



Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Keilor East Inc.

Rotary Club 21222 - Charter granted 10th August 1983
July 13th, 2020 - Volume 38 Number 1
Club Motto - "Fun and fellowship whilst helping others"
Club Website - www.keiloreastrotary.org



On Monday President Michael Donnelly hosted the first Meeting, via Zoom, of the new Rotary Year, 2020-2021.

President's Report - President Michael Donnelly

July 13th, 2020



Fellow Rotarians

On last night's TV news, just after the Sports and before the weather, I saw the screen fill with a Rotary logo. I thought to myself that the recent start of the Melbourne Centenary Baton Relay from Government House Canberra would be the story, but I was wrong. Instead it was a story from regional Victoria, in which the local Rotary Club had just inducted one of the youngest, if not the youngest ever, President. I will say more about that at Monday night's Zoom meeting and we will also show footage though brief but very affirming speech given by the Governor-General at the Baton Relay launch.

A big thank you to all who attended our last Zoom meeting and a special welcome to the Rafters and Deb Akers for whom it was their first. News and Reports took nearly all of the available time, so the Discussion Topic was held over. Instead I took the opportunity to ask whether those then online would again attend this coming Monday's meeting (commencing at 6:45) to ensure that we have a quorum to endorse the Constitution and By Laws Special Resolutions and it looks like we will have the necessary quorum if people are able to keep their commitment to be online. Similarly an opportunity was given for any questions to be raised that needed clarification, which will be given at the meeting prior to the vote. A special thanks to Super Secretary Chris for updating and then circulating new copies which now include some additional but very minor changes made by District. It is my understanding that participation in these meetings can take place with a smart phone, tablet or via computer, even if it does not have a camera. Any computer would however need a microphone and speakers so that you could still hear and be heard but without a camera you would not be seen by others even though you could see them! Chris and/or Mark have regularly expressed their willingness to help new users have their first experience of Zoom. Please consider.

After the endorsement of the Constitution and By Laws I will announce the smaller 2020-21 Board and give a brief presentation outlining the portfolios of the Officers and Directors who comprise the Board. Time will be available for any Reports that need to be given and there will be a Board meeting commencing soon after the conclusion of the Club meeting. I will separately send an email to the Board detailing an agenda of that first Board meeting.

Until Monday,
"Be kind, keep calm and stay safe."



July 13th, 2020 - Zoom Meeting Report



Members in Attendance - Gerard Mahoney, Barbara Rafter, John Rafter, Deb Akers, Ginny Billson, Gail Horkings, Bruce Cameron, Steve Pennicott, Deb Sloggett, Helen Penna, Chris Rundell, Joe Albioli, Michael Donnelly, Phil O'Brien, Cherrie Osborn, Mark Tognon. Apologies - Athena Vass , Minh Nguyen, Bob McMartin and John Walsh.

President Michael spoke of the necessity of meeting via Zoom due to the Coronavirus restrictions. He told us that from an historical perspective during the Black Plague and other pandemics Shakespeare wrote King Lear and Sir Isaac Newton discovered three laws. The time to think and create should perhaps be seen as a positive. Michael asked Members for brief reports.

Gerard Mahoney - The Bendigo Bank Keilor East Community Branch is offering generous cash prizes (\$6000 in total) for a student writing competition about their experiences of life during Coronavirus Lockdown.

Joe Albioli - Real Estate business is good.

Chris Rundell - is still riding for exercise. Zoom Meetings are allowing us to continue meeting as a Club.

Phil O'Brien - Covid Support - We have had been able to supply seven voucher donations to families in need during this difficult time. This Keilor East Rotary initiative is operated in conjunction with IGA Supermarkets.

Barbara Rafter - International Coin Collection has allowed \$1500 to be donated to Donations in Kind and \$1000 to Darrel Steer for Cambodia Clean Water and Toilets Project.

John Rafter - It is good to see people via Zoom.

Gail Horkings - Great to see everyone again.

Steve Pennicott- Membership Fees - Do not do anything about this yet as we are yet to hear of a rebate amount (possibly \$17.00) from District 9800. We will be notified soon, and I will send invoices to Members.

July 13th, 2020 - Zoom Meeting Report



Deb Akers - We have a new grandson, Edward, who weighed over 5Kgs and is doing well. I am not working in Western Australia due to Border Restrictions but am able to conduct meetings via Zoom or Microsoft Teams. On the mental health side, it is hard not to be concerned that our daughter is a frontline Police Officer.

Deb Sloggett - Back at work in midwifery and I am also doing some work with Covid Testing at the Showgrounds. I enjoy working with the public who are generally respectful.

