

ROTARY CLUB of OCH Inc.

District 9815 Victoria, Australia

Weekly Bulletin 2026-2027

Meets Monday from 6:30pm at The Clayton Hotel
319 Clayton Road, Clayton (Melways 79C2)
(No meeting on public holidays)

**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**



28th September 2026

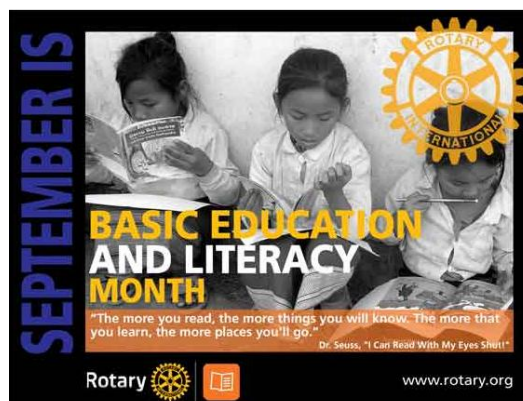
Volume 8, Number 13

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Upcoming Club Program

Date	Speaker	Chairperson
28 th September	No General Meeting at the Clayton Hotel, but we will be having a Fellowship night meeting (Venue is the Orexi Souvlaki Bar 33 Chester st Oakleigh)	Richard Simmons
5 th October	General Meeting not in person but via Zoom Only.	Richard Simmons
12 th October	General Meeting at the Clayton Hotel. Guest Speakers are South Oakleigh College & Subject is MUNA and also Sen Sargent Mark Rogers	Sam Oddo
19 th October	Board Meeting (Via Zoom)	Richard Simmons
26 th October	General Meeting at the Clayton Hotel. Guest Speakers are the RYLA Leaders & the Subject is the RYLA Experience	Sam Oddo
2 nd November	No Club Meeting (Melbourne Cup Day Eve)	
9 th November	General Meeting at the Clayton Hotel. Guest Speaker is Stewart Richards (ex-Oakleigh Rotarian)	Sam Oddo
16 th November	Board Meeting (Via Zoom)	Richard Simmons
23 rd November	General Meeting at the Clayton Hotel, Guest Speakers are South Oakleigh College & Subject is RYPEN	Sam Oddo
30 th November	General Meeting at the Clayton Hotel. We will be holding our AGM	Richard Simmons
7 th December	General Meeting not in person but via Zoom Only.	Richard Simmons



Rotary Four-Way Test

"Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the Truth?
2. Is it Fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?"

Presidents Report

2026-27: Create Lasting Impact

This week's fellowship meeting is at the Orexi Souvlaki Bar Cafe 33 Chester St, Oakleigh, our next planned 4th Monday fellowship night will be back at the Clayton hotel with our RYLA team giving us a presentation.

Do not forget next Sunday is the start of daylight savings and to adjust the clocks FORWARD.

Please send any photos of any activity you or the club is involved in for Michael to put in the bulletin.

Yours in Rotary
Pres Richard



Last Meeting & Notes

Last Meeting (21st September):

Apologies = Byron Kyriakides.

Make Ups = None.

Leave of Absence = None.

Visitors = None.

This week we held our monthly Board Meeting via zoom. More information from the Board Meeting will be shared by the Committee Chairs

Oakleigh Rotary Sunday Market – Information & Roster



The Oakleigh Rotary Sunday Market Bookings are now online. Click Image above or scan the QR code below to make your booking



The Object of Rotary

1. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
2. High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
3. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
4. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Oakleigh Rotary Market Roster

