



Australian* Kiwanian*

Official Newsletter of KIWANIS AUSTRALIA DISTRICT www.kiwanis.org.au

AUGUST 2025



There was a fabulous result for Kiwanis Australia when Sydney Club, against stiff 'competition' became the Silver Medallist at 2025 Pittsburgh Convention (Group 1) in the coveted KI International Signature Project Contest. Make sure you read more in AK, page 12.

*Sydney Kiwanians who received the US\$1500 cheque were (L to R) Jeff, Angelique, Cathy, Mark and Steve
Photo: Governor David*



Make sure you check page 11 for the full deal on Mobi-Chair, a custom-made device enabling youngsters to experience seaside activities. Well done, Warrnambool..



Kiwanis



FROM THE GOVERNOR

The 2024-25 Kiwanis year countdown continues. A lot has happened since my last website message – including two overseas trips on Kiwanis business.

A really successful (and for me, eye-opening) March ASPAC Convention in Taiwan was centred in that nation's second largest city of Kaohsiung, and this fiftieth anniversary of ASPAC Kiwanis reinforced why KI remains most enthusiastic about continuing to foster our great organisation in that region. All the "top brass" from Kiwanis International were again present including CEO Paul Palazzolo and President Lee Kuan Yong. The planning of this important Kiwanis gathering included a day for Training & Information where Kerry and I and several others from Australia were joined by incoming District Secretary Kavitha who jetted in specially for this session.

More recently, I have returned from attending the International Convention which was held in Pittsburgh for the first time. A decade ago Kerry & I were able to attend the Centennial KI Conv. in Indianapolis, meaning Kiwanis is now 110 years 'young'. There was an encouraging large contingent representing Australia in 2025, bolstered by half a dozen from Sydney (terrific to see). At last year's traditional Signature Project Breakfast we brought back a trophy for the District making the Top Ten (on a Glenelg) Finalists but for 2025 Australia went one better. Sydney Club gained Runnerup (Tier 1) for their thoughtful Comfort Care Cases that Sydney Hospital distributes. This award

is an impressive cheque for US\$1500 so, well done Sydney Club. No apologies for Sydney Kiwanis appearing on AK front page for past two issues in a row - this Club has really been supporting our brand in a big way.

At the Big Breakfast where Signature Project finalists are acknowledged and winners feted, we learnt that this year there were 519 entries lodged overall (makes it tough to judge) and one of the projects - submitted in Group 2 by Toronto Kiwanians, has been going for 103 years!

At Convention there was the unusual situation of not one but two keynote speakers demurring on their commitment at late notice. The replacement was an entertaining former American football player who spoke well, but anyone from outside USA had not heard of Terry Bradshaw, so it was rather a letdown after looking forward to hearing from two different real Hollywood legends.

At House of Delegates, the four -way vote for International Vice-President went the way of Pennsylvania's Cathy Szykmanski – she will become the fifth female to hold that highest office – great to see. Another take away from House of Delegates was the narrow defeat of a vote to allow proxy or absentee voting at future Conventions. This has been debated before but overall it was considered that allowing remote voting would have a hugely negative impact on in-person attendances, given the costs of travel for those who front up in person.

The 2026 KI Convention will be one of those rare two-for-one's, where ASPAC 2026 will be combined in the host city of Manila, Philippines. Do keep that in mind. Along with the NZSP Convention (the publicity for this just missed last AK deadline) in Rotorua on August 15-16. The NZ event was attended by Mohan Lamsal and Michel Fongue

On the home front I'm about to review my Governor goals, set a year ago, as we gear up for hopefully a successful District Convention in Moama late August. Entries are still being received but please don't leave it too late – more details would be in your Australian Kiwanian, or further on in our website. This will be a brilliant chance to experience Kiwanis fellowship, entertainment and workshops, being the first time in two years that we've had a

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KAD BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2024-2025 EXECUTIVE



Governor
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McNABB



Governor-Elect
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Immediate Past
Governor
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LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS 2024-2025



Division 1
JOSEPH
FOMBASON



Division 2
NAZREEN
HAMEED



Division 6
JOSEPH
FOMBASON



Division 7
TIM
DAWES



Division 8
LOUISE
HEYWOOD



Division 10
MIKE
HEPPLE

face-to-face Convention. Lt Governor Tim and past Governor Bob Sitters are putting the finishing touches on an excellent programme, so “don’t miss out”.

Some great news on the membership front, with Athelstone Club being very busy and set to welcome a whole bunch of new members. From a Club that was nearly on life support and contemplating closure, to turn the corner and bounce back so well, is extremely commendable.

I look forward to seeing many familiar faces at our Convention - Echuca-Moama. Enjoy the experience!

Yours in Kiwanis
DAVID McNABB
District Governor 2024-25



Please do keep in mind the Kiwanis Australia District Charitable Foundation (KADCF)

Kiwanis Australia welcomes grant funding for the following current programs in Australia for improving children’s health and wellbeing:



- HeartKids Australia ‘Primary Years’ and ‘Teen Transition’ programs
- Childhood Cancer Research – into Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia
- Children First Foundation - supporting life-changing operations in Australia for disadvantaged children

These ongoing Grant programs are the key focus for our Charitable Foundation fundraising, in a combination of sources using a Kiwanis Club and their members, family and friends, public and corporate sectors.

Tax Deductable Donations are received for these programs by the Kiwanis Australia District Charitable Foundation either by ‘Direct Deposit’ or the ‘GiveNow’ online ‘Donate Now’ facility.



***Kids
Need
Kiwanis***

WANTED - APPLY WITHIN !!

EDITOR NEEDED for *Australian Kiwanian*

It’s YOUR magazine, and Australia District currently needs a new Editor to produce this journal.

This is a quarterly (4 issues annually) and while currently AK averages about 24 pages, the size and formatting is open to what the Editor decides. Lately, the production has been on a Mac platform using Adobe software, but a new Editor can use Word or similar applications – again, it’s a blank canvas and the current “de facto Editor” (our District Governor) will happily provide technical advice and support.

Please email David - dmcnabb689@gmail.com for further information. Don’t be shy, it’s really not that hard!





the POSSIBILITY PROJECT



US \$7,920,000 RAISED TO DATE

A\$12,117,402 RAISED TO DATE

***As at June 2025*

Ways to give

Gifts of all sizes make a difference in children's lives. That's why the **Kiwanis Children's Fund** offers a variety of secure ways to support the mission of Kiwanis International.

Give online

Make a gift today using our convenient, secure online donation form.

[Give now](#)

Download a form

Download a gift/pledge form to give by mail or fax. At the link, you can also learn more about giving by mail, telephone or wire transfer.

[Give now](#)

Estate gift

You insure your valuables. Why not insure your values? When you include the **Kiwanis Children's Fund** in your estate plans, that's exactly what you do. Through estate gifts, donors can provide ongoing support to the Kiwanis causes while taking advantage of financial and tax benefits.

[Learn more](#)

Create a Facebook Fundraiser

Use your Facebook account to establish a personalized fundraising campaign.

[Learn more](#)

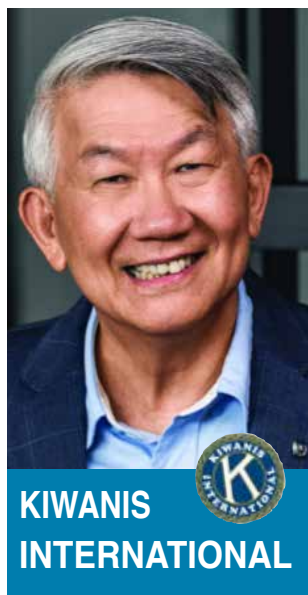
Visit the Kiwanis International website for additional ways to give and make an impact.

Let 's all jump on board the Possibility Project, and make a difference to the children of the world.

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

Serving the **Children** of the world

Kiwanis Is Where A Need Is Served



PENNSYLVANIA 'MANIA'

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania is renowned for many things including being known as Steel City after it was originally one of USA's main steel producing cities. Pittsburgh (pop. 300,000) also has the Andy Warhol Museum and is co-Headquarters of Heinz (57 Varieties), sharing that honour with Chicago.

However, most importantly for our Kiwanian family is that Pittsburgh did a really top job late June of hosting the 2025 KI Convention, marking 110 years of Kiwanis in the process. Pennsylvania Kiwanis Governor Tom Harp was among the organisers for Convention 2025 and they can be assured visiting Kiwanians took away happy impressions of their fair city.

While International President Lee Kuan Yong was front and centre, chairing many of the events and ceremonies, incoming President Michael Mulhaul was certainly preparing to assume the President's role in a couple of months. Big Boat cruises are offered on the main Ohio River, which is formed in the city by two main rivers joining up. Michael Mulhaul organised a special paddleboat event on one of the evenings, for Governors-Elect and guests, and from all accounts, it was a "doozy" . . . As expected, we also saw more of President-Elect Hope Markes (from Jamaica) in action during Convention.

There was the usual plethora of Kiwanis related activities (always enjoyable) that Conventions are renowned for, including a "K" Expo, plus the Kiwanis Store where an astonishing array of K flavoured items could be purchased. Potential buyers, especially from Down Under (NZ and OZ) needed to be mindful of the woeful exchange rate of around US60c in the dollar, which made goods "rather costly"!

Our Aussie Posse was triple the size of last year's small team that represented Australia. For 2025 we had Jeff Hudson, Cathy & Steve Hughes plus Mark Mastoroudes and Angelique Mastoroudes - all from Sydney Club, and "chaperoned" by Governor David McNabb. Or maybe the chaperoning was "other way around!"

On other social gatherings at Convention, a Rooftop Fellowship event due to be held outdoors on the top storey of the main Convention building was switched inside due to a spectacular electrical storm. Another well attended fun-filled Fellowship function for our Kiwanians was held at an emporium rejoicing in the name of Howl At The Moon Piano-Bar-Plus. . . "what happens at Howl, stays at Howl !!" Yes, Billy Joel's Piano Man was part of the repertoire, but it's not too often you see a six-person musical repertoire where all the musicians regularly swapped playing instruments (they were very adept and clever). Plus not one, but two grand pianos in the mix. Amazing!

Saturday's electrifying House of Delegates is always a livewire event at any Convention. And Pittsburgh sure delivered. It nearly passed - the contentious issue of whether online voting should be introduced for those House sessions, which would enable more Kiwanians to have a say and vote without needing to attend in person. But any motion needs two-thirds majority, and the numbers didn't reach the required ratio. General feeling was that if the KI House of Delegates was held by Zoom, there's a lot less incentive to physically attend Conventions, and such forums would therefore decline. It is a vexatious conversation-starter, however, as those who can't afford (for example) to attend next year's Convention in Philippines, cannot therefore vote on Kiwanis business.

This year's important four-way poll to usher in a new Vice President for 2026-27 went the way of past Trustee Cathy Szymanski. Tony Gunn has seen Cathy (who hails from Pennsylvania), in action and ditto for Governor David who saw Cathy attend a recent ASPAC zoom meeting. Cathy (shown here) will become the fifth female to assume this highest office, in 2027-28 Kiwanis year, and already she's exuding extreme enthusiasm!



Make sure you check out a pictorial gallery of our Australian "team members" at Pittsburgh Convention, on page 12-13.

FUTURE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

2026 – June 25-27 - Manila, Philippines
Combined KI Convention & ASPAC

2027 – June 17-19 - Dallas Texas





HEARTKIDS UPDATE

with Tracy Stanley

Supporting Strong Starts and Confident Transitions

How Kiwanis is helping children and teens with heart conditions thrive

HeartKids runs a range of programs to support children and young people living with childhood-onset heart disease (CoHD) from early primary school through to adulthood. These programs aim to build confidence, connection and lifelong skills with activities and resources that meet the unique needs of young people with heart conditions.

Thanks to the generous support of Kiwanis, HeartKids is delivering two vital initiatives that make a lasting difference: the Primary Years Program and the Teen Transition Program. These sit alongside broader programs like Hop for HeartKids, a school-based health initiative that promotes awareness and empathy in primary classrooms across Australia.

Primary Years: Building Confidence Early

The Primary Years Program focuses on children aged 7–11, providing age-appropriate tools and resources that help families and schools better support kids with heart conditions. The program is enabling HeartKids to conduct virtual and in-person holiday sessions and resource packs for schools and children.

One of the standout initiatives in this space is Hop for HeartKids, a fun and interactive school-based program that gets children moving while teaching important health messages. Hop for HeartKids links into the curriculum and promotes physical activity, empathy and awareness. It encourages students to think about their own heart health while learning about the experiences of peers living with heart conditions. Through hopping challenges and classroom resources, the program builds understanding and connection in a way that's engaging and age appropriate. Learn more at: heartkids.org.au/hopforheartkids

Teen Transition: A Path to Independence

For teens aged 12–18, HeartKids Teen Transition Program provides education, peer connection and real-world experience to support the shift from paediatric to adult cardiac care. In July a hospital orientation visit at the Royal Adelaide Hospital brought together eight teens and their parents, 18 people in total, for a tour and Q&A session with cardiologist Dr Patrick Disney. The event ended with a relaxed group lunch, offering teens the chance to connect and ask questions in a friendly, informal setting.

"These visits are such a valuable opportunity for teens and families to understand what adult care looks like," says Bonnie Tomlin HeartKids SA Support Coordinator. "It's also a great chance for us to stay connected and offer support in person."

This SA visit marks the highest number of teen registrations for a HeartKids transition event in the state to date, a sign that demand for in-person, practical transition support is growing. Plans are also underway for a Victorian hospital visit in September, timed to coincide with YouthFest.

A highlight of the transition program is the continued involvement of the National Youth Advisory Committee which reviews and co-designs HeartKids youth-facing resources and activities.



Teens in regional areas are also being supported through printed resources and outreach via local clinics.

With Kiwanis' backing HeartKids is not only helping children and teens manage their heart condition but also empowering them to build skills, independence and confidence for life.

Walk With Us This October and November

Kiwanis members and supporters can help us continue to provide life-changing supports by joining HeartKids' annual Two Feet & A Heartbeat walk in October and November at locations across Australia. The walk raises awareness of childhood-onset heart disease (CoHD) and offers a powerful opportunity to honour Heart Angels - children and young people who have lost their lives to the disease.

Held annually since 2014, this meaningful event places a special focus on bereaved parents and families, creating space for reflection, remembrance and community connection. Participants can choose to walk 4km, symbolising the four lives lost each week to CoHD, or 8km in recognition of the eight babies born every day with the condition. Learn more or register at: heartkids.org.au/twofeet

Kiwanis also helps by running a sausage sizzle at some of the events.



Above: Liam Maguire, National Corporate Partnerships Officer HeartKids who was a Corporate member of Kiwanis Australia Online Club before moving on, for a career advancement.

In the short term Ian Randall is liaising with HeartKids Sami Glastonbury (National Philanthropy and Development Manager) and Mitz Wang (Qld Fundraising & Events Coordinator). Liam's corporate membership of AOL will continue with the new HeartKids person, when announced.

KIWANIS PROVIDING BLANKET SUPPORT

Lyn Gower was a Berwick Kiwanian but when that Club went into recess last year she transferred to Waverley Kiwanis Club. Lyn is involved with a knitting group and has helped make acrylic blankets which are easy to wash and maintain. Plus they're warm!

The 1.8m x 1m blankets were redirected by Brighton Bayside Kiwanis for handing out with hygiene packs to the homeless.

This is an outstanding donation, given Melbourne's cold nights lately this winter, and the variety of uses the blankets can be put to.





CHILDREN FIRST:
Jessica Redwood

KHON AND KIWANIS (Miracle from Vietnam)

Khon is 8 years old. She lives with her Mum, Dad, and older sibling on a farm in a small village in rural Vietnam. Things are tough for Khon's family. They are subsistence farmers, and since Dad's three strokes, it's more and more challenging to make a living to be able to feed the family.

Access to medical care in their area is incredibly limited and Khon's family couldn't afford to travel to a capital city or to pay for a specialist. Khon is one of eight children, but only she and one brother are still alive. Khon survived. But she did so, living with pain and isolation.



Khon is the apple of her Dad's eye. His only girl. So it's tough for him to see her struggling due to severe club feet (she has been walking on the tops of her feet).

Khon is full of verve and determination, sassy and fun, but sadly she has no friends. No one at the village school will play with her because of the way her feet look.

The support of Kiwanis and others has been the miracle this family needed.

Thankfully Khon and her father (shown right) have been able to travel to Australia for Khon's life-changing surgery. It was scary; the dialect they speak made communication tricky, and the big bright lights of Melbourne so overwhelming, but with support from everyone, including our team, our partners (in Vietnam and then Melbourne), and our fantastic Vietnamese volunteers, supported them at every step along the way.

Our medical partners at St John of God Berwick, along with the marvellous orthopaedic surgeon Dr Ton Tran, ensured caring, expert surgery and recovery. The team at Oapl generously gave their time to fit Khon for orthopaedic supports so that her feet and legs can grow stronger as she grows.

Now look at her!

Every child deserves access to safe surgical care and rehabilitation. Khon has headed home now to start living her new life, but she still needs your help and support to walk strong. She will require rehabilitation to continue to thrive, and that is sadly unfunded.

If anyone can help Khon and children like her access the post-surgical rehabilitation they need, please donate here today. Thank you for your compassion and commitment to helping children access safe surgical care, regardless of where they were born.

With my heartfelt gratitude

JESSICA REDWOOD
Chief Executive Officer

Jessica



Khon before surgery.



Ian Randall with Children First CEO Jessica Redwood during one of their monthly Melbourne meetings.



Khon proudly wearing her orthotics and new shoes.





PROSPECT KIWANIS

PROSPECT KIWANIS have been thanked for donating Reading Box resources to Roma Mitchell College, in Adelaide's north, where Kiwanis continue to help sponsor the College's Key Club.

The Reading Boxes are designed to assist students for whom English is a second language, in improving their language skills. Krish Rampal and Kiwanian Cheryl Housego (centre) are shown here with one of the Reading Boxes after they did a presentation about the College, highlighting the needs of their EAL (English Additional Language) students.

These resources will play a crucial role in helping those students develop their skills in reading and analysing texts.



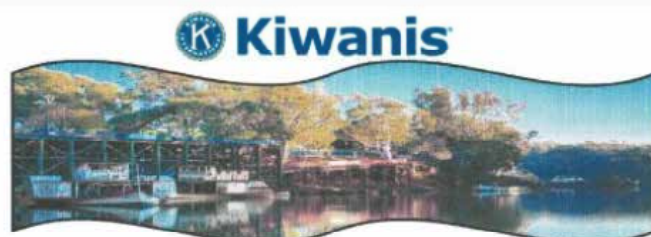
A recent (July) meeting of Prospect Kiwanis Club at Town Hall City Chambers, where a Council employee was the guest speaker.



KIWANIS ASSISTS RIDING FOR DISABLED

President Kate from Moorabbin Riding for the Disabled is shown here with the latest collection of horse books which were delivered via Immediate Past Governor Ian Randall, Moorabbin Kiwanis and 123Read2Me.

Box on the right contains general horse reading books while the box on the left has some excellent horse reference books - How to Ride a Horse, How to Care for a Horse, etc - to be placed in the RDA Clubroom bookcase for general access.



KIWANIS DISTRICT CONVENTION 2025

August 28th—31st 2025 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

For further information please contact our Lieutenant Governor Div 7 Tim Dawes on 0494 363 730





Adelaide Hills AKtion Update



the aKtion pLEDGE

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

The above snap is from a recent Hills AKtion meeting. There was also a top turnout when the Club held a Bingo Night (see photo bottom of page).

The familiar surrounds of Auchendarroch House, Mt Barker, was the venue for the Hills AKtion Club's Handover luncheon on Sunday July 6.

A good number of Adelaide Hills Kiwanians were on hand including luminaries like Geoff Johnston and Charles Sheldrake, while MC for Handover was Past Governor Ash Gore. This salubrious occasion also marked the AKtion Club's 32nd Birthday.

President Barton Garwen was re-installed in the position, along with a very capable Board, ready to live up to Kiwanis ethos in 2025-26. Governor David was present, to help present Service Recognition, and Certificates, which were all gratefully received.



The AKtioners were out in force last month (above) for a Kiwanis Bingo Night.

WARRNAMBOOL KIWANIS IN ACTION

Imagine being disabled and unable to experience the joy of pounding the waves like regular people can do. Last year Warrnambool Kiwanis were successful in applying for a grant to purchase a Mobi-Chair for the beach, after consultation with Luke Robertson from the All Abilities Surfing Association. It became obvious there was nothing like this chair available on a regular basis to enable people with disabilities to enjoy the ocean, like able bodied people can do.

Support group Are-able and their foundation have always backed the community through their grants and their organisation and employees.

A Mobi-Chair was ordered and arrangements were made for it to arrive – when it landed amidst great excitement, the inclement weather at Warrnambool along with activity timetables meant that Kiwanis would need to wait before launching the chair. (Timing is everything!)

A swimming aid like this Mobi-Chair can make a huge difference to the lives of others who cannot freely go swimming. And thanks to Kiwanis, youngsters like Ike, featured on this page, can experience what so many other challenged folk have missed out on.

The All Abilities Surfing Association is now raising funds for a portable beach track to make beach access even easier.



Above: Surf volunteer, Luke, Ike



Ike and Luke

(Photos are courtesy of Western District Newspapers)



Shanika, Ike and Luke



Left: Nigel (Are-able), Peter Sanderson (President), Luke (All Abilities Surfing Association), Diane Riordon (Kiwanis Secretary), Ivan and Ann (Club members), seated Ike.



Deschamps Mat Systems Mobi-Chair is a unique floating beach wheelchair that allows users to experience the joy of beach activities that they can't usually access. These great devices are saltwater resistant for durability.

PICTORIAL PITTSBURGH CONVENTION 2025



Above: First full day in Pittsburgh. Team Australia tackled the sights on a Hop On Hop Off tourist bus and were joined by some American Kiwanians.



Above left: That's CEO Paul Palazzolo during his main address in the House. Above: Our Australian contingent dressed up for the Saturday closing function - a fun night indeed.

Team Sydney receiving their big cheque for a big amount, as runnerup in the Signature Project competition - Group 1. Far left is past Trustee Gary Jander and Mohan Lamsal and on far right is International President for 2026-277 Hope Markes.





Above: The big announcement of successful candidate for International Vice-President. Cathy was "rather overjoyed", and it showed!

SIGNATURE PROJECT WINNERS 2025

Group 2 - 28 members or more

Gold - Birmingham, Alabama - Serving Schools

Silver - West St Andrew, Jamaica - Health & Dental Fair

Bronze - Manitoba, Canada - Soapbox Derby

Group 1 - 27 members or less

Gold - Kiwanis Club of Stunning Davao, Southern Philippines - connects with schools in isolated regions

Silver - **SYDNEY AUSTRALIA**

Comfort Care Cases, Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick

Bronze - North Suburban, St Paul, Minnesota - Dakota - serving malts at a 12 Day Annual Fair

Bottom right: Past International President Allan Penn from Medina, Ohio and Jerri caught up with Governor David and were able to share some Aussie Kiwanisouvenirs!



Above: That pair of stalwarts from NZ SP, Danielle and Bernard joined the Australians to settle the travel dust. Below: Angelique!





AROUND THE CLUBS

MOORABBIN

Ian Randall monitors his local Coles supermarkets where Moorabbin Book Boxes are based. Those supermarkets are at Southland, Clayton and Hampton, and on a weekly schedule, 100 books are filled into each bookcase. These books have a Kiwanis Moorabbin stamp on the inside page and a sticker attached (thanks to Angela Randall for attending to that).

To achieve this, it involves collecting six boxes of books from 123Read2Me weekly, which equates to about 15,000 books per year.

Not only good for promoting literacy but it's a handy way to get our Kiwanis emblem and message out in the public arena.



SYDNEY KIWANIS

At a Bunnings barbecue earlier this year, Sydney Club was pleased to welcome Rishi Ram Pandey (shown below) from Kathmandu, Nepal and his friend from Rockdale.

Rishi is a visiting Kiwanian and is keen to introduce Nepalese living in Sydney to the Sydney Club.

Rishi presented Steve Hughes with a traditional Dhaka Topi and scarf, plus scarves to Cathy, Grace, Ros and Jeff. Rishi's efforts in visiting at the barbecue, along with the generous gifts were greatly appreciated.



The Mastoroudes family has been great supporters of Sydney Kiwanis, through very keen member Angelique and son Mark, and now, Anthony Mastoroudes has joined the Club!

Sponsored by Angelique, Anthony has helped at barbecues over the years, so it was a logical progression. He has assisted the Kiwanis Club with IT matters and has already helped open a new Facebook site and also administers the Kiwanis website. So, he's proven a welcomed and valuable member of the Kiwanis community.

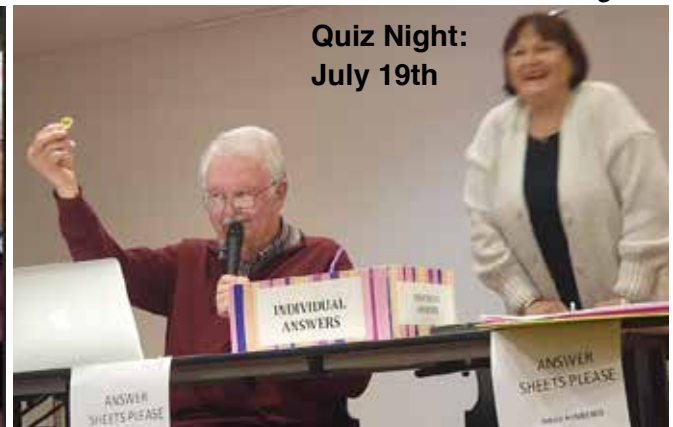
That's Anthony above, flanked by Lt Gov Div 2 Nazreen and Governor-Elect Steve.



ROSTREVOR CAMPBELLTOWN KIWANIS



Left: unning the good race! Some of Roscam Kiwanians preparing numbers for the annual City Bay Fun Run - this is a good fundraiser. Below: The Quiz Night - Governor David and Kerry were amongst over 80 attending for a fabulous night of fun and fundraising.



**Quiz Night:
July 19th**

Above: Quizmaster (& Past President, & President-Elect) Geoff Thomas with Secretary Jill Jarvis.

Above left: BEETLES AND BOWLS NIGHT

Bill won the beetle game and the grinning quartet won the carpet bowls!

Left: Mel, the CEO from Puddlejumpers told the Kiwanians present how she started the Foundation and how Puddlejumpers supports many children in the community.



MOOROOPNA KIWANIS

Tony Nappa (Mooroopna Kiwanis) shown here with a monster cheque made out to HOPE for A\$1000.00 This item has been "sitting in the Editor's files" but not yet used. It's from 2023 so if anyone from Mooroopna can shed a bit of light on this one, would be appreciated.



Carlton Primary School has benefited with the delivery of 17 boxes of books, one of which was destined for their child health area.



AROUND THE CLUBS



REYNELLA KIWANIS

Local MP Nat Cook shown with a Certificate of Appreciation for Reynella Kiwanis Club, after that Club last year resurrected its annual Kids Movie Day down at Noarlunga. This has always been a highlight of the calendar and Reynella has entered this cherished event as a KI Signature Project.

Apology time....

As you folk are probably aware, in the nine years that (Governor) David produced AK, he sometimes ran late but always produced "eventually"!

The apology is that David has simply run out of time, steam, and physical ability to finish all these Around the Clubs pages to standard. The Governor is being admitted to hospital in Adelaide for a procedure, and with Convention literally only hours away, and physically 'running on empty', these pages are on a Take or leave it basis. Rest of this AK is no problems!

Do also bear in mind, producing our national magazine is not usually in the job specs for a District Governor, as that can severely impact on time available for Governor stuff, plus luxuries like sleeping and eating! Appreciate your understanding. And again, apologies for the Kiwanis Clubs affected.

Ian and John (from Lions) at a recent Bunnings barbecue information night.

John also makes an outstanding contribution to 123Read2Me.

MOORABBIN KIWANIS



EAST MAITLAND KIWANIS

One of the local organisations that Kiwanis East Maitland supports is *We Care Connect*. This is a local charity rehoming quality preloved children's essentials to families that need them most. Rather than direct contact, items are distributed via social workers and other organisations working with these families. This ensures those in most need receive that support.

East Maitland Kiwanis supports *We Care Connect* in various ways, as it aligns with Kiwanis principles of 'young children priority one'. Some of East Maitland members are regular volunteers.

The club has working bees to assist with sorting and packing donations and they have also donated various practical items over time. The latest support was donating nine newborn car seats and nine newborn prams at a cost of \$2500.

These were delivered to *We Care Connect Thornton* who can now help another 18 local families in need. These are some of the most in demand items for struggling families. So much so that six were distributed to families the same day they were delivered to *We Care Connect*.

An acknowledgement and huge thanks goes to the Parker-Hannifin Foundation. Kiwanis East Maitland has benefited from their grants on this and other occasions, enabling the Kiwanis club to give even more help to local disadvantaged kids.



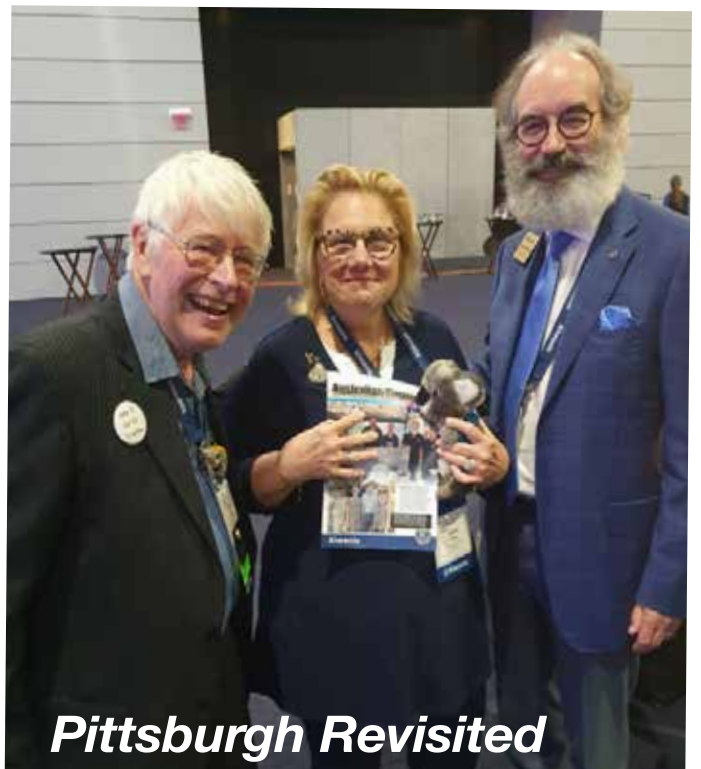
SHEPPARTON SUNRISERS



The ever-active Shepparton Sunrisers has been busy lately compiling Backpacks for children subject to domestic situations where family life has been compromised. This is a great project and worthy of recognition. Well done to Shep Sunrisers!



Governor David had some Aussie flavoured gifts for the KI top brass. Above he's shown with International President Lee Kuan Yong (& Cze Yan), while below are Kuan Yong's successor, Michael Mulhail (& Laura)



Pittsburgh Revisited

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





Understanding the key biology of ALL in every patient identifies the best treatment approach for every child with ALL.

My PhD has focused on identifying new and improved ways to treat children with a specific type of blood cancer known as acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL). Although ALL patient responses to treatment have significantly improved over the years, outcomes remain very poor for some children with high-risk disease. The overarching aim of my investigations has been to improve outcomes for these children by testing new therapies and determining which patients are most likely to benefit from them.

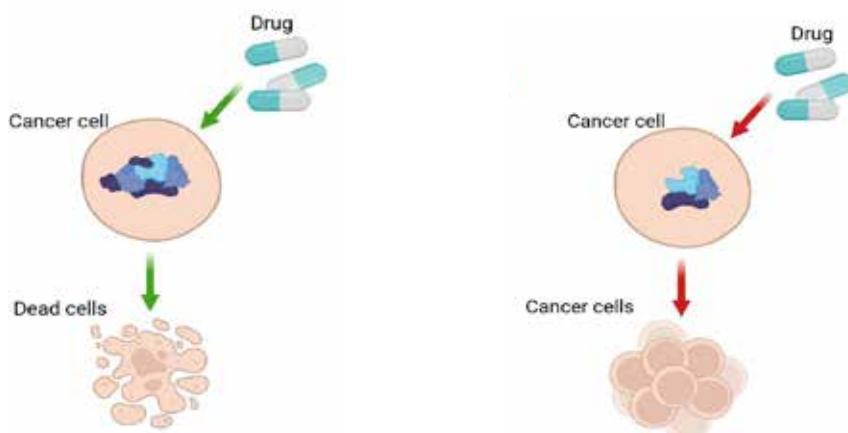
My research focused on therapies currently being used in clinical trials or approved for the treatment of adults with leukaemia. These therapies target specific leukaemia-causing proteins, and from previous research studies, we know that not all patients treated with these drugs responded well, or at all.

What we didn't understand was why. By studying samples from patients, using genomics and re-creating the specific proteins found in patients in laboratory models, I was able to identify that, unexpectedly, some of these proteins behave very differently from what the literature had led us to expect.

In some patients (but not all) these proteins are missing these key regions, the investigated therapies would simply not work. Clinically, my studies have demonstrated that prior to a child with ALL receiving these therapies, we need to screen for these key protein regions to ensure that these therapies are going to work for them. If these key regions are absent we need to test other drugs that may work better for them. For my PhD I have helped define the specific criteria and design tests to guide the doctors treating the children with ALL, to choose the optimal therapy. This is Precision Cancer Medicine: the right drug, for the right patient at the right time. This approach supports more informed treatment decisions and will likely reduce the use of unnecessarily harsh treatments.

The therapies I have worked on are referred to as targeted therapies. and when given to the right patient, they significantly improve outcomes. We hope that in the future, the findings of my studies will help reduce the need for children with ALL to be exposed to the toxicity of chemotherapy. The aim here is to lessen unnecessary toxicity, improve survival, and importantly, improve the quality of life for both the children and their families. Undergoing cancer treatment can be an incredibly challenging experience, especially for children, and reducing its toxicity is a critically important step.

This research would not have been possible without the generous support of Kiwanis Australia, whose funding helped make this project a reality. The contribution of Kiwanis has played a vital role in advancing efforts to find safer and more effective treatments for children with ALL who are at high risk of severe chemotherapy-related side effects or worse, succumbing to their disease.



On the left we see what happens to cancer cells when they are treated with the correct therapy/drug. On the right, the same drug when used to treat a cancer cell with a different type of protein (note the different pattern of protein in the cancer cell between the left and right figures), do not cause cell death, and the cancer cells can continue to grow.



JOHN JONES (Rostrevor-Campbelltown))

Even the sky had a cry when dearly departed Kiwanian John Jones was laid to rest on June 6, the significance being that the long awaited end to Adelaide's severe drought coincided with John's funeral service. (It rained!)

Held at the stately Darroch House in the north-eastern suburbs, the large gathering of mourners included many Kiwanians including past Governors Geoff Holmes and Robert Gambell along with current Governor David.

They heard how John Hamilton Jones was born on the last day of 1937 in Somerton, Melbourne. The family moved back to Adelaide when John was still young, and he attended Highgate P.S. before a family relocation to Whyalla where his prominence in running races and playing Aussie Rules football shone through. There was a move back to Adelaide in 1949, where he undertook a motor mechanic apprenticeship.



In May 1963 John's life turned (for the better) when he married Pam and they started a family (2 boys, 1 girl), but his shiftwork as an RAA road technician meant John couldn't attend some family functions. However the Joneses were always able to enjoy caravan trips away, while John maintained his interest in photography and old clocks. So, yes, they were married for 62 years.

John's cousin, Bruce Standon was a member of Rostrevor-Campbelltown Club and introduced him to Kiwanis, for which we're forever grateful. Ironically Bruce left the Club to pursue other interests but John stayed "faithful", having joined up in 1989. He went on to hold positions of Club President and Lt Governor Division 10 (1995-96). This keen Kiwanian was involved in our organisation for over 25 years, attending many District Conventions. He was part of a "foursome" where Faye & Chris Ward plus Pam and he would always dress up "outrageously" for the theme night functions!

The Jones were very experienced travellers, having had many overseas trips. It's worth mentioning Pam Jones insisted at the funeral, on delivering the main eulogy herself ("no impersonal celebrants!") and the eulogy had actually been mainly written by John himself! Brave lady - well done, Pam.

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



The photo, right, was part of a ceremony printed in the Jan/Feb AK, showing Childhood Cancer CEO Cath O'Loughlin and Kiwanians - past Governor Bob Sitters and Governor David, when a cheque was presented to researcher Professor Deb White. She heads a dedicated team based at SAHMRI, North Tce, Adelaide, engaged in research into the insidious ALL disease. Kiwanis has been involved for a while in helping efforts to fight ALL. Elias Lagonik (opposite, p.18) spoke at a Glenelg Kiwanis Club meeting earlier this year, and expanded on his fascinating work researching further into the intricacies of ALL.





**123READ2ME
with MELINDA**

Every Child Deserves a Story – Will Your Club Help Share One?

At 123Read2Me, we believe something powerful: Books change lives.

For a child who's never owned one, a book isn't just a story. It's a turning point. It builds vocabulary, confidence, and connection. It opens doors that poverty tries to keep shut.

Thanks to the incredible support of service clubs like Kiwanis, over 1.2 million free children's books have been donated – and really, we're just getting started.

Here's a glimpse of what your support is helping us achieve:

Our Forklift Is Fully Charged

Thanks to community donations and newly installed power, our electric forklift is now up and running. This has made it safer and faster to move thousands of books through our warehouse each week.

Books Where They're Needed Most

We recently delivered over 2,000 books to a brand-new Victorian school opening in 2026 – a school with no library and no book budget.

And with help from Victorian Freight Specialists, we sent over 1,000 early readers to Afghani women in Swan Hill who are learning to read for the first time. For many, this is their very first book. (see photo below).

Support for Families Doing It Tough

Mission Australia recently visited our warehouse and collected a carload of children's books for the families they support. These books are now bringing warmth, comfort, and connection into homes facing tough times – and giving parents a simple way to bond and build brighter futures with their children.

Inspiring Young Changemakers

We spoke to 80 Year 6 students at Coatesville Primary, helping them explore how simple actions like sharing a book can drive real community change.

New Support to Grow Our Impact

We've welcomed a Virtual Marketing Assistant through Outsourced Doers, giving us 40 extra hours a week to raise awareness, build partnerships, and share your impact with the world.

Service Clubs Making a Hands-On Difference

A big thank you to the Wheelers Hill and Blackburn Lions Clubs, who recently joined us in the warehouse to sort donated books and see their impact firsthand. Their energy and generosity are helping thousands of children.

You're Invited – Let's Give Away Books, Together

This isn't just a Book Week idea. This is a year-round invitation to bring joy, literacy, and community connection to life – in a way that's simple, meaningful, and fun.

