

**ROTARY CLUB OF PRESTON Inc.**  
**District 9790**

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

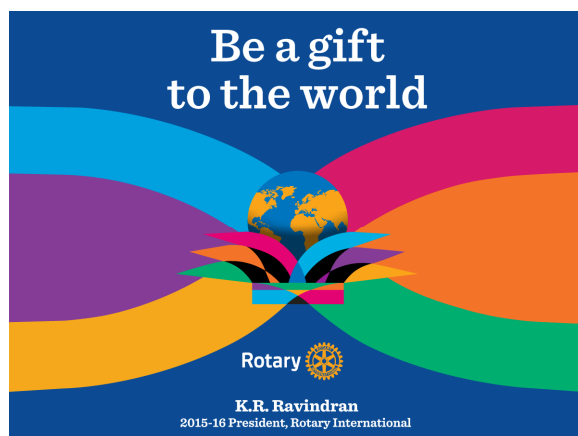
Meets Wednesday, 12.30pm  
Darebin RSL, cnr Bell St &  
St Georges Road, Preston

District Governor:  
Richard Luke (Lorna)  
[dg@rotary9790.org.au](mailto:dg@rotary9790.org.au)

Assistant Governor:  
Wendy-Grace Williams  
[ag@rotary9790.org.au](mailto:ag@rotary9790.org.au)

**BULLETIN**  
**2015-2016**

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**OFFICE BEARERS**

Hon. Secretary: **Geoff McIlvenna**  
0418 500 031  
[geoffmcilvenna@bigpond.com](mailto:geoffmcilvenna@bigpond.com)

Hon. Treasurer: **Frank Smith**  
Past President: **Elaine Price**  
President Elect: **Geoff McIlvenna**

**BOARD**

Paul Smarrelli, Geoff McIlvenna, David De La Coeur,  
Peter Peyton, Julie Morris, Peter Byrne, Frank Smith,  
Carla Finocchiaro, Elaine Price, Wayne O'Neill

**CLUB WEBSITE**

<http://www.rotary-prestonaust.com/>

# **55 YEARS OF ROTARY SERVICE**

## **The Rotary Club of Preston**

**Chartered 21/12/1960. Initial Meeting 1.3.1961**

The evening celebration of the 55<sup>th</sup> was a sparkling night at St Georges Melbourne Polytechnic Restaurant. A warm enthusiastic crowd. P.H.F. recognition for Jack Wilcox. The Rotary induction of Frank Brass. The presence of Rotarian Joy Crampton whose husband Mark was a Charter Member. Entrees of Karaage fried chicken Ribs with Kimchi mayonnaise and salted radish. All topped off with Club Friend Speaker Margaret Smith A.O.

**CHILDREN FIRST FOUNDATION:** Till her retirement last year from CFF, the names MARGARET SMITH and CFF were inseparable.

Margaret began adult life using her Diploma in Business Management and eventually working in the high corporate world. After some years she moved into the philanthropic sector and in this environment she



met Moira Kelly. At that time Moira was running an ad hoc programme bringing children from Bosnia and elsewhere to Australia for life-changing medical treatment. Margaret saw that this needed rationalizing and hence the birth of CFF 16 years ago. Development and expansion quickly followed.

Beginning her talk one day after International Women's Day, Margaret voiced an enthusiastic welcome to Liangyu Wei as also a sincere recognition of Joy Crampton whom she described as "*sensational*".



Then followed a short video of the children at various stages of their medical journey. The video was backed by Jaimie Lee's moving song "*Different on the outside*", catch it again on YouTube.

Margaret's highlight was in meeting the then D.G. Geoff McIlvenna! There was an urgent need

to formulize/stabilize the many and various activities all happening at once. Also there was need to gather as many backing entities as possible. Margaret's CFF was the answer. She was able to get businesses to back the programme. A base was needed for children awaiting attention and then for rehabilitation. A few towns rejected the idea as not being a '*good look*' and it was D.G. Geoff who enlisted an enthusiastic Rotary Club of Kilmore with the land and a farmer from near Bright with a house. Preston's building-Rotarian Bernie Lamers and Gerry hopped in, David De La Coeur, Peter Gilbert and Peter Peyton and an army of OTHERS.

