



News and Views of the
Rotary Club of Mordialloc

Rotary Club of Mordialloc Inc.
Reg No A0011994G
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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 2377
23 February
2021

District Governor 2020-21: Alma Reynolds

Assistant Governor: Heather Chisholm

THIS WEEK'S MEETING Dinner meeting at Woodlands Golf Club

Date: 23 February
Speaker: Peter Negri
Topic: Clubmates Travel
Chairman: Trina Williams
Desk: David Brunt, Don Van
Bulletin notes: Brian Foley



Message from President-Elect Brian

Welcome everyone to tonight's meeting and our second back at Woodlands for the year. I am sure I join everyone in expressing relief that the sudden shutdown was successful and it was not necessary to go any longer than the initial 5 days. As I write this message, the Australian vaccination program has commenced and I trust that as this activity gathers momentum we will find more certainty come back into our lives. No doubt there are some feelings of disappointment that the Gnome and Fairy Festival along with the Golf Day have had to be postponed but this was necessary given the unpredictable health situation. With the vaccination program scheduled for completion by October we should be able to hold these events later in the year.

Yesterday (Sunday) I assisted PP Ernie with our Rotary stall at the Decathlon community event at their store on the corner of Centre Dandenong Road and Boundary Road. Although the event was not as vibrant as hoped (only 3 of the seven stalls turned up), as a trial run for our "Ask About Rotary" sessions in the retail centres later this year it was a success. Thank you also to the other members that came along and helped on the day.

I thought our speaker last week Chris Dance epitomised two themes I have talked about previously, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, and a program area that is important to our club, youth. I was proud to hear that our club gave Chris a Citizenship Award watch in his final year at Parkdale Secondary College.

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SUMMARY OF COMING EVENTS

25 Feb (Thurs)	Mordialloc Theatre Night Shirley Burke Hall 8 pm
2 Mar (Tues)	Club meeting at Woodlands GC Program to be advised
9 Mar (Tues)	Club meeting on Zoom - Committees
14 Mar (Sun)	Gnome & Fairy Festival, CANCELLED
15 Mar (Mon)	Board meeting 7.30 pm
16 Mar (Tues)	Club meeting at Woodlands GC Speaker: Dorothy Booth. "Friends of Mentone Railway Station"

This week's club meeting includes dinner and will be held at Woodlands Golf Club 6.00 for 6.30 pm.

We then learnt that he went on to identify an opportunity to reduce paper waste in the education setting. He then turned his invention (a computer program) into a global product "PaperCut" and with it a global company headquartered here in Melbourne. I will not claim that it all started from that watch, but Chris certainly appreciated the recognition our club gave him on his life journey. Chris' presentation opening and closing slides of citizen to citizenship were particularly impressive.

Speaking of youth and our recognition of young people, I am happy to let members know that Dianne received a lovely thank you note from one of the two students we are supporting through the Smith Family.

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continued from P 1.

I hope we can share that with you in an upcoming newsletter.

Speaking of Entrepreneurship and Innovation, our speaker this week Peter Negri from Clubmates travel is also a wonderful example of how these two attributes are alive and well in our society. Peter, along with Joel Webb of HelloWorld Travel, put together the Victorian tour that some members enjoyed late last year. Peter's story of identifying a need/opportunity and then filling the travel requirements for niche sections of our community is another that I am sure members will find fascinating.

As members are aware, this is the year of 100 years of Rotary in Australia. I would draw member's attention to an offer in the February edition of Rotary Down Under where you can purchase a copy of the centenary book "Humanity in Action". It is a limited edition so first in will be successful. There are also several articles around Rotary's promotion of peace in the world.

This week's saying is around citizenship and Rotary's global role.

"I am a citizen, not of Athens or Greece, but of the world." - Socrates.

Cheers Paul

"Rotary Opens Opportunities" (for global citizenship)

Important Notice re meeting attendance:

For those weeks that we meet at Woodlands GC, please remember to tell David Brunt (0418526180) whether or not you will be attending the meeting and whether or not you will be having a meal. David needs to know before midday on Monday before the meeting.

