

Australian Kiwanian

Official Newsletter of KIWANIS AUSTRALIA DISTRICT www.kiwanis.org.au

September 2026



Kiwanis





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From Governor Steve Hughes

Kids need Kiwanis # Kiwanis needs You!



Our 2025-26 Kiwanis year is just about over. It has been an honour and a pleasure to lead and represent Kiwanis Australia as Governor for the last 12 months. Clubs and members continue to do important work in supporting children, and disadvantaged people in our communities. Cathy and I have particularly enjoyed visiting all the divisions and clubs and seeing the valuable work Kiwanis does.

Our numbers have increased by 9 to 563, however we are seeing the end of year deletions at present. While members do not like to hear the constant message of "growth", if we do not grow, we decrease into an ineffective organisation.

We welcomed 43 new members to Kiwanis during the year. Please ensure we make them feel valued at every opportunity. 11 (36%) of our clubs increased their membership. The two standout clubs are Athelstone and Perth who added 7 new members to take their numbers to 21 each. Make sure your club has developed a plan for membership growth for the next year. Share what we do with people outside of Kiwanis and invite them to join. The valuable work we do can only continue if we continually add new members to help us. Ask your club to induct the new members at your Changeover to make it special.

Kiwanis Sydney and Division 2 clubs held the recent 57th District Convention in central Sydney. We had 80 attendees from 18 Australian clubs and 9 overseas visitors. The feedback from many was that it was an excellent convention with excellent guest speakers and a great venue. Special thanks go to the Organising Committee.

It is pleasing that Kiwanis Barossa will host the 2027 District Convention. I am sure the 60th anniversary of Kiwanis in Australia will be celebrated in style. Kiwanis International President Hope Marks has already committed to attend the event.

Thank you to all who have supported the Nepal Floods Appeal. The District and Clubs have donated over \$13,500 to helping the victims of this catastrophe in a fellow Kiwanis District.

I thank all the members of the Kiwanis Australia Board and the District Chairs who have supported myself and the district through the year. Your help has been invaluable. I congratulate Peter Zander on serving as Governor 2026-27 and we are particularly pleased that 7 out of 9 have served less than 3 years on the Board. Please remember in your clubs to invite new people to your boards, so that we get new ideas and personally develop our membership.

We are looking for a nomination for Governor Elect 2026-27. Being Governor is rewarding and you will receive lots of support. If you would like to learn more about the position then contact myself.

Keep up your truly amazing work in supporting children and others. As society changes, our work is needed more than ever. Step up and volunteer to help in the leadership of a project, of your club, or the District.

Thanks for your support. Yours in service.

Steve

The Trick? Always Ask!

District Secretary, Kavitha sent the following advice for clubs wondering – how did Athelstone manage to grow their membership?



At the **Kiwanis Club of Athelstone**, we've learned that growing membership doesn't always start with "Would you like to join Kiwanis?" Sometimes it simply starts with "**Would you like to help?**"

I've always made a habit of inviting non-members to our activities—whether it's a Bunnings sausage sizzle, a pancake stall, a social event or even supporting a project in Sri Lanka. When our club was struggling, instead of trying to "sell" Kiwanis, I reached out to people and asked them to help us continue the good work we were already doing in the community. To my surprise, around 90% said **yes!**

We made volunteering flexible, particularly for busy parents, strengthened our **Friends of Kiwanis** network and introduced **Junior Volunteer Stars** to recognise and encourage our younger helpers. We also looked beyond our immediate local area for potential members.

Recruitment doesn't have to be boring either! Our "**Speed Stations – Chat & Cheers with Kiwanis**" at a local hotel had potential members moving between tables every five minutes, chatting with experienced Kiwanians and asking questions in a relaxed environment.

Most importantly, once people join, **give them a purpose**. We acknowledge every new member and give everyone, however new, a responsibility and an opportunity to contribute. More than 90% of our Board positions this year are being undertaken by someone new to that particular role.

Methods such as **Two for Two** can certainly help, but my biggest tip is much simpler: **Always ask!** Talk about Kiwanis, invite people along and let them experience what we do. The worst they can say is no—and you might be surprised how often they say yes.

Kids Need Kiwanis... and Kiwanis Needs YOU! Nothing to lose—always ask!

