



OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF
ROTARY DISTRICT 9790

9790 DISTRICT ROTARY RAMBLINGS

District Governor Neta Kirby
Tatura Rotary

NOVEMBER 2023

DG Neta

There are about 7,000 languages spoken around the world and each one lets people express themselves. And many in our communities, our Rotary Clubs, and Zone 8 (Australia, New Zealand and some Oceanic Islands) could greet each other by saying - Hello, Bon Jour, Buenos Dias, G'Day, Guten-tag, Konichiwa, Ciao, Shalom, Do-Brey Diem, Hola, Swasdi, Jambo, Ola, Marhabaan, Kamusta, Kia Ora, Geia, Bula, Hej, Hoi, Abrazo.

Since July I have visited many Clubs as District Governor and as a Rotarian from Tatura and I know many of the people I have met are from many cultures and justifiably proud of their backgrounds. Recently I had the wonderful time in Healesville meeting and greeting incoming exchange students and the outgoing students. All learning each other's languages and exploring other cultures. Then on the weekend I was at the final session of RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) at Malmsbury. Clubs had sponsored young people from different areas of our district. It is great to meet and greet and talk with so many people. We are wonderful groups of people however please look at your Club members and are you/we providing a welcoming environment to many diverse people. And I mean not just people from different countries but people of all persuasions/abilities. President Elects Development 1, 2024-2025 was in Benalla on Sunday. Here were the future leaders of our Clubs and again from different backgrounds. (continues on page 3)



HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH



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DG Neta (continued)

Please remember that the District Conference is in April next year and Try Booking is open and the early bird time has been extended. Meet and greet and learn and have a good time in Shepparton.

Thank you to all the Clubs who have given money to my family partners project- Life's Little Treasures Foundation. I am truly overwhelmed by your generosity and there will be many preemie and sick baby families that will benefit from your contributions.

If other Clubs or individual Rotarians would like to make a donation to Life's Little Treasures Foundation just go to the RAWCS page: <https://directory.rawcs.com.au/8-2023-24>

Project Name: Supporting families with sick and premature babies. (RABS). It will come up with our 9790 information. Under the section "Please Support us Now", click "Donate Other" Then proceed to fill out the details and you will be given payment options of card or Direct Credit. Following payment you will be sent a tax receipt.

Say No to domestic violence and family violence has begun in many areas and we in Rotary will be Kind and Respectful to those in need.

As to Regionalisation and our being out of the pilot the possible steps to be taken and what is likely to happen will be sent out to everyone soon for your perusal and comments. Everyone who wishes to have input will be able to do so. This is all District 9790 members way forward.

We join Rotary for many reasons however all we want is to have fun and do some good in the world. We want to Create Hope in the World.

DG Neta



Remembering Anne

Rotarians including District Governor Neta Kirby gathered at The Rotary Peace Arboretum near Kilmore on the 30th of September to celebrate the remarkable life of Anne Reid, our Past District Governor and dear friend. It was a bittersweet occasion as Anne had passed away on the 18th of June, just two weeks before the end of her term as Governor. The theme banners surrounding us echoed Anne's commitment to service, proclaiming "Serve to Change Lives," a sentiment that encapsulated her Rotary journey.

Lorraine Greenwood expressed her gratitude for Anne's unwavering support in environmental causes, particularly in fundraising for Koala habitat. In a touching gesture, Lorraine presented an exquisite 'Serve to Change Lives' theme scarf, adorning it to Anne's tree as a lasting tribute.

Richard Luke, our lone piper, played a soulful melody that resonated with the somber yet celebratory atmosphere. Carmen Reid, Anne's daughter, took the stage to convey her heartfelt thanks to Rotary for recognising her mother's dedication to helping others. Carmen shared insights into Anne's family background, emphasising her mother's determination and kindness in making a positive impact.

Sharon Fox spoke passionately about her close friendship with Anne, detailing the mutual support they provided each other. Sharon was a constant companion throughout Anne's Rotary journey, offering support during medical appointments and treatments. Anne's inspiration led Sharon to assume her current role as an Assistant Governor.

Marg Crisp joined forces with Anne in supporting her role as District Governor. Together, they traveled extensively in the North East, providing assistance to those whose lives were affected by fires in the Corryong area. Maria, a true friend and neighbour, stood by Anne in various capacities, understanding the significance of Anne's commitment to Rotary.

