



Bulletin #39. 15 April, 2024

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

Next meeting is at Wine X Sam, Anzac Avenue at 1800 for a tour of facilities then go to Royal Hotel for a meal

Duty Rota

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

Date	29th April	8th May	15th May
Guest Speaker	Visit to Wine X Sam	Visit to RC of Yea	TBC
Chair	Ann Pritchard		
Greeter	Peter Holland		
Loyal Toast	David Freeman		
Cashier	Catriona Jarman		

Invocation ALL

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

Chaddy called the meeting to order and introduced Mark Dossor as Chairman.

Mark welcomed everyone and explained that as we can see Greg and Ruth are back and did we all realise that Collingwood won the three games whilst they were away. He then asked Greg to come forward and briefly talk to the members of his experience.

Greg spoke about Japan and the limited amount of English spoken there in comparison to Europe.

He also stated that he had 2 and a bit months left as President.

Then he said did I tell you about the Shrine, Shrine, Shrine.

How about the Temple, Temple, Temple..... and lastly the Cheery Blossom, Cherry Blossom, Cherry Blossom.....Greg then handed back to Mark,



Reports:-

Catriona - 70th Anniversary Invites are out. Need the RSVP's please

John Keeffe, attended a compulsory internet briefing re Adopt a Road held by Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria. We are already doing most of what was discussed. There is an old Rotary Club of Seymour photo showing previous club members doing adopt a road. John will see about having the photo updated.

Alison Hall- Yesterday the team of 4 (Alison Ridley, Alison Hall, Chris Bence and Samantha Manning) went to the Seymour Bowling Club to compete in the charity day. Alison thanks those that attended for having a go. There were 18 teams of 4 people so a good attendance. Our team did well but were not the winners of the \$1000. That was won by the Alan Welsh and his team and their chosen charity was the Seymour SES. A raffle was also held on the day raising around \$400 with the proceeds going to Hildene CFA, so two local charities did well from the day. It was a Good Day with Good Company.

Chris Bence spoke about the Nagambie Mechanic's Hall Trivia Night on the 25th May. Trying to get a table or two together. Flyer at end of Bulletin.

Mark spoke again and said that after meals were served Sam will be doing her Behind the Badge. Also, we will hear further from Greg and those that attended the District Conference.

He did also state that last Thursday he visited Jenny Foster's facility at Broadford in Mollison Street. The goal is to get unused medical equipment so that it can be sent overseas. Whilst there he saw 15 pallets of Hand Sanitizer, 15 pallets of PPE, pencils, highlighters and pens all left from Covid or the Census. These would have gone to landfill if not to the facility. They have received 30 Blood Pressure Monitors out of Cabrini Hospital that have been rechecked, Certified and will be going to Suva. The pencils etc will be going to schools and orphanages. The official opening will be sometime in July. Jenny has a lot of work ahead of her. Mark has said we will support her.

The Market was a beautiful day, vendors did well. The new Lamb and Beef vendor was particularly happy. It is a Big Day and Mark will come back later and confirm the \$

Membership night was cancelled which was very disappointing with only 2 replies being received as apology and the other 13 no answer at all. FACE to FACE is the way to go. It's up to all of us. "Membership Matters" we are a better club for the likes of Matthew, Samantha and Bill joining us.

* * * * *

Chaddy did the fines session.....Copious fines

Raffle was won by David Freeman choosing the Chocolates and Cathy the Wine.

Mark closed the meeting thanking all that spoke and all that attended.



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or call the Secretary (Catriona) on 0419372481

Upcoming Events			
<i>Month</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Organiser</i>
May	8	Visit RC of Yea	Ruth Byers
	13	Possible visit to Tallarook station	TBC
	18	70th Anniversary	Catriona Jarman
	19	Community Market	Mark Dossor
June	16	Community Market	Mark Dossor

Greg Byers on his recent trip. Good evening

I have been asked to talk my trip to Japan.

Ruth is at home, suffering from Jet Lag

On Thursday the 4th of April we boarded a Malaysia Airline Flight, stopping at Kuala Lumpa on the way.

We arrived at Haneda International Airport, where our Uber connection failed to show up. After a 2 hour wait we got a Taxi to Tokyo.

On Friday we visited the Meiji Shrine, located in the centre of Tokyo, the Shrine is located within a 170 acre forest.

We then went up the Tokyo Skytree Tower. At 643 meters high you got a really good view, of the 35 million people who live there.

Japans population is 123 million. Interesting though is that Japans population is decreasing. I reckon you could squeeze Japan into NSW.