Cherrie Osborn - Is trying to stay connected with family and friends. Experiencing a feeling of despondency, not having been able to see her daughter Tracey, who lives in Swan Hill, since early March. She has begun making cloth face masks to fundraise for Days for Girls. She reported that she and Grandma are well.

Bruce Cameron - I am cleaning windows and staying positive. Holloway Aged Care has remained Virus free, so far.

Ginny Billson - Reported that her vegetables are growing. She is enjoying some gardening and writing a chapter in a book about Multiple Sclerosis. Rotary Cakes are still available.

Helen Penna - Has enjoyed the School Holidays and, being in a Hotspot Lockdown area, has been doing some sewing for Days for Girls. When Third Term begins the challenge of conducting classes online will happen again with three daily meetings with her Foundation (Prep) Class.

Yvonne Osborn - The Changeover Newsletter took some time but was a record of the 2019-2020 Rotary Year at Keilor East Rotary. Thank you to our fabulous contributors.



July 13th, 2020 - Zoom Meeting Report

Mark Tognon - Melissa and I have moved, and we are settling into our new home. We have been together for two years now and have moved our wedding from November 2020 until 12th February 2021. Congratulations to Ginny Billson who has received a further Sapphire for her Paul Harris Pin after her generous donation to the Rotary Foundation.

Annie Webb - has been staying in Geelong with her daughter and helping with caregiving. She has also been able to provide care to an elderly aunt. She has begun knitting 6x6 inch squares.

Michael Donnelly- Western Emergency Relief Network. Working in reduced capacity due to coronavirus restrictions. RYPEN Camp in October is only a remote possibility.

Michael asked for feedback regarding our starting time for our fortnightly Zoom Meetings. 6.45 received the majority vote. He asked which members would be attending our next meeting to have a quorum present to approve Constitution changes. It is intended that there be a reduced number of directors on the Board. Michael asked for comments re the new constitution and bylaws.

The question of indebtedness for any debts incurred by e.g. Satellite Club arose. That will be investigated.



“How I Lost My ZOOM VirginitY” By John Rafter

Back in March when Victoria first went into lockdown, our Club lost our meeting venue at the RSL, as the weeks went by, Barbara and I started to miss the Rotary Fellowship. Then Past President Mark and the Board decided to start Rotary Meetings via Zoom.

Having seen and heard stories of incidents due to social media, Barbara and I had made a decision not to use any of the social media platforms, and unfortunately we bundled Zoom with the other Social Media Platforms and we excused ourselves from joining the meetings on Zoom, thinking that the lockdown would last a couple of months or so.

Fortunately, once restrictions were eased slightly, our International committee was able to meet on a few occasions at Cherrie’s house as a group for a meal and get-together, we were able to enjoy some Rotary Fellowship again.

Now with the second Lockdown in place, I could not realistically see our club meeting at the RSL again for quite some time and with President Michael mentioning the need of a Quorum to accept the By-Laws and Constitution, we decided to give some more thought about using Zoom to attending the special meeting on the 27th July.

I found out that Zoom could be downloaded to an iPhone, so I downloaded Zoom to both mine and Barbara’s iPhones, it was very simple and easy to do. (Zoom can also be downloaded to Android Phones).

On the 13 July Barbara and I attended our first Rotary Meeting using Zoom, and it was not as bad as I feared, it took a little bit of getting used to, holding the phone so that you can be seen, but overall it was a good experience, especially to see and hear some members that we have not seen since early March.

Having written our story, I encourage other members who like us did not want to try Zoom to give it a go, you might be as surprised as we were.

Project B - update - Bicycles for Education in Cambodia -

A message from Cherrie Osborn -

I just had to send this one to you as it is fabulous! I hope we will be able to continue to support Aviv and the CRST. They are amazing!

This message is from Aviv Palti, the Founder of Cambodia Rural Students Trust

Hi Cherrie!!

We trust you're keep well in these unusual times!!

Jess and I just wanted to give you a quick update on the project you inspired..... Project B, Bicycles for Education, is thriving!! With all schools being closed, we have repurposed our students to bring the Mobile Bike Mechanic (MBM) program to villages and are now repairing 50-60 bikes every month!! We've attached some photos for you from the most recent activity 2 weeks ago - please feel free to share this with your wonderful team in Keilor East!! We're especially proud of our NGO girls, who have ALL been trained to join the MBM program and repair the bikes - so EMPOWERING for them to overcome social stereotypes!! Your donation last year kicked-off the project and this year we aim to repair over 500 bicycles in rural Cambodia.

