

Pictured: Ambleside Homestead, FTG

Rotary Club of Fern Tree Gully Inc.

INCORPORATED REG. No. A0023463V
DISTRICT 9810 VICTORIA AUSTRALIA
CHARTERED GULLY, VIC 3156: 16 May
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15th September

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Date & Time:	Thursday 15th September [6.00 for 6.30]	Thursday 22nd September (6.00 for 5.30)	Thursday 29th September [6.00 for 6.30]	Thursday 22nd September [6.00 for 6.30]
Venue:	FTG Bowls Club	FTG Bowls Club	FTG Bowls Club	FTG Bowls Club
Speaker:	Ben Hughes	David Tolstrup	TBA	Alma Reynolds
& Program	THE MENS SHED	REGIONALISATION		MAKING YOUR MARK IN THE COMMUNITY
Vote Of Thanks	John. F	Paul Mc		
Scribe:	Paul. W	Mike. S		

<i>Birthdays:</i>	None
<i>Anniversaries:</i>	None
<i>Induction to RC of Fern Tree Gully</i>	None



FROM THE PRESIDENT

FRAN'S FAIRYTALE

Greetings all,

I thought last week's meeting was quite exciting! We had our Knox Council Mayor, Susan Laukens, as our guest. She certainly exudes warmth and friendliness, seemed happy to update us on various council matters and took questions of all kinds.

My thanks to her for so obviously enjoying being at our meeting; and to all present for making her feel so welcome and relaxed

And the icing of that cake was receiving our new friend Martin's Application to join our Club! He and wife Jo have been coming along for a few weeks now and seemed to be very impressed by the way we try to make everyone we meet feel welcome, show great interest in them and their lives and be genuinely happy to be in their company.

Martin's induction will now take place on 29 September, in view of 22nd September being proclaimed a public holiday in honour of our late Queen Elizabeth II.

I encourage everyone to be sure to come to the meeting that night, along with partners and friends, to ensure he gets the rousing welcome our club is famous for!

ABOUT OUR MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: I hope by now you have all done your "homework" and compiled your list of businesses in the local area; but not just Ferntree Gully of course. Be sure to include such areas as UFTG, Scoresby, Knoxfield, and mountain areas (but obviously not Boronia, Rowville, Lysterfield and the like – don't want to tread on anyone's sensitive toes!) Together with the names of these businesses, please ensure you **INCLUDE** their contact number, email and postal addresses **AND** the name of their CEO, Director, or some other person in authority.

That will make it easier for correspondence to be addressed to the right person, which obviously must be done asap to invite them to our community meeting on 27 October 2022.

TO THAT END – and especially as we have no meeting next week- I am calling a Special Meeting this coming Monday evening from 7.30 pm, to discuss the logistics and needs of our special event. There will be many tasks that must be undertaken by Club members (and special friends, etc, if they are willing to help!) if our event is to have any chance of success.

The meeting will be held at least weekly from now on – thank goodness for Zoom!

PLEASE attend this important date – we really need all hands-on deck! It cannot happen without the determination of us all to work towards its success.

And I encourage you all to put your hands up to take part – after all, it is for everyone's benefit.

Stay safe and well and remember - Hope is being able to see that there IS light, despite all of the darkness.

THE WEEK THAT WAS 8TH SEPTEMBER 2022

President Fran opened the meeting at 6:35 PM and welcomed Her Worship the Mayor of Knox Councillor Susan Laukens.

President Fran also welcomed guests Martin and Joan, partner Kay McAloney, also Rotarian Gary Braddock on Zoom. (Gary is feeling quite well and hoping to attend meetings in the near future) President Fran called on PP Christine Anderson to introduce our guest speaker Councillor Susan Laukens, the Mayor!

Councillor Laukens commenced her talk to us by acknowledging that we are occupying the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation and paid her respects to Elders past, present, and emerging.

Councillor Laukens is of Italian stock whose folks came to Australia after the Second World War. She has been a registered nurse for 28 years having worked in Myrtleford and nursed at the Austin Hospital. In 2020 she moved into community nursing.

She and her husband John have been married for 21 years and have two girls aged 17 and 15. On moving into the City of Knox she became interested in the community activities and decided to run for council in 2020 elections. Having been successful, she became the deputy mayor in her first year on council.

In her opinion the role of Mayor has 3 priorities:

- Governance
- Council Programs
- Council Employees Doing the right thing!

In the 2022 elections 5 new councillors were elected, they were all women, and will serve until the 2024 elections.

On the council website there is a section devoted to “Special Interest Groups”

She mentioned that many people volunteer directly with Council in a range of roles such as Meals on wheels, (who are struggling for volunteer drivers).

Gardening, planting, and weeding in local parks and reserves through ‘Environment Friends Groups’. She mentioned some of the following:

- September is Bio-diversity Month
- The Knox Festival will be held in March 2023
- There are a range of grants available through council such as: -

\$3000 up to \$5000 over three years

Minor grants – can help Knox not-for-profit community groups with quick response grants of up to \$3000

Biodiversity Buddies Grants – available for landowners of up to \$1000 to conserve and improve indigenous vegetation on the property also can be for biodiversity use for non-indigenous vegetation works

Individual grants can be obtained for Community development projects, (as an example the lights in Horologist Lane in the Ferntree Gully village were part of the grant scheme)

Grants cannot be used in any location where there is gambling, such as pokies!

There are many opportunities for volunteering in the city of Knox:

- Joining an Advisory Committee such as, the disability advisory committee or multicultural advisory committee
- Volunteering at festivals and events
- Knox environmental society

A visit to the Council’s website knox.vic.gov.au/grants will reveal the entire range of opportunities to serve as volunteers and of grants available.

