

Rotary

Club of Boronia

Frequently Asked Questions About Rotary & Club Membership

Rotary Club of Boronia - Information Evening Handout

We hope this handout answers some of the questions you may have about Rotary, club membership and the Rotary Club of Boronia. Please feel free to ask any member of the Membership and Wellbeing Team or speak with another club member during the evening.

Tuesdays

Weekly club meetings

6.30pm

Arrive for 7pm start

\$32

Meal cost

Inside this handout

About Rotary

What Rotary is, what it stands for, and how it makes a difference.

Membership

Fees, partners, privacy, Working with Children requirements and joining details.

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Where we meet, what happens on the night and how guests are welcomed.

Getting involved

Working groups, rosters, social events and family involvement.

Club projects

A snapshot of Boronia Rotary's local, youth and community service work.

Wider Rotary

District Conference, Rotary Foundation, RAWCS and international projects.

Curious about Rotary? You are in the right place. Come along, ask questions, meet the members and see how service, friendship and community can work together.

1. Rotary International

A quick overview of Rotary and what it stands for.

Rotary is a global service organisation founded by Paul Harris in Chicago on 23 February 1905. Rotarians are people of action who come together to create positive change locally, nationally and internationally.

Is Rotary political or religious?

No. Rotary is non-political, non-partisan and non-religious. Rotary members come from many backgrounds and beliefs, united by a commitment to service.

Does Rotary support LGBTQ+?

Yes. Rotary welcomes people from diverse backgrounds and values inclusion, respect and belonging.

Does Rotary have guiding principles?

Yes. Rotary is guided by its commitment to Service Above Self, the Five Avenues of Service and the Four-Way Test.

What is the Four-Way Test?

The Four-Way Test is a practical ethical guide Rotarians use when thinking, speaking and acting.

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

What does Service Above Self mean?

Service Above Self is Rotary's guiding motto. It encourages members to put community first, lead through action and build connections with purpose.

Is it worth joining Rotary?

Yes, if you are looking for meaningful community service, new friendships, leadership opportunities and a broader network of people who care about making a difference.

What makes a good Rotarian?

Participation. Members get the most from Rotary when they attend meetings where possible, help with projects, join a working group and take part in club life.

What are Rotaract and Interact?

Rotaract is Rotary in Action for young adults. Interact is for young people aged 12 to 18, usually based in schools or communities. The Rotary Club of Boronia sponsors the Boronia K-12 Interact Club.

2. Membership

What it costs, what is required and how your details are managed.

What does it cost to join Rotary?

The Club Membership fee is \$320 per annum. Where partners are both club members, the combined membership is \$595 per annum.

Do I get a discount if I am a concession holder?

No, however annual membership can be paid in two instalments during the year.

Are my personal details kept confidential?

Yes. The club uses ClubRunner, a secure Rotary platform that is not available to non-Rotary members. ClubRunner is used for club information, member lists, events, birthdays and anniversaries, club stories and district information.

Do I need a Working with Children permit?

Yes. All club members are required to have a Government Working with Children permit and complete the Rotary Youth Volunteer Information and Declaration.

Can my partner join Rotary?

Yes. Partners are very welcome to join the club.

If my partner joins, is there a discount on our annual membership?

Yes. The combined membership fee is \$595 per annum.

Membership and Wellbeing Team

Geoff Griffin (Chairperson), Lance Deveson, Susan Hanger, Val Henry and Jane Mifsud.

Privacy note

Further ClubRunner privacy information can be provided if you would like to know more about how member information is managed.



3. Club Meetings

Where we meet, when we meet and what happens on the night.



Where does the club hold its meetings?

The Rotary Club of Boronia meets at the Knox Club, corner of Boronia and Stud Roads, Wantirna.

How often does the club meet?

Meetings are held every Tuesday night, unless it is a public holiday or a meeting is occasionally cancelled due to another Rotary event.

What time does the meeting start and finish?

Members are encouraged to arrive at 6.30pm for fellowship before the 7pm start.

Do I have to come to every weekly meeting?

No. Members sometimes miss meetings because of family, work, health or holidays.

Can I invite my partner, family or friends?