We are also waiting for the new school year to start in Cambodia (schools are still closed) and we will then commence our second-hand Japanese bike distribution program - in the next 12 months we aim to distribute 500 bikes for students to get to school!!

So this email is just a simple THANK YOU for your heart and your vision in sharing our journey!!



Project B - update - Bicycles for Education in Cambodia - continued



Project B

Bicycles for Education

Students in rural Cambodia often walk to schools for 1-2 hours under the hot sun or through tropical rain. That means that many students don't start school until they are old/strong enough to make the journey and many drop out of school well before graduating.

Project B - Bicycles for Education, helps break the poverty cycle by making it easier for students in rural Cambodia to get to school.

What we do -

1. Work with rural schools to assess students' needs for bicycles to enable students to come to school with greater ease
2. Conduct home visits to each student in need, to confirm the family's economic status and commitment to their child's education
3. Deliver second-hand bicycles to qualified rural students who need bikes to get to school
4. Travel to rural schools twice a year with our Mobile Bike Mechanic program (MBM), assisting to repair bikes for all students in need



PROJECT B
Bicycles for Education

info@crstngo.org

CRSTNGO

crstngo_projecty

International - Face Mask Fundraiser

A Message from Cherrie Osborn

- Just thought I'd mention the amazing work that Lisa Lowcock and her team did to raise funds for DfGs with the making of face masks. Overall the number of masks they made was 273! And the total net amount raised was \$3,607.87! What an amazing effort! Super well done to them all and especially Lisa who started the ball rolling.

A Message from Helen Penna

I have attached a photo to follow up Cherrie's post about DFG masks. I made a few for them as well.



PLEASE DONATE YOUR UNWANTED
FOREIGN COINS AND NOTES



THEY HELP SUPPORT
ROTARY PROJECTS

Contact Barbara Rafter
Rotary Club of Keilor East

More Lockdown Activities

A Message from President Michael Donnelly

The legacy of the first lockdown! I'm satisfied now that the spare (guest) room and its external courtyard are now more like how I envisioned them to eventually become. It has only taken five years, but that room is no longer filled with the overflow from the gradual reorganization of downstairs. Now it is time for the garage, which became the new 'overflow' location, to become better organized in the current lockdown. I learned that the secret to 'downsizing' is to be absolutely ruthless in recycling and repurposing beforehand. Despite saying 'thank you and goodbye' - a la Marie Kondo - to 2/3 of the contents of the former family home and granny flat, more 'letting go' was needed!!!



International - Knitting Squares

A Message from Cherrie Osborn

Like me you have probably been sewing masks, (Like Lisa of our DfGs team and her friends who have been doing so brilliantly!), doing jigsaw puzzles, playing games, etc. and basically looking for productive things to do. So I have come up with an idea that would be ongoing and hopefully result in fundraising articles, for either donation to our local community or items that would be able to be auctioned, sold or raffled in support of our Health, Water and Sanitary Projects in Cambodia.

I call it 'Square Link for Rotary'. Anyone can join, and the idea is to knit squares as per the instructions that Annie has given us, or if anyone is not a knitter, then perhaps they could cut 6"x6" squares of cotton material. Hopefully some of you will have odd balls of wool or acrylic 8ply, and maybe some bits and pieces of material that could be used. I thought it was a way to clear out that cupboard or use up some odds and ends.

Having discussed this with the International team, the Rafters have taken on the challenge with a vengeance! Also, a wonderful Past President of Brimbank Central RC, Richard Carthew, has donated 50 x 100g balls to help the cause! So if anyone would like to jump on board with this project, and do not have wool or material, I can supply both and leave it outside my front door on demand.

I will be organising a collection of squares, when I am able. So happy knitting or sewing and a super big thank you to you all!

Knitted Square – 15cm x 15cm (6" x 6")



Square: 15cm x 15cm (6" x 6")

Knitting Needles: 8 (Imperial) / 4mm (Metric)

Wool: 8 Ply

Pattern: Garter (Plain stitch only)

Number of stitches cast on: 30

Number of Rows: 60

Please note: I'm not a great knitter!!! I believe I am a "tight" knitter, so this will of course change the number of stitches you may cast on. The above square was my sample. It is advisable for you to do a sample square too – loose knitters may only need to cast on 25 stitches and tight knitters 30 – 35 stitches,

If you can use **Wool** rather than **Acrylic yarn**, this is better. (Warmer, naturally fire resistant, warmer when wet, and lasts longer) – the above square is acrylic, I will admit. If that is all you have – that is fine too.

