



Bulletin

RI District 9800

Volume 58 Number 43

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Celebrating 57 Years of Service

PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

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MEETING

Kew Golf Club

120 Belford Road Kew East

Thursday 12:30 pm

Meeting begins at 1pm

Apologies: **Bob Crozier**

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RI PRESIDENT

Stephanie A.Urchick

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

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THE FOUR WAY TEST

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

Will it benefit all concerned?

LINKS

[Garden DesignFest](#)

[Facebook Rotary D9800](#)



President's Message



Good afternoon everyone. Today is a Fellowship Day, so there is no speaker. I hope everyone is sitting in their Service groups so they can discuss projects, ongoing or proposed.

Three weeks from Sunday is the Antique Fair. We are going to need quite a few people for the roster as there is a lot to do. Next Thursday I will have a list of times for the shifts. Those of you who helped last year will remember that stallholders start unpacking at 8 am, so we will have to be there well before that. There is a list on each table for people who will be available on the 15th to write their names. I have also brought various sized posters. The A-3 size is most noticeable and if anyone knows a shop near them that would put one in the window, that would be wonderful.

On the weekend, Mike Stillwell, Colin Burns and I attended the Multi District Impact Summit in Adelaide. It was held at the Morphettville Race Track, an excellent venue. There was our district 9800, plus district 9510 which covers 1,800,000 sq. km – most of South Australia, Sunraysia in Victoria, Western NSW and the southern half of the N.T. There were also 4 Rotarians from PNG. I want to tell you about some of the talks, which were all excellent and quite inspiring. Most were not from Rotary clubs, but individuals doing projects. Nova Peris, the Olympic runner and first female Aboriginal M.P., spoke about the Foundation she has set up which provides mobile laundries to aboriginal people in remote areas. The Foundation also teaches them to grow vegetables so they have healthy food.

Another speaker, Charlie Allen, is a Rotary Peace Fellow and he talked about what clubs can do to foster peace. Rotary has an online Peace Academy which anyone can access, we can have Peace presentations at Club level, we can support Peace Fellows and we can undertake Peace projects, which of course we are doing with the Peace Poles. Obviously we can't do anything about Gaza or Ukraine, but there is a lot we can do about fostering peace in Australia.

Con'd p 4

Vale Graeme Sheahan



The eulogy delivered by Murray Chessell.

First my thanks to Jeanette, Stuart and Bec for this privilege.

I speak on behalf of the Rotary Club of Kew which has for over 50 years met for lunch on Thursdays to discuss ways it might be of service in its community and beyond. The Club also provides members with a chance to get to know and care about each other and become friends.

It was in this Club that Graeme made a major contribution for a quarter of a century and became our friend. We owe him a real debt of gratitude for all that he did, and we will miss him greatly.

Graeme loved Rotary, embraced its values, and was an active member, faithfully attending its weekly meetings and engaging to the full with the Club's issues, great and small.

He was an intelligent man; unstintingly applying his engineer's problem-solving abilities, his clarity of thinking, business experience, mastery of detail, formidable memory and innate good judgement – and his practical know-how, to the great advantage of the Club on numerous occasions over those 25 years.

He got in and rolled up his sleeves whenever there was a task to be done. Fund raising projects appealed to him - Golf days for example were an early specialty, but he also did admin work serving as board member and treasurer.

In more recent times over many years he managed the Club's participation in Clean Up Australia, and for even longer - until his medical treatment began in earnest, he was the Club's bulletin editor, recording in word and picture the proceedings at the weekly meeting and keeping us informed on future events and all manner of Rotary business.

Perhaps surprisingly (for an engineer) he was a full bottle on the Club's constitution, suspiciously scrutinising any directions from the Rotary hierarchy for 'unnecessary' amendments.

And less surprising he was the driving force behind the technical progress at the club – establishing and

Vale Graeme Sheahan

managing the web site and supporting the introduction of all the socials – whatever they may be.

But there was one Rotary project that Graeme made his own. It was called the Garden DesignFest. 'That's DesignFest in one word but with a capital D and capital F', I can remember Graeme reminding me on more than one occasion.

It was (and is) an ambitious, and successful project that involves working with garden designers, to open gardens to highlight the design aspects. It has been held every 2 years from 2004 and involves the organisers in countless hours of work.

Although it wasn't Graeme's idea, and he was only once the chairman of the organising committee, he was always involved – for many years the driving force behind the organisation of the event, and on the last 2 occasions as an adviser and a resource. His instant recollection of almost every detail from past events, and ability to quickly see the solution to any problem, was an immense help to the organisers.

And with Graeme either in the driver's seat or in a supportive role, and with the support of other clubs which became involved, the event raised hundreds of thousands over the years for good causes in the community.

Graeme sought no accolades for his contribution to GDF (or anything else for that matter) but it was recognised by the granting of the Club's highest award – a Paul Harris Fellowship – after an early event – which was upgraded on at least on 2 further occasions by the addition of sapphires – effective doubling and re-doubling the prestige of the award.

