

**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

Rotary
Rowville Lysterfield



NEWSLETTER 06, AUGUST 5TH, 2025

**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 Bob Morris

0416105326

The Challenges of Leadership in Education— Nicole Pryor

With over 14 years experience in the Principal Class across a number of schools including low socio-economic schools in Gippsland, Nicole has spent the last 6 years as Principal of Warragul Regional College and has this year joined Rowville Secondary College.

Nicole started by thanking us for what we do as Rotarians as she has worked with many Rotary clubs in the past and acknowledged that what we do makes a very big difference either in directly working with young people or in the support we give through the many Youth Programs we offer.

Nicole has over 14 years experience in the Principal Class across a number of schools, including low socio-economic schools in Gippsland. Nicole has spent the last 6 years as Principal of Warragul Regional College and this year started at Rowville Secondary College with a teaching journey spanning all levels from kindergarten to university.

Nicole believes that being a Principal is one of the most rewarding, yet challenging roles in the community. Educational leadership in Victorian Government schools is tough. So much has changed. The role, say 30 years ago, was fairly straightforward with principals managing buildings, supporting teachers, ensuring students learned the fundamentals but they weren't the CEOs of multi million dollar businesses, as they are today.

Over the past 10 years things have changed dramatically with Covid in the middle actually changing the way schools operate and how they deliver education, student wellbeing and connection with community

Principals of today are instructional leaders ensuring that every child receives a quality education despite teacher shortages and changes to curriculum whilst providing personalised programs for the increasing diversity of student needs. They are crisis managers, dealing with natural disasters, bomb threats, cyber attacks and mental health emergencies. The incidence of these types of incidents has increased dramatically. Principals need to be skilled in dealing with police, communities, Dept of Education and ongoing follow ups, often without being able to provide students with referrals for the care that they may require.

Principals are technology integrators bridging the digital divide, whilst teaching digital citizenship by providing the necessary hardware and at the same time, protecting students from online harm. These are challenging times with social media (and the new rules coming in), cyberbullying and AI technology.

They are mental health advocates who try to address the alarming rise in student mental health issues such as anxiety, depression and disconnection from society. This requires dealing with external agencies to help support these students and their families. These agencies are often also understaffed which makes it more difficult to provide the support that is needed. The size of the wellbeing teams in schools are on the rise in an effort to address these needs.



**Satellite Club meets
at Tosaria's Café**

Alternate Thursdays at 7:30am

Contact :

President Kevin Harrison

0419919011

Home Club of

DGN Murray Wilson

PDG Daryl Moran



**ROWVILLE
SECONDARY COLLEGE**

(.....Continued p. 3)

MUFFINS and SOUP ROSTER

07 August Muffins	Kaye, Mary, Corinne, Heather & Bob
21 August Muffins	Marg, Fiona, Pete & Sue, Anita & Rajeev
27 August Soup	Glennys & Howard, Kate, Robyn L
04 September Muffins	Kaye, Sharon, Corinne, Heather & Bob
18 September Muffins	Marg, Fiona, Pete & Sue, Anita & Rajeev



FOOTHILLS
COMMUNITY CARE



PROGRAM

Date	Registration	Chair	Setup and Production	Program
AUGUST - Membership and New Club Development				
12th August	Robyn W	Carol	Kevin Andy R	My Time at RYLA - Will Ghost
19th August	Ian	Marg	Andy R Alan	God and the Angel - Vivian Leigh and Laurence Olivier's tour of Aust and NZ- Shiroma Perera- Nathan
26th August	Gary	Jeff	Alan Ian	Mothers and Babies Hospital in Nepal - Ray Hodgson
SEPTEMBER - Basic Education and Literacy				
2nd September	Rajeev	Stephen	Ian Kevin	Update on SHEBA Project - Dr Sharif
9th September	Marg	Robyn W	Kevin Alan	TBC

EarlyAct News Article in the Rowville Lysterfield Community News

There is a great article in the August edition of the Rowville Lysterfield Community News on our Park Ridge Early Act Club and all their great activities. Click on the link below to read it.....

rlcnews.com.au/pdf/?magazinemonth=August-2025

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FRI 15th AUGUST - Knox Nocturnals BINGO NIGHT - Senior Citz Hall, Ferntree Gully

MON 18th AUGUST - PRIMARY SCHOOLS SPEECH COMPETION - Rowville SC, Performing Arts Centre

THURS 21st AUGUST - SATELLITE CLUB MEETING with Guest Speaker - Tosaria Restaurant, Rowville



Welcome.....

