



SIGNPOST

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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
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Email: secretary@bendigosouthrotary.org.au

President's Report

I would like to thank our esteemed Rotarian, Mr. Graeme Neivandt, for chairing this week's meeting.

We had the honour of welcoming Mr Barry Bell from Huntly Men's Shed Incorporated. Located at 603 Midland Highway, Huntly, the Men's Shed is open Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm and closed on weekends and public holidays.

Established in February 2025, the Huntly Men's Shed has around 60 members and has received funding and support from local businesses, local government and non-for-profit organisations. It offers woodwork, gardening, automotive and metalworking activities, conducts educational workshops and is heavily involved with community projects.

Huntly Men's Shed is a welcoming and inclusive not-for-profit organisation where men of all ages and backgrounds can come together to connect, create and contribute. Whether you're after a chat, a cuppa, or a chance to learn new skills, the Men's Shed is a welcoming place to belong.

According to Barry, the Huntley Men's Shed also provides a mentoring environment where members:

- Share and learn new skills through hands on activities
- Build friendships and strengthen social connections, enhancing their mental and physical wellbeing
- Foster a sense of community spirit and purpose through shared activities and projects.

Barry also brought along samples of the Men's Shed's finished products for show.

Thank you, Barry, for taking the time to visit us and for sharing the vision, aims and objectives of the Huntly Men's Shed.

Cora Fuentes-Mahnic
President



Guest speaker, Mr Barry Bell from Huntly Men's Shed

Next meeting - Guest Speaker: Dr Brad Hodge

Our speaker thinks for a living about something the rest of us usually only ponder on holidays: what actually makes a life, and a job, worth turning up for?

Dr Brad Hodge is a behavioural scientist with a doctorate in psychology. He's spent more than twenty years studying human behaviour, wellbeing and performance, and he's good at telling the difference between advice that works and advice that just sounds nice.

A lot of his work these days is about workplaces, and how you build one people actually want to be in, rather than just put up with until Friday.

Brad has recently turned fifty. So, his topic isn't purely academic for him. Having crossed the halfway line, he's been thinking hard about what a rich life in the second half looks like, and he will bring us the research rather than just the mid-life crisis stories. He will be talking about "the ingredients for a rich existence".



Our Local Lead Partner

INA works exclusively through trusted local partners that ensure a deep knowledge of the needs of the community they belong to and tailored technical expertise.

Bole Bible Baptist Church Child Care and Community Development (BBBC) has implemented integrated development projects for the past 20 years aiming at creating access to opportunities for a better standard of living for underprivileged and vulnerable communities.



INA x Rotary Partnership

The Rotary Club of Box Hill Central, through its entity, We Can't Wait (WCW), has been very active in international water and sanitation projects since 2015, two District Grants, nine Global Grants and five Direct Grants have either been completed or are in progress across India, Ethiopia, and Nepal.

For the past five years (FY 2020-26), INA has worked in partnership with the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central in their capacity as an authorised cooperating organisation that is recognised by The Rotary Foundation and has successfully completed a Global Grant and a Direct Grant in the Shurmo District in Ethiopia in partnership with We Can't Wait (WCW). INA has a proven track record with WCW.

Since July 2024, INA and We Can't Wait have renewed their collaboration through the EWASH project in Ethiopia, and other exciting projects are yet to come!

The total value of all we can't wait projects completed or in progress since inception is AUD\$2,000,000.

Find out more about us

INA



INA International Programs
Manager: [Davide De Micheli](mailto:davidedm@ina.org.au)
davidedm@ina.org.au

we can't wait



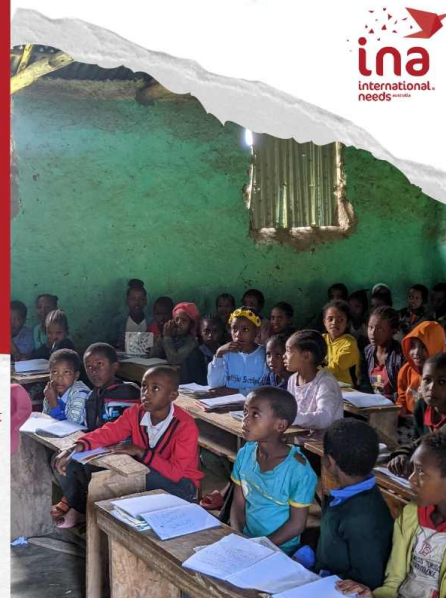
WCW Chair: [Tony Stokes](mailto:wecantwait631@gmail.com)
wecantwait631@gmail.com

Rotary
Box Hill Central

we can't wait
COOPERATIVE PROGRESSIVITY ROSE

Ready to visit the EWASH Project in Ethiopia?

ina
international needs



The EWASH Project

Since July 2024, We Can't Wait (the registered Business Name of Operation Toilets Australia) and International Needs Australia (INA) have been implementing an exciting project in Ethiopia to improve access to safe water supply, sanitation and hygiene practices for individual households, communities, schools, and health clinics.

Supported participants: around 2,000 adults from the most vulnerable Households and 7,000 children in 15 schools.

