

Rotary International
President: RI President:
Stephanie Urchick

District Governor: 9780
Lesley Shedden
RC of Torquay

Bayside Postal Address
64 Brompton Ave
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Club Executive
& Directors

President: Rick Berry

Secretary: Telsa Stubna

Treasurer: Peter Hynes

Community & Vocational
Service: Jo White

International & Foundation
Service:
Judy Beasley

Youth Service:
Andrea Patterson

Membership:
Judy Eyles

Fundraising:
Ian Aranyosi

Supporting the Environment:
Aileen Brown



A Message from the Pres

Hello everyone

This will be my last President's report for the bollard, hasn't that gone quickly. I would like to thank all Board members for their help and guidance during my time as President.

Our Youth Exchange representative, Mietta Corby has also completed 2 months of her exchange and has settled in with her second host family. She has a number of trips coming up over the next few months and we look forward to her report back to Bayside.

Days for Girls has been very active (as usual), and a special thank you to Telsa and her group of willing helpers who meet regularly to produce these kits. Well done!

They are certainly welcomed, as was seen last meeting when 100 kits were given to Lucy Loko for Lese Oalai.

The Rotary Club of Bayside Geelong (a member of 10 Clubs associated with this project) has had an involvement with the Toilet Block Project in Lese Oalai over several years. The presentation on the progress of the Toilet Block construction by Lucy Loko and John Oswald showed what can be achieved. An update on the Classrooms and Library was also provided. Barb Sheehan spoke about the Lese Oalai Aid Post, another important project.

We have also had several other guest speakers address the Club in this first part of the year with Anne Cotsell (Salvation Army), Rod Morrison (Fyansford Paper Mill), Sally Dell (End Trachoma) and Thomas Galan (LIYSF), all very informative on very different subjects. I am sure if anyone has any suggestions for a guest speaker, Jo would be only too happy to hear from you.

On the fundraising front, the Club, partners and Friends of Rotary have certainly been very busy with BBQs. We have been able to do our regular Bunnings commitments along with community events and a couple of new opportunities through COGG. We are now also aware of a couple of other fundraising events that we may be able to assist with next year – The Cadell Evans Bike Ride and the School Girls Rowing Regatta.

It was a pleasure welcoming our District Governor, Lesley Shedden at our social evening on the 18th February. Members were able to have an informal chat with Lesley about anything Rotary. It was an enjoyable evening, with good company, great food, together with a casual meeting location.

Lesley was able to give an update on the upcoming District Conference to be held on the Surf Coast from 21st to 25th March. Congratulations to the Rotary Club of Bayside Geelong on the club receiving a Silver District Environment Award, a lot of effort from Aileen, well done! The Award will be presented at District Conference this Friday evening. Ian will be setting up a Donate Life table and Telsa will have her Days for Girls table in the House of Friendship on the Saturday.

The Barwon Region Presidents' Meeting was held on the 15th of February. From the feedback, it was a very productive meeting which discussed several issues, including the difficulty in attracting new members and the cost of being a member in Rotary.

Thank you to Dan for his commitment to take over the President's role for the remaining 3 months of this Rotary year and to Andrea on her accepting the role of President for the second half of next Rotary year.

I extend a heartfelt thankyou to all Club members, partners and Friends of the Rotary Club of Bayside Geelong. Without their help and ongoing support, there would have been many times this year that we, as a club would have found it very difficult to fulfill our obligations.

