

# Australian Kiwanian

Official Newsletter of KIWANIS AUSTRALIA DISTRICT

[www.kiwanis.org.au](http://www.kiwanis.org.au)



OCTOBER 2024



1924-2024

*Celebrating 100 years*  
The OBJECTS of KIWANIS



# Kiwanis





My final report as Governor and closing an incredibly busy Kiwanis year for me. Kiwanis Australia District (KAD) is at a very important and critical position at the moment.

The long term trend and predictions show our membership numbers and club numbers have

fallen and are significantly below those numbers to maintain District status, as advised by Kiwanis International. This message is now critical for the District and does have significant longer term issues. I have been advised that six of the Kiwanis Australia District clubs will close this Kiwanis year. Some members are transferring to other clubs and unfortunately some are leaving, thank you for your years of service. It is imperative that clubs keep their members as actively involved in value adding projects and activities as possible, be it fundraising or service.

The relationship between Kiwanis Australia District and organisations such as HeartKids, the Children's First Foundation, 123Read2Me and ALL continue to strengthen and provide opportunities for clubs and members to be more involved in service and fundraising.

This year HeartKids has moved forward from the Grants in Aid research to specific projects. In particular, they have requested our interest and funding into two particular projects, the Primary Years Program and the Teen Transition Program. These need to be put to the KAD Charitable Foundation for consideration and funding, given the move from Grants in Aid, pure research, to these programs, applied research. These programs are designed to address key priority areas and align closely with HeartKids objectives. It is very pleasing to have both Marcus Sandmann (CEO) and Tracy Stanley (National Support Program Development Manager ) as corporate members of Kiwanis.

The Children's First Foundation (CFF) is evolving the model of how they support children in need of life saving surgery. They have a number of issues in bringing children to Australia, including visa issues, cost, rehabilitation etc. Increasingly they are setting up in country surgery involving the development and upskilling of doctors or surgeons within their country. They have a number of projects currently that they are looking to fund. Kiwanis clubs have funded the six cleft pallet surgeries in Bangladesh and the CFF are looking for funding, for example, for providing paediatric life support training to clinicians in PNG. It is very pleasing to note that their CEO, Jessica Redwood, is now a corporate member of Kiwanis.

We now have a Memorandum of Understanding signed with the 123Read2Me organisation for the national supply of free children's books. This is a great opportunity for KAD to support children's literacy and to involve members in easy but very worthwhile activities. Books can be distributed nationally, but is yet to be embraced interstate as much as expected. The children's books are as new and are graded into boxes, categorised as Baby, Pre-School & Kindy, Primary Picture and Primary Reader. Distribution is not limited and includes schools, community centres, organisation events, e.g. HeartKids, laundromats, fish & chip shops, etc.

This year KAD highlights included conducting an outstanding Asia Pacific Kiwanis Convention (ASPAC) in Adelaide.

Thank you to the Kiwanis Australia District Board of Trustees, Leadership Chairs, Clubs, Members and volunteer helpers. We are still making a difference to Kids in Need and still Serving the Children of the World. The real difference is made locally with clubs and members making a difference in supporting children and with those that help children. Again, thank you.

Please stay committed.

**Ian Randall**  
**Governor 202324 Kiwanis Australia District**

## **AK DEADLINE**

**Your next *Australian Kiwanian* is due out in January 2025, so the deadline for items to be submitted is **15 December 2024** via email **AK@kiwanis.org.au****  
**Thank you in advance for your contributions.**



**FROM THE EDITOR**

As the Kiwanis year draws to a close, Kiwanis Clubs around the country hold their handovers to celebrate what has been accomplished during the past year and set their goals for their aspirations for the coming year.

I was invited by the President of Athelstone Kiwanis Club, Geoff Edwards, to their handover celebration where Geoff was continuing as 'Life President', as everyone joked, because no one else wanted to take on this role. It was a great evening and it was very sad to learn the following week of Geoff's sudden passing. Geoff will be sorely missed by the Kiwanis Athelstone Club, Division 10, Kiwanis members, Mike and me.

The *New Zealand South-Pacific District of Kiwanis International* was attended by a number of Kiwanians from many South Pacific countries. The Australian contingent was warmly welcomed and found the convention to be informative and fun.

Congratulations to Glenelg Club for making the top ten in Signature Project Contest at the *2024 Kiwanis International Convention*.



Thank you for all your support and contributions to the Australian Kiwanian. I look forward to receiving articles, items of interest and photos for the next Australian Kiwanian edition. The deadline for items to be submitted is 15 December 2024 via email [AK@kiwanis.org.au](mailto:AK@kiwanis.org.au). Your next *Australian Kiwanian* is due out in January 2025.

Yours in Kiwanis,  
Rose



**Inside this Australian Kiwanian**

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**KAD BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2024-2025 EXECUTIVE**



**LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS 2024-2025**





## KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL



**Katrina Baranko  
PRESIDENT**

### FINAL MESSAGE OF THE KIWANIS YEAR

As our Kiwanis year winds down, I want you to know it has been my privilege to serve as your president. The 2023-24 year has been so rewarding not only to lead, but to learn.

My travels have taken me to Japan, the Netherlands, Australia and other places to experience the amazing work our districts and clubs do all over the world. I have met so many dedicated Kiwanians who put children first. It has been especially rewarding to go on club-opening trips to be part of the excitement of extending our reach.

I am proud that this was the year Kiwanians voted in favour of a dues increase. It wasn't an easy vote, but it is a move that sets up our organization for a stronger and more stable future.

Thank you to the governors, my fellow board members and Kiwanis International staff for supporting me this year. The bright light of Kiwanis will continue to shine, and I remain committed to our service to kids and communities.

Congratulations to **Lee Kuan Yong**, who was elected 2024-25 **Kiwanis International President**. Also, congrats to Michael Mulhaul, next year's president-elect, and Hope Markes, voted in as our next vice president. All three will start their terms on 1 October.

