



# Rotary Club of Traralgon

**Serving Through Rotary for 84 Years District 9815 Victoria**

The Club meets on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month, Traralgon Golf Club. 6.00pm  
 Attendance and apologies to Secretary Glenn Setches by 7.00 pm on Sundays please. Ph 0409 568 386

**2 December 2025**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2025—2026**

- President**  
Janne Speirs
- Immediate Past President**  
Charlie Speirs
- President Elect**  
Simon Trebilcock
- Vice President**  
Ron Elliott
- Secretary**  
Glenn Setches
- Treasurer**  
Peter Wallis
- Youth Services**  
Helen O'Brien
- International**  
Simon Trebilcock
- Rotary Foundation**  
Simon Hemming
- Community Services**  
Ian Keith
- Vocational Services**  
Charlie Speirs
- Membership**  
Glenn Azlin
- Public Relations**  
Lorraine Paulet

**President's Prattle**

I commented in the previous bulletin that we had been busy despite missing a meeting!! Well the only change to that comment is that it's only been two weeks since the AGM and we have – done further work on the Plaza and Centenary House gardens, made sandwiches, put the Christmas banners up on all tree guards in the Traralgon CBD, sold the last of the Time Capsule raffle tickets at the Lions Farmers' Market and I was involved in the interviews for the two Community Awards at St Paul's. During this period we have also been gathering roster commitments for the TCP Christmas wrapping which starts on Monday, for the Parade and other commitments which will occur on Sunday, for the last official Bunnings BBQ of the year but also for their Pre-Christmas Activity evening on the 4<sup>th</sup>, for the (very early) Christmas Eve BBQ at TCP and confirming numbers for Narkoojee on the 16th.



We had some really pleasing news during the week that both our District Grant Application (purchase of the irrigation system for the new Park Lane Community Garden, being built at the Uniting Church) and also an Education Grant (our former 'low level' Scholarships) for assistance to incoming year 7 students with costs related to starting Secondary School (Traralgon College) have been approved. These will be of great assistance to all involved and we look forward to hearing of associated achievements and developments. I also spoke to Peter yesterday about assisting a disadvantaged VCE student from Traralgon with the cost of attending a live in program at Melbourne University during the upcoming holidays to assist the attendees with study skills, academic assistance, life skills and other ways in which they can weather their final two years at School. This approach came through our Club website from a group of young people – mostly University students / graduates, who have a concern for the number of students who 'slip through the cracks' of VCE through no fault of their own but are not eligible for or able to receive assistance from the Government. The group (VCEST) has been operating for three years or so now and their website is really interesting to have a look at. We hope that 'our' student really benefits from the program and hope to make contact in the New Year.

*Traralgon Rotary Club meets on the traditional lands of the Brayakaulung people of the Gunaikurnai nation. We pay our respects to their elders, past present and emerging and thank them for their long history of care for this land and its waterways.*

Now you will notice that throughout all this busyness (and may I thank here our tireless roster leaders but also all of you for the work you do to allow the Club to run in such a practical and community-based way) that I have NOT mentioned the Time Capsule!! That juggernaut has been pounding away in the background as we collect the items to go into the new Capsule, prepare the program and various documents, permits, etc that are essential to the day – and here a reminder about the necessity of having a first aider on site on the 10<sup>th</sup> – if anyone has a current first aid certificate and would be able to assist – or if you know someone who could do so - would you please touch base with Rae Mackay as soon as possible. There is still a lot happening with regard to the Capsule – donation points in the Plaza and Library will hopefully be well used, the PO Box is available for donations to be posted, we are picking up the copies of the Express today which will accompany the papers from 1975 and 2000 into the Capsule and then later next week the work of putting the items in appropriate packing, having everything documented and listed ready for burial and having a full documentation of what has been undertaken by those involved in the last four months or so, ready for the 10<sup>th</sup> December. Many have been involved in this process but I would particularly like to mention and thank Chris, Paul, Gavan, Norm, Rae and Lorraine for their tireless work in getting everything as it should be. A reminder that the burial will take place on December 10<sup>th</sup> – 10.30 for an 11am start behind Monmeath Senior Citizens building in Victory Park. A short formal proceeding will include the reburial of the Time Capsule. The Express will be on site and a number of Latrobe City Councillors along with the new Mayor who will take part in the formal program. Our District Governor will also be in attendance. The winners of the raffle for the two bottles of wine from the previous capsule will also be drawn.

