



# THE TIDE

Rotary  
Club of Frankston



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**Subject: FROM WILBUR TO WALTER?**

**Speaker: PP KEITH KIMPTON**

**Chair: PP GEOFF PRITCHARD**



**ZOOM Login time  
7pm to 7.10pm**

For ZOOM, when available, at normal meetings the link is:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/703546388>

## The President's Report



### Last weeks' presentation

A great night for my first meeting as President, with PP Geoff Pritchard in fine form as he entertained us with his and Gail's travels to Cape York and beyond.

#### Rotary Club of Frankston

President: David Cross  
Secretary: Grant Wishnowsky  
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<https://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubofFrankston>

Meeting Apologies and  
guest notifications to David  
Cross by noon on Monday  
by email to  
[attendancercf@gmail.com](mailto:attendancercf@gmail.com)

#### The TIDE

Editor: Bob Tanner  
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for the TIDE must be received by 7pm  
Monday.

**Meeting Venue: Mt Eliza Bowling  
Club**

**90 Canadian Bay Rd, Mt Eliza  
Phone (03) 9787 3047**

Geoff and Gail undertook this trip in June and July 2022 after being delayed due to “you know what”. During their travels they covered 11,000kms, ditching their caravan and tenting it for the last bit to the tip. Some of the extra mileage (kilometrage?) was due to diversions caused by flooding in northern NSW, but back on track to visit Carnarvon National Park as they headed ever northwards.

Geoff spoke of their time in Cooktown and the fantastic museum there – I can vouch for this, as my first trip to Cooktown in 1980 and again in 1991 (Anita’s and my honeymoon) resulted in visits to the museum, which were outstanding back then. Geoff tried to tell us that Captain James Cook sailed the Endeavour into the estuary there in 1970 but we all knew otherwise!

The informative slideshow and lively description painted a great picture as Geoff and Gail headed north to the tip via Weipa and a trip across to Thursday Island before commencing the southwards journey, collecting their caravan along the way. It’s always a great pleasure to listen to one of our members speak of their experiences or travels, so thank you Geoff.

### **Welfare report**

Sadly, our Welfare Officer wasn’t at the meeting as her brother Michael had only just passed away. Our love and thoughts are with you and your family, Marie. PP Keith was able to report that John Latham is now resting at home but may be a little while off before returning to Rotary. Similarly, Campbell Bolwell is resting at home with several cracked ribs, which are causing considerable pain. PP Neil informed us that Chris van der Laan is in hospital. We all wish these gentlemen speedy recoveries.

### **Sergeant’s session**

Our new Sergeant Chris Sayers got his year off to a fine start with a few interesting tales resulting in fines. Please consider dobbing yourself (or others) into Chris, as it’s always entertaining to hear about the errors of their ways as our Rotarians live life outside (and within) Rotary.

### **Golf Day update**

As we approach the start of a new financial year, Bob Seiffert and the Golf Day Committee have been working tirelessly towards our Charity Golf Day in October. Considerable work has already been undertaken to secure sponsors and the response to date has been very heartening. However, members are respectfully asked to assist the Golf Day Committee by identifying potential sponsors.

So, please let Nellie or Bob S know if there is someone you would like them to pursue as a sponsor.

Also, it’s important that everyone starts talking up our Golf Day to your family, friends and business connections. To assist in this regard, Bob will shortly arrange to have circulated to all members promotional flyers that we are using to pursue sponsors and players. Hard copies of the flyers can be obtained from Max Lane, John Wright, or Gerry Harrison.

## Rotary Zone 8 Regionalisation Pilot Update

At the recent 2023 Rotary International Convention in Melbourne, members of the Zone 8 Regionalisation Pilot Steering Group presented a breakout session to attendees interested in finding out more about the pilot.

This breakout session was an opportunity for people to get a greater understanding of the pilot and further understand what the next steps will be. You can read the presentation from the breakout session [here](#) and a video about the breakout session can be viewed [here](#).

The website has been updated to include a list of [all the teams](#) working on the pilot. For more regular updates or to have your say visit [creatingtomorrowrotary.org](http://creatingtomorrowrotary.org), which we are updating regularly. You can email us directly at [rotaryregionalpilot@gmail.com](mailto:rotaryregionalpilot@gmail.com).

### What's next?

Finally, this week we'll have another member present to us – PP Keith Kimpton will enlighten us about “From Wilbur to Walter?”. I'm intrigued so will make sure I'm there, plus we shall induct a new member into our club – Kate Cross. If you are able, please attend this meeting to welcome Kate into our Rotary family.

*David Cross*

**President 2023-24**

### **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

#### **Rotary Meeting Attendance**

A reminder that you need to register your attendance or apology (as the case may be) **by midday on the Monday** before our meetings. Recently we've had more instances where members have registered later on Monday afternoon (or even Tuesday) – but that's **too late**.

I try to log in to our [attendancercf@gmail.com](mailto:attendancercf@gmail.com) account soon after midday to prepare the attendance list so if you haven't contacted me by then, your apology (or attendance request) will not be noted. I only access this account once a week, early each Monday afternoon. We need to cover our catering costs so you will be invoiced if you don't let us know you won't be attending. If circumstances arise where you are a late apology (after midday on Monday), try contacting our members using our **Members RCF WhatsApp** to find someone who may want to take your place.

We really need to make this system work as it's our only option – please try to do the right thing.

### **FACEBOOK**

**For those that are not on Facebook or are having trouble viewing our Club page or our Seaford Farmers Market page this is how!**

**In your Browser address bar type in:**

[www.facebook.com/RotaryClubOfFrankston](http://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubOfFrankston) or  
[www.facebook.com/SeafordFarmersMarket](http://www.facebook.com/SeafordFarmersMarket)

The Club website is [www.rotaryfrankston.org.au](http://www.rotaryfrankston.org.au)

## JUNE IS ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS MONTH



## ANNIVERSARIES

**Members: Birthdays:** Nellie Tinga (30/6).

**Partners Birthdays:** Deb Parker (6/7).

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Grahame and Jill Gordon (1/7).

