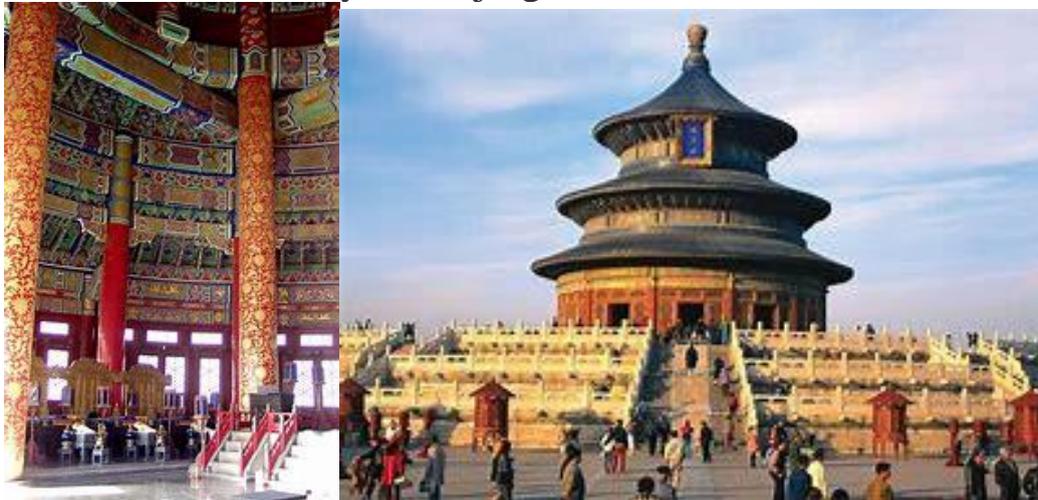
**Rotary Clubs of Sale**www.rotaryclubofsale.org.au**Rotary District 9820**

Incorporated

22ND FEBRUARY 2022 CLUB NIGHT

Unfortunately, our planned guest speaker was unable to attend. So, three members stepped up to the mark and entertained us with their recollections of a place they had visited that had fascinated them. The first off the mark was the evening's chairperson, Sandra Houghton, who recalled visiting China in 1981 on a food industry tour. She saw some fascinating sights including The Temple of Heaven and the Forbidden City in Beijing, and the Great Wall of China.



The Temple of Heaven

But she also saw a great deal of poverty and some areas that were still struggling to recover from the turbulent years of the Cultural Revolution, and some from the horrors of the Japanese occupation in WWII. She visited communes where most of the farming work was being done by the most primitive of methods (people sometimes pulling carts, no tractors and only the simplest of farm machinery, very few large animals, human waste being spread on fields as fertilizer), and where people lived in very basic housing. They did have enough food to eat and free education, but had no choice of career.

Their group was supposed to visit lots of food factories, but this proved hard to organise. Those they did visit often had donated machinery that wasn't being used as they didn't have engineers or spare parts, instead the work was being

done manually. They did enjoy touring hotel kitchens and ate lots of wonderful meals. Sandra was fascinated by some of the exquisite craft work like cloisonne, silk embroidery and porcelain, that took many hours of work and was sold very cheaply.



Sandra Houghton describes her China trip watched by Colin Adams.

Our next speaker was Adrian Rijs who told us about his first overseas trip with his wife Louise 10 years ago. They went on a river cruise from Amsterdam to Arles, then had extra days in Marseilles, then by train to Barcelona, Valencia, Madrid and Malaga-Alora. One of their highlights was a visit to the Islamic palace and fortress known as the Alhambra in Granada. Whilst there they stayed in Paradore de Granada, which was a restored monastery within the Alhambra complex. Adrian said it was one of the loveliest hotels he's stayed in. Apparently, in 1911 the Spanish Government started to restore old convents, castles and palaces and turn them into hotels to promote tourism. There are about 90 Paradores in Spain.

The Alhambra was a self-contained city separate from the rest of Granada. It included a Friday mosque, public baths, houses, artisan workshops, a tannery and a sophisticated water supply system which fed fountains, channels and reflective pools and the baths as well as providing drinking water. It has Moorish architecture with courtyards surrounded by rooms and halls, often decorated with tile mosaics on the lower walls and carved stucco on the upper walls.

