

United Voices

Official newsletter of
District Governor Emma Davis



We had a wonderful start to the 2025/2026 year on July 6 at the Wangaratta Turf Club for our District 9790 Changeover Celebration. Congratulations Past District Governor Stephen O'Connell and Carol, for a "Magic Of Rotary" year. Thank you to MC's, helpers and attendees. We welcomed our new board, the Rotary Community Leaders, and portfolio leads.

We have had a recent presidential change. We were working alongside President Mario from Brazil. Mario led the learning and development at Orlando International Assembly and we will remain following his goals and message. The [full "Unite for Good" announcement](#) is here; however, the presidential message is from 10:50 for ease of viewing. Our goals for the year include promoting new club formats, strengthening traditional but diminishing clubs, engaging former members, reaching out to youth, utilising fellowships and rotary actions groups, leveraging professional institutions, considering uncharted territory, and always having a call to action. A replacement was appointed promptly, and we now serve [Francesco Arezzo of Italy](#), who was the RI representative for Melbourne Convention 2023.

I take a moment to thank some portfolios who have hit the ground running. Foundation chair PDG Patti, with grants lead Clive Faul submitted District grants and PDG David McPherson and Steve McKewen have shared the certificate of currency documents link with all clubs within hours of the new Rotary year.



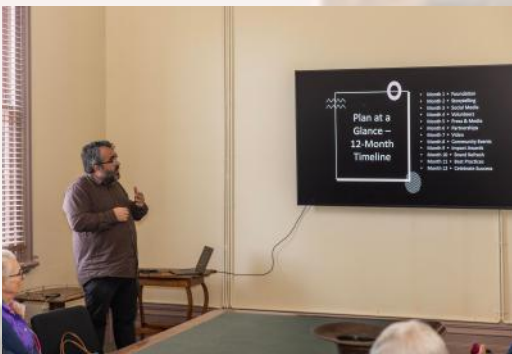
HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH



COVER, 3-4 DG EMMA'S NOTES AND CHANGEOVER PHOTOS



6-7 2026 DISTRICT CONFERENCE



9 PUBLIC IMAGE: SETTING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR A STRONG YEAR



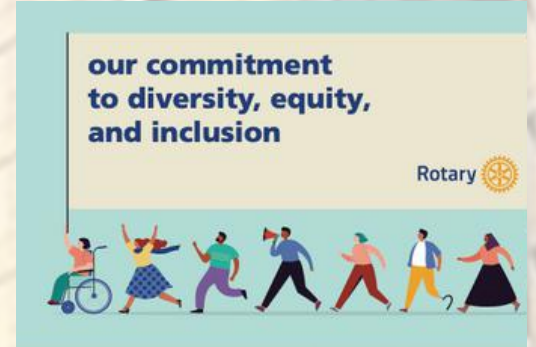
12 ALBURY RAWCS VOLUNTEERS IN VANUATU



5 FLOWERS FOR FRIDA AND ERADICATING POLIO



8 CELEBRATING MEMBERSHIP GROWTH AND VIBRANT CLUB CULTURE



10-11 DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION



17-22 WHAT'S COMING UP, DEADLINES AND NOTICES

Photo credits: David Redfearn: Cover, 3-4, 8, 9; Peter Elias: 11

Cover: DG Emma making her acceptance speech at the District Changeover in Wangaratta

DG's Column (continued)

For all those special projects that you do, it is important we share the correct brand. If you need support on this, please reach out to public image lead Hamish Jones. If you are sourcing some new items, there are RI-approved vendors here to make your life easy, they literally post to your door! Reach out to these recommended official licensees to discuss your next order [Rotary DownUnder Supplies](#), [Patrick Australia Badges](#) and [LGBT+ Rotary Fellowship](#) merchandise.

Most members know I'm a big fan of our youth programs. Do you know there is a Taste of RYLA for Rotarians? Book now, and I look forward to seeing you there to discover the magic of [RYLA 9790](#). We also recently celebrated [50 years of youth exchange](#). If your club is not currently involved with YE, please reach out to chair Meredith Miegel if you need information.