Rotary Market Roster to Oct to Jan 2027 - version				Sep-26				
Market Roster: Shift 1; 6 am to 10 am: Shift 2; 9.45 am to 1.45 pm (Market Close 2 PM) (there is a 15 minute handover)								
If you are unable to do your shift <u>it is up to you to arrange a swap</u> with another member - please advise Michael and copy Richard								
NOTE: Leader (in Blue) responsible for co-ordination & management of the Market for the Day (does not have to be present for whole day)								
		ROTARY FIRST SHIFT 6AM to 10AM			8AM - 1PM	ROTARY SECOND SHIFT 09:45AM to 2:00PM		
Date	Notes	Leader	SET-UP/Monitor		Main Gate	CASH/PACKUP		
4/10/2026		Doug Bowden	TomBuzza	Arthur Athan	Abeyrathna Family	Steve Hill	Judy Hui	Byron Kyriakides
11/10/2026		John Bethune	Martha Bodon	Terry Elms	Maisey Family	Robyn McNab	BronLamond	John Barnes
18/10/2026		Lesley Zuccaro	Ralph Zuccaro	Atul G	Saberon Family	Michael Ellinger	Marcus R	Barry Cronan
25/10/2026		David Whiting	Tom Buzza	Lucy S	Teper Family	Sam Oddo	Jon Briesch	Steve Hill
1/11/2026		Doug Bowden	Atul G.	Peter Webb	Volunteer (Long Weekend)	Richard Simmons	Judy Hui	Byron Kyriakides
8/11/2026		John Bethune	Arthur Athan	Terry Elms	Schaunt Family	Michael Ellinger	George Carydias	John Barnes
15/11/2026		Lesley Zuccaro	Martha Bodon	Ralph Zuccaro	Nellivila Family	Sam Oddo	Marcus R	Richard Simmons
22/11/2026		David Whiting	Orlando Green	Atul G	Quint Family	Robyn McNab	Jon Briesch	Barry Cronan
29/11/2026		Doug Bowden	Richard May	Glenda May	Pettito Family	Steve Hill	Judy Hui	Byron Kyriakides
6/12/2026		Lesley Zuccaro	Ralph Zuccaro	Peter Webb	Dillon Family	Michael Ellinger	Orlando Green	John Barnes
13/12/2026		David Whiting	Martha Bodon	Atul G	Deyssing Family	Sam Oddo	Marcus R	Steve Hill
20/12/2026		Doug Bowden	Tom Buzza	Rotaract	Pakeer Family	Robyn McNab	George Carydias	Barry Cronan
27/12/2026		John Bethune	Terry Elms	Arthur Athan	Volunteer (Public Holiday)	Richard Simmons	Judy Hui	Byron Kyriakides
3/01/2027		Lesley Zuccaro	Ralph Zuccaro	Jon Briesch	Scouts	Michael Ellinger	Orlando Green	John Barnes
10/01/2027		Rotaract	Greg /SOBC	SOBC	Scouts	Sam Oddo	Marcus R	Richard Simmons
17/01/2027		Doug Bowden	Tom Buzza	Peter Webb	Scouts	Robyn McNab	Jon Briesch	Barry Cronan
24/01/2027		Lesley Zuccaro	Ralph Zuccaro	Arthur Athan	Scouts	Steve Hill	Judy Hui	Byron Kyriakides
31/01/2027		John Bethune	Martha Bodon	Terry Elms	Scouts	Michael Ellinger	Orlando Green	John Barnes

Rotary Market - Sundays between 8am - 1pm

Join in the fun at the the

Oakleigh Rotary Sunday Market

A great place for produce, plants, flowers, crafts, bric-a-brac & more



Hanover Street Carpark - Market - Corner Hanover Street and Atherton Road Oakleigh
For enquiries, please call the Market Manager on 0466 546 059




Click on image for details

Club Vision

OCH Rotary is an energetic, fun-loving, forward-thinking Rotary Club that wishes to continue to grow strategically and provide all its members with opportunities to serve while undertaking worthwhile and sustainable projects locally, nationally and globally.

Ride to REACH - Update

Hi Doug and the team,

Thank you so much for having Trudy and Russell present to the club. It means the world to us that you gave them the floor to share what is happening here in Siem Reap, and we are so excited to bring the whole club along on this journey with us.

We would love to hear how the presentation was received when you get a chance.

