

#### February 2025

Welcome to Peacebuilding and conflict prevention resolution month. In these challenging times, it is worth thinking about how we can promote positive peace in our world. The Rotary club of Adelaide centenary project of installing 100 peace poles in our state has been enormously successful. Last Friday along with members from Rotary Club of Adelaide I attended the installation of Peace Pole #154 installed by the Muriel Matters Society. If you are interested in learning more about the 8 pillars of positive peace and how through Rotary we can promote peace in the world, you are invited to register for the online FREE Positive Peace Academy course offered by the Institute for Economics and Peace https://www.positivepeace.academy/products/rotary-positive-peace-academy

President Elect Learning and Development Seminar (PELDS) and District Assembly are to be held on 29-30 March. Registrations are now open and close Monday 24th March. A letter to all President Elects with full information about PELDs was sent on 12 February from DGE Rajeev Kamineni. In this email is the link to register for PELDS. It is important for all Presidents Elect to attend in preparation for leading your club next year. All Rotarians are invited to attend District Assembly which is the key information sharing and learning opportunity for all Rotarians throughout the year. Please ensure you read the information on <a href="mailto:page 19">page 19</a> and use the link to register for District Assembly. As an added incentive by simply attending District Assembly this year you go into the draw to win one of two full registrations to the Multi District Impact Summit. This promotion is proudly sponsored by Paradise Mazda.

Included in this edition is information relating to the "Rotary Leadership Institute". This is a great online course for Presidents Elect. Check out the details on page 9. Level 2 is for new members & Level 3 for further information.

It is great to hear of the from the Rotary Community Leaders how the Rotary Community Groups are progressing their growth plans. The Rotary Community Group is the engine of future growth of Rotary and if we want to continue to have the impact we want to have in our local community and across the globe we all need to seize the opportunity our pilot is giving us to reinvigorate Rotary in our zone. I urge you to check out the new Zone 8 Specialist hub if you need support <a href="https://zone8specialisthub.au/">https://zone8specialisthub.au/</a> The specialist network allows you to tap into knowledge across the zone.

#### **Marie-louise Lees**

District Governor 2024-25

M: 0408 134 363



RAWCS has a number of appeals relating to recent disaster events available for donations. These appeals are for :
North Queensland floods, Vanuatu earthquake, LA Fires (repaying assistance provided in 2020 to Australia).
CAN YOU HELP?

Visit https://rawcs.org.au/disaster/ and donate to one or more of these disaster events

Send your classified to <a href="mailto:classifieds@rotary9510.org">classifieds@rotary9510.org</a> by 7th of the Month







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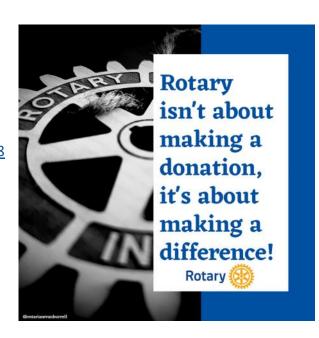
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Send your classified to <a href="mailto:classifieds@rotary9510.org">classifieds@rotary9510.org</a> by 7th of the Month









#### IMPACT SUMMIT.

MORPHETTVILLE RACECOURSE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA. 16TH - 18TH MAY 2025











CONNECT. SHARE. LEARN.

Rotary Districts 9510 (SA, NSW, NT & Vic) and 9800 (Vic) are combining forces to present the Rotary Impact Summit giving Rotarians the opportunity to connect across more than just one district.



or use the QR Code



to register

#### Early Bird Registrations close 28th February SAVE \$50 per person!









Some of our Keynote Speakers Register Now!!!!







#### A Question to ask your Club President!

Can you please schedule a screening of the promotional PowerPoint received via email for the upcoming Rotary Impact Summit?

If you wish to receive a personal copy,

please email webmaster@rotary9510.org

PDF versions are also available



MORPHETTVILLE RACECOURSE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA. 16TH - 18TH MAY 2025













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#### MAGIC ALL AROUND

21-25 JUNE 2025 • CALGARY, CANADA





REGISTRATION CATEGORY	25-29 MAY 2024	30 MAY 2024 TO 15 DECEMBER 2024	16 DECEMBER 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2025	1 APRIL 2025 TO 25 JUNE 2025
Club member, nonmember, or guest, age 31 or over	\$475	\$525	\$625	\$695
Club member, nonmember, or guest, age 30 or under	\$15 SON CLOSSED	\$178GD ON CLOSÉD	\$225	\$275
Guest age 5-18	\$20	\$20 1	\$30	\$40
Guest under age 5	Free	Free	Free	Free
Saturday, House of Friendship only	\$60	\$60	\$60	\$100

All amounts are in U.S. dollars.



Register today at **convention.rotary.org #Rotary25** 

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#### HAVE YOU VISITED THE DISTRICT FACEBOOK PAGE ROTARY MOMENTS?

For the latest Rotary information, you should make an effort to follow this page.

You can simply view the page if you are not a Facebook user.

Click this link to view <a href="https://www.facebook.com/rotary9510">https://www.facebook.com/rotary9510</a>









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Tea Tree Gully Inner Wheel Club
Invites you to attend the film

#### **Bridget Jones: Mad About the Boy**

At The Regal Theatre,

275 Kensington Road, Kensington Park

On Sunday, 16 February 2025, at 2.00pm

Tickets: \$15.00 per person, available at the door

Rafle tickets for sale at the venue

EFTPOS available

Funds raised will support the HAS Foundation









#### **Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI)**



Opportunities for Rotarians and Rotaractors and those who haven't been involved in an RLI course before exists for you to involve yourself in personal and professional learning in the traditional RLI course, see information below

Amanda Barnes in Rotary District 9685 is facilitating the following -

#### Traditional RLI

#### **LEVEL TWO**

#### This course is for new members, members who wish to learn more about Rotary and for identified club leaders

This will provide you a quality education in Rotary knowledge and leadership skills, unique to voluntary organisations, and support you to be able to apply them with confidence.

