

ROTARY CLUB OF OCEAN GROVE
Serving the Southern Bellarine

Inc. Assn. A 0013584 X
ABN: 13 501 173 192



Meeting Roster

Date	Topic	Chairpers on	Greeter/ Thanker	Happy/Sad \$	Raffle	Birthdays/Anniversaries
Feb 25th	Club Assembly	Meredith O'Neill	N/R	N/R	N/R	Paul Tierney 24/2; John Paton 28/2;
March 4th	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	Pam Haines 3/3; Alan Keyse 6/3

Our Club

President

Secretary



Meredith O'Neill

Rod Bush

Where: We will meet each Tuesday at the **Ocean Grove Bowling Club**



When: 6pm for 6:30pm
Visitors are Welcome

Meeting enquiries or apologies:
Janice Nation - 0417 332 742

Web: rotaryoceangrove.org.au

Monthly **Theme:** February is **International Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution Month**

Upcoming dates for your diary/calendar:

Feb 23: Gemma Presentation

Mar 2: Summer market

Mar 21 - 23: District conference, B Heads/Torquay.

Meeting report:

Chair: Richard Cahill

Visiting Guests:

- **Mark Monahan; Don Donovan**
- **Drew McPhail, Irene Duncan**
- **Bill Jeffries**

Meeting Reports:

Family of Rotary:

- **Alison George** is now home and doing well.
- **Judy Greer** is recovering well.

Footy Tipping: **Greg Leece** explained that the footy competition for 2025 was about to start and urged as many members as possible to join in. The participation fee is \$50 pp and results in weekly winners receiving wine prizes as well as the overall place getters at the end of the season.

Don't let a lack of football results skills put you off - it's NOT a requirement as is well indicated by some of the previous winners !!

Rod Bush gave a brief presentation about creating your Footy Tipping account - an interesting 'exercise'.

After getting on to website (or app), the basic steps are:

Past bulletins

- Available from our website (rotaryoceangrove.org.au) via the 'Our Club' menu.

Contacts

Market: 0401 606 036

Art Show: 0410 471 005.

Wisdom quote

"By three methods we may learn wisdom: First, by reflection, which is noblest; Second, by imitation, which is easiest; and third by experience, which is the bitterest."

- Confucius

Links

Rotary International: www.rotary.org

Rotary District 9780: www.rotary9780.org

Rotary Foundation:

www.rotaryfoundationaustralia.org.au

Footy Tipping: www.footytips.com.au

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RotaryOG>

Instagram: [#rotarycluboceangrove](https://www.instagram.com/rotarycluboceangrove)

Please remember:

Member Activities - Please check your allocation and inform the appropriate person if you cannot make it.

Lookout Maintenance Roster:

Contact Noel Emselle

16 February	Nick Laskaris
2 March	
16 March	Martin Geerings
30 March	Andy Mckoy
13 April	Jenny Wright
27 April	Lynne Carlson
11 May	John Karis
25 May	Harry Hanley
8 June	David Larkin
22 June	Ron Ayres

Enter your email

Verification code

Set (and remember!) a password

Verification mail - into Spam ?

Create account - use a recognisable name

Select sport (AFL) and search competition (OG Rotary Club Footy Tipping)

Join our Competition

Enter tips

OR - ask for it to be setup for you.

We recommend the last option for those joining for the first time! Rod will be at future meetings from about 5:15 onwards to assist with account creation as required.

Gemma Sisia

Presentation: David Larkin spoke about an upcoming presentation to be held at the **Ocean Grove Bowling Club on Sunday, February 23rd. (5:30 for a 6pm start)**

The meeting on Feb 23rd will be open to the public and we are hoping that as many Rotarians as possible will come along to hear first hand of the work of Gemma and the support she receives from Rotary. We are indeed privileged to be able to host this event. We are inviting all local Rotary clubs to attend as well as advertising the event through local media outlets.

A meeting invitation has been sent to all members. It would be great to see as many as possible attending this event.

If you missed Gemma's interview on Pulse FM, you can listen to it at this link. <https://947thepulse.com/shows/lorettas-front-page>.

Just go to today's date (19th Feb) on Loretta's program.

