

## ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019

*The Rotary Club of Flemington Inc.*

**ABN 47 754 561 417**

**P.O. Box 64,  
Flemington 3031**

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**Club 24401  
District 9800**

  
**FLEMINGTON  
KENSINGTON  
ROTARY**

**MEETS HERE  
WEDNESDAYS 7.15AM—8.45AM**

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**The Rotary  
Club of Flemington  
Kensington Inc.**



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The mission of Rotary International is to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through its fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

## ***2018-2019 Office Bearers and District 9800 representatives***

### **Board**

President	Lesley McCarthy
Secretary	Sam Nicol
Treasurer	Peter Donnellan
President Elect	Lesley McCarthy

### **Directors**

Club Service	Rob Lawrence
Community Service	Allan Bruno/Anne Heyes
International Service	Peter Cribb
Vocational Service	Anne McMahon
Youth Service	Cody Bettanin/ Chris Brock
Foundation Chair	Paul Perrottet

### **Office Bearers**

Bulletin	Lesley McCarthy
Investment Committee	Allan Bruno/Jon Temby
Membership	Board
Onto Conference	Geoff Cawsey
Opportunity Shops	Allan Bruno/Jon Temby
Photographer	Lesley McCarthy/Paul Perrottet
Program	Lesley McCarthy
Protection Officer	Peter Donnellan
Public Relations & Marketing	Board
Sergeant at Arms	Geoff Cawsey
Weekly Attendance	Geoff Cawsey/Ted Frank
BBQ Program	Allan Bruno/Ted Frank
Webmaster	Paul Perrottet

## District 9800 Representatives

Allan Bruno

Peter Donnellan

Lesley McCarthy

Donations in Kind Inc. Board Member

Board of WERN

Board of WERN

Editor, District 9800 Newsletter

Facilitator, Leadership & Development Team



# The Four Way Test

of the things we think, say and do

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

## President's Report 2018-2019

**Lesley McCarthy**

This has been another very successful year with a number of successful projects, event and activities undertaken by the club.

We conducted several Club Forums during the year, encouraging and enabling members to have a say; participate in debate and discussions, and agree on changes to the club and our operations.

This included changes to our Constitution and By Laws in line with the recent Rotary International changes and also changes to meeting regularity, meeting times and location.



We also had the long drawn out and deep debate regarding the formal change of name. This was affected at the November Annual General Meeting and took effect on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019.

With the significant change in our fundraising from BBQs to revenue from the two Opportunity Shops, we have modified how we manage and use our funds. The Op Shops are also a highly visible presence in the community enabling greater public relations, a community connection and a focal point.

We have continued to be active within the local community with increased focus on local rather than international projects; youth and educational activities.

The Rotary Overseas Recycled program {RORP} has taken off in force this year and with the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Rotary Club of Columbo, we have extracted a large number of playgrounds and transported another container to Sri Lanka.

The piece de resistance for the year though must surely be the Flem Ken Festival of Arts & Ideas which found members working throughout the month of October on an event which, like Topsy, just "grew". From an initial thought of an art Show, we presented and oversaw over 100 events and activities held at numerous venues through the Racecourse Road surrounds and Kensington Town Hall. With sponsorship from the Moonee Valley Council and a number of commercial enterprises, this project incorporated all areas of The Arts and entertained 1000's of residents from far and wide.

Read the Service Chair reports for greater detail of our work and enjoy the visuals which accompany the year.

Thank you to all Board members for their assistance, participation and support throughout the year.

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." -- Henry Ford



## VALE.

*On September 29<sup>th</sup>, our dear friend Vance Hilton passed to Higher Service.*

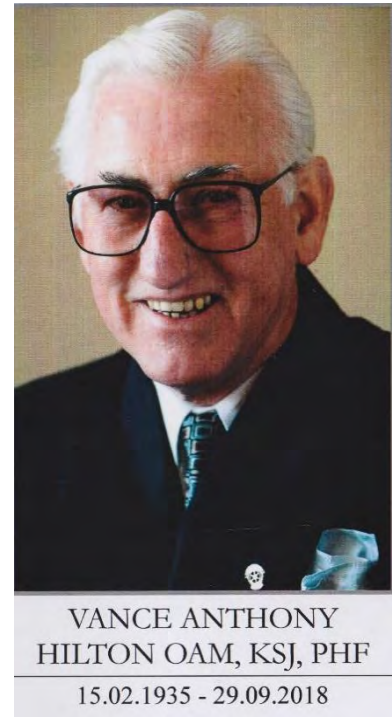
As a Charter Member, Past President and Paul Harris Fellow, Vance served the Rotary Club of Flemington as Secretary from its Charter and in 1987-1988; and as President in 1995-1996.