Please leave extra length of wool at the beginning (casting on) and end, so the squares can be sewn together. (approx. 10 – 12 inches long in length)

Any wool square colours will be gratefully received – you may have a couple of yarns you want to use up in one square. Provided, the different yarns are all in the same ply, that will be fine.

Happy knitting...

Take care

Annie

Cambodia Clean Water and Toilet Project

This is a follow-up from the last Zoom Meeting, where I said that cheques (from foreign coin/note collections) had been posted off .

The repatriated proceeds of the 2019/20 foreign coin/note project was \$2,383.36.

\$1,500 was donated towards the Club's contribution of \$3,500 for DIK (Donations in Kind).
\$883.36 was donated to Cambodia clean water and toilet project - John & Barbara Rafter made a personal donation of \$116.64 - thus equaling \$1,000 for Cambodia clean water and toilet project

Best wishes to all
Barbara & John Rafter
RC of Keilor East

From Darrel Steer - Thank you for adding your recent donation

Would you also pass on my thanks to the Rotary Club of Hornsby for their partnership with your Rotary Club of Keilor East with the 'foreign coin/notes collection' project.

Every dollar goes a long way in Cambodia, and with this support, we are making a difference in the lives of the village families, with clean water and sanitary toilets.

On behalf of the families, thank you again for your generosity.



Cambodia Clean Water and Toilet Project

The Rotary Club of Keilor East

C/- Barbara Rafter

G'day Barbara,

Here are some photos of the Septic Tank Toilet that we installed from the funds that the Rotary Club of Keilor East recently donated.

Your club's donation has helped another family have a sanitary toilet.

I am very grateful for the support that you have all given.

The photos below tell the story.

Best wishes

Darrel

Initially we discussed the family's situation and then 'site' where the toilet should be installed. This installation is for the family of Khuy and Sreykhouch. They have two children. This is Sreykhouch (left) and Khuy (right) standing on the spot where we will dig in the first concrete tank.

The digging is done manually.

The pipes are positioned, and the concrete foundations for the structure are put in place.

Seven rows of bricks are laid on the foundations to provide a base for the structure so that it can also be used as a washroom.

The concrete floor is poured, and the brickwork rendered.

The grab rail in front of the squat toilet is a major aid for the elderly and for land mine survivors who have lost a leg.

Laminated posters on the toilet wall reinforce 'hand washing and personal hygiene' as well as the 'Dangers of Burning Plastics'.

The finished installation.

Hygiene Reinforcement - Before the handover of a toilet to a family, we emphasize the importance of hygiene, and hand washing in particular.

Thank you, Rotary Club, of Keilor East for helping. The family are very grateful .



Ginny and Alex Billson's COVID 19 LOCKDOWN STORY



Bread Making

We ran out of bread, so Alex volunteered to bake some this morning. The house smells divine and the bread is yummy. A new skill learned and a happy wife.

The bread is made by mixing 600g of Laucke multigrain bread flour (other flours would work well too) to 2 teaspoons of dried yeast and 340 ml of warm water. Mix and knead for about 10 minutes then leave covered in a warm place for about an hour to rise. Then empty the dough onto a lightly floured surface, knead gently then shape. Slash a couple of deep cuts into the surface with a sharp knife then we put it into a cast iron Dutch oven on a sheet of baking paper and let rest for a half an hour. Put the lid on and bake for 3/4 hour in a super hot oven (240-260C). Take off the lid and bake for another 15 minutes to get a lovely crust. Tip the bread out onto a drying rack and don't be tempted to cut it for at least 1/2 an hour. Then slice and enjoy.



Alex and Ginny have been sending out a daily email of memes, jokes etc. during Lockdown. If you would like to receive it let Ginny know at billsons@bigpond.com.



Deb Akers' Lockdown Poem



The Great Lockdown of 2020!

And so it came that we all stayed home
 With time to read every book and tome
 We learnt to connect in different ways
 With family and friends also confined to homestays.
 While some of us struggled with Netflix and ZOOM
 We mostly obeyed and stayed inside our rooms
 For me it was busy with people who faced
 Their struggles and violence and couldn't escape
 But it wasn't all bad in my room on my own
 We welcomed young Ted to our family's zone.
 I've rekindled old friendships and shared things on ZOOM
 And seen how gin on a video can make my face bloom.
 What is clear from this year is that connections are
 needed
 And that public health warnings should always be
 heeded.
 To my friends at East Keilor I can't wait to catch up
 And share all our stories as we drink, and we sup.
 Stay well!



Edward James Akers Born April 17th, 2020 weighing 5.06kgs.



