

RIM

The Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Epping Inc.

www.eppingrotary.org.au



Rotary Opens Opportunities

1 March 2021

Toula's Corner

Monday's Vaccine speaker was so clear and eloquent. She explained the history, debunked the myths, and clarified how the vaccines were made. She certainly augmented our Covid-19 vernacular with words such as Spikes, RNA, Fat Bubbles and Viral Vectors. At the end of the talk, I certainly felt more reassured about taking the vaccine. I know she changed the mind of one member in the club. That is a testament of the quality of the talk. Thank you, Dr. Lesley Bradshaw!



What's coming up



Rotary Club of Epping		
Monday Night Program 2020-2021		
Date	Venue	Speaker
Sunday, 7 March 2021		CLEANUP AUSTRALIA DAY
Monday, 8 March 2021	Hotel, Epping	Senior Constables Julie Lewis and Shane Carne, Crime Prevention Officers at the Ryde Police Area Command
Saturday, 13 March 2021	Online	DISTRICT CONFERENCE
Sunday, 14 March 2021	Online	DISTRICT CONFERENCE
Monday, 15 March 2021	Club, Epping	Pride of Workmanship
Monday, 22 March 2021	Hotel, Epping	Epping Boys High School Acting Principal Jonathon Mullins & Chris Wilden RYPEN Experience

Next Monday

Next Monday, March 8 marks the International Women's Day. This day is celebrated around the world and is the focal point in the movement for women's rights.

We will start our meeting with a short quiz about Women. So, sharpen your trivia minds and get them ready. Prizes will be given!

Following the quiz, our guests next week will be Senior Constables and Shane Carne from the Crime Prevention Officers at the Ryde Police Area Command. They will update us on community matters relating to crime, crime prevention and recent statistics.

Join us at the pub 6:00 for 6:30 start

DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2021

A Message from our District Governor, David Clark

Dear Rotarians and friends,

I am asking you to **PLEASE register** for the District 9685 Conference 2021.

Why you ask? Do I need to register because I'm going to a club showing, or to someone's house to view the event?

Well, the reason is simple. The District Conference is a mandatory part of the District Governors responsibilities and we have to give a report to RI on the success of the event. It is costing a large amount of money for us to put this very professional event on for you all to view, and it will be sent out to every Rotarian in the District **FREE** of charge, (whether you register or not), but it would be nice to know just how many people intend to view the program either on the day or later. We also need to ensure that we have a guide to numbers to ensure that there is enough capacity in the broadcasts for both days so that all can view the broadcasts.

The only way we can do that is by registrations. For example, we won't know if 20 people show up at an RSL Club to watch it on the day. All registrants will receive the Conference links, a copy of the full program

and a name tag which can be used for group events. See below for more information and the Registration link. **So please register today.**

Our virtual Annual Conference 2021 is being held on Saturday, 13th March - Keynote speakers and top 10 Club videos, and Sunday, 14th March - House of Friendship and all of the Club videos.



**[CONFERENCE PROGRAM](#) (for Saturday. More details to follow)
CONFERENCE WEBSITE
REGISTER HERE**

[Nominations for Board 21/22](#)

Presidents Elect Toula Serna and Narelle Barker invite club members to consider nominating themselves for a position of the Board for 2021-2022.

For nominations or questions, please contact Narelle or Toula.



Community Garden Project

Call for volunteers.

This project is starting to take shape. Our first working bee is on Saturday 13 March from 8-1pm. Just come for as long as you can. Morning tea will be provided. As you know a District Grant of \$2500 has already been approved which is a good start.

Stage 1 is redeveloping the previous garden area in conjunction with Epping North Public School. See Trevor's description.

Address is Boundary Rd North Epping.

It should be a terrific project to enable the students to be involved as well as the parents and staff.

Please see Trevor's diagram for more details. Look forward to see you there.

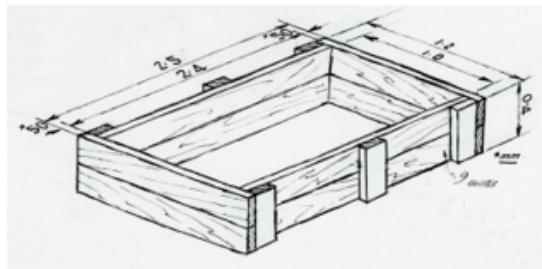
Peter Garrard

EPHING ROTARY COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT

**Saturday, 13th March
8.00am at North Epping Public School**

**Your chance to be a gardener or a woodworker
for a Saturday morning.
Nobody's talents are insufficient. Amateurs will
be coached.**

**Come along and enjoy a great
morning of fun and fellowship while
giving great service to the
community.**



We will be making nine of these gardens, a compost bin and weeding and preparing the land.

For further information, contact Peter 0410685417 or Trevor 0449126896

News from East Timor



In 25 years of Indonesian occupation from 1975 to 2000, over 20% of the population of East Timor died. Most of these deaths were from starvation.

“Covid might not kill us but starvation will.”

This statement was made to me by Luis, GREEN TL Team Leader in Oecusse. There have recently been reports of covid reaching the enclave – returning students coming from Indonesia bringing it in with them. At this stage quarantining, contact tracing, the use of masks, hand washing, severe lockdowns and border closures seem to have contained the outbreak.

Covid is not the problem now, as risky as that might be, hunger is!

Rice crop yields last year were poor due to low rainfall, farmers' markets are closed, people are relying on the weekly ferry which brings goods, such as imported rice, from Dili. The price of a sack of rice, a food staple, has increased from \$11 (US) to \$18.



\$A25 will buy a 20kg bag of rice (as shown) in Oecusse

Wherever you look the signs of malnutrition, stunted growth and poverty are all too obvious.

According to the WHO 2020 Global Hunger Index report, Timor Leste is one of the most food insecure countries in the world. Child malnutrition is a major concern, with over half of children estimated to be stunted and nearly 15% suffering from wasting.

If you've got a job, you get the Australian Government to pick up 35% or more of the cost through tax deductibility. Having Luis and other friends of Rotary on the ground in Oecusse helps to ensure that our donations get to the truly needy.

As this crisis deepens we must try to do more!

A donation, no matter how small, can make a big difference to the villagers of Oecusse.

Please send this letter to friends and family and see if we can buy 100 (or more) sacks of rice to accompany their home-grown vegetables!

Donations over \$2 to the Sustainable Villages project are tax deductible:
Donate online by going to the Rotary Australia World Community Service, (RAWCS) website.
<https://donations.rawcs.com.au/Default.aspx?ProjectID=592&ReturnTo=4> (Sustainable Villages Oecusse)
For more information contact me, Judy Charnaud jcharnaud@ozgreen.org.au

Clean-Up Australia Day



Epping Rotary is back in business for Clean-Up Australia Day on Sunday March 7th.

We have registered our usual site on Terrys Creek and nominated a fairly relaxed two hours of Clean-Up from 9.30 am until 11.30 when we will stop for refreshments and storytelling.

Ian Bittner and Robert Tosswill will be the organisers this year. Please put this activity on your

Calendars. Further information will be provided at our Monday night meetings.

**** STOP PRESS ****

A delicious sausage sandwich (or roll) and liquid refreshments will be provided after 11.30



RIM ARTICLES

Please send RIM articles to Alan at alan.baker.om@gmail.com or secretary@eppingrotary.org.au