

ISSUE 8• APRIL 2022

OUR DISTRICT, OUR VOICE

Official Newsletter of Rotary District 9790

Anne's column

DISTRICT GOVERNOR ANNE REID

April is Maternal and Child Health Month.

Through Rotary there are a variety of programs which offer high quality health care available to mothers and children. Millions of children die because of malnutrition, inadequate health care and poor sanitation. Grants from the Rotary Foundation funds many programs which highlights the reason to give generously to our Foundation.

There are many programs within Australia and around the Pacific region such as ROMAC, Interplast, End Trachoma, RAM, programs through RAWCS and End Polio. There are many more which can be researched according to your club's interests.

Flood Relief

Some of our clubs are making direct contact with clubs in flood affected. The need is huge and by making contact and donating money, they are feeling the warmth in a time of desperate need.

End Polio

As the year is drawing to a close, it is time to make our donations to the Foundation. I am aware that some clubs have had limited opportunity to hold fundraising events, however, over the last 3 years, District has either given a rebate or not charged for 6 months membership. I ask you to consider making an extra contribution this month or in May.

Continue your good work.

Anne Reid



***District Conference Report and
pics on pages 8-10!***



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Rotarians can help save our koalas

A few years ago, I worked as a volunteer at a local wildlife shelter. My task each Monday, Wednesday and Friday was to clean the cages and replenish the food supplies for the baby koalas that had been abandoned by their mothers in the excessive heat of the 2019-2020 summer. When a mother koala is stressed, her survival technique is to leave her baby and move away, so that she can cope with the heat stress and live to reproduce the following year. Unfortunately, the babies cannot survive without human help.

My work as a volunteer ended when a koala with scabies entered the shelter and they had to go into a lockdown situation. Fortunately, the carers were able to limit the spread of the scabies mite and save the babies, who were later released into the bush.

My involvement in this program lead to a commitment to work to save our koalas. The devastation of the 2020 bushfires made our nation aware of the bleak future facing our iconic and beautiful native animals (not just koalas). The task ahead is enormous. Government money has been allocated to achieve this goal, but I believe that the work of community groups, like Rotary, can have a significant impact.

As a service organisation, Rotary clubs could look for ways to actively support their local koala populations. This could include:

- Revegetation of land previously cleared for farming
- Establishing wildlife water stations so animals don't have to travel long distances to access water, especially in the heat of summer
- Information signs in communities with facts to improve human encounters with wildlife. For example, giving a koala a drink from a water bottle (as shown in the media) is like putting a hose down the throat of a dog. Koalas need to lap up water from a container, not drink from a bottle.



- Encourage responsible pet ownership in your community to limit dog attacks on koalas
- Road signs in rural areas to encourage people to drive more carefully, aware of the potential threats to our wildlife.
- Support your local wildlife shelter, with items that are needed to help injured or traumatised wildlife. Wildlife carers are unpaid volunteers, so any support you can provide is very welcome.
- Promote the use of toys for children that reflect our native animals, not just imported teddies, elephants and giraffes.

After trying different fund-raising ideas, my daughter and I began making toy koalas, using some of the beautiful range of fabrics available. I am committed to encouraging Rotary clubs in District 9790 to create projects to support our koala populations, and so will donate funds raised through the sale of these koalas at Rotary events to clubs that are actively involved in koala conservation.

So if your club would like some financial support to develop a service project with koalas as its focus, please contact me to let me know how I can support you. I can donate funds from the sale of koalas, or provide toy koalas with a special theme to use in whatever way your club wants.

You can contact me on **0434 867 663** (If I don't answer, please leave a message. I screen incoming calls from numbers I don't know.)Email: L.greenwood53@bigpond.com

Lorraine Greenwood
Rotary Club of Numurkah





INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 27-31 MAY 2023 MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

March 2022



Melbourne Convention Host Hospitality Night

Monday 29th May 2023 is the Melbourne Convention Host Hospitality night. An RI Convention tradition where local Rotarians and Clubs provide delegates with a memorable evening of hospitality, local culture and international fellowship.

We are now seeking expressions of interest from Individual Rotarians and Clubs to participate in either Home Hosting or Club Hosting events. This is a great opportunity to induct delegates into the culture and marvels of our wonderful city.

I look forward to hearing from you and your great ideas on how to impress our overseas and interstate delegates!

Closing Date 30 Apr 2022

**Peter Dunn - HOC Director
Host Hospitality**

HOME HOSTING OPPORTUNITIES

Rotarians who are registered for the Convention and live within an approximate 15 km radius of the CBD can apply to host between 4 and 8 international and interstate guests in their home for dinner. Priority for hosting will be given to Registered Convention attendees but non-attendee Rotarians are also welcome to apply.

As a Home Host you will be responsible for arranging transport for your guests to and from your home. You may want to consider involving others in your Club, or immediate family to assist in this process. It is acceptable to have guests returned to their hotels by Taxi or Uber.

