

# THE VICTORIA SPARK

#83 Feb 2024

The Rotary Club of Victoria Park Newsletter

## NEXT MEETINGS

**Committee Meeting - Feb 16<sup>th</sup> 3.30pm** Vic Park Community Space, 660 Albany Hwy (Entrance - Miller St)  
**Club Meeting – Meeting with the Welshpool Rotary Club Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> March 7.30am** - Belmont Sports & Recreation Centre Cnr Abernethy & Keane St Cloverdale

## CLUB NEWS

### Vic Park Business Awards

Vocational service is one of Rotary's five avenues of service. It is at the core of Rotary, embedded in its history, present and future. It calls on us to foster high ethical standards in business, recognize the value of all occupations, and dignify our occupations as an opportunity to serve our communities.

Rotary recognizes the importance of all skills and occupations and with our club sponsoring the People's Choice for this year's Vic Park business awards we are acknowledging a business selected by the community, a business others businesses aspire to, and one which clearly fosters high ethical standards.

The winner of this year's People's choice award was Social Manna. Our Rotary Club members Morris and Vin presented the award to Sandro Puca at the Gala event



### Kent St SHS Teacher Award and Support Staff Award

While on the topic of Vocational service, our club each year sponsors the Kent St SHS meritorious Teacher award and the Support Staff award. President Wilf presented these awards at the school assembly on December 13<sup>th</sup>.

### Rotary Residential College



The Ron Letch award for the most outstanding boarder at the Rotary Residential College in 2023 was presented to Xavier Millsted at a special evening organised by the College on Nov 30<sup>th</sup>. Our members and their partners were invited along and we enjoyed a wholesome dinner with the students put on by the college for which we are grateful.

Also on the evening certificates were presented to the six students from the college our club sponsored during the year to attend RYPEN, which is a weekend camp designed to enrich the students lives.



## Christmas Time



To help Christmas be a more enjoyable time for others, several members of our club went along to Foodbank 21<sup>st</sup> Nov, and together with members of the Welshpool Rotary Club packed food hampers for Give a Feed. All involved worked so efficiently that we managed to pack more boxes than what was expected of us. Well done to all who participated.

For the Children we organised Santa to visit the Vic Park Market on Christmas Eve to hand out bags of sweets.



## Donations

At our most recent Committee meeting it was resolved that we would donate \$1,000 to the Vic Park Collective towards their fundraising to get a Library of Things established in the Town. We also made a donation to the Vic Park Soccer Club to help fund the purchase of specialised equipment to help with improving the performance of the Junior Teams

## Summer Street Party

The Town of Vic Park held its Summer Street Party on the 25<sup>th</sup> Nov and gave our club the responsibility of managing the parking at the Town's offices, The King George St Car park and the Old Croquet Club Site on Rushton St. Club Member Roger Meakes found a novel way to relax while manning the gate at the Croquet Club. Many thanks to the volunteers who helped on the day including the members of the Vic Pk Soccer Club



## Stamps

Even though Stamps are slowly becoming a thing of the past, club Member Vin Nairn is still collecting them and all the proceeds raised go towards Rotary Projects. District Governor, Ineke Oliver, gave us an unexpected surprise by delivering a parcel of stamps from Esperance following her visit there. Thank you Ineke.



## The Late Margaret Guilfoyle

I'm sorry to inform you that Margaret Guilfoyle, who was a member of the Rotary Club of South Perth Burswood, has passed away after deterioration of her health. Her Funeral was held at the South Perth Uniting Church last Thursday, where she was a member for many years.

Margaret was a Charter member of the Rotary Club of Burswood on 22 September 1999 and very active in Rotary and ShelterBox and, whilst she has not been able to attend of late, she still kept up her membership.



