



SIGNPOST

Volume 68, No. 11, 10 September 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

President's report

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all and your respective partners for your continuous commitments and support for the growth and solidarity of our club.

In our recent get together, we have the pleasure (for the first time) welcoming our new **DG, Graeme Hope and his partner Sue** from the **Rotary Club of Camberwell**. DG Graeme shared and talked about his journey being a Rotarian, including all his previous and current interactions. It was a very special and encouraging night where DG Graeme, outlined his vision of what is our role as Rotarians, giving us much encouragements on how we can continue to build on what our current and future goals and achievements; and in how we are able to adapt our role/s in this rapidly changing world.

DG, Graeme also showcased a succinct video extract from our **Rotary International President, Olayinka Babalola**, encouraging Rotarians to **Create Lasting Impact**. In his message, our Rotary International President, stated that before we change the world, we Rotarians must allow ourselves to change for the better and be part and active in our role/s as Rotarians; in strengthening our clubs, our community and our ability to serve, encouraging our commitments to grow, as well as enhancing our fellowships and services, as a group, so we can create huge and lasting impact across our community and across the globe and of course to ourselves forging our values and groups belongingness.

The QA was very interactive where our members asked relevant questions in relations to the restructuring of Rotary Districts which will commence on 1 July 2028.

Our Club's current and future programs was reported by our dedicated and active Club Directors (extract of its contents and interactions are discussed and part of this week's Signpost Bulletin).

We also had the pleasure to welcome our visitors from the local Columbian Community namely: Zulma Fohrigen (local Business Owner) and Laura Vanessa Ramirez. Laura is currently active in her role as Ethnic Community Broadcaster, based at PhoenixFM Community Radio 106.7 MHZ. In addition Laura has been the recipient of a nationwide prestigious **2026 New Emerging**

Broadcasters Award from National Ethnic Multicultural Broadcasting Council (NEMBC) now known as Multicultural Voices Australia (MAV). Both Laura and Zulma are enthusiastic to be back and will join us in the upcoming Winery Tour.

In conclusion, I would like to thank our Chair Gary Pinner for a job well done.

Yours in Rotary
Cora Fuentes-Mahnic
President



Guests at the meeting this week were D9800 District Governor Graeme Hope and his wife Sue, and Laura Ramirez and Zulma Fohrigen, community friends of President Cora.



Members Graham Neivandt and Endel Vallak took the opportunity to welcome and share stories with DG Graeme Hope and his wife Sue

JL King vocational visit

The club event for Thursday September 24 is a visit to J L King Wholesalers of fresh food products. Details as follows:

Address is [21 Brickworks Road](#), off Murphy Street Bendigo East. Please be there by 5.30 to commence the tour. It is anticipated the tour will take about an hour and a meal will follow, most likely to be at the Botanical Gardens Hotel in White Hills.

A sheet was passed around at the meeting last Thursday seeking the following information. Numbers wanting to attend the industry visit, including partners plus an indication if you intend to come for the dinner to follow. If you were not at the last club meeting please either email me the information I am seeking or make sure you fill in the sheet at the meeting this Thursday. Accurate numbers for the tour are not essential but to book a hotel for dinner I would like a week leading up to the event to make these arrangements.

If you want to know a bit more about J L King & Co google jlking.com.au to access their very good website.

Tony Plant
Club Service Director

October social event

Trevor Hawking and Paul Sherwood have planned a winery lunch on Sunday 18 October 2026.

Date and time: 12 noon, Sun 18 Oct 2026

Where: Munari Wines - [1129 Northern Highway, Ladys Pass](#) (Heathcote)

Cost: \$40ph for pizzas and charcuterie boards plus drinks.

Tasting Cost: \$10 to taste 6 different wines but free with a purchase of a bottle of wine.

Pay on the day at winery.

Please call or text Trevor – 0428 066 838 or Paul – 0408 512 537 if you can come, and how many people please. **RSVP: Fri 16 Oct.**

Bendigo Rotary Foundation Dinner

Tuesday, 27 October, at the Bendigo Club. Please put it in your diary. More details to come.

Lindsay Jolley
Director, Foundation

Jason Moore RYPEN Club Representative and Outbound Exchange Student

On Saturday 5 Sept I attended the two day RYPEN Conference at Camp Getaway to see RYPEN in action with 36 Youth Participants from two Districts and to meet our Club Representative Jason Moore from Heathcote. The workshop was extremely well conducted. Jason is also being sponsored as an Outbound Exchange Student to the Czech Republic during this Rotary Year. He will be attending a Club Meeting on the 17th September to meet the Club and introduce himself.

Rod Spitty, Youth Director

Invitation: Dementia Alliance's 2nd birthday



We would love you to join us as we celebrate Dementia Alliance's 2nd birthday at Reflections at Eppalock.

