



# SIGNPOST

Volume 67, No. 34 05 March 2026

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



[www.bendigosouthrotary.org.au](http://www.bendigosouthrotary.org.au)

[www.twitter.com/RotaryBendigoS](https://www.twitter.com/RotaryBendigoS)

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

Email: [secretary@bendigosouthrotary.org.au](mailto:secretary@bendigosouthrotary.org.au)

## Lindsay's notes

What a full-on meeting we had last week. First a large attendance by students, teachers and parents from East Loddon P-12 College to give a presentation on the College's up-coming visit to Türkiye (Turkey). They raised over \$30,000 for nine students for the trip, including with host families. Six of the students came to our meeting, with Keira Tuohey and Hudson Heath presenting an interesting overview of their visit. We also got an overview on both this and the previous successful visit from teacher Scott Wilkinson. Scott emphasised the great opportunity that the visit gave to students to become aware that there is a much more diverse world out there. One of the teachers leading the visit Nakeya Mountjoy was a previous student participant in the first visit. She was joined at our meeting by teacher and joint trip leader Harrison Bennewith. Students who have attended our meetings in the past have always had great support from college staff, again repeated with Acting Principal Harry Symons joining us on the night. Chair Tony capped off the presentation by announcing that we had transferred \$1,000 to the College in the last few days to assist the trip. This was in recognition of the work provided by the students and parent at our Australia Day BBQ. We had previously provided \$700 for assistance at the Swap Meet BBQ.

We had visiting Rotarian Geoff Adcock from the RC of Eaglehawk experience this as well as the start of our Strategy Plan discussion which followed the meal. Seventeen Members stayed until just after 9:00pm to thrash out our Strategic Plan for the next three years. We got there and now have a proposed plan to present to the Board for consideration and ratification. Thanks to Paul S. and Bernie for recording on the night and to the strategic plan committee, including Merlyn, for getting us to this point.

Trevor has quickly organised with the RC of Bendigo Sandhurst another bowls night at the Strathfieldsaye Bowls Club to replace that washed out on 24 February. It will be this **Tuesday 10 March**. The same requirements apply as before – have the exact \$24 in cash and wear flat sole shoes. Please get back to Trevor urgently to let him know if you will be there.

This week, Barry Clay, Bendigo Citizen of the Year, will be speaking.

Lindsay Jolley



*Chairperson, Tony Plant*





*Students and Teachers from East Loddon P-12 College*



*Club Strategic Plan discussion*

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**Next Guest Speaker :**  
**Mr Barry Clay, Bendigo Citizen of the Year -**

Barry has been a central contributor to the Bagshot community for more than 50 years, including documenting the district's history through two books and playing a key role in maintaining Bagshot Hall, the community's main gathering place.

As secretary of the Bagshot Hall Committee since 1975, he has overseen its upkeep, improvements and day to day operations, including bookings, financial management, grant applications and maintenance of the hall and surrounding grounds.

Barry has also served on the Bagshot Recreation Committee since 1973, including 36 years as secretary, supporting the ongoing care and use of the recreation reserve. His involvement has extended to organising fundraising events and ensuring both facilities remain well managed and accessible to the local and Greater Bendigo communities.

Beyond Bagshot, Barry has contributed to a wide range of community organisations. He was a founding treasurer and member of the Huntly Epsom Lions Club, treasurer of the Goornong Neighbourhood Watch for 19 years, and a member of the Bendigo Agricultural Show Society for 15 years.

He has also volunteered with the St John of God Hospital consumer advisory group, Bendigo Prostate Support Group, Bendigo Northern District Community Enterprise and the Huntly Fire Brigade.



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### **Knitting Project bailing at the Harrison Farm Derby.**

Please see the photos from the most recent wool baling working bee held at Digby through Tony's contact. Representatives from our club , Bendigo and Eaglehawk were involved. The wooden knitted products will be sent to Dili for distribution via a container .