On Friday we visited a Temple and an Imperial Palace. I don't think you need the detail.

On Saturday we went to the Cherry Blossom gardens. So many Cherry Blossoms and so many people. It really was beautiful.

Have I mentioned the souvenir shops Everywhere souvenir shops and markets, markets and more markets and more souvenir shops

This would have been better if I had some pictures to show you.

On Sunday we took a boat cruise on Lake Ashi in a replica ship from the old war days. A bit like Pirates of the Caribbean.

Has anyone ever seen Mount Fuji, well I haven't

Shrouded in Cloud. Our day at Mount Fuji was cut short. Mount Fuji is Japan's Highest Mountain

Tuesday the 9th April we visited the Old Town Takayama, built in the 1600s

Seen more markets and you guessed it souvenir shops.

When you go dining they let you cook your own meal

Explain gas burners

Food is cheaper than in Australia, however the portions are very small. Maccas saved me several times.

On Thursday we visited the beautiful Kenrokuen Gar-



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dens established in 120(sic)

By the way young Japanese women are delightful. All Japanese men are grumpy. And so are the older women. And they haven't forgotten WW2.

Over the next few days we visited numerous Temples, Shrines and castles and Markets and souvenir shops.

Buddhism is the main religion and finding your Zen is popular

We also visited the A bomb site at Hiroshima where 140,000 people were killed. a few days later the Bomb was dropped on Nagasaki killing about 80,000 men, women and children

We also visited Osaka, only 19 million there

Road and Rail networks

No potholes and Train travel up to 300 kilometres per hour

Language, very little English

Major exports new cars Mitsubishi

Flew home Friday Saturday

Would I go again no



Overview of District 9790 Conference 19th - 21st April 2024 by Catriona Jarman

I attended District 9790 conference in Shepparton last weekend. As I did not go to the social functions my comments are confined to the speakers' presentations.

The program appeared to be well rounded with a variety of topics covered. As to be expected, there were the usual Rotary focused ones; for example Polio Plus, Ride to Conference, attendance by the District's Youth Exchange Students (whose first impressions of Australia are always amusing to listen to!); international and local projects were outlined. Also in attendance were the District Governor (Neta Kirby), the District Governor Elect (Stephen O'Connell), the District Governor Nominee (Emma Davis) and, additionally, the Rotary International President's Representative, Kathryn Fahy, who had flown in from Iowa the previous day. And, as I always find, there were several inspiring stories surrounding the presenters' personal journeys and it is a few of these life experiences that I would like to mention:

Tessa Stow:

Tessa was employed as a veterinary nurse for many years but found euthanizing hundreds of dogs each year heartbreaking. She decided to complete a Diploma in Counselling and combine this with her love of dogs to undertake therapy dog training for teachers, counsellors, psychiatrists and other professionals. She trained the first Court Dog in Australia named Coop who would be present in the court room as witnesses gave their testaments against perpetrators. Coop has saved the legal system many hours of time and thousands of dollars as a result. Tessa had a Labrador/Golden Retriever cross with her on stage was the most placid and well trained dog that I have witnessed. She also works with Military Veterans, the Police Force and First Emergency Responders to rebuild their lives following personal trauma.

Mat Botwell:

Mat was working as an engineer for Toyota in Australia and Japan before being made redundant in 2017 when the automotive industry shut down. He decided to return to his childhood, scouring old photo albums, to find his true passion in life and the path he should follow. In the process, Mat came to realise that it was creating things that made him happy and he decided to redirect his energy into making hands and assistive devices for people with disfunctional limbs using a 3D printer. The hands are provided free of charge for people and

adults all around the world and Mat openly shares his designs so that others can make and repair their own devices. Mat's goal is to significantly bring down the cost of this technology to those who cannot access or afford it; this ratio is currently 9 out of 10 people in the world. Mat's journey led him to be named the Australian Victorian Local Hero in 2018 and he continues to run his charity in a factory on Philip Island, the premises of which was donated to him for the cause. Mat has also released a new kinetic hand design which he has modelled on blockbuster movies such as the Terminator. Mat showed several videos of his recipients who have benefited from his work (especially of children and they were extremely rewarding to watch).

