

ROTARY CLUB OF PRESTON Inc.

CHARTER GRANTED 21-12-1960

PO Box 299, Preston, 3072

District Governor: Anne Reid
District 9790

Meets Wednesday, 12.30pm
Darebin RSL Bell St, Preston

Assistant Governor: Emma Davis

BULLETIN

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President Chris Shields

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Office Bearers

Hon. Secretary: PP Geoff McIlvenna
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Vice President: PP Paul Smarrelli
Treasurer: Frank Smith
Past President: PP Peter Gilbert
President Elect: Ruth McCall

BOARD

Kannan Subramanian, Tim Weir, Mel Riel
Peter McGuigan, Max Walsh, Peter Peyton



Jamie Kah

Ash Barty



True Blue!

SPEAKER LAST WEEK

Speaker **MARY CARAJIAS**, introduced by her Rotary counsellor Ruth McCall, has returned home from Taiwan where she studied over the 2020 year as a Rotary Youth Exchange Student. Mary was sponsored by Preston Rotary. Ruth observed that her role as Mary's counsellor was not a task but a totally joyful and rewarding experience. Reservoir to Taiwan, now the resilient Mary is with extended family studying year 11 in Hobart.

Mary's first of 5 family hostings was in Taoyuan County, at the northern tip of Taiwan. Despite no school for her first 5 weeks due to the Coronavirus, that family set the pace for the rest of the year with their a most heartening welcome. Having 5 families as hosts gave Mary a wider experience of culture, lifestyles and friendships.

Taiwan, being on a fault line, earth tremors were the norm with one quake up to the 6.2 level at the epicentre; terrifying but thrilling for a Reservoir girl! Her fellow siblings just kept playing on their mobiles. The 6 months of sticky summer was a real test for her wardrobe.

For Mary, schooling was spread between two campuses – 2 days learning Chinese at the university and three days at the high school. Chinese for her was either traditional or simplified and, seemingly, she mastered both. High school was heavily into culture classes – pottery, food dishes (moon cakes) and visiting Buddhist centres to mention a few. In these studies, she accomplished high scores! Befriending students was very easy given that her school had 6,000 students – Taiwan being so small an island thousands were packed into one school. Her close friends were an enjoyable semi-partying group always keen to be at the centre of festive occasions, travels and local celebrations. With 50 students in her class there was no spare space and 'discipline' was non-existent. Teachers needed microphones. Some students would snooze and others would 'mouth off a lot'; in all, a great joy!



Mary

Counsellor Ruth

Dad Marios

Most evening meals were eaten out as it was cheaper but weight gain was a danger. Once she became accustomed, the food varieties became a true thrill. Sport was extensive and Mary joined a baseball club where she was coached in the various skills with an eventual prize for her good batting. All 10-minute class breaks saw the students playing basketball. Learn-to-swim classes were needed as most students could not swim.

The highlight was the end-of-year 5 day tour around Taiwan bonding with the rest of the exchange students. They explored regions from north to south and virtually did everything.

In short this was one of the most enthusiastic and convincing descriptions of the value of Rotary Youth Exchange. Questions abounded from her animated audience which was fascinated by the abundance of Mary's descriptive new experiences, discoveries and undoubted growth in her personal self-discovery.

Mary was most grateful to the club for the opportunity as also to Ruth McCall for her guidance and companionship.

COMING MEETINGS

July 14: John McCaskill: Rotarians for Bees

**July 21: Julie-Anne O'Brien & Christina Di Pierdomenico:
DIVRS (Darebin information, Volunteer and Resource Service)**

THE ROTARY FAMILY

Paul Conte 19/07

Max Walsh 20/07

Marlo West 16/07



VISITORS LAST WEEK: Barbara Gilbert and speaker Mary Carajias' dad, Marios.

GARDENING at Lovely's new accommodation in Brunswick. A few hours and let Geoff know of your availability. Date to be decided.

MARGARET SMITH has announced that she will be stepping down from her position as CEO of Children First Foundation to spend more time with family etc.

Margaret, who recently attended Changeover night, has been close to the club in her dedicated time with Children First.



Undoubtedly she leaves with great memories of service and successful interventions in children's lives.

Pictured here is 15 year old Tanzanian Christina. Doctors at home could not fix her painful and disabling leg formation. Children First has found her the answer here in Melbourne.

Margaret, all here in Preston Rotary thank you and wish you the best for your future.

