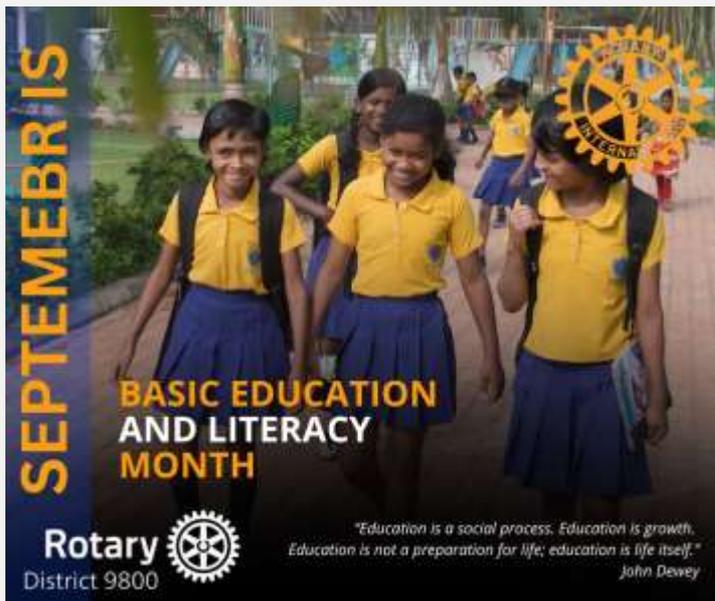


C O N T A C T

Club meeting Tuesday 16th September 2025
Windy Hill Venue, Cnr Napier & Brewster St, Essendon 3040



If you can read this edition of Contact you are one of the lucky people who are language literate to a functional standard.

Many people in our world are not.

Whether it is due to opportunity, poverty, ignorance, discrimination, health issues or location many people miss out on acquiring a standard of literacy which enables them to function in a modern society. Many are also functionally illiterate in numeracy and computer skills.

As a Rotarian, family or friend of the club you do make a difference.

Rotary has done many projects overseas for schools but clubs have also assisted new arrivals to our country to learn English so they can manage in school, they can get a job and even do what we

consider simple things like shopping or going to a doctor or hospital. Imagine being overseas in a new country with a small baby who is in a critical health crisis and not being able to explain to a doctor what has happened! Never underestimate the value of education and literacy in the place where you live. It can literally save your life.

Welcome to our D9800 District Governor Peter Shephard

Tonight, we welcomed Peter Shephard in his official visit in his capacity as the District Governor of D9800 2025-26.

We were very pleased to welcome Peter to our President's Night event in June but tonight it was all about Peter.

Peter grew up in a family that volunteered in many ways and with different groups, which led him to volunteer from an early age. In late 2002 his involvement with the local basketball association introduced him to the Rotary Club of Altona where he pitched for, received and reported on funding for the establishment of two senior rep. teams. The president of Altona Rotary at the time, Lois Buckingham, invited Peter to join the club. With his background and familiarity with the members he accepted the offer. In May 2003 Peter was formally inducted and has served as president four times and held



C O N T A C T

nearly every other office roll. Peter also took on the position of Assistant Governor four times and has served on various district committees.

Peter told us of his life so far. He has had an extensive work career focusing on redundancies and rebounding into new and exciting roles. Peter started off doing an accounting course and made the course redundant after 3 months. He then went on to do data entry with AMP staying for 8 years counting furniture before being told he was redundant. 12 years working at Blockbuster Video (for younger readers please ask your parents what these stores were) before becoming redundant – twice. Peter went on to work for Crown Casino and after 2 years ... you guessed it, he was made redundant again as the work was outsourced. He worked for that company until..... I think you can guess.

Peter now works for The Queen Victoria Market and has been there for many years with hopefully no redundancy coming along any time soon. Peter made an offer to take us on a tour of the market which many attendees indicated their interest in taking up.

