

## Bulletin #32, 26th February, 2024

**President** Greg Byers   **Secretary** Catriona Jarman   **Treasurer** Peter Holland

Next meeting is at the Royal Hotel at 1830hrs for 1900hrs

### Duty Rota

*If you cannot fulfill your duties please arrange someone else and inform Pres.*

| Date                 | 4th March                            | 11th March            | 18th March                                         |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Guest Speaker</b> | Miriam<br>An exchange student<br>TBC | Labour Day<br>Holiday | Visit to the Seymour<br>Race Course for a<br>tour. |
| <b>Chair</b>         | Fiona McCarthy                       |                       |                                                    |
| <b>Greeter</b>       | John Keefe                           |                       |                                                    |
| <b>Loyal Toast</b>   | Mark Dosser                          |                       |                                                    |
| <b>Cashier</b>       | Jane Challis                         |                       |                                                    |

Invocation ALL

*For Good Food, Good Fellowship and the Opportunity to Serve through  
Rotary We Give Thanks*

Chair Kathy Mills commenced the meeting by calling on Jane Challis (in lieu of Ron Halicki) for the Toast which was to the Rotary Club of Angkor in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

The Rotary Club of Angkor was Chartered in District 3350 in 2007 and has 20 Members. The District also covers Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand.

This club is only small but each of the members brings a unique talent to the team in Angkor.

Rotary Club of Angkor, Siem Reap works on a number of projects. The projects fall under the following categories: Education, Medical and Dental, Hygiene and Sanitation and Agriculture and Organic Farming.

Rotary Club of Angkor, Siem Reap believes that the way forward in Cambodia to make positive change, is to focus on the importance of Education. Education holds the key to change on many levels for the Cambodian population.



| Upcoming Events |                |                               |                  |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Month</i>    | <i>Date</i>    | <i>Event</i>                  | <i>Organiser</i> |
| March           | 9-11           | Shake the can                 | TBC              |
|                 | 13             | Golf Visit to RC<br>Alexandra | Ruth Byers       |
|                 | 16             | Community Market              | Mark Dossor      |
|                 | 29 - 1st April | Shake the can                 | TBC              |
|                 |                |                               |                  |
| April           | 20             | Community Market              | Mark Dossor      |
|                 | 19-21          | District Conference           |                  |
|                 |                |                               |                  |
| May             | 18             | 70th Anniversary              | TBA              |
|                 | 19             | Community Market              | Mark Dossor      |
|                 |                |                               |                  |

Rotarian's guests were then introduced; Hannah Challis, Gary Taylor, Chris Chadwick and the evening's speaker, Jen Hornsby.

President Greg Byers welcomed all and acknowledged Rotarians who had provided assistance with the Golf Day fundraiser – special mention went to co-ordinator Peter Holland. He asked members to follow up the activity by removing flyers from shop front windows. Greg also mentioned that the Club's next fundraising opportunity would be 'Shake the Can' over the Labour Day weekend.

#### Announcements:

Sue Goette notified members that the evening's meeting would be her final one prior to her move to the township of Hastings on the Mornington Peninsula. She is contemplating joining a Club in that area.

Kathy Mills showed a newspaper flyer, that she had found on the weekend, advertising the commencement of the football season by displaying both Collingwood and North Melbourne Clubs. Kathy's aim is to donate the flyer to Fiona McCarthy who is a big North Melbourne fan (but loathes Collingwood!).

#### Family of Rotary:

Jill Keefe remains in hospital in Melbourne and Club members' thoughts are with both her and John.



Contact us at PO Box 80, Seymour. 3661, or [Seymour@rotary9790.org.au](mailto:Seymour@rotary9790.org.au)

or call the Secretary (Catriona) on 0419372481

## Guest Speaker – Jen Hornsby from 'Helloworld Travel' in Seymour:

Jen commenced her talk by describing herself as a 'travel addict'. Unknown to her husband, she is planning a trip to India mid-year and he is to be the babysitter of their 4 children!

Jen's presentation centred around recent changes to the travel industry. She stated that current technology had revolutionised travel planning as 'apps' were readily available to the public, who could now research and plan their journeys on line. Instagram travel reviews have now largely replaced travel brochures. Covid has also influenced travel experiences as destinations can now be viewed in the comfort of one's own home. Biometric ID at airports has now increased identification efficiency and the security of travel, thereby involving less paperwork in the process.

Jen stated that travel options and packages had increased and that now travellers had more control and flexibility regarding their trip than previously. Classic destinations (eg: Paris, London, Rome) remain popular however people are also seeking lesser known ones such as Iceland and Portugal as they gravitate towards more personalised and authentic experiences aimed at connecting them to local culture. Eco tourism has also become popular although the need for flexibility of planning is currently very important owing to the increase in global natural disasters.



