2 April 2024



Newsletter 2023-2024



# Congratulations Murray Wilson appointed as Rotary Regional Community Leader for Community Group 3

#### Motor Neuron Disease - Professor Bradley Turner

This week's presentation, by Professor Bradley Turner on Motor Neuron Disease, was absorbing and highly informative. The interest he aroused in all who were present was indicated by the large number of questions to which he had to respond at the end of his talk.

Brad is Head of the Motor Neuron Research Group and Research Lead of the Protect and Repair Mission located at The Florey, Melbourne University. His group has a broad research interest in neurodegenerative diseases affecting the voluntary motor system in the brain and spinal cord.

Brad outlined that MND occurs when neurons in the brain are affected in a way that interferes with their neural connection to the muscles. Muscle wastage results and in time the brain neurons die. MND has a range of symptoms but is often first noticed with weakness in a limb, which spreads to other limbs. There is little treatment available, with only one drug in use, which only slows progress of the disease for 2 – 3 months. MND is always fatal.

Around 10% of MND is genetic and around 40 genes have been identified as playing a role in MND. Hence 90% is random. Anecdotal evidence suggests many factors that can have a role in causing MND, such as military service, head injuries and exposure to chemicals, but there is evidence that smoking doubles the chance of contracting MND.

Once diagnosed, an MND sufferer will generally only survive 2-5 years. The need for drugs that can slow the progress of this horrible disease is very urgent, but the testing pipeline, through the stages of pre-clinical testing, testing for safety through to a large scale test of the drug efficacy, is around 15 years. A clever process has been devised to speed up the process by using stem cells. Cells taken from the skin of a sufferer can be tricked into forming stem cells, which are then grown into brain cells. These cells can be examined with very sophisticated robotic microscopes and the use of AI to detect patterns not discernible to the human eve.

Brad's team has been working on a testing model using drugs that have been approved for other uses. With skin samples from 150 MND sufferers, many different drugs have been tested for their ability to slow MND. An exciting outcome of this research has been to find one drug that has had the desired result.

Brad outlined that there will need to be a number of drugs developed that act on different aspects of MND symptoms before sufferers will really gain any benefit. Brad also feels that collating data on the environmental context of sufferers should be a priority so that more is known about this aspect.





Home Club of **IPDG Dr Daryl Moran** 



BBQs are on the third Friday of the month. The roster is available via the link Bunnings Roster 2024.

## Family Care Uganda - School Support (RADAF) RAWCS Registered

We are pleased to announce that the Family Care Uganda – School Support (RAOAF) with number <u>52-2023-24</u> on the RAWCS national website. PP Alan Lunghusen is recorded as the Project Manager and PP Margaret Vesey Deputy Project Manager with the sponsoring Club is Rotary Club of Rowville-Lysterfield, District 9810.

## Inaugural Business Awards

As you are aware promotion of the Inaugural Business Awards has commenced. Nominations are now open. I encourage you to support the business awards by nominating your favourite business using this link <a href="https://bit.ly/43G0iSc">https://bit.ly/43G0iSc</a> or if you share the details with local businesses so they can submit a nomination.





## Girls Night Out

Please invite all your friends to the Girls Night Out on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024. booking is available via the QR Code.

Book early to avoid disappointment!



# **Holland Festival**

Remember to register as a volunteer to help with ticketing at the Holland Festival. Go to the website (link below).

https://hollandfestival.org.au/volunteer-applications/

This will be a great event to be part of!



## **Muffins & Soup Roster**

Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Marg, Kaye, Corinne, Pete & Sue
Thursday 18th April	Heather, Fiona, Rajeev & Anita, Jenny
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Marg, Kaye, Kylie, Pete & Sue
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Heather, Fiona, Rajeev & Anita, Jenny
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Marg, Kaye, Kylie, Pete & Sue
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Heather, Fiona, Rajeev & Anita, Jenny
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Marg, Kaye, Corinne, Pete & Sue

# Program 2023-2024

		_ Newsletter			
Date	Registration	Chair	Setup and production	Program	2023-2024
April – Ma	ternal and Child				
9	Kate	Murra	y Bob John	Sandi Fulcher End Trachoma	
16	Kaye	Marg	g Kevin Alan	Trevor Withers & David Nutter Rally Driving Rasing Funds for Flying Doctors	
23	Heather	Bob	John Daryl	Pete Cass Plastics Recycling	CREATE HOPE in the WORLD
25	В	<b>,</b> reakfast	July – New Leadership August – Membership and New Club Development September – Basic Education		
27					
28		Tree Plar			
May – You	th Service	and Literacy  October – Economic and			
7	Kate	Jeff	Bob John	Blaze Aid, Disaster Recovery	Development  November – Rotary  Foundation  December – Disease  Prevention and Treatment  January – Vocational Services  February – Peace building  and conflict resolution
14	Daryl	Jenny	/ Daryl Kevin	Planning 2024-25 PE Jenny Moran	
21	Heather	John	Alan Bob	District Youth Report Daryl Moran	
28	Kaye	Jenny	y Daryl Ian	Planning 2024-25 PE Jenny Moran	
June					March – Water, Sanitation
4	Kate	Bob	Bob John	Earlyact 2024 Office Bearers	and Hygiene  April – Maternal &
11	Ayanthi	Marg	g Kevin Alan	Bianca Hurle Rosehaven Services	Child Health  May – Youth Service
18	Kaye	John	Bob Daryl	TBC	June – Rotary Fellowship
25			ub Changeov	•	
	Welco				



## Let's support our members in their business endeavours.







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# **Board & Committee Chairs**

2023-24 BC	DARD MEMBERS	OTHER ROLES		
President	Carol Constantine			
Vice-President	<b>Kevin Harrison</b>	Rowville Secondary		
Secretary	<b>Heather Morris</b>	College Council Rep	Rajeev Wadhwa	
Treasurer	Neil White	Newsletter	Peter Batterham	
President Elect	Jenny Moran	Facebook	Stephen Palamara	
President Nominee	<b>Bob Morris</b>	Website	Alan Lunghusen	
Immediate Past Pres	<i>ident</i> Kevin Harrison		Stephen Palamara	
		Club Protection Officer	r Carol Constantine	
2023-24	COMMITTEES	Program Committee	Jeff Somers	
			Kaye Sharman	
Community	Jenny Moran		Peter Batterham	
	Murray Wilson	On-to-Conference	Murray Wilson	
	Kaye Sharman	Art Show Committee	Rajeev Wadhwa	
	Ayanthi Gunatilake		James Wilson	
Youth Service	Max Williams		Alan Lunghusen	
	Gary Forrest	Rowville Lysterfield Community News		
	Rajeev Wadhwa	Correspondent	Jenny Moran	
Environment	Kate Kidd	<b>BBQ Committee</b>	Bob Morris	
	Gary Forrest		Ian Vesey	
Foundation	Neil White	Rotaract	Rajeev Wadhwa	
	Carol Constantine		Anita Wadhwa	
International	Alan Lunghusen			
	Marg Vesey			
	Arshad Samsudeen			
	Ayanthi Gunatilake			
Vocational	John Williams			
	Neil Marshall			
	Stephen Palamara			
	Chris Golten			
Membership	Daryl Moran			
	Chris Golten			

Website: www.rowvillerotary.com.au

#### Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/ Rotary-Club-of-Rowville-Lysterfield-171446576246728/?ref=bookmarks

District 9810 Website: http://www.9810rotary.org.au