After the Christian Reconquista in the late 15th century, it was taken over by the Spanish Royal Court, and some was altered into the Renaissance style before falling into disrepair. It was rediscovered after the defeat of Napoleon I whose troops occupied and partly destroyed it. The most influential of the rediscoverers was Washington Irving whose *Tales of the Alhambra* brought international attention. It is one of Spain's foremost tourist destinations and a UNESCO

World Heritage site. Adrian loved walking through the centuries old palaces and gardens which were cool despite the hot Spanish summer.



Adrian Rijs talks about the delights of The Alhambra

Our third speaker was Elizabeth Hutchinson who spoke about the Mardi Gras in New Orleans. Mardi Gras has taken place in New Orleans since the 1700's at this time of year (the beginning of Lent).



New Orleans Mardi Gras parade

Preparations for the parade begin many months before, as the floats are elaborate, expensive and very large (often more than a storey high). Sponsored by businessmen, with a large crew involved in preparation. The parade is watched each night by many thousands of people, most of whom are also costumed.



New Orleans King Cake (note the 'baby')

The theme colours are purple, green and gold. These colours are used to decorate King Cakes which are shared during the Mardi Gras. Each cake has a little doll concealed in it, the person who gets the slice with the doll has to buy the next king cake or host the next party.



When Elizabeth was living in New Orleans, her apartment was on one of the parade routes near the hospital where she worked. One year she and her late husband participated in the parade using an Australian theme, with a kangaroo and bush hats with corks!



Adrian Rijs, John Castle, Philip Davis, Sandra Houghton and Colin Adams are served their meals.

The next item on the agenda was the Music Festival. Keith Miller talked about rosters and Kerry McMillan on Rotary's responsibilities on the day (setting up marquees, seating, bins, and packing up) and the catering arrangements – roast beef rolls, dim sims, drinks and icecreams.

Alan Lewis talked about the celebrations associated with the 110th anniversary of The Rubeena. They are going to have an art competition with the prize of a 2 hour cruise. Music is also being organised. Kylie Anne Rich suggested that some of the art work from the competition could be displayed in an empty shop at the Gippsland Centre.



Kerry talks about the Music Festival

Lisa Burgess spoke about International Women's Day on the 8th March. She thanked those who have given contributions for the raffle and says she intends to decorate the tables using a purple theme as it is the colour for International Women's Day. She would appreciate some help.



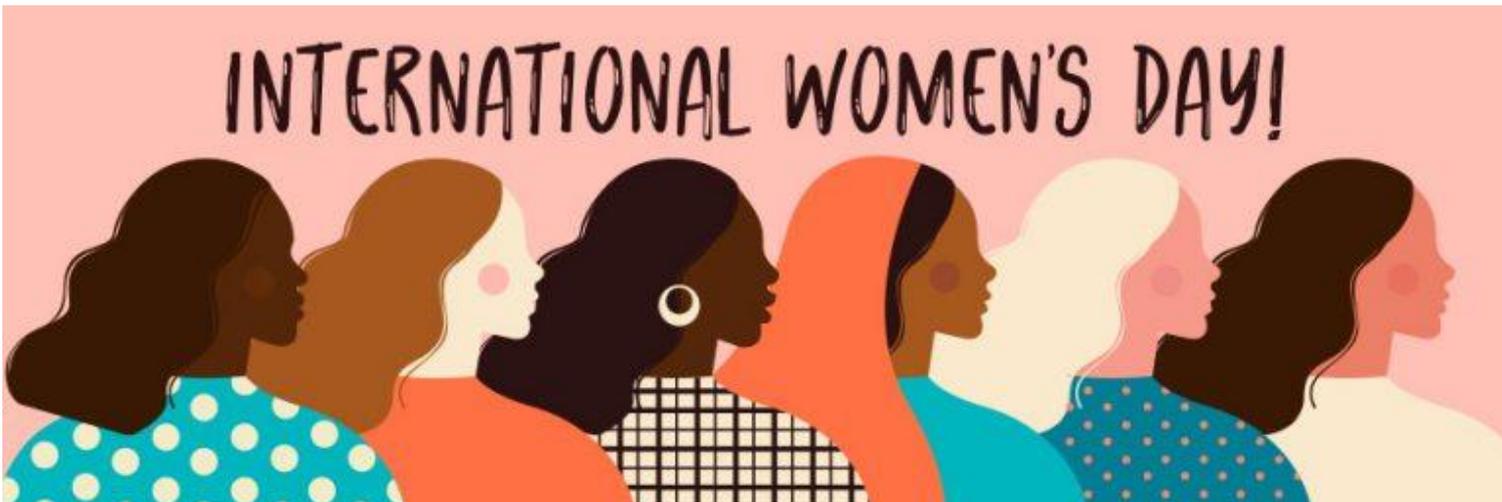
Lisa Burgess addresses the meeting.

