

THE COG

APRIL IS



Rotary Club of Heidelberg, Australia www.rotaryheidelberg.org P.O. Box 129 Rosanna VIC 3084

Rotary Club of Heidelberg Inc. Zone 8 – District 9790 – Club No. 18278 ABN 91 870 845 490

13th April 2026

The Sycamore Tree 10.30 am

Rotary Heidelberg 2025 – 2026 Executive

President	Richard Luke	0428 531 024
President Elect	Allison Roberson	0402 154 531
Hon. Secretary	Peter Carr	0419 357 905
Hon. Treasurer	Geoff Cook	0407 308 171



Zone 8 District 9790

District Governor: Emma Davis
District Governor Elect: Paul Miegel
Cluster Assistant/Area Governor: Pat Solibakke
District Secretary: Rosemary Freeman
District Treasurer: Rodney Bramich
President Rotary International: Francesco Arezzo

PROGRAM 2025-26

APRIL

- 13 Sycamore Tree 10.30 am
- 20 RSL 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm
- 27 Sycamore Tree 10.30 am

MAY

- 4 RSL 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm
- 11 Sycamore Tree 10.30 am
- 15 Board meeting 6.30 pm Bowlen Duncan and Associates
- 18 Deborah D'Aprano, RC Pascoe Vale "Peace Poles"
- 25 Sycamore Tree 10.30 am

- * RSL = RSL on Bell – 180 Bell Street Heidelberg Heights
- * OE = The Old England Hotel - 459 Lower Heidelberg Road Heidelberg
- * Sycamore Tree Coffee Shop = 185 Burgundy Street, Heidelberg
- * Second Bite (volunteer roster)
- * Bowlen Dunstan and Associates – 38 Beetham Parade, Rosanna
- * Rotary Club of Ivanhoe - Ivanhoe Uniting Church Hall, Seddon Street, Ivanhoe
- * RIMERN 32 Lincoln Street East Brunswick (corner of Moreland Road)

ATTENDANCE

Members are reminded to advise Ken Norman 0437 770 831 or ken.w.norm@gmail.com before 9.30 am Monday, of their planned attendance or apology
Ken maintains Club stats including attendance records and liaises with venues.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

First, a reminder! There is “system” behind our Club meeting schedule, as displayed on the Rotary International website; and advised routinely, locally, via the front page of the weekly Cog. The first and third meetings in a month are, in absence of advice to the contrary, held at the RSL on Bell. On the second and fourth Mondays, meetings are held at the Sycamore Tree. When there are five Mondays in a month, we try to “do something different” on the fifth!

Since the last Cog, there has been plenty happening, not least, preparation for District Assembly that is scheduled, fuel availability permitting, to be held in Benalla, on Sunday 26 April. Typically, incoming Presidents are pleased to hear from members who might be interested in filling Board and/or non-Board positions, and even attending Assembly!

It seems to me that, as a Club, we have some disconnect. First, we have in our local area, a new Probus Club, with around 90 members, meeting regularly for fellowship, and to hear interesting talks. Isn't this something we also aim to offer? Second, we have service projects with significant potential for (personal) fulfilment (“making a positive contribution”); not least, currently, through a key role in facilitating RIMERN opening on Mondays (expansion of the current opening times!). Third, I haven't recently, actively followed up with Second Bite. When last I heard from an official representative, there wasn't at that time need for our help on a Thursday (there had been change in their supply chain). It is quite likely that, currently, this will be changing, owing to fuel cost/shortage. Do we have sufficient, volunteers, collectively, keen and able, to meet an RCH weekly commitment? Are there new Club members, among potential helpers, who are just waiting to be asked? Given the current, extra-ordinary circumstances, in which we, as a community, currently find ourselves, this may well have changed? Do we have enough people to fill the weekly roster? Do I now take the initiative, and follow up with SecondBite? In each of these areas, is it our “public relations” that we need to work on. Is the included RI Facebook post, shared to RCH Facebook, an example of what we need to be doing more of?



Included below, is another item, that might stimulate some thought, and positive action? Is there something in the following email (extract only), from our immediate-past District Governor Stephen, and Carol, for each of us to consider? It contains outline of process used by Rotary e-Club of Change Makers, in our District, that continues to grow in membership and social contribution!

Documentation used by the Club is provided in the email, but not in this extract from it. Any suggestions/feedback for our Board to consider?