Elizabeth McCormick, Anne's District Secretary, and Ruth Byers, the dynamo behind the District Conference at Marysville, were acknowledged for their invaluable contributions. Ruth, who also served as the Membership Chair, ran New Member Orientation programs, a cause Anne deemed vital for new members to contribute effectively within their clubs.

Philip Clancy shared poignant memories of Anne's preparation for her year as District Governor. When Anne fell ill, Philip stepped in as her Vice District Governor, witnessing Anne's strength of character and determination to prioritise Rotary commitments over her own health challenges.

The choice of *Angophora costata*, the Smooth-barked Apple, as a symbolic plant for Anne reflected its outstanding ornamental qualities and adaptability, mirroring Anne's vibrant spirit. This tree was to be planted in the Rotary Peace Arboretum, a project Anne ardently supported. The Arboretum site was prepared for the occasion, providing a picturesque backdrop for the tree planting ceremony and speeches.

Southern Mitchell Members generously provided a Bar-B-Que, and the warmth of the day was complemented by clear skies, offering breathtaking views of distant Mt William. As we gathered for a shared lunch, the ancient Pear tree, in full blossom, provided a fitting tribute to Anne, symbolising the enduring beauty of her legacy.

Anne Reid's life was celebrated not only in words but through actions, as we planted a tree that will stand as a testament to her enduring impact on Rotary and the lives she touched.

Adapted from information supplied by PDG Phil Clancy



The Rotary Peace Arboretum

In collaboration with Rotarian, Sonny Gomez, from the Rotary Club of Southern Mitchell, we were thrilled to announce the progress of our joint initiative. Recognising the abundance of commitment and resources at our disposal, we have embarked on a significant project in our town as an expression of gratitude for the prosperity our families have experienced in this community and country, and with the aim of fostering peace.

Over the past few years, our collective efforts have been dedicated to a substantial project in the Kilmore area, undertaken in the name of Rotary, to champion the ideals of peace and enhanced understanding across nations.

The focal point of our endeavour was the development of a 10-acre Arboretum situated to the west of Kilmore, north of the Kilmore-Lancefield road, on land generously provided by the Gomez family. An Arboretum serves as a sanctuary for a documented collection of diverse tree and shrub species, cultivated for exhibition, education, and conservation.

Our vision for the 'Rotary Peace Arboretum' involves planting over 400 trees and large shrubs, symbolising countries recognised by Rotary (over 200 in total). Collaborating with our E-Club 9790, Southern Mitchell Rotary Clubs, and culturally diverse community groups, we aim to make this Arboretum a haven for community groups and individuals from various countries to gather and celebrate peace.

The inaugural trees, an Olive and a Blackwood Wattle, planted in June 2018, symbolize peace and local resilience against fire. Subsequent updates reveal successful growth, aided by protective measures such as 44-gallon drum tree guards and strategic grazing by sheep.

In the latest development, Analemmatic Sundial stones and impressive rock columns have been strategically placed at the entrance, courtesy of Hansen Quarries. Jane Ezard, a member of our E-Club, is currently drafting a comprehensive works schedule covering background, construction, and maintenance tasks for the Arboretum's development.

This schedule includes plans for essential features like a potential car park, entrance, Rotary PEACE Pole, roadways, tracks, built facilities, and grid references for all plantings. Historic foundations are being discovered and outlined, with signage becoming a visible addition.

As each component of the work is developed, we will be forming small groups of Rotarians and volunteers to manage each aspect. Work visits can be scheduled at times suitable for the group or as part of organised working bees and social gatherings held monthly. The shared commitment to this endeavour reflects our collective passion for fostering peace and understanding within our global community.

Southern Mitchell Rotary and E-Club 9790



RETAINING YOUR MEMBERS

Membership is always a hot topic throughout the Rotary community - from Clubs, to Districts, to Zones, to Rotary International. Why?, because without members, none of these entities would exist. Over the last decade more Rotarians have left Rotary in Australia than those who have joined. Last year Rotary District 9790 bucked the trend of Rotary membership in Australia and recorded a net gain in membership for the 2022-23 year. This Rotary year, our District has continued to show modest growth. Congratulations to the clubs that are welcoming new members to the Rotary family and the Rotary experience. However not all clubs are experiencing an increase.

Why?.... is the perennial question.