What's Next?

Club Meetings at Keilor East RSL are suspended for the future (at least, until restrictions on gatherings are lifted).

ZOOM Meetings are held fortnightly.

The next Meeting will be held at 6.45pm on Monday 27th July.

Date	Day	Speaker / Event Title	Speaker (if applicable)	Organiser
27th July 20	Mon	Club Meeting -Special Endorsement of New Constitution & By Laws - 6:45pm	No Speaker (email 12/7)	Michael
3rd Aug 20	Mon	NO MEETING		
10th Aug 20	Mon	9800 Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (RAG)	Fabienne Nichol & John? (email 23/7) R/C Camberwell	Michael
17th Aug 20	Mon	NO MEETING		
24th Aug 20	Mon	TBC		
28-30 Aug	Fri-Sun	CAMP GETAWAY		Annie
29-Aug-20	Sat	Bunnings BBQ/Taylor Lakes		Barbara Rafter
31-Aug-20	Mon			

Meeting ID: 514 079 0305-

Password : KERC2020

Our Club gratefully acknowledges the sponsorship we receive from the Keilor East Bendigo Community Bank and Smart Storage World to assist us in providing services to the Community.

For Club Membership or Sponsorship information
Contact: Past President, Joe Albioli (0438133123)

<http://www.keiloreastrotary.org>



Rotary Thanksgivings

*We give thanks for our daily food. May Rotary friends and Rotary ways, help us to serve all our days.

* For good food, good fellowship, and the privilege to serve, we give thanks.

July and August Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

July 12: Heather Honeyborne
July 16: Liz Gibbs
July 19: Joe Albioli and Stephanie Hewish
July 23: Jan Allan
July 31: John Bergbauer (past Club Member)
August 7: Wayne Parker
August 10: Our Rotary Club will celebrate 37 years
August 11: Trish O'Brien
August 13: Joel Hewish
August 20: David Barnes
August 22: Peter Tomlinson

Wedding Anniversaries

July 11: Patrick and Heather Honeyborne
July 14: Joe and Liz Albioli
July 15: Daryl and Sonja Cornish
August 27: Arnold and Pam Vandenham

Rotary Anniversaries

July 9: Ben Carroll 2012
August 1: David Barnes 1991
August 1: Bruce Cameron 1984
August 1: Peter Tomlinson 1991
August 10: Yvonne Osborn 2002
August 10: Lloyd Lancaster 1983
August 10: John Walsh 1983
August 22: Vanda Mullen 2011

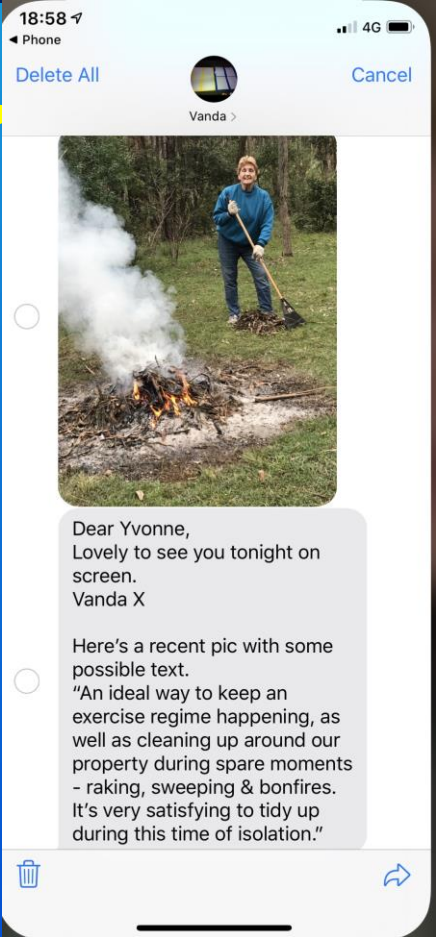


Member News -

Thanks for keeping us Covid 19 updated Vanda, Ginny and Alex.

A message from Annie Webb

I managed to head to Lyonville before the Airport West Lockdown, so spent some time with Louise. Luckily, the restrictions allowed me to head to Geelong from Lyonville to be with Marita and family. So I was able to celebrate Marita's birthday.



Anna Billson is growing up fast



Alex Billson's Occupational Therapy - Alex has been constructing a laundry room out of the corner of our sunroom that has been evolving over the pandemic. The framework for the sliding door and walls have been completed. Now for the next stage. Great that Bunnings does home delivery.

We would love some of your photos and/or holiday shots for this page. Text to 0411773360 or email keiloreastrotary@gmail.com

