

# Rotary

## Club of Encounter Bay



**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**

Rotary 



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**PRESIDENT & PRESIDENT ELECT – Gillian Houlihan 2025-2026**

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## Weekly Newsletter and Program

*“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 2280: 30 OCTOBER 2025**

**Venue: RSL Museum and Hotel Grosvenor**

Immediate Past President Peter called the meeting to order and introduced members to Bob Suba who explained that the RSL Museum had started in Coral Street and had received many donations over time, including from the police. The museum covers the Boer War, World Wars 1 and 2 and the Afghan, Iraq and Timor Wars. Local identities have been comprehensively researched and filed in the museum. In the process it was discovered that 101 names were missing from the War Memorial.

Members noted that photographs with poppies denote members killed in action. One of the photos is of Wing Commander Hamilton-Smith with a Spitfire. Members noted it was some time before Vietnam and Tobruk veterans were recognized for membership of the RSL, and more recently all ex-servicemen have been recognised.

A well-known member, George, served in three overseas armies and flew Lancaster bombers in World War 2. One exhibit of note is a complete World War 2 uniform with original medals.

At this point Bob Hall kindly offered to donate a book written by a member of the Lush family to the museum.

Bob Suba then informed members about the World War 1 gun which was intended to be placed on top of the War Memorial but was too large and so left on the foreshore. Bob Suba is now in the process of restoring it and the barrel will be put on display. A flag from HMS Warspite is currently in a box in the museum but will shortly be returned to the HMS Warspite Association in the UK. It was originally stolen by two sailors who admitted the theft and were told to keep the flag.

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Immediate Past President: Peter Francis  
Secretary: Mary-anne Woodman  
Club Service: Phil De Courcey  
International Service: David Virgin

Treasurer: Rob Mulhern  
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Youth Service: Colin Francis  
Market Director: Cherilyn Fleming



Members noted presentations by the RSL Museum staff have been well-received by all three local high schools. In response to questions, Bob confirmed the RSL has a good relationship with the South Coast Veterans Group, the RSL has a welfare group in Adelaide to assist returned veterans, and their current greatest need is a mount for the World War One gun. Bob noted that grants exist from Rotary.

Past President Peter then thanked Bob and his assistant Phil for a very interesting and informative talk about the museum and members had a final look around, noting it is open every Wednesday before leaving for the Grosvenor.

The meeting at the Grosvenor was called to order by Acting Sergeant Bob who welcomed members and then handed over to Past President Peter who was kindly acting on behalf of President Gill. Past President Peter thanked David for stepping in as guest speaker and then reported that Ken is making good progress but still needs to keep his leg elevated. Bruce is also making good progress. A letter of thanks for being a Level 1 club donor from the Rotary Foundation was shared among members and the impact of this on the award of PHF's was noted. A cake will be available at the the next club meeting in honour of Jan Schirmer's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

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Chair Barrey called for reports from Directors and members noted that all members are financial, the Goowa Club has paid for RYDA , there is \$950 available on the debit card, \$6644 in the general account and \$27,000 in the term deposit. Colin advised nominations are still welcome for the High School event and 10 out of 77 students are participating in the sailing event. Acting Sergeant Bob conducted fines for appearances in the local paper, eating doughnuts incorrectly, an incorrect footer in the newsletter, best dressed and dressed in the dark members, and a member being missing for some time.

Chair Barrey then asked for the 200 Club Draw to be conducted, and Shane Lutz was the winner.

Guest Speaker David then spoke about a six week trip which included the Baltic States of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. Members noted these are part of the Silk Road and were converted to Christianity in the 13<sup>th</sup> Century, invaded by Swedes, Russians and World War 2 Nazis, suffered a subsequent Russian invasion for 45 years and then gained independence in the 1990's. In Denmark David and his wife stayed with a former exchange student in Copenhagen and with people who have been involved in New Life Kenya. In the Faroe Islands tunnels for each island were noteworthy, even those with a very small population. Fish farming was very successful and the waterfalls spectacular. A UK base in World War 2, whales are still eaten in the Faroe Islands . Lastly, in Norway charging an electric car proved difficult (most are charged at home) amid spectacular scenery. In response to questions, members noted many of the tunnels are old and very dark ,and a Norwegian tunnel expert who assisted with the Heysen tunnel said it would be called it a drain in Norway.

David was thanked sincerely for stepping in as guest speaker and Bob Hall alerted members to three whales out locally that afternoon. Past President Peter then reminded members to book and pay on line to the Victor Harbor and Port Elliot Lions Club for the Service Clubs Dinner by 9 November before closing the meeting at 8.25pm.

#### Postscript:

The craft group/friends of the Rotary Club of Encounter Bay are hosting 2 fundraising events for the New Life Africa International School in Kenya. These will be held at the home of Janice and David Virgin at 3 Knights Beach Walk, Port Elliot, and the details are as follows:

- Bubbles by the Beach \$20, Bubbles and nibbles plus craft sale ,4pm to 6pm, 18<sup>th</sup> Nov
- Morning tea and craft sale \$10, 10am to12pm, 19<sup>th</sup> Nov

For catering purposes if Rotarians and /or partners wish to attend either of these events, please phone or text Janice on 0408812622 by 18<sup>th</sup> November.

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**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 **Secretary 0448 217 725** no later than **1600 hrs the day before (Wednesday)**.

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

<b>6 November</b>	<b>6.30pm for 7.00pm</b>	<b>Grosvenor Hotel</b>	<b>Daniel Western City of Victor Harbor AI and the Local Community</b>	<b>Shane Lutz</b>
<b>13 November</b>	<b>6.30pm for 7.00pm</b>	<b>Encounter Bay Football Club</b>	<b>Combined Service Club Meeting</b>	
<b>20 November</b>	<b>6.30pm for 7.00pm</b>	<b>Grosvenor Hotel</b>	<b>Louise Kelly Offenders Aid and Rehabilitation Services</b>	<b>Rob Mulhern</b>
<b>27 November</b>	<b>6.30pm for 7.00pm</b>	<b>Grosvenor Hotel</b>	<b>Barrey Niven The Haggis, Pipes and other Scottish Icons</b>	<b>Alan Kluske</b>

**Members present: 19**

**Apologies: 8**

**Guests: 0**

**Market Rosters – Contact Market Director Cherilyn Fleming for details**

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