Stay Safe
Rick



THANK YOU TO
OUR SUPPORTERS



1.9 million PEOPLE ARE VISUALLY IMPAIRED BECAUSE OF TRACHOMA

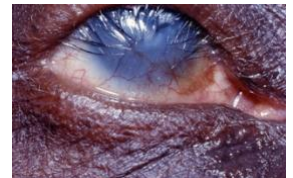
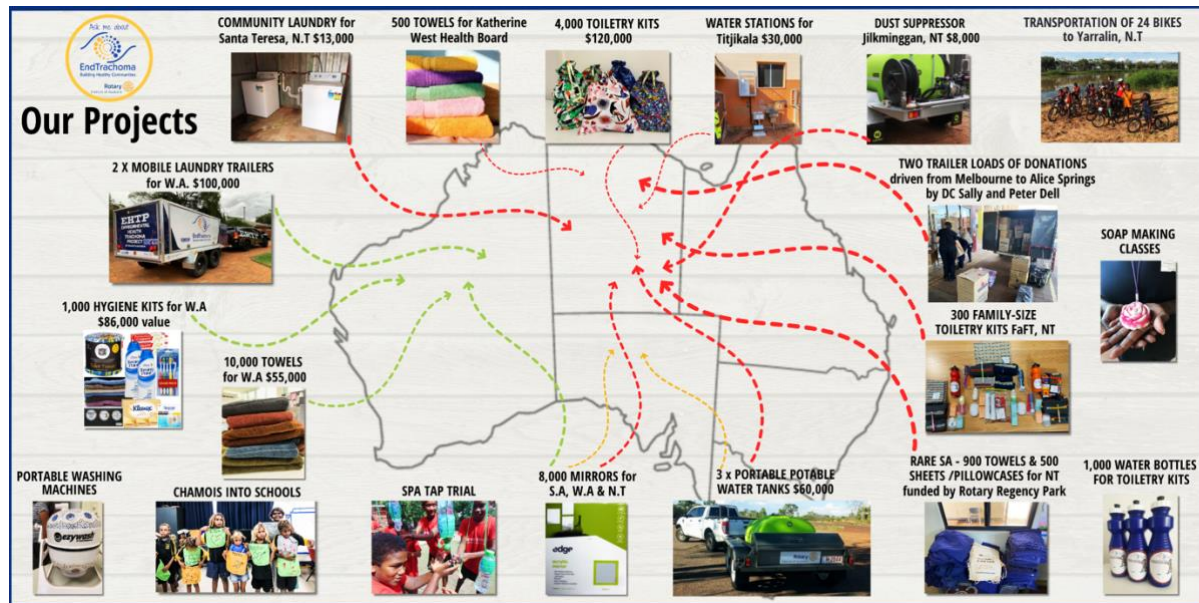
It was a very informative evening when Sally & Peter Dell from the Rotary club of Woodend that joined us on the 11th March. Sally is a District Champion for End Trachoma since 2009 and Bayside joined the fight in 2020 with our hygiene bag project.



The most disappointing fact regarding this preventable disease that affect the eyes, is that Australia is the only developed country where it is still a problem. Sally, Peter and their trusty trailer travel regularly to Alice Springs and surrounding areas delivering items that are needed.

She explained End Trachoma isn't just about Hygiene packs to teach the children how to clean their faces, (and that is very important) but it's also being able to supply things like sheets, pillowcases, and more importantly towels because trachoma is a contagious bacterial eye infection, where the eyelashes grow in, spread through direct contact with infected eye or nose secretions, or indirectly through contaminated items like shared towels or bedding. In most areas there isn't a laundromat around the corner, so washing machines are on the wish list as well.

As we say regarding the End Polio project, The Gap is Closing, the number are coming down as the End Trachoma team work so hard making a difference and there is plenty, we can all do. By using tools more widely — such as antibiotics, surgeries, clean water, sanitation, and insecticides — we could greatly reduce trachoma



On this
International
Woman's day

LET'S
celebrate

The Ladies who
joined Rotary in
March

Congratulations to

- Judy Beasley
March 31st,
2009
- Judy Eyles
March 1st
2016
- Jo White
March 2nd,
1998



Happy International
Woman's Day

On the 18 March Chairperson Judy opened the evening with a wonderful toast to the woman of Rotary and then went on to introduce **John Oswald and Lucy Loko** speaking to us regarding the **Lesé Oalai Toilet Program**.

John spoke about the Grant they received, and the people involved. Construction materials were funded by a Global Grant from The Rotary Foundation (USD \$85,000), assisted by 10 rotary Clubs and 5 Rotary Districts, both Australian and International. He spoke of Bellarine builder Ned McLarnon that volunteered to travel to Lesé Oalai, teach the local men and boys, and help build the toilet blocks. Lesé Oalai School Toilet Project, was put together to supply a school in Gulf Province, Papua New Guinea, with composting toilets, handwashing basins, menstrual hygiene kits, hygiene education, and training on equipment installation, maintenance and repair.

Lucy said, it has come a long way but still has so far to go. Firstly on the 28th June 2024 a trip to QLD with Lucy for a ½ day training with people from WASH on how to put the composting toilets together. Then a trip to the Canberra War Memorial to see composting toilets there and flew out to PNG on July 2nd where work started immediately with 90% humidity. Two weeks training for all to learn how to use power tools as most had never seen anything like it before. November 2nd was the handover ceremony with food being supplied for 500 students plus their parents and grandparents family and friends. *Quite a party!*



Bayside's involvement with this project started with collecting schoolbooks, desks and chairs, and delivering trailer loads to RARE (DIK) in North Geelong for shipment to PNG. International Chair Judy Beasley continues with her online chats John and Lucy to see what the next steps are, this was just the first step to be achieved in the program to resurrect the school. The next projects will most likely include rebuilding the aid post and bringing water to the school and village.



