



**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**



Registration No: A002126/C
District 9780

Chartered 1961

Annual Report 2025-26



President's Report 2025-2026

(Presented by Graeme Cox at the Changeover Dinner on 6th July 2026)

Good evening, Guests, fellow Rotarians, and Friends of Rotary.

It is an absolute privilege to stand before you tonight. Look around this room. What you see isn't just a gathering of people; it is a room full of answers. In communities that often feel fractured and overwhelmed by big challenges, the people in this room represent a simple, pleasing truth: when community members come together with a shared purpose, real change happens.

At the heart of why we are all here tonight are three incredibly powerful words: **Rotary, volunteering, and friendship.**

When we talk about Rotary, we are talking about a legacy built on a profound yet straightforward motto: *Service Above Self*. But what does that actually mean in practice? It means looking beyond our own front doors and asking, *"What does my neighbour need? What does my community need? What does the world need?"*

During this Rotary year we have answered each one of those questions. From providing support to fellow Rotarians, delivering environmental change, supporting our youth through the NYSF and Science experience and engaging in community catering.

That is where the magic of this volunteering comes in. Volunteering is not just about donating hours or ticking a box. It is an act of optimism. To volunteer is to look at a problem—whether it's local food insecurity, a lack of clean water across the globe, or a park that needs cleaning up—and say, *"I can help fix that."* Throughout the year we have given our time to projects and activities that make a difference in the community. The Club's continued environmental impact with the support of the Community Bank has been a major focus with the Footbridge beautification project and the continued maintenance of the Rail Trail. Our commitment to providing catering to community events throughout the year, the Port Fairy Marathon, Port Fairy Woman's Weekend, and Historical Society.

Our support to the Port Fairy Folk Festival and Port Fairy Jazz Festival continues to be a focus on our Club's calendar. Our commitment to volunteering to selling raffle tickets for the Painting Raffle (Wilma Preston) and Ballarat South Car Raffle this year has been very effective. The Club has also been involved with Combined Club meetings, RAWCS and PROBUS. I would also like to thank incoming President John Ellard for organising our guest speakers and vocational visit during the year.

Rotary provides the vehicle, but our volunteers are the engine. Every project we launch, every young person we support, and every life we touch is fuelled entirely by the currency of kindness and hard work. But as any Rotarian will tell you, we cannot do this work in a vacuum. And that brings me to a group of people who are vital to our success: our **Friends of Rotary.**

Helen Keller said... *"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."*

To our Friends of Rotary: you are our champions, our extra hands, our cheering squad, and our vital link to the wider community. You might not wear a Rotary pin every single day, or make it to every weekly

meeting, but your hearts are completely aligned with our mission. Whether you are showing up to flip burgers at the Port Fairy Marathon, climbing the stairs at the Lighthouse during our Lighthouse Tours, organising and participating in the Port Fairy Fashion Parade, or supporting our fundraisers, —you make our impact stronger. You expand our reach. You turn our ripples of effort into waves of change.

To put it simply: Rotary needs its Friends. We are a family, and you are an indispensable part of it. As we look ahead to the future, and I pass the baton to incoming President John, the need for hands-on service has never been greater. But looking around this room tonight, I feel nothing but inspiration and a vision that we will continue to do our community and Rotary proud.

To the seasoned Rotarians who have given years of dedication: To our incredible volunteers who show up time and time again: and to our Friends of Rotary, who stand by us and amplify everything we do: Thank you.

As we wrap up this year, I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude to my Board for their leadership and dedication to the Club. We have achieved so much and contributed to the community in many ways and the success of the Club reflects the unwavering contributions you have made. It is truly appreciated.

Thank you for volunteering your time, expertise, and energy to help us succeed. They say behind every man there is a great woman. Well, I have one of those, Mlee you have kept me grounded on track and at times been my most fearless critic, however at the end of the day you have been with me every step of the way; Thank you.

Let's continue to work together, to laugh together, and to serve together. Because when we unite under the banner of service, there is truly no limit to the good we can do.

Graeme Cox

President

Rotary Club of Port Fairy (2025-2026)



Membership of the Rotary Club of Port Fairy Inc.

