



FROM THE CHAIR

My first job as the new Chairperson of the District 9510 CATE committee, is to offer a huge thanks to Don Will for so ably running the show for many years. Don is a great leader who has steered CATE into what we have now. He is now developing his sea legs as he takes a role in the D9510 Rotary Youth Sailing Challenge aboard the Sail Training Vessel (STV) One And All.

I am a relative novice within Rotary circles having joined the Magill Sunrise Club just under ten years ago. My wife Suzette and I are science nerds with an interest in most things including the environment. A few years ago, Don invited us to participate in the research work up at Calperum and we were hooked. I am very keen to be a part of Rotary's contribution to protection of the environment.

As I see it, the D9510 CATE committee provides three roles that I will be striving to develop:

* To act as a common voice for the many and varied environmental projects that members of D9510 are undertaking. During Rotary Past World President Ian Riseley's recent visit, he frequently commented on how our District was punching above its weight regarding environmental projects. I think this was in part due to the ability of CATE to help present the breadth and depth of activities we are all engaged in. There is no question that Rotarians do fantastic work in the community. Sometimes we need to be able to paint the picture to ourselves and outsiders to reveal the true extent and effect of that effort. Well done to everyone. If you have an environmental project that you want to get off the ground, or let other people know about, then contact Jeff or myself and we will help spread the word to seek support.

* To provide support to our Rotary environmental projects. There are many options for funding the Rotary Seventh area of focus, including District Grants and Global Foundation Grants. CATE still has some funds from the ROBIN project to support the creation of Habitat Boxes. Where required, CATE can help acquire funds for other multi-Club environmental projects.

* Finally, and most significantly, CATE helps coordinate Rotary support at Calperum Station. Rotary engagement with Calperum is complex, and multi-faceted with over 30 Clubs involved. It is important that we understand what the Calperum staff are trying to achieve, and that Rotary's engagement helps that happen in the most efficient and effective manner. One of Calperum's taglines is "Environment, Education and Experience". This combines the *environmental* research programs that includes multiple national and international research organisations with several local youth *education* programs including SACE accreditation and a burgeoning eco-tourism activity to help sustain the overall operation through unique *experiences*. Rotary D9510 supports all three of these facets of Calperum's operation. Our most recent call for help to refurbish some of the accommodation is an example of Rotary supporting the eco-tourism arm of operations. Support from Clubs and the wider community has been fantastic.

I look forward to helping develop the future activities of CATE and hope to see you at your favourite environmental project.

Ian Coat

BOB ARNOLD EULOGY JUNE 2023

Where does one start to describe the wisdom and vision of this great man? Since the mid 1970s Bob had been a member of Rotary, spanning three Clubs. And that started after his involvement in Apex. So, for almost all his adult life he gave service to his community. In my opinion that makes him someone special.

In 2020, Bob's recognition in the Australian Honours had a citation which read "for services to

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the Community through Blackwood Rotary Club. Bob is a keen environmentalist as well". What an under-statement.

He first joined Rotary at Western Hutt in New Zealand. Later when Jan and Bob were living in Victoria he joined the RC Balwyn, and then the RC Blackwood after they came to live in SA in 1983, I knew Bob mainly with his Rotary environmental hat on, but I am aware he also had many other roles, rising to the Assistant Governor role. So let me just tell you a few stories about Bob.

Some twenty-five years ago Bob found out about Calperum Station, just out of Renmark. After 120 years as a sheep station, it was purchased as an environmental preserve, with the aim to restore it back to its pre-colonial condition. Initially Bob probably thought he could do the restoration all by himself, but gradually he recruited fellow Rotarians from the Blackwood Club, then neighbouring Clubs until he had around 30 Rotary Clubs involved. He made himself Chairman of the joint Rotary District Environmental Group, and in his sly way allocated the tasks to those he knew he could rely upon. And I can assure you that NO was never an option with Bob.

