



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

5 May 2026

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

PRIDE OF WORKMANSHIP AWARDS



Rotary Club of Traralgon take great pleasure in this presentation, which was originally started in Pennant Hills in 1975 and here in 1985

Business owners and operators have nominated those they would like to see recognised for exceptional services to their community.

We acknowledge good work by local people, in local organisations and seek each year to hear about outstanding work being done across our community



President's Prattle

Good evening to all members, partners, friends and our 'Stars' for the evening – our wonderful Pride of Workmanship recipients. As you will see in tonight's program, Pride of Workmanship has been celebrated by the Rotary Club of Traralgon since 1985. Over the years, we have had evenings which have focussed on staff in a wide variety of work places, we have had nights that focussed on volunteers and our largest evening followed on from the 2009 fires in the Latrobe Valley where we recognised ANY groups – first responders, community groups, media, Government Departments and Service Organisations – in an evening of recognition held at Kernot Hall with Max Walker as guest Speaker. This particular evening represented Pride of Workmanship in its most elemental form! Tonight, a new group of recipients will become Pride of Workmanship awardees and we congratulate them all. May you feel the thrill of knowing that the way in which you conduct yourself and go about your work is fully appreciated and valued by your employers.



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.

It is a real honour to have The Honorable Darren Chester as tonight's guest speaker and to have Latrobe City Mayor, Sharon Gibson with us as well. Thank you both. I would also like to thank Carol Crewe who has been the mainstay of organising tonight's event and been of massive value to Vocational Chair, Charlie Speirs. Thank you also to all involved.

Australia received some absolutely wonderful news a couple of days ago, which I am quite sure will not be greeted with the fanfare it truly deserves. For twenty odd years now, a committed core group and their supporters have been trying to lessen the prevalence of Trachoma in our Indigenous Australians. This disease can lead to permanent blindness but with good hygiene practices and personal care, can be cured and is completely preventable. In the 2017-2018 Rotary year, Rotary's World President was Ian Riseley, a native Melbournian who felt that there was a need for we Australian Rotarians to work towards the goal of "20-20 by 2020." To this end, Clubs have supported the cause financially and by creating 'Hygiene Packs' to be sent to remote Schools so that each child has his or her own facewasher, towel and soap (along with other hygiene needs) so the transmission of the disease through contaminated contact could be lessened. The World Health Organisation announced last week that Australia had become the 30th country in the world to eliminate Trachoma as a Public Health Concern, which is fantastic!!

The other great news has come out of St Paul's Anglican Grammar School, Traralgon Campus, where a new Interact Club (Rotary for Secondary School students) has come into being, with their first project / fundraising day later this week and then preparation for their Charter which will take place later in this term. They have a couple of very committed Staff members who are supporting the students, who are very motivated to get going on this new venture really quickly. They are a mix of yr 9, 10 and 11 students which is great for the longevity of the Club (Year 12 students will have their first year at the Campus in 2027).

Cheers

President Janne

**AUSWORKWEAR
& SAFETY**



Order uniforms at Ausworkwear and Safety Traralgon
149-163 Argyle Street (next to BCF)
5176 5900

Royal Blue uniform items are available and include polos, zip through fleece jumpers, hoodies, jackets and caps.

The Rotary Club of Traralgon embroidery logo is on file (as per recent order completed by Club member, Helen O'Brien).

Cassie can assist if staff are not sure.

Meeting Notes 21 April 2026

Glenn Azlin called the meeting to order.

Welcome Ken Mirams and Isabelle McAlister (with her mum), Trish Elliott & Li, Carol read the invocation

Chair Simon Trebilcock introduced our guest speaker.

Isabelle McAlister who attends Gippsland Grammar in Sale was sponsored by Traralgon Rotary to attend The Australian Science Olympiad Summer School in Canberra . 24 students from across Australia attend this residential training programme. Lectures and practical sessions filled the week before sitting an exam on the final day. The top 4 scholars would represent Australia at the International Science Olympiad - in Lithuania. Isabelle reported that it was a great experience to meet with so many other people with similar interests. There were 2 sessions of lectures taking up 6 hours a day. Presentations were by university professionals and university students. There were practical sessions in labs.

They went to ANU ecology sight to study bugs in the water. Went to the beach and botanical gardens. It was an opportunity to study different plants.

Isabelle concluded by informing us that in July she will go to international event as one of four selected and by thanking Traralgon for their support.



Directors reports

Helen O'Brien

Update on uniforms: Polos, caps and jackets with Traralgon Rotary label can be ordered from Ausworkwear & Safety, 149 Argyle St, Traralgon. Ask for Cassie.

Terry Carmichael - BBQ

A reminder that we will soon hear the sound of the sizzling sausages. Our first BBQ is 2 May. Further BBQs are 6 June, 4 July, 1 August, 12 September, 3 October, 7 November, 28 November. Rosters for 2 May were sorted. Please remember to respond when rosters are circulated.

Carol Crewe. Pride of Workmanship

Our annual Pride of Workmanship is our next meeting. There are 8 awardees. It is a Partners night. The two course meal is offered for \$40. Darren Chester is the guest speaker. It is a good night for prospective members. RSVP by Thursday 30th April.

[Carol also took the opportunity to promote Live @ 11 Broadway Bound on 13 July at Gippsland Performing Arts Centre]

Glenn Azlin. Footy gates

Our first engagement is 25th April. He agreed, Pride of Workmanship would be a great opportunity to invite prospective members.

