

Spinifex



Rotary Club of Mundingburra Inc.

Chartered 21 June 1958

Club ID Number 17739, District 9560

PO Box 3142 Hermit Park Qld 4812

www.mundingburrarotary.org.au

www.facebook.com/RotaryClubOfMundingburra

Munding
an Aboriginal word
meaning Spinifex or
Long Grass

Burra
meaning People or Tribe

The origin of the
Townsville suburb
Mundingburra



RI President

Olayinka Hakeem Babalola

District 9560 Governor

Rita Zappulla

Club President

Sue Tardiani

RCoM Vision Statement

"To become more visible within the community with a focus on diversity of gender and culture as a community service club whilst embracing the avenues of service of Rotary International".

"The 4 Way Test"

Of the things we think, say or do.

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?



September: - Basic Education & Literacy Edition 9 – 3rd September 2026

Welcome message from President Sue

It was wonderful to see a teacher, Georgia and student, Maya, from Pimlico State High School so enthusiastic about a project.

We wish them all the best in their fund-raising efforts, and also pleased that we could help in this area.

With the move of the Club from Cutheringa Bowls Club to Jubilee Bowls Club in Mundingburra, this was not taken lightly.

This move had to be looked at seriously as we were not sure where we stood with the Brother's League Club taking over and what renovations would be happening.

I realise some of you have a lot of questions to ask about the move and I am open to anyone who feels they would like to know more.

I have been to the Club and will report on it this week. I will take one step at a time.

We don't want to be suddenly told we can't stay there, so please bear with those doing the work behind the scenes.

President Sue.





Program & Coming Events

Date	Speaker/Facilitator/Topic Event	Venue
3 rd Sept	Family Day Camp – Lorraine Kennedy	Cutheringa Bowls Club
10 th Sept	Interact Changeover Dinner (6pm – 7.30pm)	Townsville Grammar School
17 th Sept	DG Rita Zappulla	Cutheringa Bowls Club
Meeting apologies to Attendance Officer: katanya.lee@carter-spencer.com.au or text to 0409 536 169 by 10am on Mondays.		

Duties

Date	Chair	Registration	Sergeant	Scribe	Intro	Thanks
3 rd Sept	P Kaye	P Gordon	R Lacaze	M Day	J Johnson	J Baker
10 th Sept	N/A	P Gordon	N/A	D Price	N/A	N/A
17 th Sept	D Nut	P Gordon	R Ramdin	J Morrison	P Holmes	N Andrews
If you are unable to fulfill your rostered duty it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to find a replacement. Please notify Daniel Place of any changes.						

Last Meeting, Facts & Figures for 27th August

Total Member Count: 41
Number Used for Attendance: 40
Leave of Absence: 0
Exempt Members: Nil
Honorary Members: 1 Tony Wode
Members Present: 20
Total Credits for Last Week: 2
Percentage Attendance Meeting: 55.000%
Apologies: J Beutel, R Ramdin, I & R Jones, J Morrison, J Johnson, J Baker
Visiting Rotarians: N/A
Club Guests: Georgia Horewood (Teacher) & Maya Gaffney (Student) – Pimlico High School
Guests: N/A

Important Dates: 31st Aug – 6th Sep

Member Birthdays

Myles McKenzie – 6th

Spouse/Partner Birthdays

Marcia Morrison (J Morrison) – 3rd

Rooka Ramdin (D Price) – 26th

Wedding Anniversaries

Nil

Rotary Membership Anniversaries

Jan Johnson – 2nd (22 years)

Takings for 27th August

Registration	\$400.00
Sergeant	\$58.85
Donations	Nil
Raffle	\$42.00
Joker	\$59.00 - (Joker Jackpot \$442.00)

“The Object of Rotary”

Is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

First: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

Second: High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society.

Third: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

Fourth: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace, through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.



SEPTEMBER IS

BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH

Learn more at:
<https://www.rotary.org/en/our-causes/supporting-education>



BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY

When you teach somebody how to read, they have that for a lifetime. It ripples through the community, one by one.

