



# Kiwaniis<sup>®</sup>

## CLUB OF SYDNEY

# Newsletter

## October to December 2025

#Kids need Kiwanis#

*Kids are curious, lovable and hilarious. They are also wild, impatient and vulnerable. Kiwanis is looking out for kids in every corner of the globe with more than 400,000 volunteers who serve their communities through local clubs.*

**"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed one" - Mother Theresa**

## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

I wish all our members, friends and readers a very Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year.

## HeartKids Two Feet and a HeartBeat

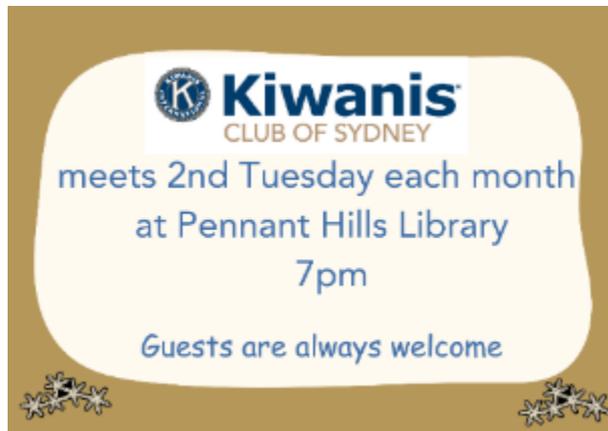
Like many Kiwanis Clubs around Australia, Kiwanis Sydney supported HeartKids Two Feet and a HeartBeat. There were 29 events held and over \$370,000 was raised by HeartKids.

Kiwanis Sydney volunteered at Centennial Park on 12<sup>th</sup> October and again at Olympic Park on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. We supplied and cooked the barbeque at the 1<sup>st</sup> event and were there to cook at the 2<sup>nd</sup> event. Both days were great events which started with a memorial to the "Heart Angels". The HeartKids and their family and friends then do either a 4 kilometre walk to honour the 4 kids in Australia who die each week from childhood onset heart disease (CoHD), or an 8 kilometre walk to recognise the 8 babies born every day with a heart defect.

Thanks to Vikki, Naz, Katherine, Sinchana, Angelique, Anthony, Belinda, Steve, Cathy and Namita for your help at both these days.



Anthony, Namita, Steve, Cathy, Belinda, Angelique at Olympic Park Walk



Katherine, Sinchana, Vikki, Naz at Centennial Park Walk



Governor Steve presenting \$20k to HeartKids



Namita and Cathy serving.



Steve and Cathy cooking the snags

Governor Steve also had the opportunity to present a cheque for \$20,000 to Chairman of HeartKids Rohan Geddes and Sami Glastonbury National Philanthropy Manager from Kiwanis Australian clubs. These monies will help fund their Primary Years and Teens transition programs.



Remembering Heart Angels



Walkers at Olympic Park Walk

## Terrific Kids at SEWS, BGS and Warrah



Photos – Sree and Heidi present TK at Warrah



Steve presents TK at SEWS , TK Prizes for presentation at BGS and Angelique



In November and December Kiwanis Sydney attended end of year presentation days at Sir Eric Woodward School (SEWS), Broderick Gillawarna School (BGS) and Warrah Schools to present the Terrific Kids awards for Term 4.

Thank you to Jeff, Angelique, Sree, Heidi, Steve and Cathy for attending to present the TK awards to the children.

## BGS Fun Day

On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December BGS held their annual Fun Day. Students, their families and staff attended this day and a range of activities were arranged to make for a fantastic day with lots of smiles and laughter. There was face painting, an animal petting zoo, jumping castles, clowns, ice cream truck and the sausage sizzle provided by Kiwanis Sydney.

Belinda took her team of twelve along from Bloomberg to represent Kiwanis Sydney. They prepared, cooked and served the sausage sizzle on the day. I believe they had a lot of fun partaking in the fun of the day. Thank you to Belinda and her team. *Photo shows Team from Bloomberg at BGS Fun Day*



## It's in the Bag



such as jewellery.

