# **Box Hill Burwood Bulletin**

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**President Ray Riehm** 

District 9810

**DG Shia Smart** 





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# THE SUCCESS OF THE TEAM MED TRIP TO UGANDA



The Rotary Club of Box Hill Burwood supported the 2020 Monash University TeamMED Project in which a team of six selected Monash medical students visited the Lubanda Village in rural and south-western Uganda. The students worked in the Suubi Centre, a community health centre that plays a central role in the village.

The Team became part of the community-run clinic that operates all year round with a local team including a doctor, nurse, laboratory technician and administrative staff.

The students and the medical team ran a primary health care clinic where patients received a vital signs check, a medical history and examination

and treatment, where appropriate.

The funds provided by the Rotary Club of Box Hill Burwood allowed for the purchasing of invaluable medical supplies and equipment including antibiotics, corticosteroids, antimalarial treatment and anti-inflammatories.

This year, one of the critical pieces of equipment purchased was a microscope used in the diagnosis of malaria and other microscopic pathological phenomena. Medical diagnostic equipment was also able to be bought including testing supplies for infectious diseases including HIV, malaria, syphilis and h.pylori bacteria.

The high incidence of diseases in the Village highlights the severity of illness in rural Uganda. Notably, malaria was still widespread and commonly affected children. Patients this year went on to receive appropriate treatment and were encouraged to partake in follow-up at Suubi during their recovery. This indicates the value of TeamMED, in partnership with the Rotary Club of Box Hill Burwood, being able to provide affordable and accessible health care to these rural Ugandan communities.

The most significant asset to the sustainability of the project outcomes is that all initiatives are in partnership with local Ugandans who work to achieve the same goals all year round. The Suubi Centre is open to patients all year and, whilst the volunteers increase community engagement together with the volume of patients and treatment to be provided, the Centre has a dedicated team of staff who continue its work throughout the year.

The Rotary Club of Box Hill Burwood is proud to be part of the TeamMED Project for 2020.

## LAST MEETING

Sergeant Robert Leach commenced proceedings by proposing the Toasts to Rotary International and to Australia before introducing President Ray Riehm.

President Ray welcomed everyone to our Zoom on-line Meeting and referred to his earlier email communication for his Report (see item on page 1.) before introducing Chairman David Tolstrup.

There was no Secretary's Report nor Committee Reports so the Sergeant presented a Fines Session, sans fines, concentrating mainly on the consequences of the current lockdown and finished with a Joke of the Week called "The Answer."

Chairman David introduced Past President Tim Lynn as our Guest Speaker and Tim gave a most interesting address outlining his 15 day Pilgrimage to the Holy Lands in Israel and Jordan late in 2019.

Tim was one of a group of 26 Salvation Army Officers invited to take the Pilgrimage as a Long Service Award and Tim treated his trip as an opportunity to see the Bible come alive and to walk in the steps of Jesus in the lands of the Bible.



Tim in local headdress

Illustrated with a number of photographs Tim related his visits to such places as Jerash, Jordan, which has been inhabited since the Bronze Age and known for the ruins of the Greco-Roman settlement of Gerasa and the Arch of Hadrian, an 11 metre-high triple-arched gateway erected to honour the visit of the Roman Emperor in AD 129-130.

Tim described his joy in visiting the various religious sites with highlights including a boat ride in the Sea of Galilee, visiting the Mount of Beatitudes where Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount and the Baptismal Site in the Jordan River considered to be the site where Jesus was baptized and where Tim, himself, participated in a Baptismal Ceremony.



Tim's Baptismal Ceremony

Tim's pilgrimage also included visits to Nazareth Village, the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem and the Garden of Gethsemane where an olive tree thought to have survived since the time of Jesus still stands. Tim walked the Via Dolorosa, a processional route in the Old City of Jerusalem believed to be the path that Jesus walked on the way to his crucifixion, and pointed out the 5th Station of the Cross which is now a sweets stall!

Other spiritual sites Tim visited included the Western or Wailing Wall in Jerusalem and the Garden Tomb which is considered the place most likely where the body of Christ was laid.

Tim found the whole Pilgrimage physically challenging as well being very spiritual and, at the conclusion of his odyssey, he was presented with a Jerusalem Pilgrim Certificate.



