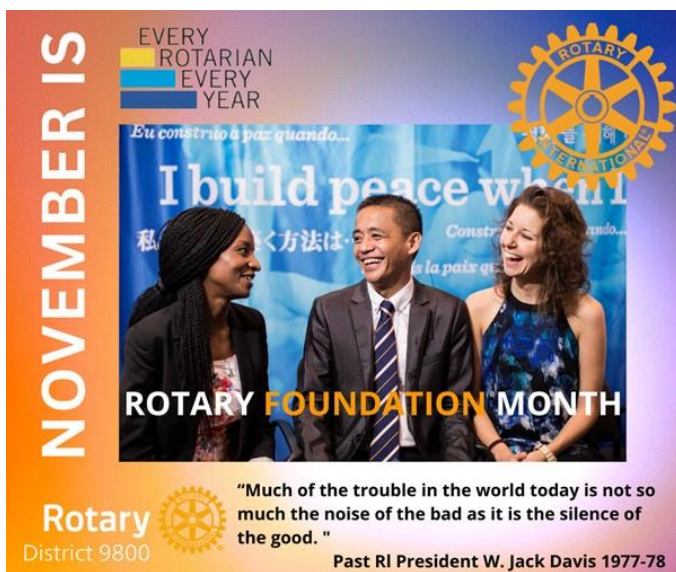


C O N T A C T

AGM and Club meeting 21/11/2023 **Windy Hill Venue, Cnr Napier & Brewster St, Essendon 3040**

Rotary International Theme November 2023. Rotary Foundation Month



Did you know...

The Rotary Foundation transforms your gifts into service projects that change lives both close to home and around the world.

Since it was founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects.

With your help, we can make lives better in your community and around the world.

Our mission

The Rotary Foundation helps Rotary members to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty.

<https://infoqram.com/en-global-grants-by-aof-2021-1h7z2l80qjzxx6o>

What is the difference between Rotary International, Rotary Clubs and The Rotary Foundation?

Rotary International is a global network of people who volunteer their skills and resources to solve issues and address community needs.

Rotary clubs bring together local people across generations who wish to create lasting change in the world, in their communities, and in themselves. Rotary and **Rotaract** members around the world strengthen their connections to friends and neighbours taking action through service.

The Rotary Foundation provides grants to Rotary Clubs worldwide to financially support projects of importance. Money donated to our Foundation provides the ability to give these grants. It is the charity under which finances are managed. It has a 4-star 100% rating in the Charity Navigator's list which is the highest level. 91% of funds are spent on program awards and operations.

<https://www.rotary.org/en/about-rotary/rotary-foundation>

<https://www.charitynavigator.org/>

C O N T A C T

2021-22 Global Grants by Areas of Focus

Rotary's Areas of Focus provide guidance and a framework for projects for Rotarians to complete. We can't do everything so we focus on these. <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-causes>

- Total funding (\$US millions)
- Basic education and literacy \$6.2 million * Community economic development \$8.3 million
- Disease prevention and treatment \$38 million * Maternal and child health \$5.4 million
- Peacebuilding and conflict prevention \$3.4 million * Water, sanitation, and hygiene \$13.7 million
- Environment \$1.9 million



Our Annual Christmas Party is coming up very soon. December 8th is the date and 7pm is the time to meet at Windy Hill venue.

We need 90 people to attend or we will need to cancel the venue.

YOU need to register NOW for what will be a fun night in the old dinner dance style.



Speeches? Forget that! Awards? No way!

Just a great festive night of good company and fun.

We strongly encourage you to bring your family and friends and make up your own table. It's the perfect opportunity to get together with that bunch of friends that keep saying "we must get together before Christmas" but no one seems able to pick a date or a place or it seems anything! Well we have picked it for you!

We are a club built on a strong foundation of family and the Christmas Party is the best way to make your family feel part of the Rotary family.

REMEMBER YOU NEED TO BOOK NOW!!! Use this link to register yourself and friends. And if you have any trouble be sure to contact Peter Baker for assistance.

<https://rce.org.au/event/christmas-party-2/>

C O N T A C T

The Rotary Club of Essendon AGM on Tuesday 21/11/2023.

President Michael Portelli opened the AGM, announced apologies and a quorum was declared.

Chaired by Sec. Stephen Roe the AGM ran smoothly with all required processes and procedures duly followed as per the constitution, rules and by-laws.