Paul Gibbons





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**CENTRAL DEBORAH GOLD MINE TOUR**

**THURSDAY 19th MARCH**

*"Join us for a guided tour of the surface of Central Deborah Gold Mine. Dominated by a huge 22 metre high poppet head, you'll learn about the original buildings and machinery which were essential to the operation of Central Deborah Gold Mine, including the Blacksmith's Shop, Carbide Lamp Room, Engine Room and Gold Treatment Area".*

Sarah-Jane Fawcett  
Tourism & Marketing Support Officer  
tours@bendigoheritage.com.au  
www.bendigoheritage.com.au  
76 Violet Street, Bendigo VIC, 3550

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**Partner's night**

**COST** - \$20 for Pizza (prepared by Gold Mine Caterer) and a soft drink.

**TIME** - Meet at Central Deborah Gold mine at 5.30pm sharp for 5.30 - 6.45pm surface tour followed by Presentation and Pizza dinner in the Panning shed from 6.45 - 7.30

**RSVP** - to Rod Spitty by Friday 13th March at 12pm by email or text.

**PAYMENT TO CLUB ACCOUNT** BSB 633 000 Account no. 103 497 236 - Name and Reference - mine tour



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# 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.rotaryimpacts Summit.org](http://www.rotaryimpacts Summit.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>**









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## Study Tour to Timor Leste

### THE TOUR



**FEATURES**

-  Led by experienced BMFC guides from **Bendigo** with 15+ visits to Maubisse.
-  In-country English speaking driver/guides from **Timor Indigenous Tours**.
-  Meet with BMFC partners in Dili and Maubisse.
-  Travel in air-conditioned 4WD vehicles with experienced drivers.
-  Enjoy twin-share accommodation in a mix of hotels and guest houses.
-  All-Inclusive meals & bottled water, and entrance fees.
-  Intimate group size ensures a personal and enriching experience.
-  100% of profits from the tour support the Nurse Educator at Maubisse Referral Hospital.


### MAUBISSE

Nestled in the highlands of Timor-Leste, Maubisse is a vibrant town known for its breath taking landscapes, coffee plantations, and warm hospitality.

At 1,300m above sea level, it offers a cool, scenic retreat from Dili, where visitors experience both history and cultural traditions.

### BMFC 20TH ANNIVERSARY STUDY TOUR

13-20 OCTOBER 2025



2006  
20  
2026

A UNIQUE CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

## BOOK NOW

PLACES LIMITED. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT A TOUR LEADER:



**Deborah Blake (above)**  
mobile: 0417 365 672

**Jennifer Feiss (below)**  
mobile: 0400 615 307

**Email:** bendigomaubissefriends@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.bmfc.org.au



- 8 days
- 7 nights

13th – 20th  
October 2025

- Dili
- Maubisse
- Balibo

## DISCOVER, CONNECT, SUPPORT

Embark on an unforgettable journey through Timor-Leste as part of the Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee's 20th Anniversary Study Tour.

This immersive experience offers an opportunity to engage deeply with local communities, visit significant sites, and witness firsthand the work of BMFC partnerships.

## PRICING & BOOKING

Tour Cost: \$3,650 (twin-share)  
Single Room Upgrade: +\$650  
Flights not included  
• 30% deposit due by 1st May  
• Full payment required by 1st August, 2025.



## EXPERTISE & COMMITMENT

### 20 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP

BMFC has spent 20 years fostering deep, lasting partnerships between the communities of Bendigo and Maubisse. Since 2006, we have worked in education, health, arts, and economic development, supporting locally-led initiatives.

### TIMOR INDIGENOUS TOURS

Timor Indigenous Tours is a community-focused tour company dedicated to preserving Timor-Leste's cultural and natural heritage while ensuring local guides benefit from sustainable tourism.

### WHO MAY BE INTERESTED?

- BMFC members & supporters
- Education sponsors
- Anyone passionate about deepening their engagement with Timor-Leste

ALL IMAGES BMFC 2025

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## What some of us did this weekend



*Sue and Trevor at harcourt Apple Festival*



*Attended a musical concert - Songs at the Silos, Rochester  
Tony Plant and Shireen Yeoh were there*



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**BBQ Volunteer Bookings.**

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup> &amp;<br/>Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup></p> | <p>Bendigo 1,000 Athletics<br/>Tom Flood Sports Centre</p> | <p>Saturday 4 pm – 8 pm<br/>4 Volunteers<br/><br/>Sunday 12pm – 4 pm<br/>4 Volunteers</p> |
|--|--|---|

