



# Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Keilor East Inc.

Rotary Club 21222 - Charter granted 10th August 1983  
October 19th, 2020 - Volume 38 Number 8  
Club Motto - "Fun and fellowship whilst helping others"  
Club Website - [www.keiloreastrotary.org](http://www.keiloreastrotary.org)



**WHY WE ARE UNIQUE**

- 100% of donations are used for education and community projects
- The NGO in Cambodia is managed exclusively by our university students, with daily mentoring by the NGO Founders
- All students contribute daily to NGO-led community projects

**EDUCATE**  
→ **EMPOWER**  
→ **INSPIRE**

**STUDENTS**

The students in 2020 are inspiring future leaders. They are also contributing to many community projects in addition to their studies. Students are volunteers in the NGO's various social enterprise projects.

A grid of many small photos of diverse young people, likely the students mentioned in the text.



On Monday 19th October, our Guest Speaker was Rowan McClean who is the Club Service Chair for District 9800. On Monday 26th October, Aviv Palti, founder of Cambodia Rural Students Trust, spoke about their Project W (W for Water) for which we are contributing funds.

# President's Report - President Michael Donnelly

October 19th, 2020



President Michael opened the Meeting and welcomed Members and our Guest Speaker, Rowan McClean. He also welcomed Jenny Foster from the Passport Club, Assistant Governor Dominic Chicello and Lou Gionfriddo who has been unwell over the past few months.

The KERK Perambulators will be walking for the End Polio cause. Ginny will speak about this challenge later.

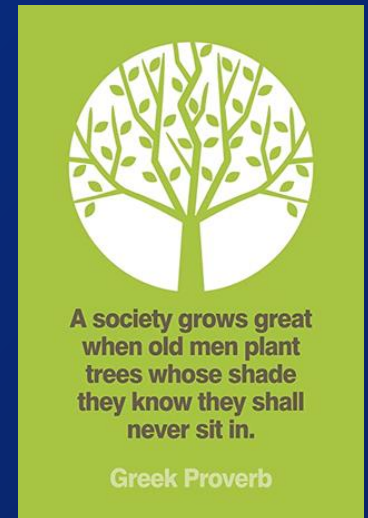
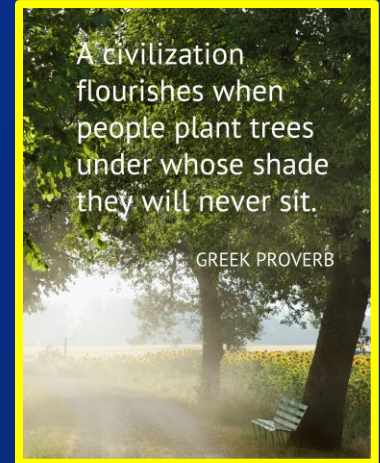
In Preparation for our October 26th Meeting President Michael sent out this message -

‘TIME is TIGHT’ in TONIGHT’S MEETING (with apologies to Booker T. and the MG’s for the title of this item!):  
Tonight will be the first occasion in over seven months that we have had meetings in consecutive weeks!

The meeting will contain an important presentation about the new Water & Sanitation/Hygiene project being developed by our truly extraordinary RCKE International Committee in partnership with CRST et al. There will be a number of additional guests/visitors from our ‘daughter’ club (RPM) and District Leadership teams who will be in attendance to hear about the SKY HYDRANT. A request has been made that the meeting/presentation be so that it can subsequently be distributed to other parties seeking to learn more about the project before deciding on their involvement. Your permission will be sought about this.

I will start the meeting at precisely 6:45 with my Welcome to Guests and Country being followed by Reports, so please log in a bit before 6:45 pm. Again this email will replace my Report and Announcements. Given that there was a meeting last week at which Committee and Activity Reports were given, please only deliver brief updates so our Guest Speakers can commence at 7:00 and be finished, with any/all questions answered, by 7:30. This will ensure that the small Breakout discussion sessions missed last week due to insufficient time can occur this week. I remind you again that the discussion starter is to tell the group about a significant challenge in your life and how you overcame it. I hope you can join us.