From the Editor

In this edition there's much news of the extremely well-organised and well-attended Sydney Convention. The photos on the front-page show Kiwanis presenting a cheque for \$20,000 to Heart Kids Representatives and also a photo of Rev Bill Crews with Jeff Hudson from Sydney – Rev Crews officially opened the convention and spoke of his journey from research engineer to church minister.



On the inside cover we have Kelli Schuh, Brisbane club president aspiring to be next year's Bunnings mannequin and Sydney club president Angelique presenting a cheque to Kristy-Leah Goymour from Sydney Children's Hospital.

Childrens' First Foundation sent through an excellent summary of what was achieved in 2025/26. Then Around the Clubs on P16 - If you'd like to guarantee a guernsey for your club's project, do email me directly (ak@kiwanis.org.au). Best wishes, Trish.

Kiwanis Australia District Convention in Sydney

August Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd

Congratulations to the Kiwanis Club of Sydney for a well organised, informative convention. The event allowed members from around Australia to meet or reacquaint, discuss business, celebrate achievements and have fun. Sydney did its bit too by providing idyllic weather.

Sincere thanks go to Jeff, Cathy, Angelique and Anthony who were the main organising committee. Thanks go to East Maitland and Beachside for organising the Saturday night fun night and to Brisbane and Newcastle for handling the registration desk and bags.

Inspirational guest speakers and a great venue certainly made the convention.

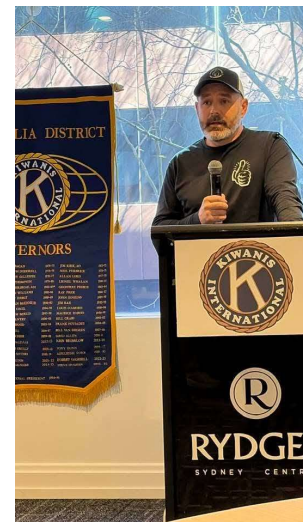
Rev Bill Crews officially opened the convention and spoke of his journey from research engineer to church minister, and of his work assisting homeless and abandoned youth. The Rev. Bill Crews Foundation supports people experiencing hardship with practical help (meals, healthcare, education) that responds to their immediate needs while helping create pathways towards greater stability.

Kristy-Leah Goymour from Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick explained the impact Comfort Care Cases have on families with sick or dying children. The comfort cases are specially curated resource kits to comfort families and preserve memories during paediatric end-of-life care. Developed in partnership with the hospital's palliative care team and funded by the Kiwanis Club of Sydney, the initiative has supported families for over 12 years and are now used for 100% of deaths.

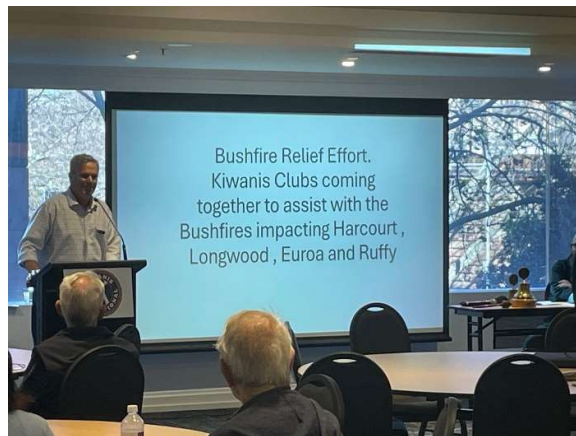


Nathan Stafford, known as the "Lawn Man" [Nathans Lawns and Gardens](#) and who is also a [HeartKids](#) Ambassador, spoke about how HeartKids helped his son during the toughest time in his life. He also gave a raw account of his life from spending time living on the streets as a kid to now as a proud dad of three and the Ambassador for HeartKids. His story was so inspiring and emotional. Nathan has over 15 million followers and his charity efforts have been inspired by his son Benji's open-heart surgery journey.

Paul Johnston from UNICEF talked about the partnerships between Kiwanis and UNICEF on the IDD and Eliminate Projects which continue to this day. In Australia they assist indigenous children by providing birth documentation.