In closing, welcome home Janet from the 'Great Victorian Bike Ride' !!

Cheers

**President Janne**

### **Report of 18 November 2025**

**Meeting commenced** at 6.30 pm. Sergeant Glen Azlin welcomed all. Tonight is our Club's AGM. He welcomed Li and Trish to the meeting. **Invocation** - Ron Elliott.

**President Janne adjourned the meeting at 6.34** for the Annual General Meeting to be chaired by Past President Charlie Spiers. At the AGM, PP Charlie presented the 2024/25 Annual Report, Treasurer Peter Wallis presented the 2024/25 Financial report and Simon Trebilcock was confirmed as President Elect.

#### **The meeting recommenced at 6.45pm**

**President Janne** asked Ray Scheffer to draw the swindle. Ron Elliott won with number 58.

Janne presented a Certificate of Appreciation that we have received from Lifeline for the donation of \$15,000 from the Tee Up for Mental Health Golf Day.

Janne brought to the meeting a model Peace Pole which she had obtained at the recent Zone Conference at the Gold Coast, The post was inscribed in English, Hindi, Mandarin and Arabic. It has been left in Heather and Janet's hands as the Peace Committee. It is planned to have a Peace Pole erected soon at the Golf Club and in Victory Park (near the Time Capsule). Janne is hopeful of having a Peace Pole erected at St Pauls Anglican Grammar School.

Janne also displayed an original Program for the Burial of the Time Capsule in 2000. Norm Butler recently discovered it at the Rotary Shed Archives.

Janne also reported that she had attended the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of Traralgon Plaza. A booklet from that time recovered "from under the floorboards" was passed around to members for interest.

Last Sunday Janne attended the International Chairs of Clubs meeting where a program was generated to send exercise books to overseas countries where school children do not have access to new books.

(each year the old books are recycled by rubbing out last years work). Janne asked that members consider buying and donating 48 page exercise books for this project. The books would need to be brought to the meeting before 16 December 25.

Janne spoke of the “Magic of Rotary” recounting her recent experience when going to the Rotary Zone Conference at the Gold Coast. As District International Chair, Janne was following up on the Jamaican Hurricane Disaster. Janne emailed former RI President Barry Raissin in Jamaica for an update. Within a short time she had a response from Barry thanking her for thinking of them. Shortly after Janne had a detailed presentation from the District 7200 (Jamaica) District Secretary which she was then able to reconfigure for presentation to the Zone Conference. Certainly the “Magic of Rotary” through the magic of connections and the magic of the internet. Jamaica still has major problems recovering from the Hurricane Disaster.

News has been received from Malaita in the Solomon Islands that one of our helpers there has a financial problem with one son taking on a Nursing Course and the other son getting married. The Board has considered the issue and feels that it is not appropriate to commit Club funds but suggests that if any Rotarian wishes to help on a personal basis a donation can be made through Peter Wallis.

Time Capsule Reburial will be on 10 December at 10.30am for an 11.00am start. If you wish to help, please get in touch with Chris O’Brien. The Raffle for the bottles of wine found in the capsule is being organised by Chris, Andy, Gavan and Paul. Tickets will be sold at the next Craft Market.

Club Photo. Next meeting on 2 December, a Club photo will be taken for placing in the Time Capsule. All Rotarians are asked to attend (100% attendance needed).

Janne Reported on the Wheely Day organised to St Paul’s Anglican Gramar School last week. The day was in support of the Rotary “Wheelchairs for Kids” program where money was raised by students in Wheelchair pushes around the quadrangle. \$7397 was raised, enough to buy 24.5 wheelchairs. If Rotarians wish to donate to bring this amount up, please contact Peter Wallis.

