

# Rotary Club of Fern Tree Gully Inc.

INCORPORATED REG. No. A0023463V

DISTRICT 9810 VICTORIA AUSTRALIA

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President, Rotary International

**K.R. (Ravi) RAVINDRAN**  
& Vanathy

**Rotary Club of Colombo**

Sri Lanka



District Governor, Dist. 9810 –

**DAVID TOLSTRUP & Alison**  
Rotary Club of Box Hill

President,

**PAUL McALONEY & Kay**

**Rotary Club of Fern Tree Gully**

Benefactor,

**IVAN GIGOVIC,**

Vale: August 2003

**Rotary Club of Fern Tree Gully**



## WEEKLY BULLETIN



## GRAHAM CRICHTON CFA FERNTREE GULLY

Graham is a skilled teacher and highly experienced firefighter who spends his time (between fighting fires), in passing on his extensive knowledge of what to do and how to avoid both domestic and bush fires.

A great dissertation—thanks Graham!

## UPCOMING MEETING RESPONSIBILITIES

Date & Time:	Monday 5th October [6.30 for 7.00]	Monday 12th October [6.30 for 7.00]	Monday 19th October [6.30 for 7.00]	Monday 26th Oct [6.30 for	Monday 2nd Nov	Monday 9th Nov [6.30 for
Venue:	FTG Bowling Club	FTG Bowling Club	FTG Bowling Club	FTG Bowling Club		FTG Bowling Club
Program:	Committee Meeting	TBA	AGM / RYLA Presentation	4-Way Schools Speech Contest	MEL-BOURNE	Committee Meeting
Speaker:	N/A	TBA	Scott Newstead & Michael Lin-	Callum MacLachlan	CUP	N/A
Committee Subject	TBA	N/A	N/A	N/A	EVE	TBA
Chair:	Mike S	Graeme A	John R	Paul W		Paul McA
Cashier:	Enid H	Mike S	Graeme A	John R	NO	Graham F
Rotary Toast	Sean C	Paul W	Christine A	Graeme A	MEETING	Sean C
Rotary Knowledge	Graeme A The Joy of Retirement		N/A	Sean C 4-way test schools speech contest		Rob H The Battle of Lone Pine
Sergeant-At-Arms:	Graham F	Graham F	Rob D	Rob D		Rob D
Scribe:	Christine A	Rob D	Paul W	Graham F		Christine A

<i><b>Birthdays:</b></i>	5th—Christine Anderson 10th—Patricia Reid (wife of John)
<i><b>Wedding Anniversaries:</b></i>	None
<i><b>Induction to RC of Fern Tree Gully</b></i>	None



Marg Hurst and Fran M enjoying traditional peach schnapps with new friends from Budapest. We're going to catch up with them when we arrive there. ... Kay & Paul McA

# "THE WEEK THAT WAS"

Monday, 28th September 2015

*The meeting opened with the toast to Rotary by PP Enid and with President Paul welcoming all members and our guest speaker Graham Crichton.*

**President Paul's announcements:** The main focus of President Paul's comments was the welcome news that Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull has allocated \$100 million towards the prevention of domestic violence towards women and children.

**Chairman:** Sean Campbell, called for chairman's reports

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORTS:

**Secretary:** **Christine Anderson:** Read through the correspondence and in particular a brochure from the City of Knox Council advertising a Community Skills Workshop.

This workshop will focus on such areas as:-

- Food handling at public functions (ie sausage sizzles)
- Taking the Angst out of annual general meeting
- Social media for community groups
- Expanding your community groups membership
- If you need volunteers Knox Council can help!

Graham Emmonson Knox Council CEO sent a thank you letter acknowledging the appointment of his honorary membership of the club.

Dobson Wards Council representative Karen Orpen extended an invitation to the President, Secretary and Treasurer to attend a reception at the Civic Centre.

A letter was received from "Hear For You Victoria" for assistance in changing the life of a local deaf teenager in Knoxfield of by the name of 'Annabel'.

**Apologies:** Received from PP Stuart Vize, PP Fran Mandergeddes, PP John Flemming PP Rob Dawson.

**Treasurer:** **Enid Hughes :**

Following a decision by the Board, funds from the club's NAB accounts have commenced transference to the newly opened Bendigo accounts.

**Youth:** **Paul Wilson :** Rtn gave a lengthy report to the club on the status of students the club is sponsoring from Fairhill's High School and Fern Tree Gully the North primary school.

**Fellowship:** **Fran Mandergeddes:** no report due to the fact that she was probably somewhere in the air over the Indian Ocean

**Sergeant-At-Arms:** PP Graham Faulkner tested our knowledge on a series of questions which started out as 'Sports Trivia' but finished up being general knowledge.

**Skill :** was won by John Reid with the winning number being C36 but unfortunately he missed out by drawing the King of Clubs

**PROGRAM:** Our speaker for the evening was Graham Crichton who has spent over 36 years as a volunteer with the Country Fire Authority. When Graham first joined the authority they still had converted World War II water tankers with canvas hoses and platforms with railings along the side of the vehicle for the firefighters to cling to when racing off to attend a fire or other incident.

