CREATE LASTING IMPACT

Rotary Rowville Lysterfield

Newsletter 19, October 27, 2026

This week's speaker - Jenny Moran - the Rotary Foundation



The focus of our Guest Speaker this week, Jenny Moran, was on The Rotary Foundation (TRF) which many see as the powerhouse of Rotary. In her new role as District 9815 Grants Coordinator, Jenny has been on a steep learning curve about the Foundation and shared with us some very pertinent information about this aspect of Rotary.

TRH has significant assets invested and has a high level of integrity, gaining the maximum four stars awarded by the independent organisation, Charity Navigator, for 17 successive years. This rating is due to aspects such as excellent governance and reporting coupled with low administration costs, which ensures that around 90% of the funds are used for projects and scholarships. Since its inception in 1917, TRF has made available over $4 billion for sustainable global projects.

There are four funds to which money can be directed: The Annual Fund (which most of our District Grant money comes from), the Endowment Fund, Polio Fund and Disaster Relief Fund. We are very conscious of the impact that the Polio fund has had, knowing that now there are only two countries where polio is still endemic. It is also a source of pride for Australians that this challenging goal was conceived by the Australian Rotary International President Sir Clem Renouf, in his Presidential year of 1978-1979.

Applying for District Grants through the Rotary Foundation is a significant way that Rotary clubs can multiply the effect of their fundraising, and our Club has certainly been very alert to the opportunities offered. District Grants can be up to a maximum of $5,500, matched one-for-one by a club contribution. Global Grants are for larger, longer term projects, with a minimum value of $US30,000. A further arm of TRF is the Disaster Fund: last year our District was able to access $25,000 very quickly to purchase feed for livestock in NSW through the Disaster Fund.

The impact of obtaining grants by our Club over the years has been very significant. International projects that we can feel very proud of include many projects on Kiriwina Island, PNG, including building a composting toilet facility. In recent years a Foundation Grant was used to provide a new motor for a fishing boat, plus life jackets, for use on Kiriwina Island. This boat is also used as a rescue boat and around 37 people have been saved by access to this boat.

Last year we also refurbished a library in a school in Cambodia, providing a safe place for the children, especially the girls, as well as enhancing their educational opportunities. The provision of solar panels and a battery, plus a maize grinder, to Family Care Uganda, was another impactful project. Local projects have included providing new bedding to Tamminya House, a safe refuge for families escaping domestic violence. We are all aware of our current project, supporting the CFA Remotely Piloted Aircraft System program, which has gained a $5,500 District grant.

To further illustrate the power of TRF, our donation of $US1000 to the Polio Fund was matched by District to make it $2000, which is matched 2:1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to become in effect $6000. We also gained an Education Grant of $500, matching our contribution of $500, to help students at a local school access their education. So, our club contributions of $7000 for these three projects effectively become $18,000.

(Continued on p. 4……)

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

Home Club of

DGE Murray Wilson

PDG Daryl Moran

Rotary District 9810 CERTIFIED Hybrid Meeting Club

MUFFINS and SOUP ROSTER

4th November Soup	Anita, Robyn L (last soup delivery for 2026)
5th November Muffins	Pete & Sue, Glennys & Howard, Corinne
19th November Muffins	Fiona, Heather & Bob, Anita & Rajeev



PROGRAM

Date	Registration	Chair	Setup and Production	Program
NOVEMBER - The Rotary Foundation				
3rd November	NO MEETING - Melbourne Cup Day			
10th November	Corinne	Andy	Bob Kevin	President Andy - Club Update
17th November	Jenny	Gary	Kevin Cheryl	Daryl - A Very Lucky Country
24th November	Sharon	Cheryl	Alan John W	Earlyact Update
DECEMBER—Disease Prevention and Treatment				
1st December	Heather	Jeff	Alan Bob	Glaxton Saunders - Leading Into a Merry Christmas

***** PLEASE CHECK MEETING ROLES AS THERE HAVE BEEN SOME MINOR ADJUSTMENTS MADE *****

UPCOMING CLUB DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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 Gala Opening Night - Churchill Waverley Golf and Bowls Club, Bergins Rd, Rowville

SAT 7th NOV - SUN 8th NOV - 52nd Knox Art Show - Churchill Waverley Golf and Bowls Club, Bergins Rd, Rowville

WED 11th NOV - 1812 Theatre Night - 1812 Theatre, Rose Ave, Upper FTG

FRI 20th NOV - Golf Day - Churchill-Waverley Golf and Bowls Club, Bergins Rd, Rowville

Member Snippets....

