

ROTARY CLUB OF PRESTON Inc.

CHARTER GRANTED 21-12-1960

PO Box 299, Preston, 3072

District Governor Elect: David McPherson

Meets Wednesday, 12.30pm

Darebin RSL Bell St, Preston

Assistant Governor: Pat Solibakke

BULLETIN

December 14, 2022, Vol. 63, No. 23



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

President Ruth McCall

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Club Website

rotary-prestonaust.com

Office Bearers

Vice President: PP Paul Smarrelli

Hon. Secretary: PP Geoff McIlvenna

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Treasurer: Frank Smith

Past President: Chris Shields

President Elect: Kannan Subramanian

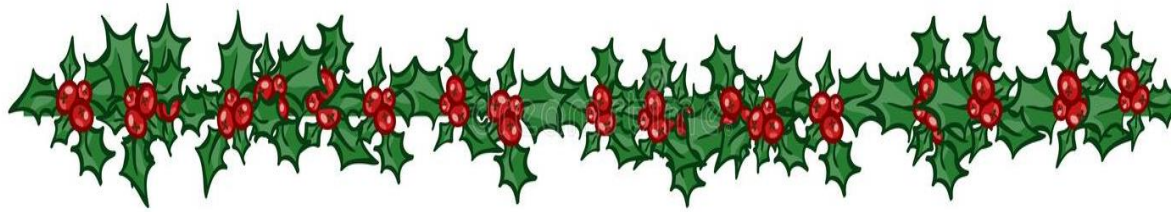
Directors

Kannan Subramanian, Peter Gilbert, Julie Morris, Chris Shields,
Elaine Price, Max Walsh, Peter Peyton, Lisa Defazio,

Rotary Club of Preston 9790 COMMITTEES: 2022/23

<u>International</u> Director P. Peyton J Roose S Still E Boateng	<u>Youth</u> Director: E. Price Joe Morris P Conte N Schaber M Riel P Lamers	<u>Vocational</u> Director: C. Shields N Au T Weir C Finocchiaro	<u>Community</u> Director: Julie Morris D De La Coeur C Verrocchi N Pinder G Lyons E Higgins D Sullivan	<u>Club Administration</u> Director: K. Subramanian G. Mogford
<u>Foundation</u> Director: M. Walsh P Gilbert D De La Coeur I Musgrove K Argawal	<u>Membership & Classifications</u> Director Chair: P Gilbert P Smarrelli G McIlvenna Julie Morris	<u>Fundraising & Circus Quirkus</u> Chair: W O'Neill F Smith P Smarrelli G McIlvenna	<u>Environment</u> Director: L Defazio P Byrne G Mogford R McCall	<u>Cashiers</u> N Schaber P. Lamers & any club members as rostered to assist
<u>Bulletin</u> J McCarthy P Peyton P Gilbert	<u>Public Relations</u> R. McCall L. Defazio E Price E Higgins & any club members to assist	<u>Attendance</u> G Mogford G McIlvenna P Smarrelli	<u>Programs</u> Joe Morris	<u>House</u> Joe Morris P Lamers P.Peyton D De La Coeur
<u>Fellowship</u> Elaine Price Julie Morris P Byrne G. McIlvenna	<u>Family of Rotary and Club History</u> P Peyton P Gilbert G Smith G McIlvenna P Smarrelli	<u>World Conference</u> P Gilbert R McCall G McIlvenna E Higgins G Lyons	<u>Sergeants</u> D Sullivan D De La Coeur Julie Morris Peter Byrne Peter Gilbert	<u>Rotary Information</u> P Peyton P Gilbert G McIlvenna P Smarrelli
	<u>District Conference</u> G McIlvenna	<u>RIMERN</u> R McCall Julie Morris Joe Morris E Price L Defazio All members invited to assist in Volunteering		Secretary G McIlvenna Treasurer F Smith Special Projects P Smarrelli

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional land of
the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation and
we pay our respects to their Elders past and present.



SPEAKER LAST WEEK

Photo

Janet Montgomery (left -
guest speaker)

with

Mary Gardiner (right - visiting
from Inner City Soup Van
Operations)



WOMBAT MANGE MANAGEMENT: Janet Montgomery sports many degrees to authenticate her abilities in wide and varied fields including the Austin Hospital and wombats. At the outset of her talk, Janet observed that while she praised the great humane services reported at the meeting, she stressed that the needs and protection of wombats in Australia bear equal value.



Three types of Wombats are found only in Australia and, of those, two are critically endangered. Wombats can live up to 15 years in the wild and double that in captivity and can reproduce up to only 6 joeys, much fewer than other mammals as koalas, Tasmanian devils or kangaroos. Wombats travel up to 3kms during the night; at dusk and dawn often suffer road-kill. Legal and illegal culling are rampant and wombat numbers are on the decline. Climate change is decreasing their food supply. Janet is on emergency call-out and her advice is to



stop and check if any roadkill has a joey in its pouch. Even if the mother is dead, the joey can remain alive up to 3 days in the pouch. If still alive, Janet suggests to immediately get it to an animal protection centre.

Janet then told of wombat mange, clearly a horrible disease and *“a terrible way to die”*. The mange parasite buries itself in the wombat’s skin. Endless scratching causes open lesions. The infection worsens and the animal slowly and painfully dies. Janet showed photos of the lines caused by the infection Treatment via injections of antibiotics is difficult, particularly for wombats living in the wild. A medicated ice cream case-top is placed over a nest or a wombat is mopped with a medically wet mop.

Common Wombats are a protected species in Victoria, except in the 193 state zones where farmers can kill wombats without the need to obtain a permit. East of the Hume Highway, (the main distribution of wombats) Common Wombats have been declared unprotected wildlife. As Janet remarked in her introduction, animal care entails an understanding of the oneness of life on planet earth.

