

## Bulletin # 12 – 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2021



### Rotarians For Bees

Tonight we had an interesting talk on bees from John McCaskill supported by Shane Burette, and Ian and Fay Kirkwood who are members of the Rotary Group for Bees, who have a passion for bees and supporting the conditions in the environment to make them bee friendly.

John McCaskill started the journey towards creating a specialty group for bees after discussions with family and friends made him realise many people shared his concern about the world we will leave future generations. There has been a huge decline in bees around the world due to use of pesticides but they play a key role in agriculture. Since starting the Rotarians for Bee Group in Victoria the group has been exceptionally busy and has a lot of interest. John is looking to build a bigger network into other states with the help of Rotarians who share the interest.

We have 2 of our own members Geoff and Dieter who have their own hives. A video of the activities in the rural community of Hall was shown where a lot of enthusiasm has been generated to make the town more bee friendly. Planting flowering species, providing water where bees can land to drink, making boxes for native bees to use to store honey are examples of projects undertaken.

Schools have been really interested in the bee project and it provides a great way to Rotary to connect with them.

In areas affected by natural disasters eg Bushfires the regeneration of the area using suitable plants is another great way to help bees recover.

Mention was made of ESRAG Environmental Stability Rotary Action Group. You can join this group for \$30 US per year and it has a lot of information about projects related to environmental issues. The suggestion was made that you can often get all the things you need to start a project by looking at what other groups have done.

www. [ESRAG.org](http://ESRAG.org)

and www. [ESRAGANZPI.org](http://ESRAGANZPI.org)

Fay also talked about the problem of the Varroa Mite. It has not got into Australia yet but has devastating affect on bee populations overseas.

Hives are monitored electronically to detect for its presence on bees and bee keepers are recommended to check their hives 3 times year. During COVID bees were still transported to orchards to assist in pollination. Fay suggests don't be scared of bees, they do not attack unless threatened. Encourage your connections to avoid using pesticides outside.

Next meeting  
Via Zoom  
General Meeting  
Bulletin: **Phil Smith**  
Photos: **Phill Smith**  
Binoculars:

In this Bulletin:  
Pg. 2: **Shelter Box  
Bronze. Yacaaba  
Maintenance, Hat day,  
District Constitution  
meeting**  
Pg. 3: **Conference and  
events and a little  
humour.**

Birthdays  
29th September Dieter Grieter  
7th October John Cropley  
Anniversaries  
None this week

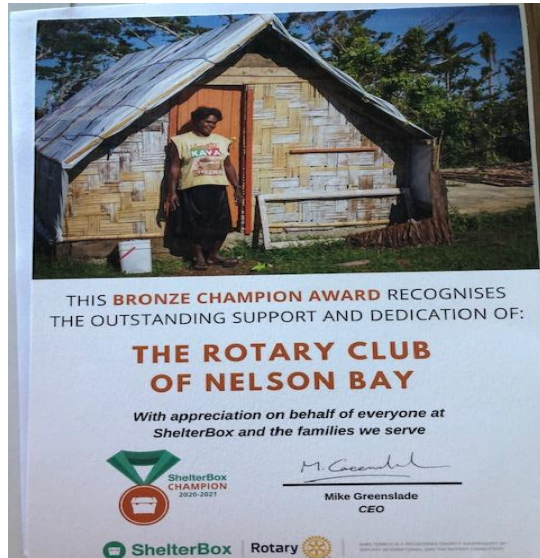
ZOOM MEETING; PLEASE  
GO TO MUTE WHEN NOT  
SPEAKING.

LINK;

[https://us02web.zoo  
m.us/j/6424376030?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6424376030?)

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wNHliRk1LeS9mbWVsOT09

Next meeting - Zoom Meeting

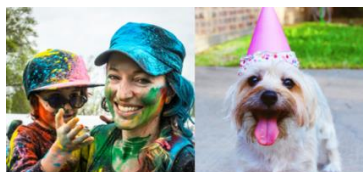


Our Club were awarded another bronze award for our continued of Shelterbox recently, We are one of five clubs in the District to receive this Award. Many members will know that former club member Scott Jarman and wife Lyn were instrumental in the setting up of Shelterbox in our District and that support has continued for more than a decade. The support give is certainly appreciated by Shelterbox and the recipients of aid in many countries internationally.