The Club made him an Honorary Life Member in July this year.

Vance Hilton was selected to serve as the District 9800 Governor in 1999-2000 and led a very successful District Conference in Canberra.

He later served on the Australian Rotary Council of Governors and as a Board Member of Rotary Down Under from 2004-2010. He was Rotary Down Under chairman from 2008-2010, and was awarded the RDU Distinguished Service Award in August 2011.

Vance was also a Knight of the Order of St John of Jerusalem, an invitation extended to him by Royce Pepin of the Rotary Club of Footscray in 1978.



In recognition of Vance's work, one of his special Rotary ties was framed and a raffle held to raise funds for research into Parkinson's Disease. Vance's widow Olga was tireless in her efforts to sell raffle tickets and the raffle was promoted widely through the District.

At a special meeting on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March, the raffle was drawn by the Craig Goddard, the Membership and Fundraising Coordinator of Parkinson's Victoria.

The winning ticket was purchased by Allan Bruno and Olga was delighted with this result.

As per Vance and Olga's wishes, and as agreed by Allan, the framed tie will be displayed at Camp Getaway in honour of Vance's work in establishing the camp.

The raffle raised over \$11,000 and Olga matched that amount with a personal donation to Parkinson's Victoria.



## Secretary's Report - Sam Nicol



The role of the Club Secretary is to ensure that the administrative requirements of the Board; District and Rotary International are attended to. This involves processing incoming and outgoing correspondence; submission of reports; updating membership databases and the submission of annual returns.

The Annual Statement to Consumer Affairs Victoria was submitted in October.

An application was submitted to the Victorian Liquor Licensing & Gaming Commission for Fundraiser status. This was approved and we are now able to run raffles, fundraise for other organisations such as Lift the Lid.

Following the Annual General Meeting and the resolution to formally change the club name, relevant documentation was sent to Rotary Down Under and to the District Secretary to facilitate this change.

A new Club Charter in the name of the Rotary Club of Flemington Kensington was received in December 2018.



The club hosted a number of International visitors during the year:

23<sup>rd</sup> June and 7<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Keerthi de Silva, Past President of the Rotary Club of Colombo Central, and a former Assistant Governor. He visited the club for a second time with his wife Malkanthi and their son Yevindra.



5<sup>th</sup> September 2018

This was a landmark day when we welcomed Past District Governor Senake Amerasinghe from the Rotary Club of Columbo. We also welcomed the Sri Lankan Consul General Mr W.G.S. Prasanna, Mr Nihal De Run and Mr Yevindra Da Silva,



20<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Cliff Johnson from the Rotary Club of Toronto visited us and spoke about his club and their activities.





The club also inducted 4 new members during the year – a record.

20<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Matiu Bush is a former Unit Nurse Manager at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Hospital and is now working for the Royal District Nursing Service {Bolton Clarke} as a Project Manager – Innovation. He lives in North Melbourne and was sponsored by Lyn Borghouts,

Matiu is also the founder of One Good Street and One Good Ride, community support and engagement activities.



20<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Robert Nolan is a Service Manager at Medibank and has a stall at the Kensington Market each month where he met Lyn Borghouts who sponsored him.

Robert is the founder of the Kensington Youth Mental Health Network.



20<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Rachel Antonik Sumich was a good friend of our late Past President Del King and worked with her presenting mental health projects in schools. She also runs relaxation and exercise classes for the elderly and is one of the Retro Girls, presenting cabaret type musical performances. She made contact with the club following Del's passing and also met up with us at the Arts Festival.



27<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Nicole Marshall is a Moonee Valley Councillor and has been a strong supporter of our club for many years. She assists with council negotiations, provides advice on events and promotes our work across the community. Nicole was inducted as an Honorary Member at the changeover.





## **Treasurer's Report     Peter Donnellan**

I have pleasure presenting the Financial Statements for year ending 30th June, 2019

The Rotary Club of Flemington is GST registered.  
The ABN is 47 754 561 417

All figures quoted in the report are net of GST.

During the year, the Board continued the efforts to pursue registration as a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission and to attain Deductible Gift Recipient Status. To this end, a company was formed: **RC Flemington Kensington Foundation Pty Ltd ACN 632 136 406 which was incorporated on 8 March, 2019.**

The Club also applied for and was granted Fundraiser Registration status, Fundraiser Registration Number FR-000015337 and Victorian Commission for Gaming and Liquor Licensing registration: VCGR Declaration: 61094. These registrations enable our club to fundraise for ourselves and for third parties e.g. Lift the Lid and drought relief and to conduct minor raffles.

