

The Mordialloc Mentone Bulletin



Rotary Club of Mordialloc Inc.
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PRESIDENT DAVID'S MESSAGE 5.11.24

INSPIRATION comes in many ways. At our last Rotary meeting, Jessica enthralled and challenged us all as she allowed us to journey with her on the Mercy Ship in Madagascar. We listened as we looked at the healing taking place on board the ship and we marvelled at the skill of the surgeons and hospital staff from across the world who gave their time and skill to help those in need. This was not the first time that Jessica had been a guest of the club, I am sure it won't be the last.

In a different world I had to visit the Genius Bar on Sunday. The Genius Bar is the name of the helping place at Apple, in Westfield. My phone had died, and was in urgent need of attention. Once I got through the preliminaries I was greeted by a young Technician (at my age everyone is young) who quickly resolved all the problems and I was on my way.

What was the common factor in these two encounters. Simply **COURTSEY** and **INSPIRATION**. We live in a world where it is easy to criticise young people. Thank you, Jessica, and thank you to the unnamed worker at the Genius Bar for your timely reminders of the good in this world. David

TUESDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2024

**NO MEETING
MELBOURNE CUP HOLIDAY**



**TUESDAY, 12 NOVEMBER, 2024 IS A ZOOM COMMITTEE MEETING -
6:30pm**

**Meeting #2490
Chairman – David Brunt
Acknowledge of Country & Toasts – Paul Taranto
Bulletin Notes – Di Taranto**

TOASTS & WELCOME TO COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Bunurong Peoples of the Kulin Nation as Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which we meet, and pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Loyal Toast

**Please charge your glasses and assist me in toasting our great country,
Australia**

(Pause) To our great country, Australia

Rotary Toast

**Please drink a toast to our organisation, Rotary International
(Pause) Rotary International**

**NOTES FROM ROTARY CLUB ZOOM MEETING #2488
TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER, 2024**

ATTENDEES – Paul and Di Taranto, David Brunt, Jack & Glenyse Cooper, Trevor Salmon, Cliff Riley, Trina Williams, Brian Foley, Jennifer Cloke

ZOOM – Brian Schauer, Daril Atkins

GUEST SPEAKER – Brian Foley – The Man Behind the Badge

APOLOGIES – Kathy Thompson, Graeme Bruce, Michael Mullan, Ernie Williams, Jenny Pudney, Alan Opie

CHAIR – Jennifer Cloke

PRESIDENT DAVID –

- Ernie and Jenny attending a meeting at Bendigo Bank
- Club Runner – anyone need extra training?? – David will send email to everyone interested
- District AGM – Zoom – date from David

SECRETARY –

- Trina sent out newsletter today – pointed out two special meetings – Jess/Mercy Ship and Jack Cooper/celebration of his nomination as Victorian Senior of the Year-with club members past and present
- News from the board in newsletter

TREASURER –

- Funds same as this time last week

YOUTH –

- RYDA went well – than you to Trevor and Wendy, Ernie and Trina and Michael Mullan – some students disruptive – venue Sandown Race Course – much better
- Board approved \$1200 to Kilbreda to participate in RYDA
- Mock Interviews up and running

COMMUNITY –

- Jenny and Jennifer going to a meeting tomorrow night – Mordialloc Lions Club

- Community Chair meeting at Mulgrave Country Club – J and J
- 30.10.24 Bentleigh Rotary Club Breakfast Meeting
- 7.11 .24 Dingley Noble Park Meeting
- \$5000 donation from a community member
- Safe Sleeping Project – fence and gate going in – Board put money in for portable toilets and a gate to be put in the existing fence – \$1000 from Chelsea for Safe Sleeping Project – \$1000 from WOW – \$5000 grant/awaiting notification – Cameras etc being put in \$6500 – Case workers coming on board – project coming along very well – everything coming together – amazing project
- Parkinson’s Support Group November – carpark has been leased to LXRA

INTERNATIONAL AND FOUNDATION –

- November 10th – District International and Foundation Conference – David and Paul attending

PROJECTS –

- Golf Day cancelled – will consider alternate dates
- Sausage Sizzle cancelled – very late notice
- Entertainment for Xmas lunch organised with Ukulele group
- Grant gone in to Bendigo Bank for Xmas lunch for \$1800
- Trina, Jenny and Di took part in ‘Chatty Café’ training session

