

The Pascoe Post

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Pascoe Vale – June 1, 2023

The Club meets at the Pascoe Vale RSL each Thursday night at 6.30pm. We have some great speakers. Visitors* - Please join us for dinner – our shout!

Contact the editor for more details

Pascoe Vale
Rotary



THIS WEEK

Presidential Decree

1st June 2023

Hi Rotarians, Friends of Rotary, and Kind Sponsors! I do hope you & your families & friends are all well.

•**WOW!** What a conference that was! 14,000 Rotarians from all over the world!

•Welcome to country was given by Daniel Ross. What made this resonate with so many of us was that in the 1st nations language “welcome” translates to “Come with Purpose”. How perfect for our conference!

•Polio Plus: Pakistan had 350,000 cases in 1990. In 2010, 150,000 cases. 2023 - 4 cases! Now that is outstanding progress!

•Never Forget: Our Work Changes People's Lives!

•On Saturday, at the Opening Ceremony, Sisters & Mistresses put on a blistering performance that left the audience sweating, puffing, & exhausted! People from all over the world sang, danced, clapped & had a great time!

•My typical day started with coffee with a couple from Milan Italy, morning tea with UK Rotarians, lunch with a couple of Nigerians, and afternoon coffee with Ukrainians.

Plenty of chats with Rotarians from the Philippines, Alaska, USA, Canada, France, Scotland, Ireland, England, Switzerland, Germany, Fiji, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Finland & New Zealand.

And, of course from all over Australia.

So many highlights, & guest speakers were exceptional!

• More to come in the following reports!

• Click on the link for Rotary's Shoulder to The Wheel song!

<https://youtu.be/gHbAX5eOXcY>

As Always,

Yours in Rotary Service,
Prez Bruno.

This week, Grant will give us an overview of the International Convention. Where, When, and How did the organisers manage to get over 12,000 attendees to the right place at the right time. Where were the venues, and, most importantly, was it all smooth sailing?

Join us online!

ZOOM meeting details

(available every week)

Click on the link to join our meetings, everyone is welcome.

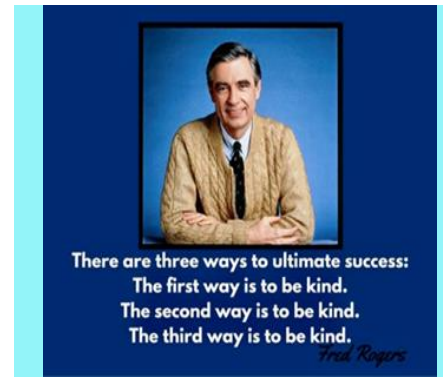
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83416704008?pwd=ZjdMMDgvaKpjUoVHSjU3RjZPdKwxZz09>

Meeting ID: 834 1670 4008
Passcode: 976649



Upcoming Events

1 st June	International Convention, Member Report - Logistics
8 th June	International Convention, Member Report - Content
11 th June	Bunnings BBQ
14 th June	Pascoe Vale Girls College - Mock Interviews, Kevin Fernandes
15 th June	Gerry Cartwright, Police and Emergency Services
22 nd June	Darren Saffin, Tough Guys Book Club
29 th June	2023 Changeover, Northern Golf Club
6 th July	Catherine Eagleson, Puzzling for mindfulness/mental health



Last Week

Last week, we were joined by the Sisters and Mistrs singing group. This was their last rehearsal before performing at the House of Friendship Opening Ceremony on Saturday Morning. Well Done, Bruno.



THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATIONS:

Birthdays:

Grant Standfield

Anniversaries:

None

VALE Lance Bulluss

It is with much regret that I share the news of the passing of Rotarian Lance Bulluss, last night, husband of PDG Patti Bulluss Rotary Club of Milawa Oxley.

We all join together to pass on our love and deepest sympathy to you Patti, for your loss.

