

**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

Rotary
Rowville Lysterfield



NEWSLETTER 36, APRIL 14, 2026

**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 :

Chair: Kevin Harrison

0419919011

**Home Club of
DGN Murray Wilson
PDG Daryl Moran**



This week's speaker - Sandra Sursock on Bowel Cancer Screening

We welcomed Sandra, who studied at Monash in the field of pharmaceutical science and has progressed from clinical research at Peter Mac to pursuing a PhD in public health, focusing on bowel cancer screening.

Bowel cancer, also known as colorectal cancer, is cancer in any part of the large bowel. It usually develops from small growths called polyps in the inner lining of the bowel. These polyps can become cancerous over a few years and their removal is key to preventing disease altogether, with 90% of cases being treated successfully if found early. This is why prevention, through early detection is so important.

Bowel cancer is the second most common cause of cancer deaths in Australia, with 15,000 new cases and 5,000 deaths in 2025. Risk factors include age, lifestyle, medical conditions, and family history. The Australian National Bowel Cancer Screening Program, introduced in 2006, targets individuals aged 45 -74, using a kit to detect blood in the stool. In 2023, 41% of eligible people participated, with 5.9% testing positive but 14.1% of those with positive results had no follow-up. Unfortunately, at this stage, the 45-49 year olds have to actually ask their GP for a screening test and this step is seen as a hindrance to the take up by this age group. The research aims to improve follow-up rates using conversational voice AI (CVAI).

If the test result is positive, meaning blood was found in the sample, patients are advised to see their GP and then go on to have a colonoscopy to find the cause of the bleeding. The Australian government fund a participant follow up function (PFUF) which is a team of people who contact individuals manually to check on whether they've seen their GP and/or had a colonoscopy. It's a highly resource intensive process, and they still aren't able to reach everyone. People should be getting a colonoscopy within 30 days, but the medium time in 2023 was 62 days.

To make it easier for people to follow up and try and remove the barriers that people are facing and reduce the workload of this PFUF team, there are plans to improve this program by looking at conversational voice AI. It is a type of artificial intelligence that understands what someone is asking, then looks at the right response in its database and delivers the response in a human like manner over the phone. The CVAI is only able to draw on information within a specific data base that it is given and is not like ChatGPT and others that can draw on a much wider information pool.

Feedback from PFUF teams in two states was sought and it was found that they were open minded and willing to support the initiative if it helped both their teams and the people who tested positive. They pointed out however, that compassion was essential, especially when sharing difficult news, and that AI wouldn't be appropriate for these circumstances. Overall, they did recognize the benefits of CVAI saying that it could help with routine tasks, and also saw this as an opportunity to look at where this technology could be placed. However, a human would always need to be in the loop to make the human connection which is so valuable to patients who have tested positive and need support.

The next focus of this study is actually talking to people who have tested positive and have had contact with the PFUF team asking them about the process, what could be improved and exposing them to a CVAI demonstration for their feedback. (Continued on p.4.....)



MUFFINS ROSTER

23rd April Muffins	Mary, Pete & Sue, Glennys & Howard
7th May Muffins	Marg, Fiona, Heather & Bob, Anita & Rajeev
21st May Muffins	Mary, Corinne, Pete & Sue, Glennys & Howard
4th June Muffins	Marg, Fiona, Heather & Bob, Anita & Rajeev



PROGRAM

Date	Registration	Chair	Setup and Production	Program
APRIL - Environment				
21st April	Kate	Neil	Andy R Bob	Tim Vesey— Engineer and Project Development
28th April	Jeff	Marg	Andy R Ian	Dr. Daryl Moran - 'War and Memory; One Australian Story'
MAY - Youth Service				
5th May	Jenny	Daryl	John W Alan	Mukarum Jamil—Voratix Global Youth Program
12th May	Kaye	Andy R	Alan Ian	How the CFA are using technology to impact the local community
19th May	Cheryl	Andy R	Ian Kevin	Andy R - Planning 2026/2027
26th May	Kevin	Marg	Kevin	Elenor Fofa - Lillie and Nick

UPCOMING CLUB DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SUN 3rd May - Makers and Bakers Market - Rowville Community Centre

TUES 12th May - Visit Cloudehill Garden and Nursery - 89 Olinda-Monbulk Rd, Olinda 3:30pm - Talk by Jeff, a Bonsai expert, followed by a tour of the gardens

WED 27th May - Girls' Night Out - Mulgrave Country Club

SAT 11th Jul— Brunch at Tosaria with Guest Speaker - Tosaria 10am



MAKERS and BAKERS MARKET



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

SUNDAY
MAY 3rd
9am—2pm

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

Heaps of new stalls coming to the next market including : fresh fruit and veg, Grumpy Gary Sauces, a maker of sauce bases, an olive oil seller. Some favourites outside are coming back: the egg man, the berry lady and the donut man. Promises to be

PELDS WEEKEND

Over the past weekend, President Elect Andy Round, attended the residential President Elect Learning and Development Seminar at San Remo. The program was very packed with information, learning about aspects such as the Rotary resources that are available, the requirements for use of logos and badging, the District Youth Programs, The Rotary Foundation, Rotary Insurance, Youth Protection policies, International projects, membership strategies and the characteristics of good leaders.

