



District 9800 RoCan Charity Ride 2022



Rider Newsletter 01

<http://rocan.com.au>

In this issue:

- RoCan Update
- Naming of Ride
- Date for 2021 Ride
- Future of the ride
- Potential Route and ride numbers
- Provisional cost to Riders and Support
- Fund Raising expectations
- Ride Expression Of interest and Deposit
- Ride Kit



RoCan UPDATE

ROCAN (or *Rotarians against Ovarian CANcer*) commenced life as a Trust created by the Rotary Club of Williamstown 2001 at the request of Yvonne Moon after her friend passed away from Ovarian Cancer.

The original aims of ROCAN were to raise public awareness of ovarian cancer and to fund research to find an early screening test for the disease. The goals and projects of ROCAN have broadened over time but remain cancer focused.

Yvonne Moon sadly passed away in March 2020 and as a result, ROCAN lost its driving force. In addition, Dr Murray Verso, a fellow Trustee of the ROCAN Trust, announced he was retiring after nearly twenty years of dedicated service.

Prior to Yvonne's passing, ROCAN was in the process of being incorporated so that it could, if required, run an accommodation and wellness centre at Werribee (where ROCAN owned a block of residential land). After Yvonne's passing, and Murray's retirement, 7 dedicated people stepped in to continue with the incorporation of ROCAN and become its inaugural Directors, they were:

Williamstown Rotarians - Eddie Knight, Damien Hynes, Fred Grundy and Brad Saunders;

Members of the Ride Committee – Gus Garnsworthy, John Boyle and Branco Marcina.



ROCAN was incorporated on 25 May 2020 and has since been endorsed as a registered charity by the ACNC (Australian Charities and Not-For-Profit Commission) and has received tax concession status from the ATO.

The seven Directors of ROCAN then spent the next 6 months undertaking a feasibility study of the proposed accommodation and wellness centre at Werribee. This involved preparing a needs assessment, financial plan, constructions costs and a future management plan.

In doing so, the Directors held meetings with the Wyndham City Council, the Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria, the Werribee Mercy Hospital, the St Vincent Hospital in Werribee, Western Health, the Peter MacCallum Hospital, the VCCC (Vic Complete Cancer Centre) and the Royal Women's Hospital.

It became clear that any previous support for an accommodation and wellness centre being built in Werribee had disappeared. If an accommodation centre was to be built in Werribee then it would not be supported by the local health centres.

Accordingly, it has been resolved by the Directors not to proceed with construction of a facility at Werribee and instead sell the block of land in Werribee.

The good news is that the Directors are now holding discussions to complete the project of providing an accommodation and wellness centre by joining forces with another like-minded charity. **This will enable us to pool funds to create a larger centre, which can be located within walking distance of major hospitals, which will be endorsed by health authorities and which will have professional full time managers operating the facility.**



Our goal is to raise enough funds within the next 2 years to finalise the project. Discussions and meetings are underway with other charities, and we are hoping to provide a significant update to all of the riders and sponsors by way of a newsletter later in the year.

The Directors would like to thank all of the riders and the sponsors for their continued support. Rest assured the Directors of ROCAN are dedicated to finalising this project with your continued assistance. We want to make Yvonne's dream a reality.



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NAMING OF RIDE

It seems that the Annual District Conference is planned for late April, 2022. The organising Committee felt this would be too late in the year when considering the likely weather. As a consequence the Committee has decided to conduct the ride in March. This means we would not be riding to Conference as we have done in the past.

Given that the funds raised by the ride will be directed to RoCan the Committee decided on using the name **RoCan Charity Ride** still under the Rotary International umbrella with Williamstown Rotary being the overseeing Rotary Club.

RIDE DATES

Saturday March 19 to Friday March 25

We are all hoping that the current issues surrounding the COVID Pandemic will be different by March next year. It is most likely we will still need to function under some type of COVID protocol during our next RoCan Charity Ride. The Committee will keep abreast of developments and implement what ever protocols are necessary to safely conduct the ride.

FUTURE OF THE RIDE

The Committee is committed to conducting the ride for at least the next 2 years and directing the funds raised to RoCan Ltd. We must be mindful that we are all getting a little older and realize there may be a limit for some of us.



POTENTIAL ROUTE AND RIDE NUMBERS

The number of riders will again be **limited to 30** and the **route will be through Country Victoria**. At this stage options through Gippsland or Western Victoria are being explored. Once decided we will inform everyone. The **start and finish** of the ride will be out of the Melbourne area. Therefore we may need to stay at a country location the night before the start.



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PROVISIONAL COSTS

The Committee appreciate the benefit to all of maintaining the cost to riders and the support team at a minimum. As expected there is an increase in costs so to accommodate that it is necessary to have a small increase to Riders and Support Registration Fees: \$1500 for Riders and \$750 for Support.

Registration will again cover the ride kit, accommodation and evening meals. Participants will need to purchase morning tea and lunch en route.

FUND RAISING

This is a charity ride and participants are expected to raise at least \$1000. As indicated funds will go to RoCan Ltd.



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST & DEPOSIT



There is an expectation that riders interested in participating next year will complete an **Expression Of Interest**, attached to the email, and return it with a **deposit of \$200** by October 31. Details of how to pay are also attached to the email.

RIDE KIT

The committee is considering several options and looking to include a Ride Jersey and a Ride vest as in previous years. Consideration will be given to utilizing the same ride kit for 2 years to help keep costs down and to create and maintain the image of the ride.

Major Sponsors will be allocated space on the ride kit to acknowledge their contribution.





**Rotary District 9800 RoCan Charity Ride
Supporting Ovarian Cancer Research &
Cancer Wellness Centre**



**Through Country Victoria
March 19 to March 25, 2022**

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
Due October 31**

Name:

Mobile:

Email:

Please tick appropriate box:

- I wish to participate in the RoCan Charity Ride 2022 at a cost of \$1500
- I wish to participate in the Support Crew at a cost of at least \$750
- I will pay the \$200 deposit required by November 30
- I understand that it is expected that each rider will raise at least \$1000 sponsorship

NB:

- *costs and charitable contribution to be raised will be confirmed and advised by 1st October*
- *Support Crew Registration is at least \$675*
- *The Rider Registration fee covers: Ride kit (jersey & vest), 8 night's motel accommodation, evening meals, morning and afternoon tea where appropriate, a minimum of 3 support vehicles, first aid kits and drink supplements.*
- *A deposit of \$200 is required to be paid by November 30 to secure your participation. If the rider withdraws from our ride after November 30 the deposit will be deemed a tax deductible charitable donation. Payment process details will be emailed out.*

Given the potential interest from next year's riders and questions being asked by new riders we will need to place a cap on the number of riders that can participate. As previously organised the limit will be 30 riders with preference given to previous participants, Rotarians and Rotary Exchange Students.

Please indicate if you wish to: (circle your preference)

- Complete the full ride
- Ride a designated distance each day
- Participate in the Support Crew

Please return this Expression of Interest asap but by October 31 to:

Gus Garnsworthy,
4 Station Lane, Williamstown
gregorgarnsworthy@bigpond.com