

**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**



NEWSLETTER 13, SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

QUILTS of VALOUR—Helen Comport OAM

**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 Andy Round
0421053677**



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

Alternate Thursdays at
7:30am

Contact :

**Chair: Kevin Harrison
0419919011**

Our speaker this week, Helen Comport, caught the attention of all in the room as she recounted the personal experience that prompted her to start this organisation. Her son, Matthew, was serving in Afghanistan and was badly wounded in a Black Hawk helicopter crash. He was airlifted to a military hospital in Germany with severe injuries and in a very dark place mentally. It was here that he was presented with a quilt from American quilters which moved him deeply with what it symbolized in love and care. This experience became the motivating factor for Helen, with the support of Matthew, to provide quilts as symbols of love and appreciation to other veterans. The quilt is a powerful symbol in a traumatic time.

Quilts of Valour was founded in 2010 with Matthew as President and Helen as Secretary. Matthew also designed the logo which incorporates the Southern Cross, a very powerful symbol for service personnel. Initially Helen worked with a few friends with the intention of making a small number of quilts. After a letter she wrote was printed in the Victorian Quilters Guild quarterly magazine she was inundated with offers of help.

The mission of Quilts of Valour Australia is "To award quilts to Veterans, Service Personnel of the Australian Defence Force and our Allies as well as immediate family of Veterans and Defence Personnel who have passed. These awards are in recognition of their Service, Sacrifice and Valour for their country". When quilts are awarded they are accompanied by a certificate and a letter that explains the meaning of each of the layers of the quilt.

Since 2010, Quilts of Valour has moved through the process of becoming recognised as a charity, then becoming an incorporated association, registered with an ABN, registered with ACNC as a charity and gaining DGR (tax deductible gift recipient) status. Finally, their logo and name have become a registered trademark.

QOV now has coordinators and representatives in every state and territory and has awarded thousands and thousands of quilts.

[Contd on page 3](#)



One of the beautiful quilts



Helen & Lyn from QOV

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



Next Saturday Coffee Catchup



Sat October 10th, 10 am at Tosaria Restaurant

Come along for a coffee and a casual chat, and breakfast if you want.

BRING A FRIEND MORNING

MUFFINS and SOUP ROSTER

24th September Muffins	Fiona, Heather & Bob, Anita & Rajeev
7th October Soup	Glennys, Jenny
8th October Muffins	Corinne, Pete & Sue, Glennys & Howard
22nd October Muffins	Fiona, Heather & Bob, Anita & Rajeev
5th November - Muffins	Pete & Sue, Glennys & Howard



PROGRAM

Date	Registration	Chair	Setup and Production	Program
SEPTEMBER - Basic Education and Literacy				
22nd September	Robyn W	Norm	Alan Kevin	<i>Rotarian Behind the Badge</i> <i>Footy themed night—wear your team colours</i>
29th September	Club Social Night - Dinner at The Eating House, Wellington Village at 6.30 pm Let Kaye know if you will be joining the group, or sign up at a meeting			
OCTOBER—Economic and Community Development				
6th October	Mary	Andy	Kevin John	<i>Club update</i>
13th October	Sharon	Marg	John Cheryl	<i>Rebecca Sellars— ‘Avoiding Scams’</i>

UPCOMING CLUB DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FRI 18th SEPT - Business Breakfast - Churchill-Waverley Golf and Bowls Club, Bergins Rd, Rowville 06:45am-8:30am

SAT 26th SEPT—BBQ at Wellington Village

THURS 8th OCT—Knox Business Awards Presentation Bayswater Community Centre

SAT 24th OCT - SHEBA Fundraising Dinner - Mulgrave Community Centre, 355 Wellington Rd, Mulgrave, 6pm

WED 4th NOV - District Final of the Primary Schools Speech Competition - Doncaster Secondary College, Performing Arts Centre, 123 Church Rd Doncaster(6:40pm for a 7pm start)

FRI 6th NOV— 52nd Knox Art Show Opening Night—Churchill Waverley Golf and Bowls Club, Bergins Rd, Rowville

SAT 7th NOV—SUN 8th NOV - 52nd Knox Art Show

FRI 20th NOV - Golf Day - Churchill-Waverley Golf and Bowls Club, Bergins Rd, Rowville (more details soon)



BUSINESS BREAKFAST #22



Rotary
Rowville-Lysterfield

BUSINESS BREAKFAST

18 SEPTEMBER | **6.45 - 8.30** | **\$65**
FRIDAY | AM | PER HEAD

Churchill-Waverley Golf & Bowls Club, 82 Bergins Road, Rowville

MEET OUR SPEAKER

GREG TYRELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR UNCREWED SYSTEMS (AAUS)

AAUS is our nation's largest peak industry advocacy body for uncrewed systems, including drones and advanced air mobility across all Australian land, sea and air domains.

