



Kiwaniis®

AUSTRALIA DISTRICT

Inc. Reg. No. A0043731 W
www.kiwaniis.org.au

Governor's Newsletter April 2026

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

Signature Projects – These are the other three Signature Projects submitted to the KI competition.

Kiwaniis Warrnambool Forget Me Not Memory Boxes - The primary focus is to support children from 0-18 years and their families. They gift a Memory Box to those who have suffered the loss of a baby sleeping, loss of a sibling or loss of a parent. The boxes are hand painted and feature something they shared with that person eg. a footy team, truck driver or Bluey theme and are used by recipients to keep special items, written messages, photos and other memories in their own special box.

Kiwaniis Geelong Encouragement School Awards Project The program started 26 years to honour the life of a young Country Fire Authority volunteer, Jason Thomas who perished while fighting a bush fire in Victoria. The award is presented yearly to a student from his Alma Mater to assist in further education. This was extended to include 11 other high schools in Geelong. The awards are presented annually to a year 11 student at each school who would benefit from financial assistance and displays academic potential, personal character and good relations with peers. The awards include a personal trophy, recognition on a school honour board and a \$400 support grant. The grant is for schoolbooks, uniforms, school materials costs, excursions and school fees.

Kiwaniis Glenelg Partnering with the Brighton Jetty Sculptures Event They raise funds to support children experiencing hardship through their service projects. Brighton Jetty Sculptures is the primary partner and Kiwanis Glenelg helps with the setup, mans the entry gate and assist dismantling at the end of the event. The event includes a showcase of over 230 stunning indoor sculptures on display by local artists. It attracts thousands of people each day over a twelve-day period to multiple events in the area.

Remember, having a Signature Project is the first step your club can take to being better known in the community. Your members will find it easier to talk about *What does Kiwanis Do?*

Growth We are trying to build a new club in Cooranbong NSW. If you know anyone in the area then let us know.

Murray Bridge recently added three new members to take them up to 11 members and I am told by President Dennis they are hoping for 2 more new members. Well done! ***Kids need Kiwanis!***

Kiwaniis Australia District Convention Rydges Sydney Central Hotel on Fri 21st to Sun 23rd August 2026. The first guest speaker to sign up is Nathan the Lawnmower Man from Facebook. To date we have 31 registered. Come by train, plane or car and do some sightseeing of Sydney while there. We'd love to see all clubs represented. Register at <https://register.kiwaniissydney.org>

We are also looking for a club or division to run the 2027 District Convention.

Club Officer Elections – Your club elections are due in April/May. I implore each club to appoint a nominations officer to personally approach new candidates to stand for executive and board positions and ask them if they would be willing to stand. Please assure them they will have the support of more experienced members to personally develop.

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

Congratulations to Debra Hynes and Ray Behn who have been elected to Lt. Governors Division 8 and 2 for 2026-27.

Kiwaniis is a global organisation of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.

On Saturday 23rd May Kiwanis Australia will conduct a leadership training day for the new Board for 2026-27 in Adelaide. This will be run by Governor Elect Peter Zander in conjunction with Jan Hyde as Chair of Leadership Development. The next Board meeting will be held on the Sunday morning.

Public Relations We have updated and reprinted the trifold brochures for Kiwanis Australia and each club will receive their copies in May. We are also running a 30 second ad on the digital 9 network advertising Kiwanis for a period of 3 months. We will see what response we get. Look out for the ads.

Amplify I am pleased that 13 from Kiwanis Australia have enrolled for Amplify 2026. Amplify 2026 will launch on 11th May. Think about Amplify as an incentive for younger people to join Kiwanis.

KI Convention Manila – June 24th to 27th, 2026. Kiwanis Australia has 8 people registered to attend.

Thank you,
Steve Hughes – Governor 2025-26
Governor@kiwanis.org.au