Tim Dawes from Kiwanis Division 7 explained how the money raised for the bushfire relief in Victoria has been used to help affected kids and their families. The clubs did their reconnaissance to identify where Kiwanis could best help. They decided to focus on schools, reducing costs for excursions, providing free tennis lessons for a term, contributing to funding for counselling, billy cart events and other community events. Some \$25,000 has been donated and there is still \$5,000 to be spent. The bushfire relief effort was an excellent example of Kiwanis networking with the local communities to improve the lives of children in the aftermath of a disaster.



Ike Altavas and **Peter Zander** outlined a new initiative, Kiwanis Voices, for 18 to 26 years olds which seeks to transform today's young adults into tomorrow's servant leaders. They outlined what makes generation Z tick, the 10 principles of servant leadership, the importance of building future leaders and an implementation strategy for new Voices Clubs.



Bob Sitters presented on the Kiwanis Children's Fund and outlined some details of the Possibility Project which aims to raise \$25 million in 5 years to fund Kiwanis projects assisting 10 million children. \$12 million has been raised to date.

Presentations of three cheques were given to charities that Kiwanis Australia clubs support. A cheque for \$10,000 was presented to SAHMRI for the continuing research into Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (see photo here). SAHMRI's research is defining the genomic basis of the disease, aiming towards timely therapeutic



intervention that will improve both short and long-term outcomes for patients with this potentially deadly disease. A cheque for \$20,000 was presented to HeartKids for their Primary Years and Teens Transition programs. These monies were donations received from the clubs to the Kiwanis Australia District Charitable Foundation (KADCF) during the year. A cheque of over \$3,000 from Kiwanis Sydney was also presented to the Sydney Children's Hospital Foundation to sponsor the Comfort Care Cases for this year.

Overseas Kiwanians attended our convention to help us celebrate our year and welcome in the new Kiwanis year. We had Ike and Josie Altavas from southern Philippines District (see photo here). Ike is the KI Counsellor to Australia for the coming year. Clinton and Robin Green, Graham and Lois Chick and Bernaud and Danielle Desmarnac all attended from New Zealand South Pacific District and Vipin Grover from the India District.



The formal dinner thanked the retiring Board of Trustees and presented the new Board for 2026-27.

A moving part of the convention was the commemoration of 20 Kiwanians who have passed away in the last 12 months. As each person was remembered in a video, a friend or fellow Kiwanian was asked to come forward to collect a candle and a flower in their memory. We see that similar commemorations have since been held in clubs as delegates returned home.

There were workshops conducted on Child Protection Policy, Kiwanis Engage system, Kiwanis Voices and Successful Club Projects Forum.

Awards celebrated achievements

The Ian Perdriau Premier Club - Perth

Best Bulletin – Barossa Best Bulletin Runner-Up – Glenelg Gum Tree Gossip

Best Secretary – Cathy Hughes, Val Symons and Sue Kimberley

Club for Most New Members – Athelstone and Perth both with 8 adds.

Kooka Awards – for outstanding ingenuity, innovation, membership growth, and promotion

1. Barossa – Emergency Frozen Food Project
2. Newcastle – Charity Christmas Trees as fund raiser
3. Warrnambool – Forget-me-not Memory Boxes
4. Geelong - School Encouragement Scholarships at 11 schools
5. Glenelg – Brighton Jetty Sculptures event as fund raiser

Ruby K award – for Kiwanians who have invited 10 or more new members

Kay Windfield Perth

Kavitha Hapuarachchi Athelstone

ASPAC RISE Project – to encourage clubs to look after the environment – Hills Aktion Club for their Clean up Australia Day Project over 14 years.

“Kruising with Kiwanis on a Hot August Night”

The culmination of the Convention was the fun night organised by East Maitland and Beachside-Newcastle Clubs. Dress-ups, dancing and fun were the order of the night. The photos on the next page captured some of the evening. Come along to next District Convention in Barossa. We promise lots of fun and fellowship.



VALE – Bev Saunders – Manningham

It is with sadness that Kiwanians were advised of the passing of **Bev Saunders** on Wednesday, 26 August 2026.

Bev and her husband, Bryan Saunders, were members of the former Kiwanis Club of Manningham. She is remembered as a lovely lady, a loving wife and a generous supporter of both Kiwanis and her community.

