

Space

WHAT'S IN THIS BULLETIN

29th Nov 2022

- Next Meeting
- Guest Speaker, Tuesday 29th Nov 2022
- From The Paul Harris Breakfast
- Christmas Hamper 2022 Appeal
- Garden DesignFest A Success
- Gallery

Meeting Responsibilities

Chair
TAYLOR, Neville

Greeter/Zoom Host
WILLIAMS, Rhys

Reporter
DAST AVIZ, Amir

Photographer
THORNTON, Roger

Door
CAVELL, Warwick

Bulletin Editor
LIM, Daniel

Social Media
LIM, Daniel



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NEXT MEETING

This is a Zoom meeting.

If you would like to visit our meeting, please contact us by email on rotaryclubcentralmelbourne@gmail.com or phone 0455-858-996 and request log-in details.

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 29 NOV 2022



Kristine Tay: The Rotary Foundation's theme of Peace and Conflict Resolution

Kris Tay is Second Secretary at the Australian Embassy in Myanmar, steering Australia's gender equality aid program and foreign policy priorities. After the military coup and COVID-19 pandemic, Kris ensured assistance to women for sexual and reproductive healthcare, psychosocial support and refuge from gender-based violence. She developed DFAT's flagship gender equality investment in Myanmar, supporting women at the grassroots to deliver essential services and elevating marginalised voices.

Kris's career has focused on the rights of racial and ethnic minorities, women, and LGBTI people. At OutRight Action International, New York, she represented Global South LGBTIQ leaders at the UN Commission on the

Status of Women. At the Australian High Commission, South Africa, Kris founded a partnership working on hate crimes against queer women in black and coloured townships, and analysed institutional racism and intersex human rights.

Kris has held roles in Cambodia (LICADHO), UK (Fair Trials International), Mozambique (LambdaMoz), Canada (UBC Indigenous Community Legal Clinic), and Australia (DFAT, Minus18, Castan Centre for Human Rights).

Kris is a proud Chinese-Malaysian Australian. She won the Leadership in Government Graduate of the Year Award and the Sir John Monash Medal for Outstanding Achievement. Kris holds a Bachelor of Law (Honours), Bachelor of Science and Diploma of International Affairs with Monash University, and Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice from ANU.

FROM THE PAUL HARRIS BREAKFAST

RCM President Rohan Williams opened the 30th annual Paul Harris Breakfast to a full house in the Club Pavilion room at the RACV Club, Melbourne by **welcoming all attendees and acknowledging the traditional owners of the land** on which the meeting was being held.

President Rohan made special mention of two international visitors at the breakfast:

Donna Allen from the Rotary Club of Laurencekirk & District, Grampain, Scotland; and Charly Gerlmaier from the Rotoract Club of Munich, Germany.

District Governor Amanda Wendt then proposed the **toast to Rotary International**.

While the hot breakfast was being served to the tables, the D9800 Foundation Chair - PDG Grant Hocking - delivered a presentation on the work of The Rotary Foundation and **the financial contribution made by D9800 Rotarians and Clubs during 2021-22**. In total A\$505,000 had been contributed from D9800 during the past Rotary year, an average contribution of A\$175.43 per Rotarian in the District. PDG Grant sincerely thanked all involved for that effort. He also noted that for the past 14 years The Rotary Foundation had achieved the highest available governance rating (4 **stars**) from the Charity Register monitor (USA), while 91% of all funds contributed to The Rotary Foundation go to financing service projects.

PDG Grant also acknowledged the attendance at the breakfast **of two participants in the Peace Scholar program**:

- Ayase Ishizuka (from Japan) - studying **at** the University of Melbourne
- Kris Tay (Aust DFAT in Myanmar) - selected to study at Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, but the course has been suspended and will not run in 2023.

