

# Chelsea Rotary *Whispering Waves*

3335

5<sup>th</sup> February 2024



**CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD**



**Presidents**      [Simon Pearson](#)  
                         [Lynn Harrison](#)

**Presidents Elect**

**Secretary**      [Lesley Pichler](#)  
**Treasurer**      [Noel Jenkinson](#)  
**Club Contact**   [Kevin Harrison](#)  
                         0407 772 225

**International  
Community  
Youth  
Vocational  
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Marketing &  
Membership:  
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Governance  
Newsletter**

[Regina Murcia](#)  
[Graham Smith](#)  
[Keith Chamberlain](#)  
[Peter Batten](#)  
[Peter Batten](#)  
[Kevin Harrison](#)  
  
[Graham Smith](#)  
[Hans Wehmoller](#)  
[Ian Button](#)

**RI President**                      [Gordon McInally](#)  
**District Governor**              [Ian Ballantine](#)  
**Assistant District Governor**   [Reny Frighetto](#)

**Please click on any of the people above  
to send them an email.  
They'd love to hear from you.**

Reward Rotary Club of Chelsea by doing your banking.

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**ROTARY'S MOTTO  
IS "SERVICE  
ABOVE SELF"**

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

**FIRST:** The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service.

**SECOND:** High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society.

**THIRD:** The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business and community life.

**FOURTH:** The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

**INDUCTIONS**

Brian Lowe	10 <sup>th</sup> Jan 1989
Greg Caughey	18 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2000
JJ Baptista	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2016

**BIRTHDAYS**

Eunice Rooke	6 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Graham Smith	18 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Liz Lowe	20 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Michael Martin	23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan
JJ Baptista	2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb
Kevin Harrison	23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Joanne and Simon Pearson	19 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Gaye and Barry McArtney	10 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Helen and Peter Washington	19 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Terre and Greg Caughey	20 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Eunice and John Rooke	27 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Patrcia and Ray Smith	27 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Julie and Graham Smith	28 <sup>th</sup> Feb

The Weekly Newsletter of the ROTARY CLUB OF [CHELSEA](#) (INC) [DISTRICT 9810](#)

Charter granted 12/10/[1954](#) ABN 19057 610 183

P O Box 103 Chelsea Vic. 3196

Normally, our Club meets weekly at the [Chelsea RSL](#) Thames Promenade. Chelsea Tuesday Evenings 6.15pm for 6.45pm start however some meetings are occasionally held online.

Club Bank Details: [Bendigo Bank](#) BSB 633 000 Accounts: 1424 861 33 (Admin.) 1497 181 24 (Fundraising)

*Guests, family, and friends are very welcome to come to our meetings.*

*PLEASE book them in by contacting Kevin Harrison 0407 772 225*

*Meetings are held at the Chelsea RSL unless otherwise stated.*

## **CHELSEA ROTARY MEETING 3322 – Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

Presidents Lynn and Simon welcomed Members to our first meeting for 2024.

The previous Tuesday, Members had enjoyed a Fellowship Dinner at the Thai Restaurant in Chelsea, where it was great to catch up with a large number of our Members, looking refreshed and ready for a productive year for Chelsea Rotary.

### **CHELSEA ART SHOW – MAREE VINOCUROFF**

Maree advised the [Art Show](#) would be going ahead this year and put forward a number of points which need to be addressed by the Members. If you are able to assist or put forward ideas, they would be very much appreciated.

Please let Maree know if you can assist/or suggest with the following -

Beneficiaries - and no, before you ask, you cannot nominate yourself

Raffle Prize - If anyone has a painting they would like to donate, Streeton, McCubbin, Kahlo...?

Sponsors - A successful Show depends on good sponsors

Art Show Committee - If you would like to assist

Let's make our 47<sup>th</sup>. Art Show one of our best.