Although stating the obvious, an increase in membership, requires your Club to gain more members than it loses, so retaining current members provides an excellent starting base. Happy, fulfilled members make a happy Club. A happy Club is obvious, to not only the members, but also the broader community. With all the conflict in our world today, more than ever, people are searching for positivity. When they see Rotarians having fun, they are drawn to them to find out why they are having such a good time. This opens the door for a conversation about Rotary, and why members are enjoying their community service.

How do you get happy, fulfilled members?..... just ask them.

Every member's Rotary journey is different, so don't assume that one size fits all. The "Member Satisfaction Survey" template can be downloaded from the "MyRotary" website using the following link <https://my.rotary.org/en/learning-reference/learn-topic/membership> . This will guide you through the process of finding out how satisfied and happy your members are. You can tailor the survey to suit any pertinent issues that your club may be facing. Your Board can then use the feedback to improve the Club experience for more members. Remember, the Club needs to be open to adapting current practices to better engage more members.

Don't take your members for granted! Continue to engage your members with an annual survey, regular Club assemblies, and general conversation.

Remember, happy fulfilled members = a happy Club → member attraction

Paul Miegel
Chair, D9790 Membership Committee



Cambodia as you have never seen it before...



Add a week in Cambodia to your RICON Singapore trip and immerse yourself in daily life in Siem Reap. Soak-up experiences which will last you a lifetime and see Cambodia as you have never seen it before, from the inside and with locals!!

Hosted by the inspirational Volunteer Experience members of the Rotaract Club of Siem Reap and supported by Rotary Passport Melbourne, you will spend your days joining empowered hands-on community projects and experience iconic Angkor Wat, local markets and the floating village – all with the Rotaractors who grew up there!!

1. Experience the joy of distributing bicycles to rural students and supporting their education with the distribution of study materials
2. Join us as we distribute monthly food and essential supplies to supported rural families
3. Be warmly welcomed by the school communities where we have installed life-changing WASH infrastructure including clean drinking water and toilets
4. Distribute SolarBuddy study lights to students living in rural communities without electricity
5. Join our tree-planting project in Siem Reap City and disadvantage rural communities to improve the lives of communities living in hot and dusty environments

This experienced team has hosted Government Dignitaries, international Ambassadors and of course dozens of Rotarians.

Here is what some of them have said –

PP Debra Sloggett, Rotary Club of Keilor East – “The trip couldn’t have been better planned. My hosts from Project V and the Rotaract Club of Siem Reap were fantastic. Everything was so organised. The students are passionate and dedicated, their English is excellent and they enjoy conversation as they say it improves their English. Visiting the projects and seeing how the Rotaractors and students from CRST run the projects is inspirational. I wanted my trip to have a purpose, to see how Rotary can support and foster country (Cambodia) driven projects. To be with such forward-thinking young people who really want to help their community was very special and I highly recommend other Rotarians to consider this type of experience. It is and will be an absolute highlight.”

PP Kate Miller, Rotary Club of Echuca Moama – “Thank you to all of you once again for all the time and effort you have all put in to hosting Rob and I and enabling us to visit some of your projects and

see them in action. We felt truly welcomed and felt that this was a wonderful opportunity to have a two-way exchange of information about our projects, lives and experiences. Our visit certainly was valuable to us both in terms of an opportunity to see how CRST and RACSR operate and the types of projects you are involved in; but also to have a cultural and friendship exchange so we can all develop better understandings of what life is like in each other’s countries.”

Pablo Kang, Ambassador of Australia to Cambodia 2020-2023 – “As a former Australian Ambassador to Cambodia, I had the pleasure of meeting the students of the Cambodia Rural Students Trust NGO in Siem Reap on several occasions. It was memorable and inspirational to be hosted by these highly motivated and committed students. They passionately shared with me their numerous social contributions and their overarching vision to create sustainable social impact for thousands for rural Cambodian students.”

H.E. Neth Pheaktra, Minister of Information, Kingdom of Cambodia – “What you are doing now is so important, helping communities with education, water and sanitation; that is in the right direction”

To register your interest and for more details on the activities available in the week preceding and the week following RICON in Singapore click here <https://forms.gle/XpjJmKbarfyPUtJN6>

Or contact Aviv, Jess or Maria –
Aviv Palti, President, Rotary Passport Melbourne –
Aviv.Palti@lifestyleb.com
Jessica Palti, Public Image Director, Rotary Passport Melbourne –
Jessica.Palti@lifestyleb.com
Maria Hicks OAM, Charter President, Rotary Passport Melbourne –
cambodiarep@daysforgirls.org

Not able to go in 2024? Not a problem we have another opportunity for you ...

