



Serving Through Rotary for 85 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 July 2026

Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service; high ethical standards in business and professions; the application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life; and the advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Club Project Update

Community Services – Carol Crewe, Com Services Director 26/27

A great aspect of Rotary is that there is such a variety of ways to volunteer that there is generally a project that will interest everyone. The Rotary Club of Traralgon is a good example of this. For the coming year we have a great range of community service projects that will need volunteers so hopefully our members (and family and friends of Rotary) can help at some time. Please talk to the responsible Rotarian if you are willing and able to volunteer on one of the below projects.



Eat Up Australian – Ron Elliott

Making sandwiches for local schools on Mondays & Thursdays

Tee Up for Mental Health – Charlie Speirs

Golf day to support mental health Friday 25/10/26

Gift Wrapping – Janne Speirs

Wrapping gifts at TCP before Christmas and Mother's Day

Traralgon Centre Plaza gardening / clean up – Ian Keith

Tidying up around the TCP on Tuesday mornings

Gippsland Rotary Centenary House gardening – Andy Ringin

Maintaining the grounds at GRCH on Monday mornings

Fundraising BBQs – Terry Carmichael

Weekend BBQs at Bunnings

Firewood Raffles – Rae Mackay

Selling raffle tickets at the Farmers' market on Saturdays

Traralgon Footy Gates – Glenn Setches

Manning the gates at local football games

Christmas events – Rae Mackay / Lorraine Paulet

Assisting with the Christmas banners and Traralgon parade

Recycling – Terry Carmichael

Recycling soft plastics, coffee pods, blister packs

Memorial Cairn – Ian Keith

Maintenance of the Rotary Cairn on Mount Tassie.

Meeting Notes 7 July 2026

Acknowledgement of Country was read by Alana Storey. The invocation was read by Tony Bolton.

PDG Janne Speirs proposed a toast to Rotary International. She commented on the following:

Peace Poles are something Rotary has been doing around the world for some years now. It allows us to put poles where they might not otherwise be seen. Traralgon Rotary has approval to erect a peace pole at the Golf Club and Liddiard Road Primary school. We are reaching out to have one installed in each of the schools we deliver sandwiches to. Each Peace Pole has the message “May Peace Prevail on Earth” in three languages. Liddiard Road Primary is going to use the GunaiKurnai language, and Australian sign language (3rd one to be advised). St Paul’s Grammar school has also accepted the idea and is working towards installation.

Janne concluded the toast saying “As we celebrate Rotary tonight and a new Rotary year along with 85th anniversary in March and it is good if we can spread that peace message.”

DG Emma responded, reminding us that Rotary creates impact through various activities. She mentioned many of the projects completed by Traralgon Rotary in the past year. She emphasized that Rotary brings people together and strengthen connections in the community.

Many of our projects show a commitment to young people. Everyone one of the projects enable us to create positive and lasting change. She thanked members for their commitment, generosity and action in the community. “You are definitely helping to create lasting impact” she said..

Sargeant Lorraine mentioned the ‘swindle’ started at our club by Ray Sheffer was being circulated. . Members and guests purchase a number for \$1 and if it is the last two digits on the \$50 note previously set aside, they get to keep it. The other \$50 help to pay for the meals of special guests.

President Janne presented her report. The President’s written report was included in the programme for the evening as was a report from the Treasurer. Janne spoke to some major points.

Brand new interact club at St Paul’s have just received their charter. Their April meeting elected an executive. Gracie is president, Harper vice president and Ava secretary. Hayley is teacher support . St Paul’s Anglican Grammar School Interact club have raised \$1348 for youth mental health and thanked the club for their contribution. They are inspired by Traralgon Rotary’s commitment to service. They thanked us for their positive start through our encouragement and interaction. President Janne mentioned the presentation of letter to the Interact club talking about what has been done and how we as a Rotary club can support the club.