Club Meeting No 2376 –16 February – Electronic Meeting on Zoom

Attendance: 18 members, 1 visiting Rotarian, 1 guest

Apologies: Jenny Pudney, Graeme Bruce, Brian Foley

Visiting Rotarian: Amrit Singh (RC Southbank (PP), AG District 9800)

Guests: Margaret Aivatoglou, Chris Dance (guest speaker), John Dance, Christine Dance, Jeremy Chrimes, Alp (Surname not available)

President's announcements

President Paul welcomed members and guests and then announced the following:

- The Board met the previous evening, where a decision was taken to postpone the Gnome & Fairy Festival as the current environment was too unpredictable. The Projects and Gnome & Fairy Committees have been asked to look at the feasibility of holding the event in October/November.

- The new edition of District "Open Doors" features Phil's write up of our new signage at local railway stations. Thanks and congratulations to Phil for this great effort.

Paul then chaired the reminder of the meeting.

Reports and Member Announcements

Treasurer - In Graeme's absence, *David* advised there had been no significant expenditure or income since the last meeting. *Paul* noted we are waiting for the Australia Day grant and Brian Foley will be looking after reimbursement for members' expenses. (Update. The grant has been received and some payments made).

David (Community) reported that the proposed Telehealth seminar idea is developing and Sam at Mordialloc Neighbourhood House has contacted Alfred Health and Kingston Council in this regard. Reclink have been in touch and we will look at holding the official presentation of donated sports equipment and run a BBQ on 31 March, when the new sporting season starts.

Ernie (Projects) reported that:

- Emails are going out to everyone involved in the Gnome & Fairy Festival. A letter has been put together by Ernie and Jack Cooper explaining the situation and thanks go to everyone who have supported the planning over the past 6 months.
- Interplast golf day, which was to be held on 9 April is postponed and Woodlands have confirmed a new date of 17 September. Jack Cooper, Ernie and Barry Donaldson will work towards that date.
- "Meet and Greet" tables at shopping centres – Ernie and Kay are working on sites and dates for these.
- 50th anniversary of the Club – a meeting was held last week. Plans are progressing for 13 November dinner/celebration at Woodlands.
- On Sunday, 21 February, the Club has been invited to participate in a community day at Decathlon Sports, Moorabbin. Ernie is to send details to all and asks for volunteers to man a Rotary information tent.

Jack Pyziakos advised he contacted Bunnings who have offered a BBQ on Labour Day, Monday 8 March. Di will organise the roster. Jack is also in touch with Bunnings about possible BBQs over Easter.

Kathy advised the theatre night at Mordialloc Theatre Co. on Thursday, 25 February is still going ahead, lockdowns permitting.

Jack Cooper spoke in memory of the late Rotarian Don Butler, who passed away on 10 February. Don is remembered as an active member of the club until recent times. He did a lot of work for the club and was District Secretary. He was instrumental in gaining access at the Parkdale Railway station and arranged all the cleaning up and planting there. He was a wonderful fellow and good friend.

A minute's silence was then held in memory of Don Butler.

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Jack also drew attention to a zoom link from Le Pine for all those wishing to attend Don Butler's funeral service on Friday 19 February at 2pm.

Visiting Rotarian *Amrit Singh* introduced himself to the Club. Amrit is a Past President of RC Southbank and currently AG in District 9800. He moved to Aspendale 3 weeks ago and, while he will continue to be active in his District, he is keen to know how he can support our Club.

In regard to the EMERGE project, *Di* advised that due to the lockdown the meeting with EMERGE and people from the Mordialloc Men's Shed had been deferred.

Guest Speaker – Chris Dance – “PaperCut”

Chris Dance is the co-founder and CEO of “PaperCut”, providing print management software that helps hundreds of millions of people around the globe to minimize waste while having a secure and easy printing experience.

Chris started his presentation by telling us that, as an 18-year-old at Parkdale Secondary College, he received a Rotary “Citizen's” watch award in recognition of his achievements as a student and volunteer in the community. The award made a big impression on him and sparked thoughts about the meaning of being a “citizen”. Chris said the award set a benchmark which he has tried to live up to in his personal and working life.

Chris is a passionate sailor. Between school and university he finished building a boat and entered and won the Australian Championships. His dream was to win a World Championship and his first attempt in Wales, UK saw him come 9th out of 100 boats.

In 1994 he started an engineering and science degree at Monash University, which lead him into the area of computer software design. In 1998 he took time off, sailing competitively, and worked for the UN in Serbia, as a student working on the production of an atomic accelerator – an eye-opening experience as he was there just prior to the war in Kosovo.

