



WHAT'S IN THIS BULLETIN

'Tis CHRISTMAS, 2021

- **NEXT MEETING - will be 1st February 2022**
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- **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST - 2022**
- **THE ROTARY TREE OF REMEMBRANCE**
- **CLEVER DITTIES**
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- **GALLERY**

NEXT MEETING

PLEASE NOTE: The next meeting will be



1st February, 2022

Also note - In the previous Bulletin, mention was made of the meeting schedule for 2022. RCM will be having the first Face to Face meeting on Tuesday 1st February 2022 at the RACV Club at 7:30am. Bookings will continue to be made through TryBooking and advance notice will be provided.

To ensure that members and guest speakers have the opportunity to meet on-line, RCM will be planning **Zoom meetings every second Tuesday of each month wherever possible**. As such, the first Zoom meeting for February will be planned for Tuesday 8th February 2022. Taking this approach means that RCM can take the opportunity to continue to obtain quality guest speakers who prefer to meet online as well as maximising engagement with all RCM members.

Meeting Responsibilities

Chair
CHAMBERS, Campbell

Greeter/Zoom Host
DRIVER, Allan

Reporter
FRASER, Paul

Photographer
THORNTON, Roger

Door
DURAS, Peter

Bulletin Editor
INCHAUSTI, Ignacio

Social Media
LIM, Daniel





FROM THE LAST MEETING - 14th December

Posted by Paul FRASER

Rotary Central Melbourne Breakfast Meeting December 14th, 2021

Chair: Campbell Chambers

Reporter: Paul Fraser

President **Elias Lebbos** opened the meeting with welcome to country and expressed pleasure in having a large number of members and guests for this face-to-face meeting.

Campbell proposed a Toast to Rotary International.

President Elias welcomed members and special guests:

Assistant District Governor, **Murray Anderson**

Anne Mitchell, Concern Australia/Steps Ministry

Aimee Dare, Uniting Care

Thyda Pich, Uniting care

Elias congratulated Rebecca John on her marvellous effort in attracting a large number of hamper donations in a difficult time.

Member Milestones

Member milestones were mentioned noting that the large number published cater for January anniversaries since there will not be another face-to-face meeting until 1 February 2022.

Members' Birthdays

Roger Thornton 28th December

Lady Pastidio 3rd January

Rohan Williams 3rd January

Stella Avramopoulos 5th January

Cecily Neil 11th January

Spouses'/Partners' Birthdays

Ben Kryszon-Offerman, Puja Ganguli's partner 15th December

Liz Williams, Rhys William's partner 19th December

David Batty, Koren Harvey's partner 20th December
Akoi Kuei, Ariik Ariik's partner 1st January
Anne Fairhall, Hon Member Geoff Fairhall's partner 16th January
Pip Thornton, Roger Thornton's partner 27th January
Sally Moon, David Jones' partner 30th January
Suzette Taylor, Neville Taylor's partner 31st January

Anniversaries

Stuart and Jo Ellis 15th December 1985 36 years
Tom and Ann Callander 18th December 1969 52 years
Peter and Sue Duras 30th December 1970 51 years
Allan and Athina Driver 9th January 1982 40 years
Frank and Pauline O'Brien 10th January 1970 52 years
Luke Allen and Charity Chen 12th January 2018 4 years
Roy Garrett and Annie [Deceased] 12th January 1968 54 years
Paul and Julia Fraser 20th January 1976 46 years
John and Raylee Ilott 25th January 1975 47 years

Date Joined Rotary

Roger Thornton 29th December 1998 23 years
Peter Duras 1st January 1973 49 years
Paul Fowler 1st January 2010 12 years
David Jones 1st January 1991 31 years
Ignacio Inchausti 14th January 2020 2 years
Trevor Dymond 24th January 2017 5 years
Hon Member Bruce McBain 25th January 1993 29 years

Announcements

1. Therese Robinson reminded all who purchased Rotary Christmas cakes that these were ready to collect at the door.
2. Roger Thornton reminded members of the Peninsula barbeque.
3. Past President Therese Robinson presented awards held over from the 2020/2021 Changeover to:
 - Anne King – Paul Harris Sapphire
 - Mary Voice – recognition of contributions to online meetings and supporting positive spirits during dark times via the "Pocket Positives" movement.

Christmas Hampers

Adele le Roux, Community Service, thanked **Rebecca John**, **Michelle Crawford**, and **Rohan Williams** for attracting the many hampers that were held at the front of the room, commenting that she stopped counting at 98 with more coming. She welcomed our guests from the recipient organisations and invited them to speak.

Anne Mitchell, Concern Australia/Steps, acknowledged the work of the late Bernie Gerlinger and that she was pleased that the Hope for the Future Scholarships are named in recognition of his contributions. Anne gave some stories of the use of the scholarships, such as the teenager assisted in studying for a helping profession

contrary to the addicted direction of her parents. Another was purchasing a phone for a boy to join online schooling as he had not had access to the internet.

