



**Central  
Melbourne**



Space

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24<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023

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### Meeting Responsibilities

*Chair*  
SALVANO, Neil

*Greeter/Zoom Host*  
SWANN, Millie

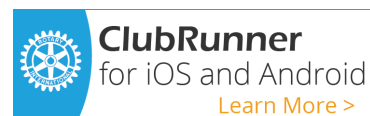
*Reporter*  
LOVE, Kevin

*Photographer*  
THORNTON, Roger

*Door*  
NEIL, Cecily

*Bulletin Editor*  
VOICE, Mary

*Social Media*  
LIM, Daniel



## NEXT MEETING

Next meeting would be face-to-face meeting at the RACV Club in the CBD on 24 January 2023. If you would like to visit our meeting, please book directly through Humanitix by close of business on Monday, 23 January 2023. If you would like a more general discussion about attending a Rotary meeting, phone 0455-858-996.

The meeting will commence at 7:40am and conclude no later than 8:45.

Members can use this Humanitix link for all future face to face meetings. This link will be published in the bulletin every week going forward.

<https://events.humanitix.com/rotary-central-melbourne-breakfast-meeting>

Online meetings are scheduled on the last Tuesday of each month. Members can use the following Zoom link to attend these meetings. For security reasons, the password for the Zoom meetings will be circulated in a separate email closer to the date of the next online meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85224950607?pwd=HwoGsyQSAyXY4vCQRFcWLQt04xM9ui.1>

## **GUEST SPEAKER, TUESDAY 24 JAN 2023**



### **Sainab Sheikh: President of the Rotary Club of North Melbourne**

Sainab's talk will be based on her international Somalia project – Humanitarian Aid project to Somalia for which they are looking for financial support in partnership with our club. She will share what her organisation has done and what they need help with.

Sainab Sheikh is a driving force for African Australian communities, serving her community for 17 years. She is the founder of the Somali Women's

Development Association Inc, a not-for-profit organisation based in Victoria that provides a diverse range of cultural appropriate support services, including settlement programs, capacity-building and community development programs.

Her advocacy extends to other social determinants of health and wellbeing such as mental health support, housing migrants for homelessness, COVID-19 responses, educational support through homework clubs for primary and secondary school children, employment support for jobseekers, emergency food relief, for refugees and migrants of African backgrounds. Sainab also advocates youth justice and provides culturally appropriate solutions for family violence and mental health forums in partnership with Victoria Police, Victorian Government and other key stakeholders.

Sainab has Bachelor degrees in Social Work and in Community Development. She is currently undertaking a Master of International Relations and National Security degree.

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## **HAPPY NEW YEAR AND BEST WISHES FOR 2023**

Congratulations! We've made it through another challenging year. 2022 had it all, the third "unprecedented" year in a row, jam-packed with plague, flood, war and famine.

Despite these challenges, our club is doing very well serving overseas and local communities by:

- Providing reusable menstrual kits to South Sudan to ensure girls receive the same education as boys
- Providing clean water and sanitation in Cambodia to reduce diseases
- Supplying clothing, educational and medical supplies to developing countries
- Recycling household goods and helping people create homes to rebuild lives
- Delivering donated clothing and footwear to people across Melbourne
- Mentoring Victorian Police and Ambulance Officers to improve relationships with communities
- Helping young musicians and scientists to realize their dreams
- Helping children to remain engaged in education to maximize adult opportunities
- Running Youth Mental First Aid workshops to build capability to deal with youth mental illness
- Showcasing beautiful gardens across Victoria to raise funds for mental health initiatives
- Raising funds for humanitarian work around the world

It was great seeing people coming together for our Christmas Breakfast. At the meeting, we were able to welcome Nicholas Oei into our fold, with more new

members promised for the new year. The Harambee A Capella warmed our hearts and injected some of the holiday spirit that infuses all of us during this period. We again assembled a terrific collection of hampers full of food.

I hope that you have had an opportunity to recharge your batteries, step out into the sunshine (weather permitting) and indulge in food and good company.

Looking forward to continuing to make a difference in 2023.

Kind regards,  
Rohan

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## **CHRISTMAS MEETING REPORT 13 DEC 2022**

Posted by Neville John

President and Chair of the day, Rohan Williams opened the meeting with an acknowledgement of country followed by a toast to Rotary International.

Rohan welcomed members and visitors, including DG Amanda Wendt, DGN Michael Lapina, Anne Cobham (RC Brighton North), Peter Shephard (RC Altona), Nicholas Oei, Tessa Hines, Sally Moon, Anne Callander, Grace Davidson, Pip Thornton, Sue Duras, Sue Williams, Alan Crawford, Nicole Jakovidis & Matthew Falland (TAL), Anne Mitchell (Steps Outreach), Thyda Pich (Lentara UnitingCare).

