



Rotary Club of Mordialloc Inc.
 Reg No A0011994G
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 Website: <http://mordiallocrotary.org.au>

Club meets at Woodlands Golf Club
 109 White Street Mordialloc
 Melways Map 87 H 11
 Tuesday 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm

Meeting 2335
3 March
2020

District Governor 2019-20: Shia Smart

Assistant Governor: Kathy Monley

THIS WEEK'S MEETING At Buckingham Motel, Highett

Date: 3 March
 Speaker: Project Committee
 Topic: Briefing for Gnome & Fairy Festival
 Chairman: Kay Gordon
 Desk & Regalia: David Brunt, Don Butler
 Fellowship: Kathy Thompson
 Bulletin Notes: Trina Williams
 Sergeant at Arms: Cliff Riley



RI theme 2019-20

Message from President Ernie Williams

Now that the bushfires are finally out and we have sent lots of money to help with the recovery, what else can we do?

Have you thought about a holiday locally in Victoria to spend some money here instead of on an overseas trip, which may not be a good idea with the coronavirus around? It doesn't have to be a long trip, maybe just a couple of days or even a day trip to the bushfire affected towns in Victoria. They will really appreciate it and I am sure you will enjoy it.

This week's meeting will be at the Buckingham Motel on Nepean Highway, Highett. It will be our final planning night for the "Gnome and Fairy Festival", which will be held on Sunday, 15 March. We ask that everyone comes along with family and friends and put up your hand to help out at this great family event!

Just for interest, you might like to know that in the last 5½ years we have collected \$5,150 in fines from our Sergeant-at-Arms sessions; \$6,850 from our Wheelchairs for Kids collections, that will build 340 wheelchairs for overseas countries, and \$4,600 from the weekly raffle. This makes a grand total of \$16,600 raised from loose change donations at our Club meeting nights.

SUMMARY OF COMING EVENTS

Please note the following dates and events. It is important that members support these activities.

- 6 March (Fri) Bunnings sausage sizzle
- 9 March (Mon) Bunnings sausage sizzle
- 12 Mar (Thurs) Parkinson's Support Group 10am
- 15 March (Sun) Gnome and Fairy Festival
- 21/22 March District 9810 Conference at Echuca
- 23 March (Mon) Board Meeting 7.30 pm at Williams' house
- 29 March (Sun) Bunnings sausage sizzle
- 1 April (Wed) Presentation of Reclink goods. Further details to come
- 17 April (Fri) Bunnings sausage sizzle
- 17 April (Fri) Interplast Golf Day
- 20 April (Mon) Board Meeting 7.30 pm at Williams' house
- 25 April (Sat, Anzac Day) Bunnings sausage sizzle (1.00 to 4.00 pm)

Further sausage sizzles to be held generally on third Friday of each month through 2020

 Regards, Ernie
Rotary Connects the World

Club Meeting No 2334 – 25 February at Woodlands Golf Club

Attendance: 12 members, 1 guest

Apologies: Jill Brear, George Aivatoglou

Visiting Rotarians: Peter & Helene Brown (RC Taveuni, Fiji), Tony Stove (RC Merimbula)

Guests: Alan & Susan Opie, Mark Pudney

Rotary visits: Paul Taranto attended the President Elect Training Seminar at Creswick

President’s Announcements

President Ernie opened the meeting and welcomed all members and guests. Special welcome was expressed to Past President and now Honorary Member Tony Stove of the Rotary Club of Merimbula.

Induction of New Member Alan Opie

President Ernie, with assistance of Visiting Rotarian Tony Stove, conducted the formal induction ceremony for Alan Opie. Alan’s classification is Bee Keeping and he has already been involved in club activities such as sausage sizzles and sale of honey to raise funds for the wheel chairs project.



Alan Opie membership induction conducted by President Ernie and Tony Stove

Brian Foley chaired the remainder of the meeting.

Director and Member Announcements

Trina (Secretary) has received the new caps ordered by members. Please collect them from Trina.

Graeme gave a short Treasurer’s report. Total funds currently available are some \$50,000 including \$26,000 on term deposit.

David (Community) advised that he and Helen had met with a local homeless lady in Mentone. They supplied her with some food and discussed her situation. She is well known to various charities and does not require help at this stage.

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Forthcoming Meeting Program & Rosters

Next Meeting.....

Date: 10 March
Speaker: Sergeant Arran Ferguson
Topic: Theft from Motor Vehicles
Chairman: Jenny Pudney
Desk & Regalia: Don Van, Don Butler
Fellowship: Glenyse Cooper
Bulletin Notes: Kathy Thompson
Sergeant at Arms: Paul Taranto

And the next

Date: 17 March
Speaker: Club Members
Topic: Committee Meetings (Community & International) & Gnome Debrief
Chairman: David Brunt
Desk & Regalia: George Aivatoglou, Don Van
Fellowship: Jack Pyziakos
Bulletin Notes: Jill Brear
Sergeant at Arms: Jenny Pudney

And the next

Date: 24 March
Speaker: Rob Dawson
Topic: History of Puffing Billy
Chairman: Kay Gordon
Desk & Regalia: Don Butler, Alan Opie
Fellowship: Kathy Thompson
Bulletin Notes: Glenyse Cooper
Sergeant at Arms: Cliff Riley

Members on Leave

Carol Quayle: 12 months from 15 July
If you plan to be absent for three weeks or longer, please request leave of absence through the secretary.

