

Rotary
 Rotary Club of Seymour
Connecting with our community

Contact us at PO Box 80 Seymour 3661, or www.rotary-site.org or call Secretary Bill on 0438 028 868

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

No 28. 26 January 2026

Coming Meetings

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

DATE / VENUE	2 February Seymour Bowling Club	9 February Royal Hotel	16 February Royal Hotel
GUEST SPEAKER/ EVENT	Bowls Night with Lions, SES and CFA 2 Course Buffet Dinner (\$25 per person)	Rose Halse Victoria Police	Cameron Evans Welsh Barman Royal Hotel Interview
CHAIRPERSON		Craig Hoath	Alison Hall
TOAST		Paulette Andrews	TBA
CASHIER / RAFFLE		Janina Taylor	TBA
GREETER		John Barton	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 THE DATES

15 February	AM	Market	Mark
22 February	AM	Golf Day	Peter
6-9 March		Shake the Can	



The Rotary Club of Seymour in conjunction with the Mitchell Shire Council held successful Australia Day celebrations the morning of 26th January 2026.



Formal proceedings commenced at 9.30am with the flag raising ceremony as performed by Mitch Thomas from the Mitchell Shire Council and members of the Seymour RSL Sub Branch. They were accompanied by the Mitchell Shire Concert Band, led by Bandmaster Eric Anderson, which played the national anthem.

Our Master of Ceremonies was Seymour Rotary Club member Liam Jones who expertly coordinated the event. He introduced our nominated local ambassador Dr Hany Elderbeiky

who is originally from Egypt. Dr Elderbeiky spoke about his journey in migrating to Australia and becoming an Australian citizen as well as the challenges that he faced in establishing himself as a medical practitioner in this country.



MC Rotarian Liam Jones in action



Dr Hany Elderbeiky

Dr Elderbeiky's message to those who were about to become naturalised was that citizenship is not just about the piece of paper; it is about working hard to achieve one's dreams with the promise to also help contribute to the development of Australia. He concluded that 'there are many Australians of differing backgrounds, and we are all part of this country that we call home'.

Mitchell Shire Councillor Frank Joyce provided a welcome to country and added that 'Australia Day is about acknowledging the contribution every Australian makes to our contemporary and dynamic nation'. He introduced Mayor John Dougall who outlined the challenges faced by community members due to the recent fires.



MITCHELL SHIRE COMMUNITY AWARDS

Mayor John Dougall presented awards to Mitchell Shire residents working as local volunteers who were nominated by community members. Pictured left to right:



1. **Pauline Taylor – Arts Person of the Year** for displaying key leadership as a member of the Seymour and District Art Society.
2. **Sam Quigg and Max Chetcuti – Young Citizens of the Year** for their role in helping to revitalize the Vietnam Veterans Day which gained both national and international attention.
3. **Rex Harris – Commendation Award** for his lifelong dedication to the Seymour RSL.
4. **Mitchell Shire Mayor John Dougall**
5. **Ken Hall – Citizen of the Year** for his high level of community volunteering, his commitment to the Eastern Hill Cricket Club and his passion and effort in both maintaining and developing King's Park.
6. **Dean Saitta as representative of the Kilmore Regional Busking Championships – Community Event of the Year** which attracts visitors to the Kilmore precinct and provides young performers with a platform on which to build their confidence.
7. **Member of the 1st Broadford Scout Group – Community Group of the Year** for providing programs which enable Broadford's youth to grow, lead and thrive.
8. **Helen Mahoney – Sports Person of the Year** for her time, effort and commitment to the Wallan Football Club.

Absent: Chloe Hall – Access and Inclusion Champion for her impact on the Riding Develops Abilities volunteers and participants.



Mayor John Dougall proceeded to welcome the 29 people who were about to take the pledge to become Australian citizens which involved:

- Pledging loyalty to Australia and its people
- Sharing democratic beliefs
- Respecting rights and liberties
- Upholding and obeying the laws of Australia

He stated that their journey and heritage had now become part of a shared Australian story.

Seymour Rotary Club Members at Work



Community Groups and Market Vendors



Seymour and District Historical Society



Australia Day Honour:

Our congratulations go to long-term Rotary Club of Seymour member and Past President Viv Beaumont for receiving an OAM (Medal of the Order of Australia) for his 'Service to the community through a range of roles'.

DON'T FORGET

The next get-together will be our bowls night on 2nd February. Numbers are required for catering purposes by **Wednesday 28th January.**