Our District is a sponsor to [Victoria Rotary Emergency Service Community Awards](#) and we look forward to celebrating the nominated awardees in September. If you would like to attend, [tickets are for the VIC awards dinner](#). The [NSW RESCA awards](#) are on a different schedule, or perhaps you may be interested in the [NSW Police Officer of the Year awards](#), closing 22 August.

And finally, don't forget to have some fun with [Rotary Foundation Australia](#). Polio chair Melissa Hebbard has shared a great idea "Flowers for Freida" and we look forward to hearing the ideas on how your club celebrate and share the wonderful work of our charity of choice.

An early thank you to this newsletter editor David Redfearn for your dedicated publications each month. David and I encourage your contributions to this publication, dredfearn@vtown.com.au, no later than the 10th of each month. A suggestion might be to share what your members did to celebrate July: [Maternal and Child Health Month](#).

Please ensure your club has shared your main service project and significant club and Rotary Community Group special events with me, emma.jane.davis.30@gmail.com. I look forward to joining you on our service roadshow this year as we "Unite For Good" together.

E. Davis

Emma Davis
District Governor 2025 / 2026



Emma with her family



Emma being installed as 2025-26 District Governor by 2024-25 District Governor Stephen O'Connell



Emma with her fellow Moreland Rotary members



Emma with her 2025-26 Board members

DG's Column (continued)



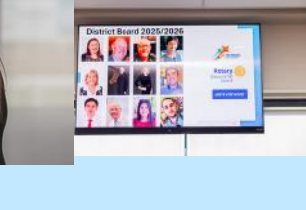
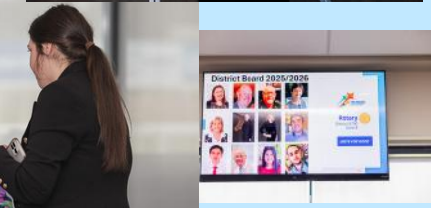
Presentation to Stephen and Carol O'Connell



Emma with the 2025-26 Rotary Community Leaders



The "coronation"!





Flowers for Frida



As we start a new Rotary Year, and it is my greatest wish for this year 2025-2026 that it is the first year that we don't see another child's life blighted by Polio.

Both Afghanistan and Pakistan have been working hard to immunise the millions of children at risk in their countries, and this comes at a huge cost, but what price can we put on the lives and health of the Children of the World?

So, what has this got to do with Frida Kahlo? Frida, who was born on the 6th July 1907 and died on 13th July 1954, was one of the many children who contracted polio as a child. She spent most of her 6th year confined to bed and emerged with a withered leg which caused her to be bullied and teased at school. Though she became a great artist, her art was defined by the pain and suffering from her disabilities and illnesses, partly from her polio and partly from a serious accident she had when she was 18.

In July, I am going to donate to polio and wear flowers in my hair in memory of Frida and all the children whose lives were blighted by polio. I encourage you to join me and wear Flowers for Frida at a Club meeting in July. Men might prefer to wear flowers on their lapels!

For those who flowers are not your thing, perhaps you would prefer to follow the endearing literary polio survivor, Forrest Gump, and share a box of chocolates.

What ever you choose, please spare a few dollars and moment to think about the survivors of polio and the ongoing impact that this dreadful disease has had on so many young lives while we work together to try to ensure that no more children add to their ranks.

**Yours in Service,
Melissa Hebbard - D9790 Polio Ambassador**



Connection, Community, Courage

2026 District Conference in Coburg 21 + 22 March 2026



Saturday 21 March - learning

Imagine the excitement and energy when we, the family of Rotary, come together as a district, in one place, and renew our commitment to being people of action. Our Rotary leaders, members, and global leaders will motivate and empower you with their words, as will world-class speakers, and entertainment! Highlights of this day include:

Keynote presentations

Presentation on behalf of the Rotary International President, Francesco Arezzo

Entertainment

Rotary program/project presentations

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion panel

Presentations from district leaders

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea are also included in the price of your ticket today.