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VISIT OUR CLUB WEBSITE
ROWVILLEROTARY.COM.AU

MORE INFORMATION CALL US
0604 069 751

ALL PROCEEDS TO ROWVILLE CFA

SCAN TO BOOK

BOOKINGS CLOSE 11 SEPTEMBER

SEE YOU
THERE ON
FRIDAY!

The Rotary Club of Greater Dandenong and Endeavour Hills invites our members to join with them:

On: Thursday 17th September

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: Asylum Seekers Resource Centre, 205 Thomas St, Dandenong.

For: A 'rice packing night', then to join them for a meal at a local restaurant.

QUILTS of VALOUR contd

The recipients of the quilts are identified largely through word of mouth and has even included an Australian serving with an American unit, who was absolutely thrilled to receive his quilt while in the US. A special group to have received quilts has been Vietnam Vets. The stories of the animosity that these veterans experienced when they returned to Australia have been heartrending, especially as many were conscripts, not volunteers. One moving story concerned a soldier serving in Vietnam, who had enjoyed a daily correspondence with his wife, stopped receiving letters. It was ultimately discovered that someone at the Redfern mail depot made a decision that these soldiers did not deserve to get mail: boxes and boxes of letters were found that had been withheld by this individual.

Helen has received many emails and letters from veterans and families saying how much the award of the quilt has meant to them, which makes all the hard work worthwhile.

Our Rotary Club is delighted to be able to donate \$300 to QOV.



Ways to help QOV

1. Donate completed quilts
2. Contribute Patchwork tops
3. Provide wadding and backing fabrics
4. Make a monetary donation

One Quilt of Valour can cost up to \$300 to complete.

For direct debit donations

BSB 633 000

Account number 146 288 378

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible



For more information visit www.quiltsofvalour.com.au

Member Snippets....

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS SEPTEMBER

9th—Kevin Harrison

15th—Tony Harrison

18th—Daryl Moran



- It was a special night at this week's meeting as it coincided with Tony's birthday, his 80th in fact. The club members enjoyed some cakes and chocolates brought along by Tony, but it was thought best not to have 80 candles to light! Tony was very pleased that his son, a Qantas pilot, flew from WA to have lunch with him.
- We send good wishes to Kaye for a speedy recovery from her recent surgery.
- Corinne and Les will be back in Australia within hours, after a wonderful holiday in Europe.
- Birthday greetings also go to Betty Wilson, Murray's mum, as she celebrates her 99th birthday. An amazing achievement.
- President Andy has had very productive meetings in recent weeks, one in particular with the Principal at Rowville Secondary College. These meetings have proved very encouraging for future possibilities of growing relationships.

SUPPORTING FAMILY CARE UGANDA

COCKTAILS FOR A CAUSE

Good drinks. Great times. Greater impact.

DATE: Saturday 17th October

7pm-10pm

VENUE: Upwey Tecoma FNC Chosen Ave Upwey

DRESS: Spring Racing

ENTRY FEE: \$35 Includes a ticket in the door prize, a complimentary cocktail / mocktail and nibbles

DRINKS \$10 cocktails / mocktails plus other drinks at bar prices

ENTERTAINMENT music, games, raffles

RAFFLE

Bring your party shoes, a party hat, enthusiasm, laughter and gold coins

SUPPORTING: Family Care Uganda

We are looking to raise money to fund the medical supplies for the 250 students for the year.

Tickets best purchased prior to the night.

Rotary Belgrave-Ferntree Gully
Every cocktail. Every conversation. Making a difference.

SCAN TO BUY TICKETS!

This Rotary event is a great way to support our member Robin Yamaguchi and her work at Family Care Uganda.

COFFEE CATCH-UP

The coffee catch-up on Saturday morning provided the chance to touch base with a few members who find it hard to attend an evening meeting, but who are still very keen to do Rotary service. Anita and Rajeev continue to be regular contributors to the muffin and soup roster, and Ayanthi hopes that her donation of computers to Sri Lankan schools will be completed in the near future.

