



SIGNPOST

Volume 67, No. 31 12 February 2026

We meet Thursdays at 6pm for 6.30pm at the Lakeview Hotel, McRae Street (TBC weekly)



www.bendigosouthrotary.org.au

www.twitter.com/RotaryBendigoS

Rotary Club of Bendigo South
PO Box 346, Bendigo, VIC 3552

Email: secretary@bendigosouthrotary.org.au

Lindsay's notes

What an active night we had at our Valentine & Intercultural Night Dinner Dance. Cora kept the momentum going from the start as she revved up master of ceremony Gary. We were welcomed by SueMadi with her Balinese welcome dance. DG Peter Shephard gave a brief presentation on what Rotary is, followed by a Filipino cultural dance. The DJ kept many of the 107 guests on their feet. Rotarian and partners made up about thirty guests with the rest from as far away as Sunbury and Pt Cook. We were well supported by RC of Bendigo President Noel Holey and Helen and their fellow members and partners, with a visitor from the Melbourne E Rotary Club. Bendigo Councillor Shivali Chatley was able to join us for part of the night. You cannot hold Wayne Smith down when it comes to dancing. Thank you to all. It was interesting to see how the raffle was broken into three sets of draws to ensure a fair availability of prizes across the night. You had to be present to win in the last round. Probably because they are well trained raffle ticket buyers, Rotarians featured strongly in raffle wins. It was surprising how the King and Queen contestants varied in their dance presentations. Tony's Egyptian fez failed to give him the advantage. The paper dance was a test of stamina for the two winning couples, with Matthew Scott and Amanda tying for the win with the other couple. Well done Cora. You have raised the bar on Rotary functions.

Our meeting at The Foundry Hotel went well. Good food and well supported audio visual for our Zoom connection to Mick Cassey, Events Manager for the National Science and Engineering Challenge, a nationwide STEM outreach program run by the University of Newcastle. Mick had an interesting incorporation of the principles of the Four Way Test in his presentation on the development of the National Science and Engineering Challenge. Our Club has now been a contributor for twenty years. It was good for all of us to be reminded of what the Four Way Test conveys.

Congratulations to Rod and Gill on celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary on Valentines Day.

Tony informed our meeting of the arrangements for George Dawson's funeral this Tuesday 17 February. It will be held at 12:00pm at St Mary's Church, 195 High Street, Kangaroo Flat.

I have formed a strategy development group to begin the process for developing our next Club Strategic Plan – our current Strategic Plan ends after 2025-26. The group comprises Paul S., Merlyn, Bernie and me. Keep an eye on your emails this week to start the discussion on Vision and Goals.

Next week, we are back at the Lakeview Hotel to hear from Brian Westley, Director of Presentation & Assets with the City of Greater Bendigo.

Lindsay Jolley

Photos from Valentine & Intercultural Night Dinner Dance



District Governor Peter Shephard



SueMadi with her Balinese welcome dance. Disy Romeo from Sunbury Victoria, Queen of Valentine's Day



Kozzi & Nica from Kyneton, most romantic couple. Lindsay Jolley & Helena (Nena) Romero Herrera



Bendigo Councillor Shivali Chatley, also representing the Bendigo Indian Community, and DG Peter Shephard





Trevor Hawking and Sue Duncan. Elizabeth Bell and Jock Catto

BBQ catering

The Club conducted two BBQs during the week as part of the Bendigo TAFE Welcome And Orientation Week for 2026. - one at the City Campus and the other at the Trade School Campus.

Bendigo TAFE has increased enrollments for 2026 and an expanded course program. Both days were very enjoyable mixing with staff and students.



Guest Speaker for next week

Brian Westley COGB

As Director of Presentation & Assets (P&A) at the City of Greater Bendigo, Brian is responsible for driving the City’s long-term goals, developing high-performing teams, and aligning the City’s objectives with operational execution.

The P&A Directorate includes the City’s Engineering, Resource Recovery & Education, Property Services, Parks & Open Space, Works and Major Project & Portfolio Management teams, with a focus on delivering a clean, well presented, functioning municipality.

Brian’s personal history includes working in State Government for 17 years, six of which were in various executive leadership positions.

Brian has led a variety of functions including policy, operations, business support, community engagement, statutory planning, business case development, strategic land use planning and emergency management.



Room for rent – Student

A colleague of Matthew Scott is looking for a room for rent for her daughter who is starting study at Latrobe. Anyone who might be able to assist please contact Matthew Scott.

Annie North Gardening Roster.

First Tuesday of each month: Gary, Greg, Tony and Heather (when available)
Third Tuesday of the month: Paul Sherwood, Trevor, Paul Gibbons and Merlyn (when available)
Time: 9 am to 11.30 am, starting on February 3

Any other members who would like to join us please contact Tony as one or two more would be greatly appreciated.

