

**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

Rotary
Rowville Lysterfield



NEWSLETTER 09, AUGUST 26TH, 2025

This week's speaker– Dr. Ray Hodgson

**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**



Dr Ray Hodgson was our guest speaker and Zoomed in from Port Macquarie on our new TV screen. 'Australians For Women's Health' was begun 15 years ago in 2010, with regular surgeries performed in very trying conditions in remote areas of Nepal by a team of dedicated volunteers led by Dr. Ray. To reach the rural communities the team used flights from Kathmandu in a very basic old plane as the



"roads" are terrible with very narrow routes along mountain sides.

Women's health is appalling in Nepal with 2 very serious problems:

1. Genital prolapse – where the uterus falls down through the vagina and can be on the outside of the body. It can be associated with incontinence. It is often found in young women who have had several children and have returned to carrying heavy loads as part of their daily routine too quickly. They can't have intercourse and often there is ulceration and infection.
2. Maternal Mortality – is often caused by babies being delivered at home, and/or very young mothers. In Australia we have 6 deaths per 100,000 births but in rural Nepal there is 550 deaths per 100,000 births.

Women queue up to see medical staff at these surgical camps but not all can be seen. Equipment is extremely primitive. Electricity can go off for a couple of hours in the middle of surgery as Nepal sells its electricity to India. During these times surgeries are often performed by torch light. The volunteers do direct blood transfusions from themselves to the patient if needed, much like occurred in military hospitals during war times.

Over time it became obvious that these camps were not going to have enough of an impact on helping these women and a decision to build a modern hospital for Mothers and Children was made. In 2017, Ray joined



Rotary and realized the credibility of the Rotary brand meant fundraising increased enormously.

Initial excavation began in 2020. Ray maintained that the hospital had to be sustainable which meant training local staff. Five of the current trained surgeons are women.

Obstetric ultrasound is not available, so staff are

being trained in using a portable ultrasound to take into rural communities. Once trust is gained with local medical staff, mothers are more likely to travel to hospital. 150 midwives have now been trained in the use of these portable ultrasound machines.

The hospital in Dolakha with a population of 100,000 is finally finished and is currently being fitted out and will officially open on October 30th. (Continued on page 5.....)



**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



MUFFINS and SOUP ROSTER

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
09 October Muffins	Marg, Fiona, Pete & Sue, Anita & Rajeev



FOOTHILLS
COMMUNITY CARE



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

PROGRAM

Date	Registration	Chair	Setup and Production	Program
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	Marg	Alan Ian	Update on Family Care Uganda - Robin Yamaguchi
23rd September	Jeff	Jenny	Ian Daryl	Lite Haus - Jack Growden
30th September	NO MEETING - SOCIAL NIGHT			
OCTOBER - Economic and Community Development				
7th October	Kate	Daryl	Daryl Kevin	TBC

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

TUES 30th SEPTEMBER - CLUB DINNER - Caesar's, Upper Ferntree Gully

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



SOCIAL NIGHT - CLUB DINNER at CAESAR'S UFTG



The fifth Tuesday in September is not far away and Kaye has organised a Club Dinner.

TUESDAY 30th September

6:30pm

**Caesar's Restaurant
1182 Burwood Hwy
Upper Ferntree Gully**

Please let Kaye know if you will be attending

CONGRATULATIONS.....

Congratulations to 2 of our newest members.....

John P for taking over from Murray as the new Rotary Community Leader and Mary for stepping up into a District Insurance Officer role in our community group.

Murray will not be able to join us as often as he work towards his District Govenor role for next year.

ROUNDUP FROM DGN MURRAY

WORLD CONGRESS – CALGARY

Part of Murray's recent trip was Rotary related with Murray attending World Congress in Calgary Canada. Calgary sits to the East of the Rockies and is famous for its annual Calgary Stampede. The Congress attracted more than 14,000 Rotarians.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Rotarians were encouraged to buy white cowboy hats as a fundraiser for Foundation.
- House of Friendship was huge – 2 or 3 times bigger than the one at Melbourne World Congress.
- One of the events was watching Indigenous Indians bare back riding – their athleticism was amazing.
- Most events/sessions were standing room only.
- Murray went with Colin and Leanne Byron to Banff for a day trip.
- Murray did a guided tour of RI at Evanston and also attended a Rotary meeting at Evanston Lighthouse. There were many young members but unfortunately it was quite political.
- Some of the Rotary Clubs have an average age of under 40. There were several young speakers at the conference who presented extremely well.
- Murray loved the Rockies and Nashville the most.