Chris O'Brien was invited to read the citation for a Paul Harris award. The citation mentioned that the nominated Rotarian is a great example of Rotarian action - recently working on the time capsule, working on gardens in centenary house, he has been involved in leading bbq's, raffles, assisting on Rotary mental health days, and serving on footy gates. He also shows unerring dedication and comfort to many friends driving them to hospital here and in Melbourne. He has been doing this for many years. Paul Harris Award badge and certificate was presented to Gavan Hodgson by President Janne.

Gavan responded with thanks for the kind. He is very grateful, this is a great Rotary club to be in and he hopes we can continue on with good works.

Janne mentioned several important things, reminding us of the ridiculously busy first 6 months of this year. Chris O'Brien led opening and re-installing the time capsule- providing practical support and liaising with Council. Janne acknowledged Paul's work in updating the capsule with painting and he 3D printed and attached the yellow Rotary brand symbol. Thanks to Norm and Lorraine for their organisation abilities and getting things distributed to people. Fantastic job everyone.

Carol Crewe got Pride of Workmanship going, very well done. It was a very inspirational evening.

During the year we had 9 projects needing a roster including Tee Up for Mental Health and the Christmas Parade and social visits, vocational visits, with lots of people to thank in this club.

Thank you to those who have been on the board this year – Simon T, Simon H, Heather and Ron who have been involved in running club meetings. Having different leaders has gone very well.

Over the next 6-9 months we need to talk to people who have been members for a long time and tell some of the story over service given over the past 75 years . Thank you to all of you.

Presentations Paul Harris Awards were presented:

Secretary Glenn Setches. For his work as secretary and organizing the footy gates for the last 10 years.

Ron Elliot co-ordinated sandwiches - supported by Kaye Keith. In October they are expecting very special visitors Daren Chester, Martin Cameron, Melinda Bath who will all come and make sandwiches and take them to schools.

Janet & Peter Wallis for service to the club, including Peter's hours of work as Treasurer, keeping all the figures up to date and attending to payments promptly.

Janne welcomed Mr Wayne Abblit and Mr Ray Schaffer to Honorary membership of the club and presented them with their badges.



And of course, many thanks to Charlie for his support.





Lorraine introduced District Governor Emma Clark to induct our new president.

With current President Janne on one side and President Elect Simon Trebilcock on the other she: “On behalf of district 9815 and Rotary International thank you to Janne and Charlie for all their work for Rotary. Janne is currently international chair for whole district.”

As a formal introduction to inducting the new president, Emma said “Simon you have been chosen because your club believes you have the skills and capacity to serve a president we are confident you will carry out your tasks with the same enthusiasm shown in service so far. Uphold values of Rotary. With this collar I now induct you as the president for 2026-2027. “ Emma presented him with his badge and collar of office.

President Simon responded with thanks to Emma and presented her with a tree certificate for bush fire recovery.

He went on to thank Past President Janne for her hard work and presented her with the badge for Immediate Past President.

He thanked everyone for coming and sharing the evening. It was good to see familiar faces. He thanked the club for the privilege of being president.

The 2026-2027 banner was revealed.

Simon spoke on several well-known quotes. We may be familiar with the quote “It takes a village to raise a child”. The whole saying is that “it takes a village to raise a child and keep us all sane” This includes care for the elderly, looking out for those who cannot look out for themselves, recognise mental health concerns, and a sense of belonging. People who notice, people who care and people who do something about people around them through religious organisations, clubs and service organisations like we do through Rotary - giving of ourselves for others. Many of our activities are oriented to youth and mental health.

Each of us have our own stories of engagement with community service.

“A rising tide lifts all boats” John F Kennedy – in context stating that all benefit from rise in economic prosperity.

He encouraged us to seek more engagement in service to increase benefit of the whole community. If more people are involved in community services the whole community benefits. In this context we can provide benefits of the wider Rotary organisation in more fields.

