

Rotary Club of Fern Tree Gully Inc.

INCORPORATED REG. NO. A0023463V
DISTRICT 9810 VICTORIA AUSTRALIA
CHARTERED: 16 May 1963
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Vol 60 No 36

28th April

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Date & Time:	Thursday 28th April [6.00 for 6.30]	Thursday 5 th May [6.00 for 6.30]	Thursday 12 th May [6.00 for 6.30]	Thursday 19 th May [6.00 for 6.30]
Venue:	FTG Bowls Club	FTG Bowls Club	FTG Bowls Club	FTG Bowls Club
&Program:	Guest Speaker	TBA	TBA	TBA
Speaker:	Graeme Harrison			Megan Baker
	Behind the Badge			Local Council
Vote Of Thanks				Rob H
Scribe:	Mike S			John F

Future Diary Dates

Friday May 13th Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

Sunday May 22nd District Assembly (on line)

Thursday June 30th Club Changeover





PRESIDENTS GREETINGS AND CHATTER

April is Maternal and Child Health Month

Hello Everyone,

“ Well, we did it” After many months of planning phone calls emails and meetings, working along side the CFA, we delivered to the community a wonderful Anzac Dawn Service. The number of persons attending far surpassed our expectations, even the kookaburras know when to join in. Congratulations to everyone including our partners and friends of Rotary to make this the success it was. I am sure we can always make improvements for future years to come.

WELL DONE

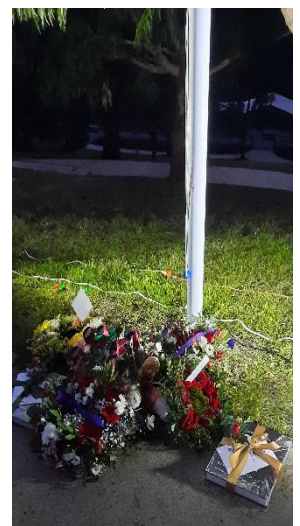
Last Friday evening our President Elec 2022-2023 Fran attended the Presidents Elect meeting, gathering much information to steer our club in the right direction for the next Rotary Year.

Graeme and I also attended the Presidents meeting on Friday. Details will be spoken about at this week's meeting.

Hope you all remember that this Sunday 2nd May our director of Fun and Entertainment” Paul McAloney is organising a car rally. Details to be given

Stay Safe Take care

Christine & Graeme



Last Weeks Meeting

Our speaker last Thursday was John Mortimer, a well-known local identity, John regaled us not only with anecdotes from his activities in our local community but with snippets of his overall life story.

John was born and raised in Robinvale a soldier settlement located in north-west Victoria on the banks of the Murray River. Following the failure of his first marriage John moved to Melbourne and found himself drawn to the leafy environment of the Dandenongs which would have been a bit of a contrast to the country around Robinvale. Another aspect of Melbourne that struck him was how “grey” the population seemed to be, all the folks around the areas that he’d moved from were either very tanned or had a reddish complexion. Once settled into his new environment he began his involvement with the local community such as serving on the local primary school parents committee and also as President of the committee.

John claimed to have been a very poor student in his primary years but made the effort to go through the adult education system and obtain a university degree in the arts.

He had a passion for writing and for several years worked in the television industry writing the dialogue for TV shows such as “Prisoner”. John also had an idea for a tourism show which he took overseas but apparently had a partner at the time who managed to cheat him out of obtaining any financial benefits from his idea. He then engaged a shonky lawyer for help, but all the lawyer managed to do was invoice him for his fees without recovering a single dollar. After returning to Australia, he taught drama at Box Hill TAFE for a while during this time met the second love of his life and settled in “The Basin”.

For 12 years John was editor of the Boronia/Basin Community Newspaper and assisted the Lysterfield News get their paper off the ground.

In conjunction with someone many of us know “Mal” who ran the Oak Tree Tavern a venue many of us are also familiar with they were the prime movers and organisers behind the establishment of the Basin Music Festival.

Having experienced frustration in dealing with local council in trying to get things done, he decided the best way to overcome the problem would be to run for council himself and was successful in doing so. In fact, so successful that he served on the council for a number of years, including a term as the ‘Mayor of the City of Knox’.

In his time on council, he came across many people who had opinions on the way things should be done and formed his own opinion from these encounters that unless you are well informed you are a menace.

All in all, a most entertaining talk with many amusing anecdotes enjoyed by a larger than usual audience, Paul McAloney thanked John for his talk and asked all present to show their appreciation.

