



Kiwaniis[®]

CLUB OF SYDNEY

Newsletter

March/April 2024

#Kids need Kiwanis#

Kids are curious, lovable and hilarious. They are also wild, impatient and vulnerable. Kiwanis is looking out for kids in every corner of the globe with more than 550,000 volunteers who serve their communities through local clubs.

Remember – I can't do all the good the world needs, but the world needs all the good I can do!

ASPAC Kiwanis Convention

The Kiwanis Districts of Australia, New Zealand-South Pacific, Japan, Taiwan, Nepal, Southern Philippine, Philippine Luzon, Malaysia plus Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong, Guam, Pakistan and India all came together at an ASPAC Convention in Adelaide in early March. Senior Leaders from Kiwanis International and from Kiwanis Childrens Fund also attended.

There were over 500 who attended the Adelaide Convention Centre. Punching above our weight was Kiwanis Sydney with 13 attendees who all stayed together in a large house.

The program included elections for ASPAC Leadership, guest speakers, workshops, fun events, exhibition of each district's projects and lots of fellowship opportunities.

The Kiwanis Adelaide planning committee certainly put on a great convention. It was held in the Adelaide Convention Centre and was opened by The Honourable Tung Ngo MLC from the South Australian Government. Guest speakers included Laura Trotta on "Sustainability in the Suburbs" and Jessica Redwood CEO Children First Foundation.

We heard also from Kiwanis International represented by KI President Katrina Barenko, Paul Palazzolo KI Executive Director, Lee Kuan Yong KI President-Elect 2023-24 and Sujana Shrestha Chair ASPAC. Amy Zimmerman President Kiwanis Childrens Fund (KCF) gave a



presentation by video on the work the Fund is undertaking.

Workshops included Growing the Membership in ASPAC, Optimising Social Media Engagement and Green Generation outlining what Kiwanians are doing for their environments.

Elections resulted in Huan Wu Tien from Taiwan being elected as ASPAC Chair 2024-25, Michelle Cordioli from NZ South Pacific elected as ASPAC Chair Elect and Michael Chiew from Malaysia elected as ASPAC Vice Chair.

They also decided that future ASPAC Conventions will be held: 2025 Taiwan, 2026 Manila, 2027 Guam, 2028 New Delhi.

Each of the eight District Governors gave an insight into the service work they are doing plus the Chairs of Provisional Districts of Guam and India also spoke about their Kiwanis work.

On Friday night everybody attended the Welcome Dinner which saw many people dress in the theme of “Welcome to the Outback”. Kiwanis Sydney was well represented with many hats, bad hair, khaki clothes, boots, a kangaroo and even a crocodile. Belinda wore many of the outback signs.

Saturday night was the Farewell Dinner and in tradition each District “performed” a song/dance presentation. Kiwanis Australia performed “Waltzing Matilda”. Not as professional as most Districts.

Certainly, a great way to meet other Kiwanians from around the world and hear how they are helping their communities. All the Kiwanis Sydney contingent was a buzz as they said goodbyes and returned home.



Meeting with Nepalese at entry



Cathy, KI President Katrina Barenko and Belinda



District Displays – Sydney in spirit



All ready for “Welcome to Outback” night



Terrific Kids SEWS

On Tuesday 9th April, Cathy and Steve attended Sir Eric Woodward (SEWS) School to present the Term 2 recipients of Terrific Kids awards.

Kiwanis Sydney has been presenting kids with Terrific Kids awards at SEWS every term since 2014. Terrific Kids awards are given for kids being Thoughtful, Enthusiastic, Respectful, Responsible, Inclusive, Friendly, Inquisitive or Capable. The teachers at SEWS select the kids to receive the awards.

Xavier from the Face 2 Face classes received his award for demonstrating increased confidence in the classroom. His participation and enthusiasm for learning are evident in all that he does at school.

Archer from the Distance Education Unit received his award for engaging well in online lessons. He has increased his integration time at Blaxland High School and has shown increased confidence at school and in the community. *Pictures show presentation via DESU media room and in-class presentation*



Beryl's passing

It is with much sadness that I report the passing of Beryl Spechler on 8th March 2024. We wish her family our thoughts and deepest sympathy.

Beryl was very much involved in Kiwanis Sydney Club with 37 years membership. She was still catching the train to meetings as late as December 2023. Over the years she manned and organised the Bunnings barbeques which became the main source of funds for the club.

While working for World Book in the early 1980s, Beryl met Godfrey Gay who introduced her to the Kiwanis Club of North Sydney which must have been a natural attraction for her after many years of serving her country in the Services and diplomatic corps.

Beryl's Kiwanis service has included all club office positions and Lt Governor of Division 2. She has travelled to many ASPAC conventions, most of the Australian District Conventions and the Division 2 Mini Conventions. She is the longest serving female member of Kiwanis District of Australia.

Timor Leste was in Beryl's heart having visited the country in 2002, 2005, 2009 and 2012 to represent Kiwanis in carrying out service work to very needy people after independence was declared. She met Prime Minister Xanana Gusmao and had various meetings with the then First Lady, Kirsty Sword Gusmao who established the Aloia Foundation.

One Timor Leste family assisted by Beryl even named their daughter "Beryl" after the Great Woman herself.

Beryl's fifth visit to Timor Leste was by a luxury ocean cruise ship so after all her missions to serve such disadvantaged people, that last time she deservedly enjoyed an easier Timor experience and kept her shoes clean.