Email from Noel Hobley, Rotary Club of Bendigo

Good evening fellow Rotarians, as noted last November the visit of special guest speaker, Gemma Sisia from the School of St Just Tanzania, will happen on Tuesday, February 17 as an Evening Meeting 6 for 6.30 pm start.

SPECIAL EVENT SPEAKER
Gemma Sisia
 FROM



Gemma Sisia founded The School of St Jude in Tanzania in 2002 - with 1800 free educational scholarships providing quality primary, secondary and tertiary education.
 Gemma is a regular speaker in her fight against poverty and will visit Bendigo with class of 2020 graduate Faith Samwel and staff member Johnson.

One night only on
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17
 6.00 for 6.30 pm at the

BENDIGO CLUB
 22 Park St, Strathdale, Vic 3550

ROTARY CLUB OF BENDIGO
 FREE ENTRY - MEALS AND BAR AVAILABLE
 Please RSVP by Feb. 10 to Dianne Petrie at piniarra@internode.on.net



400+ students supported in tertiary education each year
98% of our former graduates go onto tertiary education
97 cents of every \$1 donated directly supports the school

JOIN US IN THE FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY

Please see a poster attached for inclusion in your Newsletter or, as Rochester are doing, organise your weekly meeting at the Bendigo Club on the night.

Would be great to see you for a catchup on the night. Please note we need RSVP's by February 10 to organise numbers.

Regards, Noel Hobley
 Rotary Club of Bendigo.



The RC of **Bendigo Sandhurst** and the RC of **Bendigo South** extend an invitation to members and partners to join in a social evening of fun lawn bowls (No experience necessary) and fellowship.

What: Social bowls followed by a pizza supper

When: Tuesday Feb. 24th @ 6pm

Where: Strathfieldsaye Bowls Club, Club Crt. Strathfieldsaye

What do you need:

- Please wear flat soled shoes or bare feet.
- \$24 (bowls & pizza) per person with drinks available at bar prices.
- **Please bring payment in cash on the night (correct money appreciated)**
- Please advise dietary requirements with RSVP.

RSVP: By Thursday 19th February 2026

to Stan Hendy (Bgo Sandhurst).

Email: hendys@outlook.com.au

Text: 0490 026 841

to Trevor Hawking (Bgo South)

Email: hawkingtrevor@gmail.com

Text: 0428 066 838

9800 Rotary District Conference MARCH 27-29



**THE MULTI DISTRICT
IMPACT SUMMIT.**

HORSHAM TOWN HALL, VICTORIA. 27TH – 29TH MARCH 2026.

**DON'T MISS THIS YEAR'S
EXCITING DISTRICT CONFERENCE**

CONNECT with other Rotarians from across Australia.

SHARE stories of positive social impact, locally and across the world.

LEARN how to enhance your Rotary experience, improve your club and serve your community.

- Inspiring keynote speakers.
- Breakout sessions.
- Hands-on projects.
- Spectacular entertainment.
- Stunning facilities.
- Showcase.
- Gala dinner and events.
- Set in beautiful Horsham.



REGISTER NOW <https://events.humanitix.com/multi-district-summit-2026>

www.rotaryimpactsummit.org

If you are intending to attend the Convention in Horsham, please go to the provided website to organize your booking.

<https://events.humanitix.com/multi-district-summit-2026>

**Home hosts are needed for the next group of visiting Malaysia Special Education teachers:
Friday 8 May – Saturday 6 June 2026**

Our Rotary Clubs ensured that the 2024 training program for eight visiting Malaysian Special Education teachers was a great success. The Malaysian education agency recognised the value of the visit and subsequently welcomed our two local teachers, who subsequently visited Malaysia for two weeks in early 2025 to pass on their skills and experience.

We can now continue the program with a visit by another eight teachers in 2026. It is planned that four of the teachers spend four weeks in the Bendigo special schools and the other four spend their time in Echuca. The costing details are still being determined, after which the financial support of Clubs will be sought. Our Malaysian Rotary partners, in conjunction with us, are preparing a global grant application for the program. Nevertheless, I need to start planning for home hosts now.

It is planned that the teachers arrive in Bendigo on Friday 8 May and leave Bendigo on Saturday 6 June 2026. Please let me know if you can home host one or more of the teachers during part of that time and for how long. Each of the Bendigo-based teachers will be located at either the

Bendigo Special Developmental School or at Kalianna School for their full four weeks. They will need to be transported to and from their school.

I can be contacted by phone (0416 192 032) or email (lj@joll.net).

Lindsay Jolley

BBQ Volunteer Bookings.