With his determination and vision, he mapped out what jobs needed to be done, and who was best to delegate them to. But that was when he bought in his secret weapon - Jan. He would invite a group of people up to Calperum, just to have a look. Jan would do the catering - nothing short of a three-course meal every night - Bob would pour the wine, and in no time, you were locked in your allocated task. So smoothly done, by Mr and Mrs Calperum. He even put the sign **ROTARY HOUSE** on the front of the main homestead. No one has been game to ever take that down.

I can remember him telling me on my first visit, *"We aren't doing this for ourselves, or even our kids. This is a fifty-year project for our grandkids. Can you say NO to them?"*

Without doubt, the environmental activities in SA Rotary are at least fifteen years ahead of anywhere else in Australia due to Bob's forward thinking and persistence. Nowhere else has a project of the magnitude that Calperum has become. And he also ensured Club's had localised environmental activities as well.

At this sad time, I look back on what Bob achieved in Rotary, and what a trailblazer he was. Unfortunately, with our changing world, no one will ever be able to emulate what Bob achieved.

Bob, we will continue to do our work for the grandkids, as per your dream.

Don Will

THE MOUNT SERLE STORY [thus far]

The Rotary Club of Maitland has formed a partnership with the Iga Warta community on Mt Serle Station in the Northern Flinders Ranges to facilitate the creation of a new cultural enterprise venture.

The partnership came about through David Amery, the project coordinator, who first taught at former Nepabunna Mission back in 1966 and who has maintained a close association with the Coulthard family ever since. The Coulthard family subsequently established the Iga Warta Community as a cultural enterprise.



Mount Serle Station [Maitland Rotary Club's project] is situated some 40 kms northeast of Copley in the northern Flinders Ranges. The property is a few kms north of the Copley to Arkaroola Road. It has been permanently destocked.

What does this project hope to achieve? First it aims to create a wilderness area open to the public and by doing so create a further income stream both for the Iga Warta Community as well as others living in the area. Second it is hoped that a Research facility will also be established that will enable researchers to become involved in studies that may include aspects of geology, fauna and flora, archaeology with special reference to the ancient megafauna which once roamed this ancient land. It is also hoped that with future development Mount Serle will also be able to provide a centre from which young traditional owners might receive cultural enhancement as well as employment opportunities.

Our Club's work so far has concentrated on work associated with the "homestead block" comprising two ex-Leigh Creek houses, the main homestead and the shearer's quarters. Through various work weeks, and the assistance of a 1:1 Rotary Foundation Grant, both ex-Leigh Creek houses have been brought up to 'standard'. Work on the main homestead has begun and is well underway, but the need for tradespeople is paramount and hence the Club

has applied for a further 1:1 Foundation Grant with the anticipation that if successful, a plumber can be employed to undertake work necessary in the main homestead. The next 'work week' will be scheduled to coincide with the availability of the plumber whose quote



has formed the basis of a grant application – hopefully in early October.

Do we need assistance? The answer is a definite “yes”! We are happy and grateful to receive assistance from anyone and everyone – skilled or unskilled. For those who might like to be involved please note that the road from Hawker to Copley is fully sealed, the road from Copley is unsealed but reasonably

maintained. At Mount Serle we can offer facility for caravans including permanent 240-volt power [no generators required]. For those wishing to drive to the station we can offer up to nine single beds and one double bed-with shared facilities. For those not requiring facilities there are a range of excellent camping spots.

For further information or to indicate a request to be kept informed regarding this project, please contact David Amery via email coraliea1947@hotmail.com, phone 0476 996 882, post: P.O. Box 40, PORT VICTORIA, S.A. 5573.

RENOVATIONS AFTER THE FLOODING AT CALPERUM (UPDATE)

In January/February earlier this year with the potential of flooding in the Renmark area, all the furniture was removed from Rotary House, Bushview (was House 4) and the two Dorm blocks to protect them. Once removed it became obvious that the walls and ceiling needed painting and the carpets needed removing and replaced with floating floors.



