

# 2023-2024 President's Changeover

## 21 June 2024

Flemington Kensington

**Rotary**





Rotary

## Rotary's Vision Statement

**TOGETHER** WE SEE A WORLD  
WHERE **PEOPLE** UNITE AND TAKE ACTION  
TO **CREATE** LASTING  
**CHANGE** ACROSS THE GLOBE  
IN OUR COMMUNITIES AND IN OURSELVES



**CREATE HOPE**  
in the **WORLD**

IN THE 2023-2024 ROTARY  
YEAR, ROTARY INTERNATIONAL  
PRESIDENT GORDON  
MCINALLY INVITED US TO -  
*“CREATE HOPE IN THE  
WORLD”*

# 2023-2024 LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Rotary International President Gordon McInally,
- Zone 8 Director, PDG Ghim Bok “G.B.” Chew, Singapore
- District Governor Ron Payne, Eaglehawk
- Assistant Governor Tony Laycock, Canterbury
- President Shraddha Sharma
- Secretary Melina Caccetta
- Treasurer Lesley McCarthy
- Board members Abdi Hassan, Drew Sheehan, Jeff Weitzel, Cody Bettanin

# MEETINGS



Youth

Fellowship Guest speakers Banners



# OP SHOP



- Manager Melina Caccetta and her team of volunteers have continued the work from the previous year and refreshed and revitalised the space.
- Sales have been steady considering the economic climate.
- The shop is accredited with CentreLink to accept Job Seeker benefit recipients.
- We also accept Work Experience students.
- The Food Pantry continues to be necessary.

**100% of the profits from the Op Shop  
are spent on our community projects.**

Rotary  
Flemington Kensington



# OP SHOP – PROMOTE & PUBLICISE



## APRIL

All profits this month  
will go towards  
environmental programs.



## MAY

All profits this month  
will go towards  
youth programs.



## AUGUST

All profits this month  
will go towards supporting  
mental health programs.



## NOVEMBER

All profits this month  
will go towards  
“Share the Dignity”



# THANKING OUR VOLUNTEERS



- The Op Shop is supported by an amazing team of volunteers. Without them, we would not be as successful or be able to provide the friendly, caring service.
- During National Volunteer Week, they are all recognised with certificates and treated to lunch.
- We thank them again at our Christmas function.  
Thank you to Alex, Ann, Barb, Deb, Fran, Muna, Nahla, Rui, Sarah A. Sarah B and Vinh.



# AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH SCHOLAR



Catherine Johnson is undertaking a PhD based on MHFA which is aiming to train teachers to provide early intervention to primary school aged children experiencing mental health problems. Our club is a funding partner with ARH and University of Melbourne.



**Australian Rotary Health**

ABN: 52 006 119 964

Rotary Down Under House

2nd Floor, 43 Hunter Street, Parramatta NSW 2150

PO Box 3455, Parramatta NSW 2124

T: 02 8837 1900 E: admin@arh.org.au

**Funding Partner Program**

## SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH ANXIETY IN THE CLASSROOM



Are you a parent or carer who has cared for a child with anxiety?

Are you an advocate for better mental health?

Help us determine what practices would be most helpful for primary school teachers to use to support students with anxiety in the classroom.

For more information please visit our website by scanning the QR code or enter the link below into your browser  
<http://tinyurl.com/363uejty>



This research has human research ethics approval from The University of Melbourne (Ethics Project ID: 27741)  
Image: Love\_and\_Hope, Pixabay, licensed under CCO 1.0

# GLOBAL GRANT SCHOLAR HARUKA TANAKA



- We were asked by the District Foundation Committee to host Haruka Tanaka, a Masters Degree student from Nigata, Japan.
- She arrived in Melbourne on 12 July and was quickly welcomed into the club.
- Haruka has attended many events throughout the year including club meetings and events:
  - Paul Harris Society lunch
  - Paul Harris Foundation breakfast
  - National Tree Day
  - Rotary Club of Melbourne
  - Opening of the Djerring Hub
  - Moonee Valley Festival
- RYLA
- MAC
- The Royal Melbourne Show, the ice hockey, ice skating, the Op Shop and many lunches.