It was also a good chance for some newer members to meet others who they have not met before. This will be a regular event—see the information on page 1.



SOME SPECIAL NIGHTS AHEAD -

September 22nd—Footy themed night. Find your club scarf and beanie in readiness

October 13th - Mad Hat night for Lift the Lid on Mental Health—find a crazy hat to wear on this night.

Jeff has been working hard with a committee to organise the **Golf Day on November 20th**. It is exciting that the prize for a hole-in-one is a car. More details to come soon.

At the moment, the greatest need is for **sponsors**. If you have any contacts that could be useful, speak to Jeff.



Planning for the **52nd Knox Art Show** from **Friday Nov 6th—Sunday Nov 8th**, is well underway and will need a lot of club support.

Opening Night on Friday 6th Nov will be a wonderful night to socialise, enjoy some food and drinks and view beautiful artworks. Pop it in your diary now.

Bunnings BBQs, KNOX BUSINESS AWARDS & THEATRE NIGHT

NEXT BUNNINGS BBQ FRIDAY 18th September

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

2026 KNOX BUSINESS AWARDS PRESENTATION NIGHT

Put this date in your diary now.



Venue: Knox Community Arts Centre

Corner of Mountain Highway and Scoresby Road, Bayswater

When: Thursday 8th October, 2026

Start Time: 6.00 pm

Admittance: No charge

Light refreshments will be available including limited drinks.

Watch this space next week for the Trybooking link, to indicate your intention to attend.

<https://knoxbusinessawards.com.au/>

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📠 domenicoscuteri.acndirect.com

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AUSTRALIA

Tony Harrison
0419 553 825

+39 Scoresby Rd, Bayswater Victoria, 3153
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**KNOX CHIROPRACTIC
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03 9800 5350

admin@knoxchiropractic.com.au

www.knoxchiropractic.com.au



Dr. Ratnakar Vallabhaneni

Plant Biologist (Molecular Biology & Biochemistry), Agriculture
Scientist (Breeding & Biotech), PM Practitioner, IT Specialist,
Accredited RML, L&D Expert

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Founder | Chief Scientific Officer
greencrops@gmail.com | +61 0459 095 522



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Kath Williams

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Kevin Harrison
M:0419 91 90 11
E:kevin@smfe.com.au
FB:seemeforeverything
23/12 Henderson Road
Knoxfield 3180
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Owner Manager

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29 Hartland Road, Vermont South VIC 3133
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w. www.arkrepairs.com.au



Debra Pink (FIPA)
SMSF Auditor 100065245

M | 0407 335 856

SMSF Audits & NFP,
Club & Associations Reviews & Audits

Awesum Financial Services Pty Ltd Tas Awesum SMSF Audits
ABN: 69 613 396 071



Meeting timetable for the rest of the 2026:

July	2, 16, 30
August	13, 27
September	10, 24
October	8, 22
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**

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



CRYSTAL PALACE LIGHTING



Tony Harrison
0419 553 825

39 Scoresby Rd,
Bayswater Victoria. 3153
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www.crystalpalacelighting.com.au

Complete Circle Consulting

Andy Round
0421 053 677

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

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>

2026-2027 BOARD MEMBERS

<i>President</i>	Andy Round	<i>Secretary</i>	Heather Morris
<i>Vice President</i>	Alan Lunghusen	<i>Treasurer</i>	Neil White
<i>President Elect</i>	Marg Vesey	<i>Immediate Past President</i>	Bob Morris
<i>President Nominee</i>			

2026-2027 SERVICE CHAIRS and OTHER ROLES

Community Service Chair	Sharon Ferdinands	Program Committee	Marg Vesey Heather Morris
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	Jeff Somers
		Rowville Lysterfield	Jenny Moran
		Community News	
Membership	Kevin Harrison	Social Convenor	Kaye Sharman
Club Protection Officer	Daryl Moran	Muffin and Soup Roster	Glennys Hocking
BBQ Coordinators	Ian Vesey	Art Show Chair	Jenny Moran
	Marg Vesey	Girls' Night Out Chair	Jenny Moran
War Memorial	Daryl Moran	Knox Business Awards	John Williams
Project Chair		Business Breakfast Chair	Daryl Moran