Don Elgin:

Don was born without the lower half of his left leg but didn't realise that he was different from other children until he went to school, nor did he realise that he was disabled until a mate suggested that he could train for the Paralympics. Don was the most optimistic and positive person that I have ever come across. He spoke comfortably about his childhood challenges and mentioned his parent's attitude which was not to molly coddle him so that he could develop independence. Don went on to realise his dream by representing Australia in four World championships and three Paralympic games, receiving medals multiple times. He told the story of his participation in boxing training, envying the other trainees their skipping rope skills. He then asked both his doctor and orthopaedic surgeon about the possibility of doing this activity and was told that it would not be possible as he would experience too much pain through his stump. When he asked his boxing coach about learning to skip, his coach encouraged him to try it out. After falling over a few times, he mastered it! The medical community was so impressed by this that they flew him to Sydney to attend a conference to display his skills to an auditorium of specialists. Don is an author and motivational speaker who has achieved some extraordinary things through hard work, grit and determination and put simply, he loves his job!

Shane Jacobsen:

It is not possible to continue without mentioning the Keynote speaker, Shane Jacobsen. We are all familiar with Shane through his numerous appearances as an actor, presenter and entertainer and as a speaker, he did not disappoint. He had the sole attention of the auditorium for over half an hour and the jokes kept coming. The main topic of his speech was centred around the role of laughter in society and what he feels is the decline of the ability for the general public to tell jokes. He feels that this decline is linked to the younger generation and their use of phones in that they prefer to find an item on TikTok for example rather than to recite a joke. What was most interesting, however, and links to his persona, is that of his father's life's journey. His grandfather died when his father was a young child tragically leaving several young children behind. The family were so poor that Shane's father lived in a tent in Maribyrnong until his early twenties as they could not afford housing.



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The family became known as the 'tent people' and this was the reputation that his father had to negotiate whenever he went out with his mates.

Shane's father came to realise that the way to cope with the situation was to tell jokes in order to make people laugh. And it worked, as laughter is a great leveller. It doesn't matter what your socio-economic or educational status is, everyone can laugh at the same joke. Shane said that his father would enter a party as the lowliest guest, tell his jokes and be the one that everyone wanted to hang out with during the night. Laughter became Shane's family philosophy and it is this background which has successfully resulted in the development of his professional wit.

In summary, I viewed the Rotary conference as a series of linked personal journeys, some of which I have outlined, that hopefully helped to inspire those in attendance.

I'd like to thank Ruth, for introducing me to rotary and its fellowship, and subsequently the invitation to join.

Thank you, for the invitation tonight, whilst daunting, it's a great opportunity for my fellow Rotarians to get to know me better.

If you don't already know, I am Samantha Manning.

I'm not sure if Mathew has previously explained the reason behind the missing surname on the badge. It mainly has to do with my current line of work, as a Community Support worker, and the accessibility client's and their families, have too contacting me outside of work.

I chose to work in aged care after my grand father was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. I wanted to be able to give care with dignity, respect and comfort, especially for those enduring the burden of dementia.

I was born in Melbourne. I grew up in Pascoe Vale South. We lived in a beautiful homestead called Wentworth House also known as La Rose, which was built in 1842. My family lived in the blue stone servant's cottage out back. The owners (Savage Family) rented them out as units.

In 1980 Dad felt the need to get out of the city, deciding to move to the Bush, which brought us to Seymour. I went to both primary and secondary school here. Since then, I have lived in many beautiful places like, Sale in Gippsland and Tin Can Bay in Queensland.

I have two wonderful daughters, Alison 26 and Jasmin 24. Alison currently lives in Canberra working in HR for the ATO, and Jasmin lives in Sydney and is a Registered Nurse working in the surgical/recovery ward at St Vincent's Hospital. I don't get a chance to miss them because they call me ten times a day.

If I'm not working, I'm normally at the football. I love the MCG as it holds many great memories. My Pop worked there for 30 years. I'm not sure if any of you would remember back when Sheffield shield cricket began, Pop was the person who did the score board along the fence before we had big scoreboards. My dad helped erect the lights at the MCG, it use to amaze me that he said it felt like he had sea sickness when he was at the top of them.

Throughout my time as a rotarian I have enjoyed participating in shake the can, Golf day BBQ, Australia Day BBQ, and recently the market. I look forward to building friendships and supporting rotary in up coming events. Thank you for your time.....Questions?



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NAGAMBIE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

1873 - 2024

PRESENTS

TRIVIA NIGHT

Quiz Master
Ian Moore

**Saturday,
25th May 2024**

at NMI 286 High Street
Nagambie
Doors open at 6:15pm
Trivia starts at 7:00pm sharp

\$15 PER

PERSON

**Tables of
8 players**

NO BYO ALCOHOL/DRINKS
Drinks at Bar Prices
BYO Snacks / Auctions / Raffle

**For table bookings contact
Cathy Lawrence on 0477685761 or
gythac@icloud.com
Jacky on 0459545486**

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