
- MEETING MINUTES 15th JANUARY
- GALLERY

## NEXT MEETING - MEMBER TALK



### "The Larapinta Trail"

**Roger Thornton** is a keen bushwalker, who in the past has walked the Inca Trail, the Kokoda Track and, a couple of years ago, the Coast to Coast, from one side of England to the other. **Brett Jones** has extensive experience in search and rescue operations in New Zealand and was one of the rescue team that flew to the Antarctic after Air New Zealand Flight 901 crashed into Mt Erebus in November 1979.

Roger and Brett, with a group of 6 other bushwalkers, tackled the Larapinta Trail, in the Northern Territory, in July last year. This 231 km path through the West MacDonnell Ranges extends westward from Alice Springs to Mt Sonder, much loved as a painting subject by Albert Namatjira. Their talk will cover everything from logistics to landforms and, along the way, compare and contrast this walk with others experienced elsewhere.

## OUR NEXT MAJOR FUNDRAISER on 2nd MARCH

### THE FABULOUS OPERA ON THE YARRA

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN

Don't miss out – seats at the venue are limited to 120



Enjoy a night of musical indulgence and be treated to an eclectic array of songs from the world of Opera and Musical Theatre, performed by some of the most sought-after performers in the Australian Operatic Scene.

This fundraising event will support Rotary Central Melbourne's Silk Miller Scholarship which partly finances a police officer to undertake the Diploma of Adolescent Health at the University of Melbourne to enable them to more appropriately work with the youth in Victoria.

#### COST

\$90.00 per person

includes canapes and a drink on arrival and canapes at interval with drinks at bar prices

#### LOCATION and TIME

7:30pm for 8pm start

Melbourne Rowing Club  
8 Boathouse Drive, Melbourne, Vic 3004

[www.trybooking.com/ZOLM](http://www.trybooking.com/ZOLM)

## Meeting Responsibilities

*Chair*  
CARDELL, Stuart

*Greeter*  
GANGULLI, Suvam

*Reporter*  
DYMOND, Trevor

*Photographer*  
THORNTON, Roger

*Door*  
ZHANG, Yanpu

*Bulletin Editor*  
WILLIAMS, Rohan

*Social Media*  
LIM, Daniel

## Upcoming Events

### Board Meeting

Feb 13, 2019  
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

### Multi-District Conference

Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre  
Feb 15, 2019 9:00 AM –  
Feb 17, 2019 5:00 PM

### Opera On The Yarra

Melbourne Rowing Club  
Mar 02, 2019  
7:30 PM – 11:00 PM

### Board Meeting

Mar 13, 2019  
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

## Speakers

Jan 22, 2019  
[Roger Thornton & Brett Jones](#)  
Member Talk

[View entire list](#)



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**GOLF EVENT**

Posted by Mary VOICE



A three Rotary Clubs Golf Event is planned for **Friday afternoon 29th March 2019**.

Please note the date in your diary and stay tuned for further information in the new year.

Inquiries to Mary Voice ([mvoice@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mvoice@bigpond.net.au))

**MEETING MINUTES 15th JANUARY**

Posted by Paul FRASER

**Visitors**

- **Shaneen Ahsan** (RC Chabiganj Bangladesh)
- **Armitpal Singh** (RC Southbank)
- **Krystle Mitchell** (prospective RC Docklands)
- **David Petersen**, guest speaker
- **Morgan Potter**, accompanying the guest speaker.

**Announcements**

- **Mary Voice** encouraged member participation in the coming social golf event on Friday 29th March 2019.
- **President Neville Taylor** highlighted the current tour group in India, which we can follow on Facebook, noting that the sister club relationship with RC Rabintra Sarobar has been formalized. He considered that our club members should feel part of the recognition awarded to our sister club by way of a plaque presented at their District Conference.
- **President Neville** reminded us of the many coming activities, particularly:
  - Victorian Multi District Conference 15-17th February
  - Opera on the Yarra on 2nd March, now open on [trybooking.com](http://trybooking.com)
  - Peninsular Barbeque on 17th March

**Guest Speaker – David Petersen**

Before speaking on "Team Rubicon – Australian Veterans making a difference", David gave some background to what led here. After graduating from the Royal Military College Duntroon as a Lieutenant in 2007 he held a variety of Artillery postings covering Air Defence, Surveillance Target Acquisition, and Field Artillery. This included being deployed to Afghanistan in 2011 for 9-months as the Battery Captain of Counter-Rocket, Artillery & Mortar.

David went on to explore the image of who veterans are, which is generally that it is older white men and that those of his generation do not look like veterans. He illustrated this by treatment charts showing peaks in older age groups that follow decades after various conflicts, with the largest peak being in the 90+ age group. He also noted the rapidly declining RSL membership resulting from this support organisation being orientated to this old image.

In 2017 David was medically discharged as a direct result of his operational service in Afghanistan. Being at a loss as to what he could do, David went to work alone on a cattle station.

He became involved in disaster response because he could see a use for his skills and felt comfortable working in disaster situations that were often not unlike war zones. He first illustrated this with the Haiti disaster where Afghanistan Veterans went in on day one and set up a hospital while aide and doctors were held back at the airport because "it was not safe".

*Team Rubicon Australia unites the skills and experience of military veterans with first responders to rapidly deploy emergency teams in the wake of natural disasters across the globe. Disasters are our business, Veterans are our passion.*

Team Rubicon has 90,000 members in the USA where it started and now has 1500 members in Australia.

David is actively involved in the leadership of Team Rubicon Australia as part of the Melbourne Disaster Response Team. He is also active in the Camberwell City RSL and since 2018 has been the President. His "day job" is at Beyond Blue as a Project Manager for a new and innovative suicide prevention program for veterans.

His hope is that he can put himself out of a job through the work of Team Rubicon, which is saving lives both in the communities assisted and among the Veteran volunteers, and by making RSL more relevant to younger veterans, which would give a place to share experience with those who understand.

**GALLERY**

Posted by Roger THORNTON

**Photos from our last meeting**

President Neville Taylor



President Neville exchanging banners with Shaneen Ansan



Krystle Mitchell with Neil Salvano



Amrit Singh, President RC Southbank



David Petersen, guest speaker



Chair Rohan Williams