Hosts will receive \$55 per guest (from the registration fee for this event) to help offset the costs of the dinner and transport.

For more information and to Register your interest in Home Hospitality Opportunities go to:

<https://rotarymelbourne2023.org/home-hospitality>

CLUB HOSTING OPPORTUNITIES

These ever-popular Convention events fill quickly and we expect that Melbourne won't be any different. Clubs or a group of Clubs are invited to design their own event and dinner which can be at the same venue or two different venues. To minimise travel time venues should be within a 20 km radius of the CBD. Guests are picked up by bus from their hotel and once onboard, an announcement about their destination is provided. *Surprise!* Clubs will need to host guests in multiples of 50 (one busload) and have at least 5-10 hosting Rotarians & partners for each group of 50 at the dinner venue.

Delegates registering for Host Hospitality will pay a flat charge to attend which will include their return bus trip. Clubs will receive a contribution of \$35pp towards the catering costs. Drinks will need to be purchased on a cash basis at the bar. Clubs should consider budgeting separately for any additional catering costs or entertainment. For more information and to register your interest in Club Hosting go to:

<https://rotarymelbourne2023.org/club-hospitality>

Note the new closing date!



DISCOVER NEW HORIZONS

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
HOUSTON, TEXAS, USA, 4-8 JUNE 2022

REGISTER TODAY AT [CONVENTION.ROTARY.ORG](https://convention.rotary.org)

#Rotary22



My fellow Rotary members,

There is nothing quite like our annual Rotary International Convention. It's the only opportunity we members get to connect personally with people from around the world, celebrate our works of service together, and collaborate on every level to find solutions to our most pressing challenges. We do all of this at one event — while making memories that will last a lifetime.

Rotary will have plenty to celebrate 4-8 June 2022 at our convention in Houston, Texas, USA — a city that's as diverse as our members, as inventive as our approach to service, and as welcoming as any Rotary member you'll ever meet. And if you can't attend in person, you can still be a part of it through our virtual convention program.

As the world continues to change, so must Rotary. It is our nature to be innovative, to see what's possible, and to take the initiative to accomplish things that are often nearly impossible. This is why we are people of action. No matter what challenges come today, we will always Discover New Horizons that lead us to a better tomorrow.

**Sincerely,
Shekhar and Rashi Mehta**





Dear Anne,

As one of the world's largest humanitarian organizations, Rotary has made peace the cornerstone of our global mission. We are deeply concerned about the Ukraine crisis and need your help.

Rotary is made up of people of action, especially in difficult times. In response to the deepening refugee crisis, The Rotary Foundation Trustees have decided to prioritize contributions made to the [Disaster Response Fund](#) until 30 April 2022 to support disaster response grants for districts affected by these events. These expedited [disaster response grants](#) can be used to supply water, food, medicine, shelter, and clothing.



Half a million people have fled Ukraine and are in dire need of emergency aid. The United Nations estimates that number of refugees could grow to as many as 5 million people displaced. Rotary clubs in Europe and around the world have stepped up their relief work, some working on the ground to help displaced families.

With your donation to our [Disaster Response Fund](#), we can support communities and help rebuild lives during this tragic time.

Sincerely,

John Germ
Trustee Chair, 2021-22
The Rotary Foundation

[DONATE](#)

Our very successful District Conference in Marysville



Rotarians from Rotary District 9790 had a very successful Conference in Marysville.

We are so grateful to the good people of Marysville for their time and tireless support to our Conference Committee to enable a most successful and enjoyable three days of "Embracing Change" in their wonderful Community Centre. The 350 plus Rotarians were impressed.

After 18 months of planning the conference started on Wednesday 16th with our annual "Ride to Conference". This involved 30 plus bike riders and crew who based at Alexandra, riding on the scenic roads out to and beyond Eildon, Yea, Steavenson Falls and then back again on Friday for afternoon tea at Marysville Golf Club. This coincided with 18 Rotarians and friends finishing their rounds on your inviting and well maintained course. Special thanks to Marysville Golf Club members from our committee and Golf Day organiser Glenda Woods RC of Yea, for hosting our event. We will return!

Our Conference program sought to 'Embrace Change' with its content, Marysville being the inspiration with its recovery and Community development. Service projects that focus on the Environment and wellbeing were to the fore in our program. Apart from many presentations that assist us with enhancing our service work both at home in our own communities and overseas we had others that also inspired and informed us. Kinglake Ranges Rotary Club members outlined their initial recovery work that inspired the Chartering of a Rotary Club which drew together active locals, determined to oversee the rebuilding of people's lives.

We listened to Lois Peeler the Principal of Worawa Aboriginal College at Healesville where Lois welcomes students from some of Australia's most remote regions, many of whom have been exposed to trauma and dysfunction in their young lives. We learnt of many opportunities through the work of Port Macquarie Koala Hospital where research has led to various means to halt the decline of Koalas in our forests, parks and farm land.