We are born to cooperate, connect and contribute, being human is a shared experience, not an individual one. We need to help people find their place in community

“Nothing stays the same” - organisations often face change and this can lead to healthy conflict about use of resource - mixture of challenge and excitement in adopting new alternatives.

Whilst statistically there are fewer volunteers today, volunteering is often done in different ways today. People are looking for meaning, impact and personal alignment. Structures, systems and finances must adapt. Flexible ways of volunteering are needed.

People join because of a good reason but stay because of connections. It takes us a village to keep us all safe.

President Simon went on to introduce the new Board. Board members were presented with appropriate pins



Ray Sheffer was thanked for his long years of service to Rotary. He responded, mentioning his long term work with and for Rotary.

Ray Schaffer said a few words about what Rotary has meant to him. From age 6 when his granddaughter visited she wanted to go with him to Centenary House to do things there. He thanked Brian Lithgow for introducing him and who also introduced him to helping at Centenary House. He has fond memories of board meeting there. He said it is a place of love. In times of illness or supporting loved ones in illness, nobody should be on their own. The garden has been a passion and a labour of love - spent hours up there.

He thanked Rotary for the chance to start a Cruising Rotarians Fellowship. On a cruise many years ago, he saw a replica of the programme on an old cruise ship advertising a Rotary fellowship. Thinking it a good idea he called a meeting on the ship, 4 people attended, the next week 7 turned up and 21 turned up on third week. He spoke to one of the people there and she became secretary. There were 147 members within 3 months across Australia and USA. It grew to 400 members world wide in 12 years. The Fellowship folded last year for lack of a president.



The swindle numbers were revealed – two lucky diners 89 – Reinhard Hening from Yarram, and Helen O'Brien from Traralgon.

Simon closed the meeting. Thank you again for coming members and guests, special visitors. It has been nice to hear the impact the club is having. We are going to **Create Lasting Impact**. Thank you for being part of that journey.

Statistics for 7 July 2026

Apologies: Debby Butler, Russell Davidson, Gradwell Fredericks, Ian Keith, Heather den Houting, Adele Nardino, Jan Riddle

Visiting Rotarians: District Governor Emma Clarke, Reinhart and Diane Henig (RC of Yarram), Warren McPherson, Colin McKeown (RC of Traralgon Central),

Partners: Li Azlin, Sandy Butler, Trish Elliott, Sandra O'Brien, John Paulet, Judy Setches, Jacki Scheffer

Guests: Hayley Bertoli, Harper Worlod, Gracie Hasthorpe & Ava Locheil (St Paul's Interact), Tony and Lyndal Boulton, Keryn and Ian Conabere, Tim King, Jacqueline Scheffer, Ella King, Len Jones, Tania Whitehead (Gippsland Rotary Centenary House)

Guest Speaker: District Governor Emma Clark

Statistics	
No of members	35
Member Apologies	7
LOA	1
Members Present	28
Visiting Rotarians	5
Partners	7
Guests	13
Total	53

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2026-2027

President: Simon Trebilcock;

President Elect: Vacant;

Secretary: Glenn Setches;

Youth Services: Alana Storey

Rotary Foundation: Glenn Azlin;

Vocational Services: Vacant

Public Image: Lorraine Paulet;

Assistant Treasurer and Club Safety Officer: Helen O'Brien

Vice President: Ron Elliott;

Immediate Past President: Janne Speirs

Treasurer: Peter Wallis;

International: Charlie Speirs;

Community Services: Carol Crewe;

Membership: 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 3833rd 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
21 July 2026

Next Meeting
4 August 2026

Programme	Club Assembly	
Speaker		
Meeting Chair	Simon Trebilcock	
Sergeant	Gavan Hodgson	Glenn Azlin
Greeters		Norm Butler & Terry Carmichael
Cashiers	Janet & Peter Wallis	Debby Butler & Heather den Houting
Bulletin	Ann Maloney	Ron Elliott