The Ride to REACH Q&A Call was a success yesterday and we had both Trudy & Russell there again, if the club members want to watch a recording you can add this link to the bulletin: [Click here to view the recording.](#)

Looking ahead, I am planning a fundraising trip to Australia in March next year and very much hope to have the opportunity to come and present to your club in person. We are also planning a Walk or Run for REACH event and would love to have the club involved, but more details on that to come in the weeks ahead.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to reach out if there is anything at all you need from us.

Kind Regards,
Emily Williamson

D9815 Conference 2027 Cost Update

Hi Tom,

Thank you for your email.

We have given careful consideration to the registration pricing in order to make it fair and consistent for all attendees.

- Full Conference – \$295 per person, including Saturday and Sunday sessions plus the Gala Dinner
- Conference Only – \$195 per person
- Gala Dinner Only – \$140 per person

We felt the fairest approach was to keep the pricing consistent for all Rotarians and Rotaractors. Once we begin offering discounted registrations to one group, we may also receive requests from members who are experiencing financial difficulties.

Rotaractors may like to approach a nearby Rotary Club to see whether they would be willing to provide some sponsorship towards their attendance.

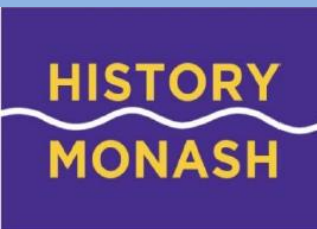
Partners are also welcome to attend at the same rates as Rotarians and can choose Conference Only, Gala Dinner Only, or the Full Conference package.

Children under 15 years of age can attend the conference sessions at no charge. If they would also like to attend the Gala Dinner, the cost is \$70 per child, which is half the adult Gala Dinner price. Just let me know if you would like to include children for the Gala Dinner.

I hope that helps, and please feel free to get in touch if you have any other questions.

Monique Smith
Co-Conference Chair 2026-27

Quick Links



Upcoming Dates

Sunday 4th October 2026 – Oakleigh Rotary Sunday Market. Bookings are now online. Book your spot by following this link - <https://www.ozeemarkets.com.au/marketlist/vic-oakleigh-oakleigh-rotary-sunday-market>

Sunday 11th October 2026 – Oakleigh Rotary Sunday Market.

Sunday 18th October 2026 – Oakleigh Rotary Sunday Market.

Sunday 25th October 2026 – Oakleigh Rotary Sunday Market.

Sunday 1st November 2026 – Oakleigh Rotary Sunday Market.

Monday 12th April 2027 – District Governor Club Visit (Partners Night)

Club Positions for 2026/27

President	Richard Simmons	(Board)
Vice President	TBA	(Board)
Past President	Steven Hill	(Board)
President Elect	Jon Breisch	(Board)
Secretary	Robyn McNab	(Board)
Treasurer	George Carydias	(Board)
Community	Atul Gupta	(Board)
International	Doug Bowden	(Board)
New Generations	John Bethune	(Board)
Vocational	Peter Webb	
Foundation	Ralph Zuccaro	(Board)
Data / Tech	Byron Kyriakides	(Board)
Club Protection Officer	TBD	
Membership / Club Service	TBD	
PR / Fundraising	Luk (Judy) Hui	
Market Manager	Richard Simmons	
Programme	Sam Oddo	
Bulletin	Michael Ellinger	(Board)
Rotaract	Cess Hodges	
On to Conference	Tom Buzza	
Sergeant at Arms	Sam Oddo	

Please note that there are some roles that still need filling so if you can assist in any of these roles, please reach out to Richard and let him know.

District 9815 News

Announcement letter - DGN 2026

Attention: All Rotarians from Districts 9815 and 9830

22.9.2026

We would like to formally congratulate and welcome Maree McPherson from the Rotary Club of Traralgon Central to the position of District Governor Nominee to fill the role of District Governor for the new District 9825 in 2028-29.

In accordance with Rotary International By Laws –Article 12.030 this nomination is subject to a 14 day challenge period from Tuesday 22nd September 2026 until 5.00pm Tuesday 6th October 2026.