MEMBERS ANNOUNCEMENTS –

- Cliff together with 9 family members visited Airlie today – best building on Punt Road – in Cliff’s family 1846 – 1888, has some secrets – a group called the ‘Z’ force who went behind line and disrupted communication – secret tunnel – some famous people owned it over the years – made very welcome
- Colonel Gordon Olden – part of ‘Z’ force known by Jack Cooper
- Trevor – all insurance forms submitted
- Trevor away all of November

NOTES FROM OUR GUEST SPEAKER – BRIAN FOLEY

- Born 1940, Parramatta, Sydney
- Father a civil engineer, moved there in late 1930s to make concrete pipes. When war started, most work changed to equipment for the war effort. I had one younger brother Denis born in 1943
 - Returned to Melbourne in May 1944 by train. Only a few civilian passengers
- Lived Alphington then Westgarth. Early 1951, moved to a house in Cheltenham, near football ground
- Attended primary school in Sandringham, then secondary at DLS in Malvern

- By now had decided to study engineering so concentrated on maths and sciences. Did well at school and university with most of costs covered by scholarships. Many discussions about engineering with my father and visited the factory when he was the chief engineer
- Started engineering course at Melbourne Uni March 1959. I had attended an all-boys secondary school and there were no girls studying engineering. Helen had been at an all-girls school so we both met large numbers of the opposite sex for the first time at university
- Helen and I became close friends in 1961 and were together from then on. We graduated on the same day in March 1963, announced our engagement in November and married in March 1964
- I had started work with the then State Rivers and Water Supply Commission in December 1962 in HO in Toorak. My first 4 1/2 years were in head office working on country town water and sewerage schemes all around the state. Helen was aware that we would be moving to country Victoria at some stage
- Our first child, Mark, was born in February 1965, on the day the start of decimal currency was announced in one year. Second son, Jim, was born in July 1966
- We moved to live in Pyramid Hill in late 1967 which was part of the large GM Irrigation district. Daughter Genevieve was born in the Pyramid Hill hospital in early January 1968. Moved to the larger and more complex Kerang office in mid-1968. Met Cliff about then and also David Constable who I worked closely with for the next 20 years
- I moved to Ouyen in northern Mallee in July 1969 as my first posting as district engineer. It was a dryland farming area, mainly wheat and sheep, and there were also about 10 towns. As there were no local water resources where we supplied water to both farms and towns. via a long open channel system. It required high maintenance on the channels, that often filled with sand. The water was delivered to the area on the cooler winter months. Large storage dams were required on farms and in the towns to hold water for a year. After a while there, I had the Hopetoun area added which almost doubled my area. Our youngest son Chris was born in Ouyen
- I moved back to Tongala in the main Goulburn irrigation system in April 1971 where I became a good friend with Cliff Riley who had a similar role at Shepparton. Tongala was mainly dairy farming but there also some sheep and a few orchards. I was never short of visitors to the office, often with a gripe. There were also five politicians whose electorates touched part of my districts. They all called in early to check me out. My predecessor had been there for 16 years, and they had only had five district engineers in the 50+ years that the office had existed. A few locals thought I would be there for a long time!
- I was promoted back to head office in late 1974 in an executive role working directly with the chief engineer for all rural supplies. We had retained our house in Cheltenham which was a good move, although we

had more kids and more stuff. We moved to our present house in 1976 that we bought from former club member Ernie McIntyre

- The 1980s and 1990s were a varied time of my career
- In 1981, I worked on an irrigation project in West Java, Indonesia reviewing their irrigation systems and making a range of suggestions. I made further short follow up visits in 1982 and 1983
- In 1988 and 1989, I made one-month visits to South Vietnam based in Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon. Very interesting and the Vietnamese have a great work ethic
- From 1988 to 1991, the water commission established a post-graduate course in irrigation management for staff from Asian, some Middle East and African countries. David Constable who had retired as chairman of the water commission was appointed professor in charge and I had a part-time role. I also had several trips to Asian countries to promote the course. In 1993 and 1994, I spent 15 months in SE Turkey reviewing their irrigation systems
- Helen had visited for the closing week of my assignments in Indonesia and Turkey and appreciated that she probably would not have liked being there for the whole of my time there

