

# Rotary Club of Epping



12 July  
2021

## Co-presidents' Corner

We were delighted that 32 people tuned into our Zoom meeting on Monday night. Included were our 3 guest speakers and fellow Rotarians, Geoff Saville and Robert Erskine. It was great to have Ying and Martin join us too, and to welcome Eric Chen to the meeting.

After our introductions, Toula acknowledged Alex Thomas' significant 42 years of service to Rotary – 6 Clubs in Australia and 4 in Malaysia. Alex's commitment embodies the principles of Paul Harris' quote 'Let us keep our hearts strong, enthusiasm fresh, hope high. As long as we keep imbued with this spirit, Rotary can never die.' Congratulations Alex and thank you for your incredible service!

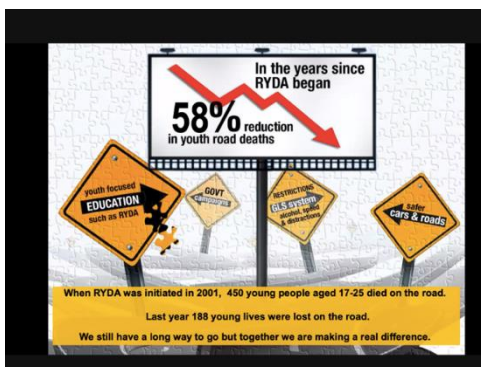
Toula and I ask that you check your profiles in ClubRunner to ensure all details are correct, particularly for those who may have been in other Rotary Clubs prior to joining Epping. In addition to Rotary anniversaries, we would like to acknowledge members' birthdays in the year ahead.

RYDA National Program Manager John Elliott, NSW Metro Program Co-ordinator Tracey Grinter and RYDA facilitator Megan Quintiliani were our special guest speakers this week. John shared a most interesting PowerPoint on the importance of the RYDA Program, which saves lives! In 2020, when we were in and out of lockdown, 188, 17– 25-year-olds died on our roads. 30 times this number were seriously injured – frightening statistics indeed! To date, approximately 660,000 students have taken part in RYDA with 96% saying they would apply what they learnt to their driving and 98% believe the program should be compulsory. Whilst the full day program of 6 workshops has usually been carried out at venues at St Ives, Sydney Olympic Park and Penrith, last year 75% took place in schools (incursions).

We learnt too of the strong and long partnership between RYDA and the Rotary Club of Epping. Epping was there at the beginning and our connections continue to this day. NSW Metro Program Co-ordinator Tracey Grinter and RYDA facilitator Megan Quintiliani were able to answer our questions on the day to day running of the program.

Some feedback received..... From Megan - 'What a lovely bunch of Rotarians' and from Tracey 'It was my first time attending a Rotary meeting and loved seeing the passionate volunteers that you have and agree the long-standing relationship insights were great.'

Keep up with RYDA news and support RYDA by connecting on Facebook, RYDA Road Safety, and LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/road-safety-education-limited/> or subscribing to their Rotary monthly newsletter. Also check out their website <https://rse.org.au>



## OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH EPPING ROTARY

**One of our original supporting Rotary clubs**

**Have provided generous support to subsidise local schools for more than 10 years**

**Allows local schools to attend for only \$5 per student**

**Schools include: Arden Anglican School, Epping Boys**

**Additional support as volunteers and guides during the workshops**

Of the 267 lives lost on NSW roads in 2018, over half were vulnerable road users with a whopping 19% representing pedestrians.

Road safety authorities around the country are saying enough is enough, and we need to do more to protect our vulnerable road users helping to keep everyone on the roads, not just those within the car.

Recognising that education is a critical element in reducing road trauma, especially for young drivers and their passengers, Australia's leading youth road safety educator, Road Safety Education Ltd (RSEL) is pleased to announce that together with the Rotary Club of Epping, they are once again bringing the award winning youth road safety program RYDA to high schools in the Epping Area.

Thanks to generous funding from the Epping Club, the RYDA program is a significantly reduced rate to students from three local high schools - Chelmsford High School, Arden and Easton Boys High School. Another step to lowering the road toll.

Over 50,000 students a year attend the RYDA program across Australia, with a million students currently being participated in the program to help reduce road trauma.

### RYDA: affordable and accessible

**Costs of developing, managing and running RYDA throughout Australia and New Zealand, including all materials, are approx. \$45 per student.**

**Corporate, government and community support help keep costs to schools at no more than \$25 per student for metros, and \$15 for regional programs.**

**Additional, targeted, funding helps get costs even lower where needed, ensuring live-saving education is affordable and accessible to all students.**

### Who's on the RYDA team?

From road safety experts, to corporate partners, community leaders and high profile individuals – RYDA has assembled a team of great supporters.

