

# Rotary Club of Fern Tree Gully Inc.

Vol 59 No 24

INCORPORATED REG. NO. A0023463V  
DISTRICT 9810 VICTORIA AUSTRALIA  
CHARTERED: 16 May 1963  
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4th February 2021

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Date & Time:	Thursday 4th February [Kick off at 6.30]	Thursday 11th February [Kick off at 6.30]	Thursday 18th February	Thursday 25th February [Kick off at 6.30]
Venue:			NO	
Program:	SCHIZOPHRENIA JOURNEY	REDUCE, REUSE, RE-PURPOSE	MEETING	MERSEY SHIPS AUSTRALIA
Speaker:	Kevin Walker	Patricia Armstrong	-	Tammy Shepherd
Partners' Night	Yes	Yes	-	Yes

*As there will be no Bulletin for next week (11th) and no meeting on the 18th, the next Bulletin will be for the 25<sup>th</sup> February.*

<i>Birthdays:</i>	None
<i>Anniversaries:</i>	12 February 1977 – Paul & Jill Wilson
<i>Induction to RC of Fern Tree Gully</i>	None

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



## FEBRUARY IS PEACE & CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH

February is going to be a busy month with a number of Zoom meetings run by the District for some of our members to attend. As president I have nine additional Zoom meetings to attend. There will be a District Presidents meeting followed with two full days of Multi District Presidents Elect training sessions along with Christine. This will be followed up with three more evenings of training specific to our District.

Paul Mc, Alan and myself will also be participating in the Districts Membership Master Class Training sessions over four nights. This is a District initiative to help clubs grow their membership which is our number one priority. One will need to keep their diary in front of them so not to forget to join these meetings. February should now be known as commitment month.

Paul Wilson will be able report on how we will be able to set up our future face to face meetings with Zoom available for guest speakers and members unable to attend in person, having participated in a webinar on Future -Proof Hybrid meetings. We look forward to Paul's update.

A booking has been made for the BBQ with the Ferntree Gully Motor Group for the Ferntree Gully CFA information afternoon at Quarry Reserve on February 28<sup>th</sup>. This will be our first opportunity to be involved with our local community for quite some time. Christine will be seeking club members support closer to the date.

The following article was taken form the latest edition of Rotary on the Move newsletter.

Graeme

President 2020/2021



## **'FOUNDATION FUNDING CRISIS'**

**Article by PDG Euan Miller, Rotary Foundation Cadre, President RC of Norwood.**

For the second time in two years the World Fund is likely to run out of money to provide matching dollars to Global Grant applications. Last year the funds ran out in May but this year the outlook is more dire and a number of savings measures have already been put in place at Evanston. The trustees and the Board met in late January to look at stop gap solutions which may well now be known. Why has this happened? Clubs have clearly focused on Global Grant projects and the number of Global Grants applications continues to grow at an astounding rate. At the end of December Global Grants approved were 85% ahead of what they were at the same time last year. Despite the elimination of support for cash contributions to Global Grants this year (in an endeavour to make World Funds spread further), it is clear the funding shortfall is such that they may never return. To compound the problem there will be a big waiting list of projects for the new area of focus supporting the environment, ready to compete for grants on July 1 this year.

As Rotarians, clubs and districts, we have a responsibility to help fix this problem. Giving to the Annual Programs Fund across our Zone, (the source of District Designated Funds we all use to implement our international projects) has declined since the Centenary of the Foundation in 2017. In our personal tax deductible giving, we are not growing either Centurions or Paul Harris Society members in sufficient numbers. Clubs and Districts also are failing to reach the target of USD100/member every year. This is a modest benchmark every district should be able to achieve. To compound the issue, as we all know, our membership is in long term decline so there are less Rotarians each year to donate to the Foundation. How do we solve this problem? Most clubs raise funds for the Foundation from Rotarians alone. Where (apart from End Polio which is travelling OK) are the club and district public fundraisers for the Rotary Foundation in general or for specific projects? Which club runs a Bunnings BBQ for the Rotary Foundation? Which club is out there competing with the Red Shield, Red Cross and World Vision seeking donations from businesses and the general public? The Rotary Foundation beats all these competitors in the fiduciary stakes (Charity Navigator awards TRF the top award year after year for the stewardship of donations and application of the monies to worthwhile projects). We need to grow our impact in the communities we serve. Our impact is measured by our project delivery, not by fundraising and especially not for other charities that also fundraise.