ROTARY

- I attended my first visit to a Rotary club in Robinvale in about 1965. I was approached to join the Rotary Club of Kyabram when I moved to Tongala in 1971, but I declined. I had been in Apex and Lions for short periods in other towns
- When Cliff retired from the commission in 1988, his classification became available so he approached me and asked me to join this club. I said I was interested but there would be a delay for a year or so because of my commitment to the university project. I subsequently joined in March 1990. Around June of that year, I did a trip to Asia promoting our program at the university and did make-ups in Manila, Dhaka Bangladesh and Jakarta. Also did a couple of make-ups in the Turkish capital Ankara where the CEO of our Turkish partner club was a member
- I was club president in 1995-96 having accepted by fax from Turkey
- In 1998, I approached past governor Don Holderness, who had worked on a few Rotary projects in the Pacific area, told him I planned to retire in the next year or so and asked him for suggestions about an overseas Rotary project. He looked at me and replied, there is something else you might consider – we are looking for a Governor in two years' time. I said I would discuss with Helen. When I spoke with Helen, she said that some of the past governors' wives had already raised it with her. So, I was appointed for 2001-02. While at the DG training in Anaheim, California, I spoke with my opposite number from the Turkish district I had visited. I asked him about Irfan Aker, the Turkish person who had taken me to his club a few times. He said that Irfan was his incoming

district secretary so I was able to re-establish contact with him. We did contribute to a project in that district during 2001-02

- It was a great year in 2001/02 for D9810. We had 51 clubs and nearly 1500 members. Helen and I discussed each club as we drove home after our official visits. She was very incisive and some of the wives had raised matters with her that were not known to me. The 911 attacks occurred in September 2001, and I noticed that many clubs took more interest in overseas projects from then on
- Past governors get appointments for various district or higher roles. Because of my engineering background, particularly in water supply, I was appointed as a member of the Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisors which I had for the next 15 years. The role was to check out projects seeking a Foundation grant and also review of past grant projects. I did project assessments in India, Fiji twice, Ethiopia and Kenya. Also, about 40 other desk studies
- Finally, Helen had been a charter member of Inner Wheel Club of Bayside that was formed in 1994. Inner Wheel was formed in 1924 in Manchester UK by wives of Rotarians. Women could not join Rotary then. The organisation spread internationally to many countries including Australia. Helen told me in January that she would like to attend the centenary convention being held in May in Manchester. We also planned to stay on for two weeks after the convention and tour around England as continuation of our celebration for our 60th anniversary. It was the day after the convention that Helen died suddenly. I cancelled our forward bookings and came home. I had no relatives or close friends in England and must thank Trina for putting me in touch with her sister Louise, in Manchester, who acted on my behalf with local officials after I left

QUESTIONS –

- Paul – district engineers – who fulfils this role – different people in various areas – Cliff hopes they are engineers
- Cliff – Brian mentions that they have known each other a long time – Helen was a great support when June was very sick and a great help to Cliff – helped him get through a terrible time
- Jack – when he moved into Beaumaris they had septic tanks – we always learn something new at these meetings

VOTE OF THANKS – Paul Taranto

RAFFLE -

- **Wine** – Brian Foley
- **Chocolates** – Trevor Salmon

**NOTES FROM ROTARY CLUB MEETING #2489
TUESDAY, 29 OCTOBER, 2024**

ATTENDEES – President David Brunt, Paul and Di Taranto, Trina Williams, Brian Foley, Trevor Salmon, Wendy Merchan, Jennifer Cloke, Jenny Pudney, Michael Mullan, Cliff Riley

GUESTS – Members from the Rotary Club of Chelsea

APOLOGIES – Kathy Thompson, Alan Opie, Graeme Bruce

GUEST SPEAKER – Jessica Taranto

CHAIR – Jenny Pudney

PRESIDENT DAVID –

- Congratulated Jack Cooper on his award – Victorian Seniors Achievement Award

NOTES FROM OUR GUEST SPEAKER – Jessica Taranto

- A Heartfelt Thank You from Madagascar
- **Week One: Diving In** - I quickly adapted to my role as a PACU nurse. The surgeries often ran late into the night, testing our endurance. When team members fell ill, we all pitched in. The spirit of cooperation was truly inspiring. In my free time, I discovered the beauty of Madagascar. The visit to Isle aux Prunes was breathtaking
- **Week Two: Finding My Rhythm** - Our fully recovered team tackled various surgeries. We performed complex orthopedic and maxillofacial procedures, always striving for world-class care - The cooperation on board was inspiring. Egos were left behind as we worked together towards our common goal - explored local villages, sampled Malagasy beer, and enjoyed swimming at the local pool. These experiences deepened my connection to Madagascar.