The audit was conducted by Michael Adasko of ABR Partners and a formal audit report was presented to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

Donations were also made on behalf of the club to:

Donations in Kind membership	\$4,000
The Rotary Foundation	\$2,000
Australian Rotary Health	\$1,000
WERN membership	\$2,000

### **Investment Committee – Jon Temby**

The Investment Committee recommended to the Board that an alternative investment company be identified due to lack of confidence and return from Bridges. The committee was charged with exploring options and recommending another manager for our investment portfolio.

Returns for the year were: \$4719.



### **THE FIRST OBJECT OF ROTARY**

The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service.

Following feedback from members, several **Club Forums** were held throughout the year. These allowed for greater feedback and input from members and a number of issues were addressed including meeting regularity and location, cost of meetings, project approvals, club focus and membership.

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January

### **Website**

The Board agreed to move our club website to ClubRunner following Paul Perrottet's departure. Club Runner is the vehicle used by our District and many others in the Rotary world. It is relatively simple to use and synchronises with RI and District.

ClubRunner was initiated on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019.

### **District Conference**

Sam Nicol, Peter Cribb, Lesley McCarthy and Olga Hilton attended the District Conference in February. A stall was set up to promote and encourage support for Rotary Overseas Recycled Playgrounds, and also to sell raffle tickets for the Vance Hilton tie.

### **District Assembly**

Lesley attended the District Assembly in Melton in May.

The **Fit4 Use Store** celebrated its second birthday on 6<sup>th</sup> August.

The **Blue Moon Social** events continued to be a great success, involving partners and members of the community.

### **29<sup>th</sup> August 2018**

Beate McManus arranged a wonderful meal for us at Thonglor Thai in Maribyrnong. This Blue Moon saw a fantastic turnout of all members and most of our partners. A lovely meal, great surroundings and a very enjoyable get together.

### **31<sup>st</sup> October 2018**

This was a celebration and post festival wrap up and members, guests and festival volunteers enjoyed supper and chat at the Festival HUB.



### **30<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

Bowls and croquet at the Maribyrnong Park Bowling Club.

Members enjoyed a BBQ meal prepared by Dulcie Heard and Geoff Cawsey then were treated to lessons in croquet. The teams were evenly mixed with experts and beginners and a great time was had by all.



### **29<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

Due to several events being held and the District Assembly, members were encouraged to attend a meeting at another club for a Scatter Meeting.

The **Annual Club Presidents Changeover** was held at Ascot House on 27<sup>th</sup> June and was a magnificent evening. We were delighted with the attendance and support

*The "In Memoriam" reading was made for Past District Governor Vance Hilton. A Memorial candle was lit by Margaret Bruno*

**Paul Harris Awards were presented to:**

Allan Bruno	PHF 3 sapphires
Peter Cribb	PHF 2 sapphires
Jon Temby	PHF 1 sapphire
Anne McMahon	PHF 1 sapphire
Lyn Borghouts	PHF
Anne Heyes	PHF
Peter Donnellan	PHF

**Royce Abbey Awards were presented to:**

Cody Bettanin and Chris Brock

**Rotary International Service Awards were presented to:**

Club Service	Community Service
Ted Frank	Peter Cribb
Paul Perrottet	Anne Heyes
Geoff Cawsey	
Allan Bruno	
Ly Borghouts	

The **Jim Hosie Trophy** was awarded to Paul Perrottet for his work on the club website for over 15 years.

Ted Frank and Geoff Cawsey as Charter members made this presentation.

The **Vance Hilton Award** was made to Jenny Gallivan for her outstanding efforts and assistance in the organisation and operation of the Flem-Ken Festival of Arts & Ideas.

**THE SECOND OBJECT OF ROTARY:** High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;



## Program – Lesley McCarthy

A strong speakers program operated throughout the year, enriching members knowledge and enabling further relationships with local community groups. The program included:

**July** David Whiting, district 9800 Governance Chair spoke to us about the Child Protection requirements and the Form #3. David is a member of the Rotary Club of Keilor and has been Governance Chair for 4 years.



**August** Peter Shephard spoke to us about the changes and upgrades planned for the Queen Victoria Market where he works as a Operations Manager. Peter is President of the Rotary Club of Altona and a former Assistant Governor.



**September** We welcomed the Sri Lankan delegation and heard more about RORP, Sri Lanka and our Sister Club Partnership



We also welcomed Michael Redding speaking on Wheelchairs for Vietnam. Michael is a member of the Rotary Club of Werribee and supports and promotes this project across the District.





**October** District Governor Bronwyn Stephens visited us to speak about District, her hopes for the year and her focus on Smarties for Polio. We also heard from former RYE Maddi Collis.

**November** Monica Majok speaking on Developing South Sudan. Monica had an inspirational story of her life before arriving in Australia and the work she and her brother are doing with others to help people in South Sudan.

