

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 2296: 26 March 2026

Venue: Hotel Grosvenor

Sergeant Ken called the meeting to order. He noted Chips Rafferty was born on this day in 1909, Dr Jonas Salk tested a successful polio vaccine in 1953, and the first \$100 dollar note was printed in 1984. He then handed over to President Gill who opened the meeting and welcomed Guest Speaker Sam Watters, and his father Peter and sister Lauren. She noted a birthday on 6 April for Bob Oliver, and a Rotary anniversary dating from 1987 for Barry Pryor. She thanked Stuart for a very successful Fleurieu Families Day on Sunday and, before handing over to Chair Bob, advised members that Secretary Mary-anne will be preparing invitations for the handover dinner. Members noted Mary-anne is caring full-time for Bruce but will have assistance shortly. Chair Bob called on Directors who wished to speak and President Elect Phil advised members that with the help of Val and Vincent, Peter Francis, Des, Gill and Phil Beckett, 17 adults and 21 children were very successfully catered for at Urimbirra. He also informed members that the handover dinner will take place on 26 June at the Port Elliot Surf Life Saving Club and will cost \$40. Peter Francis explained that a draft program for the two month meeting trial will be available shortly and the President will also do a weekly mail-out advising members about forthcoming meetings. There will be no meeting next week and the following week's meeting will be at the Grosvenor.

Chair Bob then introduced Guest Speaker Sam Watters who explained he is currently in Year 9 at Victor Harbor High School. He has been sailing since he was 9 years old and over the past 3 years has represented the state in national competitions. He was a member of the Australian Optimist Development Squad in Thailand in October and experienced his first overseas flight. Three days training for the seven team members were provided before the competition began. All the team members were from SA. The water was very polluted. The organization provided boats and Australia provided its own

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Immediate Past President: Peter Francis
Secretary: Mary-anne Woodman
Club Service: Phil De Coursey
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Market Director: Cheryllyn Fleming
President Elect: Phil De Coursey

sails. After the first day all Australian teams were in the top twenty. Other teams present included Singapore, Malaysia, China and New Zealand. The boats had a gaff rig which was 2.3 meters long and weighed 25 kilos. Teams sailed for 4 days. There were sometimes 1,000 boats in one event. In response to questions members noted baton sails cost \$900 each and the local fleet is based at Goolwa. Sam explained he has been a state team member for some time and that it requires a significant after school commitment. He also explained the Tasmanian event had snow and that the next boat he will use will be a Laser. Chair Bob then thanked Sam for a very impressive presentation.

Bob then asked Barrey to conduct the 200 Club draw and the winners were Shane Lutz and Bob Hall. Sergeant Ken was invited to conduct the fines session, which included Barry Pryor for being awarded the second PHF in the club in 1987, himself for losing the fines book, all members who didn't order at the front bar, Peter Lineman and Bob Hall for working on the shed, Alan Kluske for a hospital visit, Madeleine for eating a pizza, Peter Francis for a bad joke and having his son on TV, and Gill whose daughter goes home on Saturday. The President then thanked guest speaker Sam once again, reminded members there will be no meeting next week and the trial will begin the following week with a formal meeting at the Grosvenor. She reminded members apologies are only needed for formal meetings. A meeting number will be allocated for all meetings but a newsletter will only be produced for formal meetings. She thanked Jo for making showbags for children attending the Fleurieu Families Day before wishing all members Happy Easter and closing the meeting at 8.20pm.

FORWARD PROGRAM – Rotary Club of Encounter Bay

Partners and guests very welcome

For catering and/or attendance purposes at formal meetings, if you will be an apology or are bringing guests you must advise the **President** by email (pghouli@bigpond.net.au) or text message (0409695770) no later than **1600 hrs the day before (Wednesday)**. Remember also, when food is available, to advise of any dietary requirements.

9 April	6.30pm for 7.00pm	Grosvenor Hotel	AI in Education Hugh Benger	Phil De Courcey
16 April	8.30am	Breakfast/coffee catchup	Causeway cafe	
23 April	6.30pm for 7.00pm	Grosvenor Hotel	Shelter Box Australia Peter Jarvis	Brenton Abbott
30 April		No meeting		
7 May	9.00am	Breakfast/coffee catchup	Whalers	

Members present: 15

Apologies: 14

Guests: 3

Market Rosters – Contact Market Director Cheryl Fleming for details

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