Gemma's interview commences 1.07 hrs into the program and goes for approx. 15 minutes.



15 on me: Contact Rod Bush

I'll chat with members about availability and add names here as I get willing participants

100 Trees Maintenance Roster: Contact Noel Emselle

February. - Andy McKoy - leader
Peter Cullen , John Paton, Janet Alexander.

Where you can use your OGBA voucher:
Driftwood Cafe, OG Cellars, Ian Pattison Jewellers, Viewpoint Digital Media, OG Bar, Wardrobe by the Sea, Bellarine Eye care, Bay IT, Bells by the Beach, Laminar, OG Hardware, OG NewsXPRESS, Pavilion Property, Ocean Eyes, OG Super Toys, Covenant Wine Bar, Roche Accounting, Bakers Delight

You receive an email each week asking about your attendance at the next meeting - **please respond when you get it**

Bunnings BBQ:

A fund-raising success but it had a few 'logistical' issues as this picture shows Gus Hawthorne can now rightfully call himself the 'Pole Bearer' for our BBQ crew !



President's Report:

1. Change in Meeting Times.

The 4 week trial of the new meeting times will commence on Tuesday 8 April which is our first meeting after daylight savings ends. At the end of the trial members will be able to vote on whether to continue. The new meeting times are:
5.30 – 6 .00 Arrival, ordering meals and fellowship time.
6.00 - 6.30 Meeting
6.30 – 7.00 Dinner
7.00 – 7.30 Guest speaker or meeting time or fellowship.

2. Rotary Corporate Social Responsibility Grant (CSR).

The Board had received a letter asking for a registration of interest in this grant which is worth \$35 000. Meredith did some further research following a suggestion from Lisa at the last club meeting. The conclusion was that this CSR grant is not a realistic possibility to fund support for the Sustainable Housing for Older Women project. The Board and Jenny Templeton have been notified of the reasons for this conclusion.

3. Rotary Barwon Regional Community Group Meeting, Geelong Saturday 15 February.

Meredith and Lyndy attended this very productive meeting that included a sharing of ideas from across the clubs.

A. Ken Withers, President of Bellarine North Rotary, gave a presentation covering cost of living pressures on retirees and the impact of high Rotary membership fees on club membership. Fees were identified as a barrier to membership and involvement in Friends of Rotary or causal involvement volunteer projects was not being translated into an increase in membership. Many clubs are in a situation where the club membership levy is absorbed by RI and District fees and does not cover club running costs. Clubs shared their approaches to managing this situation and these will be considered at the next Finance Committee meeting. The issue of membership fees, the \$5 meeting charge and club running costs will be on the agenda for the next Board meeting.



B. Rotary Community Foundation 100 K for 100 years Rotary Sub Fund.
Further information was provided on how this fund will operate.
The Rotary Club of Ocean Grove has not made a commitment to this project.
Clubs are being encouraged to consider a contribution but it is not mandated.
The minimum club contribution is \$ 5 000 and three clubs have contributed \$10 000.
This matter will be revisited by the new Board as part of the 2025-26 Budget process.

C. Rotary in Geelong 100th Anniversary Ball.
Saturday 18 October, The Italian Club 515 Bellarine Hwy Moolap, 2 course meal, excellent cover band for lots of dancing, estimated cost of \$95 pp. We hope that our club could be well represented at this function.

4. Rotary District 9780 Conference. 21 -23 March

The conference program is now available through the district website.
Please let Lynne Carlson know if you are attending.
We are not making a group accommodation or bus booking arrangements as most of the conference is nearby at 13th Beach Golf Club.
The Friday evening program is scheduled to finish at 7 pm. We are considering a group booking at a Barwon Heads venue for a casual dinner. Please let Lynne know if you would like to be included in these arrangements. Friends and Rotarians from other clubs are welcome to be included in these arrangements.

5. Club Assembly 25 March.

There has been a change in the meeting schedule for next week. There are three significant club projects/ programs that are commencing or are about to commence.

- A. Junior Community Awards Program – Information sessions for students and parents are scheduled for this week. Lyndy is the organiser.
- B. Duck Race Easter Saturday 19 April – Planning to commence for sponsorship and required permissions.
- C. Community and Business Awards Function Tuesday 3 June – Planning by Vocational Services Committee to commence.

