



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

PRESIDENT CAROL'S WEEKLY THOUGHTS & REPORTS

Greetings Rotarians and Friends

R U OK? Day

Thursday 9th September was R U OK? Day, a harm prevention initiative that encourages people to stay connected and have conversations that can help others through difficult times in their lives.



The past 18 months have been extremely challenging for many of us being separated from families or living alone. Ongoing lockdowns, working from home, separation from loved ones, looming deadlines, redundancies have all taken a toll on members of the community.

If you need help or think someone in your family does go to the RUOK website they are there to help,.....*Got a feeling that someone you know or care about it isn't behaving as they normally would? Perhaps they seem out of sorts? More agitated or withdrawn? Or they're just not themselves. Trust that gut instinct and act on it. Learn more about the signs and when it's time to ask R U OK?*

By starting a conversation and commenting on the changes you've noticed, you could help that family member, friend or workmate open up. If they say they are not ok, you can follow our conversation steps to show them they're supported and help them find strategies to better manage the load. If they are ok, that person will know you're someone who cares enough to ask.

For more information on RUOK go to their website [How to ask "Are you OK?" | R U OK?](#) or contact your Rotary friends who are always there to give a helping hand or a listening ear.

Rotary last week, this week and next week

This Week is Committee week so there will be no club meeting on Monday night, however on the 20th September we have a very interesting talk that Valerie and Janet have organised on ShelterBox an organisation supporting families and communities that have been hit by disasters of floods, fire or cyclones.

This also has some relevance to the discussions we had last week on Climate change and its effect on the environment. We certainly are living in interesting times.

Thanks to Rob Davies and his small team Stephen Pugh and Roger Annear for the stimulating presentation and discussion. There are always people who have different views. So, if you would like to have your say on the environment, please feel free to send your comments to Byron and he will share them in the bulletin, remembering our Rotary 4-Way test.

Is it the Truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

DG visit via Zoom

Our DG Bill Degnan will be joining us on Zoom on the 27th September. Lara and I have had to provide him with a detailed summary of our clubs aims, goals, strategy and projects. It was most enlightening putting all the information together, I will share the document with you all once we have completed it and sent it to Bill. There is a lot to be proud of, by being a member of the Rotary Club of Mount Martha and I do thanks you all for all that you contribute.

Stay well, stay safe and keep in touch with friends and family and of course get vaccinated if you haven't already done it.

President Carol

13th September 2021

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These Celebrations from
this Monday to next Sunday

Birthdays

Mary McIntyre 19th

Wedding Anniversaries

David & Aileen Piper 7th
David & Jenny Wheeler 7th

Rotary Anniversaries

Lara Barrett (15th/2009)

SEPTEMBER IS BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH

- Mon 13 Sept RCMM Committee meetings via Zoom with Membership @ 7pm, Youth @ 7pm and Community @
- Mon 20 Sept RCMM Club meeting - via Zoom with Mike Greenslade, ShelterBox Australia
- Mon 27 Sept RCMM Club meeting - District Governor, Bill Degnan visit

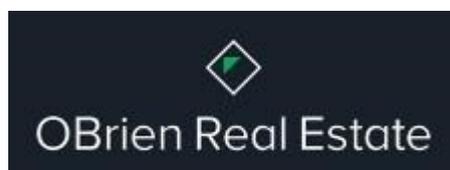
OCTOBER IS COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPEMENT MONTH

- Mon 4 Oct RCMM Club meeting
- Sat 9 Oct MM Sausage Sizzle - see Roster on page 8
- Mon 11 Oct RCMM Board Meeting
- Mon 18 Oct RCMM Club meeting
- Sat 23 Oct MM Sausage Sizzle - see Roster on page 8
- Mon 25 Oct RCMM Committee meetings

NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

- Mon 1 Nov RCMM Club meeting - Melbourne Cup Eve
- Sat 6 Nov MM Sausage Sizzle - see Roster on page 8
- Mon 8 Nov RCMM Board Meeting
- Mon 15 Nov RCMM Club meeting
- Sat 20 Nov MM Sausage Sizzle - see Roster on page 8
- Mon 22 Nov RCMM Committee meetings
- Mon 29 Nov RCMM Partners Social evening

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



Papua New Guinea Projects Group

You will recall that the Rotary Club of Mount Martha has been involved in this Project in conjunction with The Rotary Club of Warrnambool (Tony Austin) for some time. This article and photos are taken from a recent Facebook post and is included in the Bulletin to keep you up to date with developments.

The Papua New Guinea, Popondetta Secondary School (Pop Sec) is the location of our current major clean water provision project.

