



# PAULINE'S PATHWAYS

## MAGILL SUNRISE ROTARY CLUB

VOLUME 29, ISSUE 23, Meeting 1314, 17FEB2026

### FEBRUARY– Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month

Welcome to Sami Omari (Guest Speaker), Di (Group 3 Leader) and Dennis, Leonie and Chris, Bianca and Christian (RC of Morialta), Chris, Tam and Hans (Alaskan guests) and members of Sami's family and friends who came along to support him.

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent Rotary meeting. We were privileged to hear from Sami Omari, who delivered an insightful and thought-provoking presentation on "Afghanistan After the Withdrawal."



Your engagement and presence helped make the discussion especially meaningful, and a heartfelt thank you also goes to Sami's family and friends who joined us in support of his address. Your presence added warmth and encouragement to the occasion.

We were additionally delighted to welcome visitors Tam and Hans Agosti-Gister from Anchorage, Alaska. Tam, who joined Rotary in 2012 as a member of the Anchorage East Rotary Club, currently serves as co-chair of her club's Youth Services and as the District Interact Chair.

It was an absolute pleasure to meet them and to share in the spirit of Rotary fellowship and exchange gifts.

If you've ever wanted to make a real difference—locally or globally—while connecting with friendly, community-minded people, our Rotary club might be exactly what you're looking for. We're a flexible, fun, and welcoming group where meetings are relaxed, conversations flow easily, and everyone is encouraged to contribute in their own way.

Come along, get involved, and discover how rewarding it can be to be part of something bigger than yourself. Rotary isn't just a club—it's a family, and there's always room for one more.

Pauline

#### FOR THE DIARY

##### MARCH MEETINGS

3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>  
7.00am

Heccies

31 Fisher St, Magill

Third Tuesday of the month  
17<sup>th</sup>

6.00pm for 6.30pm  
Tower Hotel  
621 Magill Rd, Magill

Contact us

0415 453 101

Next Club Meeting  
1315

03 MARCH 2026

Guest Speaker: Brian Harris

Topic: Joining Generations  
Intergenerational Program.



## GUEST SPEAKER: SAMI OMARI



Magill Rotary was privileged to hear from Sami Omari on the topic “*Afghanistan After the Withdrawal: Security, Humanitarian Challenges, and Australia’s Role Before and After 2021.*”

Sami brought both **professional expertise and deeply personal insight** to a complex and confronting subject. Born in Afghanistan, he has worked extensively with NATO, the US Department of State, DFAT and the Australian Defence Force in governance, justice reform and civil-military engagement.

He outlined how the Taliban’s rapid takeover in August 2021 marked the collapse of two decades of international military and state-building efforts. **The anticipated “Taliban 2.0” moderation did not eventuate.** Instead, Afghanistan has experienced a rollback of civil liberties, particularly affecting women and girls.

Girls are barred from schooling beyond Year 6. Women are excluded from universities, most employment, and travel without a male guardian. Sami stressed that these restrictions are ideological rather than cultural, representing a profound exclusion of half the population from public life.

**Economically, Afghanistan faces severe hardship.** International aid withdrawal, frozen central bank assets and widespread unemployment have created deep poverty, with millions reliant on limited humanitarian assistance. While large-scale warfare has decreased, repression and insecurity remain, including threats from extremist groups such as ISIS-K.

Sami acknowledged Australia’s significant contribution from 2001–2021 in security operations, military training, development programs and gender equity initiatives. Post-withdrawal, Australia continues humanitarian assistance and refugee resettlement efforts, though Sami questioned transparency around aid delivery channels and urged continued advocacy for displaced Afghans.

When asked about **the future**, Sami was realistic yet hopeful. Military solutions are no longer viable. Instead, he emphasised sustained international advocacy, travel sanctions on Taliban leaders, and global pressure to address human rights violations – and continuing support for refugee settlements, particularly children and young people settling in Australia.



