



PRESIDENT ROGER'S WEEKLY BLOG

Greetings fellow Rotarians and Friends

Here we go again folks!!!. Stage 4 lockdown. Village Sausage Sizzle – cancelled. BBQ, Briars BBQ/Picnic cancelled, MM House BBQ cancelled. But we've been here before so we know what to do.....buy toilet paper!!!!

Meeting Monday 15 February : Picnic at the Briars cancelled. Now on Zoom (link in email)

Well we only got 1 face to face meeting and so we have to revert to Zoom. We still need to apply for our Stronger Communities grant by 22 February. Steve has collated the ideas submitted some months back and you will have received these separately. If you get a chance to do your daily exercise along the Briars-Craigie Rd section that would be great. Let us know your ideas We need to start the application process on 17 Feb. This is a project that will probably go on for some years and be a real hallmark of the centenary of Rotary.

Family of Rotary

Bill MacKenzie's funeral was on Thursday 11 February and a number of RCMM friends paid their respects to our founding member and legend of this club. RIP Bill. Some of you may not know but Bill collapsed walking through the casino some 15 years ago and if it wasn't for a quick thinking person giving CPR he would not have survived. That person was a man named Robert who happened to be from the Rotary Club of Warragul. He was a Bill's funeral!! The family of Rotary is truly amazing. A tribute to Bill is on pages 2 & 3.

The funeral directors had over catered at the wake so we took boxed up sandwiches and finger food to MCISC who will distribute to the needy. Bill would have been pleased I'm sure.

Ranch Motel Redevelopment - MCISC

The Ranch Motel is due to be demolished and a replaced with a Childcare Centre and 52 serviced apartments. The current motel operator is retiring now and the owners have offered the motel to The Mornington Community Information and Support Centre (Stuart Davis - Mehan) free of charge to operate as low cost accommodation for the homeless and needy until the development start in 6-12 months. Stuart is now seeking about \$30K to cover outgoings. So far he's raised \$5K. AS Rotary do not support operating costs we cant help him. If you can help please contact him directly at MCISC

BBQ Trailer Upgrade

As some clubs were not able to run Australia Day events their share of National Australia Day Council (NADC) grants will be shared with those that did and hence we had a windfall. We need to spend these funds before we need to report back to NADC. A new Village BBQ or Trailer 12v/240v refrigerator were proposed. Community Committee consider refrigeration and maybe hot water on the BBQ trailer to be a priority are meeting this week to decide on what action we should take.

Mt Martha Community House

The Community House 'Welcome back BBQ' planned for Thursday 18 Feb at 5pm has been postponed to date to be advised due to the Covid lockdown. We will not need the BBQ trailer as they have bought one of their own which they have asked to assistance to assemble.

Cheers - President Roger

15th February 2021

Rotary Club of Mt Martha
PO Box 342,
Mornington 3931

Rotary International
World President:
Holger Knaack

District Governor 9820:
Mark Humphries

Mount Martha President:
Roger Skipsey
0438 547 019
Roger.skipsey@bigpond.com

Secretary:
Wayne Norris
0408 344 512
eversfield2017@outlook.com

Bulletin Editor:
Byron Groves
Contributions required
by Thursday 6pm each week
to
byron.groves58@gmail.com

Website Editor:
Merv Williams
mervcris@bigpond.com

FaceBook Editor
Phyllis Scales
phylscales@yahoo.com

A tribute to Bill Mackenzie (PHF)



Sadly Bill Mackenzie passed away on Friday, February 5th, 2021 aged 95 years.

Last Thursday with a number of Rotarians I attended the service to celebrate Bill's life and pay our respects to his family. We certainly learnt a lot more about a true gentleman and contributor to his community. A strapping young man, joining the State Electricity Commission as a linesman, to rise to become the District Manager for the growing Mornington Peninsula of the 1970's. A family man, a fair man, a man of faith and a man of political beliefs, who spoke when and as he saw fit. A man proud of his Scottish ancestry.

I first came to know of Bill in the 1970's when my uncle Les Annear was second in charge to Bill at the SEC Mornington branch. I know they ran a fair and well organized branch. Bill and Les became great friends.

A few years ago I prepared the following information to support Bill's nomination to be recognised in our Shire's Australia Day Awards.

