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## ROTARY CLUB OF BENDIGO

Established July 30, 1925

Charter No 2104

A member of Rotary International District 9800

Rotary Club of Bendigo

PO Box 131

Bendigo Victoria 3552

Rotary Information Line: 03 9654 5872

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Website: <http://www.bendigorotary.org>

**Rotary**  
Club of Bendigo



In Rotary District 9800 - Victoria, Australia

## BUILDING COMMUNITIES



- The Object of Rotary
- What is Rotary?
- How is Rotary structured?
- Who may join?
- Why join Rotary?
- Member benefits
- How much time is required?
- What are the financial obligations?
- What happens next?

## “SERVICE ABOVE SELF”

Rotary is an organisation of business and professional persons united worldwide in providing humanitarian service, encouraging high ethical standards in all vocations, and helping build goodwill and peace in the world.

### THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

**First:** The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

**Second:** High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society.

**Third:** The application of the ideal of service in every Rotarian's personal, business and community life;

**Fourth:** The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

*“Rotary has taught me how an ordinary citizen from a small town can be a world citizen.”*

**Raj Ghuman, India**

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## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

After reading this information, if you have any queries, please ask your Rotary contact or the club's Membership Director.

When you are satisfied with the information and have discussed the matter with your partner or family, it is time to decide whether to accept the invitation to join the Rotary Club of Bendigo.

Be sure that you are comfortable with the obligations of membership such as actively participating in club service projects, meetings or events and regular attendance.

Ensure that you are prepared to contribute your abilities and skills and that you genuinely wish to give 'Service above Self'.

A membership application form is enclosed with this document.

Then, let your contact know and he or she will assist with your membership application to the Board for approval or you may prefer to forward it to:

Membership Director  
Rotary Club of Bendigo  
PO Box 131,  
Bendigo Vic 3552

Upon your membership being approved, you will be inducted into the club and welcome to attend the

club's Tuesday lunch meetings and be invited to participate in our many activities and projects.

You will then begin a remarkable journey that Rotary provides all members who make the decision to share their good fortune in life with the community of which they are a part.

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*Your are invited to attend a meeting as a club guest.*

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### Membership Enquiries:

Membership Director

**Peter Hyett**

Phone: 0409 592 208

Email: pb.hyett@bigpond.com



**Membership fees support many things including social events involving the families and friends of club members**

The fees outlined on page 13 support club and district administration as well as affiliation with Rotary International.

A subscription to the monthly magazine "Rotary Down Under" is included.

The luncheon meeting fee includes a small loading to meet the cost of guest speakers etc.

Occasional social events are designed to involve family and to meet fellow Rotarians in a relaxed environment.

Usually they involve only the entrance and meal cost.

*"I know Rotary changes lives. I've seen it happen. Most of all, I know Rotary changes lives because it changed mine."*

Colin Burns, Bendigo

## WHAT IS ROTARY?

Rotary provides an opportunity for men and women to use their personal and professional skills to assist the community. If you've asked yourself the question "What can I do?" then this may be the answer.

Rotary consists of individuals who contribute time and expertise to making a difference.

Rotary International is a global network based within local communities. Rotarians know that as individuals they may not achieve a lot but, by working with likeminded people as a team, the effect of their contribution is multiplied and significant improvements can be made.

For example, Rotary is eradicating the scourge of polio by immunizing children worldwide. Much can be achieved by people working together, enjoying a wider circle of friends and using their skills to make this world a better place.

Each Rotarian represents his or her industry or profession, ensuring a diversity of vocational skills is available to support projects. Rotarians also recognise the need for ethical standards in their professional lives and to promote goodwill, locally and internationally, to encourage peaceful coexistence.

### Some facts:

- ▶ Paul Harris founded Rotary in 1905 in Chicago, USA.
- ▶ There are over 1.2 million Rotarians worldwide in 32,504 clubs in 529 districts in 207 countries.
- ▶ Rotary has a seat in the General Assembly of the United Nations in recognition of its efforts to foster good will and peace across national boundaries.
- ▶ Rotary has the world's largest non-government Foundation providing educational and humanitarian aid.
- ▶ Rotary is non-political and non-religious, recognising the needs and entitlements of all.
- ▶ Rotary seeks a balanced membership by encouraging the interests of both female and male professional and retired people.

## THE ROTARY CLUB OF BENDIGO

The Rotary Club of Bendigo was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Melbourne and chartered on July 30, 1925.

