



The Timeball

Official Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Williamstown
Rotary District 9800
Rotary International Club Number 7208

Rotary Year 2020-2021

Date 24 May 2021

Youth Service Month

Apologies: Nils Oman, Kathy Roberts, Jo Walker, Peter Gray, Carl Hurwood

President's Report

- We had a BBQ at Steam Rail for a company cruise express last Friday. Thanks to Nils, Damien, Stuart, Hazel, Steve & Jack for their efforts. The BBQ was a success not so much from a financial perspective but as a PR exercise. I was given a donation of \$50 towards the Rocan Wellness Centre.
- It is with sad news that Christine Hurwood passed away last Wednesday. She was a regular attendee with Carl and will be sadly missed. A memorial service will be held at the Royal Victorian Motor Yacht Club, 260 Nelson Place Williamstown, Friday 28th May 2.00pm -5.00pm
- A reminder to members regarding personal contributions to the Rotary Foundation. Donations can be made via website [Rotary.org/donate](https://www.rotary.org/donate), Electronic Transfer, Credit Card or Cheque.
- I have received a resignation from Jan Allen. Jan has advised that due to work and personal obligations, she is unable to commit enough time to be a fully involved member.

- I have sent an email to Council for an update on the McLean Reserve redevelopment regarding recycling of equipment & possibility of planting a tree with plaque to commemorate 100 years of Rotary in Australia.
- You will recall I was going to send out a resolution by RC Balwyn to be put to the Council on Resolutions. I have sent the email so please check and read and we will vote at the next meeting.
- As you are aware Nils tried the zoom at our last meeting and has spoken to Des to get feedback on the meeting and any issues or problems he encountered.

Announcements

- Daniel informed us of the up and coming Golf Day. An Ambrose match with a sausage sizzle and finger foods. Suggested date is Wednesday 27 October.
- Daniel is planning his Car Rally adventure which will also take place in October and will start in Williamstown and finish at his hobby farm in Gisborne with a BBQ and a drink or two!
- The new Rotary House, the accommodation centre for the Fight Cancer Foundation, is moving along with a great deal of logistics, plans and costings taking place. A proposal for a new building has been lodged. Cost is estimated at between \$7-10M. The new location will be in the Parkville, area, close to the big three hospitals. A wonderful and much needed Wellness Centre dedicated to the respite and support for those dealing with cancer.
- Damien mentioned “a weekend away” and a “science museum/exhibition/project”. More details to follow.
- The Peace Pole ceremony went well with a large turnout and most inspiring for all.
- As there was no guest speaker this week, Murray presented a video of a talk by Associate Professor Tilman Ruff AO, delivered at the recent Peace Symposium. Tilman Ruff is the Founding Chair of the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, ICAN, International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear weapons. ICAN was awarded the peace prize for its work to draw attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons and for its groundbreaking efforts to achieve a treaty-based prohibition of such weapons.

A profile on Professor Ruff

In 1970, 15-year-old Tilman Ruff and friends from their just-formed school Amnesty International group walked into the Melbourne offices of the *Greek Herald* and urged the editor to report on the injustice of a young man imprisoned in Greece for writing a political slogan on a wall.

In 2017 in Oslo, 62-year-old Associate Professor Tilman Ruff AM sat with his wife, Charlotte, and son Kristian in the front row as the Nobel Peace Prize was presented to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), which he helped form. His “heart was thumping with hope” that the award, and the landmark treaty banning nuclear weapons for which the group was being honoured, would help one day rid the world of this diabolical threat.

Back in the 1970s, the Greek youth was freed, a letter finally reaching Ruff from the boy’s father expressing in fractured English his heartfelt gratitude for such support from the other side of the world.

Young Ruff had learned that a determined and informed person can change the world. He had also set in motion a destiny. Forty-seven years later, Ruff and his ICAN team became Nobel Laureates.

Such has been the remarkable career trajectory of a public health physician who had accepted, when still a teenager, the challenge issued by Albert Einstein when he proclaimed: “Those who have the privilege to know have the duty to act.”