CLUB NEWS

1ST IN-HOUSE MEETING FOR THE 21-22 ROTARY YEAR: The now actual President Chris Shields took the opportunity to thank all involved with the management of the Changeover dinner. Chris singled out Paul Smarrelli for his competent management of the evening.

KATRINA STREATFEILD with her latest media release: *I am delighted to advise that a pre-recorded presentation sharing my current PhD research has been accepted for the Fearless PTSD Conference. If you would like further information, please refer to:* <https://fearlessconference.org.au/>

COMMITTEES WANTING TO ORGANIZE A ZOOM MEETING – feel free to contact Peter Byrne if help is needed.

“SCHOOL FOODVAN DELIVERS HOPE FOR STUDENTS” - highlighted in The Age, July 5. Yet another venture by The Pavilion School. As the report states – *“Unlike other schools in Melbourne, The Pavilion School is truly one of a kind in Melbourne”*. This recent endeavour is part of a school-based apprenticeship, earning wages while gaining a qualification. Part of the profits return to school up-grading. The students faced problems at other schools but at Pavilion the courses and teaching relationships are the perfect counterbalance.

The Pavilion Food Van, 3 Sylvester Grove, Preston, is open 4-8pm Weds-Fri. 9am-8pm. Sat-Sun.



SPRING INTO SPRING LUNCHEON – Children First Foundation: Sunday, August 21, 11.45am. Metropolitan Gold Club, Oakleigh. 2 course luncheon, drinks at bar prices, \$110 per person.

Host: Marianne Van Dorslar –Television & Radio Personality. Speaker: Professor Ton Trang, MBBS, FRACS - Orthopaedic Surgeon. Entertainment: Josh Batten - Musician

BARBIES: Raising finances for club projects in these difficult times. Barbies are for the 2nd Saturday each month from August to December.

Aug. 14; Sept. 11; Oct. 9; Nov. 13; Dec. 11.

NEXT FOODBANK DELIVERY will be on Tuesday July 20 at Res.N.House around 11.45.



365 X 60

John McCarthy and Jill Morris still celebrating the club's 60th Anniversary

The account details for the **Rotary Club of Preston:**

Bendigo Bank BSB 633 000, A/c 154 200 034

The account details for the **Australian Rotary Foundation Trust** for member donations

Bendigo Bank BSB 332 084, A/c 551 038 195

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

Rotary Club of Preston 9790 COMMITTEES: 2021/2022

<u>International</u> Chair: P Peyton I Musgrove J.Roose L Defazio P Byrne E Price	<u>Youth Services</u> Chair: M.Riel P Conte N Schaber N Pinder G Lyons Joe Morris	<u>Vocational</u> Chair: T Weir K Agarwal M.Alkanani C Finocchiaro	<u>Community</u> Chair: K Subramanian. G Mogford M Walsh D Sullivan D De La Coeur C Verrocchi P Smarrelli <u>Police Awards</u> E Price	<u>Club Admin.</u> R McCall <u>On to Conference</u> G McIlvenna
<u>Foundation</u> Chair: M Walsh D De La Coeur Julie Morris P Gilbert <u>Special projects</u> P Smarrelli	<u>Membership</u> Chair: Julie Morris G.McIlvenna P Peyton C Shields <u>Christmas Luncheon</u> Volunteer wanted	<u>Fundraising</u> Chair: W O'Neill F Smith P Smarrelli C Shields	<u>Sergeants</u> Chair: D Sullivan C Verrocchi Julie Morris I Musgrove D De La Coeur	<u>Cashiers</u> Chair: N Schaber P Peyton M.Riel N Pinder
<u>Environment & Conservation</u> Chair: P.McGuigan C Shields L.Defazio G Mogford	<u>PR, Website, IT</u> Chair: P Conte L Defazio G Lyons	<u>Attendance</u> Chair: G Mogford G McIlvenna	<u>Programmes</u> Chair: Joe Morris I Musgrove	<u>House</u> Chair: N Pinder D. De La Coeur P Peyton M Walsh
<u>Bulletin</u> Chair: J McCarthy P Peyton C Finocchiaro	<u>Club History</u> Chair: P Peyton	<u>Family of Rotary/ Fellowship</u> Chair: E Price Julie Morris	<u>On to World Conference</u> P Gilbert	<u>Welcomes</u> P McGuigan M Walsh Julie Morris M Riel M Alkanani K Agarwal