Saturday 21 March - dinner

Available as a separate ticket, get ready to hit the dance floor with The Big Kahuna Band, a dynamic group of seasoned musicians led by Ron Gauci. Known for their high-energy performances and crowd-pleasing setlists, they bring the best of classic rock hits to life—just the way you remember them. With powerful vocals, tight rhythms, and infectious stage presence, The Big Kahuna Band guarantees a night of unforgettable music and dancing!

Whether you're hitting the dance floor or enjoying great company, this is the perfect opportunity to connect with fellow Rotary members, celebrate community spirit, and make lasting memories. Don't miss this night of fun, friendship, and fantastic live music!

Sunday 22 March - service

Join Rotary clubs from across the district for a powerful day of community service and connection! Local clubs and district leaders are teaming up to organise a variety of hands-on projects that make a real difference in our communities.

Whether you're planting, painting, packing, or pitching in, this is your chance to serve side by side with fellow Rotarians, strengthen bonds, and showcase the power of Rotary in action.

Wrap up the day at Chapter Place with a relaxed brunch gathering, where we'll share stories, celebrate our collective impact, and enjoy great company.

Rotary 
District 9790

2026
**DISTRICT
CONFERENCE**



*Chapter Place
1 Pentridge
Boulevard, Coburg,
Victoria 3058*

Join us in Coburg
21 and 22 March 2026

<https://qrco.de/9790-conf>



Celebrating Membership Growth and Vibrant Club Culture Across Our District

By PDG Stephen and Carol O'Connell (joint Membership Chairs)

Let's take a moment to acknowledge and celebrate the fantastic efforts of clubs across our District who embraced the Framework For Improvement membership strategy over the past year.

Thanks to this collective commitment, we've seen genuine momentum building. Half of our clubs experienced membership growth—and remarkably, a third welcomed two or more new members. That's a significant achievement and a real credit to the energy and focus being invested at club level.

Importantly, this strategy wasn't just about gaining members. It also placed a strong emphasis on enhancing the club experience, with member retention as a key priority. It's been wonderful to see clubs taking steps to ensure Rotary remains welcoming, engaging, and fulfilling for all members.

We want to sincerely thank all clubs, no matter the level of participation they undertook. Every contribution matters in helping our District thrive.

District has recognised those clubs who not only adopted the Framework For Improvement as a planning tool but also provided evidence of its implementation by donating to Foundation on their behalf. These clubs are being honoured with Bronze, Silver, or Gold awards, reflecting the depth and impact of their work.

Gold Award (\$500 to Foundation per club)

- Rotary Club of Numurkah
- Rotary Club of Kinglake Ranges
- Rotary Club of Pascoe Vale
- Rotary Club of Shepparton South
- Rotary Club of Yea
- Rotary Club of Appin Park Wangaratta
- Rotary Club of Corowa
- Rotary e-Club of Change Makers



Silver Award (\$400 to Foundation per club)

- Rotary Club of Diamond Creek
- Rotary Club of Greensborough
- Rotary Club of Milawa Oxley
- Rotary Club of Moreland



Bronze Award (\$300 to Foundation per club)

- Rotary Club of Alexandra
- Rotary Club of Heidelberg
- Rotary Club of Yarrowonga Mulwala



Congratulations to all the award recipients—and to every club member working hard to grow Rotary and strengthen our community. Your dedication makes a real difference and we look forward to working with clubs to put the Membership Action Plan (MAP) into place!

Best wishes,

Stephen O'Connell OAM
Membership Chair
District Governor 2024-2025
RI District 9790
Mobile: +61 414 254 325
socsax@ozemail.com.au

Public Image: Setting the Foundation for a Strong Year

By Hamish Jones, District 9790 Public Image Chair

As we begin a new Rotary year, now is the perfect time for every club to set strong foundations for how we're seen, heard, and remembered in our communities.

