



Issue 28, 11 February 2008

Networker

We care. We share. We all gain.



A publication for Rotarians and all community-minded people

February is World Understanding Month

THE ENVIRONMENT: WHAT CAN YOU AND YOUR CLUB DO?

Our environmental future ... vital, yet contentious.

Every day in the newspapers, on radio and television or on the internet we are reminded of our responsibility to the environment. The Al Gore documentary "An Inconvenient Truth" highlighted the twin dangers of global warming and pollution and how, ultimately, they pose a very real threat to our existence.

The weight of information is huge. However, because of various scientific perspectives, this information and the conclusions can sometimes be contradictory. Robust dissent is a healthy component in the scientific community, but the average person sometimes struggles to make sense of contradictory facts and information. Unfortunately, this can lead to a conclusion that "it's all too complicated" and that, as individuals we can't contribute.

So ... we do nothing.

District Community Advisor Mev Connell has cut to the chase and prepared a paper on the Environment that we can all understand ... its subtitle could be "Small Steps To Improving Our Environment". Some clubs in our District have excellent environmental projects ... however, they are a minority.

With 5 months to go in this Rotary year it would be great if all clubs could consider tackling an environmental project. Further, I would encourage all 2008-9 presidents to consider including at least one environmental project in their plans for the next Rotary year.



DG John & Joan Davis

Below is Mev's assessment of the environmental elements that we should be considering. My thanks to Mev for his succinct addressing of the problems and for showing us how we, as Rotarians, can make a positive difference to our Environment.

- John Davis, District Governor

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISM AT ROTARY CLUB LEVEL



The state of the world's environment is a matter of critical importance and immediate concern. Rotary, with its community roots, can make a contribution to remedial action: while we can't save the world on our own we can propagate the message that positive action is necessary and that the contribution of everyone to that effort will be important.



Mev Connell
District Community Advisor
February 2008.



This paper has been prepared with the aim of providing to Rotary Clubs in D9800 a view on an appropriate approach to development of projects aimed at environmental protection or remediation. Continued P2



ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISM AT ROTARY CLUB LEVEL Continued from P1

The current situation:

It is widely, if not universally, accepted that Planet Earth is suffering from numerous environmental problems that are having an impact on its "health" to the extent of present and future detriment to humanity. The urgent need for remedial action is now accepted as being an issue not just a fad. The issues are serious and they excite debate on how little we know about them and how we individually and collectively contribute to altering negatively or positively the terrestrial environment and the atmosphere. International concern about the situation is considerable, being reflected in serious discussion at the United Nations, by and between Governments, and by environmental lobbyists at all levels, including notable Australians such as Professor Tim Flannery and Cate Blanchett.

There is no doubt that degenerative changes to the environment and the atmosphere are cumulative. They are not caused by a single action but by a long list of actions: as a result, single actions on the part of any person may have a small effect while the same action by many can have a much larger impact. The core of the problem is that we all want to see improvement in the general environment and an end to practices that lead to increase in the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere - just as long as this does not impinge too much on our own lifestyles!



Clearly, each of us can make decisions that affect our individual and collective contributions to the quality of the environment and to climate change. We need to engineer an attitude in the community that will lead to us working together to achieve the desired improvements through collective action. This can be done by demonstrating personal commitment to making positive changes in the way we live and by offering appropriate leadership in our communities.

"The core of the problem is that we all want to see improvement... just as long as this does not impinge too much on our own lifestyles!"

A path to follow:

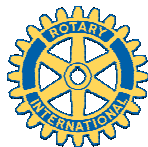


The problem is so large and difficult to come to grips with that many people are put off the whole notion of reducing their carbon-footprint and addressing improvements in the environment when they are faced with a long list of ideas and initiatives designed to help them. "Where do I start?" is a common sentiment expressed by willing but bewildered individuals. It is necessary for everyone to clearly understand where they can fit into the movement for environmental and atmospheric improvement.

At the "grass roots" level in the community, as individuals, we have to accept that unless we are expert advocates we cannot drive the development of regional, national, or international policy. Fortunately, it is now becoming widely accepted that every small step taken to support improvement is very important: programs based on this philosophy are being launched by local authorities and communities around the world, they emphasise the importance of the role of individuals. Many notable persons are now committed to demonstrating their activism by adopting measures in their own lives to help improve the state of the environment on this planet. The "Small Steps" approach has captured attention and support on a wide front.

Rotary and Rotarians can adopt the "Small Steps" approach and thereby demonstrate to their communities a commitment to action. Communication of the "Small Steps" philosophy to the community can also be effected and we can lead collective actions aimed at environmental remediation, such as tree plantings, "Adopt a Stream", "Adopt a Highway", "Clean Up Australia", and "Environmental Education at Schools".

It is never too late to be what you might have been.
- George Flint



ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISM AT ROTARY CLUB LEVEL Continued from P1

Matters that should be addressed:

Recycling of waste, environment clean-up, energy conservation, pollution prevention, water conservation, re-afforestation and similar positive, environmentally conscious actions have gone main stream. These areas of importance should certainly continue to be addressed.

It is not possible for an individual to save the world alone but small changes around the house can make positive contributions towards improvement of the environment. All measures aimed at energy and water conservation will yield positive benefits.

It is important to note that individual participants in this campaign to “save the Planet” can obtain some encouragement by monetary rewards resulting from their reduced energy consumption from the grid, reduced mains water consumption, and reduced household waste.

Potential club projects:

Club environment projects that demonstrate the concern of Rotary to the community are likely to have the greatest contributory effect. Some clubs in D9800 are already undertaking such projects; however, greater participation is encouraged. It may be that your club can develop ideas for one or more projects from the following list of suggestions:

- **Awareness:** Communities need to be aware of the implications of Climate Change and the need for Environmental Protection and Remediation. This can be achieved by:
 1. Providing support for Environmental Education programs at schools.
 2. Undertaking Environmental Remediation projects such as “tree planting”, “stream rehabilitation”, and “community clean-up campaigns” that demonstrate achievements in improvement of the community environment.
- **Utilities:** Waste minimisation in relation to energy and water consumption is very important, particularly so in the State of Victoria. Projects designed to encourage reduction in energy and water usage, the use of “clean energy”, and the collection of rain for domestic use are all relevant. Such projects may involve the establishment of partnerships aimed at advancing community engagement, advocacy in the community, and demonstration of commitment and methodology by establishing pilot projects. All Rotary Projects that involve energy use or water should conform to reasonable principles of environmental acceptability.
- **Material Waste:** Despite constant talk about recycling and think “green”, our society still produces fantastic quantities of waste. A culture of vast material waste is a culture that is a lot more fragile than it knows. Projects aimed at encouraging waste minimisation in the community and the constructive collections of waste materials are valid.



It should be noted that in all of the above areas of environmental concern Rotarians can lead the way by each demonstrating their personal commitment to following an “environmentally friendly” path in their daily lives. The “Small Steps” philosophy points to the contribution that individuals must make to achieve success in caring for the environment on our Planet home.

Concluding comment:

The District Management Group encourages D9800 clubs to seriously consider how they can contribute to a strong Environment Program. As Rotarians and as inhabitants of this beautiful planet, it falls to all of us to help to remedy and protect its terrestrial and atmospheric condition. By communicating the theme “*Small Steps towards a Healthy Planet*” we can make an important contribution to the international effort.





RC Eaglehawk Makes Half Pipe Dream Come True



The Rotary Club of Eaglehawk is proud to announce the opening of the 'McKern Skate Park' in Canterbury Park, Eaglehawk, the skate park being a project of the Club that has taken six years to bring to fruition.

It began as an idea in 2001, followed by consultation and discussions with the young people of the community and local secondary College about the need for a skate park, what type of park and where it should be located.

The young people were very keen on the idea and were adamant a park was needed, but not just any park; they wanted a top class park that was suitable for learners and less experienced skaters, but would also challenge the top class skaters; on top of this they wanted a park that could cater for competitions as well.

They chose the perfect site; a site that would bring them into close contact with the community, an unused piece of park land wedged between the YMCA public pool and Gym, the Canterbury Gardens, the football/cricket ground, a bowls club and a lake with a walking path around it. It was going to be a hard sell to the Council and Community.

The City of Greater Bendigo Council was approached and after some lengthy and at times difficult discussions and negotiations, the Council finally came on board and agreed to the project at the preferred site. There were a number of public meetings held to inform the community and get their support, I am happy to say that apart from a few diehards, the general community attitude was supportive.



