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De Vos, George /Yvonne 9795 0009

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Hatch, Rita 9725 5553

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Herft, Angelo & Melinda

Jacotine, Peter & Silvereen 0414 666 368

Livera, Gerard & Jenifer 0402 118 884

Muller, Laraine 8759 4324

Pinder, Allan & Marie 9700 6178

Scarnivel, Tony & Arlene 9763 0085

Schokman, Tania 0409 557192

Williamsz, Denis 9897 3521

Young, Rita 9557 2364

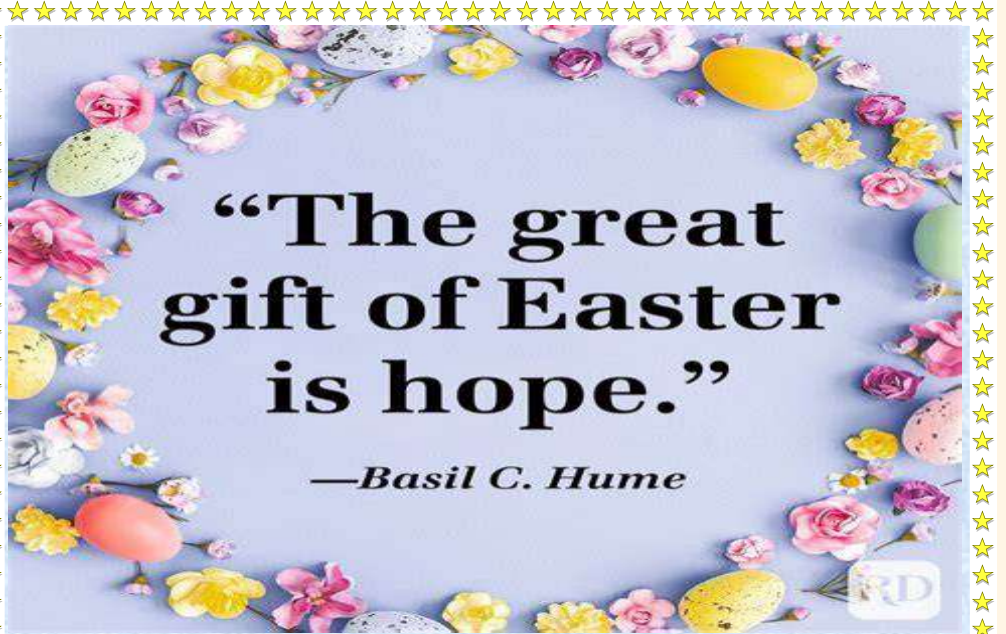
Editor: Earle Ferdinand 0402 458 992

Email:
editor@eightyclubmelbourne.org.au

Website

www.eightyclubmelbourne.org.au

Address: P.O.BOX 2645,
ROWVILLE, VIC 3178



EASTER is **THE ONLY TIME OF THE YEAR**
WHEN IT IS SAFE TO PUT
ALL YOUR EGGS IN ONE BASKET!!!
DO SHARE A THOUGHT FOR THOSE
WHO'S BASKETS ARE EMPTY

A Small Donation
Goes a Long Way to
Help those in Need.
Your Generosity
Helps Us to
HELP THEM !!!



MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION PAYMENTS:

ANZ BANK BSB: 013479 Account No: 3003 555 83

STUDENT SPONSORSHIP AND GIFTS TO STUDENTS:

ANZ BANK BSB: 013141 A/C 852 301 233

SEE LAST PAGE FOR MORE DETAILS

From the Desk of the Editor

We are all familiar with the saying that 'the destiny of every person lies in their own hands'.

This generalisation does not account for the many factors and aspects that we must overcome, unique to each and every individual. From birth we are all subject to many trials and tribulations that life may throw at us. To some, these hurdles along the way will be easy to surmount, yet there are those who will be challenged, every step of the way. I am always struck by the paradox that we live on a planet that spends billions to find extra terrestrial life and trillions spent on wars to destroy their fellow humans. A mere fraction of these budgets would combat poverty and we would all be in a better place. A simplistic view, maybe. History has chronicled the politics of war over the ages and yet, It is a sad reflection that what we have learned has been to no avail. We are becoming more divisive and dialogue is no longer the art of diplomacy. Easter is a time of new beginnings and a time of Hope. Irrespective of caste, creed, ethnicity or where we live, we all look towards a future filled with Hope and Peace.