It was easy to like Graeme. From the outset; urbane, friendly, good humoured, good company, capable, admirable and honourable. Even stylish – certainly he was the only Rotarian to ever drive a vintage MG to our meetings. Jeanette also mentioned 'gorgeous' when I was talking to her recently. She is of course best placed to make that assessment.

And generous he was - I can remember one of our first conversations heading to the carpark at Leonda after a meeting where Graeme had won the weekly wine raffle for what seemed like the 10th time in 11 weeks. I remarked on his extraordinary run of luck and without a word he handed me the winning bottle. That certainly stopped my whinging, but I confess that with just the faintest of protests, I accepted the wine.

But until recently Graeme did seem to have luck on his side.

For one thing we agreed that having been born toward the end of WW 2, we had enjoyed the best of what Australia was ever likely to offer, a land where in our youth almost anything seemed possible, life's paths seemed more straight forward, education and

Vale Graeme Sheahan

employment were taken for granted, and sport, holidays and fun were the order of the day. At lunch we would talk about the usual things friends talk about. But as founding members of the fraternity of old Rotary blokes we shared the same values and had a pretty good idea what the other would think and say on most topics.

Graeme – a Geelong man through and through, was retired when he joined Rotary although he talked fondly of his schooling there and his work as engineer at Ford Geelong.

He was interested in many things including my attempts at hobby farming - and he could talk farming having married a girl from Lismore in the Western District. And of course, we talked about our families. On one occasion he proudly reporting on Bec winning a round of hard quiz on the ABC. And his son Stuart, married and working in the US. And of course, his immense pleasure on the arrival of the grandchildren and the excitement of his US visits with Jeanette to meet them. Graeme's wonderful wife and greatest supporter seems always to have been at his side throughout his Rotary journey, enjoying all or social functions, making him laugh - and making us laugh. At the risk of straying from my brief, I would confidently say she adored Graeme and he adored her.

We have heard of her invaluable support for Graeme in their private battle against the insidious cancer and we are thankful that she was there to care for, and comfort him to the end.

In the last year or so Jeanette and Graeme hosted a Rotary dinner party at their home. They were most gracious hosts, and Graeme looked fit and in great form. The house showed all the benefits of 25 years of expertly executed home improvements under Graeme's skilful hand, and the garden – I think Jeanette's creation, could have held its own with the best in the Garden DesignFest. Of course, the food was superb, the wine flowed, the talk was animated and the fellowship - as we tend to call it in Rotary, was heartwarming. It was a very happy evening and I'm grateful for that memory.

Bulletin

Where possible, please submit information to barbbrook814@gmail.com by Wednesday for inclusion. I am looking for people to assist with the Bulletin. If you would like to be on a roster to assist with the write up of our guest speaker, please let Barb know

Dates for Your Diary

Till 14 June

Lipwurrunga by Les Huddleston
Hawthorn Town Hall Gallery, free entry
There will be finger food, and drinks at bar prices.

Wednesday 28 May

6pm-8pm An evening with Les Huddleston and Inventi Ensemble (oboe, flute 'cello, didgeridoo) free registration required at boroondara.vic.gov.au/arts

Thursday 29 May

1pm RCK meeting Speaker Kim Wen "Visit to China"

Thursday 5 June

1pm RCK meeting Speaker Prof Doug Brown AM "The Spice Islands"

Saturday 7 June

10am – 4pm Fair Trade and Gift Shop – Book Fair

Tuesday 10 June

5.30pm RCK Board Meeting new and old Board with dinner to follow.

Thursday 12 June

1pm RCK meeting Colin Burns...."My Life in Mining"

Sunday 15 June

10am-4pm Antique Fair – Hawthorn Arts Centre

Thursday 19 June

1pm RCK meeting

Thursday 26 June

1pm RCK meeting

Thursday 3 July (please note change of date)

Rotary Club of Kew Changeover night

Saturday 5 July

10am – 4pm Fair Trade and Gift Shop – Book Fair
District Changeover (lunchtime) more details to follow

Thursday 10 July

1pm RCK meeting

Almoner

Das continues to have regular contact with our members, and we thank him most sincerely for his continual care.

Raffle

The raffle this week was won by Cam

Rotary District Conference



President's Report con'd

Another speaker who had been a high school principal was not happy with how aboriginal children were being taught, so he started up his own school!!! This is in Woodville in S.A. and is a not-for-profit socially just school. Half the children are aboriginal, and they are taught from their strengths, rather than just having Maths and English thrust down their throats.

Another really inspiring man, Ian Steele OAM, started "Kickstart for Kids" which is a breakfast programme for seriously disadvantaged and abused children somewhere in Adelaide. Then he started a lunch programme and now they have "Camp Kickstart" which is a 5 day holiday programme. He does a number of other things for disadvantaged youth. He is a really inspirational man. He is not wealthy himself but has got help including from Rotary Clubs.

