

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

December 11, 2024, Vol. 64, No. 24



President
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Office Bearers

Vice President: David De La Coeur
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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.**

OFFICE BEARERS & BOARD DIRECTORS

<p><u>International</u></p> <p>Director: P Peyton J Roose S Still E Boateng G Mogford K Agawal</p>	<p><u>Youth</u></p> <p>Director: G Lyons E Price P Conte N Lyons</p>	<p><u>Vocational</u></p> <p>Director: Chris Shields C Finocchiaro N Schaber C Verrocchi Joe Morris J McCarthy E. Stevens</p>	<p><u>Community</u></p> <p>Dir: P Smarrelli M Walsh D De La Coeur D Sullivan N Pinder E Price (Police Awards) Abdulkadir Hassan</p>
<p><u>Environment & Conservation</u></p> <p>Director: Peter Byrne D De La Coeur R McCall</p>	<p><u>Foundation</u></p> <p>Director: K Subramanian E Price P Gilbert I Musgrove</p>	<p><u>Membership & Retention</u></p> <p>Director: P Gilbert G Mcllvenna R McCall P Smarrelli</p>	<p><u>Secretary</u> G Mcllvenna</p> <p><u>Treasurer</u> F Smith</p> <p><u>Special Projects</u> P Smarrelli</p>

CLUB ADMINISTRATION: Gerry Lyons

<p><u>Youth Exchange</u></p> <p>E Price P Gilbert</p>	<p><u>Bulletin</u></p> <p>J McCarthy P Peyton P Gilbert</p>	<p><u>Fundraising & Circus QuirkuS</u></p> <p>Chair: W O'Neill F Smith G Mcllvenna P Smarrelli</p>	<p><u>Attendance</u></p> <p>G Mogford G Mcllvenna P Smarrelli</p>	<p><u>Cashiers</u></p> <p>P Gilbert N Schaber G Mogford E Price P Conte M Walsh</p>	<p><u>Programmes</u></p> <p>G Mogford R McCall P Smarrelli P Gilbert</p>
<p><u>Family of Rotary & Club History</u></p> <p>P Peyton P Gilbert G Mcllvenna P Smarrelli</p>	<p><u>IT / Website / Facebook / Public Relation</u></p> <p>R McCall G Lyons N Lyons</p>	<p><u>Club History & Information</u></p> <p>P Peyton P Gilbert G Mcllvenna P Smarrelli</p>	<p><u>Sergeants</u></p> <p>D Sullivan D De La Coeur P Byrne</p>	<p><u>RIMERN</u></p> <p>R McCall E Price</p>	<p><u>House</u></p> <p>Joe Morris N Pinder D De La Coeur G Mogford G Mcllvenna P Smarrelli</p>
<p><u>World Conference</u></p> <p>P Gilbert</p>	<p><u>District Conference</u></p> <p>G Mcllvenna</p>	<p><u>Fellowship</u></p> <p>E Price P Byrne G Mcllvenna</p>	<p><u>Police Awards</u></p> <p>E Price G Mcllvenna K Subramanian P Smarrelli</p>	<p><u>Birthday Cards</u></p> <p>G Smith</p>	<p><u>Welcome</u></p> <p>P. Peyton Joe Morris E Price C Finocchiaro</p>

SPEAKER LAST WEEK



Maybe some members have seen the presence of the **VINNIES SOUP KITCHEN** operating throughout Melbourne and Victoria. On her second visit to the Club, Mary Gardiner was the speaker and she gave a speedy outline of its' operation, volunteers, locations, items and food being served. Mary is the Collingwood Soup Van President.

The service is run by dedicated volunteers, known as *Vannies*. The *Vannies* provide annually over 780,000 meals to people in need. Volunteers help prepare and package food, assist with loading the soup vans and off-load deliveries; they distribute food on a 'soup van run' as well as assisting in cleaning the kitchen and vehicles. The soup vans operate 365 days a year, rain, hail or shine. The service offered by volunteers is both demanding and rewarding. Following Covid there was a slow comeback to work resulting in a need for volunteers. Recruitment is on!

Mary enumerated the soup van services which are located in metropolitan and regional Victoria. They undertake street service of meals to people living on the street and people

experiencing food insecurity in boarding and rooming houses, crisis accommodations, social housing and other residential locations. Food is sourced from the larger distributors, while numerous retailers delivering left overs on a regular basis.

This is such a needy contact support for recipients and a admirable service given by Mary and so many givers locally and statewide.

On returning home from her talk, Mary sent the following note:

"I am writing to you on behalf of Mary and all the volunteers here at the Vinnies Inner City Soup Van Hub. We wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Rotary Club of Preston for the very generous donation to our Soup Van program. Your club's dedication to helping those in need is inspiring and very much appreciated by everyone involved.

This generosity is such a heartwarming gesture and will make a significant difference in the lives of the individuals and families who rely on our services. Please convey our sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to this donation".



Ruth McCall

Mary Gardiner

FAMILY OF ROTARY

VISITOR LAST WEEK: Great to welcome **Barbara Gilbert** to last week's meeting.

LAST WEEK the press overlooked two great achievements in time:

Wedding Anniverary of **Carolyn** and **Norm** Pinder

Birthday of **Veronica De La Coeur**

Elaine

Price

15/12



JOAN ROOSE REPORTS FROM WARM INDIA: Summer has started here in Melbourne while up there in Odisha, India, they are going through their coldest months, December and January. With a current temperature of 29 degrees Rotarian Joan Roose reports:



*“This week Rejoice School is hoping to see the start with the playground construction. The hope is that it will be all done and dusted by Christmas. It’s all like a giant Lego with pieces scattered across the ground. We’re playing **Let’s find the orange bits, or let’s put the blue bits over here**”*

CLUB NEWS

Weekly Roster October - December 2024

PLEASE ARRANGE A REPLACEMENT IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND

	WELCOMES	CASHIERS	SERGEANT	CHAIRPERSON
Dec 11	Carla Finocchiaro	Peter Gilbert & Elaine Price	Ian Musgrove	Peter Byrne
Dec 18	Abdulkadir Hassan	Norbet Schaber & Peter Peyton	Peter Byrne	Chris Shields

CLUB CHRISTMAS BREAK UP will be an evening dinner on December 18, 6.30 for 7pm. Members are asked to bring a Kris Kindle present up to the value of \$10 and marked *Male* or *Female*.



The first Club meeting in the New Year will be **Wednesday, January 22**. This is a week later than previously stated.

The week prior, January 15, will see some members enjoying an informal lunch at the R.S.L.

ANNUAL RAFFLE BY ROTARY CLUB OF MOOROOPNA: Sec. Geoff was over the moon given that all the raffle stubs and money came in on time! Thanks to all. Now, all that is needed, is a local winner!

Upcoming Speakers

Dec 11	Preston Garden Club	Bill Chamberlain
Dec 18	Christmas Break Up	R.S.L. evening

GUIDESTAR LIFE is not-for-profit organization based in Coburg. GF is a leading provider of services for people in Victoria, with its focus on working with people with disabilities and mental health challenges. It provides psychology and assessment services for children, adolescents and adults.

Recently GF sent its thanks to the Club for its financial assistance in distributing hampers for people with disabilities and mental health problems.

FOODBANK delivery Tuesday, December 17.

BUNNINGS will be on Sat. Dec 14.

Members are asked to note the Christmas Barbie will be at Bunnings on Monday 23rd Dec. (numbers short currently).

DISTRICT CONFERENCE – ALBURY 2025: 11 - 13 April.

ROTARY CLUB OF PRESTON WEBSITE

<https://rotary-prestonaust.com/>



ROTARY IS A HARD DAY'S JOB - working on barbies, packing and unloading rucks, catering outdoors and indoors, delivering packs to mention a few jobs over these last months of the year. Then there is weather, personal and family time, standing so long, giving with a smile . . . it all adds up. Nonetheless, there is again that act of service that, for the giver, is always accompanied by joy.

Congrats to all who have been able to take on the role which also gives the Club financial muscle. Members will be sought out to volunteer their time and energy in the coming year and doubtlessly the great spirit of giving will continue.





Reservoir Neighbourhood House had the **REZZA FESTIVAL 2024** today with Preston Rotary providing the BBQ's and a team to cook up a feast.

Over 400 locals attended with families and friends filling the house and flowing outside to a decorated backyard. Entertainment, followed with Magician Chris Morant, animal encounters with Animals of Oz, face painting and much, much more for all those attending the day.

Local MP Nathan Lambert joined in the afternoon activities to the delight of Reservoir Neighbourhood House staff, locals and the Preston Rotary team; Nathan being the state labour MP for Preston and Reservoir.

A BIG thank you to the board, staff and volunteers of Reservoir Neighbourhood House for the amazing job they do for community each and every day. Preston Rotary is proud to support this dynamic team who make a difference.

- Report from Gerry Lyons



Thanks go to those who jumped in to re-pack Christmas gift items over the weekend.