A significant local highlight was the presentation from Danny Hogan from Goulburn Valley Water who outlined the exceptional work and dedication that was required to reinstate the Water Supply to Marysville following the 2009 fire. We could understand how tough this work had been for Danny and GVW staff and other construction volunteers. Congratulations on the subsequent water Taste Tests, 1st in Australia and 2nd in The World.

Sean Willmore, founder of the "Thin Green Line Foundation" expanded on the work undertaken in support of the African Park Rangers who put their lives on the line to prevent poachers from slaughtering wildlife for ivory and other products. Each year over 100 rangers are killed by poachers leaving families without support. The Foundation has been successful in clothing and equipping rangers and providing communities with on-going support when Rangers are injured or killed in the line of Duty.

Nyadol Nyuon is a Human rights and refugee advocate, mother of two and former refugee. Born in a refugee camp in Ethiopia and raised in Kakuma Refugee camp in Kenya. In 2005, at the age of eighteen, her family escaped the Sudanese Civil War and Nyadol arrived in Melbourne where she completed a law degree at Melbourne University. What an inspiration! Vic Nominee Australian of the Year 2022

Throughout the three days we were also entertained: Tayla Arnett from Alexandra with her beautiful singing voice 'Pans on Fire' with their Lunchtime Performance Stephen O'Connell from Albury with his captivating Saxophone music Rowan Francis from Kinglake with his superb rendition of C.J. Dennis's 'The Mooch O'Life' Clandestiny Bushband at our Saturday night Bushdance for their engaging and energetic playing.

Thanks PEPPERS for use of your fine facilities for our various special interest breakfasts.

Our final thanks is to the generous and thoughtful Marysville and District Lions. Without their support we could not have had such a successful Conference. It has been a great partnership.

Phil Clancy
On behalf of District Governor Anne Reid and the Conference Committee



Some pictorial highlights of our Conference



Some pictorial highlights of our Conference



Just Macbeth – Just Fantastic!

How do you attract around 1500 local people to see a play?
Put on a production of 'Just Macbeth' in the outer suburbs
of Melbourne – and they will come!

Over the last two weekends in March, local production company, 'In the Park Productions' staged six outdoor performances of the hilarious comedy 'Just Macbeth' written by renowned children's author, Andy Griffiths. Originally dramatised by the Bell Shakespeare Company, this was a brilliant choice for their first production after two years of no performances due to Covid.

The Rotary Club of Diamond Creek has been a major sponsor of 'In the Park Productions' since their first local productions in 2018. The club has supported this not-for-profit organisation because it believes that everyone should have the opportunity to experience live theatre, and the very affordable ticket prices enables just that. Held at Alistair Knox Park in Eltham and Watkins Street Reserve in Diamond Creek, it has become a much anticipated local event.

Working front of house was a little challenging for the Rotarians trying to admit over 350 patrons on one night but we managed it well.

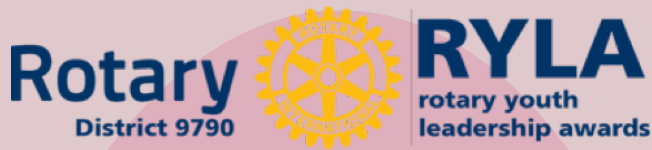
Prior to the performances, there was a buzz in the air and the enthusiasm was palpable as patrons arrived, armed with picnics, rugs and chairs, eagerly anticipating the production. Before the show commenced there was time to purchase one of Andy Griffiths' many novels from a stall set up by Eltham Bookstore and on two nights, Andy was there to autograph their copies. After so many lockdowns the community was excited!

The play, itself, was just sensational – the talented actors embraced their roles with passion and zeal culminating in a wonderful production which charmed the family dominated audiences. It seemed like the laughter never stopped! The Rotary Club of Diamond Creek is delighted that the local community has embraced the production with such enthusiasm and we are pleased that we can help to provide such a great experience.

Kerry Jones
Rotary Club of Diamond Creek



Youth News



The dates for the Rotary Youth Leadership Award Conference 2021-22:

New Dates - New Dates - New Dates!!!!!!

**Sunday, 20 November 2022 to
Saturday, 26 November 2022**

Yes, yes, yes, the Expression of Interest (EOI) on the RYLA website is open and ready to go! Have your future RYLarians lodge an Expression of Interest (EOI). Make sure you give them your name, contact phone number and the correct sponsoring club name.