Objectives:

- Increased awareness and skills in water service, sanitation and hygiene practices.
- Increased access to improved water and sanitation infrastructure (latrines and handwashing facilities)
- Increased access to and management of water service (water points/lines)

What are we working on?

We're building 100 improved ventilated latrines for disadvantaged families, renovating water points in schools and health centres, conducting awareness and hand washing campaigns in schools and communities on best hygiene and sanitation practices, training girls in preparing sanitation pads from locally available materials ... and much more!



Where and Why

Ezha District, Ethiopia

In Ethiopia, 60 to 80% of communicable diseases are attributed to limited access to safe water and inadequate sanitation and hygiene services. The baseline study showed only 12.6% of households have a latrine, 64.7% of households in our target communities practice open defecation and none of the households in the targeted area have a dedicated place for handwashing with water and soap.

This project will be implemented in Ezha Woreda of Central Ethiopia Region. Only 52% of the schools in the target areas have improved latrines, separated for boys and girls, while only 35% of the schools have water sources. Along with schools, the participants of the project will be extremely vulnerable family with no access to sanitation and latrines.

Traditional latrine in Ezha



NEW school toilet



Join the visit!

Join the team from WCW and INA this coming November 2026 in their visit to the project sites to witness the impact of the project and hear from the communities we support on how the intervention is changing their life!

Our local partner will organise meetings with community representatives and groups, visits to schools, health facilities and individual project participants. All in total safety!

Here are tentative dates for the brief itinerary:

- 8th Nov:** Departing from Melbourne
- 9th Nov:** Landing in Addis Ababa and meeting with our partner's Board of Director
- 10th Nov:** Travel to Shurmo (project area) and meeting with the project team
- 11th Nov:** Project visit - schools & farmers
- 12th Nov:** Project visit - health centres
- 13th Nov:** Debrief with the team and travel to Ezha (project area 2)
- 14th Nov:** Project visit - schools & women saving group
- 15th Nov:** Goodbye and travel back to Addis
- 16th Nov:** Visit of Addis Ababa
- 17th Nov:** Visit to the Australian embassy in Ethiopia and departure from Addis Ababa

Total budget (including flights, accommodation, transportation and main meals): **3,750 AUD***

- * price may vary slightly depending on the time of booking

Witness with your own eyes the needs and incredible strength of the communities in Shurmo and Ezha, while diving into the beautiful Ethiopian landscape and culture!

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.

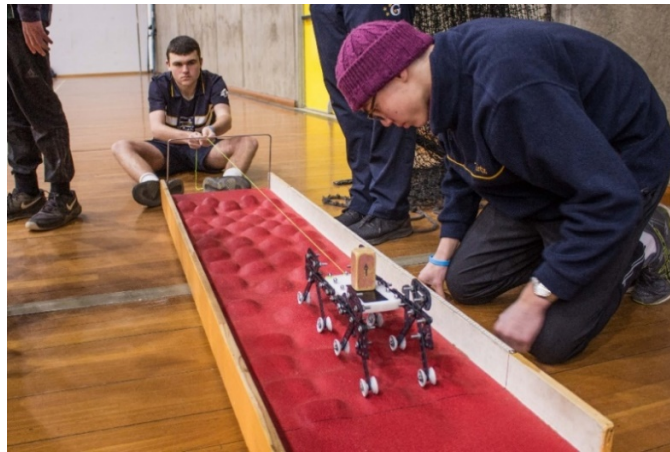
The first vocations outing has been moved forward a month to September with Rod to arrange but I am sure he would welcome at least one member to assist in putting this night together. The only free slot now before Christmas is October 22. President Cora has already engaged speakers for a special night 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.

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 If you have already let him know of availability or otherwise, please ignore this request.



Photos from previous year



Volunteers wanted

Tuesday July 21st	TAFE Welcome Day Hargraves Street Campus 10 am – 1 pm	4 volunteers required
Tuesday July 28th	TAFE Welcome Day BBQ Charlston Rd Campus 10.30 – 1 30pm	3 volunteers required.
Sunday July 26 th	Ironbark Gully Friends BBQ Ironbark Gully Reserve Victoria St Ironbark	10am – 1pm 3 volunteers required
Sunday August 23rd	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 29th	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

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) (not to his Bigpond address).

Meeting program

Date	Speakers	Chairperson	Meet & Greet	Venue
JULY THEME: MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH				
Thurs 23 July	Dr Brad Hodge Behavioural Scientist	Shireen Yeoh	George & Trevor	Lake View Hotel
Thurs 30 July	Inner Wheel Bernadette Storer & President Deb	Bob Simpson	Heather & TBA	Lake View Hotel
AUGUST THEME: MEMBERSHIP & EXTENSION				
Thurs 6 Aug	Shishu Domindom – Member Talk	TBA	TBA	Lake View Hote
Thurs 13 Aug	Shishu Domindom – Member Talk	Peter	Merlyn & Jan	Lake View Hote
Thurs 20 Aug	Street Peace -Holly Phillis	TBATBA		Lake View Hote
Thurs 27 Aug	Social night - Shishu Domindom to cook Philippines food at Kangaroo Flat Rotary Club Roomss			



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

VICE PRESIDENT

Lindsay Jolley

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: 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