

PRESIDENT GREG'S UPDATE

8 October 2020

Thanks for the extremely positive feedback on having 2 x ten-minute Chat sessions to commence our Meeting this week – it is just like walking past the bar at Kew pre-Meetings, remember....

At the top of the Meeting, it was with great pleasure, I announced **that our Club has now remitted \$7,500 to Darwin to fund equipment purchased for the vital Hearing Research Project.** Please enjoying reading CRE_ICHEAR Director Professor Amanda Leach's email from yesterday:

Dear Greg,

I am pleased to advise that the wonderful equipment has arrived. We are delighted with the donation which will assist all our Ear Health Research Program projects. In particular, we are able to provide local people high-tech mobile equipment that can be used to check children's ears and hearing locally. Having this equipment in the hands of trained local people means so much as local people are highly trusted and local language can be used to de-mystify ear and hearing assessments and gain the trust and confidence of families and children. The skills and knowledge gained and ability to assist the health service in this way also gives local people authority and control of their community child health priorities.

We are very grateful to members of the Rotary Club of North Balwyn for your generous donation. We will keep in touch regarding the research program and the contribution your generous donation has made (photos to follow)

Best wishes

Amanda Leach

My personal thanks to Rob Head, Garth Symington, John McBride, and others for driving this very special Project to this significant milestone that sees us helping the hearing plight of Indigenous Children. Also, a big thank you to Members for making specific donations toward this and yes, the balance did take a lot of snags/onions, blood, sweat and tears to pay for.

Other Updates:

- **October walk with Rotaractors** - this is simply walking during October (which we are all doing anyway) and all walkers/donors support our potential Rotaractors and RCNB Rotarians by raising some funds so why not join us? To date \$1,528 has been raised already..... thank you, again.
- **Date for DG visit** – DG Philip Archer will be attending a Zoom Cluster Meeting of North Balwyn, Balwyn, Camberwell, and Canterbury on **Wednesday 28th October at 6.30pm** – please all, try to attend. The plan is for RCNB to still meet the following night as normal.
- Assuming we get some relief from lockdown.....the **Covid-19 compliance arrangements and protocols are being developed** by Adam/me – any contribution/idea would be appreciated.
- Very pleasing to now have most of the Nominations for Maurie's 2021/22 Board, including a PN well ahead of our **AGM on 19th November** – the future of our Club is looking good.
- **Charity Golf Day** in Feb 2020 – who knows?? Talking again after 19th October!!!
- On Monday, Jim S hosted a planning Meeting for the **GP at Albert Park** assuming it is proceeding in March/April 2021 to sort thru all the volunteer and catering requirements, such as they can be, even at this early stage.

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- Jim must be Zoomed out as he joined the other 3 Cluster **Membership Directors** and Presidents to share Membership ideas and initiatives going forward – one aspect being followed up is for our Rotary Cluster to have more presence (maybe with a stall...) at the Sunday Camberwell Market.

Secretary Gavan then hosted school Principal Susanne Lowe who gave us a very topical presentation on balancing so many priorities during lockdown. This includes meeting the needs of the Education Department, all involved with teaching/running the school, students, parents, IT providers and all of those involved with Home Learning. It will be interesting to see what “School Normal” is sometime....

The Raffle was then Drawn – the most modest winner, Greg Mathews has invited us all to enjoy Boccaccio's Meat tray with Heather and him on Christmas Day 😊. The catch.... it's at Benalla!! 😞

A snapshot of forward Meetings:

- 15th October – Tom Rochford from Bendigo Bank
- 22nd October – Andrew Campbell – Hearing and Brain Health
- 29th October – Darren O'Hara – our Wine Fundraising guru.
- 5th November – Fellowship of 2 chats including Rotaractors, then David Winter, Breadstreet
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Have a great safe week, stay well and Open Opportunities as lockdown eases.....

President Greg