

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

The Rotary Club of Flemington Inc.

ABN 47 754 561 417

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

rotaryflemington.org.au/

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**Club 24401
District 9800**


**FLEMINGTON
KENSINGTON
ROTARY**

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

**INTERESTED IN KNOWING MORE?
YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US.**

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



**rotaryflemington.org.au
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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.

2019-2020 Office Bearers and District 9800 representatives

Board

President	Lesley McCarthy
Secretary	Anne Heyes
Treasurer	Peter Donnellan/ Sam Nicol
President Elect	Anne Heyes

Directors

Club Service	Ted Frank
Community Service	Allan Bruno/Anne Heyes
International Service	Peter Cribb
Vocational Service	Anne McMahon
Youth Service	Cody Bettanin/ Chris Brock
Foundation Chair	Lesley McCarthy

Office Bearers

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

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

Rotary International and District 9800:

RI President Mark Daniel Moloney

District Governor Grant Hocking

Assistant Governor Ian Ada



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 2019-20209

Lesley McCarthy

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

We conducted four 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.

The change of meeting venue to the Crown Street Stables Café has reduced costs for members and also the drain on club funds. Whilst the meal and venue do not appeal to everyone, it has been difficult to identify an alternative venue at this time.



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 a highly visible presence in the communities enabling greater public relations, a community connection and a focal point.

Following 2 years of immense effort by Peter Donnellan, Lesley McCarthy and Sam Nicol, the **Rotary Club of Flemington Kensington Foundation** was established, and received **Australian Charity and Not or Profit** Status on 1st October 2019. This accreditation allows the funds from both Op Shops to be treated differently in not needing GST and in how funds are able to be spent.

Trustees were Peter Donnellan, Lyn Borghouts and Lesley McCarthy. Funds held in trust have been invested through Innovayt as negotiated by the Investment Committee.

The Foundation also received Deductable Gift Recipient status allowing a Tax Invoice to be given to donors allowing them to offset their donation via tax. DGR



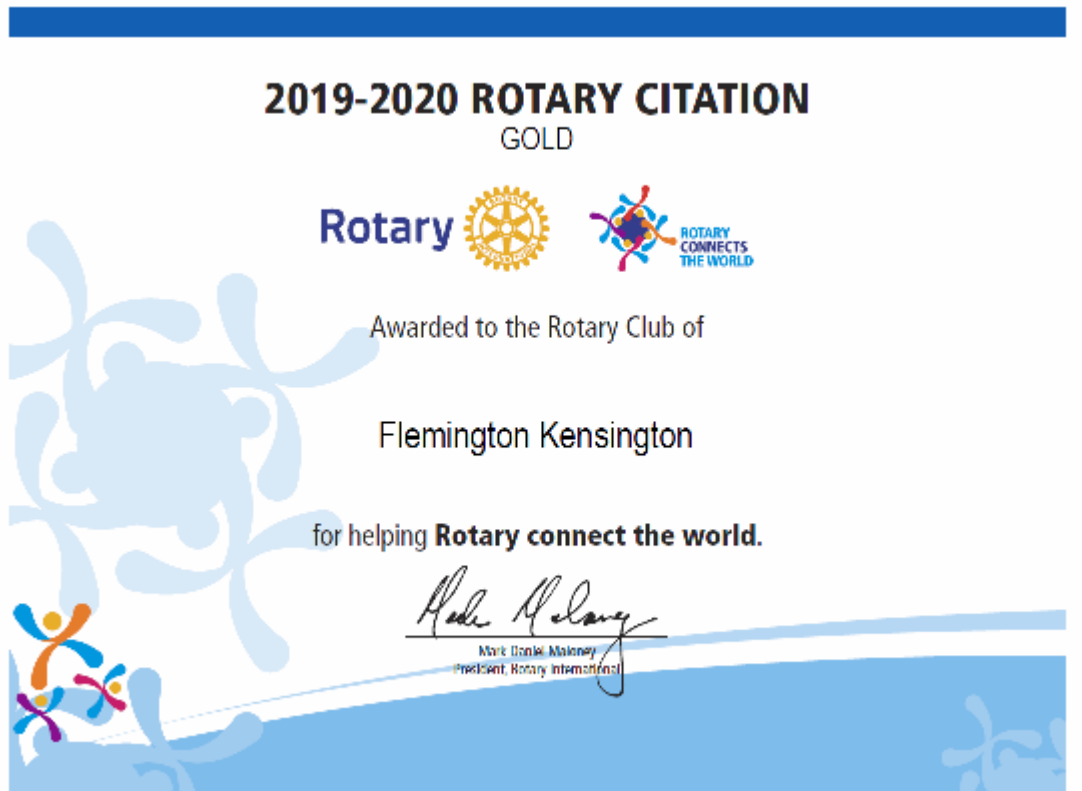
Our members have continued to be active within the local community with an increased focus on local rather than international projects; youth and educational activities. Thank you to Anne Heyes and Edith Chen for their commitment to the Kensington Community Association and to Anne McMahon and Anne Heyes for their liaison with City of Melbourne and 18 Anthony Street 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. 4 containers have now been despatched and playgrounds were also sent to Timor Leste, Tanzania and the Philippines.

