

UNITE FOR GOOD

Rotary Rowville Lysterfield



NEWSLETTER 07, AUGUST 12TH, 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**



**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



This week's speaker-

Our guest speaker Shiroma Perera-Nathan has been a life-long fan of the Vivien Leigh ever since she read *Gone with the Wind* and saw the movie at the age of 12. Her fascination with Leigh's life and career led her to be a world-renowned authority and eventually a writer.

This fascination led her to discover a little known treasure hidden away in the National Library of Australia's archives in Canberra. It was the personal album kept by Vivien Leigh and Laurence Olivier from their 1948 Theatrical Tour of Australia and New Zealand.



Shiroma decided to write a book ,
publish the photos and tell the
story in "God and the Angel."

Vivien Leigh and Laurence Olivier arrived in Post-WWII Australia which was still under rationing, with little cultural life and almost no television. The tour, framed as a "gift" from Britain for Australia's wartime support, also had political motives—strengthening ties to the dominions as Britain's empire was weakening. India had been lost. Singapore had fallen during the war, and Australia and New Zealand were actually drawn more and more towards an American social culture and obviously also protection.

Leigh and Olivier, were Hollywood royalty and the ultimate power couple and led a full repertory company. Olivier chose the plays to be performed on the tour: *Richard III*, *The School for Scandal*, and *The Skin of Our Teeth*. Tickets sold out weeks in advance; crowds gathered in huge numbers and people even slept in the queues to ensure they got a ticket. Critics praised Olivier's *Richard III* as one of the greatest performances ever seen in Australia. The cities visited included Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Hobart, and several in New Zealand. The pair were treated like royalty wherever they went and drew amazing crowds that are usually reserved for political leaders and sports stars of today.

The tour boosted the presence of Shakespeare and serious drama in Australia in the 1950s. It was both a cultural milestone and a political statement of Britain's influence. Yet, it came at a personal cost to the stars.

Behind the scenes the couple's marriage suffered under the strain. It was a gruelling schedule with six performances per week and nine long months of travel by ship, train, and car. The poor theatre conditions took their toll as did the clashes with Australian unionists whom they found much more difficult to deal with than the unions in the UK. They also had far too many ambassadorial expectations from the British Council. They were just actors, but they were expected to attend parliament, do radio announcements, and have dinner with dignitaries, responsibilities that were very much out of their comfort zone, but the audiences adored them, so when the tour ended after nearly 10 months in late 1948 they both returned to England. They were exhausted, but they were hailed as conquering heroes.

Leigh's undiagnosed bipolar disorder, anxiety, and insomnia intensified the pressure on both the actors. Olivier later admitted he "lost Vivien in Australia," and the marriage eventually ended in divorce in 1960. (Continued on p.)



MUFFINS and SOUP ROSTER

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
24 September Soup	Kylie, Kate, Robyn W
25 September Muffins	Kaye, Jenny, ????, Heather & Bob



****Need a volunteer for muffins on 25th Sept please. If you can help, let Kate know.

PROGRAM

Date	Registration	Chair	Setup and Production	Program
AUGUST - Membership and New Club Development				
26th August	Gary	Marg	Alan Ian	Mothers and Babies Hospital in Nepal - Ray Hodgson
SEPTEMBER - Basic Education and Literacy				
2nd September	Rajeev	Stephen	Ian Bob	Update on SHEBA Project - Dr Sharif
9th September	Marg	Robyn W	Andy R Alan	Member Behind the Badge - Tony Harrison
16th September	Heather	Neil	Alan Ian	Update on Family Care Uganda - Robin Yamaguchi
23rd September	Jeff	Jenny	Ian Daryl	Lite Haus - Jack Growden

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

FRI 5th SEPTEMBER - KNOX NOCTURNALS BINGO NIGHT - Senior Citizens Hall, FTG

SUN 7th SEPTEMBER - MAKERS AND BAKERS MARKET - Rowville Community Centre

SAT 20th SEPTEMBER - FUNDRAISER FOR MSA (in memory of Adrian Klep) - details to come

THURS 9th OCTOBER - KNOX BUSINESS AWARDS - Waverley Churchill Golf and Bowls Club, Rowville

SAT 18TH OCTOBER - SHEBA FUNDRAISER - details soon



Primary Schools Speech Competition Final

The 2025 Primary Schools' Speech Competition Final included 10 students from 5 local schools - Heany Park, Karoo, Lysterfield, Park Ridge and St. Simon the Apostle.

The content of the speeches was varied and included topics on climate change, the personal qualities of people, the need for clean water, world conflict, friends, imagination and emotions. There was an enormous amount of work by all students in preparing the content and the presentation of their topic to keep the audience entertained. The research by the two students who spoke on visiting Saturn and the Anzacs was incredible.

Not only was there a good representation of Rotarians, but teachers and principals who were so proud of their students. The parents and extended families were all bursting with pride as their child got up and presented.