**His message was clear: Afghanistan must not be forgotten, and the voices of its silenced people must continue to be heard.**

**Note:** Sami is one of four outstanding panellists at the upcoming Australian Institute of International Affairs session on ***Afghanistan at a Crossroads: Security, Diplomacy, and the Struggle for Human Rights***. The 90-minute session is broadcast online on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, from 6:00pm (ACDT). Register [<here>](#)



Sergent Lynne



## Quiz Question

If you stretched out an adult's veins, how many kilometres there be?

**Answer:** There are some surprising lengths packed inside the human body. There's the small intestine, for example, about **7 metres** end to end (though hopefully it never has to). Not to be outdone, our nerves could stretch **60 Kilometres** if laid end to end.

However, none of this compares to our circulatory system. According to the British Heart Foundation, the veins in an adult human could stretch an astounding **96,560.64** kilometres— that's farther than it takes to circumnavigate the globe **twice**. Capillaries, which transport blood between arteries and veins, make up 80% of this length.

ice-BREAKER



## Icebreaker

What topic could you give a 20-minute presentation on without any preparation?

We ended up with a host of subjects people could be called on to deliver at anytime, Holden Cars, RAAF, Travel, Wine, Aghanistan, Refugees, Concrete, Wellness



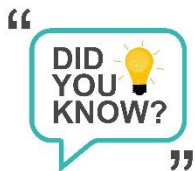
## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Happy Anniversary Lindsay & Carol



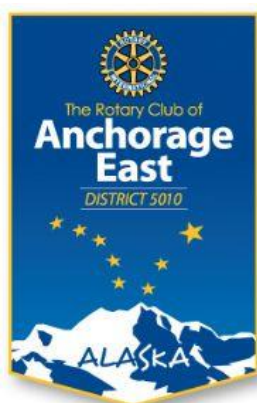


### PRESIDENT'S 'DID YOU KNOW'



In keeping with our Afghanistan theme. Did you know 67 percent of the Afghanistan population is younger than 25 years of age? It places this country in the top spot with the youngest population in the world.

### OUR ALASKAN ROTARY GUEST – TAM AGOSTI-GISLER



President Pauline and Tam Agosti-Gisler from the Rotary Club of Anchorage East exchanged gifts at our last meeting. The Rotary Club of Anchorage East is heavily involved in feeding the homeless and low-income families with a Mobile Food Bank. I urge you to take a look at their website it is worth the visit.

<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/2439/>

Thank you, Tam and Hans, for taking time out from your busy schedule to say hello.



## FOOTY TIPPING 2026

### GOOD NEWS.

2026 is the year you can make your mark, plus win prizes, fame and glory.

Half the entry fee goes to **SHELTERBOX AUSTRALIA** - aiding disaster relief.

The competition is fun ... and it's really simple to pick winners.

**MATCHES START SOON** – so sign-up members, family, friends, colleagues ASAP.



Rotary

District 9510

FOOTY  
TIPPING  
2026

ShelterBox  
AUSTRALIA

THE 2026 AFL FOOTY SEASON  
IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER,  
SO SIGN UP NOW TO BE PART  
OF THE FUN OF FOOTY TIPPING  
2026

Entry for the Rotary Footy Tipping competition is only \$30.00 !

Half is donated to [ShelterBox Australia](https://www.shelterbox.org.au) supporting communities in crisis.  
All remaining funds used for prizes. You win both ways!

- Open to anyone - Rotarians, family, friends, alumni, pets etc.
- There are weekly cash prizes plus bragging rights
- Major end-of-season prizes are set once the number of participants is known
- Tipping is super-simple and you don't need to be a footy expert

How To Join The Fun:

- If you participated last year, sign in at [footytips.com.au](https://footytips.com.au) OR
- If you're new, sign up at [footytips.com.au/comps/D9510](https://footytips.com.au/comps/D9510) (password: Rotary) OR
- Send an email to [footy@magillrotary.org.au](mailto:footy@magillrotary.org.au) for full instructions.
- We'll send you payment details when you sign up
- Get your club members, family & friends to join for the ultimate claim to fame