In 1973 The Rotary Club of Mornington (80 members) wished to expand Rotary within their District and investigated the formation of a new Rotary Club. With guidance from District Governor Lindsey Patison a District Governor's Special Representative in PP Bill McKenzie was appointed to initiate and establish the same. We saw on the 18th of March, 1974 the first official meeting of the Interim Rotary Club of Mornington South – Mt Martha. On the 8th of April 1974 the official Charter for the new Club was granted The chairman of the meeting was DG's Special Representative PP Bill Mackenzie who following the RI Manual of Procedure led the establishment of the new Rotary Club of Mornington South – Mt Martha. On July 12th, 1974, 25 members were inducted into the club that eventually became The Rotary Club of Mt Martha. Bill became Club Service Director for the Clubs first year and delivered much Rotary Information and guidance to the new Club.

Bill's path in Rotary followed his career path in the State Electricity Commission of Victoria as he was promoted around the state. His Rotary service commenced when he joined the Rotary Club of St Arnaud in 1960, followed by periods with Rotary Clubs in Daylesford, Swan Hill and Mornington in 1969. A Charter member of Mornington South-Mt Martha in 1974 until 1979 when following his career he joined the Frankston Rotary Club. I have been in contact with the RC Mornington about his time with them but unfortunately their history is missing. It was at one of his earlier clubs he earned the title of Past President.

Bill in retirement always kept in touch with the Mt Martha club and in 2007 became an Honorary Member and in 2011 rejoined as a full Rotarian. Bill with a wealth of life and Rotary knowledge to share always contributed where able to do so. Always willing to contribute with his time and resources. Church, Community Aid Abroad, Refugees, Book Club, Bowling Club and Rotary were some of the groups who benefitted from Bill's involvement.

Attached are newspaper photo's from our archives depicting a young Bill Mackenzie.

I also have somewhere in our archives a copy of the speech that Bill gave at our Club's charter night. It was comprehensive as you may well understand.

PP Roger Annear



Below are the foundation members: back row — Bob Hamilton, Bert Niblette, Alan Dowdle, Shane Whelan, Arthur Care, John Kett, Alby Brierley, Trevor Morrison, Reg Kurll; centre row — John Grant, Don Kerr, Ellis Waters, Geoff Maughan, Lewis Firman, Harry Simpson, Ken Fyffe; front row — David Archer, Alec Weaver, Mike Harding, Barry Taylor, Bill MacKenzie, Jack Grigg, Dick Chapman; absent members — Harl Hopkins, Lou Da Costa, Peter Barker.

Aug 7 1974

Mornington Leader—Thursday, July 6, 1978—Page 11

MT. MARTHA ROTARY CLUB'S NEW PRESIDENT



At the Rotary Club of Mount Martha Change-over Night held last Monday, Rotarian Don Kerr, (right) was inducted as the Club's new President for 1978-79. He is pictured being congratulated by Rotarian Bill MacKenzie, their District Governor's Special Representative. Extreme left is John Grant, last year's President.

“How and why I joined Rotary and why I stayed?” - Roger Annear

It all happened way back in 1991, our son Joshua came home from school saying that his science teacher had suggested that the Rotary CRA National Science program (now NYSF) may be of interest to him and suggested he apply through his local Rotary Club. History now shows that he came second at Mount Martha but eventually was sponsored by RC of Rosebud. A life changing experience over three years for a 16 year old, who is now an experienced mining executive living in Peru.

I at the time had just finished up my role as Secretary/Treasurer of the local Sea Scouts long after our boys had left the group. After commencing in the 1960's many years of committee and executive roles in Cricket Club, Cricket Association, Squash Club, Pre-School, Primary School all on top of my work commitments I now thought it time to contribute to society in general. I knew a few of the Mount Martha Rotarians and I liked what they represented. People who did good, enjoyed doing good, whilst having a good time. Past member Bob Merritt invited me to join the club which I have never regretted.

I have always had the opinion that while I am able to contribute and care for my community and my world, I will. God knows that one day I might in return need that self same support. If one has skills and abilities they should be shared. It is a philosophy that I believe flows from my upbringing where my parents were always involved with their community in some way.

Rotary has given me valuable experiences, at both Club and District levels and contributed to my development. In some ways though as “a bus driver going on a coach holiday” Accountants always finish up Treasurer. Seven times at Club level and four at District were great exposures. (“He will get it right one day”). My involvement on the District Foundation committee for ten years gave valuable insight to the wider Rotary world. That I am sure it made me a better person. My Club roles have always been enjoyable. The opportunity to work with Club members on projects, the friendships and fellowship gained makes me glad I joined Rotary.

As always with my family's support “While I am able and willing to contribute, I will.”



