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**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**

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 2311: 3 September 2026

Venue: Hotel Grosvenor

Sergeant Ken called the meeting to order and reminded members that today is the anniversary of the first flying of the Australian flag in 1903, and in 1967 cars in Sweden changing to drive on the right. He then introduced President Gill who welcomed members and informed everyone that, as Bob Hall is unwell, Peter Lineham will conduct the raffle. Members then noted Lynn Mulhern's birthday and were reminded to fill in the attendance sheet for the upcoming Birthday and Reunion Celebration, and to notify Phil Beckett if they will be absent from a meeting by 4pm on the preceding Wednesday. Lastly she informed members that the club has donated \$3,300 for three online relief packages for families in Nepal.

Chair David Virgin then asked for reports and Stuart reported that a Community Service meeting was held earlier and that \$10,000 has been set aside for the Bob Hall vehicle, \$20,000 for community grants, and a domestic violence poster is being developed, with contact details on it. Community notice boards are also being developed with the Men's Shed.

Phil de Courcey reported that a garage sale will occur on 3 October with items from our shed - including trailers, tables and chairs - and any other items members may wish to donate. Members will be needed to assist on the day. A new club brochure will also be published shortly.

President: Gill Houlihan Treasurer: Rob Mulhern

Immediate Past President: Peter Francis Community Service: Stuart Ellis

Secretary: Mary-anne Woodman

Youth Service: Colin Francis

Club Service: Phil De Courcey

Market Manager: Cheryl Fleming

International Service: David Virgin

President Elect: Phil De Courcey

Media and Communications: Ken Carter

The first market at Port Elliot will be held on 3 October and, as a trial, it will be held in the square off the Strand. Peter Francis then informed members that our meeting next week will be about Granite Island penguins, the following week's meeting will be our reunion birthday meeting at the Crown Hotel, and thanks to Phil De Courcey, the meeting after that will feature Claire Fuller.

Bob McFarland then reminded members that RYDA will occur on Friday 11 September and grants have been received from the Council and the Bendigo Bank. He thanked Gill, Marilyn, Sue and Phil for volunteering to assist.



Guest Speaker David Virgin informed members he will have an operation on his eyes in November. He then reported on the New Life Africa project and members noted that the project began over 20 years ago when his daughter spent some time volunteering at the school and noted that uniforms were a major issue. Since then the project has grown with lots of support from the club and from the Friends of Rotary support group. There have been major building projects including an efficient water system, for bathrooms, dormitories and a major kitchen upgrade. Out of a total of 750 students, most are sponsored. Former students have been successful in general employment, sport and the military. The club's contribution to buildings has been enormous, and most recently accommodation has been provided for 26 girl students. He thanked the club sincerely for their generous support over more than 21 years. Finally, in response to questions, members noted support may be needed for another school in future years.

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Sergeant Ken then conducted fines for a wedding anniversary, a photo of the President in the local paper, Sue Dixon's heated toilet seats and and Brenton's several trips.

The 200 Club draw was drawn and was won by Shane, and the weekly raffle was won by Des.

The President then thanked David for his presentation before reminding members that numbers are needed for the Birthday and Reunion Dinner by the end of next week. She then closed the meeting at 8.15pm with a quotation from the Dalai Lama : 'Tragedy should be utilized as a source of strength. No matter what the source is of difficulties, or how painful the experience, if we lose hope that is the real disaster.'

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 **Phil Beckett** by email (philbeckett@bigpond.com) or text message (0466322131) no later than **1600 hrs the day before (Wednesday)**. Remember also, when food is available, to advise of any dietary requirements.

10 September	6.30pm for 7pm	Grosvenor	Chair: Marilyn Shaw Granite Island Penguin Update Stephen Hedges	Meet and Greet: TBA
17 September	6.30pm for 7pm	Crown	Reunion and Birthday	TBA

Members present: 20

Apologies: 15

Guests: 0

Market Rosters –Contact Market Manager Cherilyn Fleming for details

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