In turn, it has sponsored six Rotary clubs in the region:

- ▶ Castlemame 1935
- ▶ Echuca -Moama 1948
- ▶ Bendigo South 1959
- ▶ Eaglehawk 1966
- ▶ Bendigo Strathdale 1978
- ▶ Bendigo Sandhurst 1988



*President of the Rotary Club of Bendigo Rod McDonald (2014-15) accepts a cheque from the Art Show Committee after the annual Easter Art Show.*

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*“ The job that brought me to Rotary has long since gone, but I am a Rotarian for life.. “*

**Talee Crowe, USA**

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## WHAT ARE THE FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS?

Membership of Rotary entails an annual membership fee and, for new members, a joining fee.

These fees cover administration costs across the three tiers of Rotary — local, district and international.

Attendance at club luncheon meetings incurs a fixed cost.

A sense of humour is an essential requirement. Meetings usually have a lighthearted segment where members may be ‘fined’ for factual or not so factual conduct.

Each year, the District Governor hosts a conference where club representatives gather to review achievements.

It is an opportunity to see Rotary in a broader context and to socialize with the wider circle of the Rotary district. Attendance at district and international conferences are optional and costs vary from year to year depending on location.



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### **Rotary Club of Bendigo 2015 - 2016 Financial Details (including GST):**

- ▶ Annual membership fee \$300.00
- ▶ Club luncheons at Bendigo Club cost \$20.00
- ▶ ‘Fines’ \$1.00 or \$2.00

Annual membership is payable at July 1 and can be paid either annually or 6 monthly.

New members pay on a pro-rata basis depending upon the number of months expired.

## HOW MUCH TIME IS REQUIRED?

Members make time for Rotary according to their lifestyle and the changing demands of family and work. Members are encouraged to attend as often as possible.

Sometimes a Rotarian can't attend meetings because of business or family commitments. There are alternatives. A Rotarian can attend another Rotary club's meeting or a defined service project or committee meeting which is credited towards the member's attendance.

Leave of absence is granted where requested and where the club Board believes this to be reasonable.

### Meeting details of the Rotary Club of Bendigo

A one-hour luncheon meeting.

Tuesday at 12.45pm for 1.00pm

The Bendigo Club

22 Park Street, Bendigo 3550

***It takes time to make a difference - your time***



*Club meetings include popular guest speakers and annual events such as the Christmas Carols (above), Easter Art Show and catering for the Bendigo Swap Meet.*

## HOW IS ROTARY STRUCTURED?

### Rotary International

Rotary International headquarters is located in Evanston, Illinois, USA and is led by a world President elected for a 12-month period.

Since Rotary's inception, four Australians have served as RI President.

### Districts

Worldwide there are 529 districts, which each year elect a District Governor to provide leadership and communicate the RI President's message and direction to clubs within the district. There are five districts in Victoria including District 9800 in which Bendigo is situated.

### Clubs

Each club is chartered by Rotary International with an approved Constitution.

Each club is autonomous and decides which projects it will initiate and support.

This allows for diversity between clubs while maintaining principles in common and dedication to "Service above Self".

Each club elects a President for a 12-month term.

A Rotary club has a board of directors representing groups of committees, which include:

- ▶ Secretary and Treasurer
- ▶ Club Service
- ▶ Community Service
- ▶ International Service
- ▶ Membership
- ▶ New Generations (Youth) Service
- ▶ Public Relations
- ▶ Rotary Foundation



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## WHO MAY JOIN?

Membership is initiated by the invitation of a current member of The Rotary Club of Bendigo.

The standard constitution covering all Rotary clubs sets down the qualifications for membership as:

Adult persons of good character and of good business and professional reputation

(i) engaged as proprietor, partner, corporate officer, or manager of any worthy and recognised business or profession;

OR

(ii) holding an valued position in any worthy business or profession or its branch or agency;

OR

(iii) having retired from any of the above positions.

Each member's "classification" is related to his or her current or former industry, business or profession.



*Larrie Winzar and Frank Lean, both long standing members of our club, were recognised for outstanding service to their community with a Paul Harris Fellowship recognition.*

Under the rules of Rotary, clubs may not limit membership based on gender.

Under Federal and State laws in Australia, clubs may not refuse membership based on:

- ▶ Race, ethnic background, nationality
- ▶ Gender
- ▶ Marital status, defacto, pregnancy, single
- ▶ Disability — physical, intellectual etc
- ▶ Impairment, illness, disease
- ▶ Religion, politics, age
- ▶ Sexuality and sexual preferences
- ▶ Dress, appearance, physical

## Personal Growth and Development

Membership of Rotary continues to provide opportunities for growth and education in human relations and personal development.

