

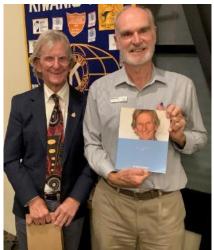
Newsletter May 2024

## Mike's message

With our AGM coming up fast, I hope all members will consider helping out by taking a position on the Board. We have been so well served by our current Board members but we do need turnover to share the load and keep members fresh. Please give this some serious thought for the coming year or the next.



Mike celebrates with his Dad Harry at the Joe Musico night, on the occasion of Harry's 96<sup>th</sup> birthday.



finished yet, as we learnt from his recent book publication and regular Facebook posts – in short, a humble man but a real achiever indeed. It was great to have members from the Barossa Rotary Club able to join us as well.

Right: Rotary guests Steve Ahrens, Bill and Sandie Symons.

#### **Recent Meetings**

April provided us with some great opportunities for socialising, both at our meetings and our fundraising events. Our Dinner meeting on **April 11** featured a very special guest, Bill O'Brien, Mayor of the Light District Council. Bill's amazing life and achievements became clear as he led us through his varied career, starting with a tough upbringing, limited education, amazing sporting feats and his wonderful community service.

And he isn't



Next came our April 25 meeting with an Anzac Day focus. Robert led a moving remembrance. It was great to celebrate too with Robert who recently was awarded this Vietnam medal. As the photos show, members enjoyed a relaxed night of fellowship too.



Then the following night, Joe Musico returned for another fun night featuring a non-stop mix of country, rock and pop music. Lorna even remembered a



birthday cake for Mike's dad and all enjoyed singing Happy Birthday. The line dancers and rock and rollers were out in force having a great time and the toe tapping music kept us entertained. Profit for the night was \$1609.80, a great boost for our funds!



# **Barossa's urgency for** emergency meals



By Jennifer Minns

they work to help feed those in need.

"I love cooking and people just keep giving me stuff and I can't waste anything, so you just turn it into something," said Lorna.

Appearances can be deceiving in this idyllic part of the world, but volunteers from Kiwanis Barossa Valley are struggling to meet the need of those facing hardship in the community and are appealing for assistance with the 130 to 150 emergency relief meals they provide each week.

A steep rise from the 20 meals that were supplied when they took over the service from Southern Barossa Alliance in early 2023. Kiwanis members, Geoff and Lyn Hansen initially thought they could manage on their own

But as the community need has escalated, it's evolved into a service that requires at least 10 people to cook 10 meals a week in order to cope with the demand.

This small but mighty group of volunteers provides free pub-style meals to 17 local schools, facilitated through various pastoral care workers and five charities, including Lutheran Care, Barossa Community Kitchen, Christian Community Hub Tanunda, Centacare and Impact Re-Store.

Fellow Kiwanis member, Lorna Schiller also stepped in to assist Geoff and Lyn, as

'Everyone in the Valley thinks that everybody has so much money and that there's no need for it, but it's not the case, Lorna said.

Meals are currently prepared and supplied by the Williamstown Hotel and local caterer The Bearded Cook at Stockwell, but Kiwanis volunteers are imploring other businesses and individuals to assist where they can.

"We need more cooks and also donations of food," said Lyn.

"Any supermarkets or food stockists that have near out-of-date food items or any pubs that could assist us with providing meals would be wonderful," Lyn said.

Kiwanis is a global children's charity organisation aimed at improving the lives of children and their communities.

"This is really a family situation," said Lyn. "It's children, parents and grandparents as well.

"The meals are going to good people who really need it," Lyn said.

The Kiwanis Barossa volunteers also want to ensure that they are working collaboratively with other community groups

## The Leader May 1

The Board has worked hard to gather support from the community through this article. With a massive increase in the number of meals needed at the moment, assistance with meal prep is essential. Please share this with your local hotel/restaurant.



Members of Kiwanis Barossa Valley, Lorna Schiller, Lyn and Geoff Hansen, who are appealing for assistance with their voluntary Emergency Meals

that provide food assistance, so that no-one I get more out of volunteering than what I

"A lot more people are finding it tough," said Geoff.

It pulls on Geoff's heart when he hears some of the stories from people who have received these much-needed meals and the resulting hugs and tears that are received. Lorna went on to share, "I've always said

give, because it fills my heart up.

"Creating one of these emergency meals is as easy as putting your own meal on the table," Lorna said.

Whether its meat and three vegetables, or sausages and spuds, the simpler the better according to the group.

"People appreciate that," said Geoff.

Geoff's report shows the huge increase in recent months and the mammoth job Geoff, Lyn and Lorna are doing. Meals produced since last December were:

	Meals delivered	Meals produced by Geoff and Lyn	Meals produced by Lorna
Dec-23	198	236	
Jan-24	415	273	61
Feb-24	534	257	150
Mar-24	585	229	234
Apr-24	655	441	110

#### Lorna's Fundraising Report

Another very successful month of fundraising. A big thank you to all who helped make the Joe Musico concert a success.