The speaker who impressed me the most was Brad Chilcott who talked about how we need structural change in the world if we really want peace. He said: "Use whatever power and privilege you have to make change for those who need change most". He said cosmetic change is not enough. We need structural and systematic change. He was saying that Rotary could help with creating lasting change.

And finally a fun presentation which was from 3 Rotary clubs, one being Ocean Grove. You will see a photo of a huge rubber duck in the Bulletin. These clubs separately every year have a rubber duck race. They sell rubber ducks (\$5 each- just ordinary size ducks) and apparently they can sell up to 2,500 ducks. They showed a video- they throw the ducks in the river and wait for the river to take them to the finish line. There are heats then a final, and really expensive prizes donated. They also have "corporate ducks" which are highly decorated. There are food stalls and activities while waiting for the race to finish, which can take a couple of hours. The clubs make a huge amount of money, as do the local businesses.

Next year the regional Conference will be in Horsham, so perhaps a group of us might attend. North Balwyn and Camberwell each had around 20 members and partners in Adelaide.

Finally there was one simple Community idea that many clubs are doing which is called "Shop & Share". They just get people to buy one extra thing in their shopping, and drop it off somewhere, presumably a box in the supermarket. Might be something to think about.

As I am sure you are all aware, Tuesday this week was World Bee Day, and this week is Solitary Bee Week. Almost all of the 17,00 species of Australian native bees are solitary. They just have a mate and live together. They only make enough honey for their offspring, however there are some stingless bees in Australia (not in Victoria) that make a small amount of honey that can

President's Report con'd

be collected. Anyway, we should all be buying Australian honey, planting flowers for bees and other pollinators and not spraying insecticides.

Pam Norton

Boroondara Antique and Collectables Fair

3 weeks to go

Are you sorting out collectables and antiques to add to the RCK table at the Fair?

Remember to label the price tag for each item- (on a swing tag,) fixed price, your first name & surname initial & BRIEF DESCRIPTION if you wish.

On a blank sheet, compile list of all items for sale- your name at the top.

4 columns (First column to be half the width of the page so you can list each item

& maybe number them IF YOU HAVE SEVERAL ITEMS.

List each item	Price	* Sold	* Cash/ CC

These * 2 COLUMNS will be filled in by Gaie or Wendy

We want to make some money for the RCK but feel free to collect money from sales in your name if you wish.

Otherwise please label items as RCK!

Call me on 0419 115 971 or email me

evelynperks@netscape.net

Thank you,

Evelyne Perks

Thoughts of the Day

The thought was contributed by Evelyne

"Knowledge derives from the past.

Information is of the present

Wisdom considers the future"

Paul Baxter

Colin also contributed a quote from the Conference

"When you get the elevator to the top, don't forget to send it down to all the others."

Nova Peris OAM

Toast to Rotary

The toast today was to Malta. The first Club was established in 1967 and there are now 3. District 2110 (Malta and Sicily) has 93 clubs and 3700 members.

Fair Trade and Gift Shop



Darwin Project

Please speak with Jill if you would like to join this group To explore opportunities to develop economic empowerment for Indigenous communities.

- To teach sewing.
- To support textile artists
- To explore and make hand screen & stenciled printed fabrics
- Youth Recycled Plastic Project
- Retail training
- Travel to NT for better communication
- Support cultural heritage program

Rotarians and volunteers are welcome to contribute their skills in accordance with the projects aims -Sewing training, fashion training, apply for grants, carry fabric and other useful items to and from NT (eg 5kg /person) Main dates around sewing Sunday 10 August – Wednesday 13 August although can be to Sunday 17th (Jill and Jennie will be there from 5 August for 2 weeks)

Robert's Idle Observations

Whoever said 'out of sight, out of mind' never had a spider disappear in their bedroom.

Bank Account Details

When making payments directly to the Club, please use the following details:

Bendigo Bank BSB 633-000

Account 125381590

Please remember to include your name and reason for payment in the reference

Meeting Duty Roster

Date	Chair	Host	Meeting Equipment	Cashier-1	Cashier-2	Thought
29-May	Stillwell M	Cohen J	Dalziel A	Payne F	Stewart P	Ibbotson P
05-Jun	McFarlane M	Dadafarin M	Payne F	Vickers A	Turner-Atkins M	Perks E
12-Jun	Crawford J	Scott J	Devidas D	Levin R	Stillwell M	Bourke M
19-Jun	Stewart P	Ibbotson P	Crozier B	Dias C	Perks E	Brown D
26-Jun	Scott J	Turner-Atkins M	Brown D	Ewart C	Bourke M	Turner-Atkins M

The Rotary Club of Kew acknowledges the ongoing support of the following businesses

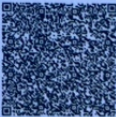


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