That principle guided Ruff through his medical studies and student activism at Monash University, his decision to specialise in infectious diseases and public health, and continues still through his positions today as international medical adviser to the Australian Red Cross, and associate professor at the Nossal Institute for Global Health, University of Melbourne.

For some, the connection between public health and nuclear disarmament is not immediate, but Ruff makes it clear that the single-biggest threat to public health globally is nuclear weapons: “The key imperative for public health and infectious disease is prevention – it follows that this must be applied particularly to nuclear weapons.”

“Modelling the consequences of even a limited exchange between two so-called small nuclear states shows two billion people would die from hunger and disease in the aftermath,” he says.

ICAN was awarded the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize for its evidence-based campaign to build diplomatic support for a Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The treaty was adopted by 122 United Nations member states on 7 July 2017 – an historic first step towards making nuclear weapons illegal under international law.

A key strategy used by Ruff and the ICAN group to build support for a treaty was to confront UN diplomats in New York with ‘lived human stories’. They presented Hiroshima descendants, survivors of US and French testing in the South Pacific, and Indigenous Australians still suffering the effects of British nuclear tests at Maralinga, South Australia. “They have lived the realities of nuclear contamination and their voices were present at every key meeting. When they spoke you could hear a pin drop. The issue was no longer abstract,” he says.

Ruff’s appreciation for the value of the ‘lived experience’ also stems from his family’s background. His German parents and grandparents living in Templer Christian communities in Palestine were dispossessed by two world wars; exiled in Egypt after World War I, and then incarcerated in Palestine in World War II before being shipped to Australia and put behind barbed wire until 1947.

“My own family history is shaped by war’s needless destruction and long-term impacts. Perhaps not surprisingly I looked up to an older cousin who was active in the Monash Union of Students at the height of the anti-Vietnam War demonstrations. I was inspired by the courage and commitment of draft resisters.” When Ruff also went to Monash – initially to study science before switching to medicine with encouragement from his medical-student girlfriend (and later wife, Charlotte, who also studied at Monash) – he formed an Amnesty International group there, too.

After graduating in 1980, he joined the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War founded by US cardiologist Dr Bernard Lown and his Soviet colleague, Dr Yevgeniy Chazov. Ruff was particularly inspired by Lown and also Australian paediatrician and anti-nuclear campaigner Helen Caldicott. “It was they who articulated how the threat of nuclear war is the ultimate public health issue and a central ethical responsibility for physicians,” he says.

“Lown [who invented the defibrillator] had been researching sudden cardiac deaths, with Yevgeniy Chazov, when the pair came to the realisation – this being the height of the Cold War – that the greatest risk of sudden death was not cardiac arrest but nuclear weapons.”

Ruff says that through the physicians' group (of which he is now the co-president) he saw the difference that organised, evidence-based advocacy could make – something powerfully illustrated a few years later when the evidence of climate scientists and physicians brought Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev face-to-face to defuse the superpower nuclear stand-off. The US and Russian leaders had been shown, unequivocally, that a nuclear war would be terminal for humanity.

The climate researchers responsible for this détente were led by a Melbourne scientist, Dr Barrie Pittock, who became a mentor to Ruff as his own advocacy activity increased. To this point, Ruff's main drive had been professional, but in 1982 his first child, Ingrid, was born, adding an emotional impetus to what was by now becoming a lifelong quest "to eradicate the most acute existential threat that we all face".

"Also, it's not just the threat of these weapons being used," he says. "There is not a human on the planet who today doesn't have higher levels of strontium-90 and caesium in their bodies because of the atmospheric testing of nuclear bombs over the past 70 years. I was part of a global study looking at the health impacts of these tests, and even the most conservative assessments attribute millions of cancer-related deaths to the weapons tests.

"So the public health threat is clear, as is the primacy of prevention, because the risks will persist for as long as the weapons do.