Special Announcements

5th October – Gaye Barnes Birthday.

8th October – Sam Oddo Birthday.

If there are any club objections, please place them in writing to the Chair, Nominating Committee, IPDG Peter Behm on email peter.behm@rotary9815.org.au

If no valid objections are received by the close of the objection period, the appointment will be confirmed.

Kind Regards

Emma Clark District Governor

PP PHF Rotary Club of Emerald & District Inc.

Rotary District 9815

Support for Nepal

Dear District 9815 Rotarians and Rotaract Members,

You will be aware of the absolute devastation and current tragic circumstances in the aftermath of the flash flood in Nepal.

After discussions with all of the relevant District Leaders, and with particular input from our Peninsula Rotaract members, who have a strong connection with some Rotaract and Rotary Clubs in and around Kathmandu, Nepal, we have developed the following stepped plan for moving forward with support for the people of Nepal.

1. In the short-term, donations to RAWCS are still valuable and thank you to those clubs who have already taken action by donating to RAWCS.

We also offer the opportunity to donate to our own D9815 District Disaster Relief Account. The money here will be built up to support specific needs and provide targeted support to the people on the ground in Nepal. Our District's Peninsula Rotaract team are currently liaising with the Rotaract and Rotary members over there to determine the best course of action for rebuilding after immediate safety needs are met.

Nepal Disaster

D9815 Disaster Relief Account

BSB 633 000

Account number 241 760 768

Clubs in our district can contribute to this account directly. Money tagged as being for this cause will be noted as such by the District Treasurer. We will keep Clubs informed as to where their funds are helping.

In addition, the option to donate to the Foundation Disaster Response Fund is an excellent avenue of ensuring support. Clubs and individuals can donate to the DRF through the RI website: [My Rotary Homepage](#) | [My Rotary](#)

2. Also, in the short-term, we have some funds already in the D9815 Disaster Relief Account and we will be donating \$4,000 of that to Disaster Aid Australia, as they liaise directly with Disaster Aid Nepal – with fresh, clean water provision being crucial at present.
3. In the medium to long-term, the Peninsula Rotaract Club is collecting data and information from their contacts around rebuilding and what gap our support could fill. They will then be applying for a global grant from the Rotary Foundation Disaster Response Fund. The Club members are proceeding with their original planned trip to Nepal in December/January this year. This will be their third trip to the area, so they are very well-placed to help us connect with Rotaract and Rotary Clubs in situ.

Please consider supporting any of the above with your fundraising efforts and donations.

Thank you for your consideration of supporting the people of Nepal.

Yours in Rotary and Rotaract,

Emma Clark
DG 9815

Lily Setnik
DRR 9815

October is Mental Health Month – “Lift the Lid - Hat Day” - Australian Rotary Health

A focus on mental health research is a focus for my District Governor year, and in preparation for this month we are encouraging all Rotary Clubs and Rotaract Clubs across District 9815 to host a Lift the Lid - Hat Day at your club in October, in support of Australian Rotary Health's vital mental health and general health initiatives.

It's quite simple really, just allocate a club event, where all members are encouraged to wear a hat to participate. Hat Day is a fun and meaningful way to engage your members and raise awareness. Grab your quirkiest hat and rally your club members to make a small donation to ARH. For donations - ARH account details BSB: 112 879 Account: 065 433 595, Reference use: D9815 and your club name.

For more visit www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au

There are very few Rotarians / Rotaractors or their broader families and friends that are not impacted by Mental Illness in one way or another. It affects one in five Australians, and through Australian Rotary Health initiatives, we can help fund prevention, early intervention, and education programs that change lives.

You may have noticed something new about Australian Rotary Health. A fresh look, a clearer voice, the first signs of a new public face beginning to emerge. ARH is calling it -our "glow up". Over the past 6 months, ARH nationally, asked our club members, Rotarians, Rotaractors, ARH partners, and researchers, to tell us honestly where ARH is thriving and where we could be braver. So, more Australians can discover what you already know.

