

**Rotary Club of East Maitland Inc.
OFFICE BEARERS (2025 - 2026)**

President: Chris Morgan (0423 072 991)

Secretary: Sandra Cleere (0447 885 277)

Treasurer: Lou Shirvington (0422 317 109)

P.O. Box 63 EAST MAITLAND 2323

eastmaitlandrotary@gmail.com

Website: eastmaitlandrotary.org.au

Club Chartered:

12 June 1961

ABN: 94 667 653 963

Authority to Fundraise No: 10195

Incorporation # Y1031810

COMMITTEE DIRECTORS

Immediate Past President

Sue Morgan (0401 421 322)

Assistant Secretary

Kim Le Page (0434 432 077)

Club Administration

Liz Holle (0410 454 538)

Membership

Sue Morgan (0401 421 322)

Public Image

Stuart Holle (0402 457 028)

Service

Brian Coffey (0414 811 943)

Foundation

Brian Morgan (0418 411 206)

Welfare

Nola Roser (403 190 230)

ROTARY DISTRICT 9660

District Governor

Evan Burrell

(Kath Danvers)

(RC Greenhills Maitland)



Community Leader

Glenda Briggs

(Keith Bush)

(RC East Maitland)



**ROTARY CLUB OF
EAST MAITLAND
WEEKLY BULLETIN
21 APRIL 2026**



Rotary International President

Francesco Arezzo

Rotary Club of Ragusa

Sicily, Italy

**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**



**ROTARY CLUB OF
EAST MAITLAND**



RCEM wear red to end polio.... We're this close!



RCEM BOARD 2025-2026

This week's meeting was **RCEM's Annual ANZAC** meeting, to which past and present Defence personnel were invited. **Colonel (Rtd.)** and **Club member Eric Modderman** chaired the evening.

Guest speaker Sergeant Shaun Connolly and his family, 24 former Defence personnel, Kathy Woodley, Ann Horadam, Beverley Pace, Laura Scrace and Lari were all welcomed as **Guests / Visitors**. **Apology** was received from Stacy Jacobs.

Glenda Briggs brought the Acknowledgement to Country.

Walking Group – This week's Walk commenced at Finnan Park, Grahamstown Dam for the Kangaroo Spotting Walk, followed by tea / coffee at The Rectory Café, Raymond Terrace.

Eric Modderman welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked Defence personnel to state their name and the unit(s) with which they served. A wide range of areas of service was evident.

Thought for the Week



ANZAC DAY

Dawn Service at East Maitland Cenotaph, William Street.

RCEM will offer tea, coffee, sausage sandwich and ANZAC biscuits from the catering van.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Eric welcomed **SGT Shaun Connolly** (Noah's Dad), to deliver the Commemorative Address. Shaun is a member of the Royal Australian Air Force, currently based at Williamtown RAAF Base and he indicated that it was 'an honour to stand here'. Shaun acknowledged all who serve, as well as their families who stay behind. Service, as well as character, are important.

Shaun was born in Zimbabwe and migrated to Australia as a 20-year-old.

Shaun's enlistment in the Royal Australia Air Force included:

- 76 Squadron 2009 – 2014
 - Operation Slipper CSU August 2012 – April 2013
 - 35 Squadron
 - 2016 – 2019 – RAAF Base Richmond
 - 2019 – 2022 – RAAF Base Amberley
- Operation Invincible
Invictus Games – 2018 – Sydney
- With C-27 Spartan, he visited Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Horn Island, American Samoa, Papua New Guinea, Guam, Vietnam (a highlight), Brunei, East Timor.