Contact the team on Email: info@ryla9790.org.au
Website: <https://ryla9790.org.au/>

Kerry Jones Secretary M 0414 861 557 & Linda Gidlund, Chair, M 0418 173 279



Youth Programs Contacts

International University Student Rotary Home
Hosting – Philip Clancy, M 0428 834 162, Email: philip.clancy1@gmail.com

Interact – Linda Gidlund, M 0418 173 279, Email: lleegidlund@gmail.com

District Rotaract Representative – Elliot Silcock, M 0483 041 905, Email dr.9790@rotaract.org.au

National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) – Nigel Liggins, M 0400 694 618, Email: nigelliggins@bigpond.com

Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) – Meredith Miegel, M 0417 246 546, Email: chairperson@rye9790.org.au

Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) – Kerry Jones, Secretary M 0414 861 557, Email: info@ryla9790.org.au

Rotary Youth Program of ENrichment (RYPEN) – Contact Malcolm Watt, M 0439 158 274, Email: watt.malc@gmail.com

Rotex – Contact Rotex by email: rotex9790@gmail.com

Albury North - Rotary Youth Program of ENrichment (RYPEN) – Contact Warwick Tasker, M 0439 158 274, Email RYPEN Coordinator M 0408 052 386, Email warnel@bigpond.com

Ian Murphy Memorial Debate – Nigel Liggins, M 0400 694 618, Email nigelliggins@bigpond.com

Youth Volunteer Management - Contact Bruce McIntyre, M 0427 623 142, Email bruce.mcintyre1@bigpond.com

If you would like further information please contact **Linda Gidlund** on **0418 173 279** or lleegidlund@gmail.com



Youth News

Youth Volunteer Management - Quiz

YOUTH VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ



Q1: The picture above: What does it represent?

- (A) Your office desk?
- (B) Your Club Secretary's Paper Trail of important papers?
- (C) The new YVM program?

Q2: YVM: What does it stand for ie an acronym for what?

- (A) You're very mature
- (B) Young Virile Man
- (C) Youth Volunteer Management

Q3: Who needs to complete the YVM modules?

- (A) Only the District executive
- (B) All Rotarians
- (C) As many Rotarian volunteers as possible?

Q4: This program is essential, as it is required by:

- (A) Rotary International
- (B) Rotary Insurance
- (C) Government Legislative Authorities
- (D) All of the above

Q5: Why do we need to do this program?

- (A) to waste Rotarians time?
- (B) To challenge one's standing within the community?
- (C) To help maintain the high regard of our youth programs?

Send me your answers as below and I'll think of a suitable prize for the winner.

Bruce McIntyre, D9790 YVM Coordinator, PP, PHF**, RAA.
0427 623 142
bruce.mcintyre1@bigpond.com



Youth News

Aithen College Interact



Our Sustainability Group and members of the Interact Club have spent the afternoon "Cleaning Up Australia". Starting along Brodie's Creek, the group of almost 30 students across all year levels also learnt more about our amazing native garden and ecosystems.



Congratulations Bruce!



On Friday the 25th of March, Benalla Rotarian, Bruce McIntyre was presented with a Royce Abbey Award for his outstanding enthusiasm and commitment to the Ideals of Rotary.

Bruce joined the Rotary Club of Benalla in 2000. He has been an active member who has held many roles over the years: President in 2007-2008, Secretary, Director many times and GSE Club Chair. He was a GSE District Team Leader to Germany in 2011, joined the District Youth Exchange Committee in 2013 and served as Chairman of the Youth Exchange Committee from 2015 to 2021. He continues to serve Rotary as a Benalla Rotarian, the lead Inbound Coordinator for the Youth Exchange Committee and Administrator of the Youth Volunteer Management Program for the District.

Bruce was nominated for the award by the D9790 Youth Exchange Committee when he stepped down as Chair at the end of the 2021 Rotary Year. The award recognises a Rotarian who has demonstrated enthusiasm and commitment consistent with Royce Abbey's Presidential Theme of 1988/1989: "Put Life into Rotary, Your Life" and Bruce has certainly dedicated a great part of his life to Rotary, in particular to Rotary Youth Exchange. The D9790 Youth Exchange Program has flourished under Bruce's guidance, as was evidenced by the large number of past and prospective students present at the presentation, which occurred during a Youth Exchange Information night in Benalla on the 25th of March. This was ideal as many Benalla Rotarians were also able to be present to congratulate Bruce on his Royce Abbey Award.



Bruce pictured with his wife Christine, son David and family.



PDG Bruce Anderson, Bruce McPherson, PDG Bernie Bott and DGE David McPherson

Dear Rotarians

The Rotary Youth Exchange Committee interviewed a record number of prospective students last Friday night in Benalla. These students are applying for Long Term Exchange (12 months) commencing in January, 2023.

In years gone by the selection process involved students approaching their local Rotary Club, going through a Club selection process and then progressing to district interviews. This has changed over time – now almost 100% of our applications come straight through to the District Committee via the Rotary Youth Exchange Australia website. Technology has altered a previously proven pathway.

Our committee has been receiving feedback that the Rotary Clubs feel disconnected from the current process; therefore, in order to try and rectify this, students who were considered to be suitable to participate in the Rotary Youth Exchange program, have been requested to approach local clubs in their area for sponsorship. They have been advised that we find them to be a suitable candidate and we potentially have a position for them in "X" country, however in order to proceed, they need to secure a Sponsor Club, as the whole program is based on reciprocity.