Apologies for non-attendance

Apologies for meeting absences should be advised to **David Brunt**. These can be by telephone or text to **0418 526 140 no later than 1.00 pm on Monday before the meeting**. Names of any guests can also be advised at this time.

TOASTS

Australia: Please charge your glasses and assist me in toasting our great country, Australia.
(Pause) to our country: Australia.

Rotary International: Please join me in a toast to our organisation: Rotary International.
(Pause) Rotary International.

Announcements (continued)

Paul reported on follow up by the National Youth Science Forum following the curtailing of one session and cancellation of another due to bushfire effects in Canberra during January. A number of alternative activities are being considered for the affected students including visits to commercial companies and university institutions.

Jack Cooper gave an update on arrangements for the Gnome & Fairy Festival. A committee meeting would be held the following day. Di is preparing a roster for helpers on the day and assistance would be required at various time from 7 am to 5 pm. Di needs helpers to deliver flyers to schools and kindergartens next week.

Jack advised that five couples would be attending the 2020 District Conference and reservation for extra rooms would now be cancelled.

Kathy said that \$57 profit was made from the recent theatre night to see “*Knickers*”

Tony Stove was invited to speak. Tony is now a member of the Rotary Club of Merimbula, a very active club of 38 members of which he is the oldest at 78. Tony reflected on his 17 years of service with Rotary Club of Mordialloc including being MC at two District Conferences run by the club.

The recent bushfires destroyed a wide area of SE New South Wales and East Gippsland including 423 homes that were lost. The fires have had a huge effect on the locality, particularly farmers and the tourist industry. Three Rotary clubs, Merimbula, Pambula and Bega are very involved in assisting the local recovery effort including delivering donated caravans for emergency accommodation, purchasing hay for farmers and helping “Blaze Aid” that is working to reinstate thousands of kilometres of farm fencing.

The weekly club raffle raised \$32. The Wheelchair collection raised \$31, plus more from sales of Alan’s honey. Raffle winners were Susan Opie, Trina, Helene Brown and Kay

Sergeant at Arms

Di Taranto was sergeant for the night and lead an informative session on “Women in Rotary”. Some interesting history:

Women were finally admitted to Rotary membership in 1987 when the US Supreme Court ruled that it could no longer exclude women on the basis of gender. Prior to 1987, the RI constitution ruled that club membership was for males only.

In 1977, a club in California that admitted three women had its charter withdrawn.

In 1923, a Rotary club was proposed in Manchester, UK for ladies. That proposal failed but the first Inner Wheel club was formed instead.

The first female club president in Australia was Cathy Roth of RC Geelong Central

The first female Vice-President of RI was Jennifer Jones in 2016-17

Females are now 20% of worldwide Rotary members.

Guest Speakers – Peter and Helene Brown

Peter and Helene were formerly members of the Rotary Club of Chelsea and were very active in club and district activities there. When Peter retired from regular employment, they moved to Fiji and have continued involvement with Rotary as members of the Rotary Club of Taveuni on the island of the same name.

Fiji has a multi-cultural population of about 870,000. After a series of political coups over the past 30 years, there is stable government now. Taveuni has a population of around 15,000.

Peter gave some background followed by telling and showing photographs of a range of projects undertaken by the club where his building skills are well used. These include:

Restoration of cyclone damaged schools and other community buildings

Renovation of an electric power room at the local airport Liaison with government for use of grant money, much of it provided by New Zealand Government.

Provision of training in building skills.

Helene then gave more detail on the Taveuni Eye Project a long running program that undertakes some 300 cataract operations per year to restore eyesight. This project restores sight to both adults and children from the more remote and rural areas of Fiji.

Visiting surgeons from New Zealand and Australia visit Taveuni for two weeks in October each year to undertake this program. Rotarians have helped to fit out and maintain the clinic, provide equipment, provide accommodation for patients and families and generally assist running the program. Many patients come to the clinic from neighbouring small islands.

The project has been running since 2005 and has been strongly supported by RC Boronia in District 9810 that received a Rotary Global Grant some years ago to provide specialised equipment.

Both Peter and Helene responded to questions about these projects.

Personal donations to the Taveuni Eye Project can be made in Australia through RAWCS.

Kay Gordon proposed the thanks to Peter and Helen.

And on the Lighter Side to end

A statistician can have his head in an oven and his feet in ice, and he will say that on the average he feels fine.

Son: “Dad, will you do my math for me tonight?”

Dad: “No, son, it wouldn’t be right.”

Son: “Well, you could try.”