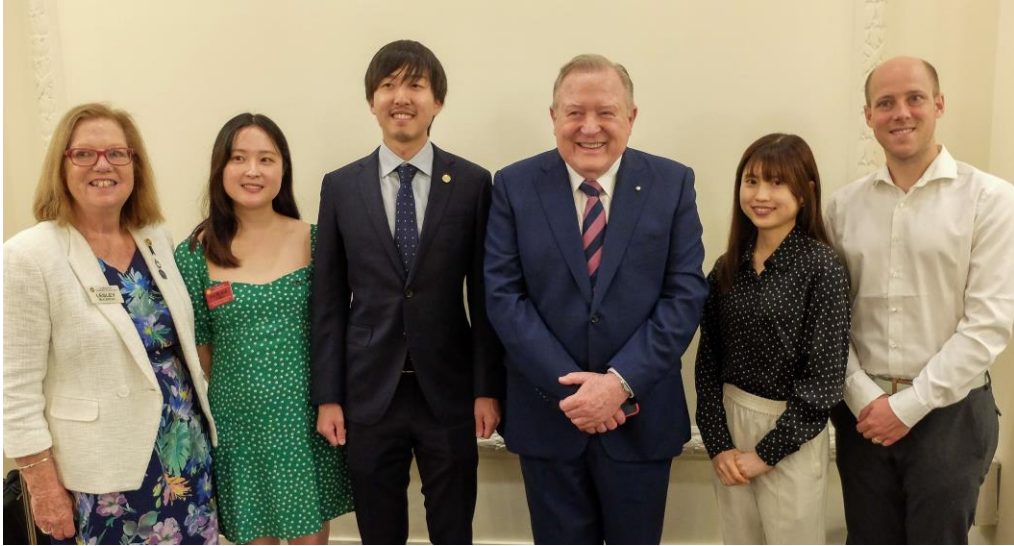
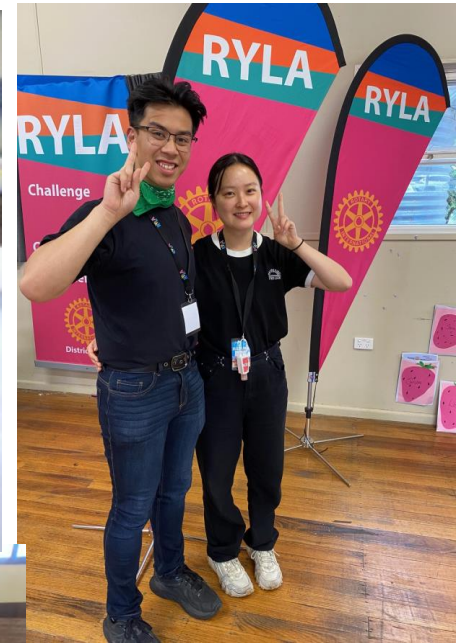


# GLOBAL GRANT SCHOLAR HARUKA TANAKA



- In November, Haruka attended RYLA at Camp Getaway. This was her first experience in the Australian bush and she found it very different and quite a challenge.
- RYLA involves a number of leadership and personal development activities led by Rotaractors and former RYLarians. The focus is on Challenge by Choice but the challenges were very foreign to her. Luckily her group was led by our former RYLA candidate Zoe Borghouts.
- During the 10 day experience Haruka erected and then slept in a tent, cooked a BBQ, bushwalked and spent time on the ropes course, and had a dress up disco/music night.





# NATIONAL TREE DAY



- July 30 at Rosehill Pak Wetlands.



# RIMERN



Rotary Inner  
Melbourne  
Emergency  
Relief Network

- Our club is a foundation member.
- Members volunteer on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month.
- We have a symbiotic partnership with the Op Shop for excess goods, unsuitable items and rags.



# PLAYGROUNDS TO NEPAL



- Not so easy when there isn't a port!
- With support from the RORP team, PP Peter Cribb, Sam Nicol and Shraddha Sharma, the first container of playgrounds shipped in August. It then travelled overland and over mountains, often by manpower, to reach Kathmandu.
- The playground was installed at the Gram Sudar School, Gokarneswor.





# DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S VISIT

- We were delighted to welcome District Governor Ron Payne and Deb.



Ron presented Shraddha with the Rotary President's citation and a Rotary Foundation Level 1 donor certificate for our club donations.

# SCHOLARSHIPS AND YOUTH PROGRAMS



- We sponsored 3 students from MAC to attend RYPEN – Emily, Tara and Claude. They presented at the Christmas function.
- Haruka Tanaka and Alex Lapina were sponsored to attend RYLA.
- The Del King Scholarship at MAC was awarded to Sarah Alman.
- The Ted Frank Vocational Award: Taylor Setina
- The Eugene O. Awards at KCHS: Clay and Eden
- Ascot Vale Heights Special School: Samantha
- Awards were given to year 6 students at Ascot Vale West, Debney Meadows and St Brendan's.

# SCHOLARSHIPS AND YOUTH PROGRAMS



Claude, Tara and Emily RYPEN



Sophie, Mollie & Shradd



Shraddha with Theo Byard {Simmonds College} Anton Hockey {RYDA} Brok and Emmi {Simmonds} Jeff {Youth Chair} Tony Laycock AG.

