

Rotary
 Rotary Club of Seymour
Connecting with our community

Contact us at PO Box 80 Seymour 3661, online at rotaryseymour.org or call Secretary Bill on 0438 028 868

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

No 45. 15 June 2026

Coming Meetings

Unless otherwise noted, we meet at 6.30pm for 7pm

DATE / VENUE	22 June Royal Hotel	Sunday 28 June Seymour Bowling Club	Monday 29 June
GUEST SPEAKER/ EVENT	Victorian Treaty Speakers: Uncle Charles Pakana/Ruth Yeatman	Changeover Luncheon 11.45 am for 12 noon	No Meeting
CHAIRPERSON	Alison Hall	TBA	
TOAST	Tony Woodhouse	TBA	
CASHIER / RAFFLE	Ron Halicki	TBA	
GREETER	Paulette Andrews	TBA	

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

All Members: Please respond to meeting invitations to allow for easier catering.

SAVE THESE DATES

21	June	Rotary Market	Mark Dossor
28	June	Club Changeover Luncheon	Catriona Jarman, Alison Hall, Jane Challis, Fiona McCarthy

Acting President Mark Dossor introduced our Chair for the night, Youth Director Fiona McCarthy, who commenced the meeting by welcoming all in attendance. Guests included student Paige Trodd, her mother Kelly, and both Justin Reed and Celine Forster from the Seymour Flexible Learning Centre. Formal apologies were received from Ruth and Greg Byers, Hugh and Cathy Lawrence, Alison Hall, Liam Jones and Tony Lee.

TOAST TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA: BONNIE WILLIAMS

The Rotary Club of Palm Springs in California, USA, meet at lunchtime on Wednesdays in the Tapestry Room of the Palm Springs Hilton. Club projects include sponsoring local youth to attend camps, blood drives, providing meals to students and senior citizens, the building of homes in Mexico and establishing infrastructure in Guatemala. Fundraising is achieved through book sales and community social events. A noted Honorary Club member from the 1940's until his passing in 1966 was Walt Disney who received official acknowledgement for his global contribution to youth and community.



Walt Disney and Rotary founder Paul Harris were both visionary men who gained worldwide recognition for their endeavours.



FROM CLUB MEMBERS

- **Secretary Bill Dwyer** announced to members that our Club is to receive a District 9790 Membership Action Plan Silver Award which is to be presented at the District Changeover in July.

- **Bonnie Williams** stated that she has submitted a grant application for \$2,500 to District which, if successful, will go towards the “Say No to Domestic Violence” event in November.
- **Family of Rotary: Ian Chadwick** reported that **Alan Walton** had recently injured his knee following a fall. He is currently in hospital after receiving a skin graft and we wish him well for his recovery.
- **Jane Challis and Dave Palmer** attended a meeting with a Mitchell Shire representative to discuss the “Light Up the Goulburn” event being held at Goulburn Park on Saturday 20th June. Rotary will have a one minute power point presentation on the night which will provide the community with information about the Club’s activities.
- **Mark Dossor** reminded Club members that the next Rotary market is being held on Sunday 21st June at King’s Park – a roster is shortly to be circulated.

WRITERS’ AWARDS – YOUTH DIRECTOR, FIONA MCCARTHY



Fiona McCarthy presented to the Club the winning student compositions from the 2025 writers’ awards. The topic addressed was: “Describe the most beautiful place. Why is it special and how can it be preserved?” The secondary school winner in year 12, was Chloe Graham from the Seymour Flexible

Learning Centre for her fabulous portrayal of growing up near King Parrot Lake in Flowerdale. The runner up in Year 11 was Spencer Turner for his essay called “My Beautiful Place” which described the pleasure of being in his school garden whereby he paid tribute to the gardening skills of Rotarian Tony Lee. The primary school winning entry went to Beau Henery-Blades, grade 3-4 at St Mary’s College, who wrote about the enjoyment of visiting Goulburn Park.

The topic for the 2026 Writers’ Awards is: “What is the importance of bees in the environment and as a young person how can I help?” The essays will be judged by a panel of Rotary members prior to announcing the winning entries serving to highlight the literary skills amongst the youth of our community.

ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM OF ENRICHMENT – RYPEN

The Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) is a weekend camp designed to help young students develop skills through a series of both individual and team building activities. Rotary sponsored student from the Seymour Flexible Learning Centre, Paige Trodd, spoke to the Club about her weekend in April spent with 35 other Rotary District 9790 participants at the Axedale camp.



Paige attended the camp from Seymour on her own and therefore began the experience with nervous anticipation. She outlined to us the facilities, the weekend program, and the benefits that she felt that she had received from her involvement, most notably meeting new people. This included befriending a fellow participant, Violet from the Rotary Club of Albury, with whom she has remained in contact. Paige described her weekend as enjoyable and learned the importance of getting out of one's comfort zone including, above all, to be oneself.

The RYPEN camp is designed to help students build self-confidence, develop leadership skills, and clarify personal values through a series of interactive workshops, outdoor challenges and team building activities. The experience focuses on communication, resilience, conflict management and goal setting and aims to assist students who need a confidence boost to reach their full potential as opposed to those who are already high achievers.



Above left to right: Celine Forster and Justin Reed from the Seymour Flexible Learning Centre, Paige Trodd with mother Kelly, and Rotary Club Youth Director, Fiona McCarthy.



RAFFLE WINNERS



**Rotary Club Visitor
Celine Forster:
Chocolates**



**Bill Dwyer
(Again!!):
Bubbly**



**Joker Poker
Janina Taylor:
7 of Hearts**

INVITATION FROM THE MITCHELL SHIRE CONCERT BAND



The Mitchell Shire Concert Band are holding their annual soiree on Sunday 28th June in the Band Hall at Chittick Park commencing at 2pm. Unfortunately the date and time clashes with our Rotary Club changeover however, should you wish to attend, please contact Secretary Elizabeth Bedggood (M: 0417 541 648) by Sunday 21st June.