



# 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

7 April 2026

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2025—2026

**President**  
Janne Speirs

**Immediate Past President**  
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### President's Prattle

Hi all as we meet tonight at La Porchetta. Many thanks to Ann and the family for opening up tonight, as the Golf Club was unavailable.

Unfortunately our speaker for this evening is unavailable but we will be getting a recap on the recent District Conference in Hobart as well as the District Bike ride. Gavan will also give us a breakdown on the pre Easter family night at Bunnings.

We also need to give thought to the invitation we have received to attend the Rotary Club of Moe meeting on the 4th May at the Moe hotel when LV Express General Manager, Barb Seymour will be the guest speaker. It would be great to have representation at that meeting, even though we have Pride of Workmanship on the 5th. If you are able to attend I am sure it would be appreciated and am also sure that car pooling would be available if needed. We will endeavour to get numbers on Tuesday night so I can get back to Moe as soon as possible.

Otherwise the year is certainly flying!! Simon T and I will be at Phillip Island this weekend for President Elect Training - if it's anything like last year I'm sure Simon will find it a really worthwhile weekend.

Mother's Day wrapping will also be coming up in early May do look out for that also.

Cheers

**President Janne**



\$34,379 raised as of  
06/04/2026

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.

### Vocational Visit to Blue Rock Dam Power Station.

Being the fifth Tuesday of the Month, our meeting was a Vocational Visit to the Blue Rock Dam Power station.

Our host for the visit was our Rotarian Paul Gardiner who is the Power Station Manager.

Ten Rotarians came along to the inspection, whilst another three Rotarians took a Magical Mystery Tour to another dam site. Gavan and Chris guided us along the way standing sentry at the turnoffs to Spillway Rd and the Power Station Access respectively. Our thanks to Paul for his comprehensive maps to the site and to Gavan and Chris who ensured that we did not get lost.

The power station is within the former pumphouse located at the base of the Blue Rock Dam. Paul explained that originally the purpose of the pumphouse was to house a water turbine to pump water to Moodarah Reservoir, but this has since been retrofitted with a 2 Megawatt generator coupled in line. The turbine can either drive the generator or drive the pump. The generator provides power to the National Electricity Grid.



To demonstrate the power of water in the system, Michael Rossiter, guided by Paul, turned off the turbine. While we watched, the flow of water exiting the Power station suddenly became a powerful jet which shot off down the exit stream. As Paul explained, the power taken from the water to generate the electricity produced the low flow before, but when the generator was disconnected the power went into the spectacular jet of water.

We were then taken into the power station, which is on three levels with the turbine and generator on the lowest. Paul escorted us down to the generator and explained how the pump only arrangement had been upgraded to include the generator – basically separating the pump and turbine and fitting the generator in between.

Paul then took us up to the control area. The generator had been installed by a Norwegian firm KVÆRNER, (from a Norwegian town of the same name) This firm specializes in small generating units such as at Blue Rock. The main control panel was touch screen based and, according to Paul, was very much simpler than the previous switch and button system. The system is set up such that the station is generally operated remotely.

We then entered the tunnel under the dam which contains the 1200mm steel inlet pipe feeding water under pressure into the turbine. A path beside the pipe lead us about 150 metres to the inlet tower, such that we were standing well beneath the dam itself. Of some interest were the little stalactites and the calcite shawls created by seepage into the tunnel.

To complete the visit, Debby Butler, guided by Paul, set the generator back in motion using the touch screen. Again, very informative as each step of the startup was revealed on the screen and the resulting effects could be heard coming from the generator floor.

Our thanks to Paul for the opportunity to see this amazing operation, which is hidden away from the general public, serving our electrical system quietly but effectively. Thankyou also to Paul for his explanations of this interesting operation.

Afterward the party repaired to the Turf Club Bistro at Moe Racing Club for dinner where we were joined by the members of the Magical Mystery Tour.

[Unite for Good](#)



The entire program came to life in such a memorable way. Our wonderful MCs, Maree McPherson OAM and Evan Burrell DG, brought warmth, humour and energy, while the music across the weekend added something truly special. From the moving opening by the Derwent Valley Marching Band, to the fun singalongs with Leon Moore, the pre-dinner entertainment by Mark Smith, the energy of Wingin' It filling the dance floor.

How good did everyone look dressed up in their Nautical Themed attire! The Gala night was so much fun, and the dance floor was never empty. The touching contribution of the Lone Piper during the Call to Higher Service, and the wonderful closing by the City of Hobart Highland Pipe Band, every element helped create a Conference atmosphere that people will remember for a long time.

Another very special part of the weekend was the Care Pack Project, where 350 bags of self-care products and socks were packed and distributed to City Mission Hobart and City Mission Launceston. It was a simple but powerful reminder that when Rotarians come together, wonderful things happen. The gratitude shown by both organisations was heartfelt, and it was I

My heart is full, and I will look back on this weekend with enormous pride and gratitude.  
Monique Smith 2026 District 9815 Conference Chair

## Statistics for 31 March 2026

**Attendance:** Norm Butler, Debby Butler, Paul Gardiner, Gavan Hodgson, Ann Moloney, Chris O'Brien, Michael Rossiter, Charlie Speirs, Janne Speirs, Alana Storey, \*Glenn Azlin, \*Wolf Becker. (\*Magical Mystery Tour)+

**Leave of Absence:** Simon Hemming

**Partners:** Li Azlin,

**Visiting Rotarians:**

**Guests Speaker & Host:** Paul Gardiner

Statistics	
No of members	35
Member Apologies	23
LOA	1
Members Present	12
Visiting Rotarians	
Partners	1
Guests	
Total	13

## Upcoming Celebrations and Anniversaries :

<b>INDUCTIONS</b>	
<b>BIRTHDAYS</b>	13 April Simon Trebilcock
<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b>	

### 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 3825th 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 7 April 2026</b>	<b>Next Meeting 14 April 2026</b>
<b>Programme</b>	<b>Rotary Ride for Medical Research &amp; Rotary District 9815 Conference</b>	<b>Youth Protection</b>
<b>Speaker</b>	Janet & Peter Wallis; Tom Corrigan; Janne & Charlie Speirs	Ken Mirams & Isobel McAlister
<b>Meeting Chair</b>		Ron Elliott
<b>Sergeant</b>	Gavan Hodgson	Glenn Azlin
<b>Greeters</b>	Terry Carmichael & Tom Corrigan	Ann Maloney & Darryl Marks
<b>Cashiers</b>	Carol Crewe & Paul Gardiner	Ian Keith & Chris O'Brien
<b>Bulletin</b>	Janet Wallis	Janet Wallis