Rotary Bendigo South

SIGNPOST

Volume 68, No. 16, 15 October 2026
We meet Thursdays at 6pm for 6.30pm at the Lakeview Hotel, McRae Street (TBC weekly)

Find us on: facebook | 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

Greetings, my fellow Rotarians, since we did not have a meeting last Thursday, my report is very short and easy.

We had a very relaxing successful and fun-filled afternoon. Our combined social outing with members from the Rotary Club of Bendigo at Munari Winery Luncheon, Heathcote. This was attended by 20 people from our Club (Rotarians and their wives/partners), and 23 from the Rotary Club of Bendigo.

All attendees enjoyed the camaraderie's of colleagues, soaking in the beautiful ambience (inside and outside of the building), having their palate ready for wine tasting and in partaking the antipastos and the varieties of gastronomically pizzas served for the delights of all.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rotarians Trevor Hawking and Paul Sherwood for arranging this fun-filled afternoon.

We look forward to next Thursday's meeting, hearing from our Guest Speaker, Kebede Wolfe-Georgis about his work in Ethiopia.

Also reminding members about the upcoming 2026 Foundation Dinner on Tuesday, 27th October 2026, at 6:30 pm for 7:00 pm at the Bendigo Club, Park Street, Strathdale. (More details will be in our Signpost Bulletin).

Yours in Rotary
Cora Fuentes-Mahnic
President

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OCTOBER SOCIAL EVENT

Munari Winery Luncheon

















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Member's Report

Lansell Market Report.
Lansell Market update, on the 1st Lansell Market on Saturday 3rd October. The Owners of Lansell were happy with the market and from the stall holders survey, they are also happy to do a monthly market. They were also very happy when signing up that Rotary was running the show.

The stall holders mentioned that they really thankful for the Rotarians who helped them find their spot and were a friendly presence.

Bendigo Rotary Club will be doing the BBQ at the next market on Saturday 7th November.
Both Rotary Clubs will be providing a BBQ every 2nd Month, and the morning set up of stalls.

Last market we provided the BBQ, Bendigo Rotary provided the set-up volunteers.
We will be looking for volunteers – 3, to help with the Lansell Market on the Saturday 7th November, to assist with the set-up process. Please talk to Lyn or Gary regarding the availability to help. Only needed for about 1.5 hour at the most. Start time is 7.45a.m.

No lifting involved unless asked.
Please wear your Rotary clothing so the public see a Rotary presence.
Lyn Comer

Christmas Market Report
We are up to 77 Stall holders with the aim of 90.
We have lined up 3 Female Singers for the day.

Red Medical will be employed to be on site to oversee any medical/accidental incidents.
This year will be bigger and better, we will have an area for Food Trucks, BBQ, Wine sales around the stage for music, with seating for a relaxing time.

We will be looking for volunteers for this event. (Of course, ☺)
Car parking, collecting donations at the gates (a sit-down job), Helping with stall holders to their site in the morning and a little bit of packing up. Serving coffee and scones, taking orders for coffee and scones (a sit-down job). Barista if anyone can help here? Maybe also 1 or 2 in the kitchen, to relieve Lilly and Pam.

Recipient this year is Sunshine Bendigo.

As you will be aware we raised enough money to purchase a Silent Monitor for Bendigo Health Foundation. This as finally arrived at the hospital; it has had many hiccups getting there.

We will be doing a presentation very soon with advertising.
Lyn Comer

Knitting Project.
During the week 6 bales of knitting were pressed and taken to DIK and will leave for Dili by the end of October. All four clubs were represented by Liz Commadeur (Bendigo Sandhurst) Tom Dobeli (Bendigo) Mick Costello (Eaglehawk) and Gary and Tony (Bendigo Sth). Geoff Gallagher from Eaglehawk with Tony delivered the bales to DIK. Also some bed linen, towels and childrens clothing was sourced, packed and delivered for Ahola to supply an orphanage situated in an isolated village.
Tony Plant







