Toula's Corner

Rotary

Club of Epping

Anzac Day





26 April

2021

The Anzac Dawn Service in Forest Park on Sunday 25 April was poignant and very moving. The club was represented by several members and a wreath was laid at the Cenotaph on behalf of the club and its members.

Our own John Candy was the presiding chaplain on the day and what a magnificent job he did!

Club Membership Survey

You would have received an email inviting you to participate in a short and anonymous survey to canvass your feedback about the operations of the Epping Rotary Club.

The survey should not take you more than five minutes and the results of the survey will be shared with all members at a **Club Forum**, which will be run by Narelle and myself on **Monday 31 May 2021**

The survey will close on May 12th to allow time to collate and analyse the results.

Thank you for your participation!

Next meeting Monday 3 May

We are very excited to have Dr. Melissa Kang as our speaker on May 3rd.



Most people know Dr Melissa Kang as the longest-serving expert behind the iconic Dolly Doctor column, but she is also a practising medical doctor for marginalised young people and has academic roles at the University of Technology Sydney and the University of Sydney.

She is a published author and works with young people as an academic and medical doctor. Her research focuses on access to health care and on sexuality and sexual health.

It promises to be a great evening. Be sure to be there!

What's coming up

Monday, 3 May 2021	Hotel, Epping	-AGM -Melissa Kang Youth Mental Health Honorary Associate Profesor, Westmead Clinical School, Uni of Sydney
Monday, 10 May 2021	Hotel, Epping	3 On Me Learn more about club members as they talk about their lives, careers and interests.
Saturday, 15 May 2021	Craig Gallagher' Home at Meadowbank	Cocktail Party to raise funds for San Isidro
Monday, 17 May 2021	Club, Epping	Ikibukero - A relationship of 50 Years Speaker: Consul General of Japan in Sydney, Mr Kiya Masahiko
Monday, 24 May 2021	Hotel, Epping	To be Decided
Monday, 31 May 2021	Club Forum	Discuss outcomes of Survey
Monday, 7 June 2021	Rob Philips	Chairman, Bendigo Bank
Monday, 14 June 2021	NO MEETING	QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY
Monday, 21 June 2021	Hotel, Epping	North Epping Primary School
Monday, 28 June 2021	Club, Epping	Changeover with District Governor Elect Lindsay May

Service to Celebrate Life of Paul Clune

This will be held at St. Matthews Anglican Church, West Pennant Hills, this coming Saturday May 1 at 11.00 am.

There will be a strong Rotary presence for this outstanding Epping Rotarian, so your attendance would be greatly appreciated.

Paul always wore a tie, so maybe men should be similarly attired(pun?!), but obviously up to the individual.

Bruce

Major Raffle

Our Club is about to embark on a major raffle as a significant fundraiser for many of the projects and activities. We hope to make a net profit of around \$4,500.

Tickets will be \$5 per ticket, 3 for \$10 or 8 for \$20.

We have ordered 100 booklets with 20 tickets per book.

Each member will be asked to sell a booklet but I'd be great if you could take an extra booklet or two. We hope to distribute the booklets on May 10 and draw the raffle at Changeover on June 28. The prizes are very good as seen below.

- 1. Escape to a house by the ocean at Werri Beach for 2 nights stay. Sleeps 6.
- 2. Rawson's Restaurant \$200 voucher; donated by The Epping Club.
- 3. A mixed dozen of Epping Rotary wine, worth \$160
- 4. \$100 Gift Card donated by Macquarie Shopping Centre
- 5. \$100 Voucher from The Epping Hotel
- 6. One bottle of Veuve Cliquot Champagne; donated by Betty Ockerlande

Bruce

Ikebukuro – 17 May

On Monday 17 May at the Epping Club, we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the relationship between the Rotary Club of Epping and the Rotary Club of Ikebukuro (Tokyo). This is a significant milestone and we are delighted that the Consul-General of Japan, Mr Kiya, based in Sydney, will be our special guest speaker.

Current Rotarians, past Rotarians, partners and friends are all welcome. An attendance sheet will be circulated at the next couple of meetings.

If you know of any past members, please let them know and ask them to contact Bruce or me. We would also appreciate any photos of the exchange trips.