Richard L

Email from the O'Connells

Dear Richard Luke,

This email is sent to Presidents, Presidents-Elect and Membership Chairs of Rotary International Clubs of District 9790.

Following our Stories of Membership Momentum webinar in March, a number of Rotarians asked for more detail about the membership process used by The Change Makers. Clark and his team have kindly allowed us to share their approach.

We've attached the documents for your reference. Please feel free to circulate them to anyone in your club who enquired or who may find them useful.

A few key points from The Change Makers' process:

- Using the Membership Information – Introductory Letter as the first touchpoint, tailored to each prospect.
- Entering every prospect into a "Prospect" list to ensure no-one slips through the net.
- Requiring an Expression of Interest (EOI) before progressing — this step is essential, as it confirms genuine intent.
- Following the Membership Checklist closely to maintain consistency and avoid missed steps.
- Providing the Membership Information Letter once the new member is officially inducted, helping them feel informed and connected from day one.

Clark has removed personal details from the checklist for privacy reasons, including prospects who are current Rotarians.

Carol and I are also attaching a summary document arising from the webinar. If any of these resources help your club strengthen its membership processes, we're more than happy to support you further.

Warm regards,

Stephen O'Connell & Carol O'Connell

SECONDBITE ROSTER

To date this year, our help has not been required and need/involvement is on a week-by-week basis: so, no need for names in the roster (yet?!). No fault on our part, just no help required (reduced supply of "sortables")!

Thank you, RL

FROM PETER CARR



VICTORIA POLICE

**Rotary Club of Pascoe Vale
Victoria Police, Merri-bek Local Area,
Community Policing Award 2026
(The Ivor “Monty” Montgomery Memorial
Award)**

On Thursday May 14th at 6.30 for 7.00pm our Club, in conjunction with the Merri-bek Local Area, Victoria Police, will celebrate the 15th annual Community Policing Award. Once again it is dedicated to the memory of Ivor “Monty” Montgomery, an esteemed member of the Rotary Club of Pascoe Vale, who sadly, passed away in 2023. Monty’s passion for the police force came through in this award which he instigated 15 years ago.

This partnership between our Rotary Club and Victoria Police can only strengthen the bond between us and the community of Merri-bek in these challenging times.

Venue: Northern Golf Club, 97 Glenroy Road, Glenroy

When: Thursday May 14th at 6.30pm for 7.00pm

Please book via:

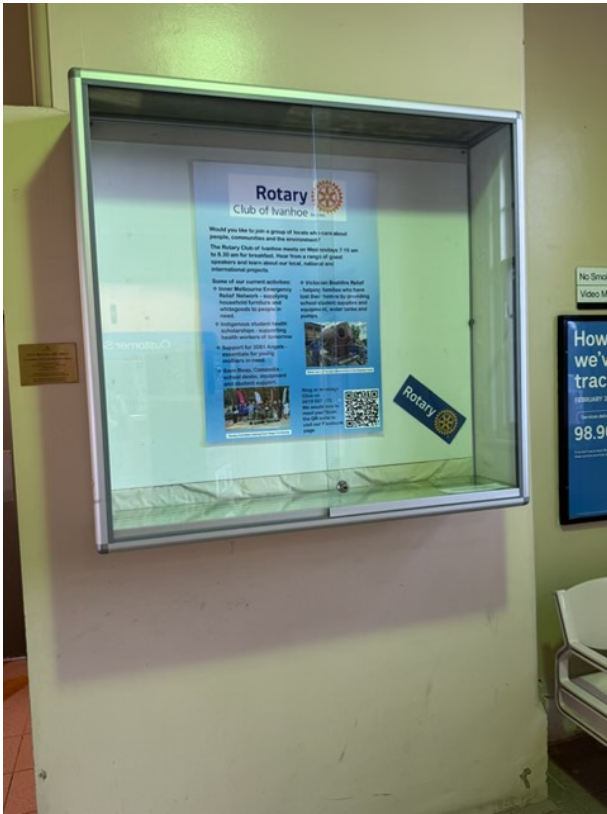
<https://www.trybooking.com/DIYSW>

(If clicking on the link isn't successful please copy it to your browser)

RSVP: 8th May 2026

If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact Bob Taylor on 0425 757 382 or email to treasurer18287@outlook.com

We look forward to seeing you there!



FUNNIES

MATT



*'A litre of diesel and would you gift wrap it please?
It's a Mother's Day gift'*

MATT



*'We forgot Mother's day.
We're facing Operation
Epic Fury'*