We are planning a **District 9790 trip to Cambodia in January/February 2025**. Members of the Rotary Club of Ivanhoe are working with Rotary Passport Club of Melbourne to plan this trip.

Look out for more information at the District Conference and in next year’s newsletters!

Supplied by Lica Wait, Ivanhoe





CALLING ALL PRESIDENTS-ELECT AND CLUB OFFICERS OF DISTRICT 9790



Calling all Presidents-Elect and Club Officers of District 9790,

Prepare for your leadership journey at our exclusive training events!

Mark your calendars for February 17-18 in Shepparton, where formal training meets entertainment, partners are welcome, and a weekend of personal growth awaits.

Picture it: insightful sessions, Saturday's post-lunch training, and a memorable dinner with fellow Presidents-Elect and partners. Sunday morning's learning sets the tone for a future of impactful leadership.

Unite with likeminded club members on March 24 in Benalla at the District Assembly – a day packed with learning, networking, and preparation for the year ahead. Make your mark, seize opportunities, and build lasting connections. Your time is now.

DGE Stephen O'Connell



Why should we contribute to the Rotary Foundation?

When you make a donation to The Rotary Foundation, you are helping Rotary members make a difference in the lives of millions of people around the world. And, as November is Rotary Foundation Month, it's timely to consider why we, as Clubs and individuals, should contribute to OUR Foundation.

At the 1917 convention in Atlanta Georgia, then Rotary president, Arch Klumph, proposed setting up an endowment for the "purpose of doing good in the world." That proposal and the initial contribution of \$26.50 from the Rotary Club of Kansas City put in motion a powerful force that has transformed millions of lives around the world.

Why, then, should Clubs and individuals make a contribution to the Foundation?

1: Orders of Magnitude: The Foundation SHARE program allows smaller clubs to do larger projects that they could never become involved in on their own; by banding together and including DDF (District Designated Fund) and the World Fund match into the budget, large projects are possible.

2: End Polio Now: The eradication of polio remains the number one priority of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation. With our partners, we have come so far. Together, we can achieve our goal. Together, let's eradicate polio.

3: Quality: For the 15th consecutive year, The Rotary Foundation has received the highest rating – four stars – from Charity Navigator, an independent evaluator of charities in the US. The Rotary Foundation was given the highest score of 100/100 for accountability and finance, for the Foundations culture and connectedness with the community and for leadership and adaptability to social and economic conditions.

4: Accountability: Between 90 and 92 cents of every dollar donated to TRF goes directly to work on the ground to achieve good in the world

5: Recognition Points – Donations to the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund and PolioPlus give members and clubs recognition points that can be used to acknowledge club members and community members for their volunteer work.

6: Tax Deduction: Who doesn't love a tax deduction! When you donate to The Rotary Foundation in Australian dollars, you receive a tax deduction. And your contribution in Australian dollars is administered by Rotarians in Australia.

7: Making a Difference: Donors to the Rotary Foundation are a special group of people who are can and are making a difference and creating hope around the world. Isn't that what Rotarians do?

8: Having a say in how our contributions are spent: When we make a contribution to The Rotary Foundation, we have a say in how they are spent. Up to 50% of a District's Designated Fund (DDF) can be spent on projects initiated and developed by Clubs both locally and internationally and approved by local Rotarians.

"Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves".

Paul Harris



YOUTH NEWS

‘Pay it Forward Trip’ to Vanuatu with Iris Thomson

**Iris will be going to Argentina on Youth Exchange in January 2024 sponsored by Ivanhoe and Moreland Rotary.
This is an account of her trip to Vanuatu in October this year**

Hi everyone,

I have just returned from a 10 day 'Pay it Forward Trip' to Vanuatu. It was everything I thought it would be and so much more! It turned into a 14-day trip because of problems with Air Vanuatu - I wasn't complaining about the extended stay! I will never forget this trip. I have never been overseas, so it was a real eye/mind opener. We got to throw ourselves into a completely different culture. More than ever, I respect other people's perspectives and am significantly more tolerant of tough situations. We got to witness the more difficult aspects of living in the tropics that the people of Yakel endure every day. Things that the tourists don't see. I am so grateful now for the conveniences I have at home that I've taken for granted; showers, warm water, easy access to medicines and drinking water. The trip was hard work, but so, so rewarding. Many people have asked me to write about my trip and show some photos. Before I do this, I'll give you a quick run-down as to why I went, and I really want to thank some special people first.