As you can see in the photos the members and friends had a lot of fun in gathering the items and bags and then putting it all together on the night. *Photos Jeff checking a bag. Richard and Grace packing bags*

Kiwanis Sydney has continued its packing of ladies handbags with ladies personal items for the 4<sup>th</sup> year. This year was a huge success with 172 bags packed at our November meeting and delivered to various Bunnings stores by members and friends.

The bags are collected by Share the Dignity and given to vulnerable girls and ladies in refuges on Christmas Day. The idea being to let them know someone is thinking of them, and cares about them. The items in the bags include shampoo, conditioner, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, sanitary items, tissues, soap, a personal note and some extra personal items



**E**Thanks to everyone for your involvement and especially to Cathy for organising the lists of purchases and stockpiles.



Photos show Cathy, Emily, Tara and Angelique delivering bags to different Bunnings stores. Also Tara, Naz and Monu packing bags.

## Joy of Giving Extracts taken from <https://www.joyofgiving.net>

At our December meeting we welcomed Jackie Lo from Joy of Giving to tell us more about his organisation which is headquartered at 382 Pacific Hwy, Crows Nest.

In Australia 27 million toys or approximately 57,000 tonnes go to landfill each year. *Their Mission is giving preloved toys new homes. They save toys from landfill, giving families an opportunity to bring joy to the wider community, benefiting both community members and the environment.*

*Joy of Giving was founded in 2019. Several like-minded friends were inspired by their own experience raising children and their desire to teach them the value and benefit of giving. Everyone involved was looking to create a more sustainable environment for their children, both growing up and for her future. By creating an avenue of bringing pre-*



loved toys to kids, we can reuse items that would otherwise be simply thrown away. We value the opportunities showing children the value of giving, sharing, and receiving toys as well as instilling these values to their adult life.

Any child or family can bring their toys (preloved, new or unused) in good condition and can exchange them for other toys available at the hub. It's a simple and fun way to give toys a second life while finding something new for their children. Bringing toys is not a prerequisite for receiving toys from the hub.

Jackie told us of his latest shipment of toys to a small school in an indigenous community north of Brewarrina near to the Queensland border. The toys had to be suitable for the indigenous culture and are to be delivered by the daughter of the school principal who lives in the Blue Mountains.

The talk by Jackie was enlightening and this charity is worthy of our consideration for support.

## BNI Golf Day

Thanks to Angelique for attending and funding weekly meetings with BNI and fulfilling all the commitments of referrals and other tasks. BNI held its annual charity golf day with the proceeds being distributed amongst 23 BNI charities. Donations to the silent auction were made by Sree, Jeff, Kiwanis Sydney and Kiwanis Club of Australia Online. Kiwanis Sydney received a dividend of \$3,200 from the day. Well done Angelique, Sree and Jeff.



## Bunnings Barbeques

Our October, November and December Bunnings barbeques were all successful with over \$8,000 being raised. We thank all our valuable helpers who made each day a success. It has been great to have friends of Kiwanis come along eager to help. Thank you to all who have helped.



The donations “pots” at these barbeques were for “Share the Dignity”, Father Chris Riley Youth off the Streets and the Bondi Beach Tragedy. People were especially generous with the Bondi Beach appeal donating \$850. We will now evaluate the most appropriate way to get these funds to those affected. *Photo Emily cooking up sausages and onions*

## Saroj and Aditi's new baby!

On 1st December Kiwanian, Saroj and his wife Aditi welcomed their 2<sup>nd</sup> daughter. This is the first birth to any Kiwanis Sydney member that I can remember in my time at the club. Congratulations to Saroj, Aditi and family.

Also, Saroj's new employer Summit Care has agreed to sponsor him in achieving Australian citizenship after 3 years living and working in Australia. Great news and thanks to Summit Care!



# Kiwanis Sydney Changeover



Our Changeover Meeting was held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October to retire the 2024-25 leadership team and install the new leadership team for 2025-26.

Our leadership team for 2025-26 is Angelique, Belinda, Vikki, Sree, Jeff, Monu and Anthony.

