



Club No. 18278
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THE COG

HEIDELBERG: DISTRICT 9790

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www.rotaryheidelberg.org

Meets on Mondays
12.30pm for 1.00pm
Venue: Vasko Restaurant

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District Governor
Bernie Bott
Rotary Club
Yarrowonga Mulwala

Rotary International
President
Ian Riseley
Rotary Club of
Sandringham

THE COG
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A word from the President



Last Tuesday, Laurie Rose and I went to Government House where our Governor, Linda Dessau welcomed the President of Rotary International, Ian Riseley from the Rotary Club of Sandringham. Fortunately the speeches were short. There were over 600 Rotarians present and we sampled cucumber sandwiches and cups of tea and took the opportunity to explore part of the magnificent building and gardens. We also met many familiar Rotarians.

The week before was of course annual Golf Day. Our guest speaker David Mackay pulled out at the last moment. Luckily, Smokey Dawson came off the bench and regaled us with sport stories from his long career in the media. Thank you once again, Smokey. Our golf Day was a great success, although we could do with more golfers and more sponsors. On behalf of the club I would like to thank Gordon Chan and Geoff Cook for their tireless work and effort in the organisation and management of the day.

President Tony



CLUB CALENDAR

March is Water and Sanitation Month

19 March

Topic: Retail Today

Speaker: Stavros Zikou
Coordinator Ivanhoe and Mall
Traders Association

Chair: Leigh Wallace OAM

26 March

Topic: Run from Poverty
(for One Heart Foundation)

Speaker: Sindy Kwok

Chair: Marcia Baron

02 April

NO MEETING

Easter Monday

Joke for the Week

*Why do golfers carry two
pairs of trousers with them?*

*Just in case they had a hole in
one*

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 22 – 25 : District Conference
Yarrowonga/Mulwala

ATTENDANCE 5 MARCH

MEMBERS	16
GUESTS	2
APOLOGIES	11

Now to this week's story, actually a "Letter to the Editor" called "Age-old deficiency"

It's about time the authorities did something about older drivers on our roads.

For far too long older drivers have caused havoc as they hog the left lane, stick to the speed limits (even the road work limits) and stop at stop signs, causing great inconvenience and often preventing others from doing what they like.

Another major concern is that by avoiding fines and demerit points they are not doing their bit for the revenue of our state and therefore placing a further burden on younger drivers.

Until older drivers can prove that they are proficient at weaving in and out of traffic, driving while texting, tailgating, using drugs or doing burnouts, they should be banned from holding a licence.

Signed: Doug Money. Oak Park

Another successful **Charity Golf Day** was held at Rosanna Golf Club on March 5th at which 13 teams competed in the Ambrose event.

Thanks especially to Gordon Chan and Geoff Cook for organising the day and to Smokey Dawson who was MC and guest speaker in the absence of David "Swan" McKay.

Due to the support of all the teams competing and the ever generous sponsors, somewhere in the vicinity of \$6000 will be available to support our worthy community causes



Members may care to note that we now approach the 10th Anniversary of the passing of our esteemed former President, Elwyn Davies AM on 24th March 2008. Elwyn was at one time Acting Vice Chancellor, at La Trobe University.

Our Richard Luke Chaired this most honourable Memorial Service, which was held at the Menzies College, at La Trobe University.

It was my privilege to be Elwyn's Vice President during his term of office.

Regards

Max Chester OAM



Sausage Sizzle at La Trobe Uni 28th February



The winning team from Bendigo Bank



Greg Arnot accepting the Geoff Matthews trophy



SIR JOHN MONASH

Sir John Monash: a General, a Rotarian and a gentleman

The Rotary Club of Melbourne is proud of its links with a great Australian, Sir John Monash.

Words by Max Chester OAM, Rotary Club of Heidelberg, Vic

Sir John Monash was the second president of the Rotary Club of Melbourne, Vic. On or about August 8 each year, the club salutes Monash at a special luncheon commemorating this significant contemporary Australian.

Sir John Monash's contribution to Australia's history is paramount. In WWI he served at Gallipoli, the Western Front in France, the Somme, Hamel and Amiens. It was late in the war that he achieved fame for the inaugural strategy concept of the coordination of the infantry, tanks and even the involvement of the new aeroplane on commission. This was a critical framing of tactics and a winning way for attacking the Germans. His spectacular victories were a clear introduction to modern warfare of careful coordination and framing of tactics of the various forces; the birth of the Blitzkrieg.

The care and compassion he gave to his fellow soldiers, both during the war and for many years after, should not be understated. He was knighted in France by King George V in August 1918.

Sir John was born in West Melbourne in 1865 and went to Scotch College in Melbourne, where he was dux of the College. He attended the University of Melbourne achieving high honours and later went into business as a structural engineer and builder. One of his first projects was the construction of Princess Bridge in the new material of reinforced concrete. It is still there, with its graceful design, and serves well the people of Melbourne today.

Meanwhile, Sir John's post-war creation of the State Electricity



ABOVE: Monash as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Melbourne, at the conferring of degrees in 1930.

RIGHT: General Sir John Monash stepping out in full uniform, c1918.



Commission for the state of Victoria did much to lift the industrial status of the State.

John Monash joined the Rotary Club of Melbourne in 1921. One of the two commissioners sent to Australia that year in the move to bring Rotary to Australia was Lieutenant-Colonel J Layton Ralston. Ralston had been the Commanding Officer to the Armistice of the 85th Canadian Infantry Battalion, and this group had been part of the Canadian Forces attached to the Australian Army Corps under the command of Monash in the battle

of Hamel. Ralston also served in the Battle of Amiens where Monash was the overall commander.

There is no doubt that those interested in forming a club at that time would have wanted an important figure such as Monash to be a member. It is understood Ralston spent two hours alone with Monash when he arrived in Melbourne, following which Monash became a Charter member and, later, the second president of the Rotary Club of Melbourne. *

Last Tuesday morning the Rotary International President was interviewed by Jon Faine on the ABC Morning Program.

The Rotary International President, of course, is our own Ian Riseley from the Rotary Club of Sandringham. He noted under "cross examination" that Rotary was established in over 200 countries with widespread involvement in local, National and International projects.

Rotary in Australia is about to celebrate, a Centenary – The First Rotary Club in Australia was the Rotary Club of Melbourne in 1921; we note that Sir John Monash was the 2nd President of the Club.

A copy of an article I wrote for our National Magazine on Sir John Monash is shown above.

Max Chester OAM