Bev supported Bryan throughout his many Kiwanis roles and warmly welcomed members into their home for activities including progressive dinners. She also accompanied Bryan on Kiwanis visits to New Zealand.

Her generosity extended to the wider community, including participating in activities for aged-care residents and delivering flowers to them in celebration of Mother's Day.

We extend our sincere condolences to family, friends and all who had the privilege of knowing Bev. We are thankful for her life, lived with kindness and generosity.

VALE – Michael MacFarlane

It is with sadness that Kiwanians were advised of the passing of friend and colleague, Past Brighton Club Member Michael MacFarlane on the 13th of August. Michael joined the Kiwanis Club of Brighton on the 13th of February 2006 and remained with the club until it closed on the 30th September 2024. Michael was a regular assistant at BBQ's where he enjoyed being the cook. He was also a long-time editor of Brighton Kiwanis club magazine



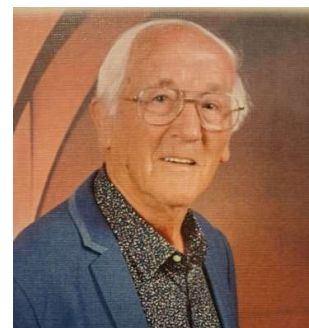
Although Michael resigned from the Brighton Club when it closed, he continued his active Kiwanis Service by supporting the Brighton Busy Beavers Aktion Club in a voluntary capacity up until his passing.

Michael will be missed by the Aktion Club members, especially when the discussion turns to AFL, Michael being an avid supporter of the Adelaide Crows and a regular attendee at their games. To Michael's wife, Ruth and extended family, we extend our sympathy and condolences.

VALE – David Matthews (Reedbeds Kiwanis)

David Alfred Matthews was born April 10, 1932 in Adelaide, where he spent the majority of his 94 years on this planet. He married Joan in 1960 (yes they had 66 years together) and they had three daughters - Tracey (married Michael), Nola and Kirstin.

The Matthews were blessed with 13 grandchildren, and in the great-grandchild category, amassed the amazing total of 16.



Living in the western suburbs, David joined his nearest Kiwanis Club which was Reedbeds and was an active member for just over 30 years, having gained a 30 Year Legion of Honour. Possessing a drole sense of humour, David maintained competent computer skills into his 80s and 90s, and annually he volunteered to arrange the updating and printing of the Reedbeds Club Directory that was handed out to each member in October.

David passed peacefully on Thursday August 27 - his memorial service was at Peter Elberg Funerals in the western suburbs (Adelaide), with many of his past Reedbeds fellow Kiwnians in attendance. Apart from Kiwanis, among the activities keeping him "on the right track" in latter years was a robust interest in railway trains, which had always fascinated him. He was a fairly regular visitor to the Steam Ranger tourist railway which runs 50km south of Adelaide.

Barossa Celebrates 40 years! From David McNabb

On Thursday August 27 Barossa Kiwanis Club in South Australia celebrated a milestone anniversary, when around 80 members, partners, dignitaries and guests gathered at The Vine Inn, Nuriootpa to mark the special occasion of their fortieth anniversary.

The guest list saw Barossa Mayor Mr Michael Bim Lange, local MP and Leader of the Opposition Ms Ashton Hurn, along with four Charter members including initial President David Obst, and early President Mike Nicholls. In fact there were four Charter members present, which was great to see.

Other attendees included three past Governors – Roy Seccafien, David McNabb and Geoff Holmes, who had involvement in the setting up of Barossa Kiwanis. The Club was chartered late July, 1986, the sponsor being Rostrevor-Campbelltown (of which Geoff Holmes is still a member). After an opening address from President Des Schiller, Ashton Hurn gave a well-received talk on the role of service clubs these days, especially in regional centres. A PowerPoint display of Barossa Kiwanians over the years provided a nice backdrop, along with live musical interludes from a young keyboard player, Shane Yeend, a Friend of Kiwanis who helps out at some Barossa events. Another nice touch was individual, named necklaces made by Amanda Fry, that spelt Kiwanis in morse code!



Left Photo: Tom Stone, David McNabb, Robert Van, President Des Schiller



Right Photo: Back row - Mayor Lange, Ms Ashton Hurn, Front row - David Obst on the left and Mike Nicholls on the right.