Let's RAISE for ROTARY and fund The Rotary Foundation – Our Charity!

# THE WEEK THAT WAS

Thursday 28th January, 2021

Meeting opened with President Graeme welcoming our guest speakers for tonight – Roger Knight and PDG Rob Lloyd, both from Diamond Creek Rotary Club.

The Rotary Club of Diamond Creek was approached by the Diamond Creek CFA and the Diamond Creek Men's Shed to put in a joint submission to acquire a W-Class Tram from the State Government. Their application which was a collaboration with the Nillumbik Shire and community groups, was successful. The Council received a \$2.5 million grant to construct a new playground, it was thought an ideal location for the "Tram Café".

Donation were received from Bunnings, Reece, Bendigo Bank. A further \$31,500 was needed from Rotary to fit out the tram. The project took 18 months to complete.

First day open was the last Saturday in October (when we still had Covid-19 restrictions) – opening at 8.00 am and took over \$3,600.

While still supportive of the project, the CFA and the Men's Shed have stepped back and it is being run by the Rotary Club of Diamond Creek.

What a fantastic effort by the members of Diamond Creek RC.

After hearing the story last week, Paul and Kay McAloney paid a visit to the Tram Café on Sunday, to see it in action.



### **President's Report:**

- Graeme advised the we will be returning to the Bowls Club on 4<sup>th</sup> March for our first 'face to face' meeting.
- Boronia Rotary Centenary Project – is promoting 5 clubs in Knox with signage outside Knox Council offices. Have had a cool response from Council and have an appointment with the CEO of Knox to pursue.
- Membership Masterclass – Paul Mc, Allan and Graeme to attend on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **Other Reports:**

Mike reminded everyone of the Jazz afternoon on 7<sup>th</sup> March.

Mike is now collecting contributions towards the Centurion target of \$100 and has approx.. 10 Centurion money boxes for members use and these will be collected between March and April.

Foothills – Steve Barrington wants us to do the packaging for slices. Graeme to pick up samples.

Trash & Treasure stalls available offered by Emerald R.C. – dates TBA.  
Local produce and handcrafts only.

Julienne – 1812 Theatre is putting on an extra performance on 13<sup>th</sup> March, tickets \$27 each.

### **Message from the Editor:**

*The Editor is not responsible for any errors or omissions in the above "Other Reports".*

*Any complaints as to their accuracy should be directed to Rob Hurst, as the Editor was in the kitchen preparing dinner!!!!*



A BUS STATION IS WHERE A BUS STOPS.  
A TRAIN STATION IS WHERE A TRAIN STOPS.  
MY DESK IS A WORK STATION.

# Rotary News

Article from February edition of – “ROTARY ON THE MOVE”

## ‘180% INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP’

Article by ARC PDG Ida Portella, *Rotary Club of Mareeba*

The *Rotary Club of Katherine* located in District 9550 in Australia’s Northern Territory has had a 180% increase in membership in this Rotary Year, the club who has had 5 members for a number of years can now boast 14 active and committed members.



**Club members**



The club has struggled over recent years, however through sheer persistence and passion they will never quit, they have continued to run projects and programs within its community.

Club Secretary, Rotarian Christopher Dixon, has instigated and driven many of these projects and it is through the projects and good PR that has enabled them to attract new members. A few of the projects include the Katherine Rotary Computer Club, Road safety program for indigenous young people and building a

men's shed in Katherine's Rotary Park, these are just a few of the many projects that the club is involved with.

The club regularly sends press releases and photos to its local newspaper and they have created a good relationship with them, they also have a Rotary display which is located in their local shopping centre.

Good Community projects, partnerships with Corporate and other organisations together with great PR is what has helped the *Rotary Club of Katherine* grow and flourish.



Rotary District 9810 are hosting the “MAD March Cycle Challenge” – Ride, run, walk or swim to Make A Difference.

How far can you cover in the month of March 2021 — 50km or 1000km?

Challenge yourself in your regular exercise routine or start a new one to improve your health. Set a target distance and fundraising goal, seek sponsorship. Challenge your friends to join you.

This event is raising funds for “Australian Rotary Health” to sponsor medical research.

Independent research by Australians, for Australians in Australia. Donations are tax deductible.

**Registration is FREE. For more details and to register, go to: -**

**[MAD March Cycle Challenge \(raisely.com\)](https://www.raisely.com)**