**February** Dr Fiona McDonald from Victoria University spoke to us about her research into the efficacy of breakfast programs in schools.



Hanyah Abdou Said and Aziza Sawiz from Mount Alexander College spoke to us about their sponsorship and the opportunities this provides them. Haniyah is the inaugural De King Award recipient and Aziza attended NSYF in January.



**March** Craig Goddard from Parkinson's Victoria attended and spoke to us about the work they do mainly in funding research. He then drew the raffle for the Vance Hilton tie.



Melanie Del Monaco is the Community & Partnerships Engagement Officer at the City of Melbourne and spoke to us about her role, and how we can work together for the betterment of the community.



Rachel Sumich spoke to us about The Retro Girls and the Spark the Dark project to light up communities.

**April** Susan Dang reported on her experience at RYLA in December.



**Matiu Bush** spoke to us about his work and research into isolation and loneliness in the elderly in our community.

**May** Nicole Dobson, Science Coordinator at MAC reported on her recent trip to Scotland and participation in the Women in STEM program, with the implications for curriculum development and teaching approaches from early primary school.

**June** Kate Stevanovic is the Leading Teacher Student Welfare at Mount Alexander College and she spoke to us about receiving a Rotary Robbie Mitchell Scholarship in 2015 to study at the Centre for Adolescent Health, and how she has applied this to her role.

## Community Service – Anne Heyes/ Allan Bruno

A great year in Community Service funded mainly through profits from the Op shops saw the following projects funded or supported by your Club:

1. The Homeless Person Program operated through the Royal District Nursing Service in West Melbourne requested our assistance with items for Christmas for their clients. The club provided hampers for 50 persons including Christmas cakes and cookies, food and toiletries.
2. Kensington Youth Mental Health Program asked for assistance for the Christmas Lunch for isolated and single people in the community. Most of the targeted people were single people living with mental health issues. They were given a festive lunch on Christmas Day at J.J. Holland Park. The club provided a number of Christmas Cakes, Puddings and biscuits and contributed \$1000 towards the cost of the meal.
3. The Maternal and Child Health Nurses operating through the centres at Hopetoun Avenue and Wingate Avenue asked for our support providing Christmas packs for the children of their disadvantaged and single mothers. Christmas packs containing books, toys, sporting equipment and sweets were provided for 48 children. The mothers were provided with a pack of toiletries.
4. One Good Ride asked for assistance in funding for a Trio Bike for the program to assist in reducing isolation and loneliness in elderly and disabled clients of the RDNS and community. Together with a matching grant from the Rotary Foundation, we contributed 50% of the cost of the bike and provided introductions to local agencies to assist.
5. Kensington Festival. We again supported the Kensington Festival with a BBQ throughout the day on March 31st. This was a wonderful community day with great promotion of End Polio as well as our work in the community.
6. Moonee Valley Council sought our assistance for Carols by Candlelight in Queens Park. We again ran the BBQ, a great evening of community and festive spirit with all members engaged.
7. Harmony Day Festival at Flemington Community Centre found us supporting the local community and providing sausages and drinks to attendees.
8. Kensington Market. Lyn Borghouts represented the club at the monthly Kensington Market, providing a face and selling items sourced from the op Shop. This is an excellent community engagement and PR activity and keeps us visible in the wider community.
9. Debney Meadows Garden Renewal. Anne Heyes and Anne McMahon started the conversations with the Principal Rachel Rasmussen which led to this project. Garden beds were rejuvenated and planted over 3 separate working bees including children parents and teaches as well as Rotarians and friends. A Foundation Grant contributed \$2500 allowing plumbing works to take place.

### **THE THIRD OBJECT OF ROTARY**

The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life



## Allan Bruno

The two Opportunity Shops continued to be the club's main focus in Community Service throughout the year.

### Fit4Use Store

Retail over the past 12 months has been very difficult and competitive. The Werribee Store experienced a 18% decline in gross sales; however this is not totally unexpected given the level of sales during 2017/2018 and the tough retail conditions during 2018/2019. Plans are in place to extend trading hours during the 2019/2020, with the view to increasing sales and revenue for the Club. The Shop is ably managed by Lorry Rowe, with a wonderful band of volunteers. The past 12 months has seen the introduction of many new volunteers and this should help the Shop going forward.



### Flemington Opportunity Shop

The Flemington store faced similar challenges to that of Werribee. Decline of 10% in gross sales. Manager: Sam Nicol. Thanks to the wonderful group of volunteers working at the Flemington Store, many of which have been with us for several years. The Flemington Opportunity Shop is in urgent need of relocation to a larger shop front - cost being the issue. Or may be a complete overhaul of the existing site?

