



Rotary Club of Mordialloc Inc. Reg No A0011994G PO Box 289, Mentone Vic 3194 E-mail: info@mordiallocrotary.org.au 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 No 2364 13 October 2020

District Governor 2020-21: Alma Reynolds

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

Date: 13 October

Speaker: District Governor Alma Reynolds
Topic: Governor's Official Club Visit

Chairman: Paul Taranto
Bulletin notes: Brian Foley

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



**Assistant Governor: Heather Chisholm** 

# **Message from President Paul Taranto**

Good evening everyone and welcome to our meeting with our special guest the District Governor Alma Reynolds with husband Greg King.

We are certainly living through extraordinary times. The Covid infection rate is remaining stubbornly around the 10 per day mark in Victoria but is surging again in other parts of the world. At least we are still looking like there will be some easing of restrictions in the near future rather than a reimposition of lock downs that people in Madrid and the UK are facing.

The past week brought us a budget with the country now looking at accumulating a national debt of around 1 trillion dollars, extraordinary. The week also brought soaking rains with parts of the state getting in 36 hours what it normally gets in one month, extraordinary. News also came through that a record-breaking Rotary Foundation Global Grant (US\$1.125 million) was approved to fund medical equipment on the new Mercy ship the *Global Mercy*, extraordinary. You may remember my daughter Jessica talking about this ship a few meetings back.

Extraordinary times make me reflect on a number of things and one of them is organisational strategy.

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### **SUMMARY OF COMING EVENTS**

12 Oct (Mon) Board meeting. 7.30 pm 20 Oct (Tues) Dean Beattie, Men's Health

27 Oct (Tues) Andrew Webb, CFA

3 Nov (Tues) No Meeting – Melbourne Cup Day 10 Nov (Tues) Peter Ratcliff – Mordialloc & Dist.

**Historical Society** 

24 Nov (Tues) Club AGM

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

Is the strategy the right one for an organization to survive and thrive? I am sure that Dan Andrews and the state health officers are grappling with this question at the moment. I am on old fashioned investor and I like to read annual reports and the latest thoughts of the Board and management on the company strategy. One company that I discovered after the global financial crisis was the Goodman property group. This company not only survived but thrived and is still thriving through the current Covid crisis. One reason why I think it has done this is that it has identified the right strategy and has stuck to it.

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This is not financial advice but if you would like to read what a good company strategy looks like then you might like to read Goodman's strategy, it is on this link. <a href="https://www.goodman.com/our-purpose/making-space-for-greatness">https://www.goodman.com/our-purpose/making-space-for-greatness</a>

This got me thinking as to what is Rotary's strategy and what is its purpose?. These can be a little difficult to discern given ever changing annual themes, the messages and programs that come our way every day. During the last two weeks I have reflected on the fourway test. To try and find an answer on what is Rotary's strategy and purpose I went back to the "Object of Rotary". You can find this at the back of every edition of Rotary Down Under. In the "Object of Rotary" it says the object is "to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise". This prompts the question of what is the ideal of service. A Google search revealed there are 60 definitions for "to serve". The definition that I liked best was:

"Service is an act of humility that places others before oneself. Service is not a means to an end but the end. Service is an honour and a privilege, and a Blessing. True service is done without complaint or criticism, true service brings joy and touches lives and hearts, and true service can change lives for the better."

Certainly, the Rotary Districts/Clubs/Members that deliver projects such as the funding of the medical equipment for the Global Mercy, the provision of hygiene kits for the End Trachoma project and the End Polio campaign truly serve to bring joy and change lives for the better.

My quote for this week comes from an individual that truly tried to live up to the ideal of service. "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others" - Mahatma Gandhi.

Cheers Paul "Rotary Opens Opportunities"



Graphic from the Mercy Ships press announcement of the Rotary International funding support

### Club Meeting No 2363 – 6 October – Zoom Video

Attendance: 21 members, 1 guest

**Apologies:** 

Guest: Margaret Aivatoglou

President *Paul* welcomed all members and guest Margaret. Paul also chaired the remainder of the meeting.