FEBRUARY IS PEACE BUILDING & CONFLICT RESOLUTION MONTH

- Mon 15 Feb RCMM Club Meeting via Zoom
- Mon 22 Feb **Project week - No Monday Club Meeting** - RCMM Board meet this evening
- Sat 27 Feb MM Sausage Sizzle

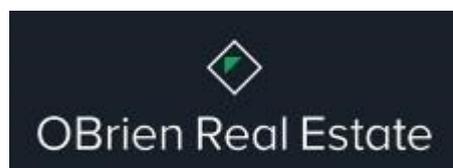
MARCH IS WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE MONTH

- Mon 1 Mar RCMM Club Meeting - Indigenous Literacy Foundation
- Mon 8 Mar **No Club Meeting** Labour Day Holiday
- Sat 13 Mar MM Sausage Sizzle
- Mon 15 Mar RCMM **Committee** meetings
- Mon 22 Mar Barefoot Bowls/BBQ Dinner @ Mount Martha Bowls Club
- Sat 27 Mar MM Sausage Sizzle
- Mon 29 Mar **No Club Meeting** - 5th Monday

APRIL IS MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH MONTH

- Mon 5 Apr **No Club Meeting** - Easter Monday
- Sat 10 Apr MM Sausage Sizzle
- Mon 12 Apr RCMM **Committee** meetings
- Mon 19 Apr RCMM Club Meeting - details to be advised

OUR COMMUNITY & CLUB SUPPORTERS, TO WHOM WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL



RCMM SATURDAY SAUSAGE SIZZLE TO 30TH JUNE 2021.
COMMENCE 9.00AM AND FINISH ABOUT 1.00PM

We only have a permit, at this stage, until the end of June 2021, after which the Events Team from the Shire will decide if sausage sizzles will remain. Where 2 club members are named they will do 2 hours each and will need to liaise with each other to see who will do 9 to 11am and 11am to 1pm.

27th Feb	Bill Branthwaite	Phyl Scales	Tim Jolly
13th Mar	Bill Cummins	Tom Goulding	Steve Daly
27th Mar	Bill Ewing	Janet Pugh	Stephen Pugh
10th Apr	Wayne Norris	Mary McIntyre	Jonathan Mayne Geoff Kaye
24th Apr	Roger Skipsey	Jenny Mihan	MM Community Garden team
8th May	Peter Rawlings	Byron Groves	Bruce Ranken
22nd May	Colin Stokes	Tom Barrett	Rob Davies
5th June	Wayne Jenkins	Pat Morton	Peter Warren
19th Jun	David Wheeler	Valerie Lyons	Greg Buchanan



You are invited to join in the **Rotary District 9820**



Trivia Social / Fundraising Event

Sunday 21st February 2021, 4.00 pm – 5.00 pm via zoom and using the Kahoot Trivia App.

4 rounds of 10 x Rotary or General Trivia Questions |
with the winner of each round to receive a prize.

Cost is \$10.00 per entry with all funds going to support the DGP's Project
"Rotarians Against Malaria"

Please pay \$10 via direct transfer to Rotary District 9820

BSB: 633 000 Acc #: 136 773 942

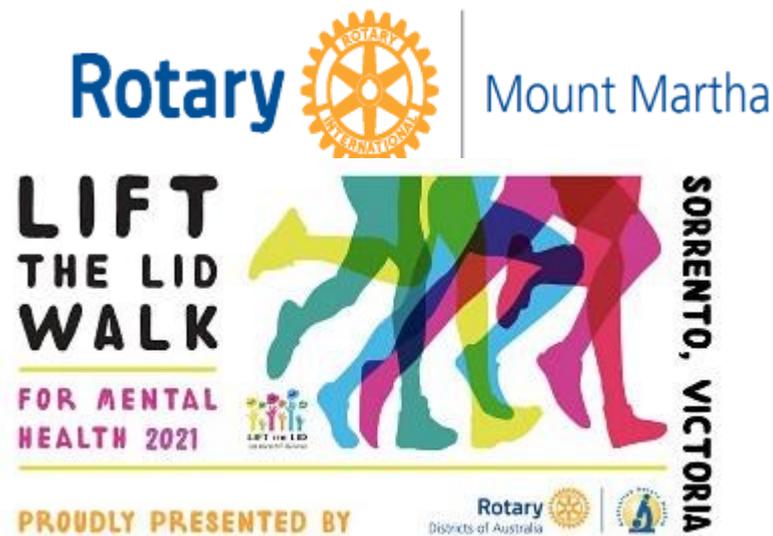
Then register via email to secretary@rotary9820.org.au

(Including your name and payment reference)

The event zoom link and information about Kahoot will then sent to each participant.

