



District Conference NEWS

GEELONG
Mar 23-26 2017

• D E C E M B E R 2016 •



Discover GEELONG while you're there

One of the important decisions to make is "where will we hold the club dinner?" Don't worry, there are many places of interest. Some quirky like the Oakdene Winery (pictured) or just a plain restaurant like a nursery - Van Loons Café Garden Centre. If you need to stay close to the venue try Wah Wah Gee right on the pier. Whatever your choice there are many within 20 minutes drive. Car pooling is the way to go and parking shouldn't be a problem on the weekend it is generally free and close by. The walk along the pier to the venue is about 200 metres and is a pleasant walk. (There is some parking on the pier but it is well used and does cost about \$10 for the day).



For those attending the civic reception at the Art Gallery, parking is available in the high rise car park. If you have planned a holiday around the conference, the Information Centre staff are very helpful. They know we are coming and have many ideas for touring the Bellerine Peninsula.

So register for the conference, book your accommodation, and you are ready to go.

See you there!

Conference showcase

Does your club have an outstanding project and you want to brag about it? Secure a spot for your club in the **D9500 PROJECT SHOWCASE.**

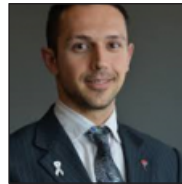
- email: fischer@bigpond.com or
- John Fischer 0407 890 302 or Heather 0427 454 160

Don't miss the boat !



The conference is only four months away - so register now !

Hear from some great speakers:



Arman Abrahimzadeh, White Ribbon Australia Ambassador

ARMAN grew up in a household where violence and abuse was a normal part of life. Then came the point he decided his life would be different. "My father looked us in the eyes and said he was going to burn down the house and kill us all. He reached for a knife and my sister and I had to calm him down," he said. "That was the moment we got out of the house and got a restraining order. Four years later, in 2010, Arman's father Zialloh murdered his mother, Zahra, in front of 300 horrified bystanders at the Adelaide Convention Centre. It was the culmination of years of domestic violence, with Zialloh routinely beating his children and his wife. As a young teen, he was used to tension, violence and abuse. As time went on, he realised that wasn't normal. Zialloh Abrahimzadeh is now serving 26 years for murder. Now 27, Arman still finds the memories intensely painful, but he speaks about them regularly as an ambassador for domestic violence campaign White Ribbon Australia, in the hope that his experiences will end the cycle of victim-blaming and ignoring abuse.



Dr Maithri Goonetilleke, Founder of Possible Dreams International

Dr Maithri Goonetilleke is an Australian based medical doctor, NGO worker, singer and writer. As the founder of the NGO Possible Dreams International (PDI), Maithri spent a large part of the last ten years working in rural parts of Swaziland, Southern Africa. The work of PDI involves delivering medical services and poverty alleviation programs to remote, HIV/AIDS affected areas of Swaziland. In addition to his work in Southern Africa he has also run single doctor medical clinics with the Daasanach people of Northern Kenya and the Orma tribe of Eastern Kenya. In Australia he has worked in a variety of roles including medical and emergency registrar positions in tertiary hospitals, running sole-doctor emergency departments in rural areas, working in indigenous communities and is currently the chief medical officer at Fulham Correctional Centre. As a medical educator, Maithri teaches and lectures in the Medical Faculty at Monash University.

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Rotary
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WWW.d9500conference.org.au