The next step was to come up with a suitable design. The top skate park design company in Australia, 'Convic Design' were approached. They were asked to come to Bendigo and consult with the young people on the design they wanted, a number of these meetings took place before a suitable design had been completed. An application for a planning permit was submitted to council which attracted a small number of objectors, so it was off to VCAT before we were finally granted the permit. We were now ready to raise the necessary funds; a daunting task, when we first mooted the idea we estimated it would cost in the region of three hundred thousand dollars, it was now estimated to cost over four hundred thousand dollars.

The young people were magnificent. School children held sausage sizzles, a fete, raffles and door knocks. Other young people had music nights, there were some quite ingenious fund raising efforts by the young. We, the Rotary Club of Eaglehawk, had cash tins distributed around various businesses, we held a number of our usual fund raising activities, and we approached various individuals and businesses for donations. Applications for funding were lodged with the three levels of Government. After approximately fifteen months we had raised almost four hundred and fifty thousand dollars, the Federal Government, the State Government and the local Council all contributed an equal amount of one hundred thousand dollars, and the McKern family donated Fifty thousand dollars.

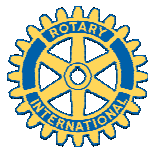
Finally a building permit was obtained, tenders called for and one selected. construction started late last year(2007) and the actual park completed at the end of December. Landscaping the site and constructing shelter is now underway in readiness for the opening on February 23.

Yours in Rotary

PP Alf Thorpe
PE Rotary Club of Eaglehawk

The McKern Skate Park in Canterbury Park, Eaglehawk - Grand Opening takes place on February 23 at 11 am.

"We had cash tins distributed around various businesses, we held a number of our usual fund raising activities, and we approached various individuals and businesses for donations. Applications for funding were lodged with the three levels of Government. After approximately fifteen months we had raised almost four hundred and fifty thousand dollars."



New Members

Welcome to the following new members:

- Craig Watts, RC Bendigo, Classification: Conveyancing Services
- Rev. Anne Honey, RC Bendigo, Classification: Religion-Uniting
- Graeme Clarke, RC Bendigo, Classification: Lighting Retail
- Ray Lipscombe, RC Altona City, Classification: Commercial Linen Service
- Luba Grigorovitch, RC Altona City, Classification: Public relations
- Bronwyn Fanning, RC Altona City, Classification: Chemistry
- Chris Inglis, RC Altona City, Classification: Fleet Leasing
- Leon Mancini, RC Altona City, Classification: Real Estate
- Wayne Dwyer, RC Altona City, Classification: Logistics.
- Kevin Mooney, RC Albert Park

When sending advice of new club members, please include their classification.

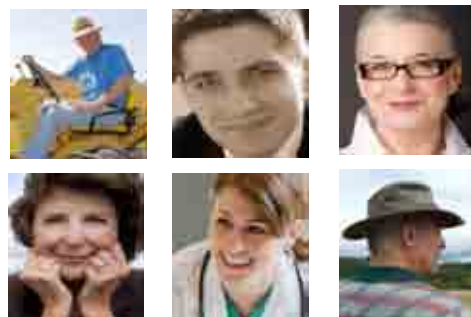
New Member Information Workshops

6pm-8pm Monday 3rd March, International House, Parkville

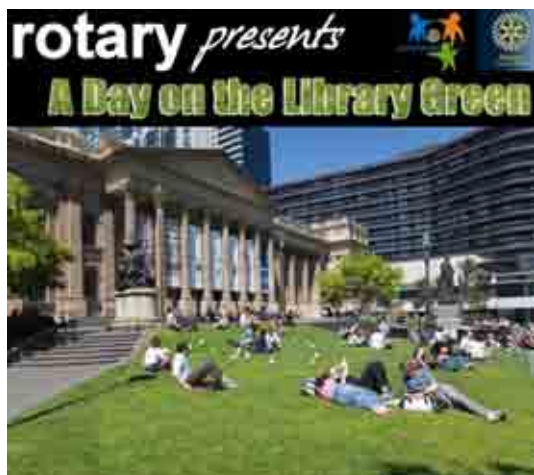
Have you joined Rotary in the last couple of years – or perhaps you'd just like to know more about the Rotary organization, regardless of when you joined. Then you're invited to come along to the second session we are holding this year and be informed, educated and inspired by Rotary's capacity to help others throughout the world. These workshops will be a combination of presentation of Rotary information combined with time spent in discussion groups with very experienced Rotarians who can share their knowledge with you. Come along and ask all the questions you may have about what Rotary does in other clubs, in our District and in the rest of the world. Find out all about the opportunities that exist within Rotary to make your contribution to a better world.

Contact me to register or if you have any queries.

PDG Ann White
Home 9699-5538
Bus 9682-7777
Fax 9686-4141
Mobile 0402 306 790
Email ann@landmarksoftware.com.au



Notices & Events



A Day on the Library Green: Celebrating Rotary's 103rd Birthday at the State Library.

Come join fellow District 9800 Rotarians on the lawns of the Victorian State Library on the corner of Swanston & La Trobe streets. Fantastic live entertainment, computer & internet learning tutorials, shelter box demonstrations, sumptuous food and lots more! 12pm-5pm.

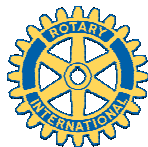
Featuring:



Mandy - Turner



Kinja



Notices & Events (Continued)

The Einstein Factor

The ABC invites Rotary Clubs of Victoria to be a part of the studio audience for the 2008 series of 'The Einstein Factor' (<http://www.abc.net.au/einsteinfactor/>) for free! Please contact the Studio Audience Ticket Line (03) 9524 2229. Group and individual bookings are welcome.

Ghost Tour

RC Melton valley invites you to at 'Ghost Tour' of The Haunted Book Store, 15 McKillop Street, Melbourne on **Saturday, 16 February 2008**. Cost is \$18 for the 2 hour walking tour. Contact Jo Cupps via jo.cuppens@optusnet.com.au or visit <http://www.haunted.com.au/>.

Rotary Southern Districts Shine On Awards

Nominations for the Rotary Southern Districts 'Shine On Awards' close on **25 February 2008**. If you have any queries or you just need another copy of the Rotary Shine On Guidelines and Nomination Form, email DawnWatson@yahoo.com or call Dawn on 9337 4710.

GSE Welcome Dinner

The Rotary Club of Glen Eira presents with the Beachside Cluster a dinner to officially welcome the Group Study Exchange Team from Rotary District 5650 (Iowa and Nebraska, USA) to Rotary District 9800. The dinner will be held on **Tuesday, 26 February** (6.30pm for 7.00pm) at the Terminus Room, Milano's Hotel, 4 The Esplanade, Brighton beach. Please RSVP by Tuesday, 19 February to Adrian Nelson on 0411 550 708 or adrian@nelsonbros.com.au. Cost is \$35 per head. Get in early, as our capacity is 130!



Tee-Off With RC Altona City!

RC Altona City's Sixth Annual Charity Golf Day for Very Special Kids and other local and international Rotary projects is commencing at 12.30pm on **Friday, 29 February 2008** (entries in before 14 February). There will also be a presentation dinner and plenty of great prizes. All the details, including the entry form, are available on the District website (<http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/Members/EventsCalendar>) or you can call Ivan Board (9749 3808 or 0422 389 102) or Charlie Montebello (9398 4047 or 0412 257 723).



Macedon Ranges MS Cycle Challenge

The Macedon Ranges MS Cycle Challenge will be on Labor Day Weekend, **Sunday, 4 May 2008** and take riders on a 135km tour on sealed roads (will suit riders with a good level of fitness). Our major focus is to raise funds to help find a cure for Multiple Sclerosis, through the Rotarian Action Group for MS Awareness, which is linking MS research groups worldwide. Profits will go to MS and other meaningful community and international service projects. Call (03) 5428 3474 or visit the new RC Gisborne website for more info and online registration - www.gisbornerotary.org.au

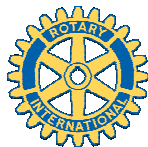
Gallipoli – The Trip Of A Lifetime

The Rotary Club of Brighton, through Rotary Foundation Matching Grant and Australian Consulate in Turkey, organised \$24,000 of assistance to the School for Blind at Gallipoli. A launch ceremony for the high tech computer based vision enhancing equipment will be conducted at the school on **24 April 2008**, together with local Rotarians. Join Rotarians at the launch as well as the Dawn Ceremony at Anzac Cove for the experience of a lifetime.

To reserve a place or for further information, please contact Dr Peter Grey on 9592 9729, 0419 507 950 or mailto:petergrey@snapsite.com.au.