|                                  |   |   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March    | La Trobe Uni Summer in Parks Film Night<br>(The Lost Tiger)<br>Edwards Road Campus        | 4.30 – 8 pm<br>3 Volunteers                     |
| Saturday March 14 <sup>th</sup>  | Keiser Bendigo Open Day<br>Williamson Street  | 9am – 1 pm<br>3 Volunteers                      |
| Tuesday March 17 <sup>th</sup>   | La Trobe Uni Student Asso<br>Sustainability Fair<br>Edwards Road Campus<br>Gallery Plaza  | 11am – 2 pm<br>4 Volunteers                     |
| Friday March 20 <sup>th</sup>    | COGB Breakfast<br>Adam Street Depot   | 7am – 9am<br>6 Volunteers                       |
| Friday April 3 <sup>rd</sup>     | Good Friday BBQ<br>Pall Mall Market   | 8am – 3 pm ; 2 Shifts<br>6 Volunteers Per Shift |
| Saturday April 4 <sup>th</sup>   | Awakening of Dragon   | Women of Note Volunteers                        |
| Sunday April 5 <sup>th</sup>     | Bendigo Chinese Assc<br>Pre Procession BBQ<br>Bridge Street                               | 9 am – 1pm<br>6 Volunteers                      |
| Sunday April 19 <sup>th</sup>    | Bendigo Strikers Netball<br>BBQ 11.30- 4 pm<br>Car Parking 11.30 – 4 pm<br>CMC Junortoun  | BBQ 3 Volunteers<br>Car Parking 6 Volunteers    |
| Sunday May 10 <sup>th</sup>      | Mother's Day Classic<br>Breakfast<br>Canterbury Park Eaglehawk                            | 8am – 11 am<br>4 Volunteers                     |
| Sunday June 28 <sup>th</sup>     | Bendigo Strikers Netball<br>BBQ 11.30 – 4 pm<br>Car Parking 11.30 – 4 pm<br>CMC Junortoun | BBQ 3 Volunteers<br>Car Parking 6 Volunteers    |
| Sunday July 12 <sup>th</sup>     | Bendigo Strikers Netball<br>BBQ 11.30 – 4 pm<br>Car Parking 11.30 – 4 pm<br>CMC Junortoun | BBQ 3 Volunteers<br>Car Parking 6 Volunteers    |
| Sunday August 23 <sup>rd</sup>   | La Trobe Uni Open Day<br>Edwards Road Plaza   | 8am – 1 pm<br>6 Volunteers                      |
| Sunday August 23 <sup>rd</sup>   | RMIT Flight School BBQ<br>Bendigo Airport   | 10am – 2 pm<br>3 Volunteers                     |
| Friday November 20 <sup>th</sup> | La Trobe Uni  | 11am – 1 pm<br>4 Volunteers                     |
| Sunday November 29 <sup>th</sup> | Mandurang Christmas<br>Market BBQ   | 9am – 3pm<br>2 Shifts                           |
| Monday December 7 <sup>th</sup>  | CFMEU Christmas BBQ<br>Bendigo Jockey Club  | 9am – 3 pm                                      |

Please contact Volunteer Coordinator George Ellis if you can assist.

Email: [george\\_ellis55@outlook.com](mailto:george_ellis55@outlook.com)


Mobile: 0438353414

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| Meeting Date   | Speakers   | Chairperson             | Meet & Greet    | Venue           |
|--|--|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>MARCH THEME: WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE MONTH</b> |  |                         |                 |                 |
| <b>Tues 10 Mar</b>                                       | <b>BSRC &amp; Bendigo Sandhurst RC Bowls Night</b>                   |                         |                 |                 |
| Thurs 12 Mar   | Barry Clay<br>Bendigo Citizen of the Year<br>Board Meeting           | Sue                     | George & Trevor | Lake View Hotel |
| Thurs 19 Mar   | Vocational Visit to Central Deborah Mine<br>See Signpost for details | Organiser Rod           |                 |                 |
| Thurs 26 Mar   | Margaret Keech – OAM<br>Dragon Boat Story                            | Merlyn                  | Cora            | Lake View Hotel |
| Mar 27-29<br>Horsham                                     | Multi District Impact Summit   | See advertisement above |                 |                 |
| <b>APRIL THEME: ENVIRONMENT MONTH</b>                    |  |                         |                 |                 |
| Thurs 2 Apr  | No meeting as Easter BBQ   |                         |                 |                 |
| Thurs 9 Apr  | TBA  |                         |                 |                 |
| Thurs 16 Apr   | Brian Coman –<br>Author - Bendigo's Backyard Birds'<br>Board meeting |                         |                 |                 |
| Thurs 23 Apr   | TBA  |                         |                 |                 |
| Thurs 30 Apr   | Sandy Joffa<br>Intercultural Ambassadors                             |                         |                 |                 |

**MARCH IS**

**WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE MONTH**

**Rotary**   
District 9800

*"Clean water, the essence of life and a birthright for everyone, must become available to all people now."*  
**Jean-Michel Cousteau**

### **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:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month,  
Mechanics Institute Hall, 8/12 School Street, California Gully  
Bernadette: 0407051722