



President Marg's Message.

It's hard to believe that winter has been and gone officially and, in a few weeks, we'll be back on daylight saving time. Let's hope we get some fantastic spring rains to set us up for the summer ahead.

9 of our members attended the District Convention in Echuca last week and we felt a true sense of what we are doing at Kiwanis Barossa is very much on track. It was great to meet others from around Australia, all with the same goals and intentions of making a difference to children. I thought the Convention was very well presented, with a full program of good speakers and activities. Ev will give more detail in his report so I'll leave that for him. Both Brian and I felt it was well worth the journey and the road trip there was very enjoyable.



There is currently no Division 10 Lieutenant Governor as Mike Hepple is stepping down after 4 years in that role. At the recent Board meeting we talked about ideas for the commitment to be simplified maybe and we are constructing a letter to the new District Governor, Steve Hughes with our thoughts.

This is my last newsletter report in my role as your President. Please accept my gratitude for your ongoing support over the past year and a half. I have enjoyed this role very much. My very best wishes to Des Schiller as he takes on this position.

Recent Meetings

Our one meeting for August was a chance for special guest Mark Harris to talk about the dance fundraiser he took part in for *Make A Wish Barossa* and to reflect on what he learnt from this experience. But, more than that, Mark was able to reflect on the tragic events of his life and to share what he has learned. Mark is a gifted speaker and his wise words on his family's story and now his new family story touched us all, and the Club listened intently to his learnings from life. Parents Marg and Brian were no doubt proud of Mark's presentation.

The second meeting for the month was cancelled to allow members to attend Convention in Echuca Moama. Convention proved to be a worthwhile experience with fun, socialising and good facilities, mixed in with the serious business of helping children. This is not the place for a full report on the important issues of





Convention. That will form the basis of our first meeting in October. However the photos below convey a little of the flavour of Convention. The District is in good hands with Steve Hughes from Sydney at the helm. It's also nice to know that local Division 10 member from Athelstone, Kavitha Hapuarachchi is taking on the role of District secretary.

Left: Friday night dinner group
Below: A bit of dress up fun for Saturday's dinner

Below: Steve Hughes, District Governor designate.



Left: Robert with new chum, Toshi from Japan
Below: Outgoing President David McNabb enjoying a boat ride on the Echuca Club's very own houseboat which is used for fundraisers and to provide outings for children.
Below left: Robert at Sunday's memorial service with certificates recognising the passing of Barossa members Phil Schmaal and David Heuzenroeder.



Lorna's Fundraising Report

The weather is warming and function requests are rapidly coming in!! Last Sat/Sun we had the BLG FOOTY 2nd and 1st semi finals, at Sth Gawler /Lyndoch. If you haven't

been at the gates yet, it is fun as there are certainly some people that make it very interesting, but Mike / David are champs, thank you!!

Sept 7 - Cars Coffee Barossa - thanks to Amanda, Keith, and Des for helping me. What a busy Father's Day! ALL SOLD OUT, in record time! (no money counted as yet). Then Amanda joined me at footy gates, thank you!!

Sept 13 - BLG Finals at Nuriootpa - Lions Club

Sept 14 - FunDay Sunday - Kiwanis BBQ at Faith Jnr Oval

Oct 5 - Cars Coffee Barossa - Marg, Brian, ~~~~~ Lorna

Oct 4 - Probus Picnic at Barossa Bush Gardens

Oct 18 - Barossa Library Expo

See you all at the meeting and I can tell you more exciting news,
Cheers Lorna

Des's Caring Corner for September

BIRTHDAYS No Birthdays this month

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Sept 3rd - Colleen & Rob van der Wijngaart

10th - Margaret & Jim Ellis

29th Sherryl & Peter Whitehead

MEMBER INDUCTIONS

Sept 5th - Dennis Noack 2002

19th - Marianne Noack 2003

28th - Sherryl Whitehead 2023

Good health to everyone, and enjoy the sunshine,
cheers Des

Emergency Meals Report

We have done approx. 60 enjoyable hrs of volunteering for August 2025.

We have received produce from Lutheran Care, I See Church (Foodbank) and Shed Happens (St. Petri Men's Shed) and Maggie Beer.

We had a networking get together from which a photo and article was put in the Leader newspaper. There is another one on Oct. 14. 105 meals were delivered in September. The last page is a copy of the Barossa Club's summary of the Emergency frozen meal project presented at Convention.