The shop continues to be the face of Rotary in the community and provides a social and connection opportunity for many people. Volunteers are dedicated and continue to be a great support for Sam.

### BBQ Program

Although Allan has resigned as BBQ Coordinator, other members have stepped up to assist in organising.

A very busy schedule of Community Service and Fundraising events was conducted throughout the year, superbly organised and managed by Allan Bruno and Ted Frank. These events raised substantial sums for the club as well as providing an ongoing focus and familiar face in the community.



## Youth Service - Cody Bettanin & Chris Brock

The Rotary Club of Flemington Kensington strongly supported Youth programs again this year.

**Rotary Youth Exchange: RYLA** – Susan Dang attended the camp at Mt Evelyn and presented to members on her experiences at the February meeting.

**Science Experience** – MAC nominated 2 students to participate and they presented to members with the Science Coordinator in March.

**National Youth Science Forum** – We sponsored two students to attend 2019 NYSF and were successful with one student. For the first time ever, MAC nominated a student and Aziza Sawiz was selected to attend NYSF in Brisbane. She presented to our members in February along with the Science Coordinator Nicole Dobson who was very grateful for the opportunity given to Aziza.

The club also supported Mount Alexander College through a **Breakfast Club**.

**Scholarships** were donated to local schools for awarding to students at end of year assemblies with criteria of Civics & Citizenship and family financial need. Rotarians attended most assemblies to assist in the presentations.

Two additional scholarships were awarded for December 2018:

**The Del King Award** to a student entering year 11 at MAC. The criteria were: financial need, deserving, academic record, community and school involvement, effort and attendance.

**The Eugene O. award** was offered to Kensington Community High School with similar criteria. The school chose to offer the scholarship to year 10 as an encouragement to stay at school.

The **Sports Scholarship** was not awarded in 2018-2019.

**Shine On Awards** – We nominated Jake Tynan from Ascot Vale Special School. He was acknowledged at the presentation day along with 5 others and received a Certificate for his endeavours.

**Careers advice** sessions were presented at Mount alexander College in May and 6 members participated in the 2 sessions during the morning.

The **1,000 Stories** project grew with over 6,000 picture story books donated to the Maternal and Child Health Centres at Hopetoun, Wingate and Maribyrnong Road Ascot Vale.



## International Service - Peter Cribb

**Rotary Overseas Recycled Playgrounds** continues to row at a phenomenal rate. In this Rotary year, 2 containers were shipped to Sri Lanka with all playgrounds allocated prior to shipment.

Support is growing from councils and other Rotary Clubs and at this stage, we have connections with

### Container #1

Playgrounds were sourced from:



The Quantin Binnah Centre in Werribee  
Bendigo Greyhounds track  
Melton West Primary School  
Caulfield Grammar  
Hannah Watts Playground, Melton Council  
Marriott Lyndhurst Development  
Queens Park, Healesville

These playgrounds were extracted and delivered with the assistance of the Rotary Clubs of Melton, Ferntree Gully, Glenferrie, Eaglehawk and Bendigo Senior Secondary College, Dandenong Valley Car Club, John Arena, Robert Garoffolo and several other playground installers/developers.

### Container #2

Playgrounds were sourced from:



Banyule Council  
Geelong council  
Mt Eliza  
Penleigh & Essendon Grammar  
Darebin Council  
Ferntree Gully Council

These playgrounds were extracted and delivered with the assistance of the Rotary Clubs of Frankston, Mt Eliza, Ivanhoe, Mt Martha, Melton, Croydon and with special acknowledgement to John Arena and Robert Garoffolo.

Additional playground have been sent to Balibao East Timor, the Philippines and to Dili East Timor through partner clubs and DEWLP.

A third container will ship in September 2019.

At this stage, we are partnering with the following Rotary Clubs and Councils

Ocean Grove
Nth Melbourne
Eaglehawk (Bendigo)
Sunbury
Greater Dandenong
Glenferrie
Melton
Ferntree Gully
DIK
Highton (Geelong)
Cranbourne
Frankston North
Mount Martha
Mount Eliza
Keilor East
Gateway Cluster, 9800.
Ivanhoe
Richmond
Yarraville
Nunawading
Croydon & Montrose
Lilydale
Pakenham
Mitchell South
Albert Park
Geelong Central
Cranbourne

Geelong
Melbourne
Yarra Ranges
Moonee Valley
Melton
Knox
Surf Coast
Banyule
Macedon Ranges
Werribee
Macedon Ranges
Port Phillip
Hume
Mitchell

Playground manufacturers, installers, removers:

Arena Gardens Contractors
Naturform Playgrounds
OmniTech Playgrounds
Warrandale Industries Pty Ltd
Fineblade Concrete Construction CIVIL
Multipro Civil
Play Australia
a-Space Playgrounds
All Play

Installations in Sri Lanka are underway for container #1 which was delayed due to the terrorist attacks earlier this year.

