

Rotary Club of Fern Tree Gully Inc.

INCORPORATED REG. No. A0023463V

DISTRICT 9810 VICTORIA AUSTRALIA

CHARTERED: 16th May, 1963

Vol. 53 No..25

25th January, 2016



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



ILIAS VARAS THE CARIBBEAN GARDENS STORY

At our first meeting in 2016 Ilias gave us an interesting insight as to the establishment and expansion of the (now) well known Caribbean Gardens Market and Business Park. See page 3 for more details.

Rotary International President Elect,
John F Germ unveils the Presidential
Theme for 2016-17. (see page 4 for
more details)



UPCOMING MEETING RESPONSIBILITIES

Date & Time:	Monday 25th Jan [6.30 for 7.00]	Monday 1st Feb [6.30 for 7.00]	Monday 8th Feb [6.30 for 7.00]	Monday 15th Feb [6.30 for 7.00]	Monday 22nd Feb [6.30 for 7.00]
Venue:	FTG Bowling Club	FTG Bowling Club	FTB Bowling Club	FTG Bowling Club	FTG Bowling Club
Program:	Schools 4-way Speech Contest	Committee Meeting	Attracting People Who Serve	Spaneast	TBA
Speaker:	Calum McLachlan	N/A	Danielle Storey	Nicky Culhane	
Committee Subject	N/A	TBA	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chair:	Rob D	Christine A	Paul W	Graeme A	Rob D
Rotary Toast	Enid H	Mike S	Stuart V	John F	Paul McA
Cashier:	Graham F	Paul W	Graeme A	Graham F	Fran M
Scribe:	Paul W	Rob H	Sean C	Rob D	John R
Rotary Knowledge	Sean C - 4-Way Test	N/A	Graeme A - Joys of Retirement	N/A	Paul McA - Battle of Long Tan
Sergeant-At-Arms:	John R	John R	Rob H	Rob H	Rob H

<i>Birthdays:</i>	None
<i>Wedding Anniversaries:</i>	None
<i>Induction to RC of Fern Tree Gully</i>	None



PAUL'S PONDERINGS

Welcome to 2016, and I hope it is a healthy and prosperous year for everyone. It is hard to believe that half the Rotary year has gone already. At last week's meeting we had Ilias Varas as our guest speaker. Ilias spoke to us about The Caribbean Gardens Story. Ilias was very interesting and like everyone else I always thought the Caribbean Gardens was just the market, and not the Industrial Business Centre which covers a very large area of the Gardens. It goes to show the foresight of the Spooner family, who established the Gardens.

At the moment we have four going to District Conference. It would be great if we could get some more members to attend. It promises to be a great conference, and it is a golden opportunity for members especially our new ones, to learn more about Rotary and all its plans and projects for the future.

On the 29th of January we are going to present a cheque to the Mountain District Learning Centre to enable two students who are financially disadvantaged have the same opportunities as other students to have a quality education. The scholarships are in association with District, and even though District at this stage are only sponsoring for two years, it is something that the club should look at continuing on our own if District does not participate. It is a wonderful project, and it gives the club another opportunity to support an organisation in our local community.

By the way today is Stuart Vize's birthday. So happy birthday Stuart and we hope you have a most enjoyable day and year ahead.

Don't forget we have a meeting on Monday night so I will catch up with you then.

Yours in Rotary

Paul

Paul McAlooney
President 2015-16

"THE WEEK THAT WAS"

Monday, 18th January, 2016

The meeting was opened at 7.03pm by President Paul.

President Announcements:

President Paul welcomed everyone and hoped all had a great festive season,

Thanks go to the Flemming's and Wilson's for hosting the "fireside chats" in early January.

By a show of hands, the club will meet next week – Monday, 25 Jan – even though Tuesday is the Australia Day public holiday.

Paul welcomed the guest speaker and attending partners.

Bayswater Rotary have withdrawn from Fairhills High School activities as it was in our agreed Cluster territory—we will try to establish an Interact Club at the school.

Chairperson: Graeme Aspinall

Apologies: John Reid , Stuart Vize.

Treasurer: Enid Hughes

District grant of \$2000 has been approved for year 12 students at MDLC, to be matched by the Club – January 29 will be 1st presentation of \$2000, followed by another \$2000 in 2017.

Community: Graeme Aspinall

Graeme thanked those who assisted at the Bunnings sizzle on 2 January - \$1280 profit was made from the day's effort. Next Bunnings sizzle will be in late March.

Greek Philosophy Society BBQ will be on 14 Feb. Noon to 2 pm is the BBQ part but they would like us to stay and participate – Graeme to negotiate a suitable donation to the Club for our "burning" efforts.

Relay for Life – GA to follow up if our participation is needed.

Youth: Paul Wilson

We as a club are committed to Interact, as Bayswater has withdrawn.

Thanks to all who helped out Jill at the fireside chat meeting as Paul was still in the country looking after his Mum.