**Terry Carmichael** asked for volunteers to fill vacancies on the Bunnings BBQ Roster on Saturday 29 November. There are 2 vacancies between 11am and 2pm and one vacancy on the 2pm to 5pm shift.

**Rae Mackay** The Christmas Parade is coming along really well. Adele and Lorraine have been driving ideas and this year’s parade is expected to be much bigger. As we will be doing the bulk of on ground stuff, rosters will be coming out for marshalls and people to throw the 1000 bags of lollies to the crowd along the route.

There have been special acts and personalities engaged for the event and large crowds are expected. Advertising in the Latrobe Valley Express and Channel 9 has been organised. Businesses in the CBD have been very supportive, and it is expected that the Coffee shops and cafes will do a good trade.

As well as the money raised by the organising Committee, a grant of \$9000 has been made by the Latrobe City Council.

**Simon Trebilcock** Our first January meeting will be a Croquet Night at the Croquet Club. Simon also asked that members considering taking a position on the Board have a word with him.

**Glenn Azlin.** Glenn said that he had won a raffle at the Motorcycle Toy Run event this year, it being a \$50 voucher from Sugar Babies. He will donate it to the Club for the Christmas Dinner raffle.

**Sergeant’s Session** Glenn commenced with a story about a multicultural group not being allowed into an AC/DC concert because they did not have a Thai. Made us think that time Glenn!! Fines session picked off those without badges and those who had not read “Rotary Down Under” properly.

**President Janne** At our next meeting we will have Joy Martin, a former travel agent as Guest Speaker which should be entertaining. Don’t forget that it is **Club Photo night**, we need everyone here.

Janne closed the meeting at 8.05pm with the Rotary Theme for 2025/26 **Unite for Good**



TRARALGON COMMUNITY  
**Christmas PARADE**  
MARKET & SANTA GROTTO



Rotary 





**Statistics for 18 November 2025**

**Apologies:** Wolf Becker, Virginia Gissara, Darryl Marks, Adele Nardino, Helen O'Brien, Lorraine Paulet, Jan Riddle, Michael Rossiter, Janet Wallis

**Leave of Absence:** Simon Hemming

**Visiting Rotarians:**

**Partners:** Li Azlin, Trish Elliott

**Guests :**

**Guest Speaker:**

Statistics	
No of members	36
Member Apologies	9
LOA	1
Members Present	26
Visiting Rotarians	
Partners	2
Guests	
Total	28

**Recent and upcoming Celebrations and Anniversaries :**

<b>INDUCTIONS</b>	
<b>BIRTHDAYS</b>	2 December Trish Lythgo; 17 December Brian Lythgo; 17 December Karen Mackay
<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b>	5 December Zac & Carol Crewe

**ROTARY INVOCATION**

For good food, good fellowship and the opportunity to serve through Rotary, we give thanks.

**THE 4 WAY TEST**

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all

**This is our club's 3817th dinner meeting. We have hosted 129 Business Breakfasts**

**District Website:** Information relating to Clubs within our District may be found via the following address: <http://www.district9820.org>

**Club website:** [www.traralgonrotary.com](http://www.traralgonrotary.com)

**Facebook :** 'Traralgon Rotary', like us and request to become a friend.

	<b>This Meeting 2 December 2025</b>	<b>Next Meeting 16 December 2025</b>
<b>Programme</b>	<b>Travel</b>	 <p><b>Rotary Club of Traralgon</b> <b>Christmas Dinner</b> <b>At Narkoojee</b> <b>6.00pm for 6.30pm</b></p>
<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Joy Martin</b>	
<b>Speakers Chair</b>	Lorraine Paulet	
<b>Meeting Chair</b>	Heather den Houting	
<b>Sergeant</b>	Gavan Hodgson	
<b>Cashiers</b>	Jan Inglis & Ian Keith	Janet Wallis & Peter Wallis
<b>Greeters</b>	Michael Rossiter & Alana Storey	
<b>Bulletin</b>	Janet Wallis	Janet Wallis