Fun In Retirement Expo

The Rotary Club of North Balwyn, in conjunction with the City of Boroondara will be staging the inaugural Fun In Retirement Expo (FIRE) at the Boroondara Sports Complex from **5-7 July 2008**. FIRE will showcase the huge variety of businesses and community groups catering for the rapidly growing number of Boroondara citizens in 'The Third Age'. Our aim is to show the 50+ members of our community what is available to them, and to encourage them to become more involved in the life of the community, putting more richness and variety into their lives. You are invited to take a booth at FIRE to show your wares to this age group who have both the money and the time to take up new hobbies; to develop themselves mentally and physically; to become more involved in their community; or to just indulge themselves! Visit www.funinretirement.com.au for more details.



Notices & Events (Continued)

Brunswick Rotary: New Weekly Venue

From this Thursday 7th February, **RC Brunswick** will be meeting at the **Sporting Club Hotel, 27 Weston Street, Brunswick**. Meetings are still **Thursdays 12:45 for 1:00pm**, except first Thursday of the month, which is **6:00 for 6:30pm**. More venue information is on the club's website www.brunswickrotary.org.au under "Club Info".

GSE Farewell Dinner

What an excellent event for D9800 to Farewell our GSE Team and Visiting team.

Date: Tuesday 25th March 2008

Venue: Grand Star Receptions

Grieve Pde, Altona

Time: 7 for 7:30pm start

Cost: \$55.00

Dress: Smart evening (Men a tie)

RSVP: PP Clara Westhorpe 9398 2674 or John Bussey 0412 068 848

A night to farewell our team to Nebraska and farewell our visiting team from Nebraska.

To see and hear their presentation and their expectations achieved.

'Crackerjack' Bare Foot Lawn Bowling, Dinner, Dancing & Entertainment!

This crackerjack of an event will 'bowl you over', barefoot and fancy free!

The Rotary Club of Richmond invites you to join us on **SUNDAY 2nd MARCH** at the Richmond Union Bowling Club, **2 Gleadell Street, Richmond, 2.45pm for a 3.00pm start**, for two hours of competition with your own coach! Then enjoy a bar-b-que dinner, dessert, tea/coffee. Soft drinks, beer and wine sold at the bar. Entertainment, band & dancing to follow. Tickets are \$45 each. Make up your own team of four or eight! (Or let us include you in one of ours). You may prefer to join us as a supporter at \$40 per ticket.

'CRACKERJACK' the movie will be screened during the afternoon! Relive the exploits of that wisecracking layabout, Jack Simpson (played by Mick Molloy) who joins a lawn bowls club in order to be allowed to use a free parking spot! When the club enters financial difficulty Simpson is forced to play lawn bowls with the much older crowd, with hilarious consequences! (*Wikipedia*)

Supporting the Club's East Timor Kindergarten project – building an outdoor meeting space, water tanks, permaculture garden, storage shed & playground, upgrading equipment & providing funds to assist with the cost of training kindergarten teachers.

Limited places, so please respond early to avoid disappointment.

Further details and bookings call Richmond Rotarian Barbara Woodberry on 0413 057 879 or email:

skills@mgdsventures.com

ROTARY AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS



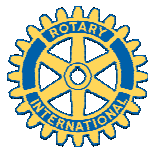
ONE YEAR OVERSEAS – US\$24,000



Applications are invited for Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarships which are available for overseas postgraduate study commencing after July 2009. Worth up to US\$24,000, they are limited to one year.

The Scholarship may be used for almost any field of study at an approved tertiary institution; however it cannot be used for unsupervised research.

As well as strong academic qualifications, scholars must be outstanding ambassadors of goodwill both in their host country and upon return to Australia. A primary purpose of the program is to further international understanding, goodwill and peace among people of different countries & cultures. As Rotary seeks diversity in the countries to which scholars go, preference may be given to candidates wishing to study in under represented countries or who can address the humanitarian needs of the world community.



Networker

We care. We share. We all gain.



Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships (Continued)

A unique benefit is the scholar's association with Rotary International through Rotary Clubs, including the provision of a Rotary Counselor. Competition in this Rotary District is strong and applicants should be graduates or close to completing their undergraduate studies. Brochures and Scholarship application forms are available at:

www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/amb_scho

Applications must be made through a Rotary Club by **June 11th 2008**. Further enquiries may be made to:

Fr Michael Elligate at elligatem@bigpond.com or phone 9347 2493

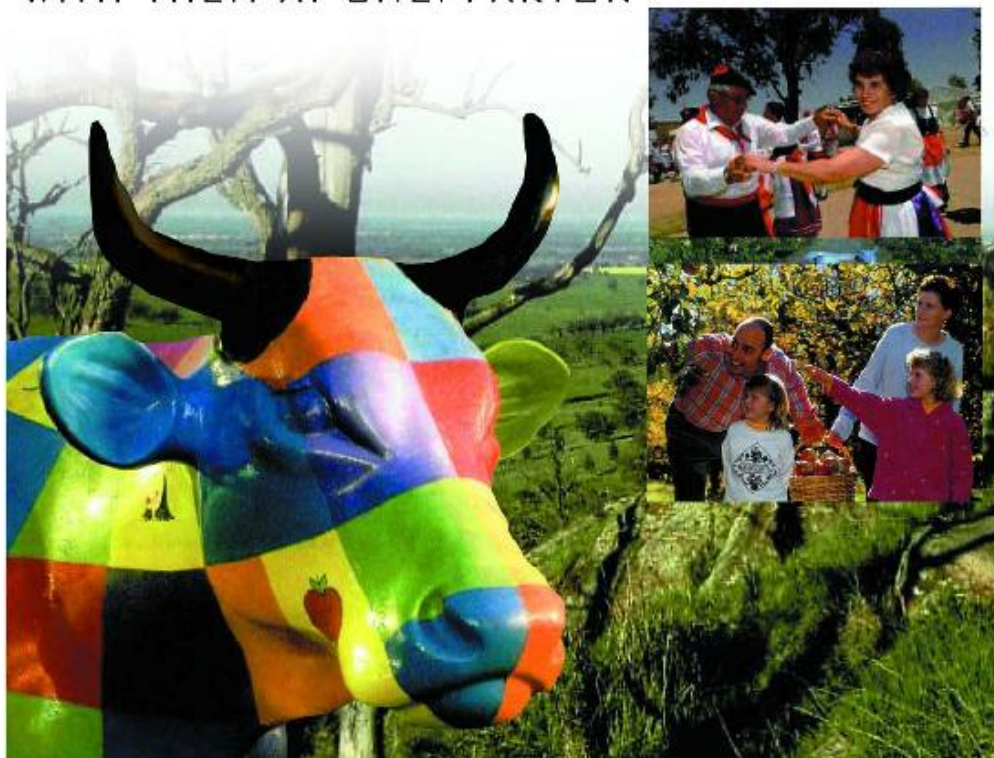
David Gorman at david.gorman@dcgconsulting.com.au or phone 93481799



76TH
ROTARY DISTRICT 9800 CONFERENCE
13TH - 16TH OF MARCH 2008

GREATER
SHEPPARTON
VICTORIA - AUSTRALIA

DG JOHN & JOAN DAVIS INVITE
YOU TO "SHARE ROTARY"
WITH THEM AT SHEPPARTON

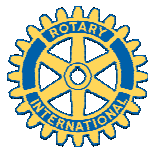


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Register at: www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au



Club Profile

CLUB NAME: Footscray

CHARTERED: 17 May 1937

The Chinese have some good insights. One of these is their veneration of older people and institutions. I was just explaining this notion to the 'IQ bypassed' staff at 'The Networker'. When I said, "Being a younger person myself" they fell about laughing. So now I can understand why someone famous once said, "Why am I condemned to endure the barbeque forks of lesser beings".



RC Footscray's Charter night at Footscray Town Hall on 17 May 1937

But today was all about age and respect. I was off to interview Rotary Club of Footscray president, Bob Newman. Footscray is fourth oldest Club in District 9800 and last year celebrated its 70th anniversary.

So I was heading west, but not too far. My destination was the Western Hospital ... an icon of the area and also the place where heart specialist, Bob was consulting. Bob's a busy boy but he did make an odd suggestion before I left the office ...

"Clarice, why don't we use the time to check you out ...bring some gym gear". Hmmmmmmm. Bob met me at reception and I had to get over an overwhelming urge to feign an American accent and say "Hi Dr Bahb".



Bob is one of those really slim, fit guys and he would definitely get a heart foundation 'tick'. Bob will probably live to the ripe old age of 125. Actually, with his nattily trimmed beard and appropriate outfit, he could play the part of Uncle Sam in a World War I musical. Enough, Clarice!! Bob took me into a consulting room ... intimidating ... lots of 'computerised readout-type' machines.

I reached into my handbag and pushed the cigarettes into a darker corner.

Somehow 'cleansed' by this spontaneous action I commenced the interview.