**Induction Anniversary:** Nil.

## ATTENDANCE

**Present:** Trish Anderson, Neil Black, Graham Bryans, Suzanne Caldwell, David Cross, Jenny Cuddihy, Peter Dusting, Campbell Johns, Keith Kimpton, Max Lane, Peter MacKenzie, Greg Morgan, Audrey Mutton, Richard Parker, Geoff Pritchard, Chris Sayers, Terry Schneider, Lee Anne Smith, Robin Stewart, Bob Tanner, Grant Wishnowsky, John Wright.

**Partners:** Anita Cross, Gail Pritchard, Jenny Stewart,.

**Guests:** Kate Cross.

**Apologies:** Kay Barrow, Campbell Bolwell, Ken Broadbent, Angela Cecil, Peter Cecil, Chris Crewther, Alan Daniel, Nina DeSilva, Ann Enno, Norm Farmer, Wayne Gillan, Grahame Gordon, Marie Hardwick, Gerry Harrison, Graham Henderson, Brian Ivey, Terry Jones, John Latham, David Lee, Lyn Leigh, Quinn McCormack, Lou Monteret, Idris Olatunji, Shane O'Neill, Luke Provis, Bill Redfern, Ken Rowe, Bob Seiffert, Ken Stallard, Nellie Tinga, Barry Thomas, Dennis Viner, Chris Van Der Laan, Greg Waterland,

**Zoom:** Alan Daniel, Wayne and Sue Gillan, Terry and Barb Jones, Barry Thomas and Greg Waterland.

## ROTARY DISTRICT 9820 CHANGEOVER DINNER

Trish and I attended the last District 9820 changeover on Saturday night. At the end of the next Rotary year, we will, of course, become District 9815.

It was a great night celebrating the achievements of the District under the leadership of DG Paul Mee and welcoming DGE Linda Humphries as our new District Governor.

DG Linda is only the fourth female Governor in this District, and she celebrated that fact by being inducted by PDG 9810 Juliet Riseley, who has been a mentor and friend to Linda. DG Linda also recognised the past female DG's, Janet McCahon, Lynne Westland and Janne Speirs by inviting them on stage for the induction. PDG 9810 Alma Reynolds, who has now moved into District 9820, was the MC for the evening.

A special highlight of the evening was the performance from DGE 9800, Michael Lapina, an Opera singer. An amazing voice! Michael is a Tenor who began his professional career in 1988, performing in musicals and touring extensively in Australia and Asia. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Wyndham.



## FORT GREY WILD DESERTS



We have had to amend the dates booked to return to Fort Grey.

The new dates are **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> of August 2023**. These are all working days so we may have to work out a day off on say Wednesday.

So, arrive on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> ready to start work on Monday.

The changes are a result of the new staff accommodation being installed during the week we were intending to go as the installers require the accommodation.

- We will be doing the annual trapping of bilbies/bandicoots/mulgaras etc. and
  - establishing a garden/fence/landscaping associated with the new staff accommodation.
  - Installing separation discs into traps
  - Constructing more transportation boxes
- 
- **Note:** Those attending will need to have a Working With Children Card and also had a Form 3 check completed.

I will circulate a new attendance sheet.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Robin Stewart

0419383160

[robstewart1952@outlook.com](mailto:robstewart1952@outlook.com)



# **AN INTERESTING ARTICLE ABOUT POLIO AT THE HEIGHT OF SEGREGATION, A GROUP OF BLACK DOCTORS AND SCIENTISTS FOCUSED ON STOPPING POLIO.**

**By Kate Silver**

Something was wrong with Myron Thompson. In 1949, as polio was sweeping the American South, the tiny toddler — just 2 years old — spiked a high fever and struggled to move. Terrified, his mother rushed him to the nearby hospital in Tuskegee, Alabama — a magnificent, red-brick building where a portico with four columns welcomed patients like a grand hotel. There, doctors and nurses who specialized in treating children with polio welcomed the child with open arms and began helping him immediately.

It wasn't until years later that Thompson realized how fortunate he was to receive such top-notch care as a Black child with the disease. The facility where he was treated — the Infantile Paralysis Center at John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital, located on the campus of a Black college — was the only place in the United States built specifically to treat Black children with polio. Elsewhere in the Jim Crow South, hospitals would regularly turn Black patients away, or, if they did admit them, they might relegate them to separate quarters or give them subpar care. "It wasn't just that I was treated," says Thompson, his voice soft and measured, his eyes serious behind his wire-rim glasses. "I was treated with dignity."

The Tuskegee Institute, as the university was then called, was a special place — not only because children received high-quality treatment at its hospital like Thompson, but because on that same campus Black scientists were conducting research that would play a critical role in the success of the first polio vaccine and help eliminate the deadly disease in the United States.

That story, in the shadow of a deeply segregated country, is one that's not gotten its due. In Alabama, Rotary District 6880 is working to change that.

For Sam Adams, it started with a swimming pool.

It was 2017, and as the governor-nominee for District 6880, he'd been visiting Rotary clubs in the southern half of Alabama to meet members and raise money for The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund. At a greasy spoon off the highway in Tuskegee, Rotary members told Adams two things that lit a fire in him: first, that Rotary founder Paul Harris traveled to Tuskegee several times in the 1940s, spending the winter there. And second, there was a rumor that the Civilian Conservation Corps built an indoor swimming pool in town for people with polio under the guidance of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who was stricken with the disease in his 30s.

"I said, 'What? Are you kidding me?'" recalls Adams, a member of the Rotary Club of Montgomery. "This was really unique, because it had something to do with polio."

Adams is a history lover. But until that day, his familiarity with Tuskegee was mostly limited to happenings that the town and the institute are most famous for: the Tuskegee Airmen, the military's first all-Black flying unit, fighting for the country in World War II at a time when Black people were not allowed in many colleges, public pools, or libraries. He knew about the U.S. Public Health Service's Tuskegee syphilis study, which became the poster child for human rights abuses after researchers and doctors lied to hundreds of Black men, most of whom were poor and illiterate, and let them suffer without treatment for syphilis from 1932 to 1972.