**How do people get nominated for the Order of Australia?
How can we recognize those people who've given so much of their life to serve others?
Join us to find out more and how to nominate worthy Rotarians for Australian
Honours! <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83541702319>**

Grant Hocking ASM (Melissa)

**Honouring our
Rotarians**

Saturday 19th June 2021
Starts at 12:00pm

Zoom ID: 835 4170 2319

Rotary
District 9800

District Governor's Message

The Four-Way Test Guiding Us Through Difficult Times

As we once again endure lockdown, I can't help but feel that we are lucky to be in Rotary and to be able to share camaraderie and purpose, even though in this fourth lockdown it is done so via Zoom. So many people do not have anything like the Rotary family to keep their spirits buoyed through shared interests, the desire to do good in the world and build friendships. There is no doubt that there is angst and frustration being felt in our community right now, but as Rotarians we have much to fall back on that will sustain us through difficult times, including the Four-Way Test.

When we look at the evolution of the Four-Way Test, it began with a failing business that needed a moral compass on which to focus and guide it through difficult times. The Test is just as applicable during these difficult times and I urge you to consider it if you are facing challenges.

Just prior to lockdown, I was privileged to visit Rotary Balwyn and listen to four young students participating in the Club's Public Speaking Competition using the Four-Way Test as the foundation. I was so impressed and inspired by these young leaders that each of the finalist's speeches will be published in the forthcoming editions of *Networker*. In this edition, you will read how Christopher O'Connell from Scotch College has weaved the Four-Way Test into his observations of world politics. It is thought provoking indeed.

We are nearing the end of not just the Rotary year, but also the financial year. I would like to encourage all Rotarians who are considering making a tax-deductible donation prior their tax returns being completed to make The Rotary Foundation your beneficiary. Donations can be made via this link: <https://my.rotary.org/en/donate>. If you are a Centurion or considering becoming one and donating just \$100 in the 100th year of Rotary, please use the same link. If you are considering becoming a Paul Harris Society Member please contact Julie Mason at julie.mason@education.vic.gov.au. If you are considering becoming a Major Donor, please contact Dennis Shore at djshore@bigpond.net.au.

If you have already donated to The Rotary Foundation, a heartfelt thank you!

On Saturday 19th June, the final [Morning Tea with the DG](#) will be held from 10.00am to noon and promises to be a real variety show extravaganza. We will have a look back over the year, as well as hear from a number of great speakers and entertainers. Do register and join with me as we celebrate the year that's been in true Rotary style!

Have a great week in Rotary service everyone.

Rotary District 9800 Governor Philip Archer



Rotary
Club of Williamstown



***THE ROTARY CLUB OF WILLIAMSTOWN
PRESIDENTS 71st CHANGEOVER***

**JOIN US IN CELEBRATING OUR CHANGEOVER
OF
*PRESIDENT EDDIE & RHONDA KNIGHT
TO
PRESIDENT STAN & WARAPORN PANTEN***

Come along & dance the night away to live MUSIC

WHEN

Friday 25th June 2021 6.30 for 7.00pm

WHERE

Seaview Receptions Williamstown Football Ground

COST

\$65.00 Per Head 2 COURSE Meal & Entertainment

DRESS CODE

Smart Casual

RSVP

Stan Panten Email: <spanten@bigpond.net.au> or

Eddie Knight Email: gerr4@bigpond.com

by Monday 21st June

PAYMENT CAN BE MADE BY DIRECT

DEBIT

Account Details:

Rotary Club of Williamstown Inc

BSB: 633 000

Order your copy of Rotary's centenary book now.

Over 500 pages!

Humanity in Action – Celebrating 100 years of Rotary in Australia and island neighbours
– published on April 1, 2021, just in time for official centenary celebrations on April 20-22.. (Williamstown gets a mention for a project in PNG that George was involved with 20 years ago.)

However, the high cost of production and printing limits the size of the print run to 4000 at this time and, after district commitments are fulfilled, remaining books will be sold on a 'first in' basis for \$25 each, including GST (plus postage of \$10, which will vary for multiple book orders).

