

**RYPEN – Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (weekend camp)**  
**Friday 5th September - Sunday 7th September 2025**  
**at Camp Getaway, Axedale.**

**Information Pack for Students and Parent/Guardians of RYPEN Participants**

RYPEN stands for Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment, which is run through Rotary International. A Rotary Club within your area is sponsoring students from local schools to attend RYPEN. A teacher has recommended your child for RYPEN, as they believe the participating students will benefit from experiencing the various activities that are designed to build confidence, develop communication skills, help them to form goals and develop their sense of identity.

You have received this information as your child has been nominated for the RYPEN camp.

**Please complete the following by Wednesday 20th August 2025** to confirm the student's place at camp:

1. Students-and-carers **MUST** complete the **online** application and medical form at <https://forms.gle/qhcNPeUQYC3nRMNe9>
2. Carers MUST sign the consent form on the last page of this Information Pack and email a copy to [rypen@rotarydistrict9800.org.au](mailto:rypen@rotarydistrict9800.org.au)

**Next steps:**

3. The District RYPEN committee will process the application and notify the Sponsoring Rotary Club for approval.
4. The Sponsoring Rotary Club will contact the student and carer to confirm participation and arrange transport.

**The Program**

RYPEN will be held at-Camp Getaway, near Axedale, from 5pm Friday 5th September to 2pm Sunday afternoon 7th September. Camp Getaway is our District's Rotary Camp and is set in bushland. It has camp style facilities with accommodation in separate boys' and girls' dormitories.

**If you need to contact your child, please call 0450 090 794. Please put this number in your phone so that you recognize it if your child calls you.**

RYPEN (The Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment) is organised by a committee of Rotarians, and a team of youth supporters who are or have been involved in other Youth Training Programs (i.e. Rotaract, RYLA, Youth Workers, Teachers etc.). All camp personnel hold an appropriate Working with Children Card or are Victorian Institute of Teaching registered teachers.

**Students**

The students will be participating in various group activities, which involve working collaboratively with other students throughout the weekend. All students are encouraged to get involved during the activities by giving their input and feedback, and most importantly having a go at the activities (which will include outdoor and physical activities) planned for the weekend.

The program and weekend is for students in years 9, 10 and 11 and aged 15 to 17.

Students will undertake self-evaluation and reflection exercises, which will provide them with the opportunity to apply the things they have learnt to their own lives and experience. It is important that the student understands he/she needs to participate to gain maximum benefit from this experience.

## **Cost**

**There is no cost to you.** The sponsoring Rotary Club meets the full cost of the program. If your student is unable to attend, then please immediately notify both your sponsoring Rotary Club and the RYPEN committee so that another student may be able to take their place.

## **RYPEN Photo Memories**

Throughout the weekend, numerous photos will be taken. All photos will then be uploaded online for all participants to download and view following the RYPEN Camp.

## **Transportation to and from camp site**

A member of the sponsoring Rotary Club will arrange transport for the students to and from the camp. All Rotarians transporting students to and from camp will hold a Working with Children Check as required by the District 9800 RYPEN Committee. While no money is required at camp, students may want to bring a small amount of money for refreshments on the way to the camp.

## **What to bring**

Students are responsible for their personal property while at RYPEN. Please label all items. The camp provides a single bed mattress. Students **MUST** bring their own pillow, fitted sheet (for a single bed) and either a sleeping bag or doona and sheets.

**Repeating – BRING a pillow and fitted sheet (for a single bed) and a sleeping bag or doona, to be sure you can manage your sleeping comfort. You must be able to cater for both cool and warm nights.**

## **Packing Checklist:**

### ***ESSENTIAL ITEMS:***

- Sleeping bag or doona
- Fitted Sheet (single bed)
- Pillow
- Small case or bag for your gear
- Casual clothes for two days e.g. tracksuits, shorts, T-shirts
- Warm clothes
- At least two pairs of long jeans/pants
- A waterproof, light-weight jacket or parka (for cold and wet weather)
- Sneakers (for outdoor activities)
- Underwear and socks
- Toiletries
- Towel
- Sleeping attire
- Water bottle

### ***OPTIONAL:***

- Guitar or other musical
- A device with your favourite music
- Camera
- Scarf and gloves.
- Insect repellent
- Sun hat and sunscreen/zinc cream

### ***NOT PERMITTED AT ALL:***

- ✗ Alcohol
- ✗ Cigarettes or Vaping equipment
- ✗ Non-prescription drugs

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Please ensure the attached **RYPEN CONSENT FORM** is signed and emailed to [rypen@rotarydistrict9800.org.au](mailto:rypen@rotarydistrict9800.org.au) Your student will NOT attend RYPEN unless this consent form is returned a minimum of two weeks before the beginning of the camp.

## **RYPEN CONSENT FORM**

In the event of an accident or illness, and where it is impracticable to communicate with me, I authorise the program leaders to provide consent to my child receiving any emergency medical or surgical treatment that may be deemed necessary. I also undertake to pay or reimburse costs which may be incurred for medical attention, ambulance transport and medication while my child is attending the Camp. I understand that, although Rotary and its personnel, and its staff both attempt to minimize the risk of personal injury within practical boundaries, accidents do happen, and all physical activities carry the risk of personal injury. I acknowledge that there is an inherent risk of personal injury in physical activities that will be undertaken at the program, and I accept that risk and agree to indemnify Rotary against any future liability.

I understand and acknowledge that Rotary strives to create a completely positive and fun experience for all events. Unacceptable behaviour, including bullying, abusive language, negative attitudes as well as possession or use of illegal substances or alcohol will not be tolerated. I further understand that if such anti-social behaviour occurs then my child may be sent home and the cost associated with their return will be my responsibility.

I hereby agree to permit Rotary District 9800 Incorporated to publish, whether in printed form or on the Internet or by any other means or purpose, any photographic image, sound and film recordings that may be taken of my child at any event run or sponsored by Rotary District 9800 Incorporated for promotion of Rotary services and initiatives to the media and general public.

Student participant's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

### **Privacy Statement**

Rotary International District 9800 will collect and store the information you voluntarily provide. The information will be stored in a manner so that it will only be accessed by authorised Rotary personnel and subject to privacy restrictions. The information may be provided to medical professionals where deemed necessary.

Rotary International District 9800 are committed to protecting the privacy and confidentiality of your personal information. Our privacy policies adhere to the National Privacy Principles as required under the Privacy Act 1988. A copy of our privacy policies are available online at

[http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/privacy\\_policy](http://www.rotarydistrict9800.org.au/privacy_policy)

**PLEASE RETURN a scanned copy to:**

[rypen@rotarydistrict9800.org.au](mailto:rypen@rotarydistrict9800.org.au)