### **Induction of Nicholas Oei**

Following breakfast, President Rohan called Nicholas Oei, Ignacio Inchausti (Vocational Service Chair) and Warwick Cavell (Mentor) forward for Nicholas' member induction. Rohan and members welcomed Nicholas to the club by acclamation. He will represent the vocation of Engineering. Nicholas is an International Student from Indonesia, studying his final year in Engineering at Monash University. He provided a brief background of his journey to Rotary and interest in using his skills to help others. Welcome to Rotary Central Melbourne Nicholas!

### **Handover of Christmas Hampers**

Each year, members and friends of RCM purchase Christmas hamper bags which are allocated to community support organisations, Steps Outreach (Youth and Family Homelessness) and Lentara Uniting Asylum Seeker Centre. Community Service Chair, Michelle Crawford invited Anne Mitchell (Steps) and Thyda Pich (Lentara), to provide an overview of the work each of their organisations do in supporting vulnerable people in our community. Rebecca John (Hamper Coordinator) proudly announced that a total of 70 hamper bags had been contributed, which would be shared between Steps and Lentara. Rebecca thanked everyone who participated in the purchase of the hamper bags.

### **Harambee A Capella Performance**

The Harambee A Capella singers performed a collection of up-beat Christmas songs much to the delight of all. They were fantastic!

### **Garden Design Fest Raffle Draw**

Roger Thornton coordinated the drawing of raffle for the Garden Design Fest. The lucky winners will be contacted to let them know of their good fortune.

## Announcements

- Campbell Chambers and Neville John noted the upcoming Bunnings BBQ fundraisers on 17 (Collingwood) and 23 December (Port Melbourne). Campbell is looking for more helpers on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Peter Duras confirmed the delivery of a large donation of new clothing and footwear and advised that volunteers would be welcome to join him and Sue in sorting items into age groups for delivery to community support groups.

President Rohan reminded members that the 2023 Melbourne RI Convention discount registration for under 30 year old's would soon be closing and suggested it might make an excellent Christmas present.

Rohan closed the meeting thanking members and visitors for attending and wishing everyone a safe and happy Christmas and all good things for 2023.

The next meeting will be held as an in-person event on Tuesday 24 January 2023.

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## TAL TREE OF JOY



It was wonderful to celebrate the reinstatement of the TAL Tree of Joy this year,

with our community partners from Concern Australia STEPS Outreach Program and Uniting's Lentara Asylum Seeker Welcome Centre each receiving 25 gifts for the people they work with.

Wednesday 14th December saw some real-life Christmas Cheer as the gifts were collected, and words of appreciation shared with the team at TAL Insurance who have been so supportive in the lead up to Christmas. For the first time in the history of this partnership, donation tags were also placed on the tree, with staff able to donate if they were unable to buy a gift. TAL will be matching donations dollar for dollar, which we know at this stage will see at least \$2,000 donated to STEPS.

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## **HUGE PRE CHRISTMAS DONATION FROM CAPRICE**

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December the Club collected a large donation of licensed clothing, footwear etc. from our very generous supporters at Caprice. Sizes ranged from infants to adults. Thanks to the efforts of Rotarians and partners these pieces have been detagged, sorted, allocated, packed and dispersed to the charities and Rotary Clubs listed below in time for Christmas.

Huge thanks go to those who answered the call for help, allowing us to get the goods out quickly and efficiently. As always Sue, Frank and Pauline with Sally, David, Alan, Roy, Millie, Rohan, Rebecca, Neville and Cecily, plus Michael, Gaye and Luke from the Rotary Club of Essendon.

Over 2,300 items went out with a value exceeding \$ 30,000

Big Group Hugs  
Port Phillip Rotary  
Caroline Chisholm  
Father Bob Foundation  
Exodus  
Good Samaritan Inn  
Lentara  
Ukraine refugees  
Rotary Echuca Moama  
Warrnambool NFPs  
Lighthouse

Through Cecily several cartons have been set aside for delivery to the Philippines early in the New Year.

Again, many thanks to everyone involved. Have a great Festive Season  
Peter Duras

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## **SEVEN WOMEN NEPALI EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS: THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT!**

Christmas is a giving time. There is no greater joy than when the gift is cherished by both giver and receiver because it improves someone else's life.

This is the case for the above scholarships. Recipients are poor rural children

likely to drop out of school due to its cost or family pressure to generate income.