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER

3rd - Brenton

9th - Murray

9th - Corinne

19th - Neil



- Marg should buy lottery tickets - at the SHEBA night she won not ONE but TWO prizes in the raffle!
- Robyn L is also on a winning streak as she also won a prize
- The Bangladeshi people present at the SHEBA night were intrigued to see Jenny in a sari and Dr Sharif made her stand up to be acknowledged for dressing in their national dress.
- As usual, the food at the SHEBA night was delicious, especially the samosas and the goat curry. Yum!
- Born in Yea in 1946, Veronica Somers will celebrate a significant milestone next Sunday 1st November. Congratulations and best wishes from us all!
- Bon Voyage to Rajeev and Anita as they head off to London next week



BUNNINGS

NEXT BUNNINGS BBQ FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER



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

FUNDRAISER THEATRE NIGHT AT THE 1812

Our next theatre outing is at 8pm Wednesday 11th November at The 1812 Theatre. This is a fundraiser with proceeds going to our club Fundraising account.

Tickets are $20 each and can be paid into Kaye's account or handed to her at the meeting. Optional dinner will be prior to the commencement of the play at The Royal Hotel for those wishing to make it a full night.

See below for the synopsis, which sounds like another wonderful production by the 1812.

A MURDER IS ANNOUNCED SYNOPIS by Agatha Christie

An announcement in the local paper states the time and place when a murder is to occur in Miss Blacklock's Victorian house. The victim is not one of the house's several occupants, but an unexpected and unknown visitor. What follows is a classic Agatha Christie puzzle of mixed motives, concealed identities, a second death and a determined inspector grimly following the case's twists and turns. Fortunately, Miss Marple is on hand to provide the solution – at some risk to herself – in a dramatic final confrontation.

Countdown to - 52nd KNOX ART SHOW



Club members can support this event in a number of ways:.

- Be part of the event on the Gala Opening Night. Booking is through the website www.knoxartshow.org.au
- Invite your friends to come along, either to the Opening Night or over the weekend
- Like and share any FB or Insta posts you see
- Help out on the roster over the week of the Art Show. The roster will be sent as a Google sheet for you to fill in the times you are available. There are a lot of spots to fill and every bit of help is much appreciated
- **Roster is out now and there are still many vacant spots available**

The Rotary Foundation continued from page 1.....

The Foundation relies on donations for its assets to grow, to be directed back to Club projects. We can feel pleased that our Club always budgets for a significant donation to go the Annual Fund, as well as supporting the Polio Fund. Personal giving is also encouraged, which can occur in several different ways. The 'Every Rotarian Every Year' slogan encourages members to make an annual commitment of anything up to $UA99. For $US100 and above, the terminology 'Sustaining Member' is used. A further mechanism to grow the Foundation is when a donation of $US1000 is made by the Club to acknowledge the service of a member, who becomes a Paul Harris Fellow as a result. Another possibility is for individuals to donate $US1000 to the Foundation, again receiving the badge that demonstrates they are Paul Harris Fellows. The next level of donation is the Paul Harris Society, where a commitment to contribute $US1000 each year is made. There are other levels of donor also, with information readily available from the resource below.

Being able to access grants from TRF and other sources provides an amazing opportunity to multiply the results of our fundraising efforts to assist those in need and further enhance the impact to make the lives of others better by our efforts.

For those interested in finding out more, or making a donation, visit:

Rotary Foundation Australia

GOLF DAY - BOOK NOW!!!