C: What differentiates the Rotary Club of Footscray from all others?

BN: 'Differentiates' is probably not the right word, although our age does set us apart from most clubs. However ... like most clubs ... our core is fellowship - the genuine, uncontrived affection that the members have for each other, which has been reflected in a multitude of programs and social events over seven decades.

(I thought of old world tea parties - stiff collars and elegant ladies ... I was going to enjoy this. -C)

C: What past projects would rank in your Club's 'Hall of Fame'?

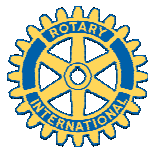
BN: As you can imagine, over 70 years there have been many worthwhile pursuits. I think that it's probably sensible to name four ... not necessarily the top three and not in any order. But these three were, and are, significant in the history of our Club.

Footscray Community Trust - annually generating interest for community distribution from a base that exceeds \$1 million.

The Bangladesh Literacy Program - a project with small beginnings which became the subject of an RI matching grant and achieved wonderful results.

Footscray Society for the Aged

The Rotary Golf Day



Club Profile (Continued)

C: What has your Club had in the pipeline for the 2007/08 Rotary year?

BN: Being the home club of the District governor has meant that this year has taken on an extra lustre. However, we have been able to maintain all our current programs our community and international programs (including youth exchange where we are hosting Jonas Vraengmose from Denmark). There has been an increased focus on fundraising which is being overseen by incoming president, Ron Hunt. The Shepparton Conference is our primary focus and the willingness of all Club members to offer their unqualified support has been outstanding.

C: How has the Club handled the responsibility of being the DG's home?

BN: With the aplomb that befits a club of advancing years. John Davis is our third DG and many Club members have enjoyed all three 'DG years'. Like all clubs, our support for John is total and we are really looking forward to the Shepparton conference next month.

C: Tell us about the changing area of Footscray ... some of the local features and why people should pay a visit.

BN: Footscray is changing. Overseas competition has impacted on a once mighty industrial hub. There is still a lot of light industry in the area and, thankfully, the coal burning smokestacks of yesteryear have disappeared. Being only a short distance from the CBD, Footscray has become a desirable place to live. The Maribyrnong River has been cleaned up and pleasure boats are increasing. The local population boasts many cultures and the two Victoria University campuses have changed the 'feel' of inner Footscray forever.

C: What is the Rotary Club of Footscray's passion?

BN: Many things over many years. This year it's the District 9800 Conference.

C: If you had to liken your Club to a well known song, what would it be?

BN: "Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice". It reflects the diversity in our Club and also the increased role that our female members have undertaken. After 72 years, Footscray's first female president, Carol Castano will be inducted in July 2009.

C: A bit of history ... tell me about some of the 'legends' of the Footscray Rotary Club.

BN: **Ernest Bradley** - sartorially splendid elder statesman.
Tom Osborn - old world charm and the Club's Poet Laureate.
Wally Beevers - an entrepreneurial, commanding doer.
Bob McNish - impartor of great philosophy ... the Club conscience
Bill Hogg - wedded to Footscray - body, soul and football team
Doug Mills - our 1st DG with enormous energy and drive
Lawrence Atley - our 2nd DG with unsurpassed Rotary knowledge
Ian Secomb - involved humanitarian
Bill Jamieson - raconteur and Club Sommelier
Lauch Wright - his 55th year at Footscray and still on committees
John Davis - our 3rd DG ... an evolving legend.

(A great lineup, Bob. I'm particularly interested in the sommelier. -C)

C: I note that your usual Club meeting site – the Whitten Oval – is undergoing extensive renovations. Are the majority of club members rabid Bulldog supporters?

BN: No, not really. As many members work in the area but live elsewhere, there's quite a cross section of AFL support. However, the Bulldog diehards ... Bill Hogg, Bill Baldwin and Philip Caruso are among the most one-eyed in the Club. (Yeah, well ... hmmm ... it's only the Bulldogs Get over it, boys. -C)



RC Footscray's 3rd DG,
current DG John Davis



Club Profile (Continued)

C: The Western Hospital and the Rotary Club of Footscray have had wonderful links over many decades. Could you tell us a little about that relationship.

BN: The Footscray Rotary Club and the Western Hospital have a wonderful history. The board of the hospital has seen service from many of our members. Also, some of the medical and administrative staff have become members of our Club. Each year we run a golf tournament which is specifically for the Hospital and it often raises in excess of \$20,000. We are very proud of 'our' hospital.

C: Who are the longest serving members in your club?

BN: Lauch Wright has been a member since 1953.
Ian Rowe - since 1961.
Wal McCulloch - since 1963.
Bill Hogg - since 1966.

C: Who are the most recent addition to your membership.

BN: Three ladies ... Jennifer Lees, Margaret Cumming & Elleni Bered-Samuel.

C: This year the Rotary Club of Footscray will host the District Conference. This is your chance to spruik the event. Tell me why everyone should be heading to Shepparton in March?

BN: Much has been said ... I don't want to dominate your interview ... and I really believe that most people have got the picture. The bookings have been excellent and it all points to a 'conference to remember'. Spruiking? ... well perhaps I can say ... great venue, superb speakers, a real accent on enjoyment, two hours away and a wonderful opportunity to show Rotary's support for rural Victoria ... make sure that you're at Shepparton.

C: If I was keen to get involved with the Rotary Club of Footscray how would I go about making contact with the club?

BN: Obviously, www.rotarydistrict9800.org/footscray is a great start, but also you could contact our fantastic secretary, Evan Phillips, who will ensure that you're made most welcome.

Now young lady ... it's your turn.....

"Young lady" always bothers me ... it reminds me of the school principal in Year 9 after we gals decided to (forget it). So it was gym gear (with an Olivia Newton-John bandana), suction cap attachments and a dainty step on to the very hospital-style treadmill.

The treadmill has never daunted me. At my gym, we have four treadmills in a square. We all face each other and chat. Once I was on a treadmill 'avec chat' for over 90 minutes ...and we actually clocked up 3 kilometres that day! The little wired suction cap things were also no problem as I confidently strode out.

'Let's get you working', said Bob. The memory is vague, but I think my, "Sure, why not .. bring it on?" may rank as the most stupid thing I've ever said.

Dr Robert de Sade was in his element ... "We'll double the speed and put a bit of gradient into this," he announced. Gradient ... Double speed ???

I can't really account for the next half hour. I have some recollection of flailing arms and legs. My chest was bursting and my head was swimming ... I heard voices – mostly mine "Silly boy, of course I'll have another martini" ... "Can someone buy me a packet of cigarettes" ... "What the heck, I could eat a kilo of pork crackling".

The next moment Uncle Sam, with a "Your Country Needs You" look was in front of me. "I admire your spirit, you're very determined", said Bob. I didn't tell him that I was determined to get out of there. I thanked him for the interview and for the stress test and sort of 'floated' home.

It was certainly a 'different day' ... Footscray - traditional and enduring. Dr Bob - a good guy with my healthy interests at heart. And me ... maybe it's time to address a few issues. We'll see ...





Issue 29, 18 February 2008

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A publication for Rotarians and all community-minded people

February is Rotary Awareness Month

Hands Across The Seas – The Turkey Alliance

In February 2007 a heads of agreement was signed by Governor Murat Celik of District 2420 in western Turkey and District 9800 Governor Bernie Walshe. It heralded an Alliance to take effect from April 2007. This was an outcome that cemented increasing cooperation between Rotarians of the two Districts who had participated in the ANZAC commemorations at Gallipoli from 2002. It also created a forum for consultation between Districts 9800 and 2420 on a wide range of issues that affected one or both.

The initial contact with Rotarians from District 2420 was made by **Owen Tassicker** from the **Rotary Club of Balwyn**. A key participator was the **Rotary Club of Goksu in Istanbul**. From this initial contact came the Rotary ANZAC Peace Tour, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Balwyn and endorsed by District 9800 Inc. So far there have been four Peace Tours involving Rotarians from Australia and New Zealand.

The Alliance ANZAC Peace Tour formula has remained much the same as the original journey of 2002. It is a two way exchange ...

The co ordination of these exchanges is managed by a secretariat established under the Alliance. The secretary in Australia is Owen Tassicker and in District 2420 Banu Tulumen Yalcin.

It is gratifying that other clubs are now joining the Rotary Club of Balwyn in strengthening the Alliance by becoming involved in joint programs and matching grants with D2420. The **Rotary Club of Brighton**, through a Rotary matching grant, has organized \$24,000 assistance to the School for the Blind in Gallipoli. A launch ceremony will be conducted at the school on 24 April 2008.