District 9815 ARH Committee; We are also looking to “glow up” our district ARH committee. The committee meets quarterly by Zoom and our mission is to work with clubs to strengthen the impact of Australian Rotary Health. If you have a few hours per month, a passion to work with other Rotarians and Rotaractors please Contact PDG Paul Mee -Director, Australian Rotary Health. M: 0466 208 577 E: paul.mee@rotary9815.org.au

Australian Rotary Health is a national program of Rotary and is one of the success stories of Rotary in Australia. Because of you, and your support, all Rotarians and Rotaractors can be very proud of ARH's achievements over the past 45 years over \$56M raised and invested in, 741 Research Grants and 874 Scholarships funded.

But there is still lots more we want to do.

Yours in Rotary,
Emma Clark
D9815 District Governor 2026/27

Early bird registration opened 1st August 2026 for D9815 Conference 2027

Don't miss this opportunity to save some valuable dollars while you join in the fun of catching up with fellow Rotarians from across the district. Get your tickets now by clicking on the image below.



The poster is for the Hunter Valley Conference 2027, held at Wyndee Resort Hunter Valley from 12-14 March 2027. It features the Rotary logo and a 'Challenge' icon. The main headline is 'BOOKINGS OPEN 1ST AUGUST' with a sub-note 'EARLY BIRD PRICING ENDS 31 DECEMBER 2026'. Below this, a 'BOOK EARLY & SAVE' section lists three ticket options: Full Conference Experience for \$295, Conference Only for \$195, and Gala Dinner for \$140. A 'WHY BOOK EARLY?' section lists benefits like early registration, a complimentary breakfast, a reserved table, and a complimentary travel bag. A 'TRAVEL BONUS' section mentions a complimentary transfer from Newcastle Airport. At the bottom, it says 'MAKE IT A CONFERENCE. MAKE IT A HOLIDAY.' and 'BOOK FROM 1ST AUGUST' with a QR code.

Volunteer Youth Forms

"All members - following up on working with children checks – it is imperative that all members who may come in contact – even incidental - with children (those under 18) have a working with children's card (WWC) – most members have one but for those that do not could you apply for one ASAP and advise Michael once its received. It costs nothing to apply for a card as a volunteer – you can apply using this link [Working with Children Check \(service.vic.gov.au\)](http://Working with Children Check (service.vic.gov.au))

Now for the additional requirement of a Form 3 – as explained by the District Youth Chair – Ken Mirams – this is an additional requirement imposed by both the Victorian Government, Rotary International and for insurance purposes. The Form 3 is an extra check particularly for those situations where you may at any time be in a one-on-one situation with a child (anyone under 18), in those cases you must have both the WWC card and a completed Form 3.

Trust that this clarifies – incidental contact with children (not one on one) a WWC check is sufficient – in situations where you will or may be one on one then a Form 3 must be completed. Of course, logistically it makes planning a lot easier if we all have both the WWC card and a Form 3"

Upon completion, please send the form to me.

Regards:

Robyn McNab

Secretary (2025-26)

Rotary Club Oakleigh Clayton Huntingdale Inc

Rotaract Club of Monash



Club Meeting Details:

The Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the Month at 7:00pm for a 7:15pm start at the Clayton Hotel, 319 Clayton Road, Clayton. Send them a message at info@monashrotaract.org.au if you would like to join them and not miss out.

Upcoming Events:

Follow this Link (<https://monashrotaract.org.au/>) on upcoming events at Monash Rotaract

Where other Clubs Meet

A Rotarian can attend the weekly meeting of any Rotary club around the world. This is a "make-up" and counts as attendance credit when you are not able to attend a meeting of your own club.

Details for all District 9815 clubs can be obtained on the website www.rotary9815.org.au
Details for clubs around the world are available on the RI website (www.rotary.org)

Reminders

Contributions for inclusion into the Bulletin should be passed to editor@rotaryoch.org.au by Friday evening of each week.