I had the opportunity to attend this 'Paying it Forward' trip with Rotary in the September school holidays. There were 8 girls attending like me between the ages of 16-18 years and we each had a mentor who was with us the entire time. All our mentors were studying at university. I was the youngest participant at 15 years.

We worked with 'Bridging Health' an awesome group of volunteers with various qualifications. These volunteers have done this trip a few times, this time allowing us to make amazing connections with the locals on the island Tanna. We ran 'days for girls' programs where we explained what period undies are and how to use them. We discussed women's health issues with the local women. We held 'ear and wound' care sessions and sometimes urgent triage decisions were made resulting in people needing to go straight to hospital.

It was such a privilege to volunteer in a traditional village, in the 'Custom Village' which was the local meeting place. This was an incredibly rare opportunity. People were wearing traditional clothing and about 100 patients were waiting to see us on arrival on our first day. Most of these people hadn't seen a doctor in over a year. The people we treated had cold and flu symptoms, fungal infections on breasts and scabies all over their bodies. Some women were breast feeding through incredible pain with green infected breasts. One lady we treated had lost part of her finger in a machete accident about a year ago and her finger healed with the chopped part, dangling, still attached. I will never take my life for granted again.

Before I continue, I quickly want to thank a few people. If Mr. Kearney, the Principal of RWPS, if he didn't let me organise a raffle in June at RWPS, I would have struggled raising the \$500 needed by each participant. This money Rotary used to purchase the school supplies needed for the students (solar powered study lamps, books and stationery).

If my wonderful past teachers and the teacher aides didn't donate to the hampers, there would be no raffle. If my amazing Mum didn't attend a warehouse sale at Elk and provide the Elk items and my Dad didn't include his Gin, the hampers couldn't have been as valuable. If all the beautiful RWPS families didn't buy raffle tickets, there would be no money raised – I am very aware some students used their pocket money to help me. So many friends and family members very generously purchased lots of raffle tickets which contributed to me raising my donation target. Parents of my Preston High School friends, everyone, I can't tell you how grateful I am to you all. Thank you to the teacher aides for selling the tickets at school assemblies. I paid for half of my trip myself, my parents helped me with the remainder. Not one dollar of the raised money went to any of my expenses. All the money raised went to supply children living on the island of Tanna, with school supplies.



'Pay it Forward Trip' to Vanuatu with Iris Thomson

Back in June, Miss Caddy was on IT helping to organise my flyers in the background. Coburg West employed me to be their lizard expert in their holiday programs and I supplied them with stick insects for their insect program. Our local cafes and chemist in Gilbert Road got on board, all contributing to the hampers. All these things made Vanuatu happen.

Back to Vanuatu; it is one of the most beautiful places on earth. They burn most of their rubbish and unfortunately lots of rubbish ends up in their waterways. We worked alongside 'Bridging Health' to help the local teenage girls have a better understanding of how their bodies worked and period hygiene. It was hoped that the Western girls my age would be able to make a bigger impact and could make the girls on the island feel more comfortable talking about their bodies and how strong and beautiful they are. To empower other girls my age, I thought, was an absolute privilege.

Each of us could only take 5kg of hand luggage for ourselves for the trip (I won't lie, I battled with this!). This was all we needed. Each of us also took a 23kg suitcase filled to the brim with donated items. Each suitcase was then left on the island with a young girl's family as a donation for when they finished primary school and needed the suitcase to leave the island to go to boarding school. A huge thank you to the Vecchio family for donating x2 large suitcases. Each of us planned to fill the donated suitcase with bamboo toothbrushes or period undies. I chose period undies.

Most of you are probably unaware, like I was, that when girls get their periods in Vanuatu, menstruation is considered very un-clean. Menstruating women are not allowed to touch their family's food or dishes and they are expected to keep away from other people. Young girls are often asked to sleep outside the house alone and are only allowed to sit on pieces of cardboard in case they dirty chairs.

Talking about menstruation is a taboo topic. Mothers and other family members have spent a lifetime time not discussing women's health with their own daughters. Mothers don't even have a good understanding of how their own bodies work. It was only when we had translated the questions we received on ripped pieces of paper during the sessions, we realised how little the girls knew. One of the questions we got asked was, "can I get pregnant by being on the phone with my boyfriend?" Throughout our presentation, many of the girls were giggling and covering their faces, but they were also highly invested and incredibly grateful about learning about their own beautiful bodies and how our periods make us the strong women we are.