A fifth ANZAC Peace Tour of twenty Rotarians led by Owen Tassicker will visit Turkey, including Istanbul, Gallipoli and Troy in April and May this year. It is envisaged the return visit by Rotarians from District 2420 will occur in August this year - this will be the third return visit by Rotarians from District 2420.

The Alliance has also been the **catalyst for mutual support** of projects supported by clubs *in our District* when funds for a matching grant were provided by the Rotary Club of Gosku for the Tulagi project **in the Solomon Islands**.

Recently a sister club relationship was established between the Rotary club of Balwyn and the Goksu Rotary Club. The growing relationship between the two Districts may also open up the way for a Group Study Exchange Team in the future.

The Alliance has been very successful in doing what it set out to do: to encourage better communication and better understanding between the Rotarians in each District and to provide mutual support for worthwhile projects. Well intentioned programs can still go adrift, so coordination of all these activities is important and that is why the Alliance was created.

To facilitate a smooth interchange of ideas and projects it is important that the secretariat established under the Alliance be the co ordinating body on programs and projects between the two Districts.

The role of the Secretariats in coordinating District activities will embrace the following:

- The Secretariats will manage visits by delegations from each District. They will organize and manage the annual joint participation in the Gallipoli ANZAC Commemorations, as well as liaison with the office of the Mayor of the City of Gallipoli. They will also participate in the Annual Turkish National Day Celebrations, and will perform consular liaison with the Australia War Graves Commission or with other departments as needed.
- The Secretariats will assist in the promotion of joint club projects in each other's sphere of influence.
- The Secretariats will provide continuity and sustainability to the Alliance, bridging the annual changes which occur at the commencement of each Rotary year.

The above points have been selected from the 9 points listed in the Alliance. If anyone would like a copy of the complete Agreement or would like to discuss the role of the Alliance Secretariat in our District, please contact the Alliance secretary Owen Tassicker. Contact details <mailto:owen@bigpond.net.au>.



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- District Governor, John Davis



New Members

Welcome to the following new member:

- Philip Watson, RC Melbourne, Classification: TBA

When sending advice of new club members, please include their classification.

Shhh...It's A Party At The Library!

If at the age of 103 you were still busy providing shelter for the homeless, eliminating polio, rebuilding disaster areas and establishing funds to help rural communities, it would be fair to say your achievements would be worth celebrating.

This Saturday Rotary is celebrating its 103rd birthday with a "Day on the Library Green" at the State Library of Victoria. With a free concert adding to the atmosphere, the day is planned as a family day of fun both on the library lawns and within the newly re-furbished library's expanses. Coinciding with Rotary's upcoming Literacy Month, the State Library makes the perfect venue according to Rotary District 9800 Governor John Davis.

"The State Library is a fantastic location to hold our celebrations with so much to see and do. There's exhibitions of Ned Kelly's armour, there's 150 paintings on exhibition from the National Gallery of Victoria, a fantastic exhibition of Victorians on Vacation – people can even come in and research their family history while they're here" Davis said.

"We're looking forward to Rotarians and the public alike joining in to celebrate our birthday and get a glimpse of some of the work Rotarians do in helping communities both at home and abroad."

Key amongst the displays of Rotarians' work around the world will be a demonstration of the Shelterbox project, which provides emergency shelter, bedding, water purification and other necessities for those left homeless by disasters around the world. In recent times Australian Rotarians and friends have donated over \$1.14 million to fund the emergency packages, which have been deployed in disaster-hit regions across Papua New Guinea, East Timor, Java and the Solomon Islands.

"The Shelterbox project has been one of our great triumphs in bringing practical help to those who need it most. Along with Rotary International's efforts to eliminate polio, I think this is one of our most significant projects making real differences in people's lives around the world". Davis said.

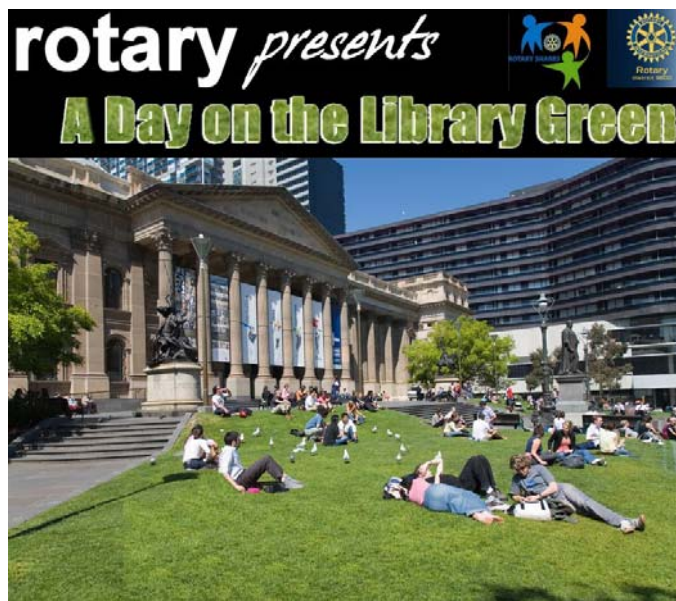
Rotary's Day on the Library Green will also feature interactive computer learning tutorials courtesy of the State Library's multimedia booths. Members of the public will be able to learn how to do anything from simple computer basics through to using the internet to navigate through the State Library's extensive collection of literature and journals. Kids won't be forgotten either – as well as the display of Ned Kelly's armour, children will be able to learn to play chess, explore the library's collection of children's books, or join in the fun on the Library lawns.

"We're inviting the public to come and join us for a fantastic day in the city. With Food Week on at Federation Square and a free concert at the Myer Music bowl in the evening, an afternoon exploring the State Library will make for the perfect family day out."

Rotary International is one of the world's largest service organisations, with more than 1.2 million members in 32,000 clubs across more than 200 countries. Its motto is "Service Above Self".

Key Event Facts

Date:	Saturday 23rd of February.
Event Title:	Rotary Presents A Day On The Library Green.
Location:	Victorian State Library, corner of La Trobe & Swanston Streets, Melbourne.
Cost:	Free! Rotarians, friends & members of the public alike are all welcome!
Hosting Bodies:	District 9800 in conjunction with the Victorian State Library.





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- Who's Invited:** Everyone! All members of Rotary, along with family and friends, & the public.
- Artists Performing:** Performances by the incredible talents of musical duos Mundy-Turner and Kinja.
- Features:**
- Demonstration of the Shelterbox aid project in action.
 - Rotary Foundation display showcasing Rotary's projects around the world.
 - Ned Kelly's Armour display
 - "Victorians On Vacation" Exhibition
 - Interactive multimedia learning booths & tutorials provided by the State Library
 - 150 artworks on exhibition from the NGV
 - Learn to play Chess for kids
 - Food Week (at Federation Square) and Free Concert (at Sidney Myer Music Bowl) also on in the city – a perfect day for families.
- Contact Person:** Philip Archer, Director of Marketing and Club Service, District 9800, ph: 0448 999 555 or email: marketingclubservice@rotarydistrict9800.org

The Homeless World Cup



The Homeless World Cup (HWC) Rotary Volunteer project provides Rotarians with a unique opportunity to be involved in a major community event that will focus public attention on the issue of homelessness and raise the profile of Rotary as a key community service organisation. It is an international sports project that uses the positive power of football to raise the issue of homelessness and poverty worldwide.

The Event has been held annually since 2003, when the inaugural Homeless World Cup took place in Graz/ Austria. Since then it has been held in Gothenburg/ Sweden (2004), Edinburgh/ Scotland (2005), Cape Town/South Africa (2006) and Copenhagen/Denmark (2007).

Melbourne successfully won the international bid for the upcoming competition and will proudly host the Homeless World Cup in November/December 2008.

Through the District 9800 PACE Initiative (Partnerships Advancing Community Engagement) Rotary has entered into a partnership with the Homeless World Cup to support the HWC 2008 by:

- Using the existing Rotary network to recruit volunteers
- Managing volunteers internally and providing Team Leaders to liaise with Homeless World Cup staff
- Coordinating an 'Adopt-A-Team' Program through Rotary Clubs
- Encouraging members, friends and family to attend the Event

With over 250 volunteer roles to be filled and up to 500 volunteers required this is a unique opportunity for District 9800 clubs to join together and maximise Rotary's profile at this major community event.

Details of the event and the volunteer opportunities are set out on the attached document. Further information about HWC can be accessed at the following web site: www.homelessworldcup.org

Information sessions to provide further information about the HWC and the volunteer project are scheduled to be held at International House 241 Royal Parade Parkville on the following dates.

Thursday	February 21	6.00pm – 7.30pm
Saturday	February 23	2.30pm – 4.00pm
Sunday	February 24	11.00am – 12.30pm

Following the very successful Commonwealth games Athletes Village volunteer project procedure at the end of each session Clubs will be asked to register their interest and nominate a Club contact person.