We welcomed another new member into the Rotary Club of Rowville-Lysterfield family at this week's meeting.

Sharon Ferdinands has been a frequent visitor over the past couple of months and has already put her hand up to be involved in various club activities. We know that Sharon will enjoy being a part of the club team and making a difference the lives of others. Sharon's daughter, Lauren attended the meeting to share in this special occasion.



This week's speaker continued from page 1

Principals are community builders trying to foster connection in a world that is increasingly fragmented; working hard to engage families from diverse cultural backgrounds with varying levels of positive and negative educational experiences.

Nicole talked about the challenges of teacher shortages and how this cost her school in Gippsland \$1 million a year to employ Casual Relief Teachers. She talked about her face to face teaching of classes at that time, totalling 12 hours a week on top of her responsibilities as a Principal. Her teaching time of 12 hours also involved hours of planning and preparation, marking and assessment. She also, at times, had to put on her "canteen lady hat" and cook potato cakes in the canteen due to absence of workers. All of this just adds to the workload of the leadership teams in our schools.

The pressures in some areas for teachers have become too much, with many dedicated and experienced teachers leaving the profession. This is a massive blow for schools and has a ripple effect, as junior less experienced staff, are losing their valuable mentors. There is a program running now where 3rd and 4th year students and Masters students are gaining permission to teach before completing their degrees and associated placements. These students require and will require ongoing mentoring from experienced teachers within their schools for several years.

Students aren't just worried about their upcoming assignments anymore. Global pressures and uncertainty come to school with them every day – climate change, global conflicts, economic instability, social media pressures all impact the mental health of students. Students are struggling with anxiety and depression at rates not seen before. Wellbeing teams that used to deal with an occasional crisis are now working with several every day. Due to the pressures outlined above, students are arriving at school already overwhelmed. There has been a rise in the number of students being homeschooled or in remote learning programs as they cannot face the anxiety of going to school.

Behavioural challenges are increasing. Post pandemic there are higher rates of aggression, defiance and disengagement. Students missed crucial social development during the lockdowns and many are struggling with interpersonal skills with some finding that traditional structures don't suit them. In principal surveys it has been reported that 54% of principals have faced the threat of physical violence and shockingly, 48% have been assaulted. Nicole has been a part of these statistics in the past. Principals also face cyberbullying and are slandered by parents.

There is initiative overload in our schools. Whilst the value of individual initiatives is not disputed the cumulative effects are adding massive workloads. Each of these initiatives requires planning, training, reporting and evaluation and accountability for the money spent. This results in more time spent by the leadership team on compliance rather than instructional leadership that actually benefits and improves student outcomes.

Despite all these challenges Nicole remains passionate about the school's core mission which is that every student who walks in the gate will leave with increased life chances, satisfaction and happiness.

Nicole's day certainly involves a lot of variety and undoubtedly a very broad skillset, but her passion for the job and the 1800 students at the school, is very evident. Rowville Secondary College staff and students are lucky to have her.

We thank Nicole for putting aside time to come and speak to us and tell us about the Challenges in Educational Leadership in this modern age.

Member news snippets...

AUGUST Birthdays

2nd - BOB

18th - KATE



Andy R has signed up to do a minimum 116km walk to raise funds for the National Breast Cancer Foundation through the Step Up to Breast Cancer walk in August. He is doing this in memory of Daphne, Kevin's mother.

If you would like to support Andy by sponsoring him, please use the link below. He is hoping to raise \$500.

In Australia, 58 people per day are diagnosed with breast cancer. By donating to the NBCF you are supporting vital research to help save lives.

<https://fundraise.nbcf.org.au/fundraisers/>



Murray is continuing to be challenged by the weather conditions over in the US which have impacted him on travel days.