Confirmation of the 2022 AGM minutes was passed.

The 2022-23 President and Treasurer's reports were tabled and passed.

The 2023-24 President and Treasurer's mid-years reported were tabled and passed.

Confirmation of the Board members and other roles for 2024-25 was announced.

The auditor was announced and passed.

The minutes of the AGM are available in the members area of Club Runner. Speak to Peter Condos if you have any trouble accessing them.

PP Vera gave her thanks to all those who assisted her and the club during the year she was president of the club. She also gave thanks to her family for their support and encouragement.

Vera gave a short report on a few of the highlights of the year and just some of the successful projects and services delivered by the committees in 2022-23. She stated that **"All contributions and achievements are important and deserve recognition."** Vera highlighted some members specifically for mention as they took on extra roles in her presidential year.

Vera also congratulated Tony DeFazio in his incoming role as president in 2024-25. She also congratulated his incoming board and wished them well. She also congratulated Regina Davern in taking on the role of president in 2025-26. Vera then asked Regina to the dais and gave a rundown on the many amazing achievements of Regina. Regina was then presented with a Paul Harris Fellow recognition. A very surprised and humbled Regina gave us a speech of gratitude for the honour and committed to doing her best in the upcoming years. We congratulate Regina on this recognition and wish her all the best in her upcoming years.



President Michael Portelli outlined the successful projects of the last six months, notably the international projects. He encouraged members to now focus on local projects within our community.

We thank Sec. Steve for his diligence in all aspects of the preparation for the AGM.



C O N T A C T

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT...

For a sweet prize who can tell me which year that ended with these songs as the Top 10 (USA).

The first email to the Ed. wins.

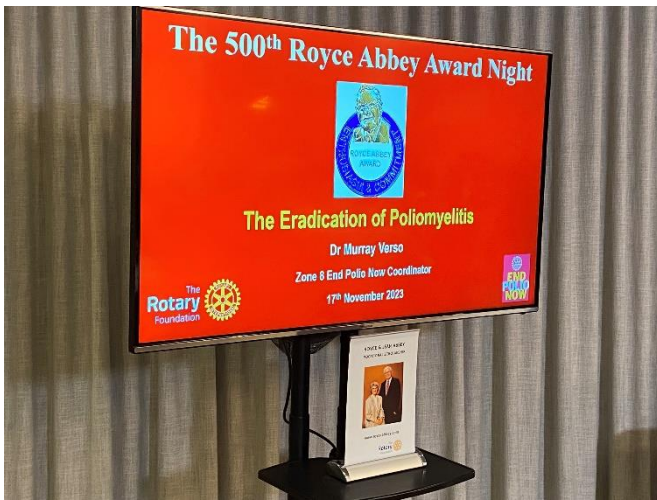
And a massive bonus prize for the member who is willing to get up and sing one of them at our next meeting!

1	Fred Astaire	" Cheek to Cheek "
2	Ray Noble and His Orchestra (Vocal Al Bowlly)	" Isle Of Capri "
3	Glen Gray and His Orchestra	" When I Grow Too Old to Dream "
4	Guy Lombardo and His Royal Canadians	" Red Sails in the Sunset "
5	Eddy Duchin and His Orchestra and His Orchestra	" Lovely to Look At "
6	Victor Young and His Orchestra	"She's a Latin from Manhattan"
7	Eddy Duchin and His Orchestra	" I Won't Dance "
8	Little Jack Little	" I'm in the Mood for Love "
9	Bob Crosby and His Orchestra	"In a Little Gypsy Tea Room"
10	Fats Waller	"Truckin'"

C O N T A C T

ROYCE ABBEY AWARDS NIGHT

On Friday 17th November 2023 the 500th a & b Royce Abbey Awards were presented at the Windy Hill Venue.
'500th a & b?' I hear you ask???



Well besides from it being a wonderfully informative, sociable and entertaining

evening it was also one full of surprises not the least being that while we all knew we were attending for the grand 500th award to be presented little did we know that there would be TWO 500th awards!!!

We all settled in and enjoyed a fabulously informative presentation by guest speaker Dr Murray Verso. Murray is the current Zone 8 End Polio Now co-ordinator and updated us on the current status of the wild polio virus and also the vaccine derived polio statistics. We are

so close to eradicating the wild polio virus.



Then came the announcement for the presentation of the Royce Abbey 500th Awardee to begin.