The course is this month, February on -Thursday 20th, Friday 21<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 27th, and Friday 28<sup>th</sup>

This is an online course from 6pm-8.30pm (AEDT) on each of the evenings above COST is \$15 and your club may be able to support by paying for it

#### LEVEL THREE

#### Graduate Program - for those of you looking to take your personal and professional development within Rotary to the next level.

ON: Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th of March OR

Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> June

This is an online course from 6pm-8.30pm (AEDT) on each of the evenings above

COST: \$15 and your club may be able to support by paying for it

#### For more information:

https://rotarydistrict9685.org.au/.../rotary-leadership...

There's still time to register so don't hesitate to follow the link below -

To register: https://www.crsadmin.com/.../Publ.../EventPublicFill.aspx...

Please contact our District Learning and Development Chair, Di Clements on 0412305660 or diclements@rotary9510.org if you require further information







#### It's on again!

#### The Mad March Cycle Challenge



I'm raising funds for Australian Rotary Health.

Aiming to ride at least 500km in March and your donation will spur me on.

Please log on to <a href="https://madmarchcyclechallenge.raiselysite.com">https://madmarchcyclechallenge.raiselysite.com</a>

Then click **DONATE** 

Look for my name RUSSELL GREEN, click on my name and make your donation.

Then check my **POSTS** and my progress. All my rides will be in and around the Adelaide metro area.

I'll appreciate your generous donation towards an aim of topping \$1000 over all.

#### **Russell Green**













## Rotary Twilight Sail - 'One & All' Tall Ship Saturday 1st March 2025



#### **Cruise Details:**

A magical twilight sail for Rotarians and their friends on the 'One and All' Tall Ship, involving a short, picturesque cruise down the Port River and into the Gulf.

Passengers will be plied with delicious food served from the ships galley. Tea coffee and soft drinks will be available throughout the voyage. The ship's bar will be open with beer, wine and bubbly available for purchase by cash or credit card.

Helping to sail the ship will be a group of students from the recent September Sailing Challenge voyage. During the evening the students will talk to Rotarians about their experiences and the benefits they have gained from the Voyage.

#### Location:

Assemble at Dock 2 (2 Honey Street), Port Adelaide at 5:45 pm.

Departure at 6:30 pm and Returning at 9:30 pm

Cost: \$139pp plus booking fee.

**CLICK HERE for more Information & Booking** 







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THE ROTARY CLUB OF CAMPBELLTOWN PRESENTS

## ANGHTIN VENICE

JOIN US FOR AN ENCHANTING MASQUERADE FILLED WITH THE MAGIC OF THE CARNIVAL IN VENICE!

1 ST MARCH 2025 DOORS OPEN AT 6.30PM THE MARCHE CLUB 49 GORGE ROAD PARADISE \$75.00 PER PERSON 3 COURSE MEAL

ENTERTAINMENT BY THE FLAMING SAMBUCAS

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT COWS FOR CAMBODIA, AN INITIATIVE BY SOUTH AUSSIE WITH COSI SUPPORTING CAMBODIAN COMMUNITIES.

Don't miss this unforgettable evening!

BOOK YOUR TICKETS ONLINE NOW WITH TRYBOOKING!
SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/CXRWA











The Rotary Club of Henley Beach would like to invite you to join us on a tour of the **Capri Cinema** at 141 Goodwood Rd, Goodwood.

What's included: Morning Tea

Tour of the Capri Cinema

Demonstration of the WurliTzer Organ

When: Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup> 2025

<u>Time:</u> 10.00am for morning tea and the tour begins at 10.30am,

finishing at 12.00noon

<u>Cost:</u> \$15

RSVP: Krystina Micke, 0411 844 369

The Capri Theatre is an independent, not-for-profit cinema run by a network of generous volunteers. Built in 1941, it is heritage listed and houses the Theatre Organ Society's unique world class theatre pipe organ. Funds are used for the restoration of the iconic South Australian building and the mighty WurliTzer organ.













International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The 2025 theme is **Accelerate Action**.

#### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025 7.00am – 9.00am, Top Room at the Arkaba Hetel

#### Miriam Silva AM

Miriam is an experienced board director and CEO and has more than 25 years' experience managing large and geographically diverse teams across multiple industries including pharmaceuticals, banking and agribusiness.

Miriam sits on a number of boards and committees including Chair InTouch Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence, Chair Contemporary Arts Precinct



In 2022, Miriam was appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM). In 2012 Miriam was named as one of Australia's inaugural 100 Women of Influence in the Westpac and AFR Awards. Miriam is a member of the SA Women's Honour Roll (2011) and the recipient of the 2012 Governor's Multicultural Award for the Private Sector

Tickets are \$45.00 per person (Plus booking fee) with maximum table groups of 10.

Bookings naw open - https://www.trybooking.com/CXIIY

Or use the QR code



Please bring to the dusiness cards for a door prize. There will be raffle tickets available for purchase at \$5 per ticket.

The 2025 breakfast will be supporting *inTouch Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence*. InTouch works across the family violence continuum, providing culturally-informed case management, perpetrator programs, a fully accredited community legal centre and specialised migration assistance, crisis recovery, learning and development programs and enhanced capacity-building projects across the sector and community.



















## CLASSICS on the park





**Sunday 16 March 2025 10.00am — 2.00pm** 

Thorndon Park Oval, Hamilton Tce, Paradise.

(Food and drinks available for purchase)

CAR ENTRY: All Classic Cars must be registered in advance at \$10 per Car vide TRYBOOKING to enter the Show.

PUBLIC ADMISSION: Gold Coin Donation.

