

ROTARY CLUB OF PRESTON Inc.

CHARTER GRANTED 21-12-1960
PO Box 299, Preston, 3072

Meets Wednesday, 12.30pm
Darebin RSL Bell St, Preston

District Governor: Stephen O'Connell

Assistant Governor: Pat Solibakke

CLUB BULLETIN

February 5, 2025, Vol. 64, No. 28



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Treasurer: Frank Smith
Past President: Kannan Subramanian
President Elect: Gerry Lyons

Directors/Board

Peter Peyton, Peter Gilbert, Gerry Lyons, Peter Byrne
Kannan Subramanian, Chris Shields Paul Smarrelli

**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.**

SPEAKER LAST WEEK

Rotary Exchange Student Charlotte Puttlitz:

Thank you Rotary!

"I want to take a moment to thank you sincerely for sponsoring my two-month student exchange to France. It was truly a life changing experience, and I am so grateful for the opportunity you provided me.

The exchange was incredibly enriching, and I gained not only new perspectives but also lifelong memories and friends on the other side of the world. The work the Rotary Club does through programs like this is truly remarkable, and I'm proud to have been a part of it. I hope I was able represent the Preston Rotary Club well while on the other side of the world.

Thank you again for your kindness support".

Charlotte's talk was a brief and illustrated account of a very incredible 2 months in France. The hospitality of her fellow French exchange student, Jade, and her family was limitless.

Charlotte outlined the colorful stopovers at various iconic settings extending from Paris to Burgundy, Dijon, Colmar, Montpellier. Her hosting family had no limits to their hospitality. The accommodation was always comfortable. Her French school companions were true mates.

The photo shows Charlotte at Paris Disneyland.



side

to

and

FAMILY OF ROTARY



From Ruth McCall:

Dear Friends,

As Peter and I wish to spend a lot more time in our Merimbula home in NSW, I have decided to resign my membership from Rotary. Peter now has the opportunity to be more flexible in his work commitments, and after 40 years as an Anesthetist at Austin Hospital, we feel this is timely. (He's not quite ready to retire outright!) I am rescinding my various Rotary responsibilities; however, I intend to support actively our club when in Melbourne via any of our community/environmental outreach

Thanks good people for your friendship and compassion. I have been enriched by my Rotary experience, and I hope to keep connected, albeit more fluidly!

Ruth.

Geoff McIlvenna 8/2/1989



Debbie O'Neill 10/2

CLUB NEWS

PLEASE HELP - VOLUNTEER VAN DRIVER REQUIRED: Members will remember the recent activities with the FOOD RELIEF workers at the Thornbury Church of Christ, St Georges Rd. Thornbury. From there they operate a food relief/rescue programme; Mondays Wednesdays and Fridays. Anyone can walk in and collect produce such as bakery items, fresh fruit and frozen meals.



Currently they are appealing urgently for a volunteer van driver. It would take 3 hours on Mondays, 9.30am to 12.30pm. Any member or person known to a member is invited to contact [ASAP Maree @ 0433 613 414](mailto:maree@thornburychurch.org.au) or maree@thornburychurch.org.au

EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMUNITY AWARDS: Dates for the Awards 2025: Nominations open March 1 and close April 30. Finalists announced June. The Vic RESCA Awards Dinner August 30. Aus RESCA National Event October www.vic.rescawards.org.au/.

THANK YOU FROM RIMERN:

Dear David and all at Rotary Preston,

*Thank you all so much for the very generous donation of the **electric forklift stacker** for RIMERN which we found on returning from holidays! We realized it wasn't Santa, but instead your very supportive Club!*

All of us in the warehouse appreciate this gift very much. It will enable us to stack & store a lot more stock on our higher racking, giving us the ability to accept more commercial quantities of furniture and homewares as they become available.

We are so glad that the Rotary Club of Preston joined as a RIMERN club. However we now need a new Club representative to take Ruth McCall's place on our committee. All Clubs can have 2 reps. Some can only manage one but it's vital that all Clubs are represented at our monthly online zoom meetings to remain apprised of the progress and opportunities at RIMERN.

Please pass on our sincere thanks for this marvelous piece of equipment, and please book a Club meeting at the warehouse to see it and the whole operation in action!

Kind regards, Susie Cole

Weekly Roster January - March 2025

PLEASE ARRANGE A REPLACEMENT IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND

DATE	WELCOMES	CASHIERS	SERGEANT	CHAIRPERSON
Feb-05	Peter Peyton	Peter Gilbert & Kannan Subramanian	David Sullivan	Elaine Price
Feb-12	C Finocchiaro	Norbet Schaber & Paul Smarrelli	Gerry Lyons	Peter Byrne
Feb-19	Eileen Stevens	Peter Gilbert & Peter Peyton	David De La Coeur	Chris Shields
Feb-26	Chris Shields	Kannan Subramanian & Peter Gilbert	David Sullivan	Gerry Lyons
Mar-05	Peter Byrne	Norbet Schaber & Gary Mogford	K Subramanian	Paul Smarrelli
Mar-12	Norbet Schaber	Peter Gilbert & Ruth McCall	Max Walsh	Norm Pinder
Mar-19	Suzanne Still	Norbet Schaber & Paul Smarrelli	David Sullivan	Peter Byrne
Mar-26	Hassan Abdulkadir	Peter Gilbert & Gary Mogford	David De La Coeur	Elaine Price

MOTHERS DAY – MAY 11, 2025: Yes, the MOTHERS DAY PAMPER PACKS are ready to order NOW! At PINCHAPOO (slang for *pinch-a-shampoo*) Kate Austin never sleeps. Pinchapoo Pamper Packs contain 'non-essential' products such as skin/body care, make-up, hair treatments and other various 'self-care'. These luxury brands provide an opportunity for everyone to experience the finer things of life!



Order in now for Mothers Day by emailing info@pinchapoo.org.au with your requests. All orders placed must be able to be picked up from the Bayswater warehouse.

THE NEXT BUNNINGS BARBIE is Saturday, 8th February 2025;

FOODBANK: The next FOODBANK DELIVERY is the 4th February, arriving somewhere around 9.30am onwards.

UPCOMING SPEAKER

Date	Topic	Speaker
Feb 5	Alma Doepel (Youth)	Jasper Coglan

- **JACOB'S WELL** is always on the move in Odisha state, India, be it with providing clean drinking water or education for unschooled children. Preston's Joan Roose reports that work is concluding on the play areas and building extensions at Rejoice Public School. The school provides life-changing education for children from rural villages. In Odisha less than 20% of children go to school.



Joan, Jacob's Well founder, has been on her regular round of visits late last year and is due back home in Melbourne shortly. Ian Musgrove reports that the Church of Christ in Essendon recently donated \$1,000 Jacob's Well works.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE IF YOU SIGN UP NOW! D.G. Stephen O'Connell invites members to a daytime session on **MEMBERSHIP – The Seed You Need: Empowering Rotary Clubs to Grow and Thrive.**

Sunday 16th February: 9.30am – 2.30pm; at Oxley Shire Hall, Snow Road, Oxley.

Membership experts will be offering dynamic hands-on workshops to help this club grow and flourish.

Confirm your attendance today: margsweb2@bigpond.com.



The **ULTRASOUND MACHINE** is now installed and it will provide huge benefits to the remote Indigenous community at Docker River, N.T.

The Club's donation of \$10,000 significantly accelerated its purchase. To save pregnant women an 18 hour round trip drive to Alice Springs (by bus via other remote communities) for anti- natal monitoring is a godsend! The early detection of Rheumatic Heart Disease, and other major medical conditions is now possible.

The Medical Director of the Central Australian Aboriginal Congress writes:

"The machine is underway; we really appreciate your major contribution to the wellbeing of the community."

Good work Rotarians!!

DISTRICT CONFERENCE – ALBURY 2025

Via TryBooking - it only takes three minutes!

Secretary Geoff requests:

"Can I ask those who have submitted their name to attend this year's D9790 CONFERENCE to please register for the Conference via TryBooking as soon as possible?"

With 13 names on the list I have to work on the hotel booking.

I require numbers ASAP to finally book some rooms. Room prices for accommodation at hotels/motels vary greatly.

Thanks in anticipation of your immediate assistance in these matters."



Pres. Wayne recognizing treasurer Frank Smith after 30 years service.

PRESIDENT WAYNE REPORTS ON MAJOR MOVE FOR RIMERN: *“After my first visit to RIMERN it was glaringly obvious that help was needed for furniture movement and storage. The warehouse offered 3 levels of stacking. However, most of the furniture and household items were spread all over the ground floor, causing congestion and difficulties for the volunteers and beneficiaries looking for items.*

A motion was presented to our Board to provide RIMERN with an Electric Stacker. The board approved the purchase, and David De La Coeur took on the responsibility to investigate the Purchase. David approached RIMERN to work out the size and specifications of a suitable Stacker given the size of their isles.

David did some excellent negotiations, and I am happy to report that the Stacker was purchased for a sum of \$3610 after a GST refund. Funds were provided from the club’s Major Donation budget.

The stacker has now been delivered, albeit with some difficulty to do with the delivery Truck accessing the steep Drive at the RIMERN facility was difficult. Well done to David for his good work. I am hoping we will some photos soon”.

Wayne O’Neill