



NEWSLETTER 13, SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

Rotary meets weekly at Tosaria's Café 60 Henderson Rd Rowville

Tuesday 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm start

Meetings are hybrid unless indicated otherwise

Zoom meeting link

Visitors are warmly welcome

Contact:
President Jenny Moran
0404893870

Home Club of PDG Daryl Moran



THIS WEEK'S SPEAKER—John Lawrence BELRAG



Basic Education and Literacy Rotary Action Group (BELRAG) is a resource to improve the literacy of people, particularly those in remote areas with low literacy skillsets or resources. 17% of the world's adult population (over 15 years) lack basic literacy skills meaning, 1 in 9 adults are not literate. Improvement in literacy becomes fundamental in making changes and moving forward.

One of the ways John has been involved through BELRAG is with a project called "Teacher in a Box". It helps people read and learn in remote areas where there is no internet, by using a server and a refurbished laptop. Another way BELRAG assists is by training the teachers which is very important to literacy outcomes.

The "Teacher in a Box" project started off as a club project and has grown to the point where BELRAG have provided 130 servers to 24 countries including PNG, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Cambodia, and Africa because the lack of resources has to be overcome.

In all the countries where "Teacher in a Box" has been set up they have firstly started with the relevant Department of Education, taken their curriculum and placed it onto the server so that each school involved has access to the authentic national curriculum. They also source and often take American and Australian videos and have these dubbed with the language where they are going to be used.

Interestingly, the "Teacher in a Box" servers have also been used by others in the community since the range is approximately 500m. The server becomes a search engine for others trying to research things as well as the resource for students doing homework on phones or tablets. The servers can be updated regularly by remote means. "Teacher in a Box" is relevant to a particular community, every server is customized for that group and done with the authority of the local government and the school authority. The servers go to areas where they want it, demand it, really need it and will look after it.

More broadly, BELRAG tries to assist clubs with ways of being engaged and trying to help both locally in their communities, and overseas which is where BELRAG is mainly focused. They broadcast very regular webinars using speakers from around the globe to impart knowledge and information and to help clubs with their projects. BELRAG also rewards outstanding education and literacy projects globally, including both monetary and recognition prizes. This helps to ensure that they promote literacy opportunities and create a positive and lasting change. Clubs can join with BELRAG to promote literacy on a wider scale.

A question was asked by Jeff in terms of AI and its implications. John related a story of how it is already being used to help. A really good basic book on how to build structures from PNG and written in Pigeon English was taken to Indonesia to the refine drawings. AI is being used to translate the original document. This means that a module can be put onto the servers on how to make water tanks, construct buildings etc in a simple way which was first created in PNG in the 50s; and is still relevant today in helping villages to make themselves self sufficient and sustainable by building their own school rooms, toilet blocks etc. A great use of AI now and hopefully into the future.

Thank you John for your time and information about BELRAG and for joining us on Zoom.

HELP NEEDED....

The knitters at Peppertree Hill Retirement Village are in urgent need of wool to keep up their good work of knitting for B4VK . They also knit for the Youth Outreach program being run under the B4VK umbrella. This involves knitting beanies gloves, scarves and rugs to provide what warmth they can to the street kids. Even wool scraps (less than a ball) can be used by the ladies as they can incorporate stripes into the items they are knitting, or knit small squares of different colours that can be joined to make rugs. If you can help, please bring along your wool to a meeting and it can be collected and delivered to the village. Thank you!



TAMMINYA HOUSE



This week Ian and Jeff went to Tamminya House to have a look at what needed doing in the garden.

They eagerly got to work on the raised garden beds and filled them with fresh soil so that they can be planted with vegetables. Jeff brought along some seed potatoes and other vegetable seeds.

The sandpit was topped up with new sand too. The children will enjoy playing in the fresh sand and looking after the veggies in the garden.

There is weeding to be done down the side of the house so Ian and Jeff are calling for anyone who would like to lend a hand with this. Your help would be much appreciated!

Our sincere thanks to Manna Gum of Upper Ferntree Gully who donated the soil and sand.