Enid has written 2 articles for FTG News, one about RJCA Award at FTG North Primary and the other about the scholarships for MD Learning Centre.

Guest Speaker – Ilias Varas of Caribbean Park.

Archibald Spooner (Tom Piper Foods) was the founder of the Caribbean Gardens in 1942 as a farm. A USA trip searching for an alternative business resulted in him bringing back fibreglass production of boats, which had to be in a non-residential area because of the smell, etc. He needed somewhere to test them, hence the lake was built. He found someone conducting a car boot sale, so he started to charge for entry to the area. In 1970, he expanded the market to entertainment.

Industrial buildings provide more revenue, and 40 buildings are planned for the future. There are no height restrictions on the property, but they will be sensitive to the area needs. The service station on the freeway only happened once they agreed to sell the land.

The Estate name Caribbean Gardens came from an animal or jungle theme. The Spooners lived in the house off FTG Road, another house is occupied by a family member, and the mansion that Archie lived in is now in need of repair – perhaps it will end up as a reception centre?

The two new Business Park buildings on Dallimore Drive (about \$50 million cost – 30% more than standard buildings!) are high-tech, environmentally-friendly and life-style-friendly commercial properties, and 38 more are planned – truly a massive grand plan! Ilias distributed pamphlets giving the innovative details of the Business Park building – a look at how the future will be!

The 500 acres is under the control of Rod Spooner – but all the family are involved in the different operations – and yet relations are harmonious!

Direct access to the Eastlink freeway via the Service Station has been a great boon to the development.

They now have a Marketing Manager, and are trialling "Twilight markets" in February to also expand the market operations and visibility.

President Paul read out next week's housekeeping duties and closed the meeting at 8.47 pm

Scribe: John Flemming **Editor/typist:** Mike Spark

GERM REVEALS 'ROTARY SERVING HUMANITY' AS 2016-17



Rotary's founder, Paul Harris, believed that serving humanity is "the most worthwhile thing a person can do," RI President-elect John F. Germ said, and that being a part of Rotary is a "great opportunity" to make that happen.

Germ unveiled the 2016-17 presidential theme, *Rotary Serving Humanity*, to incoming district governors on 18 January at the International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA.

"I believe everyone recognizes the opportunity to serve Rotary for what it truly is: not a small opportunity, but a great one; an opportunity of a lifetime to change the world for the better, forever through Rotary's service to humanity," said Germ.

Rotary members around the globe are serving humanity by providing clean water to underdeveloped communities, promoting peace in conflict areas, and strengthening communities through basic education and literacy. But none more important than our work to eradicate polio worldwide, he said.

After a historic year in which transmission of the wild poliovirus was stopped in Nigeria and all of Africa, Germ said we are closer than ever to ending polio.

"We are at a crossroads in Rotary," he added. "We are looking ahead at a year that may one day be known as the greatest year in Rotary's history: the year that sees the world's last case of polio."

Last year's milestones leave just two countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan, where the virus still circulates. Polio would be only the second human disease ever to be eradicated.

When that moment arrives, it's "tremendously important" that Rotary is ready for it, said Germ. "We need to be sure that we are recognized for that success, and leverage that success into more partnerships, greater growth, and even more ambitious service in the decades to come."

Germ, a member of the Rotary Club of Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA, encouraged attendees to return to their clubs and communities and spread the word about Rotary's role in the fight for a polio-free world.

"People who want to do good will see that Rotary is a place where they can change the world. Every Rotary club needs to be ready to give them that opportunity," Germ said.

Enhancing Rotary's image isn't the only way to boost membership. "We need clubs that are flexible, so our service will be more attractive to younger members, recent retirees, and working people."

He added: "We need more willing hands, more caring hearts, and more bright minds to move our work forward."

By Ryan Hyland
Rotary News

Hi everyone

The Rotary Club of Healesville has been able to arrange for Alice Mabin to be guest speaker at a club meeting on January 28th. You'll see from the attached flyer that Alice is an outstanding speaker and has a great story/s to tell. If your club has any members who would be interested they will be most welcome to join the Rotary Club of Healesville and some good fellowship. Details are;

Date: Thursday January 28th 2016
Time: 6-00pm for 6-30pm; Start – 8-00pm; finish
Venue: Sanctuary House Resort Motel
326 Badger Creek Road
Healesville 3777
Cost: \$28 per head
RSVP: **Don Fitzgerald, phone 0428 537 846**

Thanks and I hope to see yourself or some of your members

Stuart McDonald
Program Director
Rotary Club of Healesville

**Why you should have
AL MABIN
AS A GUEST SPEAKER AT A FORTH COMING
ROTARY MEETING**















- 2015 BEFA Asia Pacific Female Entrepreneur of the year
- Self published author and photographer of the 3x Australian best seller, -The Drover
- Australia's Number 1 Rural lifestyle photographer
- Inspiring story about the bush and a historical agricultural event for Australia
- An entertaining, risk takers account of 'going it alone' and following your dreams
- A roller coaster ride to starting your own business and making it a roaring success
- Special guest speaker as a driver for recruiting younger members
- Differentiating yourself in a so called 'saturated market'

I am more than happy to tailor a talk around any of these points to suit your clubs requirements

I always tend to sell autographed copies of my book The Drover after the talk, but I will donate \$10 per book back to the Rotary club to go towards a project in their club.



