

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

23rd February 2026

The Sycamore Tree 10.30 am

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

- 23 Sycamore Tree 10.30 am
- 25 Rotary Club of Ivanhoe 7.15 am for 7.30 am
Speaker from the North East Link Project
(Let Ken Norman know by 11am on Monday 23 if planning to go)

MARCH

- 2 RSL 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm “National Youth Science Forum 2026” (NB evening meeting)
- 9 Labour Day holiday. No meeting
- 16 RSL 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm
- 23 Sycamore Tree 10.30 am
- 30 (or?) Visit to Rotary Inner Melbourne Emergency Relief Network (RIMERN), maybe another day of this week?

- * 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

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 OUR PRESIDENT ELECT

[Allison forwarded this to the Cog editor, as a draft, but editing is likely to spoil and time for distribution is short! R]

I would like to thank those who attended last Monday's meeting at the RSL. It was a great opportunity to get to know some of our members better and discover the things that interest them. I am interested in some of the social events mentioned at the meeting. I would also love to host speakers in various industries to keep our members informed about current technological advancements.

We are still trying to make zoom meetings available for any members who would be interested in attending meetings virtually. Richard was able to zoom into the last meeting with a little delay, but we will get better moving forward.

Please let me know if there are any special interests or activities that you would like to explore as a club.

Obviously, we will continue to look for meaningful volunteer and service ventures for the club. The wildfire relief is moving forward and maybe we can consider contributing to the indigenous student scholarship for medical training.

We look forward to our evening meeting with Nova on Monday March 2nd. I think we can think about inviting friends who may be interested in joining Rotary to events like this to show them the kind of scholarship that we support.

I hope everyone is happy, healthy and has a great week.

Sincerely,

Allison

FROM the BOARD MEETING 18 February 2026

Items discussed included:

- Vale Elaine Chester
- Donation to Rotary District Bushfire Appeal
- Olympic Project
- Laundry project
- Professionals with Alzheimer's (Melbourne North-East Group): first meeting March 2026
- Rotary Inner Melbourne Emergency Relief Network (RIMERN): visit
- Rotary Club of Ivanhoe upcoming meeting (invitation to attend – details in program above)
- SecondBite
- RYLA candidates (future)

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?!). No fault on our part, just no help required! Thank you, RL

Message from District Governor Emma, via our (Cluster 2) Area Governor Pat Solibakke (formerly titled “Assistant Governor”)

Hi Presidents

An unusual request I know, but as sponsorship becomes more difficult to obtain, I wondered if our cluster clubs might be able to contribute to the conference. A donation from your club could make this conference even better than it already is.

Please consider supporting our DG Emma

Yours in service

Pat



Help Us Break the Silence – Support the 2026 Rotary District Conference in Coburg

I'm writing to invite you to be part of a powerful movement—one that brings together community leaders, changemakers, and everyday Australians to confront the challenges that too often go unspoken.







On **21–22 March 2026**, Rotary District 9790 will host its annual **District Conference in Coburg**, a two-day event dedicated to **giving back, supporting health and wellbeing, and breaking the stigma around mental health**. This year's theme is clear: it's time to address the elephant in the room.

Together we join together for **Connection, Community and Courage**.

Mental health affects every family, every workplace, and every community. Yet, despite its impact, it remains shrouded in silence. Through keynote speakers, inclusive panels, and hands-on service activities, our conference will shine a light on mental health awareness, promote open dialogue, and empower attendees to take action.

Donation Opportunities – Which Elephant in the Room Will You Tackle?

Let's be honest—mental health is the elephant in the room. And we're inviting you to help us give it a name, a voice, and a very loud trumpet. Whether you're ready to wrestle a full-grown pachyderm or nibble away one bite at a time, there's a place for you in this herd of hope:

-  **The Largest Elephant in the Room – \$20,000**
This is the big one. The majestic, memory-making mammoth. Your support will headline our efforts—funding keynote speakers, major outreach programs, and ensuring the conference makes a thunderous impact. You'll be front and centre, trumpeting change with us.
-  **The Medium Elephant in the Room – \$10,000**
Not quite the size of a safari bus, but still a hefty beast. This donation helps us deliver powerful sessions, support local mental health initiatives, and keep the conversation going long after the conference ends.
-  **The Small Elephant in the Room – \$5,000**
Small but mighty. This elephant fits in most meeting rooms and is perfect for those who want to make a meaningful contribution to speaker costs, wellbeing resources, and community engagement.
-  **Let's Talk About the Telephone in the Room – \$2,500**
Because sometimes the elephant is calling—and we need to answer. This tier supports communication tools, accessibility services, and helps us reach those who need to hear the message most.
-  **How Do You Eat an Elephant? One Bite at a Time – \$500**
A gentle nibble with a powerful purpose. Every bite helps us chip away at stigma, one conversation at a time. Perfect for individuals or small businesses who want to be part of something big.
-  **Train the Elephant Whisperer – \$350**
Help a local community member complete **Mental Health First Aid training**. This donation equips someone with the skills to recognise, respond to, and support others facing mental health challenges. It's one of the most direct ways to turn awareness into action—and it might just save a life.

Your support will help us:

- Fund expert speakers and mental health advocates.
- Provide resources to local organisations working on the frontlines.
- Create inclusive, stigma-free spaces for learning and healing.
- Deliver meaningful service projects that leave a lasting impact in our community.

Our District Conference is focusing on local service project, and Rotary is a logical positive partnership for you. As a global organisation of 1.4 million members, we have our local membership of 1450 members in District 9790, from Melbourne to Holbrook, over to Deniliquin, up to Corryong and across Mount Beauty. Our membership is built of compassionate, hardworking and dedicated volunteers, with 17 clubs and one third of our members within a 45-minute drive of the Coburg conference venue.

I'm keen to discuss a potential sponsorship, where we could work together in promoting your support and connection to our Coburg community, our attendees and our members. This request is more than a conference—it's a catalyst for change. By donating, you are helping us challenge taboos, foster resilience, and build a future where mental health is treated with compassion and urgency.

We would be proud to acknowledge your contribution during the event and in our outreach materials. Together, we can make a difference. Please feel free to contact me directly to discuss how you can support this vital initiative.

Yours Sincerely,

E. Davis

Emma Davis

District Governor 2025/2026, Rotary District 9790
 +61(0)407 628 388 emma.jane.davis.30@gmail.com



UNITE FOR GOOD

2026 Connection, Community, Courage Conference Sponsorship
Chapter Place, Pentridge, Coburg
21 – 22 March 2026

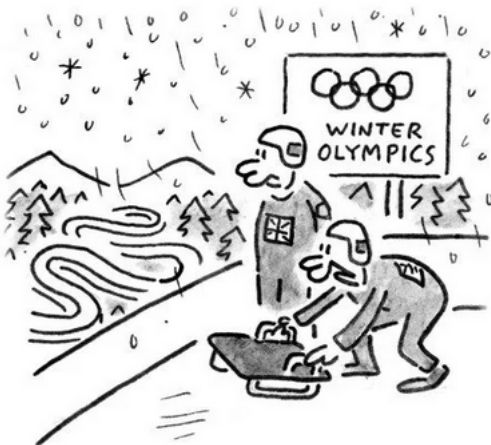
| | The Largest Elephant in the Room naming partner | The Medium Elephant in the Room | The Small Elephant in the Room | Let's Talk About the Telephone in the Room | How Do You Eat an Elephant? One Bite at a Time | Train the Elephant Whisperer |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| Address to event | ✓ <i>10 minutes</i> | ✓ <i>5 minutes</i> | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Recognition on media releases | ✓ | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Program advertising | Full page | Full page | Half page | Quarter page | N/A | N/A |
| Program sponsor logo | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | N/A |
| Signage on stage full event | ✓ | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Signage opening and closing event | ✓ | ✓ | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Signage at registration | ✓ | ✓ | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Event ticket | <i>2 per conference and dinner</i> | <i>1 per at conference and dinner</i> | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Event video acknowledgement | ✓ | ✓ | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Social media | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Display table in catering exhibition venue | ✓ | ✓ | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Information display at registration and catering space | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | N/A |
| Monthly district and club newsletters promotion *12,000 readership | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | N/A | N/A |
| COST for a single conference year (ex GST) | \$20,000 | \$10,000 | \$5,000 | \$1,000 | \$500 | \$350 |

MATT



*Dear Keir Starmer,
I'm a Nigerian prince
with a huge fortune. For a
small payment upfront ...*

MATT



*'Hurtling downwards,
seconds from disaster,
with no means of control.
I'd hate to be Keir Starmer'*

MATT



*'Wes Streeting and Angela
Rayner are planning a dream
ticket. He will be PM and she will
get 10 Downing St and Chequers'*