

PRESIDENT GREG'S UPDATE

13 May 2021

- Did you miss me for the last 2 weeks?
- Did you know sunny Queensland is a myth – it was wet!!
- Gee..... It's nice to be back home with you all.
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A big, big thank you to Tony Wells and the team for 'holding the fort' so very well.

I obviously missed two terrific Club Meetings – one with Paul Rizzo from NAB and our Birthday night last week with Josh Piterman. Wonderful evenings, thank you.

We welcomed **Rotarian Ted Baillieu** to our Meeting – he has teased us with a topic called “the biggest issue of them all”

We were also delighted to welcome Guests:

- ✓ **Joseph and Gina Yap** – First National Real Estate, North Balwyn
- ✓ **Terry Casey** - a guest of Ian Adams.

And of course, always great to see Jim's better-half Carol join us.

An overview of the activities the Club continues to be involved with:

- **Sunday Market**—a big thank you to Rob Head for managing the Roster during Geoff Steinicke's family sadness. Thank you for 9/5 - Tak, JohnB, Findley, GrantK, 16/5 - RobHead, SueMcD, RobHorton, JenniferH, 30/5 - need one more. *We do need some names of Members willing to be on a backup plan so if/when a vacancy occurs, it makes it easier to fill.* How's that challenge going for every Rotarian to find 2 hours on a Sunday in April/May/June to share the roster.... plenty of spots available.
- **RCNB Gardening Project – Friday 30/4 & Fri 7/5 and repeat visits** – GeoffH, Findley at Camcare to establish new garden beds. Pari and her Camcare team are absolutely delighted with work to date. 15/5 - Estelle, GregC, 21/5 - RobHorton, IanG, JanieP, NeilM
- **2nd Bite to Camcare Camberwell** – 13/5 – Garth, 20/5 Maurie, 27/5 - GregC
- **BBQ's** – all recent BBQ's have been very successful – next bbq 10th July.

On Saturday 1st May at the Multi District Conference, a **special D9800 Centenary Award was presented for Cross Category Project of Excellence:**

North Balwyn - Rotary Gardens Program

This program will have been running for 10 years in July and ticks many boxes. It is a Community Service for elderly and disabled citizens in Boroondara. It is a Youth Service program because it involves secondary school students working under the supervision of Rotarians. It is an Image project because it has a visibly high profile in the community and with schools, welfare agencies and Council. It is an Environment project because the waste is recycled and spread as mulch on public parks and gardens. The program receives continuing excellent feedback from residents.

I applaud all those involved in this Project over the 10 years, including Tony Hart who I inadvertently omitted from the Grapevine thank you.

- ❖ And there is a lot of planning being done for Maurie's new Board for 2021/22 and **Thursday 24th June** – Changeover night here at Kew Golf Club (at which early indication are that DG Philip Archer and DGE Dale Hoy will be joining us).
- ❖ Upcoming Guest Speakers will be advised in Grapevine but include Geoff/Melissa Kneale (along with 2 Balwyn High School RYPEN participants), “Project Diversity” hosted by Jeanette Leigh, and Jessie Harmon (along with our Year6 essay winners) on 3rd June.
- ❖ AND we have a joint Board Meeting next Monday night.

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❖ PAUL HARRIS FELLOW RECOGNITION

One of the highlights of being a President is the opportunity to recognize a person whose life demonstrates a shared purpose with the objectives of the Rotary Foundation.

A **Paul Harris Fellow** is a Recognition that was introduced in 1957 in honor of Paul Harris who founded Rotary in 1905. It was established to express appreciation for a contribution of US\$1,000 or more to the humanitarian and educational programs of the Rotary Foundation. We recognize two persons today who have each contributed \$1,000 US dollars, to the Rotary Foundation to enable it to carry out programs that may improve conditions in the world such as increased food production, literacy, polio immunization, goodwill and understanding.

I have much pleasure in asking **Geoff Haddy and Tony Hart** to come forward. Gentlemen, your contribution to the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is allaying suffering, improving living conditions, and providing educational opportunities to young people somewhere in the world. This is a truly selfless action.

I have great pleasure in presenting you with this Paul Harris Fellow lapel pin. Please accept congratulations and sincere appreciation for your commitment to our common goals of world understanding and peace.

All Members should have received an email today from DG Philip outlining more opportunities to become a donor to Foundation. Please give it some thought.

- ❖ **Sergeant Estelle** – updated us with Anniversaries and birthdays and issued happy fine and sad 😞 fines.
- ❖ **Greg Ross then hosted our Guest Speaker Ted Baillieu** in what was a hard hitting, fair, and quite sobering perspective of where Australia wants/needs to be on the 2050 global stage and some of the challenges of our population growth, current infrastructure, and political stability ahead in the next 30 years. A big thank you to Ted. See Greg's write-up elsewhere in Grapevine.
- ❖ And a reminder - **PLEASE book with Hugo on the Tuesday** for the Thursday Meeting. Always great to have everybody attend, but this week again, we had to find extra seats/meals for a number of attendees not registered on the Tuesday.

As always, continue to enjoy all of the Opportunities that RCNB has Open to you.

President Greg 😊