This month, we're focusing on the basics – not just branding, but creating a simple, achievable Public Image plan that will help your club build visibility, attract support, and celebrate your impact throughout the year.

Here's what we recommend every club do in Month 1:

✓ **Nominate a Public Image Champion**

Even if they're not a marketing expert, having one person focused on club visibility makes a huge difference.

✓ **Download your official club logo**

Visit the Rotary Brand Center to get your current, compliant logo – and avoid using outdated versions.

✓ **Check your Facebook page, website and any other signage or posters**

Is your logo current? Is your "About" section accurate? Is someone regularly posting updates? Is your website up to date?

Do you have any out of date banners or signage?

✓ **Set some Public Image goals for the year**

It might be as simple as one social post per week or sharing three impact stories with the local media. Make it realistic – and write it down. If you're struggling with setting goals, please get in touch and I can help.

✓ **Apply for a Canva for Nonprofits account to help with your Public Image activities**

Canva for Nonprofits has everything you need to create powerful marketing campaigns. Create social media posts, presentations, infographics, websites, reports, posters, flyers and signage.

To help you get started, we are developing a District Public Image Toolkit that will include (but won't be limited to):

- Editable Canva templates for flyers and posts
- A one-page Club PI Plan
- A branding checklist
- A list of monthly content themes and ideas

📁 All resources will be shared on our Public Image Hub on the District 9790 website here

<https://rotary9790.org.au/sitepage/public-image-committee>

Let's keep it simple and achievable. Public Image isn't about being flashy – it's about making sure the good Rotary does doesn't go unnoticed.

If you do one thing this month: make sure your club is using the right logo and sharing at least one photo of your Rotary in action.

Got questions or want support? We're here for you. This is just the beginning – let's make this year visible.



our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion



At Rotary, we understand that cultivating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive culture is essential to realizing our vision of a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change.

We value diversity and celebrate the contributions of people of all backgrounds, across age, ethnicity, race, color, disability, learning style, religion, faith, socioeconomic status, culture, marital status, languages spoken, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity as well as differences in ideas, thoughts, values, and beliefs.

Recognizing that individuals from certain groups have historically experienced barriers to membership, participation, and leadership, we commit to advancing equity in all aspects of Rotary, including in our community partnerships, so that each person has the necessary access to resources, opportunities, networks, and support to thrive.

We believe that all people hold visible and invisible qualities that inherently make them unique, and we strive to create an inclusive culture where each person knows they are valued and belong.

In line with our value of integrity, we are committed to being honest and transparent about where we are in our DEI journey as an organization, and to continuing to learn and do better.

Meg Pethybridge

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee Chair 2025-2026

0418620377

mpethy92@gmail.com

District Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Dear Rotarians,

Hi! My name is Meg Pethybridge and I am your District Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee Chair for 2025-2026.

The District 9790 team are dedicated to enhancing your Rotary experience by supporting what is important to you, our members. You have consistently told us that you want Rotary to be a place that celebrates diversity, that fully represents our communities, and that offers all members equitable opportunities to thrive.

To ensure that the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion are ingrained in everything we do, the RI Board of Directors has provided a specific DEI Code of Conduct.

What we say and how we behave matter. Although free expression is important, we must take responsibility for how our words and actions may affect others. The DEI Code of Conduct helps members create and maintain an environment that is collaborative, positive, and healthy for everyone.

Simply put, the DEI Code of Conduct asks you to:

- Use respectful language
- Be supportive
- Foster a welcoming and inclusive environment
- Celebrate diversity

All Rotary leaders, from club presidents and district governors to directors and trustees, are expected to apply the DEI Code of Conduct uniformly to help members recognise the impact that their words and actions can have on other people.

If you experience behaviour that does not align with the DEI Code of Conduct, you have ways to respond:

If the situation can be resolved through discussion, please talk to the person directly. Often, the person who said something or acted in a way that made others feel uncomfortable did not do so intentionally. Although there might be and uncomfortable conversations along the way, having this dialogue will lead to a better and stronger Rotary.

