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PRESIDENT SUE MORISSET 2025-2026

Weekly Newsletter and Program

MEETING NUMBER 2273: 4 September 2025

Venue: Grosvenor Hotel

The meeting was called to order by Sergeant Ken and members noted that in 1897 Essendon won the first football final. Past President Peter then welcomed Guest Speaker Marty Smee and Guests Bruce and Barbara King. Members were reminded RYDA begins the next day and noted there were no Rotary anniversaries this week.



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Secretary: Sue Dixon
Club Service: Gill Houlihan
International Service: David Virgin
Market Director: Cherilyn Fleming

President Elect & Vice President: Gill Houlihan
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Chair Stuart invited Directors to speak and Cheryl advised members that she and Phil have been working on updating the Goolwa market website which will be presented for feedback at the meeting on 18 October. Colin explained that Noah and Isabella from Investigator College have applied for and been accepted for the National Youth Science Forum. Stuart advised members that a request for funds for a new carpet has been received from the Encounter Centre. Members were also advised to bring any old mobile phones to forthcoming meetings.

The 200 Club draw was then conducted and the winner was Vincent Kok. Fines were collected from John for a birthday, Des for a ride-on mower at McCracken, Madeleine for an error in the newsletter and several others, including members who think the Crows will win, and Stuart for not being well-dressed.

Chair Stuart then introduced guest speaker Marty, a science graduate, teacher and active volunteer to speak to members. Marty explained ecology is one of his major interests as well as teaching science. He began by clarifying that Marine Algae are not new and not treatable. There have been several occurrences in the Murray over recent years.

Currently the algae *Karenia Mikimoto* is the problem here. It photosynthesizes, takes in oxygen and releases carbon dioxide which generates reactive oxygen species (ROS) that contribute to its toxicity, causing oxidative stress and DNA damage in marine organisms such as fish and invertebrates .

The sea temperature is currently about 2 degrees above what we have come to expect. This has provided a favourable environment for algae which was added to in 2024 when the Murray flooded.

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The algae divide in two to reproduce and then grow exponentially. Foam is caused by dying algae. They attract toxins which kill fish and affect humans by making them cough. Shellfish filter their food and so are safe. 400 species have been reported affected but this may not be accurate. Lack of oxygen at night affects species such as octopus and rays.

There is no scientific evidence for seaweed as a cause, or the Kangaroo Island Cable. The desalination plant may contribute but this is hard to prove and unlikely. There is no solution in the short term. Chemicals are too risky. A research grant of about \$2 billion is really needed.

In any event it is important to address climate change and stop global warming. It is also important to remember it is easy to be misinformed and so important to always check the source of any information, as well as its evidence base.

Stuart thanked Marty for for his passionate and insightful presentation. In response to questions Marty replied that whales were probably avoiding affected areas, that is OK to eat seafood, that optimism is not high, and wave action is possibly keeping algae inshore.

Past President Peter then thanked Marty and guests Bruce and Barbara from Canberra. He also thanked Bob for his work on RYDA and reminded members the next meeting will be at the Grosvenor and about the Health Precinct. The meeting was then closed at 8.17pm.

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.

11 September	6.30 for 7pm	Grosvenor Hotel	Jacqui Clarke Fleurieu Health and Wellbeing Precinct	Chair Bob McFarland
18 September	6.30 for 7pm	Grosvenor Hotel	RCEB Birthday Celebration	Chair: Bob Hall

Members present: 12

Apologies: 17

Guests: 3

Market Rosters – Contact Market Director Cherilyn Fleming for details

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