It was good to see so many friends and meet new Kiwanians in Denver. Our staff worked very hard and did an exceptional job of putting on an amazing convention, with so many opportunities to learn about boosting our membership and our leadership skills. Thank you to everyone who made the trip to our convention, and we will see you next year in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, U.S.



### INTRODUCING THE POSSIBILITY PROJECT

Children facing hunger. Students struggling to read. Youth lacking mentors. Even with our best efforts, the needs continue to grow. That's why we're calling on Kiwanians to come together to turn what's possible into reality. We are proud to present [The Possibility Project](#), Kiwanis' first fundraising campaign dedicated exclusively to empowering Kiwanis clubs to dream bigger and support more children.

Together with our Kiwanis Children's Fund, we will raise US\$25 million over the next five years to impact 10 million children around the world.

We encourage you to get involved in this transformative project. You can learn more, donate or become a volunteer.

### DELEGATES APPROVE DUES INCREASE

Delegates to the 2024 Kiwanis International Convention approved two amendments to the organization's bylaws that will affect annual membership dues paid to Kiwanis. These changes, along with ongoing cost-saving measures, will bolster Kiwanis' long-term financial health and help us fulfil our mission of serving the children of the world.

Delegates overwhelmingly voted to:

- Adjust the Kiwanis International dues to US\$77 from US\$52 for Tier 1 and to US\$34 from US\$23 for Tier 2.
- Reduce the number of dues-paying tiers in Kiwanis International from three to two. Tier 1 will include U.S. and Canada and all other districts in countries with per capita incomes of US\$10,000 or more as reported by the World Bank on 31 July 2024. All other districts will be in Tier 2.

These updates to the bylaws take effect from 1 October 2024.



## Kiwaniis Possibility Project

Certainly!

The **Kiwaniis Possibility Project** is an inspiring initiative by Kiwanis International. Here's what you need to know:

- **Goal:**  
The project aims to raise **US\$25 million**, which would allow Kiwanis clubs and members to **serve 10 million children** worldwide through various programs and initiatives.
- **How to Get Involved:**
  - **Champions for Kids:** Enthusiastic individuals can join as **Champions** to support this cause and make a difference in children's lives.
  - **Impact Club:** By contributing to the project, you'll help impact at least one child with just **US\$2.25**.
- **Why It Matters:**
  - **Children** face challenges like hunger, educational struggles, and lack of mentors. Kiwanis clubs work tirelessly to address these needs, but the demand continues to grow. The **Possibility Project** helps bridge this gap and create positive change for kids.

If you'd like to learn more or contribute, visit the [Kiwaniis Possibility Project page](#) . Together, we can make a meaningful impact! 😊🌟

For more Information, please contact District Chair.

*Robert (Bob) Sitters*



**Kiwaniis**

CHILDREN'S FUND

*District Chair*

*Past Governor 2018-2019*

*+61 0415 266 002*

*rmsitters@outlook.com*

*kiwanischildrensfund.org*



Serving the **Children** of the world



Ian Randall in a very positive first meeting with Marcuss Sandmann, CEO of HeartKids and now a corporate member of Kiwanis.

### **Race to Remember Fundraiser**

HeartKids is thrilled to announce the launch of the 2024 'Race to Remember' this October. This month-long fundraiser aims to honour the four lives lost to Childhood onset Heart Disease (CoHD) each week, the eight newborns diagnosed, and the 80,000 Australians currently living with the condition. Prominent athlete ambassadors include Carlton AFL stars Alex Mirkov and Mitch McGovern, Australian Ninja Warrior Sarah Blackmore, North Melbourne's Jaidyn Stephenson, race engineer Wes McDougall, and baseball hall of famer Justin Huber. They'll undertake various challenges to raise awareness and encourage community participation.

Registrations for the Race to Remember are now open for individuals and teams. For more information and to register, please visit <https://www.heartkids.org.au/event/race-to-remember/>.

### **HeartKids Launches 'Hop for HeartKids' Challenge**

HeartKids is inviting kindy, preschool, and primary school kids to participate in "Hoptober" through the inaugural Hop for HeartKids challenge. This initiative aims to promote healthy heart habits while raising vital funds for children living with CoHD.

Emma Palmer, Playschool presenter and HeartKids Ambassador, is leading the

challenge and encourages young participants to make a difference.

Dido Street Early Learning Centre in Kiama is among the schools excited to hop for a cause, with director Kate McNaughton noting the engaging resources provided by HeartKids to educate students about their efforts.

Children can participate by hopping for four minutes to remember the four lives lost weekly to CoHD, eight minutes for the eight newborns diagnosed each day, or simply hopping to show support.

To join the challenge, schools can register at <http://www.hopforheartkids.org.au>



### **Teen Transition Program**

Transitioning from paediatric to adult health care services sees a concerning 'loss to follow up' rate with notably higher mortality rates for young adults who fall out of the system.

Recognising the necessity for tailored services, HeartKids is focusing on young people aged 12-18 with childhood-onset heart disease (CoHD). The objective is to offer support amidst the distinct health, mental health and social challenges they face. The program would be a collaboration between HeartKids, the paediatric hospitals and adult health care services. A primary goal is to educate this demographic and their parents/carers about the young person's heart condition, recommended Adult Congenital Heart Disease (ACHD) services and centres, thus reducing dropout rates during the transition from paediatric to adult care. Additionally, the program aims to empower them with the confidence, resilience, and skills essential for managing their health independently.

### **Objectives:**

1. Ensure continuity of care for heart kids as they transition into adulthood, aligning with the organisation's mission of lifelong support for CoHD patients and their families.



2. Educate and empower teens and young adults to assume responsibility for their health during the transition phase, thereby enhancing follow-up rates and medical outcomes. Alongside the education sessions for teens and young adult sessions will also be conducted for parents/carers.
3. Foster peer-to-peer communication and support, crucial for this age group.
4. Maintain regular communication to gather meaningful feedback on effective support services and advocacy issues pertinent to young CHD patients.