Graham originally trained as an industrial chemist but in more recent years has been teaching both at Deakin University and other institutes.

Following the Black Saturday fires a royal commission was held into the causes behind the fires and how to prevent such horrific events in the future. One of the mandated outcomes of the Royal commission was the setting up of a community liaison role to educate the public in bushfire prevention. With Graham's experience and training this was the ideal role for him to adopt, which he has done with alacrity. The first engagement with local community was at Mount Macedon, since then there has been 40 to 50 workshops with the numbers of public attending these bushfire awareness events escalating annually, with the last one attracting over 500 people.

One of the benefits of the Fire Awareness programs has been a reduction in the number of callouts to house fires, originally in Fern Tree Gully there were around 420 callouts to house fires per annum which due to this awareness program saw only 280 last year.

The Fern Tree Gully brigade has set up a Facebook page which had over 7000 hits since establishment.

They have also obtained a video showing how quickly a fire can take hold in a typical household where carelessness with a match caused the fire to take hold and be fully engaged within three minutes.

Graham commented on the concerns surrounding the faulty Samsung Washing Machines and the fact that there are still thousands out there that have not yet been modified and represent a fire danger to the community.

He also mentioned that there were 12 totally unnecessary house fires in Fern Tree Gully last year due to carelessness or inattention, he said it is critical that every family should have a Fire Plan particularly if you live in a Bushfire Overlay area

All in all Graham's presentation had everyone's attention, particularly as some of us live in the bushfire overlay areas.

Graham's talk was followed by a presentation to him by the chairman and a thank you by President Paul.

Meeting Closed at 8.30 p.m.

**Scribe:** Robert Hurst



Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2015  
Mt Waverley Youth Centre  
45 Miller Crescent, Mt Waverley  
MEL: 70 E1  
6.30pm for 7.00pm

# Rotary



## District Community Seminar

Put it in your diary today!!

**Does your club support any Indigenous projects?  
Feed those who are less fortunate than ourselves?  
Want to host a forum on the ICE epidemic**

### Who needs to Attend?

Club Community Officers, Club Presidents  
Club Members interested in hearing about exciting Community Projects they can get involved in

**Tell us Who's Coming - by 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015**

Please RSVP name, e mail & telephone number. to: [shia.duncan@gmail.com](mailto:shia.duncan@gmail.com)

### Community Kitchen Roster - 2015

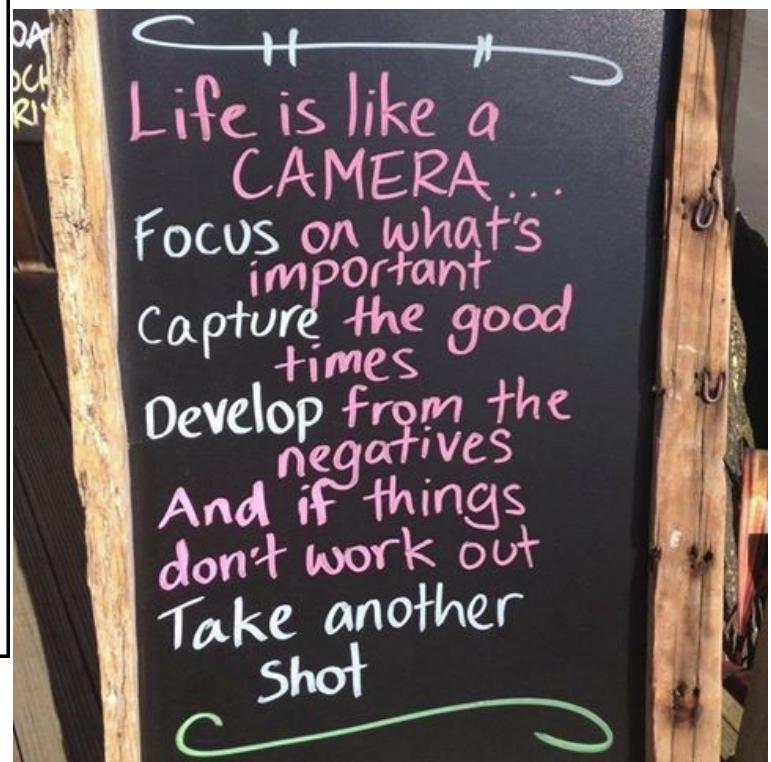
Guide Hall

Underwood Rd

Ferntree Gully (Next to train station car park)  
Rotary roster - every second Wednesday, 5.30pm

DATE	ROTARIAN
21st October	Paul Wilson
4th November	Enid Hughes
18th November	John Flemming
2nd December	Graeme Aspinall
16th December	Christine Anderson

Dinner provided  
Contact Graeme Aspinall for more information  
0425 432 290



## **VALE** Duncan COOK (29:09:2015)

Duncan was an early member of the Rotary Club of Fern Tree Gully – inducted in May 1963, he was named a Paul Harris Fellow in June 1989 after being Club President for 1970-71.



Duncan was Club Treasurer during the Rotary years: 1966-7; 1976-82; 1980-90; he came well qualified as at time he was the accountant at Tupperware. Later he moved, to become the accountant at Knoxbrooke.