His interest piqued, Adams began doing research to try to track down the site of the pool. In time, he enlisted the help of Bruce McNeal, who had become the district governor-nominee after Adams served as district governor. McNeal searched and searched but didn't have much luck — that is, until he connected with Dana Chandler, the archivist and an associate professor of history at Tuskegee University.

That, recalls Adams, is when the floodgates opened. "Bruce called me up and said, 'Sam, I think I found what you were looking for, but it's not a swimming pool. It's a whole massive effort to help people with polio and prevent polio,'" Adams says.

Chandler is a megaphone for all that Tuskegee University has accomplished. He's been the university archivist since 2007 and, with Edith Powell, co-authored the book *To Raise Up the Man Farthest Down: Tuskegee University's Advancements in Human Health, 1881-1987*. He regaled McNeal with the school's illustrious past. Booker T. Washington, born into slavery, founded the institute at Tuskegee in 1881, and it achieved university status in 1985. George Washington Carver was an instructor and researcher, teaching students and farmers about new agricultural techniques. And the school is the backdrop for a remarkable array of "firsts." Those include building the first hospital for African Americans in Alabama (the John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital) and organizing National Negro Health Week and the National Negro Business League. In

the first half of the 20th century, the Tuskegee Institute also played a large part in treating — and preventing — polio.

In the 1930s, Black families had few options if a child got polio. Not only was it difficult to find care — even Roosevelt's Georgia Warm Springs Foundation banned Black people from the waters — but the consensus in the medical establishment at the time was that African Americans were much less susceptible to polio. The problem was that a lot of white doctors felt that Black people didn't get polio, says Chandler. In reality, doctors working at Tuskegee's John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital had been treating Black children with polio for years and had developed a stellar reputation nationally for their public health work. In 1939, in response to pressure from Black activists to end medical racism and offer treatment options to Black families, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis gave out its largest grant to date to establish the Infantile Paralysis Center at the hospital. Roosevelt and his former law partner, Basil O'Connor, had recently established the foundation, which would become the [March of Dimes](#). "Paralysis Center Set Up for Negroes," read *The New York Times* headline on 22 May 1939.

The article quotes O'Connor: "The Tuskegee polio center will do much more than provide the most modern treatment for Negro infantile paralysis victims. It will train Negro doctors and surgeons for orthopedic work," he said. "It will train Negroes as orthopedic nurses. It will train Negroes as physiotherapists. Tuskegee will disseminate educational information to all Negro doctors with respect to early diagnosis and the proper care and aftertreatment of infantile paralysis. Tuskegee will constitute an important sector in the foundation's fighting front in combating the terrible crippling effects of infantile paralysis."

When the center opened in 1941, it was staffed by Black health care professionals to serve Black families. And it was the only place you could go to in the nation if you were Black that exclusively provided polio treatment.

When Thompson, who is 76, remembers his time at the Infantile Paralysis Center, he still feels a sense of awe. Everything about the place made him feel important, from the building's architecture to the people who worked there. It was where he learned to use a wheelchair and then leg braces and then began to walk, unsupported. The Infantile Paralysis Center would, to him, remain a special place, where nurses hugged and comforted him, and doctors treated him with love and respect.

One doctor who sticks out is John Chenault, who was, according to *The New York Times*, one of two Black orthopedists in the country in 1939; he was head of orthopedics at John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital and became the first director of the Infantile Paralysis Center. "I remember him as kind and gentle," he says. "He would not speak down to me. He would stoop down to me. To him, no one was more important than the child." If health care experiences can be considered idyllic, Thompson's was. And so was his childhood. He describes Tuskegee in the 1940s, '50s, and '60s as a kind of island in a society of total segregation. It had a vibrant middle class Black community. Most people who worked there were affiliated with the institute and its hospital or the local Veterans Administration Hospital. "The society in which I grew up was totally Black," he says. It wasn't until 1965, when he went to Yale University that he was around white people for the first time. For Thompson, learning how other Black people were treated in Alabama and across the country came as a shock. Growing up, he recalls visiting family members in other towns and realizing how fortunate he was. "These Black Alabamians did not walk through the front door of a stately building like Tuskegee," he says. "They walked most often through the basement. And that's assuming the hospital would take them."

In the 1950s, polio was spreading around the globe and paralyzing or killing more than 500,000 people a year, according to the [World Health Organization](#). Scientists were hard at work trying to develop a vaccine. One of those scientists was Jonas Salk, toiling in the Virus Research Laboratory at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, more than 600 miles northeast of Tuskegee. With the support of the National Institute for Infantile Paralysis, Salk developed a polio vaccine using inactivated poliovirus. He first injected the vaccine into monkeys, and when that proved promising, he began administering it to volunteers, including himself, his wife, and his children. The next step, in 1954, was to test the effectiveness of the vaccine on hundreds of thousands of school children known as Polio Pioneers, in what would become the largest field trial of its time. It was sponsored by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Vaccine testing required a near endless supply of human cells. That had only recently become possible because of a Black woman: Henrietta Lacks. In 1951, Lacks sought treatment for a painful condition at Johns Hopkins Hospital, one of the few hospitals where poor African Americans could get medical treatment. It turned out to be cervical cancer. A doctor took a cell sample from her large tumor without her knowledge or permission, which was customary at that time. Lacks died soon after, but those cells did not. They were unique in their ability to thrive and multiply, doubling within 24 hours, instead of dying as normal cells would do. Given the name HeLa cells, they would go on to become a critical component of medical research. (*The*



*Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot tells an extensive history of Lacks, her family, and the ethics of this now famous case.) And to test the effectiveness of Salk's polio vaccine, scientists would need an astronomical number of HeLa cells.

