

Moorabbin Kiwanis Bulletin



**KIDS NEED
KIWANIS**

Kiwanis Club of Moorabbin K06652

January 2021

January News

Special points of interest:

- [Covid Sniffers](#)
- [Kiwanians & Mentoring](#)
- [Hot Cross Buns](#)

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Happy New Year to all our readers as we enter the second quarter of our Kiwanis year, and prepare to celebrate the 106th year of Kiwanis. We have moved our first meeting for 2021 to the actual Birthday (21st January), and I'm delighted to advise that Australian Governor Roy Seccafien will be joining us on this occasion.

During December, we had a windup online meeting on the 2nd, when our special guest was our friend Colin Tyrus the Program Manager of Southern FM, who gave us a most entertaining presentation on his career in Radio. We also held a very successful BBQ at Bunnings Moorabbin, and I'm delighted to see that other Victorian Clubs have now been able to hold their own BBQs (see page 10).

On 14th December we were invited to attend the In2Life (incorporating Big Brothers Big Sister and Stride Education) "End of Year Celebration and Volunteer Awards Night. The event was held on Zoom, and the first page of attendees is shown below. You may recognize some of them. The event included the presentation of awards to acknowledge the outstanding support from their volunteers for this year for IPrep, YAP (Young Achievers Program), Big Brothers Big Sisters and Community Connections etc. Here's to a successful 2021 and I'm confident that we'll have some exciting news about our "Book Box project " by the next edition.



Ed.
Catch us on Facebook



On Monday 14th December In2Life held an online Celebration of the activities of Stride Education and Big Brothers Big Sisters, which incorporated awards for the outstanding Volunteers. (Page 1 of the attendees shown here).



KIWANIS CLUB OF MOORABBIN INC.



Our President
2020 2021 (Q2)

*Moorabbin meets at the Bentleigh RSL.
538-540 Centre Road Bentleigh 3204
1st and 3rd Monday Each Month.
Fellowship 6:30 pm – 7:00 pm.*

**This has not yet
been confirmed,
but we are hopeful
that we will be
back in 2021.**



Our Secretary
2020-2021

Note: Moorabbin Kiwanis has four quarters during the year.
Q1: Oct—Dec Q2: Jan—Mar & Q3: Apr-June Q4: Jul-Sept
Each Quarter has a different Club President.

OFFICE BEARERS 2020 - 2021.

President Q2	Geoffrey Hergt
President elect. Q2	Angela Randall
Imm. Past Pres.	Tim Vine
Secretary	Bryan Williams
Treasurer	Bryan Williams

Directors.	Angela Randall
	Tim Vine
	Ian Howison

COMMITTEES:

Fundraising	Bryan Williams (C)
Community Service	Ian Howison (C)
Membership and Growth	Angela Randall (C)
Welfare Officer	Peter Pahl
Publicity	Tim Vine
House & Reception	Geoffrey Hergt
Web Master	Tim Vine
Bulletin	Tim Vine



View From The Top



You know from what I hear around the traps most people are very pleased to see the back of calendar year 2020.

From Bush Fires, Floods, COVID-19 imposed restrictions (now a worldwide pandemic), China (our biggest trade partner) imposing trade restrictions/tariffs on our goods and Britain ending a near 50 year participation as a member of the EU to say nothing of the hard to believe election fiasco in one of the most influential countries of the world. Phew, why wouldn't you want to 'welcome away' calendar year 2020. I'm all for it!

But wait just a minute! Although we have a new calendar year we still have many of the same problems to fix before we can enjoy our New Year and get back to what we used to call "normal". So even with several promising COVID vaccines the BIG picture is a little better, but not yet as good as it used to be.

Meanwhile back at the ranch..... in beautiful downtown Kiwanisville our Kiwanis Club of Moorabbin Inc still awaits our meeting place to declare that we can get back to our normal venue and see each other across the table face to face over a bite to eat for the first time in a long time.

Our service projects are piling up awaiting our government leaders to give us the "all clear" to resume supporting our communities again and our major fundraising project Bunnings Sausage Sizzle is making it's first tentative steps toward a limited resumption on weekends only.

What're you like at jumping through hoops? OK, good - then, Have we got a deal for you?

Come along and join our band of Socially Responsible, COVID-19 Compliant, Community Aware volunteers and lend a hand 'cause we sure could use it" (preferably both of them - hands that is!).