Entries close at 4.00 pm Saturday 20th February.

For information go to www.rotary9820.org.au and see the District Calendar



LIFT THE LID WALK for Mental Health will get you walking and get us all talking while we raise vital funds for Australian Rotary Health.

When: Sunday February 28th 2021

The walk will commence from 8am and you are encouraged to start anytime that suits between 8am and 12 noon. All walkers should aim to complete their course by 2.00pm

Where: Start from the Stables at Point Nepean National Park, Portsea or If you are unable to participate, you may wish to make a donation to mental health research

What: A Walk NOT a race. There are 3 walks you can choose from and they are;

- From the Stables to Observation point and return along the beach or Coles track. Distance approx. 2.8kms
- From the Stables to Gunners Cottage and return along the beach or Coles track. Distance approx. 5.2kms
- From the Stables to Point Nepean and return via Defence Road, the beach or Coles track. Distance approx. 9.5kms

Please see course maps at the end of the page.

Walkers have the option to turn around at any time.

How strenuous is the Walk/Is the Walk difficult?

That depends on the physical health of the individual. The idea is to “walk and talk” about mental health so routes are designed to be manageable by most including those with mobility challenges.

Who: Everyone who has been impacted by or cares about Mental Health –

Unfortunately - DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED as this is a National Park area!

Entry fee: \$30 includes a t-shirt. Kids 15 and under walk for free. Ticket purchase including your t-shirt cut off is 9 am Thursday, February 11th, 2021. Entries purchased after 9 am on February 11th 2021 will NOT receive a t-shirt so get in early. All orders from then will only include your ticket entry into the WALK.

Registration: From 7am in the park area beside the Stables in the Point Nepean National Park - Please register and collect t-shirts. You can register from 7am on the day, credit card facilities available.

Water: Participants are encouraged to bring their own water bottles on the day for great hygiene and COVID safe management. Look after the environment and all bottles or rubbish you take with you must be taken home for proper disposal. There is no safe drinking water available from Gunners Cottage to Point Nepean.

Parking: \$5 supervised parking will be available on Jarman Oval

ABOUT THE WALK

The Rotary Club of Sorrento aims to have a number of other Rotary Clubs in the District stage a WALK FOR MENTAL HEALTH in October of each year to coincide with Victoria’s Mental Health Month. The “point of difference” is that the walk is not a race. It is a family occasion offering an organised “fun” walk in the Point Nepean National Park. Walkers have the option to turn around at any time.

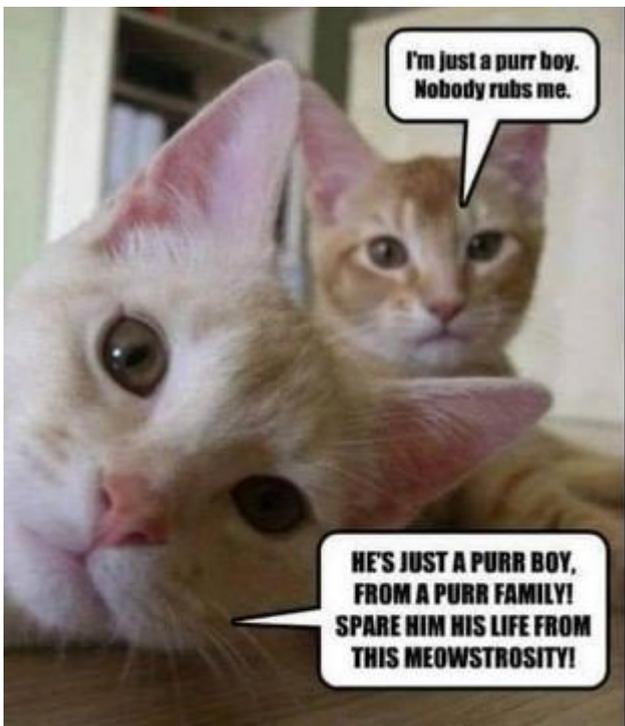
The inaugural Walk was to be held in October 2020 however due to COVID-19 restrictions the date has been moved to 28th February 2021. Our target this year given COVID management is 350 walkers and more than \$10,000 funds to be raised for Mental Health Research.

For all details and look at the booking site on <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lift-the-lid-walk-for-mental-health-sorrento-victoria-tickets-130508872551>



An absolutely amazing photo of a Mount Martha Beach sunset this past week

A bit of light-hearted humour. I hope you enjoy these pieces and can see the funny side of them.



A year to remember...

(and quickly forget) 😊