Meanwhile, other important puzzle pieces had been coming together at Tuskegee, Chandler and Powell note in their book. O'Connor, as the president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, had been named chair of Tuskegee's board of trustees in 1946. Across campus, Carver had scrimped and saved his earnings to fund the George Washington Carver Foundation, established in 1940 to train Black scientists in advanced agricultural research. Carver, who died in 1943, had a keen interest in helping polio patients, including using peanut oil he developed to massage their muscles.

When the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis needed a laboratory to produce massive amounts of HeLa cells to test Salk's vaccine, the stars aligned at the Tuskegee Institute. Writing in their book, Chandler and Powell address the question "Why Tuskegee?" "Why not turn to a white institution, previously experienced in laboratory research?" they ask. "And if not a white institution, why not Meharry Medical College or the prestigious Hampton [Institute]?"

Their conclusion: "Primarily, it was the intimate relationship between the NFIP [National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis] and Tuskegee that led to the important decision to construct and utilize a modern and up-to-date research facility for the propagation and mass distribution of the HeLa cells."

While Tuskegee researchers were well versed in cell biology, they needed to be trained in the process of developing and storing HeLa cells. Russell Brown, director of the Carver Foundation, was named principal investigator of the HeLa cell project, and James "Jimmy" Henderson, a researcher immersed in work with cell cultures, was named co-investigator.

In the dead of winter, January 1953, both traveled to Minneapolis to train at the University of Minnesota with researchers who conducted early work using HeLa cells. In a 2021 *Scientific American* article, Ainissa Ramirez writes of how the two arrived on a segregated campus and were given housing on the edge of the university. "Under the Minnesota stars, Brown and Henderson learned the basics of cell and tissue culture and designed their Tuskegee laboratory, preparing for the renovations that would begin when they returned," she writes. In a few weeks, they soaked up all they could and returned to Alabama, putting their new knowledge to work in February.

In April 1954, the Salk vaccine trials began in McLean, Virginia, and reached across the United States, Canada, and Finland. All told, 1.8 million children participated in the trial, some getting the vaccine, others getting a placebo, and still others serving as a control group.

To test the vaccine's effectiveness, researchers would mix poliovirus with a blood sample from a vaccinated child, then add the mix to a tube containing HeLa cells, which are very susceptible to poliovirus. If the vaccine worked, antibodies in the blood would attack the poliovirus, protecting the HeLa cells from infection. If it didn't, the surviving poliovirus would attack the HeLa cells, and scientists could see the resulting misshapen HeLa cells under a microscope.

A 1955 article in *The New York Times* details the enormity of that work at Tuskegee: 25 Black scientists and technicians participated in the testing, producing about 12,000 tubes of HeLa cells to ship to laboratories each week. "The cells are grown at Tuskegee in a long line of incubators, measured into culture tubes and shipped by air in special packaging that contains a substance that maintains a correct growth-temperature for at least ninety-six hours in the package," it reads.

The article details how 27 laboratories across the country were participating in the testing of 40,000 blood samples from children in the field trials. "About half of the laboratories are using HeLa cells prepared at the Carver foundation's installations on Tuskegee's campus," it notes.

On 12 April 1955, researchers announced the results: The Salk vaccine was deemed 80 percent to 90 percent effective at preventing paralytic polio. Not long after, another vaccine developed by physician and microbiologist Albert Sabin was approved as well. According to the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), polio cases in the U.S. dropped from nearly 58,000 in 1952 to about 5,500 in 1957, and by 1965 had fallen to 72. At Tuskegee, the Infantile Paralysis Center closed its doors in 1975, no longer needed.

**Today, wild poliovirus has been eradicated in all countries but two: Pakistan and Afghanistan.**

Tuskegee's involvement in these efforts is well documented, and yet the contribution is relatively unknown, even to Alabama residents. So as McNeal and Adams learned of these accomplishments, it became clear to them that recognition of the hidden heroes was long overdue. "We decided as Rotarians and as a Rotary district we wanted to bring to life some of the history there," says McNeal.

In 2019, McNeal made his first trip to Tuskegee University, where Chandler introduced him to the archives.

"We found a picture of one of the famous physicians on campus, and a nurse that would take care of some of

the polio victims, and a polio victim," says McNeal. "The picture itself told the story of the love and the treatment that happened on campus."

In August 2022, a bronze statue depicting medical staff and a polio patient was unveiled in front of the former Infantile Paralysis Center, now the Legacy Museum. Photography by Nicole Craine.

That's when the idea struck: What if they were to use that photo to fashion a statue in front of the old Infantile Paralysis Center? After getting approval from the university's trustees, Rotary District 6880 started raising funds to pay for the monument. Adams enlisted the help of his friend Graham Champion, a lobbyist in Montgomery and past president of the Rotary Club of Montgomery.

The process was slow. Champion found that he needed to educate everyone he spoke with about Tuskegee's important work. "When folks think about research at Tuskegee, unfortunately what they think about is the Tuskegee syphilis project," he says. "They don't think about anything really this good. They don't think about the work that George Washington Carver did in terms of peanut research or the agricultural research that he did. They just look at Tuskegee as being a small Black college. And it really is a phenomenal institution."

Champion's tireless work paid off, and he helped raise \$177,000 — more than half of which came from appropriations from the Alabama Legislature, and the rest from individuals, foundations, Rotary clubs, District 6880 grants, and other entities.

In August 2022, the bronze statue depicting Dr. Chenault, nurse Warrena Turpin, and a polio patient named Gordon Stewart was unveiled in front of the old Infantile Paralysis Center, now the [Legacy Museum](#). In attendance were Thompson, family members of the scientists and researchers, leaders of the March of Dimes, faculty and staff of Tuskegee University, state officials, and the Rotary members behind the project. For McNeal, the unveiling was like the culmination of a 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle that took years to assemble (although he never did find that pool). Now, the monument will forever honor those men and women for their dedication and service. "It's a well-kept secret," says McNeal. "Putting the monument and the statue there, it really brings it to life."

