

13 August 2021

President's report

After yet another two weeks of lockdown, all our plans for resuming some kind of normalcy have disappeared. Fortunately, the Committees and Board have been addressing the issue and once again we are thinking creatively about how to maintain regular contact with our members as well as to raise funds.

Plans are in place for an interesting and entertaining series of Zoom meetings, and the electronic contact network is alive and well. Pick-a-card is back, and a donation request prepared.

A wine fundraiser is in the planning process, the gingerbread houses are once again imminent, and we are planning a Christmas raffle.

This Monday we have two terrific speakers: Rachel Dunwell from Destiny Rescue and Micelle Ellery speaking about ROMAC. I hope to see as many members present as possible.



Thank you to everyone for your messages, cards, meals and calls while I have been laid up over the past couple of weeks. It is so lovely to be part of such a thoughtful and caring club.

Stay safe and have a good week! Jenny Kroonstuiver





**SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES** 

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SPRINGWORD Newsletter

Club of Springwood Above the Smog Below the Fog

## Planned meetings for August

- 16 August: Zoom Speaker meeting
- 23 August: Zoom Club meeting and Director reports
- **30 August**: Crazy hat and trivia Zoom meeting more information next week.

### Sergeant's corner

Who was it that got a flat battery whilst sitting in the COVID testing queue?



## **Upcoming events**

- **11 September** TBC Springwood Festival
- 10 October TBC Hat Day 2021
- 13 November TBC Norman Lindsay Gallery BBQ event
- 4 or 11 December TBC ETSY, Norman Lindsay Gallery
- **9 December –** TBC late night shopping Springwood

## Thought for the week







13 August 2021

# The Rotary BBQ Trailer (still) needs a new home

After six years of comfort in the Bowlers' back yard, the Rotary BBQ trailer needs a new home by 1 September 2021.

Bill has agreed to accept responsibility for housing the CFU fire-fighting trailer as his home is in a strategic location for this purpose.

If anyone has room to house the BBQ trailer in their yard, we would welcome your assistance. Please could you contact Bill directly to discuss further.

Meanwhile, thank you Bill for so generously housing the trailer for so long.



### Pick-a-card is back

Last week's pick-a-card winner was Rachel Pagitz who unfortunately did not take out the major prize!

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## Interesting guest speakers from other Clubs

Periodically I receive notification of interesting guest speakers from other Clubs. Members are welcome to join in and listen to any of the following. Please contact me and I will send you a live Zoom link.

- Upper Blue, Tuesday 24th August at 7:30pm: Kellie Parkin the Executive Manager of the Tiny Homes Foundation.
- E-Club: Sunday 15 August 7.30pm: Andrew Woodward, RAWCS CEO.
- E-Club: Sunday 19 September
  7.30pm: Jacob Stein, from Robert Stein Wines

## Do you have a MyRotary Account yet?

My Rotary is a place for members of Rotary to access tools and information to make your membership experience better. It contains a wealth of informative training, news, announcements etc about everything Rotary.

Setting up an account is simple: just go to <u>https://my.rotary.org/</u> and click onto the 'Join' button.

### A filler from my grandchildren





District 9685 Blue Mountains Service Above Self





13 August 2021

## Meet our members – Warwick Harrison



I have been a FIFO Rotarian. Whilst Yvonne and I were living in Fiji in the eighties with our 3 primary school kids I was invited to join the Rotary Club of Lautoka. At that time I was working as the Rural Water Supply Engineer in the Western Division of Fiji on secondment from Sydney Water.

When we returned home to Valley Heights I was invited to transfer my Rotary membership to the R.C. of Springwood. We soon offered to host a number of inbound YEP (Youth Exchange Programme) students. When German Roland was with us the Berlin Wall 'came down' and Roland was very excited. Bronwyn and Duncan Berriman chaired the District YEP, selecting many Aussie Outbounds and hosting many Inbounds. Yvonne and I shared other inbounds with several club members as host parents. I must say our son Tim found it a bit difficult keeping his feet on the ground as he was very keen to show them around. I hope the YEP reciprocal proa. can recommence after COVID, as it is such a contribution to international understandina.

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SPRINGWORD Newsletter

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In the '90s my lack of computer expertise (Kevin I still need your help) meant I was struggling and Sydney Water was drastically downsizing. I was struggling with work and life generally. Fred was president at the time and he threw me a life line, saying "It is not a mortal sin to resign from Rotary if you need to." I did, and with a lot of help from friends, (where were you Geoff when I was floundering?) I went through a metamorphosis and become a proud bus driver. Yvonne and I eventually took a bus load of oldies on a Tasmanian tour.