President Philip Davis announced that next week Colin Adams will be inducted, and Dr Rob McKimm will talk on Polio.



**Happy Birthday to David Tulloch- February 15 and Trevor Watt-
February 20**

THE ROTARY CLUB OF SALE CELEBRATES



TUESDAY 8TH MARCH
At Sale Greyhounds Club, 6pm.

With speaker Jessica Knight who is an innovative, young dairy farmer who has had an unconventional entry into the dairy industry. She has been appointed to the Gippsland Dairy Board, and is a leader and advocate for her industry.

Partners and guests welcome.

Lisa would also like to emulate the success of the super raffle she ran last year for this event so if you can provide items for a pamper hamper that would be much appreciated. Items such as wine, chocolates, food, perfumes, gift vouchers etc. would be very welcome. Please bring by 1st March to club nights or Lisa will come and pick up items if you call her on 0480 287 677. She would also appreciate assistance with setting up and decorating the tables.

Kylie-Anne Rich has asked for her contact details to be shared, her phone number is 0419 342 416 and email address is kar.rotary@gmail.com

FILM NIGHT

The Rotary Club of Sale has arranged for the Sale Cinema to show the film, **The Duke**, starring Jim Broadbent and Helen Mirren, on **Wednesday 16 March at 6:30pm**.

In 1961, Kempton Bunton, a 60-year-old taxi driver, stole Goya's portrait of the Duke of Wellington from the National Gallery in London. He sent ransom notes saying that he would return the painting on condition that the government invested more in care for the elderly. What happened next became the stuff of legend. An uplifting true story about a good man who set out to change the world and managed to save his marriage.



This preview has been organised by The Rotary Foundation to raise funds in support of Polio Plus. In past years this event has been a great success with support from all the cluster clubs and friends of Rotary. We are looking to repeat this success with **The Duke**.

Tickets will be \$20.00 per person which includes a light supper after the film.

It would be preferred if tickets are prepaid by paying for the number you need into the Rotary Club of Sale account using "Duke surname" as your reference. Prepaid tickets can be collected from 5:30 pm on the day at the cinema. **Rotary Club of Sale Bank Account**

BSB 013795

Acc. No. 278618139

Request for assistance

Recently the Rotary Club of Sale received the request below for assistance. The Board has considered the plea for help and agreed to commit \$1000.00 from the Club's Community Fund to the family. It also agreed that the letter should be sent to each member so that they can make a personal donation if they so wish.

Kind regards, Adrian

David and Rosalie McLaren live in Traralgon, Victoria with their 6 children. Prior to 2019, the McLaren family were happy and healthy. In 2020 Alyssa (12) became unwell which led to her, Bradley (10), Penny (4) and James (1) all being diagnosed with Progressive Pseudo-rheumatoid Dysplasia (PPRD), a rare genetic condition that affects the growth of the bones and joints throughout the body and causes progressive disability and constant pain.

Their lives changed overnight. Just over 12 months later, Alyssa and Bradley both now require the full time use of wheelchairs for mobility. They require high levels of physical support including hoisting and assistance with daily self-care tasks. Penny and James are also expected to need wheelchairs in the future as their conditions deteriorate.

David and Rosalie are currently lifting Alyssa and Bradley into and out of their current vehicle which causes the children a lot of pain and injury and is causing strain on their parents backs. This is not sustainable and is dangerous as the risk of injury or a trip or fall is high.