Always ready to be part of any Rotary program or function Duncan was a Rotarian in the true sense of Rotary.

**Stuart Vize**



**K.R. "RAVI" RAVINDRAN**  
President, RY 2015-2016

Excerpt from the September 2015 Presidential message:

**When we aren't making the kind of progress we feel we should be making, the natural response is to redouble our efforts. Sometimes, though, the better response is not to work harder, but to work smarter. Look at your tools. Analyze your processes. Are you directing your resources in the most effective ways?**

It is time to sharpen our tools. Instead of focusing on the question, "How can we bring more members into Rotary" we should be asking ourselves, "How can we add more value to Rotary membership, so that more will join and fewer will leave?"

One way we are doing that is with the new Rotary Global Rewards program, which launched in July. This innovative program allows Rotarians to connect with, and receive discounts and concessions from, businesses and service providers around the world. Individual Rotarians may submit their own business to be included alongside those with which Rotary has already negotiated relationships; the most appropriate offers will be added to the listings. We have also created the option of allowing businesses to return a percentage of their profit on each transaction to our Rotary Foundation, and several companies have already been locked into this part of the scheme. Each month, we will update the list with additional offers that we may receive. I urge all of you to try it out by signing up on My Rotary at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) now. The more Rotarians participate, the stronger, and more beneficial, the program will be.

Much more than another loyalty program, Rotary Global Rewards is a new way to benefit from being a Rotarian, and being part of the Rotary network. It is another way to combine business and service. And it is yet another way to add value to Rotary membership. We cannot forget that our potential members will be asking themselves, "What's in it for me?" We need to demonstrate the value of Rotary by showing that becoming a Rotarian will enrich their lives, as it has ours.



# HOME FIRE SAFETY



## 'How can I prevent my house being at risk?'

Home Fire Safety is important for every household to consider. House fires are not only common, but most importantly – they can be prevented.

The next time you are cleaning your home, take a moment to assess your home's fire risks. Don't just stop at installing smoke detectors and keeping the kids away from matches. Take precautions to protect yourself, your family and your home.

Here are a few areas of your house that you can assess for fire risk:

### **IN THE KITCHEN**

- ✖ Never leave cooking unattended. Make sure you turn off stoves and hotplates when you leave the room.
- ✖ Keep the cooking area clean of flammable materials. Curtains, oven mitts and tea towels should be kept well away from the cooking area.
- ✖ **DO NOT USE WATER TO PUT OUT FAT OR OIL FIRES:** water can cause the fire to spread. Use a fire blanket or saucepan lid to smother the fire.



### **HEATERS AND COOLING SYSTEMS**

- ✖ Regularly check and clean chimneys, flues, heaters, air conditioners and evaporative coolers.
- ✖ Ensure any heater and cooling system is installed by a professional installer; and is maintained and operated according to manufacturer's instructions.
- ✖ Place all flammable items at least 1 metre away from any heater.
- ✖ Place a mesh guard in front of open fires.
- ✖ Remember to turn off all portable heating before going to bed or leaving the house.



### **ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT & APPLIANCES**

- ✖ Ensure all appliances are in good working order. Using damaged electrical appliances can result in a fire.
- ✖ If any appliance gives off smoke or a burning smell, turn it off immediately at the power point and do not use it until it is checked by a qualified tradesperson.
- ✖ Do not overload power boards and provide adequate ventilation around equipment to prevent heat build up.
- ✖ Clothes dryers: clean out the lint filter in clothes dryer after each use. Remember to turn dryers off before leaving the house.
- ✖ Clean and remove dust build up in and around computers.



## IN THE BEDROOM

- DO NOT SMOKE IN BED or when you are drowsy. Dropped cigarettes are a major cause of house fires.
- Turn off your electric blanket once you are in bed. The blanket may over heat from your body weight.
- Never use an electric blanket on a water bed.
- Never leave burning candles unattended.



## SMOKE ALARMS/DETECTORS

- Test your smoke alarms each month to ensure the battery and alarm are working.
- Change smoke alarm batteries every six months. The start and end of daylight savings are easy change over dates to remember.
- Vacuum your smoke alarms at least once a year to keep vents clean.



## OUTSIDE

- Sheds and garages often contain fire hazards, such as fuels, solvents, pool chemicals and oily rags. Safely dispose of any flammable rubbish.
- Do not build up rubbish in sheds and garages.
- Always clean up any shavings after woodwork.
- Do not put hot ash in wheelie bins. Make sure it is dampened and cold before disposing.



### Be prepared:

- Have a home fire escape plan and make sure you practise the plan with all family members
- Know at least two ways to get out of the house If there is a fire
- Have a safe meeting point outside your home (e.g. the letterbox)
- Make sure appliances, heaters and other equipment are clean of dust and rubbish
- Have a clean and working smoke alarm

**Remember: in an emergency Dial '000'**

For further information on home fire safety, please contact:



**CFA**

Website: [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)



**MFB**

Website: [www.mfb.vic.gov.au](http://www.mfb.vic.gov.au)