Left Photo: Robert Nitschke, Barossa Club, with Val & Peter Symons, Glenelg Club



Right Photo: On the left are Lorna and John Adams from Reynella Club

Heart Kids

At a recent Brisbane Club meeting, Mitz Wang, Kiwanis member and HeartKids coordinator for Qld, NSW and ACT, explained the history of the HeartKids-Kiwanis Association and outlined the work done by HeartKids. Some of the Kiwanis old guard may know this and so the summary below is for more recent Kiwanians.



- Kiwanis has been involved with Heart Kids for over 30 years
- It commenced when a Shepperton Kiwanian had a child with a heart condition
- Heart Kids has existed for over 50 years and was started by some Perth mums who had children with heart conditions and realised there was no social network to help mums like themselves.
- HeartKids provides support to help families navigate their journey, including;-
 - Resources, podcasts, information on the HK website
 - Zoom webinars
 - Teen Support Program
 - Helpline
 - Hospital Morning Teas every Thursday which have a HK staff member to listen to families

Mitz explained that only 4 hospitals in Australia have the necessary equipment to do heart surgery on children (Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth). In many instances families have to travel considerable distances causing additional distress.

One of HeartKids major fundraisers – their Two Feet and a HeartBeat walk takes place in October. There are 27 events across Australia. The events typically feature family-friendly activities like a sausage sizzle, face painting, and entertainment. Mitz thanked the Kiwanis Clubs who run the sausage sizzle for some of these events.



Children First Foundation



Jessica Redwood

The global reach of Kiwanis' support

Thanks to the support of donors, including Kiwanis, 154 children received life-changing or life-saving surgery during the 2025-2026 financial year!

Because of you, 154 children can now dream of a better future. That's a 64% increase in children receiving life-changing surgical care compared to last year. Your compassion has helped children smile brighter, move more freely and live with greater confidence. Thank you.

Children like Jelome from PNG, who returned home after six months in Australia receiving life-saving care. Following multiple surgeries, including cleft lip repair, he spoke his first word, "Mama", a moment made possible by your support.

Because of you, Khon in Vietnam can now walk, ride a bike and travel to school with confidence, while Daniel in Samoa has been given the chance to grow up healthy alongside his twin brother.

Your generosity is creating lasting change beyond individual children. By strengthening local surgical services, skills and medical teams, you're helping ensure more children can access safe, quality care in their own countries for generations to come.

The impact extends far beyond the operating theatre. Through partnerships with Tupua Tamasese Meaole Hospital in Apia, the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS), and local healthcare teams, volunteer surgeons, anaesthetists and nurses from Australia and New Zealand delivered mentoring and training to local healthcare teams alongside surgical care. By strengthening local surgical capacity, the project is helping create a future where more Samoan children can access quality paediatric surgery close to home, surrounded by the people who love them most.



In partnership with Kiwanis, RACS and Tupua Tamasese Meaole Hospital, the Today Tomorrow Project has supported more than 20 children each year since 2024 and is helping create lasting improvements in local surgical care.

I want to extend a big thank you to the following clubs that have supported this particular project in Samoa: The Kiwanis Club of Maroopna, The Kiwanis Club of Brighton Bayside (two kind, anonymous members), Kiwanis Online, The Kiwanis Club of Moorabbin, The Kiwanis Club of Brisbane and The Kiwanis Club of Barossa.

Contact me directly at jessica@childrenfirstfoundation.org.au, if you would like more information on how you and your club can help children's save lives in Samoa in the future.

The children receiving care in Australia this year so



Jelome & his
mum Lily



Lilyrose & her
mum Janeth



Dung & her
mum Lan



Zenilda



Lengkon & his
mum Joana



Lily

We have had eight children travel to Australia for care so far in 2026, with Amizia from Timor-Leste being our latest arrival in Brisbane.

In South Australia, Jelome and his mum Lily from PNG stayed for six months whilst two-year-old Jelome underwent four different surgical procedures.

Also in South Australia, Lilyrose from Vanuatu shared her bright smile as she had a growth removed from the base of her neck; as well as Dung from Vietnam born with Crouzon syndrome, who came on a second care trip to Australia with her mum Lan from Vietnam.

