

Pictured: Ambleside Homestead, FTG

Rotary Club of Fern Tree Gully Inc.

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Vol 62 No20

24th November 2022

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Date & Time:	Thursday 1 ST December [6.00 for 6.30]	Thursday 8th December (6.00 for 6.30)	Thursday 15th December (6.00 for 6.30)	Thursday 19 th January (6.00 for 6.30)
Venue:	FTG BOWLS CLUB	BUNNINGS SCORESBY	PAUL & JILL WILSONS HOME	FTG BOWLS CLUB
&Program	XMAS HAMPER PACKING	XMAS COMMUNITY EVENING	CLUB XMAS PARTY	ROTARY RESUMES
Speaker:			Catering arrangements to be confirmed	
Vote Of Thanks				
Scribe:				

DECEMBER

"By recognizing that infectious disease is not some faraway exotic issue but a global problem, and by sharing the responsibility for its prevention, diagnosis, and control, the whole world will be a lot safer."

Seán Berkley

DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT MONTH



Rotary 



FROM THE PRESIDENT

FRAN'S FANFARE!

I must admit that last week's Speaker Ray Pearce really opened my eyes to our local history. I found the whole thing fascinating and the fact that it had happened over a comparatively short period of time was even more surprising to me. How far we have come in that short time is a miracle and a tribute to the tenacity and resilience of those of yesteryear, who did not hesitate to embrace progress in spite of the hardships they endured.

In another way we in our club are experiencing our own challenge and hardship with our dear friend Paul Mac's continuing fight to recover from his serious and life-threatening conditions. We can only pray with all our concerted might to fight with him with our love and prayers. We need his wisdom, experience and indomitable sense of humour to go forward with our Rotary lives.

My grateful thanks to those members who have expressed their endorsement of the Bins for Blokes project. I have a majority Vote in favour of it and will therefore pursue it.

Any members who opposed it are invited to tell me their reasons for doing so.

See you Thursday!

Fran

UPCOMING EVENTS

4TH Dec 2022

8th Dec 2022

9th Dec 2022

10th Dec 2022

15th Dec 2022

19th Jan 2023

3-5 Mar 2023

25th Apr 2023

Rotary Youth Leadership Award

Bunnings Community Evening

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

Knox Historical Society Running BBQ

Club Xmas Party (last meeting for 2022)

Rotary Resumes

District Conference in Canberra

Anzac Dawn Service at Quarry Reserve

THE WEEK THAT WAS

Minutes of Weekly Meeting of 24 November, 2022

The meeting was opened at 6-30pm by President Fran, with Fran & Brian M, Rosie Massey and Gary B on Zoom.

Present in person – Christine A, Graeme A, John F, Graeme Harrison, Martin Howard, Rob H, Mike S, Alan T, and Paul W. Guest– Joan Howard. Speaker Ray Peace (Knox Historical Society).

Apologies - Paul M (in hospital). Rosie has a large card to be signed by members, and flowers will be sent when appropriate.

Announcements:

The President welcomed partner Joan Howard as well as the speaker, Ray Peace (Knox Historical Society)

Rotary Toast: followed by a prayer by Major Rosie Massey for Paul McAloney who is in hospital.

Men's Lunch: Fran has disseminated more information about Bins for Blokes. Given that no financial commitment or major support effort is needed, she wishes all members to consider approving our adoption of this project by the Club, and advise her by email of your decision ASAP.

Speaker – Ray Peace, of the Knox Historical Society.

Ray has been a member of the Knox Historical Society for decades, and is a researcher for them. He has written many books and articles for them and about Ferntree Gully, and is a wealth of information, used by Councils and other organisations.

Pre-settlement by whites, the area around FTG was “a land of plenty” for the many Aboriginal tribes, but half of their population was wiped out by smallpox transmitted by the whalers in the very early years. The many tribes even had an assigned meeting ground for settling tribal scores and disputes between them.

The Native Police Corps operated out of the area from 1837 to 1853, when they were disbanded and most were sent to other regiments as trackers, the rest going to Corinderck, the Aboriginal settlement at Healesville. The police building was bulldozed in the 1960's.