Even in the beautiful resplendent island of my birth Sri Lanka, ethnic conflicts resulted in a war that lasted 25 years. The deadliest natural disaster of 2004, a Tsunami that killed approximately 40,000 people, Covid and economic mismanagement have taken its toll on many, especially the poor.

At a time when the people of Sri Lanka lived with hope that the country was back on track to better their lives, another natural disaster in Cyclone Ditwah resulting in major flooding, earth-slips and another 300 deaths put further pressure on the country's economic resources. Infrastructure and basic amenities like food, water and medical facilities were severely affected. As always it is the poor who are the hardest hit in these situations and The Eighty Club had no hesitation in using the Club's December fund-raiser dance as a springboard to raise funds urgently needed in Sri Lanka.

To the credit of our generous members and well-wishers, who responded to our appeal, a sum of A\$13,325 was raised and a further supplement of \$11,200 was donated through Club funds. Two reputable agencies in Sri Lanka, the Lions Club and Affinity foundation were entrusted to investigate and coordinate help where it was needed most.

Affinity Foundation

Affinity worked closely with Chilaw Hospital to assist it with the re-build, as a significant amount of medical equipment was ruined.

****Phase 1 was completed with the procurement of three multiparameter patient monitors.***

****Phase 2 was completed with the purchase of two defibrillators.***

Lions of Sri Lanka

The three major projects that the Lions of SL undertook included:

****Assist the rebuilding of a pharmaceutical distribution business where the premises were washed away.***

****Rebuilding the music room at the Giriulla Galdeniya Primary School, including building repairs and new musical instruments for over 100 students, mostly from low-income families.***

****Provide medical equipment consumables and basic furniture needs as well as Repair buildings at the Chilaw Hospital.***

As always we are mindful of the costs of these special appeals and the urgency to fund these requests. On behalf of the Club, I sincerely express our profound and heartfelt THANKS to each and everyone of you for your generosity and compassion to those in need. Your belief in the work we do, gives us guidance and the motivation to continue our mission into the future.

Shown on the next page are some pictures of the devastation caused by Ditwah and the long and arduous task faced by many to return to a sense of normalcy.

Earle Ferdinand

SCHOOL MUSIC ROOM RE-OPENING



PHOTOS OF THE CHILAW HOSPITAL



Welfare Beneficiary Co-Ordinator's Report

Looking back through the many years from its inception in 1982, the Eighty Club Melbourne has indeed, been an implausible cause of support to many, striving to ease the burden of the well deserving amongst the less fortunate than ourselves in Sri Lanka. The Club since then still continues to care for people in Colombo and Batticaloa, we currently have a total of 225 individuals, who receive quarterly pensions, an allowance for medical expenses, family assistance and so much more.

This year too, we are eager to continue with great expectancy – this is only possible with your support and generosity as it has been in the past to inspire, uplift and encourage the downtrodden. Every application that's received is raw, with a heart wrenching story of genuine need. Many share a common struggle such as little to no means of government assistance or financial income, age related medical issues, the lack of means to purchase daily essentials and medications with children who, despite their own limited resources strive to support their families - the list is endless.

As Easter approaches and we take time to reflect on the goodness and sacrificial love of God our father, let's not forget to join our hearts and hands and partner with the rest, as we remember those who are doing it tough, particularly the poor Burgher community in Sri Lanka. Their struggles are very real and your support and open-handedness will go a long way in bringing joy, contentment and comfort into the hearts and lives of these individuals.

As you contemplate ways in which you could continue to help, please also consider sharing this message with your friends and family. Alone, one person may make a small difference—but together, we can impact generations.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you on behalf of the organisation and the committee, for your continued generous support in caring for the poor, the helpless and the desperate, your donations and participation in the past have certainly helped alleviate the suffering of many in Sri Lanka.

Meet some of our newest Welfare Beneficiaries you support.



