

Rotary Club of Lilydale Inc. A0016456J  
Chartered 23rd August 1965 Incorporated 2nd August 1988  
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## **BULLETIN # 15** **12 March 2024**

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### **Presidents Report 8th March 2024**



Hello Everyone,

The last few weeks have been busy at our club with lots of events and activities. We are definitely full swing at our club and creating hope in the world.

The regionalisation pilot is gathering momentum, we have been allocated to group 4, if you want to know more about this please reach out to me or Gerry and we are happy to explain. The next step will be for us to appoint someone in our club to represent us at the group meetings.

We had our board meeting on the 20th February, it was again a packed agenda and we have set the scene for this year.

What a great night it was on the 27th February, thank you Gerry and Anne for organizing it, we had about 30 people. It was great to invite all the businesses that supported the wishing tree appeal last year. We collected and distributed 1300 gifts and \$2600 in gift cards. It was great to hear from Anchor and Lilydale Proactive Policing Unit about the impact this project has had to families in our community. Look forward to doing this again this year.

We had our market on the 3rd of March, we had 30 stalls and over 900 people came through on the day. The weather was perfect and it was a very successful day. Thank you to all that helped plan and execute to make it happen again. This is our major project that helps us raise the funds we need to do other great things in the community.

We had our membership and fellowship meeting via zoom on the 5th of March. Thank you to all the members who attended and gave us feedback on how and what we can do to improve the experience for our existing members and also how we attract new members. You will see some new things happening, watch this space.

This Tuesday the 12th March, we are not meeting at the York on Lilydale, we are catching up at the Lilydale Croquet Club, it is a cluster event. Please RSVP it's shaping up to be a great night, there's going to be Pizza and we look forward to a great game night. I encourage everyone to invite friends and family to come along as well.

I look forward to seeing you all this Tuesday!!

Arun Marappan  
Let's Create Hope in the World

Arun Marappan  
M: +61 423 553 484

## Board

President Arun MARAPPAN  
Past/Vice President Jenny SELWAY  
President Elect.

Secretary Gerry VAN HORICK  
Treasurer Judith SHIEL

Community Chair Cheryl MACKAY  
International Chair Des SHIEL

Youth Chair Barb LAWRENCE

## Admin

Almoner Margaret BATTLE  
Members Handbook Judith SHIEL  
Attendance Judith SHIEL & Margaret BATTLE  
On to Convention Lynn WHELAN.  
Bulletin Editor Stefanie KRUGER  
Club Historian Helen DARVELL  
DIK rep / RORPS Des SHIEL

LCPM Stallholder Barb LAWRENCE & Lynn WHELAN  
Webmaster Richard SELWAY  
Program Co-ordinator Jenny SELWAY  
Protection Officer Barb LAWRENCE

### THANKS

FOR GOOD FOOD  
FOR GOOD HEALTH,  
GOOD FELLOWSHIP  
AND THE OPPORTUNITY  
TO SERVE THROUGH ROTARY.  
WE GIVE THANKS  
Be *Kind* to Business,  
Be *Kind* to Others,  
Be *Kind* to **YOURSELF**

### THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

**"Learn all you can about people  
in other parts of the world.  
Understanding how people in  
other countries live and work  
and play teaches us to respect  
them and promote peace  
everywhere."**

**- Carol Bellamy**

### BIRTHDAYS

### INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

Madalyn Parlet March 2014

Bill Parlet March 2014

# Lilydale Rotary Calendar

please check for rostered duties at meetings. Please contact project leaders to assist with projects.

Tuesday 12th March	Cluster Croquet Challenge 6.30p -8.30p Lilydale Croquet Club Market St, Lilydale, Welcome Arun Thanks Madalyn
Tuesday 19th March	Board Meeting Executive + All members welcome
Tuesday 26th March	General Meeting -Sucide Prevention and Brian Health Rotary E-Club Chair - Gerry Welcome - Ann VH Thanks- Marg B
Tuesday 2nd April	Service Projects Zoom
Tuesday 2nd April	Stephen Bode _ Macrophotography Chair - Cheryl Welcome- Annie W Thanks- Judith

## 2nd & 4th TUESDAY of month

**Club Meetings will be held at York on Lilydale,**

**Where:** 138 York Rd MT Evelyn 3796

**Time:** 6:15 pm for 7:00PM START.

**Cost:** \$10.00 Guest \$10.00

Pay cash or bank transfer (EFPOS is not available for the next few weeks)

**Please RSVP to Attendance Officer your inability to come or if bringing a guest.**

**Please ensure RVSP is by Friday prior to meeting.**

Contact Judith Shiel at [judithshiel@hotmail.com](mailto:judithshiel@hotmail.com)

We encourage **all** to attend the club Meetings, but if you are 'under the weather', or have an apology or going on holidays and have

internet. We encourage you all to Zoom in as we are utilizing the "Hybrid in the Box" received from District. And the powers of the internet allow RCL to run a Hybrid Meeting.

## Zoom Meetings for Hybrid Club Meetings & LCPM & Committees

The following link has been set up for the next coming month's meetings up to the end of June 2023.