The piece de resistance for the year though must surely be the **2019 Art Show** which found members and volunteers working throughout the month of October on an event which was an outstanding success.. With sponsorship from the City of Melbourne, Nelson Alexander, Bendigo Bank, Flemington Traders, the VRC, MVRC, Moonee Valley Council and a number of commercial enterprises, this project entertained 1000's of residents from far and wide.

I am very grateful to District Governor Grant Hocking, District Secretary Jane Pennington and Assistant Governor Ian Ada for their support, encouragement and guidance.

Finally, I was delighted to accept a Rotary International Presidential Citation – Gold from District Governor Grant Hocking at a recent meeting. This is an acknowledgement of the work and commitment of all our members during the 2019-2020 year where Rotary Connects the World.



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

Secretary's Report - Anne Heyes

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 November.

The club has the following registrations:



61094

This allows the club to hold minor gaming activities such as raffles, fundraising events and other events such as bingo, lucky envelopes etc to the amount of \$5000. Raffles over this level still require authorisation.

Consumer Affairs Fundraising

FR-000015337.

This allows the club to conduct formal fundraising events including fundraising for other charities eg End Polio, Australian Rotary Health Lift the Lid.



RC Flemington Kensington Foundation Pty Ltd is a registered Australian Proprietary Company
ACN 632 136 406



RC Flemington Kensington Foundation is a registered charity.
ABN 75 591 148 794

Deductible Gift Recipient endorsement was approved on 24 October 2019.

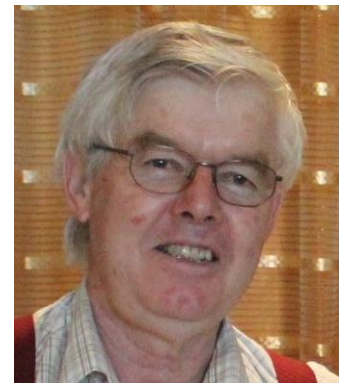
Treasurer's Report Sam Nicol

I have pleasure presenting the Financial Statements for year ending 30th June, 2020

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. This was formally approved as at 1 October 2019.
We do not have to pay gst on Op Shop sales now.



Donations were also made on behalf of the club to:

Donations in Kind	\$5,000
The Rotary Foundation	\$2,700
Australian Rotary Health	\$1,000
WERN	\$2,000
Bolton Clark	\$500

Scholarships were awarded to students at Mount Alexander College and Kensington Community High School supported by grants from the District Foundation.

Investments:

Innovayt	\$150,000
Sandhurst Bendigo Bank Account	\$86,820

The financial statements are to be read with the explanations. Several project areas received or spent monies in previous financial years, so a clean breakdown is not possible in this financial year. These are the Art Show which received a grant in a prior year and paid Gallery247 in 2018-19; Foundation grants and scholarships, and RORP where income and container costs cross over financial years.

The club is in a strong financial position despite the reduction of income from BBQs and the Op Shops due to COVID.