Lucy also spoke about the work that Telsa Stubna has done to help the project, and the woman in the community by sourcing 3 Treadle sewing machines, cleaning and making sure they were working ready for the ladies in the community to learn how to sew. Great Job.

HOW LOVELY TO
HAVE AN
UNEXPECTED
GUEST

Barb Sheenan District Environment and Sustainability Chair called in to tell us about her role in Lese Oalai.

Barb was on holiday on the other side of the world when she received a phone call from John Oswald regarding the children that were dying because of lack medication in PNG. Barb very quickly put her Pharmacist hat on and made calls to those in the industry that can make changes fast. *Sometimes its who you know !*

Antibiotics, and meds for Malaria & Dysentery etc. were on the way in a very short time. Sometimes the Rotary Wheel can move very fast.

Thank you for joining us Barb and sharing this great story



100 DAYS FOR GIRLS KITS FOR THE LADIES OF LESE OALAI

3 suitcases packed and ready to board the plane in July were presented to Lucy

Well done Telsa and your small but very committed team of Days for Girls ladies making a difference to the woman of PNG.

Days for Girls is an international organisation, founded in America in 2007 and its aim is to provide reusable, sustainable hygienic kits for girls to use when they menstruate each month. The kits enable them to continue to live their lives to the full extent and not have to miss a week of school each month.

Each kit is in a draw-string bag and includes reusable cloth menstrual pads made up of colourful shields and liners, panties, a washcloth and soap, a carry pouch for washing & storing, and other items. The kit enables girls to carry their clean and used pads discreetly and to take care of their own hygiene needs.



REPORT FROM Youth Chair Andrea Patterson

Mietta is very happy and enjoying her new host family in Sicily. Host Mother Monica has been



celebrating, hosting friends and family for her 50th birthday. A wonderful black tie affair. (*love her style*). Mietta had a role to play on the night. She was asked to welcome everyone in Sicilian. Quite an ask but with the help of AI and her host brother, was able to do it well.

Mietta, seen here dress to impress in a beautiful little green number with the family.

Catching up with an old friend

Brian Burch took the time this week to visit past Rotarian John Virgona. John was a much loved member of Bayside, very committed to fundraising and keeping the BBQ trailer in good condition. John was a PHF and joined Rotary in 2001 Always a smile and ready to help. John is in a nursing home in Anglesea, Brian say's he has everything he needs and is looked after very well; his daughter visits regularly. Thank you, Brian, for sending our best wishes to John.



please read carefully as there maybe changes to the regular dates and times in this month's calendar
PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO FILL YOUR JOB FOR THE NIGHT,
PLEASE CONTACT & CHANGE WITH ANOTHER MEMBER.

MEETING ROSTER. March 2025

First Tuesday board meets at the Belmont RSL 6pm

**Second and fourth Tuesday meeting at the navy club 90 Skene st Newtown
meeting 7:00 for 7.30 start. all welcome**

Third Tuesday is Social Tuesday partners and friends welcome to join us.

DATES	PROGRAM Mix & Mingle 6.45 meeting 7.15pm for 7.30	CHAIRPERSON	WELCOME/ CASHIER	ROOM DUTIES	SUPPER	Door Prize
4th MARCH	18:00 BOARD MEETING RSL	RICK & TELSA	-	-	-	-
11th	SALLY DELL END TRACHOMA	DAN FURLAN	PETER H	DARYLL	PETER K	JUDY E
18th	JOHN OSWALD AND FRIENDS WITH UPDATE ON PNG Plus we will meet THOMAS GALAN possible candidate for London International Youth Science Forum	JUDY BEASLEY	BRIAN B	JO W	TELSA S	DAN F
25TH	Please note Changes to this week's program A Friends and Family Special Social Night at the Club this week. Please join us at 6.45 for fellowship around the cheese board followed by a fun program Starting at the regular time of 7 for 7:30 start then a changeover of our presidents.	DARYLL WEBB	JUDY E	JUDY B	JO W	PETER H
April 1st	Board Dinner Meeting RSL 6:00	Dan & Telsa				

BBQ Date for your Diary

Christ Church BBQ for the needy -- Monday 31st March 3:30 – 6:30 please, if you are available, volunteer on Club Runner . More information to come regarding Salads for the day

All BBQ times dates and locations are on clubrunner for your convenience.