Yes. Guests are made very welcome. Members are encouraged to advise the Bulletin Editor so guests can be included on the registration sheet and table planning.

If I bring someone, do they have to pay for a meal?

Guests are usually paid for by the member or the guest. If the guest is a potential new member coming along to see how the club works, their meal will be covered by the club for the first two meetings.

Are there guest speakers at every meeting?

Generally yes. Guest speakers share interesting information about their work, interests, associations or community projects. Once a month, the meeting is usually a working group night.

A typical meeting night

Opening

Chairperson opens the meeting, followed by a toast to Rotary International and Australia.

Welcome

The President welcomes members and guests.

Club updates

Working Group Chairs and Membership and Wellbeing provide updates.

Meal and fellowship

Members enjoy dinner and conversation.

Sergeant at Arms

A light-hearted session that adds a bit of fun to the night.

Guest speaker

Presentation, questions, thanks, meeting close and raffle draw.

4. Meals and Drinks

Dinner is optional, and guests are warmly welcomed.

What is the cost of a meal?

Meals are \$32. Members not eating pay \$5 to help cover room hire. Potential new members are covered by the club for their first two meetings.

How do I pay for the meal?

The club has an EFTPOS machine, or you can pay in cash.

Do I have to eat a meal at the meeting?

No. To help the Knox Club cater, members are asked to advise through the ClubRunner app if they will regularly not be eating at meetings.

Can dietary requirements be catered for?

Yes. Meals can be provided for members who are gluten or fructose intolerant, or vegetarian.

Are alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks available?

Yes. Drinks can be purchased from the Sports Bar. Water is also provided on the tables.

Do I pay for my own drinks?

Yes. Members and guests pay for their own drinks.

5. Weekly Meeting Roster

Small jobs shared across the membership help meetings run smoothly.

I heard there is a weekly duty roster. What does that include?

Yes. Members are included on a weekly roster to help share the jobs for the meeting night.

- Equipment setup and pack-up
- Cashier
- Raffle prize
- Chairperson for the night
- Toast
- Thank you to the guest speaker

How often will I be on the duty roster?

Usually two or three times a year. If you are away or unable to do a duty, you are encouraged to ask another member to stand in for the night.

6. Partners, Family and Fellowship

Rotary is about service, but it is also about friendship.



How will my partner and family be involved?

Partners and families are very welcome at meetings and social events. Members are asked to advise through ClubRunner or the Bulletin Editor if extra guests are coming to a meeting.

Does the club have social or fundraising events outside regular meetings?

Yes. The Social and Fundraising Working Groups organise events during the year.

Social events

Dinner/theatre nights, Barefoot Bowls, Guess Who's Coming to Dinner and other fellowship activities.

Fundraising events

Trivia night, Bunnings BBQs, Ride for Medical Research, the annual Golf Day and other community fundraising activities.

Do I have to attend social or fundraising events?

There is no obligation to attend, but these events are a great way to get to know people and support the club.

Can family and friends attend social and fundraising events?

Yes. Partners, family and friends are very welcome.

7. Club Structure and Working Groups

Everyone has a chance to contribute in a way that matches their interests.

What is the club structure?

The club is led by a Board including the President, President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and Working Group Chairpersons.

Do I have to join a Working Group?

Yes. All members join one of the Working Groups.

Can I choose a Working Group?

Yes. New members can request to join a group that matches their interests, skills or the area where they would most like to contribute.

Working Groups

Community, Environment, Fellowship, Fundraising, International/Foundation, Membership and Wellbeing, Public Image, Youth and Vocational Service.

Why they matter

Working Groups turn ideas into action and give members a practical way to support projects, events and club goals.

8. Communications

How members stay up to date.

How does the club communicate with members?

The club emails a weekly Bulletin to all members with details of upcoming events, meals, rosters and club news.

Who do I contact for Bulletin items?

The Bulletin is produced by Monique Smith. Items for the Bulletin can be sent to bulletin@rotaryboronia.org.au.

Does the club use Facebook?

Yes. Facebook is used to inform followers about club activities and to share wider Rotary information.

Does the club have a website?

Yes. The website is rotaryboronia.org.au.



How else is information shared?