# RYDA AND L2P PRESENTATIONS



- We were delighted to welcome Emma Phillips, MVCC L2P Coordinator who spoke about the program and the forthcoming arrival of the new car.
- Anton Hockey from RYDA spoke of the program, how it helps teenagers understand the risks and impacts of behaviours and situational.
- We were pleased to welcome Theo & 2 students from Simmonds College, Tara, Emily and Claude {RYPEN} and Mollie from MAC with their parents.



# RYPEN AND RYLA 2023



- 3 students from MAC, Tara, Emily and Claude participated in the November RYPEN camp. They travelled on the bus arranged by Rotary Brighton.



Leaving school on Friday afternoon – Teacher Duncan Hillier with Lesley and Claude, Tara and Emily.

Haruka Tanaka and Alex Lapina were sponsored to attend RYLA. Former RYLA participant Zoe Borghouts {daughter of member Lyn is now a leader.



# 2023 SCHOLARSHIPS



MAC Del King Award:  
Sarah Alman



MAC Ted Frank Vocational Award:  
Taylor Setina



Ascot Vale Heights:  
Samantha Wishart

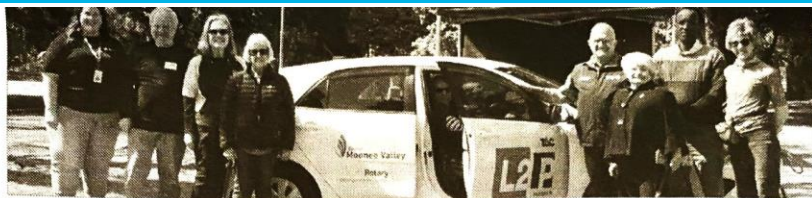
# DONATION TO MVCC FOR L2P CAR



- After a lengthy planning and legal process, the new car was unveiled at Moonee Valley's Youth Fest with District Governor Ron Payne and Deb attending.
- Many thanks to Emma Phillips for her outstanding support and encouragement.



# L2P CAR



## Wheels on the Ground at Youth Fest

Lesley McCarthy

Moonee Valley Council's Youth Fest on 22 September was the perfect opportunity for the launch of a new car donated to the L2P Program by Flemington Kensington Rotary.

In brilliant sunshine, Rotary District Governor Ron Payne joined President Shraddha Sharma, members of Flemington Kensington Rotary and Moonee Valley council representatives to celebrate the new car.

Ron and Shraddha expressed their delight at this opportunity for Rotary to support young people who were unable to obtain the required supervised driving hours.

Education and supporting young people are key pillars of the work being done by Rotary in the community and Flemington Kensington Rotary contributes thousands of dollars annually through scholarships, sponsorships and material support in the Flemington, Kensington and Ascot Vale communities.

Mayor Pierce Tyson was accompanied by Cr Rose Iser, L2P Coordinator Emma Phillips and performed the formal ribbon cutting alongside DG Ron and President Shraddha.

The car, a Kia Rio, proudly wears the Rotary Flemington Kensington branding along with L2P and Moonee Valley Council. It will be based at the Ascot Vale Leisure Centre and joins the existing vehicle which is housed at Moonee Ponds Police Station.

Flemington Kensington Rotary began their involvement with learner/migrant drivers in 2013 when they initiated the RoadStart program in conjunction with VicRoads and the Victorian Government. This project supported people to obtain the required hours of supervised driving through volunteer mentors. In 2015, the program became DriveLink managed by council.

The funds for this donation were raised during 2013 when the club participated in a large number of sausage sizzles for the Metrc Rail Link upgrade where a breakfast BBQ fruit and drinks were provided for commuters being bussed from the Werribee line to Flemington racecourse. Members ran these BBQs at Flemington racecourse and Sunshine railways stations throughout the year.

*Mentor drivers are needed and Emma Phillips is keen to source volunteers from the Flemington and Ascot Vale areas. A commitment of just 2 hours weekly will assist a young person obtain their licence and help with their education and employment opportunities. Contact Emma, MVCC Community Development Programs Officer at: ephillips@mvcc.vic.gov.au*



# OPENING OF THE DJERRING HUB



# SHARE THE DIGNITY



- Members contributed items for the bags which were then packed by our Op Shop volunteers.
- Bags were then taken to Jenny at Danny Pearson's office for deliver to ASRC.

***It's in the Bag/ Share the Dignity  
Christmas appeal***



Donate a filled handbag/back pack  
OR  
toiletries, sanitary products, skin care items..  
Help make this Christmas happier for vulnerable  
women and girls.