The impact of those doctors and scientists lives on through people like Thompson, who is now a U.S. District Court judge. Over a video call in January, he sat in his Montgomery courtroom, a place so important to civil rights history it's referred to as America's Courtroom, and reflected on how polio changed his life. As a child, he couldn't run because of his affected leg. So he adapted. He rode his bike and became a fast swimmer. He found solace and joy in books and studying and music. He developed inner strength and resilience. And he felt a deep appreciation for everyone who helped him along the way. Today, he walks proudly, with only a slight limp.

The impact of the Tuskegee Institute's doctors and scientists lives on through people like Myron Thompson. "They did these phenomenal things," he says. Photography by Nicole Craine.

Thompson didn't know until recently about Tuskegee's role in the polio vaccine. But when he found out, he wasn't surprised; he knew some of those brilliant scientists personally, after all. What's more amazing to Thompson is that they were able to make this progress despite the period of history in which they were working. "They did these phenomenal things," he says. "It's just amazing, when you consider that they did it with this opposition."

After Thompson graduated from Yale Law School in 1972, he returned to Alabama. He became the first Black assistant attorney general for the state and then its first Black bar examiner. After President Jimmy Carter nominated him to be a District Court judge for the Middle District of Alabama at age 33, he became the state's second Black federal judge. He has presided over landmark cases, including the highly publicized 2002 case in which Thompson ordered Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Roy Moore to remove a Ten Commandments monument from his courtroom.

Thompson credits his health experiences for shaping his view of the law and how it should serve people. He says he doesn't subscribe to the philosophy that everyone can lift themselves up by their bootstraps, because that wasn't his experience. "We are all products of sacrifices, by our mothers, our dads, by our aunts, by our grandfathers, by our neighbors, by our whole community. They come together to make us who we are," he says. "I have stood on the shoulders of many other people, and I'm very thankful for it."

When Thompson first saw the polio recognition monument, which bears the familiar face of his childhood doctor, Dr. Chenault, he felt grateful that the important contributions from his hometown were finally being recognized.

He hopes that one day when people hear the word "Tuskegee" they won't just think of the negative history. They'll also know about the Black doctors and scientists who helped turn the tide on polio, even when the odds were against them.

**This story originally appeared in the June 2023 issue of [Rotary](#) magazine.**

[https://www.rotary.org/en/polios-hidden-figures-tuskegee?source=rotaryorg\\_frontpage\\_features#page-content](https://www.rotary.org/en/polios-hidden-figures-tuskegee?source=rotaryorg_frontpage_features#page-content)

**WEEKS AND WEEKENDS AWAY 2023/24**

**PHILLIP ISLAND – COWES WEEKEND**

**COWES – NRMA PHILLIP ISLAND BEACHFRONT HOLIDAY PARK**

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Nov – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> 2023**

**2024 WEEK AWAY – WARRNAMBOOL**

**Friday March 1<sup>st</sup> to Thursday March 7<sup>th</sup>**

**SURFSIDE HOLIDAY PARK**

**The latest Warrnambool Bookings**

We still have cabins and powered sites available.

Book even if you are unsure. Pay the deposit to Campbell – Social Account

BSB 633 000 Social A/C 162 387 666

Ken Rowe

**THE CLUB'S BANK ACCOUNTS EXPLAINED**

**The CLUB has Three Bank Accounts:**

**GENERAL:** Account No: 147 471 700 – All Club matters,

**SERVICE:** Account No: 147 486 880 – Anything with Donations & Fund Raising.

**SOCIAL:** Account No: 162 387 666 – All Club Social Functions

**ALL have the same:** BSB: 633 000

## SPEAKERS PROGRAMME – A LOOK FORWARD

Date	Venue	Speaker	Subject	Chair
6 Jul	MEBC/P, F & F	Vanessa Parsons	Bali Family Foundation	Trish Anderson
13 Jul	MEBC	Kate Cross	My Life Before Rotary	Kay Barrow
20 Jul	MEBC	Maurie Hutchison	The Port Phillip Excursion Steamers	Terry Jones
29 Jul	MEBC	TBA	TBA	TBA
P, F & F = Partners, Family and Friends Focus, but welcome to any meeting!				

## Other Activities

DATE	CONTACT - LOCATION	SUBJECT	CHAIR
	Keith Kimpton	Potluck Dinner	Keith Kimpton
Sat 30 Sep 2023	Bunnings Frankston	Bunnings BBQ	Graham Bryans
Sat 2 Dec 2023	Bunnings Frankston	Bunnings BBQ	Graham Bryans

## MEETING DUTY ROTA – 2022/23

Month	Welcome	Cashier	Clean-up at end of meeting	
June	Peter Dusting	Keith Kimpton	Keith Kimpton	Peter Cecil

If you are absent from a meeting where you are rostered on, please find a replacement, and inform PE David Cross.

## BAR ROSTER - UP TO 28<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023

22 June	Richard Parker & Lee Anne Smith
29 June	Sharon Sayers & Geoff Pritchard
6 July	Susan Schneider & Graham Bryans
13 July	Susan Schneider & Richard Parker
20 July	Susan Schneider & Bill Redfern
27 July	Graham Henderson & Ann Henderson
3 August	Bill Redfern & Geoff Pritchard
10 August	Richard Parker & Graham Bryans
17 August	Lee Ann Smith & Bill Redfern
24 August	Graham Henderson & Richard Parker

31 August	Graham Henderson & Ken Rowe
7 September	Graham Henderson & Ann Henderson
14 September	Graham Henderson & Graham Bryans
21 September	Graham Henderson & Geoff Pritchard
28 September	Graham Henderson & Lee Anne Smith