Beryl's contribution to Kiwanis has been recognised over the years by being awarded the Walter Zeller Fellowship in 2012 and the Legion of Honour in 2017.



Kiwanis Sydney chose to posthumously recognise her considerable service with a Diamond Hixon Fellowship which was announced at the 2024 ASPAC Adelaide by KI President Katrina Barenko and KI Executive Director Paul Palazzolo. This Hixon is accompanied by a US\$1,000 donation to Kiwanis Childrens Fund (KCF) which allows service projects assisting children to continue in her name.



Kiwanis has lost a great member. RIP!

Lidcombe Public School

After our donation of back-to-school packs and sensory toys to Lidcombe Public School we have continued the association. In discussions of how else Kiwanis Sydney can help the school and their kids we have decided to purchase two raised garden beds. The kids can grow some vegetables and learn how to prepare them for eating. Some of the herbs will also serve as sensory stimulants.

We will keep you updated as to how this project progresses.

Clean-up Australia Day

On 3rd March, Cathy and Steve helped out on Clean-up Australia Day by collecting rubbish around their suburb on the shores of Lake Macquarie. Katherine also helped out around Sydney Harbour.



Aktion Club – looking for members! www.aktionclub.org

Kiwanis Sydney wants to sponsor a new Aktion Club and we are looking for potential members. Members with a disability will be part of their own club to fundraise and perform work in the community to help others in need. The Aktion Club will also organise their own social activities to get to know other members and have fun.

"WHERE
DEVELOPMENT
KNOWS NO
DISABILITY "



If you know of someone who might like to be part of, or benefit from this club, then please contact us at sydney@kiwanis.org.au.

#Kids need Kiwanis!

Do you want to help kids? Kiwanis Sydney needs your help to continue our work in the local, Australian and world communities. Come along, obligation free, to one of our monthly meetings, or a Bunnings barbeque to meet the team, or simply meet with one of our members over a coffee and hear about what we do and how you can help. You will meet new friends and get that warm feeling from helping kids in Sydney Children's Hospital, HeartKids, Sir Eric Woodward School, Nepal or others. Contact us at sydney@kiwanis.org.au

Hope you enjoyed the newsletter. If you have an article to include in future newsletters, please forward to sydney@kiwanis.org.au

Joke Corner



Did you know that 14 muscles are activated when opening a bottle of wine? Fitness is my passion 🤘

Practical Advice:

If all the toilets in your house are occupied and you are waiting for one to be free, switch off the wi-fi.

Events Coming Up: 2023/24

Sat 4th May 2024 - Mother's Day Cake Stall at Cherrybrook Shopping Centre – 10am

Sat 11th May 2024 – Mother's Day flowers and cards Caroline Chisholm Nursing Home

Tues 14th May 2024 – Kiwanis Sydney Meeting 7pm – Pennant Hills Community Centre

20th to 26th May – National Volunteers Week

Tues 11th Jun 2024 – Kiwanis Sydney Meeting 7pm – Pennant Hills Community Centre

Sat 22nd Jun 2024 - Bunnings BBQ Artarmon - 8.30am to 4.00pm – Reserve Rd Artarmon

Fri 5th Jul 2024 - BGS Terrific Kids Presentation Day for end of Term 2 - TBC

Fri 5th Jul 2024 - SEWS Terrific Kids Presentation Day for end of Term 2 - TBC

Fri 5th Jul 2024 - Warrah Terrific Kids Presentation Day for end of Term 2 - TBC

Sun 14th Aug 2024 – City to Surf manning drink station #2

Deserving Causes Kiwanis Sydney has helped	2022-23	2023-24
Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick - Comfort Care Cases	✓	
Sir Eric Woodward School - Terrific Kids and gardening	✓	✓
Broderick Gillawarna School – Terrific Kids, Fun Day and Formal	✓	✓
Warrah Specialist School – Terrific Kids, loom support and sensory equipment	✓	✓
Lidcombe Public School - Back to school packs & sensory toys		✓
Children First Foundation - life changing medical help for children (District Project thru'KADCF)	✓	✓
HeartKids Australia - research into children's heart disease (District Project thru' KADCF)	✓	✓
HeartKids Two Feet and a HeartBeat, Sweethearts Day, Super Heroes Day and local respite	✓	✓
Aussie Helpers – assisting farmers and their children in need		✓
Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia in Children (District Project thru' KADCF)	✓	✓
Share the Dignity Bags – for women and children in refuges or doing it tough at Christmas	✓	✓
Rainbow Children's Home Nepal - house and educate orphans	✓	✓
Harding Miller Foundation – part sponsorship of a Yr 9-11 girl for High School studies	✓	✓
Exodus Foundation Rev Bill Crews - helping the homeless	✓	✓
Father Chris Riley's Youth off the Street		✓
Kiwanis Children's Fund - various worldwide projects – annual club gift	✓	✓
Kiwanis Australia District Charitable Foundation – annual club gift	✓	✓
Caroline Chisholm Nursing Home – Mother's day cards and flowers	✓	
Street Care for Homeless Newcastle – provide clothing and food to homeless	✓	
Gunasekara Child Development Centre Sri Lanka	✓	✓

The Objects of Kiwanis International

- 1. To give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life.**
- 2. To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.**
- 3. To promote the adoption and the application of higher social, business and professional standards.**
- 4. To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive and serviceable citizenship.**
- 5. To provide, through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service and to build better communities.**
- 6. To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism and good will.**



Kiwanis Club of Sydney