Just before Christmas last year we conducted our very first Bunnings Sausage Sizzle under the new COVID regulations. It took a bit of getting used to but we did OK. Our customers were happy, Bunnings were happy, we raised valuable funds for our community service work and there is a good chance we will be invited back. All this came after a concerted effort on the part of both Bunnings and ourselves. It became clear that the new level of compliance, the additional costs and manpower involved might cause some groups to rethink their involvement. If that were the case it could mean greater opportunities for groups like us. The community still benefits but from fewer operating groups. So "come on" how about it? Help us to Help Others. That's what it is all about.

Yours in service,
Geoff Hergt
President
Jan - March 2021



Welcome back
President
Geoffrey.
Seems like old
times.



Visit our Website at:
www.kiwanis Moorabbin.org.au





were restricted in the amount of face to face service in which we could engage, so we turned to that organisation that is always at the front line whenever there is a need, namely the Salvos.

Pictured here is our current President Geoffrey, presenting a donation to Steph Glover, Lieutenant Corps Officer, Kingston City Corps Salvation Army to aid their 2020 Christmas effort.

This was appropriate because it was with this Corps (then known as Kingston Gardens Corps) that we started our Annual Red Shield Appeal over fifty years ago.

Thank God for the Salvos.

That slogan, first quoted by a member of Moorabbin Kiwanis, was later adopted Australia wide by the Salvation Army. Then it was traditional that the club always had a serving Army member as a member of Moorabbin Kiwanis. Sadly this year, our members



Lieutenant Steph and Husband Captain Stuart Glover at a Moorabbin Club meeting at the Bentleigh RSL on 3rd February 2020

NEWS

DOGS WORK TO DETECT COVID-19

KASEY JACKSON | DEC 22, 2020

A Kiwanian in Belgium has been working hard for the past several months to bring together experts in an effort to train dogs to sniff out COVID-19.

Miguel Stevens, vice governor of the Belgium-Luxembourg District and member of the Kiwanis Club of Roeselare Rodenbach in Belgium, is a military veterinarian. For 15 years, he was chief of the Belgian Military Veterinary Service and for the past three years has served as chairman of the NATO Veterinarians. A colleague of his in France got him thinking about the possibility of using dogs to detect COVID-19 in patients.

“Dr. Dominique Grandjean from the National Veterinary School in Maisons-Alfort, France, had this idea and tested it with encouraging results with a few dogs of the Firebrigade from Paris,” Stevens says. “Since I teach at both veterinary faculties in Belgium (in Ghent and Liège), and I still know a lot of people worldwide in the area of working dogs, I wanted to bring together all the people in Belgium who could be interested, in order to avoid spreading the efforts and everyone working independently.” And that’s exactly what he did.

Stevens was successful in bringing together universities, the Belgium Ministry of Defense, the National Police and Civil Protection to work on this initiative. Working dogs already trained in various skills, including how to sniff out explosives, are being used for the COVID-19 testing project.

Stevens was also able to recruit hundreds of Kiwanians to volunteer as test subjects. And what does it mean to be a test subject? The Kiwanians each get a piece of wool or cotton to place under their armpit, where their sweat and scent is captured. Each wool or cotton sample is then placed into a glass jar for the dogs to sniff. All participants are also tested for COVID-19, and the result is kept with their sample to identify which are positive or negative.

Having Kiwanis members help with the project was a win-win, Stevens says.

“All clubs in Belgium are having a difficult time right now, not many projects, no visibility,” Stevens says.

“I thought if we could associate Kiwanis to this project, we would have a link with the government, the police and universities, which lends us legitimacy. It costs nothing to the clubs. We only needed to find a building, a couple of people who could direct traffic and for members to come spend 30 minutes to get a test and keep wool or cotton under their armpits.”

The project also allowed Kiwanians and volunteers to sign up to receive the results of their test — whether they were detected to have the virus or not.

Another big win: The Ministry of Public Health in Belgium gave them a budget of EUR60,000



in mid-November for the project, which is still in its early stages.

“If this is successful, the government will be presented with the results,” Stevens says. “And then it will decide if dogs can be used for that purpose at an airport or before an event.

There is no guarantee this will be successful.

“I am excited and hope to be able to prove that our dogs can indeed indicate positive carriers of COVID-19. Then I hope to convince the government to invest in dogs and people, so schools and all other economic and social activities can go back to normal as soon as possible.”