Sunday March 1 st	Bendigo Jockey Club Golf Day Lunch Bendigo Golf Club	11am – 2 pm 3 Volunteers required
Saturday March 7 th & Sunday March 8 th	Bendigo 1,000 Athletics Tom Flood Sports Centre	Saturday 4 pm – 8 pm 4 Volunteers Sunday 12pm – 4 pm 4 Volunteers
Saturday March 14 th	Keiser Bendigo Open Day	9am – 1 pm 3 Volunteers
Tuesday March 17 th	Latrobe Uni	11am – 2 pm 4 Volunteers
Friday March 20 th	COGB Breakfast Adam Street Depot	7am – 9am 6 Volunteers
Friday April 3 rd	Good Friday BBQ Pall Mall Market	8am – 3 pm ; 2 Shifts 6 Volunteers Per Shift
Sunday May 10 th	Mother’s Day Classic Breakfast	8am – 11 am 4 Volunteers
Saturday 1 st & Sunday 2 nd August	Bendigo Dog Club Catering Bendigo Showgrounds	TBC
Friday November 20 th	Latrobe Uni	11am – 1 pm 4 Volunteers
Monday December 7 th	CFMEU Christmas BBQ Bendigo Jockey Club	9am – 3 pm

Please contact Volunteer Coordinator George Ellis if you can assist.

Email: george_ellis55@outlook.com

Mobile: 0438353414

Meeting Date	Speakers	Chairperson	Meet & Greet	Venue
FEBRUARY THEME: PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT PREVENTION MONTH				

Thurs 19 Feb	Brian Westley, COGB Director Presentation & Assets Board Meeting	Tony Plant	Mark T (TBC) & Paul S	Lake View Hotel
Tues 24 Feb	Strathfieldsaye/Strathdale Bowls competition (TBC) See Signpost for details	Please call Trevor to book		
Thurs 5 Mar	East Loddon teachers & students before they head off to Turkey	TBA		Lake View Hotel
Thurs 12 Mar	Barry Clay Bendigo Citizen of the Year	TBA		Lake View Hotel
Thurs 19 Mar	Vocational Visit to Central Deborah Mine See Signpost for details	Organiser Rod		
Thurs 26 Mar	Margaret Keech – OAM Dragon Boat Story			Lake View Hotel
Mar 27-29 Horsham	Multi District Impact Summit	See advertisement above		





FEBRUARY IS

PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT PREVENTION MONTH

Rotary 
District 9800

"Imagine all the people living life in peace..."
John Lennon

THE FOUR WAY TEST

Is it the TRUTH
Is it FAIR to all concerned?
Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned

THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST.

The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND.

High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD.

The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH.

The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

WHO'S WHO?

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT	Francesco Arezzo
DISTRICT 9800 GOVERNOR	Peter Shephard
DISTRICT 9800 NC VIC COMMUNITY LEADER	Alison Bacon

CLUB PRESIDENT	Lindsay Jolley
SECRETARY	Bernie Young
TREASURER & IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Peter Kilpatrick
COMMUNITY SERVICE DIRECTOR & PRESIDENT ELECT	Cora Fuentes-Mahnic
YOUTH SERVICES DIRECTOR	Jan Pagliaro
INTERNATIONAL SERVICE DIRECTOR	Heather Nixon
MEMBERSHIP, COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING DIRECTOR	Tony Plant
CLUB SERVICE DIRECTOR	Sue Duncan
FUND-RAISING and MAJOR PROJECTS DIRECTOR	Gary Pinner
VOCATIONS DIRECTOR	Rod Spitty
CLUB PROTECTION OFFICER	Geoff McKinna
FOUNDATION OFFICER	Anne Peace
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Shireen Yeoh

D9800 Goldfields Cluster Club Meeting Times

RC KANGAROO FLAT: Monday 6pm, Rotary Gateway Park, 22A High Street, Kangaroo Flat
Secretary - Geoff Wakefield: 0407 561 997

RC BENDIGO: Tuesday 12:45pm, Bendigo Club, Park Street, Kennington
Secretary: Daniela Ionescu – d.ionescu@latrobe.edu.au

RC ECHUCA MOAMA: 1st, 2nd and 3rd Tuesdays of month - 6 for 6:30pm,
Rotary Park Clubrooms, Rose Street, Echuca

RC BENDIGO SANDHURST: Wednesday 7am for 7.30am start,
Peppergreen Farm, 40 Thunder Street, North Bendigo
Secretary: Paul Henderson – 0428 177 314

RC ROCHESTER 2nd & 4th Thursday at 6.30pm at the heritage courthouse,
community chat is on the 3rd Thursday at 8am at Rochester Hotel

RC EAGLEHAWK: Wednesday 6pm,
Mechanics Institute Hall, 8/12 School Street, California Gully
Contact 0428 468 298

RC CASTLEMAINE: Wednesday 6:30pm, The Cumberland Hotel
Secretary - Lyndal McClure: 0438 391 160

INNER WHEEL CLUB of BENDIGO: 11.15am, 2nd Tuesday of the month,
Mechanics Institute Hall, 8/12 School Street, California Gully
Bernadette: 0407051722