The name **wombat** comes from the Eora Aboriginal community
who were the original inhabitants of the Sydney area

THE ROTARY FAMILY

WHILE HOLIDAYING WE CELEBRATE:



Elaine Price 15/12

Jill Schaber 18/12

Melody Musgrove 22/12

Peter Byrne 28/12

Anju Agarwal 28/12

Margaret Smarrelli 14/1

John McCarthy 14/1

Frank Smith 17/1

Debbie and Wayne O'Neill 20/1

Anju and Kapil Agarwal 12/12

Ester and Chris Shields 30/12



Covid has hit members and family connections and a special greeting goes out to all connected. One example is members **Julie and Joe Morris**. Julie and Joe are currently welcoming their new grandson **Joseph** while Joseph's mother **Ruth** is battling Covid.

To every Covid-hit individual reading these lines, be you in pain, socially isolated or in the second time around – hang in, as the sun will rise!



It was a warm welcome to **Suzanne Still** following the sad loss of her husband **Alan** in early November. The applause offered from all after President Ruth officially greeted her was an enthusiastic statement to Suzanne as she now reshapes her future.

Present last week was **Mary Gardiner**, president of the Inner City Soup Van Operations of the St.Vincent de Paul Society. Herself a nurse, Mary has worked for many years in several ways of collecting and distributing food to the disadvantaged. This may be it through home delivery, nightly mobile base availability or drop-in collection centres. Combining with other Vinnies inner suburban vans the Soup Van Operations provides around 420,000 through nightly street stop service. Weekly deliveries are made to around 400 households. The service is aiming to increase the number of hampers to 1,150 this Christmas starting December 12. The above numbers are imprecise though sufficient to say the service is in big numbers. The club was happy to present Mary with a practical financial aid of \$500 to the Christmas Appeal.

PAUL HARRIS FELLOW

Gary Mogford received the Paul Harris in recognition of his donation to Rotary Foundation.

Gary has served with the club since 2002. In his response he remarked how much he values this period of time with such an active club and in whatever way he may have been able to offer his service.



CLUB NEWS

THANKS were expressed by President Ruth

- To those who helped in the dismantling and storing of a playground equipment - Peter Peyton, Max Walsh and David De La Coeur. The equipment will be exported and re-established in a foreign country where it will receive grateful use.
- Thanks also went to those baggers in the Pinchapoo Packathon. Constant moving specific packing and plenty of banter got the job done. Ruth discovered that the 1,000 packs are going to Wheels of Wellness Mobile Clinic (WOW) in Cairns. They will be happily received by the street people who frequent the service.



LAST FOODBANK UNLOAD for 2022 at Reservoir Neighbourhood House: Tuesday, 13 December.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION – MELBOURNE 27-31 MAY 2023. A good deal is available by booking before December 15 and so save \$100

DECEMBER 14 – KRIS KRINGLE

6PM for 6.30PM

Christmas Break-Up on the evening of Wednesday 14th December 2022 at the Darebin RSL - 6pm for 6.30pm start.

It will be a Kris Kringle event with members and partners bringing presents for everyone on the night. A male brings a male present. A female brings a female present. (Value about \$15 to \$20)

END OF AND NEW YEAR AND EARLY 2023 DATES:

Wed. Dec. 14	Evening meeting at RSL– Kris Kringle
Wed. Dec. 21	No meeting
Wed. Dec. 28	No meeting
Wed. Jan. 4	No meeting
Wed. Jan. 11	No meeting
Sat. Jan. 7	First Bunnings Barbie for 2023
Wed. Jan. 18	Informal get together at RSL Bistro, 12.30
Wed. Jan. 25	Informal get together at RSL Bistro, 12.30
Wed. Feb. 1	First official meeting for 2023

From President Ruth McCall

Dear Rotarians & Friends

Thank you for all your great efforts for this first half of the 2022- 2023 Rotary Year.

Individually all have contributed positively in helping to make the world a better place!

We continue to enjoy weekly meetings with a stimulating range of Guest Speakers, and healthy banter and friendship.

It's been a busy several months with some great hands- on activities such as:

- **ongoing** support for Reservoir Neighbourhood House & fortnightly Foodbank deliveries
- monthly fundraising **BBQ's** raising much-needed funds
- **tree- planting** & hands-on **environmental** working bees
- **volunteering with Circus Quirkas** concerts assisting families & children with special needs
- **dismantling playground** equipment to distribute to overseas communities
- **'Pinchapoo' Packathon** - assembling 1,000 toiletry packs for Mobile Medical service in Cairns
- **volunteering with RIMERN** - in the warehouse, and delivering much needed household goods to folk in desperate need
- **collecting** Christmas food hampers for RIMERN clients
- **assisting** Rotary members & friends in moving house
- **Mental Health 'Lift the Lid'** Silent Auction- raising funds & highlighting mental health issues
- **club visits** to Ceres & Radio Station 3KND
- **Social Evening** welcoming Guest Rotary President Aparna Sunku from India
- **collecting goods** for Flood Relief & Aboriginal Community Health Services
- **hosting** the inspiring Community Police Awards
- **manning the BBQ** for East Reservoir Primary School NAIDOC week for students & staff



Possibly not a conclusive list of all that we do!

Some of our members have endured significant personal losses this year, and our hearts go out to them.

I thank Board members & Directors for all their input into monthly Board meetings. I especially thank John McCarthy for his ongoing excellent weekly Bulletins. Always such a delight to read, with creative graphics & commentary. Special Thanks to Joe Morris, who has diligently coordinated our Speaker Program for the past several years, and who has contributed much time & effort.

I wish one and all a wonderful Christmas, a hard earned rest, and I look forward to our Christmas break-up next week and the return to our 2023 Rotary year.