

## From the President Alick Osborne

It is always great to be part of our annual visit to Currajong School in Malvern East, but this year was particularly special. Currajong Principal Jenine Pallant advised that she would be stepping down in September.

Jenine told us some wonderful and insightful stories about her 23 years at Currajong, the last 8 as Principal.



The school has certainly changed with a great improvement in general behaviour which has come about by providing very clear structures and consistent application of discipline when required. The teachers don't go home sporting bruises each day!

The condition of the buildings and the general fabric of the school amenities have also improved.

The school has 48 students and a considerable waiting list.

One of the things that has not changed – children are still children. Cheeky, rebellious and challenging, but very lovable and full of potential.

Jenine has attended 22 of the 23 possible RCEM meetings at the school, and a number of Changeovers and other RCEM meetings. That is a record that potentially none of our members could beat! She was very clear that the partnership with RCEM has been incredibly valuable and keen for it to continue into the future.

RCEM has again contributed two half bursaries for students attending Currajong. It was a pleasure to present the “cheque” to Jenine on behalf of RCEM. Moreover it was an honour to be able to thank Jenine for her contribution to the students who attend Currajong, and their families.

## Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May Speaker: Dr. Steve Carbone

### Preventing depression, anxiety and other mental health conditions

Dr Stephen Carbone has a passion for promoting people's mental wellbeing.

He holds qualifications in medicine, psychology and social work and has firsthand experience in supporting people with mental health conditions in both his professional and his personal life.

Stephen worked as a medical officer in Victoria's specialist psychiatric services and as a general practitioner for over two decades, before moving into mental health policy and research.

He was an active contributor in several key mental health reforms in Victoria and nationally and has held senior positions in organisations such as VicHealth, headspace and Beyond Blue.

He is currently the Chair of a new mental health charity called Prevention United which focuses exclusively on the prevention of mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, behavioural disorders and other serious conditions.

Stephen's talk focuses on the importance of preventing depression and anxiety by tackling the underlying causes of these conditions, rather than waiting until people are unwell before we act.

**Chair: Louise Matthews**

**Sergeant: Hein Otten**

**\*\*\*\* Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May \*\*\*\***  
**Australian Army - 22<sup>nd</sup> Engineers Regiment.**

Please note the date above – it is not a typo!



Major Trevor Simpson-Bull is organising a visit to the Australian Army 22 Engineers Regiment Oakleigh Depot.

Target: Oakleigh Army Barracks 1318 North Road Oakleigh Victoria.

Operation: Manoeuvres will commence at 1800 hours and conclude at 2030 hours.

Rendezvous: CO Major Simpson-Bull will advise the rendezvous point to authorised personnel prior to the commencement of the mission.

Authorised personnel must carry **photo identification** on the mission, and must advise Private Dixon of their availability for the mission not later than noon on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May.

As a result of the tactical night-time operations on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May there will be no meeting on the Wednesday evening.

Commanding Officer: Major Simpson-Bull.

**Meeting Attendance!**  
**Please contact Richard Dixon if you can't attend a meeting!**  
**0418378185**  
**house\_of\_australia@bigpond.com**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
**District Assembly**  
**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May 9:00am**  
**Tabcorp Arena - Melton Park**

A fantastic opportunity for the President Elect and their incoming Board to receive heaps of relevant information.

**Cambodia Dinner – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May**



**MS BBQ – Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

Our fearless leader is still looking for a few more egg flippers and sausage sizzlers. Please contact Mark Perree.





## Entertainment Guides

It is time to renew your Entertainment Guide. If you have the digital version you would already be receiving renewal emails. Remember our club gets \$14 for each one that is sold.

It may be too late to get one for Mother's Day but it's never too late to get one for yourself!

## Project Cambodia Dinner

A poster for the Project Cambodia Dinner. On the left is a vertical strip of colorful hands. The main text reads: 'World of difference', 'Rotary', 'PROJECT CAMBODIA', 'FRIDAY 31ST MAY 2019', 'The International Brighton', and 'Together lets support the people of Cambodia'. Logos for 'World of difference', 'Rotary', and 'Rotary Chadstone/East Malvern' are present. On the right is a collage of photos showing people, including children and adults, in various settings.

Tickets: [https://cambodiagaladinner.ticketspice.com/cambodia-gala-dinner?fbclid=IwAR0nwX9z\\_TCKgAqS\\_Ma1OzL9B5Evvqm6VCCnv32lFsjtJ\\_zbgKORc20YCE](https://cambodiagaladinner.ticketspice.com/cambodia-gala-dinner?fbclid=IwAR0nwX9z_TCKgAqS_Ma1OzL9B5Evvqm6VCCnv32lFsjtJ_zbgKORc20YCE)

**Save the Date!**  
**Rotary Chadstone East Malvern Changeover Dinner**  
**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Riversdale Golf Club**

## **Bill Gates brings message of hope for total eradication of polio to Rotary International conference in Spokane**

A goal that seemed nearly impossible just decades ago is now within reach: total eradication of polio.

In 1994, the highly infectious disease that paralyzes those affected for life and often leads to death was wiped out from the Americas.

“That was pretty exciting,” said Bill Gates, speaking to a crowd of about 750 Rotary members from Seattle, Eastern Washington, Idaho and Canada on Saturday at a Rotary International district conference at the Spokane Convention Center.

Ridding polio from the Americas was a first step toward total eradication of the disease. Only three countries are dealing with it now: Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria.

But Gates, who co-chairs the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, is one member of the Polio Global Eradication Initiative, a group dedicated to bringing an end to the disease. But they still need to raise \$3.3 billion for the final push, Gates said.

Gates displayed before the crowd a slide show of world maps showing polio’s shrinking presence.

“Not that long ago, in 1988, polio was everywhere,” he said. “It’s estimated 35,000 new cases were caused every year. Think of that many kids paralyzed.”

There were 33 cases last year worldwide, Gates said.

Gates warned that if polio isn’t eradicated, and if funds dried up, it could make a resurgence over the next several decades, and could roar back to 200,000 cases, he said.

Nigeria is soon to join the list of polio-free countries, Gates said.

The last case in Nigeria was recorded a few years ago, and reaching the three-year mark will mean it’s officially eradicated.

“We’ve come a long ways,” he said.

Gates recalled a 2010 visit to northern India, where polio would soon be eradicated.

“In India, we were so close but it would keep bouncing back in different places,” he said. Part of that was due to poor sanitation, skepticism of the vaccines and difficult access to villages because of flooding or other unforeseen problems.

“Our partners had to step up and really get the word out,” he said. “It took 2 million vaccinators to cover all of India.”

India is now celebrating its fifth year of being polio-free.

Gates said Nigeria has been a challenge. Workers helping vaccinate were stuck with inaccurate maps, causing them to assume areas were vaccinated when they weren’t.

But new technology, developed with Gates’ help, has been making improvements. To test villages in the past, workers had to find children who were paralyzed and test them individually. Now, they can take bucketloads of a village’s combined sewage and test it to see if anyone is shedding the polio virus, Gates said.

And when polio is finally eradicated, all of the technology and resources will be able to shift to fighting other diseases.

“People are wondering: When will we get it done?,” he said. “That’s a very good question. We’re very very close.

<https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2019/may/19/bill-gates-brings-message-of-hope-for-total-eradic/>