We became aware of a ridiculous situation at the school in 2019. Pop Sec was forced to send students home because the school could not afford its water bill so the local water authority turned off the school's water supply meaning the school had no option but to close. The PNG Water authority did it again in 2020 and 2021.

The school Principal came to us and asked for assistance to minimise the chance of this happening again. Unfortunately, the Covid19 pandemic prevented the Australian volunteer team from going to PNG in 2020 and 2021 however one of our PNG indigenous team members has mobilised the locals and started the project work themselves.

The PNG team have dug a 10 metre deep well and lined it with concrete rings, hand lowering the rings to the bottom. Each ring weighs around 150kg. The going wasn't easy. There are no mechanical tools available for the team to use, it was all dug by hand. The team sat a concrete ring on the ground and started digging. As they dug the concrete ring slipped into the hole. As they dug further down additional concrete rings were added.

The following is an extract of an email the Principal of Popondetta Secondary School sent to Tony Austin: "Elijah is truly a great man. I saw his son Estrich 8m down the well hammering an ordinary 30cm chisel on a huge bolder and it appeared the effort was hopeless so told Elijah to call it quit. He smiled and said, "we'll crack the devil don't worry Principal". And sure enough the small chisel did cut through the boulder by a mere hand swing."

The team has found water but the well will need to be deepened further to increase the inflow. Ultimately we'll set up a solar panel array and fit one of Commodore's solar powered submersible pumps to it. We recently purchased and sent the school a 70 000 litre water storage holding tank which will be connected to the well or bore pump. This will be connected to a 5000 litre tank on a tankstand with the water from the holding tank pumped to it to achieve distribution pressure. The water will then be piped to the chosen locations.



A thank you letter from Ainess, a student in Form 1 (Year 7) at The School of St Jude, Tanzania is below. You will recall that we have been Sponsoring the Professional Development of a Teacher at the School each year for many years and this year gave \$500 towards their Annual Appeal.

Dear All at Mount Martha Rotary ☺☺

Greetings from the school of St. Jude.

My name is Ainess and I am in form 1 at the school of St. Jude's Girls Secondary school. I hope you and your family are keeping safe.

Thank you very much for your generous donation of AUD 500.00 towards our 2021 Annual Appeal.

You're generously helping me and other unsponsored students like me, to get everything I need to succeed at St. Jude's. This includes our brand new uniforms, hot nutritious meal, clean and comfortable Boarding room, reliable transport and high quality learning resources and much more.

In our school we have computers labs and science labs that help us to do practice projects to go experiments in the school and also to obtain knowledge by searching different vocabularies that help us to speak strong English in our daily life and gaining knowledge from the experiments we are doing.

Thank you for supporting my story despite the challenge the world is facing right now.

Thanks from All of us at St. Jude's ☺☺☺☺



RYLA Launch and Information Session Invitation

When: Sunday 19th September 2021 at 2:00pm

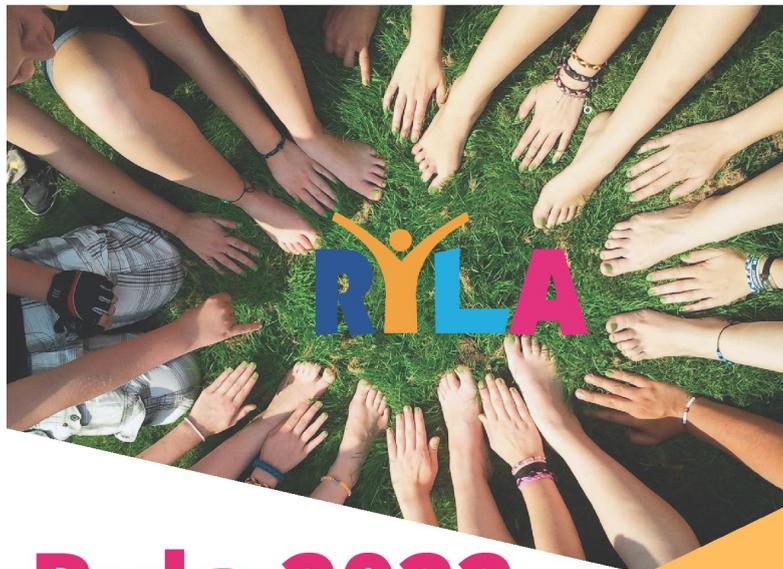
District Youth Programs Chair (New Generations) Rob Cook has asked Clubs to distribute the following 2022 RYLA information to all District Clubs, Youth Chairs and Assistant Governors.

Come along to learn and ask questions about the upcoming RYLA scheduled for January 2022. We'll let you know about the amazing program we have planned and help your clubs plan for the event.