**Supported Corporate Partners:** BOC, Bunnings, Toyota, Telstra, QBE.

**Rotary Community Partners:** Rotary Club of Epping.

**Expert Advisory Council:** Dr. Helen Coward, Professor Pauline, Professor Research Laboratory, Dr. Margaret Johnson, James Research Centre, Institute of Transport Studies, Monash University, New Zealand, Director of Customer Development, QUT, Prof. Ursula Smeets, Centre for Accident Research & Road Safety (CARRS-Q), Queensland Road Safety Council.

**Highly Respected Patron & Vice Patrons:** Foundation Patron: The Hon. Dr. William Irvine (former Australian Governor-General) & Vice Patron: Geoffrey Morrison (former Governor-General of New Zealand), Sir Peter Bevan-Browne (former Governor-General of New Zealand), Sir Peter Bevan-Browne (former Governor-General of New Zealand), Sir Peter Bevan-Browne (former Governor-General of New Zealand).

**Passionate Ambassadors:** Dr. Helen Coward, Professor Pauline, Professor Research Laboratory, Dr. Margaret Johnson, James Research Centre, Institute of Transport Studies, Monash University, New Zealand, Director of Customer Development, QUT, Prof. Ursula Smeets, Centre for Accident Research & Road Safety (CARRS-Q), Queensland Road Safety Council.

We will be 'Zooming' again next Monday night, 19 July. We will open up at 6.30pm for fellowship before our '3 on Me' presenters Heather Pinto, Alex Thomas and Julian Eggleston commence at 7pm.

Zoom details are:

**Link to Join Zoom Meeting**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5526138035?pwd=ZVRMTnRwTEdPYndKUUFkYUVjT2J0QT09>

**Meeting ID: 552 613 8035**  
**Passcode: 866069**

The meeting is 7pm – 8pm with fellowship commencing online at 6.30pm.

**Changeover Update**

Toula and I have made the decision for the Changeover to take place on 23 August. If not in lockdown, it will be held at the Epping Club. However, if we are still under restrictions, we will hold the Changeover on Zoom - not ideal but.....!

**Lockdown Links**

During these times of lockdown, life can be difficult, so we ask that you take the time to phone a fellow Club member to see how they are going. I am sure it will be beneficial for the caller and receiver alike!

**Narelle**

### **Blue Mountains Postponed**

Due to Covid the trip to the Blue Mountains will now be September 4 and 5. All bookings have been transferred to this new weekend.

**Bruce and Trevor**

### **Joan Clune Update.**

Joan as expected is frail but overall is going pretty well all things considered. She has wonderful family support, especially from son Phil. Phil does the majority of caring although the others help. He's having another operation himself In two weeks so we wish you well Phil. I'm fortunate in that the family are keen for me to see Joan on compassionate grounds ( from a distance) each Friday on my way to MoW.

**Bruce**

### **Looking for Bright Ideas to Help Others**

Epping Rotarians are very imaginative, as past projects to help others have shown. We are now asking for suggestions for projects to support our local community or overseas that may be eligible for a Rotary Foundation District grant.

Grants for our local community can be as much as \$3,000 (to be matched by our club) and \$6,000 for projects overseas (also to be matched by our club). Projects need to be started and completed in this Rotary year. Last year a district grant was used to start our community garden at North Epping PS.

Applications for grants need to be submitted to the District Committee by 15 July 2021 so please contact me ASAP if you have any ideas.

**Monica Saville**  
**Rotary Foundation Director**

### **Membership - An update on District Strategy**

The Rotary brand is one of the best known, 1.2 million volunteer members from more than 200 countries are tackling the world's most humanitarian challenges.

I recently asked a young person "what do you see when you walk into a Rotary Club - the answer was - " I see old people." Understandable as it's all relative, when I was 30 years of age 50 seemed very old and so it goes - now that I'm nearly 50, 60 seems very old - Eszter (my wife) says I am delusional - ok so it's a coping mechanism!

Our members are leaders at every level, be they lawyers, doctors, small & large business owner's educators, they come from all walks of life. I know of one club that has invited a couple of tradies to the board. Young heads at the table can deliver a different perspective.

Our largest membership group is in the older age bracket comprising about 45% of the Rotary population and still doing great work.

Clearly the future of Rotary is in the hands of a collaboration between the mature experienced Rotarian and a younger cohort. So how do we engage and focus on connecting with them and to enhance their Rotary experience in a way that increases the chance of the younger individual becoming a lifelong member.

Attracting new generations is critical to our future as their career aspirations, attitudes about work, and knowledge of new technologies will have a significant impact in defining the future culture of Rotary.

