



THE COG



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

2nd February 2026

RSL on Bell 12.30 for 1.00 pm

Rotary Heidelberg 2025 – 2026 Executive

President	Richard Luke	0428 531 024
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

FEBRUARY Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month

- 2 RSL 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm
Guest Speaker: John Bell.
“Update on the Olympics project”.
- 9 Sycamore Tree 10.30 am
- 16 RSL 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm
- 18 Board Meeting 6.30 pm
- 23 Sycamore Tree 10.30 am

MARCH

- 2 RSL 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm

- * 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

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 Norman maintains Club stats including attendance records and liaises with venues.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to our first formal meeting for 2026.

Initially it was thought/hoped that Nova, the student we sponsored to go to National Youth Science Forum, held in Canberra during January, would be our speaker at our first meeting in February.

Unfortunately for us, but for good reason, commitments as School Captain, at the beginning of first term, must have priority! Fortunately, we have two consolations. First, we have a written summary of the Forum from Nova's perspective, reproduced below with her permission. Second, Nova is investigating, with her parents, feasibility of attending, and speaking at an evening meeting of the Club. We await with hope!

For this, our second meeting of the Rotary year's second half, we are fortunate to have return of John Bell, with update on the "Olympics 1956/76" project. There have been developments, but more from John on Monday!

Hoping to see lots of you at the meeting: don't forget to notify Ken, Richard L.

Thank you from Nova

Dear everyone at Rotary Heidelberg,

A couple days ago I arrived back from my 8 day long stay at the National Youth Science Forum in Canberra and I'd love to share with you a bit about my time and the wonderful things I was able to get up to thanks to your support! Throughout the program we were exposed to a multitude of different areas of STEM especially ones that I've never had to opportunity to properly explore, such as Medical Research, Engineering, Forensic Science, Computer Science and Earth Sciences!

Along the way we were also very privileged to meet many STEM Industry professionals and learn about their projects; such as when we met Dr Steven Goldfarb over video call as he took us deep underground in the ATLAS Experiment on the Large Hadron Collider at CERN, a place that very few people have seen before. We also had a Careers day where presenters from all of Australia's best universities came and talked to us, which was very useful coming into the final year of school. We also learnt about Science communication, the role of DNA evidence in Forensic Biology and sat in on a debate discussing role of Artificial Intelligence in our future. Some of my highlights would have to be making liquid nitrogen icecream at the ANU School of Chemistry and touching a real piece of the moon loaned from NASA at Geoscience Australia!!

It was also so much fun living on campus in my own dorm room and getting the real college experience!! Creating a network of and meeting other liked minded young people passionate about school and science from across the country also may have been one of the best parts. Even though the experience was only 8 days I can truly see myself staying friends with the people I've met (from all corners of Australia) for life. In our spare time we even had a disco and my friends and I performed in the talent show on the last night. I cannot stress how grateful I am that you helped make it possible for me to attend and I really do want to thank the club for your sponsorship and support. Over the last couple years through my exchange and my continued involvement back in Australia I have realised how amazing rotary is and the fact that you are able to support young people like myself with pursuing their dreams is tremendously generous. The program has really got me excited for Year 12 and a career in STEM hopefully post graduation. I am quite busy now that I'm about to be back at school but if we can find a time that works I would love to come and speak to the club more in depth about what I got out of NYSF as well as support you in your community service where possible.

Take care and thankyou again,

Nova

Invitation from the Rotary Club of Diamond Creek

Dear Richard and Peter

The Rotary Club of Diamond Creek warmly invites members the Rotary Club of Heidelberg to join us for a relaxed wine tasting evening on Tuesday 17 February, featuring wines from Stockman Wines.

Our special guest, Richard Stockman—winemaker, former councillor and Rotarian—will guide us through a tasting of his locally produced wines, alongside his wife Maria Stockman, who is well known for her strong connection to the Diamond Creek community.

The evening will combine excellent local wine, engaging conversation, and the opportunity to connect with fellow Rotarians in a friendly and informal setting.

We would be grateful if you could share this invitation with your members. Please see the attached flyer for full details. We hope you can join us for what promises to be an enjoyable and social evening in Diamond Creek.

Kind regards

Kerry Jones

Secretary - Rotary Club of Diamond Creek

Diamond Creek
Rotary 

YOU'RE INVITED: SPECIAL GUEST

The Rotary Club of Diamond Creek warmly invites neighbouring Rotary clubs to join us for a special evening with Maria and Richard Stockman, passionate local business owners with strong ties to community service and Rotary.

February
17

6:30pm for a
7pm Start
Diamond Creek
Bowling Club

Meet Our Guest Speakers

Maria Stockman is well known within the Diamond Creek community through VFM Diamond Creek and her involvement in the recent Hillbank Creek @ 100 years, bringing a strong focus on local connection and community engagement.

Richard Stockman is a former councillor, owner and winemaker of Stockman Wines, and a Rotarian of over 10 years with the Rotary Club of Manningham. His Rotary journey was inspired by his stepfather, Dr Max Hankin, a lifelong Rotary supporter and founder of Hankin Estate Wines.

What to Expect

A relaxed wine tasting experience
Insights into local business, community involvement, and Rotary
A shared discussion on how Maria and Richard hope to support Rotary and contribute to its future

This promises to be a welcoming and engaging evening, and a great opportunity to connect with fellow Rotarians while enjoying excellent local wine.

We look forward to welcoming you to Diamond Creek.

SECONDBITE ROSTER

To date this year, our help has not been required and involvement is on a week-by-week basis: so no need for names in the roster (yet!)! Thank you. RL

MEMBERS MOMENTS

MATT



'Global tensions were dramatically raised today after the Beckham family bought Greenland'

MATT



'I gave up social media and started watching the news. I don't feel less anxious'

MATT



*'The local election is delayed
till 2027. It will be on
the same day as your
next bin collection'*