Unfortunately for your clubs this means that some of you will receive multiple applications and, if your club is in a position to sponsor a student, you will need to make a choice which student to sponsor. Some areas and schools are heavily represented within the group, others may have no applicants at all.

Our committee requests that your Club's Youth Committee take the time to **answer the student's letters** and interview them if you are able to participate in the program. Please advise them if you have already committed to sponsoring a student in 2023 or are unable to sponsor them.

If your club would like to be involved and is not approached by a student then please contact us, as there will be students from over represented areas seeking clubs. By sponsoring a student from another area, you would get to host a student in your area, thereby bringing Rotary Youth Exchange to your community and creating interest in the program locally. Sponsoring and hosting also brings the added benefit of involving younger people in your Club, who are all potential members.

With such a large group, it is inevitable that some students will miss out on a long-term position in 2023 unless we get support from clubs which have previously not participated in the program, or have had a long hiatus since their previous participation. Please seriously consider your club's ability to assist one of these students pursue the unique opportunity of experiencing first hand a new culture in a different country, a new way of life and a new language. This opportunity would not only change their lives but will help build world peace and understanding.

For clarification or further information please feel free to contact us.

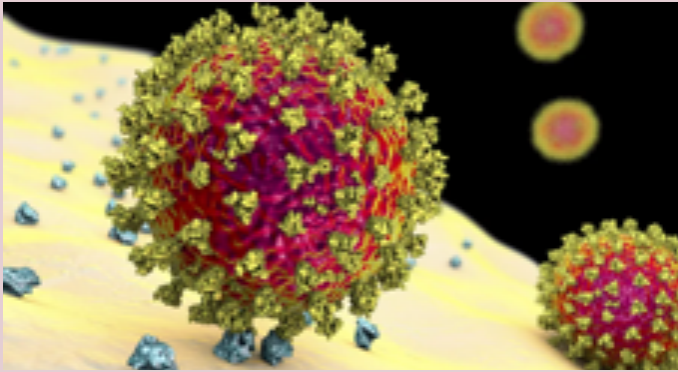
Meredith Miegel (Chair)
Rotary Club of Corowa
chairperson@rye9790.org.au
0417 246 546

Diane Murphy (Secretary)
Rotary Club of Benalla
secretary@rye9790.org.au
0418 482 745

Emerging infectious diseases in a changing world

Emerging infectious diseases in a changing world.

Our recent experiences with the Cov19 pandemic should be a call to evaluate the risks to health that we face in an environment under pressure. As we head to an unknown future there are many opportunities for the emergence and re-emergence of a range of infectious diseases that affect humans, animals, and plants.



Many diseases spread from animals to humans. They frequently cause severe illnesses known as zoonoses. They are commonly spread by vectors in a complicated series of steps that can include insects such as mosquitoes and ticks, migratory birds, bats, and many mammals.

Corona Virus

There are many Corona viruses that infect a wide range of mammals including humans. There are four such viruses that cause mild common colds among probably two hundred plus viruses that can cause common cold symptoms.

Severe Acute Respiratory Virus (SARS) emerged in 2002 in Guandong China in a wet market. It was able to spread person to person. It was shown to be carried by bats and Civet cats. It spread to several countries in the next two years with a mortality rate of about 3%. It was contained and has not been seen since.

The next Corona virus to emerge was Middle Eastern Respiratory virus (MERS) which emerged in countries of the middle east. It has a very high mortality rate of 35%. It has spread person to person mainly in medical settings. There are ongoing sporadic infections but fortunately it has not caused major epidemics. The source has been shown to be Camels.

Covid 19

The ongoing pandemic of Covid 19 is an example of what has happened throughout history. Virologists have predicted events like this, usually citing Influenza as the most likely agent.

While there has been enormous efforts to contain the virus it has spread worldwide, with several waves caused by evolving variants. There have been major developments in vaccine development in record time, but so far, the vaccines while reducing the severity of disease have not prevented ongoing infection and re-infection. There are several treatments becoming available for infected people, but surveillance is needed to detect development of resistance.

The source of Covid 19 has not been proven but the most likely source was exposure to wild animals in a wet market in Wuhan, China. Bats remain the most likely source, this has not been confirmed. There are still plenty of other theories but the evidence for them is not strong.

Long Covid

This condition is likely to cause many long-term problems. Post viral syndrome is a well-known condition with a range of symptoms and severity. It has a lot in common with chronic fatigue syndrome.

Enormous amounts of waste have been generated during the Covid19 pandemic. Personal protective equipment, medical waste, syringes, vaccine containers and other equipment have all ended up in land fill. Safe handling is very important but there is a great need to find alternatives.