Virginia Hindle
75 years



Rodney Collas
69 years



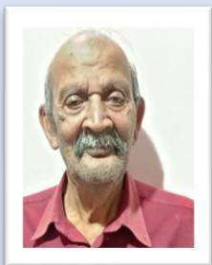
Ronnie Pieries
69 years



Dalrene Hendaling
69 years



Janet Pendigrast
71 years



Shirley Van,
Schoonbeek, 78 years



Shelton Morris,
78 years



Thank you and God Bless you abundantly,

Gillian Gibbs-Jansen

The more we take the welfare of others to heart and work for their benefit, the more benefit we derive for ourselves. This is a fact that we can see. - Dalai Lama

SPONSORSHIP NEWS

A moving letter from Nichola Hamer to her sponsor Denham Roberts in Upwey. Do take the time to read !!

Dear Sir

Warm greetings to you. I hope you and your family are doing well. My family members are fine as well and I always keep you and your family in our prayers. I wanted to share some updates about my life. As I mentioned earlier, I successfully completed my 6 month training program at People's Bank. I am truly grateful for that opportunity. At present, I am searching for a suitable degree program to continue my higher studies, which is an important step for my future.

In the month of August, we celebrated our Church feast. As the leader in our parish, I had many responsibilities to manage and it was a meaningful and blessed experience for me. Last month our church community along with our parish priest and sisters went on a 3-day trip to Kandy and Nuwara Eliya. My family also joined. We enjoyed the trip so much, especially the cold weather. Unfortunately, both my mother and I fell sick with fever afterwards. We went to the hospital and took the necessary medicines. I suffered for five days, I have fully recovered now. My mother still has a heavy cough and I am taking care of her closely.

Now it is September and because of school holidays, my sisters and brother are at home. Every day we fight, dance, sing and laugh together. We try our best to make our mother happy, because we miss our father every single day. That is one of the biggest reasons why I study hard, I want to make my mom proud and give her a better life.

My mother recently told us that this year she will not be able to buy new clothes for Christmas or New Year, due to our financial situation. We understand her struggles very well, because our only income comes from her small boutique. So, we have already decided to wear the clothes we already have and not to ask her for anything. We usually do not celebrate New Year, because my father's remembrance falls on January 1st, the day he passed away. I miss him deeply, but I also know that life is unpredictable, and we must continue to live with hope and strength.

I also have some very good news to share with you. I applied for the BOC Bank Trainee Staff Assistant position. I studied hard, did the exam and then I was selected for the interview and gave my best. On Sunday I received an email confirming that I have been selected for the job. I have to go to Colombo on December 10th to submit my documents. My mother and my whole family was extremely happy and proud of me. That moment truly felt like a blessing.

And something more meaningful happened. I received the job confirmation email on my father's birthday. It felt like a sign and a blessing from above. If he were alive today, he would have been the happiest person. When I was in school, every time I got first rank, he would proudly call his relatives and tell them about me. I miss him very deeply and receiving this news on his birthday felt like he was still watching over me.

After my A/L's, I made a big decision not to apply for university. Many people told me to go, but I knew that studying for 4-5 years without being able to earn would be very difficult for my family. My mother would have had to carry all the financial burden alone. Also, getting a government job in Sri Lanka has become very difficult nowadays. That is why I decided to work first and do my degree while working. I was honestly confused whether I had made the right decision or not, but when I saw that job confirmation email I finally felt confident in my self.

I am planning to do the IBSL exam as well. One subject fee is Rs10,000. After I start my job, I will join the classes. I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart. My family trusts me, you trusted me from my school day and you supported me until today. That means more to me than anything. I am truly blessed to have had your support. I will definitely inform you about my job role and workplace once everything is finished.

I feel that now I can handle my own expenses and my life. I also hope that in the future, the sponsorship you were giving me can go to another deserving student who is passionate about studying. If you don't mind, I would like to share that my sister, Mikel Teena Hamer is studying in Grade 09. She is very interested in her studies and her dream is to become a doctor. This is just a small request – if you ever wish to sponsor another student, I will be so happy if her dream can shine through your kindness.

Continuing this sponsorship even after your father's passing is a truly noble act. I will always be grateful to you. I will never forget you or your family in my lifetime. I will always pray for you and your family and for your good health, happiness and success. Also I would like to thank my heartfelt thanks to the entire Burgher Union Community for selecting me for this sponsorship. You have all helped brighten my future. If God blesses me with important life events in the future, I will surely invite you and I truly hope to meet you one day. Thank you so much for everything you have done for me. I am forever grateful.