Peter Condos gave a lovely tribute to Jean Abbey who passed away this year aged 100. David Abbey gave a lovely talk about how the Royce and Jean Abbey Endowed Fund and Vocational Scholarship programme began and was named for his father Royce Abbey who was a Rotary International World President and his mother. Roger Leask spoke about the start of the awards which were created to fund the scholarships. We then eagerly awaited the big announcement.

The secure case with the golden envelope containing the winner of the award was delivered under heavy security to the Chair of the RAA committee and host for the night, Maria Kouppas. It was

publicly opened and Dennis Shore, was called to do the honours of opening and announcing the recipient.

The room hushed as Dennis opened the envelope, smiled broadly and declared that Murray Verso (current Zone 8 End Polio Now co-ordinator, Past District Governor, District Foundation Chair, Rotary Peace Fellowships Subcommittee Chair) has been awarded a Royce Abbey Award. Cheers



C O N T A C T

erupted confirming this to be a very popular and well-deserved decision by the committee. Our own PP David Abbey presented the pin to the very surprised and humbled Murray.

However much to everyone's surprise Maria discovered another golden envelope in the case! What??? Unable to split the points in the final count the committee had to award equally to two Rotarians who have dedicated themselves over many years to Rotary. Who was this second awardee???

The task fell to newly minted RAA Murray Verso open the envelope. His eyes sparkled, he grinned and looked straight at the man next to him - Dennis Shore! It was surprising that the roof didn't fly right off the building such was the applause that Dennis had also received a well-deserved RAA. Dennis has or is currently Trustee of The Rotary Foundation from 2023-27, D9800 District Director Governance, Rotary Endowment/Major Gift Advisor; Past District Governor, Rotary International; Citation for Meritorious Service and District Service Award from The Rotary Foundation plus heaps more! Maria declared that both awards would be designated as the 500th award to be known as 500a and 500b. Both are well known in Rotary International having served at high levels in the organisation. They have both assisted so many people in achieving their dreams in Rotary by their advice and friendship. Both have shown the ideals of the Royce Abbey Award by displaying ongoing enthusiasm and commitment to Rotary over many years.



Cheers Murray and Dennis! Chair of the RAA committee Maria Kouppas with two very surprised Rotarians. We congratulate these two very worthy recipients of a most prestigious award and wish them well in all their future endeavours.



Do you have any old stamp collections at home gathering dust that you just don't know what to do with? We have the solution.

Bring them along to any club meeting and Nola will take them to be valued, sold and all money raised will go to the Ruben Centre project in Kenya. And don't forget to bring in all the coins and notes you have left from your trips overseas. Maria will collect these to send to the Reserve Bank where they will be allocated to purchase polio vaccines to help in Rotary's priority project End Polio Now.



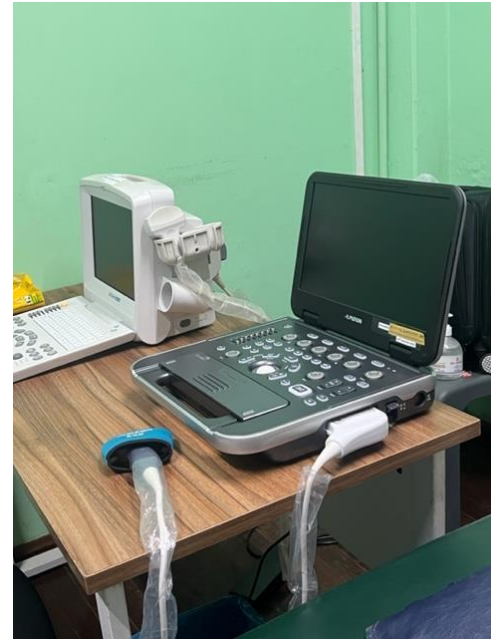
C O N T A C T

The Rotary Club of Essendon in Myanmar

Our club has a long and proud association with the people of Myanmar. For over 12 years we have provided vital equipment and funds to care for those who are most vulnerable. And whenever we provide aid a delegation of club members travel under their own cost to ensure complete accountability and care is taken in these projects.

Recently led by Rotarian Richard Lawrence a team again visited our friends and associates in Myanmar.