The ideal Rotary model of twenty years ago needs to be based on the needs and aspirations of the future Rotarian supported by the experience that resides in our clubs. What worked in attracting and motivating older generations won't keep young volunteers invested, collaboration between the two will be beneficial to all concerned.

Here are some strategies:

- Support Personal and Professional Growth
- Give Them Ownership of Their Work
- Offer Feedback
- Give Them a Voice
- Create Communities
- Be Flexible

So rather than seeing just old people what if a young person walking into a Rotary Club saw mentors in their professional and volunteering space.

Old Myths need to be debunked - focus on the benefits to being a Rotarian.

**John Fenessy - District 9685 Membership Chair**



**Rotary Myth Buster**

**ROTARY IS FOR MEN**  
**WRONG!** Rotary has welcomed women for over 30 years.

**IT'S FOR RETIRED PEOPLE**  
**WRONG!** We are open to ages 18+ Age is just a number, it's attitude that is more important.

**IT'S FOR PROFESSIONALS**  
**WRONG!** Diversity is our strong asset and there's always a place for you in Rotary.

**YOU MUST ATTEND EACH WEEK**  
**WRONG!** We focus on what you can contribute. Get involved with fundraising activities, community projects and activities.

**IT'S A RELIGIOUS ORGANISATION / SECRET SOCIETY**  
**WRONG!** Rotary is non-religious and non-political.

**YOU HAVE TO BE FORMALLY DRESSED FOR MEETINGS**  
**WRONG!** We are interested in what you can offer, not how you dress.

**IT'S A LUNCH AND DINNER CLUB**  
**WRONG!** We do have meals at most meetings, however we principally meet to plan projects, have guest speakers, socials and run activities.

**MEMBERSHIP BY INVITE ONLY**  
**WRONG!** Anyone with the right mindset can visit and join. We accept members from all walks of life.

**INTERESTED IN BIG INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS ONLY**  
**WRONG!** We are involved in these huge projects, however the majority of our work is within local communities supporting local causes.



● FRIENDSHIP	Club meetings, projects, and social activities are fun and filled with fellowship, humor, and entertainment. Our members are friendly, welcoming, and engaging.
● LEADERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Members learn how to be leaders in a volunteer organization. If you can be an effective Rotary leader, you will be a better business leader.
● PERSONAL GROWTH	Our members develop broad social skills. Membership in Rotary makes our members better individuals, community leaders, internationalists, and humanitarians.
● GLOBAL ACCESS	Our global presence offers our members an exclusive opportunity to create relationships in both the local and world communities and allows our members to be better global citizens.
● COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS	Membership in a club makes a person a better community citizen who is more connected with community leaders and the needs of the community.
● ETHICAL PRINCIPLES	One of Rotary's core principles is to maintain high ethical standards. Rotarians and Rotaractors are expected to be ethical in business and personal relationships.
● OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FAMILY	A member's involvement in Rotary brings their family into a community's support network. They form lifelong relationships and friendships that can support a family for years.
● PUBLIC SPEAKING SKILLS	Participating in a club helps our members develop both confidence and skills in public communication and gives them the opportunity to use them.

## Trevor's Rant

Last week Trevor published his rant. It was pleasing to see that the DG (last year) responded.

*Letter to the Editor*

*I read Trevor McAlister comments in the 5th July edition of your newsletter with concern I do agree with Trevor that all clubs need a strategy when it comes to attracting new members but I come back to the same old problem that has bugged Rotary for years?*

*How many people has Trevor or for that matter all of us, asked to join our wonderful organisation in the last year or two??*

*We are members of Rotary because someone somewhere asked us to join and we were invited along to a meeting, if we are still here we found something that we liked and captured our interest.*

*We will never get new members, young or old if we do not ask them to join, but also ask them what will keep them engaged and committed to giving Service Above Self.*

*In other words, (what rocks their boat) or what they are interested in (fellowship), are they lonely and just need companionship (Service), do they have a project already in mind, or are they happy to run with one of yours (Professional Development), do they want to improve or advance*

*their own business or career. All these things have to be considered when asking someone to join Rotary.*

*But no one will join if we don't first ask them, and I again ask, how many of you in the last 12 months have asked just one person to join. I get annoyed when I hear people winging about membership and they blame others for their failures.*

*It is not the job of the membership chair or committee it is EVERYONE's job to get members. You can have the best ideas in the world to attract new members but you still have to ASK, ASK, ASK and give them a reason to STAY.*

*Cheers*

*David Clark JP*

*Blackheath Rotary Club Inc.*

*Rotary 9685 District Governor 2020/21*

## **RIM ARTICLES**

Please send RIM articles to Alan at [alan.baker.om@gmail.com](mailto:alan.baker.om@gmail.com) or [secretary@eppingrotary.org.au](mailto:secretary@eppingrotary.org.au)