### **JUNIOR MAYOR AND JUNIOR COUNCIL - SANDY ANTONUCCIO**

Congratulations to Keith and Sandy for their huge efforts working with [Zorica Djuric](#), from the Kingston Council, to establish the Junior Council program. Chelsea Rotary has been officially recognised as the instigator of the [City of Kingston Junior Mayor and Junior Council programs](#).

Students throughout the City of Kingston who took on Junior Councillor roles have benefited from the massive commitment and effort by Keith to drive and guide the Junior Council program over the last eight years, and Sandy, who joined him two years ago. The students' parents are equally impressed at the change in the students during the programs. We have also learnt a lot from the students, and about them and their surprising maturity and capabilities.

The Junior Mayor program was initiated by the City of Kingston back in the 1950's. The program was supported and championed by Chelsea Rotary from 2005 to about 2013 by several of our members; Past President [Claire](#), past members Ann White and [Iain Uren](#), and Past President [Topsy](#), to mention just a few.

Well done to everyone who has ensured the success of this excellent inter-generational program over the years. Other councils have sought our advice to implement it!

The program will be presented at the [Rotary Conference in Warrnambool](#) in March this year.

Please use the link to a recording of a City of Kingston Council meeting further on in this newsletter (it will let you jump directly to Item 8.2 of the City of Kingston Council meeting).

## ST. JOSEPHS P.S. BLACK ROCK – CLOSED - PETER BATTEN



Unfortunately, [St. Josephs Primary School Black Rock](#) closed on 15th December 2023 due to lack of pupil numbers.

Ex pupil Joanne gave us some [background](#) and had brought along some school photos. We had fun trying to pick a young Joanne!!

Peter Batten had arranged the pick-up of a lot of the items from the school. Together with a number of other Chelsea Rotarians, they picked up 10 pallets of items, which included clothing, teaching aid material, education guides, books, sporting equipment and sundry items such as pens, stationary etc. Desks, chairs and whiteboards are still to be picked up.

All the items will be shipped to Fiji for a [new school](#) on the island of [Qamea](#) in the village of Dreketi being established. The shipping is quite involved and expensive, so any donations are most welcome. Peter and Helene Brown are co-ordinating the [shipping](#) once arriving in Fiji, which is the [more difficult part](#).

The first meeting for the year has set the stage for a very active year ahead.

Presidents Lynn and Simon closed the meeting as dinner arrived.

Best wishes,

Lesley.



## Email from Zorica

**From:** Zorica Djuric <[Zorica.Djuric@kingston.vic.gov.au](mailto:Zorica.Djuric@kingston.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Updated Junior Mayor Policy

**Date:** 31 January 2024 at 09:31:19 AEDT

**To:** Keith Chamberlain, Sandy Antonuccio

Hi Keith and Sandy

Recently Youth Services completed an update on the Junior Mayor Policy for Council staff. This Policy was taken to a Council Meeting in which Chelsea Rotary was acknowledged.

I wanted to share that the recording of the Council meeting is now available. If you go to the agenda item 8.2 it will take you straight to that item – I thought it would be worth circulating with everyone else in Chelsea Rotary

[29 January 2024 Council Meeting | Kingston Council Meetings Live](#)

Keith when you're back let's all make a time to meet

Speak soon



Zorica Djuric

SHE / HER

YOUTH PARTICIPATION & DEVELOPMENT OFFICER | KINGSTON YOUTH SERVICES

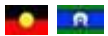
[kingston.vic.gov.au](http://kingston.vic.gov.au)

d 1300 369 436 m 0417 320 043 e [zorica.djuric@kingston.vic.gov.au](mailto:zorica.djuric@kingston.vic.gov.au)

community inspired leadership



*I am committed to creating a safe and welcoming environment that embraces all cultures, sexualities, genders and abilities.*



*The City of Kingston proudly acknowledges the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, and we pay our respect to their Elders, past and present and emerging. Council acknowledges the Bunurong's continuing relationship to the land and waterways and respects that their connection and spiritual identity is maintained through ancient ceremonies, songlines, dance, art and living culture. Council pays tribute to the invaluable contributions of the Bunurong and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island elders who have guided and continue to guide the work we do.*

## Dreketi School Rebuilding Project Update from Peter Brown

Monday 29 January 2024

Bula and Greetings from extremely hot but cyclone free Taveuni.