After finishing university, in 1999 Chris was working on tech support at Parkdale SC and noticed the big wads of paper going into the bin next to the printer. The idea for the “PaperCut” software was born and Parkdale SC was the first non-paying customer. The next customer, a real estate agent, paid for the product.

Chris was working for ExxonMobil and selling the PaperCut software on the side, when in 2004 the product really took off. He worked with museum database systems and travelled round the world, including customers such as the Natural History Museum in London and the Smithsonian in Washington DC.

In 2006, Chris formed the PaperCut company with his co-founder, Matt Doran. In 2014 they won the EY “Technology Entrepreneur of the Year” in Australia. The PaperCut software is now used in over 50,000 organisations including major universities such as Cambridge and Harvard and organisations such as NASA and the UN.

It took a lot of work to establish the company which now has offices around the globe – in Portland, USA, London, Germany and Singapore. The first line of code was written in 1998 and there have now been 21 years of consecutive growth and profit. Chris Dance and Matt Doran still run the company today, and have 80,000+ customers across 186 countries, with over 112 million users.

On a personal note, in 2015 Chris finally realised his lifelong sailing dream and secured a World Championship in the Taser class.

Chris then answered questions, among which were “What is the PaperCut software?”. Chris's answer – it is software that sits on a network that looks at printing and suggests more economical ways of using printing/paper. Some software sits inside a printer, some in the cloud or on servers.

Paul gave the vote of thanks.

Rotary and the Coronavirus Impact – Some FAQs

The following is an abbreviated version of Q and As on the Rotary International website (www.rotary.org). Further detail is available by logging on to My Rotary.

Q: Will Rotary have a role to play in COVID-19 vaccinations?

A: Yes. Rotary will tap into its decades of experience in bringing polio to the brink of eradication, to highlight the power and efficacy of vaccines. Rotary's tenacity, strategic partnerships, and innovation can all support the effort to protect communities from COVID-19. Rotary and its partners at the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) recently announced that it is ready to support vaccine introduction and delivery. The group is also committed to equitable distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine and lending its support to ensure that all communities have equal access to vaccines.

Q: How can Rotary and Rotaractors get involved?

A: There are several ways members can get involved. Members can enhance community education on COVID-19 vaccinations by sharing information from local and regional health authorities and supporting their efforts. They should contact local health departments to determine where assistance is most needed.

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Q and As (cont)

Moreover, members can connect with local health officials, including World Health Organization and UNICEF where applicable, to advocate for and support their efforts to ensure all communities receive equal access to the vaccine.

Q: What about vaccine misinformation and hesitancy? Are there ways to combat this?

A: Yes. Rotary is asking members to disseminate accurate, fact-based information as provided by local health agencies. It's important to spread the word that vaccines work in their social media postings. Highlight Rotary's work on polio as a key example. Members can invite medical professionals or local health officials to speak at club meetings. Try to also engage with local media, for example writing letters to the editor, in support of local efforts and vaccine safety and efficacy—using Rotary's success in polio eradication as a proof point.

Q: Are the RI Board of Directors and Foundation Trustees taking action regarding vaccines?

A: Yes, they are. At a recent joint session, the RI Board and Trustees created a joint task force that will develop and execute a plan to encourage Rotary and Rotaract clubs to support vaccinations.

Q: COVID-19 is still spreading around the world. What should members do to help stop the spread?

A: Members need to continue to participate in projects that support mask wearing, social distancing, proper hygiene practices, and donations of personal protection equipment. More importantly, members should lead by example, by wearing masks and practicing social distancing. Share images online that reflect these lifesaving behaviours. Get vaccinated. When the time arrives for you to receive the vaccine, share your experience online.

Q: How does the COVID-19 pandemic impact Rotary's fight to end polio?

A: In our work to end polio, the program sees the devastating impact that communicable diseases have. With this in mind, we are fully committed to supporting national health systems by engaging our expertise and assets to help mitigate and contain the COVID-19 pandemic, alongside continuing concerted efforts to eradicate polio. Using the vast infrastructure developed to identify the poliovirus and deliver vaccination campaigns, the polio eradication program is pitching in to protect the vulnerable from COVID-19, especially in polio-endemic countries. From Pakistan to Nigeria, the program is drawing on years of experience fighting outbreaks to support governments as they respond to the new virus.

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