

Situated in the state of Victoria, Rotary District 9820 covers an area of approximately 26,000 square kilometers.

It is a vast district stretching from Melbourne's South Eastern suburbs right through to the New South Wales Border, encompassing the rugged Bass Coast in the south and the Great Dividing Range in the north.

The geography, natural scenery, settlement and industry of district 9820 are diverse.

The south eastern suburbs of Melbourne, are home to much of the city's industrial heartland and a rapidly growing and increasingly multicultural population.



State of Victoria



Loy Yang Power Station

Phillip Island is popular for its surfing, fishing, wildlife and motor sports. Home to Australia's oldest motor racing circuit, the tiny island hosts the annual Australian Moto GP. It is also home to a famous colony of fairy penguins who make their nightly pilgrimage up the beach to the delight of watching visitors.

The region is both rich in natural resources and picturesque landscapes.

Inland, the region ranges from placid agricultural and prime dairy farming land to the dynamic industrial coal fields and power stations. of the Latrobe Valley.

Mountainous forests are home to the timber

industry and tourist destinations like Mount Baw Baw Alpine resort and the historic gold mining village of Walhalla.

Along the southeastern coastline the Ninety Mile Beach, is one of the longest uninterrupted beaches in the world. Offshore natural gas and oilfields can be found alongside picturesque fishing towns of the Gippsland Lakes.



Dairy Country



Victorian Alps

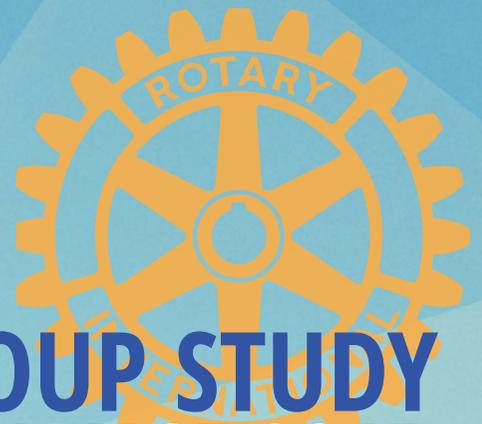


Dandenong Market

The Mornington Peninsula, where the first Victorian settlers arrived, is now a long established holiday retreat and premier wine growing region.



Mornington Peninsula



GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE 2015 District 9820



facebook.com/gse2015



Eric

Eric is a Past President and member of Frankston North Rotary Club where he has been a member for 22 years.

Eric is Married to Marina and has three married children and six grandchildren. He lives in Sandhurst on the Mornington Peninsula; known for its wonderful beaches, wineries, golf courses and tourist destinations... and a high population of retirees!

He, loves water sports, is a regular keen golfer and has a 1964 MGB Classic Sports Car.

Eric recently retired from his roll as a Data Centre Manager of five Data Centres for a large Melbourne IT Company after working in the Data Centre space for over 40 years,

Eric's aim as Team leader is for his team to have a wonderful, successful and life changing Vocational and Cultural Exchange.

Erika

Erika works for the Victorian State Government managing bushfire risk.

She enjoys her work as it includes fire suppression, engaging with the community about fire management practices and liaising with other emergency services. Erika is currently based at Swifts Creek, a rural township situated at the base of the Victorian Alps.



She enjoys volunteering with the Country Fire Authority, playing sports and looking after her vegetable garden.

The opportunity to travel to Turkey is very exciting; Erika is keenly looking forward to experiencing someone else's community

Jenny

Jenny is an Environmental Consultant with Prensa, a property, environment and safety consulting firm.



Jenny lives with her partner Steve and two dogs Rosco and Ruby in Narre Warren. When she's not travelling around the world, she is gardening, playing sport, camping or entertaining friends.

With a passion for the environment, her favourite place is outside enjoying nature and learning about how we can protect and preserve our beautiful environment.

Jenny plans to experience as much of the world and meet as many people as she can. Jenny values family above all else, and is most excited about sitting around the table meeting families, learning traditions and values and tasting all the wonders Turkey has to offer!



Michelle

Michelle owns and operates String + Salt and small retail store and cooking school with a focus on growing, cooking and sharing real food.

Michelle lives on a small farm in Warragul South, West Gippsland with her husband Dave and two daughters, a small herd of sheep and cows and a lot of magpies and cockatoos.

Michelle owns way too many cookbooks, loves foraging for fruit, herbs and flowers, collects spoons and feathers and loves anything handmade especially ceramics.

Sustainable and ethical design, manufacturing and food production are important to Michelle personally and in her business.

Michelle is most looking forward to time spent sharing meals, learning recipes and swapping stories about home, family and culture.

Ray

Ray is a Cadet Mechanical Engineer in the Maintenance Department at Australian Paper, a pulp and paper mill in the Latrobe Valley.



He works on reliability improvement, safety and maintenance activities to fix, maintain and improve both the equipment and the maintenance culture in the organisation.

Ray lives with his fiancée Jade in Traralgon, a city 1.5 hours from Melbourne. He enjoys tinkering in the shed, is a volunteer firefighter and enjoys riding motorbikes, camping and skiing.

Working in a global manufacturing industry, Ray is looking forward to learning the achievements and challenges of Turkish industry, and to share some of the successes happening at home.

He is also looking forward to sharing a small piece of the daily lives and culture of the Turkish people.