Investment Committee – Cody Bettanin

On advice from the previous Investment Committee the club's Investment Portfolio funds were transferred from Bridges to Innovayt effective 24 October 2019.

Investment Manager Nick Reilly is in regular contact with the committee and reports on the returns and issues. Due to COVID and stock market variations, the committee agreed to move to a managed investment rather than a static investment in June.

Current investment balance is \$150,000.

Club Service

THE FIRST OBJECT OF ROTARY

The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service.

As is now accepted, 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. PDG Peter Frueh's Membership Survey was also administered to members with 75% completion. This survey indicated ways the club could progress.

Bulletins were provided fortnightly, as previously agreed. They continued in Pdf format until October when they transferred using the ClubRunner element.

Website

The new club website based on ClubRunner was initiated on 1st July 2019. The site now contains a vast amount of information on our club events and activities, club bulletins and stories.

ClubRunner synchronises between District 9800 and Rotary International making member updates simple.

District Conference

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the planned District Conference in Bendigo was cancelled.

District Assembly

Due to COVID-19, the District Assembly was held via ZOOM and recorded over 400 attendees. A record! It was well presented with separate break out rooms for each Area of Focus and Avenue of Service.

There were also separate spaces for Club officials and President Elects. The Foundation Grants Seminar was held in the afternoon and Lesley attended on behalf of our club.

Rotary Leadership Institute:

President Elect Anne Heyes participated in RLI in February 2020.

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

31 July dinner at Parrot House Restaurant.

30 October 2019 Croquet and Bowls at the Maribyrnong Park Bowling Club.

29 January 2020 Dinner at Hardimans Hotel in Kensington.

In August, a large number of members visited **Camp Getaway** where the Vance Hilton Memorial Tie was presented to the camp for display by Olga Hilton and the Board.



Members again celebrated and raised funds for Australian Rotary Health through Lift the Lid – Mad Hat Day.



The Annual Christmas Party was again held in Werribee with volunteers from the Op Shop and the Fit4 Use Store invited along with partners. This was a wonderful celebration of the year and included a cheque presentation on behalf of the Werribee volunteers.

Many thanks to Allan Bruno for organising this event.





Due to COVID-19, the **Annual Club Presidents Changeover** was held via ZOOM.
Guests were:

District Governor Grant Hocking, DGE Dale Hoy, DGN Amanda Wendt, AG Ian Ada, Michael Redding RC Werribee, Peter Boudville RC Brunswick Tullamarine, Cathy Hall RC Caroline Springs, Danny Pearson MP, John Elston and members of Lesley and Anne's families.

Paul Harris Awards were presented to:

Lorry Rowe	PHF
Sam Nicol	PHF+

The **Jim Hosie Trophy** was awarded to Peter Cribb for his work on RORP.

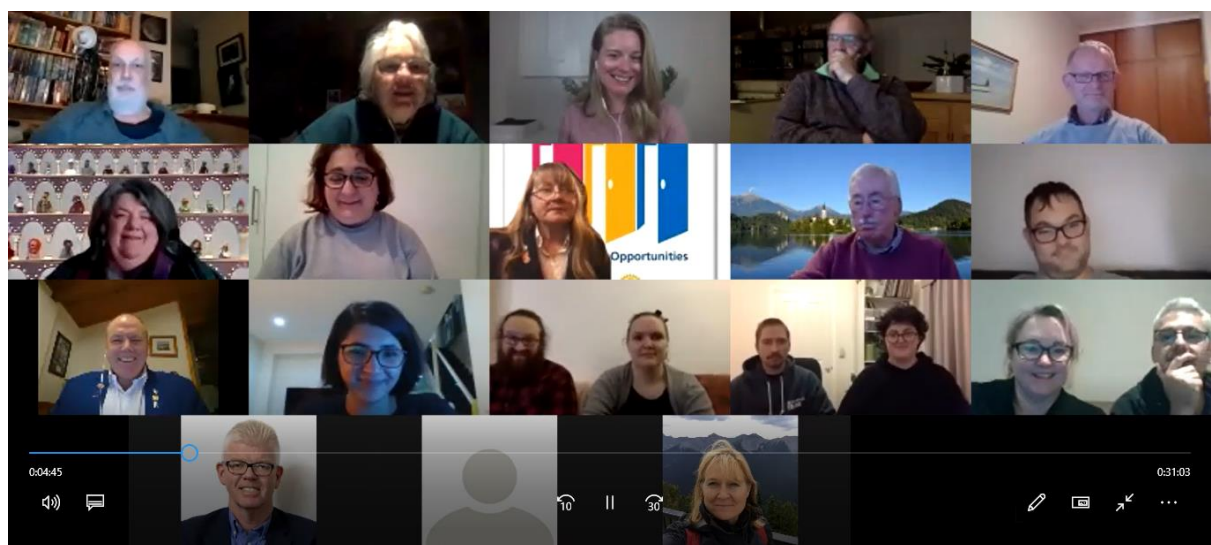
The Vance Hilton Award was made to Barbara Champion of Play Australia for her efforts Australia wide on promoting and supporting the Rotary Overseas Recycled Playgrounds Project.

