



# Rotary



## Club of Eaglehawk

R.I. President – Jennifer Jones  
 District Governor – Amanda Wendt  
 Assistant Governor – Rob Foran

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 Chartered 8th August 1966  
 President – Geoff Gallagher 0428 127 766  
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**We meet at the Mechanics Facility, 8 School Street, California Gully for a dinner meeting. However, as this sometimes changes, please see below for details on the program for coming Club meetings and activities.**

<i>Dates and duty to Remember</i>		
September 3rd	Bookshop	Charlie Cunneen & John Pearce
September 7th	<b>NO Club dinner meeting</b>	
September 10th	Bookshop	Eric Smith & Brian Fitzpatrick
September 14th	Club dinner meeting	Bar- Mick Costello Clean Up- Geoff Adcock & Jennifer Sanderson

### Birthday Wishes in September

14<sup>th</sup> Mary Cunneen



## ***LAST CHANCE - Urgent reminder for all Members***

***A box for collection of items is located at our club rooms and will be there until next Wednesday when it will be picked up for delivery to Rochester. Please drop your items off any or hand them to a club member who will place them in the box for you***



### ***Latest news from the Rochester Club as reported in their bulletin 3.***

***‘Planning is well underway for the Club’s next trip to Coraki and Woodburn. We plan to leave Rochester on **Friday 23rd September** to deliver the donations to Coraki and Woodburn on Monday 26th. A more ‘leisurely ‘trip this time with new travellers.***

## **Rochester Rotary Club**

### **‘Pay It Forward’ Project**

#### **Collecting for flooded areas in the ‘Woodburn & Coraki’”**

#### **Suggested items needed are:**

***Toiletries for men and women -deodorant and shaving cream***

***shampoo and conditioner***

***nappies/napisan***

***toilet rolls /paper towels/cling wrap/foil***

***bin bags/steel wool/toilet cleaner/sponges/extension cords/scrubbing***

***brushes/vinegar/pots and pans/cutlery/plates/cups/saucers/mixing bowls***

***dishwashing liquid/sponges/sugar soap/clothes pegs/camping clothes lines***

***head torches/torches***

***Pillows/blankets/duonas etc/sleeping bags/sheets/ pillow cases***

***First aid items such as mozzie coils/insect sprays/bite spray/band aids/bandages/Panadol etc***

***Other: car wash/scrubbing brushes/sand paper/brushes***

## Club Happenings

This week we were joined by **Hassan Sabri and his cousin Saad**, both from Iraq. Hassan is a dentist and arrived about four years ago, sponsored by his sister while Saad, one of our NYSF candidates, arrived about four months ago.

Hassan gave an emotive account of his life's journey from Iraq to Australia. While trying to complete his dentistry qualifications he has had to endure numerous conflicts starting with the first gulf war, the second gulf war and then the ISIS conflicts. He described receiving a phone call at his surgery - "Do you see a blue car behind your surgery? Yes! Do not leave yet!" The threat of kidnapping was constant. Despite this he completed his qualifications and then undertook a circuitous route to Australia.

Since then, he has undertaken a number of jobs while trying to get his qualifications recognised. He will be undertaking another test in about two weeks. One of his challenges is that if he fails a component of a test, he gets no feedback as to what the area was or what the mistake was - shades of catch 22. Despite the challenges he remains very positive and has no intentions of returning to Iraq any time soon although he still has extensive family connections in the country. This was reinforced recently when he and his wife celebrated the birth of his second daughter where he acknowledged the outstanding care received from Bendigo Health. This contrasted dramatically with some of the challenges facing family members in Iraq where medical support is extremely limited.

Saad is attending BSSC after arriving four months ago. Initially he was placed in a EAL class but it was soon evident that his English was extremely proficient. After completing grade 6 in Iraq he went to Cambridge College (an English language school in Jordan) despite having no English at that time. After a couple of months, he was excelling. His results at BBSC are outstanding and he is really looking forward to NYSF. An indication of his intellectual capacity is that he has taught himself to play violin via U Tube and one of his VCE subjects is now musical performance.