All this time Margaret was gathering generous corporates and smaller businesses which gave the C.F.F. credibility.

A spectacular festival backed the opening of the farm by Governor John Landy. Numerous large hospitals came on board. A house was bought in North Melbourne. Recently a bush fire threatened the farm but a rally by CFA and others saved most of everything after a fight



of 36 hours. Every year there has been renovations, additions, asphaltting, drainage, painting both at Kilmore and North Melbourne.

Margaret listed the umpteen hidden factors needing resolution before a child arrives at Tullamarine - distant tribal locations, medical assessments, migration dept. and embassy clearances, transport, prior medical agreements etc. Then she related the well-known work with the twins Krishna and Trishna, a most exhausting 24/7 piece of history including 9 major surgeries. Meanwhile Emmanuel is doing some singing overseas, while Ahmed is trying for the 100 metres breaststroke at the Rio Paralympic Games.

While the CFF is flourishing, the supply of philanthropic partners is drying up; hence Margaret's gratitude for the Club's continuing support. Notable is the presence of Club member Peter Gilbert still acting as honorary secretary and treasurer. In this article many benefactors are not named but their input must remain their eternal joy. Unreservedly, those present last Wednesday knew they were privileged to have spent so much time listening to Margaret Smith AO.

## **CLUB NEWS**

**ROTARIAN FRANK BRASS** was inducted by President Paul at the celebratory dinner last Wednesday. On the night Frank was accompanied by his wife, Rosemary.

Frank has the vocation of Accountancy. He will serve on the Community Service Committee with Chair, Julie Morris.

Welcome on board Frank and Rosemary.



**JACK WILCOX P.H.F.:** a **Magnificent Scene!** Jack and Rosemary Wilcox with their well-pleased family, Chris and Kathy Wilcox and Rob and Janet Wilcox. In awarding the Paul Harris Fellow, some of Jack's work-programme listed were his part in his local church community and in numerous Club activities with PP Rosemary since her induction in 1992.



**GERRY AND BERNIE LAMERS:** When David De La Coeur stood to give the latest on Gerry and Bernie in Tasmania on their fund-raising for Australian Rotary Health there was a strange ominous silence. It was bad news. *BUT*, with help from the rest of the Rotary caravan,



they are now back home. Yes, Bernie's hip gave out again!

The good news is that he is still appealing for help to meet the \$20,000 he and the party are



aiming at. The rest of the party are still in Tassie and are half-way to the total. If you listen closely you should be able to hear Bernie singing:

*"Come on Rotarians, come on!"*

**VISITORS LAST WEEK:** At the request of her Taiwanese Rotary Club, Global Rotary Scholar **Liangyu Wei** is being hosted by Preston Rotary over the next two years. The link is based on the Speech Pathology degree being offered by Latrobe University. In a brief address last Wednesday, Lia expressed her sincere gratitude to the Club - *"Every day I am grateful . ."* She noted the fundamental value of speech communication as in the world scene.

The list of partners and guests present was extensive. Striking was **Jason Jackson**, guest of Paul Josephson. Jason represented the Preston East Technical School in the 1988 District 9790 Ian Murphy Memorial Debate. The team won throughout the eliminations only to lose the final at the Wagga Wagga Conference.

## FAMILY OF ROTARY



<b>Birthday</b>	Marilyn McIlvenna 19/3
<b>Rotary Ann.</b>	Carla Finocchiaro 22/3/2000

I just can't believe  
The way you look at me  
Cause I'm different on the  
outside



I may not run as fast  
Be the brightest one in class  
Cause I'm different on the  
outside

## DIARY DATES

DATE		
March 16	Chair	David De La Coeur
	Speaker	Peter Wearne
	Topic	YSAS - Young People and Drugs
	Welcomes	David Sullivan
	Sergeant	Brett Allchin
	House	Norm Pinder

**Peter Wearne** has over 30 years' experience in dealing with problems affecting young people, particularly those who are marginalised. In 1981, Peter founded and managed St Kilda Youth Services and he has been with YSAS since its inception in 1997. Peter has a particular interest in working with police to improve their response to young people who have alcohol, drug and criminal behaviour issues. Peter has been an advisor to various state governments and youth advisory committees.