Influenza has caused pandemics throughout history. It can be a very severe illness causing large numbers of deaths and overwhelming health services. Year to year there are small genetic changes in the virus leading to epidemics but occasionally the virus mutates to a new version with the potential to cause a pandemic. As well as humans Influenza infects pigs and many birds including migratory birds. It is thought that infection by two strains of influenza in an individual human or animal can give rise to new mutations. The likelihood of this increases where pigs, chickens and humans live in close contact as commonly occurs in the villages of Asia and the Pacific..

Japanese encephalitis which has recently caused infections and deaths in Australia is carried by migratory wading birds and is transmitted to pigs and humans via mosquito bites. Several pig farms have been infected. In Australia we have large numbers of feral pigs, and these could easily become a reservoir. In the past there was a surveillance system using well placed sentinel chickens that were regularly tested for several infections transmitted by mosquitoes. This was replaced recently by a system of testing mosquitoes. This program had a good record of early detection of virus spread.

The change in conditions due to climate change can favour vector reproduction. Mosquitoes thrive in wet, warm climates. Well known diseases caused by mosquito bites include the parasite malaria which is common in the tropics but was known in the past as swamp fever in London and caused large outbreaks in Alaska during the gold rush there. It was introduced to Australia during early European settlement. Draining of swamps in the past has reduced its range. Warm wet weather, floods and climate change could easily see its spread in many countries if conditions favour mosquito breeding.

Other mosquito borne diseases caused by viruses include dengue fever, zika, chikungunya, Ross River virus, Barmah Forest virus, Kunjin virus and Murray Valley encephalitis. The mosquito species that transmit these diseases need to be present in the environment, but they are spreading. Prevention of these diseases is by avoiding mosquito bites. The current floods in NSW and



Emerging infectious diseases in a changing world (continued).

Queensland are very conducive to mosquito breeding and attracts migratory birds in very large numbers. Spraying insecticides can be effective in reducing mosquito breeding but also kills predatory insects such as dragon flies in the same environment.

Many disease organisms exist in unique niches in the environment. Human encroachment can cause exposure to new pathogens. Cutting down virgin forests, clearing land for farming and housing and exploration of previously undisturbed areas can all expose us to previously unknown illnesses.

Another risk to health that is emerging is the melting of the permafrost. Over the millennia many bodies, human, animal, and plant have been buried in the permafrost. The very low temperatures there can preserve viruses indefinitely. A group of scientists in a questionable research project managed to recover genome sequences of the 1918 flu virus from bodies. The virus was not viable but other organisms are known to be present. An outbreak of Anthrax, a very tough bacteria that forms spores, has been recently seen in reindeer. The source is not proven but all the conditions were present in the area.

The Viral haemorrhagic fevers such as Ebola and Marburg fever which can have very high mortality rates are thought to be carried by bats. These viruses can also be contracted from hunting for and butchering, bush food. Lassa fever is carried by field mice and Rift Valley fever is transmitted by mosquitoes. Another disease, Crimean, Congo haemorrhagic fever is spread by ticks.

Bats have a very interesting immune system which allows them to carry and shed a variety of lethal viruses without showing signs of disease. When stressed they tend to shed these viruses. Bats can also interbreed with neighbouring colonies along very large distances, carrying the viruses to new destinations. Other viruses known to be carried by bats include Hendra and Nipah virus that infect horses and pigs and cause fatalities in humans. Lyssa

virus, which is a close relative of rabies is found in several species of Australian bats. The presence, although rare of several very serious viruses in Australian bats means that handling bats should always be done with great care.