The role of the Travel Agent remains valid as the volume of on line information can prove over-whelming. The Travel Agent is able to give guidance to personalise customers' experiences and to provide reassurance and support if itinerary adjustments are needed, especially during emergencies. A Travel Agent provides continuity of advice from the planning of a holiday to safe arrival home.

Following Jen's talk, questions from Club members centred around:

Fees charged by Travel Agents as opposed to none when booking online – Jen's response was that she is available to be contacted for assistance when needed and that the booking fee is worthy of the cost of that reassurance. Travel Insurance – Jen stated that there had been a slight increase in this cost. Insurers will cover weather events but not political unrest if plans are interrupted (only if an injury occurs). There is no coverage if a travel ban is in place. Airlines generally cover costs if there are technical issues with the plane.

The effects of Covid – Jen mentioned that Covid had caused many employees to leave their workplace which in turn has meant that new staff have had to be trained and that plans do not always run smoothly owing to staff inexperience. Delays and cancellations are common. Covid was a big financial challenge for the industry and Jen's business refunded 2.8 million dollars to customers. The follow on effect from Covid has since led to a boom in travel.

The most popular destinations – Jen reported that they are currently Vietnam, Scotland, Japan, Italy and Greece.

Strength of tourism in Australia – Jen indicated that Australia remains a popular destination for both overseas visitors and Australians alike.

Jen followed on with a travel quiz – all tables drew equal totalling 5/12 in the questionnaire (obviously more travel experiences are needed!) A play off then ensued whereby a representative from each table had to both make and fly a paper plane; the plane that flew the longest distance was declared the winner. This honour went to Gary Taylor's table (although he had help with the plane design from Jen!) Gary, Janina and Mary Greenshields took home prizes from this result.



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## Charity Golf Day 2024

Sunday 25th, February was the date for our Golf Day. The weather was dry and warm to hot.

We had 22 teams of 4 people register and all turned up. Following registration we collected for the Group photo on the 18th green. From here the teams were given their starting holes and so the day began.

As usual we had our 2 sausage sizzles on holes 6 and 17, and drinks were available from them if required. Also we had our mobile drinks cart wandering around, (This cart was provided by the Seymour Golf Club.) selling drinks and handing out free water.

By 1400hrs just about all teams had completed their round and the scores were being tallied. Free afternoon tea was supplied so while eating and drinking our teams were asked to bid on the auction items, before the raffle was drawn. There were many prizes so players were able to choose their prize.

Finally the winners were declared. (We had no women's teams this year.)

1st a mixed team led by Mr. Prorok

2nd a men's team, the Dukes and

Runner up; a men's team, the Sultans of Swing.

The team that got the best value for money (i.e. wooden spoon) was a mixed team led by Cindy Burnett.

The Rotary Club of Seymour would like to thank our major sponsors Beer Automotive Group for the prize of a car for the Hole in One on the 6th, Brenmak for Auction items, Raffle prizes and Vouchers and Tyrepower for vouchers that sponsored 3 holes. Also we would like to thank those old and new sponsors who provided Vouchers and items for the Auction and Raffle. Thank you very much.

Our sponsors and donors help to raise the money for charities and prizes to reward our Golfers.

Project Director, Peter Holland would like to sincerely thank those members who helped to gather everything together before, during and after the event. Without their assistance the day would not have been the success it was.

It appears that the day made around \$5000 for the charities we support. Well Done.

Owing to the great sponsorship for the Charity golf day, we have some Vouchers to sell to create cash for the charities.

We have 3 IGA Seymour vouchers valued at \$75, as well as 3 Seymour Tyrepower Vouchers, 2 Wallan Tyrepower Vouchers and 1 Benalla Voucher, all valued at \$100. If you would like to purchase 1 or more contact Peter Holland, your Treasurer.



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## Sergeant's Session:

Fines went to Kathy Mills as her caravan is still on the production line (together with the Chadwick's car); Mark who has resurrected his ute through Google instructions thus saving several hundred dollars in the process; Greg for looking a bit worse for wear on the 17th hole on the Golf Day; Sue Goette owing to the evening being her final meeting attendance; Greg again for having a suspicious looking pill bottle on the front seat of his ute which Mark had to explain when the police pulled him over whilst in the process of borrowing said ute! (Peter and Ann were spared fines in their absence - bring money next week!)

## Raffle Prizes:

Bill Dwyer won the nails gift voucher (this was left over from the Golf Day and advertised that the recipient could receive 'any service'); 'Tinny Trevor' won the bottle of red wine and Jen Hornsby won the chocolates, which was well deserved, as she is a self confessed chocoholic!



*This Bulletin was possible through the assistance of Catriona and Jane. Thank you very much.*

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