Testimonials

Guest Speaker: Alice Mabin, gifted photographer and BEFA Female Entrepreneur of the year for 2015, was our very special guest speaker this week. Originally a Kiwi, Alice has been all over the world and is currently visiting Rocky for Beef Week. Her talk today was a brief outline of the experiences which led to her publishing her first book, entitled "The Drover."

Alice was stuck in a job with no way forward, so she followed up on an interest and did a course on photography and journalism. Coming from the veterinary industry, she has an interest in animals and the Aussie bush, and a spur of the moment decision led her to taking part in a unique part of recent Australian history. For a weekend outing, Alice decided to go and take a few photos of a massive cattle drive which was going past a couple of hours from where she was staying. So she jumped in the ute with her camera and set off...and so the beginning of an amazing journey. That weekend led her to being invited to take part in the largest cattle drive in Australia for 100 years - 18,000 head being taken from Winton, Qld to Hay, NSW in 2013.

A very big and hearty thank you, Alice, for sharing your inspiring story with us, and we wish you more success in the future!

Rockhampton Rotary Club



Community Kitchen Roster - 2016

Guide Hall

Underwood Rd

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

DATE	ROTARIAN
10th Feb	
9th Mar	
23rd Mar	
6th April	
4th May	
18th May	
1st June	
18th June	
29th June	
13th July	
27th July	
10th August	
24th Aug	
7th Sept	
24th Sept	
5th Oct	
19th Oct	
2nd Nov	
16th Nov	
30th Nov	
14th Dec	

Dinner provided
Contact Graeme Aspinall for more
information
0425 432 290



Caribbean is turning 50!

We take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and involvement in Caribbean Park.

Now in the lead up to our 50th Anniversary we're extremely excited for the upcoming '**Twilight at Caribbean**' celebrations where everyone will enjoy a unique, night market experience. Over 5 consecutive Saturday nights from early February to early March 2016. These events will include a **car show**, **food trucks**, **live musicians**, **stilt walkers**, **water-ski show**, **jugglers**, **fire twirlers** and much more!

We greatly appreciate you being a part of the Caribbean community and your support of this event. It's a great achievement that even **after 50 years** Caribbean Market and Gardens continues to create treasured memories across generations. We would very much appreciate if you could pass this flyer onto your family, friends, colleagues and maybe even if possible circulate this through company databases so everyone can come on down and join the festivities as we celebrate 50 years and to mark this exciting milestone with us!

We would appreciate your efforts in being able to promote this exciting event and look forward to celebrating with you.

Yours sincerely,
The Caribbean Park Team

IMPORTANT DATES TO DIARISE....

2016	Program.	Speaker
January	is Vocational Service month	
02-Jan	Bunnings Sausage Sizzle	
04-Jan	Fireside Meeting	Anne & John Flemming's Home
11-Jan	Fireside Meeting	Jill & Paul Wilson's Home
18-Jan	The Caribbean Gardens Story	Ilias Varas
25-Jan	Schools 4-Way Speech Contest	Calum McLachlan
February	is Peace & Conflict Prevention/Resolution month	
01-Feb	Committee Meeting	N/A
08-Feb	Attracting people who serve	Danielle Storey
15-Feb	Spaneast	Nicky Culhane
22-Feb	Leave open for Fellowship W/E Torquay	
26-Feb	Pre PETS (AG's/PE's only)	Dorset Gardens Hotel,Croydon
29-Feb	Compassionate Friends	TBA
March	is Water & Sanitation month	
07-Mar	Committee Meeting	
14-Mar	Labour Day - No Meeting	
18-20th	District Conference	Shepparton
21-Mar		
28-Mar		
29-Mar	Bunnings Sausage Sizzle	
31-Mar	Bunnings Sausage Sizzle	
April	is Maternal & Child Health month	
04-Apr	Easter Monday - No Meeting	
05-Apr	Bunnings Sausage Sizzle	
07-Apr	Bunnings Sausage Sizzle	
9/10th	Multi District PETS (AG's/PE's only)	Ballarat
11-Apr	Committee Meeting	
18-Apr		
25-Apr		
29-Apr	Bunnings Sausage Sizzle	
May	is International month	
02-May	Committee Meeting	
09-May		
16-May		
22-May	District Assembly	
23-May		
30-May		
June	is Rotary Fellowship month	
06-Jun	Committee Meeting	
13-Jun	Queen's Birthday - No Meeting	
17-Jun	Bunnings Sausage Sizzle	
20-Jun		
27-Jun		
	Goodbye Paul, WELCOME CHRISTINE	