### Primary Years Program

HeartKids Primary Years Program is a specialised program designed to support primary school-aged children living with childhood onset heart disease (CoHD) by addressing their social, emotional, physical, and educational needs. The program aims to bridge the gap in existing support services for this demographic, providing tailored resources, activities, and psychosocial support.



**Volunteers** are always needed for roles including registration, raffle sales, marshalling, and BBQ preparation. For those eager to join this meaningful event or seeking more information please visit [www.twofeetheartbeat.org.au](http://www.twofeetheartbeat.org.au)

## SERVICE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM 2024

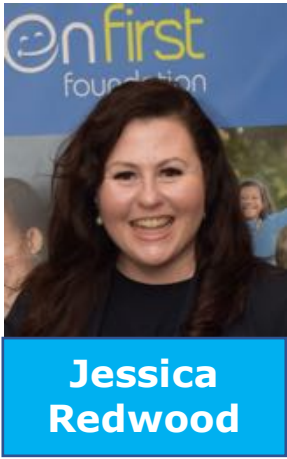
Annette Holmes



As at 17 September the following clubs are listed as sponsoring the Service Leadership Program.

Adelaide Hills	Aktion Club	1
Glenelg	Aktion Club	1
Newcastle	Aktion Club	1
Perth WA	BUGS	1
Prospect	Key Club	1
Athelstone	Terrific Kids	4
Australia Online (AoL)	Terrific Kids	1
Brighton Bayside	Terrific Kids	6
Brisbane	Terrific Kids	2
East Maitland	Terrific Kids	2
Echuca-Moama	Terrific Kids	5
Geelong	Terrific Kids	5
Mooroopna	Terrific Kids	7
Newcastle	Terrific Kids	4
Perth WA	Terrific Kids	1
Port Phillip	Terrific Kids	4
Shepparton	Terrific Kids	5
Shepparton Sunrisers	Terrific Kids	9
Sydney	Terrific Kids	3
Tea Tree Gully / AoL	Terrific Kids	18
Waverley	Terrific Kids	6

If anyone reading this notices the information is not up-to-date would you please let me know by email: Annette Holmes [holmes\\_annie@yahoo.com.au](mailto:holmes_annie@yahoo.com.au) or text me: 0407 322 903.



## CHILDREN FIRST FOUNDATION UPDATE

YOUR INCREDIBLE IMPACT KIWANIS!

Jessica Redwood

### Thank you so much

The *incredible impact* fellow Kiwanians have made on the lives of disadvantaged children from developing countries is great. Your support has enabled more children than ever before to be treated both here in Australia and in countries such as Zambia, Vietnam, and Samoa.

To read the Annual reports see [www.childrenfirstfoundation.org.au](http://www.childrenfirstfoundation.org.au)

### Update on James

Young James from the Solomon Islands, arrived in Australia for life-changing surgery. James's life has been transformed, thanks to some exceptional surgeons, health professionals, Mulgrave Private Hospital, and Kiwanians! After the complex 6-hour surgery, his recovery at Ronald McDonald House was swift. James and his sister returned home to the Solomon Islands last month. We will stay in touch and update you on his progress. Your support has done more than change his life; you've brought the smile back to his face.



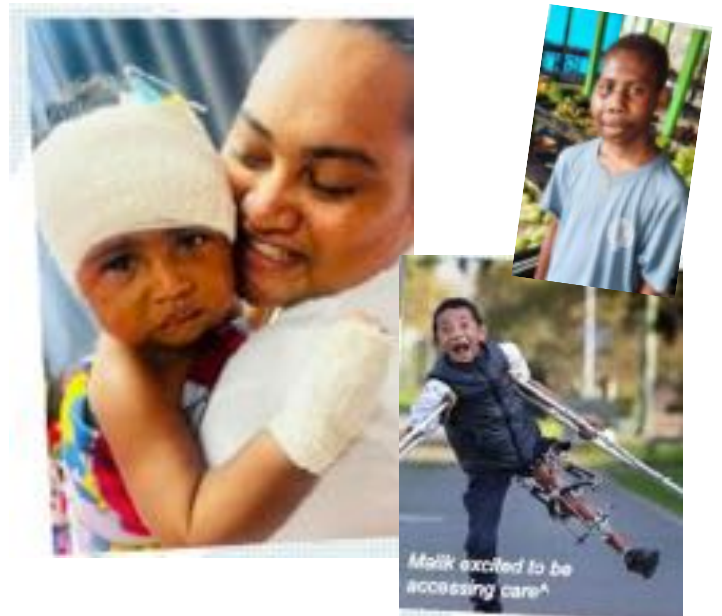
Before and after



### Daniel

He is only 5 years old and has a huge tumour on his face, right between his eyes. Surgeons in his home country of Vanuatu are unable to operate, so we needed to bring him here to Australia to access essential surgical care. Help little Daniel access the life-changing surgery he desperately needs. You can help fund his life-changing surgery.

### Children who have been helped



### Your opportunity to save a life

Children First gives you an opportunity to make a tangible difference to children from developing countries, both when they come here to Australia for care and when they can be supported in their home country. Thanks to Children First's full tax (DGR) status, donations to all projects in Australia or offshore are fully tax-deductible, giving you the choice to support the areas that matter most to you.



# BERWICK

The Berwick Kiwanis Club voted to close their club at the end of 2023-2024. This was due to the shrinkage of their membership.



The remaining members who were present at their last meeting were Marg Patterson, President John Upham, Karen McLennan, Robin Zlonzac, Treasurer Lyn Gower, Secretary Norm McLennan and new member Liz Zlonzac.