A Seven Woman annual scholarship costs \$250 and covers the (public) school fees and associated costs of primary or secondary education. Scholarship recipients, villages and schools are carefully selected and monitored by the Seven Women team. All recipients are guaranteed to have their full education years covered, where required, so that they do not drop out after their scholarship year.

Scholarship donations receive DGR tax benefits where applicable.

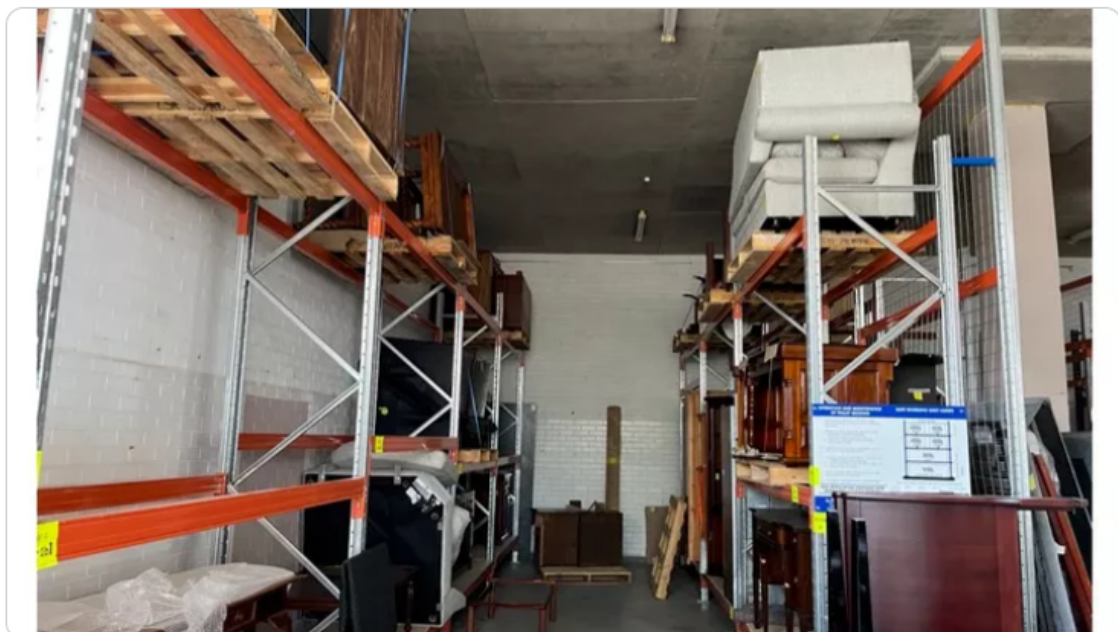


To donate a scholarship go to: <https://sevenwomen.org/donate>

Further information:  
Rhys Williams  
rhys0908@msn.com  
0401 694 806

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## **PLEASE HELP US FIT OUR RIMERN WAREHOUSE**



Rotary Inner Melbourne Emergency Relief Network collects donated furniture, appliances & homewares and makes them available to people who have been

experiencing homelessness, domestic violence, starting anew as a refugee, having just been released from jail or in need in other ways.

After 18mths of sharing, we're now fitting out our WHOLE warehouse in East Brunswick so we can collect more donations and help more people, so now we need to buy second hand pallet racking and a walkie stacker from our current sub-tenant.

Our sub-tenant is leaving so we're buying their equipment at 'mates rates', can you chip in some funds to help?

Here's the link: <https://gofund.me/290f98a2>.

All donations are fully tax deductible and will make a huge difference to our project!

## RAWCS PROJECT - CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS

# CALLING VOLUNTEERS

## UMOJA VOLUNTOUR

A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME

**12TH APRIL 2023 - MAY 1 2023**

**OUR 15TH VOLUNTOUR  
IS FILLING FAST**

**LIMITED NUMBERS  
AVAILABLE**

CONTACT [CATHY@UMOJAHOME.COM](mailto:CATHY@UMOJAHOME.COM)

**TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST**

**Rotary**  
Australian Districts



ROTARY AUSTRALIA  
WORLD COMMUNITY  
SERVICE



April 12th 2023 the **15th voluntour for Umoja Orphanage Kenya** departs Australia. Will you be on that flight? You won't want to miss this opportunity.

The Umoja Orphanage Kenya project is a project of Rotary Australia World Community Service (Project 51 / 2011-12,) and our volunteers are the backbone of this project that is now 11.5 years old. **144 volunteers** - mostly

Rotarians have come to our project and assisted to make Umoja what it is today.

