

Invitation to Community
Groups and Businesses
to get involved in the

Rotary Mower Challenge



Background

Australia's first mower race was dreamt up in a small, country pub in Harrietville Victoria in 1988. Five men challenged each other to a race around the local hills of the area after an alcohol-related argument.

They chugged up the steep slopes belching smoke from their unmodified Briggs and Strattons, rounded a nominated gum tree, then flew down in "Angel Gear" – Australian outback slang for neutral – to the finish line.

"Half the town's 100 people, 300 sheep and 150 dogs were there," according to Brian Ross, six-time president of the Australian Ride-On Lawn Mower Racing Association (AROLMRA), the biggest lawn mower racing club in Australia.

AROLMRA has over 100 members and a large following in Victoria, and all over Australia. It holds between eight and ten races a year.

The town of Harvey is well placed geographically to host a large event, drawing from Perth and the South West, but broaden the event to invite family members to participate and local Community Groups to assist and benefit from the proceeds.

Fund & Awareness Raiser

Whilst the Rotary Club of Harvey will coordinate the overall event, we're inviting Community Groups within Harvey to manage specific parts within the event, thereby spreading the workload and drawing funds for their own cause in return for their effort.

There will be a charge to participate in a heat within the event and spectators will be encouraged to relieve themselves of their coins into many well-placed donation containers.

We are sourcing sponsorship and funding to cover set up costs and prizes.

As with any event, the first year will be smaller and a learning curve, but there is an appetite for this sort of event to grow and expand in successive years to the benefit of Harvey.



Overview

This is the inaugural event of an annual fund-raising and awareness-raising weekend, managed by the wider community of Harvey, to attract out of town visitors to the event.

Unlike other lawn mower challenges, this is a day of fun for children through to adults and includes market stalls to showcase local products and services. There is also the "Best Dressed Mower" (peoples choice).

It is agreed that the grassed area bordered by Roy Street, Wright Street, the Harvey Bowling Club and the Harvey Primary School be used for the family and children's events, with the abandoned bowling green to be used for the ride-on and zero turn challenges.

There may be a free or low-cost concert on the Saturday night either in the Harvey Bowling Club function area or on the *Mower Challenges* grassed area (to be confirmed)

The Harvey Bowling Club will provide all drink sales on the Saturday night and Sunday in return for use of the parking area as a dedicated scrutineering area and for the use of the toilet facilities.

A variety of food available for sale will be provided by interested community groups.

Contact us now to get involved.

www.rotarymowerchallenge.com

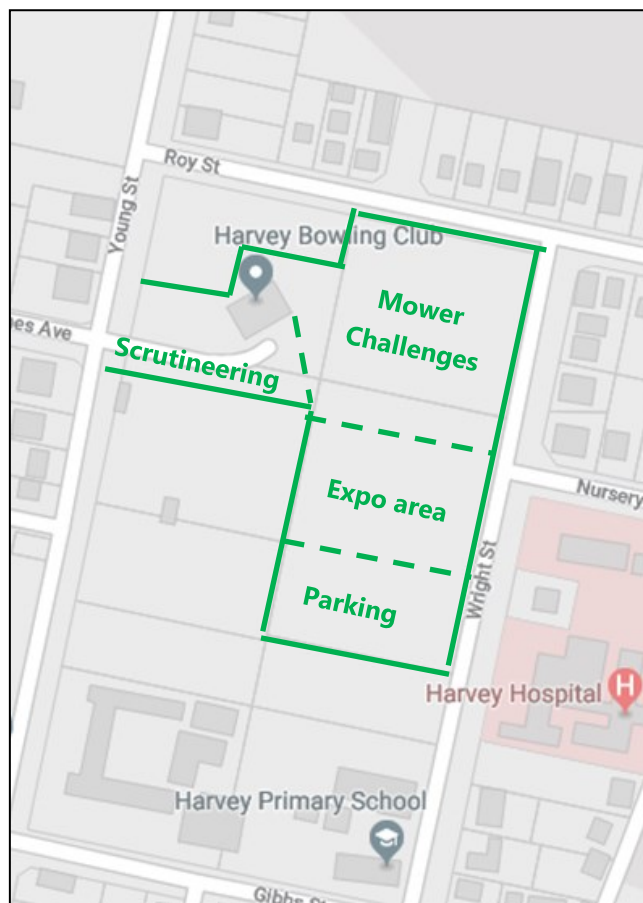
 [rotarymowerchallenge](https://www.facebook.com/rotarymowerchallenge)

Proposed Date

Annually, 3rd weekend in October

Setup : Saturday 20th October 2018

Event : Sunday 21st October 2018



For further information contact Robyn on 0418 95 95 95. Please submit expressions of interest via email to robyn@sterob.com

Draft Event Schedule

Saturday 20th October

9am - 4pm Set up

6pm - 9pm BBQ and Concert (TBC)

Sunday 21st October

8am - 10am Scrutineering

10am Open to the public

Children's Challenges

Family Relay

Shire Slalom Challenge

Community Group Challenge

Ride on Mower - standard

Ride on Mower - modified

Zero Turn - standard

Zero turn - modified

Best Dressed Mower Award

02.45pm Close