EARLYBIRD TICKET PRICE FINISHES 30TH SEPTEMBER

https://rotary9815.org.au/sitepage/district-conference-2025

GET YOUR TICKET TODAY!!

Member news snippets...

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9th - Kevin

18th-Daryl





Busy

We need a muffin maker for the 30th of September and 28th October to replace Fiona please!!

President Jenny recounted again that there are many volunteer hours being spent by Members of the Rotary Club of Rowville-Lysterfield. Many of these hours are spent sitting at computers but there are many spent personally "on the job".

This past week the face-to-face interactions were:

Soup making and delivery to Foothills at FTG

Muffins making and delivery to Foothills at Upwey

2 members attending Taminya House to evaluate garden works and beginning those works

6 members at a working bee to start making new covers for the Art Show display stands

2 members reporting on RCGs and District International Aid Projects at the President's Meeting

2 members reporting on District Youth at 2 separate club meetings

All in all, a very busy week!!



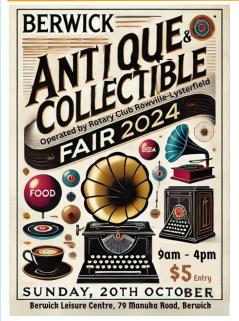
Details for those attending Adrian's Funeral:

Friday 20th September at 11 am

St. Jude's Church, George Street Scoresby.

For those unable to attend there is a Livestream at:

The Funeral Service for Adrian Klep (vimeo.com)



For stall holders or more information, please visit our new website at www.berwickantiquefair.com.au

ALWAYS A FUN NIGHT.....



Please use the link and book now:

https://www.trybooking.com/CVHBO

ROSTERS—Foothills muffins and soup

30 September Muffins	Heather, Jenny, Anita and Rajeev, ???		
9 October Soup	Kate, Kylie, Anita (last one for 2024)		
14 October Muffins	Marg, Kaye, Corinne, Pete and Sue		
28 October Muffins	Heather, Jenny, Anita and Rajeev, ???		
11 November Muffins	Marg, Kaye, Corinne, Pete and Sue		







NEXT BUNNINGS BBQ— Next Friday - September 20th

Thank you to all those who have volunteered!

October is a busy month for BBQs, please add your name to the rosters on Google Sheets as soon as possible.



Inaugural Knox Business Awards



BOOKINGS OPEN NOW

https://www.trybooking.com/CVGKG

SOMETHING A LITTLE DIFFERENT...

OCTOBER 8th

A CELEBRATION AND PLANNING NIGHT

Gather from 6.00 pm, meeting 6.30 - 7.30 pm.

No guest speaker, but time to celebrate achievements and plan for the busy time ahead.

At 7.30 pm, those who wish, may depart but if you wish, it will be time to share a meal together (meals will be ordered at the start to enable them to be ready in time).

PROGRAM

Date	Registration	Chair	Setup and Production	Program		
21 September	This Saturday Coffee and Conversation					
	at Tosaria's 9:30am					
24 September	Marg	Jeff	Ian	Footy Theme with Footy Food		
			Daryl	Wear your Footy Club Colours		
01 October	Carol	Neil W	Alan	Foundation with District Chair Alma		
			John	Reynolds Dr Sharif- SHEBA update + event		
08 October	Bob	Heather	Ian	Celebration and Planning Night		
			Daryl	6:30-7:30pm (see p.4 for details)		
15 October	John	Carol	Ian	Ken Mirams District Youth Protection		
			Alan	Fabian Pasquini Austbroker Referrals		
19 October	SHEBA FUNDRAISER EVENT					
	Glen Waverley Community Centre 6pm					
20 October	BERWICK ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLES FAIR					
	Berwick Leisure Centre 79 Manuka Rd Berwick 9am-4pm					
22 October	Kaye	Daryl	John	Anton Hockey RYDA		
			Kevin			

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SAT 19th OCTOBER—SHEBA Fundraiser Event—Glen Waverley Community Centre