- **Week Three: Pushing Through** – Despite feeling tired, the support from my shipmates and loved ones kept me going. Their encouragement was invaluable – The Mercy Ship felt like a small village. We had access to a gym, meditation room, library, and even a pool!



Palmarian Reserve



- **Week Four: Bittersweet Endings** – focused on being present with patients and colleagues. Every interaction felt precious as my time drew to a close – The friendships I made with patients, families, and crew members deepened. These connections will last a lifetime.

- **A Life-Changing Experience** - The connections formed with patients, families, and crew members are unforgettable. These relationships have changed me forever - Witnessing complex surgeries and patients' resilience was awe-inspiring. It reinforced my passion for healthcare - Being part of the Mercy Ship family is a lifelong commitment. I hope to volunteer again soon.



Looking Ahead – Next Service Tanzania 2026 (or Madagascar 2025?) - Family time, then off to USA in November to present at a colorectal conference - PhD studies and more Mercy Ship volunteering!!

Your support made a real difference in patients' lives. I'm eternally grateful. As I look forward to my next adventure, I carry the lessons and memories from Madagascar with me always!!

VOTE OF THANKS – David Brunt

UPCOMING MEETINGS

DATE	LOCATION	EVENT/GUEST SPEAKER
Tuesday 12 November	Zoom Meeting	Committee Meetings
Tuesday 19 November	RSL Mentone	Fellowship Evening with current and past members – a celebration for Jack Cooper on his Victorian Seniors Achievement Award
Tuesday 26 November	RSL Mentone	Board Meeting 5pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	LOCATION	EVENT
Thursday 7 November	St Aiden's Anglican Church – 64 Robert St Parkdale	Memorial Service for Bob Tye – 10am
Thursday 14 November	St Nicholas Church Bear St Mordialloc	Parkinson's Support Group 1pm
Friday 15 November	Bunnings Mentone	Sausage Sizzle
Sunday 24 November	Princess Park - 11:00am until 1:00pm at Royal Park Nature Play.	Royal Children's Hospital Family BBQ
Sunday 1 December	Mentone Heritage Railway Station	Art and Craft Market



THE MAGIC OF ROTARY



PHOTO BOARD



**OUR OWN JACK COOPER RECEIVING HIS AWARD AT
GOVERNMENT HOUSE – VICTORIAN SENIORS
ACHEIVEMENT AWARD**



**JACK FEATURED ON THE CHANNEL NINE NEWS –
WELL DONE JACK – WELL DESERVED**



AFTER 2 MONTHS OF CANCELLATIONS BECAUSE OF BAD WEATHER WE WERE BLESSED WITH A PERFECT DAY FOR OUR NOVEMBER MARKET!!



JENNY, PAUL AND DI VISITED THE MISSION TO SEAFARERS AND JOINED IN THEIR SEA SHANTY EVENING!! GREAT FUN!!



PAUL TREATED US TO DONUTS ON THE TRAIN TRIP HOME – A PERFECT EVENING!!



Rotary Club of Mordialloc Mentone



ERNIE AND JENNY REPRESENTED OUR CLUB AT PARKDALE BENDIGO BANK'S 25 YEAR BIRTHDAY – THEY SCRUBBED UP PRETTY WELL!!

NEWS FROM THE TRAVELLERS – KATHY AND JACK!!



Jack Pyziakos

6d · 👤

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Walk to O'Pedrouzo today. It is amazing saw people we had met at the beginning of the walk and not seen for weeks. Lots of school children walking today. People stoping to relieve their feet or just taking it slower for the day. 20klms to go tomorrow.



Jack Pyziakos

4d · 👤

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Made it yesterday to Santiago de Compostella some night and scenes from today. Noisy crowd outside



JACK AND KATHY MADE IT!!
825KMS OF WALKING THE CAMINO de
SANTIAGO ACROSS THE NORTH OF
SPAIN!! LEGENDS!!