

Rotary

Australian Districts



UNITE FOR GOOD

Rotary Club of Traralgon

Serving Through Rotary for 84 Years District 9815 Victoria

The Club meets on the 1st, 3rd and 5th 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

21 April 2026

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2025—2026

President

Janne Speirs

Immediate Past President

Charlie Speirs

President Elect

Simon Trebilcock

Vice President

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Youth Services

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International

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Rotary Foundation

Simon Hemming

Community Services

Ian Keith

Vocational Services

Charlie Speirs

Membership

Glenn Azlin

Public Relations

Lorraine Paulet

President's Prattle

Hi all

We're looking forward to a great night tonight as we welcome both Ken Mirams and Isobel Macalister. The evening will take on a Youth focus as Ken (our District (Youth) Protection Officer) gives us an update on Child Protection while Isobel will report on her Training 'camp' prior to selections for the Biology Olympiad to be held later in the year. The Club assisted her in paying for the camp.



We had our monthly Board meeting on Tuesday night and although we were light on for attendees, it was a valuable meeting with a number of discussions on various issues. Glenn will be putting out a members' summary of the main issues over the next couple of days. I would like to thank Ian and Norm for the work they have done in trying to get the condition of the road up to the Cairn on Mt Tassie improved. We'll see what transpires!!

Pride of Workmanship on the 5th May will be a great night and we look forward to welcoming a number of visitors to our meeting. Club members have also committed to attending the combined meeting at Moe Rotary on Monday 4th which again should be an enjoyable time, with a speaker from the LV Express reflecting on 65 years of the paper's existence in the Latrobe Valley. If there is anyone else who would like to also attend on the 4th, please let me know in the next two days (with dietaries) as I need to let Moe know our final figures.

Mothers' Day wrapping at the Plaza will be happening far sooner than we'd like to think, but we are going to cut the hours back a bit on Tuesday and Wednesday. When I get the completed roster from Adele I will get it out as soon as possible.

If you are one of our many members with responsibility for organising a roster, please take especial note of the attachment to an email which Glenn hopefully has been able to put out prior to the meeting tonight. It contains a list of all current members and their current email addresses, plus those of our four Honorary members. There is then a list of non-

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.

members who wish to receive the bulletin and/or notification of specific rosters. Could you please add those particular names and emails to your mailing list for rosters, thanks.

Simon T and I spent last weekend at the President Elect training weekend at San Remo. The trip down and especially back were full of discussion and certainly there were some really interesting thoughts and ideas that came out of the weekend and I am sure we will hear a lot more from Simon in coming weeks.

Enjoy tonight and thanks to those who were able to do gardening at the Plaza this morning.

Cheers

President Janne

Meeting Notes 7 April 2026

Our meeting was held at La Porchetta. The Gold Club was being used by the community to honour Dougal Campbell. A local identity who over many years contributed to the growth and sustainability of Traralgon. Some members remembered him, grateful for his selfless contribution to others.

President Janne thanked Paul Cardiner for enabling the vocational visit to Blue Rock Dam Power station, and for the very interesting explanation and demonstration of its workings.

Five Traralgon Rotarians recently joined in two important activities. The Rotary Ride for Medical Research held in the Bendigo District and the D9815 District Conference held in Hobart, Tasmania.



Rotary Ride for Medical Research

Janet Wallis thanked members for their generous support of the Ride for Medical Research. Club members contributed \$2,500 to support the team of three from Traralgon Club. Janet was a rider, Tom Corrigan a driver and Peter Wallis support team.

Over 6 days, riders clocked up close to 570km. Janet rode 500 of them. Funds raised go to Australian Rotary Health which is the largest independent contributor to medical research in Australia, supporting those doing extended studies and people working in indigenous communities.



Tom gave tribute to KIA. The company provided 5 excellent vehicles for the ride. This allows the riders to have full back up and support. He drove a brand new Ute for the 6 days. The generosity of Kia allows for each rider to have transport at the beginning of the ride each day and return to the Motel each evening. Tom commented on the sound organization of the ride.