Andy gained a lot from the sessions as well as the chance to network and chat with other Presidents Elect, plus many District Chairs and members of the G-train.

Andy reflected that the seminar had consolidated his thoughts regarding future planning for the activities of the Club, with a focus on engaging and communicating with members. He is also keen to look at partnership opportunities in the community, with both professional and community groups.

It is worth noting that our Club was very well represented at this learning seminar, with the presence of John Poke, as a Community Group Leader, Daryl Moran as District Chair of Youth Services and Murray Wilson as District Governor Nominee.



CLUB NEWS

FACEBOOK TRAINING – Improve your skills

PE Andy Round has offered to teach Club members some skills that will enable them to prepare more focused and effective FB posts. The 1 hr sessions are on Zoom at 10 am on Monday: April 20th and April 27th.

ALL WELCOME!

BUNNINGS

BUNNINGS BBQ THIS FRIDAY 17th APRIL



<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/17MgWI6b0-pgyBCOxnsxee5WVuqVP-IpCgW9HpQbmfdI/edit?gid=1103626758#gid=1103626758>

Guest Speaker Cont'd from p.1.....

If there was a good response, it could be tested in an appropriate setting to see whether it actually can increase the number of colonoscopies people do, and see if it can reduce the time to follow up from 62 days. As Sarah said, the important point here is that they are not trying to replace humans, just trying to give humans an assistant and try and increase the follow up that is done.

In the second study Sarah is looking at why some 45 to 49 year olds participate in screening whilst others don't. Bowel cancer is increasing in prevalence in younger Australians. More than 1700 Australians below the age of 50 are being diagnosed with bowel cancer each year, and people aged 40 to 49 account for 56% of new cases and 64% of deaths in those diagnosed below the age of 50.

In finishing, Sarah thanked Australian Rotary Health for their top up in funding which she is very grateful for and has been critical in getting the research done. Beyond her funding, Sarah reminded us that funding from ARH helps scientists and researchers access equipment, conduct trials, and importantly, actually translates this into real life impact, because so many drugs and prototypes get stuck in the research phase and never actually make it to the real world. Sarah believes the next thing is actually getting the community involved and aware of diseases, because once they are aware, more people will actually take part, or if they hear stories, more people will participate in screening, which does save lives and make our healthcare system better.

We thank Sarah for her time and presentation which was informative and easy to understand on a topic that deserves much more publicity, in the hope that more people, particularly 45-49 year olds, do a Bowel Screening biannually and do a follow-up if they have a positive result.

On Tuesday 12th May we have planned a visit to the Cloudehill Gardens and Nursery in Olinda at 3:30pm. We will be given a talk by Jeff, a Bonsai expert, and then a tour of the gardens. It is hoped that many members will be able to attend. The normal meeting will take place in the evening at Tosaria's but there will be some social time somewhere beforehand for those who would like to take part. Further details in the next few weeks.

 CLOUDEHILL

INVITATIONS FROM OTHER CLUBS

RC SPRINGVALE CITY - Polio Fund Raising Night, **THURSDAY 23rd APRIL 6:30PM**

Saigon Rex Restaurant, Level 1/17 Balmoral Avenue, Springvale

RC Greater Dandenong and Endeavour Hills IMPACT COLLECTIVE - Rotary's Got Talent Night,
SATURDAY 2nd MAY 6:30pm Lyndale Secondary College Theatre, Fundraiser for Monash Children's Hospital Cancer Centre, Halton Rd Dandenong

Member News Snippets.....



MEMBER BIRTHDAYS APRIL

2nd - James Wilson
(Honourary Member)
11th - Heather
15th - Kaye
16th - Pradeep

- Kaye is heading to beautiful Bright next week on a Probus Club Tour. She is hoping it won't be too cold but will pack her trusty puffer jacket to ensure she is warm enough. She sent Corinne details via text and as the conversation went on, it became obvious that Corinne and Les will be joining Kaye on the same tour with a smaller group from their Probus club to fill the bus! We wonder what the odds of that would be.
- Daryl has possibly torn his plantar fascia and is awaiting test results to find out the next steps (sorry Daryl). As a result, Jenny has taken up duties that Daryl usually does around the house and in the car and will probably need another holiday once Daryl's foot issues are resolved. Soft tissues can take some time to heal and we wish Daryl a speedy recovery!



GIRLS NIGHT OUT—BOOKINGS NOW OPEN

GIRLS Night Out

Get a group together

<https://www.trybooking.com/DJNKF>

WHEN
Wednesday 27th of May 2026
@ 6:30 pm

COST
\$75 pp - Includes welcome drink & 2 course dinner
Drinks at bar prices

WHERE
MULGRAVE COUNTRY CLUB
469 Wellington Road
Whealers Hill

ENQUIRIES
Jenny Moran - 0404 893 870

BOOK ONLINE!
<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1538165>

ALL MONEY RAISED GOES TO JULIA ARGYROU ENDOMETRIOSIS CENTRE

"Every dollar we receive goes directly into research, educational resources, and enhancing the patient experience — all with the goal of improving quality of life for individuals living with endometriosis."