We can also subscribe to Knox Council’s weekly news on the website with upcoming events such as September being biodiversity month there are events such as the following: -

- Bird walks and community working bees

- Biodiversity blitz, which is a community science project where you can record plants and animals you see one out in nature. (These details are on the Knox website homepage news section)
- Stringy Bark Festival – 16th October at Rowville Community Centre, a celebration of all things home-made, homegrown and upcycled.

Things happening in Ferntree Gully village:

- The Lights in Horologist Lane
- Artwork created by local kids
- Council has plans to improve Ferntree Gully village. This includes making the village safer, attracting, and retaining businesses in the village and using art to beautify the area. Council is currently seeking feedback on these plans; this can be done on the website 'haveyoursayknox.vic.gov.au
- A new bridge “treehouse bridge” installed at Ferntree Gully community arts Centre which was opened in August.
- New public toilets are being installed at Quarry Reserve

At the conclusion of Councillor Laukens talk President Fran asked for a vote of thanks from all present, which was enthusiastically given.

Other business: PP Christine Anderson mentioned to members that she had received an invitation from one of our recent speakers Amy Yuen from **Serenity Life Balance** seeking a volunteer from the Rotary Club to attend the opening on 17 September of a workshop they are conducting for children aged 7 to 16 that supports the '**2022 Three Acts of Goodness Story Festival**' and be involved in telling a short story.

Meeting closed at 7:30 PM and all members, including the speaker, adjourned to the dining room for a very enjoyable repast.

JUST FOR FUN

At age 4 success is not piddling in your pants.

At age 12, success is having friends.

At age 18, success is having a driver's licence.

At age 35, success is having money.

At age 50, success is having money.

At age 70, success is having a driver's licence.

At age 75, success is having friends.

At age 80, success is not piddling in your pants.

Rail and Sail - Sunday 6th November 2022

ROMANCE AND EXCITEMENT OF A SEA VOYAGE
NOSTALGIA AND STYLE OF A HERITAGE STEAM TRAIN

RAIL AND SAIL

SUNDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2022



BOOKINGS AND MORE INFO – www.steamrail.com.au/tours

Combine the romance & excitement of a sea voyage with the nostalgia & style of a heritage steam train onboard Steamrail Victoria's Rail and Sail. Choose your way to travel on a day return journey between Melbourne and Geelong.

A great day out for the whole family; with Steamrail Victoria's Rail and Sail tour providing three exciting options for you to choose from:

RAIL FIRST - Rail First from Melbourne, Southern Cross to Geelong and Return by Sail to Melbourne, Docklands

RAIL ONLY - Rail from Melbourne, Southern Cross to Geelong and Return to Melbourne, Southern Cross

SAIL FIRST - Sail First from Melbourne, Docklands to Geelong and Return by Rail to Melbourne, Southern Cross

These options are set out in more detail below.

1. Rail First from Melbourne, Southern Cross to Geelong and Return by Sail to Melbourne, Docklands (Rail First)

This option starts off with our Heritage Steam Train departing from Melbourne's Southern Cross Station at **10:40am**. The train is scheduled to arrive in Geelong at 12:00pm.

You will then have time to explore Geelong and the Waterfront, before making your way to Steampacket Pier (near Cunningham Pier) for the scheduled 4:00pm sailing of the 'Geelong Flyer'.

Finish the afternoon off enjoying the homeward journey across Port Phillip Bay and then up the Yarra River for an arrival at approximately 5:30pm. Once again, a contrasting style to the morning's Rail journey.

2. Rail from Melbourne, Southern Cross to Geelong and Return to Melbourne, Southern Cross (Rail Only)

This option provides a return rail journey from Melbourne's Southern Cross Station through to the coastal city of Geelong.

The forward journey gets underway with a **10:40am** departure from Melbourne and an expected arrival time in Geelong of 12:10pm.

You then have close to four hours to explore Geelong and its magnificent waterfront.

In the afternoon the return journey will commence with a 3:50pm departure from Geelong and an arrival back in Melbourne at 5:10pm.

3. Sail First from Melbourne, Docklands to Geelong and Return by Rail to Melbourne, Southern Cross (Sail First)

Cost of tickets is \$89.00 per head for seniors. We currently have 12 people interested in attending, and if we get 16, we will receive a 10% discount on each ticket. There are still some people in the club thinking about it.

Hello to all Rotarians,

I write to acknowledge the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. Regardless of whether you are a supporter of the monarchy or not, we would all agree that she has been an outstanding leader of the Commonwealth for the last 70 years.

A few years ago, via her son in law Capt. Mark Phillips, I had the opportunity and privilege to say a quick hello to Queen Elizabeth II.

Her bright and bubbly personality and genuine interest in the work we were doing will stay with me forever.

One of the greatest examples of "SERVICE ABOVE SELF" that we have ever seen

Queen Elizabeth II R.I.P.

Ken

Ken Miller

District Governor 2022-23

D9810

M: 0448 445574



HERE, HERE, SHE WAS A REAL TROOPER. ED.



Thanks to all club members who helped out last Friday for our monthly Sausage Sizzle. Profit was \$630.00. Our next sizzle will be on Friday October 14th.

Some of the ladies headed into the city on Sunday to see the theatre production of 9 to 5, the movie made famous with Dolly Parton. Preshow tea, coffee and cake at Damon and Bradley before taking up our front row seats. An afternoon full of laughter was celebrated with a drink after the show before boarding the train to head back to Ferntree Gully. Thank you to Marg Hurst for organising such a fun day.