An alternative breakout group will be available for our visitors to join Cherrie, Deb and myself to transact any business etc. associated with the Project and District Grant submission.



# President's Report - President Michael Donnelly

October 19th, 2020



## SOME REMINDERS:

- Board meeting at 8:00 pm next Monday, 1 November
- RCKE AGM will be held in November - have you ever considered the possibility that you could become an assistant Secretary or assistant Treasurer to give a break to our long serving members in those roles?
- Moonee Valley Art Show Committee - first meeting is this Thursday 29 October at 8:00 hosted by Gerard. Contact him if interested.
- Cambodia Gala Gathering - Saturday 13 November 7:00 - 10:00

## POSITION VACANT

- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Club Champion
- See note above re AGM

## SPECIAL THANKS

To all of you 'who keep things' going faithfully week in and week out by:

- using the telephone tree to contact others,
- making grant submissions,
- running competitions to identify beautiful young 'future Rotarians' and/or insects visiting our gardens,
- familiarizing yourselves with Board and District endorsed Policies,
- managing our finances,
- preparing newsletters,
- distributing email communications

but most of all by

- individually thinking about and acting upon the ways that we can stick to our primary task of 'serving others while having fun'.

"Be kind, keep calm and stay safe."

Regards

Michael

Michael Donnelly  
President RC Keilor East  
Assistant Governor (Gateway East Cluster)  
michaeldonnelly@me.com

✉ 8/3 Marco Polo St, Essendon VIC 3040

☎ home: +61 (0)3 9374 2791

☎ mobile: + 61 (0)402 307 354



# Board Report - President Michael Donnelly

October 5th, 2020



Report from BOARD MEETING held Monday 5 October 2020

At this meeting, the Board:

- decided that the first 'get together' of 2021 calendar year shall be on 18 January 2021 and could be with other clubs if anything is being organised.
- determined to hold the 2020 AGM in late November
- endorsed the proposal from the International Committee to seek D9800 matching grant funding for the Rural Sky Hydrant (aka Project W)
- noted the extension of the deadline for the COVID writing competition
- considered the RCKE financial reports and approved the 2020-21 Budget as amended
- decided not to hold future Board meetings via Zoom on the same night as Club meetings. Thus they will be held on the first Monday of each month (excluding January) on which there is not a Club meeting
- endorsed the use of a Project Selection Tool which provides criteria by which the Board can determine whether to approve, request re-submission or reject any proposed project.
- Endorsed a set of Guidelines that will inform the Distribution of Charitable Funds
- Endorsed an initial sub-set of D9800 Policies that individual clubs are required to endorse as a minimum standard of their recognition of the need for compliance under Australian and Victorian law as well for compliance with RI requirements. They are attached to this email.

The process of amending/endorsing these D9800 Policies commenced at this Board meeting and will continue over our next two Board meetings. As each group of Policies is endorsed, they will be distributed to every Club member and will eventually be put on the club website as part of its forthcoming makeover (thanks for your initiative on this, Yvonne) .

Also attached are:

- a FAQ document from D9800 which explains the rationale for requiring clubs to have such policies.
- An Index of the full set of Policies to be amended/endorsed over the remainder of 2020

While we acknowledge that very few of you are highly attracted to such legal and bureaucratic necessities as policy development and endorsement and understandably prefer 'having fun and fellowship while supporting others', we still hope that you will take the time to run your eyes over these Policies. They will serve no purpose if this process merely becomes a 'box ticking' exercise by the Board.