Yours Sincerely

Sgd Nichola Hamer

(This 4 page letter has been typed in it's entirety, as written, from the original for clarity and space considerations)



Angelo de Hoedt
10 yrs

A Student Sponsor provides support for their health education and well-being, breaking the cycle of poverty.

Student Sponsors Needed — You can HELP

A Student Sponsorship costs a mere \$20 per month for students up to the GCE (OL) paid quarterly. GCE(AL) students receive \$25 per month, again paid quarterly. GCE(AL) studies is generally for a 2 year period. For further details please contact the SSP coordinator

Trevor Collette on PH: 03 9706 1084

Email: sponsor@eightyclubmelbourne.org.au

trevorcollette43@bigpond.com



Oshala Abesingha
12 Yrs



Our Sponsored Daughter

Dear Trevor,

Carole and I were recently in SL on a holiday and met our sponsored girl, Rozanne Angel Thomasz and her mother, Priyanthi, at the DBU where we treated them to lunch.

I also presented Rozanne my old laptop computer which Earle Ferdinands very kindly cleaned out for me. Rozanne is about to do her A Levels and I thought that the computer would help her to do her assignments.

The attached photograph is of Carole with Rozanne at the DBU on the 25th October 2025. I hope you like the photo.

Rodney Garnier

Membership Report

17 March 2026



**Kingsley & Alexis Fernando
Godwin & Margie Philips
Angela Perera
Rajan & Ranjani Hensman
Athula & Sandhya Ratnayake
Christopher & Shiranthi Solomons
Joseph & Angela Cugnetto/De La Harpe**

**Gregory Ang
Martin & Nicola Hunt
Sharmane Oliver
Lynne Peck
Sweenie Willarachchi**

**YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
MATTERS**

**JoinUp
SIGN UP**



Please support our membership drive to recruit more members which will help the club to maintain welfare services to the less fortunate of our community in Sri Lanka.

If you need an application form to invite a friend or relative to join our Club, please contact

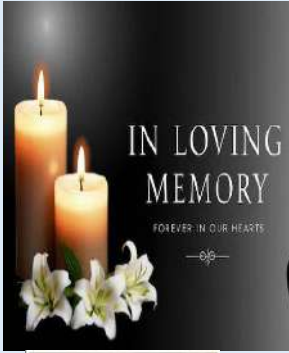
Our Membership Secretary:

Allan Pinder on 9700 6178/0410 863716. email: apinder8@hotmail.com

Download an application from our website at: www.eightyclubmelbourne.org.au.

Membership Secretary's Desk page - Click on Button **"Become a Member"**

In God's Care



VAN DEN DRIESEN, Thelma Noeline - 01/03/1930 - 29/01/2026

Aged 95 years passed away peacefully on 29th January, 2026. Dearly loved wife of Bill (deceased), and much loved and adored mother of Johann, Derek, Jenny, Keith and Kay. Much loved mother-in-law of Julie, Michelle, David, Anna and Kaye. Cherished Nana to her 10 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. Forever in our hearts, we will always love you Mum.



Pereira - Caryl Millicent, Passed Away peacefully on 6/12/2025.

Darling Mum to Bradley, Judy, Russell, Deanna and Michelle. Mother in law to Ananda and Vanessa. Nanna to Jayde, Natalie, Dean, Bridgette, Courtney, Denzel, Lauren, Cameron, Amir, Garth, Roxanne and Michael. Big Nanna to Claudia, Maya and Zion. Loving wife of Noland (dec.) Eldest daughter of Colville and Merle De Kretser (both dec.)

REST IN PEACE



REID, Claud Eustace - 04/03/1936 - 22/02/2026

The Funeral service to celebrate the life of Claud Eustace Reid was held at on Monday, March 9, 2026 at the Renowden Chapel – Springvale Botanical Cemetery followed by a private cremation



KOELMEYER, Neil Aloysius - 7 Jun 1927 - 23 Sep 2025.

Family and friends were invited to attend the funeral service to celebrate the life of Neil on Tuesday 30th September, 2025, at Pinnaroo Chapel Bridgeman Downs.

FORBES, Vilma Therese- 06/09/1929 - 16/12/2025

A funeral Mass for the Repose of the Soul of Mrs Vilma Forbes was offered at St Finbar's Catholic Church, Brighton on Tuesday 30th December 2025 at 11.30am, followed by a private cremation.