The Community Bank Ferntree Gully (Bendigo Bank) is the major sponsor of our Golf Day. We are now looking for businesses who would like to showcase their activities by sponsoring a hole at the event on 20th November.

SPONSORSHIP - $250.00 PER HOLE. Exclusive rights to advertising on the golf day and recognition in all correspondence and verbally where appropriate.

Do you know someone who might be interested in this offer? If yes, see the Try Booking QR code link above.

Players make a golf day, so please encourage any family, friends or acquaintances to sign up for the day via Try Booking. An official golf handicap is **NOT** required.

Remember: **A $50,000 CAR IS UP FOR GRABS for a HOLE IN ONE on the 11th Hole.**

A major raffle is planned for the day too. Members who are able, are encouraged to support the event by supplying items for the raffle: Wine, Chocolates, Nuts, Golfing paraphernalia or other suitable items for this raffle.

Remember. This event has the potential to be an annual, significant money raiser for the club. A successful launch will secure its future.

A roster for the day will be circulated shortly.

Scan the QR code above on the flyer to access PLAYER ENTRY and SPONSORSHIP.

SHEBA FUNDRAISER EVENT— Jenny



There is no doubt that the 14 members of the Club who attended the SHEBA night on Saturday would feel great pride in being involved in such an impactful project. It was also clear that DG Emma Clark was very impressed with all that she heard.

The project update provided by Dr Sharif of their recent activities, demonstrated how much this program has grown over the years. The Eye-care project, involving screening 3,000 people for vision defects, was completed with 301 free cataract surgeries and over 800 pairs of spectacles distributed. The next phase of this project is in the planning stage and will extend vision testing into the Dahagram–Angarpota enclave. This area is like an island surrounded by India, which meant that, until fairly recently, travelling across the 200 m strip of border involved gaining an Indian visa. The residents therefore lived very basic lives without access to medical care.



Dr Sharif also highlighted that the earlier program of screening in the Patna region for the common conditions of hypertension, diabetes and chronic kidney disease was very successful. The recipients of this screening had never been tested, so intervening before the conditions had irreversible impacts was a significant outcome – all of this for $US1 per person screened.

We are very proud that Dr Sharif is a member of our Club: he is a real dynamo and is continually thinking about and acting on ways to help the people of Bangladesh. As he pointed out, he feels these actions are paying back the debt he owes for the privilege of gaining an education and training as a medical doctor. He has a remarkable capacity to form partnerships to assist in his projects, such as with the ICON Eye Hospital in Dhaka, who will provide surgery as part of the ongoing eye screening project. In addition, the monitoring provided by Dr Sharif to ensure that the clinics are being run with integrity assures us that our donations are put to excellent use.

SHEBA receives no Government funding; all the support is from donations.

If you would like to make a donation to SHEBA the bank details are:

Account name: SHEBA

BSB: 013-312

Account number: 4886 41249

















COMMUNITY NEWS



JRN Community Housing is a Victorian community housing and outreach organization founded by Peter Nous in memory of his brother, Joseph Refaat Nous (d. 2016), providing transitional accommodation, sober living environments, and support services for people experiencing homelessness, mental illness, addiction or legal and bail challenges.

At the first meeting with Peter he said one of the needs of the men was socks and jocks. Our Community Chair, Sharon, approached 13 organisations requesting donations of these and was very happy when Nobbys provided 2 boxes of jocks and a box of crazy socks. Sharon handed these over to a very grateful Peter yesterday.

At this meet up, it was evident that there is a need for JRN services as Peter's phone calls were non stop from bail justices, prison officers, drug addicts and Dusk to Dawn organisers requesting help in one form or another.

Well done Sharon!



IMPACT FOR WOMEN BAGS OF LOVE PROGRAM - HELP NEEDED

Another project that Sharon has been working on and looking into is supporting Impact for Women with their Bags of Love Program. This is a Victorian volunteer-driven organisation that provides care packages, daily essentials and comfort items to women and children fleeing family violence.