Narelle Barker

Rotary Foundation

As the Rotary (and financial) year draws to an end, it is a good time to think about donating to the Foundation, particularly via the Centurion program.

This is a AUD\$100 donation. You can either pay your \$100 as a one-off payment before the end of the financial year or you can add \$50 to your fees paid in Dec/Jan and May/June.

The money helps finance District grants such as the one we received for our community garden project as well as other wonderful Rotary projects. If you contribute \$100 or more a year, it accumulates so that when US\$1000 is reached, you receive a Paul Harris.

As I have mentioned before, there is a Centurion Certificate which I am happy to give or formally present to our Centurions. Just let me know.

Donations can be done through Deretta who then sends it on to the Rotary Foundation or there is a form which I can forward to anyone who wants to send their donation directly using a credit card. Please keep in mind, the donation is tax deductible.

Narelle Barker Foundation chair

North Epping Gardens Update

NORTH EPPING PRIMARY SCHOOL NOW HAS A COMMUNITY GARDEN

Thank you to Epping Rotary and the P and C

The earth shakes as eight cubic meters of garden soil roll past Peter Garrard's bedroom window. "Oh golly; where is that going?' he thinks to himself. And then he remembers it is Saturday and he needs to be where that soil is about to be dumped. It is important that the 12-tonne truck tiptoe lightly across the soft and manicured lawn that is the children's playground. He needs to be there. Pulling on his favorite pair of faded grey shorts and a random black, or maybe it is a blue-grey T-shirt, he sprints for his car. There is a squeal of tyres and a shower of gravel as he speeds off after the truck that by now is almost at the end of Norfolk Road and about to turn into the school grounds.

There is a team already there. They have brought with them a disparate assortment of apparatus necessary for shifting soil. There are numerous interpretations of spades and shovels and wheelbarrows. One wheelbarrow is a relic of the early days of the Industrial Revolution when wheelbarrows were made by blacksmiths working with anvils and sledgehammers. It is impregnated by gaping rust holes. But Bruce has brought it along anyway. Because he is keen. Despite having a great affection for this wheel barrow, he readily swaps it for one with pneumatic tyres and a tray that will actually hold dirt.

It is only 8.00am and many Rotarians are on the wrong side of sixty. There has been no time for breakfast, the customary early morning coffee or the perusal of the morning papers. They are there anyway. But shifting soil is hard work and after several barrow lifts, most are beginning to wilt. They are in need of caffein and sugar. But they are stoic and this is a project that has captured everyone's imagination for it will be a significant contribution to the community.

With a team of over twenty to push the barrows and wield the shovels, the dirt pile begins to shrink and the garden beds fill. More helpers arrive. More than half our members are there as well as several parents and the school's general assistant. All have given up their Saturday morning to be part of this. The mums and dads are less than half the age of the Rotarians and have energy surplus to needs. They work like machines, never stopping to gasp for breath or to rest aching backs.

Over the past month the community garden has taken shape. It will be an essential accessory to the school's food and garden program. It is anticipated that it will be possible to eat whatever comes out of the garden minus a few worms and snails. The children will learn that there is an essential link between seeds and seedlings and what is stacked on the supermarket shelves. They will find out that growing food can be just as interesting as eating it.

Within one and a half hours the entire eight cubic meters of garden soil has been moved and the project has been completed. The thirteen 2.5 by 1.2 meter beds are ready to be planted. I want to celebrate with fireworks and speeches but it is daylight and Rotary can't afford the crackers. Besides, they wouldn't be visible and nobody likes speeches before breakfast. Instead, most adjourn to a local café.

So thank you to everyone who contributed. Thank you to Peter and others who conceived the project and then worked tirelessly to wrest a few dollars out of the Federal Government. Thank you to those who risked the aches and pains that resulted from the wear and tear on bodies not normally accustomed to building gardens from railway sleepers or moving dirt around. So, until next time.....

Peter and Trevor



Cocktails and Canapés on the Bay

A reminder that the 'Cocktails and Canapés on the Bay' will be held on the afternoon of Saturday 15 May. All proceeds will go to the Vegetable Garden Project at the San Isidro School in the Philippines. Cost is \$80/person.

Also, we are requesting some volunteers to provide platters of finger food. If you are able to help with this, please let Craig Gallagher or me know. Thank you for your support.

Narelle



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