Thank you Heather for this information.

Member news snippets...

AUGUST Birthdays

2nd - BOB

18th - KATE



Welcome home to our happy travellers - Gary, Murray, Glennys and Howard.

Memories were made and Murray survived all the travel hurdles that were put in his way! He will certainly have some very unique stories to share!

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.

Having accomplished the 116km, he is now keen to see how far he can go!

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/>



BUNNINGS

NEXT BUNNINGS BBQ FRIDAY 29th AUGUST



Still several spots left on the roster.

<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/>

Westfield Local Heroes 2025



Sally Beard, founder of Backpacks 4 VIC Kids, has been selected as a finalist in the Westfield Local Heroes Fountain Gate 2025 competition. We have supported Sally and this wonderful charity for a number of years in a variety of ways. It would be great to see Sally win as she would certainly make a very worthy winner.

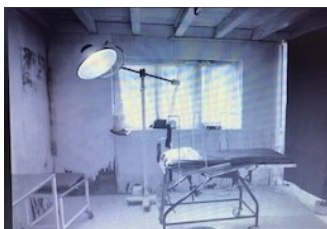


The first prize of \$20,000 for B4VK (if she wins) would be such a great boost for the wonderful work that they do in helping kids who are taken into care as a result of their troubled home lives.

Please support Sally by clicking on the link to vote for her, and feel free to encourage family and friends to do the same.

[Vote for your 2025 Westfield Local Hero](#)

Guest Speaker Continued from page 1.....



The antiquated and primitive facilities and equipment at one surgical camp in Nepal.



Dolakha

The stunning view towards the Himalayas from the new hospital



Hospital building in progress

We thank Dr. Ray for his inspirational presentation and hope that the hospital makes an enormous difference to the women of this stunning yet poor part of the world.



The new Mother and Child Hospital opening soon.

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

KNOX NOCTURNALS YOUTH PROGRAM

BINGO

Scan To Book

The recent 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.

BOOK NOW!!

THE ROTARIAN MINUTE

Rotary
District 1700

The Rotarian Minute Essentials

#28 – June 26, 2024

1' to discover an aspect of Rotary

Why always wear Rotary pin?

Rotary members are strongly encouraged to wear their pin on their lapel for several reasons.

Firstly, the pin serves as a visible symbol of their commitment to the values and mission of Rotary International, which includes promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, supporting education, and fostering community development.

Wearing the pin helps to create a sense of unity and belonging among members, reinforcing their shared identity and purpose.

Additionally, the pin acts as a conversation starter, enabling members to easily recognize each other and facilitating networking opportunities.

It also raises public awareness about Rotary's presence and activities, potentially attracting new members and support for their initiatives.

By wearing the pin, members demonstrate pride in their association with Rotary and their dedication to making a positive impact in their communities and the world at large.



The Rotarian Minute is a creation of District 1700. Please send any comments or suggestions to jminute1700@gmail.com

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**

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.....



VERMONT SOUTH

Jenni Marr

Owner/Manager

jenni.vermontsouth@helloworld.com.au

Shop 50A Vermont South Shopping Centre
495 Burwood Highway
Vermont South VIC 3133
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Domenico & Claudia Scuteri
Owners

☎ Domenico | 0412 279 364 Claudia | 0434 492 578

✉ dscuteri@essentialservicesplus.com.au

🌐 essentialservicesplus.com.au

📞 domenicoscuteri.acndirect.com

Andy Round

0421 053 677

andy.round@completecircleconsulting.com.au
completecircleconsulting.com.au

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bwilson@barryplant.com.au

BARRYPLANT.COM.AU/ROWVILLE

BARRY PLANT
ROWVILLE - Lysterfield
150 Kelletts Road, Rowville
9753 2828



KNOX CHIROPRACTIC & WELLNESS

14/ 603 Boronia Road

Wandin Victoria 3152

03 9800 5350

admin@knoxchiropractic.com.au

www.knoxchiropractic.com.au



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Scoresby VIC 3179
Australia



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📍 springvale.minutemanpress.com



@MMP.Springvale

📞 9547 0800

📠 0414 290 764

FIONA JOHNS

Director

✉ springvale@minutepress.com.au

📍 29b Glenvale Crescent, Mulgrave, 3170

THE OFFICE CO

ANYTHING FOR ANY OFFICE

Raman Dawar

0418 34 55 32

Unit 1/2 Garden Rd, Clayton Vic 3168

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CONTACT DETAILS

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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
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		