



Incorporated in Victoria A0004674V

P.O. Box 429, Geelong, Vic 3220



February 2022

Next meeting: Tue 8th & 22nd February. *Location to be advised*

A Bit of History

As the new nation of Timor-Leste (East Timor) struggled to survive the Kiwanis Australia District was looking for a way to help. A little over a year after the new nation was formed District Governor Kevin Wood (2003-04) was made aware of a herd of unique dairy cattle in Queensland that had been bred to survive conditions in the tropics that were no longer wanted as the contract had been cancelled and so were now heading for an abattoir. Kevin with a career in farming and the dairy industry came up with a plan to ship them to East Timor where Kiwanis would build a dairy and send support staff to get it running. Getting them out of Queensland was urgent and calls went out for somewhere free or very cheap to hold the herd until a more permanent plan could be arranged. At the time Kiwanis Geelong ran a 'Builders Club' at Christian College in Highton where students in grade 9 spent several weeks in residence at the school farm at Scotsburn near Ballarat. The School Board Chairman Howard Williams owned the farm and also with a dairy background quickly agreed the herd could be held at the farm (Howard later became a member of Kiwanis Geelong). Remarkably cheap transport was arranged to bring the cattle to Victoria and the herd arrived safe and sound. To support the various costs Kiwanis clubs around Australia adopted a cow and each animal was given

Margaret Cox

It is with regret we report the passing of long time member Margaret Cox. Margaret had been associated with the Kiwanis Club of Geelong since it was formed in 1972 with her husband Harold becoming a Charter member of the new club. She herself became a member in December 2006 and became a vital part of the club being a Board Member and Welfare officer for many years. She was awarded a prestigious Hixson Fellowship by the club. Margaret's other main interest was as very skilled member of the Highton Bowling Club.

Our deepest sympathies to Margaret's children, Gregory, Allan, Geoffrey, Leanne & Janine.

Margaret passed away at 4a.m on Thursday 20th Jan 2022 after suffering a stroke on Mon 17th.

A Memorial service will be held on Monday 28th February 2022 at St. Luke's Church, Belmont.



Doll and Teddy Show

The 2022 Doll and Teddy Show will be held on Sat 18th June at the Masonic Hall, Belmont. Further details to be announced as soon as finalised.

A Bit of History (continued)

a name by the adopting club.

The young cows immediately became a delight for students and were looked after with great affection. It was necessary to keep the cows in Australia until adulthood and for paddocks and fencing to be constructed at an old agricultural college in East Timor. After several months at Scotsburn the herd was moved to northern Victoria to a more permanent setting before finally getting shipped to East Timor.

During that period a decommissioned dairy in northern Victoria was generously donated by a farmer who had retired. The dairy was dismantled and refurbished by volunteers including many members of Kiwanis before also being transported to the college.

With the aid of funds from clubs around Australia and many other generous donors the dairy became a reality. Permanent staff was sent to train locals on how to run the dairy. That support lasted several years with many Kiwanian heading to the college to physically construct the dairy farm. Howard Williams went several times to provide his knowledge and effort. As the farm got up and running distribution of the milk became a problem with only a couple of old and unreliable ute's available. The Ford F350 truck subject of a previous article was sent to cure the distribution problem.



One of the newly arrived cows with Mr Abel Guterres who became Consul General for Timor-Leste in Australia, two students and Graham Mould.



Great excitement on the day the herd arrived. L-R, Mark Sims, Kiwanis New Club Coordinator, Abel Guterres, two students and Howard Williams.

BREAKING NEWS

In a shock move the English Cricket Board have announced tennis World No 1 Novac Djocavic as temporary Batting Coach. They said "We acknowledge he doesn't have a background in our sport but we couldn't overlook the fact it took the Australians two weeks to get him out!"



At the meeting held Tue 25th Jan, 2022 a request for funding support to assist a family to return to Ethiopia was discussed and approved for \$300. The family came to Australia on a bridging visa. They have been working as circus performers in Australia for the last five years and due to covid have been forced to live in a caravan at the Geelong Showgrounds for the last two with their visa now to be cancelled. Silvana Bongiovanna, a support worker at Bethany requested a contribution towards the cost of shipping their circus props and belongings back to Ethiopia. Silvana is better known to the club in her previous role running Noahs Ark Toy Library in Fenwick Street. The funds will be held in our club account until arrangements are made.

Birthdays in March

1st Greg Puls

14th Anna Porter

19th Marta Kardos



Following the kind donation from the family of Harold and Margaret Cox of their Hixson Fellowship medals the club flag set was retrieved and found to be in a dilapidated state. It has now been refurbished and painted anew. The Cox's Medals are now proudly displayed. There is room for more of these prestigious medals should they be donated. Refurbishment by Graham Mould.