It is necessary to allocate club meeting time for these important planning tasks. There will be workshop groups from 6.30 – 7.00. After dinner there will be a short club meeting followed by reporting back from the JCA, Duck Race and Vocational Services group.

MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO BE SEATED IN THEIR SERVICE COMMITTEE GROUPS.

Table 1 – Members doing other Rotary business, fellowship

Table 2 – Vocational Services Committee – leader Meredith

Table 3 – Youth – leader Paul

Table 4 – Community – leader Pearl. This group may split into a separate Environment group at another table. Pearl would like the group to come together at the start. This group also needs to consider whether we put in an application for the Gold Enviro award at the district conference.

Table 5 – International – leader Kath

Table 6 - Duck Race – leader Heather.

Some members are members of more than one committee. Please make your selection based on the urgency of the work and your responsibilities in that particular committee. A rough guide to table seating will be worked out prior to the meeting but we need to be flexible in making some adjustments as the committees are not of equal size.

Youth Service, Community Service, Environment team and International Service will report back to whole club meetings at a later date. The focus of this workshop meeting is on doing some important planning work rather than on reporting back to members.

6. Guest speaker event – Gemma Sisia, St Jude's School Tanzania

Ocean Grove Bowling Club, Sunday 23 February, 6 pm

Club members are encouraged to attend.
Thanks to David, Frank, Kath and Rod for their role in the organisation of this event,

7. Family of Rotary

Judy Greer is home from hospital and is recovering well.
Alison George is back home in her villa with her happy cat.

Meredith O'Neill
President.

Guest Speaker - Frank Rice introduced our guest speaker, **Mark Monahan.**

Mark is a resident of Ocean Grove and his work is based at Mt Atkinson, a new development in Melbourne's west, between Caroline Springs and Tarneit. (23 km to the city)

Mt Atkinson Holdings are the lead developers in this area which commenced about 2017 and will eventually house 20 000 residents (by 2030.)



They are supporting communities - especially those needing assistance, care and guidance - and basically, facilitating cultural assimilation.

The land used for the program was gifted by a local land owner to to the Christian Brothers and the Edmund Rice Community Services was appointed to lead this development. It is unique in Australia.



Frank & Mark

The overarching focus is building connections within and between communities. To this end, Mark has done a wide range of foundational work with indigenous groups from the area, gaining an understanding of the historical (and cultural) importance of the area, to these groups.

Youth groups have been created to provide activities aimed at providing enjoyable and fun experiences that they can participate in, along with children from different cultural backgrounds. The child-created bike track was a great example of this.

Similar work has been done with adults via art/craft and sporting groups. All this with quite limited building facilities - usually by adapting old existing buildings from the original farm homestead.



In this rapidly growing area, public transport is not available to any degree and roads are jam packed with cars making movements to/ from schools/jobs - a frustrating experience. Work has been done to try and assist in this area with the provision of a 12 seater bus for groups to use.

Mark's passion for this ever evolving project was clear; Frank thanked him on behalf of our club.

Check out the photos here to get an idea of the scale of the development.: <https://www.realestate.com.au/project/stockland-mt-atkinson-truganina-600024682>

Hello Sailor

For those with a passion for sailing (we have a couple) **Rod Birrell** provided this tasty treat. **Jasmine Harrison** is a British girl currently sailing solo across the Atlantic see. You can watch a video report on Youtube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ETGHR1Snztw>)

Her spinnaker looks familiar !? 🤔



A 👁️: Each week we'll include an AI generated image of a member, based on their photo.

As a start, this week, there are four in the jokes section.... Who are they ? 🤔

International Women's Day: Saturday March 8th

Soroptimist International Geelong group are holding an event on Thursday May 6th to recognise the day.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

JOIN US AT OUR ANNUAL BREAKFAST

<p>DATE: Thursday 6 March 2025</p> <p>TIME: 7am for 7.20am start</p> <p>VENUE: THE CAPTAINS ROOM GMHBA STADIUM</p>	<p>COST \$46.00 per person</p> <p>Bookings via Trybooking:</p> <p>https://www.trybooking.com/CYQOV</p>
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Our IWD Guest Speaker 2025

AMY GARDNER

With over a decade of experience in the tourism industry, Amy Gardner is passionate about creating and promoting exceptional visitor experiences across Australia. Recently embracing her most cherished role as a mum, Amy balances her family life with a thriving career in digital marketing and her role as the founder of *Seniors in Melbourne*.



