



## PRESIDENT ROGER'S WEEKLY BLOG

Hi Rotarians and friends , I'm sure you will be enjoying getting back to 'normal' especially as we approach Christmas.

### Zoom Meeting – Monday 7 December

Thank you Lara and Bruce for your great bio presentations. It was great to hear your personal life stories.

### Farewell Elena Allen

Elena will relocate back to South Australia on 19 December to be closer to her family. We trust you have enjoyed your time with our club and hope your Rotary journey will continue in SA.

### Bunnings BBQs

Bill Cummins checked out how the new 'covid' rules worked for RC Mornington on the weekend. They worked OK for them , and Bill is confident we'll be OK for our first on 27 December.

### Village Sausage Sizzle

We are back!! We are on for 19 December , 2 January , 16 January, 30 January . Please check the roster in this bulletin. This will be the maiden voyage for Gordon's 'Square' contactless EFT payment system. Thanks to Bill Cummins for MPSC Permit and Colin Stokes for Streatrader registration and Gordon for 'Square' .

### Australia Day Event – Mount Martha Life Saving Club – MMAD Swim.

MMLSC have confirmed that they would love us to partner with them on Australia Day and run a BBQ in their carpark

### Mount Martha House Community Garden

We were having some difficulties with MPSC but after contact with Mayor Despi O'Connor we now have Mr Gordon Margan, Capital Infrastructure Manager taking a personal interest in getting this project off the ground. Heaslip Excavations are donating their services so if you need any excavating done at your place you know who to contact.

I have 300 used golf balls picked up from Fergus Nutt's decease estate that I'm selling on FB Marketplace. \$10 for bag of 20.

### PNG Projects

Tony Austin (RC Warrnambool) has advised that although he has been unable to travel to PNG this year his man in PNG Elijah has deepened a well at Popondetta High School to get the school operating again. (see article on page 10 of Bulletin)

**14th December 2020**

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

Presidents Blog continued from page 1

**Multidistrict Conference – 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021**

Venue will most likely be the Showgrounds. Format to be decided Feb 2021

**Committee Meetings – Monday 14 December**

International – Valerie and her team have decided to defer meetings till Feb 2021

Community – Degani's for breakfast 7.30 AM

Youth – Bill B to advise his team

Membership – Rob D to advise his team

**Christmas Party – 21 st December – Royal Hotel (inside)**

RSVP Gordon at [gmorriss@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gmorriss@bigpond.net.au) by 12/12 . Pay \$55/head to BSB 633-00

Acct 126265388 by 14/12

**Family of Rotary**

Bill McKenzie – Bill is moving from hospital to Apartment 8 Room 12 Corowa Court Aged care Facility Esplanade Mornington on Tuesday 15/12 . His daughter Fiona and partner are coming from Tas on Sat 12/12 and will live in Bill's house for a month or maybe more. Perhaps after Christmas would be a good time to visit him. Thank you to David Price and Wayne Jenkins for keeping us informed of Bill's progress over the past few months

Tom Barrett – Recovering from prostate issues and hernia operation.

Lara Barrett –Parathyroid surgery planned. Procedure on 3/12 to reduce pain has 'backfired'

Best wishes to all members who are not 100 percent. We hope you get well by Christmas . You deserve a double helping of pudding!!!

**Last Bulletin for 2020**

Thank you Byron for your bulletins in 2020 , the next one will be 11 January. We'll email details about our traditional wine night on 4 January

I'd like to thank all members for their support in 2020 and wish you and your family a Merry Christmas. I hope you can spend it with family and make up for lost time in Lockdown. I look forward to shaking your hand again at our Christmas Party .

Cheers...President Roger



### Our Life in Coronavirus World - Roger and Lyn Annear

What a way to spend a year after 6 enjoyable weeks of 2019 in South America and plans to return there in 2020. In February Rog had some good flight deals ready to book but decided to hold off for a few weeks. How lucky was that! But then how sad that we are unable to see our son Joshua and family now locked down in Lima, Peru. Skype and Duo phone calls are not the same as personal touch and greetings and it looks like it will be another year before we are able to see them again. Likewise it was hard not to see Ben and his family only 3 hours away and preventing us from enjoying our grandson going from crawling to walking and now communicating and reacting to his surrounds.

Lyn has been keeping herself busy during shutdown with plenty of walks, gathering photos of Mt Martha to send to Peru, finishing many craft and embroidery projects and looking after me. Missing her Monday golf and coffee friends and not being able to conduct her Thursday embroidery classes. More recently she has been getting the gardens back in shape with not a lot of help from me.