# END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

27



# HARMONY DAY AT DJERRING HUB



Thank you to the amazing students from MAC.



# ALL ABILITIES CHOIR AT FARNHAM STREET



- Cathy Connop, Manager at Farnham Street Neighbourhood Learning Centre asked for help.
- The all abilities choir supports adults with mental health issues, disabilities and lack of social connection.
- For the program to run, they needed top up funds, could we help?
- The choir runs on Fridays and is led by Ann Vercoe.



# MOONEE VALLEY FESTIVAL



- We partnered with the Eritrean Australian Humanitarian Association {EAHA} and former member Anwar and his team.



Thanks to John, Shraddha,,Nicole  
Karolina, Haruka Tanaka, Vivienne from  
Rotaract, Abdi and Lesley.

# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY: MOONEE VALLEY COUNCIL

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- We were delighted to return to the Clocktower for this inspirational event.
- The club sponsored 8 students and 2 staff from Mount Alexander College:
- Rotarians in attendance were Shraddha Sharma, Nicole Marshall and Charlotte, Karolina Sevcikova and Haruka Tanaka.



# MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID



- The aim of this second program funded by us was to meet a need identified at our Mental Health forum in 2022. Many women from Horn of Africa backgrounds articulated their distress at being unable to support their children and community experiencing mental health issues. They were also unable to commit to 2 full days due to childminding duties.
- The solution: run the program over 4 half days in school hours, AND find a presenter with cultural and linguistic awareness.



Dr Francis Aquah, a Rotarian from Greensborough was able to meet our requirements so the program ran over 4 days at Djerring Hub.

- The District Foundation supported the additional costs with a grant. 21 participants graduated!



# 1,000 STORIES PROJECT



- Members continued to support this project which collects picture storybooks for disadvantaged children.
- These are distributed through our 2 local maternal & child health centres: Wingate Avenue and Hopetoun Avenue  
Our tally to date is in excess of 8,000 books over 5 years!



Rotary  Flemington  
Kensington

## THE 1000 STORIES PROJECT

Providing books for children 3 months to 5 years from disadvantaged and refugee backgrounds in the Ascot Vale, Flemington & Kensington area, through Maternal & Child Health Nurse visits.



For many of these children, books in the home are rare; and results in them starting school without the recommended 1,000 Books before school or 5,000-word vocabulary identified as a necessary learning base.

Can you help us with good condition used books?

Labelled books may be dropped off at one of our Op Shops:  
444 Racecourse Road Flemington or  
135 Railway Avenue Wertheim or call for pick up

Lesley – 0417 532 259 [Lillico2009@gmail.com](mailto:Lillico2009@gmail.com)

# COMMUNITY PARK & BBQ AT UNISON

Deb Wilson, Manager at Unison in Kensington and Edith Chen, Kensington Community liaison asked for our assistance. Following refurbishments, residents had asked for a park and community BBQ. A grant from the City of Melbourne and another from Victorian Government were obtained but there was a shortfall.

Members assisted with planting out the park in September 2023 and attended the formal opening ceremony in May.



# TRIVIA NIGHT- SATURDAY 4 MAY

It was a packed room at FlemKen Bowling Club as we came together with community to enjoy a fun filled evening. Sincere thanks to Melina, Alex and Drew for their efforts. We are very grateful to our sponsors for their support – Bunnings, Cheaper Buy Miles, Pin Oak Wine & Beer, BoxCarBarbers, Kensington Soccer Club, Shraddha and friends.



# INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS



- Japan – Global Grant Scholar Haruka Tanaka
- Philippines – supporting True Manila and street kids programs
- Puntland – supporting Jarriban University Hospital in Puntland, Somalia
- Maldives – establishing libraries on remote atolls
- Nepal – providing educational support for students in rural and remote areas of Nepal to return to school
- Sri Lanka – supporting establishment of stroke units in rural and remote areas.
- Volunteering at Donations in Kind.



# FEEDING THE STREET CHILDREN – MANILA, THE PHILIPPINES



- Member Lorry Rowe has been supporting the True Manila project and supporting an orphanage in Manila, to fight hunger and poverty. The club has supported her work for several years and this year, contributed towards a Food Bank in conjunction with Edwin Nombre, **True Manila Street Kids** and the **Rotary Club of Cabanatuan**.
- Lorry and her son Shane visited in March to provide funds and assist with the work.



[www.facebook.com/truemanila/](https://www.facebook.com/truemanila/)

# STROKE BEDS FOR SRI LANKA



PP Peter Cribb received a request from Dr Harsha Gunasekara, Consultant Neurologist at the Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital through our friends at the Rotary Club of Colombo. The treatment and care of people suffering from stroke was a challenge – could Rotary help?

