

# Rotary Club of Fern Tree Gully Inc.

INCORPORATED REG. NO. A0023463V  
 DISTRICT 9810 - VICTORIA AUSTRALIA  
 CHARTERED: 16 May 1963  
 Postal Address: P. O. Box 164 FERNTREE  
 GULLY, VIC 3156  
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## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Date & Time:	Thursday 29th July [6.00 for 6.30]	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> August [6.00 for 6.30]	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> August [6.00 for 6.30]	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> August [6.00 for 6.30]
Venue:		FTG Bowls Club	FTG Bowls Club	FTG Bowls Club
Program:	ZOOM	TEAMS MEETING	GUEST SPEAKER	GUEST SPEAKER
Speaker:			LINDSAY LEIGH HOBSON	KEVIN BRIDLE
	Fun Night Olympics Trivia		Elevating Emerging Leaders	Community Policing
Vote Of Thanks			TBA	Rob H
Scribe:			TBA	Julienne



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES



## PRESIDENTS GREETING

## CHATTER

Isn't it amazing what can be achieved when we are all in lockdown, that certainly applied to a very productive Membership Master Plan at last week's meeting? Thank you to each and every member for your enthusiastic input. By now you will have all received the timeline, so it is achieved by Oct 21<sup>st</sup>. August is Membership and New Club Development so we know you will all be working on your part for our big event.

Thank you to Julienne for organising the Christmas in July Zoom Entertainment and fun evening last Saturday.

Behind the scenes, a huge thank you to Paul Wilson for the endless hours being spent on our Club Webpage. It's looking pretty good.

To the Slice Makers this week we know the Chocolate Brownies will be greatly appreciated by those from Foothills Community Care.

Both of us have attended a Cluster meeting and a Presidents meeting during the past week. Great news for the Dandenong's Storm Relief fund it is now over \$63,000 so RACWS is leaving it open till the end of August to give all clubs in District 9810 the opportunity to donate. Shortly you will all receive an invitation to volunteer at the Royal Agriculture Show in Melbourne Sept-Oct. A great opportunity to showcase Rotary to the wider community. To be rewarded you will receive a free ticket for you and a friend to attend.

The District Presidents were brought up to date on the proposed merger between Dist 9810 and 9820. Within Australia 4 Districts will be merging this year. South Australia will move from two to one District. West Australia is moving from two to one District. New Zealand is moving from six to two Districts.

There are seven Australian Districts with memberships below 1100, currently Dist 9810 has 1040 members and 9820 has 1133 members. There has been a 25% drop in Rotarian numbers in the last decade with the average age of Rotarians being 70.

The District Board of 9820 has agreed to the merger, with 9810 to formalise the merger in August. Past District Governors will be invited to join focus teams to enact the Merge for RI by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

This week's meeting will be a Zoom Entertainment/Fun Night with everything "Olympics" as the theme don't forget to dress in green and gold, and have your questions ready.

Have a great week

Stay Safe

Graeme and Christine

## **That Was The Week That Was**

**Thursday July 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021**

The meeting commenced at 6.35pm. All current members were present at the zoom meeting Co-chairman Christine stated the meeting was to discuss and determine a membership master plan and referred to the agenda which had been distributed to members. Christine indicated that as set out the agenda each member would have three minutes to discuss the suggestions provided to form the membership plan.

Co-chairman Graeme advised that the Club had been successful in gaining a grant from the Community Bank to purchase an additional computer. He also reported on a recent cluster meeting at which the renewal or otherwise of the lease of the vehicle clubs had provided to police was about to expire and a decision had to be made about its future.

Graeme also referred to a possible involvement of community clubs in emergency [bushfire] safe areas and said council was drawing up plans although to date nothing had been determined.

Christine introduced the discussion on membership plan items and members commented on proposals as follows:

Gary B : felt that the proposed cocktail party was a good idea the club could showcase its work. He said however that the club should focus in attracting the middle aged/older group.

John F : Agreed that the cocktail party was a good idea and also referred to a proposed newspaper interview where the paper should emphasise the value of the club to the community over many years and the absolute need for more members to ensure it survived.

Jullienne H : Generally agreed with the items set out and the newspaper article.

Fran M : Said that all the proposals had merit but that the fees were the main detrimental issue. She said that we should offer an incentive and that she and Brian were prepared to sponsor a new member for a year. Members generally agree with Fran about the problem that costs posed.

Mike S : Said that he agreed with most of what had been said but queried the cost of the proposed mail box drop and brochure. Mike expressed the view that the mailbox drops were generally ineffective. Mike also suggested that representatives from Interact and RYLA should speak on the night of the cocktail party. Another proposal that Mike put forward was a mural trail for Ferntree Gully. It was pointed out however that the traders had tried this but could not obtain a grant and the Hut Gallery had advised that it did not have an artist that could do it.

Paul Mc : Paul thought that the proposals were good but emphasised that it required a major effort by all members to raise our numbers. He said that each member should nominate two persons that could be approached. Some members indicated that they had either spoken to prospects or were ready to do so but that until face to face meetings were established again they had held off speaking to those people.

Brian M : Agreed with the proposals and the cocktail party and endorsed Paul's comments.

Alan T : Agreed with the proposals but pointed out that the Webpage and Facebook were the tools that we had to use and that cards should be provided to members showing contact and meeting

details. He also suggested radio and newspapers. Allan indicated that he was getting prices on theatre advertising.

Paul W : Agreed with what had already been raised and supported the use of the website and Facebook.

Rob H : Showed a card that the Club had used some years ago and commented that those professional areas that the club had in the past were no longer available he said that we must now go to Facebook and the media. Rob also said that surely we could get ideas or a template from other clubs or the District. He also endorsed Fran's idea for subsidising membership costs for the first year. Members supported that proposal. Rob made the point that the club should not invest too much in lockdown.

In subsequent general discussion Gary suggested a possible speaker on orphanages and care for the cocktail party and indicated that he could speak to her about doing so. Allan and Graeme that they had provided names of some speakers Graeme will distribute a membership letter with video which is quite good.

General Discussion : Christine said that District had given lots of ideas that we had to look at 50+ people in our area. Gary referred to a publication that the library has and he will make enquiries to see if we can use it. The comment was made that Graham Crichton also has a publication that we may be able to access. Graeme made the point that at this stage we now must make a list of actions required [including the target audience] and who takes responsibility for each aspect of the plan. Some discussion took place concerning the question of possible fee assistance and whether such assistance should cover a half or full year.

The proposed date for the party was stated to be October 21<sup>st</sup>.

As the Christmas in July at Zagames was now off, Julienne advised that we would now conduct it by zoom on Saturday evening and that our friends might like to take part.

Gary said that he could arrange an introduction to the community radio station at Upwey.

It was stated that we need to establish a time line.

Julienne said that we must wrap a mystery present for Saturday evening and give three clues about what it is.

Christine indicated that she required socks for men's gifts and found a cheaper source for Cadbury's chocolates.

Meeting closed at 7.45pm