

# ROTARY CLUB OF PRESTON Inc.

**CHARTER GRANTED** 21-12-1960

PO Box 299, Preston, 3072

**District Governor:** Anne Reid

**District** 9790

Meets Wednesday, 12.30pm

Darebin RSL Bell St, Preston

**Assistant Governor:** Emma Davis

## BULLETIN

October 20, 2021, Vol. 61, No. 16.



**President Chris Shields**

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0411 246 353

**Club Website**

[rotary-prestonaust.com](http://rotary-prestonaust.com)

### Office Bearers

Vice President: PP Paul Smarrelli

Hon. Secretary: PP Geoff McIlvenna

0418 500 031

[geoff.mcilvenna@bigpond.com](mailto:geoff.mcilvenna@bigpond.com)

Treasurer: Frank Smith

Past President: PP Peter Gilbert

President Elect: Ruth McCall

### Board

Kannan Subramanian, Tim Weir, Mel Riel,  
Peter McGuigan, Max Walsh, Peter Peyton

## Rotary Club of Preston 9790 COMMITTEES: 2021/2022

|   |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <u><b>International</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>P Peyton</b><br><br>I Musgrove<br>J.Roose<br>L Defazio<br>P Byrne<br>E Price   | <u><b>Youth Services</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>M.Riel</b><br><br>P Conte<br>N Schaber<br>N Pinder<br>G Lyons<br>Joe Morris  | <u><b>Vocational</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>T Weir</b><br><br>K Agarwal<br>M.Alkanani<br>C Finocchiaro | <u><b>Community</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>K Subramanian.</b><br><br>G Mogford<br>M Walsh<br>D Sullivan<br>D De La Coeur<br>C Verrocchi<br>P Smarrelli<br><br><u><b>Police Awards</b></u><br>E Price | <u><b>Club Admin.</b></u><br><br><b>R McCall</b><br><br><br><u><b>On to Conference</b></u><br><br><b>G McIlvenna</b> |
| <u><b>Foundation</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>M Walsh</b><br><br>D De La Coeur<br>Julie Morris<br>P Gilbert<br><br><u><b>Special projects</b></u><br><br><b>P Smarrelli</b> | <u><b>Membership</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>Julie Morris</b><br><br>G.McIlvenna<br>P Peyton<br>C Shields<br><br><u><b>Christmas Luncheon</b></u><br><br>Volunteer wanted | <u><b>Fundraising</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>W O'Neill</b><br><br>F Smith<br>P Smarrelli<br>C Shields  | <u><b>Sergeants</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>D Sullivan</b><br><br>C Verrocchi<br>Julie Morris<br>I Musgrove<br>D De La Coeur  | <u><b>Cashiers</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>N Schaber</b><br><br>P Peyton<br>M.Riel<br>N Pinder                |
| <u><b>Environment &amp; Conservation</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>P.McGuigan</b><br><br>C Shields<br>L.Defazio<br>G Mogford   | <u><b>PR, Website, IT</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>P Conte</b><br><br>L Defazio<br>G Lyons<br>R McCall<br>E Price  | <u><b>Attendance</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>G Mogford</b><br><br>G McIlvenna                           | <u><b>Programmes</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>Joe Morris</b><br><br>I Musgrove   | <u><b>House</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>N Pinder</b><br><br>D. De La Coeur<br>P Peyton<br>M Walsh             |
| <u><b>Bulletin</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>J McCarthy</b><br><br>P Peyton<br>C Finocchiaro   | <u><b>Club History</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>P Peyton</b>   | <u><b>Family of Rotary/ Fellowship</b></u><br><br><b>Chair:</b><br><b>E Price</b><br>Julie Morris              | <u><b>On to World Conference</b></u><br><br><b>P Gilbert</b>   | <u><b>Welcomes</b></u><br><br>P McGuigan<br>M Walsh<br>Julie Morris<br>M Riel<br>M Alkanani<br>K Agarwal             |

## PRESTON WELCOMES D.G. ANNE REID

One could describe last Wednesday evening event as a most extraordinary history-breaking zoom dinner meeting. Despite the massive negative of being unable to celebrate in true presence with the V.I.P.s of the night, the club achieved its aims:

1. D.G. Anne Reid was able to transmit her fulsome message
2. Gerry Lamers made Club Honorary Member
3. Peter Lamers and Esther Boateng were inducted into membership
4. Frank Smith received his fourth sapphire while Tim Weir received his first.
5. Gerry Lyons received a Paul Harris Fellow recognition for his Rotary service.



A brilliant evening though it did finish with a cacophonous choral rendition of *"The Wheels of the Bus go Round & Round"* sung by all to the words scripted by President Chris *"The Rotary Wheel goes Round and Round"*. One family member in the background was heard singing *"The Astro Zenica goes Round and Round"*!