Orders for clubs or individuals should be placed via:

PDG Harry Durey,
Secretary

Zone 8 Institute History and Archives Committee

Email: hdurey@bigpond.com

BSB: 633000, Acc: 147294557

Ref: Rotary Book – Invoice number (provided by Harry with pre-order)

Rotary
District 9800



ROTARY DISTRICT 9800 CHANGEOVER

DG Philip Archer & DGE Dale Hoy

Invite you to attend the District 9800 Changeover celebration

HYATT PLACE CONVENTION CENTRE, ESSENDON FIELDS

SUNDAY 27th JUNE 2021

12.00 for 12.30 PM – 3.30 PM

Cost: \$65.00 per person

Includes: drinks on arrival, two-course meal,
2 bottles of wine per table
Free car parking opposite hotel/
\$5 in hotel car park

RSVP and Bookings: 18th June 2021

<https://www.trybooking.com/BRFWD>

Don't miss this two-hour
Rotary variety show extravaganza!

Final Morning Tea with the DG

FREE ZOOM EVENT

10.00 am– 12.00 noon
Saturday 19th June 2021

<https://www.trybooking.com/BKXUJ>



Rotary
District 9800



Rotary Opens
Opportunities



Inner Circle Entertainment G

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& Multi Plus**
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\$69⁹⁹	\$119⁹⁹	\$229⁹⁹
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Discover all the best savings in your city	Enjoy savings across Australia, New Zealand and Bali	2 years of savings across Australia, New Zealand and Bali
\$14 goes to our fundraiser!	\$24 goes to our fundraiser!	\$46 goes to our fundraiser!

Support us & buy now

	CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
Mon 7 June	Zoom meeting RCW	7pm
Mon 14 June	Queen's Birthday holiday VIC – no meeting	
June	Combined Board Meeting – Customs House Hotel Imperial Room. Date to be confirmed.	6.30 for 7pm start
Sat 19 June	Morning tea with the DG – by zoom	10am-12pm
Sat 19 June	Honouring our Rotarians – by zoom	12pm
Mon 21 June	RCW. Possible guest speaker from the Stroke Foundation.	7pm
FRI 25 JUNE	CLUB CHANGEOVER	6.30 PM
Sun 27 June	Rotary District 9800 Changeover	12.30-3.30pm

The Rotary Club of Williamstown, District 9800

<i>President:</i>	<i>Eddie Knight</i>	<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Nils Oman</i>
<i>Secretary/ Public Officer:</i>	<i>Jo Walker</i>	<i>Foundation:</i>	<i>Chris James</i>
<i>Membership Development:</i>	<i>Damien Hynes</i>	<i>Club Service:</i>	<i>Fred Grundy</i>
<i>Youth:</i>	<i>Damien Hynes</i>		
<i>Marketing/PR &</i>	<i>Brad Saunders</i>		
<i>Protection Officer:</i>	<i>Brad Saunders</i>		
<i>Sergeant at Arms:</i>	<i>Jack Tahih/ Stan Panten</i>		
<i>International Service:</i>	<i>Hazel Ackland</i>		
<i>Community Service:</i>	<i>John Barry</i>		
<i>Vocational Service</i>	<i>Kathy Roberts</i>		

*President Rotary International
Holger Knaack*

*Rotary District 9800 Governor
Philip Archer
<http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au>*

*Assistant Governor Hobsons Bay Cluster
Patrick Docherty-patrick@cfrsolutions.com.au*

*The Rotary Club of Williamstown meets every Monday, 7pm
Pelicans Landing, 1 Syme St, Williamstown*

*Contact us: Jo Walker- joannagwalker@gmail.com
Find us on the web at www.rotarywilliamstown.org.au
Rotary District 9800 www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au
Rotary Down Under www.rotarydownunder.com.au*

Networker District 9800's weekly newsletter www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/

The Rotary Club of Williamstown is on Facebook – any Facebook user can join the group, and we promote the Club's activities and successes on this page