It's a wonderful opportunity for us to pause and celebrate just how far we have come, share some of the programs, projects and spaces that have been developed, and most importantly thank the people and organisations who have supported us along the way.

We'll also be sharing some of our plans and aspirations for the future, and there will be plenty of time to enjoy the surrounds, catch up with others and simply celebrate together. We would be delighted if you could join us.

Please let us know if you are able to attend.

Warmly
Sandra Slatter

Meeting program

Date	Speakers	Chairperson	Meet & Greet	Venue
SEPTEMBER THEME: BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY				
Thurs 17 Sept	Alf Anderson: Life as a UK Bobby. Jason Moore, outgoing youth exchange student.	Ian Ellis	Bernie and Greg	Lake View Hote
Thurs 24 Sept	Vocational Visit – JL King	TBA	TBA	TBA
OCTOBER THEME: ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT				
Thurs 1 Oct	Patrice McCarthy Phoenix FM 106.7	Lyn	TBA	Lake View Hote
Thurs 8 Oct	First quarter reporting	Cora	TBA	Lake View Hote
Sunday 18 Oct	Winery lunch	Trevor and Paul		







EXCLUSIVE EVENT!

UNDERGROUND PIANO CONCERT

CELEBRATING 175 YEARS OF GOLD IN BENDIGO

FEATURING
YASMIN ROWE & IAN MUNRO

CENTRAL DEBORAH GOLD MINE,
BENDIGO

FRIDAY 9 OCTOBER 2026

YOUR EXPERIENCE BEGINS AT 4PM

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
bendigofinemusic.com



Bendigo Fine Music event

Bendigo Fine Music Celebrates the 175th Anniversary of the discovery of Gold with a piano concert down the Central Deborah Mine! Never before has a grand piano been put down a mine - plenty of concerts in the adits of mines - but this is a first!!

Merlyn Quaife

Volunteers wanted

Saturday 19 Sept	BFL Grand Final Day BBQ	9am–12.30, & 12.30 – 4pm 6 volunteers each shift
Sunday 4 Oct	Bendigo Fire Brigade Open Day BBQ Deborah St Quarry Hill	10am - 1pm 2 volunteers
Friday 23 Oct and Sat 24 Oct	Bendigo Show	10am – 1pm & 1pm – 4 pm 3 volunteers each shift
Friday 20 Nov	La Trobe Uni BBQ	10.30 – 1.30 4 volunteers
Saturday 28 Nov	Activism Against Family Violence BBQ Canterbury Park Eaglehawk	8 am – 11 am 3 volunteers
Sunday 29 Nov	Mandurang Christmas Market BBQ	9am – 12.30, & 12.30 – 4pm 4 volunteers each shift
Monday 7Dec	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

Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee 20th celebration

H.E. Ms. Inês de Almeida
Ambassador of Timor-Leste

Dr Kirsty Sword-Gusmão, AO
Founder of the Alola Foundation

Live music by
Paulo Almeida & Friends
Dili All Stars & Sol Nation

BENDIGO-MAUBISSE FRIENDSHIP INC.
20 YEARS OF SUPPORT 2006-2026
invites you to
CELEBRATE
20 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP
6:00 PM
Friday September 18
Bendigo Club, Strathdale
SCAN HERE FOR TIX:
OR GO TO:
www.tinyurl.com/BMFC20

Dear friends,
We'd love you to join us as we celebrate two decades of friendship and partnership between the Bendigo and Maubisse communities. Planning for the evening is well underway, and we're delighted to present an exciting program featuring Kirsty Sword Gusmão and Her Excellency Ms Inês Maria de Almeida, Ambassador of Timor-Leste to Australia.

We're also delighted to announce that Paulo Almeida and Friends will perform during the evening. A highly regarded Timorese-Australian musician with more than 25 years of international performing experience, Paulo is renowned for music that celebrates Timorese culture, identity and connection.

Hosted by Jonathan Ridnell, the evening will also include historical displays reflecting on twenty years of partnership, opportunities to reconnect

with old friends and supporters, and the ceremonial cutting of our anniversary cake.

Friday 18 September 2026, Bendigo Club, 6.00 pm – 9.00 pm.

Tickets are \$36.50 per person and include finger food throughout the evening, with drinks available for purchase from the bar. Book early to avoid disappointment. [Book online HERE](#)

Whether you've travelled to Maubisse, sponsored a scholarship, volunteered your time, supported a fundraiser, or simply cheered us on over the past twenty years, we'd love to celebrate this milestone with you. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Rod Flavell
President

[Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee](#)

Email: bendigomaubissefriends@gmail.com

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