

Rotary Club of Epping



**31 October
2022**

Quote

“Whether taking to the pavements or simply enjoying an armchair tour, the swathe of information in this book will fascinate any Sydneysider.”

Back page of Trevor’s book on Exploring Hidden Sydney.

Bruce’s Banter

A great night last Monday with the Epping Community Bank’s Award Night. We have a great partnership with the Bank and they are currently sponsoring many of our Youth programs and historically sponsor our Golden Oldies Harbour Cruise.

40 attended and enjoyed an old style served meal which was roundly praised.

Special thanks to Rob Phillips, Craig Gallagher and Ian Bittner for being the chief organisers.

See report below

Last Monday I singled Ian Bittner out for special praise. Ian is a Past President and a stalwart of our Club. He has not missed a meeting this Rotary year, each Monday erects the banners and is at the forefront of many community events, especially those where equipment is needed. You’re a champion Ian, thanks very much.

Another champion is Mrs Rotary, Monica. Monica is a Past President and Past District Governor and currently on our Board as Foundation Director, an inspired decision by Toula and Narelle last year. Up until last Monday Monica had also attended every meeting; however, she is soon to have a hip replacement and will stay away from public places. Best wishes Monica in the coming weeks.

Our Board has decided to postpone the Pride of Workmanship until next year. We’re in the middle of 6 major events in consecutive weeks and we decided to break this up and have this important event next year when we can better do it justice.

Bruce

Epping Community Bank Awards (Bendigo Bank)

Each year the Community Bank Epping (Bendigo Bank) selects volunteers and individuals from the community to receive Community 2121 Awards.

The recipients of the awards have given their time and talents in service to the local Epping community. This year the recipients were all volunteers who have assisted with the DARTS not for profit bus service that enables locals with mobility issues to access North Epping shops, hairdressers, and ATMs. DARTS is a door-to-door transportation service employing wheelchair accessible buses, vans, MVs and contracted taxi services when appropriate.



Congratulations to the awardees:

- Peter Amos
- Clive & Elizabeth Gillam
- Parveen Goel
- John Morris

- Derry Thomas

DARTS service is available to persons with disabilities who are unable to access regular transit service. Volunteers help the passengers get safely on and off the buses and help with their shopping. Bendigo Bank Epping has been a sponsor of this service for more than ten years. The service was temporarily shut down over the Covid period and earlier this year the DARTS bus service was discontinued in Epping altogether.

Ian Bittner





Next Monday - Langston Awards.

Next Monday is the Langston Awards which is one of our iconic events. It showcases fine arts / cultural performances by our elite primary school students with ballet, singing, dancing, poetry etc. We expect 50 to attend and it'll be similar to last Monday with our \$35 meal being served to our table. This is another " Betty Production " and a great night is assured. Again thanks very much Betty, you're a superstar.

Bruce

Club Calendar

Date	Speaker/Topic Mondays	Venue
7 November	Langston Awards	Epping Club
14 November		Epping Club
21 November	International Night	Epping Club
28 November	Trevor – Book Launch Monica – Foundation	Epping Club
5 December	AGM	Epping Club
12 December	Xmas Party	
Date	Other Events	Venue
13 November	Mito Walk	
13 November	Langston Weekender	
26 November	Achieve Australia	Araluen

1-7 December	Polio Movie Event	
11 December	Carols in the park	Boronia Park
17 March	District Conference	Cowra
27 May	Rotary International Conference	Melbourne

Epping Rotary and The Langston Weekender- 13 November

Epping Rotarians are joining with local community groups on Sunday 13 November 9am to 3pm celebrate the opening of the Langston precinct. We will have a stall publicising our club, Trevor McAlister will be selling his books "Exploring Hidden Sydney" and we will be offering complimentary Christmas wrapping of Trevor's books.

The event will feature market stalls, art, music and dance. At 10.30am the City of Parramatta Lord Mayor, Donna Davis will cut the official opening ribbon.

Thank you to the Epping Rotarians who have volunteered to assist with our stall - Ian Bittner, Toula Serna, Narelle Barker, Deretta Andrews, John Fenessy, Trevor McAlister, Geoff and Monica Saville, and possibly Ian Stevenson.

Monica Saville



November Is Rotary Foundation Month

Our club is a great supporter of The Rotary Foundation. Our members give generously and our club donates from our fundraising efforts. At present Trevor McAlister is selling his most attractive and well researched book "Exploring Hidden Sydney" with all the royalties going to The Rotary Foundation. Our club has also pledged \$543 to the END POLIO NOW train ride.

