

ROTARY CLUB OF PRESTON Inc.

CHARTER GRANTED 21-12-1960

PO Box 299, Preston, 3072

District Governor: David McPherson

Meets Wednesday, 12.30pm

Darebin RSL Bell St, Preston

Assistant Governor: Pat Solibakke

BULLETIN

June 28, 2023, Vol. 63, No. 44



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

President Ruth McCall

mccall.ruth@gmail.com

0488 983 621

Club Website

rotary-prestonaust.com

Office Bearers

Vice President: PP Paul Smarrelli

Hon. Secretary: PP Geoff McIlvenna

0418 500 031

geoff.mcilvenna@bigpond.com

Treasurer: Frank Smith

Past President: Chris Shields

President Elect: Kannan Subramanian

Directors

Kannan Subramanian, Peter Gilbert, Julie Morris, Chris Shields,
Elaine Price, Max Walsh, Peter Peyton.

Rotary Club of Preston 9790 COMMITTEES: 2022/23

<u>International</u> Director P. Peyton J Roose S Still E Boateng	<u>Youth</u> Director: E. Price Joe Morris P Conte N Schaber M Riel P Sambell	<u>Vocational</u> Director: C. Shields N Au C Finocchiario	<u>Community</u> Director: P. Smarrelli Julie Morris D De La Coeur C Verrocchi N Pinder G Lyons E Higgins D Sullivan	<u>Club Administration</u> Director: K. Subramanian G. Mogford
<u>Foundation</u> Director: M. Walsh P Gilbert D De La Coeur I Musgrove K Argawal	<u>Membership & Classifications</u> Director Chair: P Gilbert P Smarrelli G Mclivenna Julie Morris	<u>Fundraising & Circus Quirkus</u> Chair: W O'Neill F Smith P Smarrelli G Mcllivenna	<u>Environment</u> Director: P Byrne G Mogford R McCall	<u>Cashiers</u> N Schaber Vacancies exist
<u>Bulletin</u> J McCarthy P Peyton P Gilbert	<u>Public Relations</u> R. McCall E Price E Higgins & any club members to assist	<u>Attendance</u> G Mogford G Mcllivenna P Smarrelli	<u>Programs</u> G.Mogford	<u>House</u> Joe Morris P.Peyton D De La Coeur
<u>Fellowship</u> Elaine Price Julie Morris P Byrne G. Mcllivenna	<u>Family of Rotary and Club History</u> P Peyton P Gilbert G Smith G Mcllivenna P Smarrelli	<u>World Conference</u> P Gilbert R McCall G Mcllivenna E Higgins G Lyons	<u>Sergeants</u> D Sullivan D De La Coeur Julie Morris Peter Byrne Peter Gilbert	<u>Rotary Information</u> P Peyton P Gilbert G Mcllivenna P Smarrelli
	<u>District Conference</u> G Mcllivenna	<u>RIMERN</u> R McCall Julie Morris Joe Morris E Price		Secretary G Mcllivenna Treasurer F Smith Special Projects P 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



Introduced by Chair Gary Mogford, David Brien is a volunteer through and through. He took the speaker's role with no notice given the nominated

speaker's inability to attend.

David spoke of the numerous moves of his station until they acquired the Heidelberg Heights Police Station in Waterdale Road and set up its well-stocked station. The station is manned 24/7 with 80 volunteers (operational or in training) and covers all of Darebin and half the area of Banyule and Yarra. Members undergo 2 years training.

Call outs can vary and at times, he has spent over 2 days out of his area setting up base camps and attending the task. David commented on the remarkable welcome and help local community members offer – food, domestic services, parking spaces etc.

Events vary from gas explosions to tree falls, hail storms, flooding and major traffic disasters. SES does not fight fires but work as major co-ordinators. They do not chop down trees but they chop up after a fall. Searching for lost persons is a specialist task and volunteers are given 2 years of specialist training in the field.



David's talk was a good insight into another service in the community – the expertise of members, the possible dangers in call-outs and the need to be ever ready to get out and serve. As Gary Mogford remarked *"in ways somewhat akin to Rotary service"*.

FAMILY OF ROTARY

Geoff McIlvenna 2/7



KATE AUSTIN, Honorary Member of the club and founder of Pinchapoo, Australia's largest distributor of personal hygiene packs, has reported on her current serious body damage and hospitalization.



Despite Kate's medical challenges, she sent a message of thanks to the club for its donation. These recent times have affected the supply of goods for her packs and the ability of distribution throughout the country. On the other hand, demands for supplies are growing. All in the Rotary Club of Preston are there with her and hope that recovery is around the corner. In the meantime, the club's support for Pinchapoo is unwavering.