Please donate to your favourite charity in Vilma's Memory.

JACOTINE, Andrew 'Ian' - 12/03/1953 - 13/02/2026 Sadly passed away on

13th February 2026 surrounded by his family. Much loved husband of Melody. Treasured father of Chantal and Tamara. Cherished father in law of Brek. Adored grandfather of Axil and Kalani. Forever in our hearts.

BEQUESTS

It is always humbling to acknowledge the incredible generosity of bequests made to our charity in memory of a loved one, at a time of immense personal grief. Your support means a world to us and will make a huge difference in the lives those we help. Thanks for believing in our mission and leaving a lasting legacy to the memory of those you love.

1, We thank the families of Kathy, Genni and Heather for the bequest of \$3000 in memory and honouring the wishes of their father, the later Neil Aloysius Koelmeyer.

2. Shereen Grimes and Gordon Koch for the bequest of \$5000, in loving memory of their mother, the late Carol Koch

OUR GRATEFUL THANKS TO THESE GENEROUS DONORS

Donations received from 3rd November 2025 to 4th March 2026

Name	Donation	Name	Donation
Allison Narelle	125.00	Herft Gerry & Gina - In lieu of a birthday gift for Noeline Willenberg	50.00
Anonymous	320.00	Hickey, Doreen - In memory of Gail	60.00
Anonymous - For 10 extremely poor WB's outlined in November 2025 newsletter	1,000.00	Koch, Darryl & Maureen - For Noeline Cooke's 91st birthday	25.00
Anonymous - In lieu of birthday gift for Noeline Willenberg	100.00	The Late Koelmeyer Neil - Donation by family who honours the wishes of the late Neil Koelmeyer	3,000.00
Cooke, Deborah - In lieu of birthday gift for Noeline Willenberg	50.00	Misso, Mario - for Mrs R Violet (burns victim)	62.00
Corteling, Peter & Tamara	75.00	Noller Trevor & Aloma	20.00
Dabrera, Cheryl	100.00	Perera Winifred - In memory of Mallika Fernando	100.00
De Souza, Bryan & Jan	100.00	Prentice Pierre & Kym - For Christmas activities	200.00
Drinkwater John	350.00	Ragel Florence - Christmas donation	100.00
Faye Gray - 70th Birthday Gift	2,600.00	Robertson Jack & Emily	200.00
Ferdinands, Tammy	100.00	Stewart Tamara - In lieu of birthday gift for Noeline Willenberg	30.00
Gill Sharon	400.00	The Late van den Driesen Thelma - in memory of Thelma van den Driesen	200.00
Grimes Shereen & Koch Gordon - In loving memory of their mother Carol Koch	5,000.00	Vollenhoven, Beulah - In memory of Audrey Fernando	100.00
Hempfung, Rodger & Jennifer	100.00	Young Rita - In memory of Richard Young	500.00
Herft Angelo & Melinda - In lieu of birthday gift for Noeline Willenberg	50.00	Young Rita - In memory, of departed friends - Audrey, Leonie, Lucia and Clair	100.00
Herft Gerry & Gina	200.00		
Donations for Cyclone Ditwah Flood Relief Projects			
Anonymous	635.00	Moldrich Elmo & Dianne	100.00
Bartholomeusz Katie	100.00	Muller Lorraine	50.00
Boustead Chris	50.00	Ohlmus Fritsz & Liz	100.00
De Hoedt Winston & Clara	100.00	Oorloff Errol & Elaine	50.00
de la Harpe Chris & Karen	150.00	Oorloff Howard & Trish	25.00
de la Harpe David & Jenny	1,000.00	Orchard Keith & Judy	500.00
de la Harpe Julia	50.00	Payoe Dawn	200.00
de la Harpe Therese	50.00	Prentice Pierre & Kym	500.00
De Vos George & Yvonne	150.00	Raymond Roger & Lyn	100.00
De Witt, Mignonne	50.00	Renaut Monique - For Dad's 90th Birthday	90.00
Drieberg Lauchlan & Vivianne	150.00	Richardson Mathew & Brittany	100.00
Fernando Steve	250.00	Scarnivel Tony & Arlene	50.00
Finer Power Transmissions Pty Ltd	5,000.00	Smith Aubrey	200.00
Gregory Anjila	200.00	Soccio Monica & Tony	50.00
Gunaratnam Marcus & Kamini	500.00	Swalwell Colin & Simone	200.00
Harvie Dawn	50.00	Thompson, Kathleen	50.00
Henricus Janet	25.00	Van Langenberg Roger & Jan	50.00
Herft Patrick & Viveca	50.00	Welsh Lorraine & Trevor	100.00
Jansz Cedric & Faye	50.00	Williamsz Gary & Elaine	100.00
Jansz Peter & Joan	1,000.00	Woodbury John & Forrest	250.00
Kreun, Salina & Kas	500.00	Young Sonia	250.00
Melder Tamara	100.00	TOTAL	\$13,325.00