April 7 - CARS COFFEE BAROSSA	4p	8:5 hr	\$514: 75
April 13 - NURI CLEARING SALE	5	42:5	\$516
April 25 - TAN RSL LUNCH	1	2	\$45
April 26 - JOE MUSICO CONCERT	\$1,609:80		









Unfriending - the early years

Well I've finally reached the Wonder Years. Wonder where my car is -parked? Wonder where I left my phone? Wonder where my sunglasses are? Wonder what day it is?



I don't mean to brag, but... I just put a puzzle together in 1 day and the box said 2-4 years.

#### Funnies

Got up this morning and ran around the block 5 times. Then I got tired, so I picked up the block and put it back in the toy box.



#### What's coming up?

Note the changed date for our next meeting due to the Sir Condor Laucke Oration.

- Thursday 16th May Sir Condor Laucke Oration
- Sunday 19th May Kiwanis Bonfire and BBQ at Robert Nitschke's property
- NOTE No meeting on 23rd May due to Bonfire and Oration
- Thursday June 6 Board Meeting
- Thursday June 13 John Hughes of Foundation Barossa
- Thursday June 27 Bingo/fun evening

Marg H takes over as Pres. Mike & Co

Regular dinner meetings 6.30 for 7.00 pm at the Vine Inn Nuriootpa. If you can't attend a dinner meeting, please let Tom, our Programming Director know, either by email - <u>barossakiwanis@gmail.com</u> – or his mobile for calls and texts 0448015333

## Des's Caring Corner for May

BIRTHDAYS - May 5 - Kari Lindsay May 13 - Dennis Noack May 17 - Brian Harris

**Chris Schulz** 

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY May 30th - Glen &

#### MEMBERSHIP MILESTONES

May 18th - Rob van der Wijngaart 1995 May 19th - Jason Balk 2011 May 19th - Anne & Tom Stone 2016



The **Kiwanis Club of Barossa** invites our fellow Kiwanians, families and friends, near and far, to a social get together over a BBQ lunch around a bonfire.

Where - At Robert Nitschke's Property Access to the bonfire site is off Stone Chimney Creek Road, Flaxman Valley and involves a drive through a paddock. (For details of how you get there contact us using the email below)

When - Sunday 19th May, 12 noon onwards

Provided - Bonfire, BBQ, sausages, bread and salads. There will also be some paper plates, plastic cups and cutlery available. Bring - Family, drinks, your own BBQ meats, if desired, and anything else you may wish to eat. Also bring warm clothing, good footwear, chairs and a small table if you wish. RSVP - with names/numbers by Wednesday 15th May to: <u>barossakiwanis@gmail.com</u> If the weather is inclement, please call Anne early Sunday morning on

0431205851 to find out if the event is going ahead.

#### Barossa Gatekeeping @ Williamstown

Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup>

7.30 – 11.30

11.15 - 3.15

Glen Tom Anne

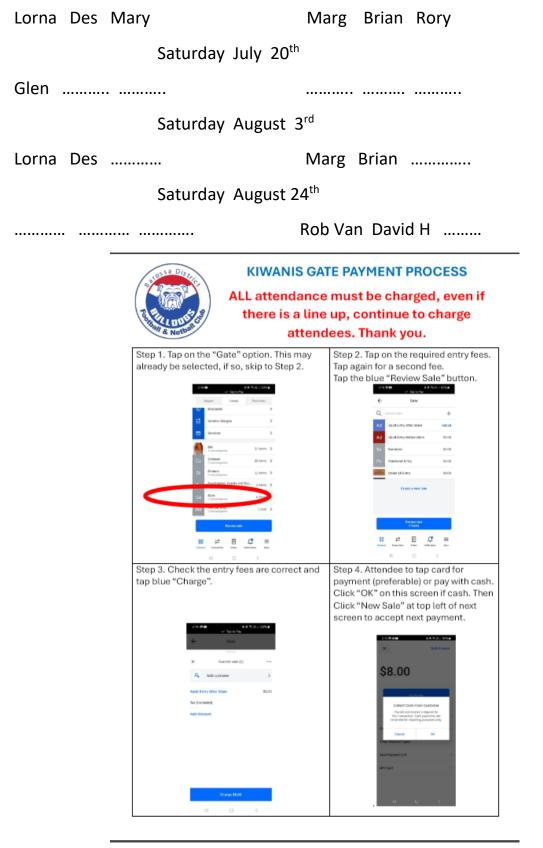
Ev Chris Rory

Saturday June 1<sup>st</sup>

Mark .....

Rob Van .....

Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup>



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Serving the Children of the world