## Activities

Rotary clubs have fellowship programs that provide a diversion from business life. Various functions and conventions provide good entertainment in addition to information, education and service.

## Continuing Education

Each week at Rotary there is a program designed to keep members informed about community, national and world events. Guest speakers and timely topics are presented and discussed.

## No Official Creed

Rotary is a transparent organisation. There are no secret policies. It is an open society of women and men who believe in helping others.



*Rotarians volunteer to help communities devastated by disasters, both locally and internationally such as Somoa (above) and Nepal.*

## MEMBER BENEFITS

All Rotarians have immediate access to benefits which include:

### Friendship

In an increasingly complex world, Rotary provides for one of our basic needs - the need for friendship.

It is one of the two reasons Rotary was founded in 1905.

### Business Development

The second reason for Rotary's formation was business development. Everyone needs to network.

Rotary consists of men and women from all walks of life. Rotarian's seek to help each other and collectively help others.

### The Opportunity to Serve

Rotary is a service club. Its motto is "Service above Self."

Rotarians provide community service both locally and internationally.

This is perhaps the best reason for becoming a Rotarian - the chance to do something for somebody else and to experience the self fulfillment that comes from the process. It is a richly rewarding activity.

### The Development of Ethics

Rotarian's practice "The Four Way Test", a test that governs our ethical standards.

Rotarians are expected to be ethical in business and personal relationships.



*The Rotary Club of Bendigo supports many international projects, such as supplying wheels chairs to third world communities.*

## WHY JOIN ROTARY?

Do you want to make a positive difference?

If you **really** want to make a difference, become a Rotarian.

Benefits include:

### Professional Networking

A founding principle of Rotary was to meet periodically to enjoy the camaraderie and enlarge one's circle of business and professional acquaintances.

As the oldest service club in the world, Rotary club members represent a cross-section of the community's owners, executives, managers, political leaders, and professional people who make decisions and influence policy.

### Service Opportunities

Club members have many opportunities for humanitarian service, both locally and internationally. Service programs address such concerns as health care, hunger, poverty, illiteracy, and the environment.

Rotarians experience the fulfillment that comes from giving back to the community.

### International Awareness

With more than 32,504 clubs in over 207 countries and geographical areas, Rotarians gain an understanding of humanitarian issues through international service projects and exchange programs. One of Rotary's highest objectives is to build goodwill and peace throughout the world.



*Rotarians Charlie Martins and Kaye Graves working with La Trobe University international student Edward Le Sholo at Bendigo Community Health Services Men's Health Week BBQ, an annual event supported by our club.*

## Fellowship

Rotary was founded on fellowship, an ideal that remains a major attraction of membership today.

Club members enjoy the camaraderie with like-minded people and club projects offer additional opportunities to develop enduring friendships.

Rotary club members who travel have friendly contacts in almost every city in the world.

## Family Foundations

Rotary sponsors some of the world's largest youth exchanges, educational exchange, and scholarship programs.

Rotary clubs provide innovative training opportunities and mentoring for young leaders and involve family members in a wide range of social and service activities.

## The Four Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do

- ▶ Is it the **TRUTH**?
- ▶ Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- ▶ Will it **BUILD GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- ▶ Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

## Entertainment

Social activities give Rotarians a chance to let loose and have fun.

Every Rotary club and district hosts functions and activities that offer diversions from today's demanding professional and personal schedules.

Conferences, conventions, assemblies and social events provide entertainment as well as Rotary information, education and service.

## Ethical Environment

Encouraging high ethical standards in one's profession and respect for all worthy vocations has been a hallmark of Rotary from its earliest days.

In their business and professional lives, Rotarians abide by:



*Rotarians enjoy great camaraderie with like-minded friends and family with opportunities to gain first hand knowledge of local institutions such as the new Bendigo Hospital.*

## Leadership Development

Rotary is an organisation of successful people.

Team building, fundraising, public speaking, planning, organization, and communication are just a sampling of the leadership skills that club members can exercise and enhance.

Being a Rotary leader provides further experience in learning how to motivate, inspire and guide others.

## Diversity in Membership

Rotary's classification system ensures that a club's membership represents a cross section of the community, including leaders in business, industry, the arts, government, sports, the military and religion.

Rotary clubs are nonpolitical, nonreligious and open to all cultures, races and creeds.