The Bags of Love are designed to provide comfort, support, and essential items to women who are on their journey toward healing and recovery. Each bag is carefully put together to offer not just essential items but also a message of hope and solidarity. These bags, filled with toiletries, essentials and comforting items, make a world of difference to the women who receive them.

Every item placed inside a Bag of Love is brand new. Each bag includes essential hygiene products (shampoo, conditioner, body wash, toothbrush, toothpaste), comfort and self-care goods (candles, journals, pens, makeup, hand cream, jewellery, puzzle or adult colouring books), a mug with tea and coffee and also a personalised handwritten note.

Approximately 2,500 bags are packed and distributed twice a year for Mother's Day and Christmas (totalling roughly 5,000 bags annually) alongside gifts for children.

Sharon is asking for club members to become involved by donating items which could be donated to Impact for Women to be added to these Bags of Love. With Christmas just around the corner this is something that you may consider as a gift from your family to one that is escaping family violence.

Please look at the lists below and think about how you can help. Sharon will be collecting items at our weekly meetings.

- Journals and Stationery
- Accessories
- Manicure Sets
- Make up
- Jewellery
- Essential toiletries
- Purses
- Candles
- Hand Cream
- Crossword and Puzzle books
- Craft Sets
- Colouring Books
- Jigsaw Puzzles

Can you help??

https://impactforwomen.org.au/our-programs/

DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2027– Update from Jeff

Please see below the latest update from Jeff, our On-to-Conference person.

If you have not booked but intend to go to conference make sure you take advantage of the savings if booked before December 31st2026.

Book online at: https://www.rydges.com/rates/#/-valley/ or Phone: 02 4991 0000 – Don't hang up if the phone is answered with something other than Ridges Resort Hunter Valley.
Use booking code: 2703ROTRY_001

I found them to be very helpful and efficient when I rang and booked rather than booking online.

TRANSPORT

If you need assistance with flights from Melbourne to Newcastle direct please contact Kath Williams. Buses are available at $25 per head each way for the transfers between Newcastle Airport and Rydges Resort.

FRIDAY NIGHT FUNCTION

As a majority of members have chosen not to book the Friday night function at Rydges, the following arrangements have been made for our club members attending the conference.

FRIDAY 27TH MARCH 2027

LOVEDAY BREWBAR -Less than 10 minutes from Rydges.

6:00PM

BOOKING – Currently 15

TRANSPORT: Car share as sufficient members are driving to conference.

MENU

https://lovedalebrewbar.com/food-drink/
Conference attendees please confirm to me by email if you want to be included in this option so I can re-confirm the booking.

Thanks to Jenny Moran for assistance in finding this venue.