Tim's Pilgrimage Certificate

Before returning through Jordan Tim visited the Holocaust Memorial Museum which was also a very emotional experience.

To conclude his presentation Tim related how he fell foul of the Jordanian Authorities when he endeavoured to cross the border from Israel with a souvenir Jewish menorah or candelabra. Jewish artifacts are prohibited in Jordan so Tim had to retrace his steps back into Israel to leave the candelabra before returning to face the Jordanian border guards again. Consequently the Pilgrimage Tour group was delayed by an hour or so!



President Ray thanked Tim for his interesting talk before conducting a Pastoral Care segment, see Snippets, and then formally closing the Zoom Meeting.

(Left: The Offending Menorah)

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# NEXT MEETING

Date: Tuesday, 19th May, 2020 @ 7.30 pm.

Venue: Zoom computer conference

Guest Speaker: Bill Henley, District Commissioner, Whitehorse, Scouts Australia

Topic: Whitehorse Scouts

Scouts Australia - Whitehorse District - provides an administrative and coordination role for Scout Groups across the City of Whitehorse.

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## **CLUB PROGRAM**

Date	Chair	Guest Speaker	Topic
12th May	N/R	N/R	No Meeting
19th May	Ray McLeod-Dryden	Bill Henley	Whitehorse Scouts
26th May	N/R	N/R	No Meeting
2 <sup>nd</sup> June	David Tolstrup	Kenn Beer	Towards Zero

## **BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

### From 19th June to 3rd July, 2019

Date	Member/Partner	Event
6th May	Clive Nicholson	Induction Anniversary
16th May	Robert Leach	Member Birthday

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# SNIPPETS - STILL IN LOCKDOWN

- President Ray reports that our longestserving Box Hill Rotarian, Merv Agnew, is currently unwell and, of course, is further restricted because of the virus lockdown. The Club's best wishes are extended to Merv and we hope to hear of his improvement in coming days and weeks.
- Les Marton gave us some further details on his flight simulator and how he operates it at home and how it "flies" in real time.
- Apparently he "flew" to Hobart one day last week but didn't elaborate on whether he "flew" back home or just parked it at the airport!
- Steve Dardamanis reported how the estate agency business is challenging under lockdown conditions. His Company is conducting on-line auction sales on Thursdays and Saturdays but they are finding that buyers are experiencing some

- difficulty in warming to the process as well as expressing some lack of confidence in the real estate market at this time. However, Steve is looking forward to a busy Spring selling season.
- A fortnightly trip to the local Kilmore tip is David D'Silva's principal activity under lockdown and he is looking forward to recommencing his regular games of golf at Broadford once the restrictions are lifted. Meantime daughter, Megan, is keeping busy by helping out at a local opportunity shop and volunteering at a local nursing home. Well done, Megan.
- Trish Carr posted a photo of the Departure Board at Heathrow Airport together with the funny sayings under all the cancelled flights. It was obviously taken last Monday as the comment at the bottom was "May the 4th be with you."
- Dan Murphy's lifting of the two-bottle limit on the purchase of spirits has warmed the cockles of **David Tolstrup's** heart whilst **Rob Fenton** reports that the Coles Supermarket in Box Hill now has a surplus of toilet paper now that the April panic

- buying is over. **Trish** mentioned that, at the recent 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for the Rotary Club of Monash one of the raffle prizes was a roll of toilet paper!
- Charlie Xu is finding plenty to keep him occupied during lockdown as he has been attending to lots of chores around the house.
- Alison Tolstrup is looking forward to getting out of the kitchen once restrictions have been lifted and taking the opportunity to dine out occasionally.
- Vincent Li has become an expert in "Zooming" as he has attended a number of meetings via the on-line app. During the early stages of lockdown his pharmacy was manufacturing supplies of hand sanitiser etc. but he reports that regular supplies are now back to normal.
- Clem Joyce shared with us a joke about a blonde on a flight to Sydney whilst Simon Wheelton considers he has an extra string to his bow as an Educator since assisting in the home schooling of prep-age grandson, Sebastian.

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# TIME OUT



When you leave the TV on for your dog, on a news channel, and come home 8 hours later...



