

Monday 7 September 2026

SEPTEMBER IS BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH

*"When I started the Imagination Library in my hometown,
I never dreamed that one day we would be helping Scottish kids"*
Dolly Parton.

THIS MEETING.

This meeting will be a combined board meeting and club meeting.

Acknowledgement of Country: David.	International Toast: Kel.
Club Host: .	Appeal: Bob.

President's Report



I attended the District Presidents' Meeting on August 20.

Past District Governor Renga outlined the achievements of the Rotary Year 2025/26.

District Governor Shane spoke on the visions for Rotary Year 2026/27.

Some items discussed:

Australian Rotary Health.

An update on Rotary Community Leaders' role.

Artificial Intelligence.



We had the privilege of listening to a presentation from Line, an Exchange Student from Denmark, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Corrimal and two post graduate students from Japan.

At the District President's meeting our club was presented with the Club Excellence Award 2025-26. For fostering a positive experience for its members and reflecting the values of Rotary.

A very big thank you to Kerrie and David who attended and assisted at the PCYC breakfast at the Snakepit on August 27.

Watch this space for details of the upcoming End Polio Movie Night.

President Jenny.

Attendance details last meeting (Monday 17 August 2026).

Apologies:	Julie, Kerrie, Claude, Albert & Martha.
Leave of absence:	
Members Present:	5 being 50%.
Guest Speaker(s):	
Club Guests:	
Friends of Rotary:	
Visiting Rotarians:	
Makeups:	
International Toast:	Rotary Club of Boroko PNG District 9620. Sharyn also provided a short video produced by RC of Boroko showcasing one of their regular projects which is to build and supply desks to local schools.
Joker jackpot raffle:	No winner yet and 19 cards still in the pack. Sharyn won the raffle and drew the three of Hearts.

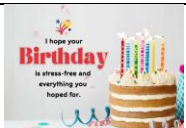
NEXT MEETING:

Monday 21st September. We welcome our Guest Speaker Amy Conley Wright, P&C President for Keira High School, who will tell us about projects that are on the P&C wish list.

Acknowledgement of Country: Julie.	International Toast: David.
Club Host: .	Appeal: Kerrie.

Rosters: Please arrange your own substitute if you cannot attend meetings.

ANNIVERSARIES BEFORE NEXT MEETING (07/09/2026-20/09/2026)

<i>Birthdays</i>	Claude 15 September Many happy returns from all of us.	
<i>Wedding Anniversaries</i>	None this period.	
<i>Club Anniversaries</i>	None this period.	

CLUB NEWS

International Women's Day of Dance + Culture.

Due to a mix-up with the proposed venue owners this year's International Women's Day of Dance + Culture has been postponed. Tentatively the next event is set down for 9th April 2027 at a venue to be decided.

Braxton at RYPEN.



Kerrie took Braxton (right of the EXIT sign) to Teen Ranch on Friday 28th August. He is the youngest of four boys and his mother was very grateful for us giving him the opportunity.

He is in Year 9 at Corrimal High and RC Corrimal had sponsored two other pupils from the same school, so he was pleased to see a familiar face on arrival.

Braxton was engaged in all the activities and a big thank you to Sue Clarke for bringing him home on the Sunday. We look forward to his report at our meeting on Monday 12th October.

Imagination Library Illawarra.



With the passing of Dolly Parton on 25th August, much has been written elsewhere about her music and philanthropy but it is worth remembering one of her charitable efforts namely [Dollywood Foundation's Imagination Library](https://imaginationlibrary.com/the-dollywood-foundation/).

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a book gifting programme that mails free, high-quality books to children from birth to age five, no matter their family's income.

Launched in the USA in 1995 the project spread quickly across the English-speaking world. Canada in 2006, United Kingdom 2007, Australia 2013 and the Republic of Ireland in 20219.

Source: Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. (2015). *The Dollywood Foundation*. [online] Available at: <https://imaginationlibrary.com/the-dollywood-foundation/> [Accessed 2 Sept. 2026].

Since 2014 the Rotary Clubs of the Illawarra, under the banner "Imagination Library Illawarra", have been distributing books to the children of the Illawarra. As of May 2026, on average 180 books are posted out each month by [United Way Australia](https://www.rotary.org/en/articles/2026/08/talking-reading-and-rotary-with-dolly-parton) on behalf of Imagination Library Illawarra. Many of these books will be read by/to other family members.

The project relies completely on public donations, Rotary Club donations, fundraising events and grants from local organisations such as the [IMB Bank](#).

To date Imagination Library Illawarra has sponsored 1383 children (plus their siblings) with over 30,914 books.

This club makes an annual donation to this project as well as, included in the above figures, we have sponsored 70+ children with over 1859 books.

Thank You Dolly for this inspirational project.

You can read a Q&A session with Dolly Parton originally published in the March 2010 issue of the Rotarian [here](#). This article was written about four years before Imagination Library Illawarra was launched.

