

ROTARY CLUB OF OCEAN GROVE

Inc. Assn. A 0013584 X ABN: 13 501 173 192



Meeting Roster



	Guest speaker / Activity	Chair	Greeter/ Assist. Sgt.	Thanker/ Asst. Cshr.	Raffle	B'days/Anniversary
23rd March	Emma Rusden - RYA awardee	Dick Clay.	Rod Greer.	Coral Barker.		25/3 Jenny & Neil Templeton
30th March	Club Assembly	Gil Morgan				30/3 Coral Barker,

Our Club

President: Gillian Morgan

Secretary: Pearl Macmillan

Where: We meet each Tuesday at the Ocean Grove Bowling Club:

18 The Terrace, Ocean Grove, 3226

When: 6pm for 6:30pm

Visitors are Welcome

Apologies: 0457 315 900

Web: rotaryoceangrove.org.au

Theme: Water & Sanitation Month

Lookout Reserve Maintenance Roster:

20/03/21 - 02/04/21 Jenny Templeton

03/04/21 - 16/04/21 Isobel Paton

17/04/21 - 31/04/21 Neil Templeton

01/05/21 - 14/05/21 Tony Haines

Past bulletins

- Available from our website (rotaryoceangrove.org.au) via the 'Our Club' menu.

Market contact: 0401 606 036

Art Show contact: 0417 319 465

Meeting Notes 16 March 2021

Visiting Rotarian: Graham O'Donnell, Rotary Club of Melbourne

Visitor: Geoff Stagg

President Gil Morgan inducted two new members: **Harry Hanley** and **Lyndy Stagg**. They have been proposed for membership and accepted. They were aware of Rotary requirements as being a service club where members put 'Service Above Self'. They were advised of the four-way test to be applied to all activities. They would be expected to participate in club activities. Harry and Lyndy were presented with badges and information packs. Harry Healey was appointed to the Art Show Committee and Lyndy Stagg to the Youth Committee. Lyndy responded by thanking the Club for allowing her to become a Rotarian. She thanked Jenny Wright for introducing her and was looking forward to contributing. Harry Hanley said he had been inspired by his wife, Lisa's, involvement with the Rotary Club in Florida where he had helped out on projects. He had also been inspired by his father-in-law's willingness to give his time to community activities.



President Gil Morgan transferred two existing Rotarian to the Rotary Club of Ocean Grove: **Lisa Hanley**, previously Rotary Club of Melbourne Beach, Florida and **David Larkin**, previously Rotary Club of Ballarat West. She thanked them for accepting our invitation to join this Club and felt that we would benefit from their previous



Members: Coming Events:

- * Duck Race - Saturday April 3rd.
- * Golf day - Monday May 24th

Saying of the week

Health is the greatest gift, contentment the greatest wealth, faithfulness the best relationship.

Joke of the week

Links

Rotary International:

www.rotary.org

Rotary District 9780:

www.rotary9780.org

Footy Tipping

www.footytips.com.au

Please remember:

You receive an email each week from our Secretary, Pearl Macmillan, asking about your attendance at the following meeting. - **please respond when you get it** - it's a very simple process.

experience. Lisa and David were presented with badges and other information. Gil stated that we looked forward to their contributions to our projects. David Larkin was appointed to the Community Service Committee and Lisa Hanley to the Art Show Committee.

David responded by saying he had enjoyed the fellowship he found here and the informality of the group and was impressed with the good projects he had witnessed. Lisa Hanley responded that her father had been initially involved in Apex and then joined both Lions and Rotary. Thus, her family had always been involved in service events. She first joined Rotary in Launceston, Tasmania. This had been a young members club and was very relaxed. She found a similar atmosphere here with a good blend of maturity and vibrancy.