Proceeds to benefit Local Country Fire Services \*\*





















For more information: E: classicsonthepark@gmail.com Mob: Sam – 0415 695 888 or Jeff – 0418 807 040







ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE AND THE ROTARY CLUB OF EASTWOOD WARMLY INVITES YOU TO JOIN US IN WELCOMING

#### Gemma Sisia AM

Founder of The School of St Jude Tanzania

TOGETHER WITH ST JUDE'S ALUMNI, JOHN AND WINNIE, GEMMA BRINGS INSPIRING TALES FROM TANZANIA TO ADELAIDE, CELEBRATING 23 YEARS OF FIGHTING POVERTY THROUGH EDUCATION.

In 2002, Gemma Sisia opened The School of St Jude, a 100% charity-funded school in Arusha, Tanzania to bring the opportunity of a free, quality education to children experiencing poverty. A St Jude's scholarship provides everything students need for a successful education, including nutritious meals, boarding, transport, and much more.

Since the graduation of St Jude's first cohort in 2015, St Jude's has celebrated over 1,000 alumni. They are now entering or working as Tanzania's doctors, engineers, tradespeople, entrepreneurs, teachers and creatives.

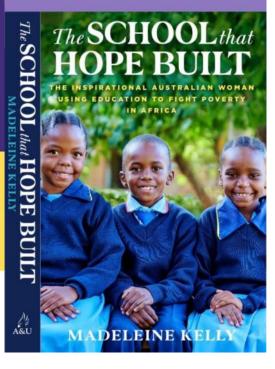
Thursday 20 March, 2025 at 7-8:30pm St Aloysius College, McAuley Auditorium Enter via the Chancery Lane gate

Please RSVP by Thursday 13 March. Link to register: https://www.trybooking.com/CYZRM





Meet Gemma and purchase a copy of *The School that Hope Built*, written by Adelaidebased author, Madeleine Kelly, who lived and worked at St Jude's for over 5 years.



#### **CLICK TO BOOK**

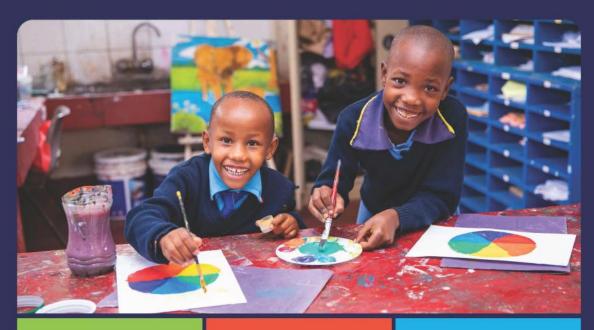








## Let's fight poverty one student at a time...



100%

of our 1,800 students receive free, quality education

98%

of our 300+staff are Tanzanian

97 cents

of every \$1 donated directly supports the school

#### **An Evening With Gemma Sisia**

A pioneering leader providing free, quality primary, secondary and tertiary education in Tanzania Africa. Supported by the Rotary Club of Murray Bridge -

Friday 21st March

5:30pm for 6:30pm Start

\$50 per person

RSL Clubrooms 2 Ross Rd, Murray Bridge

#### ONLINE BOOKING PREFERRED

Alternate booking via direct deposit.
Please use your name as a reference.
Those with dietary requirements <u>MUST</u> book online
Acc: Rotary Club of Murray Bridge Inc.
BSB: 065-505
Account: 010065572

For more information contact Jenny Phillips 0407 239 845 email: gemmasisiaevent2025@murraybridgerotary.org.au



https://www.trybooking.com/CYKCU







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**Discover Connected Resilience** with RFAST's transformative **3-hour workshop**, designed to equip you with essential tools and strategies for fostering mental well-being in yourself and others.

## WHY ATTEND RESILIENCE FIRST AID STARTER TRAINING (**RFAST**)?

Delve into the evolving world of mental health prevention and learn how to create a supportive environment through psychosocial hazard awareness

Join us to unlock your potential in promoting resilience and embark on a journey of personal growth and empowerment for the betterment of your community, workplace, and personal life.

#### Included in RFAST:

- RFAST Participant Workbook Summary of the workshop content, space for notes, plus your own Active Strength analysis and personal Resilience Action Plan
- Completion Certificate Useful for evidence of ongoing professional development marking 2 hours of attended training



#### **Training Outcomes:**

By participating in RFAST's workshop, you will:

- Develop an appreciation for mental health prevention strategies
- Understand the significance of supporting resilience in others
- Enhance your ability to recognise when someone needs resilience support
- Identify your strengths and create a resilience action plan

#### Curriculum Overview:

The RFAST workshop covers the following topics:

- The evolution of mental health towards prevention, emerging trends in therapies, and new approaches
- The importance of psychosocial hazard awareness and your role in promoting a healthy environment
- The concept of Connected Resilience and strategies for cultivating it
- The six resilience domains, including their highs, lows, and risk factor awareness
- Identifying your unique strengths and creating a tailored resilience action plan

#### **RFAST Summary:**

3-hour workshop Purpose:

- Preventative approach to mental health
- Develop a culture of resilience
- Psychosocial hazard awareness training
- Understand resilience & create an action plan

