

**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

Woopi Whisper

Club President
Rod Mackenzie
District Governor
Evan Burrell
Rotary International
President
Francesco Arezzo

Meetings each month
2nd & 4th Mondays
6-8pm Woolgoolga C.ex

PO Box 436, Woolgoolga NSW 2456
www.facebook.com/rotaryclubofwoolgoolga
woolgoolgarotaryclub.org.au
woolgoolgaheritagewalk.org

The Rotary Club of Woolgoolga

VOLUME 38 ISSUE 11 9 February 2026

Next MEETING : Monday 9 February

Welcome Home Aliyah! Tonight we welcome home Aliyah Knight, our 2025 Youth Exchange Outbounder, who returned to Woolgoolga in January. We look forward to hearing about her experiences during her year away in Brazil.



Last MEETING :



Our last Meeting of 2025 was our Christmas BBQ at Woopi Gardens. This venue has great facilities to enjoy a relaxed and informal get-together in the lovely garden surroundings. While there, President Rod and YEP Counsellor Bron, presented our 2026 Our 2026 Youth Exchange Program (YEP) Outbounder Izabella (Bella) van der Merwe with her Rotary YEP



Blazer before she prepared to leave for Sydney in January and then off to Brazil for the year.

We send our best wishes to Izabella (Bella) who left Sydney Airport in January with the other Rotary Exchange students heading off to various countries for their 12 months Placements.



Izabella was warmly welcomed at the airport in Brazil, along with the other students being hosted in various areas of that country. We look forward to hearing updates from Bella once she has settled into her new life.



ROTARY FLAG

Last December the Club was able to purchase one of the many Community flags placed around our town to add to the festive decorations during the holiday period. It was great to see our Rotary Emblem and colourful flag with pride of place next to our Rotary Bus Stop Shelter outside of Woolworths.

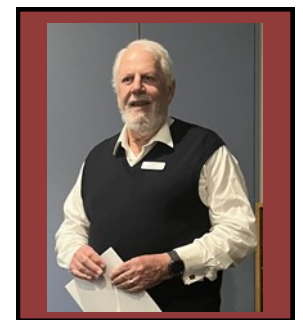
MONTHLY FOCUS (FEB 2026): [Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention](#).

Context: Part of the 2025-2026 Rotary year, themed "Unite for Good," which emphasizes using human connections for positive, lasting change.

Activities: Clubs are encouraged to focus on projects that promote community, national, and international peace, resolve conflicts, and support victims of violence.

Board & Officers

President: Rod
Secretary: David F
Ass Secretary: Alison
Treasurer: Geoff
Vice President: Kim
President Elect: tba
Community Services: all
Youth Services: Mary
Club admin & Public image: Pam F
Membership: Christopher
Projects: David E
Public Officer & TRF David F
Bulletin: Mary
Pride in Work and
Memorials Project: Bob
YEP Counsellor: Bronwyn



We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Gumbaynggirr people, the Traditional Custodians of the land and waters where we live, learn and work.



Christmas Raffle



After very successful weeks of selling Raffle tickets in the Mall and also at the Markets, the raffle organisers met at the Surf Club on December 23rd to draw the many winners of our BIG Christmas Raffle. The Club would like to send a huge thank you to the Woolgoolga community for their massive support, both those who bought tickets in our Monster raffle and to all the businesses who so generously donated prizes. We happily handed out 22 prizes in the end. Congratulations to Jean Vickery one of the first Raffle Prize winners.



Club Donations

Bronwyn Mackenzie, Vice President of Woolgoolga Seniors Centre and Woolgoolga Rotary YEP Counsellor made a welcomed donation of a quality Mahjong set to the WSC Mahjong group.

The WSC (Woolgoolga Senior Citizen's Club) has lots of activities running every week (see Woopi News page 53) including Mahjong, Scrabble and Rummikub. Our Club is also supporting the WSC and Parkinsons Support Group through a D9660 grant.



ROTARY EXCHANGE TRIP

Rod and Bronwyn Mackenzie will be going on a 2-week Rotary Friendship Exchange visit to New Zealand in February (and staying there a further week). Happy travels Rod and Bron. We look forward to hearing about the trip along with great Travel photos.



It's time to give thought to our **District Conference**. This year they are trialing a combined District event, Including the district below us, 9685. We are not sure what the years in the future will be like. This could be a last chance to experience such an event. Rotary year 2026/27 will see four training/showcase weekends around District 9660 which replace a District Conference. One such Showcase will be held at Sawtell on 16th and 17th May this year.

DATES FOR ROTARY Diary

20–21 March 2026 D9660 - D9685 2026 District Conf'ence
"Together for Tomorrow" Newcastle



International President **Francesco Arezzo**, is a member of the Rotary Club of Ragusa in Sicily, Arezzo has been part of Rotary for more than three decades. He has served as vice chair of the Joint Strategic Planning Committee, RI director, and chair of the 2023 International Convention Committee for Melbourne, among other leadership roles.

MEETING DUTY ROSTER Please swap nights if you cannot attend

Date	9 February Meeting	23 February Board/Club Meeting	9 March Meeting	23 March Board/Club Meeting
Reminders	Order Meal by 6pm	4.30 Board Order Meal by 6	Order Meal by 6pm	4.30 Board Order Meal by 6
Welcome/Fellowship	Rod	Jenny S	Jenny W	Kyle
Introduce Guest Speaker/s	David E	Peter L	David F	Pam
Vote of Thanks	Peter Mc	Kim	Christopher	Alison
Guest Speakers or Event	Aliya Knight Exchange student	tba	tba	tba

PROJECTS

- ◆ DV Safe Phone
- ◆ Sleeping bags, tarps, blankets
- ◆ World War 1 Restoration and Relocation Project (joint with RSL sub-branch)
- ◆ Pop-up shop selling high quality clothing
- ◆ Pride in Workmanship awards
- ◆ Youth Exchange Program