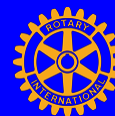




# ROTARY CLUB OF CORIO BAY INC

CHARTERED JANUARY 1963

## THE CORIO BAY COURIER



ROTARY DISTRICT 9780

13 AUGUST 2020

MEETING NUMBER 452

### President's ponderings...



It was great to see our Sergeant Allan Dempsey coming in to zoom under his own steam. Well done Allen and Carmel.

Thank you to Michael Carne for a very thoughtful invocation. I am so pleased that most have embraced the additional method of invocation.

We were very fortunate to have Zahidah Zeytoun Millie speak to us over zoom and show us her paintings and her hard work in protecting mangroves. Originally from Syria, she has made Geelong her home since 2017. She is a writer, speaker, exhibition presenter and a painter, and is passionate about protecting the environment, and particularly mangroves. She is currently undertaking PhD studies in a related field

Mangroves are important for erosion control and consume massive amounts of carbon dioxide. They act as a filtering system to the water and clear sediment. Mangroves provide essential habitat for thousands of species. They can survive in extreme weather conditions.

Zahidah has gathered a group of people together to go out kayaking at Lake

Connewarre, Limeburner's Lagoon (Hovells Creek, Geelong) and Barwon Heads to find mangroves and paint them.

She has done a lot of research in United Arab Emirates in the field of saving mangroves and documenting their importance.

Apparently sixty-seven percent of the mangroves globally have been lost in the last century to coastal development.



Mangrove roots



Rotary  
Australia &  
New Zealand



**BECAUSE OF COVID 19, OUR MEETINGS AT PRESENT ARE HELD ON ZOOM.**

**YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO JOIN OUR ZOOM MEETINGS**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82081722537?pwd=YVliM2ZDeHNHSWRkQmxJT1YzNCtMUT09>**

**THIS IS A RECURRING MEETING AT 7PM THURSDAY.**



To the left is Zahidah painting mangroves while sitting in a kayak—Lake Connewarre.

The remaining 150,000 square kilometres face a number of threats including overharvesting, overfishing, pollution, and climate change. Mangroves are nurseries to many hidden lives, like fish, birds, turtles, crabs and more.

From 2012 to 2017, when Zahidah lived in UAE, near the coastal mangroves and she painted them, she shed light on the danger these trees face. She told us that near her home she could hear the bustle of encroaching city life. "The daily destruction of the mangroves was my motivation to keep painting," she recounted. "My art projects often highlight forgotten issues."

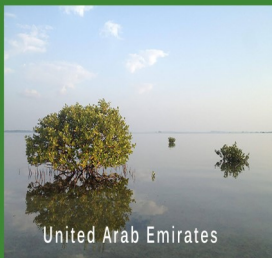
Kayaking through the estuaries in the UAE, Zahidah would remove tangled fishing nets, a threat to turtles and corals in the area. When she walked or jogged through the mangroves, she collected rubbish, like plastic bags, water bottles and even socks.

## MANGROVES FROM THE WATER

celebrates and supports

The International Day  
for the Conservation of the  
Mangrove Ecosystem

26 July 2020



United Arab Emirates



Australia

'Mangroves from the Water'

started its art campaign in the UAE in 2014  
with a touring group & multimedia art exhibition  
& the 2017 Mangroves Festival.

The art campaign is to continue on International  
Mangroves Day 2021 in Geelong, Australia



شجر القرم من الماء  
Mangroves from the Water



mangrovesfromthewater.wordpress.com



www.facebook.com/mangrovesfromthewater



Mangrovesftw



MangrovesFTW

She built rock barriers near the mangroves to prevent cars from driving over plant and animal life. King tides usually leave puddles full of small fish, but instead of the birds coming to collect them, cars drove over them. Fresh green algae was collected for private fish nurseries. Camel farmers cut trees to be used as fodder for their camels. At night, hunters came to take crabs from the mangroves.

When she was a child, her mother would encourage her to look after the plants. "She used to say that if we look after plants, the universe will be side by side with us and listen to us."

### Presidents Ponderings continues:

Barbara sent me a video of well-known song but with "Covid 19" words. I would like to play it for you before the meeting. It is amazing how some people are so talented at making the best of this situation.

If anyone would like me to play any music that they enjoy, please let me know. I can source it and play it for you at the meeting.

I am looking forward to next week's Speaker, our own Michael Carne's presentation of RAWC's working party to Vanuatu. We do expect some pigeon English in the information! [Rotary Australia World Community Service Ltd. (RAWCS) was formed to enable Australian Rotarians, Rotary Districts and Rotary Clubs to assist disadvantaged communities and individuals through humanitarian aid projects.]

Yours in Rotary Deb

## CORONA QUOTES

- 👤 - Not even in my wildest dreams did I imagine myself entering a Bank, wearing a mask and asking for money.
- 👤 - Never thought my hands will one day consume more alcohol than my liver...ever!
- 👤 - Quarantine seems like a Netflix series...just when you think it is over, they release the next season.
- 📅 - Who was complaining that 2020 didn't have enough holidays...now what?
- 👤 - I need to social distance myself from my fridge; I tested positive in excess weight!
- 👤 - Can someone tell me if the 2nd quarantine will be with the same family... or we can change?
- 👤 - In just two weeks we will hear if there still two more weeks to let us know that two more weeks of quarantine are needed...
- 👤 - I'm not planning adding this 2020 to my age...I didn't even use it!
- 👤 - We want to publicly apologise to the year 2019 for all the bad things we said about it.
- 👤 - To all the ladies that were praying for their husbands to spend more time with them... how are you doing?
- 👤 - My washing machine only accepts pyjamas...I put a pair of jeans and a message came "stay home"! 🏠
- 👤 - If I see anyone on December 31 crying for this year ending, I will use a bottle on their head!
- 👤 - After all that we have been through, the only thing missing is that the vaccine will be available only in suppository form.
- 👤 - I feel like a teenager... no money in my wallet, hair long and out of control, thinking what to do with my life, and grounded home.