We had Zenilda return to Sydney, for an annual check up after she received surgery on her severe scoliosis back in 2023.

And lastly, in Melbourne, we've had the pleasure of caring for two children from Vanuatu with orthotics and prosthetics needs: Lengkon and Lily. Also from Vanuatu, Yannick travelled for assessment to build a surgical plan after suffering severe burns as an infant.

Special thanks to Kiwanis Australia District Charitable Foundation for their ongoing support of children from developing countries coming to Australia for life-changing surgical care, including these eight wonderful children mentioned above.

Jessica Redwood
Chief Executive Officer - Children First Foundation



NewCastle Aktion members met for dinner in late August and prepared Father's Day Cards. The cards were then delivered to two aged care homes. Several of the Dads in the homes remembered the members from last year which was lovely.



The **Brighton Busy Beavers Aktion Club** President, Helen Byrne reports that members were saddened at the passing of club supporter and past Kiwanian Michael MacFarlane. Michael was a long-time supporter of the Aktion Club when it was sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Brighton and more recently by the Kiwanis Club of Glenelg.

In November the club will celebrate its thirty second anniversary.

The Brighton Busy Beavers Aktion Club have been doing several successful projects for many years. These include support of Fred's Van (feeding the homeless) with donations of non-perishable cans of food and individual hygiene items. Other projects include the collection of used stamps (donated to the Blind Welfare Mission), collection of old spectacles (donated to the Lions for repair and recycling) then distributed to people in need of glasses.

The club members are keen on recycling and collect deposit paid cans and bottle that are cashed in as a regular club fund raiser. We also run an annual Easter Raffle.

AROUND the CLUBS & starting with the Expanding Faster Than a Rate of Knots Clubs of Perth and Athelstone

Perth: Recent events include Bring-up-Grade awards at the Redcliffe Primary School Assembly. The club reported It was a special day as the year 2's who partake in Kiwanis Perth's reading Club were the star attraction of the assembly. *Of note,* Perth was awarded 3rd place in the ASPAC Stories video competition run across the Asia Pacific clubs. The club had a Games night in September and another planned for early October to raise funds and Perth will run the sausage sizzle for Heart Kid's Two Feet & A Heartbeat walk.

Athelstone: Just look at this photo below, forwarded by David McNabb, at Athelstone's handover dinner. Looks like it's standing room only at Athelstone club meetings! Unsurprisingly, their recent handover event in mid-September included the induction of several new club members!



Kiwanis is Where A Need Is Served

Next a focus on the Environment – Rostrevor Campbelltown, Hills Aktion Club, Brisbane & Shepparton Sunrisers

The efforts of **Hills Aktion Club** were recognised earlier in the year at the Kiwanis Asia-Pacific Convention in the Philippines, winning this year's best Aktion Club award. For the last 25 years the Hills Aktion Club has taken part in Clean Up Australia Day. Once the shelving is in place, the trophy will be displayed in the Kiwanis Book Shop at Mount Barker and so hopefully a photo in the next AK.

National Tree Planting Day is July 26th and Rostrevor Campbelltown Kiwanis club provided the catering for this event at Athelstone Recreational Reserve. Planet Ark's National Tree Day started in 1996 and has grown into Australia's largest community tree planting and nature care event. The event is held annually on the last Sunday in July. The Athelstone event was well attended this year and all food was consumed. In fact, the sausages ran out; however, no-one went hungry with Veggie Patties coming to the rescue. Some photos below.



And if the editor can add a comment - many decades ago, I worked in Adelaide, looking at the soil bacteria and fungi that help Australian trees grow, as you do. So, reading about Rostrevor Campbelltown's efforts was not only of great interest but brought back many Adelaide memories.

Brisbane Club assisted at a tree planting event organised by Wolston and Centenary Catchments – a local not for profit organisation working to regenerate local bushland. The event was on a smaller scale than the one Rostrevor Campbelltown took part in – Brisbane Kiwanians sold just 80 sausages! But the event went well thanks to the organising skills of Graham & Marie Simpson.

Shepparton Sunrisers sponsors and maintains the [Sprout Garden](#) at KidsTown Adventure Playground, an edible and sensory garden located near Mooroopna, Victoria. The garden features fruits, vegetables and herbs that you might not see every day.