Can you paint? We are needing painters to assist us in re-painting inside and out the first children's home. No worries if you can't, there are other tasks to do, or we can teach you. We are after handymen and women or anyone who seeks adventure and a unique experience at a RAWCS project and are happy to work in a team environment - AND not to mention have a unique safari experience with us after volunteering.

Perhaps you don't think you have many skills to offer. Everyone has something to offer. Whether it is just sitting and talking to our staff, helping them in their chores, cooking with the housemothers - there is something for everyone.

**Cathy the founder and director (and Rotarian)** will be with you all throughout the tour with project manager Patrick. You will have experiences other tourists don't get whilst volunteering, and on safari. The tour includes 10 - 11 days volunteering at the Umoja Project, then a 6 day wildlife safari to 3 national parks seeing the amazing wildlife and landscape of Kenya.

Not sure if this is for you? Contact us and we'll send you info to help you with the decision to join the experience of a lifetime. [cathy@umojahome.com](mailto:cathy@umojahome.com)

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## **2023 MELBOURNE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION - REGISTRATION GUIDE FOR MEMBERS**



### MAKING SURE YOU GET THE BEST DEAL TO REGISTER FOR THE RI MELBOURNE CONVENTION

If you have not yet registered for the RI Convention in Melbourne in May 2023, **here's how to get the lowest price possible:**

1. Book as soon as possible and before 15 December, when the cost to register increases by US \$100
2. Make sure that you select the option when you come to pay with your credit card (preferred option) that you **select AUD** from the **dropdown menu**. This will ensure that you do not pay credit card fees, commissions or incur a poor exchange rate. You will be billed at the "Rotary" exchange rate for that month, which will be better than the rate offered by your credit card provider
3. In the circumstance that you do need to cancel your booking it will also ensure that you get the best exchange rate on your refund and avoid other costs
4. If you or your partner or other guest are **under the age of 30**, you can access a really great registration rate of only **US \$125!**
5. Children are welcome too for a very nominal fee

**If you are still uncertain about your payment**, or if there seems to be no option to pay in AUD choose the payment option of "Pay Later" and then contact the Rotary Office in Sydney at [risppo.finance@rotary.org](mailto:risppo.finance@rotary.org), providing your registration ID so they can assist you to complete the registration.

#### How to register:

Go to: [Melbourne | Rotary Convention](#)

Please **follow the step by step instructions below** if you need assistance with the process to register.

At the same link you can also reserve **accommodation** from a range of price options.

#### Other Conference Opportunities:

To reserve a spot at **Signature events** and **host hospitality** events or to arrange a **tour** in conjunction with your visit to Melbourne please visit the Host Organisation Committee website at: [Rotary International Convention, Melbourne 2023 \(27-31 May\) \(rotarymelbourne2023.org\)](http://RotaryInternationalConvention,Melbourne2023(27-31May)(rotarymelbourne2023.org))

## GALLERY



Peter Shephard and President Rohan



RCM men



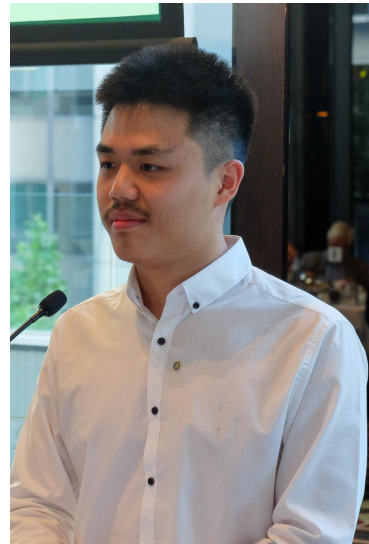
Nev2 with a bevy of beauties



Mellie Swann



The short & the tall



Nicholas Oei



Cecily, Maureen and  
Therese



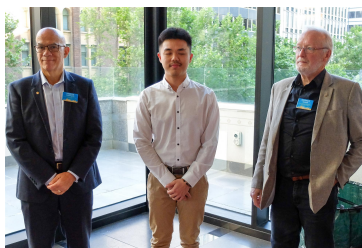
Tessa, Rob and Pippa



Group breakfast



Hampers



Ignacio, Nicholas Oei &  
Warwick



President Rohan inducting  
Nicholas



Ignacio giving Nicholas his  
pin



DG Amanda Wendt & DGE  
Michael Lapina



Rebecca John with Anne  
Mitchell and Thyda Pich



Harambee A Capella  
singers



Harambee A Capella  
singers



Harambee A Capella  
singers



Rebecca, Anne,  
Thyda hampers



Drawing winning ticket



Anne Ignacio at car



Michelle with Nicole  
Jakovidis & Mathew Falland  
from TAL



Michelle with beneficiaries



Morning tea table