



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

# ROTARY CLUB OF CAMBRIDGE CAMBRIDGE COURIER 2021 - 2022



District 9455 Western Australia

We usually meet at the Cambridge Bowling Club, Howtree Place, Floreat (near the Forum), at 7.10 am for 7.30 am.

## Our next Rotary Meeting: Wednesday, 11 August

**Speaker:** John Travlos

**Topic:** Aristotle Onassis

On Duty 11/08/21:

Speaker intro & thanks: Peter McSkimming

Set up/Pack up: Cate Barlow

### GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

- Our Rotary Four-Way Test Primary School Speaking Competition heat takes place on Wednesday evening 18<sup>th</sup> August. Please come in your droves (including family!) and *let Frank know if you can attend or not*.
- Our guests this week included West Leederville Primary School Principal, Sheri Evans, staff member Judith Curtis, several student councillors, and some parents. Thanks for coming along!
- The Social Committee has organised a visit to the WA Museum Boola Bardip on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> August at 10.00 am. The cost is \$10 per head (\$8 if we have over 20 attending) and invitations will be distributed soon. In the meantime, tell the family and enter it into the diary please!

## Coming up soon: Wednesday, 18 August 6.00 for 6.30 pm

**Speaker:** Four-Way Test Speaking Competition

**Topic:** n/a

**No morning meeting on this day 18/08/21**

On Duty 18/08/21:

Speaker intro & thanks: n/a

Set up/Pack up: all present

### NEWS FROM OUR LAST MEETING

Dr Kit Prendergast is a researcher of Australian Native Bees, and she came along to tell us all about the wonderful diversity that exists in our country. Bees have been around for about 125 million years and all told there are thousands of different species – around 2000 of which are found in Australia. Only about 11 of these are stingless, and they also produce honey. Other honey bees were introduced into Australia in the 1800s. Bees are related to wasps but are a vegetarian version, and they range in size from a hefty 24 mm long down to less than 2 mm long. The native bees vary in colour as well as in appearance, and most species tend to be solitary as opposed to living in colonies. They play a vital role in pollinating our wildflowers and native plants – many of which can't be pollinated by introduced species – and they tend to nest in shallow burrows in the ground or in dead timber. The biggest threats to our native bees are parasitic insects, habitat loss and climate change, and so our bushland reserves are vital to their survival. The adverse effects of urban development can be offset by the introduction of 'bee hotels' which are small structures mounted in trees and filled with cylindrical spaces which protect the bees from harm. Some of our native bees can perform 'buzz pollination' which is needed by plants which store pollen in capsules within themselves. The bee 'embraces' the flower and vibrates her flight muscles very rapidly, thus releasing the pollen. One of the stingless species of native bees is now being used in the pollination of crops such as macadamias, mangoes and lychees. It is certainly a fascinating topic; thank you Kit!



**My doctor says I'm paranoid; OK, he didn't actually say so, but I know he's thinking it**

**Birthdays:** Jean McSkimming (12 Aug); Mike Graham (17 Aug)

**Wedding anniversaries:** none this time

**Rotary anniversaries:** Peter McSkimming ('65)

**IF A MEMBER CAN'T ATTEND, OR WANTS TO BRING A VISITOR, PLEASE ADVISE LIBBY LARSEN BY EARLY MONDAY MORNING**  
**Either by telephone (0438 462 917 or 9446 2917) or email ([libbylarsen@westnet.com.au](mailto:libbylarsen@westnet.com.au)).** Bulletin Editor: Roger Veary