Sincere Regards,

Chris Sutton

District Secretary 2022-23



Message from the Chair



Youth Report, from Bruce Browning

Firstly, I'd like to apologise to those sitting around me at the Sisters and Misterys show last meeting. I saw you squirming to get away, and mistook it for enjoyment of my dulcet tones.

Thank you all for welcoming our Student Exchange applicant Phoebe and her mother Claudia to our meetings recently. Phoebe has applied to us after trying to interest other clubs, unsuccessfully, closer to her home.

According to the Chair District 9790 Rotary Youth Exchange Committee the program is as follows,

It is what we call Short or Medium term exchange (STEP) and we have been facilitating these exchanges in our district for a few years now. Initially we did six weeks but the students found that to be too short, so we have increased the length of time to 10-12 weeks and that really depends on what the families agree to. It is family to family, so the student who leaves from here has as their family host the inbound reciprocal students family.

This means the Rotary Club commitment is far less for STEP than for the long term program which is the program we are well recognised for. The Club still needs to provide a counsellor for the student and assist the family with schooling, but the host family is already in place and there is no student allowance, so very little stress and cost. The student usually attends the same school as the host sibling and school uniform pieces can either be borrowed or sourced second hand for their brief time here. The students coming here require a student visa which means they have an AASES (Acceptance Advice for Secondary Exchange Student) form from Victoria's Education and Training Regulator, the VRQA (Victorian

As you can see in this newsletter, ROMAC is now well and truly back in operation after the Covid hiatus.

We are currently supporting the treatment of seven children across New Zealand and Australia and almost everything is progressing very well. Unfortunately, this business is very high risk so, very occasionally, things don't turn out as hoped.

For more details about the great work that ROMAC does, go to their website at <https://www.romac.org.au/>



Regulations and Qualifications Authority). I believe that entitles the schools to include them in their figures for government subsidies.

The exchanges are processed in the same way. The students receive training, just like the long term students and they are provided with a uniform, but no blazer. The student's family pays a global fee, which is a little less for STEP than for the long term program and this covers their airfares, insurance through Youth Exchange Australia, uniform and training. The fee is not much less as the costs are vastly the same for three months as for twelve months. There are similar guarantee forms for the process to be run under Rotary and for the visa applications. So not much difference in the paperwork or process, just less difficulty in finding host families, and the saving of not having to pay the inbound student an allowance.

Cost to the Club is basically in logistical support. Financially it is not very great. Possibly the cost of some meals to involve the student and their family with your Club. Inviting them to meetings is a good way to encourage the student and their family to be involved with your Club and have them assist your Club with your projects. It may even lead to membership opportunities for the parents. The cost of the student's meal is usually covered by the Club but the parents are often expected to pay for their own meal after the initial meeting. When hosting the reciprocal student the costs might be a little more as there may be some education related expenses, but otherwise it would be much the same; invite the student to a couple of meetings to hear about their life at home and then, towards the end, about their time here.

I think you will agree that this type of exchange is more convenient to our club and would encourage all members to get behind this Youth project, now and in the future. Bruce Browning.

From the Melbourne Herald-Sun, May 31, 2023

How Rotary helped beat the Russians

John Masanauskas

When Baltic nation Lithuania was fighting for its freedom in the early 1990s it had big problems rejoining international organisations such as Rotary.

But it got help from Australian Rotarians who intervened in an international dispute with Moscow, which was trying to stop countries like Lithuania from going their own way.

More than 30 years after

Lithuania won independence, the small nation's Rotary leaders are here in Melbourne to give thanks to local members who helped out.

At the weekend they met up at the Rotary International Convention and also were hosted at the Lithuanian community centre in North Melbourne by local Rotarian Bally Stankunavicius.

In 1990, Mr Stankunavicius was asked by then Lithuanian

Prime Minister Kazimiera Prunskiene to lobby for her country to rejoin Rotary after the Russian occupiers had banned it for 50 years.