Early Pioneers were headed by James Clow, John Wood Beilby (owner of the first freehold land in FTG), and Thomas Dobson in 1854.

Beginnings of Development. No roads or other amenities and relatively infertile land (no farms, no population!) always inhibited the development of the area, which attracted early tourists for its natural beauty.

Railway 3/2/1889. The extension of the rail network from Ringwood to FTG, primarily to carry tall timber down to the port of Melbourne, started a land boom alongside the line. The name FTG allegedly came from the fern trees only being left after the tall timber was cut down for ship masts and spars.

The Shire of FTG came out of the Shire of Berwick.

World War 1. 60 locals died out of the then 10,000 population, the heaviest per capita toll of the country. Post-war soldier/settler schemes did not succeed because of the land quality and small lots allocated. *The KHS had an ANZAC book written (and still available).*

Between the Wars. FTG started to become suburbia and generate its own history, *including another KHS book about the Royal Hotel murders.*

World War 2. A military camp was established at Rowville to defend against the expected Japanese forces. Our area lost 60 men in the conflict.

Post-War. Development of the area really took off, the bare land of 1960 on the corner of Stud Road became the Knox City of 1970.

Knox became a city in 1969, with Wally Tew as the first mayor. It is up to around 150,000 now, and the rate of development is slowing. It was large enough to not be combined with other cities in the shambles that was the Local Government reshuffle of the 1980's. It has been multi-cultural since after the Second World War (Ray believes for the better).

Knox Historical Society. Started in 1965, it took over the 1890's homestead Ambleside (one of 4 in the area) in 1977 as its museum and headquarters.

Reports

Treasurer: No report

Community: Christine advised the CFA Fair hours for our volunteers have changed and are now 9am-2pm.

Fellowship: no report.

Youth: Paul Wilson will advise of the actual time of the RJCA awards on 5/12/2022 at FTG North Primary, when finalised.

Foundation: no report

President Fran closed the meeting at 7-32 pm, after which we had dinner in the dining room with more questions being answered by Ray, the speaker.

Scribe- Mike Spark 25/11/2022

*At this week's meeting I will be seeking volunteers who will be available for our next Sausage Sizzle on December 9th.
Graeme*



Emma Clark from the Emerald and District Rotary Club will be visiting our club on December 1st. Emma will give a presentation of the upcoming District Conference in March 2023, this will be prior to the Christmas Hamper packing.



REVERSE Advent Calendar

Make a difference this Christmas!

1 PASTA	2 TINNED FRUIT	3 BISCUITS	4 CEREAL	5 HONEY
6 GRAVY	7 COFFEE	8 PASTA SAUCE	9 TINNED TOMATOES	10 MINCE TARTS
11 CHOCOLATE	12 LONG LIFE MILK	13 CHRISTMAS PUDDING	14 RICE	15 TINNED VEGETABLES
16 TINNED SOUP	17 TEA BAGS	18 VEGEMITE/SPREAD	19 TINNED TUNA	20 TOILETRIES
21 DESSERT MIX	22 CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS	23 DONATE TO FOOTHILLS	24 CHRISTMAS CAKE	25 A LITTLE SURPRISE

A Reverse Advent Calendar hamper begins with box or bag. For 25 days during November, you place one item into the box such a non - perishable food, toiletries, Christmas treats etc – see our attached list.

After 25days your Reverse Advent Calendar hamper will now be filled and ready to donate to Foothills, Throughout December, we distribute the hampers to people in our local community who are in need or special love and an extra hand up this Christmas time

Simply place an item each day in a box and donate to
FOOTHILLS COMMUNITY CARE

Any Non-Perishable food items are welcome, please ensure they are within their best before dates.

ABOVE ARE IDEAS ONLY

We are unable to distribute medications or alcohol in hampers

FOOTHILLSCARE.ORG.AU





A big thankyou to the club members and partners who attended last Saturday the Community Fair at Ferntree Gully CFA. The numbers attending I'm sure exceeded any expectations that the CFA had expected.

Our craft stall was very busy for the four hours it operated, as was the sausage sizzle where free sausages were given away complements of the CFA. Two additional trips to the supermarket for additional purchases of sausages and bread was necessary to meet the demand. A very busy day.