We're inviting Kiwanis Clubs across Victoria to help give away free children's books wherever and whenever it suits you. At a local market or shopping centre; At a school barbecue, fair, or literacy night; At a family fun day or service event; Or even just outside your meeting venue.

(continued next page)





with
Melinda
Shelley



It's easy to organise.

It's a great way to promote Kiwanis in your local community. And most importantly – it puts books into the hands of children who need them.

We'll supply the books. You supply the smiles.

Want to get involved? Reach out to Jeff (Shelley) at jeff@123Read2Me.org and we'll help you get started.

Whether you'd like one box or 1,000 books, we're keen to work alongside you.

Together, we can create brighter futures – one child, one book, one club at a time.

With heartfelt thanks to our ongoing supporters: **Visy**, for providing the boxes that safely deliver our books; **Pellicano Group**, for making our warehouse operations possible

Let's share the joy of reading and the spirit of Kiwanis with every book we give.



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 AOL Club meetings often have a guest speaker, with interesting topics.

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



My grandson made the mistake of telling me I was being overdramatic, so I just changed the home Wifi password. We'll see who's overdramatic in about five minutes.



Vandals have stolen the "F" from the local Funfair sign. Now, that's really unfair.



I was leaving the office the other evening when I found the CEO standing in front of our shredder machine with a piece of paper in his hand. "Listen", he said, "this is a most sensitive and very important document, and my secretary has gone for the night. Can you make this thing work for me?"



"Sure", I said. I turned the machine on, inserted his piece of paper and pressed the start button. "Excellent", he said as his paper disappeared into the machine. "I just need one copy!"



The local old folks home had a garage sale. I was able to buy this great gravy boat for just 50c !!



Insurance companies are now warning campers - if your tent is stolen during the night, you won't be covered!

There are so many scams on the internet these days, you really need to be careful. So, if you send me \$19.95 I will tell you how to avoid them.

"One day I'm going to start collecting highlighters. Mark my words!!"



GEELONG DOLL SHOW

GEELONG KIWANIS CLUB was involved in a very successful Doll, Teddy & Craft Show mid June, when this annual event was staged at the Masonic Centre in Belmont.

Setup was done on the preceding Friday afternoon. Saturday was a very cold day but turned out to be successful from a trading viewpoint. The hall had 36 stallholders, where tables were booked and paid prior to the event. On Saturday the hall was packed with thousands of dolls and teddies plus everything needed by enthusiasts to pursue their hobby.

Over 230 members of the public and doll enthusiasts came through the doors. Geelong Kiwanis held a raffle with 18 donated prizes. There was hard work by Geelong lady members plus Bob in the kitchen, selling a range of Devonshire Teas, slices, sandwiches and drinks. The door entry was capably handled by Greg, George and Spencer, while the raffle was run by Chrissie and Rod.

Well done to those dedicated Kiwanians who included Carmen and Bob Chapman, Jenny Anderson, Spencer Harding, Ruth Ware, Hilary Prideaux, George Welsh, Vera Lloyd, Judy Chapman, Chrissie and Greg Puls, Rod Puls and Graeme Munro.





HeartKids Train Day

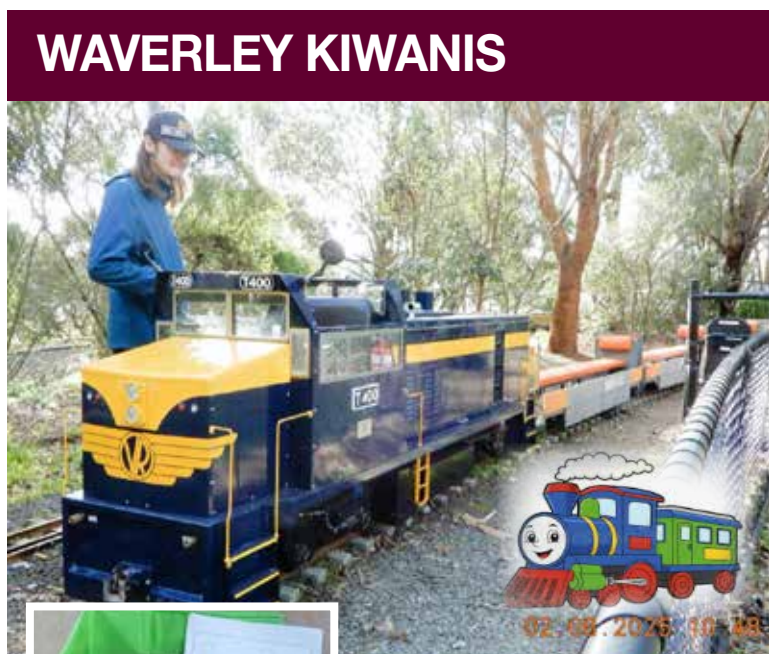
Above: Lyn, Anne and Sue were there to assist on the barbecue, and to help promote our Kiwanis message during the day.



KIWANIS WAVERLEY held a HeartKids Train Day in Melbourne's eastern suburbs, at the Box Hill Miniature Steam Railway (BHMSR) on Saturday August 2. As well as train rides and various other activities there was a sausage sizzle and free books from 123Read2Me. Marco the Magician came along as well, to entertain the children and their parents.

The day was dedicated to the memory of Brian Mates who passed away in January. Brian was a HeartKids dad, a Kiwanian and a committed volunteer for both organisations. A tribute to Brian appeared in the February *Australian Kiwanian*, Vale pages.

The efforts of BHMSR Society are appreciated for providing the train rides at such an excellent facility.



Above Lyn kept on track when she scored a train ride!

Right: Sew what?! Kiwanis help make cotton bags.

Below: Excellent bookmarks that were distributed on the day.



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 and JPEGs, PDFs are accepted. Cutoff date for submissions for your next AK is mid-late November. **Please stick to this deadline.**