

Canterbury Tales

Rotary Club of Canterbury
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Meeting

Mondays 6:00pm for 6:30pm Basscare Centre, 2 Rochester Rd, Canterbury Unless otherwise stated in Diary

Register for Meeting

Guests and Club Members can Register on the following links Register for Meeting Register and Pay Online

Apologies

Notify Meeting Apology *prior to 10AM Monday

Graham Bishop Mobile 0412 154 540

rotaryclubofcanterbury@gmail.com Advise Graham of a long absence

The Rotary Radio Show Fridays 6pm to 8pm 3WBC 94.1 FM

The Aussie Pride Badge



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Monday May 16

Monday May 23 Monday May 30



Karen Hayes and Willow

President's Message

At our last meeting, Karen Hayes, Chief Executive Officer of Guide Dogs Victoria (GDV) gave an enlightening presentation about the full range of services provided free to over 500 clients on an annual basis. Many only consider that GDV's role is to breed, train and provide relevant support services to recipients of the much valued and loved support dogs. The fact is the scope of Guide Dogs Victoria services is much larger and planning is underway to further increase their community services.

Karen spoke of GDV services for children's mobility. These are very specialised services that provide the opportunity for children with no or varying sight impairments to develop to their full potential. It caters for children from birth, or at any age depending on the need, through all stages of their development which includes pre-school, primary and secondary education. This enhances the child's confidence, supporting them in age appropriate education tools, safe movement, mobility and general travel skills. GSV also provides support to parents, teachers and community members.

Karen also spoke about adult orientation and mobility skills services that are provided to clients over 18 years of age. Again, these services are specifically targeted to increase the client's confidence and mobility safety. Specialized equipment is supplied to the clients, relevant to their needs.

GDV also provides assistance to clients with visual impairment following an acquired brain injury, maybe resulting from motor vehicle or bicycle accidents, strokes, tumours, degenerative eye conditions, or general trauma. The services assist the clients to enhance the use of any residual vision and develop their other senses and strategies to improve their independence.

The GDV has been breeding dogs since 1957, currently with an average of 160 pups born each year and 140 dogs in training.

The aim of their training is to ensure that they will provide safe guidance for their matched recipients. This assistance of course promotes the confidence and independence of the recipient and enables them to navigate their environment. It has been estimated that the each dog walks over 9,000Km in its working life of 9 to 11 years.



Speaker and Activities Program

Speaker: Kim Groizard, "Solar Powered Backpack Dental Chairs"
Speaker: Simon McKenzie-Nickson, "Alzheimer's Research Update"

Social Function: Vietnamese and Chinese Cuisine Night with Partners and Friends

"Sapa Hills Restaurant", 623 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn

Sunday Market 7am - 1pm

May 15 - Peter May, Alan Stevens, Annette Brownscombe/Sue Osborne May 22 - Breanna Ban, Andrew Mastrowicz, John Braine May 29 - Edward Gwee, Val Cunniffe, Max Holland

Contact Tony Simpson for all roster changes and requests, Home 9417 3995, Mob 0488 380 899 Please be on time as if you are late, our Club pays \$50 penalty for each half hour or part thereof.





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President's Message - Continued

Guide Dogs Victoria provides 75% of all dogs for metropolitan and rural Victorian residents, with the other 25% provided for recipients in South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania and Internationally. Volunteers care for the pups following weaning until around 12 month of age. The primary goal for the volunteer is to nurture the pup so it is well socialised, confident and not readily distracted. DGV staff provide support with visits at 6 to 8 week intervals and one to one telephone contact. All feeding and veterinary costs are provided by DGV but the caring process by volunteers requires a special commitment and enormous dedication. On their return to GDV, the young dogs are assessed and if deemed suitable they undertake an intensive 5 month training program before being matched with a person with visual impairment. The matched dog must compliment their companion person's lifestyle, personality and mobility needs. A live-in bonding program is completed prior to the 'new navigation team' going solo in the home environment.

Only 9% of GDV's funding is from government sources. Guide Dogs Victoria is very reliant on charity donations and is proud of the fact that it has been voted the most trusted charity three times since 2013 and is very aware of the transparency required to maintain its reputation. GDV's other major funding and advocacy sources are from strong business and research partnerships that have been developed over the years. GDV needs to be NDIS ready as the demands for their services will increase as NDIS is further implemented and extended. Unfortunately NDIS services funding will be limited to eligible clients who are classified as legally blind and less than 65 years of age. It is estimated that about 17% of GDV funding will be from NDIS eligible clients.

The GDV's goal is to develop and implement more initiatives to ensure their sustainability. A Master Plan has been developed for their site in Kew and a capital appeal is in progress to enable upgrading of the live-in areas. The Master Plan aims to introduce social enterprise revenue with the establishment of a veterinary hospital and training facilities with public access to the veterinary clinic and training school and to a coffee shop.

Disaster Aid Food Packaging Vocational Activity

Thanks to the 32 members, friends and previous Philippines Medical Program attendees for participating in the Disaster Aid Food Packaging Vocational Activity last Monday at Doug Hawley's factory in Dandenong South. We packed 800 humanitarian food packs which is enough to provide food for approximately 4800 people. The aluminium heat sealed packs consist of lentils, oats and rice with a sachet of minerals and vitamins. These packs will be shipped to Masbate in the Philippines and stored in a vermin safe

area for distribution, in the future, following the inevitable natural disasters that occur in the region. Recognition of Doug and his family's massive contribution to these packs is acknowledged. Doug also gave an inspection of construction works underway in developing an infant cereal packaging section. It is evident that this new facility has been a massive undertaking. On the next visit we should see it fully operational.

I am sure you will agree - a Grand Effort by all. The hungry workers enjoyed an appetizing barbeque followed by a yummy dessert after their frenetic packing activity. Thank you to everyone for your contribution and effort.





The Next Speaker - Kim Groizard

Kim Groizard is a member of the Rotary Club of Docklands with a professional involvement with dental equipment. After a visit to Cambodia she perceived a need for better access to dental care by the rural people from which the project <u>SOLAR SMILES</u> was born with the support of her Club.

After extensive research she found the Solar Powered Backpack Dental Chair created by the South American company Itec. The chair is a robust, fully articulating dental chair with a battery operated handpiece in a 15kg package that can be transported on an adult's back. The chair can support a 126kg patient and includes a well balanced 2,000 - 30,000 rpm drill, pneumatic foot operated speed control pedal, instrument tray, solar panel and zero memory metal hydride battery



The Rotary Lunchers

The next Rotary lunch is at the "Milan Restaurant", 44 Cotham Road, Kew next Wednesday 18th May at the usual time of 12:30pm.

"Milan @ Kew Indian" - it's an Indian restaurant that oozes class, style and originality. There are good value lunch time menu deals and it is fully licensed or you can BYO wine.

Let David Zrna know if you are coming <u>anrz47@iinet.net.au</u> or 0467 033 092.