Mark Wilson
 Rotary Club member

Rotary
 District 9560





Save the Dates

Townsville Rotary Market Roster

27 th Sept	Willows Markets	Assist Co-ordinator
4 th Oct	Willows Markets	Co-ordinator Helper
25 th Oct	Willows Markets	Assist Co-ordinator
1 st Nov	Willows Markets	Co-ordinator
15 th Nov	Willows Markets	Assist Co-ordinator
22 nd Nov	Willows Markets	Co-ordinator
13 th Dec	Willows Markets	Helper
20 th Dec	Willows Markets	Helper

Co-ordinator & Assistant: 6am – 12pm

Helper: 6.30am – 12pm

Contact D Nutt – 0408 897 152 For Market Volunteering

BBQ Dates

13 th Sept – Sunday	Bunnings Domain
3 rd Oct – Saturday	Bunnings Domain
18 th Oct – Sunday	Bunnings Domain
31 st Oct – Saturday	Bunnings Domain
15 th Nov – Sunday	Bunnings Domain

Contact B Barber – 0418 759 019 for Bunnings Volunteering

Toy Stall Dates

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Contact P Kaye – 0407 657 564 for Toy Stall Volunteering

A Century of Service – Let's Celebrate!

The Rotary Club of Townsville is proud to be celebrating an incredible milestone in 2026 - 100 years of service to our community. For a century, our members have worked together to support local initiatives, strengthen our community, and contribute to the global mission of Rotary International.

To mark this historic occasion, we're hosting a Centenary Gala Ball & Fundraiser, an evening to celebrate the past, present, and future of Rotary in Townsville.

Saturday, 17 October 2026

💡 Rotary Club of Townsville – 100 Year Gala Ball & Fundraiser

This special night will bring together Rotarians, community members, partners, and friends to celebrate 100 years of impact while raising funds to support important community and humanitarian projects.

Expect a memorable evening of celebration, connection, and generosity as we honour the legacy of those who built our club and look ahead to the next century of service.

 For enquiries: admin@tcep.com.au

📌 Save the date and stay tuned for more details about tickets, entertainment, and how you can be part of this once-in-a-century celebration.

#RotaryTownsville #Rotary100 #ServiceAboveSelf
#TownsvilleCommunity #RotaryInternational

Meeting Notes

Chairman Peter Holmes opened the meeting with the customary Rotary Pledge and 4 Way Test, then called upon Phil Gordon to announce our visitors. Phil advised we had two guests tonight, Georgia Horewood and Maya Gaffney from Pimlico High School's Youth to Action Group. Both ladies were warmly welcomed to the meeting.

Maya Gaffney (Student) & Georgia Horewood (Teacher)



There were not guests to be introduced so Phil had an easy evening! 😊

President Sue's Update:

President Sue welcomed Georgia and Maya indicating she was looking forward to hearing about the Youth in Action initiative. Sue also announced a decision had been made about a new meeting venue given the sale of the current venue and closure of the catering arrangement. Details are:

- New venue – Jubilee Bowls Club (near the Mundingburra State School)
- First meeting at new venue – Thursday 24th of September.
- Meal Cost - \$15 (Meal numbers must be notified no later than Monday preceding each meeting.) **Note:** more details to be advised.



- Christmas Party will be held at the new venue in late November.

Meetings will proceed at the current venue on the 3rd of September and 17th of September (DG visit combined with other clubs) and at the Townsville Grammar School on 10th of September for the Interact Changeover.



Chairman Peter announced that as the meal was not ready yet, we would do Directors and Member reports while waiting.

Club Updates:

Membership Director Graeme Kenna:

Graeme thanked everyone for their input to the membership forum and feedback, indicating that he will be reporting back to the club and members with a summary of the outcomes and recommended actions in the near future.



Youth Services Director – Ron Degenhart:



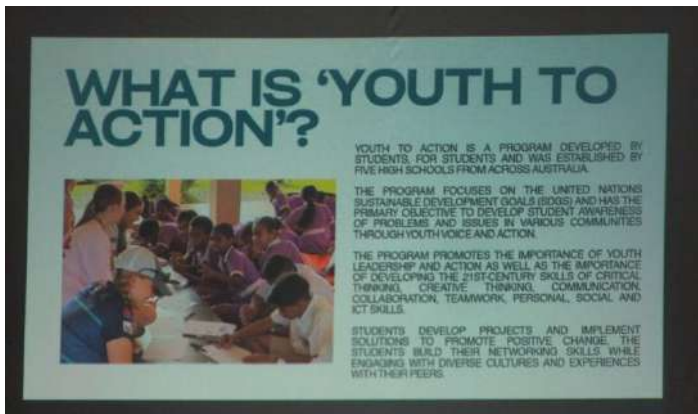
Ron announced that arrangements were proceeding for the ARH Indigenous Scholarship. Our club has established a 50/50 sponsorship deal with the Mt Morgan Rotary Club to support the recipient, Shannon Peckham who will study audiology. Shannon is a qualified optometrist and works in private practice in Ayr. She was recognised as the first female First Nations optometrist in Australia. Over her 20-year career as an optometrist she has provided eyecare to remote locations and communities in every state of Australia. After completion of her stud Shannon will become Australia's only First Nations Optometrist/Audiologist, which allows a unique perspective into allied health across both disciplines.

