



# SIGNPOST

**Volume 68, No. 2, 9 July 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)**

## **President's Report**

I would like to thank Rod Spitty for chairing last week's meeting.

Nominated by Rotarian Tony Plant, we honoured Rotarian Glenn Madden, the recipient of the year's Paul Harris Fellow Award.

Glenn has been a valued member of our club for more than 10 years. During this time, he has served as Club President and as a Board member in the role of Youth Director.

Glenn's nomination recognises his long-standing commitment and service to our club. His contributions include:

- Currently serves as Chair of the Horizons Committee.
- Currently serves as a member of the Trailers and Raffle Subcommittee.
- Regularly volunteering at club fundraising events, helping raise funds for The Rotary Foundation and the End Polio program.
- A dedicated volunteer at our club BBQs, where he is a positive and popular team member.
- Supervising activities at the Science and Engineering Challenge.
- Volunteering as a judge at the Energy Breakthrough event in Maryborough.
- Travelling to Timor-Leste as part of an education support team to assist with local teacher training.
- Playing a key role in the success of the Rotary Cricket Festival held in Bendigo in 2016.
- Regularly attending club meetings and making positive, thoughtful contributions.
- Promoting Rotary fellowship by visiting clubs in other districts, across Australia and overseas, extending the Rotarian Goodwill and ongoing friendships amongst members.

The highlight of this week's meeting was the "Baby ID Night". It was beautiful with lots of great time and friendly banter amongst members, as members tried to match baby photos with familiar faces. Overall, we had 16 entries. A huge congratulations to Heather for organising this. It went well and appreciated by all members present, reflected in the response and follow-up banter heard throughout the meeting.

Congratulations to Sue, for having the most correct answers.

We look forward to hearing from our guest Speaker next week, Barry Bell from Men's Shed.

Cora Fuentes-Mahnic  
President



*President Cora presenting Member Glenn Madden with a much-deserved Paul Harris Fellow.*



*Member baby photo competition*

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**Next meeting Guest Speaker: Barry Bell**

Lived most of his life in Ouyen where for 30 years he owned a pest control company before going on to being a coach driver for 20 years.

Whilst living in Ouyen, Barry was a volunteer fire fighter plus a community ambulance officer.

Barry was an inaugural member of the Ouyen Men's shed before moving to Bendigo 6 years ago where he joined the organisation initially in Strathfieldsaye, then moved to Huntly to set up a new shed for Men

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### Club's Social Program.

The program committee for this year will be coordinated by Heather, Tony with input from President Cora. We will determine club speakers and meeting process for the meetings conducted at the Lake view Hotel although we will rely on all members to provide ideas and suggest speakers during the coming year.

We are also aiming to have the last meeting each month where possible as a social/ excursion event to be organized at other locations other than the Lake View Hotel. We are asking **each non-board member** to take one turn during the year to organize working in groups of 2 to 3 others to help organize. These events could be a booking for dinner at a café, hotel or restaurant, a visit to another rotary club, a workplace or tourist venue excursion are some examples. These events **do not** necessarily have to be held on a Thursday night but within the scheduled week. We are looking for and encouraging your ideas.

Members, please refer to the attached club social program attached as there has been some slight amendments and some inclusions.

Both Mark and Paul Gibbons have volunteered to assist Glenn with the Christmas Party arrangements so thank you, no further volunteers needed for this event.

The event at the end of August has further progressed in that Shishu has offered to prepare the meal and it will be held at Gateway Park and will be a joint meeting now with the Kangaroo Flat members.

More information will be forthcoming as final arrangements are sorted.

The first vocations outing has been moved forward a month to September with Rod to arrange but I am sure he would welcome at least one member to assist in putting this night together. The only free slot now before Christmas is October 22. President Cora has already engaged speakers for a special night on October 29. It would be wonderful if during this week we could see two or three hands in the air to arrange an activity for October 22. There are just two spare spots in the new year and again early commitments to those would be much appreciated.

Tony Plant joint programs coordinator.

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### **DV SAFE PHONE**

Our Club is reinvigorating our Partnership with the Bendigo Library to collect mobile phones: **Every three minutes, someone in Australia calls for emergency help due to domestic violence.**

But for many victim-survivors, a mobile phone is the first thing taken, broken, or monitored by an abuser rendering them unable to connect to life-saving support. DV Safe Phone bridges this critical safety gap by turning unused mobile phones into active lifelines for those escaping violence.

Through our innovative circular economy model, we repurpose commercial mobile fleets into secure, untraceable communication devices. These devices empower survivors to maintain safe connections with emergency services, healthcare providers, and support networks as they rebuild their lives.

Since 2020, we have collected, securely refurbished, and distributed free mobile devices via a vetted nationwide network of over 550+ frontline partner agencies - including police, hospitals, safe houses, and community organisations.

The age of the phone doesn't matter for our donation purposes. Even if we can't use certain phones, we have arrangements in place to ensure they are responsibly recycled through Mobile Muster, one of our leading recycling partners.

Please ask phone owners to clear all data, including stored phone numbers, from the devices before donating them. This helps protect the privacy and security of the donors while ensuring a smooth donation process.

For anyone interested in donating their phones, we encourage them to visit our website at <https://dvsafeophone.org/donate-phones>. There, they can find detailed information on how to prepare their phones before giving them to us. This resource will guide them through the donation process and ensure that their contributions are made as seamlessly as possible.