**DISTRICT GOVERNOR ANNE REID** had her beginnings in Melbourne, educated on the Sunshine Coast Queensland before moving to Woolongong and finally Alexandra, which was her mother's home town. Alexandra is the land of the First Nations People with the name of **Djadjawurrung**.

Anne's life has been based on accountancy with variations into project management and local community operations, particularly secretarial and financial work.

A novel early statement was that the **District exists to support the club**, not vice versa. Connecting with that Anne recommended an



upcoming article in the next RDU issue offering a pilot programme for updating clubs' manner of operating. Many of Anne's points were derived from the R.I International **President Shekhar Mehta's** plan of going forward.

The **Each One, Bring One** slogan carries with it true and immediate inclusion of new members into the life of the club as directors, planners, etc. and the invitation to general outside community persons to meetings.

Following the **Four Way Test** is a challenge when there are different opinions. An immediate adaptability to change is essential if Rotary is to be of today. Meetings must include enjoyment.

**World Polio Day Is October 24** and Anne was interested in the club's possible participation.

A sign of Anne's call to welcome and involve the entire community is her style of running the coming March District Conference. The management of the **Annual Conference** has been given to the 6 Rotary Clubs of her Zone. The format is now Friday, Saturday, Sunday – Friday being the opening in the late afternoon so leaving clubs to run their own barbies etc. Rotex people will be up front welcoming and controlling the registration desk.

While all would have preferred to socialise face-to-face with Anne last week, the zoom meeting saved her the 120kms trip down to Preston from Alexandra. Chair Ruth McCall thanked Anne for her presentation.

## **COMING MEETINGS**

### **October 20 on Zoom 12.30PM**

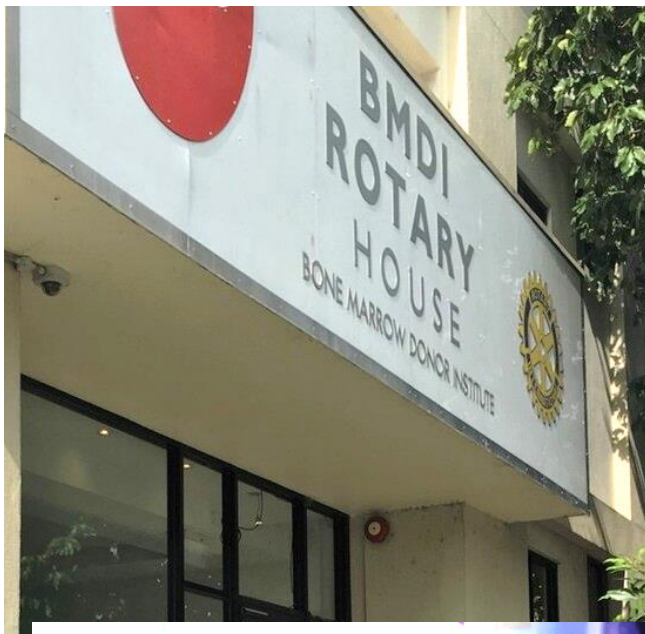
**Oct 20: Club Assembly** Chair: Peter Gilbert

**Oct 27: Melbourne Cup Sweep & Foundation Update**  
Speaker: Max Walsh Chair: Ruth McCall

# THE ROTARY FAMILY

## AWARDS ON THE NIGHT:

**GERRY LAMERS** - One could say Gerry has been a virtual Rotarian over those many many years of Bernie's membership. In all that time, to accompany



Bernie as she did with such presence, enthusiasm and hard work, merits much more than the Honorary Membership granted last week.

This was an absolute pearl of the evening! Gerry's acceptance words would be the most moving of the year. She and her viewers were also very moved. Gerry took all back to the days when Bernie co-founded the National Bone Marrow Donor Registry and then planned, project



managed and fundraised tirelessly for BMDI/Rotary House. A drop in the bucket of his and Gerry's great works!

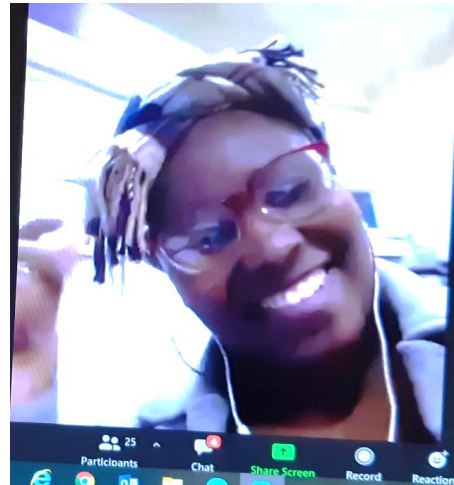
With joy all offer Gerry  
***A Big Welcome.***

**PETER LAMERS** has now been inducted as an active member of Preston Rotary. Over his years Peter has been present with Gerry and Bernie in a very hard working role, much of it in Rotary service. A large proportion of this has been with Children First Foundation from its very beginnings to this present day. David De La Coeur described Peter as the perfect example of Service Above Self – volunteering his strengths wherever work was to be done. Might has been his volunteer service at the Kilmore Retreat - from its early works organized by

Secretary Geoff to the present day - regularly working on such areas as garden/field maintenance and water tank controller. Another big **Welcome**.