Other club matters

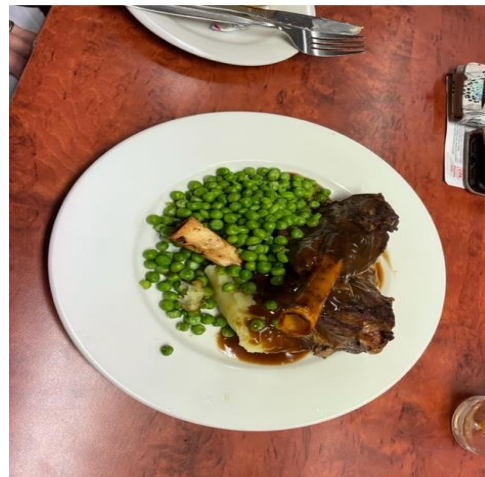
We had a visitor for the evening Rosie Massey who is a Major with the Salvation Army, Rosie was also a member of the Rotary club of Wangaratta and is moving to Melbourne with her husband and family.

Rosie has asked the club for assistance with the Red Shield Appeal being held in May, specifically to man a collection booth outside the Woolworths supermarket at Mountain Gate Shopping Centre on Friday the 27th and Saturday, 28 May. She was seeking volunteers to spend two-hour shifts; the club has undertaken to assist.

Pres. Christine Anderson reminded members of the Anzac Day ceremony to be held at the Quarry Reserve, all arrangements are now in place and asked for everybody to be in attendance by 5:15 AM at the latest.

Paul McAloney reminded us of the car rally being held on Sunday, 1 May and asked for numbers of those participating.

John Fleming thought it was his lucky day, a “double lamb shank” but just as he was about to attack it, it was whisked away!



2022 DISTRICT ASSEMBLY (ONLINE)
Sunday 22nd to Sunday 29th May 2022

Pres Elect Fran will provide details of who needs to attend

Rotary North Melbourne &
The Association of Ukrainians in Victoria invite you to a

CONCERT FOR UKRAINE



Saturday 7th May 3pm
Melbourne Town Hall

Cnr of Swanston St & Collins St
Doors open 2.15pm

\$25

Children 4-12yrs \$10

All proceeds go to Rotary Foundation's
Ukraine Disaster Response Fund

Limited seats - so book early!

rotaryclubnorthmelbourne@gmail.com
auv.org.au

Your health & wellbeing is our priority. Attendees will be required to
adhere to the COVIDSafe requirements of the Melbourne Town Hall.

Featuring:

an update on Ukraine with Stefan Romaniv
Rotary District 9800 Governor Dale Hoy
Ukrainian Combined Choir
Lehenda Ukrainian Dance Company
Australian Folk Singer/Songwriter John Flanagan
Homebrew Verandah Singers

**Purchase Tickets or
Make a Donation via**
trybooking.com/BYPWE



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North Melbourne



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Potential restart of Jazz afternoons.

Ron Hayden, drummer for the New Melbourne Jazz Band, whose company we enjoyed for so long until the dreaded Covid cancelled all our fun, is trying to reform a band (based on the old mob but called Lightning Jazz). He is sick of waiting for ALH Hotels to do anything and is now canvassing another regular Sunday afternoon venue in the Eastern suburbs. He wrote to me to get an idea of our interest in renewing "the pleasant Sunday arvos". After canvassing the meeting on Thursday, it was apparent that a high level of interest was evident, and I rang him on the Friday to let him know that around 15 people (+/- 5) was a good non-binding guess - and he was wrapped! He's talking to a lot of the old audiences, and needs the numbers to see which hotels or Jazz clubs are interested in becoming a regular jazz venue. He will get back to me as soon as he has something to work with. We live in hope!

Rotary Ride For Medical Research 2022



Kelly Country Encounters, the 35th annual ride, has now been completed. A great time was had by everyone, both riders and support crew, touring around the area of Wangaratta in Victoria's North East. The weather was kind to us with perhaps the exception of the high wind on the first day. The injection of funds into the local area's economy was much appreciated, with one business opening on a day of normal

closure to provide lunch to the team. The painted silos from Tungamah to Goorambat were certainly spectacular, as was the diverse scenery we rode through to complete the challenge, including the King Valley, Rutherglen, Beechworth and Eldorado.



In excess of the a third of the participants this year were non Rotarians, this number seems to be growing with each ride, and some of these people have become some of our largest fundraisers. Great new friendships were formed and many renewed, the camaraderie was terrific. The profile of Rotary and Australian Rotary Health was lifted as we progressed, with many of the non-Rotarians ramping up their fund raising on return from the ride, once an understanding of what we are about was gained.



Much enthusiasm for another ride next year has already been expressed by the participants this year. Basing the ride in a single location, although a challenge to organise, was much appreciated, so we will have to see what evolves as not many places provide such easy access to such a great range of riding routes from a single location.

Along with the Mad March Cycle Challenge, this year we have raised in excess of \$30,000.00 for Australian Rotary Health, bringing the total raised to \$1,240,500.00.



Stephen Spier
Ride Co-coordinator

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