President's Report: Gil Morgan:

- *Need members to volunteer as Fine Sergeants. Members have said they miss the fun of these sessions.
- *Board meeting last night with some outcomes referred to in Committee Reports. A restructure of the Club's Board of Management was discussed with further information at a later date.
- *We had obtained a \$5,000 grant through Libby Coker, local Federal member of Parliament from their community grants scheme to help pay for the new BBQ trailer.
- *ANZAC breakfast is going ahead. Neil Templeton and Gary O'Donnell will co-ordinate this year. They will need to use the older BBQ trailer.
- *Club Assembly on the 30th March will be held at the Surf Club. Ty Simons will cater for the meal that night.
- *Beneficiaries from this year's gold coin collections will include Riding for the Disabled, Disabled Surfers, OG Surf Club, Feed Me Bellarine, Donations In Kind, Shelter Box and Rotary Foundation. Please email Pearl Macmillan with other suggestions of recipient organisations for discussion at the April Board meeting. It is hoped to distribute funds in May/June.
- *Board decided that retaining the gold coin collection within the Club for 2021/2022 and distributing the funds at the end of the Rotary year was the fairest way of helping those we support.

Chair: Gordon King

Reports:

Community Services: Gordon King – Gordon reported that he had a very productive meeting with the CEO and Senior Managers of the Council of Greater Geelong.

R100 Baton Relay: Gordon King – this occurs on Sunday 21st March starting in Torquay then through Ocean Grove to Queenscliff and on to Drysdale, finishing in Geelong. He asked for volunteers to ride in the sidecar of the Harley Davidson

motorbike carrying the baton. He also advised that there would be celebrations on the way at Barwon Heads at 10.45, Ocean Grove at 11.05 and Queenscliff at 11.35. The relay will finish at Christ Church Geelong at 4 pm. Members are asked to participate in these celebrations.

Publicity: Xenia Williamson – Xenia advised that we were getting good publicity on Facebook for Rotary projects such as the Duck Race, Scarecrow and Entry Design competition.

Environmental Protection: Noel Emselle – Noel had been trying to organise a cultural and heritage educational centre and a walk between Ocean Grove and Point Lonsdale but with COVID, it had been difficult to progress. The Ocean Grove Community Association had helped him put a submission to Council. The Council of Greater Geelong have responded that they will be appointing a project manager to create a Heritage Park in the area.

Family of Rotary: Judy Greer – Alan Keyse thanked everyone who had sent wishes during his time in hospital. Judy reported that Bill Steains has had open-heart surgery while the operation went well; he was in ICU for three days and is now in a ward but not receiving visitors. He may be home at the end of the week. Gerry Spencer sends greetings. He is at Torquay recovering. Peter Cowburn and Lorraine Batrouney are both having procedures on their legs.

Footy Tipping: Janet Alexander – Janet thanked Geoff Chandler for helping while she was away. They now have a record number of 30 tippers and are still welcoming new tippers.

Fund Raising: John Calnin – The fund-raising committee is still active, although some projects had to be abandoned due to COVID restrictions. The Duck Race is proceeding on 3rd April. There will be a 'Line of Gold' on the 18th July. John is organising a Charity Golf Day for the 24th May. He needs auction items so if anyone has business contacts that could contribute items please let him know. He also urgently needs helpers with the project.

Duck Race: Heather Willson – Heather thanked all who bought back their money. She needs it all by Tuesday at the latest. She also needs more helpers, including a photographer. If you can help, contact Heather.

Guest Speaker: Sue Longmore, OAM: Rural Australians for Refugees

Sue Longmore is a founding member of the Queenscliff branch of Rural Australians for Refugees. Her involvement began when she wrote to a detainee, which led to formation of Queenscliff Rural Australians for Refugees (QRAR). It provides support and advocacy.