We believe this project offers the following benefits to Rotary:

- Project that gives every Rotarian an opportunity to be involved hands on in a highly successful international and national community service program.
- To work along side The Big Issue, other community groups and major sponsors to support and enrich the experience of all participants and helpers taking part in the 2008 Homeless World Cup.
- Opportunity to use participation in the event as a way of raising the profile of homelessness within the broader local, Victorian and Australian community and with all levels of Government.
- Work with friends & family of Rotary together in community service
- Lift Rotary's profile to the general public



- Increase Membership
- Opportunity for Rotarian's, family & friends to utilize their vocations

In addition Clubs will gain knowledge of Street Soccer and the Community Street Soccer League that is being established in conjunction with the HWC 2008. Through the Community Street Soccer training centres participants attend year round week-in week-out training sessions and over time progress into local, State, National and HWC competitions. By gradually increasing the level of commitment to fellow weekly training participants and team mates the level of "social change" made by participants gradually increases.

This program is funded by the Federal Government and is being rolled out to 20 city and regional centres throughout Australia before the 2008 World Cup. Further centres could be established were there is a need and the service organisations like Rotary and other community leaders actively support the establishment of the centre.

Street Soccer is an exciting and innovative way of bringing social change and improvement to hundreds of young Australian lives. It's a unique - and fun - approach to addressing serious social problems like homelessness, drug abuse, mental illness and isolation. The HWC Volunteer project provides Rotary with a unique opportunity to be part of this worldwide community initiative that addresses the issues of homelessness and to promote Rotary to the broader local and international community.

We strongly encourage your Club to consider being involved with this important and unique opportunity for Rotary. To register your Club's interest we would appreciate you nominating a representative to attend one of the information sessions listed above. The representative's details (name, phone, mobile and email) and session time should be sent to James Pullar (jjpullar@netspace.net.au) or 6 Marina Road Mentone Vic 3194, or call him on 0417 574 941. You can also get more information from the District website - <http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/>.

D9780 RAWCS Team Need Your Help In Fiji

The D9780 RAWCS team is seeking volunteers and funding for upgrading and renovating the Malevu and Navutulevu villages medical dispensaries, Coral Coast, Fiji.

The buildings require the attachment of a toilet block, internal shelving, painting, and a small veranda/waiting area.

Both dispensaries will provide a necessary service in dispensing basic medical aid to the villages and surrounding areas, which otherwise would require travel to the stressed "outpatient" hospital system, or no medical attention provided for the patient.

Malevu Village Dispensary	A\$4,000
Navutulevu Village Medical Dispensary	A\$2,000

The D9870 RAWCS team have funding to date of A\$2,000 from several clubs, and now seek the balance of A\$4,000. These projects could be a combined group of clubs and volunteers from within or outside of the District, and co-ordinated by the Rotary Club of Geelong.

They are 'RAWCS Registered' Projects, which provides a tax deduction for travel costs to individuals. Date of departure is approximately the first week of August 2008.

The finalizing of finance is required asap to allow time for all other arrangements to be put in place.

Would any interested clubs or individuals, please contact D9800 RAWCS Chairperson, Virginia Turner via email v.turner@bigpond.com.au or telephone 9592 4691.



Notices & Events

Brunswick Rotary: New Weekly Venue

From Thursday, 7 February, RC Brunswick will be meeting at the Sporting Club Hotel, 27 Weston Street, Brunswick. Meetings are still Thursdays 12:45 for 1:00pm, except first Thursday of the month, which is 6:00 for 6:30pm. More venue information is on the club's website <http://www.brunswickrotary.org.au/> under 'Club Info'.

The Einstein Factor

The ABC invites Rotary Clubs of Victoria to be a part of the studio audience for the 2008 series of 'The Einstein Factor' (<http://www.abc.net.au/einsteinfactor/>) for free! Please contact the Studio Audience Ticket Line (03) 9524 2229. Group and individual bookings are welcome.



Rotary Southern Districts Shine On Awards

Nominations for the Rotary Southern Districts 'Shine On Awards' close on **25 February 2008**. If you have any queries or you just need another copy of the Rotary Shine On Guidelines and Nomination Form, email DawnWatson@yahoo.com or call Dawn on 9337 4710.

GSE Welcome Dinner

The Rotary Club of Glen Eira presents with the Beachside Cluster a dinner to officially welcome the Group Study Exchange Team from Rotary District 5650 (Iowa and Nebraska, USA) to Rotary District 9800. The dinner will be held on **Tuesday, 26 February** (6.30pm for 7.00pm) at the Terminus Room, Milano's Hotel, 4 The Esplanade, Brighton beach. Please RSVP by Tuesday, 19 February to Adrian Nelson on 0411 550 708 or adrian@nelsonbros.com.au. Cost is \$35 per head. Get in early, as our capacity is 130!

Tee-Off With RC Altona City!

RC Altona City's Sixth Annual Charity Golf Day for Very Special Kids and other local and international Rotary projects is commencing at 12.30pm on **Friday, 29 February 2008** (entries in before 14 February). There will also be a presentation dinner and plenty of great prizes. All the details, including the entry form, are available on the District website (<http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/Members/EventsCalendar>) or you can call Ivan Board (9749 3808 or 0422 389 102) or Charlie Montebello (9398 4047 or 0412 257 723).

Take The First Steps To The Inaugural Wyndham Rotary River Fun Run

To be held on **Saturday 15 March, 2008** at 9.00am, you will can walk or run 8km or 3km around the scenic Werribee River in Werribee. The course is ideal for first time runners, avid walkers or experienced runners seeking a new challenge! Have a great time participating in a fun community event, while raising vital funds for the **Royal Children's Good Friday Appeal**. You can enter as an individual, with friends and family or perhaps enter a corporate team. It promises to be a fun filled day with something for everyone including giveaways, special guests and lots more! The event is part of the Weerama Festival, 13 – 16 March, 2008. Check out the website (<http://wyndhamfunrun.org/>) for more details and to follow the weekly fitness programs to assist with your training regime. Rotary volunteers are also asked to help on the day. Please contact Gary Willson, Communications Director Fun Run, on 0418 788 838 or garywillson@hotmail.com.



RC Bendigo South – Change Of Meeting Time

Please be advised that the Rotary Club of Bendigo South will be transferring their usual Thursday Evening meeting for **Easter Thursday, 20 March** to a Breakfast meeting at 7:30am start for that day only.

GSE Farewell Dinner

What an excellent event for D9800 to Farewell our GSE Team and Visiting team! To be held on **Tuesday, 25 March 2008** at Grand Star Receptions, Grieve Parade, Altona from 7.00 for 7.30pm start. Cost is \$55.00 and the dress code is smart evening attire. Please RSVP PP Clara Westhorpe 9398 2674 or John Bussey on 0412 068 848

'Crackerjack' Bare Foot Lawn Bowling, Dinner, Dancing & Entertainment!

The Rotary Club of Richmond invites you to join them on **Sunday, 20 April** at the Richmond Union Bowling Club, 2 Gleadell Street, Richmond, 2.45pm for a 3.00pm start, for two hours of competition with your own coach! 'Crackerjack' the movie will be screened during the afternoon, and then enjoy a BBQ dinner, dessert, tea/coffee. Soft drinks, beer and wine sold at the bar. Entertainment, band and dancing to follow. Tickets are \$45 each. Make up your own team of four or eight, or let us include you in one of ours. You may prefer to join us as a supporter at \$40 per ticket.

Fund raised will go toward supporting the club's East Timor Kindergarten project – building an outdoor meeting space, water tanks, permaculture garden, storage shed & playground, upgrading equipment & providing funds to assist with the cost of training kindergarten teachers.

Further details and bookings call Richmond Rotarian Barbara Woodberry on 0413 057 879 or email: skills@mgdsventures.com

Gallipoli – The Trip Of A Lifetime

The Rotary Club of Brighton, through Rotary Foundation Matching Grant and Australian Consulate in Turkey, organised \$24,000 of assistance to the School for Blind at Gallipoli. A launch ceremony for the high tech computer



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based vision enhancing equipment will be conducted at the school on **24 April 2008**, together with local Rotarians. Join Rotarians at the launch as well as the Dawn Ceremony at Anzac Cove for the experience of a lifetime.

To reserve a place or for further information, please contact Dr Peter Grey on 9592 9729, 0419 507 950 or <mailto:petergrey@snapsite.com.au>.