ARH Indigenous Scholarship Winner Shannon Peckham



Dinner:

Dinner was served and some fellowship had.

Guest Speakers – Georgia Horewood & May Gaffney:

David Nutt introduced Georgia (Teacher) and Maya (Year 11 Student) from Pimlico High School to deliver a presentation about the Youth to Action Program.



Georgia thanked the club for the opportunity to attend and then provided some background information about the Youth to Action Program. She initially explained that the program is by students for students and is an initiative designed to foster leadership, engagement and community fund-raising.

Key features of the program are:

- **Student Leadership:** Empowers students to actively lead social, environmental and school-based projects.
- **Community Fund-raising:** Students organise events, such as regular campus sausage sizzles, to raise money for targeted school and youth development initiatives.
- **Skill Development:** Focuses on teamwork, organisation and developing a strong sense of global citizenship.



Initially starting as a "Youth Response Summit Initiative" the program evolved into the "Youth to Action Global Studies Program", we have in 2026 over the course of several years:

2020 – Summit online – 17 Schools and several countries.

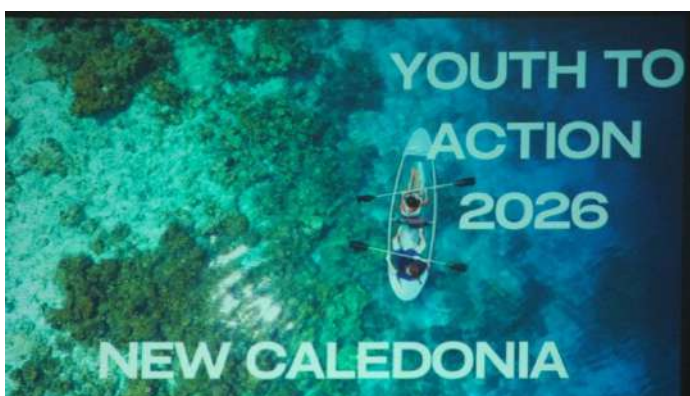
2021 – At JCU with 200 attendees and another 100 virtually.

2022 – At JCU, similar event to 2021.

2023 – After hosting three successful youth leadership conferences in Townsville, the program reached a turning point in late 2023. The Year 11 Global Leadership class spent 9 months organising a transition to expand the program's reach. Pimlico partnered with nearby Townsville State High School to bring a joint team of students to the *2023 Youth Response Melbourne* assembly hosted at Ave Maria College. At this event, students from across Australia combined forces to restructure the platform into what officially became the global Youth to Action initiative.

2024 – Vanuatu

2025 – Fiji





2026 – New Caledonia (nine days from 28th of November). No external funding available. To proceed funds have to be raised by the school.

Maya provided an update about fund-raising activities to date and gave an insight into some of the hurdles which needed to be overcome. A recent Community Concert event raised \$3,000 and another \$1,000 has been raised through consultation with other community groups. At present the students and teachers are reaching out to other organisations and entities in an effort to obtain donations or travel assistance (eg discounts on flight, accommodation etc). Six students (five from Year 11 and one from Year 10) and two teachers from Pimlico hope to travel to New Caledonia. There is a lot of interest in the program from New Caledonia.



The presentation raised lots of great questions from the audience which both Georgia and Maya skilfully answered. Georgia even proudly announced she had completed the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Induction Training so she could help with sausage sizzles if that was an option to help raise funds.



Katrina Davis offered the Club's good wishes for the future, congratulating them on the program and thanks to Georgia and Maya for attending to inform the members about the Youth to Action program and

asked members to join her in showing our appreciation.

Redistricting:

PDG Peter Kaye led a short session to determine what vote the club wished to register with regards to the Rotary redistricting proposal. After a brief discussion, members present unanimously resolved to record a resounding NO vote to the proposal.