# Board Report - President Michael Donnelly

October 5th, 2020



The Board continues to consider the following 'unresolved' matters:

- o What arrangements (and where) could be made for a December Christmas gathering
- o A suitable COVID-safe venue for when lockdown restrictions are lifted
- o New fundraising ideas in the continuing absence of Bunnings BBQs
- o Alternates and 'succession planning' for Office Bearer positions
- o Nominations for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Champion role

And finally, a vote of gratitude and appreciation is extended to the following:



- Board members for their thoughtful consideration of opportunities to act in the 'here and now' while still acknowledging present and future uncertainty.
- The International Committee (Cherrie, Deb S) for the Sky Hydrant initiative listed above
- The Community/Youth Committee members (Gerard, Athena and David Bennett) involved in progressing the COVID writing project and District Scholarship also detailed above
- Those who attended the Supercluster meeting with the DG and got to hear about the great work happening here and in our neighbouring clubs.
- Phil for being the real estate agent for Patrick's bees; his advice about composting; and the development and distribution of a framework for the Club's environmental activities.
- Those who create and spread the 'glue' that still binds us together while we are apart. I'm thinking of those who, by regular phone calls or email, keep in touch with others in the Club, particularly those unable to attend our Zoom meetings.
- Yvonne for volunteering to 'makeover' the RCKE website so that it increasingly becomes an 'information brochure for external parties' about what we do; rather than a RCKE 'family photo album' for ourselves.



# Guest Speaker - Rowan McClean - Vietnam Communities Support - 19th October 2020



Rowan McClean - Rowan is the District 9800 Chair for Club Service. He let us know that our District Governor's Philip Archer's mother died. We were very sad to hear this and extend our sympathy and understanding to Philip and his family at this difficult time. The Club Service Role is that of ensuring the smooth running of Rotary Clubs.

Progress in Vietnam - The Registered Charity, Vietnam Communities Support, was set up over 10 years ago. The challenges included Suspicion, Language, Decision Making from the top down. Punctuality - always late, is seemingly a cultural difference. The Rotary Clubs of Bacchus Marsh, [Glenferrie](#) and Brighton are among the supporters of this charity

The Charity saw 3 stages of assistance as being necessary.

1. Education of most needy children.
2. Infrastructure and amenities improvements
3. Community development Projects

Scott Peppin from the Rotary Club of Bacchus Marsh does a lot of work for this organization.

The facilities included

1. Library
2. Bicycles - helped students to get to school
3. Clean Water - RC North Balwyn
4. Schools - heaters and fans, desks and chairs, bikes and laptops
5. and Kindergartens - outdoor play equipment, blankets, food refrigeration and luncheon supplements
6. Ultrasound machine at Minh Hac Clinic - two doctors have been trained
7. Medical Clinics - Computerization of medical records, medicines, equipment for small businesses e.g. hairdressers
8. Western Toilets
9. Community Centres - Community Library, toilets, kitchen, paved play areas. These are valuable for Social Integration.
10. Bang Gia - teachers, furniture, pig raising - breaking the poverty cycle.
11. Decorative Leaves Project - first checked Vietrade feasibility, research, wholesale and retail, farmers were selected, management team to Ben Tre. Businessman Mr Thanh helped, planting was conducted, and a nursery built.

Red Cross Award 2018



# Guest Speaker - Rowan McClean - Vietnam Communities Support- 19th October 2020



\$20,000 School Minh Hac  
3,240 Yen Luat School Sponsorship  
3150 School Furniture  
MOU - Eye testing - Hanoi Uni  
Water Testing and toilet design - Vietnam National University

Next Steps - Dental support - Fluoride Paste  
Optometry screening, water analysis, Plan Nutrition, School food gardens, funding of ultrasound attachments \$3000 each.  
How could we help? Child Sponsorship \$520 per year

Our questions Lou asked why Rotary was not allowed to stay in Vietnam. The American War - a mistrust of Americans (where Rotary began).

How can Rotary Grants be obtained for joint projects happen when there are no Rotary Clubs in Vietnam? Rotary accepts work with partner organizations or work with a Thai Rotary Club



## Bacchus Marsh Rotary Club

YEN LUAT, PHU THO PROVINCE, Vietnam (our long-term project).  
September 2014 to NOW.

After meeting with local officials in Hanoi, Vietnam, in September 2014, an interim report was prepared outlining the needs of a small village of 3500 poor subsistence farmers on the Red River, Yen Luat, North Vietnam. As there is no Rotary International presence in Vietnam, we have established links with the NGO Overseas Kids Foundation (OKF) in Hanoi and ably assisted by the Rotary Club of Balwyn North to provide support to this community.