Macedon Ranges MS Cycle Challenge

The Macedon Ranges MS Cycle Challenge will be on Labor Day Weekend, **Sunday, 4 May 2008** and take riders on a 135km tour on sealed roads (will suit riders with a good level of fitness). Our major focus is to raise funds to help find a cure for Multiple Sclerosis, through the Rotarian Action Group for MS Awareness, which is linking MS research groups worldwide. Profits will go to MS and other meaningful community and international service projects. Call (03) 5428 3474 or visit the new RC Gisborne website for more info and online registration - www.gisbornerotary.org.au

Fun In Retirement Expo

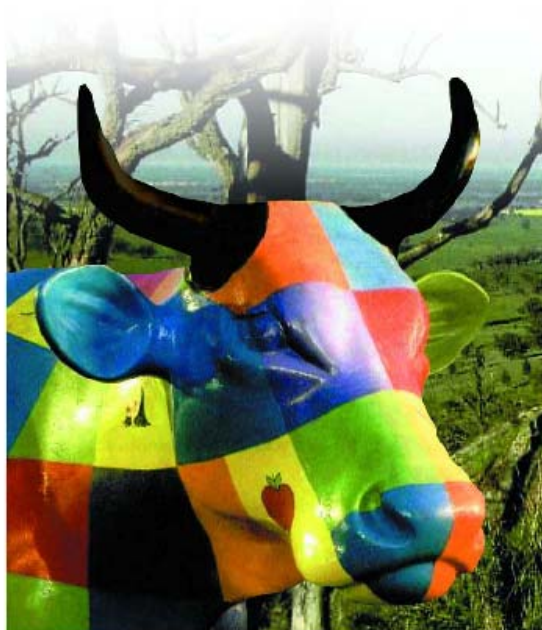
The Rotary Club of North Balwyn, in conjunction with the City of Boroondara will be staging the inaugural Fun In Retirement Expo (FIRE) at the Boroondara Sports Complex from **5-7 July 2008**. FIRE will showcase the huge variety of businesses and community groups catering for the rapidly growing number of Boroondara citizens in 'The Third Age'. Our aim is to show the 50+ members of our community what is available to them, and to encourage them to become more involved in the life of the community, putting more richness and variety into their lives. You are invited to take a booth at FIRE to show your wares to this age group who have both the money and the time to take up new hobbies; to develop themselves mentally and physically; to become more involved in their community; or to just indulge themselves! Visit www.funinretirement.com.au for more details.



76TH
ROTARY DISTRICT 9800 CONFERENCE
13TH - 16TH OF MARCH 2008

GREATER
SHEPPARTON
VICTORIA - AUSTRALIA

DG JOHN & JOAN DAVIS INVITE
YOU TO "SHARE ROTARY"
WITH THEM AT SHEPPARTON



PROUDLY SPONSORED BY  **LEXUS** of Blackburn



Issue 30, 25 February 2008

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A publication for Rotarians and all community-minded people

February is World Understanding Month

Happy Birthday Rotary International!

Last Saturday the 23rd February we celebrated the 103rd Anniversary with Rotary day at the State Library. What a wonderful opportunity to showcase our great organization in the capital city of our state. Thank you to all the Rotarians and families who made the trip into the Melbourne to help us show the citizens of Melbourne that Rotary Cares. Many thanks to our Marketing Director Philip Archer for arranging this day in partnership with the State Library, the City of Melbourne and the Lord Mayors Trust Fund. The free concert was enjoyed by young and old. The Rotary day was a good illustration of the partnerships that our District and Rotary is starting to build with other organizations who wish to work with Rotary on community based projects and programs. I would also like to congratulate the many clubs who did organize their own celebrations to highlight 103 years of Rotary Service Above Self.

A further example of a new partnership that Rotary Districts across Australia have formed is a partner relationship with Mitre 10 to Fix Up Australia.

What in fact is Fix Up Australia, and what opportunities does it present to Rotarians and Rotary clubs?

The Fix Up Australia Weekend is an event aimed at encouraging the Australian public to actively engage in community working bees hosted by community organizations throughout Australia.

Many community organizations require assistance and support to maintain and improve the facilities and services they provide to the community. This is every Australian's opportunity to help those who help us. Australians will be encouraged to pick up their tools, roll up their sleeves, and get stuck into fixing up Australia on this what we hope will be an annual weekend that celebrates community spirit.

When will it be held?

The inaugural weekend is planned for the ANZAC weekend, 26 and 27 April.

Where will it take place?

Every school, kindergarten, community centre, sports club, place of worship, scout hall, community housing centre, community gathering point or any place that requires attention or maintenance in local communities across Australia.

Rotary clubs from around the nation will be invited to adopt their local Mitre 10 store, and a supporting website for Rotarians will be used to co ordinate the partnership between stores and clubs

The web portal will also help in the co ordination and recognition of the projects, with contact details, planning requirements, summaries of work required/undertaken and pictures of each initiative posted on the site as a showcase of Fix Up Australia Weekend. In turn these efforts will be promoted to the media before and after the event to raise awareness of the Fix Up Australia weekend, bringing the concept to the forefront of the public's minds. Awards will be presented to the Mitre 10 stores and Rotary clubs around Australia for the best projects fixing up Australia across the following categories.

- Fixing up the Environment
- Fixing up the Bush
- Fixing up Youth Facilities
- Fixing up Disability support Facilities
- Fixing up Schools
- Fixing up Facilities for the Elderly
- Fixing up Indigenous Community Facilities
- Fixing up Facilities helping the Homeless
- Fixing up Youth Clubs
- Fixing up Public Housing
- Fixing up Sport and Recreation Facilities
- Fixing up Facilities for Animals
- Fixing up Playgrounds and Parks
- Fixing up Australia's most Dilapidated Fence

Further detailed information will provide over the next few weeks, but get ready for a great Fix Up Australia weekend.

- District Governor, John Davis

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New Members

Welcome to the following new member:

- Marcia O'Neill, RC Melbourne, Classification: TBA
- Nick Pane, RC Camberwell, Classification: Real Estate - Director
- Rebecca Riebeling, RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise, Classification: Education-Accounting
- Associate Prof Robin Stevens, RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise, Classification: Education- Music Research
- Phillip Martin, RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise, Classification: Investment Facilitation)

When sending advice of new club members, please include their classification.

Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships

One Year Overseas – US\$24,000

Applications are invited for Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarships which are available for overseas postgraduate study commencing after July 2009. Worth up to US\$24,000, they are limited to one year.

The Scholarship may be use for almost any field of study at an approved tertiary institution; however it cannot be used for unsupervised research.

As well as strong academic qualifications, scholars must be outstanding ambassadors of goodwill both in their host country and upon return to Australia. A primary purpose of the program is to further international understanding, goodwill and peace among people of different countries & cultures. As Rotary seeks diversity in the countries to which scholars go, preference may be given to candidates wishing to study in under represented countries or who can address the humanitarian needs of the world community.

A unique benefit is the scholar's association with Rotary International through Rotary Clubs, including the provision of a Rotary Counsellor. Competition in this Rotary District is strong and applicants should be graduates or close to completing their undergraduate studies.

Brochures and Scholarship application forms are available at www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/amb_scho

Applications must be made through a Rotary Club by June 11th 2008.

Further enquiries may be made to Fr Michael Elligate at elligatem@bigpond.com or phone 9347 2493, or David Gorman at david.gorman@dcgconsulting.com.au or phone 93481799

Notices & Events

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New Member Information Workshops

6pm-8pm Monday 3rd March, International House, Parkville

Have you joined Rotary in the last couple of years – or perhaps you'd just like to know more about the Rotary organization, regardless of when you joined. Then you're invited to come along to one of the sessions we are holding and be informed, educated and inspired by Rotary's capacity to help others throughout the world. These workshops will be a combination of presentation of Rotary information combined with time spent in discussion groups with very experienced Rotarians who can share their knowledge with you. Come along and ask all the questions you may have about what Rotary does in other clubs, in our District and in the rest of the world. Find out all about the opportunities that exist within Rotary to make your contribution to a better world.

Contact PDG Ann White to register or if you have any queries – ah. 9699-5538, bh 9682-7777, fax 9686-4141, mobile 0402 306 790 or email <mailto:ann@landmarksoftware.com.au>

MS Global Dinner Cocktail Party

7.00 for 7.15pm **Tuesday, 4 March 2008** at 150 Clarendon St, East Melbourne (Old Mercy Hospital site-entrance through Gipp St). Cost \$25/head with an International Theme, Dress in a National Costume if you wish and dine on International Finger food with a glass of Champagne on arrival (Champagne, wine, beer and soft Drinks available at Bar Prices).

Guest speakers MSV/NSW CEO Bill Younger, Prof.Trevor Kilpatrick and PhD student Vilija Jokubaitis, with other entertainment and an auction.

