



Australian Kiwanian

Official Newsletter of KIWANIS AUSTRALIA DISTRICT

www.kiwanis.org.au

JAN / FEB 2025



This was a loss we never saw coming. Past Governor Norm McLennan (2012-13) had not long been cleared of cancer after a lengthy battle, when an innocuous traffic incident cost this keen Kiwanian his life. Read about Norm's Kiwanis journey on p.21



One of Kiwanis major beneficiaries, HeartKids held a huge event last year, with its 'Two Feet And a Heartbeat' Walk. Tracey Stanley from HeartKids is shown here with Ian Randall and District Secretary Sue Kimberley. Read more about this big day on pages 12-13.

Kiwanis





FROM THE GOVERNOR

Hard to believe our 2024-25 term is already a third the way through, and while there's been a fair amount happening, it's the back half of the Kiwanis year where the action will start to accelerate.

Kerry and I are gearing up for the approaching Division 2 Mini Convention in NSW where I'm looking forward to attending my second 'Mini'. We land back in Adelaide for a couple of days before setting off for ASPAC Convention in Taiwan. This is being touted as even "bigger" than the 2024 Convention in Adelaide, as Kaohsiung City is hosting the fiftieth anniversary ASPAC District mid-March, so there should be plenty to report on from that event.

For ASPAC, at late notice, the usual one-day 'Training' mainly with Governors-Elect in mind, held prior to Convention has been ramped up this year to a two-day Education Conference, and Governors are now being invited.

It's good that Australia should be quite well represented in Taiwan, with four from NSW, two from SA and possibly a couple of others. While on ASPAC, it's worth noting that their (very) regular zoom Board meetings lately have ballooned out to between five to six hours, partly due to discussion on an impending revamp of the model used to structure the overall governance. KI is being involved in this, and as it 'needs to be

done right' there's much crossing of T's and dotting of I's being undertaken.

On the home front, it's only a couple of months before all Clubs need to look towards planning AGM schedules and their Boards for 2025-26. Hopefully there'll be at least one new executive member to help each Club move forward, because it's highly desirable we don't see what has occurred in recent times where Clubs with strong membership lists are folding due to being unable to find people willing to take on the "big three" positions.

With that in mind, it's possibly worthwhile for more Kiwanians to consider taking on the Amplify course that KI is again running. Registering for this online course is open until early April, for US\$50, culminating in an optional capstone experience at KI Convention in Pittsburgh [capstone integrates experiential learning to enable Amplify students to show a mastery of learning across the curriculum for further advancement].

Our national magazine editor Rose, who has done a really top job over the past year or so, keeping up our District goal of producing a quarterly Kiwanis publication has had to step aside at the moment, for family reasons, and there's a slight chance we may need a replacement editor. For this January/February edition I have stepped back into the hotseat (with a struggle) to try ensuring our Kiwanis faithful are kept up to date with the considerable amount of information in this 24-pager. But as you can imagine, with the travel and other time-consuming commitments the role of Governor entails, it's not possible for me to continue fulfilling two major roles. Please stay tuned for developments regarding the AK Editorial role.

One thought floated at a recent Board meeting was that maybe we ramp up the District's facebook presence, partly as a 'de facto' AK journal ... (don't panic yet, Vall!) and an even bigger idea out of left field last week suggested that someone with computer skills and the right capabilities might take up the AK role (putting out a quarterly 24 pager) as a paying position. But that would be a real "last resort"! We are all volunteers, after all. In a voluntary organisation.

(continued page 3)

Inside this AK

- KCF - Signature Projects p.4
- Kiwanis on the Airwaves p.5
- HeartKids p.6-7
- Children First Foundation p.8
- Kiwanis International Update p.10
- AKtion Action p.11
- Two Feet & A Heartbeat Walk p.12
- District Convention advert p.13
- Around the Clubs p.14-17
- Brighton Bows Out p.18
- Vales p.19-21
- Last Laugh p.22
- Governor Banner p.23
- Marysville Revisited p.24

KAD BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2024-2025 EXECUTIVE



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LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS 2024-2025



Division 1
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Division 6
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Division 10
**MIKE
HEPPL**

For the reasons just outlined, this Report will need to be more truncated than usual, as we don't want the new AK to be later than it already is.

On a brighter note, the prestigious annual competition run by KI for Signature Projects seems set for our District to hopefully continue punching above its weight. We've had four entries – three from SA and one from NSW, and voting will soon whittle that down to two, that will be submitted to KI, where our recent run of good results might hopefully continue. In both Tier 1 and 2, the new development as announced in Denver last year, sees winners in both Tiers receive instead of a trophy, cash prizes for successful Clubs – US\$2000 first prize, US\$1500 runnerup, US\$1000 third prize. Fingers Xed.

Regularly, Tony, Steve and I have been meeting to fine-tune (important) items such as new Club growth along with membership retention. Our District's numbers overall have been dipping, whilst our average age continues to climb. In Denver last year at International Convention we were informed the membership average age worldwide is 61, but in Australia it's considerably higher.

Our current KI President Lee Kuan Yong really needs no introduction to us Kiwanians here in Australia, having become rather a familiar figure - his most recent visit to Australia was last March for ASPAC in Adelaide - and his debut at International level was during our 2013 District Convention (again in Adelaide) at West Lakes as a joint venture coordinated by the three Divisions in South Australia. That came when "LKY" was working his way up the ladder, starting as a Trustee. Read more about Lee Kuan Yong on page 10 of this AK edition.

There's quite a bit more I could extrapolate on, but as this report is already running late, I'll cut it there, and looking forward to a fruitful remainder of our Kiwanis year. Apologies this AK is a couple weeks later than hoped, but in the circumstances, "it's better than nothing". Enjoy the read.

