# DISTRICT 9815 CONFERENCE





NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2024

28 - 30 March 2025



### **The Countdown**

Hello, Fellow Rotarians and friends of Rotary District 9815, The 2025 District 9815 Conference has the potential to bring together over 1,900 members and friends from the District in Victoria. We are planning what will be a spectacular, highly visible, and engaging event. The inaugural Conference will be held in Bendigo, Victoria; 29-30 March 2025 with a Sports/Social Day on Friday 28th along with winery tours bookending on the 27th and 29th. The conference theme is "WE BELONG" Because we are better together", and we will be "Looking at the past, embracing the future." This conference is a celebration of the dedication, service, and success of Rotary and its members. Over the course of three days, we will showcase the impactful work of Rotarians from across Districts and share insights achievements that highlight the spirit of Rotary. Join us as we forge new connections, exchange ideas, and inspire each other to continue making a difference in our communities and beyond. I encourage you to attend the first 2025 District 9815 Conference in Bendigo and to share the experience of Rotary in Action!

We have secured special ROTARY rates at several hotels and within the triangle of Bendigo's major attractions Please find details on how to make hotel bookings on the last page of this publication. The 2025 District 9815 Conference early bird Bookings are now open till 30th September 2024.

See you in Bendigo,

Wil Cornelissen (RC Waverley), Conference Chair



Did you know?



## **Activity Highlight**

## Pre-Conference Welcome Drinks

Celebrate and welcome in the inaugural District 9815 Conference with pre-drinks and canapes at the 19th Century gold era Bendigo Town Hall before enjoying the traditional Friday Night Club Dinners.

All conference attendees, partners and family welcome. Also enjoy a smoking ceremony (weather permitting) and traditional Welcome to Country.

### **Conference Activities**

- Winery Tours
- Golf & Bowls Competitions
- Morning Tea at the Bendigo Art Gallery
- High Tea with optional Tour at Fortuna Villa
- Pre-Conference Welcome Drinks at the Bendigo Town Hall
- Club Dinners
- First timers' Orientation Breakfast
- Expo at Red Energy Arena (incl. public access)
- Plenary Conference Sessions
- Alumni Networking Lunch
- Gala Dinner with the theme: "Rotary Rocks"
- Foundation Breakfast
- Fundraising Walk for Monash Children's Hospital Cancer Centre, around Lake Weeroona.







### **Presenter Spotlight**

Dougal Beatty & Stephanie Anderson





Dougal and Stephanie are Channel Nine
News Melbourne Presenters and
Reporters. Dougal has covered stories
including COVID-19 pandemic and
lockdowns, the acquittal of Cardinal
George Pell, and the Black Summer
bushfires and Stephanie has covered
stories including the Bourke Street terror
attacks, Victoria's flood emergency and
the Sydney-to-Hobart yacht race. Both
hail from working in regional Victoria.





ROTARY DISTRICT 9815 CONFERENCE

Wine Tour in

Pick up approx. 10:00am Bendigo Return approx. - 4:00pm Bendigo

### **Useful Nuggets of Knowledge**

Keep up to date via:

- Conference Webpage; and
- Conference Facebook Page

Check out <u>accommodation options</u> and Tourist Information via the dedicated <u>Bendigo Toursim</u> Website.

With weekend saver discounts, travel on Victoria's regional network on weekends with a daily fare currently only \$7.20 or \$3.60 concession. Groups of 12 or more can also get a concession discount and Seniors can receive 50% discounts, free travel vouchers and free weekend travel in any two consecutive zones and on regional town buses.

During the Conference, the Bendigo Art Gallery will be hosting the <u>Frida Kahlo: In her own image exhibition</u>. This will increase tourists in the Town therefore ensure you book in accommodation, attractions and restaurants early.

#### THU 27TH MARCH

Bendigo Wine Region

\$165pp plus GST (minimum 6 people, maximum 11 people)

#### FRI 28TH MARCH

Heathcote Wine Region

\$175pp plus GST (minimum 6 people, maximum 11 people)

### MON 31ST MARCH

Heathcote Wine Region

\$185pp plus GST (minimum 6 people, maximum 11 people)



#### **BOOKINGS**

0421 371 031

hello@ramblingwinetours.com.au

#### **Sponsorship Opportunities**

Do you know any organisations that may be suitable sponsors? Their support, through financial or in-kind contributions or active participation, will help to foster meaningful values within their organization and the community. We have a range of sponsorship packages available. Please contact Stephen Palamara (Rowville-Lysterfield) and Wil Cornelissen (RC Waverly) for more details or to express sponsorship interest.









Early Bird Prices END 30 Sept 24