

Weekly Newsletter and Program



PRESIDENT PETER FRANCIS 2024 – 25



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'The Rotary Club of Encounter Bay acknowledges the Ngarrindjeri and Ramindjeri people as the traditional custodians of our beautiful lands and surrounding waters and respects elders past, present and emerging.'

MEETING NUMBER 2252: 20 March 2025

Venue: Grosvenor Hotel

President Peter opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and thanked Sue Dixon for the very successful meeting at the Surf Life Saving Club last week. Peter then informed members that the Bendigo Bank may assist with RYDA sponsorship and Goolwa Rotary Club may support a request for a grant that has been submitted. He then reminded members that District Assembly is scheduled for 30 March, all members are invited and that he has seats vacant in his car. There is a meeting for Presidents Elect on 29 March. Members then noted birthdays for Bev Kluske and Sabine De Courcey on the 22 March and PHF anniversaries for Peter Manuel, Ken Buckley and Barry Pryor. Goolwa Rotary Club has a 40th birthday celebration and changeover on 21 June and all members are invited to consider attending. Ken Carter reminded members we were founders of this club and advised he will look into the club's history.

President Peter then handed over to Chair Sue Dixon who invited Secretary Marilyn and Directors to speak. Mary-anne asked members to assist if possible at the Family Day Out at Urimbirra on 6 April. 25 families will be taking part. Mary-anne also advised that grant applications have been received across Goolwa, Port Elliot and Victor Harbor and are all of high quality. Members congratulated Mary-anne on the success of this program.

Chair Sue then invited Sergeant Bob to collect fines, beginning with the President who was late and sitting at a unique table, and followed by Peter Manuel for bragging about football tipping and a rock star, Ken Carter for receiving Bob's paper in error, Port supporters for losing, John Haynes for a photo, and Madeleine for a phone call during the meeting. Cross fines included Marilyn for ringing Colin instead of the President, and the President and Madeleine for thinking they had lost a market sign they had already taken down. Fines for golden moments included Des for the much improved health of his wife, Bob Oliver for catching seven brown trout and Peter Manuel for a place in the grand final on Saturday.

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Youth Service: Colin Francis
Market Director: Cherilyn Fleming



Chair Sue reminded members she will be away in May and June and advised she would very much welcome suggestions for speakers. Finally members were reminded the Wally Bradley Quiz Night will take place on 30 May.

Ken Carter then conducted a conversation with Bob Hall who explained that while working on a dairy farm he became a member of Rural Youth in Mount Compass and gained very useful experience in public speaking and running meetings. He almost made the final of a speaking competition at this time and was also involved in raising money for the Mount Compass Football Club. He later joined the Victor Harbor Apex Club and became a life member. A key action of this club was the purchase of an Xray machine for Calcutta. He then took on the role of Community Aide and was involved in lots of paperwork for an organisation that benefitted well from many donations. He also drove Indigenous ladies to the Adelaide Children's Hospital, was involved as a Hospital Board member and assisted in obtaining auxiliary power for the hospital.

Bob arrived in Victor Harbor when he was 14 and homeless. Sadly he had to say he - with others - was abused at that time by the then Headmaster at the local primary school. In later days he was proud to be made Citizen of the Year thanks to Peter Manuel, he stopped the practice of Victor Harbor Rotary Club having to approve our club membership, was involved in a Goods and Services Night with Port Elliot Surf Life Saving Club (which was a great success), and supported the rapid growth of Mediride through action and word of mouth. He focussed on the need to remain positive and expressed his gratitude to off-sider Des Schirmer. Chair Sue and members thanked Ken and Bob for a thoroughly inspiring conversation before moving on to a video presentation from Brenton focussing on the Kimberley.

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Brenton explained the area is very special - isolated and with spectacular sandstone cliffs and waterfalls. It contains Indigenous artwork that is 70,000 years old and has a wide range of wildlife including wallabies, crocodiles, dolphins and Noddies. Ashmore Reef has more than 200 bird species. Brenton and Meredith organised their travel through a local agent on the ship 'Explorer' which carries up to 200 passengers. From Broome to Darwin is a generally a 10 day trip. Helicopter rides are possible. Brenton explained he and Meredith were there in June when the falls are not quite as strong. Finally he mentioned a World War 2 plane that has been found in the area and which took off from Perth aiming for Broome, but without a navigator. The plane landed in a billabong and the pilot survived with the help of the local Indigenous people.

Chair Sue thanked Brenton and Meredith for the presentation before handing back to President Peter who thanked Bob Hall for inspiring members to be positive and himself embodying a hugely positive attitude and presenting a positive picture of the club. He also thanked Brenton and Meredith before finishing with a quote: 'A thing of beauty is a joy forever', and a request for members to consider a Sunday lunch for changeover.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.



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Members Present: 25 (83%), Guests and Partners 1, Apologies and Leave 5

FORWARD PROGRAM – Rotary Club of Encounter Bay

Partners and guests very welcome

For catering and/or attendance purposes, if you will be an apology or are bringing guests you must advise **Fleurieu Crash Repairs 8552-4833** no later than **1600 hrs the day before (Wednesday)**.

Remember also, when food is available, to advise of any dietary requirements.

27 March	6.30 for 7pm	Grosvenor Hotel	Driving Instructors RYDA	Bob McFarland
3 April	6.30 for 7pm	Grosvenor Hotel	The Vets of the Valley Vietnam	Phil De Courcey
10 April	TBA	Causeway or Cockles	Breakfast meeting	TBA

Market Rosters – Goolwa and Port Elliot See Market Director Cherilyn Fleming for details

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