Three major areas of support were identified:  
Education, Infrastructure and Subsistence Income enterprises.





## Guest Speakers - Cambodia Rural Students Trust - Aviv and Jessica Palti - October 26, 2020



CRST NGO - It was another great day with Project R and Plastic Free Village (PFV) teams to lead the clean-up activity in Preah Dak commune with local villagers. This is to show how grateful we are to our nature. We hope that this activity will encourage the villagers to be more involved in reducing single-use plastics and to lead their village to be a Plastic Free Village. CRST Website.

Project W - Keilor East Rotary is donating to CRST's Project W which aims to initially provide clean water for four rural schools and their communities. The aim is to apply for a Rotary District Grant to add to our donations and raised funds to supply four [Sky Hydrants](#) which filter water. Investigations and surveys have been undertaken by 60 CRST university students. The Sky Hydrants cost \$3000 AUD. The installed cost per school, depending on existing infrastructure is \$6000.



If you would like to help, click here to Donate



Cambodia Rural Students Trust



A curriculum of 8 lessons, taught over 4 months reaching 15,000 rural high school students in 2020, and another 25,000 rural students in 2021, to become single-use plastic-free with 'refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle' message.



## Guest Speakers - [Cambodia Rural Students Trust](#) - Aviv and Jessica Palti - October 26, 2020



### WHY WE ARE UNIQUE

100% of all donations are used for education and community projects. CRST is managed on the ground in Cambodia by our senior students who are mentored in managing an organization. Our NGO is managed on the ground in Cambodia by our senior students, who are mentored by a group of Australian business volunteers. Our students receive the best education possible and in return, contribute back to society. Our NGO sponsors our students' education, health and dental care, life-skill courses and monthly living allowances

### Project Y Frozen Yogurt

In August 2015 we opened our very first Educational Social Enterprise store!! You can find us in Night Market Street, Siem Reap. Our store is open 7 days a week and fully staffed by our CRST students who we mentored on running a successful business. All profits from this store is put back into our NGO for further education and activities .



### PROJECT G

Project G, as in G for Girls!! This project is focused on bringing women's health education and sustainable feminine hygiene solutions to girls in rural Cambodia.

Around the world, girls and women resort to using rags, mattress stuffing, banana leaves, feathers, and even cow dung to manage their menstruation. Without basic hygiene education and sanitation, rural girls often miss many days of school, ultimately dropping out. Partnering with Days for Girls, we will provide a safe, beautiful, washable, and long-lasting alternative — along with vital health education. In less than 10 years, Days for Girls have reached one million girls and women in over 100 countries - and through Project G, we will be bringing this empowering program to rural Cambodia.



### New Student Program

Our student management team created a comprehensive process including tests, interviews and family visits to ensure that the new students we are undertaking to sponsor at High School or University are keen to study and come from poor rural families.

819 students took the written test. 128 students were interviewed. We visited 53 students' homes to access their family and living situation, and in 2019 we accepted 20 new students!!

AND NOW....

We are getting ready to find new students to join the CRST family for the 2020-2021 academic year!!

This process of interviewing and testing is typically undertaken in May-July, for the academic year commencing in September.



# International - Lighthouse - Battambang

A message from Lighthouse, Battambang, conveyed by Deb Sloggett.

*We are very thankful to the Rotary Club of Keilor East who supported us with new computers for our Computer Lab. We wish to your team have success and growth in your work.*



## Lighthouse Computer Lab

Proudly supported by



Club of Keilor East  
and friends  
Melbourne, Australia

*with thanks*

September 2020



## Spot the Rotarian - Name that Baby



Phil O'Brien



Above ???



Above ???

Ginny Billson and Annie Webb are organizing a "Spot the Rotarian" Competition.