Community Service/Business Excellence awards were made to the following for their significant support and assistance with RORP.

John Arena or Arena Gardens Playgrounds
Robert Garoffolo of Adventure Plus Playgrounds

District Governor Grant Hocking attended and spoke about our club and its work.

He presented Lesley McCarthy with a PHF on behalf of District 9800, making her a PHF+9 Ruby.



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

The speakers program operated throughout the year, despite limitations of Crown Street Stables as a venue; enriching members knowledge and enabling further relationships with local community groups. The program included:

7 August

Emma Merritt, NYSF candidate spoke to us about her studies and hopes for the future.



22 August

Dani Angelico, Principal of Mount Alexander College.
Cali Bukurow, Sport and Recreation Coordinator for RecLink.

4 September

District Governor's visit.

19 September

Bec Yandell spoke to us about One Girl – Do it in a Dress.



6 November

Gabriella Vascotto and Felix Stephen from VACD - Volunteers to assist children with disabilities in Sri Lanka. Lesley then took them to DiK to see what was available.

5th February

DGE Ajith Weerasnghe and his family visited from the Rotary Club of Negombo, Sri Lanka. DG Grant Hocking and DGE Phillip Archer also attended. Afterwards, Lesley took them to Donations in Kind to see what was available.



20th February

Man Lam is the new Science Coordinator at MAC.

Karolina Seveikova is a volunteer at Co-Health assisting Afghan women.

Greg Bourke is a Senior Manager at CoHealth.

All 3 spoke of their organisations and the work they are doing.

5th March

The 2019 Del King scholar, Zebib Gebreslase attended with Kate Stevanovic and spoke about her background and aspirations.

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

5 February 2020

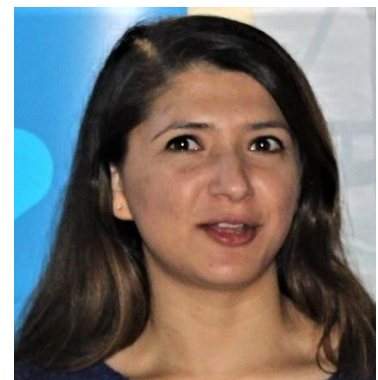
DGE Ajith Weerasinghe from the Rotary Club of Negombo, Sri Lanka with his 2 daughters Mudara and Amandi and son-in-law.

Sri Lankan Consul General Kapila Fonseca.



The club also inducted 2 new members during the year.

Shraddha Sharma was inducted as a full member at the District Governor's visit on September 5th. Shradd is a former Rotaract Charter President from Kathmandu Nepal.



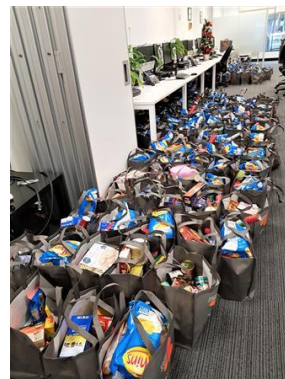
Edith Chen was accepted as an Honorary Member, rejoining the club after an absence of some years. She was previously a full member and worked closely with the Flemington Chinese Golden Age Community.

