



CLUB No. 18406
DISTRICT 9815
CHARTERED 1959
ABN 34 766 344 882



THE ROTARY CLUB OF LAKES ENTRANCE

BULLETIN No.17 of 2025/2026: DATE 26 FEBRUARY 2026

PRESIDENT ROTARY INTERNATIONAL: FRANCESCO AREZZO
DISTRICT 9815 GOVERNOR: PETER BEHM
DISTRICT 9815 GIPPSLAND REGIONAL GROUP
GIPPSLAND REGIONAL ASSISTANT GOVERNOR: BILL DEGNAN
CLUB PRESIDENT: BERNARD ABRECHT
CLUB SECRETARY: PETER SINDREY
CLUB TREASURER: JEFF WILSON
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: KEN MCALPINE
ROTARY FOUNDATION: BRUCE HURLEY
PROGRAM COORDINATOR: MIKE GOODLUCK
MEMBER LIAISON: LESLEY MACKENZIE
YOUTH SERVICES: JEFF WILSON
FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR: SANDY YEATS
MEMBERSHIP: PETER SINDREY

MEETINGS:

CENTRAL HOTEL
231 THE ESPLANADE
LAKES ENTRANCE
CLUB MEETINGS AT 5:30PM 2ND
& 4TH WEDNESDAY
EACH MONTH

CONTACTS:

MEETING ATTENDANCE: LESLEY MACKENZIE 0419 871 197
ENQUIRIES: BERNARD ABRECHT 0407 903 229
***IF YOU ARE ATTENDING A MEETING, YOU MUST ADVISE LESLEY
IN ADVANCE TO ALLOW SEATING ARRANGEMENTS.***

POSTAL: PO Box 260 LAKES ENTRANCE, VICTORIA 3909
EMAIL: info@lakesentrancerotary.org.au
WEBSITE: lakesentrancerotary.org.au

PRESIDENT BERNARD'S BRIEFING



Hello All

This Bulletin starts with an enormous 'thank you' to the Rotarians of our own Club and the members of all 5 Clubs in our Cluster. Their participation at this week's event was wonderful, and a clear demonstration to District Governor Peter Behm and members of the District 9815 'G Train', of the extent of dedication and collaboration of Rotarians in our Cluster.

We hosted over 50 guests, including all five Presidents in the Cluster, for an evening to meet the members of the District team which included those who will lead District 9815 in the future.

The evening included a number of highlights:

- An opportunity to meet with:
 - District Governor Peter Behm & his wife Gail.
 - Assistant Governor Bill Degnan & his wife Judy (our frequent guests)
 - District Governor – Elect Emma Clark
 - District Governor – Nominee Murray Wilson
- Presentations by DG Peter to all Club Presidents, in recognition of their Clubs' contributions to Rotary International / Foundation.
- A brief presentation by DG Peter, followed by group discussions where all attendees could contribute their thoughts on Rotary's challenges, and offer views on topics which were important to Rotary's growth, viability, and the necessary changes to improve our visibility.

In addition, guests were given a short briefing on the Cluster's plans to assist townships in Victorian fire-affected areas, by relocating the Amenities Unit from Bairnsdale to central Victoria. We also conducted a raffle over the evening, which resulted in a \$365 contribution to our efforts towards fire victims.

Amenities Unit destined to assist fire victims.



AN EVENING WITH THE CLUSTER & THE 'G' TRAIN

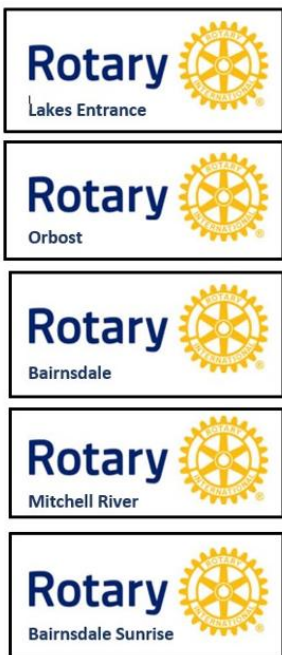


(L to R) Glenda Blessie (Sunrise), Brian Ross (B'dale), DG Peter Behm, Bernard Abrecht (Lakes), Cec Estoppey (Mitchell River), Judy van der Vlugt (Orbost)



DG Nominee Murray Wilson
DG Elect Emma Clark
DG Peter Behm

THE CLUSTER



And the winner was
Judy van der Vlugt

EVENTS COMING SOON

FRIDAY 2 MARCH 2026

Our next social meeting will be held on Friday 6 April, at the Kalimna Hotel, for dinner starting at 5:30 PM for 6:00PM.

To ensure bookings, please be sure to call Lesley by Monday 2 March, to let her know of your attendance – 0419 871 197.



WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 2026

On Wednesday 11 March, a reminder that we are holding a General Meeting for all Active members, to discuss and vote on the revised Club Constitution. Details were provided to all members by email on 25 January 2026.

Those who are unable to attend are encouraged to consider lodging a proxy, to ensure your views are made known. Details can be advised by contacting Peter Sindrey.

AND THEN !!!!



Wednesday 11 March will be a special event as we receive a visit from Leigh Woodhouse.

Many of you will recall a presentation by Leigh at a Rotary District conference in Traralgon some time ago. Leigh gave a truly inspiring speech about her life. Following her talk we discovered that she was not officially linked to Rotary and, given that Leigh's home was in the Buchan region, we offered Leigh an Honorary membership of our Club – which she accepted.

We urge you, at some time between now and 11 March, to Google "Australian Story – The Women from Snowy River" on YouTube, for just 27 minutes to see a little about this inspirational lady.