Do remember: KIWANIS – we put the FUN into Fundraising. . .

Best regards,
DAVID McNABB
District Governor 2024-25



KIWANIS CHEQUE PRESENTATION

Glenelg Club arranged for a personalised Kiwanis tour around parts of the intriguing "cheesegrater" SAHMRI building on North Terrace, Adelaide, on Tuesday December 3. The South Australian Health & Medical Research Institute is usually a closed shop due to the nature of the research activities taking place in this large building, but the sizeable group of Glenelg Kiwanians, joined by reps from Adelaide Hills, and Prospect Clubs, were treated to a behind-the-scenes look at "other side of the medical curtain".

Research team leader Professor Deb White, and Chief Executive Cath O'Loughlin from Childhood Cancer (since 2009), were on hand for the presentation of a sizeable cheque towards the worthwhile work performed here on North Terrace.

Following which some great refreshments were served, along with plenty of genial Kiwanis chatter, rounding out a pleasantly informative afternoon. Those present included three Past Governors (Bob, Peter and Ash) along with current Governor David.





FINALISTS FOR THE 2025 SIGNATURE PROJECT CONTEST

The prestigious KI Signature Project continues to grow in stature since its inception by Kiwanis International. This 'contest' is proving to be an excellent vehicle for showcasing what most Districts worldwide consider to be a leading example of our Kiwanis members in action.

Australia District has done very well over recent years, a good example being at Minneapolis Convention where in one of the two groups, Shepparton Sunrisers scored a runnerup trophy. Fabulous, and helps keep Australia's name up in lights. The Sunrisers entry was based on Sprout Healthy Lifestyle Garden and Education Centre. In 2023 more than 400 clubs from 42 Kiwanis Districts put in entries - at that stage it was a record breaking turnout, and expected to go even higher in 2025.

Each Signature project is tailored to the community it serves with the goal of making it a better place to be a kid. For this Contest, each District selects its nominees to compete against clubs from other districts. The Service and Partnerships Committee of the Kiwanis International Board of Trustees then reviews the District winners and select 10 finalists in each of two groups based on club size.

The finalists are selected from Group 1 — Clubs with 27 members or fewer, while Group 2 is Clubs with 28 members or more. For 2025 Australia District's entry in Group 2 is **Barossa Club** with its HeartKids Christmas Party where the children and families are treated to a real Christmas experience, complete with Santa arriving in a vintage car.

The District has three entries in Group 1, which need whittling down to one, for submitting to KI. The entries are (**Sydney Club**) - Comfort Care Cases, that contain thoughtful items, placed at Sydney Children's Hospital for the use of families that sadly have a child facing end-of-life.

Reynella Club - Kids Fun Day - an annual event targeting underprivileged children, especially living in Adelaide's southern suburbs, where they are treated to an afternoon at the movie, with food including barbecue lunch, goodies bags, face painting and other entertainment. This has been running for several years and is a hugely popular outing for the children.

Murray Bridge Club - Targeted Terrific Kids programme at local school, whereby children are nominated and selected for peer recognition, with Awards, rewards and other benefits. This event, held at end of the school terms (hence quarterly) draws a captive audience, where Kiwanis brand is promoted and acknowledged.

So, we will need to await the outcome from 2025 International Convention in Pennsylvania, but it's worth keeping in mind, these Signature Projects are in support of KCF.

Now, some more on the new KI project known as The Possibility Project which was launched in Denver last year.

Most of you would know that many Kiwanis clubs around the world donate to the Kiwanis Children's Fund. This funding is used to help clubs when they apply for a Grant. The grants make club service projects possible and amplify the impact they make. However, not enough clubs donate compared to the grants being requested.

So the Possibility Project is a campaign where Kiwanis hopes to raise US\$25 million for the Kiwanis Children's Fund by the end of the 2027-2028 Kiwanis year. It's the first fundraising campaign created solely to support the Kiwanis family and the children we serve.

The Impact Club Challenge—With a commitment to give a per-member average of US\$500 or more over five years, clubs can become an Impact Club. It's recognition for an extraordinary commitment—and for the kind of inspiration it provides to fellow clubs and Kiwanians.

The number of Kiwanis Club projects funded by the Children's Fund in recent years has grown nearly 10 times. Many children in the world are food insecure. Sadly children in one of every three low-income families live without books in their homes. In fact, many promising young leaders lack the resources and mentors to develop their skills.

Through the Children's Fund it takes about US\$2.25 to impact one child. The Possibility Project will make a difference in the lives of at least 10 million kids – that's the plan!

When KI eliMiNaTe project was in full swing, Kiwanians could help contribute by becoming Walter Zeller "Fellows", an award similar to George F. Hixson Awards. For the Possibility Project, the parallel recognition one can achieve is the Dr Will Blechman Fellowship. KI Website has all the details – do check it out.

Meantime, please maintain your efforts for the Children of the World.

ROBERT (BOB) SITTERS
Kiwanis Children's Fund District Chair



Moorabbin Club President Ian Randall advises that in the Melbourne studios of 88.3 Southern FM radio, Kiwanis has been fortunate in securing another 30 minute segment each month in that station's community block, hosted by regular jock Colin Tyrus.

Kiwanis is regularly represented by Ian Randall, Angela Randall (shown right) and Geoff Hergt (another Past Governor).

KIWANIS MAKES THE AIRWAVES



Here is the link to one of these podcasts - it's not hard to pick up that Kiwanis gains some valuable public exposure on the radio (subsequently available as a podcast):

<https://www.southernfm.com.au/show/community-block/kiwanis-moorabbin-june-2024-podcast/>



Above: Three Past Governors, Geoff Hergt, Ian Perdriau and Ian Randall (with Angela), while at right the extra lady is Mia Hall, at one of the last Moorabbin Club meetings attended by Past International President Ian Perdriau.



Update with
Ian Randall

HEARTKIDS HAPPENINGS



For all of February 2025, HeartKids invites you to be part of something special by becoming a Sweetheart for HeartKids. It's a chance to come together, make a difference, and support children and families impacted by childhood-onset heart disease.

All Kiwanians (in fact, everyone) can get involved by hosting a Sweethearts Morning Tea, Heart Drinks, Love Lunch, pink picnic, or another gathering at work, with friends, or with family. It's a simple and meaningful way to raise awareness and funds while sharing good food and great company.

Also, be aware that Cupcake Central in Melbourne is generously supporting HeartKids as the Official Sweethearts Cupcake Provider! For every cupcake sold in their HeartKids range, they'll donate \$0.10 to HeartKids — right up until the end of March 2025.

Deposits to HeartKids on February 27, 2025 - that will be a great day and a great way to make even more of a meaningful contribution as February 27 is being labelled Matching Donation Day. So, double your contribution!

If you're hosting an event, ordering Cupcake Central cupcakes is a sweet way to show your support. You can get your official Cupcake Central HeartKids cupcake – check out the HeartKids website for more details.

There's a pictorial feature from Melbourne's big Two Feet and a Heartbeat Walk event on page 12.



Marcus Sandmann (left) has been HeartKids CEO for the past two years and has recently passed his Kiwanis Corporate membership to National Corporate Partnerships Officer Liam Maguire.

Tracy Stanley, right (based in Melbourne) is the HeartKids National Community Engagement Manager and she's also a Corporate Member of Kiwanis..



Around two years ago on HeartKids page we published an article about a Whyalla-based youngster Jordan Grillettt who had been forging a name for himself on the speedway tracks. Starting in Junior Sedans as a teenager, then progressing through a couple of other racing car categories, 25-year-old Jordan is compiling a sponsorship package to allow him to race the premier oval track division - Sprintcars (shown here).

Main reason for the HeartKids signage that's shown here on the V8 racecar, is that Jordan began life as a HeartKid and is cognisant of the support that HK provides affected families. Here's to HK Jordan Grillettt, a star of the future.



HEARTKIDS SWEETHEARTS DAY MATCHED GIVING DAY - FEBRUARY 27

HeartKids are happy to feature Kiwanis as part of the matched giving day on Thursday, February 27.

This Kiwanis feature is especially fitting, given that Sweethearts for HeartKids will be fundraising for the childhood Early Intervention Programs at HeartKids.

Hence to have our Sweetheart Day donations/fundraising to be matched (ie doubled) then clubs or individuals need to ensure the electronic transfer, cash or cheque deposit with HeartKids bank needs to be made on Thursday, February 27 (and no other day for the matching to occur).

Donations will all be through the HeartKids central account, as is done for Two Feet & A Heartbeat Walk. You can donate through either for the following channels.

Direct transfer/deposit to HeartKids Bank Account (Bank of Melbourne – a Division of Westpac Bank).

Name: **HeartKids Limited**

BSB: 032 298

Account Number: 000 408 477

On the HeartKids website, you can go directly through the Sweethearts for HeartKids page and donate. This will present you with an automatic tax receipt if the donation is over \$2 – individuals may claim this for tax deduction purposes.

Where possible, include your name and/or the Kiwanis Club name with the deposit or transfer of funds.

Regarding local contacts for each State and Territory, if you do not have a HeartKids contact, you are best to contact the State Fundraising & Events Coordinators:

VICTORIA: Chloe Manolitsas

Chloe.Manolitsas@heartkids.org.au

NSW: Rebecca Cannell

Rebecca.Cannell@heartkids.org.au

SA: Currently hiring. In the meantime, please contact Liam Maguire (Liam.Maguire@heartkids.org.au)

WA: Shelley Ure

Shelley.Ure@heartkids.org.au

QLD: Currently processing a change from Maternity Leave position, please contact Liam Maguire in meantime (Liam.Maguire@heartkids.org.au)

PORT PHILLIP HEARTKIDS FUNDRAISER

Keeping right up to date, Port Phillip Club has dedicated the profits from their Bunnings fundraiser on February 15 to HeartKids which is expected to be greater than \$2500 when the counting has finished.

During the day this young lad (and his mum) queued for a sausage and announced that he was a HeartKid after reading the Kiwanis signage by the serving area.

They were very happy to see our work first-hand and allowed this photo to support the cause.





**CFF Update:
Jessica Redwood**

"IMPROVING THE WORLD, ONE CHILD AT A TIME"

Thank you for your life-changing support! (65 children helped inside Australian borders in 2024). Thanks to Kiwanis members from Berwick and Moorabbin, four Bangladeshi children have received life-changing paediatric cleft palate surgeries in recent months. Every year, more than 5,000 babies in Bangladesh are born with cleft lip and/or palate conditions. In Bangladesh, children with cleft palate face a variety of challenges, including difficulty feeding, ear infections and hearing loss, dental problems, speech difficulties, and significant societal stigma. In extreme situations, difficulty breastfeeding can result in severe dehydration and malnutrition, resulting in death.

Local charities and the under-resourced hospital system struggle to meet the demand. In addition, the civil conflict this year created additional challenges for families accessing surgery and clinicians alike.

The support of Kiwanians and others helped ensure these four Bangladeshi children could access the critical cleft lip and/or palate surgery and medical care they needed when they needed it most. Not only that but your help supported local surgeons to also access training throughout this project.

They say that as one person, you can't change the entire world, but you can change the entire world for one person. Thank you for changing the world for not just one child today – but four very special Bangladeshi children!

Thank you for helping **Ayman**, just a few years old access primary cleft palate and lip repair.

In the heart of Rajshahi, Bangladesh, Ayman's story unfolds. Ayman's parents faced uncertainties until they discovered our local partners at Prime Hospital, Naogaon. Under the skilled hands of CFF's leading surgeon Professor Dr Muhammad Quamruzzaman, Ayman underwent two successful surgeries for his cleft palate, achieving full correction. Ayman's Dad, Rashid, expressed gratitude for the positive change post-surgery. "We are not just accepted, we are embraced by society," he shared. Our partner's unwavering support not only mended Ayman's physical deformity but also healed the emotional scars, bringing immeasurable joy to their family. Thanks to your generosity, Ayman and children like him can embrace a brighter, healthier future in Bangladesh.

Ayman (shown right) before and after surgery, supported by the Kiwanis Club of Berwick/Waverley.



Elina is a bright 16-year-old girl from the Serengeti District of Zambia. However, you will see from her photo below that she has an incredibly large tumour covering her right eye. Elina has a rare genetic condition, Neurofibromatosis Type1, that causes tumours to grow on nerve tissue. This is extremely painful.

Elina's tumour has grown through her skull, blocking out all the vision in her right eye. On top of this, it is difficult for Elina to join in with friends and participate in school or life outside of her family, because of the cruel reaction people can have to how she looks.

Unfortunately, there aren't surgeons in Zambia with the right training, equipment or experience, to carry out the complex operation that Elina needs.

Without safe surgery, the tumour will continue to grow and could affect her other eye, devastatingly, even her brain. Elina may lose her sight completely. If Elina has the surgery, she needs in time, there is hope to restore her sight in both eyes!

Please support Elina today at www.childrenfirstfoundation.org.au/Elina

Thank you for all the support and care you have provided children in need via **Children First Foundation** in 2024.

CFF looks forward to working with Kiwanis in 2025 to continue putting the last child first and help more children than ever!



Elina at her home in Zambia



Elina lifting the tumour to see the world with her right eye

With kindest regards, Jessica

DIVISION 2 MINI CONVENTION

At time of printing, the annual Division 2 Mini Convention was set to take off again, based at Tea Gardens, north of Newcastle.

Shown right, are Ken Archer and Pat McKinney during last year's "Mni", where board games are held on the Saturday afternoon to decide winner of the Sunshine Cup.

The 2025 dressup theme for Saturday evening's dinner is *Rumble in the Jungle*, so the mind boggles at what pictorial evidence may emanate from that one!



Left: The 'famed' Sunshine Cup being contested again at this year's Division 2 Mini Convention.

MAKING A SPECTACLE OF ONESELF



No, not HeartKids, but Immediate Past Governor Ian, shown here delivering spectacles to Melinda Shelley at the 123Read2Me warehouse, late last year for the Lions Save our Sight spectacle recycling project. Here, around 300 spectacles were repurposed in this great ongoing project.



AUSTRALIA DISTRICT FACEBOOK PAGE

A reminder about KAD's facebook page. If your Club already has a facebook page and has 'liked' the Kiwanis Australia District, let me (Val Symons) know what you are up to. If you haven't "liked" our page, please do so.

If your Club doesn't 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





**KIWANIS
INTERNATIONAL**

Lee Kuan Yong (shown left) of Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, is Kiwanis International President for 2024-25.

His credentials and achievements in Kiwanis are substantial. being a 31 year member of Kiwanis, a Charter Walter Zeller Fellow, he has a Tablet of Honor from Kiwanis Children's Fund, is a George F. Hixson Fellow Diamond-level 5, and has numerous other Fellowships.

A past Kiwanis Trustee, Kuan Yong is a past ASPAC Chair (2016-17), has served the Kiwanis Club of Kuala Lumpur as President, Secretary and Treasurer. He was also Malaysia District Governor and membership chair. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in computer science and accounting. LKY is also a Fellow and life member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. Kuan Yong is married to Kon Cze Yan, and they have two married sons and a grandson.

A very approachable Kiwanian (also a KI Life Member), one of Kuan Yong's most memorable "performances" came at International Convention in Indianapolis 2015, when he and Gunter Gasser really let their hair down during on-stage "antics", complete with wigs, etc!



It's with great pleasure we announce that at the 2025 International Convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania late June, the keynote speaker will be none other than 'The Fonz', Henry Winkler, 79. Many people would be aware of Fonzie Fonzarelli in the 1974-84 TV series Happy Days.



He is a passionate advocate for children with learning challenges – a mission rooted in a personal journey with undiagnosed dyslexia.

This will be a special chance to hear from a real Hollywood legend who has used his platform to make a difference in the lives of countless children. Join in this occasion at KI Convention and be inspired by Henry Winkler's story.

Another claim to fame for the host city is that Pittsburgh (the steel city) featured in the iconic 1983 movie 'Flashdance'!....



Currently serving as Vice-President of KI, MICHAEL MULHAUL will be inaugurated as President Designate at Pittsburgh Convention in June. Michael is a member of Greater Parsippany Kiwanis Club in New Jersey, having joined Kiwanis in February 1992. Ever since, he has been a passionate advocate for our organisation, serving in many roles including Lt Governor Division 9. When he was announced as Kiwanis Vice-President, the local city conferred Michael with a Resolution honouring his appointment (shown right). At the time he was voted in as Vice-President, Michael (a wine connoisseur) was less hirsute but has become well known, since his election, for sporting a prominent beard. That's a photo, right, of Michael (pre-beard)!





Newcastle AKtion Update



Newcastle AKtion members combined with Newcastle Kiwanis Club to attend a most enjoyable Christmas Breakup on December 18 at Warners Bay, Lake Macquarie.

Kiwanians enjoyed a lovely meal and thanks go to those who helped provide the raffle prizes.

Thanks also to Mary for helping decorate the tables and Penny for yummy baked treats.

the aKTION pLEDGE
We pledge to be loyal members of our AKtion Club, to form new friendships, and to serve our communities.



Adelaide Hills AKtion News

The Hills AKtion Club held their Christmas Breakup at Hahndorf on Sunday December 8. Members are shown here with the impressive array of Christmas food items collected with the help of Adelaide Hills and Murray Bridge Kiwanians.

shown here with the impressive array of Christmas food items collected with the help of Adelaide Hills and Murray Bridge Kiwanians.

All the food together with \$115 cash was delivered by Chris Hart to Foodbank to help support needy families at Christmas.



'TWO FEET AND A HEARTBEAT' WALK



Kiwansians were out in force in Parkville, Melbourne recently for the huge HeartKids event - known as Two Feet and a Heartbeat Walk – this is a successful undertaking that also increases awareness of the good work done by HeartKids in Australia.

HeartKids is one of our Kiwanis District's major beneficiaries, and accordingly there were many Kiwanians helping out at the barbecue which is part 'n' parcel of such a big event.

In Melbourne, there was no shortage of Kiwanians assisting on the day including past Lt Governor Peter Cameron, while Kiwanis Board of Trustees members Ian Randall and Sue Kimberley were also in action.



**OKAY, EVERYONE. ...FOR 2025 WE'RE BACK IN BUSINESS FOR A FACE-TO-FACE DISTRICT CONVENTION
REGISTRATION WILL SOON BE OPEN, SO MEANTIME DO KEEP THE DATES AUGUST 28-31 FREE.
MAKE A HOLIDAY IN NORTHERN VICTORIA, AND JOIN IN THE FUN!**



KIWANIS DISTRICT CONVENTION 2025

August 28 - 31 Echuca - Moama

Venue - Moama Bowling Club, 6 Shaw Street, Moama

All aboard for the 2025 Kiwanis Convention in Echuca/ Moama.

Come and join Kiwanis Members from all over the Australia. Join our workshops and share your thoughts and ideas with like minded people looking to make the future of the Kiwanis greater than ever. Listen to our speakers tell about their experiences and how Kiwanis helps benefit in other areas.

Explore our beautiful border towns by catching a ride on one of our restored paddle -steamers or travel back to the past by strolling down our port area. Drop by the Beer Shed and take a specialised tour of our biggest man cave, or visit one of our wineries for a taste of our local products. There is so much to offer with friendly locals ready and willing to tell of any special locations that must be experienced. For more information on our tourist attractions and a list of our accommodation available please visit www.echucamoama.com

Details for registration to follow soon

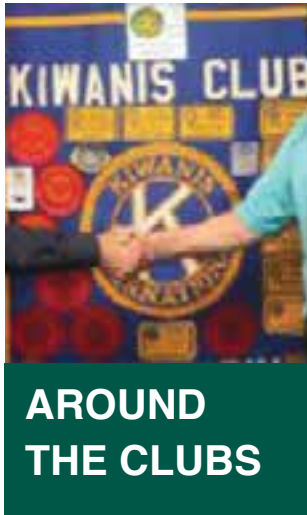
Details for registration to follow soon

For further information please contact our

Lieutenant Governor Division 7 Tim Dawes on 0494 363 730



*A chance to see the famed boat
MV Kiwanis !!*



AROUND THE CLUBS



NEWCASTLE KIWANIS

Before long, Newcastle Kiwanians will be gearing up for the annual Mothers Day project. This picture was taken at the 2024 Mothers Day event.

MOOROOPNA



Above: Terrific Kids from Toolamba Primary School in the Loddon-Mallee Region. Below: Arthur and Santa with the latest batch of Terrific Kids from Mooroopna Park PS.

GLENELG KIWANIS



Left: Lt Governor Div 8 Louise inducted two new members at the Glenelg meeting on Feb 10. Shown with President Trev Averay are retired school principal Marie Dorsey, and landscaper Mike Parsons who is a returning Kiwanian. Welcome to you both.



Branding??!! You like fries with that? But seriously, our District's largest Club (Glenelg) are forever inspiring all of us with their amazing array of branding, effectively projecting the Kiwanis image "out there" for all to see..

Above is just one example of what this dynamic Club is doing, with banners, tablecloths, T's, public signage, and nearly everything in between. Glenelg Kiwanians are often spotted sporting their wares at high-profile events such as BayToBirdwood Classic Vehicle run, Tour Down Under cycle race, Corvette Day, Brighton beach sculptures, Marilyn Jetty Swim, and heaps more. The list is endless, and the Glenelg Gang are forever out there, promoting Kiwanis and really doing our brand a lot of "good". So, well done Glenelg, keep up the good work.

BRISBANE KIWANIS



Above: Australia Day celebrations at Cr Sarah Hutton's Pool Party. Our intrepid Brisbane Kiwanis team of sausage sizzlers were there, tongs at the ready to help feed the crowds. A great day.

PERTH KIWANIS



Above: Past Governor Jim Chantry is with fellow Kiwanians at a Book Stall run regularly by Perth Kiwanis. Based at Maylands, Perth, the stall runs on Fridays and Saturdays.

REYNELLA KIWANIS



Above: Reynella Kiwanis Club President Bob Koster helped present long-time member Bill Thompson with his 35 Year Legion of Honour at the Club's January meeting (Well done Bill !). The other photo shows Reynella Kiwanians taking a well-earned break after helping as marshals during the international Tour Down Under bike race. They sure stand out in those orange tops!



AROUND THE CLUBS

ATHELSTONE KIWANIS

Athelstone Club celebrated 41 years on February 11 with a huge turnout from several Clubs and the attendance included three Past Governors - Bill Skully, Robert Gambell and Ash Gore, along with current Governor David McNabb.

Amongst those who spoke and helped with presentations were local MP John Gardner, (who made a special Award to Phil Smyth, below) plus Lt Gov Div 10 Mike Hepple. The two foundation members still in the Club Alan Clark and Phil Smyth helped cut the impressive birthday cake.

Well done to President Ian Brophy and his keen team that includes Secretary Kavitha Hapuarachchi.



ROSEWORTHY-HEWETT



Past Governors Geoff Holmes and Robert Gambell are flanked here by Lt Gov Div 10 Mike Hepple and Governor David at Roseworthy-Hewett's Christmas Dinner late last year. Board member Rose Hepple was also present.



MURRAY BRIDGE

Murray Bridge in October arranged the annual Combined Service Clubs dinner, this being Kiwanis turn to host the event. Pictured are L-R Governor David McNabb, Murray Bridge President Dennis Culbertson, Lt Gov Div 8 Louise Heywood and Murray Bridge Mayor Wayne Thorley.



BENDIGO KIWANIS

Bendigo Kiwanis Club partnered with Bendigo Motorcycle Club and are shown presenting Lynley Jordan, Chaplain and Wellbeing Coordinator at Strathfieldsdaye PS with a new washing machine and dryer. Those items will help assist underprivileged children and help provide a service that is necessary for children's school life. Well done, Bendigo Kiwanis (that's Kiwanian David Taylor shown here, far left).



PROSPECT KIWANIS



At Prospect Club's meeting in December, held at Bombay Bicycle Club, Lt Gov 10 Mike Hepple inducted new member Emmanouel Pishas, who is actually a returning Kiwanian. Barossa Club's Robert Nitschke attended the meeting and generously donated two bottles of fine red as raffle prizes.



Above: Linley from Roma Mitchell Secondary College was speaker at Prospect's meeting late last year, talking on the school's connection with Kiwanis via its Key Club.

BAROSSA KIWANIS

At Barossa Club's Christmas break-up a Barbershop Quartet entertained our Kiwanians, after which there was a special presentation by Robert Nitschke's granddaughter Isabelle.

A few weeks prior, Robert had visited Isabelle's school, talking to her class about volunteering and the work done by Kiwanis for children.

Young Isabelle and three friends were inspired to organise a fundraiser for Kiwanis. Staff at St Jakobi Lutheran School agreed to the proposal, whereby these pupils sold lemonade at recess time, raising \$185 which they requested be used to support HeartKids. Isabelle and sister Audrey handed over the proceeds to Barossa Club which will happily send on to Heartkids. With help from Robert, the Club prepared special certificates for each student and handed them over to Isabelle.

A beaming Isabelle said, "We are very proud to hand over our donation to Kiwanis, especially after learning how important you are to the community". Robert is pictured here, along with Club President Margaret Harris.

The other photo shows a worthwhile initiative of Barossa Kiwanis, placing Drive Safely road signs at strategic locations on local roads. A great idea.



SHEP SUNRISERS

On a sunny September day, Shepparton Sunrisers in partnership with Kids Town and Activities in the Park, brought an array of outdoor excitement to the Sprout Garden.

The day featured a delightful mix of activities from classic games like hopscotch, noughts & crosses, to the giant Jenga. Added in was the Bohollow EnviroEd animal shelter, where kids and attendees were able to interact with native animals and some furry friends. For the younger ones there was dancing from day into the evening, where wearing headphones was the go, as the dancers grooved to the music and followed dance instructions.



Kiwanians Joe Sibio and Felicity Butcher from Sunrisers are shown above on that September day.

BRIGHTON BOWS OUT - after 47 years - organised April 1977

On November 3 last year, Brighton SA Kiwanis held a final meeting as they have now gone into recess. Past Governors Peter Zander OAM and Ash Gore were in attendance, along with Lt Gov Div 8 Louise Heywood and Governor David McNabb who helped officiate when several awards were handed out. Venue was Club Marion.

Brighton had a long history, being organised April 1977 and chartered in July 1977, the sponsor club being Glenelg. Phil Hessling was an early Secretary (for two years) followed by Peter Zander, both those Kiwanians later serving as Club President for various terms.

The Brighton Busy Beavers AKtion Club was aligned with Brighton Kiwanis, but the good news is the AKtion Club seems set to continue under the Glenelg Club umbrella.



Main reason for this Club closure is that some of Brighton's hierarchy have now moved out of town, a few hours drive north of Adelaide, making attending meetings difficult.

Included in these photos are (above) Phil Hessling and his newly conferred Legion of Honour - 40 Years, while wife Cheryl (right) was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation. Michael McFarlane (top right) was also awarded an Appreciation Certificate. For many years Michael was the Club's magazine editor.





NORMAN McLENNAN (Waverley)



Past Governor Norman Arthur McLennan tragically passed away on Remembrance Day, November 11, 2024 whilst riding his bike in the Pakenham area. He was struck by a motor vehicle and died at the scene.

Norm's Kiwanis career commenced in 1993 when he joined the Berwick Club (named the Dandenong Club back then). Norm became a multiple Club member, later joining Waverley and Australia Online Clubs.

Born on January 24, 1953, he grew up in the Berwick area and attended Caulfield Grammar School. Norm's career was in education, becoming a dedicated teacher. He was one of two "educationalists" to launch a new Junior School at St Paul's Anglican Grammar, Warragul in 1997. He discovered Kiwanis whose mantra of serving children of the world sat well with this selfless man. Norm became involved in Victoria's Tournament of Minds, rising to the position of adjudicator.

Despite admitting that he was a poor speller, he became a judge and advocate for VicSpell spelling competition, based in the Gippsland area. As a mark of respect, from 2025 onwards, the Year 6 VicSpell State Championship Award will be known as the N.A. McLennan Memorial trophy.

Norm became very active in Kiwanis, always willing to assist, whenever and wherever help was needed. He was actively involved in fundraising and project planning, organisation and delivery in each of the Clubs that he belonged to. He also helped with other Clubs' activities when they were short of volunteers. Despite not considering himself a handyman, Norm was able to make three Book Boxes for Doveton School.

He became involved in MS MegaSwim, Dandenong Show barbecues, Golf Day for HK, Two Feet & A Heartbeat Walk - an annual event for HeartKids. With Berwick Club, his large-scale Kiwanis involvement also included maintaining the fish tank at Dandenong Hospital. Norm also become part of the Walter Zeller Fellowship.

His other high honour was to serve Australia as Kiwanis Governor 2012-13, after becoming Governor-Elect at the 2011 Warrnambool Convention, outvoting two other contenders.[In an unprecedented move, Norm followed John Bromilow as Governor, and the person that followed Norm a year later was . . . John Bromilow.]

His Kiwanis service included terms as Club President, Secretary and Treasurer, Lieutenant Governor Div 6 (1996-98), District Trainer 1998-2000, District Chair for KI's The Formula strategy 2016-18, and on the ASPAC Board he served as Secretary/Treasurer 2016-17 and 2018-19. Norm was presented with his Legion of Honour by past International President Ian Perdriau AM. It's fair to say that Norm really did live the Kiwanis Objects.

A very seasoned traveller, his global trips included many ASPAC events and several KI Conventions, his last one being as recently as two years ago when he joined in helping represent Australia at Minneapolis Convention. And who could ever forget Norm's efforts at ASPAC in Adelaide last year when, during Australia's cultural display' it was Norm who volunteered to try getting some sound out of the didgeridoo !

In his younger days, Norm was an accomplished athlete and maintained his interest in sport and fitness to the end. He scored senior cricket at the Mt Waverley Cricket Club, took part in triathlons with the local triathlon club and was out on his beloved bike at every opportunity.

He was very proud of his family – wife Karen, son Nick (Mikaela) and daughter Laura (Michael) along with his two grandchildren (another grandson was born not long after Norm's passing). An irony about Norm's passing in such tragic circumstances is that he had not long ago recovered from lengthy hospitalisation for treatment of cancer.



Norm was a wonderful person and a good friend to many. He is very much missed. As expected, a large turnout of Kiwanians joined those attending the funeral at Berwick on November 21.

Norm is shown at right: receiving his Legion of Honour from none other than past KI President Ian Perdriau AM.



MORE VALE NOTICES OVERLEAF

LINDSAY BLAKE (Mooroopna)

Long-serving Kiwanian Lindsay Ernest Blake passed away on January 16, becoming probably our first deceased member for the new year.

Lindsay had been a Kiwanian for an impressive 43 years and was an active member involved in most Club projects, only slowing down recently due to health issues.

Mooroopna ran an annual Car Raffle fundraiser for many years and Lindsay was accorded the honour of towing the raffle prize car to various ticket selling locations, while those Raffles were in full swing.

In Mooroopna Club's early years, he was involved in the annual Christmas tree collection, Ham Slam Spinning Wheel, along with Special Olympics. In 2005 Lindsay was awarded a George F. Hixson Fellowship for his service to Kiwanis.

Sincere condolences are extended to Lindsay's wife Dawn and family. A morning tea to celebrate Lindsay's life was held on Saturday January 25 at Kaarimba, north of Shepparton.



BRIAN MATES (Waverley)

Waverley Kiwanian Brian Mates passed away mid January. Sadly his health had declined over recent times and once he moved into aged care, he could no longer get to online or in-person Kiwanis meetings.

He joined Waverley Club when Whitehorse Club (formerly Nunawading) folded. After Brian's son Cameron was diagnosed with a heart condition, he then introduced Heart-Kids to Kiwanis.

This happened when Australia District was looking for a District Project and it was Brian who suggested to Whitehorse Kiwanian John Fife - a District Chair at the time - that the idea of Kiwanis becoming involved with HeartKids be investigated by the Board.

Brian served as President at both Waverley and Whitehorse Clubs and helped with most activities. He received his 25 year Legion of Honour award in 2021, and his service was also recognised with a Kiwanis Australia Rising Sun award. Brian was a gentle, compassionate and caring person and has been very much missed at the Waverley Club since he went into care. Brian's wife, Shirley, is also a valued member of Waverley Club.

Our sincere condolences to Shirley and Cameron. Rest in Peace, Brian.

RAY EASTWOOD (Reynella)

Ray was an enthusiastic part of Reynella Kiwanis Club and was a Life Member of Kiwanis. An avid supporter helping at Club barbecues, Ray had received his Legion of Honour for 25 years service to Kiwanis.

His working life as a plumber saw him often involved in maintenance of hot water pipes in hospitals. From there he was later diagnosed with asbestosis which unfortunately impacted his health in later years.

Ray was a quiet achiever who preferred to be one of the "back room boys", but his wife Dawn, a fellow Kiwanian, was Reynella Club President for a number of years.



DAVID BUTLER (Geelong)

David Michael Butler (b. 29/11/45) was a past member of Geelong Kiwanis. He joined Kiwanis Club of Geelong on 8/7/2003 and helped at many events, barbecues and Geelong's famed All Ford Day. Due to health reasons David left Kiwanis end of September 2023, becoming an Honorary member. He passed away after a short illness on 1/9/2024, and his funeral was held at St Bernard's Church, Belmont, early September 2024.

Kiwanis Is Where A Need Is Served

FAYE LIMBERIS (Glenelg)

Faye Limberis (born 13/10/46) passed away in October 2024, aged 77 at Mary Potter Hospice after a battle with cancer. She had been a member of Glenelg Kiwanis for seven years (joining in July 2017 and sponsored by Charter member Colin Nisbet) – her presence will be missed.

Faye passed one day short of her 78th birthday. She had a lively personality, sense of humour, loved her dog Rosie, and there was her pink hair. Which was, well, pink!). Condolences go to husband Jim (who remains a Kiwanis member), and the family. They had three children - Nikolas (& Maria), George (& Melissa), Maria (& Emma), plus three grandchildren.

The funeral was held on October 29 at Heysen Chapel, Centennial Park, with a good attendance from Glenelg Kiwanis Club..



MARGARET NICOL (Athelstone)

Margaret Jean Nicol (nee Smith) was born on July 24, 1943 and passed away on January 31, 2025. Margaret was a "retired" member of Athelstone Club and a respected Kiwanian.

Her funeral was held at Darroch House, Felixstowe in Adelaide's northern suburbs, on Thursday February 13, with live-streaming by Bowen Funerals.

Margaret's husband Stuart had pre-deceased her. She had two sons - Alasdair and Graham.

MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP

It's a Way to Say: "We'll Always Remember..."

Ideal for a Kiwanis Club or family, friends, Club members or business associates to honour a deceased Kiwanian. Club donors receive a "Memorial Fellowship" certificate in honour of the Kiwanian who's passed on, with an option of presenting this to the family.

Other donations of Memorial Gifts in memory of the deceased are most welcome.

Donations: Club donors for Memorial Fellowship - Minimum of A\$250.

Other donors of Memorial Gifts - Discretionary amount.

Further details are included in the brochure available online from:

kiwanis.org.au/foundation or by email to: kadcf@kiwanis.org.au



GET ONLINE WITH AUSTRALIA ONLINE

AUSTRALIA ONLINE is probably the District's easiest Kiwanis Club for 'attending' meetings. Kiwanians who maybe can't go outside, are possibly away travelling around the countryside, or if their regular Kiwanis Club has gone into recess, then this could be for you.

For those Kiwanians who are "Grey Nomading", this club can enable them to maintain contact while travelling. We welcome any existing Kiwanians who are interested in developing new friendships with fellow members from other parts of the country, and potentially worldwide.

Kiwanis Online meets monthly, on the **second Thursday** at 7.00pm Australian Eastern Time using the following information:

Please join our meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone by clicking the following link

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/173825077> You don't really need a computer, as you can dial in using your phone.

Australia: +61 2 9087 3604 Access Code: 173-825-077

Inquire direct to Club President Ash Gore at 1agorekiwanis@gmail.com (phone 0499 848 414). Or simply log in using the above on the next meeting date. Look forward to "seeing you" at a meeting soon!

THE LAST LAUGH



When my friend told me to stop impersonating a flamingo, I just had to put my foot down.

You really have to give people who live beyond their means a lot of credit!



Was always taught to respect my elders. Trouble is lately, it's becoming harder to find someone older.

Each morning is the dawn of a new error.



I've started telling everyone about the benefits of eating dried grapes. It's all about raisin awareness.



THREE SILLY STAGES OF LIFE

- Teen Age: Have Time + Energy but No Money.
- Working Age: Have Money + Energy ... but No Time
- Old Age: Have Time + Money but No Energy



My coffee cup reminding me why I shouldn't have a doughnut with it....



Mexicans were asked what they thought of Trump's proposed wall. They replied, "We are very upsetbut we'll get over it."



I'm giving up eating chocolate for a month. OOPS, sorry, bad grammar, I meant: I'm giving up. Eating chocolate for a month.

My First Day on the Beat as a Cop

Me: Suspect is dancing naked through the streets near City Hall.
Dispatch: Copy that.
Me: I'll try, but I'm not much of a dancer.... and I'm a shy guy.





While a list of Past Governors for our District is available in Graham Mould's well put-together Honours Book, the colourful Governors' banner is also a great way to update on the hierarchy history of our District. This is the banner as it now stands.



EMPOWERING DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN TO SUCCEED WITH FREE BOOKS



Past Governor Ian Randall is shown here in Melbourne with two pallets of books and games destined for South Australia. Reynella President Bob Koster was the consignee and these children's items were destined for Reynella's Family Fun Day (held late last year).

Standing alongside Ian is 123Read2Me Founder Melinda Shelley (above). There are many varied opportunities for Kiwanis to "hook into" the national distribution of free children's books.

For ideas, book box plans and to set up the process for receiving pallets or boxes of graded children's books, contact Ian Randall . . . ian.randall@bigpond.com



The horrific killer wildfires on February 7, 2009 around Kinglake and Marysville, that devastated a large part of rural Victoria were mentioned in a Kiwanis publication a few years ago.

Kiwanians from Port Phillip along with Templestowe-Doncaster (as it was then known) were involved in rebuilding the town's iconic rotunda, during which, a time capsule at the local school was unearthed, containing pre-fire items from Marysville's past. The capsule was described as a significant find.

To this day, a plaque can be seen that mentions Kiwanis being part of the rotunda rebuild in late 2009. Thanks to Tony Gunn for submitting this item, after a neighbour of the Gunns visited Marysville, spotted the Kiwanis connection and thoughtfully took a few photos.

In the background of the rotunda remains a small garden planted by Pauline Gunn plus Sue and Peter Kimberley. A poignant way to remember a "day to forget".



Kiwanis Is Where A Need Is Served

Disclaimer: No responsibility is accepted for accuracy of information contained in adverts or text supplied by individuals or organisations, and/or typographical errors. Contributions can be emailed to: ak@kiwanis.org.au Items may be posted, but preferably emailed. Word files & JPEGs, PDFs are accepted. Cutoff date for submissions for your next AK is April 30. **Please stick to this deadline.**