Mr Stankunavicius said that global Rotary leaders, under pressure from the then USSR, were initially reluctant to give the green light to Lithuania.

"It was outrageous," he said. "I spoke to my Rotary mates in Melbourne about what was going on and they were furious.

"Australian District Governor Greg Ross and Toorak Rotary president Les Goldman led a vigorous campaign."

It paid off – in 1992 Rotary returned to Lithuania for the first time since World War II.

Rotary Lithuania district governor Jurgita Turuliene said Mr Ross and Mr Stankunavicius had played a key role.

"So it's amazing to be here in Melbourne to thank them," she said.

2023 Changeover Dinner

To be held at
The Northern Golf Club
On Thursday, June 29th,
2023 - 6.30 pm for a 7.00
pm start

Cost - \$60 per person

RSVP Wednesday, May 31st,
2023 to Heather Harris –
sadiechild@yahoo.co.uk

<https://www.trybooking.com/CHWSY>

The "EndTrachoma" Team at the conference





Jurgita Turuliene with Melbourne Rotarians Greg Ross, Balys Stankunavicius and Ron Payne. Picture: Ray Vysniauskas

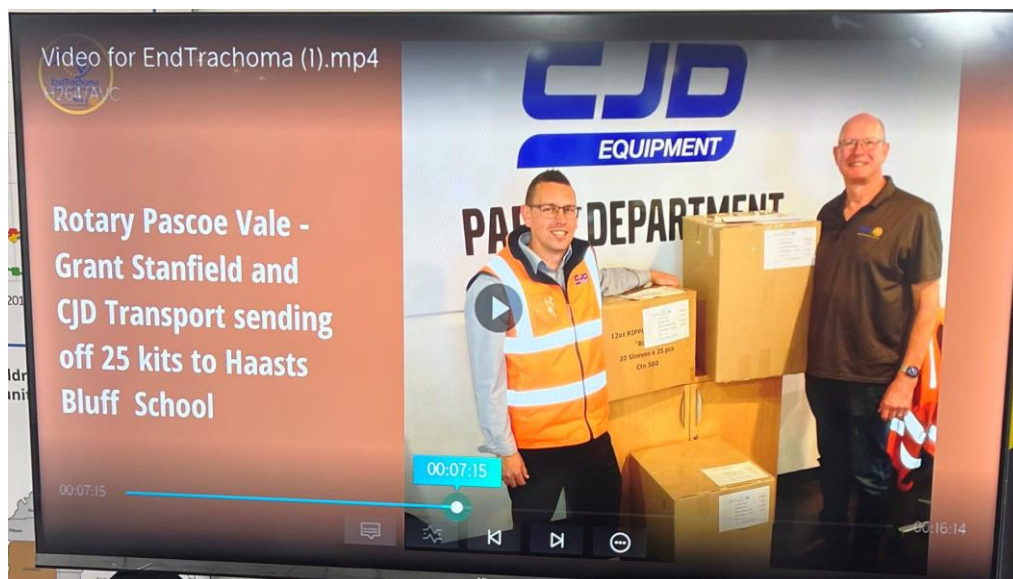
Random Photos from the conference



Conference Snippet.

While walking passed the “End Trachoma” stand in the “House of Friendship” I noticed this vision as part of their video display.

Note D’Prez in the background





Surprise Destination Dinner

As part of the conference experience, we assisted Strathmore in running a mystery dinner for overseas guests. Our surprise destination, The Hangar, the home of the Essendon Football Club. Special Guest Speaker, AFL Legend Kevin Sheedy.



Club Messages/Cards –

If you know of any Current, Honorary/Past Member or family or friends of our Rotary Club who could benefit from a card or message, please get in touch with Lia Wolfe (P.P. Pat's daughter) who will arrange for an appropriate card to be sent on behalf of our Club.

Mobile: 0401 575 048

The Pascoe Post

Editor: Grant Standfield

Email: gstandfi@outlook.com

Mobile: 0400 738 102

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