Funds raised go to Rotary MS Awareness project for Howard Florey PhD Student in partnership with Australian Rotary Health Research Fund, and Melbourne University

RSVP 26 February, 08 Diana or Martin Taurins, taurins3@vegas.com.au or Diana 0419 564 389 Martin 0407564389

Any Auction Items would be appreciated. Phone Elaine Gregory 0354 281001.

A "Hypothetical" With A Difference - We're Doing It On Drugs!

RC Central Melbourne-Sunrise is holding another of its successful "Hypotheticals" at BMW Edge, Federation Square - 6.30 pm for 7.30 pm **Friday, 7 March**. It will be short and sweet, finishing around 9.00pm. Cost \$55 pp including drinks and canapés. The subject matter of this hypothetical will be both compelling and entertaining - *our kids and drugs, the pushers who supply them, the gangsters who create wealth out of drugs, the police and the criminal justice system. How should doctors, police, courts and legislators deal with addicts, pushers and gangsters?*

This 4th annual "Hypothetical" will be moderated by **Julian Burnside QC** and the panel this year is as diverse as you can get:

- *Deputy Commissioner Simon Overland - headed the Purana Task Force, took on the Melbourne gangsters*
- *Keith Moor - Insight Editor at the Herald Sun, Walkley Award winning investigative journalist (has replaced Andrew Rule on panel)*
- *Greg Levine - Senior Melbourne Magistrate - formerly Chief Magistrate of the Children's Court*
- *Father Joe Caddy - Chief Executive of Catholic welfare group, Centacare, Chaplain of Port Phillip Prison*
- *Joe Lamberti - Drug Counsellor, Sanctuary Clinic*
- *Rod Quantock - Melbourne comedian, writer and social commentator*
- *Alexandra Richards - leading Melbourne QC and human rights lawyer*
- *Dr Sally Cockburn - practising Melbourne GP and national media personality as Dr. Feelgood*
- *Trevor Doherty - reformed heroin addict, served 12 years for armed robbery, but as Tim Costello said: "The guy has made a bigger comeback than Lazarus".*



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A Flyer and Booking Form are available from the Club or can be downloaded from the Club website: www.rotarydistrict9800.org/centralmelbournesunrise RSVP Monday 3rd March 2008. Feel free to invite your friends and colleagues.

Take The First Steps To The Inaugural Wyndham Rotary River Fun Run

To be held on **Saturday 15 March, 2008** at 9.00am, you will can walk or run 8km or 3km around the scenic Werribee River in Werribee. The course is ideal for first time runners, avid walkers or experienced runners seeking a new challenge! Have a great time participating in a fun community event, while raising vital funds for the **Royal Children's Good Friday Appeal**. You can enter as an individual, with friends and family or perhaps enter a corporate team. It promises to be a fun filled day with something for everyone including giveaways, special guests and lots more! The event is part of the Weerama Festival, 13 – 16 March, 2008. Check out the website (<http://wyndhamfunrun.org/>) for more details and to follow the weekly fitness programs to assist with your training regime. Rotary volunteers are also asked to help on the day. Please contact Gary Willson, Communications Director Fun Run, on 0418 788 838 or garywillson@hotmail.com.



RC Bendigo South – Change Of Meeting Time

Please be advised that the Rotary Club of Bendigo South will be transferring their usual Thursday Evening meeting for **Easter Thursday, 20 March** to a Breakfast meeting at 7:30am start for that day only.

GSE Farewell Dinner

What an excellent event for D9800 to Farewell our GSE Team and Visiting team! To be held on **Tuesday, 25 March 2008** at Grand Star Receptions, Grieve Parade, Altona from 7.00 for 7,30pm start. Cost is \$55.00 and the dress code is smart evening attire. Please RSVP PP Clara Westhorpe 9398 2674 or John Bussey on 0412 068 848

'Crackerjack' Bare Foot Lawn Bowling, Dinner, Dancing & Entertainment!

The Rotary Club of Richmond invites you to join them on **Sunday, 20 April** at the Richmond Union Bowling Club, 2 Gleadell Street, Richmond, 2.45pm for a 3.00pm start, for two hours of competition with your own coach! 'Crackerjack' the movie will be screened during the afternoon, and then enjoy a BBQ dinner, dessert, tea/coffee. Soft drinks, beer and wine sold at the bar. Entertainment, band and dancing to follow. Tickets are \$45 each. Make up your own team of four or eight, or let us include you in one of ours. You may prefer to join us as a supporter at \$40 per ticket.

Fund raised will go toward supporting the club's East Timor Kindergarten project – building an outdoor meeting space, water tanks, permaculture garden, storage shed & playground, upgrading equipment & providing funds to assist with the cost of training kindergarten teachers.

Further details and bookings call Richmond Rotarian Barbara Woodberry on 0413 057 879 or email: skills@mgdsventures.com

Gallipoli – The Trip Of A Lifetime

The Rotary Club of Brighton, through Rotary Foundation Matching Grant and Australian Consulate in Turkey, organised \$24,000 of assistance to the School for Blind at Gallipoli. A launch ceremony for the high tech computer based vision enhancing equipment will be conducted at the school on **24 April 2008**, together with local Rotarians. Join Rotarians at the launch as well as the Dawn Ceremony at Anzac Cove for the experience of a lifetime.

To reserve a place or for further information, please contact Dr Peter Grey on 9592 9729, 0419 507 950 or mailto:petergrey@snapsite.com.au.

Macedon Ranges MS Cycle Challenge

The Macedon Ranges MS Cycle Challenge will be on Labor Day Weekend, **Sunday, 4 May 2008** and take riders on a 135km tour on sealed roads (will suit riders with a good level of fitness). Our major focus is to raise funds to help find a cure for Multiple Sclerosis, through the Rotarian Action Group for MS Awareness, which is linking MS research groups worldwide. Profits will go to MS and other meaningful community and international service projects. Call (03) 5428 3474 or visit the new RC Gisborne website for more info and online registration - www.gisbornerotary.org.au

Welcome Back Dinner for GSE Team

The Rotary Club of Chadstone / East Malvern is hosting the Welcome Back Dinner for our District's **GSE Team**. This important event welcomes all Rotarians and their guests to hear and see the experiences of our GSE Team. This



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event will be at the beautiful Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club, 489 Glenferrie Road, Kooyong featuring a sumptuous full three course buffet dinner with drinks at bar prices on **Wednesday, 21st May** 7.00pm for 7.30pm. Ample free parking is available opposite Kooyong, in the Kooyong Park Public Car Park, next to Vision Australia. Dress: Lounge Suit, \$50 per head (full 3 course dinner). Please contact Michael Bennett on 0412 636 264 or <mailto:michael@redvanilla.com.au>

Fun In Retirement Expo

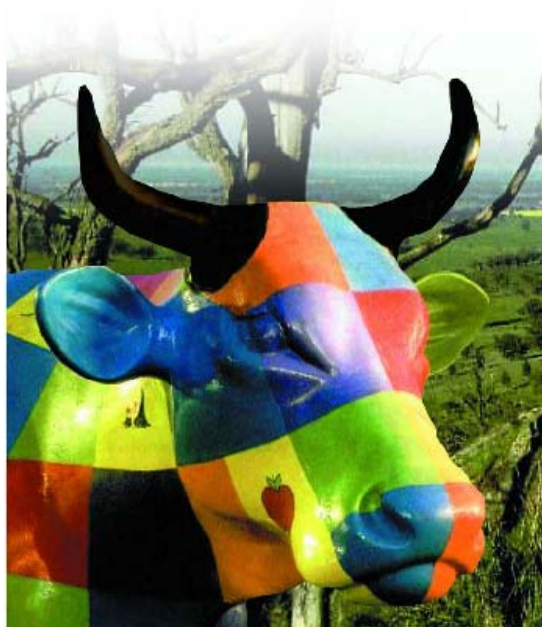
The Rotary Club of North Balwyn, in conjunction with the City of Boroondara will be staging the inaugural Fun In Retirement Expo (FIRE) at the Boroondara Sports Complex from **5-7 July 2008**. FIRE will showcase the huge variety of businesses and community groups catering for the rapidly growing number of Boroondara citizens in 'The Third Age'. Our aim is to show the 50+ members of our community what is available to them, and to encourage them to become more involved in the life of the community, putting more richness and variety into their lives. You are invited to take a booth at FIRE to show your wares to this age group who have both the money and the time to take up new hobbies; to develop themselves mentally and physically; to become more involved in their community; or to just indulge themselves! Visit www.funinretirement.com.au for more details.



76TH
ROTARY DISTRICT 9800 CONFERENCE
13TH - 16TH OF MARCH 2008

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