

PRESIDENT GREG'S UPDATE

4 March 2021

A very warm welcome to Carol Studebaker, our "Guest Speaker" Philip Wade and everybody. Very pleasing to see Peter Sutherland, Maurie Walters and Gavan Schwartz being able to join us last Thursday evening.

Phil's session on proper CPR and resuscitation practices is relevant to all members in our Club demographic – I did schedule Phil as a speaker some 12 months ago as it is important to me that we care about members and there is no harm in enjoying a regular refresher, just in case... That should answer some member feedback I had this week.

Last Wednesday many Rotarians and partners were privileged to attend a Celebration of life service for the late Brian Hurnard – a most appropriate service for a man of so many talents, family, and friends.

Last week, you may recall that I was on a roster campaign, so I thank all those now actively involved:

1. **The Duty Roster** – Sergeant Estelle emailed the nominated Volunteers last Friday for tonight's duties and proved be a step in the right direction, with most bases filled – thank you.
2. **2nd Bite to Camcare Camberwell** - Last week was Jim Studebaker, this morning was Don Taylor, next week is me – Garth is managing this roster.
3. **Sunday Market** – last week was RobH, Janie and me x 2. This week is NeilM, Tak, Rowan, JohnM. GeoffS will update us on my **request from last week**. **That is, during March to June, there are 17 Sundays – if every one of our 60+ Members can find 3 hours on any one Sunday over those 4 months, that just about covers the 4 shifts per Sunday. Are you all up to it?**
4. **RCNB Gardening Project** – Last Friday was GeoffH, Janie, Tak and Ian Glenny, last Saturday was Rowan and Janie again (Janie was then at the Market on Sunday – maybe a Legend, but that is stretching our Duty of Care to Members, sorry). Tomorrow is NeilM, RobH, Tak, Ian Glenny and next Friday is GeoffH, IanG, TonyW and me. Neil Marshall awaits our call to join in.
5. **BBQ's** – Currently, there are TWO opportunities on the Website for Sunday 21 March – MASH BBQ in aid of Lift the Lid, and FIVE opportunities for the Sunday afternoon on 25 April - Bunnings. Call JohnMcB.
6. And a Volunteer Expo on Wednesday 17th March – we missed out on a getting a table there as I did not Register us in time, sorry. We have nevertheless gathered useful connections with Volunteering organisations for future use.
7. And there is a call out for all Cluster Clubs to assist with the RC Canterbury FORaMEAL Project of re-packing food sachets. This is a very successful Project, one that I would like to see us support by being able to pack some items. The Date is probably Sunday 28 March – all tbc. Just let me know, - see Grapevine.

And lastly on Rosters, whilst I apologise if I mention fundraising very frequently, it is the vehicle that enables RCNB to fund the various community activities. That should answer more feedback this week.

This week, RCNB/your members received some terrific publicity:

Networker – page 2 – Sitting Pretty on the Centenary Seat – yes, it the Eastside Cluster R100 seat in Balwyn Park. More details are on our Website. The Centenary date is 21 April 2021.

Rotary Down Under – page 21 – New Life for Discarded Equipment - all about JJ's Project in Sri Lanka.

Also, as a by-the-way, in Rotary Down Under, RI President 2021/22 Shekhar Mehta announced his theme – "Serve to Change Lives" – that is, he urges Rotarians to become more involved in service projects saying that caring for and serving others is the best way to live because it changes not only other people's lives but also our own.

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What is on the horizon?

- Homelessness Project at Servants – Garth is talking to Amanda.
- The Sri Lanka Project, now that we have received \$2,342 funding from District, is now nominated for a District Recognition.
- Our Gardening Project celebrates its 10th year of assisting local residents and schools in July 2021 – accordingly, it is being submitted for a District Recognition.
- No news yet on our application for a small Grant, which was submitted in February.
- Our speaker program going forward is awesome!! Thanks, GregR & Rowan.
- We are still on the lookout for an Assistant Treasurer, though....

What is also on the horizon are Labour Day this coming Monday AND Easter 1-5April.

I recognise that Members can enjoy these long weekends away – a such, I am breaking with tradition and NOT HAVING Meeting in the week preceding Good Friday – yes, it is a week off. On our return on Thursday 8 April, meeting arrangements will be refreshed with ideas from our Board Meeting on Monday 15 March.

This includes a bumper line up of renowned Speakers, as already arranged. As your President, I am just not comfortable with the low representation of members at our meetings in January, February and March and we need to identify probable causes and possible remedy of those. **Any considered suggestions from members of course are always welcomed.**

Sergeant Estelle then very capably challenged Members on their thoughts of committing, as Volunteers to the various activities in the Club by posing the statement that “We Can Do Better”. Thanks for the various thoughts and comments, not just in relation to fundraising but the range of Community projects, like Gardening that RCNB supports. Food for thought and feedback, please.

Philip Wade needed no introduction for his update to members of our demographic on CPR and resuscitation techniques. Over 12 months ago, Phil agreed to share his past Ambulance experience with RCNB Members as I do really care about Member Health and lifestyle. Philip is now retired from the Ambulance profession. Philip gave a very comprehensive presentation by using summary slides, U-tube videos and then rounded off by demonstrating the equipment to be used in an emergency. Much of this was ‘vaguely familiar’ to Members and we thank him for putting together such an informative session.

Next week, we have our **International Women’s Day Celebrations at our Thursday Meeting** – Jane has sourced a line -up of exceptional presenters and it is intended to be very informative to all, including “us blokes” so come along, bring your friends!! Just remember to let Hugo know who will be attending.

And a reminder that John McBride is looking for Volunteers for BBQ’s and I am looking for **each Member to find 3 hours on any Sunday in March-June to be at the Sunday Market.** Give it some thought, please.

As always, grateful for constructive feedback any time. Have a happy, safe, and healthy long weekend.

President Greg 😊