



Rotary Club of Gawler Light

District 9500 | Chartered 10 July 1996

Bulletin Edition #1193(cv2): 31 March 2020

President: Bron Anderson | Secretary: David Cockshell | District Governor: Jane Owens | RI President: Mark Maloney

Important Dates

President's Message: Bron Anderson

Welcome to another week of adjusting to a new normal! I'll start this off by first sending birthday greetings to **Darryl** for Sunday the 5th and **David P** also gains another year of wisdom on the 9th.

Social distancing is the way of life now. While we can't be together in person, technology does provide us the opportunity to connect.

This week, **District 9500**, hosted a virtual meeting via Zoom, encouraging clubs to maintain the connection and make use of technology. A recording of this is here: <https://rotaryclub.org.au/econnections-with-dg-jane/>

Technology gives us an opportunity to reinvent what Rotary looks like and it is something we'll certainly be exploring in the coming days. If you are interested in being a part of organising this, please contact me.

There will be another **Zoom eConnection** with the District on *Monday 6 April at 6.30pm* – click here to join: <https://zoom.us/j/363885820>. The **Whyalla Conference** would have been held this weekend, but it wasn't to be. The sessions are being produced as a virtual conference and they will be presented online.

The **District 9510 Assembly** previously scheduled for 3 May 2020 has been postponed. A save the date has been issued for the **District Governor Changeover & 9510 Launch** – Sunday 5 July at Fogolar Furlan, Felixstow for lunch. Further information on that will be provided in due course.

It's great to see that the **Town of Gawler** has announced its **Community Connect Program** in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Further information is available via their website: <https://www.gawler.sa.gov.au/your-council/covid-19/community-connect-program>.

Right now, we have uncertainty – it's even more important that we be there for each other. Your mental wellbeing is a priority and please don't be afraid to reach out and ask for help. Likewise though, if someone you know is struggling to ask for help, please think about touching base with them too – sometimes a phone call can make all the difference.

The Rotary Club of Gawler Light aims to provide enjoyment and foster fellowship between Rotarians and others through projects to improve

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Blasts From the Past:

Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary:

Richard Tucker

Talking to Greg the other day I found that by coincidence we had both recently visited Thompson Beach near Dublin; Greg and Sue to walk along some of SA's Sapphire Coast and myself doing a spot of bird watching with other members of FAIBS (Friends of the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary).

Many will not know that quite recently 60km of coastline along the Gulf of St. Vincent stretching from St. Kilda to Port Parham was declared an international bird sanctuary to protect both resident and migratory shorebirds. It's a strategically important feeding ground on the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF) for up to 27,000 migratory shorebirds which about this time of year fly up to 9,000km to their Arctic breeding grounds in the Northern Hemisphere summer. Much of the sanctuary is under National Park management with further funding, monitoring and resources from Natural Resources Management Board and Birdlife Australia. It's a fragile environment subject to human disturbance, predation from feral animals and many other influences. Several species of shorebirds have been classed as "critically endangered".

The migratory shorebirds have been fattening up on our mudflats and wetlands since arriving 6 months ago and will soon depart on their northward journey. Plovers, Curlews, Sandpipers and many more are best seen near high water when they are closest to the shore as they move out over the mudflats to feed as the tide recedes. Resident species of plovers, waders, ducks, black swans, terns, oystercatchers and others are also to be seen.

FAIBS have some great scopes with high magnification lenses for better viewing and it's great to have some experts on their outings who can assist with identification. Along with "twitching" other activities have included native revegetation and rubbish removal in the dunes. There are many related websites for further information."



1st tractor pull
November
2007



Carport removal Todd
Street November 2013



Exchange
students
Marine Sigot and
Tiia Seeve 2007



Martin Winkworth's induction July 2012

Rotary's Donations in Kind and the Coronavirus: David Cockshell

Rotary Australia's Donation in Kind (DIK) program in South Australia is working with SA Health with preparations for the coronavirus pandemic. Over the past two months, DIK has taken delivery of 140 beds from the old Calvary Wakefield and Rehabilitation Hospitals as they move to the new Calvary Adelaide Hospital. SA Health is opening parts of the Calvary Rehabilitation Hospital (now ECH College Grove facility) at Walkerville, the old Calvary Wakefield Hospital and, later the Repatriation Hospital in Edwardstown as specific facilities to handle potential mild-case coronavirus patients and to support non coronavirus sub-acute patients, what is missing in these two hospitals is beds! DIK has consequently been asked by SA Health for the Calvary beds for this, as most of the beds are still at the DIK warehouse facility at Edinburgh Parks. The setting up of these facilities in these hospitals frees up beds in other State hospitals, with serious cases still to be handled by the major State hospitals.