Club Executive (Board Members) 2025-26

President:.....Graeme Cox
 Past President:Vacant
 President Elect:.....John Ellard
 Secretary:Tony Murray/Jo Levey (*Jo Levey took over in October 2025*)
 Treasurer:Adrian Crosier
 Director - Public Image:Harry Bracegirdle
 Director - Youth/International Service:Tony Bawden
 Director – MembershipJill Gleeson
 Director - Community Service/Environment:.....Michael Crowe

Incoming Club Executive for 2026-27

PresidentJohn Ellard
 Past President:Graeme Cox
 President Elect:TBD
 Secretary:Graeme Cox
 Treasurer:Adrian Crosier
 Director - Youth/International Service:Tony Bowden
 Director - Membership:.....Jill Gleeson
 Director - Community Service/Environment:.....Michael Crowe
 Director - Public Image:Harry Bracegirdle

Membership listing on 30th June 2026

Regular members

Tony Bawden
 Harry Bracegirdle
 Margaret Broers
 Graeme Cox
 Millee Cox
 Adrian Crosier
 Michael Crowe
 John Ellard
 Jill Gleeson
 Ashley King
 Joanne Levey
 Jeffrey McLean
 Alison McLindin
 William Moore
 Brett Murray
 Sue Robertson

Honorary members

Maureen Beattie
 Margaret Whitehead
 Diane Walker
 Hester Woodrup

Members who left the Club

Tony Murray
 Jed Macartney
 Andrew Long
 Annie Ridgway
 Barbara Eldridge (*deceased*)





The Footbridge Project is on-going through 2024 to 2027





Financial Report 2025-26

Rotary Club of Port Fairy

Statement of Income and Expenditure

For the Year ended 30 June 2026

	2026	2025
Income		
Activities and Projects inc. Grants	\$ 3,109.06	\$ 2,070.00
Fund Raising - inc. Grants	\$ 12,263.41	\$ 7,753.00
Meetings	\$ 2,179.10	\$ 1,250.00
Membership dues & Contributions	\$ 4,300.00	\$ 6,365.00
Bequests	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
Total income	\$ 31,851.57	\$ 17,438.00
Expenditure		
Activities and Projects	\$ 2,701.91	\$ 228.00
Administration Costs - General	\$ 1,472.95	\$ 972.00
Donations	\$ 492.00	\$ 6,990.00
Dues and Subscriptions	\$ 4,593.44	\$ 4,614.00
Equipment and associated	\$ 199.00	\$ 28.00
Fund Raising	\$ 987.43	\$ 1,248.00
Insurance	\$ -	\$ 760.00
Meeting Costs	\$ 1,991.74	\$ 1,616.00
Members Costs	\$ 346.23	\$ 517.00
Software	\$ 895.57	\$ 1,229.00
Training Expences	\$ 120.00	\$ -
Youth Project & Activities	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00
Total Expenditure	\$ 13,800.27	\$ 20,702.00
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR	\$ 18,051.30	-\$ 3,264.00

Listing of Club Presidents

Note: The Year listed below represents the year elected to President. The term of office usually covers the 12 months from the year elected through to the following year before passing on to the next President.

1961 Tony Worley	1994 Geoff Shirreffs
1962 Jack Powling	1995 Steven Pritchard
1963 Fred Rogers	1996 Don Reardon
1964 George Nichols	1997 Don Reardon/Jack Dellavedova
1965 Bill Harris	1998 John Pepperdine
1966 Len Nightingale	1999 Ern Bishop
1967 Len Watts	2000 Ken Lemke
1968 Os Steele	2001 Col Martin
1969 John Phillips	2002 Geoff Campbell
1970 John Watts	2003 Pauline Shirreffs
1971 John Wade	2004 Gordon Harman
1972 Donald Wallis	2005 Alan Rasmussen
1973 Leslie Robertson	2006 Rob Baker
1974 Oswald Dyson	2007 Bernie Waixel
1975 John Jordan	2008 Julie Suter
1976 Kevin Parkinson	2009 Jill Gleeson
1977 Peter O'Dwyer	2010 Neville Suter
1978 Clifford Sharp	2011 John Ellard
1979 Alan Clark	2012 Margaret Whitehead
1980 John Jordan	2013 Hester Woodrup
1981 Adrian Smits	2014 John Clue
1982 Alan Peart	2015 Michael Crowe
1983 Russell Clark	2016 Adrian Crosier
1984 Ken Lemke	2017 Bill Moore
1985 Ian Morgan/Ken Lemke	2018 Sue Robertson
1986 Russell Marriott	2019 Peter Smith/Sue Robertson
1987 Russell Marriott/Ian Webster	2020 Tony Bawden
1988 Graeme Jehu	2021 Jill Gleeson
1989 Arthur Hoey	2022 Graeme Cox
1990 John Pepperdine	2023 Andrew Long & Jed Macartney
1991 Lewis Frost	2024 Andrew Long & Jed Macartney
1992 Darryl Jago	2025 Graeme Cox
1993 Jim Chambers	2026 John Ellard