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Meeting program

Date	Speakers	Chairperson	Meet & Greet	Venue
OCTOBER THEME: ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT				
Thurs 22 Oct	Overcoming poverty in Ethiopia - Kebede Wolde-Giorgis, BBBC	Lindsay	Heather & Merlyn	Lake View Hotel
Tues 27 Oct	Bendigo Rotary Foundation dinner	Wayne Smith		Lake View Hotel
Thurs 29 Oct	Mental Health. Manorama Shah Bendigo Comm Health	TBA	TBA	Lake View Hotel
NOVEMBER THEME: ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT				
Thurs 5 Nov	CEO Bendigo Council Andrew Cooney	Gary	TBA	Lake View Hote
Thurs 12 Nov	Bendigo Athletics Association	Rod Spitty	TBA	Lake View Hotel
Thurs 19 Nov	AGM & Member talk Rod Spitty Board Meeting	TBA	TBA	Lake View Hotel
Thurs 26 Nov	Maubisse Film Night			TBA
Thurs 29 Nov	Mandurang Market			Mandurang

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Volunteers wanted

Friday 23 Oct Sat 24 Oct	Bendigo Show	10am–1pm; 1pm–4 pm 3 volunteers each shift	
Saturday 7 Nov	Lansell Square market BBQ	10am - 3pm. 3 volunteers	
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	
Saturday 5 Dec	Lansell Square market BBQ	10am - 3pm. 3 volunteers	

Please contact Volunteer Coordinator George Ellis if you can assist.
Email: george_ellis55@outlook.com; Mobile: 0438353414

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Rotary's Work in Ethiopia

Our meeting of 22 October will give you a valuable opportunity to hear from Kebede Wolde-Giorgis [Director of Bole Bible Baptist Church (BBBC)] about Rotary's partnership with the BBBC and International Needs Australia (INA) in Ethiopia. Over the last two years our Club has provided $10,090 for toilet blocks for secondary school girls and $2,500 towards local water supplies. I was fortunate to be able to visit the project area with Kebede in late 2025.

Lindsay Jolley



Kebede Wolde-Giorgis leads BBBC, a long-term partner of INA, based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, with a significant history of helping those most in need in Ethiopia, stretching back to the late 1960s.

With decades of experience in mission and development work including many years leading BBBC, Kebede brings deep, on-the-ground insights into what it really takes to lift families and whole communities out of extreme poverty. Under his leadership, BBBC supports vulnerable women, children and families through effective education, health and nutrition, clean water and sanitation, sustainable livelihoods, and child sponsorship programs. Their impactful work has brought hope and lasting change to tens of thousands of Ethiopia's most vulnerable households.

Kebede is a thoughtful and committed voice on locally led development and what it looks like when international partnerships are genuine and equal, and what it takes to create change that really lasts. His leadership is rooted in his strong personal faith, compassion, and a lifelong commitment to his country and its people.

Bole Bible Baptist Church
Child Care and Community Development

LOCAL LEAD PARTNER OF

ina international needs australia



ROTARY D9800
FORMER GOLDFIELDS CLUSTERS
2026 FOUNDATION DINNER

Rotarians, Partners and Guests are cordially invited to attend our Foundation Dinner to be held on Tuesday 27th October 2026 at 6:30pm for 7:00pm at The Bendigo Club, Park Street, Strathdale.

Come and join Past District Governor Peter Shepheard and District Foundation Director Julie Mason for an evening of great fellowship and a little fund raising for the "End Polio Now" Project.

Tickets: $60 per person for a three-course meal and a welcoming drink on arrival.
Other drinks during the evening at bar prices.
RSVP no later than 20TH October 2026 but earlier advice to
Wayne Smith, RC of Bendigo at chartall@bigpond.com would be appreciated.
Payments can be made by Direct Debit to
The Rotary Club of Bendigo BSB: 633000 Account No: 159 247 410
or via your Club Foundation Director

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The People's Piano Launch Concert

Bendigo Fine Music has, through the kind donations of many locals, acquired a brand new grand piano which will live at St Paul's Cathedral and be available for use for concerts. On November 8, there will be a celebratory concert followed by refreshments. Matilda Wilby, 2026 Musician of the Year and recipient of our Rotary Club Award, will be one of the artists performing. She's definitely a talent to watch!

Merlyn Quaife AM





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 Shepheard
CLUB PRESIDENT	Cora Fuentes-Mahnic
VICE PRESIDENT& IMMEDIATE PAST 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, COMMS and 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	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

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