You'll be able to ask questions live at the event, or submit your questions beforehand using the link: <https://forms.office.com/r/7nAwD4u5nu>

To join the RYLA Launch and Information Session use the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86868226702?pwd=VGhxS0FncWQwczVvVG9mbWdXaUdiQT09>

For more on RYLA go to the RYLA website at: <https://www.youth.rotary9820.org.au/ryla>



Ryla 2022

Launch & Q&A

Sunday 19th September, 2:00pm

via Zoom

- Meet the program team
- information about the new D9810 & D9820 program
- Opportunity to have all your questions answered

The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow

Nelson Mandela



DISTRICT 9820 CONFERENCE 2022

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

District Governor Bill Degnan and Judy, together with the Rotary Club of Traralgon Central, invite you and all your members to come and join us in beautiful Traralgon, where the D9820 Conference will be held on the weekend of February 25-27, 2022, in the new Gippsland Performing Arts Centre.

Registrations are now open, and we look forward to seeing many of you in the Valley for a Conference filled with inspiration, fun and fellowship.

This conference will focus on environmental sustainability and what part Rotary can play.

We also have Dr. Fiona Wood, AM FAHMS, as our keynote speaker. Professor Fiona Wood is one of Australia's most innovative and respected surgeons and researchers. A highly skilled plastic and reconstructive **Surgeon** and world leading burns specialist, she has pioneered research and technology development in burns medicine. Professor Wood's greatest contribution and enduring legacy is her work pioneering the innovative 'spray-on skin' technique, which greatly reduces permanent scarring in burns victims.

Friday activities will be a Golf tournament, a winery tour and self-drive drive tours of the beautiful Latrobe Valley.

Saturday night's 'Celebration 101' will be a dinner dance at Morwell's Kernot Hall, where we will be entertained by The Baker Boys. Dress code is 'Cocktail', so bring out your pretty party dresses and suits for a night of fun.

Further information about our speakers, tours and entertainment will be posted on the District Conference Facebook page and the District Website.

Thanks to all our sponsors, particularly our Platinum Sponsors, Maryvale Private Hospital and Latrobe Health Services, and Latrobe City Council, for their support and assistance.

We look forward to seeing you all in February 2022

DG Bill, Judy and the Conference Committee

Click on this link for registrations: - [Welcome | District 9820 \(rotary9820.org.au\)](https://www.rotary9820.org.au)

PDG Don Ripper | District Secretary 2021-2022 : Rotary International District 9820

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Rotary Club of Mount Martha Christmas Raffle

further details will be in the Bulletin next week.

This year the Rotary Club of Mount Martha will be conducting a Christmas Raffle. The 1st prize is a Samsung 65cm 4K TV, 2nd and 3rd prizes will consist of a \$500 Bunnings voucher and a \$500 Ritchies IGA voucher. Tickets will be \$2 each or 3 for \$5. We are planning to sell 3,000 tickets. We are hoping to raise in excess of \$3,500. Tickets will be available in the next 2 weeks.

All the funds raised will go to the Mount Martha section of the "Peninsula Bay Trail". The reasons for this decisions are; 1) it is a local project; 2) it links Mount Martha with the other trails; 3) it demonstrates our Club's work in Mount Martha and 4) will provide environmental and ecological outcomes.

The draw will be held outside Ritchies IGA at Mount Martha on Wednesday 22nd December.



SAUSAGE SIZZLE ROSTERS

RCMM MM SATURDAY SAUSAGE SIZZLE (COMMENCE 9AM AND FINISH ABOUT 1PM)

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 9th October | David Wheeler | Wayne Norris | Pat Morton |
| 23rd October | Tom Goulding | John Waterhouse | Steve Daly |
| 6th November | Mary McIntyre | MMH Community Garden | MMH Community Garden |
| 20th November | Paul Clark | Colin Stokes | Gordon Morriss |
| 4th December | Peter Warren | Roger Annear | Byron Groves |
| 18th December | Merv Williams | Bill Ewing | Valerie Lyons |



SOCIAL EVENTS – IDEAS

Whilst we are still in lockdown, hopefully, it can't last forever! If you have some ideas on how and where we could meet for social get togethers (not necessarily on a Monday night) I would like to get some ideas.

Outdoor places e.g., parks, public gardens etc., may be best and as the weather is improving and we will have daylight saving soon we may be able to have a picnic lunch or dinner. Some wineries would have a suitable outdoor area, so please let David Wheeler (our Social Event Organiser) know your suggestions.

Also, David would like to know of any have suggestions for a fun Monday Social night (5th Monday), perhaps with a dress-up theme; another trivia night or something else, he would like to hear your ideas on that as well.



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This Photo by Unknown



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A few jokes etc courtesy of Lara Barrett and Phyl Scales, thank you to both for your contribution to the Bulletin and giving us a laugh in these tough times