If a discussion is not possible, contact Rotary's Club and District Support staff, who will review the information and follow up appropriately.

As an organisation, we are stronger when we embrace the diversity found in our clubs and communities. We are more effective when we offer a valuable, inclusive experience that provides equitable opportunities for people to serve, to lead, and to participate with us. To grow Rotary and become a more dynamic organisation, we must take DEI seriously. And with your support, we are doing that.

To learn more about DEI, you can complete the DEI courses available in the Learning Centre or visit rotary.org/dei for more information.

Kindest regards

Meg Pethybridge
mpethy92@gmail.com || 0418 620 377



Albury RAWCS volunteers in Vanuatu

TANNA ISLAND – TAKE 2

In September 2024, a RAWCS volunteer team commenced a building project at the Bethel kindergarten in Lenakel, Tanna Island, Vanuatu. A large verandah was erected along with a toilet block on the end of the school building.

In May 2025 a team of 8 volunteers coordinated by Peter Elias from the Rotary Club of Albury returned to finish the job. After recruiting a few new volunteers including a plumber, the team set off to complete all the plumbing, steel fabrication of tank stands and electrical works to provide flushing toilets, clean drinking water, a septic system, water storage tanks, lighting in the building and the installation of playground equipment. (courtesy the ESRA program – Rotary Overseas Relocated Playgrounds via the Rotary Club of Geelong Central)

The trip was an enormous success on a number of fronts – the WASH component of the project to provide clean drinking water, toilets and hand basins which probably went unnoticed by the kindergarten kids because their attention was focused on the playground equipment. How lucky were they to have a climbing structure, swing set, rocking horse and a seesaw in the school grounds – and the sheer delight was clearly evident.

Chief Jefferie, the kindergarten teachers along with local families provided a delicious buffet of local foods for the team to show their appreciation for the work done. We even heard that families thought the new playground would be a drawcard for those children who did not want to go to school to encourage attendance – how good is that.

In the official handover ceremony Ricco Yasso from Bridging Health distributed orange tee shirts and sun hats to the kids and then they rushed to the new playground equipment – laughing, screaming and having heaps of fun. I must admit having been on a number of RAWCS trips this warm and fuzzy feeling inside takes some beating – I think a practical example of the “Magic of Rotary” doing some good in the world. The whole team were touched by this moment – the difference the play equipment made in the school was clearly evident, probably something we take for granted here at home. While the accommodation was pretty basic, cold showers and a few cuts and scratches – even antibiotics needed by some to deal with infections, the personal satisfaction from the project made it all worthwhile – cannot wait for the next trip.

Thank you to all the volunteers and contributors who made the trip such a tremendous success.

Peter Elias
Rotary Club of Albury
RAWCS District 9790 Chair



RAWCS

RAWCS FAIM Trip

WANTED

Builders, Electricians, Plumbers & Helpers
 Hospital renovations plus build & wire in a generator.

Where: Nepal "Kathmandu"

When: 16th Nov 2001 for 2 - 3 weeks

Completion of project with time for some sightseeing.

Cost : \$2600 approx – names to Robert MacCulloch
 Goulburn Rotary

RAWCS – Rotary Australia World Community Service
 FAIM – Fourth Action in Motion

Back in 1999 this advertisement appeared in the Great Southern Energy quarterly newsletter, where I was working at the time. I applied to join the team but was initially knocked back due to a large number of applications. A few weeks later I received a call to say for one reason or another, family, work, finances

many had dropped off, and if I was still interested there was a spot available in the team. Some 25 years later I am still enjoying RAWCS trips and would encourage any willing volunteer to consider joining a team for a wonderful rewarding time.

So, what is RAWCS – Rotary Australia World Community Service.

RAWCS provides back-end systems and project services to all Australian Rotary Clubs for project accounting, donations and fund-raising support, management, regulatory compliance, volunteer support, communications and marketing.

