

Rotary

Rotary Club of Seymour

Connecting with our community

Contact us at PO Box 80 Seymour 3661, www.rotaryseymour.org or phone the Secretary Bill on 0438 028868

President : **Ruth Byers**

Secretary : **Bill Dwyer**

Treasurer : **Peter Holland**

No 19 12 November 2025

Coming Meetings

Unless otherwise noted, we gather from 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start

Date Venue	17 November Royal Hotel	24 November Royal Hotel	1 December Royal Hotel
	Junior Community Awards	Annual General Meeting followed by Weekly Club Meeting	Guest Speaker Grace Grieve "The Orange Door"
Chair	Tony Lee	Ruth Byers	Anne Holland
Toast	John Barton	Kathy Mills	Chris Bence
Cashier	Samantha Manning	Dave Palmer	Janina Taylor
Greeter	Mat Fowler	Tony Woodhouse	Fred Sartori

If you cannot carry out your duties, please arrange for someone else to do so, and advise President Ruth or Alison Hall

All Members: Please respond to the Meeting Invitations to allow easier catering

Save the Dates

13 November	VicPol online Neighbourhood Policing Forum	Bill
16 November	Market	Mark
29 November	Say No to Domestic Violence	Ruth
15 December	Club Christmas Celebration	Alison
21 December	Twilight Market	Mark

Next Week's meeting

Next Week we will host the Junior Community Awards. Response from the school community has been very good.

Don't forget our November Market on Sunday. Please contact Mark if you can help on Saturday morning or Sunday. marksdossor55@gmail.com or 0407 004 460.

Last Week's Meeting

More than 30 members attended last Monday to welcome home President Ruth Byers and to hear our guest speaker James Greenshields.

Apologies included Viv Beaumont, Greg Byers, Ian Chadwick, Mary Greenshields, and Liam Jones.

As this was the evening before Armistice Day, Ruth proposed a toast to the King and to Australia, noting that that is what so many Australians fought and died for.

She then proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Madrid, a city recently visited by her and Greg. Chartered in 1920, it is the oldest Rotary club on continental Europe. Its projects include Food for the Needy, water supply in 3 places: Peruvian Amazon, Pisco-Peru, and Port-au-Prince. A major project is the provision of hotel accommodation for direct relatives of child patients who reside outside Madrid and who need treatment at the paediatric units of the Madrid Health Service.



Ready for Business

Ruth went on to thank all who assisted at the SES and Emergency services barbecue on Saturday, especially Mat for his organizing it. This was a significant way in which the club can show its support for the community's emergency services personnel. She also thanked Mark for standing in in her absence.



Bonnie, Craig and Ruth

Next we had the pleasure of the induction of a new member, Craig Hoat, who was introduced by Bonnie Williams. Following his move to Seymour Craig transferred from Box Hill Central where he was a member of some 35 years standing, and a Charter Member, too.

Chairman John introduced James Greenshields, the son of long standing member Mary Greenshields.

James is a local lad, whose early schooling was in Seymour before he attended boarding school in Melbourne. After leaving school, he went to the Australian Defence Forces Academy in Canberra, which offers degrees from the University of NSW. Like most graduates, James then went on to

Duntroon after which he became part of the Army. After 17 years of service, including in East Timor and Iraq, James retired 14 years ago with the rank of Major. He is a lead facilitator at the Emergent Leaders Foundation. He has spent the past 2 years assisting communities around Australia to become self sufficient. The theme for James' talk was "the purpose of remembrance".



If we don't remember why we remember there is no relevance. James illustrated this with a couple of humorous anecdotes. He said that forgetting why we remember can cause trauma, and that symbolism is really important. He illustrated this by use of a sabre and the ceremony which went with its use, showing why certain actions are taken.

James then discussed the effects of trauma, PTSD, and the solutions which are present in the community. In his closing remarks, James observed that one means of overcoming suicide by young people is to give them a reason to live.

His thoughtful and thought provoking presentation was applauded by those present, followed by some questions.

Chairman John observed that to have other business after James was unfortunate, but the raffle had to be drawn. Winners were John Stares and Chris Bence, with Tony Lee having the opportunity to take out the Joker ..he didn't.



In closing the meeting, President Ruth thanked James for his excellent presentation on topics close to the heart of many, and presented him with a copy of Samuel Johnson's book "Love Your Sister".