ROTARY CLUB OF PRESTON Inc.

CHARTER GRANTED 21-12-1960
PO Box 299, Preston, 3072

Meets Wednesday, 12.30pm
Darebin RSL Bell St, Preston

District Governor: David McPherson

Assistant Governor: Pat Solibakke

CLUB BULLETIN

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President
Kannan Subramanian
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Club Website
rotary-prestonaust.com

CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

Office Bearers

Vice President: PP Paul Smarrelli
Hon. Secretary: PP Geoff McIlvenna
0418 500 031
geoff.mcilvenna@bigpond.com

Treasurer: Frank Smith
Past President: Ruth McCall
President Elect: Peter Sambell

Directors Ruth McCall, Peter Peyton, Peter Gilbert, Max Walsh, Gary Mogford, Frank Smith, Peter Sambell, Geoff McIlvenna, Paul Smarrelli, Chris Shields

CHANGEOVER 23/24

HANDOVER: In the presence of her husband Peter and many members of her family, the retiring **President Ruth McCall** gave of herself in her 'outgoing' words.

She remarked that her reflection of the past year can be found in the annual Changeover Review edited by Ruth and distributed on the night. Remarkably, much of it is in the first person. This enabled her to handover from a different perspective.

Ruth spoke of her year's Rotary theme – IMAGINE. She anticipated the new theme – CREATE HOPE IN THE WORLD. In her previous employment, she was much exposed to persons in the extremes of human condition. However, she is now aware that, after her 4 years of Rotary life, her heart and mind have expanded. Giving is the key and much of this is illustrated in the annual Review.

Ruth named some special learning occasions and some members for their generous help in who they are and what they do. Reading the Review gives some meaning to that. Her conclusion was an energetic call to all members to stay engaged and be proactive, to support your directors, take initiatives and to give unfailing support to the incoming President Kannan.

Ruth surrounded by family and friends

ROTARY CLUB OF PRESTON PRESIDENT 2023/2024
KANNAN SUBRAMANIAN

Secretary Geoff McIlvenna declared **Kannan's** presidency and welcomed him and his partner **Vandana** with the symbols of office.

President Kannan began his short acceptance speech with his gratitude and profound sense of responsibility in taking on the Presidency. He reflected on the true essence of Rotary life – commitments such as resilience, empathy and a desire to make a difference. Naming some of the past presidents, Kannan saw his calling as profoundly asserting the Four Way Test: Is it the TRUTH? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned? Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Mentioning some programmes such as the Rotary Youth Exchange and the Rotary Driver Awareness Programme, Kannan expressed his reliance on the vision and action of the Club committees. He sees that, with forward planning and dedicated service, Rotary can **CREATE HOPE IN THE WORLD**.

PRESENTATIONS

Presenter Max Walsh gave a substantial coverage of the awardees' energetic services.

Two Paul Harris Fellows - **Tim Weir** and **Elaine Price**, were presented with Sapphires for their ongoing Rotary efforts and their significant contributions to Rotary Foundation.

Peter McCall and Vandana Subramanian

Then all were introduced to **Shanice Vilone** and **Peter Sambell** who received Paul Harris Fellowship awards.

Both Shanice and Peter have a history of giving through a long and extensive list of community service activities.

Both are widely respected by Club members and the community at large.

Peter Sambell and Shanice Vilone

ROTARY FOUNDATION Yea Rotarian and District Chair of R.F**. David Harrison** attended the Changeover and addressed those present on the large roll of R.F. David opened his words with an acknowledgement of the presence of Margaret Smith with whom he has worked from many years past.

Peter and Barbara

David thanked those present who have made R.F. their charity of choice in the finance department. He remarked that 34% of annual income comes from clubs and 66% from individuals.

With two badges David singled out **Barbara** and **Peter Gilbert** for their ongoing support which now ranks them in Major Donor Level 2.

EMCEE: As is now the custom at these large events, **David Sullivan** was the Master of Ceremonies. David kept all in order. he kept spirits high and he communicated clearly. Big occasions need big voices and David is always the call. *"David, know that you listened to and are much appreciated"*.

Gerry Lamers with Ruth

VALE

David De La Coeur acknowledged the passing of

Peter Lamers 13/3/2023

FAMILY OF ROTARY

Vandana Subramanian 11/7

Gerry and Frank Smith 9/7

CLUB NEWS

<u>THE NEXT BUNNINGS BARBIE</u> will be Saturday July 8 at their new store. It's now their second biggest store after Hoppers Crossing and Geoff hopes to run the barbies every 2nd week. 4 now are required instead of the previous 5; one of which will be the cashier. Geoff thanks all for their work over the past year when the budget of $8,000 was exceeded by a massive $21,000.

MEMBERS VOTE ON AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS:

5. Family Membership:

An active member can nominate a spouse, child or grandchild as a Family Member. Family members are recorded with RI as Honorary members and, as such, they are not required to pay RI dues, district dues or the district insurance levy. This results in a substantial saving for each family member.

***CLUB LEVY**: At the last Board meeting the Board approved the amount of Annual Club Levy for the 2023 / 2024 Rotary year. The amount payable is the same as the year just finished, that is:- Active members - $300.00 Family & Clergy 10% of $300.00 i.e. $30.00. If you have any query about the above, please give me a call* – **Frank Smith**

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE: At the Changeover, members were fortunate to meet up with student **Barby Wines** and her parents. While home-staying in a foreign country, students learn a new language, discover another culture, and truly become global citizens. Exchanges for short term students aged 15-19 for up to three months. Darby will leave shortly for a short stay visit to Desenzano del Garda, a small North Italian town on Lake Garda.

NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia in the first week of July each year to celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about First Nations cultures and histories and participate in celebrations of the oldest, continuous living cultures on earth. The theme of NAIDOC Week this year is "*For Our Elders".*

Club Website addresses:

Info to **Ruth McCall**
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The account details for the Rotary Club of Preston:
Bendigo Bank BSB 633 000, A/c 154 200 034
For member donations - Australian Rotary Foundation Trust
Bendigo Bank BSB 332 084, A/c 551 038 195