Email your guess to [billsons@bigpond.com](mailto:billsons@bigpond.com)

Now would be a great time to look for these and put them aside for the end of Lockdown

PLEASE DONATE YOUR UNWANTED  
FOREIGN COINS AND NOTES



THEY HELP SUPPORT  
ROTARY PROJECTS

Contact Barbara Rafter  
Rotary Club of Keilor East



You are welcome to join us via Zoom on Monday 26th October at 7.00pm. Meeting ID: 514 079 0305- Password : KERC2020

# 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 16 November.

Meeting ID: 514 079 0305- Password : KERC2020

	Date	Day	Speaker / Event Title	Speaker (if applicable)	Organiser
3	2-Nov-20	Mond	NO MEETING 8pm BOARD MEETING	(email 14/8 - 13/9)(ph 7/10)	Michael
4	3-Nov-20	Tues	MELBOURNE CUP	(E -13/9)	Michael
5	9-Nov-20	Mond	Let's reconnect socially. Optional topic: "In my life, I am grateful for ...." A 'whip-round' of all present. No guest speaker. No breakout groups.	(E -13/9 - 27/10)	Michael
6	13-Nov-20	Friday	Cambodia Gala Gathering 7 - 10pm	(E -29/9)	Chris
7	16-Nov-20	Mond	Malaria & Covid 19 Vaccine Research	Bill Oakley (R/C Sandy Bay) (E 28/7 -24/9)	Michael
8	23-Nov-20	Mond	NO MEETING	(E - 13/9)	Michael
9	30-Nov-20	Mond	"A Man Called Fonz"	Des Tobin (Ph. 7/10)	Lou
11	7-Dec-20	Mond	NO MEETING 8pm BOARD MEETING	(E - 13/9 ph 7/10)	Michael
12	14-Dec-20	Mond	CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY - TBC	(E - 13/9)	Michael
13	21-Dec-20	Mond	NO MEETING		
15	11-Jan-21	Mond		(E - 13/9)	Michael
16	18-Jan-21	Mond	FIRST CLUB MEETING with High Profile Speaker TBC	(ph 7/10)	Michael
17	25-Jan-21	Mond			



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.



# October and November Birthdays and Anniversaries

## Birthdays

October 8: Lloyd Lancaster  
October 10: Marianne Potgieter  
October 14 : Tina Ballos  
October 15: Ian Wright  
October 18: Dawn Watson

November 1: Mark Tognon  
November 7: Lynn Mahoney  
November 19: Barbara Rafter  
November 21: Lyn Tan  
November 30: Phil O' Brien

## Wedding Anniversaries

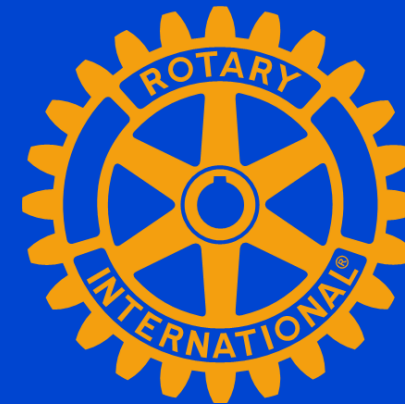
October 3: Howe Tan and Lyn  
October 16: Yew Kong and Linda Lye  
October 20: John and Barbara Rafter

November 17: John and Maryanne Walsh  
November 22: Jenny and Charles Foster  
November 28: Lou and Nonie Gionfriddo

## Rotary Anniversaries

October 15: Chris Rundell 2012  
October 21: Minh Nguyen 2002  
October 26: Alex Billson 2015

November 4: Judith Maddocks 2004  
November 24: Daryl Cornish 2014



# Member News -

Barbara and John Rafter have some beautiful irises in bloom.



While we patiently wait for a correct entry in the Name That Baby Rotarian Quiz, Ginny and I wish to exercise our grandparent bragging rights by showing off our little grand daughter Anna. Ta Da! - Alex Billson



## The Bee Search and Spring Gardens

Congratulations to our Bee Photography Photo Competition Winners



Above: 1st Prize to Annie Webb



Above: 2nd Prize goes to Cherrie Osborn

Our congratulations go to everyone who entered photos and our thanks go to John & Barbara Rafter for making available some garden-related merchandise from Bunnings Taylors Lakes Bunnings as the fantastic prizes.

We say a hearty "Thank you" to Phil O'Brien, our Sustainability and Environment Club Champion, for organizing the competition.

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