This story will be updated as results of the project become available.



Kiwanians and Mentoring

It seems obvious, but for an organisation that is dedicated to serving the needs of children, mentoring is a perfect way to help some of the most vulnerable in our community. This was brought home to me after reading the feature article in the December edition of the Kiwanis magazine “On Point”. Non Kiwanians can also read this article, by opening it at: <https://kiwanismagazine.org/2020/12/11/on-point/>

Here you will see the collaboration between “Boys and Girls Club of America” (BGCA), and the Kiwanis Clubs of the USA. The entry below is the reference to BGCA on the KI website. Click the link here <https://www.kiwanis.org/about/partners/>



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF AMERICA

When it comes to serving children, Kiwanis International and Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) both have long and successful histories. The two organizations work collaboratively, promoting and supporting local Kiwanis and Boys & Girls Clubs partnerships at the grassroots level.

The leaders of Kiwanis and BGCA, as well as local affiliates of the two organizations, continue to work closely to achieve an even greater positive impact in the lives of children and in communities nationwide. A critical need that has been identified by the two organizations is the shortage of adult mentors for children in urgent need of a caring adult role model in their lives. To that end, the two organizations have mobilized a National Mentor Recruitment Partnership to address the mentoring needs of all children—with an emphasis on closing the mentor gap for minority males in the United States.

At the local level, the National Mentor Recruitment Partnership model is simple. Nearly 1,300 local Boys & Girls Clubs have received National Mentoring Program grants from BGCA and the U.S. Office of Justice Programs. And the professional staff of local Boys & Girls Clubs have been trained to reach out to their local Kiwanis clubs. The local Boys & Girls Clubs and Kiwanis clubs may work with each other to determine the need for and feasibility of mentor-recruitment partnerships in their communities. BGCA will provide all appropriate and required communications, reporting, recognition, technical assistance and partnership-management support.

According to this entry, it appears that this is a win/win for Kiwanis and BGCA. Of course, BGCA only operates in the USA, however there is a larger global mentoring organisation that operates in Australia, and has done for the last 40 years. This organisation is Big Brothers Big Sisters. <https://bigbrothersbigsisters.org.au/> Big Brothers Big Sisters Australia is part of the world's largest volunteer-supported mentoring network that has been operating across the globe for more than a century – with the help of dedicated volunteers, donors and advocates just like you. Big Brothers Big Sisters began in 1904 in the United States of America, introducing a unique style of one-to-one mentoring to help support children and adolescents reach their potential.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

To-date, Big Brothers Big Sisters Australia has been operating for 40 years and continues to support young people in need of a positive adult role model in their lives. Young people across the globe face many different challenges, but the positive impact of a Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring relationship has been demonstrated across cultures.

Now in Australia, Big Brothers Big Sisters comes under the umbrella of In2Life, and whilst we do not yet have an association with Big Brothers Big Sisters Australia, we do have an association with Stride Education which is part of In2Life via the IPREP interview program for high school students.

It's not too big a stretch then to see if we could make contact with Big Brothers Big Sisters to see if it would be possible to volunteer our services. After all, their aims are almost identical to ours.

Last month I reported on an International Kiwanis Training program called "Amplify". Now it's just possible that some of us do not place leadership skills at the top of our reasons for joining Kiwanis, and just maybe helping children is a far higher priority. Accordingly training to be a mentor could appeal.

Imagine if Kiwanis Australia had a collaborative association with Big Brothers Big Sisters Australia, and was able to provide a pool of mentors for them. Perhaps even participate in joint fundraising efforts. In that event, it's possible that this could become a source of Kiwanis members in the not too distant future.

Perhaps that's just wishful thinking however in the meantime lets checkout their website (address above), remembering that our November guest speaker Cheryne Bloom did speak briefly about Big Brothers Big Sisters. If you're wondering about exactly what's involved, then click on this link on their website.

<https://bigbrothersbigsisters.org.au/what-we-do/our-stories/>

There are some really great examples of just what mentoring is all about.

Finally if you need to know why mentoring is so important, then read below.

Mission Australia Study

A 2016 survey conducted by Mission Australia found that young people facing social and emotional wellbeing challenges are more likely to seek support from their immediate networks, with 82% and 75% seeking support from their friends or family, respectively. However, for many vulnerable young people, these natural sources of support are absent, leaving them without adequate guidance to help them overcome such challenges.

