

BULLETIN



Meeting date: October 1st, 2024 at the Victoria Marriott Inner Harbour Hotel

Virtual or In-Person: In-person, joint meeting with Victoria/Saanich and Victoria Harbourside.

Visitors / Guests: Anita Wotschel (Courtenay) Speaker, Pitchapha Plonomai 'Peach' (Exchange Student from Thailand), Dave White (Courtenay), Karin Voisin (Kitchener/Westmount), plus members of the Victoria/Saanich and Victoria Harbourside – total attendance for meeting was 60.

Announcements:

- Fundraiser “Beer and Burger” – Oct 29th at Spinnakers in aid of literacy charities (\$40 with \$10 going to charity (buy tickets at <https://www.ismyrotaryclub.org/Register/Index.cfm?EventID=77786853>).
- Bottle drive – Oct 5th behind Oak Bay High, off Cranmore – come and lend a hand if you’ve not done it before!

Presentation on Unleashing the Power of Literacy: Anita Wotschel, District Literacy Chair

- The presentation aimed to define literacy, share knowledge of literacy projects and look at club capacity of support projects.
- Literacy and basic education is one of the seven Rotary Areas of Focus.
- Literacy’s very large economic and health benefits were discussed.
- Types of literacy include foundational ‘reading/writing’, digital literacy, financial literacy and media literacy.
- Who or what organization would your club like to support? International or local community, newborns, pre-school, primary, intermediate, high school-aged students, youth organizations, libraries, tutoring programs, summer reading programs, seniors, unhoused
- Projects to distribute children’s books were discussed.
- “The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children.”
- RACHEL (Remote Area Community Hotspot for Education and Learning) was discussed. This is a portable, battery-powered, device that contains copies of educational websites in offline format.
- Suggestions for projects included devoting a club meeting to plan literacy projects, hosting a speaker from your school district/adult education program, appoint a “literacy chair” on your board of directors and bringing in an author as a guest speaker.

- Resources are on District 5020 website Rotary5020.org/literacy.

Next meeting – Oct 8th at the Oak Bay Recreation Centre. This is a club day meeting.

List of attendees on 1st October

Aked, Heather	McGowan, Kim
Bamji, Perry	
Black, Margaret	Parker, Dan
Bryant, William	Pakstas, Laima
Buchholz, Paula	Pash, Gerald
Byron, Judy	Peggs, Joan
Cooley, Ron	Petrie, Jack
Cote, Shawn	Pitt, Vicky
Crockford, Bryan	Plonomai, Pitchapha "Peach"
Curtis, Lorna	Schneider, Rachel
Diemecke Pablo	Scott, Tracey
Farquharson, Adam	Shepherd, Susan
Finan, Roger	Sheppard, Jacqueline
Firkins, Joan	Smillie, Ben
Flynn, Mark	Sparling, Jim
Greeniaus, Gordon	Stevenson, Giles
James, Janice	Stewart, Shawn
Jasper, Judy	Toews, Jennette
Johnson, Lorna	Townsend, Wendy
Jordan, John	Upadhya, Gaurav
Joyce, Arthur	Uppal, Atam
Kershaw, Christopher	Vanstone, Edward
Koshman, Cathy	Voisin, Karen
Lawrie, Peter	Voitchovsky, Krista
Lecavalier, Liz	Wakefield, Clair
Lecavalier, Paul	Waldner, Howard
Mackenzie, Renate	Wotschel, Anita - Speaker

Maxwell, David
McGee, Louise

Zaccardelli, Zack