Jeff

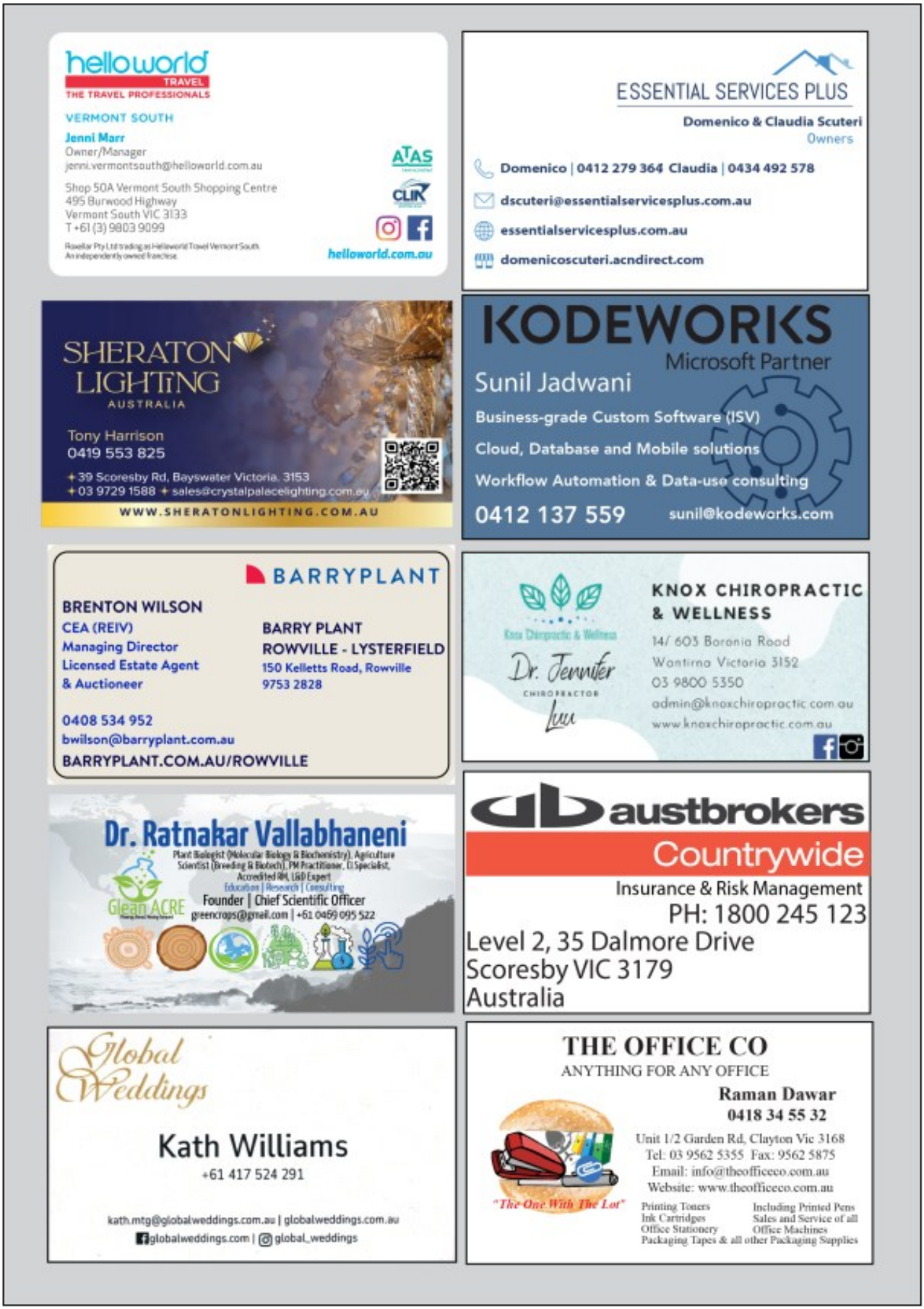


https://rotary9815.org.au/page/district-conference-2027

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS - Save the Date

- Sharespace Inc is running a Christmas Festival on Sunday 22nd November
- Karoo Primary School has a Christmas Extravaganza on Thursday 10th December
- Knox Festival is on Saturday 27th February, 2027

Let's support our members....



Let's support our members.....



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

President	Andy Round	*Secretary*	Heather Morris
Vice President	Alan Lunghusen	*Treasurer*	Neil White
President Elect	Marg Vesey	*Immediate Past President*	Bob Morris
President Nominee			

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
		Newsletter	Corinne Baillie
Environment Chair	Gary Forrest	**Rowville Secondary College Council Rep**	Rajeev Wadhwa
Vocational Chair	John Williams	**On-to-Conference**	Jeff Somers
Foundation	Neil White	**Rowville Lysterfield**	Jenny Moran
Membership	Kevin Harrison	**Social Convenor**	Kaye Sharman
Club Protection Officer	Daryl Moran	**Muffin and Soup Roster**	Glennys Hocking
BBQ Coordinators	Ian Vesey Marg Vesey	**Art Show Chair** **Girls' Night Out Chair**	Jenny Moran Jenny Moran
War Memorial Project Chair	Daryl Moran	**Knox Business Awards** **Business Breakfast Chair**	John Williams Daryl Moran