**ESTHER BOATENG** was the second induction for the evening. Married to President Chris and the mother of four children. Esther was an accountant in Ghana and, in the words of Chris, is now a local girl. Given Esther's origins, she certainly makes Preston Rotary an international club.

Esther was most grateful for the trust placed in her and looks forward to contributing in whatever way possible.



**TIM WEIR** received a Paul Harris sapphire in recognition for his contribution to Rotary Foundation.

**FRANK SMITH** received a fourth Sapphire for his contribution to Rotary Foundation.

**GERRY LYONS** received a Paul Harris Fellow recognition for his Rotary service.

**WILLOW** is Gerry Higgins' youngest daughter. At the left is the photo submitted to Moreland Rotary showing her jumping for joy and wearing the Rotary shirt publicising the club's fundraiser for Mental Aid.

Fully blown up, the photo is great and was voted as the best by the Moreland club. Imagine her jump when she heard she had won first prize - \$500 voucher for Piranha snack food!

NEIL GRIERSON - Birthday 27/10

SUZANNE STILL – Induction 24/10



## CLUB NEWS

**NOMINATIONS FOR CLUB MANAGEMENT 22/23** have been released by P.E. Ruth McCall. Members are invited to view the planning so far and Ruth is seeking any feedback. So far the office of incoming President for 23/24 is vacant and the nominating committee is asking any member to come forward or any nominations from club members for that task. The election of the office bearers will be held at the General Meeting Nov. 10.



**- FROM A LIFETIME OF PAIN TO A LIFETIME OF SMILES.** That was the Herald Sun heading for the 2page write-up on the prolonged yet thoroughly successful rehabilitation of Tanzanian Christina Magembe. At the Children First Foundation Kilmore base she became very much part of the family.

St Vincent's managed an operational space between lockdowns and, with time, her deteriorating leg deformities were fixed and now she has flown home to her family.

A beautiful outcome and a definite tribute to past and present Preston Rotarians working from the beginnings of CFF, to its ongoing development and continuing administration. ***Serve to Change Lives*** is no mere slogan!

### **FOODBANK - NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE:**

Future deliveries are Oct 19, 26 and Nov 9, 23 and Dec 3.

**ROTARIANS AGAINST MALARIA:** RAM's Annual Conference will be virtual, live on Zoom. Dates: 11-12 Sat. 13 Nov. and 10-12.30. Sun 14 Nov. Book now: [Ram.rawcs.com.au/2021conference](http://Ram.rawcs.com.au/2021conference)

**EMBRACING CHANGE - DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2022:** The Conference is programmed for 18-20 March at Marysville in the Yarra Valley. Hotel bookings with Sec. Geoff. ASAP.

Also please send a copy of the original Conference receipt to Sec. Geoff. Site for Conference Bookings: **TRY BOOKINGS Marysville Rotary Conference**

## **ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART**

(Continued from last week)

(The ancestral tie between the land, our 'mother nature' and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples) . . . . . This link is the basis of the ownership of the soil, or better, of sovereignty. It has never been ceded or extinguished, and co-exists with the sovereignty of the Crown. How could it be otherwise? That peoples possessed a land for sixty millennia and this sacred link disappears from world history in merely the last two hundred years?



With substantive constitutional change and structural reform, we believe this ancient sovereignty can shine through as a fuller expression of Australia's nationhood.

Proportionally, we are the most incarcerated people on the planet. We are not an innately criminal people. Our children are alienated from their families at unprecedented rates. This cannot be because we have no love for them. And our youth languish in detention in obscene

numbers. They should be our hope for the future. These dimensions of our crisis tell plainly the structural nature of our problem. This is the torment of our powerlessness. We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take a rightful place in our own country. When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country.

We call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution. Makarrata is the culmination of our agenda: the coming together after a struggle. It captures our aspirations for a fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and a better future for our children based on justice and self-determination. We seek a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about our history. In 1967 we were counted, in 2017 we seek to be heard. We leave base camp and start our trek across this vast country. We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people

Club Website address: [www.rotary-prestonaust.com](http://www.rotary-prestonaust.com)

Info to Ruth McCall or Lisa Defazio.

**FORGET THE EGGS but please save the boxes with lids.**

**Pass the word around.**

**Reservoir N. House needs as many as possible. Bring them along when all is back to face to face**



## **Each One, Bring One**

The account details for the **Rotary Club of Preston:**

Bendigo Bank                      BSB 633 000,    A/c 154 200 034

The account details for the **Australian Rotary Foundation Trust** for member donations

Bendigo Bank                      BSB 332 084,    A/c 551 038 195