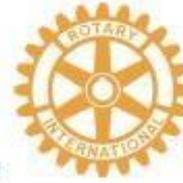


Rotary

Club of Encounter Bay



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PRESIDENT Gillian Houlihan 2026-2027

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 2288: 12 FEBRUARY 2026

Venue: Hotel Grosvenor

Sergeant Ken called the meeting to order. He noted that it is 60 years since the introduction of decimal currency and that Dr Carmen Lawrence became Australia's first female premier on this day in 1990. He then welcomed President Gill and invited her to open the meeting.

President Gill noted apologies from Cherilyn and Shane, welcomed guests Meredith and Peter (who has recently moved from WA into his investment property in Victor Harbor), and guest speaker Noah Fitton, a Year 12 student at Investigator College. She then noted a wedding anniversary for Vincent and Val and birthdays for Joan Oliver on the 19th and Mary-anne on the 17th.

Chair Colin Francis then introduced guest speaker Noah who attended the National Youth Science Forum in January 2025. Noah began by thanking members for supporting him to attend the forum and said it was an amazing experience he was very pleased to report back on.

He explained that after settling in at ANU on Day 1, Day 2 included an opening ceremony led by Dr Samantha McGaughey, followed by sessions on fossil dating and careers in Earth Science. Days 3 and 4 included speakers from universities and workplaces and focused on Experimental Chemistry. It included drone racing and a session on particle accelerators with a speaker from Switzerland. Day 5 included a debate, a Questacon visit, a range of STEM activities and a Disco. Days 6 and 7 included a communications workshop, a quiz night and sessions on Maths and Logic, and Optometry. Day 8, the final day before departure, included specialist lectures and finished with a closing ceremony at which Noah sang.

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

Treasurer: Rob Mulhern
Community Service: Stuart Ellis
Youth Service: Colin Francis
Market Director: Cherilyn Fleming
President Elect: Phil De Coursey

Noah advised members that he was sad to leave and valued greatly advice such as stepping out of your comfort zone, and working out your values and holding true to them. He mentioned he would like to return next year as a staffer.

In response to questions he explained 10 students came from SA, a disabled student attended with an assisting dog, and that he would advise students to apply for what is an amazing experience, a good way of making connections and preparation for Year 12.

President Gill thanked Noah for a very informative presentation and noted that he will no doubt assist in ensuring progress with major developments such as AI is great. Members then noted that the selection process is easier now, includes an online application, grades of B+ or higher, and clear aspirations and reasons for applying. There is no face to face interview and the cost of applying is \$75.



The Chair then called for Directors to speak and Stuart (on behalf of Cheryl) noted chocolates had been gifted by a stallholder. Stuart also advised that a traffic plan submission is underway, 18 phones have been delivered to support domestic violence, and on 22 March a Fleurieu Families event will be held at Urrimbirra to support specialist treatment of children. \$11,000 has been distributed in the first round of Rotary Grants and recipients may attend a future meeting. Rob reported that \$250 has been received to support Mercy Ships and that further contributions are welcome.

The 200 Club draw was then conducted with the winner being Barry.

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Sergeant Ken collected fines from Bob Oliver for his wife's birthday, and the birth of a great-granddaughter and a drain fire, from Peter for being in WA, Bob Hall for borrowing money, Colin for a footpath with gaps for a non ratepayer, the President for going to a wedding, Barry Pryor for remembering shoe repairs in Melbourne, Madeleine for a Citizens of the Year error in the last newsletter, Barrey Niven and Sue for photos in the paper, Peter Francis for a day old grandson, Colin for a sold motorbike, Des for a great-great grandson and, as a brown moment, Alan for having Vegas confirmed.

President Gill then asked for information about the song 'So long it's been good to know you' played at Dierdre's funeral and closed the meeting at 8.15pm

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 the **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.

19 February	6.30 for 7.00pm	Grosvenor Hotel	2025 Darwin to Adelaide Solar Challenge: Isaac Lush	Chair Brenton Abbott
26 February	6.30 for 7.00	Grosvenor Hotel	Working beyond the Four Way Test : Gill Houlihan	Chair Gill Houlihan
5 March	6.30 for 7.00	Grosvenor Hotel	My NYSF experience: Isabella Hudson	Chair Colin Francis

Members present: 19

Apologies: 2

Guests: 3

Market Rosters – Contact Market Director Cherilyn Fleming for details

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