Much has happened over the past 3 to 4 weeks.

- A) A Small Grant Application for the government barge funding approval has been made with the assistance of the Taveuni District Officer and that was sent off.
- B) Helene and I and Mr Jone Fifita, Trustee from the school flew to Suva for a meeting at the office of the Prime Minister with secretary V Pawa. The outcome of the meeting was a clear indication that the PM WANTS this project to happen. He received his primary education in the original Dreketi school. YAY!  
But there is still paperwork to tidy up. Boo!
- C) The rest of the week in Suva was very productive. We spent the week chasing suppliers and updated our final quotes.  
The outcome of the revisions and final quotes is that the projected building cost is now \$226,832 FJD and the funds held in the Dreketi Project account are \$226,780 FJD  
So despite nearly 3 years of building materials cost increases, we are only \$50 off target and we have now included floor tiles to all of the classrooms.
- D) Last Thursday, Prime Minister Rabuka visited Taveuni and we managed a brief discussion with the PM and handed him a letter requesting his urgent help with the approval of funding for the barge. See copy of the letter and photo.  
On Friday I spoke with Mr Pawa from OPM (Office of PM) and he was very pleased to inform me that all paperwork is now completed and the barge funding approval should happen next week.

E) We are keeping in close contact with our preferred builder Yava and have booked his next contract mid February 2024. Likewise we are keeping RPA - InterIsland Logistics (the successful barge tenderer) in the loop and firmly booked for mid February.

We are happy to pass on this good news and should have more good news in the next few weeks when it's all systems go!

Vinaka Vakalevu



The Honorable Sivitveni Rabuka  
Prime Minister of Fiji

*Delivered by hand*  
25 January 2024



**RE: DREKETI VILLAGE, QAMEA ISL, SCHOOL REBUILD PROJECT**

Bula and Greetings, Prime Minister

We humbly request your intervention to help us achieve the goal that our club committed to 3 years ago.

In March 2021, two members of the Dreketi village school board came to Rotary and begged for help to build a new school to replace their school that was destroyed by landslips in December 2016.

Our Rotary Club committed to building that new school and by August 2022, everything was in place eg: plans, permits, quantities, costings AND approval by Education Department. Finally and most importantly we raised the funds needed to start building in early 2023 - \$230,000.

Just one item was not covered by our budget and that one item was a government or private barge to move the building materials from Suva to Dreketi village Qamea Island.

**All of 2023 has been lost whilst we have patiently waited for the Fiji Government to approve funding for the barge.**

Our Rotary club decided that we cannot wait any longer. Building material costs are increasing and we are loosing credibility with our donors.

**Construction has to start by the end of February 2024 because:**

our nominated builder can start mid February. The successful tenderer to OPM for this project (RPA) will have their barge in Suva by the 3rd week of February ready to load. We have firm and final quotations from all our suppliers and are about to start purchasing.

We have done all our paperwork and submitted same some weeks ago. We humbly request that your office provides the Dreketi village or the Rotary Club of Taveuni Island a letter of assurance or indemnity that the barge hire cost will be covered by the government as it was always assured. We would then be prepared to cover the barge cost until such time as all the government paperwork is completed and we could be reimbursed. We are also awaiting confirmation on the use of the government jetty for loading.

We look forward to getting this project started and finally offering the people of Dreketi the new school they have been waiting for so long.

Yours sincerely,

*Peter Brown*  
President 2023-2024  
Rotary Club of Taveuni Island

NB: Perhaps the new Dreketi school would produce another PM

Peter &  
Helene  
Rotary Club of  
Taveuni