Source: Rotary.org. (2026). *Talking reading and Rotary with Dolly Parton*. [online] Available at: <https://www.rotary.org/en/articles/2026/08/talking-reading-and-rotary-with-dolly-parton> [Accessed 2 Sept. 2026].

Pleasant Heights Public School P&C.



We have received a very appreciative Thank You from the Pleasant Heights Public School P & C committee.

You will recall that we donated two \$50 gift cards to their recent Trivia Night as either one \$100 prize or two \$50 prizes.

DV Safe Phone Collection boxes



The three Pilates Haus drop locations have been removed from our list and collection boxes have been placed at the following locations:

Clarity Eyewear Shop1, 112-116 Princes Highway Fairy meadow and
Fairy Meadow Newsagency 35A Princes Highway Fairy Meadow. The newsagency also has a collection bucket.

RC of West Wollongong Race Day 12th September



RC West Wollongong members invite you to go along and be part of their annual race day on 12 September, supporting both Greenacres and Flagstaff Illawarra.

[See more information and register here.](#)

Combined District Conference 2027



Next calendar year's conference will be combined with D9705 to be held in the Dunn Lewis Centre Ulladulla on 2 – 4 April.

[Earlybird tickets are available here](#) until 31/12/2026 but there are no special rates for Rotaractors.

Earlybird prices are:

Full registration (Friday evening until Sunday lunchtime	\$220
Saturday & Sunday including dinner	\$190
Saturday dinner only	\$100
Friday evening only	\$30
Sunday morning – Mental Health Walk + BBQ breakfast	\$35

Ticket registration is via D9705 ClubRunner but D9675 members will not be able to use this feature rather in the "input Club Name" box type your club's name then fill in the rest of the boxes.

RI Convention 2027 in Barcelona



The next RI Convention will be held in Barcelona on the 26-30 June 2027.

[Read more here.](#)

Registration for the 2027 Convention in Barcelona opens 17 September.

A special discount will be available until 21 September inclusive.

UPCOMING EVENTS

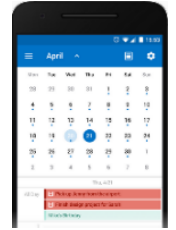
Why not bookmark these links now for future reference?

[View our Bulletins.](#)

[View details of our up-coming club events and meetings.](#)

[View the District calendar.](#)

[View the Rotary International calendar.](#)



Monday 21st September [United Nations International Day of Peace.](#)

Friday 2nd October BBQ Fundraiser at Bunnings Kembla Grange.

Monday 5th October Club meeting moved to Monday 12 October due to public holiday.

Thursday 22nd October PCYC Breakfast at the Snake Pit 7:00 a.m.

Saturday 31st October High Tea Fundraiser for [KAIROS Outside](#) at Corrimal RSL at 2:00 p.m.

Friday 6th November BBQ Fundraiser at Bunnings Kembla Grange.

Friday 11th December BBQ Fundraiser at Bunnings Kembla Grange.

Friday, Saturday & Sunday 2nd to 4th April 2027 Combined Districts Conference in Ulladulla.

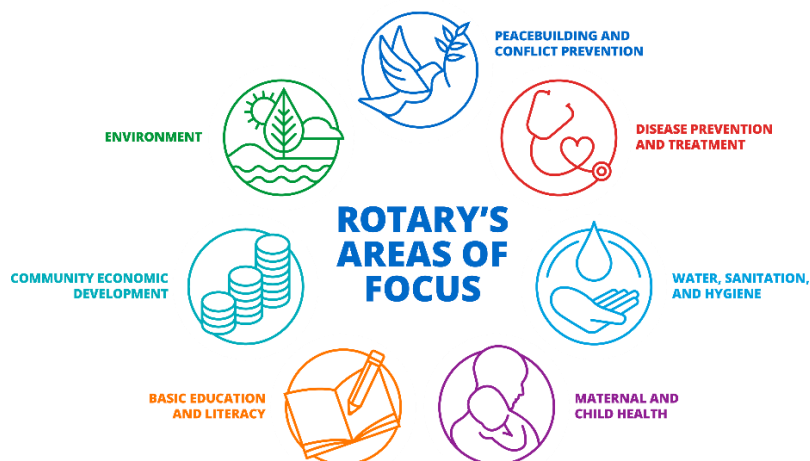
Agenda items for the board meetings should be sent to the secretary by the Saturday before the board meeting.

Items for the Bulletin should be sent to the Bulletin editor by the Sunday before the club meeting.

If you would like to nominate a **Guest Speaker** for a club meeting, please send the details to the Club Administration Director .

If you have an idea for a **new club project**, be it local, national or international please send the details to the Service Projects Director.

Stories for the website should be sent to the Secretary along with pictures etc.



Yours in Rotary,

David.



Thank you to [Storage King North Wollongong](#) for sponsoring our storage space at 100 Montague St, North Wollongong