The stories of both were amazing as was evidenced by the transfixed audience. Of particular significance was their command of language.

**We thank Lynne and Mick for their attendance at the Combined Youth Services Directors Meeting and below are the minutes for you to read. Just click to open.**

**Minutes of Combined Youth Services Directors Meeting – 16 August 2022**



16-8-2022 Combined  
Youth Services Direct

## NYSF report from Lynne



### This will bring a big smile to your face

Most of you will know something about the Qorbani family through your connections with Rotary or NYSF. I was fortunate to meet Ashraf soon after he arrived in Australia a few years ago with his mother, brother and sisters to be reunited with their father. Since that chance meeting we have had a lot to do with the family - two of the girls attended National Youth Science Forum through Rotary. There has been significant help with housing (but that is another story) and a lot of other incidental ways we have been able to assist them.

Ashraf has met my son Owen and seen how Owen lives independently in his own home. He is such a wonderful young man. Always has a smile and never complains. He has grasped the opportunities to learn at our wonderful Bendigo Special Dev School and enjoys holidays with his sisters and Mum (driving around Victoria).

You will all love to view his story which is beautifully narrated by his sister Masooma (currently studying nursing at Latrobe Uni here...she is another amazing story!)

Please watch Ashraf's film and pass on this link to all your friends or put it in your Rotary bulletin.

It took Ashraf's father 9 years to obtain permission for the family to come to Australia during which time the rest of the family waited in Pakistan ...so very tough.

This reminds us all how fortunate we are to live in Australia.

Kind regards to you all - keep well.  
Lynne, Kym

Here's the link to the page featuring the documentary on Ashraf!

<https://www.focusonability.com.au/FOA/open-entrant-documentaries.html>



### Christmas Trailer Raffle

Those attending this week could not help but be impressed with the impressive collection of items for the Christmas Trailer Raffle. It is fast approaching with sales commencing on **Sep 19 at Market Place**. We will be asking members and families/ friends to assist where possible.

We will alternate weekly with Bendigo South to manage the raffle with the draw being held on Mon Dec 19 at the Mechanics. Each club will be responsible for tickets sales on Friday after 5:00 and on Sundays during their weeks. If you know of any organisations that may like to sell tickets on a 50/50 basis, then let Sec. John know.



### Up Coming Events

- Sat 3rd** Blue Light event at the McKern Skate Park. Catering for an expected 200 people between 11:00 and 1:30.
- Sun 4th** Run for Dads at the Bendigo Racecourse. Those who have volunteered are asked to contact Mary Preston for details.
- Mon 5<sup>th</sup>** Breakfast at the Long Gully Community Garden for an ABC Outside Broadcast from 6:30 – 9:00
- Wed 7<sup>th</sup>** No dinner meeting
- Thu 8<sup>th</sup>** RUOK at Eaglehawk Secondary College or about 600 – serving from 1:30 so cooking from about 12:30pm
- Thu 8<sup>th</sup>** Interclub to Rochester in lieu of Wed dinner meeting. Please advise John J by close of business Tuesday if you plan to attend so that transport can be coordinated

## Zone 8 Better Together Conference in Canberra from October 28-30.



Early bird tickets are now available for all Rotaractors and Rotarians in Australia, New Zealand and across the Pacific to attend the Zone 8 Better Together Conference in Canberra from October 28-30.

The conference will be held at the National Convention Centre Canberra and the Saturday night dinner at Old Parliament House.

The conference is set to be the first in-person zone event since the COVID-19 pandemic and is shaping up to be a celebration of all the best our Rotary family has to offer. This includes a range of excellent speakers and sessions across the weekend.

For further information, see <https://msgfocus.rotary.org/q/12FwEdqWDM6Zbu4nM2ViTAjy/wv>