The focus areas of The Rotary Foundation, which is the charity arm of Rotary International, are:

- Maternal and Child Health
- Water and Sanitation
- Disease Prevention and Treatment
- Basic Education and Literacy.
- Community Economic Development
- Support for the Environment, and
- Peace Building and Conflict Resolution

Grants from The Rotary Foundation support Rotarians working in all these areas across the world.

Did you know that Rotary was present at the inception of the United Nations in 1945 and was one of only 42 organisations invited to assist in framing the UN charter?

Did you know that every year, Rotary selects up to 130 of the world's brightest and most dedicated professionals to study, fully funded, at seven Rotary Peace Centres around the world? Since the program's inception in 2001, 1400 graduates now work in over 115 countries and serve as leaders in government and non-government organisations, education and research, law enforcement and the military, as well as international organisations dedicated to peace.

"True Peace is not merely the absence of tension ... it is the presence of justice." Martin Luther King

Monica Saville
The Rotary Foundation Director



ROTARY BUILDS PEACE

Rotary believes that if concerned citizens work together to create peace locally, we can create lasting change globally.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Greetings fellow Rotarians,

What an extremely busy time October has been. I have certainly clocked up lots of kilometres over the past few weeks. Last week Larry and I, along with over 600 other Rotarians attended the Zone 8 Conference in Canberra. The theme was 'Better Together' celebrating both Rotary and Rotaract working together to grow Rotary. There were some wonderful speakers, lots of catching up with friends after three years of not being able to get together and learning so much about where we can go from here. The DGNs and DGEs completed some valuable training and my DG class met each other face to face for the first time. We spent a day discussing all sorts of topics and sharing ideas.

I attended breakout sessions on *Reconciliation*, presented by Reconciliation Australia (<https://www.reconciliation.org.au>), Adelaide Rotaract and Darwin Sunrise Rotary and *Diversity, Equity and Inclusion* (DEI), two areas that are topical and can be addressed at club level. It was great to hear from RIPE Gordon McNally, Foundation Representative from USA Larry Lundstrom and the Global Grants manager from Evanston, Steve Sundstrom. They gave us a valuable insight into the workings of our organisation and provided lots of encouragement to continue our good work.

A big congratulations goes to Maddie Govender, from Hills Rotaract who was named Rotaractor of the Year. We also received the award for the district raising the most funds in 2021-22 for The Rotary Foundation. *We are awesome.*

At the pre-conference district leaders received an update on Regionalisation buoyed by that overwhelming 'yes' vote from our clubs throughout the zone. The next step is to prepare a budget for the RI Board to be presented in January. We were given an overview of how we will be moving into the pilot study. It was very similar to the plan that has been around for all of us to see over the last three years. It is now down to the 'how to' over the next eight months when the pilot will begin. Look for updates as we move forward.

While the Regionalisation Pilot Study will not directly impact on clubs it is timely for us to take a good look at how we are travelling. Regionalisation is looking to make Rotary more relevant and diverse, have a louder voice in our region, work together rather than in isolation, have a greater impact through bigger projects and provide more opportunities for leadership positions. We are working towards creating an organisation of choice within our communities. How can we parallel this at club level?

Most of us are suffering from declining membership, but why? There are clubs in our district who are growing, who have diverse membership, who partner with other community groups and who use their hard-earned funds to **lead** impactful Rotary projects. They work closely with their neighbouring clubs to increase their impact and strengthen their ability to deliver. All of their members are engaged and have a voice in a safe and comfortable place. Their boards consult and communicate and provide members with opportunities to lead by changing positions regularly.

Our members join to make a difference and we need to provide that experience. However, while it's important to meet the needs of our members we have to expect something in return. I recently attended a club where two people were being inducted. In the induction speech the president made it quite clear that they would be expected to volunteer regularly and use their vocational skills to contribute to the club. It's time to re-energise those members who have become disengaged for whatever reason and get them working!

Last month I gave you four questions to ask your members at meetings to inject a bit of fun and increase Rotary knowledge at the same time. Here are four more:

1. What are our Five Avenues of Service?
2. What are our five values?
3. What does DEI stand for and what does it mean for our clubs?
4. Who is our District Child Protection Officer?

And try asking someone each week to summarise an interesting article out of the RDU magazine.

Thank you all for the work you are doing and enjoy the journey and enjoy Rotary!

Mina Howard

District Governor 2022-2023

RIM ARTICLES

Please send RIM articles to Alan at alan.baker.om@gmail.com or rob@tosswill.com

Articles should be submitted by Thursday afternoon

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