After the Tsunami alert in Honolulu, he thought that was it! Unfortunately he experienced a flood alert similar to the tsunami telling all to "head to high ground" and, of course the associated travel delays.

Luckily he is safe and calm and managing to relax and tell his dad jokes!!!



He has also fitted in a tour of the Rotary International head office in Evanston.



Moran's have enjoyed meeting "old friends" in the wonderful city of Liverpool. They enjoyed remembering so many lyrics from the Fab Four as they toured all the Beatles' points of interest. Scotland is next on the list.

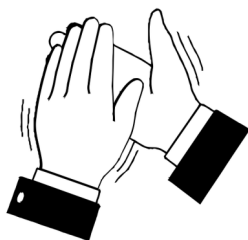


GWS COMMUNITY RAFFLE NEWS

On Tuesday night, Ian attended the GWS Community Raffle draw at Gary and Warren Smith in Mulgrave. This raffle has been helping to increase our fundraising efforts over the last few years to the tune of approximately \$2,000 annually.

Over the past 12 or so years the GWS Automotive Group, has given back a total of **\$955,351.62** to community groups. An enormous amount of money, which no doubt, has been put to good use by the community groups that have been involved.

As Ian arrived on Tuesday, he was given a couple of raffle tickets for a bonus draw on the night, one for which someone from the community group had to be present. To his amazement, one of Ian's numbers was drawn and the prize was **\$5,000** for our club!!!!



BUNNINGS

NEXT BUNNINGS BBQ FRIDAY 15th AUGUST

Still plenty of spots left on the roster. Please fill in if you can help.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1yZ2CCLKH5cvbJSV1ZpT46xjpsngO9Ir1BXYB6B5axco/edit?usp=sharing>



Makers and Bakers Market at the Rowville Community Centre, Fulham Road Rowville.

SUNDAY
7th SEPTEMBER
9am—2pm

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/16QvHXSGDYayD5DYgq0mZkKUC-rNe3MLA/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=108019844417789794781&rtpof=true&sd=true>

DISTRICT 9815 CONFERENCE 13-15 MARCH, 2026



The District 9815 Conference will be held in conjunction with District 9830 (TAS) at the Grand Chancellor Hotel, Hobart from 13th-15th March 2026. The Hotel has a "Rotary" rate on rooms if you wish to stay there. The convenience of having the Conference in the same venue where you are staying is a great draw card. The Grand Chancellor is directly opposite the waterfront in Hobart and has some great amenities.



There are some other options for accommodation within close proximity which are listed below. If choosing one of these, make sure you mention the Conference and ask if they have a special rate.

March 13th – March 15th, 2026

Grand Chancellor Hotel



'Be Inspired'- Speakers



Emily Williamson
'Breaking the Poverty Cycle in Cambodia'



Rob Pennicott
Australian of the Year
Circumnavigated Australia in a dinghy



Mr Kirk Williams
Plastic & Reconstruction surgeon for Interplast



Saroo Brierley
The true story of the boy from the movie 'Lion'

2026 CONFERENCE Early Bird OFFER

From 1st August 2025 - 31st December 2025

FULL CONFERENCE including GALA DINNER - \$295

(Includes a green Polo Conference Shirt)

From 1st January 2026—\$340

Friday Sport/social events & Friday Club Dinner are extra

As usual, the Conference will provide many opportunities to learn more about Rotary, to network and to be inspired by some wonderful speakers and the Rotary Expo, which will highlight many Rotary Projects both locally and internationally. It is also a great social activity, with plenty of time for relaxation and fellowship.

As has been the case in the past, there is an Early Bird offer running from the opening of bookings on 1st August until the 31st December.

This price is at a \$45 saving and includes a green Polo Conference Shirt.



