



# The Mordialloc Bulletin

News and Views of the  
Rotary Club of Mordialloc

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

Meeting No 2344  
26 May 2020

District Governor 2019-20: Shia Smart

Assistant Governor: Kathy Monley

## THIS WEEK'S MEETING Electronic Meeting using "Zoom"

Date: 26 May  
Speaker: Hepatitis Victoria and RC Melbourne representatives  
Topic: **End Hepatitis Now**  
Chairman: Phil Maxwell  
Bulletin notes: Brian Foley



RI theme 2019-20

Most Rotary activities cancelled or on hold until further notice due to the Coronavirus. However we will endeavour to hold board and club meetings in this period using Zoom.

## Message from President Ernie Williams

It was good to listen to Alan Opie's story of his background, particularly his 32 years working for the Herald-Sun newspaper and how he came to join Rotary. Alan's honey making has already brought many hundreds of dollars to our "Wheelchair for Kids" project. See the notice in this bulletin of how you can order his locally produced honey.

The 2020 District Training Assembly using on-line Zoom technology started last Sunday and goes on to next Saturday, with workshop sessions every day for different Rotary portfolios and groups. In some ways it was better than having to travel to the Deakin University at Burwood in this very bleak weather, although we missed the chance to meet as a large group of Rotarians. Feedback from the sessions conducted so far is generally positive and some good ideas emerged from the discussions.

To past members and friends of Rotary, you are welcome to come to our virtual Zoom club meetings. Simply ring Trina Williams (0403 046 448). She will send you the link and answer any of your questions on how to join into the Zoom meeting.  
Regards, Ernie  
*Rotary Connects the World*

## SUMMARY OF COMING EVENTS

2 June (Tues) Club meeting 6.15 for 6.30 pm  
Cameron Glover Interplast  
9 June (Tues) Club meeting 6.15 for 6.30 pm  
Committee meetings

All meetings to be by Zoom video link until further notice  
Club meetings each Tuesday at 6.15 for 6.30 pm  
Board meetings and any other meetings, as decided by the board

## Club Meeting No 2343 – 19 May – Zoom Video

**Attendance:** 17 members, 1 visiting Rotarian 1 guest  
**Visiting Rotarian:** Heather Chisholm (RC Beaumaris, Assistant Governor for 2020-21)  
**Apologies:** George Aivatoglou  
**Guests:** Brian Schauer

President Ernie opened the meeting and welcomed all present including past member Brian Schauer.

Kay Gordon chaired the meeting.

### Reports and Announcements

President *Ernie* reminded members to reply to Trina confirming any changes of personal details for the 2020-21 club handbook. He also advised that a large quantity of equipment and materials from the Gnome and Fairy Festival had been moved into storage.

Treasurer *Graeme* gave a short financial report confirming that international payments had been sent to ROMAC, Rotarians against Malaria and ShelterBox have been made. The District Grant for the Reclink project had been received.

*David* (Community) advised that arrangements are being made to pay \$1250 to The Smith Family for families with young children in need of assistance. On a club service matter, David had spoken with the Woodlands manager who said that they (Woodlands) were hopeful of being able to re-open the restaurant soon – maybe as early as June?

Brian reported that he had attended a Zoom meeting of DGE Alma with incoming presidents and other Rotarians earlier that day. Some matters of interest:

- Most clubs and many committees were conducting meetings by Zoom.
- These seemed to be working well and were well attended
- Concern for some members not comfortable with Zoom
- Concern with the lack of physical activity for projects and lack of fundraising
- Most clubs would like to get back to normal meetings and activities but realised it could be many months

Dianne had been invited to speak about Rotary at a Venturers group shortly.

#### Guest Speaker: Alan Opie “Rotarian behind the badge”

Alan was born in Shepparton. His father was away in the army and spent time as a prisoner in Changi. Alan was looked after by his grandfather who took him to school at Grahamvale Primary. Later he attended Shepparton Technical School. He considers that he had a spoilt childhood and has good memories of horses, particularly Clydesdales.

After school he worked initially on an orchard and packing shed at Shepparton. At age 16, he moved to Wynyard, Tasmania where his father owned a hotel and Alan became a barman keeping law and order in the hotel.

Alan returned to Melbourne and began working at the “Herald” office in Flinders Street, Melbourne, starting as “phone boy”, then moving on to work in the loading dock and other positions in a total career of 32 years. In that time they published both the “The Herald” and “The Sun” before it became they were combined as the “Herald Sun”

On returning to Melbourne, Alan lived first in the St Kilda area and played football at Fitzroy Football Club and then Happy Valley Football Club.

He finally settled in Mordialloc where he has now lived for 57 years. Since then, Alan has engaged in various sports and outdoor activities. These include hang gliding, parachuting, hot air ballooning and canoeing, including 25 years with the Patterson Lakes Canoe Club. He also participated in the five-day Murray River canoe marathon several times where he won medals. He also participated in outrigger canoeing in Fiji. To round off a varied sporting career, Alan played Super Rules football at Beaumaris and Highett.

Alan also travelled extensively to Central Australia including Maree, Birdsville, Quorn and other areas.

Alan and wife Susan have four children, 12 grandchildren and one great grandchild. The lost one grandchild due to SIDS. He decided to join Mordialloc Rotary to give something back to the local community.

He will speak to us about beekeeping on another occasion.

Kay thanked Alan on behalf of the club for his interesting address on his fascinating background.

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Alan still has honey to sell with proceeds going to the Wheel Chairs for Kids project. To place your order, ring or text David Brunt (0418 526 140) and tell him what size jars you want - \$5, \$6, or \$7. You can pay by giving your credit card details to David, or pay by electronic transfer direct to the club’s Charities Account:

BSB: 633 000. A/C 140 680 661

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#### On the Lighter Side in these times

