



SIGNPOST

Volume 67, No. 35 12 March 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

There will be no meeting next week. Instead, we will visit the Central Deborah Gold Mine. See details below

Sue's notes

We had a good turn out last night of 17 members to hear the Guest Speaker, Mr Barry Clay - Bendigo's Citizen of the Year for 2026. Barry, a sheep farmer from Bagshot has been on the land his whole life, following on from his father & grandfather - he shared with us his story of being on the land, and developing a strong community sense from an early age., with one of his main interests and battles was to keep the Bagshot Hall operational. Over his many years he has been on numerous boards and involved in many different activities, including founding treasurer & member of the Huntly Epsom Lions Club, Treasurer of the Goornong Neighbourhood Watch, and a member of the Bendigo Agricultural Show Committee for fifteen years.

The last few years have been a little difficult as he battled Prostrate Cancer, but as is his way, he then became involved in helping others through St John of God Hospital.

This is just touching on the many charities and organisations he has helped out with, and as he is a keen "Cats" fan, Barry regularly heads down to the football.

A thoroughly enjoyable speaker who is passionate about Bagshot and the local area.

Also on Tues 10th March at the Strathfieldsaye Bowls Club, over 25 people from Bendigo-Sandhurst Rotary Club & Bendigo south rotary Club had a fun evening of bowls, pizza & fellowship.

Next week - our trip to the Central Deborah Mine,

Sue Duncan

Note: Thank you to Sue Duncan for contributing this week's Signpost note.



*Above: Mr Barry Clay - Bendigo's Citizen of the Year for 2026.
Below: Mr Barry Clay with Sue Duncan (chairperson)*



**BBQ Photos from the Bendigo 1,000 Athletics at
Tom Flood Sports Centre**



CENTRAL DEBORAH GOLD MINE TOUR

THURSDAY 19th MARCH

REMINDER – No regular meeting this week

Instead, we will attend a guided surface tour of the **Central Deborah Gold Mine**.

During the tour we will learn about the original buildings and machinery essential to the operation of the mine, including the **Blacksmith's Shop, Carbide Lamp Room, Engine Room and Gold Treatment Area**.

Date: Thursday 19 March

Meeting Time: **5:30pm sharp** at Central Deborah Gold Mine

Tour: 5:30pm – 6:45pm

After the Tour: Presentation and **pizza dinner in the Panning Shed** (6:45pm – 7:30pm)

Cost: \$20 per person(Includes pizza prepared by the Gold Mine caterer and a soft drink)

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

*The RSVP date has now passed, however if you would still like to attend, please contact **Rod Spitty** as soon as possible.*





 **INNER WHEEL CLUB
OF BENDIGO'S**

**MOVIE NIGHT
FUNDRAISER**

PROCEEDS TO HARCOURT FIRES

**MIDWINTER
BREAK**

26th March
6.30pm for a 7pm Start
Star Cinema
Town Hall Eaglehawk

BOOK ONLINE: starcinema.org.au

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.

Rotary District 9700 | Rotary District 9810 | Rotary District 9800 | Beyond Bank

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>

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



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

Photos from Shibuya, Tokyo
President Lindsay Jolley & Helena (Nena) Romero Herrera



On Shibuya Sky.



Waiting for a table for lunch.

BBQ Volunteer Bookings.

Tuesday March 17 th	La Trobe Uni Student Asso Sustainability Fair Edwards Road Campus Gallery Plaza	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
Saturday April 4 th	Awakening of Dragon	Women of Note Volunteers
Sunday April 5 th	Bendigo Chinese Assc Pre Procession BBQ Bridge Street	9 am – 1pm 6 Volunteers
Sunday April 19 th	Bendigo Strikers Netball BBQ 11.30- 4 pm Car Parking 11.30 – 4 pm CMC Junortoun	BBQ 3 Volunteers Car Parking 6 Volunteers
Sunday May 10 th	Mother's Day Classic Breakfast Canterbury Park Eaglehawk	8am – 11 am 4 Volunteers
Sunday June 28 th	Bendigo Strikers Netball BBQ 11.30 – 4 pm Car Parking 11.30 – 4 pm CMC Junortoun	BBQ 3 Volunteers Car Parking 6 Volunteers
Sunday July 12 th	Bendigo Strikers Netball BBQ 11.30 – 4 pm Car Parking 11.30 – 4 pm CMC Junortoun	BBQ 3 Volunteers Car Parking 6 Volunteers
Sunday August 23 rd	La Trobe Uni Open Day Edwards Road Plaza	8am – 1 pm 6 Volunteers
Sunday August 23 rd	RMIT Flight School BBQ Bendigo Airport	10am – 2 pm 3 Volunteers
Friday November 20 th	La Trobe Uni	11am – 1 pm 4 Volunteers
Sunday November 29 th	Mandurang Christmas Market BBQ	9am – 3pm 2 Shifts
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
MARCH THEME: WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE MONTH				
Thurs 19 Mar	Vocational Visit to Central Deborah Mine See Signpost for details	Organiser Rod		Central Deborah Gold mine
Thurs 26 Mar	Margaret Keech – OAM Dragon Boat Story	Merlyn	Cora	Lake View Hotel
Mar 27-29 Horsham	Multi District Impact Summit	See advertisement above		
APRIL THEME: ENVIRONMENT MONTH				
Thurs 2 Apr	No meeting as Easter BBQ			
Thurs 9 Apr	TBA			
Thurs 16 Apr	Brian Coman – Author - Bendigo's Backyard Birds' Board meeting			
Thurs 23 Apr	TBA			
Thurs 30 Apr	Sandy Joffa Intercultural Ambassadors			



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