Rotary Bendigo South

SIGNPOST

Volume 68, No. 17, 22 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

Greeting fellow Rotarians, hope all of you are enjoying your weekend.

Last Thursday, we had the pleasure of welcoming our International Guest Speaker, Kebede Woldegiorgis, Executive Director from Bole Bible Baptist Church (BBBC) specifically on the subject of his Rotary involvement from various projects in Ethiopia; and challenges faced by the community in accessing safe water.

Kebede provided valuable information about the Shurno Borehole Water Supply Project, emphasising on the number of people (17, 788, male and female) who benefited in accessing safe and reliable water through the operational borehole system.

Our Club welcomed Rotarian Laura Sarmiento, Rotary Club of Mornington Mentone. Rotarian Laura also represented International Needs Australia (INA). She talked about INA's aims and objectives in relation to building local partners and investing in programs/projects benefiting Women and Children utilising long term development approach; focusing on making a difference or ending extreme global poverty. Laura also mentioned who are involved in this project (Countries and Partners) and the involvement of Australian NGO/Charity organisations and the projects accreditation from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAT).

Our Club had the honour of welcoming Rotarian's Tony Stokes and his wife, Rotarian Robyn Stokes, representing the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central. Rotarian Tony provided valuable information in relation to the "We Can't Wait" Project in partnership of The Rotary Foundation and INA. The "We Can't Wait" Project aims in improving sanitations infrastructure; delivering hygienic education in schools and communities, keeping adolescent girls in school longer and improving overall community health, and assisting in bringing empowerment and hope identifying marginalised communities.

Our Club was also very pleased to welcome other visiting Rotarians from Bendigo Sandhurst Rotary Club under the leadership of President Stew Annan and fellow Rotarians Kevin Dobson, Liz

Commandeur and Ted Gretgrix. It was quite an honour for our Club, to have our International Guest Speaker from Ethiopia and having four Rotary Club members tonight.

Reports:

Gary Pinner – Reporting in relation to Christmas Rotary Trailer logistics, Energy Breakthrough Event in Maryborough; various rosters in relations to our club's BBQ'S and dates; La Trobe Uni, Lansell Market, Mandurang Market and the Bendigo Show (more info at our weekly Signpost Bulletin)

Reminders:

Please, look into attending the Bendigo Foundation Dinner, this coming Tuesday, 27th October, to be held at The Bendigo Club, Park Street (More info at Signpost)

Next Thursday, we have the honour of welcoming our Guest Speaker, Manorama Shah, from Bendigo Community Health, talking about the topic of Women's Mental Health and from Intercultural perspectives.

On behalf of my fellow Rotarians, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lindsay Jolley, IPP for chairing this meeting

Yours in Rotary
Cora Fuentes-Mahnic
President

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Member's Report

New Games Room Camp Getaway –
Paul Gibbons



The concrete slab for the new games room at Camp Getaway was poured this week and is now ready for the next stage of construction.

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Meeting program

Date	Speakers	Chairperson	Meet & Greet	Venue
OCTOBER THEME: ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT				
Tues 27 Oct	Bendigo Rotary Foundation dinner	Wayne Smith		Bendigo Club
Thurs 29 Oct	Mental Health. Manorama Shah Bendigo Comm Health	Heather	Paul & Jan	Lake View Hotel
NOVEMBER THEME: ROTARY FOUNDATION				
Thurs 5 Nov	CEO Bendigo Council Andrew Cooney	Gary	Shireen	Lake View Hote
Thurs 12 Nov	Bendigo Athletics Association	Rod	TBA	Lake View Hotel
Thurs 19 Nov	AGM & Member talk Rod Spitty Board Meeting	Cora	Shishu	Lake View Hotel
Thurs 26 Nov	Maubisse Film Night			TBA
Sunday 29 Nov	Mandurang Market			Mandurang
DECEMBER THEME: DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT				
Thurs 3 Dec	Vocational visit - Chinese Museum & dinner to follow	Rod		Chinese Museum
Thurs 10 Dec	TBA	TBA	TBA	Lake View Hotel
Thurs 17 Dec	Christmas Party combined with Eaglehawk	Glenn		Camp Getaway Axedale

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Volunteers wanted

Sat 7 Nov	Lansell Square market BBQ	10am - 3pm. 3 volunteers	
Fri 20 Nov	La Trobe Uni BBQ	10.30 – 1.30 4 volunteers	
Sat 28 Nov	Activism Against Family Violence BBQ Canterbury Park Eaglehawk	8 am – 11 am 3 volunteers	
Sun 29 Nov	Mandurang Christmas Market BBQ	9am-12.30, 12.30-4pm 4 volunteers each shift	
Sat 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 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



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Save The Date

Sunday 17th January 2027

High Tea at Camp Getaway Axedale

View the progress of our Ken Briggs Memorial Garden

Games to be played as well



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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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