We thank the judges - Jeff, Bob and Robyn W, who definitely had an unenviable task in trying to choose the winner and runner up, as the quality of the speeches was outstanding. The winner was Levon Farrugia from Lysterfield Primary School and the runner up was Audrey Dawson from St. Simon the Apostle. Congratulations to these very deserving place winners!

Even Max, who was the MC on the night, said he felt a little nervous speaking, after the stellar performances of all the speakers! Carol was our accurate time keeper and did a fabulous job.

President Bob did a great job of highlighting the work that Rotary does in the local community, at a national level and in international communities. We hope that the audience was more enlightened as to what Rotarians "do".

Carol and Stephen provided a delicious and well received supper at the conclusion of the night.

Other members who attended and assisted were - Arshad, Kaye, John and Mary, Ian and Marg.

We look forward to inviting Levon to a club meeting soon to present his winning speech to us as a practice run before the District Final later in the year.



- The topics for the Speech Competition were:
- The superpower I would like to have is
- The person who influenced my life the most....
- It was a wild ride.....
- What planet would you visit and why....
- I like living in Australia because....
- If I had 3 wishes they would be....
- The Anzacs
- If I could change the world I would.....

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.

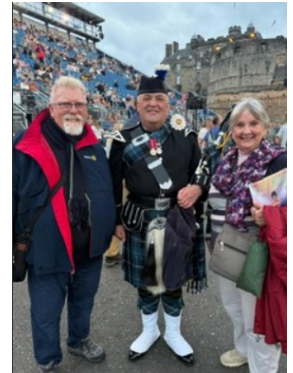
In Australia, 58 people per day are diagnosed with breast cancer. By donating to the NBCF you are supporting vital research to help save lives.

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



- Jenny and Daryl continue to make the most of their overseas trip. They recently enjoyed a night at the Edinburgh Tattoo which they thoroughly enjoyed. Something on the "bucket list" of many travellers.

- Another round of members are starting to think about what they will pack for their upcoming trips. Not long now for Mary and John P (29th August) and Corinne and Les (17th September)



BUNNINGS

NEXT BUNNINGS BBQ FRIDAY 29th AUGUST Still several spots left on the roster.

The last BBQ on 15th August resulted in a profit of \$781.15! Well done to the new BBQ Captains Ian and Marg and their great team - Sharon, Alan, Robyn L, Jeff, Kaye and Bob



<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1yZ2CCLKH5cvbjSV1ZpT46xjpsngO9Ir1BXYB6B5axeo/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/>

CONGRATULATIONS TONY HARRISON



Tony Harrison was welcomed to the club at the meeting with a name badge and club polo top. Tony brings with him a wealth of Rotary knowledge after a 50 year association with Rotary.

Tony decided on the transfer to Rowville-Lysterfield after attending our Inaugural Business Awards in 2024. He was impressed by the welcome and energy of the club.

We know Tony will enjoy being a member and work together with club members to make a difference in the lives of others.

Guest Speaker Continued from p.1.....

So though the curtain fell 75 years ago on this tour, the echoes of it still resonate for Shiroma as it was a chance to reconnect generations. There are a lot of people enjoy reviving memories and the book sparked a bit of reflection for others. So many great Australian artists who were part of that tour are forgotten, so the book has allowed them to be brought back into contemporary focus.

She is saddened by the fact that so many historic theatres with iconic architecture were demolished and lost in the name of “progress” and replaced by car parks and concrete office buildings. Shiroma found it devastating to realize how much has changed since then. She believes that great theatres, great architecture and even artists deserve to be remembered.

The tour remains a cultural phenomenon, remembered by some as a rare glimpse of world-class theatre.

We thank Shiroma for making the time to come and talk to us and sharing her passion for the Golden Age.

Knox Nocturnals

Rotary Clubs of Knox

BINGO NIGHT

Gather your family, friends, and fellow bingo enthusiasts for an evening of games, prizes and fun

In Support of KNOX NOCTURNALS YOUTH PROGRAM

Cash Prizes, snacks, coffee, drinks available, \$3 books, bring a plate and some gold coins for raffles, and games.

FRIDAY 5th September
Arrive from 6.15 PM, Eyes down at 7.00 pm

Senior Citizens Hall
160 Underwood Road Ferntree Gully

\$10 Entry per person
Includes a raffle ticket for outdoor prize

Book online at: <https://www.trybooking.com/DETLA>

For All Enquiries
Contact **Stephen Palamara** on 0419 004 125

Scan To Book

Last Friday's Bingo Night to raise funds for Knox Nocturnals Youth Program was such a great success that they are having another one on FRIDAY 5th September.

Come along and join in the fun whilst supporting a great youth project.

DISTRICT 9815 CONFERENCE 13-15 MARCH, 2026



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

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

Jeff is going to be in Hobart soon and is going to scout out venues for the Club Dinner on the Friday night and also for breakfast on the Saturday and Sunday morning.

John P brought everyone's attention to the great rate that is being offered for Conference participants on the Spirit of Tasmania. People need to think about whether they want to fly or go across on the Spirit. It is an opportunity to extend your time in Tasmania and make a bit of a holiday out of it if you are able.

Check out the conference link above for all the details.

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		