Amy is an active member of the tourism community, contributing to the development of emerging professionals through the Young Tourism Network. She also volunteers with West Welcome Wagon, a grassroots organisation supporting asylum seekers with essential goods and services.

As a guest speaker, Amy will share career highlights, including her journey from industry professional to business owner and the recognition of *Seniors in Melbourne* as a standout in its field. She will also reflect on the challenges of balancing career and family life, along with important life lessons that have shaped her unique approach to creating meaningful visitor experiences.

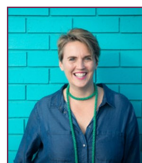
Our IWD MC for 2025

LORETTA HART

The driving force behind a weekly news and current affairs program with a strong focus on women's health, their stories and issues that affect them.

Loretta's Front Page is scheduled each Wednesday from 9-11am on 94.7 The Pulse. Loretta is a mentor for women in business, life and wellness, supporting, discovering, sharing for positive change, individually and in community.

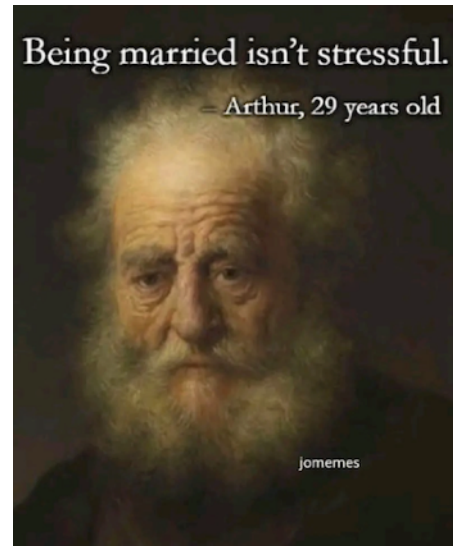
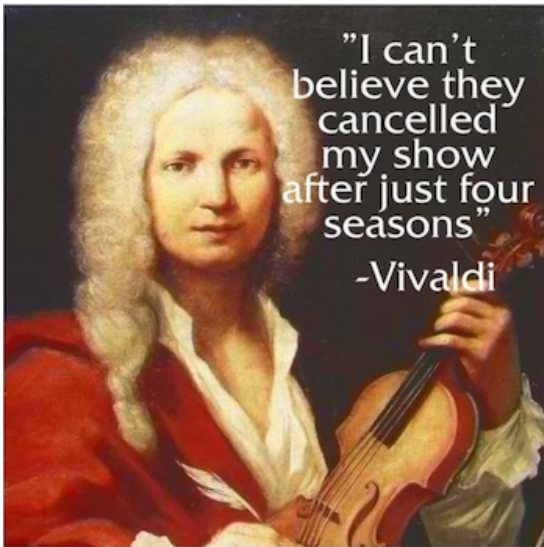
Loretta brings people together, like a human piece of Lego, wherever she goes she creates community. This is evident again in her new role as 94.7 The Pulse's community engagement and sponsorship coordinator.



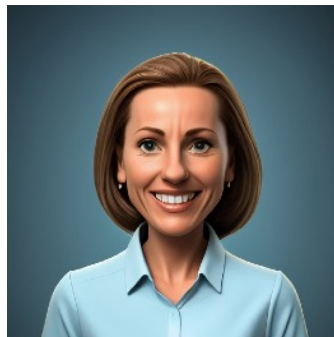
ENQUIRIES:
Rita 0455 835 691
sigeelong@siseap.org

Lucky Door Prize provided by Fernwood Waurn Ponds
12 month membership with Reformer Pilates to the value of \$3039

fernwood. FITNESS
- WAURN PONDS -



This dog is trained to sniff out people timewasting on Facebook



Apple Intelligence - Member pics - Names ??