Anne presented President Elias with a certificate of thanks to the club.

Aimee Dare, Uniting Care, acknowledged their small team of workers and the volunteers who had found ways to help and support those seeking asylum. During the shutdowns, many of those seeking asylum had lost their jobs and were isolated without the technology to get online. Uniting helped them achieve social connection online and feedback from those supported was thanking them for not forgetting about them.

Socialising

Breakfast, a trivia quiz, and a comedy video provided an enjoyable end-of-year meeting, with much socialising.

President's Recap

President Elias highlighted some achievements of the Club in a time when most work was done from behind a screen rather than in person. This included:

1. RCM donation of \$1,700 and Peter and Sue Duras' donation of \$1,000 to "Youth Projects" to fund the purchase of a vaccine fridge, enabling YP to provide COVID vaccines to Melbourne's homeless.
2. Funding of Oxygen concentrators for our sister club in Kolkata, with particular thanks to Rob Hines for arranging it and raising the substantial funds required.
3. Contributing to the start-up of Rotary Inner Melbourne Emergency Relief Network (RIMERN) warehouse, which through the collective efforts of 14 Rotary Clubs helps individuals/families to establish secure accommodation.
4. Our international student mentoring programme successfully assisting students to "acclimatise" to Melbourne and to Australian life.
5. The great success of the online Paul Harris Breakfast that raised some \$10,000 for the Rotary Foundation, with special thanks to Therese Robinson for organising the event.
6. The great job done by our fundraising team.

Elias thanked all club members for their efforts as well as member partners who have contributed directly or indirectly by freeing up members to do their work for Rotary. He acknowledged members who had left, mostly due to relocation, and recognised two new members, Maureen Jackson and Sonia Dhillon.

He thanked Anne, Aimee and Thyda for the work they do, emphasising that the club is so pleased to contribute to these causes.

He closed the meeting wishing everyone an enjoyable and safe festive season.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST - 2022



THE ROTARY TREE OF REMEMBRANCE

Posted by Rob Hines

The Rotary Tree of Remembrance has become part of the fabric of Christmas in Cork over the past 20 years. It is a partnership between the Rotary Clubs of Cork and Bishopstown.

Each December, in the run up to Christmas, a giant Christmas tree is erected in the city centre. Members of the public are then invited to remember their loved ones by writing a message on a yellow ribbon and attaching it to the tree. A financial contribution for each ribbon is suggested but is not mandatory. All funds raised are shared among local charities.

In 2019 the total amount raised from the tree exceeded 100,000 Euros. Even in 2020 when fund raising was seriously impacted by Covid-19, more than 60,000 Euros was collected.

A Remembrance Tree dedication app has been developed to facilitate online donations. It can be downloaded from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store by searching for The Rotary Tree of Remembrance. Dedications made through the app will be transferred to ribbons and attached to the tree by Rotary volunteers. The app is intended to facilitate those who wish to donate but are not in a position to physically attend at the tree.



[Read more...](#)

SOME CLEVER DITIES

Posted by Mary VOICE

Our own Mary, giving Voice to some clever dities...

Vaxx Booster1

A responsible fellow named Wooster
Was seen strutting around like a rooster
He went out one day
Got vaxxed straight away
And now he is boasting his booster

Vaxx Booster2

We've heard of a Wooster named Bertie
But there's also another named Gertie
Gertie's also had booster
Just like the rooster
Gertie's feeling perfectly perty

THIS TEN DAYS

This ten days especially:
When you see train-cleaning staff
Have a friendly laugh
Or wiping escalator rails down
Don't frown
Or delivery folk helping out
Give a friendly shout
Or check staff at entry door
Thank them even more
Or a nurse coming off shift
Give her/his spirit a lift
Give them all:
 A smile
 A wave
 A thank you
 A season's greeting
This ten days especially.

CLUB FUND RAISING - How You Can Help

Posted by Rob HINES

Voluntary contributions

To everyone that has made or intends to make a
donation towards club projects, thank you!

If you are in a position to make a donation or even a
series of weekly donations please

arrange to transfer those funds directly to the club bank
account with the reference "Donation".

Bank Account Details:

BSB 033-000: Account number: 791085

Thank you for your support!

GALLERY



Chair - Campbell Chambers



Concern Australia, Steps
Outreach Program
Manager - Anne Mitchell



Rebecca John with
Coordinator, Asylum Seeker
Programs at Uniting Care -
Alimee Dare



Mary Voice receiving service recognition award from Past President, Therese Robinson



Anne King receiving the Paul Harris Fellow Recognition Award from Past President, Therese Robinson

[Read more...](#)



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES