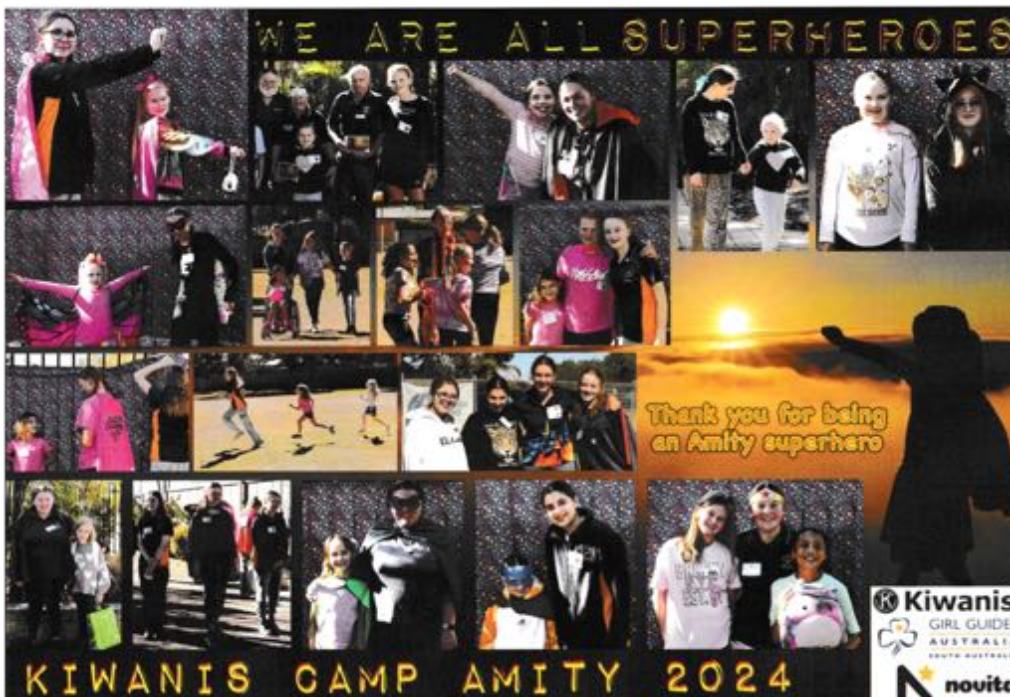
Some members are moving to other Kiwanis Clubs in the area or to Australia Online.



Governor Ian Randall presenting Margaret (Marg) Patterson with her 30 year Legion of Honour award, with the Kiwanis Club of Berwick President John Upham.



## KIWANIS CAMP AMITY 2024



**South Australian Kiwanis Clubs** have supported Girl Guides SA, in association with Novita Children Services, to run **Kiwanis Camp Amity** for disabled Girl Guides for a weekend of activities, usually held in the school holidays.

## KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL DENVER CONVENTION 2024

The 2024 Convention in Denver, Colorado 'Gateway to the Rockies!' continued the trend for enjoyable get-togethers of Kiwanians on a truly international scale. Following the success of our Adelaide-based ASPAC Convention, the catalyst for an excellent turnout of Kiwanians from the 'growth area' Asia & South Pacific. Australia District was represented in Denver by Governor-Elect, David McNabb, along with incoming Lt Governor, Joseph Fombason, while the other member of our team, Governor Ian Randall sadly was sidelined at the last minute by technical issues. This meant that David had a 'baptism of fire', needing to step up a notch, earlier than planned!

The 2024 Convention was a week later than usual, meaning it clashed with USA's 4 July celebrations, where everything ramps up. That won't be the case for 2025 Convention where the date is a week earlier than 4 July. After the lengthy plane trip to Denver city, where navigating the airport and its punchy, driverless shuttle service keeps you on your toes.

The new Governors had a full day's training, before convention, which proved valuable. It was interesting to discover that the 2024-25 Governors are half female, which is a first! There was a great camaraderie amongst the group of 'L' plate Governors at the Hyatt Regency Denver, at 38 storeys is the city's tallest building. The nearby Colorado Convention Centre is eye-popping huge. It was great being able to shop till you drop at the Expo plaza, purchasing regalia of all types, and perusing a myriad of Kiwanis displays.

Thursday morning when activities began kicking off, many folk took the chance of attending the Signature Breakfast, in the Mile High Ballroom. Denver is the 'Mile High' city due to its high height above sea level. The 10 finalists from 526 entries in KI Signature Project competition were recognised with a small, unique trophy, where David & Joseph had the honour of being first up on stage to accept on behalf of Australia, the award to **Glenelg Club** for making **Top Ten** for its Australia Day Breakfast event. Incidentally, in previous years Signature Project winners have won trophies, but this year there was also a monetary award.

Following that excitement, David and Joseph watched the impressive pomp & pageantry parade of banners and national flags that officially kick-started 2024 Convention. Fifteen past International Presidents were present including both past Lady Presidents, and an 11% increase in registrations over last year's Minneapolis Convention.

A delicious array of varied and interesting Workshops awaited us Kiwanians. One of the more interesting ones covered alternate fundraising ideas.

The scheduled announcement of the KI Major Project to replace **Eliminate** (2010), with the **Possibility Project**. The new focus now will be on raising funds directly for Kiwanis Children's Fund, with pledges and donations aiming to directly help 66 million children worldwide over the next half decade. Gifts can come from members direct to the Foundation, and there's a new Dr Will Blechman Fellowship following the theme of this 108th Convention, 'Explore the Possibilities'.

A busy 'buzzy' workshop discussed the case for voting on proposed fee increases. Sue Petrisin and Paul Palazzolo were the facilitators, and lots of healthy debate ensued, especially when it was noted that Kiwanis has had just one increase in 20 years. Saturday's House of Delegates proved 'interesting' as expected. Armed with efficient electronic voting devices, the fee increase new fee: Tier 1 US\$77, Tier 2 \$US34 was approved. The KI Board was approved for reducing from 15 to 12, for cost-saving, but that does mean some regions and Districts have reduced representation.

Preceding all that was a fitting tribute to significant Kiwanians who have passed away in the past year, with a moving reference to Australia's own **Ian Perdriau AM International President 1994-95**. The important vote for Kiwanis Vice-President, to take the top role in 2026 saw two past Trustees as candidates, along with Hope Markes from Jamaica, who won it.

There was lots of extra Convention information, but new Governor David intends 'divulging' more as he moves around the District on Club and Divisional visits. Overall, Denver was a worthwhile experience. Do keep Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in mind for 2025 Convention, to be held 25-28 June. You'll love the experience!



**KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL  
CONVENTION IN PICTURES**



2024-25 KI  
President Lee  
Kuan Yong  
with David  
and Joseph.



David  
McNabb  
presenting  
Glenelg  
President Trevor  
Averay with the  
Top Ten  
Signature Award  
from KI  
Convention.

# KIWANIS NEW ZEALAND SOUTH PACIFIC DISTRICT CONVENTION

At the end of September 2024 a few Aussies made the pilgrimage to Auckland for the Kiwanis New Zealand South Pacific District Convention. There were Steve and Cathy Hughes (Sydney), Tony and Pauline Gunn (Port Phillip), Sue Kimberley (Waverley) and Angelique, Mark and Anthony Mastoroudes (Sydney). The convention had about 60 registrations coming from New Zealand, New Caledonia, Tahiti, Vanuatu and Taiwan. This was lower than usual due to a clash with a major fundraiser and civil unrest in New Caledonia.



*Cathy Hughes and Steve Hughes*

The *NZSP Convention* started on Thursday with welcome drinks and canapes. On Friday Opening Ceremony was followed by business.



*Tony Gunn at business session*

It was appreciated that they played and sung the Australian anthem to recognise our presence. That night was the dinner and awards. Saturday had the usual reports, elections and approval of resolutions plus workshops.



Saturday night saw the fun 'Beach theme' dinner and dancing. Sunday morning was brunch, saying goodbye to friends before heading home. It showed that the Convention can be trimmed to one and a half days and still get through all the business, ceremony and fellowship with a reduced time and costs to attendees.



*Governor Danielle, Nell, KI Trustee Susan and Aussie group at 'Beach' fun night*

Guest speakers included; *Life Education Trust* or *Healthy Harold*. They have five mobile classrooms that visit schools and use giraffe puppets to teach kids how to avoid obesity, bullying, mental health issues and substance abuse. Kiwanis NZSP donated \$4,975 from their Trust to help them replace ten of their puppets. They educate about 30,000 kids each year.



*Kiwanis Threads* across the Pacific is a **Signature Project** led by a NZ Kiwanian, Caroline Salisbury, obtaining Bernina sewing machines and rolls of material. They send these to Vanuatu for the local ladies to learn sewing, maintenance of the machines and make clothing for their families and to sell. Caroline travels to Vanuatu to teach the ladies a couple of times a year. They have setup sewing groups in schools, Vanuatu Women's Prison and other groups. They have seen the ladies grow in confidence and self-esteem.

ASPAC Trustee, Chang-Ching Susan Hsu, showed a video about the ASPAC Convention 2025 to be held in Kaohsiung, Taiwan in March 2025. They are expecting about 3,000 Kiwanis to attend.



*Papatoetoe High School Key Club* past member, Joyeeta Bhakta, talked about how the Key Club, with 63 members, had helped her to navigate life after school. She currently lives and works in Melbourne.



*Speaker Joyeeta Bhakta ex Key Clubber*

# KIWANIS NEW ZEALAND SOUTH PACIFIC DISTRICT CONVENTION

# KIWANIS NEW ZEALAND SOUTH PACIFIC DISTRICT CONVENTION

*Kiwanis Australia.* Steve Hughes showed a video of some club projects and events from various clubs. He then gave a snapshot of where the Australia District currently is and some of the projects done by the clubs.

Bernard Desarmagnac talked about the six *Kiwanis Objects* and how they were adopted at the KI 1924 Convention by the House of Delegates, 100 years ago. Recently KI has used AI and also a panel of non-Kiwanians to assess if they should be changed. Both agreed there is no good reason to change them.

*KI Secretary Dashboard.* KI is changing from *Kiwanis Connect* to *Kiwanis Engage* in 2025. KI is also offering a free club website on basis they pay the annual hosting fee of \$35.



*Angelique, Nell and Cathy*



*Angelique with South Pacific members*

The *NZSP Kiwanis District Foundation* has an accumulated capital reserve of \$432,000 and they use the interest earned each year to make grants to club projects. This year they earned \$18,700 and made four grants between \$2,800 and \$7,000.

The Australian contingent found the convention to be informative and fun, and we were made to feel very welcome.

**New Zealand South Pacific Kiwanis  
2024-25  
Governor, Mike Boyd  
Governor Elect, Hina Mercier  
Immediate Past Governor, Danielle  
Desarmagna  
Secretary, Graham Chick  
Treasurer, David King**



# Kiwanis AKTION CLUB



## THE HILLS AKTION CLUB AKTION CLUB

The Hills Aktion Club's **31st Birthday & Handover Luncheon** was held on Sunday 30 June at Auchendarroch House in Mt Barker. Adelaide Hills Kiwanis President, Charles Sheldrake, assisted by Chris Hart presented members with their service Certificates.



Aktion Club members voted to make donations to **Heart Kids** and to Childhood Cancer Research for **ALL** (Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia).



Past Kiwanis Australia District Governor and current Treasurer, Peter Zander OAM, presented the incoming Hills Aktion Club Officers with their name badges; Josh, Bill, Barton, Charmaine, Jeremy, Trevor, Scott, Steven and Michael.

## NEWCASTLE AKTION CLUB



Newcastle Kiwanis enjoy the friendship they have with their Aktion Club members who meet monthly for a **fun pizza night** and to work on any upcoming projects.

Several of the Aktion Club members also joined us to deliver 120 **Father's Day** cards and chocolates at two Aged Care facilities.

## SYDNEY

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.

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](mailto:sydney@kiwanis.org.au)



# NEWCASTLE



Our **Terrific Kids** Program continues to be a popular project within our club. Five of our members have presented monthly awards to our schools for many years. We receive very positive feedback from the principals who treat the presentations at their assembly as 'special'.