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### **Member Activities**



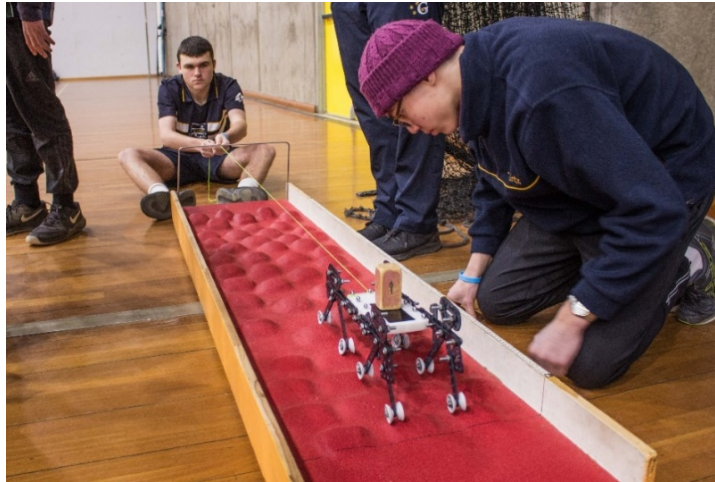
*Gary Pinner(far right) and Tony Plant(far left) accompanied by Cathy Miller from Bendigo Sandhurst and Trevor Bray from the Castlemaine club met with past District Governor Ross Butterworth who showed them through the WERN (Western emergency Relief Network) complex as well as sharing his insightful knowledge of how this warehouse was established and the daily operating procedures that are now well established*



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## Science and Engineering Challenge Tuesday July 28

Once again, the Rotary Club of Bendigo South will be conducting the Annual Science and Engineering Challenge for year 10 students from several local Secondary Colleges. This year's event will be held in the multi-purpose facility at Girton Grammar. To ensure this will again be great learning experience for all those students who participate we do need additional activity supervisors. The time commitment is from 8 am until 2.30 pm with lunch provided. Supervisors work together in pairs, sometimes in threes, and look after just one activity for the day. Prepared instructions are provided by the University of Newcastle, usually 2 weeks prior to the event. Further instructions are also provided in the morning prior to activities commencing at 9.30 am. If you would like to help, please let Tony Plant know by phoning 0408590589 or email to [anthony.plant@bigpond.com](mailto:anthony.plant@bigpond.com) If you have already let him know of availability or otherwise, please ignore this request.



*Photos from previous year*



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### The Club Facebook Page

Tony is now managing our Facebook page. Please remember to take pics of your Rotary activities and send with a brief description to Tony - [planttony24@gmail.com](mailto:planttony24@gmail.com)) (not to his Bigpond address).

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### Volunteers wanted

|                   |                                                     |                                          |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday July 14th | Bendigo TAFE Hargraves St<br>Campus NAIDOC week BBQ | 10.30am – 1 pm<br>4 volunteers required. |
| Tuesday July 21st | TAFE Welcome Day<br>Hargraves Street Campus         | 4 volunteers required                    |

|                                  |                                                                              |                                     |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                                  | 10 am – 1 pm                                                                 |                                     |
| Tuesday July 28th                | TAFE Welcome Day BBQ<br>Charlston Rd Campus<br>10.30 – 1 30pm                | 3 volunteers required.              |
| Sunday July 26 <sup>th</sup>     | Ironbark Gully Friends BBQ<br>Ironbark Gully Reserve<br>Victoria St Ironbark | 10am – 1pm<br>3 volunteers required |
| Sunday August 23rd               | 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 - 4 Volunteers          |
| Sunday November 29th             | 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 program

| Date                                               | Speakers                               | Chairperson     | Meet & Greet | Venue           |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| <b>JULY THEME: MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH</b> |                                        |                 |              |                 |
| Thurs 16 July                                      | Men's Shed- Barry Bell                 | Graham Neivandt | Jan & Ian    | Lake View Hotel |
| Thurs 23 July                                      | Dr Brad Hodge<br>Behavioural Scientist | Shireen Yeoh    | TBA          | Lake View Hotel |
| Thurs 30 July                                      | Inner Wheel                            | TBA             | TBA          | Lake View Hotel |



### **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                  | Olayinka Hakeem Babalola |
| DISTRICT 9800 GOVERNOR                          | Graeme Hope              |
| DISTRICT 9800 NC VIC COMMUNITY LEADER           | Peter Shephard           |
| -----                                           |                          |
| CLUB PRESIDENT                                  | Cora Fuentes-Mahnic      |
| SECRETARY                                       | Bernie Young             |
| TREASURER                                       | Peter Kilpatrick         |
| COMMUNITY SERVICE DIRECTOR                      | Endel Vallak             |
| YOUTH SERVICES DIRECTOR                         | Rod Spitty               |
| INTERNATIONAL SERVICE DIRECTOR                  | Heather Nixon            |
| MEMBERSHIP, COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING DIRECTOR | Tony Plant               |
| CLUB SERVICE DIRECTOR                           | Tony Plant/Gary Pinner   |
| FUND-RAISING and MAJOR PROJECTS DIRECTOR        | Gary Pinner              |
| VOCATIONS DIRECTOR                              | Rod Spitty               |
| FOUNDATION DIRECTOR & IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT  | Lindsay Jolley           |
| NEWSLETTER EDITOR                               | Shireen Yeoh             |
| CLUB PROTECTION OFFICER                         | Geoff McKinna            |

### **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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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