

Club No. 18278
Charter Date: 5 December 1956

THE COG

HEIDELBERG: DISTRICT 9790

Issue 2859 18 November 2019

www.rotaryheidelberg.org

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

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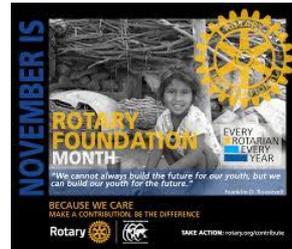
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**Submission deadline is each
Wednesday.**



FOCUS 20

Remembrance Day meeting was well attended and the presentation from Peter Stephenson proved educational and thought provoking (*see separate report*). It was also great to have Anousha, Gowri and Kevin in attendance as they get to know us and Rotary a little better.

The Board met the following Tuesday evening, for what proved to be the longest meeting your Directors have invested time in for quite a few years (almost 3 hours) and it was worth it with significant initiatives and commitments to current and future projects.

Wednesday evening, I attended 'A Celebration of the Rotary Foundation' dinner convened at the Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club, which provided a number of Rotary 'firsts' - 1 It started on time; 2 There were no raffles; 3 It was a packed house, probably 200 attendees; 4 The speakers stayed well within their allotted time frame AND 5 Best of all it finished on time - to the minute!

The highlight of the evening was the quality of the speakers. I was particularly impressed by Mark Balla from Box Hill Central, better known in RI circles as "The Toilet Warrior", if you are not familiar with the global success of his project just Google it.

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CLUB CALENDAR

18 November
Topic: Importance of bees and other pollinators to our environment
Speaker: John McCaskill
Chair: Smokey Dawson AM

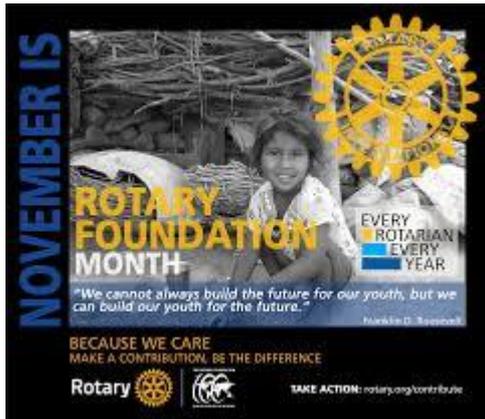
25 November
Evening Meeting 6 for 6.30pm
Venue: Old England Hotel
Topic: Gynaecological Surgery Program in Myanmar
Speaker: Liz Thomas
Chair: Leigh Aitken

02 December
Topic: IT/Social Media "Know How"
Speaker: Hamish Jones
Chair: Giuseppe Amoroso
AGM will be held 1.05pm

Quote for the Week

Democracy substitutes election by the incompetent for appointment by the corrupt few.

George Bernard Shaw
1903



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Equally, if not more impressive was the address provided by RI Past President Ravi Ravindran who after entertaining the assembled crowd with stories on cricket (his other all-consuming passion) provided considerable detail on the overwhelming success and global standing of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation in the delivery of service to both individuals and communities both large and small, due in no small part by the ongoing growth and size (clout) of Foundation's Balance Sheet. Charity Navigator, an organisation which rates global charities, with over 9,000 reviewed and rated on financial and structural security, lowest % of dollars lost to 'management', global performance against charter, etc. etc. has consistently (I think over the past 9 years) rated Foundation at 4 Stars AND Foundation has also been given 100 out of 100 points for integrity, ethics, honest corporate performance etc.

The above is not meant to distract from the other couple of presentations:

Prof. Rob Helm, Chairman, Peace Fellow Committee D9800 and a follow up presentation regarding Lucienne Heyworth, a recipient of the Peace Fellowship, who was subsequently awarded a 'People of Action' Award (1 of only 6 globally) on United Nations Rotary Day for the generation and delivery of humanitarian projects.

Our D9790 DG Brian Peters presented on The Children First Foundation and Farm in Kilmore - however his presentation was overshadowed somewhat by the projected overhead identifying him as BRAIN Peters - and therefore introduced as an intelligent Rotarian - got a good laugh though!

So very pleased I attended, along with Rotarians from Districts 9800, 9810, 9790 and others, on our table there were Rotarians from Wangaratta, Mount Beauty, Deniliquin, Strathmore and Greenvale, such a good cross section from our district and really engaged individuals.

