

Rotary
Rotary Club of Seymour
Connecting with our community

Contact us at PO Box 80 Seymour 3661, or www.rotary-site.org or call the Secretary Bill on 0438 028868

President : **Ruth Byers** Secretary : **Bill Dwyer** Treasurer : **Peter Holland**

No 5 4 August 2025

Coming Meetings

DATE / VENUE	11 August Royal Hotel	18 August Royal Hotel	25 August Royal Hotel
	Casino Night with Fiona McCarthy Partners and Guests are Welcome	Our guests will be representatives of Seymour Sharks Swimming Club and Seymour Scouts	
CHAIR	Bonnie Williams	Trevor Harnes	Peter Holland
TOAST	Greg Byers	David Freeman	Jane Challis
CASHIER / RAFFLE	Paulette Andrews	Paulette Andrews	Ken Butcher
GREETER	Gary Doherty	Ann Holland	Garry Doherty

IF YOU CANNOT FULFIL YOUR DUTIES PLEASE ARRANGE SOMEONE ELSE AND ADVISE PRESIDENT RUTH

Coming Events

Adopt a Road

Our next club activity will be Adopt a Road on the GV highway on 31 August.
Meet at the weighbridge at 9.30. The club will provide garbage bags, gloves and “picker uppers” for your use. Matthew Fowler is organising. When parking at the site, please remember that trucks need access to and from.

**I apologise to those members who were inconvenienced or confused by the changes to the
Duty Roster. I'll try to do better!**

Meeting 11 August

Casino Night

at the Royal Hotel

Finger Food and Fun

Bring your partners, friends and colleagues - All welcome

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Apologies were received from Greg Byers, Russell and Leanne Chapman, Gary Doherty, Cathy Gorbault-Lawrence, Ron Halicki, Peter Holland, Anne Holland, Catriona Jarman, Liam Jones, Hugh Lawrence, Samantha Manning, Kathy Mills, David Palmer, Fred Sartori, and Janina Taylor.

Initially we gathered at 6pm at Seymour Flexible Learning Centre in Tallarook St. Here the Principal Shane Elliot showed us around the facility, and explained the purpose of the Centre. Attached to Wodonga Secondary school, the Centre provides educational facilities for 89 students across a wide age range who have difficulty in regularly attending school. Here they have some control over their education by participating in much of the decision making about their learning.

Students come from far afield by bus and train.

Here they are prepared for life after school or for returning to the normal classroom.

All of us were impressed by the facilities: bright, well presented and conducive to working together.

We were equally impressed by Shane and his approach to this difficult task.



Back at the ranch, or rather the Royal, we commenced our standard meeting.

In opening, Chairman Fiona remarked on how fortunate we are to have the Flexible Learning Centre and its dedicated staff in Seymour.

In Kathy's absence, Fiona called on Jane to propose the toast to an international club. Kathy had chosen the Rotary Club of Dunedin Central, which was chartered in 1979. The club has 29 members and 2 honorary members, and meets at 6pm on Tuesday at the Dunedin Club. The club's home page states that *"Where good deeds meet good vibes"*, and that *"We mix purpose with personality, service with sass, and community with a healthy dose of cake (and maybe karaoke)"*

The club supports schools and has Clean Up Days.

Fundraising efforts include sales of second hand books, the Dunedin Brick Show (Lego), Straw with Purpose (selling pea straw to local gardeners), and a Christmas window dressing competition.

Guests were introduced: Bill Dwyer was accompanied by John Barton, and our guest speakers School Captains Mandessah Wyatt and Jacob Sterio were accompanied by the Principal of Seymour College Debbie Oliver, as well as 2 other senior students.

Mandessah and Jacob told us that about 15 students nominated for the positions of Captain, and the whole school voted on the appointments. The 4 with the greatest number of votes were interviewed by the Principal,, and selected for appointment.

They told us that there is a strong sense of belonging at Seymour, and that they have adopted a whole of school approach. Being Captain is not about the badge, it is about representing the school community. It is a great opportunity to leave your comfort zone, and to be the go-to person for those in need. Part of the role is to communicate with the school community.

Mandessah is studying 5 subjects for her VCE whilst Jacob is focusing more on acquiring job-related skills and personal development, and attends TAFE 2 days each week. Both students work part time: Mandessah at the Royal Hotel, and Jacob with a furniture removalist.

Fiona noted that there are only 7 weeks to go until exams, and complimented both on their standing in front of a group and delivering a great presentation.



Each was presented with a book, "Dear Santa" as a memento of their visit to Rotary.

Opening the Sergeant's Session, Mark reminded us that the funds raised from fines and raffles were applied to the club's running costs. He then proceeded to fine Fiona: Mark had come in to set up the Joker Poker, but there was no Joker: Fiona had taken the card along with her winnings last week!

He then went on to fine Chaddy for spending \$27k on a car, and Tony Lee for his picture on Facebook. And of course all Collingwood supporters were fined, too.

John Keeffe presented a Certificate of Appreciation from Northern Mitchell Community Safety Committee (formerly the Police Community Consultative Committee) which current Rotary representative Ian Chadwick had passed on. It thanked the club for its support and participation in a major practice operation involving Police, CFA, SES, and Ambulance services in April 2024 at Trawool.

Raffle Winners this week were the 2 Tonys Tony Lee the wine, and Tony Woodhouse the choccies.

In closing the meeting, President Ruth thanked our speakers and guests, and reminded members of the arrangements for next week.