SUN 20th OCTOBER—Berwick Antique and Collectible Fair—Berwick Leisure Centre

THURS 24th OCTOBER—Knox Business Awards—Churchill - Waverley Golf and Bowls Club

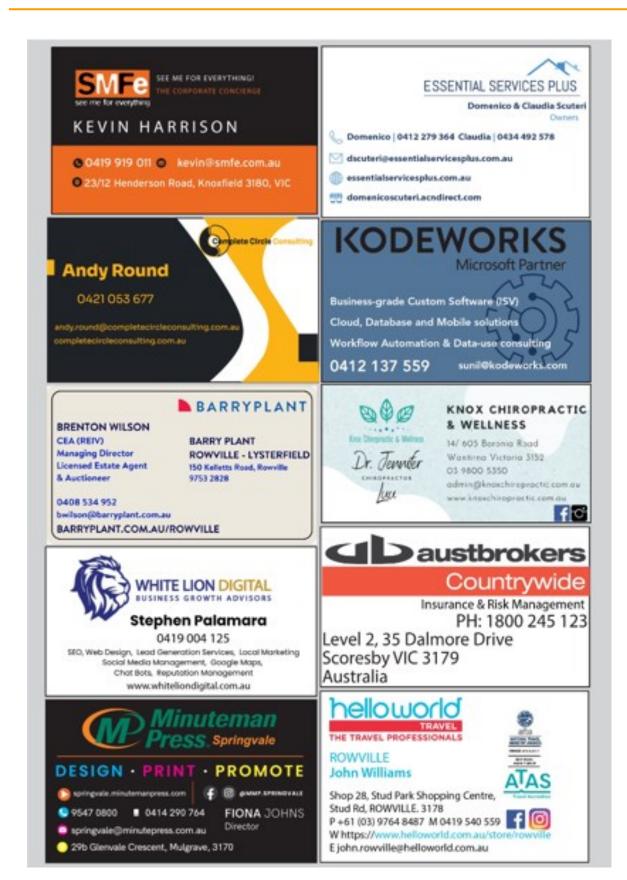
FRI 8th-SUN 10th NOVEMBER—50TH Knox Art Show— Churchill - Waverley Golf and Bowls Club

WED 20th NOV-BUSINESS BREAKFAST- Churchill - Waverley Golf and Bowls Club

TUES 10th DEC—CHRISTMAS BREAK-UP—TBC



Let's support our members....



CONTACT DETAILS

Club website https://www.rowvillerotary.com.au/

District website : https://rotary9815.org.au

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Rotary-Club-of-Rowville-Lysterfield-

171446576246728/?ref=bookmarks

2024-2025 BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PresidentJenny MoranSecretaryHeather MorrisVice PresidentMurray WilsonTreasurerNeil White

President Elect Bob Morris Immediate Past President Carol Constantine

2024-2025 COMMITTEE MEMBERS and OTHER ROLES

Community Service	Marg Vesey	Art Show Committee	Rajeev Wadhwa
	Kate Kidd		Carol Constantine
	Ian Vesey		Alan Lunghusen
	Ayanthi Gunatilake		Gary Forrest
Youth Service	Max Williams	Program Committee	Jeff Somers
	Gary Forrest		Kate Kidd
	Daryl Moran		Jenny Moran
	Rajeev Wadhwa	Newsletter	Corinne Baillie
International Service	Alan Lunghusen	Fundraising/ Sponsorship	Stephen Palamara
	Marg Vesey		Kaye Sharman
	Ayanthi Gunatilake	BBQ Committee	Heather Morris
	Rajeev Wadhwa		Bob Morris
			Ian Vesey
Environment	Arshad Samsudeen	Rowville Secondary	Rajeev Wadhwa
Vocational	John Williams	College Council Rep	
	Stephen Palamara	Facebook	Stephen Palamara
Foundation	Neil White	Website	Andy Round
Membership	Bob Morris	Rowville Lysterfield	Jenny Moran
	Kevin Harrison	Community News	
Club Protection Officer	Carol Constantine	On-to-Conference	Jeff Somers
Club Protection	Anita Wadhwa	Social Convenor	Kaye Sharman
Assistant (WWCC)		Antique Fair	Stephen Palamara
		Committee	Gary Forrest
			Kaye Sharman
			Jeff Somers
			Bob Morris