And now the Rotary side of the Peter Shephard story; as mentioned Peter has been with Altona Rotary since 2003. As District Governor he has made 24 club visits so far and the big take-aways of his talks are;

- What makes us join may be wanting to “give back” to the community but what keeps members is the sense of belonging.
- In your “elevator pitch” be sure to speak first of all about this sense of belonging, unity with like-minded people and giving back. Then talk about what the club does. They may not join but they may become a friend of the club who will volunteer services and time on certain occasions and these friends are much needed in our work. Many people still think that they need to be asked to join Rotary – so ask them!
- The Rotary International theme is UNITE FOR GOOD. Peter’s take on this is to encourage us to collaborate with other Rotary clubs regardless of which district they are in. If clubs can join together to make an impact in their communities then do so. Collaborate with local schools, the community, other organisations and local businesses.
- Bringing youth in to the Rotary story more is a big focus of Peter’s. Youth engagement is vital for the future of Rotary. Peter wants to encourage more Interact and Rotaract clubs in the district as a natural pathway to individuals progressing to Rotary. Sometimes people have a break from Rotaract or being Rotary student exchange participants but if we can keep our alumni close we have a better chance of bringing them back to be members of Rotary.
- PEACE is a big issue in our world today. If we want to place a Peace Pole in our area we can contact D9800 for financial support.
- Donate to the Rotary Foundation. This is our very own charity arm of the Rotary family. Without donations to Foundation we cannot apply for grants which often doubles our contributions to projects. The Rotary Foundation continues to score amongst the most trusted charities in the world as judged

C O N T A C T

by organisations that do such reviews. Part of the reason is that over 97c in every dollar goes to the project as against other charities where up to half of all donations go to overheads and advertising.

- Finally, Peter encouraged us all to attend the three-district conference to be held 27-29 March 2026 in Horsham. Our club already has a list of members attending so if you want to go contact secretary Steve Roe.

We sincerely thank Peter for taking time to visit us, we wish him every success during his time as DG and we will welcome him back to our club at any time.



ESSENDON FARMERS MARKET this Sunday 21ST September 2025.

Nola reminds us that the club will have a marquee at the Essendon Farmers Market this Sunday.

Those who have volunteered to help our on the stall in any way are reminded to attend and please be on time. This is a great opportunity to publicise our club and the great things we do to encourage our community to become more involved with us, whether it be joining as a member or being a supporter or sponsor an event. It all makes a difference. We will be promoting the Art Show and the Great Duck Race as well as our projects.

We need to tell our story in our community and with the decline of local media publications we are exploring all the other ways we can be seen in our local area and create more exposure of our achievements. This is one of the ways we are doing that. If you can't help our but can drop in to chat to our team and make the stand look busy and interesting please do that. Every bit helps.



C O N T A C T

MONEY MONEY MONEY!



Maria is continuing to amass kilograms of coins donated by members and friends. These coins will be “exchanged” for polio vaccines to help in the eradication of this terrible disease and supports Rotary International’s major world project End Polio Now. So far, we have donated over 45kg of coins and countless notes. That has equated to \$1400 worth of vaccine.

Maria is a very jar half full type of person but at the minute she has a jar half empty and wants to fill it. About 15-20kg of coins should do it.

If you have international coins jingling around your house collect them up and bring them to the next club meeting to turn your coins into vaccine. Contact Maria for more information.

MOONEE VALLEY ART SHOW 2025

Moonee Valley Art Show – now in its 11th year – will be here.

YOU are needed to help make it the biggest and best yet.

“HOW?” I hear you ask?

- Make sure you put the dates of 10th October for the Gala Night event, the 11th – 12th for the Art Show in your diary to ensure you don’t miss out on getting your tickets. *Tickets are now available for purchase at an early bird discount rate.*
- Veronica is currently organising the roster to help over the week before and on the weekend of the Show. Make sure you offer to help for any time and in any job that you can. Do Not wait to be asked.
- Tell your family and friends and be prepared to distribute flyers, emailing, sharing social media posts and just letting everyone you know about the show. Encourage them to attend and buy a work of art that will be enjoyed for years to come and become a family heirloom.
- If you have contact with past members please contact them and personally invite them to attend.
- For all other information contact Veronica.



C O N T A C T

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pres. Regina's announcements;

Welcome to our prospective members Doriana and Jenny. We look forward to having you join our team soon.

Rotary Kathmandu has requested assistance with building a toilet block for female students. This will go through the International Committee for consideration.

Regina, Michael and Gaye Cariss attended the Caroline Chisholm Society information day. A great turn out and very interesting. Contact CCS if you can volunteer a few hours to help them provide the worthy services to young families in need.

RYDA follow up; Regina will attend the programme on 5th November but they still need volunteers to marshal school groups on that day and 24th November. Contact Regina for details.

A great morning of fellowship and washing at the Duck Bath last Sunday. Thanks to all involved.

We have confirmation of one applicant from St Bernard's Secondary College to attend the National Youth Science Forum.