## LOOKING FORWARD

### March: Water and Sanitation Month

**INCOMING BOARD 16/17:** District Assembly at Benalla 10/4/16.

**OPEN DAY AT THE CHILDREN FIRST FARM, KILMORE:** 17 April, 12-4pm.  
190 Saunders Road, Kilmore East.

**DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2017:** 16-19 March at Shepparton - Paradise Lakes Motel already booked for the Club. Ahmed Kelly will be one of the guest speakers.

ROTARY GRACE



O Lord and Giver of all good  
we thank Thee for our daily food.  
May Rotary friends and Rotary ways  
help us to serve Thee all our days.

## Rotary Club of Preston 9790 COMMITTEES: 2015/16

<u><b>International</b></u>  <b>Director</b> <b>Chair: P Byrne</b> <b>Dep K Agarwal</b> B Lamers A Pahuja P Gilbert G McIlvenna	<u><b>Youth Services</b></u>  <b>Director</b> <b>Chair: E Price</b> <b>Dep P Josephson</b> K Kirby P Donovan D Warry C Shields Joe Morris N Orchard	<u><b>Vocational</b></u>  <b>Director</b> <b>Chair:</b> <b>C Finocchiaro</b> <b>Dep D Sullivan</b> L Woodland F Smith N Schaber N Pinder	<u><b>Community</b></u>  <b>Director</b> <b>Chair:</b> <b>Julie Morris</b> <b>Dep B Allchin</b> R Wilcox P Josephson W O'Neill D De La Coeur C Verrocchi A Pahuja S Walsh Frank Brass	<u><b>Club Admin.</b></u>  <b>Director</b> <b>Chair:</b> <b>G McIlvenna</b>
<u><b>Foundation</b></u>  <b>Director</b> <b>Chair: P Peyton</b> P Gilbert G McIlvenna R Wilcox C Shields E Price	<u><b>Membership &amp; Classifications</b></u> <b>Director</b> <b>Chair: D De La Coeur</b> <b>Deputy: I Musgrove</b> L Woodland K Subramanian N Schaber B Allchin N Orchard	<u><b>Fundraising &amp; Circus Quirkus</b></u>  <b>Director</b> <b>Chair: W O'Neill</b> P Peyton P Gilbert	<u><b>Public Relations</b></u>  <b>Chair:</b> <b>K Subramanian</b> E Price I Musgrove L Woodland	<u><b>Cashiers</b></u>  J Crampton N Schaber R Wilcox P Josephson D Sullivan C Verrocchi Joe Morris S Walsh
<u><b>Bulletin</b></u>  <b>J McCarthy</b> P Gilbert E Price D De La Coeur C Finocchiaro	<u><b>IT/Website</b></u>  <b>K Sabramanian</b> D De La Coeur P Josephson K Kirby N Orchard	<u><b>Attendance</b></u>  <b>G Mogford</b> P Peyton I Musgrove	<u><b>Programs</b></u>  <b>Ian Musgrove</b> L Woodland E Price B Allchin C Shields N Orchard	<u><b>House</b></u>  N Pinder N Schaber G McIlvenna P Josephson L Woodland C Verrocchi Joe Morris S Walsh
<u><b>Fellowship</b></u>  <b>P Josephson</b> B Lamers P Gilbert	<u><b>Club History</b></u>  <b>P Gilbert</b> P Peyton P Josephson G McIlvenna	<u><b>Family of Rotary</b></u>  <b>P Peyton</b> E Price D Sullivan L Thornton	<u><b>Sergeants</b></u>  D Sullivan I Musgrove L Woodland D De La Coeur Peter Byrne Julie Morris	<u><b>Welcome</b></u>  B Lamers C Finocchiaro Julie Morris B Allchin J Morris S Walsh
<u><b>Christmas Lunch</b></u>  <b>L Woodland</b>	<u><b>Conference</b></u>  <b>G McIlvenna</b>	<u><b>Life Education</b></u>  <b>C Finocchiaro</b>	<u><b>Exodus</b></u>  <b>P Josephson</b>	<u><b>Birthday Cards</b></u>  <b>G Smith</b>
<u><b>Rotary Info</b></u> <b>P Gilbert</b> G McIlvenna P Peyton I Musgrove				