

**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**

Woolpi Whisper

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

The Rotary Club of Woolgoolga

VOLUME 39 ISSUE 1 13 July 2026

Club President
Rod Mackenzie
District Governor
Di Hall
Rotary International
President
Olayinka Hakeem
Babalola

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



Yinka H. Babalola
2026-27 President
Rotary International



Board & Officers

President: Rod McKenzie
Vice President: David Fayle
Secretary: Alison Ratliffe
Ass Secretary: David Fayle
Treasurer: Geoff Royal
President Elect: tba
Service Projects: David Edwards and Andrew Pryor
Youth Services: Michelle and Peter McIntosh
Club admin & Public image: Pam Fayle
Membership: Christopher
Public Officer & R.F.G: David F
Bulletin: Mary Bryant
Pride in Work : PeterMc, Andrew, Bronwyn & Kyle
YEP Counsellor: Bronwyn
Memorial Pr: Christopher
Child Protection: Alison

Message from Rotary International President:

As members of Rotary, we are all united across cultures, languages, and communities. Together, we share a responsibility not only to bring about change but also to ensure that the effects endure. That is why this year, we are called to *Create Lasting Impact*. When we work alongside communities, invest in people's skills and leadership abilities, and measure our progress, we ensure that positive changes can continue in our communities and in ourselves long after a single project ends. When we focus our efforts and work together, we can maximize our impact in the year ahead.

LAST MEETING : Monday 29 June Woolgoolga 26/27 Changeover Dinner.



It was a pleasure to join our members and guests on this night as we celebrated our club's achievements in 25/26 Rotary Year. Thank you to Jenny Storum who spent the afternoon setting up the tables with lovely floral displays. With our members all willing

to put their hand up to assist on the Board or on a working committee this new year is set to be a successful one for the Club.



We also enjoyed hearing from our guest speakers: Paul McCormack, Head of Science at Woolgoolga High School plus 2 Science students, Max and Millie. Paul presented a Power Point Presentation from the previous year's **Science and Engineering Challenge** in which Max and Millie participated.

Paul spoke highly of the Challenge and his involvement in it over several years. He saw how this day encouraged students from various abilities to gain from the experience. Paul highlighted Max and Millie as two very interested and qualified Science and Maths students, who wish to participate in the upcoming Rotary National Youth Science Forum (NYSF).



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





Rotary National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) is a flagship 9-day residential STEM program for students entering Year 12. Founded in partnership with Rotary in 1984, the program operates out of hubs like the Australian National University and the University of Queensland, providing hands-on lab visits, lectures, and career sessions. The 2027 program features locations at ANU in Canberra (Jan 6–14) and UQ in Brisbane (Jan 13–21). The program fee is \$3,180, which covers all accommodation, meals, and academic activities. Paul is hoping that with the support of the Coffs Harbour and Woolgoolga Rotary clubs, plus money raising events at the school, the two students will be able to attend the University of Queensland NYSF in January 2027.



The Rotary District 9660 Public Speaking Competition is one of the most rewarding youth initiatives in our district. The competition gives secondary school students a platform to develop confidence, refine their communication skills, and engage with the values that underpin Rotary's service. Theme: The topic is an own choice but all speeches must relate to the Rotary Four-Way Test which is a simple but powerful ethical framework that asks:

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



Rotary celebrates as the World Health Organisation declares trachoma eliminated as a public health problem in Australia. On 29 April 2026, the World Health Organisation formally announced that

Australia had become the 30th country to eliminate trachoma as a public health problem – a milestone recognised as both a public health victory and a significant step by Australia towards improving the environmental health of Indigenous Australians.

Rotarians throughout Australia can also celebrate this achievement, as Rotary has been involved in a national project to end trachoma for more than 10 years.

This success reflects sustained commitment, strong partnerships, and a focus on reaching populations most affected by health inequities. It brings us closer to a world free from the suffering caused by trachoma.

Showcase in Sawtell. This event is being organised for Sunday, **11 October 2026**. Add this to your calendars and come and enjoy some Rotary fellowship in Sawtell



Olayinka H. Babalola Shaped by his native land, the 2026-27 president carries the dynamic spirit of Nigeria with him to Rotary leadership. Babalola's leadership journey began early. The eldest of six children, he was born in Ibadan, one of the largest cities in Nigeria. His mother was a teacher and his father an accountant. "From my part of the world, when you're the first child, that has some leadership responsibilities," he says. He is the first RI president to start his Rotary journey through Rotaract.

MEETING DUTY ROSTER Please swap nights if you cannot attend

Date	13 July Meeting	27 July Board+Meeting	10 August Meeting	24 August Board+Meeting
Reminders	Order Meal by 6pm	Order Meal by 6pm	Order Meal by 6pm	Order Meal by 6pm
Welcome/Fellowship	Kyle	Peter L	Jenny S	David E
Introduce Guest Speaker/s	Peter Mc	David F	Jenny W	Andrew
Vote of Thanks	David E	Alison	Michelle	Pam
Guest Speakers or Event	tba	tba	tba	tba

PROJECTS

- ◆ DV Safe Phone
- ◆ 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
- ◆ Parkinson Support Group
- ◆ Woolgoolga Seniors' Centre