Through Rotary Donations in Kind West Footscray and RARE in South Australia, this has now been achieved. A donation from the Australian Sri Lankan Association of SA, a private donor and our club has now seen 2 containers filled with hospital beds and other medical equipment shipped. 50 beds and mattresses, patient transfer trolleys, medication cabinets, wheelchairs and walkers, blankets and linen, gowns, blood pressure machine etc



# ESTABLISHING LIBRARIES IN THE MALDIVES



While visiting Sri Lanka and the Maldives in March, PP Peter Cribb was asked if we could help with books and libraries in remote atolls of the Maldives. The High Commissioner to the Maldives had some funds to use by the end of June. Could we help?

Through Rotary Donations in Kind West Footscray and a private donor, Robert Akeroyd, Peter and a team of Rotarians collected 5 pallets of books which were then sorted, repacked and loaded. DiK donated another 4 pallets of children's books, and a pallet of student/school stationery.

Through a Rotarian connection, these 10 pallets were shipped as part of a container via airfreight from Tullamarine early in June.



# MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO JARRIBAN, PUNTLAND



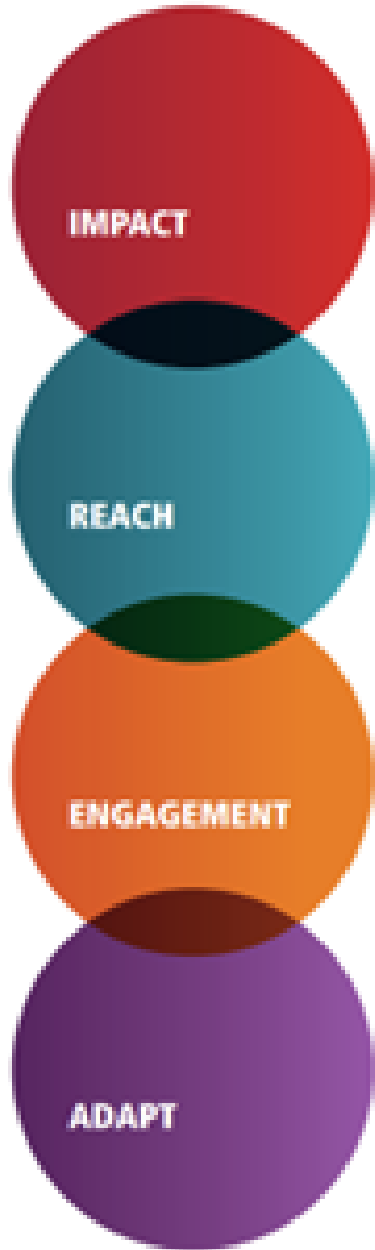
Abdi Hassan and Mohammed Abbas Omar approached the club for help in sending hospital and medical equipment to Jarriban University Hospital in Puntland state, Somalia.

A long and difficult process ensued with many legal and logistical challenges, however, the goods are now ready for shipping. We waited for dialysis machines donated by the Austin Hospital. The container will have 20+ beds, 2 dialysis machines and chairs, 6 medication trolleys filled with bandages, gauze and consumables, patient transfer trolleys etc.



Members of the community raised \$10,000 towards shipping. A District Foundation grant has been received while the club will contribute the balance. Shipping to Africa is VERY expensive.





### **IMPACT:**

In this financial year, we have donated \$70,083 to our local community, projects, scholarships and youth programs.

The impact is measured through Rotary Showcase, our website, newsletters and Facebook posts and through local media.

### **REACH:**

We connect with councils, community and business organisations, schools and social welfare groups. We extend our reach through regular articles in local newspapers.

### **ENGAGEMENT:**

Our members, volunteers and community connections are involved, active and listened to. We engage with council teams, community groups and the trader's association to partner and share our work.

### **ADAPTATION:**

We have modified our meetings, meeting schedules and projects to meet the needs of our members and community.



**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL  
PRESIDENT ELECT  
STEPHANIE URCHIK HAS  
ASKED US TO SEE “  
*THE MAGIC OF ROTARY.*”**

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# 2024-2025 LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Rotary International President Stephanie Urchik, Rotary Club of McMurray, Pennsylvania
- District Governor Michael Lapina, Wyndham
- Rotary Community Group Leader, David Dippie, Keilor East
- President Lesley McCarthy
- Secretary Jo Walker
- Treasurer Peter Cribb
- Board members Alex De Bortoli, Cody Bettanin, Abdi Hassan, Drew Sheehan, Jeff Weitzel