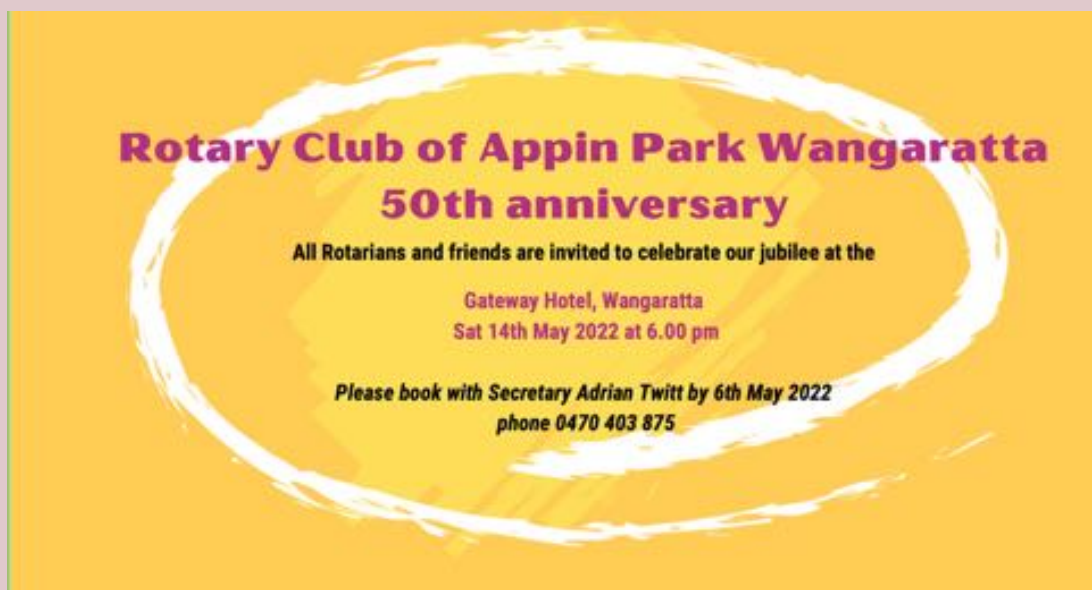


Diagnostics

There has been very rapid development in diagnostic techniques in recent years. In the past it was often necessary to grow organisms to identify them. This can take time. Recent development in molecular diagnostics such as PCR (polymerase chain reaction) and genetic sequencing has opened the field up to very sensitive and specific tests that have been able to be automated. New sequences of organisms are downloaded onto data bases that are routinely made available worldwide.

Marie Gerrard, Rotary Club of Southern Mitchell

Marie is a former scientist with the Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference laboratories eventually moving to the Doherty Institute in Parkville, Victoria. She was the High Security Scientist and was very involved with the WHO Committee on biosafety and containment. Her focus was on viruses—their origin, mutations and transmission.





TRAVEL ESCAPE CLUB

Rotary Club of Albury North 

Join the CLUB!

Albury North Rotary are thrilled to launch their exciting new fundraising venture

50% of all funds raised are returned to community projects

Funds raised in the first year will focus on youth suicide prevention initiatives and
mental health first aid training

- A donation of \$150 to the Club buys you a ticket (note: 50% is donated back to community)
- That ticket has 72 chances to win prizes- odds just on 1 in 11
- Only 800 tickets available
- \$60,000 total prize pool
- All winning tickets are re-entered in each draw
- Each monthly draw includes ONE major TRAVEL Prize valued between \$3,500 and \$4,000...plus FIVE Voucher/gift cards valued at \$150 each.

EXTRA BONUS - Receive a FREE Early Bird ticket if you purchase in the FIRST month of sales

- Early Bird prize pool valued at \$4,250
- Early Bird tickets close off 9th May, prize drawn 10th May



Scan this QR code to purchase your ticket now

Tickets available from 9 April to 10 July 2022 unless sold out



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Like and share to your network of family, friends and work colleagues who may be interested in being a TRAVEL ESCAPE CLUB member

Check out our website for all terms and conditions <https://travelescapeclub.com.au/>

**2022/23 Draw Dates and Major Prize**

July 12th 2022 Tasmania Fly Drive \$3,968 Rtn Airfare Melb to Hobart x2 10 day car hire, Day tour Port Arthur 11 nights accomodation around Tassy	Jan 10th 2023 WA Wildflowers \$3,904 Rtn Airfares Melb to Perth x2 3 nights accommodation Perth Rottnest Island day tour, Swan River Cruise 2 day Margaret River Getaway, Food Lovers Exp
Aug 9th 22 Ayres Rock/Alice Springs \$3,989 Rtn Airfare Melb to Alice Springs x2 5 day Car hire, 5 nights accomodation Alice, Uluru & Kings Canyon, Tours Alice, Uluru and Kata Tjuta	Feb 14th 2023 Gold Coast \$3,546 Rtn Airfares Melb to Gold Coast & Transfers x2 7 Nights Accommodation Gold Coast Apartment 3 Day theme park pass, Dracula's Night Cabaret dinner & show, Australia's Outback Spectacular Dinner & show
Sept 13th 2022 Murray River Cruise \$3,609 Rtn Airfares Melb to Adelaide x2 1 night accommodation Adelaide Rtn Coach Trf Adelaide to Mannum x2 3 nights Murray River Cruise	Mar 14th 2023 Darwin \$3,980 Rtn Airfares Melb to Darwin x2 3 nights accommodation Darwin 2 day Kakadu & East Alligator River Tour
Oct 11th 22 New Zealand South Island \$3,788 Rtn Airfares Melb to Christchurch x2 8 days car hire, 8 nights accommodation Christchurch, Queenstown and Dunedin	Apr 11th 23 Cairns/Tropical Nth Qld \$3,914 Rtn Airfare Melb to Cairns x2, 5 day car hire 8 nights accommodation Cairns & Port Douglas Great Barrier Reef Snorkling adventure Daintree & Mossman Gorge tour
Nov 8th Hamilton Island/Whitsunday \$3,720 Rtn Airfares Melb to Hamilton Island x2 5 nights accommodation Tours: Great Barrier Reef and Whitehaven Beach	May 9th 2023 Fiji \$3,989 Rtn Airfare Melb to Nadi & Transferes x2 7 nights Raddisson Blue Resort Full breakfast daily
Dec 13th 22 Adelaide/Barossa Valley \$3,455 Rtn Airfares Melbourne to Adelaide x2 7 nights accommodation Adelaide & Barossa Valley, 5 days car hire, Ultimate Adelaide & Hahndorf; and McLaren Vale Winery Tours	June 13th 23 Sydney & Northern NSW \$3,983 Rtn Airfare Albury to Sydney x2, 3 day car hire, 4 nights accommodation Sydney & Blue Mountains, Harbour Bridge Climb, Dinner Cruise Day tour – Hunter food & wine experience
Early Bird Bonus Draw May 10 22 Fiji \$3,500 Rtn Airfares & Transfers - Melb to Nadi x2 5 nights Oceanview room with breakfast Warwick Resort on the Coral Coast	<div>  </div> <div> <div> Western New York 413.222.7500 king@helloworld.com.au </div> <div> Southern New England 413.222.7500 king@helloworld.com.au </div> <div> Western New Mexico 413.222.7500 king@helloworld.com.au </div> </div>



