

## From the President

Wonderful presentation by club members Hein and Trevor as they spoke on their individual efforts to support the Australian Community suffering from the fires that rampaged across the summer. Each gave their very different perspectives of their efforts to support the community.



Great to hear the personal experiences, and the contributions that Hein and Trevor have made to the response and recovery from the recent bushfires.

## Upcoming Meetings

### Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

As a busy working mother of 3 children (plus a German shepherd), Simone de Kretser was recently invited to participate in Trek Nepal 2019; an invitation she sees as a chance to give back to the community and make a difference.

The Trek Nepal 2019 team consists of 21 Computershare employees from Australia, New Zealand and Hong Kong who will embark on a trip of a lifetime, strenuously hiking for 6 days through the Annapurna Mountain Range in the Himalayas. With an ambitious fundraising target of AUD 143,000 they have dedicated extensive amounts of personal time fundraising for their trip. With Computershare covering all travel costs, 100% of the money raised will go towards the World Youth

International School in Nepal, ensuring that it can continue to support the many local children who may not otherwise receive an education. The team will complete the Trek with a welcome reception at the school where they will be able to see first-hand how their efforts are making a positive impact on the lives of the students, as well as the wider community.

This isn't the first time Simone has participated in such a challenging fundraising experience; in 2015 she cycled through Sri Lanka with her husband, raising over AUD 10,000 for charity.

Welcome – Dawn & Trevor  
Chair - Kathryn  
Sergeant - Bernard

## Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March Family Fun Day – Final Planning and Preparation Alick Osborne

Welcome – Frank & Cheryl  
Sergeant - Mark

If you haven't already done so please let Alick know your availability for the Family Fun Day, and if you have family or friends who can help they will also be very welcome!

Right now we need someone to commit to running the ticket sales for all of the games and activities. We will have some friends of Rotary who can help on the day, but we need a Rotarian to take the lead. Please contact Alick.

### Family Fun Day Dinner

Something different this year – we will have our dinner together prior to the event and we will cover the first, second, and possibly the third security shift! Dinner under the marquee or the stars in Central Park on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March from 5:30pm.



### The week that was...

A great morning at the Women in Rotary International Women's Day Breakfast. A very wet start after the rain and an early morning for Sandi, Paul and Ros who brought our guests from Sacred Heart.

### Dates for your diary!

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March – Shed Party... meet at the shed for a clean up at 6:00pm. Alick

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March – Bunnings BBQ

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Family Fun Day set up from 12 noon. Central Park.

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – RCEM Family Fun Day

27 – 29 March – Rotary District 9800 Conference

4<sup>th</sup> April – Birthing Kit Assembly

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May - RCEM Craft Market at Phoenix Park

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> May – National Reconciliation Week – Indigenous Cultural Walk – Gardiner's Creek, City of Stonnington

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Cambodia Gala Dinner at Kooyong Tennis Club.

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May – BBQ at MS Walk and Fun Run in Albert Park



Our next Bunnings BBQ is on this Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March. Please confirm you are available with Lyle and Dawn.

### District 9800 Conference 27-29 March Bendigo

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/sitepage/conference2020/district-9800-conference>

### 4<sup>th</sup> April – Birthing Kit Assembly (Rosemary)

- Hosted by Louise Young (Friend of Rotary)
- Venue: 1A Millewa Ave, Malvern East, 3145
- Times: 10 – 12pm  
12 – 2pm  
2 – 4pm  
4 – 6pm → Packing the Kits into boxes



**Birthing Kit  
Foundation  
Australia**



## Sat 30<sup>th</sup> May – Cambodia Gala Dinner (Paul)

- Date: Sat, 30<sup>th</sup> May
- Time: 7pm
- Venue: Kooyong Tennis Club, 489 Glenferrie Road, Kooyong, 3144
- Cost: \$65 plus cost of drinks at the bar

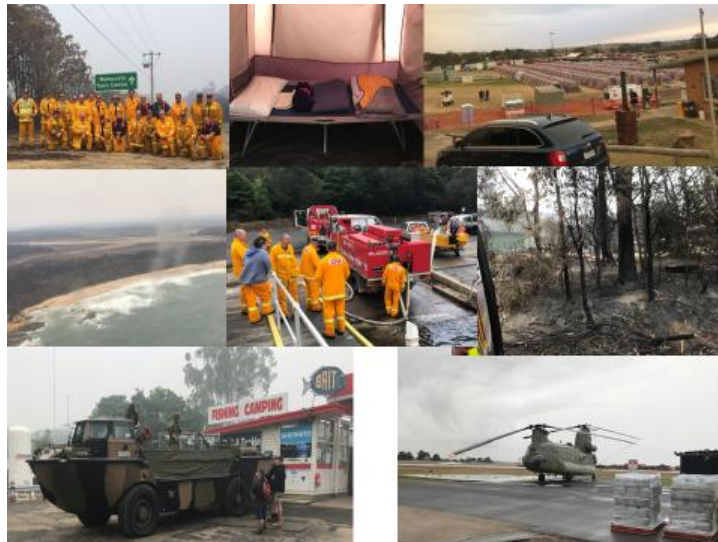


### Family Fun Day Sponsors



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## The Four-Way Test is a mirror, not a window



In our contentious society, I see friends who are members of Rotary use [The Four-Way Test](#) to support opposing political and social arguments and to criticize the thoughts, statements, and actions of others.

I see members with completely opposing viewpoints use the same Four-Way Test to both support their argument and demean others. Rotarians and others are using all forms of social media to share their opinions about perceived violations of The Four-Way Test, causing others to pile on additional comments and insults, all with little thought to how this affects our public image. Which leads me to this basic premise:

### The Four-Way Test is a mirror, not a window

Rotary members should not use The Four-Way Test to look at others but rather to look at themselves in considering the ramifications of a thought, statement, or action. It should not be a *window* through which we look to judge others. It is a *mirror* at which we look to judge ourselves.

The argument I've heard Rotarians make is that if they determine some thought, statement, or action violates any part of the test, it is their duty to declare that thought, statement, or action wrong. I have heard The Four-Way Test used to support any number of topics, some which readers would find hard to support. Yet through the Internet, one can cobble together any sort of argument to back any thought or concept with a plethora of "facts."

I do not believe that is what The Four-Way Test is about. I believe the test is more about how we treat each other than how we measure ideas.

Of course, it is a challenging standard. It's difficult to keep from **thinking** something. But what is more important is how you act on that thought. If you **think** to yourself, "I don't like this person," it becomes a matter of what you **do** with that thought. You can try to dispel it as well as any urge to take some negative action to satisfy your dislike of the person. You can also decide whether you **say** something to that person or tell others what you think.

This is where social media distorts things, because society now seems to embrace negative, vitriolic, or fake comments – as long as the comments agree with our own views. Posting such comments even in the name of The Four-Way Test is certainly not **FAIR** to all concerned and definitely does not build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**.

This brings me to the realization that using The Four-Way Test to argue political and social issues is in itself contrary to the test. We must never use the test to support a position while opposing or berating someone else's position. We should not use The Four-Way Test to support or oppose contentious "hot button" issues, to comment on political discord, or to respond to another's comment.

We need to **teach** The Four-Way Test to all of our friends. We don't need to **preach** it. Rotary takes pride that it is a non-political, non-religious organization. That has allowed us to make inroads in parts of the world where governments and religious organizations can't. Let's not sully Rotary's reputation by using these 24 words of ethical and moral thought to tear each other down.

Martin "Marty" Postic Jr., Past District Governor,  
District 5750 and a member of the Rotary Club of OKC Sunrise, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, USA