PDG Denis Shaw was then called to the podium to be **presented with a Distinguished Service Award from The Rotary Foundation** - the highest possible award from the Foundation - in recognition of distinguished service over a sustained period. After presenting that **award**, PDG Murray Verso announced that PDG Denis would also become a Trustee of The Rotary Foundation for a period of four years commencing on July 1, 2023.

RCM's Koren Harvey **introduced Guest Speaker** Jeroen Weimar, recently appointed as CEO of the 2026 Victorian Commonwealth Games Organizing Committee. Prior to that, of course, Jeroen had been a familiar public face since mid-2020 as a key member of Victoria's response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Jeroen gave a polished and entertaining address on the challenges and lessons of leadership, illustrated with examples from his career with Transport for London and in his various roles since moving to Australia eight years ago - including assuming responsibility in July 2020 for the mass CV19 testing system in Victoria at the start **of** the 'second wave' in our **State**.

His leadership address covered four main themes:

- Making decisions in crisis situations with very limited information, in the face of **clearly** competing human priorities and with a lack of preparation or pre-planning for **a** system-wide response.
- The need to understand the substance of what you are dealing with and whom you are dealing with, to be able to connect and build trust with those you are seeking to lead.
- Own and acknowledge your mistakes, plus have a thin-enough skin to realize what is going on in the external environment and adjust your strategy and actions accordingly.
- Dealing with the media: simplicity and clarity of message, the need to be authentic, recognition that there will be good days and bad days, **so** resilience is required.

During the Q&A session following his address, Jeroen observed that:

From local and overseas experience with Covid 19, 18 months is about the limit of community acceptance of drastic disruptions to normal life from Government "crisis" interventions, **vs** transitioning to individuals taking responsibility for adjusting to the changed circumstances. Personal motivation comes from the importance and relevance of whatever you are doing. Lessons from the pandemic regarding the need for a system (whole of Government) response - vis individual Govt department responses - are visible in the management of the current severe floods in Victoria.

The **raffle was then drawn**, with the winners being Trevor Mackay, Tom Callender, John Ilott, Phil Mortimer, Neville Taylor and Kerry Hicks.

President Rohan thanked the guest speaker and all attendees. Before formally **closing the meeting**, Rohan advised that amount raised for The Rotary Foundation through the 30th annual Paul Harris Breakfast was approaching \$10,000. However, the final total would not be known until bids in the silent auction closed at 12 noon that day.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER 2022 APPEAL

It is that time of the year again when we launch the Christmas Hamper Appeal for 2022. We will be again providing hampers to homeless youth through Steps Outreach Service recipients, and refugee families through the Lentara Uniting Asylum Seeker Project.

Please find attached a flyer containing information about the types of hamper contents that has been recommended. As noted in the flyer, please inform me

on my email (beng1@iprimus.com.au) or on 0421 093604, how many hamper bags you need and I will arrange for them to be brought to the in-person meetings. If you are unable to attend meetings please let me know and we will make other arrangements.

Kind regards,

Rebecca John



CHRISTMAS HAMPER 2022 APPEAL

To assist Rotary Central Melbourne to mark the Festive Season, we ask members and friends to make up Christmas Hampers for the less fortunate people in our community. We will be providing hampers for two groups of disadvantaged people:

- the homeless and youth through Steps Outreach Service and
- refugee families through Lentara Uniting Asylum Seeker Project

We will supply **red hamper bags** for Steps Outreach Service recipients and **red bags with green ribbons** for the Lentara recipients. The following lists are suggestions of non-perishable food and other items for your hamper bag donations.