# PROSPECT

Prospect Club held its **Handover night** on September 11 that date!!) at Bombay Bicycle Club, was well attended, including past Governors, Geoff Holmes and Robert Gambell, Governor Designate, David McNabb, Lieutenant Governor Division 10, Mike Hepple and AK Editor. Clubs were represented from Barossa, Rostrevor-Campbelltown and Roseworthy Hewett. Guest speaker, Lynley Johnston, from Roma Mitchell College spoke about the school's involvement with the **Kiwaniis Key Club** at the College.



Lieutenant Governor, Mike Hepple, inducted and welcomed **new member** Emmanouel Pishas. He was a member of Adelaide Hills club years ago and as he has moved to Prospect area so rekindled his Kiwanis involvement. Welcome Emmanouel!

# PROSPECT

A working bee by Prospect Kiwanians at **Hampstead Primary School** to do some general maintenance work, mainly on a couple of raised beds in the school's garden area. The previous jungle was greatly tidied and improved. With the help of one of Hampstead's staff members, who provided soup for morning tea, we had the services of Charter member Bob Edwards and his dog, Kuol Baak, Maureen Caporella, Ian Teague and David McNabb.





# GLENELG

## A New Banner

Bob Sitters and Alan Blakebrough put up our **New Banner** at St Judes Church, Brighton Road, Brighton across from Jetty Rd, Brighton. It will be there for a month and sure gets the Kiwanis Glenelg name out there. It will be used elsewhere at other times.



Thanks to Bob and Alan for doing this work, also to Bob for organising the printing and making via Sign Style, Christine for design with 'help' from Board members, Peter Symons for all his liaising with Lisa re the Breakfast Program we support there, and photography today.



### The New Barossa Board

*L to R: Rory Ellendon, Lt Gov. Mike Hepple, Past Pres Mike Nicholls, Des Schiller, Anne Stone, President Marg Harris, Marianne Noack, Lorna Schiller, Governor David McNabb and Mary Mattner. Absent Ev Leske*

# BAROSSA KIWANIS

## September Cars Coffee Barossa

What a morning, WIND!!! we couldn't even keep a loaf of bread on the table, let alone trying to wrap without 4 hands!!! What a challenge for the 'Girl Brigade'!! We shouldn't have let the guys have Father's Day off for **Cars Coffee!**



## A New Board for Barossa Kiwanis

On 26 September, the Kiwanis Club of the Barossa Valley held its annual Handover Dinner at the Vine Inn, Nuriootpa. The event was well attended by club members, guests from several Kiwanis Clubs, as well as Barossa Rotary and Lions Service clubs. The Australian Kiwanis Governor Designate, David McNabb, and Division 10 Lt Governor Mike Hepple and their wives, Kerry and Rose, were special guests.

Past President, Mike Nicholls opened proceedings with a warm welcome and gave a report on the Club's active past year, raising funds of over \$30,000, through a variety of activities, to support local charities, community organisations and schools. A warm, friendly evening was enjoyed by all.

## SYDNEY KIWANIS

### Hands Across the Water

At our August meeting we had Justine as the guest speaker about her upcoming bicycle ride in Thailand for **Hands Across the Water**.



**Hands** started in 2005 after the Boxing Day Tsunami of December 2004 decimated parts of Thailand along with other countries in the area. Peter Baines and Gill Williams were working on the recovery efforts and teamed with a local to start the charity. Hands started out supporting 34 children in the small community of Khao Lak and due to the increased demand of our services and through the generosity of our community and valued partners has expanded its reach to care for 350 children across seven projects in Thailand. Hands has gone from employing one staff member to providing employment to over 60 people across Thailand.

The children come from; no known family to support them; have a family member but unable to support them; and those living in an unsafe environment.

**Hands** provides food, money and outreach to set the children up for life. Kids are encouraged to garden at the homes so they learn self-sufficiency.

## SHEPPARTON SUNRISERS

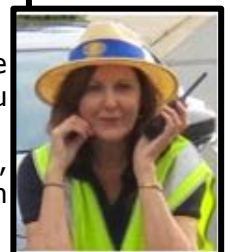


The "Insect Hotel Building" activity is on Sunday 10 November at **Sprout**. Helpers will need to be there about 10am for an 11am to 1pm event. We will also be holding a free sausage sizzle. RiverConnect and Landcare are providing supplies and demonstrations. Karen Sutherland will be talking about the relationship between native plants and insects.

### AUSTRALIAN DISTRICT FACEBOOK PAGE

A reminder about KAD's Facebook page. If your club already has a Facebook page and has "liked" the Kiwanis Australian District, let me (Val Symons) know what you are up to. If you have not "liked" our page, please do so.

If your Club does not have a Facebook presence, no worries, just send in any articles, photos and items about your Club by emailing it to this address, and I can post it on your behalf. Please send to [Val.Symons@outlook.com](mailto:Val.Symons@outlook.com)



# MOOROOPNA

A busy fortnight of activities, which started at the Kialla Botanical Gardens down Riverview Drive's old tip site. In support of the RUOK and **Landcare** planting day, we cooked up traditional **pancakes**, Tony also had a go at cooking wholemeal vegan pancakes. We had a few problems with the old 6 burner BBQ, with the three right hand side burners overheating the front panel. After solving it we cooked pancakes and topped with jam, Nutella, maple syrup, lemon and sugar. Thanks also to Louis, Sev, Baden and Chris helping and Arthur for buying the pancake mix and toppings.



On 18 Sept our BBQ crew did an Austereo MMM radio promotion at Total Tools in Shepparton. Thanks to Arthur, Ted and Sev and Tony for helping cook 120 sausages and onions. We packed up the BBQ equipment onto a trailer and two days later went to the MMM studios in Wyndham St to celebrate the 90th anniversary of being in Shepparton, Thanks to Baden, Louis, Arthur, Ted and Chris for cooking up the bacon and egg sandwiches.