Janne Speirs.

Congratulations to Heather who is now a grandma.

A meeting at St Paul's to discuss a potential Interact club was attended by 15 year nine students. Their first activity is '#DoltForDolly' which promotes awareness of the effects of cyber bullying on teenagers.



Amy Jayne 'Dolly' Everett died from suicide in January 2018. In a couple of weeks they will hold elections to form the Interact Group. We will make a big celebration of the charter of the Interact club.

Simon Trebilcock went to President's elect training. He is active in seeking some new nominations for the board and is starting to build for next year.

Ken Mirams

D9815 Club Youth Protection Training 2026

Ken presented an oversight of the Rotary Youth Protection Programme. His presentation is to enable members of the club to be up to date with expectations and protocols

Why we want to protect the children we work with

Aligns with Rotary values and brand

It is the law

Prevent issues with children abuse.

What do we need to do

Prior to conducting a Youth Project clubs need to do a risk assessment, complete an insurance form and obtain approval of the board and district insurance officer. There must be a record of all attendees.

Volunteers need a current Working With Children Card, complete a volunteer declaration or police check and attend a training such as the one we were attending that evening.

If a child reports that they have been molested by an adult at a Rotary event do this:

- Protect the child from further abuse

- Report to incident to police and social services regulator

- Remove the accused adult from all contact with youth

- Report the incident to Rotary International and Insurance within 72 hours

- Protect the privacy of all involved.

Key additions to Victorian Child Safe Standards: Involve and inform families in decisions on how their child will be managed in a Rotary Youth Program, A greater focus on safety of Aboriginal/Disabled/Ethnic children and their cultural needs in Rotary Programs; Manage the risks of child abuse in online Rotary programs; Follow Rotary Youth policy

We were informed of key changes to Victorian WWCC Laws

Obligations for Organizations include Mandatory Monitoring; Proactive reporting; No work pending outcome: Individuals who are under investigation or who have had their clearance suspended cannot work with children.

There is online training and reporting available
rotary.org/youthprotection.

Key Messages for Presidents

- Ensure Club members are trained

- Ensure your board approves Youth Projects including risk Management

- Now Youth projects require D9815 insurance approval

- Appoint a club Protection Officer (ours is Helen O'Brien)

- Don't attempt to have the Club investigate Youth Abuse Reports

- D9815 Youth Protection Policy/Resources including comprehensive online resources

- If in doubt seek advice.



Questions asked:

How can privacy be protected when active Rotarians are immediately removed from service?

What is Rotary doing to protect people who are unfairly accused.

Glenn Azlin led us through a fines session.

Guess the last two numbers on the \$50 note was completed - won by Debby Butler.

Simon drew the meeting to a close reminding us to

Title: Youth Protection 2026 Training

KEY MESSAGES

1. Applies to ALL programs involving youth <18 yrs old
2. At Club level understand the Rotary Zone 9 Youth Policy.
3. Understand your obligations as a Rotarian or Youth Protection Officer or Club President with respect to Youth
4. This is governed by Child Safe Laws, Rotary requirements, Society expectations, Insurance & Good practice.
5. Ask the Question: **How would I want my family treated?**
6. If in doubt seek advice before acting.

AUSTRALIA CHILD ABUSE STATISTICS

**2021 – 2022 ABS Data 1200 reports / day
= 448,000 per yr**

18% Women suffered child abuse = 1.7 million

11% Men suffered child abuse = 1.0 million

VICTORIA	YEARLY DATA
SUBSTANTIATED	15,000
EMOTIONAL ABUSE	9,400
NEGLECT	600
PHYSICAL ABUSE	3,000
SEXUAL ABUSE	2,000

First 5 Actions in order



PROTECT

Protect the child from further abuse



POLICE

Report the incident to police and Social Services Regulator



REMOVE

Remove the accused adult from all contact with Youth



REPORT

Report the incident to Rotary Intl & Insurance within 72 hours



PRIVACY

Protect the privacy of all involved

Statistics for 21 April 2026

Apologies: Wolf Becker, Gradwell Fredericks, Adele Nardino, Jan Riddle, Andy Ringin, Glenn Setches

Leave of Absence: Simon Hemming

Visiting Rotarians: Ken Mirams

Partners: Li Azlin, Trish Elliott

Guests: Isobel McAlister, Lynne McAlister

Statistics	
No of members	35
Member Apologies	6
LOA	1
Members Present	28
Visiting Rotarians	1
Partners	2
Guests	2
Total	33

Upcoming Celebrations and Anniversaries :

INDUCTIONS	
BIRTHDAYS	11 May Lorraine Paulet; 14 May Darryl Marks
ANNIVERSARIES	12 May Charlie & Janne Speirs

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 3827th 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.

	This Meeting 5 May 2026	Next Meeting 19 May 2026
Programme	Pride of Workmanship	Club Service
Speaker	Darren Chester	
Speakers Chair	Carol Crewe	
Meeting Chair		Simon Trebilcock
Sergeant	Gavan Hodgson	Glen Azlin
Greeters	Andy Ringin & Janet Wallis	Tom Corrigan & Terry Carmichael
Cashiers	Michael Rossiter & Peter Wallis	Debby Butler & Paul Gardiner
Bulletin	Ron Elliott	Norm Butler