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:

The Homeless Person Program operated through the Royal District Nursing Service in West Melbourne was provided with hampers for 50 persons including Christmas cakes and cookies, food and toiletries. This was also supported by a donation of \$300 from the Nelson Alexander Foundation.

The Maternal and Child Health Nurses operating through the centres at Hopetoun Avenue and Wingate Avenue again 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.



Members participated in the Remembrance Day event at the Kensington Cenotaph with the Flem-Ken RSL. Wreaths were laid by President Lesley.

The Intergenerational Multicultural Choir commenced at 18 Anthony Street with Ruth Kennedy. Participants included children from the Kensington Childrens Co-Op and the Multicultural choir.



Kensington Market. Lyn Borghouts continued to represent 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.



The Ascot Vale Primary School sensory garden was established over the month of September.



Bright Nights Winter Lights Festival. It was very cold in Pridham Plaza over July 5 -7 but an enjoyable event.



Sukin toiletries donated to Bolton Clark, Gregory Lodge, Wingate Avenue and Share the Dignity.

Flemington Traders A Night on the Oak popcorn and fairy floss.



Farnham Street Neighbourhood Learning Centre's 40th Birthday celebrations where we ran a BBQ.



Together with City of Melbourne and Kensington Neighbourhood House we participated in a forum – Our Neighbourhood Speaks in November where Anne McMahon and Matiu Bush were speakers.

The TrioBike was formally launched at Gregory Lodge by the Minister Marlene Kouraz on 28 November 2019 with Matiu Bush, Lyn and Jules Borghouts, Beate McManus and Lesley McCarthy present.



In the midst of COVID lockdown, flowers were provided for women and staff at Gregory Lodge from the Kent Street Market. Activities coordinator Eleanor was delighted with the support.



The Retro Girls presented a performance at 18 Anthony Street which was supported by the members. Funds from the raffle were donated to Australian Rotary Health for Lift the Lid.



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. Retail over the past 12 months has been very difficult especially with the restrictions imposed due to COVID-19.

Fit4Use Store

The Werribee Store had a decline in gross sales; however this was not unexpected. The extension of hours to include some Sunday trading over summer was positive.

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, with a decline of 10% in gross sales. Manager: Sam Nicol is supported by a group of volunteers, many of which have been with us for several years. They were sad to hear of the death of one of their number over Summer, Bianca.

The Flemington Opportunity Shop is in urgent need of relocation to a larger shop front - cost being the issue.

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.

Bright Lights, Winter Nights for Flemington Traders. 12-15 July

Farnham Street Birthday 20 October

Bunnings Maribyrnong 23 October

Carols in the Park 11 December



Youth Service - Cody Bettanin, Chris Brock, Lesley McCarthy

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

Rotary Youth Leadership Award: RYLA – Zoe Borghouts attended the camp at Mt Evelyn and sent through a written report. She was unable to give a presentation due to COVID. She was very positive about her experiences.

Science Experience – MAC nominated 2 students to participate and they sent through written reports.

National Youth Science Forum – We had 4 successful students sponsored with financial assistance from both the Toyota Foundation and the Australian Government STEM grants. Costs to our club were very small.

Mount Alexander College students Eloise Klassen and Alexander Langley together with Lowther Hal students Emma Merritt and Gabriella Griffiths presented to members at meetings in February. Eloise's experience was cut short due to the bushfires and smoke impacting on Canberra.



Model United Nations Assembly

MAC nominated 4 students to participate and supported by teacher Preeti Maharaj. Jacinta Klassen, Marcelle Martin, Mia Case and Vinciane Pracada represented Qatar and Suria respectively. They did not win but relished the opportunity to use their debating skills and learn more about debating a topic.

Held at Swinburne University, it gave students an introduction to a tertiary campus and the process of the UN and resolutions. Principal Dani Angelico attended on Day #1 to wish the girls well.



Careers Day at Mount Alexander College. Sam Nicol, Chris Brock, Anne Heyes, Peter Donnellan, Lesley McCarthy and Susan Dang presented in their fields.

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.