# GEELONG

The Kiwanis Club of Geelong is once again continuing its very successful '**SPC Food Relief Program**' in 2024. This is the 33rd year that the program has operated, supplying local community groups with much needed food in these difficult times.

Kiwanis provides \$1 for every \$1 of food purchased by the local community group from a very favourable price list provided by SPC Factory Sales in Shepparton. Community groups are also able to make additional purchases.



The community groups involved this year are Geelong Food Relief Centre, St Vincent de Paul Society, Christ Church Food Kitchen, St Mary's Parish Pantry, Uniting Barwon, One Hope Community Care Meals Program, Foundation 61 and Gateway Stronger Communities.

Kiwanis contributed \$21,663 towards the semitrailer of food valued at \$47,333. The fully loaded semitrailer provided by Hick Transport Group, at a heavily discounted rate, arrived at the Geelong Food Relief Centre in Morgan Street North Geelong to be then distributed to the participating community groups.

# MOORABBIN

Moorabbin Bunnings sausage sizzle photos for September on AFL grand final public holiday, making staffing very difficult.

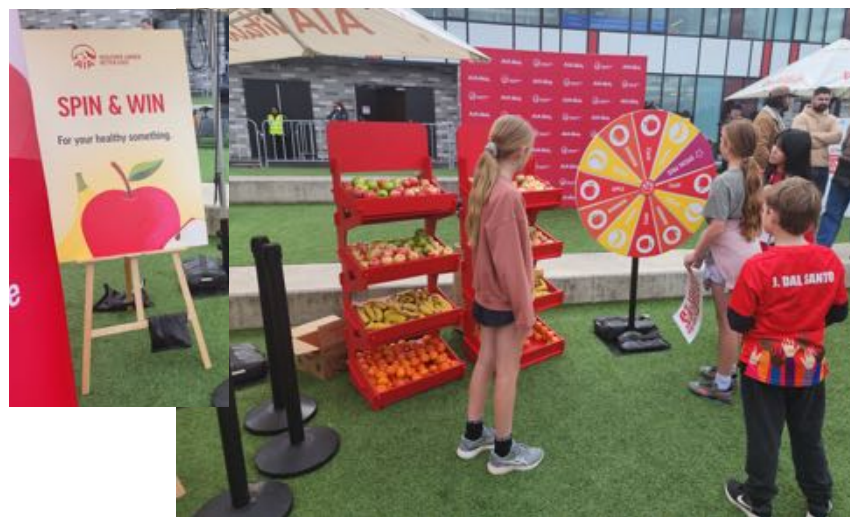


Shown is Jessica Redwood and family, and members of **Special Olympics**, with Geoff Hergt and Ian Randall all helping out to raise a record Friday fundraising profit.



Ian Randall in timekeeper role at the **Special Olympics** swimming trial, held at the outstanding facilities of Mentone Girls Grammar.

**New Ideas** Here a ferris wheel is used for a 'Spin and Win' competition for children and nutrition. The children spin the wheel to win an apple, or a banana, or a mandarin or a special prize. Maybe this ferris wheel is good for 'idea generation'. Many other possible uses for the ferris wheel idea, including prizes at a Kiwanis meeting, etc.



## GET ONLINE, WITH AUSTRALIA ONLINE

Are you keen but unable to get to your regular Kiwanis Club meeting? AUSTRALIA ONLINE is probably the easiest Kiwanis Club for 'attending' meetings. Kiwanians who might be travelling Australia, or if their regular club has gone into recess, this could be for you.

AUSTRALIA ONLINE meets monthly, **second Thursday**, 7pm EST  
Contact President Ash Gore [lagorekiwanis@gmail.com](mailto:lagorekiwanis@gmail.com) 0499 848 414  
or Steve Hughes 0419 005 497



# PERTH KIWANIS



Congratulations Redcliffe Primary School students on your BUG Awards in September 2024!

The **BUG** program recognises students who raise their grades or maintain good grades for one term. All September awardees received a certificate, a set of coloured pencils and a BUG sticker from Kiwanis Club of Perth representative Dipika Shrestha.

Students are nominated by school teaching staff. Certificates and prizes are provided by the Kiwanis Club of Perth. If you would like your primary school to participate in the BUG literacy program, contact us at: [KiwaniisPerthWA@gmail.com](mailto:KiwaniisPerthWA@gmail.com)

Congratulations Redcliffe Primary School students on your Kiwanis Bring Up Grades (BUG) Literacy Awards!



**WE CAN'T HELP EVERYONE, BUT EVERYONE CAN HELP SOMEONE.**

# BRISBANE

It was great to team with **Umbrella** and provide a BBQ lunch at **Brisbane Youth Service** accommodation, The Nest.

Brisbane Kiwanis is proud to continue to support Umbrella and Brisbane Youth Service in the wonderful work that they do.



Kiwanis Brisbane held their **annual changeover dinner** recently, thanking the outgoing committee, welcoming the incoming committee, celebrating the year's achievements, and enjoying good company, and good food.

Gillian Bell and her daughter, Christine joined us and presented the inaugural **Ivan Bell Memorial Award** to Marie Simpson for her tireless work for Kiwanis and the community. Thanks was also given to Lyn from *Let's Give & Umbrella*, Trevor from the *Salvation Army*, Centenary Community Carols and Penny from *Muscular Dystrophy Queensland*.



## **GEOFF EDWARDS (Athelstone)**

It is with deep sorrow that we acknowledge the passing of our beloved member, **Geoff**, who left us in September 2024.

Born on 5 July 1954, in Clare, Geoff dedicated his life to serving others and enhancing his community in South Australia. Geoff joined Kiwanis in 1987 while working in the Barossa Valley. It was here that he discovered his passion for community service and began a journey that would see him become an invaluable member of our club. In 1991, he transitioned to the Athelstone club, where he remained an integral part of our club family until his last day. His commitment to Kiwanis was evident through his remarkable leadership and active participation in various roles, including President 1996/1997, 2003/2004, 2019 to 2024. Over the years, he also served as Vice President, Programmes & Meetings Director and Fundraising Director. He also served as Lieutenant Governor Division 10. For many years Geoff continued as our Public Officer and represented our club on the Campbelltown City Council 'Service Clubs Advisory Committee'.