Bridging Health is helping to change the lives of young woman through great education and on this trip, they were wanting to trial bringing teenage western girls with them to help. We helped distribute hygiene kits and helped to teach the girls about how period undies work. This gave the girls confidence to go to school when they had their periods. After our visit they wouldn't have to worry about how to buy their next lot of disposal pads. The pristine environment of Vanuatu will also be better preserved.

In the months before my departure, I contacted 13 period undie companies explaining my trip and asking if they would like to donate. Four companies, with amazing women running the show, couldn't wait to donate. These companies were EMREN, NICKER BOT, I LOVE LUNA and MODI BODI. I was donated over 500 pairs of period undies from these amazing companies. That's over \$12,000 worth of period undies!! I was so, so grateful. To the ladies in Management that made these decisions to help me - please know how much you have changed the lives of women/girls on Tanna. It gives me goose bumps writing this, because I saw their faces when we explained to them what they are and what they are used for. It felt so good being able to help others at 15 years of age. Without these amazing women helping me, I couldn't fill my suitcase. It honestly made my heart sing, knowing how much these ladies wanted to help our cause.

There was a movie made in 2017 about the island Tanna and its people. It's called 'Tanna: two tribes. One love', you can stream it on SBS. It gives you a great insight into what this beautiful island looks like and what its people are like. It won a couple of awards. Google: 'Tanna Featurette' it will give you a look behind the scenes and what the movie is about.

Thank you once again to everyone who was involved. You have essentially all helped improve the lives of women on Tanna and created a life changing experience for me that I will never forget. Thank you so much. I hope you enjoy the photos.

Sincerely, Iris Thomson



YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH PROGRAMS CONTACTS

International University Student
Rotary Home Hosting – Philip
Clancy, M 0428 834 162, Email:
philip.clancy1@gmail.com

Interact – Linda Gidlund, M 0418
173 279, Email:
lleegidlund@gmail.com

National Youth Science Forum
(NYSF) – Nigel Liggins, M 0400 694
618, Email:
nigelligins@bigpond.com

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

Rotary Youth Leadership Award
(RYLA) – Kerry Jones, Secretary M
0414 861 557, Email:
info@ryla9790.org.au

Rotary Youth Program of
ENrichment (RYPEN) – Contact
Malcolm Watt, M 0439 158 274,
Email: watt.malc@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) –
Contact Albury North Rotary Email:
alburynorthsecretary@hotmail.com

Youth Volunteer Management –
Contact Bruce McIntyre, M 0427
623 142, Email
bruce.mcintyre1@bigpond.com

If you would like further information please contact Youth Programs Chair
Nathan Stuart on 0412707770 or mmsgnathans@gmail.com

CONFERENCE UPDATE - NOVEMBER 2023

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION has been extended until Friday January 19, 2024 at 5 pm.

trybooking.com.au/CLHOZ or



ANNOUNCING TWO MORE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

YORTA YORTA ELDER AUNTY PAM PEDERSEN

Her Motto is "If you can dream it, you can achieve it"

Aunty Pam is a shining example to us all through her involvement in the Koori Court system where she works with young people and their families who had come into contact with the Criminal Justice System. She volunteers on numerous Boards and Committees and is a Director of the Worawa Aboriginal Girls College at Healesville.

Aunty Pam is a member of the Carlton Football Club Reconciliation Action Plan Advisory Group, an Honorary member of AFLW, a member of the AFL Dreamtime Working Group and on the Board of the Long Walk. She is an exceptional athlete, representing Victoria and Australia at the World Masters Games in a variety of different sports.

MATT BOWTELL, Founder and CEO of 3D Hands Ltd.

In 2018 Matt was named Victorian of the Year.

Matt worked as a Senior Engineer for Toyota Australia until he was made redundant in 2017 when the Company closed its Australian facility. He had experimented with 3D printing and made one hand for one child. He then spent two years, living on his redundancy payout making 3D hands for needy children around the world for no charge. In 2019 he was able to lease a factory on Phillip Island and established Free 3D Hands as a registered Charity in Australia.

CONFERENCE SHOWCASE (House of Friendship):

If you would like to SHOWCASE a specific Rotary Project at our Conference, could you please contact Margaret Oldfield on her email: oldfield.margaret.a@gmail.com. By the end of January, 2024. Let her know what your Project is and if you have any specific requirements. Be sure to include your contact information.