There is strong evidence proving the value and impact of youth mentoring programs in counteracting negative external challenges and filling this gap for vulnerable young people, helping them achieve their goals.

Sources:

Mission Australia, 2016, Mission Australia's 2016 Youth Survey Report.

Plan International Australia and Out Watch (2016) Everyday sexism: Girl's and young womens views on gender inequality in Australia

Plan International Australia and Our Watch, Melbourne

'No respite between holidays!' Hot cross buns' early arrival prompts joy and fury.



The debate over when hot cross buns should be sold is almost as much of a tradition in Australia as the Easter treat itself.

Aleksandra Bliszczyk, Guardian, January 2021)

For years supermarkets have released hot cross buns well before Easter, and as the yeasted treats arrive, so too does the pro- or anti-bun outrage.

"No respite between holidays!" my mum texts me on 3 January, after sighting off-white crosses on New Year's Day. "Buy buy buy pure consumerism in your face!" She insists she's only mildly annoyed by the baked good's drawn-out shelf life, but similar sentiments spread across mainstream and social media like melting butter.

Historically, hot cross buns were only eaten on Good Friday, and occasionally at Christmas or burials. In fact in 1592, Queen Elizabeth I officially decreed it, and any buns illegally made outside those events were handed over to the poor. But growing demand in recent years has brought the sales of hot cross buns forward. In 2020 Coles launched its full range of hot cross buns nationwide on Boxing Day, while Woolworths' arrived on 30 December, a date advance of three days compared to 2020's 2 January release.

"Early sales of hot cross buns last year tell us there's very strong demand to see the Easter treat on shelves as soon as possible," says Coles head of bakery operations Shaun Percy. Coles sold more than 66m between their Boxing Day 2019 launch and Easter 2020, including 1.6m in the first five days, and nearly 12m in the week ending Easter Monday.

In 2014 the CEO of Ferguson Plarre Bakehouses, Steve Plarre, penned [an open letter](#) to the managing directors of Coles and Woolworths, imploring them to delay the sale of hot cross buns, suggesting they sell the same buns with a smiley face instead of a cross to preserve the significance of the holiday.

But in fact, some Coles stores have been selling the traditional flavour year-round since August 2019.

"Coles stores are still able to offer buns all year round, however the range is limited to a small number of the most popular varieties and in the lead-up to Christmas many of our in-store bakeries stop making buns so that they can focus on providing customers with other products. Once Christmas is over, they are able to produce buns again, and in a wider variety of flavours than were available at other times of year," a Coles spokesperson told Guardian Australia.

Huw Murdoch, owner of Wild Life Bakery in Melbourne's Brunswick East, is certain seasonality drives their sales. "People are always really keen to start buying them, and they're always a little bit sad to see them go, but no one ever asks during the year if we even have something similar," he says.

Like many small local bakeries, Wild Life only offers them during the Easter period, kicking off about a month before the holiday.

"It's the busiest time of year for us and bakers get a little bit sick of it because they have to make thousands," Murdoch says. "On a busy weekend day we might make a couple of hundred croissants and a couple hundred loaves of bread. On Good Friday [2020], we had pre-sold 1,500 hot cross buns before we even opened the door."

With Woolworths forecasting 77m hot cross bun sales in 2021, we may be stuck in the cycle of buns after Christmas (and hot, cross comments) well into the future.

Controversy Corner

Covid-19 Vaccine. Why wait until March?

An interview with Scott Morrison to ask just this question. (Melissa Davey. The Guardian Dec. 2020)

How Australia's Covid vaccination rollout will work and why authorities won't move faster

The sudden outbreak of Covid-19 cases in Sydney has forced parts of the city into lockdown and prevented thousands of people crossing state borders in the days before Christmas. As the US and UK begin to vaccinate their populations, the fresh restrictions imposed in Australia have raised questions about whether its more measured approach to vaccination should be accelerated, even though case numbers remain tiny relative to the US and most of Europe.

Are there plans to begin vaccinations sooner?

No. On Monday the prime minister, Scott Morrison, and the health minister, Greg Hunt, reiterated there were no plans to fast-track the rollout of Covid-19 vaccines, and that the process would not be rushed by the northern beaches outbreak or a potentially more infectious strain affecting the UK.

Morrison said the vaccine "will be available in March" as planned.