See you Monday,

Noel

Remembrance Day: (Originally Armistice Day)

Peter delivered a very informative and interesting talk on the origin and history of Remembrance Day and its significance today. It marks the anniversary of the end of hostilities of the 1st World War. He told us that fighting formally ended 'at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month' in 1918, after the Germans called for a suspension of fighting (known as an armistice) in order to secure a peace settlement.

DATES TO REMEMBER

02 December: AGM 1pm Vasko

19-22 March 2020:
District 9790 Conference See page 4

23 March 2020: Annual Golf Day

ATTENDANCE 11 November

Members	15
Guests	4
TOTAL	19



Guest Speaker Peter Stephenson

The armistice was signed by representatives of Germany and the allies— which were France, the United Kingdom and Russia. During the Second World War, and to reflect a commemoration of all war dead, Commonwealth countries changed the name to Remembrance Day while the Americans call it Veteran's Day. A few key points; a French woman, Madame E. Guérin was the originator of the Remembrance Poppy Day. The creation of the remembrance poppy was inspired by the World War I poem "[In Flanders Fields](#)," written by a Canadian poet, physician *Cont page 3 ...*

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and Army officer, Lt Col John Macrae. Poppies were a common sight in Europe, especially on the Western Front.

Peter's talk was greatly appreciated by all present. Thank you Peter for such an excellent address and also for sharing your own military experience.

Ed



"Careful, Eve, you might spend all of your time on it."



'A Celebration of the Rotary Foundation' at Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club (from Page 1)

The Raffle Winner



Fellowship Meeting Monday 25 November

Members are encouraged to bring partners to the Evening Meeting on Monday 25th November at the Old England Hotel. 6.00pm for 6.30pm

We will learn about the Gynaecological Surgery Program being conducted in Myanmar in December, by a team from the Mercy Hospital for Women, Heidelberg.

As the result of a Board decision (see details below) a cheque from the Club will be presented to Liz Harris, a member of the team, who will tell us about the program.

REPORT OF ROTARY CLUB OF HEIDELBERG BOARD MEETING OF 13 AUGUST 2019

Laurie Rose represented John Walton, the chairman of the International Service Committee who was absent. Laurie said that he had met members of a surgical team that plans to go to Myanmar at the end of this year. The team will perform complex gynecological surgery.

The surgical team is based at the Mercy Hospital for Women in Heidelberg, and the members of the team are expected to pay their own airfares to Myanmar.

A resolution was passed by the Board that \$2000 will be made available to the surgical team to be spent on airfares or medical consumables.

Laurie Rose

District 9790 Conference 19 - 22 March 2020

Hello Everyone,

I hope all is going well as we head towards the end of the year and the upcoming Christmas/New Year period!!

It's time to once again consider attendance at the 2020 District Conference to be held from 19 - 22 March 2020 at the *Albury Entertainment Centre*.

Registration options:

Conference Sessions - Friday afternoon to Sunday lunchtime

Rotarians and Partners - \$180.00 each

Single Day attendance - \$100.00 each

Sports Day activities - Thursday, 19 March 2020 - costs vary according to the activity selected

Club Dinners - Friday, 20 March 2020 - to be arranged when we know number of RC Heidelberg attendees

Gala Dinner - Saturday, 21 March 2020 - \$90.00 each - food, drinks and entertainment included.

Other - other activities/costs during the conference are shown on the TryBooking website shown below.

It would be appreciated if members planning to attend the conference could register as soon as possible so that we can get our support activities underway.

Guest speakers - **Michael McQueen** is a multi-award-winning speaker, trend forecaster and bestselling author of 8 books. **Holly Ransom** - named one of Australia's 100 Most Influential Women by the Australian Financial Review. **Gabbi Hollows** - Fred Hollows Foundation. **Chris Mirams** - Chairman - Sheep Producers Australia. **Gregory Ross** - Chairman - Australian Rotary Health.

Accommodation - I have received accommodation quotes from the Mantra Hotel (\$264.60 for two nights) and Quest Apartments (\$310.00 for two nights). Both hotels are within walking distance from the conference venue.

Could conference attendees please confirm with me that you have registered for conference and if you have registered for the Saturday Gala Dinner? Could you also let me know accommodation requirements?

The link to conference registration is <https://www.trybooking.com/570337>

Regards,

Leigh Aitken

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