Prior to her diagnosis at the age of 10, Alyssa went from being an outgoing young girl, who participated in gymnastics, pony club and loved hiking, to being dependent on a wheelchair and requiring assistance with dressing and daily tasks within the space of a few years. Bradley has also recently gone from riding his bike and enjoying playing outside with friends to needing a walker and then a wheelchair over the space of a few months.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) has specific requirements for a vehicle to be eligible for modification. Upon consultation, the most suitable vehicle to meet these requirements is a long wheelbase Mercedes Benz Sprinter which is big enough to fit all the wheelchairs and meets all legal requirements.

There are no government programs available for financial assistance to purchase a vehicle, so this fundraising campaign has been set up on the McLarens behalf to ease some of the financial strain for the family who are also in the process of trying to obtain finances to build a suitable accessible house. Their current home is not suitable for electric wheelchairs and is proving difficult for Alyssa and Bradley to access on their own.

I'm sure you can understand that this is an extremely stressful time for David and Rosalie with the deterioration of their children and the financial burden of these expenses which are above and beyond those experienced by most families.

On a personal note, I have known this family for many years and they are well known in our community for their kindness and generosity. They are always the first to offer to help others, go out of their way to assist in any way that they can and are always helping those in need. I sincerely hope that you can help, every little bit counts.

Our goal is \$120,000 and we are almost there after generous donations from friends, family and the general public. Traralgon Rotary club have also come onboard to make all donations tax deductible for which we are extremely grateful. Thank you for taking the time to read my email. If you wish to contribute you can visit this page to make a tax deductible donation: <https://donations.rawcs.com.au/39-2021-22> Please feel free to contact me on 0427 088 060 if you have any further questions, Yours sincerely, Stacey

FUTURE MEETINGS and EVENTS:

25th to 27th February 2022 District Conference Gippsland Performing Arts Centre Traralgon

Tuesday 1st March 2022, 6pm at Greyhounds Club, speaker Dr Rob McKimm on Polio

Tuesday 8th March 2002, 6pm at Greyhounds Club, International Women's Day, speaker Jessica Knight- innovative young agricultural leader and dairy farmer. Partners night.

Tuesday 15th March- no meeting, Film Night on 16th March

Any queries re future meetings contact Adrian: Mob. 0408 517 062 (Text or call) Email arijs47@gmail.com

Please send Bulletin contributions to Sandra at sandrah@vic.australis.com.au by 2nd March

***Next Rotary meeting- Tuesday 1st March 2022
at the Greyhounds Club 6pm
book with Secretary Adrian Rijs***

Last Name	First Name	Spouse/ Partner
Adams (pending)	Colin	Clare
Burgess	Lisa	Paul
Callinan	Gerard	Jenny O'Neill
Cartledge ^{PP PHF}	John	Liana
Castle	John	Pam
Davis ^{Pres PHF}	Philip	Elizabeth
Dyer ^{OAM PP PHF}	Graeme	Alida
Exton ^{PP PHF}	Rod	Gillian
Henwood ^{PP PHF}	Jeanette	
Houghton ^{PHF}	Sandra	
Hutchinson	Elizabeth	Alan Lewis
Jeremiah	Laurie	Helen
Lewis ^{PP PHF}	Alan	Elizabeth
Mani ^{PP}	Raj	Tracey
McKimm ^{PP}	Robert	Kathy
McMillan ^{PHF}	Kerry	Don
Miller ^{PHF}	L. Keith	Gwen
O'Brien	Danny	Vicki
O'Connor	Nicole	Patrick
Page ^{OAM PP PHF}	Michael	Jan
Pickering ^{PP}	Ted	Margaret
Rijs ^{PP PHF}	Adrian	Louise
Ripper ^{PP PDG PHF}	Don	Jude
Ross ^{PHF}	Neil	Maree
Smith ^{PHF}	Mike	
Smolenaars ^{PP PHF}	Daniel	Norissa
Smyth ^{PP PHF}	Laurie	Jill
Strauss ^{PP PHF}	David	Rachel
Strauss ^{PP}	Rachel	David
Thomas	Jenni	
Tulloch ^{OAM PP PHF}	David	Judy
Versloot ^{PHF}	Andy	Debbie
Watt ^{PP}	Trevor	Liz
Webb	Carmel	