VALE:

Rotarians who have been called to higher service, over the past TWO Rotary years will be celebrated in TWO ways.

Firstly: As we are covering two years and we are aware that many of our valued members have gone to higher service we will only be able to accommodate a brief recognition, as part of the Conference Program.

The following details will be shown:

Photo, Name, Club, PHF, Years of Service and Special Contribution.

Secondly: We know that you would like these members to be remembered in more detail so we have arranged for Clubs to have the opportunity to prepare an A4 sized sheet, for each Rotarian they would like remembered, with whatever information they would like included. This will then be duplicated and placed in several Folders, in a central area, most likely the Showcase, where Rotarians are able to take the time to learn more about each past Rotarian.

We will also investigate the possibility for this to be a visual presentation in that location.

RIDE TO CONFERENCE:

Ride to Conference is a fundraising tool a lot of Districts use to raise money in particular now for Australia Rotary Health. As of 2014, the funds of each ride have been directed to ARH with particular support for an Indigenous Health Scholarship. A scholarship runs for 4 years and is a \$2500 annual commitment by the team. We are into our 3rd Scholarship student. Funds raised above this amount go in support of ARH Mental Health Programs. To raise the funds for ARH, all participants are asked to contribute a minimum of \$250 sponsorship each directly to ARH. How the riders raise this is entirely up to them. Some give it personally, others are supported by their Clubs, and give far more than \$250 per rider.

If you would like to participate in this event, please contact Chris Sutton on: cemsutton60@hotmail.com





Classics 60's, 70's, 80's

DISTRICT 9790 CONFERENCE 2024 DINNER DANCE

Venue:

The GV Hotel
223 High St
Shepparton, Vic. 3630
Ph: 58 219 822

Date:

Saturday, 20th April, 2024

Time:

6:30pm - Fellowship
7:00pm - Seated/main meal served

Drinks:

Drinks at bar prices
An extensive selection of wine/spirits/beer and soft drinks available

Meal:

Two course, alternate drop
Main and Dessert
Dietary requirements catered for - request at booking

Cost:

\$70.00 per person

Band:

'Under The Radar'

Attire:

Dress to the 'Classics Theme, 60's, 70's, 80's
Dance the night away!
or -Semi-formal dinner attire



Rotary Club of
Eltham Presents:



Christmas CONCERT

in the Park

MC: Craig
Huggins, Santa,
Music and kids
entertainers

Sunday 17 December 2023

6pm to 8.30pm

Alistair Knox Park, Eltham

Ice cream,
coffee
and BBQ
available

www.elthamfestival.org.au

 [Facebook/elthamfestival](https://www.facebook.com/elthamfestival)

Rotary
Eltham



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Dates for RESCA Awards 2024

Nominations will commence **1st March** and close **30th April 2024**.

Judging will occur with announcements made in **June 2024**

The RESCA Victoria Awards Dinner will be held in **August 2024**- (*date TBC*)

The RESCA National event will be held in **October 2024**.

For further information, go to:
<https://www.vic.rescawards.org.au/>



Event

Contact

District Conference, Shepparton
19-21 April, 2024
Eastbank, 70 Welsford Street, Shepparton