Open to anyone

ormats

Live - trainer led

Fees: \$20 Booking Fee

All Inclusive



Trainer(s): David Moran & James Chenoweth

Location: Elizabeth Vale, Soccer Club - Mofflin Road, Elizabeth Vale SA 5112

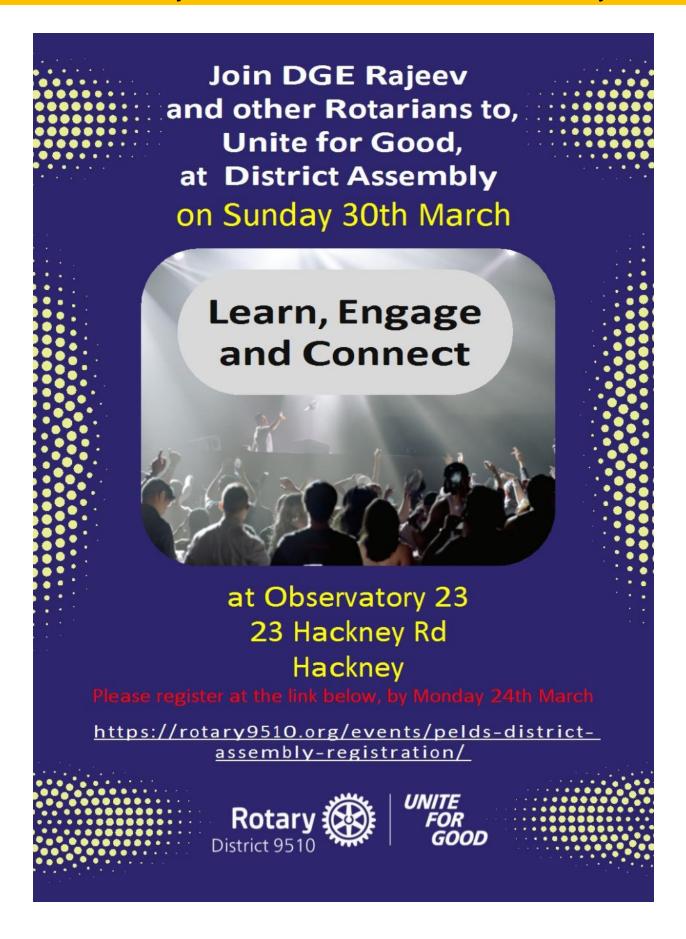
Date & Times: 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm

TO BOOK - Email - admin@mentalhealthpartners.com.au or call 0402 749 850















#### **CAN YOUR CLUB HELP?**

This program is run and largely financed by the Rotary Club of Waikerie. Typical cost is \$14000 per event and whilst there is some sponsorship, additional cash is needed. Six regional High Schools participate being, Waikerie, Loxton, Renmark, Nuriootpa, Mannum and Faith Lutheran College. Last year 158 students, 12 teachers and 23 volunteers (predominantly Rotarians) participated in the event.







#### Science and Engineering Challenge

Create our future.

Make a difference.



United Nations Day Honour 2022 Award Recipient

Contact Kerry Eldredge for more info

#### Is The Challenge effective?

A survey of past participants revealed that: <u>kerry.eldredge61@gmail.com</u>

- · 97% of students found The Challenge rewarding.

· 99% of teachers would bring their school again next year.

- 89% of students found The Challenge informative about potential courses and careers.
- 40% of students studying Mathematics in year 11 were influenced by The Challenge.
- 30% of students studying Chemistry in year 11 were influenced by The Challenge.
- 47% of students studying Physics in year 11 were influenced by The Challenge.

#### **Event statistics**

- In a standard year we engage with over 30,000 students
- On average around 50% of our participants identify as female
- We engage with close to 60% regional, rural and remote students
- We are very proud to nationally engage with 5-6% Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students







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## Having a Club Event and would like to use the 'Rotary Promotional Ute'?



Once the dates are planned call David Fenton *email:* promoute@rotary9510.org



Generously provided by PDG Jeff Neale











#### End Polio - Zone/International update

#### **POLIO IN NUMBERS**

Year – Global totals	2024	2023
Wild Polio Virus (WPV)	98	12
circulating Vaccine Derived Polio Virus (cVDPV)	278	528

Data as of 31 January 2025

#### Insight

WPV cases still in Pakistan and Afghanistan

Gaza a hot spot (hopefully addressed by ceasefires and bulk vaccination program addressing over 500,000 children in September & October)

The increase in WPV cases (25 in Afghanistan and 73 in Pakistan), compared with last year, is disappointing but does not mean the goal of a **Polio free world** is beyond our reach.

The decrease in cVDPV cases, thanks to the Novel Oral Polio Vaccine, is very encouraging

#### News

#### Polio in Melbourne wastewater:

Some of you will have heard of the detection of circulating Vaccine Derived Poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) in wastewater in Melbourne. The Victorian Department of Health contends the virus has almost certainly come from someone who has recently had the Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) overseas and is still excreting it.

Polio immunisation coverage in Victoria is extremely high with 95 per cent of children at five years of age protected – above the national average. However, **childhood immunisation coverage has declined since 2021** and some populations in Victoria have lower coverage.

Australia continues to monitor Poliovirus through wastewater surveillance to detect its presence in the environment. This program provides critical data to the World Health Organization in its efforts to eradicate Poliovirus worldwide.

The detection of vaccine-derived Poliovirus in Victoria, albeit in tiny amounts, demonstrates that routine environmental testing is effective.

#### Who is at risk?

Children and adults who have not been fully vaccinated against Polio are at greatest risk if exposed to an infected person. People travelling to Polio-endemic or epidemic regions should receive a Polio booster vaccine every 10 years.

**Note:** An inactivated Polio vaccine is used in Australia, which means it cannot multiply in a person, is not found in the bowel or sewage, and cannot cause Polio disease.







#### **VICTOR HARBOR ART SHOW REPORT**

512 Artists participated

395 Art works sold from 1323 accepted

\$277732.00 in sales (this may increase as often get calls wanting art for a few days)

Average price of \$704.90

29.78% of total artworks sold.

**Rotary Victor Harbor Winner Artwork - John Lacey** 

The winner of City VH - Nina Volk

**Judge Mike Barr** comments on winners was that he felt "these were their best works to date" proving artists continue to grow and develop.