FOR YOUR DIARY

(Website eastmaitlandrotary.org.au)

Walking Group every Wednesday

April 2026

25 – ANZAC Day Dawn Service - catering

26 - Pickers Canteen

May 2026

15 – Maitland Sunrise Rotary's 30th Birthday

18 – Heartprint Dinner – Telarah Bowling Club

19 – No RCEM meeting

21 - 23 - Caravan Show - marshalling

22 - Pickers Canteen

June 2026

6 - Pickers Canteen

19 – 21 proposed Camping Weekend

30 - Club Changeover

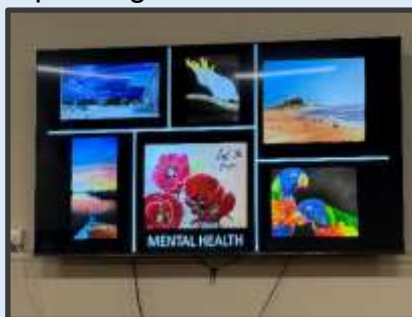
Shaun shared videos of a RAAF C-271 Spartan landing and leaving Vanuatu. Operation Solania – 2021 (Pacific Region)

- 2 Squadron 2022 – 2025 RAAF Base Williamtown
- Operation Saville
- Checkered Flag Florida 2024
- 3 Squadron RAAF Vase Williamtown 2025



Participation in Rugby competitions has been an important part of Shaun's life, including his involvement in the Defence Rugby World Cup in 2015.

Shaun also shared some insights on Mental Health issues and his responses which, include painting.



Shaun concluded his presentation by emphasising that both service and commitment matter, in the Defence Forces as well as the general community. 'The ANZAC Spirit is not limited to the battlefield.' ANZAC Day should be about remembering people and costs, reaching out to veterans as well as younger people. We should live, be reliable, forgive, own our mistakes, say sorry.

Two Members of East Maitland RSL Sub-Branch led the assembly in the traditional ANZAC Ceremony of Remembrance, including recitation of 'The Ode', followed by Last Post, Minute's Silence, Rouse and Australian National Anthem.



	28th April	5th May	12th May
ACTIVITY / SPEAKER	Lindy Batchelor	Bring a friend / mother	Club Assembly
TOPIC	Newcastle Art Society	Mother's Day Baby photos	
INTRODUCE	Liz Holle		
THANKS	Julie Dixon		
FELLOWSHIP	Trevor Lynch	Sandra Cleere	Louise Shirvington
Thought for the Week	Vicki Cunningham	John Pace	Vicki Talbot
LOCATION	GEORGE TAVERN 6.00PM for 6.30PM	GEORGE TAVERN 6.00PM for 6.30PM	GEORGE TAVERN 6.00PM for 6.30PM

Stuart Holle thanked Shaun for his presentation, sharing his service, career and experiences.

M.C. Eric commended the ladies from the Uniting Church for their catering, enjoyed by all.





Rotary
East Maitland

**YOU'RE INVITED-
INFORMATION
SESSION**

**DISCOVER THE
WORLD OF ROTARY**

New member information session.
New to Rotary?
Find out more about Rotary.

WHO'S COMING

- International
- District
- Our Club
- The Rotary Foundation
- Opportunities

When: 18 South Coast Drive, Ashcroft
Wednesday 27th April at 6pm
RSVP: eastmaitlandrotary@cal.com

www: www.eastmaitlandrotary.org.au

Get these bright ideas flowing

**THE
TRIV
NIGHT
OUT**

Trivia competition and Raffle

**Friday 1st May
6pm for 7pm Trivia**

\$15 per person Teams of 5 to 8

Scan today tickets

**Grand Auditorium
Club Macquarie**
458 Lake Road Argenton

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

**30TH ANNIVERSARY
DINNER**

ROTARY CLUB OF MAITLAND SUNRISE

FRIDAY 15 MAY 2026
6.30PM TO 9.30PM

Club: Maitland City
14 Arkley Street, Rahmentind
180/meal includes 1 course meal & drink (not incl)
Dress code: Formal

RSVP by 1 July 2026
Please RSVP using the attached Booking Form



**LET'S
TALK**

A free community event with
CRAIG HAMILTON
Mental health, Resilience & Hope

KURRI BOWLING CLUB
6TH MAY, 6.30PM

Rotary
Club of Kurri Kurri

Rotary
East Maitland

Heartprint Dinner

WENDY O'BRIEN and SREY PHEAP ARE
VISITING AUSTRALIA

DATE: Monday 18th May 2026 6pm
WHERE: Telarah Bowling Club
COST: \$40
TICKETS ON QR CODE

QR CODE