## Global Grant Project in Rwanda

I am pleased to report that our unique Global Grant Project, titled 'Restoration of Peace & Compassion among Rwandan Genocide Survivors and Ex-Prisoners', has been completed and the results have been very promising. Here is a quote from the evaluation report:

### RECOMMENDATIONS.

*The implementation of the project has demonstrated significant importance in the Rwandan community, yielding a substantial impact on mental health, resilience, and social cohesion among genocide survivors and perpetrators. To build upon these successes and further enhance the well-being and peace within the community, the following recommendations are suggested:*

*1. Expansion of the Intervention: The Community Resiliency Model (CRM) and laughter yoga have proven promising interventions in post-genocide Rwanda. Extending this project to at least 30 districts across the country is highly recommended. Expanding the reach of this program can ensure that a larger portion of the Rwandan population benefits from these impactful interventions.*

*2. Inclusion of Young Adults: To promote sustainable peace and prevent future genocides, it is essential to consider including young adults aged 18-30 from both genocide survivor and perpetrator backgrounds. Engaging this demographic will contribute to building a resilient and united Rwandan society.*

*3. Government Prioritization: Local government authorities and the Ministry of Health, specifically the Mental Health Division, should prioritize and support this intervention. It is a cost-effective means to sustain the mental well-being of the population, aligning with the broader mental health objectives of the nation.*

*4. Capacity Building for Local Leaders: Local leaders and heads of families should receive training and intervention, such as task shifting, to equip them with the skills needed to promote family, community, and child development within the Rwanda community. This grassroots approach can further reinforce the positive changes initiated by the project.*

If you wish to see the full evaluation report send an email to [wilfhendriks@gmail.com](mailto:wilfhendriks@gmail.com) and he will send you a copy return email.

The Rotary Club of Victoria Park is grateful to The Rotary Foundation and to the Rotary Clubs of Scarborough, Wanneroo, South Perth Burswood, Millpoint, Como and Butare who helped fund this project. Also many thanks go to Rwanda Resilience and Grounding Organisation and the Rotary Club of Butare (Host Club), who worked together in implementing the project.



**Photo taken at one of the training sessions**

# Town of Vic Park News

## We're moving to cashless parking

The Town's parking meters will be soon be replaced by new, more modern machines which accept cashless forms of payment only.

This change comes as the Town's current parking machines are about to reach the end of their useful life due to the impending shutdown of the 3G network, and reflects how most road users in the Town already use parking.

The transition will have a range of benefits for residents, visitors and businesses, including:

- **Ease of use:** Pay by card or phone and say goodbye to displaying a ticket on your dash. You may to choose to...
  - Use one of our new parking machines by simply choosing your desired parking time, inputting your vehicle's licence plate number and finalising payment by tapping your debit card or phone;
  - Or use the EasyPark app, and choose to extend or end your parking time with ease from your smartphone, thus only ever paying for the time you use.
- **Less clutter:** We'll be removing redundant machines and accompanying signage from the streetscape, reducing ongoing maintenance costs, improving pedestrian access and freeing up space for more community-friendly amenities.
- **Safer:** Reduce the amount of coins left in cars, discouraging theft.
- **More sustainable:** Solar-powered machines and no more wasteful paper tickets.

## Rotary District News

- Rotary WA Action Day, Sat 13th of April at The Rise, Maylands.
- Melville Rotary are hosting a Rotary Birthday Social get-together for our 7 Cluster Clubs (includes the Rotary Club of Vic Pk), Friday, 23rd Feb 6pm at Tompkins Park in Melville. Wear your Club Shirt



## BE HAPPY (Joke)      Laughter is the best Medicine

Tom was in trouble. He forgot his wedding anniversary. His wife was really angry. She told him "Tomorrow morning, I expect to find a gift in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 in 6 seconds AND IT BETTER BE THERE!" The next morning he got up early and left for work. When his wife woke up, she looked out the window and sure enough there was a box gift-wrapped in the middle of the driveway. Confused, the wife put on her robe and ran out to the driveway, brought the box back in the house. She opened it and found a brand new bathroom scale. Tom has since been missing.

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Anyone who is interested in supporting our club with the many projects we do we do each year or is interested in joining Rotary, is welcome to attend