



Rotary



Club of Eaglehawk

R.I. President – Gordon McNally
District Governor – Ron Payne
Assistant Governor – Rob Foran

Volume 59
Number 34
May 2nd 2024

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Chartered 8th August 1966
President – Eric Smith 0438 688 806
Secretary – John Jones 0419 113 065
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We meet every Wednesday at the Mechanics Facility, 8 School Street, California Gully for a dinner meeting.

Weekly meeting
@ 6 pm for 6:30pm

Wednesday 8th May: **GUEST SPEAKERS: Visiting teachers from Malaysia**

MAY:

Happy Birthday to you - May -
2nd Geoff Adcock
18th Gail Fitzpatrick
23rd Jennifer Sanderson
30th Lynne Cooper



Reminders:

1. **Saturday 11th May** – Annual Club Bonfire Night – Social night at Gary's - 4:30pm start.
2. **Saturday 18th May** – ILLUMIN8 Festival - car parking- 3pm start
3. **Sunday 2nd June**- Bunnings BBQ
4. **Thursday 6th June**- Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee Film Night Fundraiser @ Star Cinema – Eaglehawk
5. **Saturday 8th June** – catering activity for District Governor's lunch @ Camp Getaway.

Attachments this week: BMFC Film Night Fundraiser- 6th June.

President's Report:

Well what a week, the sun has been out most of the week, but it has had little effect on the temperature.

To say the least- it has been a titch chilly. The nights they have been quite cold.

It is pleasing to note that we did have some rain last Thursday during the Anzac Day morning service.

Hear tell that Trevor measured the amount with his rain gauge, result: ¼ of a thimble full. We may have to wait for a bit more.

We had a great attendance this week. Geoff Adcock has returned from Italy, welcome back Geoff!

Charlie Cunneen was in his usual spot welcoming everyone with a smile again this week. He turned 80 on Tuesday!

Carmel Fitzpatrick lead the singing. Congratulations Charlie on such a milestone.

We also had a number of guests join us as well; Sally Beard (guest speaker), and her team, from Backpack4Vickids, Anatta (our RYLA Student), Karen (pronounce Kar ren) a propective member and Kylie Campbell.

We also had a few away, Mick and Mandy are in NSW and feeling a lot better, Gai Porh is not well, Gary, Ron, John P and Jenny were all apologies too.

The story behind the Guest speaker is that Sally was at the D 9800 Conference Showcase with her team at the Backpacks4vickids stand. It was suggested that we should ask if they would like to speak to our club and as it happened they had an official launch of a Tiny Sites Container Wednesday morning, so they were happy to visit us as Guest speaker.

As it turns out, a very interesting story that revolves around kids in need for various reasons, many quite chaeelnging. (please refer to article).

Just to ensure everyone has caught up with the advice that the *Triva Night* sheduled for Friday 3rd May, has unfortunately had to be postponed. It is considered that October maybe a better time.

For those members on the road, travel safely, it is the best way to get back to Eaglehawk.

Look forward to catching up next Wednesday.

Regards- Eric.

Guest speaker: Sally Beard- CEO and Founder of Backpacks 4 VIC Kids.

The start of the discussions with Sally is mentioned earlier, However the 'Backpacks 4 Vic Kids' started when Sally was a foster carer for kids and could see a need to help kids that were in difficulty for many reasons.

She found an organisation in Queensland called Backpacks 4 Aussie Kids. At that time, they were trying to get backpacks to kids all over Australia. Unfortunately, it was taking some time to get them where they were needed in a timely manner.

Through discussions with the Queensland organisation, Sally branched out and started Backpacks4VicKids.

The organisation was incorporated within four weeks. In the first few weeks they had been able to supply 700 odd backpacks to kids in need from the age of birth to seventeen.

The aim of the organisation is to 'make things a little better'.

From the end of June 2022 till now (for the Queensland based organisation -including Victoria) there were 61,000 kids in 'out of home care', including 14,000 in Victoria.

Our Vision – 'Kids get what they need when they need it'.