Anne Heyes and Lesley McCarthy attended the Ascot Vale Special School event.

Shine On Awards – *We nominated Lucinda from Ascot Vale Special School. Due to COVID, the presentation day was unable to proceed, however Lucy was the youth winner and receives a certificate and plaque.*



The **Sports Scholarship** was not awarded in 2019-2020.

The **Del King Award** was presented to Zebib at the MAC Awards night in December. Haniyah Abdou Said, previous awardee participated in the presentation. Del's parents Pat and Peter congratulated Zebib and last year's winner Haniyah. Sean and children were also in attendance. Lesley presented this award.



The **Eugene O. award** was again presented at the Kensington Community High School awards event attended by Sam Nicol and Lesley McCarthy. The school chose to support 2 students with scholarships for 2020.

International Womens Day was celebrated by Moonee Valley Council at The Clocktower this year. Joining in the event were President Lesley McCarthy, Allan & Margaret Bruno, Jon and Robyn Temby, Sam Nicol and Stella Hyde, Shraddha Sharma, Karolina Svetikova, Our guests were Jasmin Lim and Daniel Rowe from the VRC, Vijay Iyer and Sandy from Bendigo Bank, Preeti Maharaji from MAC and 4 students



The **1,000 Stories** project grew with another 3,000 picture story books donated to the Maternal and Child Health Centres at Hopetoun, Wingate and Maribyrnong Road Ascot Vale.



Maternal and Child Health Nurse Janet at Wingate also requested assistance with completing kindergarten enrolment forms for women lacking English skills and Lesley assisted with this over 4 weeks.

Picture story books and junior fiction were also donated to Debney Meadows Primary School for their libraries. Anne Heyes also contributed to this project.

International Service - Peter Cribb

On request from DGE Ajith Weerasinghe and his daughter Mudara, we donated \$1100 to the Rotary Club of Negombo Sri Lanka for the purchase of 3 industrial standard sewing machines which were presented to deserving women for their International Women's Day event.



Rotary Overseas Recycled Playgrounds continues to grow at a phenomenal rate. In this Rotary year, another 2 containers were shipped to Sri Lanka with all playgrounds allocated prior to shipment. Playgrounds were also sent to Timor Leste.

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

Container #3



Collected from	Rotary clubs
Wembley Primary School	Yarraville
Kilmore	Mitchell South
Penleigh & Essendon Grammar	Flemington Kensington
Gladstone Park	Sunbury
Annex Park	Ivanhoe
Ripponlea School	Albert Park
Rolling Plains	Croydon & Montrose

Container #4



Collected from	Rotary Club
Audrey Lane Res. Berwick	Mt Martha Rotary Cluster
Fell Reserve	Ivanhoe
Armidaale PS	Glenferrie
St Patrick's School Nhill	Nhill & John Arena
Kallista Park	Ivanhoe
Hudson Reserve Brunswick West	Mt Martha Rotary Cluster
Charlton St Blackburn North	Nunawading
Ely Rd Burwood East	Flem/Kens

Due to the growth and spread across Victoria, a Multi District RORP Committee has been established.

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.

Vocational Service – Anne McMahon

CONNECT → CREATE → CELEBRATE

The main focus for this year was the Flemington Kensington Art Show at Kensington Town Hall.

Grant funding was provided by the City of Melbourne which covered the hire costs of KTH.

Additional sponsorship was provided by Nelson Alexander, the Bendigo Bank, the VRC, Flemington Traders, MVRCA, Moonee Valley City Council, Simon Peterson at Pepper Cafe and a number of local businesses which enabled significant prize money. Special thanks to Ted Frank for his amazing and persistent trekking around the streets of Flemington and Kensington. His support produced some outstanding donations for the Silent Auction.

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

4 of our scholarship and NYSF students assisted with the catering/waiting: Ella, Alex, Haniyah and Jacinta from MAC.

This event involved every member of the club, partners, family and friends as well as community volunteers. An estimated 10,000 hours was required.





ROTARY IN THE NEWS

The art of the matter

Art fanatics are in for a treat when the Rotary Club of Flemington Kensington's inaugural art show kicks off. Artists young and old have entered their masterpieces into the show at the Kensington Town Hall from October 4-6. It includes traditional categories as well as four for youngsters, with prizes from \$50 to \$1000.