Rotary House Pre-Work



Rotary House Post-Work

Rotary House was the first building to be done with the ceiling and walls painted by 2 separate teams from Regency Park, Walkerville and Calperum staff painting the ceiling and the team from Unley painting the walls.

Some weeks after the painting was completed a team from Regency Park, Walkerville, Adelaide, Edwardstown and Magill Sunrise replaced the flooring.
Great job was done by all the super teams.

After fund raising across the district, we raised enough funds to bulk buy all the required flooring and paint to do Bushview (flooring only and the building was painted a few years ago by Unley), Large Dorm and small Dorm.

In late August a team from Regency Park, Walkerville and Edwardstown returned to replace the flooring in Bushview.



Bushview pre work



Bushview post work



Andrew (Edwardstown), Russell (Regency Park) & Jeff (Regency Park) in action.

Next Stage.

Painting of the Small and Large Dorm was carried out by Jerry and Briony Casburn and team from Unley on the weekend of 1st September (yes it was Father's Day weekend) – extra superheroes.



Small Dorm Bedroom – pre work



External – Small Dorm – pre work.

New ceiling fans with lights were installed by a local (Rotarian – Waikerie) electrician David Neindorf company – Hansen Electrical – many thanks.

Bruce Cole from Blackwood is assembling a team to return on Wednesday 11th October to Sunday 15th Oct 2023, to remove the carpets in the Small and Large Dorm and replace with floating floors.

If you are interested in assisting, please contact Bruce on 0414 825 454.

Many thanks not only need to go to all that came to site and helped with the work, but also the following.

Bunnings Berri for assembling all the materials and donating a half pallet of flooring.
Jill Chapman from RC Adelaide for organising Bunnings Windsor Gardens to assist us.
Julie Robertson (Calperum) for providing some of her staff to assist us and for providing yummy snacks from time to time.

There are many others that have helped – we thank you so much. We do appreciate it immensely.

Jeff Cluse – Secretary Treasurer – CATE Committee

ENVIRONMENTAL FENCING AFTER THE 2019 CUDLEE CREEK FIRE

The Rotary Club of Onkaparinga has been repairing fences in the Cudlee Creek fire since January 2020. More work is yet to be done.

In the last 6 months we have undertaken several environmental fencing jobs along and around water courses where the vegetation has been severely damaged. This can lead to erosion and loss of habitat for native species. New fences enable better weed control and replanting of native species, and stock management in the area. This is being undertaken by property owners and volunteer groups like Trees For Life.

This work is generally planned by a Landscape SA officer in collaboration with property owners. This fencing can be easier than many we have done, as the creeks are along the

bottom of the valleys, with less steep gradients. However, to balance this we have many more corners as we follow the creek, often deal with wet heavy clay, leading to vehicle bogging, and many areas of rocks.

We are lucky that Landscape SA and property owners are funding most of the work, but every job has an element of Rotary support through the RAWCS Bushfire Recovery Fund. This provided funds to help purchase our tractor and utility.



RAWCS funded utility in the field



Using a dropper knocker to drive in a steel post on a fence, with the creek line behind at the bottom of the valley.

Dick Cuttle

HEALTH OF THE RIVER UPDATE

Calperum does not have an ecologist with the specific role of supporting school groups as Caitlin who has been a key element of the project, has taken on a new role outside of Calperum. This has meant that the Health of the River program is not possible.

We have strongly supported the efforts being made by Julie and Peter and the staff to recruit a person to do pick up this role as soon as possible. A temporary appointment was made of a young teacher with a suitable background and interest. We wait to hear if funding can be obtained to confirm this for the longer term.

Several committee members will be attending the **Calperum Station Woolshed Bush Ball** on 20th October and will meet with Australian Landscape Trust members then. We will be discussing many issues with board members, as we do each year, and the need for an ecologist/teacher to support programs for young people, and the Health of the River will be high on our list (**See Bush Ball Notice following page**).

