

5 March 2024

Rotary Club of Traralgon

Serving Through Rotary for 82 Years District 9820 Victoria

The Club meets on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesday each month, Traralgon Golf Club. 6.00pm
Attendance and apologies to Secretary Charlie by 7.00 pm on Sundays please. Ph 0428 761 435
Next Business Breakfast March 27th. Contact Lorraine ph 0419 547 363

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2023—2024

President
Janne Speirs

**Immediate Past
President**
Debby Butler

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Charlie Speirs

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Youth Services
Debby Butler

Rotary Foundation
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Jan Inglis

Vocational Services
Michael Rossiter

Membership
Glenn Azlin

Public Relations
Lorraine Paulet

President's Prattle

Hi all and welcome to tonight's meeting when we welcome Josh Last who is going to speak to us about the new role he's taken up at the Plaza.

Our first Bunnings BBQ for the year was on Saturday 2nd March and I thank all those who were able to support this really great fund raiser for the Club. People often joke about turning sausages being the only thing Rotarians do but our BBQs in the 2022-2023 Rotary year raised an incredible \$10000 on top of which we have recently been receiving an extra donation on each BBQ day from a generous supporter of the Club.

During tonight's meeting, Membership Director Glenn Azlin will give us a few thoughts regarding the special evening on the 19th March and I urge all members to ensure that the date is marked in diaries – this will be a wonderful opportunity to hopefully bring together a good number of those already interested in joining our Club, but also those who we are approaching for the first time – we are planning on having a very lowkey but informative selection of presentations which will predominantly focus on what Rotary – and the RC Traralgon – does, without going into too much unnecessary detail.

It's also really exciting to announce that the first of our Equine Therapy sessions will take place on Thursday 7th March and I hope to be able to get out to the venue to see this wonderful project start its life!! As you will no doubt remember, the project came out of the funds raised as a result of the Gala Concert held last September and I thank Wayne Abblitt for the initial contact at the Morwell Police Station. He has been really of great value and is a wonderful driver for this project.



Traralgon Rotary Club meets on the traditional lands of the Brayakaulung people of the Gunaikurnai nation. We pay our respects to their elders, past present and emerging and thank them for their long history of care for this land and its rivers.

I was thrilled on Tuesday last week to visit Melissa and Alexander and to see how much difference the new fence is already having on their family. Xander is just loving being able to be outside whenever he wants and is really happy about the changed situation. The fence looks fantastic and appears to be really 'comfortable' in the environment. I have included a couple of photos – one of the property looking towards the creek along Gwalia St but the other is of Xander sound asleep on the dinosaur book I took for him – he'd made Melissa read it to him about ten times straight!!



Looking forward to seeing everyone on Tuesday

Cheers

President Janne

Report of Meeting 20 February 2024

Sergeant Gavan called the meeting to order.

President Janne gave some updates: The fence for Alex has been completed, invoice has been received. Also some extra is available for equipment to be purchased for Alex to use outside.

Thanks to Glenn and Ian for doing gardening this morning.

Prospective awardees for Pride of workmanship have been received. Details to be circulated soon. The committee is hoping for 10 awardees. Can be volunteers or paid position. Members are invited to make recommendations.

Glenn Azlin (Membership Chairman) is in the throws of getting invitations out for the membership night on 19 March.

Board accepted Charlie Speirs as president elect for the next year. He will talk about his overview this evening. Janne mentioned that she is looking forward to Stephanie A Urchick as International President for the coming year.

Gavan informed us we have been invited to assist with a BBQ at Centenary House on 17th March, St Pat's Day. 4-5 needed. Please help. Reminder of up coming BBQ on 2 March

President Elect Charlie Speirs told us the theme for the coming year is: The Magic of Rotary

We create magic by doing special things for people and making the world a better place.

He spoke of two subjects he is passionate about:

Disaster Aid Australia.

Co-operation creates more than single enterprise.

This is shown through disaster response, for example after flood devastation in South Thailand. Disaster Aid Australia used to provide the 'Shelter Box' which provided a tent and basic cooking utensils. These days it seeks to work with local partners to find out the needs of those who have faced disaster and tailor makes their response their request for local needs. The effect is multiplied by involvement of many donations.

Another example is providing clean water. 100,000 children a year die from water born disease. Charlie showed a brief video of Stephanie Urchick visiting a camp in Africa, water there was clear - but not bug free.