Rotary
PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY Rowville-Lysterfield
FIND US ON FACEBOOK: ROTARY CLUB OF ROWVILLE-LYSTERFIELD
WWW.ROWVILLEROTARY.COM.AU

A reminder that our 'waiters' need to book also and, if a 'tuxedo' T-shirt is required, let Alan know so that he can order them in good time.

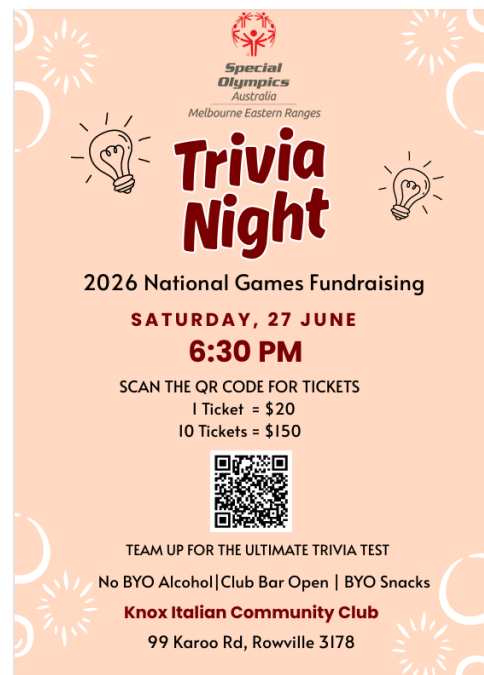
There is a dedicated spot for the waiters to book their ticket on the Trybooking site, at a reduced amount which just covers the meal.

Good quality pre-read books will again be on sale as Mystery Books at the GNO.

Donations are needed but books need to be in "as new" condition. Please pass onto Jenny .

As the GNO gets closer, we are putting a lot of energy into sourcing prizes for raffles and the silent auction. We ask members to check their cupboards for any "gifts" that may have ended up there after Christmas and may be suitable for GNO. Even something small is good as we will be making up hampers with smaller items that go together. We will be making up Gourmet Hampers too, so items such as nuts, specialty chutneys, jams, sauces, chocolates, crackers etc will be gratefully received.

A bit of fun.....



Two very different Social events to mark in your calendar. 'Rotary's Got Talent' is looking like a great night's entertainment with the MC being Jonathan Usher and, no doubt, some fabulous acts. At \$25 per adult ticket it is a very cheap night's entertainment whilst supporting a very worthwhile cause.

The Special Olympics Australia Melbourne Eastern Ranges Trivia Night will be a lot of fun and raising funds for the 2026 National Games. President Bob and Heather will be going and it would be great to make up a table with other club members. If you would like to go, let Bob know.

DISTRICT 9815 CONFERENCE 2027—Save the date.....



DISTRICT 9815 CONFERENCE 2027 OFFICIAL LAUNCH JULY 10TH SAVE THE DATE RYDGES HUNTER VALLEY RESORT N.S.W.

Put your thinking hats on as to how we may get there....perhaps a convoy of cars?

Theme for the Gala Dinner is "Showtime"....plenty of scope in that one.

12-14 MARCH, 2027

Welcome home A picture speaks a thousand words

Robin Yamaguchi arrived “home” to Uganda last week to the open arms of the children of Family Care Uganda. It is obvious how much these young folk missed and love Robin. They made welcome home cards for her and had many stories to tell.



The photo below also shows the solar panels on the school building which our club along with the RC of Greater Dandenong and Endeavour Hills were able to provide after the successful application for a grant from Alan.



KNOX BUSINESS AWARDS

Knox Business Awards planning is well underway. This year the presentation will be an evening event at the Knox Community Arts Centre in Bayswater, on the 8th of October.

Applications for nominations and referrals open on the 1st of May.

Thanks go to John W and Andy R for all the work that they have done and also to Sharon who has been busy in the background lining up sponsors.



ROTARY SOUTH PACIFIC ZONE 8 CONFERENCE, 2026



Rotary South Pacific Zone 8 Conference
OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 1, 2026

Let's support our members....

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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



Proudly Involved with
the Knox Business Awards



Meeting timetable for the rest of the year:

February	12, 26	July	2, 16, 30
March	12, 26	August	13, 27
April	9, 23	September	10, 24
May	7, 21	October	8, 22
June	4, 18	November	5, 19
		December	3 Finish for the year

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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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>	Andy Round	<i>Immediate Past President</i>	Jenny Moran
<i>President Nominee</i>	Marg Vesey		

2025-2026 COMMITTEE CHAIRS and OTHER ROLES

Community Service Chair	Marg Vesey	Program Committee	Bob Morris Rajeev Wadhwa
Youth Service Chair	Cheryl Harrison	Facebook	
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	Art Show Chair	Jenny Moran
BBQ Coordinators	Ian Vesey Marg Vesey		
War Memorial Project Chair	Daryl Moran		