Please remember if you cannot perform your rostered job, it is your duty to find a replacement to take your place.

Visit our new Facebook page at [@Rotaryoch9810](https://www.facebook.com/Rotaryoch9810) or click 

For any updates and changes which need to be made to the membership database please send them to editor@rotaryoch.org.au

Joke of the Week

An Irishman who had a little too much to drink is driving home from the city one night and, of course, his car is weaving violently all over the road.

A cop pulls him over. 'So,' says the cop to the driver, 'where have ya been?' 'Why, I've been to the pub of course,' slurs the drunk. 'Well,' says the cop, 'it looks like you've had quite a few to drink this evening.' 'I did all right,' the drunk says with a smile.

'Did you know,' says the cop, standing straight and folding his arms across his chest, 'that a few intersections back, your wife fell out of your car?'

'Oh, thank heavens,' sighs the drunk. 'for a minute there, I thought I'd gone deaf.'

Rotary International News

Volunteers root out an invasive plant with a fiery nature

by Mary Catherine O'Connor

As a kid in the 1960s, Don McEnhill could tell there was something different about the thick bamboo-like stands of vegetation he and his friends would crash through on their path to the Russian River. "You'd have no bugs on you. No spiders, no anything," he remembers.

He didn't know it at the time, but the lack of insects was a signal that this mysterious plant was not native to the northern California waterways around his family's cabin in Healdsburg. It wasn't until the early 2000s, when he started working with Russian Riverkeeper and other local conservation groups, that he learned all about this invader, *Arundo donax*, commonly called the giant reed. It guzzles more water than any other plant on the river. It outcompetes native plants and trees. And it possesses another unwelcome attribute: In a region increasingly prone to wildfires, the giant reed is extremely flammable.

Winding for 110 miles through California's wine country and redwood groves on its way to the Pacific Ocean, the Russian River is a treasured waterway for fishing and recreation. Boisterous partiers float down it in inner tubes. Daredevils fling themselves into it from rope swings. Churchgoers dressed in white baptismal garments dunk themselves in its waters. The vast watershed supports Chinook and coho salmon as well as steelhead trout and river otters. Its woodlands and grasslands are home to coyotes, bobcats, and mountain lions.

Seeking to protect this habitat, environmental groups have taken aim at the giant reed, a fast-growing perennial that can reach 30 feet in height. Rotary clubs across Sonoma and Mendocino counties have partnered with conservationists for the past few years, contributing volunteers and funds for equipment.

On a Saturday morning early this summer, about 30 Rotarians, Interactors, and other community members gathered along the river to root out *Arundo donax*. Fanning out across a section of river, the volunteers pushed through thick brush to slice through the stalks with loppers. Then others gathered up the piles of what looked like bundles of sugar cane to be fed into a wood chipper.

Website - <https://rotaryoch.org.au/home>



Rotary clubs have partnered with conservationists to remove the invasive giant reed from parts of California's Russian River watershed where it poses the greatest fire risk.

Rick Tang Photography

To read the full article [click here](#)



Rotary Club of Oakleigh Clayton Huntingdale

Community Impact Dashboard

Total Donations

\$

\$616,760.01

Over the past 7 years

Beneficiaries Supported

👥

122

Across 7 categories

2025/26 Donations

📈

\$81,912.39

Most recent year

Years of Service

❤️

30+

2019/20 - 2025/26

All Categories

Australian Rotary Health

Community Service

DG Family Project

Foundation

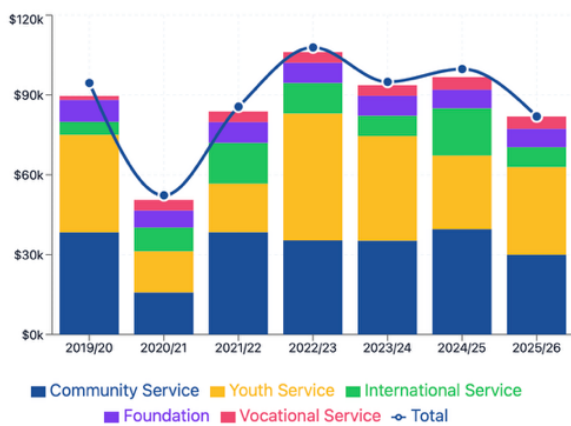
International Service

Vocational Service

Youth Service

Donation Trends Over Time

Total donations with top 5 categories breakdown



Donation Locations

Geographic distribution of all donations



© 2026 Rotary Club of Oakleigh Clayton Huntingdale. Serving our community with passion.