**People Choice** won by Allyson Parsons closely followed by Chris Summer and Peter Ellgar and acknowledging Adelaide Decreval winner of the 17 year and younger category.

For more information, please contact Julie Irwin, Chair. Victor Harbor Art Show 2025.

www.rotaryvictorharbor.com.au









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#### Feeling Poetic? Then try this...

In association with Rotary International, the e-Club of Innovation present The Rotary Poet of the Year Awards.

A fantastic exciting Rotary competition open to every Rotarian, Rotaractor, Interactor, Rotary Club or friends of Rotary

# Will You Be "Rotary Poet of the Year" 2025

Everyone can enter, so let's put pen to paper or press those keys.

Individual or Club submissions are welcome.

If the winner is in the e-Club's District it will be presented locally or at the RI Calgary Convention by RI President Stephanie Urchick

There are 2 categories to choose from, Open & Magic of Rotary

Raise Rotary awareness. Share with friends. Hold a Club poetry event.

Entries close 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025

#### Visit www.rotarypoetry.org to enter.

eClub of Innovation is associated with Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland









#### **SEEKING VOLUNTEERS.**

Since 1988 ROMAC, a project of Rotary Districts in Australia and New Zealand, has provided lifesaving and/or dignity restoring surgical procedures to children from neighbouring countries where these services are not available. Many of these children require complex cardiac surgery or intricate maxillofacial surgery. Currently we have over 60 children on a waiting list requiring ROMAC's assistance.

ROMAC is run totally through the work of volunteers, so overheads are low.

The Central Region Committee is a vibrant team of volunteers however we are seeking additional help in the areas of secretarial support to the Chair and Committee plus skills in bookkeeping/accounting.

To volunteer you are not required to be a Rotarian.

To chat about these roles, please give Elizabeth Davis, Chair – Central Region Committee a call on 0417839966 or email: <a href="mailto:central@romac.org.au">central@romac.org.au</a>

#### **SAVE THESE DATES**

**Event: Presidents Elect Learning and Development Seminar (PELDS)** 

Day: Saturday, 9am to 4pm

Date: 29/03/2025

Venue: Observatory 23, Hackney Road

**Event: District Assembly** 

Day: Sunday, 9am to 4pm

Date: 30/03/2025

Venue: Observatory 23, Hackney Road











#### 2025 - 2 PERSON AMBROSE COMPETITION



#### **MURRAY BRIDGE GOLF CLUB**

(NEW PAR 70 COURSE LAYOUT IN PLAY)

PRIZES FOR MEN'S "A", "B" & "C" GRADE & LADIES TEAMS

SHOT GUN START: 8.45 am

PRIZES INCLUDE DRAKES "HOLE IN ONE" COMPETITION TO THE VALUE OF \$500



## PROCEEDS TO "LIFT THE LID"



ON MENTAL ILLNESS

ENTRY FEE: \$55.00 (non M.B.G.C. members) \$40.00 (M.B.G.C. members)

(BARBEQUE LUNCH PROVIDED BY THE ROTARY CLUB of MURRAY BRIDGE INCLUDED IN THE ENTRY FEE )

(COMPLIMENTARY TEA/COFFEE BEFORE HIT OFF - EGG & BACON ROLL BREAKFAST - \$5.00















BOOKING Q.R. CODE

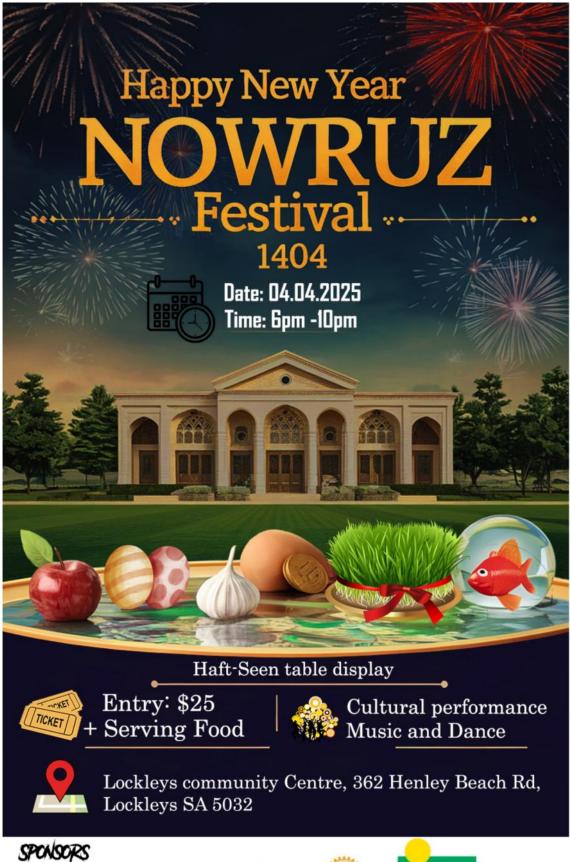
REFER TO ENTRY FORM (PRO- SHOP) FOR DETAILS OR PHONE JENNY (0407 239 845) or ROB (0429 678 579) or VISIT https://www.murraybridgerotary.org.au







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#### SO, WHATS HAPPENING IN 2025?



Just a quick note to keep you in the loop with what's happening with our RYLA and RYPEN programs for 2025.

First, as of 2025 we have amalgamated the committees of both programs, which will give us the opportunity to streamline running the programs. RYLA has always sourced past RYLA graduates to staff the RYPEN program as well as the RYLA program, and our new combined committee will help with this.

As of 1/7/25 the RYLA program (and RYPEN as well) will be regionalised. On a club level there will be very little change for 2025. We are still covering the same area as when a 9510 District program and so will continue to use the 9510 District name to identify our program at this stage.

I will continue in my role as Committee Chair, but it will now be the RYLA/RYPEN Committee. There will be 2 new program co-ordinator roles on the committee to run each of the programs directly. Any correspondence for either program can be directed to my email address of **ryla@rotary9510.org** to answer any of your queries.

