

# 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

February 23, 2022, Vol. 62, No. 28



**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, Joe Morris

Max Walsh, Peter Peyton, Lisa Defazio

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

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

**We acknowledge that we are on the traditional land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation and we pay our respects to their Elders past and present.**

## **POLICE AWARDS LAST WEEK**

This was a big Wednesday meeting after so many Covid pandemic cancellations. Numerous elections from locally serving police officers only to have the award programmes cancelled due to the Covid. However, to a large extent all was kept together by an arduous Elaine Price to finally arrive at this presentation dinner chaired by Elaine. Elaine's outline of the extra and changing duties performed by the police in these most difficult times well justified the need for the wider community to make a public recognition. Hence, this event. Voting was done by fellow workers and this gave the awards a deeper meaning to *recognition*.

Two awards on the day. The first was the ROTARY HIGHLY COMMENDED



CERTIFICATE. This was given to **First Constable Nathan Batchelor** (at left in photo).

Starting out as a primary school Welfare Officer, Nathan excelled in a general mentoring role which he brought with him into the police force. He has worked well with junior cadets and excels both in managing potentially dangerous confrontations and working with youth possibly at risk. He is also a junior girls' basketball coach whilst assisting young players gain playing scholarships.

The second award was the 20/21/22 Rotary Club of Preston COMMUNITY POLICE AWARD. It went to **First Constable Catherine Morgan** (at right in photo). Based at the Northcote Police Station, Catherine has reflected the Rotary theme of Service Above Self. Chair Elaine highlighted Catherine's professional

interest in working with persons suffering mental health issues especially in



these Covid times. Frontline policing in Northwest Metropolitan Region Division 5 regularly respond to mental health episodes within the community and during the COVID-19 pandemic this has multiplied. First Constable Morgan devised the mental health portfolio under Operation Unity. Over many aspects her directions aim for education, inclusion and betterment. Where as in the past maybe many such cases the only alternative available was imprisonment.

Chris Schields Catherine Morgan Elaine Price

**Inspector Graham Guy** whose leadership role covers Northcote, Preston and Reservoir, added his words praising the value of such an event. Years back, Graham served with club secretary Geoff when Geoff was Senior Sergeant at Mill Park. To get his point across of community involvement, Graham cited Geoff (*Boss* as he was known!) as an example of police life involving not solely enforcement of law but also a major role of serving the community. Graham saw the presentations as that. The presentations were solid examples of community support.







## **COMING MEETINGS**

- FEB. 23: CLOUD INTERGRATORS – Jason Shico, Organizer Club Website.  
Chair – Lisa DeFazio
- MARCH 2: DINNER MEETING at RSL, 6.30 for 7pm. Mark Goodie,  
Merri Outreach Support Services (MOSS Limited)  
Chair – Chris Shields
- MARCH 9: ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY IN DAREBIN  
Chair - Peter Peyton
- APRIL 6: CLUB LUNCHTIME VISIT - to iceHQ Sports Stadium, Reservoir.  
Tour of the facility, Q&A and light lunch 12:30 – 1:30pm

***“IMAGINE a world that deserves our best; where we get up each day knowing that we can make a difference”. R.I. President Elect Jenifer Jones***

## THE ROTARY FAMILY

Happy  
Birthday

Mary Verrocchi 23/2



Julie Morris

Bernie Geary

Abedin Jakupi Joan Roose

**VISITORS LAST WEEK:** Given the occasion it was great to see the presence of so many supporting family members of the awardees. Present also were past awardees and fellow police personnel, especially Inspector Graham Guy.

President Chris welcomed also Bernie Geary, Natalie Au, Abedin Jakupi and Neil Patton.

## **CLUB NEWS**

*“Yes the now separated and repatriated **NIMA AND DAWA** will be able to start at a government-funded school once they are six years old. Until then, accessing critical early education is only possible if their family can find the money for kindergarten fees. Mother Bhumchu is worried that the girls will fall behind their peers without proper teaching.*



*As you know, at **Children First Foundation** we are committed to truly changing the lives and futures of children from developing countries. You know all about the life-changing medical care we provide, but you may not be aware that we also support these children post-surgery through our Back-Home-Support. We don't just say 'goodbye' at the airport and hope they are ok. We see them through, and work with these children and their families to help them reach their goals.*

*Thanks to you, we support key medical, education and sometimes welfare activities to truly help ensure every child you support has a positive future. This continuity of care ensures they can make the most of the life-changing outcomes of their surgery.*

*I am asking for your support now to help the twins and other children like them to create a bright future post-surgery. Your help can ensure that Nima and Dawa can have a positive future too. Bhumchu is terrified that the girls won't be able to go to kindergarten, and because of their challenging early years, fall further behind, affecting their future. Your support today will ensure they can take the next steps towards achieving their dreams.”*

Jessica Redwood, CEO   [childrenfirstfoundation.org.au](https://childrenfirstfoundation.org.au)

The Rotary World President has decided to hold the **2022/2023 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION** in Melbourne from the 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> MAY 2023.

Melbourne will have the opportunity to home host overseas Rotarians and partners and/or our a Club will the opportunity to host another Rotary Club for a special Australian meal or cultural activities.

Any thoughts could be forwarded now to President Chris and President Elect Ruth or our own Club contact PDG Peter Gilbert.



**N.B. DINNER MEETING, March 2.**  
**Names/Numbers needed at Feb.23 meeting.**

**EMBRACING CHANGE - DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2022:** The Conference is programmed for 18-20 March at Marysville. **PEPPERS HOTEL**, 32-42 Murchison Street, 2 minutes from town centre, has been booked by Secretary Geoff.

Club Website address: [www.rotary-prestonaust.com](http://www.rotary-prestonaust.com)  
Info to Ruth McCall or Lisa Defazio.

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