TRAVEL ESCAPE CLUB

Rotary Club of Albury North



Why the focus on mental health:

Our local and regional communities have been ravaged by bushfires and natural disasters over the past few years and this has resulted in several young men in our local region taking their own lives. We believe Covid had an impact through further isolating those affected communities, which aggravated the situation.

One immediate project we plan to fund in our first year of operation is the youth suicide training video "Solstice Documentary" being developed by local renowned film maker Helen Newman. Along with the film being available for general mental health conversation training, Helen has partnered with Australian Teachers of Media (ATOM) to create curriculum based teaching notes around the film. ATOM will then host the film and the accompanying notes on their website for access by teachers across Australia. ATOM is a nationally recognised teacher resource and will have good access by teachers throughout Australia.

Funding will also ensure the film receives adequate promotion through film festivals and provide access to community groups. Costs will include developing promotional materials, festival entry fees, ongoing website development, creating Video on Demand (VOD) access and expanding broader community engagement.

It is these types of community initiatives that we foresee a successful ongoing Travel Escape Club raffle will be able to fund.

Our own Club has lost a member to suicide in the past 12 months and as a Club we feel very strongly about the need for Mental Health awareness. We are committed to funding mental health first aid training and awareness projects.

Looking for a fund raising opportunity?

Would you be interested if it was no risk and the organising has been done?

Then maybe the Rotary Club of Mooroopna's Community raffle is for you!



We are inviting other clubs to come on board and share the opportunity to raise funds for their projects.

The raffle will be run from November 1st, 2021 to April 22nd, 2022.

First prize is a Hyundai Venue Active valued at \$27,400 and second prize a \$1000 Coles Supermarket Voucher.

Tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00.

For the club that sells the ticket, they will receive 60% of the selling price.

All the organising of prizes, permits and ticket printing has been done so there is no risk to the club if they come onboard.

We will supply you with tickets and also supply posters with the clubs name on them.

The ticket also states "The organisation you purchased this ticket from receives the major share of the ticket price. This helps their community"

If you would like to come on board or you need more information please contact Richard Speedy 0490 792 601 or rspeedy@iinet.net.au to obtain more information



If you think your club might like to participate and generate risk free funds, then
Contact Richard Speedy on 0490792601 or rspeedy@iinet.net.au
to obtain more details.

Event	Location	Date(s)	Contact
Rotary Youth Program of ENrichment (RYPEN) – Albury North RYPEN i	TBA	Friday, 13 – Sunday, 15 May 2022.	Warwick Tasker, M 0439 158 274, Email RYPEN Coordinator M 0408 052 386, Email warnel@bigpond.com
Rotary Youth Program of ENrichment (RYPEN) – The next District 9790 RYPEN is coming in October 2022.	TBA	The next District 9790 RYPEN is coming in October 2022.	Malcolm Watt, M 0439 158 274, Email: watt.malc@gmail.com
Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) Conference	TBA	Sunday, 20 November 2022 to Saturday, 26 November 2022	Kerry Jones, Secretary M 0414 861 557, E: info@ryla9790.org.au (page 8 for more details)

Deadlines

Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA)	Expressions of Interest are open and will remain open. Offers will be on a first in basis, as there will be limited openings.	Kerry Jones, Secretary M 0414 861 557, E: info@ryla9790.org.au
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March 2022 is Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month



April 2022

Maternal and Child Health Month

30 April – Rotary International Convention registrations and ticket cancellations are due

May 2022

Youth Service Month

June 2022

Rotary Fellowships Month

3-4 June – Presidential Conference, Houston, Texas, USA

4-8 June – Rotary International Convention, Houston, Texas, USA

30 June – Rotary Citation for Rotary Clubs Award nominations are due

Source:

<https://my.rotary.org/en/new-s-media/calendar>

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CLOSING DATE IS 30 APRIL 2022 ALL ARTICLES AND PHOTOGRAPHS IMAGES TO: dredfearn@vtown.com.au

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