What is the assessment process in Australia?

Morrison said during a Covid-19 update on Monday: "I can assure Australians that I will not be putting their health at risk in the way that we manage with the approval and deployment of the vaccine. It must be safe, it must follow all of those rules."

The first rule is that a sponsor, usually a pharmaceutical company, must submit a "provisional determination application" to the TGA. At this stage, the TGA wants to see the nature of preliminary clinical data, and evidence of a plan to submit more comprehensive clinical data down the track. It also wants to see a strong argument and evidence for why the drug or medical device is needed.

In October, the TGA granted a provisional determination to AstraZeneca for its vaccine candidate being developed in conjunction with the UK's Oxford University, and to Pfizer/BioNTech for their joint mRNA vaccine.

Anthony Albanese has reiterated calls for a coronavirus vaccine to be rolled out as soon as approval is granted by the Therapeutic Goods Administration. But the Labor leader said he is not calling for a shortcutting of the approvals process.

"What we are saying, though, is if you have confidence in the TGA processes, once it's approved, it should be rolled out," Mr Albanese said.

The Morrison government has indicated TGA approvals for the Pfizer and AstraZeneca vaccine candidates is on track for later this month. (Ronald Mizen Financial Review).

Adjunct Professor Heidi Drummer, director for disease elimination at the Burnet Institute. (Sydney Morning Herald 4th Jan) states:

The Morrison government has indicated it will stand by its March timeline to commence Australia's vaccination program, after approval by the Therapeutic Goods Administration. The process of vaccine approval by the TGA must be respected and will go a long way to reassure the public that these vaccines are suitable for use in the Australian population.

Drummer reports that vaccine development for COVID-19 has been fast and efficient as a result of a combination of factors including large monetary investments, and a global collaborative effort with parallel approaches to vaccine development using a variety of technologies, old and new. It has not compromised safety. Phase 3 trials typically take years to accumulate sufficient infections to determine vaccine efficacy and safety and involve tens of thousands of participants. But because of the high rates of infection in Britain, the US, Brazil and other trial sites, phase 3 COVID-19 studies involving approximately 40,000 people per trial were completed within months with rapid assessment of efficacy and safety.

On January 1, the World Health Organisation approved the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine for emergency use to accelerate vaccine programs in the developing world.

If the TGA would move more rapidly, we could bring forward Australia's vaccine timetable with confidence.

Now I respect greatly the work of the TGA, but as a researcher in a past life, I know that the basis of any research involves careful study of all work done by other workers on the subject. Check the results, confirm the findings, but don't go out and repeat the work unless it cannot be confirmed. The TGA should be able to trust the phase 3 trials of the US Food and Drug Administration, the European Medicines Agency and Britain's Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, particularly as they had access to a pool of test participants not available to the TGA.

Just think, if aged care patients were inoculated their relatives could then visit them, which is not currently possible in NSW, or wait and hope that we don't get another outbreak with the new more virulent UK strain.

Around other Clubs



Port Philip Club joins the Victorian Clubs that have conducted a Bunnings Sausage Sizzle post lockdown (see above).

Port Philip conducted theirs at Bunnings Port Melbourne on Saturday 2nd January

Important Dates

14th January
21st January
25th January
29th January
21st February

Ian Howison's Birthday
Kiwani's International Birthday
Angela Randall's Birthday
Bryan Williams' Birthday
Joy and Len's Anniversary.



Diary Dates.

Members please note!

Until further notice, all dinner meetings have been cancelled.

There will be one online meeting in January. This will be held on Kiwanis International's 106th Birthday 21st January.

We will be joined by District Governor Roy Seccafien on this occasion.

Please contact timv@kiwanismoorabbin.org.au if you would like to join in the celebration.

In the meantime, we are waiting to see if the Bentleigh RSL will be available next month. so please watch this space.





**KIDS NEED
KIWANIS**

KIWANIS CLUB OF MOORABBIN INC.

Serving the community

Visit us on www.kiwanismoorabbin.org.au to find the very latest activities of our club.

THE OBJECTS OF KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL.

1. TO GIVE primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life.
2. TO ENCOURAGE the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships
3. TO PROMOTE the adoption and the application of higher social, business and professional standards.
4. TO DEVELOP, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive and serviceable citizenship.
5. TO PROVIDE, through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service and to build better communities.
6. TO COOPERATE in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism and good will.