



Governor's Newsletter January 2026

Remember my Motto for this year is **#Kids need Kiwanis, Kiwanis needs You!**

Bushfires Victoria Appeal Kiwanis Division 7 Clubs of Echuca-Moama, Bendigo, Shepparton Sunrisers and Mooroopna are banding together to conduct a relief project centred around the recent bush fires near Harcourt and Longford. Bendigo will focus on the Harcourt fires south of Bendigo and Shepparton Sunrisers and Mooroopna will concentrate on the Euroa and Longford fires. Echuca-Moama will probably split efforts between the two.

The Kiwanis clubs led by Lieutenant Governor Tim Dawes will talk to principals of schools in the affected areas to decide how our funds could best be used to help kids in returning to school for 2026. Do they need help with back-to-school supplies, school camp fees or other costs knowing that families have already lost considerably during the fires.

I thank the Division 7 Kiwanis Clubs and the Kiwanis Clubs of Perth, Sydney, Glenelg and Brisbane for donating \$6,250 to this valuable work for kids. Contact me if you would like to donate.

Club Officer Training – LG Div 8 Lousie Heywood is organising a training day in Adelaide on Sunday 22nd February 2026 at Club Marion, 262 Sturt Road. Leadership Chair Jan Hyde will be running the day with Louise. It is open to all who would like to attend and learn more about Kiwanis. Contact Louise.

Signature Projects – Glenelg, Warrnambool, Geelong and Newcastle were the only clubs to enter this year. KI received a record 592 entries from 45 Districts. Kiwanis Australia has the job of selecting one entry from our clubs 27 and less, and one from the larger clubs. We will watch to see how our club projects compare to others around the world. Thank you to the clubs who entered and good luck.

Growth Kiwanis Australia has added 21 new members this year in only 10 out of the 28 clubs. We have had 8 deletes. This number will not sustain any growth for the future. Make sure you invite someone to talk about Kiwanis over coffee, or bring them to a meeting or project. Remember to ask them if they would like to join! ***Kids need Kiwanis!***

Rise Projects (Regional Impact for Sustainability and Environment) Kiwanis ASPAC is encouraging all clubs to undertake a project that helps the environment. Younger people want to see what we are doing and may want to help or join us if they see us caring for the environment. I set two challenges for each club.

1. Organise and register to clean-up a local area on Sunday 1st March or around that time. Talk to your local school and see if they would like to help you. www.cleanup.org.au.
2. Organise a tree planting day. Talk to your local council about where, and they may even provide the trees. Then enlist the help of your local school.

Kiwanis Australia Leadership We are looking for a Governor-Elect, Lieutenant Governors for some of the Divisions and an Australian Kiwanian (AK) Editor. If you want to know more about any of these positions then please contact myself or Peter Zander.

Amplify Build your leadership skills. Improve your career, your community and yourself. Kiwanis Amplify is a leadership program for those who want to amplify their ability to lead in all aspects of their lives. Interested in participating in Kiwanis Amplify in 2026 then register at <https://www.kiwaniis.org/members/for-leaders/kiwanis-amplify-home-page/> (*registration opens February 1*)

KI Convention Manila – June 24th to 27th, 2026. Register now! A great opportunity to network with other Kiwanians and learn what we are doing around the world.

Thank you,
Steve Hughes – Governor 2025-26
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