Go to RCL website> news and events> events> Calendar>click on the day of meeting events, and bingo you will be directed to the zoom meeting.

This is the link to use. [Club's Web site Calendar](#)

Community Committee Meetings.

LCPM Committee meetings Monday Before the Market.

Hybrid Meetings 2nd and 4th Tuesday.





# Rotary Down Under!



## REBUILDING HOPE: A RAWCS ADVENTURE IN TONGA

monstrous tsunami, with waves towering over 19 metres above sea level. The aftermath left the island of Tonga in disarray, with Nukunuku Primary School severely affected. However, hope was on the horizon as the Rotary Club of Sunnybank Hills, Qld, embarked on a life-changing mission to repair and restore the school.

Situated in the heart of Nukunuku Village, Nuku'alofa, Tonga, the Nukunuku Primary School had become a symbol of resilience and community spirit following the catastrophe. The Rotary Club of Sunnybank Hills teamed up with Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) Northern Region to offer much-needed support to the school and its surrounding community.

The primary goal was to repair and repaint the external walls of the school, restoring a sense of normalcy for the students, who had endured unimaginable challenges in the aftermath of the disaster, and enhance the educational environment.

The Rotary Club of Sunnybank packed a container filled with modern school desks, chairs, an abundance of reading books, and textbooks suitable for both primary and secondary classes.

Beyond the classroom, the project extended to addressing structural issues within the school. The team

Following the tsunami that devastated Tonga in January 2022, the Rotary Club of Sunnybank Hills, Qld, teamed up with RAWCS to bring hope, healing and a renewed sense of community to the island nation.

By PDG Chris Wright

IN JANUARY 2022, the picturesque island of Tonga was rocked by a catastrophic natural disaster

when an underground volcano erupted, unleashing a relentless force of destruction. As ash and debris filled the sky, the eruption triggered a



purchased local paint, painting equipment and building materials to repair damaged classroom floors and replace three external doors, ensuring the safety and functionality of the school.

Recognising that the healing process extended beyond the classroom walls, the Rotary Club of Sunnybank Hills also lent a helping hand to the Nukunuku Medical Clinic by donating a range of medical equipment, including wheelchairs, blood pressure monitors, digital thermometers, hospital beds, a gynaecological examination electric bed, and a medical hoist to assist in patient care. These

supplies will significantly improve healthcare access for the local community, underscoring the depth of the club's commitment to the people of Tonga.

A crucial aspect of the success of this mission was the collaboration between the Rotary Club of Sunnybank Hills and the Rotary Club of Nuku'alofa. Dr. Amanaki, a dedicated member of the latter, played a pivotal role in liaising with and supporting the Sunnybank Hills team over the course of 14 months, ensuring a seamless and impactful mission.

The Rotary Club of Sunnybank Hills team, led by Joe Forgiome and President Brett Fraser, with

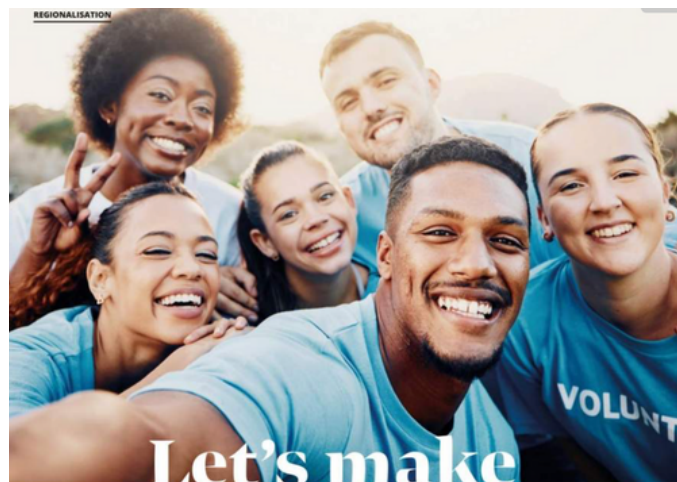
the support of Howard Baker, Ralph Prager, and Chris Wright, rose to the challenge with enthusiasm and determination. Their combined efforts laid the foundation for a brighter future for the Nukunuku community.

On September 14, 2023, the team embarked on a 10-day journey of hope, perseverance, and giving back. During this time, they not only repaired a school and improved medical facilities, but also built lasting connections with the people of Tonga, leaving a legacy of compassion and resilience.

The project is testament to the incredible impact a dedicated group of individuals can have when they come together with a common purpose. In the face of adversity they brought hope, healing, and a renewed sense of community to the beautiful island of Tonga. Their journey serves as an inspiring example of Rotary's motto of Service Above Self and demonstrates the boundless possibilities that arise when people unite for the greater good. —

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## Let's make membership irresistible!



Andy Rajagopalan  
President and  
Membership  
Member,  
Zone 8 Regional  
Council

The Zone 8 Regional Council's mission is to increase Rotary and Rotaract's reach and impact by better supporting clubs, so they grow year after year. To do this, we must act immediately.