Club information is included in ClubRunner so other clubs within District 9815 can be kept up to date. The club also uses local newspapers where appropriate.



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JOIN US ONLINE - Tuesdays 7pm



9. Rotary Club of Boronia Projects

A snapshot of the club's ongoing service in the local community.

Knox Infolink

Donations and practical support, including meal vouchers and volunteering with the Breakfast Program.

Youth Skills Shed

A school-term program teaching practical trade skills to students, supported by local trades and Bunnings.

Men's Hub Snack & Chat

A friendly weekly environment offering mental health support for men 18+, including group discussion and one-on-one support.

Interact Club

The club sponsors the Boronia K-12 Interact Club, supporting youth leadership and service.

Ride for Medical Research

An annual 6-day, 500+ km cycling event through regional Victoria that brings riders together to raise funds for Australian Rotary Health, particularly focusing on mental health and medical research

Backpacks for Kids

Support for care packs provided to babies, children and youth needing care and protection.

Community Garden

Members tend garden plots and donate produce to Knox Infolink to support people in need.

ANZAC Service

An annual service for local schools at the Knox Arboretum, with music and a speaker from the RSL or service community.

Knox Rocks

A music mentoring and songwriting program initiated by Rotarian and musician Mark Smith for local secondary students.

Christmas Hampers

Food, toys and gifts are collected and distributed through local organisations to support families experiencing hardship.

PNG Container of Supplies Project

School Furniture, books, uniforms, bags and many other goods were collected to send via shipping container to Papua New Guinea. Ongoing support provided.

RYLA

Support for Rotary Youth Leadership opportunities that help young people build confidence, skills and friendships.





DO MORE THAN YOU THOUGHT POSSIBLE WITH ROTARY

Rotary is a global network of clubs with more than 1.2 million members — friends, neighbors, leaders, and problem-solvers just like you.

We apply our diverse perspectives and collective expertise to support one another and tackle the most persistent issues that our communities face.

JOIN US TO:

- Connect with other people of action
- Form new friendships and build your network
- Find creative ways to meet community needs
- Gain new skills and grow as a leader



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10. Wider Rotary Projects

Boronia Rotary also supports Australian and international service.

The club supports and works with other clubs and Rotary organisations on projects within Australia and internationally.



Rotary Foundation

Supports projects including peacebuilding, disease prevention, water and sanitation, education, environment and community development.

End Polio Now

A Rotary International project launched to eliminate polio worldwide through vaccination and global partnerships.

Taveuni Eye Project

Hands-on support for eye surgery and vision care for people in remote Fijian islands.

Donations in Kind

Shipping donated medical equipment, school furniture, desks, chairs and books to communities in Fiji and PNG.

Disaster Aid

Support for water filtration systems that provide clean water in remote areas.

RAWCS

Rotary Australia World Community Service delivers humanitarian, development and disaster relief projects in Australia and overseas.

11. District 9815 and District Conference

Rotary beyond the club level.



What is District 9815?

Rotary clubs are grouped into Districts so clubs can support each other, share programs and receive guidance from district leaders. The Rotary Club of Boronia is part of District 9815.

Do I have to attend the annual District Conference?

No. Members can choose whether to attend. However, conference is a great opportunity to learn more about Rotary, hear inspiring speakers and enjoy fellowship with other Rotarians.

Can my partner attend District Conference?

Yes. Partners are very welcome.

How much does District Conference cost?

Costs vary depending on location and conference package. As a guide, attendance has generally been around \$300 per person, with accommodation and some meals as additional costs.

How do I travel to Conference?

Travel depends on the location. Members often self-drive, fly, take the ferry when relevant, or travel together where practical.

Rotary

Club of Boronia

Ready to learn more?

Come along. Ask questions. Meet the people behind the projects.

Meetings

Tuesday nights at the Knox Club, corner of Boronia and Stud Roads, Wantirna. Arrive 6.30pm for a 7pm start.

Website

rotaryboronia.org.au

Bulletin

bulletin@rotaryboronia.org.au

Membership

\$320 per annum; combined partner membership \$595 per annum.

Rotary is a chance to do good, feel connected and be part of something bigger than yourself. Whether you are ready to join or simply curious, we would love to welcome you.

"Service Above Self"