HAMPER BAG SUGGESTIONS Steps Outreach Service	HAMPER BAG SUGGESTIONS Lentara Uniting Asylum Seeker Project
Fruit juice Jams Pasta Rice Long life milk (dairy or soy/almond) Canned beans Canned beetroot Canned ham Canned peas Canned corn Canned potatoes Canned potato salad Canned carrots Canned soup Canned tuna Gravy mix Christmas cake Christmas pudding Cream (long life) Custard (long life) Jellies Mince pies Coffee Tea bags Biscuits Crackers Lollies Potato chips Savoury Shapes Soft Drink Christmas serviettes	Food items Cooking oil and olive oil Tea & coffee Sugar & honey Spices e.g. chilli, pepper, cumin, paprika, cinnamon etc Long-life milk, coconut milk/cream Sweet biscuits Dry biscuits Rice (basmati preferably) Nuts Canned chickpeas Dates Breakfast cereals Tomato paste Canned tomatoes Flour <i>Family Snacks</i> Potato chips Muesli bars <i>Household cleaning</i> Laundry powder or liquid (for front and/or top loaders) Multipurpose cleaning products – sprays, toilet cleaner Dishwashing liquid, scrubs/steel wool Environment bags Bin liners <i>Personal items</i> Deodorant (men and women) Shaving cream Razors (men and women) Toothbrushes Shampoo and Conditioner PLEASE NOTE: Lentara clients do NOT require pasta, baked beans, tinned soup, sanitary items or soap.

Please inform **Rebecca John** via beng1@iprimus.com.au or 0421 093604, how many hampers that you would like to donate by **Tuesday 29th November 2022**.

GARDEN DESIGNFEST A SUCCESS



After two years of Covid delays, the Garden DesignFest Organising Committee, from the three Rotary clubs of Kew, Brighton North and Central Melbourne, was finally able to put on display a range of gorgeous gardens over the past two weekends. And apart from the weather, everything went off without a hitch. We bravely embraced 21st Century technology, taking payments via Squares in all the gardens (thank you Rob for training a large number of technically challenged Rotarians from all three Rotary clubs). We watched the skies with trepidation leading up to the first weekend, with 13 gardens on display in Melbourne and the Mornington Peninsula. But Saturday turned out to be a fine sunny day and on Sunday the storms stayed away until evening. The weather was less kind the next weekend for the 20 country gardens, with two gardens closed on the Sunday due to torrential rain the previous day. On Sunday morning in some gardens the rain lashed down, the winds howled and volunteers hung on to the shelters to prevent them from blowing away. Not surprisingly, attendance figures were less than expected in those gardens badly affected.

All the gardens on show were interesting, some were really impressive. A standout garden at 9 Barnsbury Road, Deepdene impressed by its sheer size, with huge old trees set around a magnificent old home. In Brighton, another historical garden at 23 Asling Street featured 100 year old trees and vegetables in gardens beds throughout. On the second weekend, the four gardens at Euroa were magnificent, exemplified by The Falls with its waterfall, enclosed espalier orchard and scenic lake. Garden DesignFest cannot happen without volunteers to organise the event, buy and sell raffle tickets and staff the gardens over the two weekends. I wish to acknowledge and thank all of you who helped, in particular those who accepted the added responsibility of being a Garden Captain.

Garden DesignFest has two key objectives – to give people the opportunity to look at wonderful gardens and, in the process, raise money for charity. Just seeing the smiling faces on visitors confirms success of the first objective. We are still in the process of finalising numbers prior to distributing funds, firstly two our headline charity Youth Suicide Awareness and then to the Rotary clubs. However, I am delighted to advise that over the two weekends Garden DesignFest raised, in total, over \$100,000 for distribution to charities.

GALLERY



Bill, Julia Wood, Phil, Lyn
Mortimer



Table of guests



Anne Cobhan, friend and
Millie



Jeroen Weimar with MC
Koren



President Rohan



DG Amanda Wendy



Listening to President
Rohan



PDG Dennis Shore, DG
Amanda Wendy, PDG Grant
Hocking



Group at breakfast



PDG _ D9800 Foundation
Chair Grant Hocking



PDG Murray Verso



Guest speaker Jeroen
Weimer



Kevin and Suvam
preparing for the raffle



Picking the raffle winners



Donna Allan, RC Laurence
Kirk District



Phil, Lyn Mortimer, Anne
Cobham, Mareen Jackson



Alston coach