The project has been aided by many positive publicity articles including from Barb Champion at Play Australia.

This project would not have succeeded without the extraordinary efforts of Lyn Borghouts, Sam Nicol, Rod Greer and Allan Bruno assisting Peter Cribb.

#### **THE FOURTH OBJECT OF ROTARY**

The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.









## What do you do with your Playground when its time is up?

By Melanie Kinsey

**Everyone looks forward to the installation of a new playground. But what do you do with the old playground? This question is faced by councils, schools, childcare centres, fast food franchises and many other places all over Australia.**

In the past, most of the redundant equipment has gone to the tip or maybe to a recycling centre, as it was seen as just too difficult to repurpose the equipment for use elsewhere. Occupational health and safety standards, risk assessments and playground safety standards presented a seemingly insurmountable obstacle to those who wished for an alternative life for their outdated play equipment.

In Australia our play equipment generally has a life between 15 and 20 years. Fashions and fads come and go and play equipment is no different in that it is subject to 'the latest trend'. In many cases the play equipment that is being removed is in pretty good condition, but it is now classified as boring or past its 'use-by' date. However in many countries, playgrounds are unknown and financially out of reach of the average school or municipal council.

The international service organisation Rotary discovered all this when giving aid to an orphanage in Sri Lanka. The orphanage had a list of things they would like donated, starting with computers and ending with 'a playground'. The Rotary Club of Flemington (Victoria) made contact with the City of Greater Geelong. To cut a long story short, they were able to help with the disassembly of a combination unit and then organise for it to be shipped to the orphanage in Sri Lanka where it was reassembled and is very much appreciated by the children of the orphanage today. Paul Cotter was the key person responsible at the COGG for enabling this to happen, and huge thanks are due to Paul for his efforts and leadership to date.

This happened due to much behind-the-scenes work by the Rotary volunteers and with the assistance and advice of Play Australia. They have now helped to

repurpose several playgrounds from a variety of locations and have refined their system in the process. Peter Cribb of the Flemington Rotary who is the driving force behind the RORP (Rotary Overseas Recycled Playgrounds) project, felt the process could be improved, he contacted fellow Rotarian Rod Greer and said "do you know anyone who can help us?" They researched the market and now use Filemaker Pro to capture all the necessary data and allow sharing. Rod explained "reassembling a playground is a cross between Ikea and Lego. The lynchpins are getting the data together and putting coding on the actual pieces which allows the end user to follow the codes."

1. An offer is made of a playground from the owner to Rotary. Steel playgrounds are preferred over timber.
2. The playground is checked and photographed from all angles by Rotary volunteers.
3. A birds eye view of the playground in situ (from Google Maps) is taken showing the current layout.
4. A plan from this photo is created.
5. The play equipment is marked with codes. Bolts are sprayed with a lubricant.
6. When the fence goes up, Rotary moves in and disassembles the play equipment. Bolts are only cut off with an angle grinder as a last resort because replacement bolts for a typical playground costs about \$600!
7. The contractor then lifts out the uprights with machinery and carefully removes the concrete before placing it to one side.
8. Rotary loads and removes the equipment and it usually goes into storage before a container can be filled to be sent overseas.
9. Rotary feel a charge of about \$500 covers the costs of disposing the playground. This cost can be built into the contract.

Rotary have now organised 'Hub' clubs across Victoria to deal with their surrounding region. "Councils and schools are wanting to do the right thing by recycling," said Peter "and an added bonus is that some schools are making contact with the school the play equipment



is being relocated to and that fosters wonderful links." Councils need to ensure that the 'non-destructive removal of the playground in consultation with the nominated charity' is written into the contract specifications.

Before the initial donation, the City of Greater Geelong created a form indemnifying the donating council and this was reviewed by MAV Insurance. This form is now available from Play Australia. "Council will not be faced with an unbelievable document – it is simple," said Peter. However each Council will need to ensure it is reviewed by their own legal advisers to ensure it suits their own needs. He went on to say "there are always issues to be addressed but they can be worked through." Many playground manufacturers have been extremely helpful supplying plans and parts to simplify the reassembly overseas.

To date playgrounds have gone to Sri Lanka and Timor Leste. The Rotary model could conceivably be used nationally by a variety of service organisations and councils to repurpose playgrounds all over the world.

For more information please contact Peter Cribb on 0410 548 543 or email [ptcribb@gmail.com](mailto:ptcribb@gmail.com)



Vocational Service – Anne McMahon

**CONNECT → CREATE → CELEBRATE**

The main focus for this year was the Flem-Ken Festival of arts and Ideas which ran throughout October in a number of venues in and around Flemington and Kensington.



Grant funding was provided by Moonee Valley City Council. and local businesses which enabled the inaugural event to support and present a wide ranging program including visual arts, music, performance, dance, workshops, arts projects, discussions, curated exhibitions, literary and vocal presentations.

The Festival involved over eighty artists/presenters attracted a direct audience of approximately two thousand and provided ongoing benefits for many more community members.

25 volunteers contributed well over two thousand hours across a range of activities to plan, implement and evaluate the Festival and its outcomes.

The Festival grew from a 10-day event to 18 days with over 50 events implemented across 12 venues that presenting over 100 artists who attracted over 2,000, mostly local audience.

While this extension of time and programmed items satisfied the community requests to participate, it

stretched the ability of the small voluntary administration team to manage the events appropriately.

Acknowledgements must be given to Allan Bruno, Ted Frank, Anne & John Heyes, Susan Dang, Jenny Gallivan, John Elston, Jesse Birch and Tracey Menzies for their outstanding efforts.

The Festival made a small profit thanks to our dedicated sponsors who are very much appreciated for their encouragement and assistance.  
Nelson Alexander, Bendigo Bank, McManus Lawyers and Pepper Café





Flemington Kensington News  
Winter 2019

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## Reducing isolation through riding

Lesley McCarthy

An innovative project developed by Flemington Kensington Rotarian Matiu Bush is combining grass roots volunteering to reduce isolation and loneliness in the elderly in our community.

Matiu, a senior strategist at Bolton Clarke and a qualified nurse practitioner, is the founder of One Good Street, an award-winning charity combining volunteering with social networking to tackle major issues in social connectedness, and in aged care, health and loneliness.

In his work, Matiu has identified isolation

and loneliness as major issues in our ageing population, leading to increased Emergency Department presentations, hospital admissions and mental health pressures. There are around 135,000 older lone people in Greater Melbourne, the majority of whom are women, and this number is increasing. Some of Matiu's clients may not speak to another person on any given day, unless they have a visit from a District Nurse.

Matiu approached Lyn Borghouts, the Community Service Chair at Flemington Kensington Rotary about the One Good Ride idea. Having previously worked with Rotarian Edith Chen of the Flemington Chinese Golden Age group, they were aware of the issues

with ageing residents and the importance of reducing isolation. Without hesitation, Rotary provided almost half the funds needed to purchase the Triobike.

The Triobike Taxi is a 3 wheeled rickshaw and has been described as a couch on wheels. It allows 2 passengers to be driven around the streets by a rider and also has a small cargo area.

Through Bolton Clarke District Nurses, elderly people are nominated for the program which allows them a half hour ride around the community. Riders are sourced from local gyms and fitness groups and volunteer their time.

Those who have participated have been delighted at the opportunity to get out, enjoy social connectedness and a chat and the relationships which develop.

When it comes to health care, the community is an untapped resource, says Bush. "Your local Rotary Club might be able to do more for you than your community nurse, but

we haven't yet combined the two together in a model that legitimises the role of volunteers and neighbours as being as important as nurses and care workers and doctors."

The Triobike made its appearance at a recent Rotary meeting, and members were excited to test the seats.

Matiu was also delighted to receive some funds from Pick My Project in 2018, so together with other donations, that meant there was no additional cost.

Through Flemington Kensington Rotary, storage and regular maintenance have been arranged and now it is just a matter of publicising the concept and connecting riders and passengers.

Want to know more?  
onegoodstreet@gmail.com

Connect with Rotary:  
info@rotaryflemington.org.au

WINTER WANDERINGS...



Down to the Dog Park, to greet (or sniff) friends old and new. I haven't sniffed you before, may I?

## Together We Grow at Debney Meadows

Lesley McCarthy

A grant from the Rotary Foundation has doubled the impact of Flemington Kensington Rotary's garden renewal project at Debney Meadows Primary School.

Flemington Kensington Rotary's Vocational Chair, Dr Anne McMahon, developed the project in conjunction with Principal Rachel Rasmussen who has been delighted with the support.

"Together We Grow" is a 3-stage plan to renew and develop the gardens and playing areas for the children who mainly come from the high-rise estate and have little experience with plants and growing things. On one planting session, some children were planting



the plants, pots and all.

Over 3 working bees so far, members have removed the tired old mulch and soil, replaced

it with fresh, rich growing materials and compost, and installed a drip irrigation system. Citrus, apple and olive trees were donated by Bunnings and have been included in the main

garden beds.

After school one day, parents, children and staff assisted with planting a range of appropriate native plants, shrubs and ground covers, and some edible native plants. There was wonderful conversation about plants, planting methods and care.

The project has had support from Bunnings, the VRG, and Professor Hugh Stewart, Jon Temby and Jacqui Van Heerden, who recommended plants most suitable for the climate, soil and location.

Stage 2, "Digging into Learning", will see removal of the old planter boxes, installation of new boxes constructed by the Men's Shed, and planting of vegetable gardens. Teaching about the different vegetables, fruits and edible plants, and inclusion of cooking classes for children and mothers will also occur.

THINKING OF DOWNSIZING?  
**THINK OF ROTARY**

Our Op Shop at 444 Racecourse Road will collect whitegoods and furniture.

Call Sam on 0487 334 068 OR email [info@rotaryflemington.org.au](mailto:info@rotaryflemington.org.au)

Join community members to work on local projects and give back. Our current projects are the garden renewal at Debney Meadows PS, providing picture story books for local children, the Art Show in October and the Sausage Sizzle team.

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month 7.30am at The Quest, 600 Ipsom Road

[www.rotaryflemington.org.au](http://www.rotaryflemington.org.au)

Flemington Kensington  
**Rotary**  
Club



## ***VOLUNTEERS ARE INVALUABLE***

Our club volunteer hours were tracked through My Rotary and showed immense contribution and service by our Rotarians and family members. APPROXIMATE TOTAL 12,000 hours recorded and not counting club and board meetings, incidental meetings at Crown Street or Pepper, phone calls, emails and documentation.

### ***Specific Project Hours***

Bread Run: about 100 Geoff Cawsey

Debney Meadows Garden Renewal Project: 140 - Anne McMahon, Anne & John Heyes, Ted Frank, Rob Lawrence, Jon Temby, Sam Nicol, Lesley McCarthy, Chris Brock, Matiu Bush

Donations in Kind: about 500 - Allan Bruno, Paul Perrottet, Lesley McCarthy, Anne Heyes

Festival of Arts & Ideas: in excess of 5,000 hours

Everyone, but especially Anne McMahon, Allan Bruno, Anne Heyes, Ted Frank, Jon Temby, Cody Bettanin, Sam Nicol,

Flemington Traders: about 120 - Allan Bruno, Sam Nicol, Lesley McCarthy, Ted Frank

Kensington Community Network: about 50 - Lyn Borghouts, Anne Heyes, Anne McMahon

Kensington Markets: about 100 - Lyn Borghouts, Sam Nicol, Allan Bruno, Lesley McCarthy

Pop Up Store Niddrie February: about 200 - Allan Bruno, Peter Cribb, Rob Lawrence, Anne McMahon, Ted Frank

Slides into Sri Lanka // Rotary Overseas Recycled Playgrounds: about 5,000

Peter Cribb, Lyn Borghouts, Allan Bruno, Paul Perrottet, John Sklenar, Ted Frank, Chris Brock, Rob Lawrence, Lesley McCarthy

WERN: about 40 - Allan Bruno, Peter Donnellan, Lesley McCarthy

Youth/Schools support: Lesley McCarthy, Anne Heyes, Peter Donnellan, Chris Brock, Cody Bettanin, Anne McMahon, Sam Nicol.

1,000 Stories Project: about 200 - Lesley McCarthy, Anne Heyes, Anne McMahon

Additional hours from Marg Bruno, Dulcie Heard, John Heyes, Stella Hyde, Bev Cribb, Anwar Alishek, Edith Chen, Hugh & Glenda Stewart, Op Shop volunteers, Jules & Zoe Borghouts, Barbara Odachowski, Olga Hilton, Susan Dang, Jenny Gallivan.

*A special report prepared for Rotary International by the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies found that Rotary members had volunteered a total of 5.8 million hours within a four-week survey period. Extrapolating those results over an entire year, the report gave a conservative estimate of nearly 47 million hours of volunteer effort generated by Rotary members in a typical year.*

*The report then analyzed the economic impact of all those hours and estimated the value conservatively at \$850 million a year, if communities had to pay for the services that Rotary volunteers provide.*

*This figure doesn't even include the in-kind contributions and the money that Rotary clubs and the **Rotary Foundation raise every year. In addition, the figure doesn't include the volunteer work of the many relatives and friends of Rotary that members often involve in a project,***

[rotary.org/en/economic-impact-rotarys-volunteer-hours-estimated-850-million-year](https://rotary.org/en/economic-impact-rotarys-volunteer-hours-estimated-850-million-year)

**Thank you to the members of the Board who have given up so much of their time during the year. Not just at fortnightly meetings, but at Board meetings, planning meetings, phone calls and emails and at Donations in Kind.**

**My sincere thanks to Allan Bruno and Jon Temby in particular for their advice, assistance and unswerving dedication to community.**

