

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

9th 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

- 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 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm (tbc)
- 9 Labour Day holiday. No meeting
- 16 RSL 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm
- 23 Sycamore Tree 10.30 am
- 30 tba

- * 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

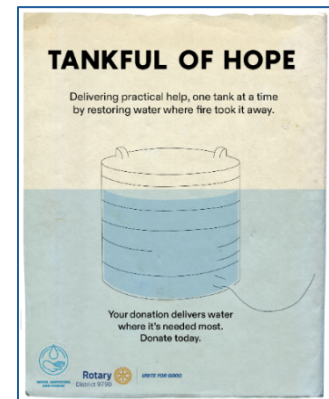
ATTENDANCE

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

Firstly, thank you to John for his update on the Olympic Project. No doubt we will be hearing more in the not too distant future.

Now I have a question: why do Rotary Clubs seek to raise money? For some, this may be an end in itself. For others it is a way to support Rotary International/Foundation, and other organisations that deliver goods (e.g. tents) and/or services (e.g. medical treatments) to those in need. For other clubs their activities in the community, also make a real difference. The supply and positioning of water tanks where they are needed after the recent fires is a great example (all members should have received an email from the district about this). In the past our Club has been directly involved, similarly. Provision of refrigeration to Walwa Bush Nursing Centre after the previous fires; organised and delivered in large by our member Wayne Dunstan, remains a standout. Our ongoing support of the Exodus Community Camps continues to help families have a break from their everyday challenges.



There are other areas where our dollars can make a difference, including: support for young people to attend Rotary programs such as RYLA, RYE and NYSF. The application form of Charles La Trobe College (shown) indicates how even small amounts for scholarships may have significant impact.

This 'question' will be behind discussion and decisions to be made at the next Board Meeting, and may also be topic for a Club Assembly at one of our lunchtime meetings.

In the meantime, I am looking forward to hearing more about NYSF when Nova is our guest speaker, hopefully on March 2nd.

Richard L

This message was sent to all Rotarians of District 9790 on 28 January

Hopefully all members have seen this email from DG Emma. RL

Fire Recovery Update

This email is being sent to all members of District 9790

Dear Richard Luke,
Thank you to all the wonderful members and communities in our fire-affected areas. The District team is working closely with several areas, who are presenting their requests based on community assessments. We want to let you know we have already approved some much needed items and are continuing to receive proposals for consideration.

Top projects to date have been:

1. Water tanks in Ruffy, which we hope will be stage one, thanks to some generous club donations. We would like to offer additional tanks soon, and also beyond Ruffy into other areas. Thanks to Meg Pethybridge and partner Tank of Shepparton South for leading this.
2. Back to school support for Primary and Secondary school students who have lost their homes and or their homes are uninhabitable. This will be for uniforms, school bags, books and school supplies and is being led by RCL Penny Paxman who is working closely with the school Principals.
3. An air compressor for clearing out agricultural equipment, which will then be added to a fencing trailer for the Tallangatta area. Thanks to RCL Graeme Sayer and Manny Chessari of Tallangatta.

Does your club or RCG need assistance? Please send the requirements to me for review.

For clubs in non-affected areas, we appreciate any club donations to the **District 9790's Disaster Recovery Account:**
BSB 633000
Account No. 144191087
Please reference your club name in the description.

Stay safe, and thank you for your support for our D9790 communities.

Yours in Service,
Emma Davis (she / her)
District Governor 2025-2026 RI District 9790
+61(0)407 628 388 emma.jane.davis.30@gmail.com

Rotary  **UNITE FOR GOOD**
District 9790



I acknowledge the traditional Aboriginal owners of country throughout Australia and pay respect to them, their culture and their Elders past, present and emerging.


Learn about pronouns [here](#)

Rotary International is committed to Enhancing Belonging and Engagement

In line with this month's area of focus this will be interesting! I am planning to register. RL

Doing Good in the World

WEBINAR SERIES FOR DONORS

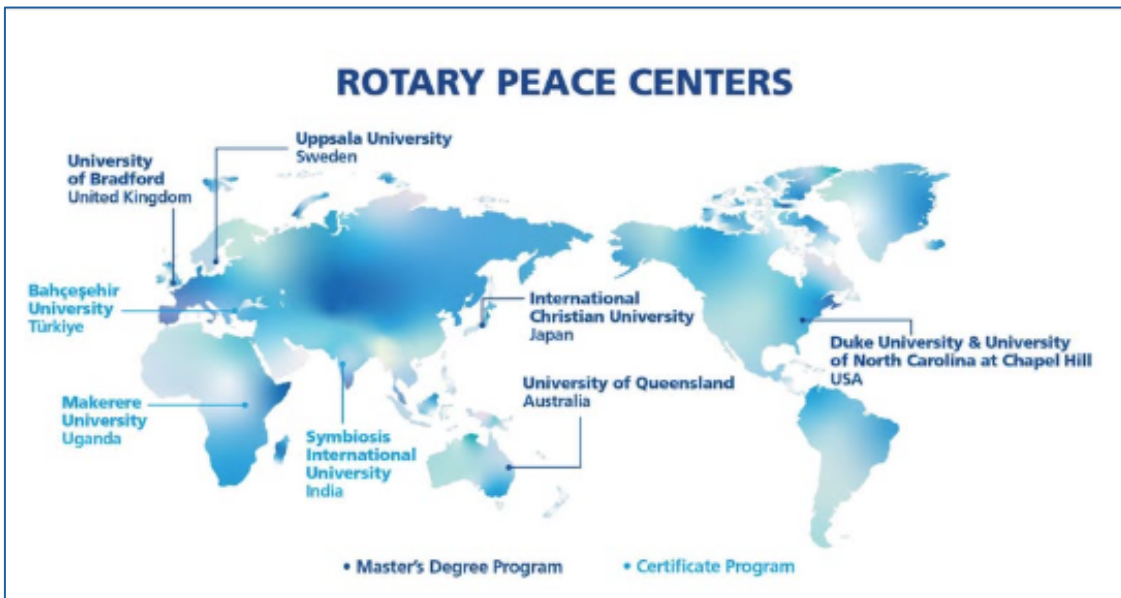


Join us for Rotary's New Peace Center in India:
Shaping Asia's Next Generation of Peacebuilders
19 February 2026 | 09:00 Chicago time (UTC-6)
[Live on Zoom](#)

In Asia, climate-related pressures, conflict, and displacement have underscored the growing need for leaders with the skills to build lasting peace. Rotary is partnering with Symbiosis International University in Pune, India, to establish our newest Rotary Peace Center, the first in South Asia and a significant expansion of Rotary's global peace education network. The new peace center will welcome its first cohort of fellows in early 2027. It will equip peacebuilders to address regional issues, including land and identity disputes, food insecurity, refugee integration, and community development. Join us to learn how your support is helping prepare peacebuilders, strengthen communities, and create a more peaceful future.

[REGISTER](#)

Register today! Participation in the live session is limited and available to the first 1,000 registrants.
This session will be available in Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, and Spanish.



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

One day, you're
20 in the 70s.

The next, you're 70
in the 20s.