#### 2025 PROGRAM DETAILS:

RYPEN - is being held Friday 29th to Sunday 31st August 2025 at the Nunyara Conference Centre with the cost of \$425 per participant (\$415 for subsequent applicants sponsored by the same club). Online applications will close on 28/7/25.

RYLA - is being held Saturday 20th to Friday 26th September 2025 at the Nunyara Conference Centre with the cost of \$1150 per participant (\$1100 for subsequent applicants sponsored by the same club). Online applications will close on 15/8/25.

There has been no increase in applicant sponsorship costs for 2025 and we again look forward to the support of your club in making these programs a success. If you have any queries please email me and we will get back to you. If your club would like a presentation on our programs contact me as soon as possible to arrange a date.

And on a final note, please drop by the Rotary Summit Showcase in May to say hi, have a chat and collect some of our updated flyers.

From Helen Marshall, Chair, RYLA/RYPEN Committee (9510)









#### The Rotary Club of Blackwood





#### **GIANT BOOK SALE**

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2025 from 9 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

Blackwood Memorial Hall
21 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood

Novels, Biographies, Children's Books, Cookery and Gardening Books and many more.

All good quality secondhand books. Help us raise funds for our service to the community.

Books from \$0.50 to \$3.00 each

ROTARY CLUB OF BLACKWOOD WORKING FOR THE COMMUNITY







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#### **Youth Sailing Challenge**

#### Next Sailing Challenge: 13th - 17th April 2025



Do you, or someone connected to your club know a young person aged 15 to 18 years that would benefit from facing the life-changing challenges experienced from learning to safely sail a tall ship at sea? Would your club sponsor them?

Cost to club: \$1200

For more information visit <a href="www.youthsailing.com.au">www.youthsailing.com.au</a>
or contact:

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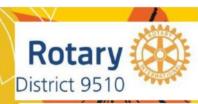














Discover Connected Resilience with RFAST's transformative 3-hour Club of Elizabeth workshop, designed to equip you with essential tools and strategies for fostering mental well-being in yourself and others.

### WHY ATTEND RESILIENCE FIRST AID STARTER TRAINING (**RFAST**)?

Delve into the evolving world of mental health prevention and learn how to create a supportive environment through psychosocial hazard awareness.

Join us to unlock your potential in promoting resilience and embark on a journey of personal growth and empowerment for the betterment of your community, workplace, and personal life.

#### Included in RFAST:

- RFAST Participant Workbook -Summary of the workshop content, space for notes, plus your own Active Strength analysis and personal Resilience Action Plan
- Completion Certificate Useful for evidence of ongoing professional development marking 2 hours of attended training



#### **Training Outcomes:**

By participating in RFAST's workshop, you will:

- Develop an appreciation for mental health prevention strategies
- Understand the significance of supporting resilience in others
- Enhance your ability to recognise when someone needs resilience support
- Identify your strengths and create a resilience action plan

#### **Curriculum Overview:**

The RFAST workshop covers the following topics:

- The evolution of mental health towards prevention, emerging trends in therapies, and new approaches
- The importance of psychosocial hazard awareness and your role in promoting a healthy environment
- The concept of Connected Resilience and strategies for cultivating it
- The six resilience domains, including their highs, lows, and risk factor awareness
- Identifying your unique strengths and creating a tailored resilience action plan

#### **RFAST Summary:**

3-hour workshop Purpose:

- Preventative approach to mental health
- Develop a culture of resilience
- Psychosocial hazard awareness training
- Understand resilience & create an action plan

Open to anyone

Formats:

Live - trainer led

Fees: \$20 Booking Fee
All Inclusive



Trainer(s): David Moran & James Chenoweth

Location: Angle Vale Sport & Community Club -193 Fradd Rd Angle Vale

Date & Times: 14th April, 2025 - 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm

TO BOOK - Email - admin@mentalhealthpartners.com.au or call 0402 749 850







#### **ENTRIES NOW OPEN**



## Murray Bridge Rotary



**Art Show** 

April 18<sup>th</sup> - May 18<sup>th</sup> 2025 Murray Bridge Regional Gallery



**Entries Now Open** 

Three Categories

2D - Painting

3D - Ceramic / Sculpture

Photography

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#### **Embracing New Beginnings**

#### Hadi Jafari-One Lesson In Four Years

I had just set foot in Australia from Afghanistan and was overjoyed beyond measure. It was the end of the year, and the hustle and bustle among people was incredible. We chose to settle in a place called Prospect. This location was lovely because many of its residents were Afghans, making it much easier for us to access the market and shopping areas conveniently.

When 2022 began, I enrolled at school to continue my education. Our neighbours, who had moved to South Australia years before us, spoke highly of a school called Thebarton. Among them was Reza, who had completed his law degree and described Thebarton as a place of hope. The neighbours' frequent praises led me to accept Thebarton's reputation, and I prepared myself to start my studies there.

Initially, when I walked from home toward my school, a strange sense of pride overwhelmed me. University students in Afghanistan carried their laptops in their right hands, close to their chests, as they walked. This habit symbolized intellectualism among young scholars in Afghanistan and seeing this in Adelaide gave me hope.

I was introduced to year 11 at school. Imagine someone from a country where educational facilities were scarce—where even having desks to sit on in classrooms was a rarity—seeing Thebarton's chairs made of metal and adorned with beautiful colours, with desks provided for each student. The teachers taught with a unique combination of discipline and culture, which inspired students to study hard, learn about each other and pursue education seriously.