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 03 MAR **CLUB MEETING 1315 – 7.00am – 8.00am**  
Hectorville Sports and Community Club  
31, Fisher Street Magill  
Guest Speaker: Brian Harris

Thursday 05 MAR **BOARD MEETING 6.00PM for 6.30PM**  
Venue:TBA



Friday 06 MAR **MOONLIGHT MARKET – 5.30PM – 9.30PM**  
Thorndon Park Reserve



Sunday 08 MAR **MAGILL SUNRISE ROTARY MARKET 9.00M – 2.00PM**  
Campbelltown Memorial Oval



Tuesday 10 MAR **CLUB MEETING 1316– 7.00AM– 8.00AM**  
Hectorville Sports and Community Club  
31, Fisher Street Magill

Sunday 15 MAR **CLASSICS ON THE PARK 10.00AM – 2.00PM**  
Thorndon Park Reserve



Tuesday 17 MAR **CLUB MEETING 1317 – 6.00PM for 6.30PM**  
Tower Hotel, 621 Magill Rd, Magill

Sunday 22 MAR **SOCIAL EVENT – WILLUNGA HOTEL – 12.30PM**  
Join us for lunch at the middle pub in Willunga  
5, High Street, Willunga  
Names to Pauline



27 – 29 MAR **MULTI DISTRICT IMPACT SUMMIT**  
Horsham Town Hall

The old things are still the best: old jeans, old jokes, old tunes, old movies...and old friends.



## GROUP 3 CLUBS

### Monday

**Campbelltown:** 0407 724 699 - 6.30pm

San Giorgio Club, Henry St, Payneham

**Coromandel Valley:** 0431 012 142 – 6.30pm - 1st & 3rd Mon St John’s Anglican Parish Hall

### Tuesday

**Magill Sunrise:** 0415 453 101 - 7.00am - 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup>

Hectorville Sporting Club, Magill

**NEW!!! 6.30pm 3rd Tue**

**Tower Hotel, Magill**

**St Peters:** 0493 281 503 - 6.00pm

Kensi Hotel, 23 Regent St, Kensington

**Blackwood:** 0477 788 660 - 6.30pm - 1st & 3rd Tue

Blackwood RSL

**Edwardstown:** 0437 760 420 - 6.15pm - 1st & 3rd Tue

The Maid of Auckland Hotel

**Unley:** 0431 618 359 - 6.00pm

Living Choice, Fullarton

### Wednesdays

**Eastwood:** 0416 367 289 - 7.00am – 1st & 3rd Wed

Royal Coach, 24 Dequetteville Tce, Kent Town

**Norwood:** 0412 305 660 - 6.30pm - 1st, 3rd Wed

The Republic, Cnr Osmond Tce & Magill Rd

**Hyde Park:** 0417 855 182 - 6.15pm - 2nd & 4th Wed

The Goody Hotel, Goodwood

**Burnside:** 0401 627 339 - 6:30pm - 2nd, 4th & 5th Wed

Kensi Hotel, 23 Regent St, Kensington

**Mitcham:** 0437 112 907 – 6.45pm

The Edinburgh Hotel, Mitcham

**Morialta:** 0497 159 737 - 6.30pm – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed

Tower Hotel, Magill Rd Magill

**Flagstaff Hill:** 0412 330 803 - 6.30pm – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed

Flagstaff Community Centre

## CONTACT US

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### Voice of Rotary

[www.facebook.com/voiceofrotary](http://www.facebook.com/voiceofrotary) | ROTARY DISTRICT 9510 | [www.rotary9510.org](http://www.rotary9510.org)

**Rotary** Service Above Self

Rajeev Kamineni DG 2025-26  
Francesco Arezzo RI President 2025-26

**District 9510**  
Encompasses most of South Australia,  
Sunraysia, Alice Springs and Broken Hill.

*In the spirit of reconciliation, the Rotary Club of Magill Sunrise acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land where we serve the community, the Kaurna people of Tandanya, and we pay our respects to their Elders past and present.*

*(If you wish to unsubscribe from our Bulletin, please contact Pauline)*