Some years years down the track I received a snail mail invitation from the Rotary Club of Springwood to rejoin the club. I think Bill Clague was president at the time. I greatly appreciated being welcomed back to the fold and I accepted. Crikey, things had changed. Some Rotariennes had been inducted as Rotarians and even club presidents. What had you started Linda?

Yvonne and I have enjoyed greynomading around OZ and then moving down to Bega primarily for grandparenting duty. I visited the RC OF Bega and was leg-roped into joining their club. I soon learnt that you cannot be a member of 2 clubs simultaneously. The female members are major contributors in the Bega club. The immediate past female president has just handed over to the incoming female president. Their long, standing retired dentist is 95, and still an active member - he was a charter



District 9685 Blue Mountains Service Above Self





13 August 2021

member in the fifties . He gets around town on his goffer. The Bega club's main fundraising is their 2 book fairs. They use 2 shipping containers for storage and sorting and use the large showground pavilion (evacuation centre for bushfires and floods) for 3-day weekends.

Thankyou President Jenny for your warm welcome back to the Rotary Club of Springwood. I am pleased to be part of Geoff's Community Service team, but I fear we are gender lopsided. Geoff, is it possible to co-opt a couple of the "young ones" to help rectify this ? '

### Meet our members – inviting contributions

Thanks to those who are sending in contributions. Please keep them coming! All members, Honorary Members and Friends are invited to contribute a short bio – about 300 words.

### August is Membership Month

August is Membership Month, a time to recognize our members and the incredible work they do locally and globally. In 2021, many Rotarians around the world are working together to curb the pandemic through vaccination drives. After a long year of uncertainty, hope is on the horizon.

Membership Month is a great time to introduce friends and colleagues to the family of Rotary. Here are just a few ideas on how to attract new members and keep them engaged:



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- Learn about strategies for attracting new members in the online course in the Learning Center. (A My Rotary account is required.) The course highlights ways to interest prospective members and showcase your club's strengths.
- Because of the pandemic, many clubs have started meeting exclusively online. The Engaging Online Meetings page has many useful tips and stories on virtual engagement. Take the Best Practices for Engaging Members online course to develop strategies for engaging people at all stages of membership.

Our Membership Director is Roza Sage, and she would welcome any suggestions about new members.

#### RI President Shekhar Mehta President 2021-22 Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar West Bengal, India



Mehta, an accountant, is chair of the Skyline Group, a real estate development company he founded. He is also a





13 August 2021

director of Operation Eyesight Universal (India), a Canada-based organization.

Mehta has been actively involved in disaster response and is a trustee of ShelterBox, UK. After the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, he helped build nearly 500 homes for families affected by the disaster.

He pioneered a program that has performed more than 1,500 life-changing heart surgeries in South Asia. He is also the architect of the TEACH Program, which promotes literacy throughout India and has reached thousands of schools.

A Rotary member since 1984, Mehta has served Rotary as director, member or chair of several committees, zone coordinator, training leader, member of The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers, and district governor. He is also the chair of Rotary Foundation (India).

Mehta has received Rotary's Service Above Self Award and The Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service and Distinguished Service Awards.

He and his wife, Rashi, are Major Donors and members of the Bequest Society.

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SPRINGWORD Newsletter

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The New South Wales State of Volunteering Report has been released!



The Report found that almost 4.9 million adults volunteered in NSW, giving more than 1.5 billion hours of their time in 2020. Their efforts delivered a return of \$3.30 for every \$1 invested in volunteering services across the state. Around 28% of volunteers reported being badly impacted by COVID, while corporate volunteering also reduced by around 35% over the three years to 2020, with the impact of the pandemic a likely source of the reduction.

While older people from NSW were less likely to volunteer due to COVID, young people and existing volunteers helped to maintain volunteer services over the period. Overall, volunteering remained strong during 2020, with informal volunteering and online and digital volunteering programs helping to provide an overall increase in volunteering hours in 2020.

The report was undertaken by the Institute of Project Management which surveyed more than 1,100 volunteers and received more than 1,000 responses from volunteer involving organisations

You can read more about the report at: <u>http://www.volunteering.com.au/sovr</u>



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