Several awards were presented to members on the night to thank them for their exceptional service to Kiwanis Sydney.

The highlight of the night was the award of the Reach for the Sky Award to Heidi Woodhead for 2025 by President Belinda. The award is presented annually to the person who has gone above and beyond to help Kiwanis Sydney perform it's valuable service to the community. While only being in the club for twelve months Heidi is always there to help. Congratulations and well-deserved Heidi!



*Photos – Belinda congratulating Heidi, Belinda presenting Reach for the Sky Award to Heidi, Naz installing Anthony and Jeff as Board members*

## New Members

So far in 2025-26 we have welcomed three new members of Tara, Sonia and Paul.

Tara was inducted at our Changeover Meeting in October. She is an Embodiment Coach empowering highly driven women to reconnect with their bodies to live, love and lead with magnetism and clarity, not performance, push and pressure. Welcome to Tara.

Sonia was inducted at our December Meeting by President Angelique and Governor Steve. Sonia is the owner and manager of the Delhi Heights Indian Restaurant in Dural. Its reputation as a superior restaurant is well known. Sonia's restaurant was also the venue for our very successful fundraiser for HeartKids NSW. Welcome Sonia!

*Photo shows LG Div 6 Naz inducting Tara*





Photos Angelique and Steve inducting Sonia at Christmas meeting

Sonia showed her true Kiwanis spirit in inviting her husband Paul to join Kiwanis Sydney at our December meeting. Paul immediately signed up and has already helped at our December Bunnings barbeque. Welcome Paul!

Postscript – Zara Hughes, who is Cathy and Steve’s granddaughter, and Belinda’s niece has joined Kiwanis Sydney. 3 generations! Welcome to Zara!

Remember.....

**#Kids need Kiwanis!**

**#Kiwanis needs You!**

## **Aktion Club – looking for members!** [www.aktionclub.org](http://www.aktionclub.org)

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



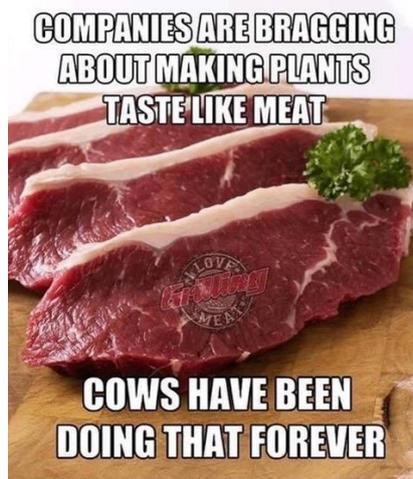
If you know of someone with an intellectual disability who might like to be part of, or benefit from this club, then please contact us at [sydney@kiwanis.org.au](mailto:sydney@kiwanis.org.au).

## **#Kids need Kiwanis!**

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

Hope you enjoyed the newsletter. If you have an article to include in future newsletters, please forward to [sydney@kiwanis.org.au](mailto:sydney@kiwanis.org.au)

## Joke Corner



## Events Coming Up: 2026

**Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2026** – Val Gilchrist’s 90<sup>th</sup> birthday! Give her a call on 0484 555 383

**Sun 11<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026** – Hawkesbury River Joint Club Lunch 12pm to 3pm King Tide Café. **Join us if you can!**

**Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026** – Bunnings BBQ at Artarmon, Reserve Rd, Artarmon – 3 shifts 8am, 11am and 1.30pm

**27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026** – Back to School packs at Lidcombe Public School

**Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026** - Kiwanis Sydney Meeting 7pm – Pennant Hills Library

Guest speaker Val Smith Orr on treating serious burns in children with manuka honey.

**Fri 13<sup>th</sup> to Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Division 2 Mini Convention at Tea Gardens Country Club.