FROM July 2018 to June 2023, an average of 5,000 Rotary members resigned every year in Zone 8. That's over 25,000 Rotarians lost! Yet, over the same time we only attracted around 18,000 new members. In the same five years we terminated 155

Rotary clubs yet formed only 48 new ones. Can you imagine the huge loss of income, skills and volunteers to our clubs and districts? Our declining membership is proof: we're trying to sell an outdated 'product'

people no longer want to buy. That is, many people no longer find the membership experiences we're offering through our clubs appealing. Our clubs are like showrooms, where people take our membership experience for a test drive.



Like any product, we must adapt over time to meet people's changing needs, while also retaining our core values. My membership team on the Regional Council will pursue two key growth strategies:

1. Starting new clubs to attract new demographics. Every new club brings in at least 20 new members. And most of these people are joining Rotary or Rotaract for the first time.  
2. Reducing member resignations and attracting new members by creating irresistible new club experiences. If we reduced resignations by 20 per cent per year, we'd gain 1,000 members each year! Over the next 24 months we'll focus on:  
• Conducting extensive demographic research to identify distinct population groups in our zone, allowing us to start new clubs that appeal to each group's specific interests and needs. Our goal is to start 15 new

clubs in 2024-25 and 25 clubs in 2025-26.  
• Creating new membership retention and attraction learning materials that clubs can use throughout

the zone, taking into account the unique needs of our region.

• Making membership development learning materials available in one easy to access online portal.  
• Running boot camps to help selected clubs develop a plan to transform their membership experience. Our goal is to increase member attraction and reduce existing member resignations by 10 per cent in 2024-25 and by 15 per cent in 2025-26. The Regionalisation Pilot is a once in a lifetime opportunity to test out new ideas and strategies to expand Rotary's reach. Let's work together to make membership in Rotary and Rotaract irresistible! —

"Our clubs are like showrooms, where people take our membership experience for a test drive. Like any product, we must adapt over time to meet people's changing needs, while also retaining our core values."





# News & Projects, Rotarians in Action



Rotary Club of Lilydale

Adm Richard Jenny Selway · 3 d ·

## Wishing Tree Gift Giving – Thank you Local Business and the community

This Christmas (2023) thirty-two Businesses and the local community participated in our 3rd annual wishing tree project.

Over 1,300 gifts for children ranging from 0-18yrs and \$2,600 in gift cards were collected over November and early December from participating businesses and local donors.

The dream of the project was to make Christmas brighter for Children and families doing it tough in our local area.

Gift cards and presents were distributed through Anchor and the Lilydale Proactive Policing unit, with some donations also going to Dandenong Ranges Emergency relief service, Anglicare family services and Boorndawan William Aboriginal Healing Centre.

Anchor was able to give every child accessing their services a gift – with the message that the gifts had come from people in their local community.

The Lilydale Proactive Policing unit visited community housing, local caravan parks, individual families. Officers found the experience of bringing joy (with gifts) on their visits very positive and moving.

"Your efforts are transformative and brighten the paths of many who deserve kindness and care in their lives. Seeing the Wishing Tree Project continue to grow reminds me that we work in a very caring and compassionate community....with the help of all of you we have managed to keep the magic alive at Christmas. I would like to acknowledge this incredible achievement ---making a difference, one young person at a time" Heidi Tucker CEO, Anchor



Rotary  
Lilydale



## Cluster Croquet Night - All Welcome!

### Tuesday 12th March 6.30pm



Venue - Market St, Lilydale

Cost - \$10 - Pizza & Game

RSVP - Judith 0438 389 695

-Jenny 0418 344 625

RSVP 8th March



### **Vale Norm Bruce – Honorary Member of Rotary Lilydale 2018-2024**

#### **"Service Above Self"**

It was with sadness that members heard about the passing of Norm Bruce.

Norm was an honorary member of Rotary Lilydale from 2018- current. Many of our members have met and worked with Norm through East Timor Roofing company. Many of us have visited Bacau and the factory and spent time with Norm and enjoyed his hospitality and meals out at the Pink Pousada.

Norm Bruce was the manager of East Timor Roofing in Bacau (a project of Doncaster, Melbourne and later Lilydale) from 2002 for seventeen years.

Norm gave his heart and soul to the Timorese people, helping them to build their new nation. His passion and compassion for Timor Leste, Bacau and the people will be remembered by all his kindness has touched.

Norm Bruce received an OAM in 2014 for service to the community of Baucau, Timor-Leste

A service to celebrate Norm's life will be held on Monday 11th March at 2.30pm. Kurrajong Baptist Church, Kurrajong NSW.

There will be a live stream available – please contact Margi Sank if you would like the link.

Our sincere condolences to Clare, and Norm's family



## Message from Editor:



Hello All,

I hope you are staying cool this long weekend, especially with the heat wave predicted. I am at Port Fairy Folk Festival assisting Rotary Waranmbool manning Tent 5

Cheers Stef

If you have any information you wish to advertise and/or share, including committee reports and notices.

Please send them to me – Stefanie at - [stef.65@hotmail.com](mailto:stef.65@hotmail.com)