



EUROTA

May 30, 2019

Rotary Club of Euroa

Chartered October 12, 1946

P.O. Box 33 Euroa 3666



Upcoming Program

President

Bernie O'Dea

0428 575 254

bernie.odea@yahoo.com.au

Secretary

Gary Mason

0407 809 089

gma80383@bigpond.net.au

Board**Vice President**

Brian Bamford

Past President-Foundation

Richard Nettleton

Treasurer

Neville Harris

Club Administration-**President Elect**

Ken McLennan

Community Service

Michael Stubbe

Membership

Denis Nolan

Vocational

Ronnie Mason

International

Michael Bell

Youth Service

Bob Irving

Conference

Richard Long

Public Relations

Linda Bennett

Date	Thursday, May 30	Thursday, June 6
time	6:00 pm for 6:30 pm	6:00 pm for 6:30 pm
Venue	Euroa Golf Club	Euroa Golf Club
Speaker	TBA	AG Sally Matheson New AG David Barrat
Topic		Sally's Wrap Up on her time as AG
Chair	Trevor Smith	Ken McLennan
Bar	Denis Nolan Res Barrie Craven	Barrie Craven Res Brian Bamford
Stewards	Ronnie Mason Max McBurney Richard McGeehan	Donald McNeur Peter Morley Rob Morphet
Sargent		

Apologies and guests to Noel O'Meara on 5795 2783
by Thursday 11 am

Any changes to the roster or reasonable suggestions to the editor should be emailed, as the editor and assistants are of an age that they need reminding,

Sarges

Brian Bamford

Donald McNeur



Bernie's Buzz

Last Thursday meeting Christine Ford gave her maiden speech very enlightening and she covered off on her life story. She spoke about her life journey which very much assisted her to be a successful woman. Christine will be a valued member of the club.

John Heal had a battery collection day Thursday to enable the club to have a load for collection

Monday.

Thanks to Bob for submitting his director's report. Other reports are due by 31st May. Please respond to enable David to compile the annual report.

Many Thanks, Bernie

Thursday Night's Meeting



Christine Ford is pictured with President Bernie

President Bernie

1. Change-over Dinner Saturday 29 June @ The Butter Factory, \$55.00 per head. Invitations have been mailed out. RSVP - 20 June; NOTE: you can pay at Noel O'Meara's office or at the Thursday meeting prior to the event.
2. Raffle results: profit approx. \$4800. 1st prize – B Hayes; 2nd prize – L Schultz; 3rd prize – T Smith, 4th prize – J Bartlett and 5th prize – P Rawlings.
3. Directors to provide end of Rotary year reports to President Bernie ASAP.

4. Club member Wayne Sullivan has resigned his membership but willing to volunteer his time when possible.
5. Invitation to Change-over dinners have been received from Rotary clubs of Benalla and Alexandra.

Jane Nolan (Youth)

1. Please advise the Secretary if you would like to be the club member who sits as an observer on the Happy Healthy Kids financial management team; observe where / how the money is spent.
2. Debate Application has been submitted to District.
3. National Youth Service Forum (NYSF) application has been processed and submitted by Harold Cheung.
4. Mentoring @ Euroa Secondary College (ESC): Following our May 30th Thursday night meeting, Harold Cheung would like to catch up with anyone interested in mentoring @ ESC. He will quickly step through your ideas / plans on how you perceive your role as a Mentor and will provide guidance in your decision making. Please consider your subject specialisation; skill set; age group preference; time, day and place available; work with a group or individual, etc.

Don Board (Market)

1. **Takings:** \$700.00 Stalls; \$500.00 BBQ; \$60.00 Swop stall

Michael Tehan (History of Rotary Oceania)

1. Voted at meeting that our contribution to the above publication will be the story behind the club's involvement in the creation of Telegraph Park. It is acknowledge that the project was a major achievement of club. Other amazing club achievements include: BBQ @ the Seven Creeks Park; Bi-Centennial Park; Federation Walking Track; Currie Park garden; Amaroo Hostel and Granite Hill support; stadium @ ESC.

John Heal (Battery Collection)

1. Battery collection requires all hands on deck; be at John Heals 4:00pm Friday 24th May.
2. Next month will see a deflation in the price of old batteries!!
3. Please contact John if you can assist.

Sarah Bullen (Piano Recital)

1. Piano recital by Joshua Hook, 2:00pm Sunday 16th June @ "Cloudbase" 561 Creightons Creek Rd (Yvonne and Mark Carr's home). Tickets \$30.00 per head, available from Sarah.

Robert Morphet (Wood to Children First Retreat Kilmore)

ASAP: Anyone who can assist with the cutting up, transport (trailers) and delivery of firewood to Children First Retreat Kilmore please contact Rob Morphet.

Message from James Carter (Life Ed Van)

Would any Rotarian like to go for a ride with me on the Life Ed Van? As you can see below there are some very interesting and scenic moves coming up.

Monday 27th May to Corryong; Friday 31st May to Corryong and on to Eskdale; Tuesday 4th June Eskdale to Kiewa Valley; Monday 10th June Kiewa Valley to Grace Christian College (formerly Mt Carmel) – Leneva; Wednesday 12th June Grace Christian Collage to Talgarno Primary School – Talgarno.