The school's educational structure offered a wide range of subjects across arts, sciences, humanities, and mathematics. I really loved law, and this strong interest stemmed from a meeting with one of the Australian senators. The name of this Australian senator was Smith. She was a knowledgeable and dignified person. During my first meeting with her, I was very excited. I had come from a country where meeting a politician was something you could only dream of. I shook hands with her. At that time, my English wasn't good. She spoke very quickly, but I had a rough understanding of what she was saying and asking. She warmly welcomed me to Australia and asked what I wanted to do in the future. I said I wanted to be like her. She smiled and told me that Australia is a land of opportunities. Here, everyone is appointed to jobs based on merit and expertise, and legally, no one can boast over another. Finally, she said, in Australia, if you stand against injustices, the government and the people will stand by you. Her words had a profound impact on me, and from that meeting, I laid the foundation of my future, which was based on justice, equality, and freedom. That's why I turned to the field of law.

Among the teachers at Thebarton, there was one person who later became dear and cherished to me: Eva. With big eyes and a warm voice, this woman was incredibly delightful. Our school nurtured students from over 76 different cultures under one roof. Some of these cultures directly contradicted Australian culture. Yet, Eva, with her charismatic personality, managed these contradictions beautifully. She remembered the names of every student. According to her, she had spent over two decades of her life fostering the growth of migrants.

The last time, five months ago, she invited me to her small office tucked away in a corner of the administration wing. It was winter, and Adelaide's cold air had enveloped everything. She asked about my perspectives on migrants. From her manner of speaking, it was clear that she carried painful stories of migrants within her, stories that haunted her as well.

Occasionally, when I looked into her eyes, she shared tales of her youth, Australia, her travels, her achievements, and her honours. But all these sweet and bitter stories belonged to the past. I was speaking to a great personality who was highly respected here at our school—a person whose way of life was rooted in humanity, respecting both young and old. Yet, she was passionately pursuing global peace, where the essence of humanity and compassion would be honoured.

As the head of our school, Eva accomplished four significant achievements over the past ten years:

To promote Human Rights and compassion she worked to embed progressive thinking among migrants and students, striving to make Thebarton a reliable bridge for those who wished to pursue higher education. Along with her team, she promoted peace by creating subjects like Peace Studies, turning peace into the core essence of our school. She







played a crucial role in reconciling conflicting cultures with Australian values, eliminating absurd superstitions by promoting conversations that promoted sharing and gratitude. She was a unique advocate for women's freedom, especially in countries where women are not regarded as equals. She believed that Australia could not achieve economic and political prosperity without women.

When our conversation ended, she stood up. We had talked for nearly an hour. She grabbed her phone and walked me to the outer gate. The air was growing dark, and I disappeared into the evening shadows with slow and steady steps.

My eyes could no longer follow her from a distance. It was a strange scene. I felt as though I was watching a movie that had just ended. Loneliness, darkness, raindrops, and the foggy air erased me from the scene of Thebarton (our school). No, this wasn't a movie; it was reality that I was witnessing. When I returned home, tears welled up in my eyes as I thought about the past years. I reflected on how being in this place had allowed me to escape alienation and how I now had to prepare myself for university journey. But my father's words gave me peace of mind: "Life is a journey, and the rule of journeys is that every journey ends one day."

This was my last meeting with Mrs. Eva during my school years. Her work commitments had taken away the opportunities for more conversations. Time—hours, days, and months—was passing unusually fast for me. In the final days, one of the teachers who had recently joined our school entered our classroom. From her language and manner of speaking, it was clear that she was a kind teacher. With kindness and a pleasant voice, she asked the students if anyone was interested in speaking at the graduation ceremony to send their written speeches to her email.

her words sparked a sense of pride in me, and I thought to myself that, without a doubt, I would be the only one giving a speech at the graduation ceremony. I stood up, changed the tone of my voice with full confidence, and said, "I want to speak at this ceremony." she kindly stared at me. her arched eyebrows and honey-coloured eyes will never be forgotten, and then she said, "You can send your written speech to my email."

From that night on, I began writing. I had a month to share the final version of my writing with them. I would write at night and erase during the day. Finally, after about two weeks of writing and erasing, I managed to send them a draft of my speech.

It was winter, and the nights were longer. I would take my coat, hat, and gloves and head to the nearest park to our house, gazing at the sky. Occasionally, I would see the moonlight, illuminating the stars and transforming the oppressive darkness that had taken over this beautiful park into brightness. Then, I would read my speech with full dedication and practice. My writing began like this:

"For three years, I have been grappling with learning the English language at Thebarton Senior collage. During this time, I have fallen and risen many times. Sometimes I have laughed, and often I have cried, but I have never accepted defeat. I have learned language from the old, the young, and even children. In these swift three years, I have learned one significant lesson, and that is to accept reality. I have executed whatever was within my capacity, but for that which was beyond my limit, I have strived and planned to reach it.

My main goal over these three years at Thebarton has been to learn about the Australian culture and various other cultures. I have continually tried to learn from others and planned my actions in such a way that I may develop as an active and effective global citizen, enjoying and benefiting from life with my friends. Over the past three years, I have tried to establish strong connections with different people. It is only by converging with diverse cultures that we can grow and improve.

As an Afghan-Australian, I have devoted three years of my life to contributing my best to society and the community. During this time, I have worked to present a positive and different image of Afghans within Australian society. I have shown respect for the Australian flag and have cherished its soil.

My message to all my friends is to understand reality and surrender to it. Choose to be motivated and to always do your best, if you don't you risk being left behind by this highly competitive world. Don't be discouraged by those who







think you can't achieve the aspirations you have set for yourself. When people seek to drag you down rise above and let your actions and results do the talking. These are the things that I have learned from the good times and the bad, and I carry these with me as I move into the next stage of my life and learning journey.

Now, if I were to go back three years, I would set the same plan for myself and would not change a single thing. My message to you, my dear friends, is to strive for your dreams and never give up. One day, you will taste the sweetness of victory. Never tire of reaching for your dreams, for sooner or later, the world will yield to your rightful aspirations.