RAWCS administers four registered Charitable Trusts which can provide Tax Deductible receipts for donations – RAOAF / RABS / RARF and a Trust for the Environment.

RAWCS are committed to fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion to achieve our goal of making a positive impact on communities in need, both in Australia and developing countries. Upholding human rights principles is fundamental to all aspects of our operations. RAWCS carries out all its humanitarian work in accordance with the humanitarian principles: humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and independence.

RAWCS are dedicated to respecting, protecting, and promoting human rights for all individuals, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, indigeneity, disability, age, displacement, caste, gender, gender identity, sexuality, sexual orientation, poverty, class, or socio-economic status.

RAWCS is dedicated to eliminating racial injustice and promoting an ongoing process of healing and reconciliation. Embedded within our core values of Service, Leadership, Diversity, Integrity, and Fellowship is a commitment to integrating human rights considerations throughout our projects' development, implementation, and assessment phases.

RAWCS is a large organisation, seen by the outside world as the face of Australian Rotary enabling global good. Some of the entities of RAWCS include.

RAWCS

RARE - Rotary Australia Repurposing Equipment

ARAM - Australian Rotarians Against Malaria

MediShare - A Medical Surplus Recovery Organisation

Having recently been appointed as the District 9790 RAWCS Chair, I am keen to hear from any Rotarians willing to join a District RAWCS committee.

The committee will meet quarterly and work within the District to ensure an understanding of the RAWCS activities, process and offer support for RAWCS projects.



Please contact Peter Elias – 0419603024 or email – peter.j.elias61@gmail.com
Rotary Club of Albury 25/26 President.



Supporting Education



Empowering Mothers and
supporting Children



Providing Clean Water, Sanitation
and Hygiene



Fighting Disease



Growing Local Economies



Protecting the Environment
and Wildlife



Promoting Peace



Responding to Disasters

Youth News

Rotary Youth Exchange

Two Gratitude Letters

Ever wonder about the impact of the Rotary Youth Exchange program on students or their families? The first letter below is from a student and the second letter is from the parents of a different student. Both students returned home recently.

Thank you to all those Rotarians, family members and friends that supported the program in the last year and to those in the future. All of you make this possible.

=====

A year already...(the time went so quickly). it's time for me to leave. I'm not sure that I'm completely ready, but I'm so grateful for everything I did.

Thank you so, so much for everything you have done for me. This year has been more than just an exchange. It has been one of the most beautiful experiences of my life. I built families, friendship and so much more.

I met people who change my life, I learned so much about myself. Thanks for sending me in Australia, and thanks for receiving me in Australia. I am so grateful. You have the power to change life, and I'm a proof of that. I'll never forget that.

Leaving is really tough! I've made real connections down here and feel so lucky and thankful for every moment. You made this year unforgettable.

To the Rotary family in Australia, I'll keep in mind all of the lessons you've taught me. kindness, friendship, courage, and openness to the world. I love what Rotary represents, and I hope one day I can give back as well. I will never forget you. You've left a piece of your country and your hearts in mine. I will come back. "This is not a goodbye, just a "see you later."

Thank you for everything.
With all my heart,

Inbound student

=====

Hey, Meredith!

Our daughter's year of exchange is now over. A year ago, you accepted her. Our daughter's year has included many new experiences. These experiences have been made possible with the help of you and Host families as well as other people. A big thank you to all of you for that!

She came home feeling happy and will be telling about her experiences for a long time to come. These come up in different situations. Positivity is conveyed in the reports.

All the best for the future!

Parents of RYE Inbound Student 2024-2025

Note: both letters edited for privacy.
Linda Gidlund, RYE Team

Youth News

Youth Programs Contacts

Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) – Meredith Miegel, M 0417 246 546, Email: chairperson@rye9790.org.au

Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) – Linda Gidlund, M 0418 173 279, Email info@ryla9790.org.au

Rotary Youth Program of ENrichment (RYPEN) – Contact Sally West, M 0402 361 551, email sallywestrotary@gmail.com or rypen@rotary9790.org.au

Rotex – Contact Rotex by email: rotex9790@gmail.com, see the Rotex District 9790 Facebook page.