Sky Hydrants were invented to provide clean water by putting water through filter reeds. Disaster Aid installs sky hydrants.

After floods in Thailand, local Rotarians delivered food aid from January 3rd. By 7th January 4 sky hydrants had been delivered.

Disaster aid run their own You-tube channel - check out the other things they do.

Rotary Foundation

Charlie informed us he has been involved in the foundation for nearly 20 years and is District grants chair. Important work is working out how Rotary can multiply dollars raised and put them to new projects. One avenue is offering study scholarships.

District 9820 has supported Edwin Kwon. He was born in Melbourne. Completed his first degree in medical policy. He wanted to work for the World Health Organisation. Edwin got through his first year then was offered a position in WHO as part of his studies in Germany.

Another student is a young lady, Claudia, with a degree in immunology. Worked her heart off during covid. Went to South Korea to teach English as a second language and is now enrolled in a Masters of Health Policy - to advance the needs in South Korea. She has submitted an application, looking for a scholarship to do the second year of her masters. Claudia studying in New York.

Charlie will continue on as grants chair. The Rotary organisation has a lot of money it uses it well and wants to benefit others.

President Janne added: Stephanie Urchick wants us to add a word at the beginning of the theme for next year - which allows each club to have an ownership of the theme.

Janne informed us – John Cartelidge - district treasurer has given us the opportunity as a club to access \$4,000 for equipment that could be used when there is a disaster, like chainsaws or generators. She asked for opinions from club members.

Other suggestions included : a defibrillator, a vehicle for the club, like a ute.. Central Traralgon has a Rotary generator in their shed – in theory shared ownership between that clubs and ours.

The matter will be considered by the Board.

Gavan conducted a game of 'Heads and Tails". Prizes went to Glen Azlin & Jan Inglis

Janne concluded the meeting reminding us to– **'Create Hope in the World'**.



RI President-elect Stephanie Urchick celebrates the magic of Rotary. She says members create that magic with every project completed, every dollar donated, and every new member of Rotary.



Urchick, a member of the Rotary Club of McMurray, Pennsylvania, USA, said she saw the magic of Rotary on display when she was helping install water filters in the Dominican Republic. Two boys were watching as dirty water entered the filter, then ran out clean at the other end. "One of the boys grabbed my sleeve and said, 'Show me the magic again,'"



Janet and Peter are away this week, riding and supporting the Rotary Ride for Medical Research. Donations received so far have reached \$410. Thank you for your support.

Further donations can be made through the Traralgon Rotary Project Account. (BSB 633000 Acc 136 565 892 Ref *Ride Your Name*).

Statistics for 20 February 2024

Apologies: Wayne Ablitt, Tony Boulton, Russell Davidson, Ron Elliott, Simon Hemming, Brian Lythgo, Rae Mackay, Darryl Marks, Chris O'Brien, Helen O'Brien Lorraine Paulet, Jan Riddle, Endel Vallak

Visiting Rotarians:

Partners:

Guests Speaker :

Guests:

Statistics	
No of members	30
Member Apologies	12
AWOL	
LOA	0
Members Present	17
Visiting Rotarians	0
Partners	0
Guests	0
Total	17

Recent and upcoming Celebrations and Anniversaries :

INDUCTIONS	
BIRTHDAYS	March: 5th Ron Elliott; 13th Gavan Hodgson; 15th Lyndal Boulton; 16th Chris O'Brien; 17th Glenn Setches and Tim O'Brien
ANNIVERSARIES	

ROTARY INVOCATION

For good food, good fellowship and the opportunity to serve through Rotary, we give thanks.

THE 4 WAY TEST

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

This is our club's 3771st dinner meeting. We have hosted about 125 Business Breakfasts

District Website: Information relating to Clubs within our District may be found via the following address: <http://www.district9820.org>

Club website: www.traralgonrotary.com

Facebook : 'Traralgon Rotary', like us and request to become a friend.

	This Meeting 5th March 2024	Next Meeting 19 March 2024
Programme	TCP Management	Membership Evening
Speaker	Josh Last	
Chairman	Janne Speirs	Glenn Azlin
Sergeant	Gavan Hodgson	Lorraine Paulet
Bulletin	Ron Elliott	Adele Nardino
Greeters	Simon Trebilcock & Ray Scheffer	Janet Wallis & Wolf Becker
Cashiers	Endel Vallak & Michael Rossiter	Peter Wallis & Debby Butler.