Notes :-

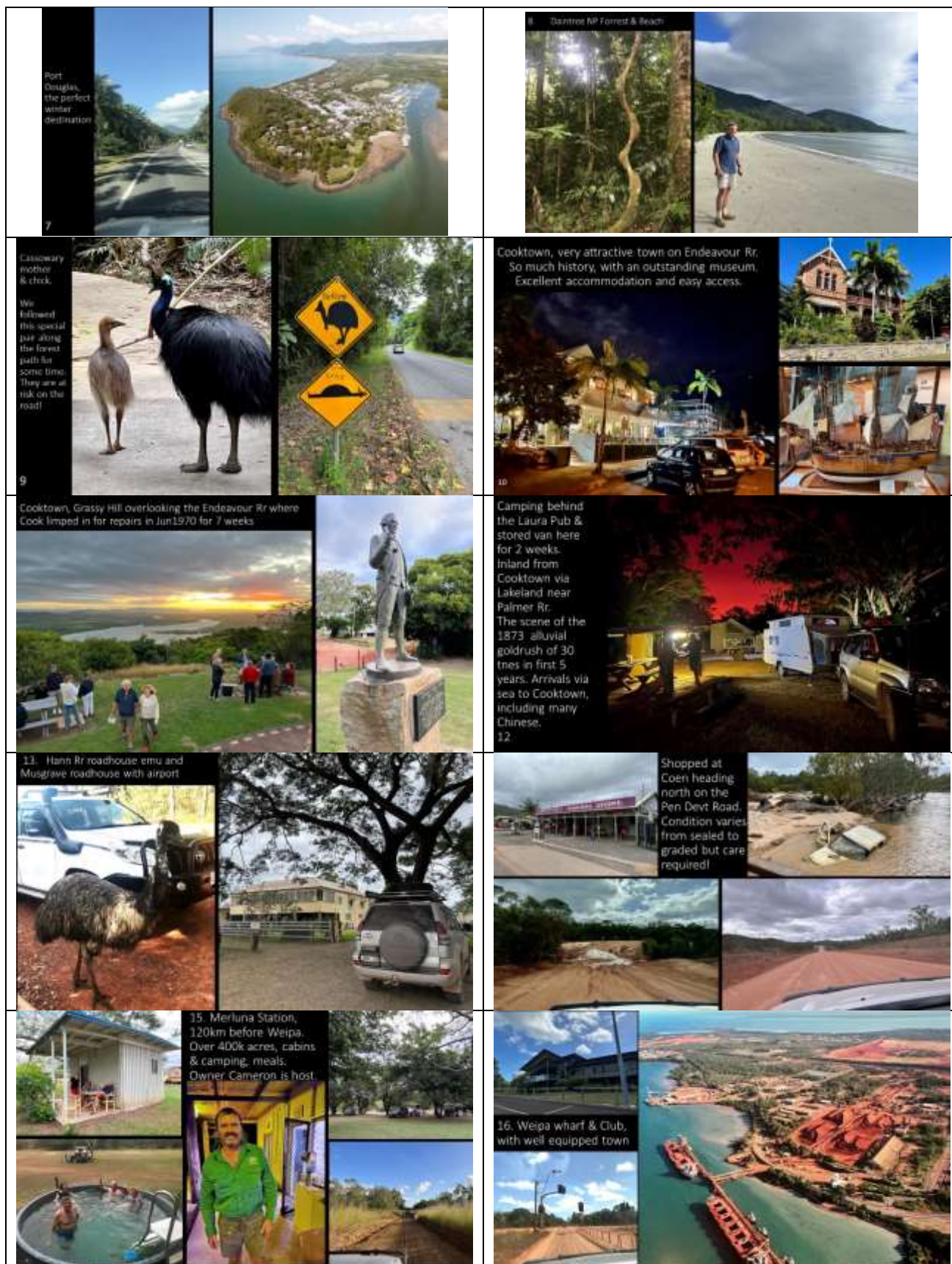
- (1) Where Graham Henderson is listed, this date may be substituted by Ann Henderson or another RSA Certificate holder.
- (2) Those rostered on Bar Duty must find a substitute if they are unavailable to do their duty on the nominated date.

## LAST WEEK

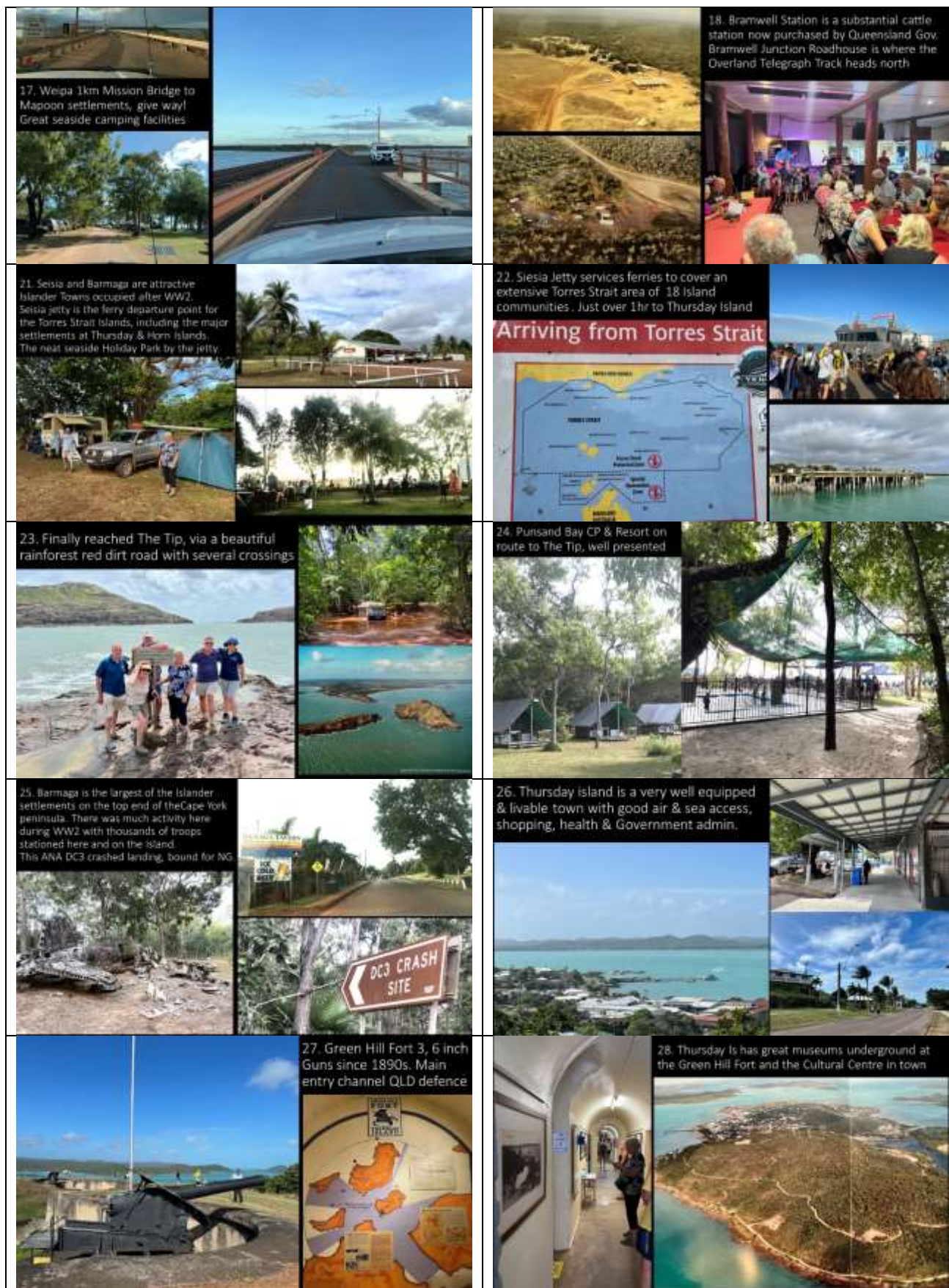
### Geoff and Gail Pritchard's to Cape York and Thursday Island