Dick Cuttle



its on again

The Calperum Station WOOLSHED BUSH BALL

FRIDAY 20 OCTOBER, 2023

A truly unique event promising an unforgettable experience.

A night of magic and surprises as you join the stars both on the stage and in the mesmerizing night sky. Live entertainment, music and dancing – MC for the night, SA celebrity Amanda Blair.

The tucker

Award winning Riverland themed 3 course menu from Salt & Pepper Catering

- Canapes paired with locally selected welcome drinks on arrival
- Main course – the best delectable offerings including award winning signature dishes – Pressed Lamb Shoulder, Murray Cod and more
- Dessert – a delicious surprise of 'Riverland in a glass'

The refreshments

Tastings of a selection of the finest Riverland wines, craft beer and gin (also available for purchase on the night) including:

- Small batch, limited edition Calperum Gin with native bush flavours of Quandong and Saltbush – lovingly crafted by Ruston's Distillery
- A special offering of the soon to be launched Mallee Estate '230 STRONG MEN' wine range
- Unique offerings from Wilkadene Brewery including their classics plus their latest release of AMBER ALES and newly released SALT BUSH BEER and VILLIS MEAT PINT

The experience

A 6.30 start, a stunning meal and then dance the night away with live music (including a special guest singer) until late

- Door prizes and a fabulous fundraising auction
- Self-contained camping and limited accommodation in the shearer's quarters (sleeping bag needed) plus an optional 'morning after' recovery breakfast
- Dress code is BUSH FORMAL – ball gowns (we suggest upcycling OP shop gems), moleskins, boots, glitter, smart casual, check shirts and chinos
- Transport to and from the BUSH BALL available from Renmark

VENUE: CALPERUM STATION WOOLSHED, Calperum Station, 1371 Wentworth Road, Renmark.

Limited Tickets \$150 each or take advantage of the 'Early Bird Special' of \$135 per ticket (if booked before Wednesday, September 20). Group tables available. For Ticket Sales, accommodation or other enquiries phone 08 85957359 or email admin@salt.org.au OR book through Eventbrite: www.eventbrite.com.au/calperum-station-fundraising-bush-ball-tickets

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT FLOOD RECOVERY PROJECTS AND THE RESTORATION OF CALPERUM STATION, PROVIDING CRITICAL HABITAT FOR THE MANY THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES THAT MAKE THIS SPECIAL PLACE THEIR HOME. YOUR SUPPORT IS TRULY APPRECIATED

PROUDLY PART OF THE RIVERLAND ROSE AND GARDEN FESTIVAL





Conserving your Native Bee Population:

Does your Rotary Club have a native bee conservation project?

Bee populations in Australia and internationally are declining due to the expansion of towns and loss of habitat.

With the Australian Honey Bee industry threatened by the spread of the Varroa mite, it is becoming increasingly important to encourage our indigenous Australian native bees.



*Blue-banded bee. Photo Martin Stokes
Photo Tristan O'Brien
(Photos Courtesy Greening Adelaide)*



A bee hotel with many vacancies to be filled.

Australia has many varieties of native bees. Some nest in the ground, others nest in holes of decaying timber or build nests in abandoned holes in timber left by burrowing insects.

We can increase our native bee population by setting up "Bee Hotels" in gardens and parks.

Additional information on native bee identification, conservation and the building "Bee Hotels" can be found on the web. The following are a good place to start:

www.aussiebee.com.au.

www.greenadelaide.sa.gov.au.

We would like to hear from you if your Rotary Club has a bee hotel project that could do with extra support.

Contact: Ian Coat ian.coat@gmail.com

Bird or Native Animal Habitat Boxes

Construction of bird or native animal habitat boxes has been a popular project for Rotary clubs over the years

There are some funds available from the district to support bird box or similar native animal habitat box projects.

Contact: *Ian Coat* ian.coat@gmail.com

CATE Committee 2023/24

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