Albury North - Rotary Youth Program of ENrichment (RYPEN) – Nathan Stuart, M 0412 707 770, Email - msgnathans@gmail.com

If you would like further information please email Youth Programs Chair Nat Hood on nat990151@gmail.com

Experience RYLA

Discover the Magic for Yourself in 2025!

Many of you have seen first-hand the energy, excitement, and transformation that the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) brings to young people.

Past RYLarians often say it's hard to put into words what made that week-long journey of self-discovery so life-changing — but the impact is undeniable.

Now it's your turn to experience a little of the RYLA magic!

The RYLA Support Team is once again inviting all Rotarians, their friends and business community members to take part in a Mini RYLA Experience — a special one-day event that gives you a glimpse into what makes RYLA so powerful. Not only will it help you better understand the program, but you'll also walk away with fresh energy, new insights, and practical skills to use in everyday life.

When: Sunday, 31st August 2025

Time: 10:00am – 3:00pm

Where: Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House, 6 McMahons Rd, Kinglake VIC 3763

Investment in You: \$20 (includes lunch and all materials)

Register now at:



Be quick! Spaces are limited and it's strictly first in, best dressed!

We promise you'll LAUGH, LEARN, have FUNN (yes, with two Ns!), and maybe even shed a tear or two. If you don't leave with a full heart — we'll refund your money!

Questions?

Contact:

Kerry Jones - 0414 861 557

Linda Gidlund - 0418 173 279

Important Note:

This event is exclusively for Rotarians, their friends and business community members — it's not open to potential RYLA participants. Be part of the change. come and see what RYLA is about.





ShelterBox

TREK 4 SHELTER CAPE TO CAPE

2025

14 - 21 October 2025

Go the extra mile for disaster relief

SCAN HERE!



One of Australia's most magnificent 8-day walks awaits! Cape to Cape, WA.

Staying at iconic Margaret River, you will walk cliff tops and pristine white sandy beaches, with a glittering backdrop of turquoise waters. Watch dolphins off the coast, enjoy the exhilarating soundtrack of waves crashing on the shore, wonder at limestone caves, giant red granite boulders, colourful wildflowers, visit an historic homestead and be dwarfed by enormous shady karri forests.



To find out more and register, visit www.shelterboxaustralia.org.au/events/



An evening of Recognition and Celebration

Vic RESCA recognises outstanding community service of both paid and volunteer members of Victorian Emergency Services and supports Emergency Services Foundation (ESF) research scholarships.

Patron: The Governor of Victoria

Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Margaret Gardner AC

2025 AWARDS DINNER

Saturday 6th September 2025

6.30 pm Hyatt Place Essendon Fields

\$100 per person

Book via QR code or website

<https://events.humanitix.com/2025-victorian-rotary-emergency-service-community-awards-vic-resca>



Rotarians, individuals, agency representatives, colleagues, nominators, and the family and friends of finalists, are all welcome.

BOOKINGS CLOSE Thursday 28th August - so get in quick!

The program includes

- Presentation by past ESF scholarship recipient
- Recognition of 'Finalists' from each Emergency Service agency
- Recognition of Major Winners: for both Volunteer and Paid capacity

Ticket price includes

- 2-course meal and drink on arrival
- Unlimited soft drink, juices, still and sparkling water, tea and coffee
- Additional alcoholic drinks can be purchased at bar prices
- Complimentary on-site carparking
- Discounted accommodation (details on booking site)
- Children discounted pricing available (during booking)

To find out more about Vic RESCA go to: www.vic.rescawards.org.au/



Australian
Red Cross



EMV
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
VICTORIA



VICTORIA POLICE



ROTARY SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE 2025

Don't miss your chance to win!

Rotary South Pacific Conference

31 October - 2 November 2025



DON'T MISS OUT:

Register before 30 June for
early bird rates and
a chance to win!