Peter Wallis spoke of the challenge of picking up lunches each day and delivering them to the riders' lunch spot. He also mentioned the unexpected conversations he had, with others waiting at the bakeries. He was able to speak of the work of Rotary, and to hear about the contribution of some locals to good things in the district.

Rotary District 9815 Conference 2026

Each attendee spoke of one of the speakers they found interesting or challenging.

Peter Wallis spoke of Simon Tyrrell who reminded us that Artificial Intelligence is a tool from which an organization like Rotary can benefit. It can research and report on matters local and international giving a broader perspective on potential Rotary projects.

“The future isn’t humans vs AI. It’s humans who understand people—using AI to amplify their impact.” Rotary has always believed in the power of individuals to change the world. AI doesn’t change that belief it changes what’s possible.

AI is not to be taken with out questions, because it does reflect data available, but it is not to be feared but could be embraced for good.

Tom Corrigan spoke of the work of Robert Pennicott who first started a business selling his fishing surplus when he was 12 years old. He then borrowed money from his father to buy a fishing boat, repaid the load and increased his income. He now runs a multi-faceted environmental tourism industry with a fleet of boats and busses servicing the tourism industry around Hobart and beyond.

Janet Wallis was enthusiastic about the comments made by the RIPPR, the Rotary International President’s Personal Representative who promoted the theme for this year that we Unite for Good. Jesse Harman encouraged us to fulfil the potential of Rotary as we 1. Unite to build peace. 2. Unite to finish what we started, by eradicating polio. 3. Unite to deliver impact that is lasting and sustainable through international partnerships for good. 4. Unite to grow Rotary saying “When our hands are few, our impact is limited, when our hands are many our reach is immeasurable.”

She also told us of the local impact of 4 primary school children doing a school project on bees, realizing the important of pollinators in the food and plant cycle and building a bee safe garden in their local school with the help of the local Rotary Club.

Janne Speirs was most moved by Emily Williamson and Solky Tep speaking about REACH Siem Reap, which provides food to the most needy in Cambodia and is working towards sustainability through local involvement and training.

Charlie Spiers spent most of his time in the rotary Expo and spoke of the way exhibitors were able to demonstrate the benefits of many different Rotary Projects.

In a closing comment Peter Wallis said this was one of the best Conferences he had been to, in terms of the variety of topics spoken about and the recognition of all that Rotary is capable of.

Gavan conducted a fines session and drew the meeting to a close, reminding us to

Unite for Good



Statistics for 7 April 2026

Apologies: Terry Carmichael, Carol Crewe, Russell Davidson, Gradwell Fredericks, Heather den Houting, Jan Inglis, Ian Keith, Brian Lythgo, Rae Mackay, Adele Nardino, Helen O'Brien, Lorraine Paulet, Jan Riddle, Andy Ringin, Michael Rossiter, Ray Scheffer, Alana Storey

Leave of Absence: Simon Hemming

Visiting Rotarians: Bill Degnan, Judy Degnan

Partners: Li Azlin, Trish Elliott

Guests: Olivia Harper

Statistics	
No of members	35
Member Apologies	17
LOA	1
Members Present	18
Visiting Rotarians	2
Partners	2
Guests	1
Total	23

Upcoming Celebrations and Anniversaries :

INDUCTIONS	
BIRTHDAYS	
ANNIVERSARIES	23 April Norm and Sandra Butler

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 3826th 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

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

	Next Meeting 21 April 2026	Next Meeting 5 MY 2026
Programme	Youth Protection	Pride of Workmanship
Speaker	Ken Mirams & Isobel McAlister	Darren Chester
Speakers Chair		Carol Crewe
Meeting Chair	Simon Trebilcock	
Sergeant	Glenn Azlin	Gavan Hodgson
Greeters	Ann Maloney & Darryl Marks	Andy Ringin & Janet Wallis
Cashiers	Ian Keith & Chris O'Brien	Michael Rossiter & Peter Wallis
Bulletin	Janet Wallis	Ron Elliott