HELP
EMERGENCY

Thank You
FOR YOUR HELP



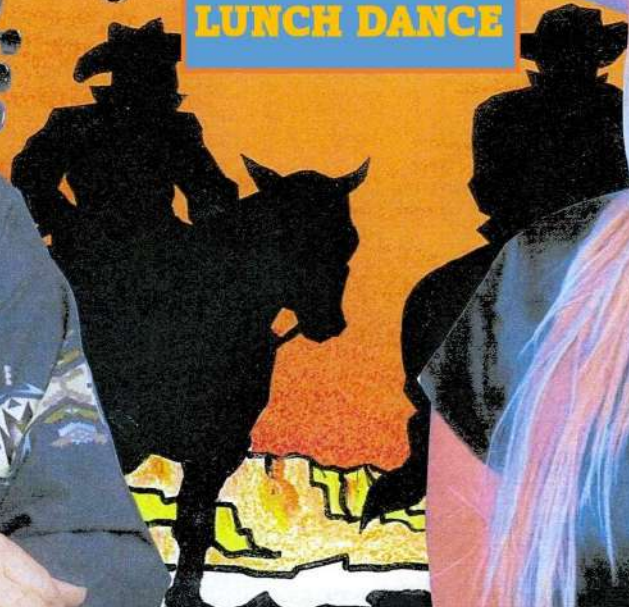
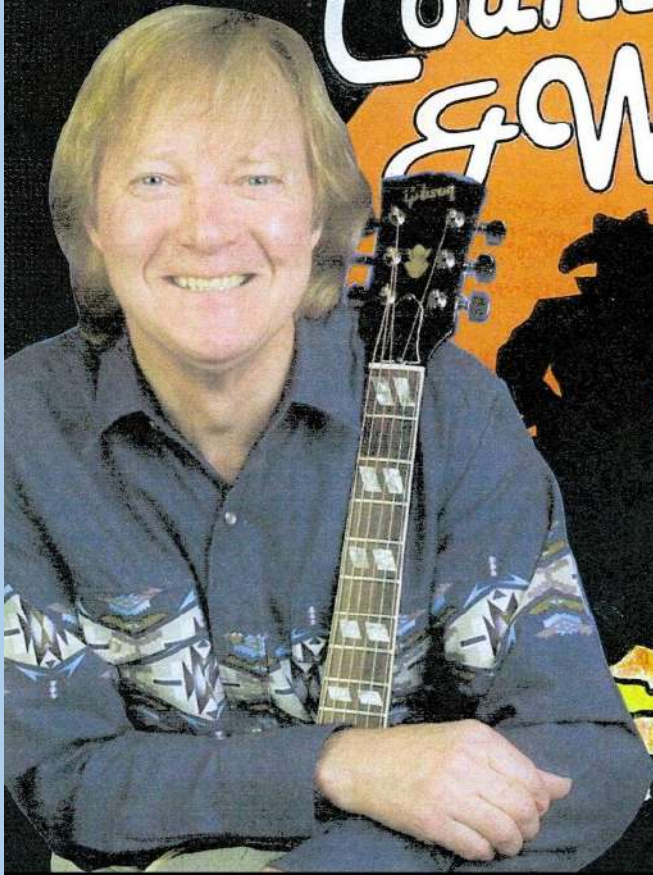
DATE	NAME	AMOUNT	DETAILS
27/08/2025	Irene Annette Silva	500.00	Says she has no money for food
16/09/2025	Flora Roof	2,000.00	ECOM-WB. Her only income is what she receives from ECOM. Says she has no money for food
24/09/2025	Michael Davidson	1,000.00	Just discharged from hospital. Has no money for bus fare
26/11/2025	Nora Robertson	1,000.00	Going home from hospital. No money for bus fare
	Mrs. Francisco	5,000.00	ECOM-WB. She is very sick. Son takes care of her and has no money for her medication and various other necessities. (expired subsequently)
13/01/2026	Merlyn Gay	3,000.00	Came from Wattala to the General Hospital clinic and is too sick to go home by bus.