The event will also include children's art and craft activities, as well as food and music.

The show will kick off with a gala cocktail evening on the Friday.

It will then be open from 9am to 9pm on Saturday and 9am to 4pm on Sunday.

The gala is a fundraiser for the charity One Girl, which provides educational opportunities to girls in Sierra Leone and Uganda.



Rotary Club of Flemington Kensington members get into the spirit ahead of the big art show. Picture: Ellen Smith

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 VRC 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.



with aging residents and the importance of making isolation. Without hesitation, Rotary provided almost half the funds needed to purchase the Triebke.

The Triebke made its appearance at a recent Rotary meeting, and members were excited to see the result.

Matta was also delighted to receive some funds from P&M My Project in 2016, as 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 publishing the concept and connecting riders and passengers.

When it comes to health care, the community is a well-served resource, says Bush.

"Your local Rotary Club might be able to do more for you than your community name, but

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

Want to know more? onegoodstreet@gmail.com

Contact with Rotary: info@rotaryflemington.org.au

Reducing isolation through riding

Lesley McCarthy

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

Matta, a senior strategic at Robson 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 communication, and in aged care, health and loneliness.

In his work, Matta 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 Matta's clients may not speak to another person on any given day, unless they have a visit from a District Nurse.

Matta approached Iain Berghmans, the Community Service Chair at Flemington Kensington Rotary about the One Good Ride idea. Having previously worked with Rotarian Faith Chen of the Flemington Chinese Garden Age group, they were aware of the issues

with aging residents and the importance of making isolation.

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OUR COMMUNITY

A LIFE TIED TO PARKINSON'S RESEARCH



Vance Hilton OAM was dedicated to helping others. As a Rotarian of almost 40 years, his focus was on the care of others. So it was touching to see that compassion continue in memoriam.

Vance was diagnosed with Parkinson's in 2013 and became a staunch advocate for raising awareness of the condition.

He passed away in September 2018 and in a touching act of support for the Parkinson's community, his wife Olga organised a fundraising raffle for the Parkinson's Victoria's Research Fund to honour Vance's commitment to awareness raising.

On offer was Vance's prized, framed Rotary Centenary 2005 Flags of The World Limited Edition tie. Vance was a dedicated and respected Rotarian, who held positions at local, district and national levels.

He was awarded an Order of Australia Medal in 2006 for his service to youth, athletics and a range of charitable organisations.

As is often the way when fundraising is driven by love and passion, the amount raised exceeded expectations, with Olga herself matching the \$11,000 raised through ticket sales and donations.

With support from the Flemington Rotary Club, of which Vance was past Club President, Olga spent many hours selling raffle tickets through Rotary clubs and events, as well as at local shopping centres.

At the club's breakfast meeting in March, a cheque for \$22,061 was presented to Parkinson's Victoria's Membership & Fundraising Coordinator Craig Goddard, who expressed gratitude for the significant donation.

Parkinson's Victoria extends its appreciation to Olga, and those who supported her in this special fundraiser, commemorating the life of a special man who lived life to the full.

The money raised will go directly to the Parkinson's Victoria's Research Fund, which supports a range of world-class research initiatives and grants focussing on improved treatments and therapies for Parkinson's, as well as the search for a cure.



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 of 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

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

Donations in Kind: over 1000 - Allan Bruno, Lesley McCarthy, Anne Heyes

Festival of Arts & Ideas: in excess of 8,000 hours

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

Flemington Traders: about 100 - Allan Bruno, Sam Nicol, Lesley McCarthy, Ted Frank

Kensington Community Network: about 80 - Anne Heyes, Anne McMahon, Edith Chen

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

Rotary Overseas Recycled Playgrounds: about 9,000

Peter Cribb, Lyn Borghouts, Allan Bruno, John Sklenar, Ted Frank, Lesley McCarthy, Matiu Bush,

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

Youth/Schools support: Lesley McCarthy, Anne Heyes, Peter Donnellan, 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, 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

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.