REGISTER NOW



Now is the perfect time to save your spot at the biggest Rotary gathering in our region.

The 2025 Rotary South Pacific Conference is an amazing opportunity to expand your Rotary network and learn from inspiring speakers. All Rotary and Rotaract members, and alumni of Rotary programs, are welcome to attend.

If you register before 30 June 2025, you'll not only pay a reduced early bird rate for the conference, you'll automatically go in the draw to **win two free tickets to the Gala Dinner on Saturday 1 November**.

One lucky person will have the cost of their Gala Dinner ticket – and that of another attendee – reimbursed or covered. **That's almost \$200 worth of tickets for free!**

Register now for your chance to win.

Good luck!

Register now





Rotary District 9790
Gala
Foundation Dinner

Saturday 25th October
6.30pm

\$80.00 per person

3 course meal

Quality Hotel

Wangaratta
Gateway

Bookings

<https://www.trybooking.com/DDYGD>

Hear from Past District Governor

Jessie Harman AO

as she shares her incredible journey to
Mt Everest Base Camp

The
Rotary
Foundation



Meet and mingle with the people behind
the Rotary Foundation . Discover how we're
taking action
to create lasting change around the
world

ROTARY CALENDAR

Visit this calendar throughout the year to find award nomination due dates and convention and event information. Develop meeting agendas, projects, or public image campaigns based on these special occasions. All dates are subject to change.

Rotary Months

July 2025

Maternal and Child Health Month
1 July – Beginning of the Rotary year

August 2025

Membership and New Club Development Month
15 August – Interact Club Excellence Award nominations are due

September 2025

Basic Education and Literacy Month

October 2025

Community Economic Development Month
Rotary Alumni Reconnect Week is celebrated Monday through Sunday during the week of 7 October
24 October – World Polio Day

November 2025

Rotary Foundation Month
5 November – World Interact Day (World Interact Week is celebrated Monday through Sunday during the week of 5 November, Interact's anniversary)

December 2025

Disease Prevention and Treatment Month
15 December – Last day for early registration discount for the Rotary International Convention

January 2026

Vocational Service Month
11-15 January – International Assembly, Orlando, Florida, USA

February 2026

Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month
23 February – Rotary's anniversary

March 2026

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month
World Rotaract Week is celebrated Monday through Sunday during the week of 13 March, Rotaract's anniversary
31 March – Preregistration discount ends for the Rotary International Convention

April 2026

Environmental Month
30 April – Rotary International Convention registrations and ticket cancellations are due

May 2026

Youth Service Month

June 2026

13-17 June – Rotary International Convention, Taipei, Taiwan
30 June – Club Excellence Award nominations are due

District Dates and Deadlines

9 - 10 August Youth Exchange orientation

23 August RCL, Chairs and Membership team training in the areas of MAP, satellite club and membership Shepparton

31 August Taste of RYLA (for Rotarians)

4 September Committee of Finance meeting

5-7 September RYPEN

14 September Committee of Management meeting

25 October Foundation dinner in Wangaratta

31 Oct - 2 Nov Zone Institute Gold Coast

8-9 November Youth Exchange orientation

23 - 29 November RYLA week

4 December Committee of Finance meeting

6 December Council of Governors lunch meeting Wangaratta

14 December Committee of Management meeting

7 - 8 February Youth Exchange rebound weekend

14 - 15 February PELDS Shepparton

5 March Committee of Finance meeting

15 March Committee of Management meeting

20 March Council of Governors lunch meeting Melbourne

21 - 22 March Connection Community Courage 2026 Conference, Coburg; selling fast <https://www.trybooking.com/DAMWL>

21 May Committee of Finance meeting

31 May Committee of Management meeting

13 - 17 June Rotary International Convention 2026 Taipei

5 July District Changeover Wangaratta

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Closing date is 10 August 2025 All articles and photographs images to: dredfearn@vtown.com.au

Note: The views expressed in this publication represent those of the contributor/s and are not necessarily those of or shared by the District, the Committee, any Club, the Members or the magazine

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