#### **Reports and Members' Announcements**

Secretary *Trina* reminded of the next Board meeting to be held Monday 12 October.

Treasurer *Graeme* reported that finances are in good order. Most subscriptions have been paid. There was a slight over payment in district dues because of miscalculation of the spouse discount.

Kay reminded again of the "virtual walk" fundraiser for Parkinsons Victoria that is now in operation.

Brian (International) referred to an article by Wilma Best of RC Healesville in the latest RDU on the Milking Cow & Goat Project that has been going for 10 years in Kenya

David (Community) referred to the Parkinsons support group. The group has not been able to meet as a group for seven months and some members have deteriorated over that time.

Paul then showed a short video titled "I'm a Bin Lady"

Members then went to separate committee meetings. Short reports from the committee discussions are:

Community Service (David) There was discussion on all the current projects covering emergency care packages, telephone support, Kingston Council rental access, Parkinsons support group, the Keith Carpenter memorial, working with the Salvos, the Christmas lunch, Reclink, sponsorship pf school children, domestic violence, End Trachoma and backpack beds.

# Projects & Publicity (Ernie)

- Guitar sales are proceeding with 9 sold, 10 more being prepared and one identified for a raffle
- Planning is proceeding for the next Gnome & Fairy festival in March 2021. The Parkdale SC parents group has been approached about their involvement
- Updated club signage is being considered for Mordialloc and Aspendale railway station areas.
- The club Facebook page statistics show that the main users are females aged over 50.

### International Service (Brian)

- Discussion of projects and priorities for 2020/21
- Give Every Child a Future is the club donor funded project for September and October
- Issues raised at a recent district seminar on the Rotary Foundation and International projects

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In further discussion, *Dianne* and *Carol* referred to developing program to establish a sensory garden at the new Emerge facility.

Dianne and Kay are arranging preparation of hygiene packs for schools in Northern Territory for the End Trachoma project.

*Phil* said that the club Facebook page had produced a request for assistance from a Canadian student living in Cheltenham. This has been referred to the Salvos.

President Paul concluded the meeting with another short video of a good example of social media.

# District Governor Alma Reynolds' Message



The following message from DG Alma is a slightly edited version of that on the District 9810 website.

"In recent months Rotarians have been opening many new opportunities. Much of the change has been forced upon us by circumstance – clubs have found new modes of meeting, new community projects and new methods of fund raising

In 2020-21 we will be navigating a new Rotary world as we try to understand the changes that are temporary and the changes that will become a permanent part of our lives.

For us it is Rotary that remains a steadfast part of our lives. As the world changes our friendships do not. As our communities change the need for Rotary service does not. As the nature of help required from us changes, our desire to help does not.

Rotary clubs in District 9810 have risen to the challenge posed by our changing times and, I'm confident will continue to do so. The district website is our new District Directory – it represents yet another change. Here Rotarians will find all the traditional Directory information and assistance. I urge you to use it to its full extent. You can bookmark the site for easy reference and then register for the Members Only area so you can easily find your Rotary friends and colleagues."

While we navigate the changes around us (and our new website), we always know that Rotary is what we do for fun!

## From the Rotary International Website, 1 October

"First woman confirmed as Rotary president-nominee

Jennifer Jones, member of the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, Canada, will become Rotary International's president for 2022-23, a ground breaking selection that will make her the first woman to hold that office in the service organization's 115-year existence.

Jones, whose confirmation comes at a unique time in history, is inspired by how the organization and its global members continue to adapt, connect and serve their communities in new ways during the coronavirus pandemic. Jones says she wants to harness this moment of change to develop metric-driven goals that challenge us to innovate, educate and communicate opportunities that reflect today's realities."

#### On the Lighter Side