Presentations included attending The Myanmar Liver Foundation at Than Sitt Charity Clinic. The Foundation at the Clinic sees around 1,500 patients in a year and of these 800 or so need medical imaging. This year it was a specialised liver ultrasound scanner and supplies, which are vital for management of patients with chronic liver disease that was delivered and was greatly appreciated by all the staff. This ultrasound is mobile and will greatly facilitate their workload.



The Rotary Club of Essendon has annual visits to Myanmar for over 12 years with the supply of medical equipment to hospitals, provision of oxygen concentrators during the Covid pandemic, food supplies to orphanages, construction of a raised road from one of the orphanages to allow children to attend school when flooded, as well as many other projects. Our most recent endeavour is to support and protect children being abused in the illicit body organ trade with the help of a local charity Step-In Step-Up in Yangon.

If you are interested in helping the people of Myanmar please contact us via secretary@rce.org.au

or better still come to one of our meetings at Windy Hill, as advertised on our webpage.



C O N T A C T

RIVER WALK to raise FUNDS FOR KENYA

Despite the chill and the gloomy day Rotarians and St Bernard's College boys joined forces to participate in the River Walk around Maribyrnong River on 24th October 2023. The walk raised awareness and vital funds for the [Rotary Club of Essendon's Project](#) of providing an medical incinerator and dental chair to the Ruben Clinic in Kenya. The project has brought together Rotarians and students in a common cause close to both organisations. We praise the boys from [St Bernard's College](#) who contributed to its success and hope to partner again soon in providing hope for students at the Ruben Centre in Nairobi.



Coming up soon...

Save The Date: Wednesday 7th February 2024

Movie Night at the beautiful Palace Cinemas Pentridge Coburg

More details coming soon

- **Club meeting Tuesday 28 November** Ron Payne, the District Governor of 9800, will make his official visit. Meet at Windy Hill Venue 6pm for dinner, 7pm for the meeting.
- **Friday 08 December is our Christmas Party Dinner Dance**; better make sure you're being nice not naughty!!! BOOK A TABLE FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS NOW!
- **Strathmore Men's Shed 2023 Christmas lunch and catch up Saturday 16 December**
144A Mascoma St. Strathmore Time : 11.00 am - 12.30pm
RSVP : 8 December strathmoremensshed@gmail.com

C O N T A C T

- **Breakfast meeting** Max's Corner **Dec 19, 2023** 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM
- **Sunday 24 March 2024** Fellowship day for Rotary Club of Essendon, an opportunity for families past and present to come together. The lunch will take place at Drusilla Mansion, known as the 'jewel of the crown' in Mount Macedon the day will feature a spit roast feast and time to enjoy the beautiful gardens.
- **Club Meeting ANZAC Bill Anderson** Tuesday 23rd April 2024

Rotary
District 9800

Bendigo Conference
12-14th April 2024

Earlybird bookings are now open

Rotarian, Partners & Friends:	\$340
First-time attendee:	\$250
Rotaractor:	\$150
Foundation Breakfast:	\$40

Book now at: www.trybooking.com/CMCUD

GATHERING ON THE GOLDFIELDS



There is already a great group of members heading up to beautiful Bendigo to the D9800 conference.

Accommodation is very limited.

Early bird registrations end soon and prices will go up by \$50 per registration after 16th December 2023.

Please let Tony DeFazio know if you are interested and haven't registered yet.

[Rotary D9800 Conference 2024 Tickets, Ulumbarra Theatre, Bendigo | TryBooking Australia](#)



NOVEMBER IS

ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

EVERY ROTARIAN EVERY YEAR

"We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future."
Franklin D. Roosevelt

BECAUSE WE CARE
MAKE A CONTRIBUTION, BE THE DIFFERENCE

Rotary   TAKE ACTION: rotary.org/contribute

C O N T A C T

You and your family and friends are invited to visit us at an upcoming meeting

<https://www.rce.org.au/Events>

The Rotary Club of Essendon meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month for dinner at 6pm in the bistro of the Windy Hill Venue followed by our meeting 7:00pm to 8:30pm.

Cnr Napier & Brewster Streets, Essendon VIC 3040

Find out more about us at www.rce.org.au/

For further information contact president@rce.org.au or secretary@rce.org.au

Rotary International Mission

We provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

Rotary International Vision Statement

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

We would like to thank our official sponsors;

Proudly supported by

**Strathmore
Community Bank** Branch

 **Bendigo Bank**

Interested in being a sponsor?

[Download the website sponsorship guide](#)