## ROTARY RELAY FOR SES

At our April 27 Club Assembly, we had a brief discussion about a potential Nepean Cluster event, a walk or run event. Keith Hopkins from Frankston North has provided the following as a proposal to our cluster (I've extracted relevant details here)

If we decide to participate, there'll be Frankston North, Peninsula 2.0 and Langwarrin (they are a small club and may be limited in how much they can contribute), with Frankston Sunrise declining to participate. If we decide to participate, we'll need two members who are prepared to be on the Cluster committee for this event.

Please read the below information carefully and we'll discuss and vote at Thursday's meeting.

### • EVENT –

- Walking (running for some) Relay for 24 hours from 12 noon Saturday to 12 noon Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at Ballam Park, Frankston. (Similar to Relay for Life for Cancer Research, ours will be to support the SES).

- First and last laps, everyone on the track. For 24 hours, the team must have at least one person on the track.
- 24 hours as this is quite novel and attractive to many. It should build a great deal of fun and friendship as well as having a great party atmosphere.
- Walking track and use centre of track for camping, or outside in paddocks. Use centre for events – music, staging, dancing, zumba, warm up, games, stalls etc. Teams can fundraise at their sites.

- **TEAMS**

- Our contacts
- Clubs
- NFP Organisations - SES
- Schools
- Public
- Teams (aim for 30, or more)
  - 8 – 15. If over 15 then two teams of 8 and more.
  - Min. of two adults per child < 18.
  - Register \$5 per person and nominate a team captain (TC) for contact. TC meetings to impart information.
  - Teams to do their own fundraising, before the event, to raise sponsorship (no targets).
  - Team members will get wristbands and those without will leave by 10 pm (Sat) and not allowed in until after 9 am next day (Sun).
- Public invited to attend, watch and walk if they want to. We can expect a donation but not a charge.
- Tee shirts? Any other merchandise – water bottles, caps, etc.

- **ENTERTAINMENT**

- Music – amateur groups, individuals etc. Song or instrumental. Local artistes. “Frankston’s Got Talent” competition. Free.
- Dancing displays, zumba, stretching exercises, warm up, etc.
- Competitions - Footy kicking, Jenga, golf putting, ping pong balls into cups, etc.

- **FOOD**

- BBQ and soft drinks – selves. Lunch (Sat) 11 am to 2 pm, dinner (Sat) 5 pm to 8 pm, and breakfast (Sun) 7 am to 10 am.

- Food and coffee trucks (% of takings, subject to a min fee).
- Water station (SEW)

- **OTHER**

- Promotion – school flyers, set up FB and other pages, Linked In, all social media and share it. Need an expert to help here.
- News media.
- Get a well-known local personality to be an ambassador.
- Rotary event insured
- Risk and Safety Assessment (RA) required. RA information for suppliers on site we use.
- Professional Security required on Friday and Saturday nights.
- Notify Council (work with them), police, Vic Roads, etc.
- Noise management.
- Toilet facilities – check enough.
- First Aid to be booked.
- Provide sunscreen (look for donations).
- Waste management plan (with Council policy)
- Finance – grant application and own funds.
- Collection buckets and tins.
- Set up an organising committee representing all Rotary Clubs, SES and the business, local and educational communities. Suggest we invite an Interactor and a Rotaractor.