I on the other hand have continued to work three mornings a week but have missed my weekly golf games and the contribution to my community through the conviviality and friendship of our Rotary Club. After some legendary twenty plus years foregoing my annual mates Mallacoota fishing trip was a big miss. What a disaster for that community. We will return!

However a period of medical problems soon took over what I was missing. It began in June with some growth removals including one on the left shin with lots of stiches, then infection set in. By the end of August this was almost healed up but I was back in hospital with blocked arterial stents in the lower right leg. Sunday August 23 was big, time for an arterial bypass. This involved the removal of old stents and finding enough veins to use to bypass the blocked arteries. In the op theatre at 9:00am the next I knew it was 7:00pm. What a difficult time for all, Covid rampant in the community, Lyn and family not allowed to visit, waiting for the surgeons phone call (he did say it might take a couple of hours). More wound infections, twice weekly visits to the clinic for dressings and then in November more growth removals from the left shin. Ahhh when will it all end? All the stiches and bandages are now gone. Just a few scabby bits to look after and with luck by 2021 the current medical issues will be over. What next?

A week in hospital saw BUPA payout \$40,000 plus, thank goodness for healthcare in Australia. I could not have wished for better care. Far be it for me to complain about private health care costs. What a way to take your mind off the virus scare.

Now back into golf, grass mowing, car washing and we have been to visit Ben and family at Merrijig. Then last week Lyn met with her embroidery group and we had 14 month old grandson Oliver stay overnight. What relief and pleasure as some form of normality returns. I have been fortunate to have had Lyn by my side for not just last the last six months of looking after me health wise which I am very grateful for but for the 52 years we have stood together. We look forward to more time with family and friends in 2021.

Photos below: Roger with Alexander in February as he returned to Peru and Lyn with Oliver last weekend.



**Club & other meetings (via Zoom in this present COVID-19 climate).**

**DECEMBER IS DISEASE PREVENTION & TREATMENT MONTH**

- Mon 14 Dec RCMM **Committee** meetings via Zoom or in person
- Sun 20 Dec Christmas Carols via You Tube from New Peninsula (see page 5 of this Bulletin)
- Mon 21 Dec RCMM **Christmas Party** (see page 6 of this Bulletin)

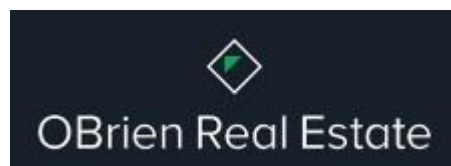
**JANUARY IS VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH**

- Mon 4 Jan Wine Tasting/Winery - either Zoom or in person
- Mon 11 Jan RCMM **Committee** meetings either Zoom or in person
- Mon 18 Jan RCMM **Club** Meeting - RC of Newlands (Sth Africa) Mumbai Connection via Zoom
- Mon 25 Jan RCMM **Board** Meeting

**FEBRUARY IS PEACE BUILDING & CONFLICT RESOLUTION MONTH**

- Mon 1 Feb RCMM **Club** Meeting - further details to come
- Mon 8 Feb RCMM **Committee** meetings either Zoom or in person
- Mon 15 Feb RCMM **Club** Meeting - further details to come
- Mon 22 Feb RCMM **Board** Meeting

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



A message from Merv Willams

No Church Christmas Carols this year but an online event with Sylvie Paladino - see flyer below

Tune in via the New Peninsula Website ([newpeninsula.com.au](http://newpeninsula.com.au)) or their YouTube Channel



**ROTARY CLUB OF MOUNT MARTHA**

*Cordially invites you and your partner to our*

**CHRISTMAS DINNER**

**MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER**

**6.00PM start**

**AT THE ROYAL HOTEL, ESPLANADE, MORNINGTON**

**2 COURSE DINNER \$55 PER HEAD**

**CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRAWN AS DOOR PRIZE**

**PAYMENT TO BE MADE TO THE CLUB ACCOUNT**

**BSB : 633 000 ACCOUNT : 126 265 388**

**REF : (SURNAME) XMAS**

**BY MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

**RSVP TO GORDON MORRISS**

**BY SATURDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

**GMORRISS@BIGPOND.NET.AU**

**FOR SALE by AUCTION TWO CEDAR ADIRONDACK CHAIRS**

Dear Rotarians and Friends,

I am happy to make and donate two Cedar Adirondack Chairs to the club as a fundraiser for our Charitable Account.

These chairs are made of recycled 1970's Cedar. They are fixed with stainless screws and come finished in Feast and Watson Outdoor Furniture Oil.

A search of the internet shows that good quality chairs retail for around \$300 USD, although there are cheaper less quality chairs on the market.