Rotary Club of Mooroopna
Contact: PP Laurie Fagan
E: laurie.fagan@bigpond.com

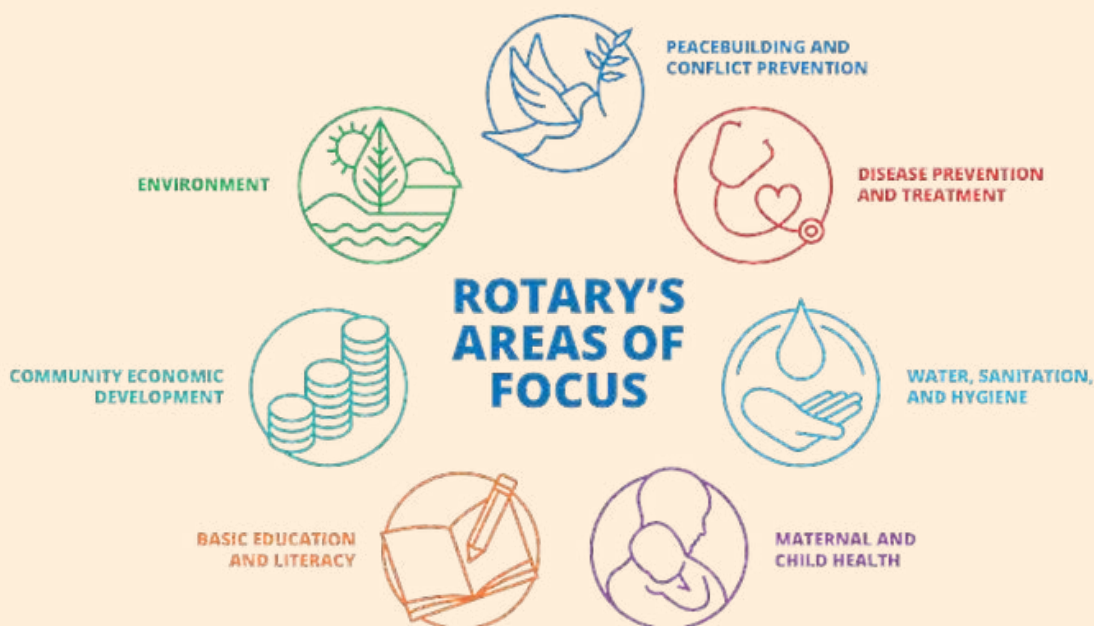
Deadlines

District 9790 Peter Toomey Police Award
Nominations due: Wednesday 31 January 2024
(see page 18)

David Redfearn OAM
Coordinator
M: 0448 852 747
E: dredfearn@vtown.com.au

Rotary Emergency Services Community Awards
(RESCA)
Nominations open 1 March 2024 and close 30 April
2024 (see page 4)

www.vic.rescawards.org.au
or email Lorraine Greenwood
on
l.greenwood53@bigpond.com



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.

November 2023

Rotary Foundation Month

30 October - 5 November – World Interact Week

December 2023

Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

15 December – Last day for early registration discount for the Rotary International Convention

January 2024

Vocational Service Month

7-11 January – Rotary International Assembly, Orlando, Florida, USA

February 2024

Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month

23 February – Rotary's anniversary

March 2024

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month

11-17 March – World Rotaract Week

31 March – Preregistration discount ends for the Rotary International Convention

April 2024

Environmental Month

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

May 2024

Youth Service Month

25-29 May – Rotary International Convention, Singapore

June 2024

Rotary Fellowships Month

30 June – Rotary Citation for Rotary Clubs Award nominations are due

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WWW.ROTARY9790.ORG.AU

PUBLISHER/EDITOR: DAVID REDFEARN **ART DIRECTOR:** DAVID REDFEARN **ADVERTISING:** DAVID REDFEARN **OTHER DUTIES AS REQUIRED:** DAVID REDFEARN

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CLOSING DATE IS 12 DECEMBER 2023 ALL ARTICLES AND PHOTOGRAPHS IMAGES TO: dredfearn@vtown.com.au

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**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

Rotary



District 9790

2024 DISTRICT CONFERENCE



Find Somewhere To Stay

sheppandgv.com.au/stay



Find Somewhere To Play

sheppandgv.com.au



FRIDAY ACTIVITIES

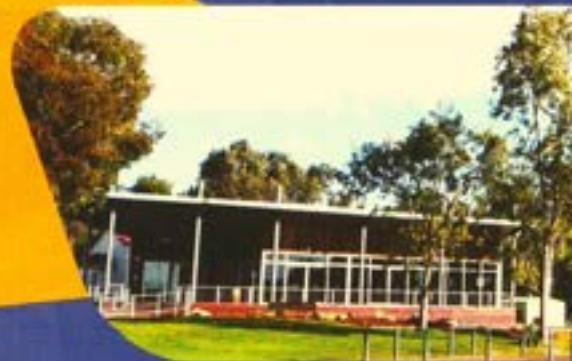
- Golf and Lawn Bowls
- Shepparton Art Museum tour
- Museum of Vehicle Evolution tour
- Painting/Drawing/Photography beside the Goulburn River
- Indigenous Heritage walk and cycling

FRIDAY EVENING

- Opening Ceremony and Cocktail Party at the Woolshed

SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER DANCE THEME

- "CLASSICS THEME - 60s, 70s, 80s" - Goulburn Valley Hotel



APRIL 19, 20 & 21

VENUE: Eastbank, 70 Welsford Street, Shepparton