Foodie Projects - ASPAC awarded Barossa Club a Special Appreciation Award for their Emergency Frozen Meals Project.



The club gave away over 1,000 meals during July and recently announced that the 20,000th meal had been delivered. Four of the project's wonderful chefs – Geoff, Lyn, Lorna and Lou - are pictured above with staff from Lutheran care who have helped in various ways, especially by delivering meals to those who need them.

And some local Community Work

Rostrevor Campbelltown Kiwanis Club spent 2 busy days in August catering for the SA Miniatures and Doll Houses Festival. Many mugs of soup, toasties, scones and cakes were served with cups of tea and coffee to follow! it is a good fundraiser for the club.



Kiwanis Club of Reynella held a family fun day on Sep 20th. This year and next they will direct all of their fundraising efforts toward childhood brain cancer research.

Mooroopna has been very active in the community. They continue to run regular BBQs at the Mooroopna market to raise funds. The club assisted Rotary setup for the 'Biggest Blokes Lunch' at the Macintosh Centre, Shepparton (1500 blokes attended – see photo below) that raised money for men's health. Financial support was provided to the Gowrie St School Deaf Facility towards the hire of a

bus to take students to Deaf Sports in Melbourne. The club very generously donated \$2000 to the Nepal Flood Appeal.



At **Echuca-Moama**, Kiwanis ran the BBQ at 208 Echuca Primary School's Father's Day celebrations. Echuca primary school is known as 208 Echuca Primary as 208 is its official historical registration number given as one of the earliest state public schools in Victoria, opening in 1858. Local families affectionately refer to it simply as "208" to distinguish it from other regional schools like Echuca East Primary. The club also recently presented Terrific Kids Awards at Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist school. **Bendigo** ran a Monster Meat Raffle, raising funds for underprivileged children in the Greater Bendigo area.



Shepparton Sunrisers presented Terrific Kids Awards at Banmira Specialist School. The club, along with Mooroopna and Echuca, provided financial support for Year 9 students from Euroa Secondary College to visit to the Euroa Community Cinema. The thankyou letter from school principal, Anna Eddy, stated, " *While the excursion complemented our Year 9 English curriculum through the viewing of Lion, it also provided something far more valuable—a shared experience that helped students reconnect with one another, strengthen their connection to school and enjoy a positive day together outside the classroom. Our sincere thanks to all members of the combined Kiwanis Clubs for making this experience possible. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and has made a genuine difference to the lives of our students.*"

Brisbane – In addition to local school support, local charity support, book box restocking and BBQ fundraising, three members, Ray, Kelli and Trish all completed the Kiwanis Amplify program.

And finally, a different perspective for anyone concerned about getting older!

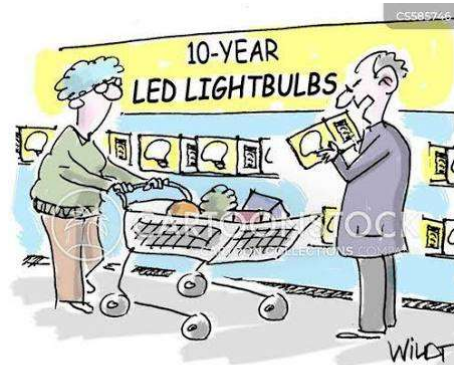
Benefits of aging include;-

- Kidnappers are not very interested in you.
- In a hostage situation, you are likely to be released first.
- No one expects you to run—anywhere.
- Your eyes won't get too much worse.
- Things that you buy now won't wear out.
- You are no longer viewed as a hypochondriac.
- You can eat dinner at 4.30 pm and no-one questions it.
- People call you at 8 p.m. and ask, "Did I wake you?"
- Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them anyway.



And to conclude;-

- How many retirees does it take to change a light bulb? One, but it will take all day.
- Where can single men over 65 find younger women who are interested in them? In the bookstore under "Fiction".
- My grandfather told me when he was a boy he could walk into a grocery store with two dollars in his pocket and walk out with a loaf of bread, a dozen eggs and a small butter. But these days, too many damn cameras!
- What do you call someone who enjoys Mondays? Retired.
- You know you are old when you hear your favourite songs in an elevator.



"You know your old when you wonder if you'll ever need to buy lightbulbs again."