EIGHTY CLUB OF MELBOURNE

PRESENTS

Country & Western

LUNCH DANCE



**Col
Perkins**

with
Australia's Country Stars

**Sandra
Dodd**

An Afternoon of

COUNTRY and ROCK & ROLL MUSIC

Sunday 3rd May 2026

12pm — 4pm

Lunch Smorgasbord

Dessert

Tea / Coffee

Drinks: BYO

Prizes & Raffle Draw

Donation:

\$50 per head

Grand on Princes

**2251 Princes Highway
Mulgrave 3170**

TICKET PAYMENTS IN FULL BY

FRIDAY — 10 APRIL 2026

BANKING DETAILS: ANZ BANK: Eighty Club Melbourne Inc.

BSB: 013479 Ac.No: 300355583 Please ensure ID for BANK deposit /EFT

TICKETS &

RESERVATIONS:

Earle & Shireen

9512 7265

George & Yvonne

9795 0009

All Committee

Members



The Eighty Club Melbourne

presents

Hot n' Spicy Extravaganza Lunch Dance

at the **Grand on Princes**

2251 Princes Hwy Service Rd, Mulgrave VIC 3170

Sunday - 5th July, 2026 - 12 pm to 4 pm

Trip the light fantastic to the music of

*Sumptuous
Sri Lankan Smorgasbord*

Donation: \$50

BYO

Dress Code

Smart Casual

GAVIN CHATELIER

"The singer with the velvet voice..."



For table reservations, please contact the co-ordinators

Trevor & Jill Collette - Ph: 9706 1084

Gillian Jansen - Ph: 0403 266 375

All Committee Members or Table hosts

events@eightyclubmelbourne.org.au

Table preferences are for 10-12 pax.

PLEASE BOOK EARLY FOR AVAILABILITY

BANKING DETAILS

ANZ BANK:

Eighty Club Melbourne Inc.

BSB: 013479 Ac.No: 300355583

Please ensure ID for BANK deposit /EFT

your name or phone no:

Mailing address :

P O Box 2645, ROWVILLE VIC 3178.

**Please note that all bookings must be confirmed
and paid for in full by Wednesday, 17 June 2026**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO OUR MEMBERS

Please be advised that with the introduction of our new accounting software and to streamline our Accounting procedures, the following changes have been made.

The bank account Nos: will be as follows:

MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION PAYMENTS:

ANZ BANK BSB: 013479 Account No: 3003 555 83

STUDENT SPONSORSHIP AND GIFTS TO STUDENTS:

ANZ BANK BSB: 013141 A/C 852 301 233

FOR ALL EFT TRANSFERS AND BANK DEPOSITS MADE TO A BANK TELLER:

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR ID / REFERENCE:- IS THE INVOICE NO: OR YOUR PHONE NO:

CHEQUES /MONEY ORDERS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO THE:

EIGHTY CLUB MELBOURNE Inc ADDRESS: PO BOX 2645, ROWVILLE, VIC 3178

PLEASE ATTACH THE TOP HALF OF YOUR INVOICE WITH YOUR POSTAL REMITTANCE



HELP INCREASE OUR FUNDING, BY REDUCING THE COST OF MAILING

To all our members, who presently are not on our electronic mailing list, please consider receiving our Newsletter and all other correspondence, by EMAIL. This will also enable you to receive the newsletter in colour.

Due to the escalating costs of postage and printing, an electronic mailing list will save the club approximately \$2000 this year. These savings will help increase our funding for the less fortunate in Sri Lanka

Please indicate your preference for receiving the Newsletter by contacting us on email at :



If undelivered, return to:

PO Box 2645

ROWVILLE

VIC. 3178,

AUSTRALIA

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Eighty Club Melbourne Inc.

Newsletter

INC NO.A0013333T

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