<https://rotary9815.org.au/page/district-conference-2026>

ACCOMMODATION

- Grand Chancellor – Rotary Price – (\$290 a night) \$580 Fri-Sun.
- Numerous choices in walking distance – check if there is a Rotary Conference price
- The Old Woolstore Apartment Hotel -0.1km - \$780
- Zero Davey Boutique Apartment Hotel -0.1km - \$597
- Central Hotel Hobart – 0.4km - \$342

FRIDAY OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Golf Competition & Lunch – Claremont Golf club Cost TBC	Lawn Bowls Competition & Lunch – venue & Cost TBC	Historical Storytelling Experience & Morning Tea in the Story Bar of Waterfront Hotel \$55 9:30-11:00am	Lunch with Educational Gin experience/tasting at Waterline Lounge Bar & Eatery - \$70
Whisky Tasting at LARK 2:30-3:30pm \$40	Pre Conference Welcome Drinks – The Atrium, Henry Jones Art Hotel \$75 2 drinks, canapes 4:30-6:00pm	Club Dinner 7pm Venue TBC	

KNOX NOCTURNALS FUN

A fundraising night that promises to be a lot of fun!
Support the Knox Nocturnals Youth Program by getting a table together.



Rotary
CLUBS of
FERNTREE GULLY & BAYSWATER

BINGO NIGHT

IN SUPPORT OF KNOX
NOCTURNALS YOUTH PROGRAM

Gather your family, friends, and fellow bingo enthusiasts for an evening of thrilling games, fabulous prizes, and unforgettable memories.

Cash Prizes for each game, snacks, coffee, drinks and bingo tickets available for sale

FRIDAY 15TH AUGUST
Arrive from 6.15 PM
Eyes down at 7.00 PM

\$10 Entry per person
Includes a raffle ticket for a **\$200 Italian Dining Voucher**

For All Enquiries
Contact **Stephen Palamara** on **0419 004 125**
Senior Citizens Hall
160 Underwood Road Ferntree Gully

Scan To Book

SATELLITE CLUB MEETING
THURSDAY 21ST AUGUST
7:30 AM TOSARIA'S
ALL WELCOME!!
Guest Speaker
Kristine Ash from
Simple Steps

*****Please let Kevin know if you will be attending**

The Fundraising Theatre Night was another great night with a total of \$360 being raised for the club. Members really enjoyed their meals at the revamped Royal Hotel.

Our thanks to Kaye for organizing this.

SATELLITE CLUB - KNOX BUSINESS NETWORK



The Knox Business Network Satellite club of the Rotary Club of Rowville- Lysterfield.
www.knoxbusinessnetwork.com.au
Email: knoxbusinessnetwork@gmail.com
President: Kevin Harrison 0419 91 90 11
Secretary: Dominic Scuteri
Treasurer: Neil White
Vice President: Fiona Johns

Meeting timetable for the rest of the year:

July	10, 24
August	7, 21
September	4, 18
October	2, 16, 30
November	13, 27
December	11

Come and join us at Tosaria's @ 7:30 AM
and expand your business
and also make a difference through **Rotary**

Let's support our members.....



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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>

2025-2026 BOARD MEMBERS

<i>President</i>	Bob Morris	<i>Secretary</i>	Heather Morris
<i>Vice President</i>	Murray Wilson	<i>Treasurer</i>	Neil White
<i>President Elect</i>	Marg Vesey	<i>Immediate Past President</i>	Jenny Moran

2025-2026 COMMITTEE CHAIRS and OTHER ROLES

Community Service Chair	Marg Vesey	Program Committee	Bob Morris Rajeev Wadhwa
Youth Service Chair	Max Williams	Facebook	Stephen Palamara
International Service Chair	Alan Lunghusen	Website	Andy Round
Environment Chair	Gary Forrest	Newsletter	Corinne Baillie
Vocational Chair	John Williams	Rowville Secondary College Council Rep	Rajeev Wadhwa
Foundation	Neil White	On-to-Conference	Heather Morris
		Rowville Lysterfield	Jenny Moran
		Community News	
Membership	Kevin Harrison	Social Convenor	Kaye Sharman
Club Protection Officer	Bob Morris	Muffin and Soup Roster	Kate Kidd
Makers and Bakers Market	Bob Morris		
BBQ Coordinators	Ian Vesey Marg Vesey		
War Memorial Project Chair	Daryl Moran		