Geoff's encyclopaedic knowledge of Kiwanis processes made him the go-to person. He embodied the very essence of Kiwanis, exemplifying altruistic service and adhering to the Golden Rule in all his interactions. His quiet, yet steadfast courage in the face of personal adversity inspired many of us, reminding us of the strength that lies within. Geoff was also a passionate supporter of the Port Adelaide Football Club. Geoff valued the friendships he forged through Kiwanis, particularly during his early days when he sought to expand his social circle. He often shared how daunting it felt to be a newcomer, yet his openness and commitment quickly

transformed his experience. He didn't just seek to connect; he sought to serve, and his involvement in community activities deepened his relationships with so many. His favourite volunteering activity was simply 'anything,' reflecting his willingness to contribute wherever he could. Geoff was always ready to lend a hand, whether organizing events or leading projects. His positive attitude and dedication left a lasting impact on our club and the wider community.

Let us hold close Geoff's message to all of us: 'Live each day as if it was your last and plan to do the things you have been putting off for ages.' This reminder encapsulates his spirit and encourages us to embrace life fully, just as he did.

Geoff was more than a member; he was a friend, a leader, and a beacon of kindness. His legacy will forever be a part of the fabric of our club. Rest In Peace, dear Geoff. You will be deeply missed but never forgotten.

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## **ANDREW KERRY GILLESPIE (Newcastle)**

**Kerry** passed away peacefully on 2 August at Wallsend Manor Nursing Home at 90 years old.

Kerry was Kiwanis District Governor 1976-77 and a current member of Newcastle Kiwanis.

Kerry's first involvement with Kiwanis was with Sydney Kiwanis Club in the late 60s and he was very active in building Chatswood, which he became a charter member of, and North Sydney clubs. He also assisted in building the East Maitland Kiwanis Club and the Newcastle Club. Kerry attended many Australian district conventions and an international convention.

He started working as a technician at Channel nine at Gore Hill in Sydney, then became a life insurance agent with National Mutual. He was very successful becoming a member of the Million Dollar Round Table attending the round table convention in USA.

He was a keen golfer, sailor, and NRL Newcastle Knights supporter. Kerry is survived by his three sons and a daughter. Rest In Peace Kerry.





# THE LAST LAUGH



What do you call an alligator  
in a vest?  
An investigator!



**NASA is launching a satellite to  
say sorry to the aliens.**

**They're calling it the Apollo G.**



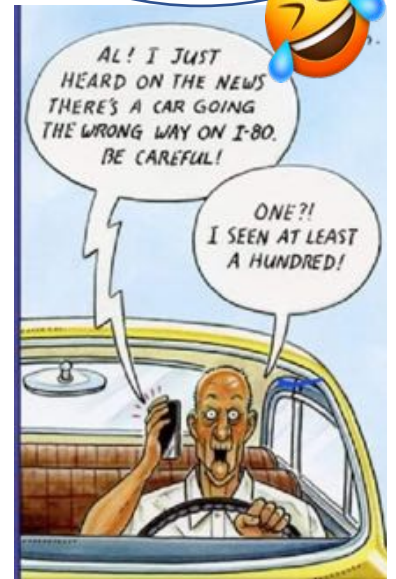
**Text message to partner at home:  
"I'm having one more drink with the guys. If I'm  
not home in 20 minutes read this message again"**



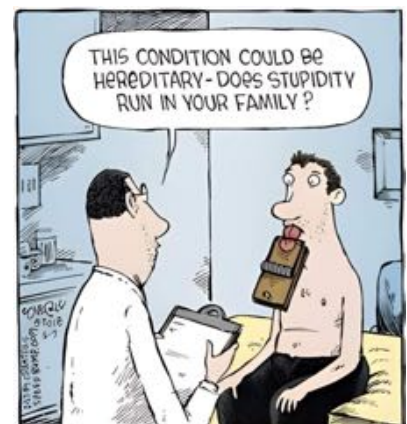
**My opinions may  
have changed,  
but not the fact  
that I am right!**



**My friend went for their  
driver's test. They got 8  
out of 10, the other 2  
jumped out the way!**



**A friend decided to pay his  
friend a visit and was  
greeted by a room full of  
chairs. "Where did all these  
chairs come from?"  
"The doctor's waiting room!  
Every time I go there the  
receptionist says,  
'Please take a seat!' "**



## AUSTRALIA DISTRICT AGM ONLINE



The Australia District AGM was held on 31 August 2024 and the following awards were handed out to Clubs across Australia.

Congratulations to all the recipients!



### Kiwaniis Australia District Awards 2023-24

Award	Club	Comments
Bill Lees Trophy New Club Building	Geelong Club	The Barwon Seed of Faith Club
Ralph Doddrell Trophy Most New Member Additions	Warrnambool Club	For adding 5 new members.
Ian Perdriau Trophy The Premier Club	Gleneig Club	For exemplary performance across the qualities required of a Premier Club.
Sid Curry Memorial Trophy Best Club Secretary	Three best Club Secretaries this year: ★ Gleneig Secretary Marilyn Chandler ★ Prospect Secretary Lynda Kutek ★ Shepparton Sunrisers Secretary Julie Dalton	These Secretaries were not only diligent with their monthly reports, but they also consistently provided informative, clear and concise information. They kept their membership records up-to-date, responded to requests and asked questions.
Best Bulletin	Barossa Club	All copies submitted, great layout, easy to read, good quality photos.
Most Improved Bulletin	Shepparton Sunrisers	Changed format, easier to access off email and read.
Kooka Award	Sydney Club	For their Mothers' Day Cake Stall raising funds for Comfort Care cases provided for Sydney Children's Hospital. The Cake Stall is not just a cake stall. It has multiple dimensions beyond selling cakes.



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