I was reading to myself and walking. While walking, sometimes, when I imagined myself in front of dozens of students, my heartbeat would increase, and the image of my family and friends would bloom in my mind. They would politely smile at me, and with their smiles, they would gift me a sense of pride. Two weeks passed, and with each passing day, my heartbeat grew faster, and my eyes, like an owl's, were glued to our school emails. I write down some of the important events in my life in my diary so that I never forget them.

From what I have written in my diary, it seems that on Tuesday, the same lady will appear in our class again. Apparently, she has an important message to convey. She begins by greeting all the students with a "Good morning" and kindly wishes everyone a great day. I think to myself: this is a good teacher, someone who cares about every student. Then, she looks at me with her eyes and asks me to speak with her outside the classroom for a moment.

She kindly starts speaking and begins by discussing all the criteria for a good manuscript. From all the conversations exchanged between us, I realized that my manuscript was not accepted. Yet, I look at her with a smiling face and nod my head to her words in agreement. I do my best to hide this pain with my smiles and diminish its importance with a cheerful demeanour. She was as grateful as she was kind. Despite my manuscript not meeting the acceptance criteria, she said: "Your manuscript has deeply affected me." After about 10 minutes, she said she had to go and left her seat. In solitude, tears formed in my eyes, but I wiped them away with my hands. When I returned to class, the second lesson was almost over. That day, the sun had turned its warmth into merciless cold. The chill of this pain burned within me, robbing me of the strength to stay in class any longer. I picked up my wallet and computer and slowly left the school heading home.

On the way, the car radio caught my attention with a song by the English singer Adele. I turned up the volume. Adele, with her magnificent voice, sang: "Hello, it's me." Since that day, this song has become eternal in my mind. Now, every time I listen to this song, I remember that day.

I reach home. Nostalgia and a lump in my throat squeeze my being and shut the window of light before me. When I open my eyes again, my room's clock has moved four hours forward. I had been lying like a stone for four hours. I open the window of my room. The sun is setting, bringing a message of profound sorrow. The sound of the gutters makes it clear that the sky, like me, is heavy-hearted. I feel like going outside to experience the beauty and sweetness of walking in the rain and returning home once I am soaked. But then, I tell myself, no, this is not the end. I think of the greatness of Australia and its noble people. I imagine the beauty of Adelaide blooming in my mind. A city with many features. A city that, as my father says, is the purest. A city that, as my friends say, is unparalleled. A city where you want to sleep in its embrace and breathe in your sense of belonging to Australia; breathe deeply, and breathe deeply. Adelaide, this city is a symbol of pluralism. A city that embraces people from different countries around the world like a vast ocean. A city that is a land of education. Universities compete with each other and send new recruits to the field of development. I reflect on all these aspects and arrive at a final question: How can one not be optimistic about the future?

The year 2023 was almost over. After a year, I was beginning to reap the rewards of my efforts. Throughout the year, I had conducted deep research on the differences between poor and wealthy countries, centred on the question: Why do nations fail?







Toward the end of the year, I received an email from friends at Rotary. Rotary is one of the largest social organizations in Australia, aiming to promote peace and collaborate with poorer countries in education and mental health—a cornerstone of all known problems.

They kindly asked me to give a brief talk about my research. Rotary took my work very seriously, which created a strong motivation for me to study late into the night. In my belief, Rotary is one of the best social organizations in Australia. We, the youth, must be active in welcoming and supporting such important non-governmental organizations that consistently strive to build a good and healthy society. We should collaborate more with Rotary and similar organizations, write about them, speak about them, and plan with them. Because they deserve to be talked about and written about. Because they have paved the way for the younger generation. Because they are our pride. All these reasons came together for me to invite one of my classmates, whom everyone called Mursal, to join me in this program. She gladly accepted this invitation. Her acceptance brought a sense of togetherness to my mind. For a moment, I imagined her and myself traveling to distant places on diplomatic missions. She was an elegant, graceful, and extraordinarily beautiful woman.

What I will never forget about her was love. But I can't make this story too romantic. When I compare this image with today, I feel as though all of it was a dream, not reality.

When I had an early meeting with one of the teachers in 2022, they reminded me that if I wanted to pursue university education, I would need to stay with them for at least three more years. I pulled my phone out of my pocket and checked the date. It was February. I counted three years: 2025. I thought to myself, "Oh no! I have to study at Thebarton until 2025." Those three years seemed unbearably long.

I returned home. I thought all night and judged myself: Should I study here to qualify for university, or should I say goodbye to education forever? I finally chose the first option.

Imagine, from 2021 to now, four years have passed, and how swiftly they went by. A 20-year-old young man had aged 20 years more. I had sacrificed my childhood to the horrors of war, and these bitter experiences made life in Australia less thrilling for me. In the tiresome realm called migration, the imposed thoughts of a heavy-hearted man ruled over my young personality of just 20 years.

This turned me into an old, depressed, yet responsible young man. The only thing that rescued me from this painful state was returning to education. I worked hard to learn English and, through it, reconcile with the society, history, and culture of this new country.

Finally, after four years, I concluded that migration can never replace one's homeland. Believe me, it's a great illusion that migrants sometimes impose on themselves. While migration may challenge language retention, keeping your language and culture is largely up to the individual. Language is the most crucial tool for expressing yourself, and if it doesn't work properly, it can lead to feelings of isolation and frustration.

Closing Remarks If there's one lesson I've learned, it is this: Gratitude is the foundation of growth. By embracing who we are, defining our goals, and striving to learn and contribute, we unlock the potential to thrive—even in unfamiliar lands.

New horizons await, and I walk toward them with a heart full of hope, gratitude and trust in the country I now call home.

Rtn Hadi Jafari