Sue began her journey twenty years ago when she wrote her first letter in 2002 to Ali, an Afghan asylum seeker at the Curtin Detention Centre in W.A. Julian Burnside facilitated this project. This young man was moved to the Baxter Detention Centre near Port Augusta in S.A. and her family travelled up to meet him. Once this connection was made, it was impossible to step back. Ali was becoming mentally depressed, and these family visits were very important to him. Only a number only knew him: Baxter 112 and it was often difficult to get through on the phone. He would talk about his wife and children. Eventually, he felt he could not stay in detention any longer and signed to return to Afghanistan in 2003. His family had fled to Pakistan where they are still refugees. He asked Sue to tell his story.

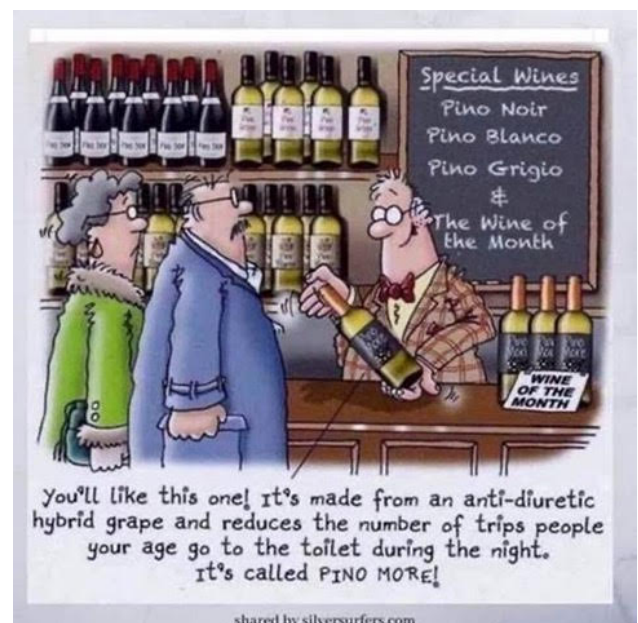
Other people were doing similar things and visiting detainees. Sue met some people also from Queenscliff in Port Augusta and they formed a group. Each had different skills and it was decided to make art works using the words of the refugees and held exhibitions. Two works were 'beyond tears. Forget me not' and 'Pillow of Tears'. When detainees were finally released, some settled in the Geelong area. Sue met Shah, a friend of Ali's, who was working in a Melbourne restaurant and among other jobs, cleaning toilets. He had left a wife and young child in Afghanistan. Work stops them dwelling on what they have lost. Shah came to live with Sue for one and a half years and then moved to Adelaide. He was eventually reunited with his family after 14 years. They now have twins, but he still suffers from bouts of depression.

Refugees in the Geelong area started sharing meals. They set up the AZAADI (freedom) Project, which made chutney for sale in the local markets. They sell at the Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale markets and Ocean Grove farmers' market. QRAR is still doing this although volunteers now make the chutney. Proceeds go to support refugees. They also lobby Government for policy change. The group is now working with Sri Lankan refugees. One is now living with Sue's family. He started a Tamil Welcome Feast, which is held once a month supported by the Queenscliff Uniting Church. They had to stop because of COVID but have now started again. The next one will be on April 10th.

QRAR's latest project is Give Them A Future. It is advocating for permanent visas for refugees. At present they have to prove that they are still refugees at regular intervals. Refugees have a right for asylum under the United Nations Refugee Convention of which Australia is a signatory. Refugees need legal advice to navigate these rules and providing this is now a major focus for QRAR. Sue acts as a support person for refugees through this process. They have a campaign, which involves a postcard to be sent to politicians. QRAR has access to lawyers. Other organisations help QRAR financially. She also gives talks such as this to give people an idea of the human faces behind the headlines.

Next week's speaker: Emma Ruston, RYLA.

**My doctor has
given me three
days to give up
drinking.
I've picked the 5th
of June, July 17th
and October 9th!!**



**People say that drinking milk
makes you stronger.**

**Drink 5 glasses of milk and try
to move a wall.
Can't?**

**Now drink 5 glasses of wine.
The wall moves all by itself!**