From our friends at the Days for Girls Essendon Team

"Once again we'll be collecting handbags and toiletries for *It's in the Bag* for those doing it tough at Christmas. You can **bring your goodies to our October and November sewing days**.

Handbags can be second hand but must be in good condition. You can donate bags, their contents, or even make a cash donation. Please remember toiletries must be **new and full size** and that you can include additional gifts for the recipients.

Minimum content for each bag is new, unopened shampoo and conditioner, period products, toothpaste and toothbrush, deodorant (roll-on preferred) soap or body wash. Remember that all need to be full size and still packaged – note that toothbrushes must be in an unopened single package, not one from a bag of 10.

No sharps please ie. No razors."

Other items which may be included are hairbrushes, combs, scrunchies, hair ties, hair clips, make up remover packs. There are also banned items.

For more information go to <https://www.sharethedignity.org.au/about/faqs>

Contact Lisa to donate to this extremely worthy cause.

C O N T A C T

Don't let your old computers go to waste!

William Boledziuk (0404 331 253) the treasurer of Computerbank Victoria <https://www.computerbank.org.au/> a long standing charity based in Broadmeadows refurbishing & distributing old computers to the needy, approached Peter Condos about a possible collaboration with Rotary.

If you have any old computers that you think may be suitable for refurbishment please contact William at Computerbank directly.



The Great Duck Bath – 3116 Duckies now clean!!!

A great team of 17 Rotarians, family and friends had a lovely sunny Sunday morning bathing, drying and packing our darling little duckies. With increased numbers of helpers, modified and improved processes and great energy we blitzed the last record of 1200 ducks cleaned to cleaning nearly 2000 ducks in one morning!

We now have 3116 yellow and purple ducks ready to swim down the Maribyrnong in the 2026 race.

Heard from more than one member was the general sentiment of;

“...this is what it's all about, getting in and working together to get the job done...” It is also a great opportunity to have a chat with your friends with a cuppa and Pam's delicious freshly cooked savoury scones!

We may have one more morning to complete the washing of the purple ducks so keep a look out for notification soon.

The Duck Team thank all who attended as your efforts are greatly appreciated.



C O N T A C T



What's coming up?

Put the following events in your diary so you don't miss out.

For more information and to book your spot go to our website <https://www.rce.org.au/Events>

Sunday 21st September Essendon Farmers Market

Tuesday 7th October Club Meeting; Isabella Villani from DV Safe Phone

Friday 10th October Rotary Moonee Valley Art Show Gala Opening Ukrainian Hall, 3-11 Russell St, Essendon VIC 3040

Saturday 11th, Sunday 12th October Art Show Ukrainian Hall 3-11 Russell St, Essendon VIC 3040

Tuesday 21st October Club Meeting Naomi Johnson

Tuesday 18th November AGM and Club Meeting

Tuesday 2nd December Christmas Party

Saturday 6th December Bunnings BBQ VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Tuesday 16th December Christmas Breakfast

Sunday 7th February Italian dinner night

If you have read up to this part please let the Ed. know.