TRIVIA NIGHT 27 MARCH

We are fast approaching our Trivia night on 27 March.



Clearly, lots of work ahead of us, led by Victoria Laugesen (with Rob & Paula as her team). They are now starting to work through the details of the night ahead and will be seeking help on specific tasks for the evening.

One element will be to seek support on the night with work such as car parking, kitchen preparation, table layout, etc.

Everyone's help would be appreciated to ensure this becomes a successful venture.

Our first steps continue to arrange advertising for two audiences:

- Continue to seek offers of sponsorship, support and/or prize donations from local businesses, to assist us in the (profitable) running of the evening. This is important, bearing in mind that profits will be used to assist our projects, and to support victims of the Victorian bushfires.



- Then, to encourage individuals and groups to join us as participants in the Trivia event itself.
- Can you all please help by contacting friends, workmates, relatives, etc and encourage them to come along on 27 March.
- If they have enough to fill a table of 6, then that's great. However, groups of 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 are welcome and they will be linked in with others smaller numbers to make up a table of 6.

To help recruit those attending the night, attached is our latest poster



GET READY FOR A GREAT NIGHT OUT!

LAKES ENTRANCE ROTARY CLUB

TRIVIA NIGHT

27 MARCH 2026

Friday, 27th March 2026

**St Brendan's Primary School
Mary MacKillop Basketball Centre**

★ \$15 per person ★ \$80 for a table of 6 ★

Be there at 6pm for a 6.30pm start

Raising funds to support local community projects & bushfire-affected communities in Victoria.

Supper provided by Rotary. BYO snacks and drinks



◆ RSVP BY 13 MARCH ◆

Contact Lesley: 0419 871 197 or Victoria: 0404 747 269

An invitation from President Bernard Abrecht and the members of the Rotary Club of Lakes Entrance

OUR CLUB CALENDAR

Meeting Type			Venue	Program	Remarks
Casual Dinner	Mar	Friday 6th	Kalimna Hotel		6:00 PM
Raffle draw	Mar	Saturday 7th	U3A Hub Lakes Tyers	Sausage sizzle & Raffle Draw - Mayor	11:00 AM
Board Meeting	Mar	Wednesday 11th	Central Hotel		4:30 PM
General Meeting	Mar	Wednesday 11th	Central Hotel	Consider Constitution Update	5:30 PM
Club Assembly	Mar	Wednesday 11th	Central Hotel	Leigh Woodgate	5:30 PM
Sausage Sizzle & Raffle sales	Mar	Sunday 22 nd	Bunnings Bairnsdale		8:00 AM
Trivia Quiz Night	Mar	Friday 27 th	St Brendan's School Hall	Cluster invitations	5:30 PM
Club Changeover	July	Wednesday 8th	Central Hotel		5:30PM

CANNI CREEK RACES – SATURDAY 14 FEBRUARY

Many thanks to all members and partners for their assistance at the Buchan Cup Day race day at Canni Creek on Saturday 14 February.

With great weather, the day was a complete success with a near-record crowd. As always, there was lots of fun for the kids, fashions on the field events and, of course, the 2026 Buchan Cup, won by Eight Shouts.

Rotary was also a winner on the day, with heaps of tickets in our Club raffle sold to hopeful winners.

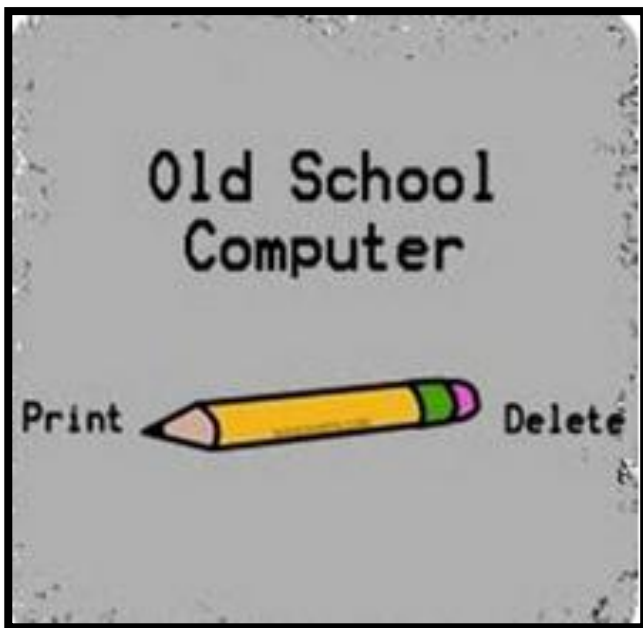
What a great way to spend a Saturday.



OTHER ROTARY CLUB MEETINGS



Lakes Entrance RC	2 nd and 4 th Wednesdays of the month	5.30PM for 6:00 PM	Central Hotel Lakes Entrance
Bairnsdale RC	Tuesday	6PM for 6:15PM	Bairnsdale Club Nicholson St Bairnsdale
Mitchell River RC	Monday	5:45PM for 6:15PM	Bairnsdale Club Nicholson St Bairnsdale
Orbst RC	1st and 3 rd Wednesdays of the month	6PM for 6:30PM	Orbst Club Gladstone St Orbst
Bairnsdale Sunrise RC	Wednesday Mornings	6:45AM for 7AM	The Hub, 27 Dalmahoy Street Bairnsdale



OUR CLUB SPONSORS

Our Club acknowledges the generous support, which continues to be offered by our eleven major sponsors. Their support is crucial to the continued viability of our Club and, as such, they form an important part of our life in Lakes Entrance. For these reasons our members support these sponsors and encourage others to do the same.



**Buchan & Gelantipy
Racing Club**



Lakes Entrance Bowls Club