Sergeant Session – Bill Barber:

Sergeant Bill Barber delighted in soliciting fines from members for a variety of reasons. The usual statutory fines for member birthdays (Rooka Ramdin and Ian Jones) gained a few dollars, (begrudgingly from Daniel who had to pay twice for Rooka, Member & Spouse)! Ryan Lacaze was the only present to correctly identify that cricket legend Sir Don Bradman's birthday. Everyone was fined again to ensure they could pay before Government changes to Credit Card fees and card interest rates come into effect. Those who mourned the loss of Country Music Icon Dolly Parton also had to pay if they didn't know about her son and mobile 9 to 5. (Not that Peter Kaye cared about her passing! 😞)





Wine Raffles:

Raffle was drawn and bottles of wine wer won by Bill Muguira (Red wine with Ticketd A07) and Alan Nelson (White with ticket D68). Enjoy the wine gentleman!

Joker Jackpot:

The Joker tickete (B87) was drawn out the tub by one of our guests with Ryan Lacaze the lucky winner but alas he could only find the four of clubs in the deck.

Peter Holmes looks happy that Ryan was unlucky!



Joker Jackpot:

President Sue then gave her closing remarks which included thanking everyone for attending and especially our guest speakers Georgia and Maya for the wonderful work Pimlico students and Teachers were doing in the community.

Chairman Peter then closed the meeting with a Toast to Rotary at 7.40pm.

Postscript – Cheque Presentation for Youth to Action!

President Sue presented a CHEQUE of \$500 to Georgia and Maya confirming the club's initial contribution to the 2026 Youth to Action trip. Due to an unfortunate oversight (not by President Sue) this presentation took place after the meeting rather than during normal proceedings.



Ron's Walk for ARH



Jatbula Challenge

Supporting Mental Health Research

AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH

62 Kilometres

Five walking days, 15kg packs.

AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH



\$18,885 Raised

Can you help reach \$20,000?

AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH



ARH Indigenous Scholarship

Reflection Semester 1 2026 – Masters in Clinical Audiology – Shannon Peckham

Over the past six months, I have continued studying the Master of Audiology remotely through the University of Melbourne while living and working in Ayr, North Queensland. As I enter my final year, I continue to balance full-time study with running my own optometry practice and raising my two young children.

The greatest challenge this semester has been completing clinical placements. It has been hard to find local placements. This means travelling interstate for placements, as well as practical classes and examinations, requiring extended periods away from my practice and family. These commitments are demanding both financially and personally, and I am incredibly grateful to my mother, who cares for my children while I am away.

Despite these challenges, the past six months have been immensely rewarding. Developing my clinical skills through placement has been a highlight, allowing me to apply my knowledge in real-world settings and grow in confidence as a future audiologist. I am also proud of my continued academic progress as I work towards completing the degree.

The Rotary Health Scholarship has significantly eased the financial burden of travel and accommodation, allowing me to focus on my education. Upon graduation, I will become the first First Nations person to hold dual qualifications in optometry and audiology. I am sincerely grateful for Rotary Health's investment in my education and the opportunity it creates to improve culturally safe hearing and vision care for regional, remote and First Nations communities.

PDG Ron Degenhart
DIRECTOR

**AUSTRALIAN
ROTARY
HEALTH**

M: 0806 281 572
australianrotaryhealth.org.au

BEHIND EVERY DISCOVERY, THERE'S A DONOR.
Together, we fund the work that changes what's possible.

For over 40 years, Australian Rotary Health has funded health research. We can continue because of your support. Every donation over \$2 is tax deductible.



District 9560 Foundation Dinner

Rotary District 9560

MILLION DOLLAR FOUNDATION DINNER

3RD MARCH 2027
PULLMAN CAIRNS INTERNATIONAL
THREE COURSE DINNER & WELCOME DRINK

TICKETS NOW LIVE

20% DISCOUNT ON ACCOMMODATION

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
JENNIFER JONES
PAST RI PRESIDENT & THE ROTARY FOUNDATION TRUSTEE CHAIR

EARLY BIRD \$175

Nepal Disaster

Urgent Appeal - Nepal Disaster - Project 17 - 2026-27
[RAWCS - Rotary Australia World Community Service](https://directory.rawcs.com.au/17-2026-27) has established an appeal fund for the Nepal flood disaster.

The flooding has left affected families without homes, possessions, and livelihoods, and has raised concerns about the spread of waterborne diseases due to damaged water and sanitation infrastructure.

Funds will assist projects and Rotary Clubs with projects in Nepal, responding to assist families and the communities to recover.

Tax deductible donations can be made immediately at this link:

<https://directory.rawcs.com.au/17-2026-27>
[#nepalflood](#) [#nepalfloodrelief](#) [#CreateLastingImpact](#)