GUEST SPEAKER – Club member Christine Ford – Maiden speech

Christine gave an inspirational and moving maiden speech. With Christine's permission her speech has been published below:

Good Evening,

As a newly invited member of Rotary Euroa, I am here to make my maiden speech.

I was born in East Melbourne in 1962. My mother was 26 and already had two babies at home.

She didn't know she was having twins – I was the first born. 3 days later, my mother was told her younger twin Theresa had Downs Syndrome.

In those days it was recommended my parents not take her home. This was the done thing.....

She was left in hospital for the first 4 months of her life whilst the medical staff located a home for her. I was left there too for a time and that's where we bonded in a twin cot. She ended up going to live with the Grey Sisters where she stayed for many years.

I didn't meet her until I was 16 but we had already bonded way back in 1962. Our reunion was intense and remarkable. I eventually became her legal guardian and administrator which I have been doing now for 34 years. In 1985 I advocated for her to be removed from Janefield as John Cain had implemented the de-institutionalisation program in Victoria. She moved to an adult care home in Coburg when she was 24 and stayed there until recently when she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's.

Even though we were separated through our formative years my beautiful sister shaped me to who I am today. As I matured, I developed a strong social conscience. I am caring, generous, fiercely independent and committed to caring for people who are less advantaged than myself. I have always believed and practiced turning a negative into a positive and trusting in the outcome. This has assisted me to live more in the moment knowing I am doing exactly what I'm meant to be doing in any given moment.

When I was 4 years old, we moved to Central Victoria for 10 years where I enjoyed a carefree childhood. By then, I was one of seven and loved being part of a large family. I became disciplined through sport, swimming, diving, netball and most of all athletics. We packed our station wagon up every summer and made our way down to Point Lonsdale where my great aunt Josephine ran the Terminus guest house.

By the time I turned 14 my parents had decided to separate which became a defining turning point in my life. It was 1976 and probably a godsend really. I finished school in Kew, travelled overseas on and off from the age of 16 and by the time I was 21 was living and studying in Italy. I learned to speak Italian which I feel is one of my greatest achievements. I completely fell in love with the European way of life and some of its inhabitants. Whilst overseas and travelling alone I was very fortunate in all of the opportunities that arose and often wondered when my luck was going to run out

It eventually did..... when I lost two of my brothers three months apart to suicide.

Another defining time in my life where I was made to understand the fragility of life and how every relationship we have will one day reach its end and how important it is to cherish every blessed moment with our loved ones for we cannot foresee the time they depart. And in that finite space I realised how important it is to treat everyone with respect and kindness as we all at different times in our lives experience our own challenges and the only way through is with the help and support of their loved ones and the community at large.

No one should ever have to feel like they're on their own. This was a major turning point for me and made me understand never to think you know what's going on inside someone's mind. It might just take the smallest gesture or a pleasant interaction that makes all the difference to someone's life and restores their faith in humanity.

At 26 I was living in the Middle East and married to an Egyptian in Cairo. I lived in Qasr El Nile Street in a beautiful apartment adjoining my parents-in-law. My father-in-law was the most famous actor in all of the Middle East and there I began a new way of life which was exotic, privileged and felt like a page out of a Nagib Mafouz novel. I returned to Australia to give birth to my son Karim and unfortunately the marriage did not last.

I spent the next 7 years as a single mother bringing up my little boy and building a successful business. I continued to travel with my child overseas and promised myself I would be an advocate for single mothers and people less advantaged than myself. They were difficult years on my own but I always believed everything would be ok and it was important to make my own happiness and of course when I least expected it, I met my husband Jamie who lived nearby to me. We had probably passed each other in the street over the years but as they say timing is everything. Jamie and I met at AUS Kick. He has two boys one year either side of Karim. An instant family, with three cheeky little boys 5, 6 and 7. That was 24 years ago now. The boys are now 29, 30 and 31 and are beautiful, successful young men. Karim is married to Genevieve and has a new little baby girl called Josephine.

Jamie and I relocated to Ruffy three years ago to enjoy a quieter more relaxed way of life (hahahaha) what a joke. We are more social up here than ever before and love our new friends and location.

My father is in a Nursing Home. My mother has relocated to Euroa also. My twin sister is in a Nursing Home. Rotary gives me an opportunity to enjoy new friendships, serve our community and make a difference in people's lives.

Thank you for making me feel so welcome.

REMINDER



May is Bowelscan month and kits are now available at the pharmacy for \$15 each.



Happy 70th Birthday to the Club's Vice President, Brian Bamford, your fellow Rotarians wish you well for your BIG birthday this week!

Birthdays

May

Anniversaries

Michael Stubbe	8	
Denis Nolan	10	
Bells		14
Kate Craven	25	
Michael Bell	26	
Jenny Tehan	31	
Brian Bamford	31	



Walking Group meets every Wednesday at 7:30 at the Rotary Barbecue, all members and friends are most welcome.

Farmers' Market June 15

- **June 6** AG Sally Matheson visit, David Barrat, new AG
- **June 11-** Combined Board Meeting
- **June 13-** TBA
- **June 20-** Bernie O'Dea Year in Review
- **June 29-** Changeover, Butter Factory, \$55 a head
- **June 30-** District Changeover
- **November 28-** AGM & election if needed
- **December 14-** Christmas Party
- **March 20-22, 2020** District Conference Albury