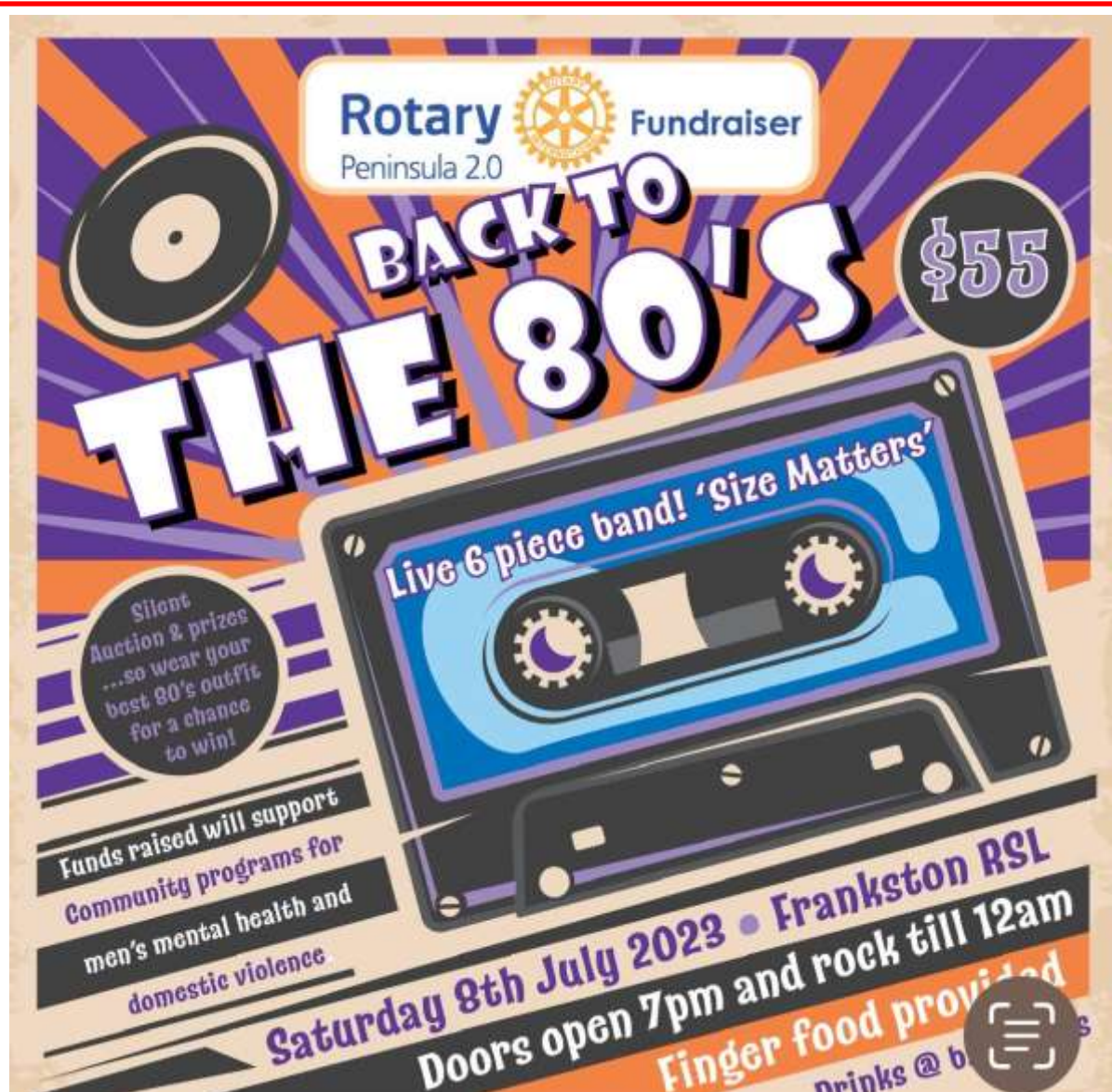
- **CONCLUSION**

- Certificates for all teams.
- Final accounting.
- Confirmation if to be repeated
- Presentation by an ambassador/well-known figure (foc) to SES.

*David Cross*

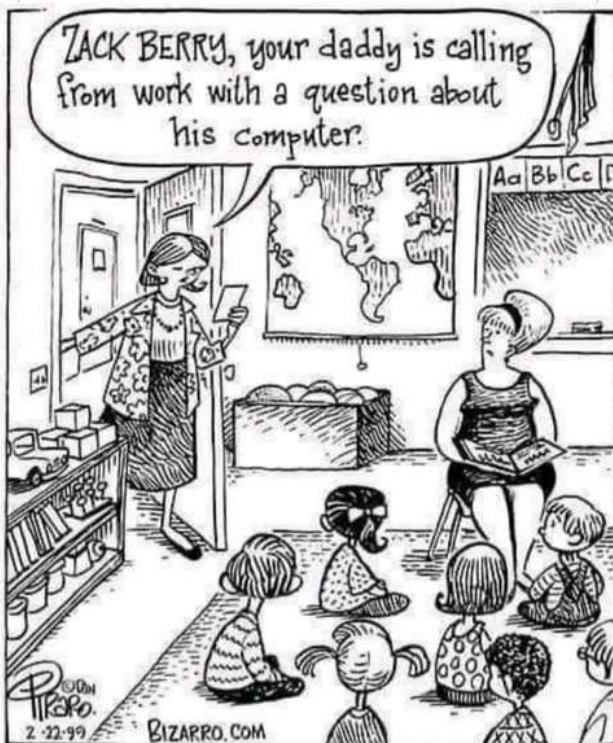
President 2023-24





**For tickets, book [here](#) or go to the Rotary Peninsula 2.0 website for more details.**





I said I was good at making decisions. I didn't say the decisions I made were good.

THANKS FOR TEACHING ME THE MEANING OF -PLETHORA- IT MEANS A LOT

A friend suggested putting horse manure on my strawberries... I'm never doing that again, I'm going back to whipped cream.

# ROTARY-WRANGLERS CHARITY GOLF DAY

Sunday 22 October 2023



A Fun Day for All  
Top Public Course  
Heaps of Prizes  
Ladies, Mixed and Men's  
teams welcome

Entry Fee  
\$75 per player includes  
BBQ breakfast  
& Catered Lunch



## 4 Ball Open Ambrose Competition

at Centenary Park Golf Course, Frankston

\$10,000 HOLE IN ONE Prize

Enquiries; email [rotarywranglersgolfday@gmail.com](mailto:rotarywranglersgolfday@gmail.com)

Sponsored by Frankston Wranglers Charity Trust, Frankston City Council,  
Centenary Park Golf Club and Clublinks

Major beneficiary of proceeds of the Golf Day to



to support and prevent homelessness