So far, 108 beds and mattresses have been moved to the old Calvary Rehabilitation Hospital. In addition to the beds, SA Health are also looking at a range of other equipment for the pandemic contingency that DIK can supply to be transported immediately. These include ventilators, monitors, drip stands, bedside cabinets, trolleys and over-way tables.



DIK gets a lot of donated goods, mainly medical and schooling, the bulk of which is destined for needy communities throughout the world. The program likes to be able to assist those in need locally, so it is especially pleasing for this Rotary program to be able to provide a substantial contribution to the local community in this time of unprecedented community health need.

Loading Calvary Hospital beds at DIK warehouse, destined for coronavirus isolation hospitals.

Biomedical equipment at Donations in Kind warehouse earmarked for coronavirus facilities



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Renee's Second Report (just before returning to Australia)

This last month has been full of ups and downs. I started on a high, my host family took me on a holiday to France. I saw thick snow and wandered around French villages. While we were in France, it was good weather, so we took a daytrip to Switzerland. That concept continues to blow my mind, the fact that everything so close and you can be in a completely different country in a matter of hours! We got time to go to France because there is an annual celebration that goes for a week called 'faschingsferien'. It is a carnival, German style a time to break the rules, poke fun at those who make them and then to make your own new rules. The tradition can be traced to medieval times where many countries existed under harsh rules. The witches cause most of the trouble though! I attended a SMALL street part in a neighbouring village. There, the witches yanked hair ties out of people's hair, picked up and carried them down the street, tickled, poked sticks, and much more. They were quite harsh, fortunately I didn't get picked on! However, my host sister got her hair tie pulled out. It got added to the



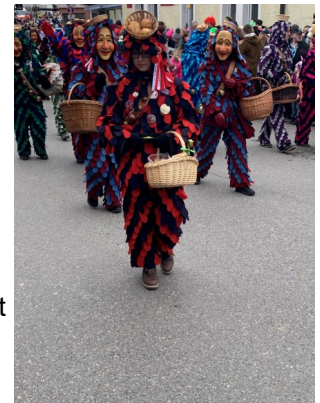
witch's collection on her broomstick, never to be seen again. I forgot to mention that they all wear scary wooden masks! While some witches, poked mean fun others did acrobatic performances. It's hard to explain but one group somehow managed to lift one of their own up to a window on a second story house with their broomsticks! There, the witch on the windowsill did a little dance and jumped off where they were caught by their peers. Unfortunately, I couldn't get my phone out quick enough to get photo's. It really had to be seen to be believed.

The first day back at school after our week off I dislocated my knee, therefore I learnt how to make an insurance claim and now know the differences between Australia and Germany's hospitals. The doctor gave me the rest of the week off school as I was in a big brace that couldn't bend at the knee and everything else that comes with it. My host sister was very helpful with the injections as a precaution for thrombosis!!

The following week, I went back to school, on the Wednesday, I went and tried out at the band orchestra. It was good and I had every intention of attending again. But then on Thursday, the principal came and got me from class and said I had to go home because I had to be in quarantine because it hadn't been two weeks since my trip to France. I was due to start back at school again last Monday, however in the last week the coronavirus has severely worsened. So, the government closed all schools in Baden Württemberg (that includes me). That means, we have no school for at least 5 weeks. Now there is talk we could be put into complete lockdown, so I won't even be able to exercise at the neighbouring Forrester. Also because of the coronavirus, I am continuing to have meetings with Australia because some states want to pull out their rotary students and bring them home. I don't want to go home yet; my time here has barely begun. All the exchange students from district 9500 and 9520 are continuing to support each other with our very similar circumstances. Here's hoping for the best!

Thankyou,

Renee Chamberlain



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