



Wednesday 4th February was our first meeting for 2026.

Our guest speaker was the president of the Nepalese Community of Newcastle. Beer told us there are approximately 800 Nepalese people in his local community. The 2023 census shows us there were over 180,000 Nepalese-born people in Australia, and increasing rapidly with over 13,000 arriving in NSW alone in 2024. We hope to see Beer again at future meetings or projects.

The Division 2 Mini Convention was held at Tea Gardens over the Valentine's Day weekend with Kiwanians from East Maitland, Beachside, Sydney and Brisbane joining members from Newcastle. It's always great to see other club members again, to share ideas and hear about their service projects.

The weekend started early Friday morning for the golfers, followed by Trivia on Friday night. Anna from East Maitland ran the business meeting on Saturday morning with Governor Steve Hughes updating us on all things Kiwanis.

The afternoon was spent playing Disk Bowls in the grounds of the motel with the coveted Sunshine Cup winners sharing between Brisbane and Sydney!

The Saturday night themed dinner was "LOVE" with everyone putting in a great effort to dress for the occasion. Thanks Bryen and Gaile for organising it.



A bacon and egg roll was on offer for breakfast Sunday before everyone headed for home. Remember: there is an open invitation for any member who would like to attend the weekend or just come for the day to meet other like minded Kiwanis volunteers and have some fun.



The girls having some fun!



Disk Bowls! and the cheer squad!



Breakfast, then fond farewells - till next time.



Projects completed in February 2026:

- Terrific Kids presented at Boolaroo and Teralba Primary Schools.
- We continue to support our Smith Family child.
- Aktion Club first meeting for 2026 was well attended. Stacey is new president!
- Dumpster Diving recycling cans & bottles.
- A shipment of books is due in next week for the Kiwanis Kids Book Box.
- \$4000 was donated through Australia District to assist communities affected by the bushfires.



Upcoming events:

Sunday 22nd March - Special Olympics Bocce competition at Charlestown Bowling Club. **Referees needed please** - if you can help please let Ken know.