

RMGNA LUNCH

Survey results

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overall, attendees at the Royal Melbourne Graduate Nurses' Association 2026 lunch rated the lunch experience as excellent with the majority providing positive reviews and comments.

OVERALL EXPERIENCE

Attendees rated the overall experience as 4.6 stars out of 5

Attendees are highly likely (4.61/5) to recommend the lunch friends and colleagues

QUALITY OF THE EVENT

80% rated the MC as very good or excellent

70% rated the speaker as very good or excellent

95% of attendees rated the venue as very good or excellent

90% are likely or very likely to attend another lunch

"It would be hard to improve on this year's lunch. Suggest more of the same for next year"

ORGANISATION & SERVICES

98% found the event was very or extremely organised

98% found the staff very or extremely helpful

92% thought the length of the lunch was "just right"

The food was rated 4.35/5

20-30% of attendees utilised hotel services such as car parking, accommodation, etc.

FAVOURITE PARTS OF THE LUNCH

As expected, 75% of attendees found catching up with old friends and colleagues as their favourite part of the event, with the speakers, food and the raffle also given the thumbs up.

"Meeting up with old friends and colleagues in a lovely setting, accompanied by delicious food and drinks"

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS

40% of respondents said nothing needed to be changed with a few other, very helpful suggestions for improvement. The general themes for this feedback were:

- Decreasing the cost. In fact, the price started at \$190pp but the Pullman events manager provided us with a discount and the RMH Foundation were able to organise a sponsor (Maxxia gave us \$5000) which also brought the cost down. It is interesting to note that other events organised through the RMH or RMH Foundation had ticket costs of \$200 and above ...so, as much as we would like to make the event cheaper, we were getting a great deal with \$170pp
- Generally, the feedback about the food was positive, however some attendees wanted more menu choices. We also would've liked more meal options, but this would've added \$15 per course per person just for a second dessert option, i.e., \$185 pp and we wanted to keep the cost down as much as we could. It is a similar story for the beverages package with an even larger extra cost for providing a wider range of drinks options
- Some attendees wanted the award ceremony to have more gravitas, especially information about why the person was the winner. We apologise and agree! The inclusion of the award winners was very last minute so we were a little unprepared, next year we will have certificates, bios about the winners and invite the winners to say something about their career journeys
- Speakers
 - Feedback from last year's lunch was that there were too many speakers and, surprisingly, this year a few respondents wanted more speakers!
 - Some suggested a motivational speaker or comedian, others wanted a roving microphone for attendees to share their RMH and training day experiences and others thought it would be interesting to hear from current graduates and RMH staff – all these options will be discussed at the AGM and with the committee
 - Despite 80% of respondents rating the MC as very good to excellent, there were a few respondents that wanted the MC to be a bit more respectful. We will take this feedback on board and discuss it with the MC
- Seating issues were a problem on the day, but most were created by last-minute ticket purchases or changes so, to reduce the risk of this happening, we will be closing ticket sales 5 days before the event so we can ensure the seating plan is as accurate as possible.

Other suggestions that we will include in the plans for the 2027 Lunch include:

- Water jugs and glasses in the foyer for people that won't be drinking the provided beverages
- More seating in the foyer
- Move the raffle table closer to the reception desk or into a more visible space in the foyer
- The string quartet may not be necessary as they were drowned out quickly by the crowd noises!
- Photographer offering to take group photos rather than random "groupings"

Sadly, one respondent thought that people should not be allowed to bring partners (unless they were also trainees or past/present RMH employees). Although we understand why this was said – if an attendee's partner wasn't a ticket holder, the respondent would've been able to sit with their training group – we want to be inclusive so will not be introducing restrictions on who can buy a ticket.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The overall sentiment expressed by respondents was that the lunch was a success with ample opportunity to catch up with friends, old colleagues and others, however we appreciate the feedback on what to keep doing and what needs some tweaking. As previously stated, a priority will be closing sales and changes to tickets 5 days before the lunch to improve the seating plan accuracy.

Our main takeaway is to keep the costs down so we will look at ways to reduce the cost, for example not having the string quartet or working harder to find sponsors but also choosing the most cost-effective options for such things as the meal plan.

The speaker/entertainment suggestions and formalisation of the award winner's ceremony will be discussed at the AGM and at the next committee meeting. The other more practical suggestions, such as water jugs in the foyer and directing the photographer a little more, will be included in future lunches.

The committee wishes to thank all respondents for taking the time to complete the survey which will help us improve RMGNA events now and in the future.