

**ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM OF ENRICHMENT (RYPEN);
THURSDAY 8 - SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER 2026**

INSTRUCTIONS TO CLUBS

RYPEN: What is it?	RYPEN 2026 is aimed at teens aged 16 to 17 of any gender, and is specially designed to provide life skills to help teens to cope in what is an increasingly competitive world. RYPEN camp is a fun, residential program where the participants have the chance to listen to inspirational leaders & guest speakers, and participate in a range of outdoor activities designed to build their self-worth, and use their belief in themselves constructively in a team environment. It is for teens who've shown qualities of decency, courage, persistence, sincerity, leadership and application in everyday life, and who deserve the opportunity of further development and guidance. The District 9940 RYPEN program will be hosted by the Rotary clubs of Feilding Oroua, and Mana Tangata, and held at the Kawhatau Outdoor Education Centre (KOEC), Mangaweka. Program Aims: The program is planned to challenge all participants in situations that develop Confidence, Leadership and Teamwork - all in a unique rural setting. The principal aim is to communicate a series of ideas and problems, challenges and social experiences with a view to challenging participants and fostering resilience. Problem-solving in a group context is one of the key strategies used. Please do not nominate young people who have already experienced other outdoor pursuit experiences. Your members may know of suitable candidates. If not, please speak to your local secondary school. No doubt they will be happy to suggest potential participants. Numbers & Gender: RYPEN 2025 will be for approx 38 participants. The preferred number of nominations per Rotary Club is two, but not necessarily limited to that. A mix of gender is encouraged to provide balance to the activities and teams. We ask clubs to consider this in seeking nominations.
WHEN	RYPEN will be held over the period Thursday 8 - Saturday 10 October 2026
COST & TRANSPORT	The cost for Camp Fees and Program Expenses is \$350.00 per student, to be paid by the nominating Rotary Club, or an agreed sponsor club or organisation. Clubs will be responsible for the transportation of candidates (so should consider collaborating and carpooling with other clubs and attendees): - to the Te Matapihi - Bulls Community Centre, 4 Criterion Street, Bulls 4818. - from the Te Matapihi - Bulls Community Centre, 4 Criterion Street, Bulls 4818 at approximately 2pm on Saturday 10 October. The RYPEN 2026 organising committee will arrange all other transportation for the event. Clubs should send confirmation of all candidate transport arrangements to and from the event for their candidates via email to the event registrar: rypen2026@feildingrotary.co.nz

REGISTRATION 	The RYPEN 2026 Registration Form for club use is an electronic Google form. It can be accessed and completed using the QR code in the margin, or the link below; RYPEN 2026 Club Nomination Form Club Nomination Forms: MUST be submitted no later than Friday 11th of September 2026. Clubs & Nominees will be advised of confirmations by Sunday 20th of September 2026. Our Registrar will then send our successful Nominees a Nominee Registration Form to complete: RYPEN 2026 Nominee Registration & Permission Form If your nominee is unable to attend for any reason, please advise us as soon as possible, and we would welcome a replacement nomination from you, or another club.
PAYMENT	Your club will be invoiced by The Rotary Club of Feilding Oroua around the time of confirmation. Please pay accordingly via internet banking. Cheques or cash payments from clubs can not be accepted.
CONTACTS	(1) Please email any questions you have to: rypen2026@feildingrotary.co.nz (2) The phone contact will be Wayne Gordon, 021545865. Please note; mobile phone coverage at the Kawhatau Outdoor Education centre (KEOC) is limited. The landline and emergency number for KEOC is 06 382 5516.
Does your Club have members that would like to assist? Please ask your club members to consider being available for any supervisory requirements, during the daytime and / or overnight of this event. The organising team have assembled a number of willing leaders & supervisors, but we would welcome having more names, in case we need any additional assistance or substitutions. Any people wishing to be involved require Police vetting. To register interest as a RYPEN Supervisor, please contact wayne.gordon@refresh.co.nz, or rypen2026@feildingrotary.co.nz Thank you for your support of this outstanding Youth Event!	

CLUB NOMINATION CHECKLIST - RECOMMENDATIONS

JULY - Club representative approaches your local high school(s): Identify school contacts (Principal, Deputy Principal, Councillor, Teacher, etc) and explain the benefits of students attending RYPEN. Provide dates and program outline to school. Ask for nominations of suitable 16 or 17 year olds. Clubs ask members for any interest as RYPEN Rotary Supervisors. If you have interested people, please contact wayne.gordon@refresh.co.nz, or rypen2026@feildingrotary.co.nz	
JULY & AUGUST - Rotary Clubs interview nominees and complete the online RYPEN 2026 Registration Form for club use with the applicant, using this link; https://forms.gle/inFM4HJ7bAKY7FPL8 or the QR Code provided.	
FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER - All RYPEN 2026 Registration Forms for clubs completed and submitted. Students are made aware that Nominations will be confirmed, and they will be contacted directly by our Registrar via email no later than Sunday 20th of September 2026.	
Nominating clubs to organise transport to Bulls (Te Matapihi - Bulls Community Centre, 4 Criterion Street, Bulls 4818) and inform rypen2026@feildingrotary.co.nz of transport arrangements.	
Payment made to Feilding Oroua Rotary Club on receipt of invoice.	
POST RYPEN 2026 - Invite your student attendees, parents & school staff representatives to your club meeting to share their RYPEN experiences. *While you're at it... Why not ask them to join your club? 🤔 😊	