Blessings

Geoff & Lyn Hansen

BGLFA Finals Series

If unable to volunteer, please swap and inform Mike: 0417877213

Saturday September 13 Nuriootpa

Shift 1 7.30-11.30: Des and Lorna

Shift 2 11.30-3.30: Lions

Saturday September 20 Kapunda

Shift 1 7.30-11.30: Lorna and Des, Marianne

Shift 2 11.30-3.30: Marg and Brian, Ev and Chris

From the Board

Banjo Paterson presentation

Marianne and Lorna have produced a poster to advertise this event to be held on Tuesday 21st October in the Langmeil Church Hall. Tickets will be \$25 with a raffle being organised. Drinks will be available at the bar and a supper of tea/coffee and scones served after the presentation.

What's coming up?

Sept 11	Dinner meeting Profile: David and Margaret Hodge
Sept 13	Footy gates Nuri
Sept 14	Fun Day Sunday Faith Junior campus
September 20	Grand final Kapunda
September 25	Our Club Handover Dinner - Vine Inn
Oct 5	Cars Coffee Barossa
Oct 9	Dinner Meeting: News and Information night
Oct 12	Barossa Bonfire Robert N's property
Oct 14	Probus Picnic - Barossa Bush Gardens
Oct 18	Barossa Library
Oct 21	Poet - Greg North at Langmeil Hall Tanunda

Just a reminder that regular dinner meetings are held every second and fourth Thursday of each month - 6.30 for 7.00 pm at the Vine Inn, Murray St, Nuriootpa. If you can't attend a dinner meeting, please let Chris and Ev know, either by email – ejleske@internode.on.net or mobile for calls and texts 0428 337132. This helps our hosts, the Vine Inn, with their catering.



A Bonfire

The Barossa Kiwanis Club invite you to attend a social fund raising get together & BBQ lunch around a bonfire

Where - At Robert Nitschke's Property
Access to bonfire site is off Stone Chimney Creek Road, Flaxman Valley, and involves a drive through a paddock
(Detail of how you get there is attached to this invitation)

When - Sunday 12th October, commencing at 12 noon

A Fundraiser – For Cancer Kids

Cost - \$20 pp for a main course of meat and salads

Bring - Family, drinks, nibbles and anything else you may wish to eat. Also bring warm clothing, good footwear, chairs and a small table if you wish

RSVP - with names/numbers by Friday October 3rd to:
barossakiwanis@gmail.com

If the weather is inclement, please call Lorna on 0438844116 to find out whether the event is cancelled.

Kiwanis Barossa Signature Project for 2026:

The Emergency Frozen Meals Program



Since June 2023, The Barossa Club has been preparing emergency frozen meals for our local school communities at the request of the local pastoral care workers in each primary school.

In just over two years, over 12,000 healthy, wholesome but basic meals have been produced for struggling school families across the Barossa and delivered to schools for distribution to families in need. Only those families identified by pastoral care workers are assisted and the recipients are kept private.

During the Covid years, a local community group, the Southern Barossa Alliance, perceived that the cost-of-living crisis was affecting many parents and children and started the program preparing and distributing meals. When they were unable to continue to meet this need, they turned to the Kiwanis Club of the Barossa for help.

Geoff and Lyn Hansen put their hands up to run the program and other Kiwanians and Friends of the Club offered to help. All have passed courses in food safety and handling. The Club has purchased freezers to store meals prior to delivery.

Other local community groups soon came on board to support this work. Some groups like Maggie Beer products and Centacare supply produce for us. What is not provided, is purchased by Kiwanis Barossa. Some friends of Kiwanis have come on Board from the community. Some of these folk have decided to join our Club. Other groups like Hope Cottage Quilters and the local Ford Club have donated funds as our program has gained publicity in the local paper. In January 2025, Geoff and Lyn were recognised by the Barossa Council and given the 2025 Active Citizenship Award on Australia day in recognition of their efforts. This venture has given the Club substantial recognition in the community. Another spin off is that food security groups across the region have created a network to support each other. Geoff from Kiwanis has taken the lead and is the chairman of this group.

It's hard to know how many children and families have been helped by the program because privacy is part of our mode of operation. Potentially, 10,000 people or perhaps 2000 families have been supported over the two years of operation. In July 2023, 175 meals were produced for the month. In July 2025, this had risen to 555 meals delivered, a mammoth increase.



One local school receives a delivery



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



Letter of thanks: We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to you both, and to Kiwanis as an organisation, for your generosity and dedication to the Barossa Community and through the Emergency Meals Service... we have received many deliveries from you and been touched by your open and generous hearts.... We realise that Kiwanis is dedicated to helping children in need and we can assure you that providing family meals in this way is directly benefitting kids on so many levels. It sustains children, their parents, their pride and their energy to keep going and work towards change.