

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 37. 13 April 2026

Coming Meetings

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

DATE / VENUE	20 April	27 April Royal Hotel	4 May Royal Hotel
GUEST SPEAKER/ EVENT	Visit to the SHARE Facility - 39 Mollison Street, Broadford. Dinner at the Broadford Hotel	Combined Rotary/RSL Night Speakers: Matt and Charlie McLaughlin	Behind the Badge: John Stares and Di Frankel
CHAIRPERSON	Mark Dossor	TBA	TBA
TOAST	Jane Challis	TBA	TBA
CASHIER / RAFFLE	Nil	TBA	TBA
GREETER	Nil	TBA	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

19	April	No Market due to Expo	
26	April	District Assembly	Bill Dwyer
3	May	Adopt-a-Road	
17	May	Rotary Market	Mark Dossor

Chair for the night, Kathy Mills, commenced the meeting by welcoming all in attendance. Our guests for the evening, speaker Steve Gosling from the Rotary Club of Diamond Creek, and Di Frankel were introduced. Formal apologies were received from Liam Jones, Tony Lee, Fiona McCarthy, Fred Sartori, Ron Halicki and John Barton.

TOAST TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF BALLARAT EAST – MATHEW FOWLER



Chartered in 1968, the Rotary Club of Ballarat East is known as the friendly club. Projects actively support local, national and international causes and include a book sale where DVDs and CDs may be purchased for one dollar each. Proceeds from the Club's trivia night go towards assisting the local homeless population. Club donations also target 'Hope in a Suitcase' for displaced children who suddenly enter foster care. Evening meetings are held at the North Star Hotel on the 1st, 3rd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – RUTH BYERS

President Ruth welcomed Club members back following the recent Easter break. She thanked Sam Manning for organising the outing to Emerald Bank and all who assisted with the 'Shake the Can' fundraiser: John Keeffe for liaising with the service station, Mathew Fowler for planning the rosters and Club members for their role in collecting funds from the commuters.



SHAKE THE CAN REPORT – MATHEW FOWLER

Mathew informed members about funds raised from Easter's "Shake the Can" activity. The total raised was \$3,576 of which \$2,430 will be donated to the Good Friday Children's Hospital appeal. This is the greatest amount collected over one weekend to date.

Pictured: Dave Freeman 'Shaking the Can'.

NEW MEMBER INDUCTION – DI FRANKEL



With a vocational classification of Registered Nurse, Di Frankel was welcomed into the Rotary Club of Seymour. President Ruth Byers stated to her that “You have been chosen because we believe that you embody the ideals of Rotary and will contribute to the mission of Service Above Self.” Long time Seymour resident Di has previously been CEO of Karingal.

Membership Director Bonnie Williams, sponsor Gary Doherty and President Ruth Byers together with newly inducted member Di Frankel.



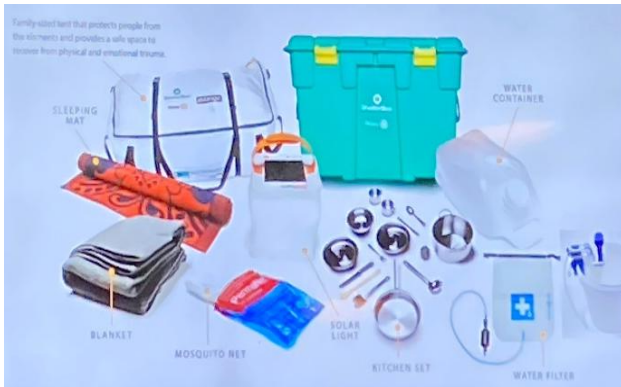
SHELTERBOX PRESENTATION – STEVE CROSLING



ShelterBox is a global community that believes no-one should be without shelter after a disaster and whose aim is to provide rapid response relief to maintain dignity amongst needy populations around the world. A disaster may present in the form of flood, fire, typhoon, climate change or earthquake, however the most common need for assistance today is due to civil strife.

ShelterBox reached a milestone last year by providing support to more than 3 million people in over 100 countries since it was founded in 2000.

Steve Crosling from the Rotary Club of Diamond Creek provided a ShelterBox update.



Each ShelterBox contains a tent, sleeping mats, blankets, mosquito nets, solar light, kitchen set, and a water filter and container. The contents are designed to meet the climate requirements of the destination country. Each ShelterBox weighs 60 kilograms with a cost of \$1,000.

A lighter weight and less costly item available is the Shelter Kit (\$100 per kit) which contains a selection of materials including tools, ropes, fixings and heavy-duty tarpaulins that can be used to make emergency shelters or repair damaged homes. Disaster affected residents are therefore encouraged the repair of their dwellings as opposed to being reliant on the provision of a tent.



Solar lights provide safety by helping families move around at night.



ShelterBox tents can be erected in half an hour and may hold up to 4-12 people for 12 months.

In 2025, ShelterBox worked in many countries including Syria, Yemen, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Myanmar, Somalia, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Cameroon, Chad, Burkina Faso, Sudan, Jamaica, Lebanon, Gaza and Syria. ShelterBox Australia services Southeast Asia and its distribution centre is based in the Philippines. The organisation works with Rotary International and relies almost solely on money raised from Rotary Clubs and individual donations. At the conclusion of the meeting, President Ruth pledged one thousand dollars to ShelterBox Australia for the purchase of 10 ShelterBox Kits.



SERGEANT'S SESSION – GREG BYERS

Sergeant Greg Byers was black and white in his fines delivery targeting Mat for his lack of preparation in researching the toast, Sam for her dubious mini golf team title of 'Sam's Swingers', golf tournament winners Leanne and Jane, all

Collingwood supporters (including himself!), Kathy for her faux pas in introducing Ruth as the meeting's chair, new member Di (as a rite of passage!), Gary for his apparent timeline confusion and Bonnie for her holiday absence.

RAFFLE WINNERS



Ann Holland:
wine



Gary Doherty:
chocolates



Tony Woodhouse:
Joker Poker - Queen of Hearts

MEETING MONDAY 20TH APRIL 2026



Next week's Rotary meeting will be a tour of the SHARE (Serving Humanity and Repurposing Equipment) Project warehouse, 39 Mollison Street, Broadford commencing at 6pm for 6.15pm. A 7pm dinner meeting with guest speaker Jenny Foster will be held afterwards at the Broadford Hotel, 100 High St, Broadford.

GARDENING RECOMMENDATION - JOHN KEEFFE



One afternoon last week I answered the front door to meet 2 young teenage boys.

Both were courteous, well-presented and almost professional in their approach. They were soliciting garden care work for out of school time, e.g. mowing, weeding, edging, window cleaning etc. They produced a well-designed flyer setting out what they told me.

I showed them some weeding needed, they gave me a price and agreed to do the work this week. On the day, a third member of the team joined the original two.

Not only did they do the agreed work but did more in some areas I hadn't shown them, included in the price.

Why am I telling you this?

Rotary and this club spend a great deal of effort on educational aspects of young people's lives. What I was presented with was different: 3 lads acquiring life skills which will help them in their futures. It is unusual these days: young people having a go, seeking to find some employment to set themselves up.

I think that this sort of activity is as important as formal education and is to be encouraged. If you agree, and you need some help as I do, I suggest that you phone 0435 461102.

John Keeffe