The chairs will be sold by auction which will be conducted by email and SMS. Bids can be made by SMS on 0407 397 266 or by email at [stivdaly@gmail.com](mailto:stivdaly@gmail.com). Bidding will be updated daily by email.

A photo of similar chairs made from Cedar and Oregon are attached. If you wish to come around and see the chairs please give me a call to arrange.

Bidding will cease at 5:00 pm on Wednesday 23rd December and I will deliver them locally on Christmas Eve. I encourage you to share this email with your friends outside of the club and they will automatically be included in the auction upon receiving their first bid.

Regards

Stephen Daly



**BUNNINGS BBQ 27th DECEMBER 2020**

| 8.00am-11.00am | 11.00am-2.00pm | 2.00pm-5.00pm |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| W.Jenkins      | P.Warren       | W.Cummins     |
| B.Ewing        | M.Williams     | C.Stokes      |
| W.Branthwaite  | B.Sweeney      | R.Skipsey     |
| T.Goulding     | R.Annear       | R.Davies      |
| D.Wheeler      | B.Butler       | P.Rawlings    |
| B.Rankin       | B.Groves       | S.Daly        |

The guidelines for Bunnings BBQ's were sent with the Bulletin last week (7th December 2020).

If you are unable to do your shift, please arrange a swap with another Club member and advise Bill Cummins.



**RCMM SATURDAY SAUSAGE SIZZLE FROM 19TH DECEMBER 2020 TO 30TH JANUARY 2021.  
COMMENCE 9.00AM AND FINISH ABOUT 1.00PM**

We only have a permit, at this stage, until the end of January 2021, after which the Events Team from the Shire will decide if sausage sizzles will remain.

You may notice that there are 4 members rostered on for this period as this is a Covid 19 precaution and requirement.

|               |           |            |           |            |
|---------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| 19th Dec 2020 | B. Ewing  | G.Morris   | S.Daly    | T.Goulding |
| 2nd Jan 2021  | B.Sweeney | M.Williams | W.Norris  | R. Annear  |
| 16th Jan 2021 | W.Jenkins | P.Rawlings | P.Morton  | C.Stokes   |
| 30th Jan 2021 | R.Davies  | G.Buchanan | D.Wheeler | W.Cummins  |





## WHAT ROLE PROGRAMS?

Programs is an important role in the life of a Rotary club. It is often the main way that clubs interact with the broader community and Rotary.

Clubs use the program schedule to facilitate collaboration with community groups. Often community groups will offer guest speakers as a part of their outreach program.

Community groups will often present to a Rotary club and some sort of involvement between the two organisations develops, other times they do not. The tension for clubs is to allow community groups to speak to the club to broaden our knowledge of service in the community, but not to allow organisations who are simply looking for donations, seeking a market, self-promotion, or even credibility.

Though Rotary is not a political organisation and sees itself as politically agnostic, many worthy community groups take a political stand to benefit the achievement of their community work.

The club recently hosted the “Friends of Westernport” group who are campaigning against the proposed AGL floating gas terminal off Crib Point. By its nature, the campaign has won political support and then becomes political. Does this mean that we should not have had the speaker from Friends of Westernport?

It is common for a Rotary club to invite local politicians as a guest speaker. The Federal member for Flinders and the State member of Mornington have both supported our club in the past. Many clubs within our cluster invite a newly elected local member to speak and build a relationship to further our community interests.

The purpose of Programs is to:

- educate members
- entertain members
- sustain club attendance
- support the club’s program to do good in the world
- improve Rotary knowledge
- collaborate with other Rotary clubs
- collaborate with community groups
- collaborate with the club’s geographical community

So as Programs Director, my question is: Is there any reason why a request to speak to our club should be denied? If so on what grounds would that denial be and then how should we deal with it?

Another question might be: Are we prepared to expose ourselves to views that we may not have considered, or that we pre-judge as inappropriate content?

If we decided that there are no grounds upon which we deny a potential speaker, should we have a set of guidelines given to speakers, and what would those guidelines contain?

If you have a view on the three questions above, please let me know your thoughts, I will take submissions up to Dec 31<sup>st</sup> and produce a summary for the club

Steve Daly  
RCMM Program Coordinator

**UPDATE ON PNG WATER PROJECT AT POPONDETTA**

Hi guys.

Elijah has just sent me the attached images of Popondetta Secondary staff & children washing the kitchen/dining hall with well water.

It seems the well is ok but only delivering the minimum water required.

It runs out after heavy pumping and needs a couple of minutes to recover.

We'll need to go deeper somehow when we get up there.

Regards

Tony Austin

International Services Director

PNG Projects Coordinator