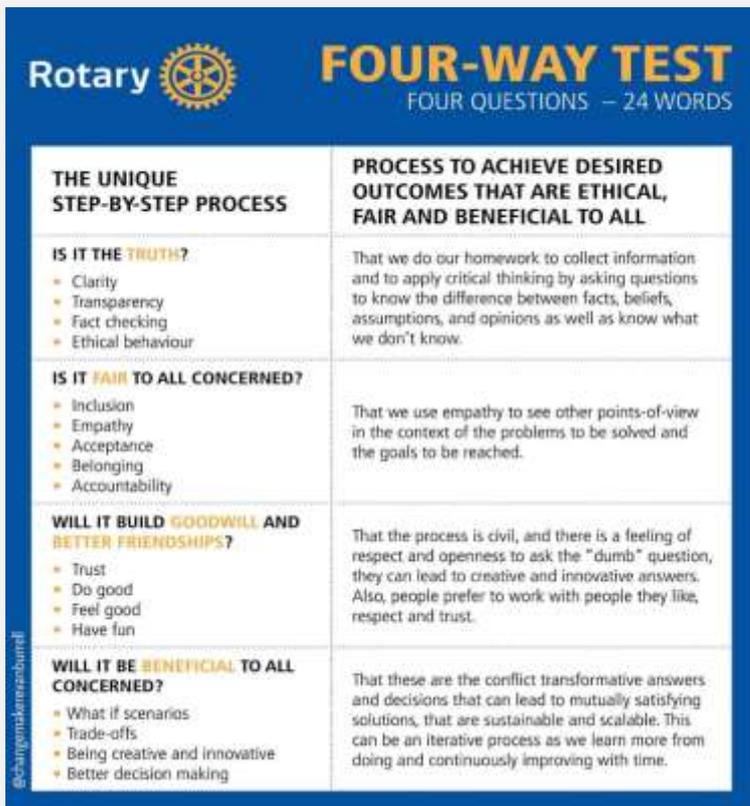
C O N T A C T

<https://www.bendigobank.com.au/branch/vic/community-bank-strathmore/>

Thank you to our major sponsor Strathmore Community Bank Bendigo Bank.



So much of the work we do in our local and international communities relies on funding. We are so pleased that the Strathmore Community Bank has been our sponsor for many years and thank them for their support.



Rotary  **FOUR-WAY TEST**
FOUR QUESTIONS – 24 WORDS

THE UNIQUE STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS	PROCESS TO ACHIEVE DESIRED OUTCOMES THAT ARE ETHICAL, FAIR AND BENEFICIAL TO ALL
IS IT THE TRUTH? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarity Transparency Fact checking Ethical behaviour 	That we do our homework to collect information and to apply critical thinking by asking questions to know the difference between facts, beliefs, assumptions, and opinions as well as know what we don't know.
IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion Empathy Acceptance Belonging Accountability 	That we use empathy to see other points-of-view in the context of the problems to be solved and the goals to be reached.
WILL IT BUILD GOODWILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trust Do good Feel good Have fun 	That the process is civil, and there is a feeling of respect and openness to ask the "dumb" question, they can lead to creative and innovative answers. Also, people prefer to work with people they like, respect and trust.
WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What if scenarios Trade-offs Being creative and innovative Better decision making 	That these are the conflict transformative answers and decisions that can lead to mutually satisfying solutions, that are sustainable and scalable. This can be an iterative process as we learn more from doing and continuously improving with time.

At the meeting Michael Cariss read the **Rotary Four-Way Test.**

One of the most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics in the world is the Four-Way Test.

It was created by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor in 1932 when he was asked to take charge of the Chicago based Club Aluminum Company which was facing bankruptcy. Looking for a way to save the struggling company Taylor drew up a 24 word code of ethics for all employees to follow in their business and professional lives. It became the guide for sales, production, advertising and all relations with dealers and customers and the survival of the company was credited to following this simple philosophy.

Herb Taylor became president of Rotary International in 1954-55 and the test has been translated into more than 100 languages.

Do you always follow this simple test?

C O N T A C T

ROYCE ABBEY AWARDS

580 awards have been presented so far. That means that \$580,000.00 has been raised for The Rotary Foundation, specifically targeted to the Royce and Jean Abbey Vocational Scholarship.
For more information about the awards and the scholarship go to <https://www.royceabbey.com/>

A GOLFERS STORY



After a golf game I went to the shops to get some dinner for that night. I caught a woman staring right at me. Except she wasn't starting at my face, but at my crotch! We were both a little embarrassed when she noticed that I was noticing her noticing me. But when I saw where she was looking, I looked down, too. And then I understood what everyone in the store had been looking at. I still had my golf slacks on, and I had a few golf balls still in my pocket. To people who probably weren't golfers, it looked ... well, you know how it looked. It looked like something that might cause a few people to stare.

Embarrassed, I looked up and sheepishly said to the woman, "It's just golf balls."
She looked back with a sympathetic face and said, "Oh, wow, I'm sorry — that must hurt a lot more than tennis elbow."

Did you hear about the chef that died?
He pasta way
We cannoli do so much
His legacy will become a pizza history
He ran out of thyme



HOW IS IT THAT THERE IS
ENOUGH MONEY AND
ASPHALT TO BUILD SPEED
HUMPS BUT NOT ENOUGH TO
FILL POT HOLES???

Ed. has discovered artistic effects for photos!
Can you guess who these two are?



C O N T A C T



Rotary
Clubs of Essendon
and Keilor East 

Gala Opening Night
Fri 10th Oct
7pm

PRESENT
MOONEE VALLEY ART SHOW

Art Exhibition & Sales

October 10–12 2025

Ukrainian Centre
3 - 11 Russell Street Essendon

Details and Ticket Purchases at
mooneevalleyartshow.com.au

Major Sponsors

Community Bank Keilor East

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