**YACAABA CENTRE MAINTENANCE CONTINUES**

Despite the current Covid restrictions we have been able to assist the Yacaaba centre in several ways. Don and Chris were able to scrub, and water blast a number of chairs which were long overdue for a tidy up on Friday. Some of the chairs will be used for clients to sit outside and wait for appointments, while the meeting area, constructed by our Club was cleaned and tidied up, as well. On Thursday Treasurer Milton delivered 50 frozen meals to the centre. These were prepared by Taylors Restaurant at Soldiers Point Bowling Club. These will be distributed to those in need.



**HAT DAY**  
10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021

**MORE THAN EVER WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT**



1 in 5 Australians suffer a mental illness every year  
100% of proceeds will go towards funding vital mental health research

REGISTER FOR HAT DAY:

[WWW.LIFTTHELIDONMENTALILLNESS.COM.AU/HAT-DAY](http://WWW.LIFTTHELIDONMENTALILLNESS.COM.AU/HAT-DAY)



**COMBINED DISTRICT MEETING UPDATE**

A well-attended zoom meeting regarding the constitution and bylaws for our new District 9660 (a merger between Districts 9670 and 9650) was held on Thursday night. Some 94 participants received an update from the transitional team. Nelson Bay Rotary Club was represented by Club Secretary Chris, as other Directors were attending our regular Club meeting with a guest speaker. Chris has prepared a brief report on the meeting and if any members would like more information please contact Chris, in the first instance.

The meeting was question and answer session led by Maurice Stack (9650) and Patrick Healey (9670). Several clubs in both Districts had submitted suggestions and changes to both the proposed constitution and bylaws and questions were answered in an easy to understandable way. There was some concern regarding the way the District Board (Committee) were elected, however the general feeling was that this was being handled in a democratic way. Discussions on the distribution of surplus funds and what the District Reserve fund should be was also discussed. An amended version of both the constitution and bylaws will be prepared and sent out soon.

It was announced at the meeting that Patrick Healey would be chair of District 9660 finance committee. Patrick has played a significant role in the operation of District 9670 and the on the joint Steering Committee. The final question of the evening was an interesting one. Rotary International are considering further changes to how Rotary operates in Australia, looking at running a pilot scheme for 4 years. This has to be approved in May 2022 and will not affect the merger of the 2 Districts on July 1 2022. As stated earlier the above is a condensed report of notes taken on the evening.



Other Items


The district is still interested in hearing from members who would like to participate in district activities. A list of the roles and their activities is listed there.

The club is still pursuing offers on a Topform Power Lift Chair and it has been advertised in the District newsletter. The proceeds will go to assist Nalatalie Haim who has been affected by Lyme disease and requires assistance in paying for further treatment.

Hat Day is 10th of October  
World Polio Day 24th of October

District Conference 18-20th of March 2022

**District Conference Newcastle**  
18-20 March 2022



Rotary District 9670


LOOKING BACK      MOVING FORWARD

**Tickets**

<b>BEST VALUE</b>	<b>All Inclusive</b>	All events - Friday Welcome BBQ, Saturday Breakfast, Conference & Conference dinner	<b>\$215.00</b>
	<b>All except Friday</b>	Saturday Breakfast, Conference & Conference dinner	<b>\$195.00</b>
	<b>All except Breakfast</b>	Friday Welcome BBQ, Conference & Conference dinner	<b>\$190.00</b>
	<b>Conference Only</b>	Saturday & Sunday Conference sessions and dinner, including Morning Tea, Lunch, 3 Course Dinner, Entertainment and experienced speakers.	<b>\$165.00</b>

**Add ons: Individual social event tickets**

<b>Friday BBQ Only</b>	Friday Welcome BBQ Only	<b>\$ 25.00</b>
<b>Sat Night Only</b>	Saturday Night Dinner Only includes 3 course Dinner, and Entertainment	<b>\$ 75.00</b>
<b>Sat Breakfast Only</b>	Saturday Breakfast Only	<b>\$ 30.00</b>

 **Book now**  
[www.trybooking.com/BTUMN](http://www.trybooking.com/BTUMN)



Who can remember the Grim reaper?  
(Cartoon From Toronto Star)

COVID Jokes

The Current Covid situation has ruined a lot of the opportunities for a joke to be told. In the old days lots of jokes started with, “A man walks into a bar.” We all know nobody was into a bar these days.

How about Knock Knock Jokes? There is no, “Who’s there,” its just go away, keep back 2 m, and I hope you have used hand sanitiser.

Apart from that it can be very confusing. 2 guys are talking about COVID and one says, What is the difference between alpha beta and delta strains?” The other says, “I don’t know it’s all Greek to me.”