Click on the image for full detail

Website - <https://rotaryoch.org.au/home>

SPOTLIGHTING BULLYING ...HAND IN HAND

art exhibition

1 - 11 OCTOBER 2026

2 - 6pm daily

The Track Gallery
47 Miller Crescent, Mount
Waverley

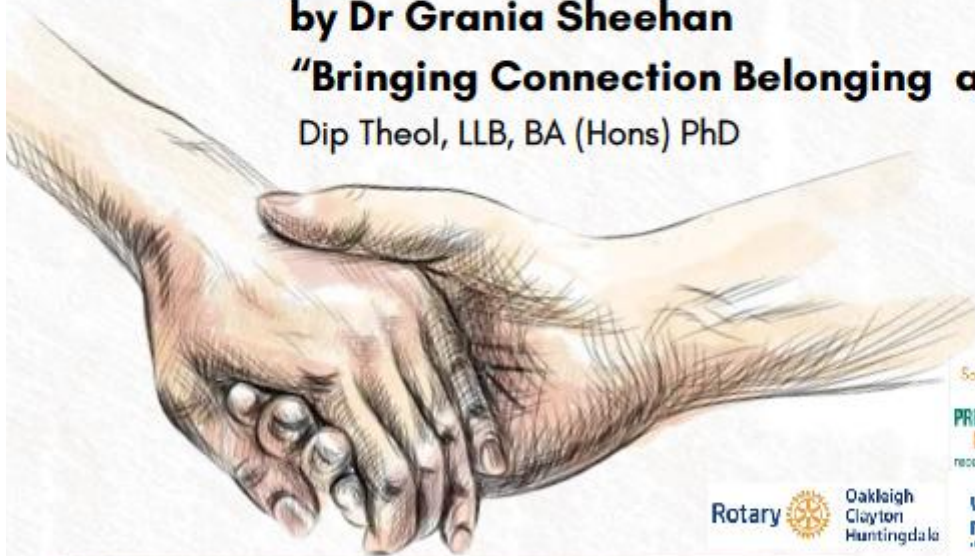
- Official Opening -

Wednesday 7 October from 6pm

by Dr Grania Sheehan

"Bringing Connection Belonging and Hope"

Dip Theol, LLB, BA (Hons) PhD



Rotary



Oakleigh
Clayton
Huntingdale

South Eastern
SUICIDE
PREVENTION
NETWORK
recognise, protect, prevent



wesley
mission
where faith meets care



Enquiries: sesuicideprevention@gmail.com
Malcolm 0403 583 927

Support from Matt Fregon MP, State Member for Ashwood &
Monash Community Art Society (MONCAS)

AGAINST MALARIA FOUNDATION

CHARITY EVENT!

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Trivia

Fun trivia for the whole family. Bring along your work team, family or friend group. All ages welcome!

Bare Foot Bowls

Optional barefoot bowls before the event. Enjoy a spring evening outdoors before the trivia begins. Let us know if interested when you RSVP.

Raffle + Silent Auction

Raffle tickets from \$2, plus a host of awesome prizes up for grabs in our silent auction.

BYO Snacks

BYO snacks, with a bar offering a range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages available for purchase.

REGISTER YOUR TEAM NOW



7PM - 9PM

22

OCTOBER

**SOUTH
OAKLEIGH
BOWLING CLUB**

1216 NORTH RD •
OAKLEIGH SOUTH VIC 3167