Contact Bryen Smith [bhgv@s@yahoo.com.au](mailto:bhgv@s@yahoo.com.au). Theme for Saturday “Love”

**Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026** – Bunnings BBQ at Artarmon, Reserve Rd, Artarmon – 3 shifts 8am, 11am and 1.30pm

**Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Mar 2026** - Kiwanis Sydney Meeting 7pm – Pennant Hills Library

**Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Mar 2026** – Bunnings BBQ at Artarmon, Reserve Rd, Artarmon – 3 shifts 8am, 11am and 1.30pm

**Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Apr 2026** – Terrific Kids Presentations at SEWS, BGS and Warrah

**Tues 14<sup>th</sup> Apr 2026** - Kiwanis Sydney Meeting 7pm – Pennant Hills Library

**Sat 18<sup>th</sup> Apr 2026** – Bunnings BBQ at Artarmon, Reserve Rd, Artarmon – 3 shifts 8am, 11am and 1.30pm

**Sat 9<sup>th</sup> May 2026** – Mother’s Day Cards and Flowers at Caroline Chisholm Nursing Home Lane Cove

**Sat 9<sup>th</sup> May 2026** – Bunnings BBQ at Artarmon, Reserve Rd, Artarmon – 3 shifts 8am, 11am and 1.30pm

**Tues 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026** - Kiwanis Sydney Meeting 7pm – Pennant Hills Library

**Tues 9<sup>th</sup> Jun 2026** - Kiwanis Sydney Meeting 7pm – Pennant Hills Library

**Sat 13<sup>th</sup> Jun 2026** – Bunnings BBQ at Artarmon, Reserve Rd, Artarmon – 3 shifts 8am, 11am and 1.30pm

**24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> Jun 2026** – Kiwanis International Convention in Manila, Philippines

**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Jul 2026** – Terrific Kids Presentations at SEWS, BGS and Warrah

**Fri 21<sup>st</sup> to Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug** – Kiwanis Australia Convention – Rydges Central Sydney 28 Albion St, Surry Hills

<b>Deserving Causes Kiwanis Sydney has helped</b>	2025-26	2024-25
Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick - Comfort Care Cases		✓
Sir Eric Woodward School - Terrific Kids and vege pods for gardening	✓	✓
Broderick Gillawarna School – Terrific Kids, Fun Day and Formal	✓	✓
Warrah Specialist School – Terrific Kids, loom support and sensory equipment	✓	✓
Lidcombe Public School - Back to school packs & sensory toys. Vege Pods for growing vegetables		✓
Children First Foundation - life changing medical help for children (District Project thru' KADCF)		✓
HeartKids Australia - Primary years and Teens transition programs (District Project thru' KADCF)		✓
HeartKids Two Feet and a HeartBeat, Sweethearts Day, Super Heroes Day and local respite	✓	✓
Aussie Helpers – assisting farmers and their children in need		✓
Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia in Children (District Project thru' KADCF)		✓
Share the Dignity Bags – for women and children in refuges or doing it tough at Christmas	✓	✓
Rainbow Children's Home Nepal - house and educate orphans		✓
Harding Miller Foundation – part sponsorship of a Yr 9-11 girl for High School studies	✓	✓
Exodus Foundation Rev Bill Crews - helping the homeless	✓	✓
Father Chris Riley's Youth off the Street		✓
Kiwanis Children's Fund - various worldwide projects – annual club gift		✓
Kiwanis Australia District Charitable Foundation – annual club gift		✓
Caroline Chisholm Nursing Home – Mother's day cards and flowers		✓
Caroline Chisholm Nursing Home – Fathers day gifts	✓	✓
Street Care for Homeless Newcastle – provide clothing and food to homeless		✓
Gunasekara Child Development Centre Sri Lanka		✓
Mission in Health Care and Development - school and hospital equipment in DR Congo		✓
Arunoday India Children with Blindness		✓
Kiwanis Pakistan - food for kids		✓
Motor Neurone Disease (MND) research fundraiser	✓	
Operation Rainbow Cleft Palate operations by WA Drs in Cebu		✓

## The Objects of Kiwanis International

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

*These Objects were adopted by the House of Delegates at 1924 KI Convention in Denver, Colorado*



Kiwanis Club of Sydney Australia

Website : [www.kiwanissydney.org](http://www.kiwanissydney.org)