Lenore Thornton Kate Austin

(Early photo of Lenore and Kate)



Last Wednesday, by a stroke of luck, a massive crane was working adjacent to the Darebin RSL. At the conclusion of her last midday Rotary Club of Preston meeting/meal as President, this crane was called on to winch out President Ruth through the dining room roof. Great drama!

The problem? Ruth was heavily overloaded with expressions of deep gratitude and sincere recognition for her presidential role during the 22/23 Rotary year.

Next Wednesday at the Changeover night Ruth will be made a Past President with Kannan Subramanian taking on the Rotary presidential task 23/24.



Kanan Subramanian

Ruth McCall

“BENVENUTO - WELCOME” is the call to all visitors to club meetings but especially at the Changeover meeting this Wednesday when the Exchange Student to Italy will be present. She will be attending with her mother and father. Youth Committee Director Elaine Price has asked all to **“look out”!**

VISITOR LAST WEEK: It was a dramatic welcome last week for Ahmed Kelly – a very close friend of the Club since his arrival with Moira Kelly from Baghdad, Iraq, in 1998. Then followed an amazing lifetime development – artificial limbs, Para Olympic medals, a great personality to mention a few.

Last Wednesday Ahmed attended the meeting and accepted a small bike for the 6 year old son of his partner. Geoff picked up the bike from DIK. Norbertt Schaber did the repairs and a thankful Ahmed took it home.



Ahmed Kelly

Geoff McIlvenna

CLUB NEWS

PRESTON CHANGEOVER NIGHT - 28th June

at Preston Polytechnic 6.30 for 7pm start. \$70 per person.

Pay Frank Smith. No payments on the night.

MEMBERS VOTE ON AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS:

4. Funds & Accounts:

Payments by cheque or electronic transfer can only be authorised by the Treasurer and another Director. The club has now opened another account with Bendigo Bank that allows for the issue of debit cards. While this facility allows for easier use when paying for club meals or purchases for Bunnings BBQ's, it is really only made by one signature. Club bylaws have now been amended to allow for debit card use.

BIG DAY – ALL DONE! Pres. Ruth reported that the loading of the container bound for Odisha in India was a *"fabulous effort"*. The container at DIK is now chock-a-block and ready to go. It was a freezing day but people as Sec. Geoff and Peter Sambell were well warmed with their speed. Undoubtedly Joan Roose would have backed Ruth's thanks to those who did the job but, last Wednesday, Joan was absent with a heavy cold.

SCHOOL HOLS IN OUTBACK

INDIA: Members received a great email from Joan Roose. The following clip sums up the whole theme driving the programme.

"Our children at Rejoice Centre (199 before the vacation began) are currently on summer vacation so until the new school year begins (June 19) we only

have about 30 in residence. Some can only be away a week, visiting relatives who love to see them but can't look after them for a longer time. Others, mainly boys, will come a week or so late – sometimes because they are reluctant to get back into the routine of school, other times it's because the rains have started and families need strong hands to prepare the ground for rice & mandia (millet) planting".



INNER NORTH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: Joe Morris reported on a recent meeting of the Foundation of which the Club is a share-holder. A number of members attended at the Aboriginal Advancement League in Thornbury and Joe circulated a bulletin demonstrating its activities. The Foundation's large donations to communities across the northern suburbs is doing great work for proven needy situations. It stretches from Glenroy to Bundoora and down to Richmond while touching those in desperate need. Caroline Doherty Acting Executive Officer gave the following report:

- **Pathways to Employment:** We received 30 applications, and a Community Advisory Panel met on Tuesday night to start the assessment process. The Foundation will fund ~\$200,000 to 10 local groups – and it's likely we will have an overflow of great projects that need support.
- **Bakers Dozen Social Justice Fund:** Last month the board approved a further \$150,000 in grants over three years, recommendations from the Community Advisory Panel. This year the fund has provided \$106,000 in support to 14 groups, with five of these groups receiving multi-year support commitments.
- **Getting into Sport Fund:** Nine groups have received grants of \$2,000 to increase the participation of women and girls.

THE NEXT BUNNINGS BARBIE will be Saturday July 8.

Club Website addresses:

Info to **Ruth McCall**
www.rotary-prestonaust.com

Bulletin email: jmcpresto@netspace.net.au

The account details for the Rotary Club of Preston:

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

For member donations - Australian Rotary Foundation Trust

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