For example, when for example a child is removed from a home, there is interaction there and then with the child, regardless of age.

That interaction is generally in the form of a backpack of suitable items for their age group.

There are several different programs available.

- My essentials (ME) packs for children that are displaced or arriving at a strange location. These packs include items that are suitable for the child, ie for a OOOO baby, baby care bag, soft toy, toiletries sleepwear, clothes torch, tissues and a blanket etc.
- Christmas 4 kids in care / Santa packs ie Christmas gifts etc.
- School essentials pack ie pens, pencils, note-books, drink bottle etc.
- Youth outreach packs ie one set of clothes, underwear, hygiene products, note pads, wipes etc.

The Victorian team have sent packs to Tonga, Lismore, and far North Queensland during emergencies in those areas in recent years.

The Victorian Team have delivered 37,982 Packs to the value of \$7.3M since 2014!

They were able to open a Tiny Site Container at Junortoun / Baptist Church yesterday, stocked ready to go.

Sally's last words "Together we can"

From a Club perspective we need to look at if, how, and when we can assist. (Eric)



A message from Tony Plant re Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee updates:

Greetings fellow Maubisse Knitting Project Supporters,
As some of you will already be aware, 4 bales of knitting were prepared yesterday for delivery to DIK and thanks to Libby and her band of steady workers we will have plenty of stock on hand to press another 4 bales in the *not-too-distant* future. Our four clubs working together have ensured that this great project continues to be funded and more importantly the people of Maubisse continue to receive these most valued goods.

In a recent text from Sister Henrietta to our BMFC President Mr. Rod Flavell on being informed of a forthcoming shipment of knitting I will offer you her words-
“Wow, gratitude thanks for the beautiful, warm wonderful knitting Mr. Rod Flavell, and our gratitude for all the angels in disguise who produce them. Best Regards from Maubisse”

You also will be aware that the Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee remains a very active and vibrant group who provide an on -going School's scholarship project, a Days for Girls Project and regular supplies of requested material via DIK just to give a small sample of their activities. Given our group no longer receives any external funding from local government, fund raising to continue these valued projects has become a new priority for the BMFC. The Movie nights it conducts at the Star Cinema are one of the initiatives it has been implementing at least on 2 occasions in each calendar year. These nights are always held on a Thursday night. The ROTARY Club of Bendigo South, given it coincides with its regular meeting night opts to support the BMFC fund raising efforts by transferring their weekly dinner meeting to the Star Cinema.

Given that the BMFC has been granted a special screening of a most interesting Australian movie that will not be shown at the Bendigo Cinemas I would encourage each of you to talk to your club members about the notion of joining the members of Bendigo South by attending this Movie on June 6. The flyer is attached for further details. All bookings need to be made online via the Star Cinemas website.

Yours in Rotary,
Tony Plant (past President and Paul Harris Fellow Rotary Club of Bendigo South
Member of the Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee

[A message from Lynne:](#)

House sitter in mid-May for a week.....

I am wondering if any members know a reliable person who could stay at my home in Strathdale just for a week. I have a lovely very old corgi who needs minimal care but would love some company. Please contact me if you can recommend someone.

Thanks – Lynne

[Want to know the latest Eaglehawk RC news:](#)

<https://eaglehawkrotary.org.au/>

<https://www.facebook.com/EaglehawkRotaryClub>

<https://www.instagram.com/eaglehawkrotary/>

<https://twitter.com/EaglehawkRotary>

The **Rotary International Convention 2024**: Singapore, 25—29 May 2024; mark the date in your diaries; registration is open at <https://convention.rotary.org/en-us/registration>



[Eaglehawk Rotary Club Bonfire Night- our annual event!](#)

at 68 Racecourse Rd, Epsom

Saturday 11/05/24

Time - 4:30pm start. 6:30pm Bonfire Lighting

BBQ Dinner, Meat Supplied

BYO Salad, Deck Chair, Drinks and sense of fun!

...a flyer will be emailed to all members soon too!

