

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 18, 2024, Vol. 64, No. 25



President
Wayne O'Neill
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Office Bearers

Vice President: David De La Coeur
Hon. Secretary: PP Geoff McIlvenna
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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.Harden</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> <p>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



Preston Garden Club president **Bill Chamberlain**, assisted by committee member **Antoine Enichtagan**, had a long and colorful story to tell.

The club opened its doors in 1934, making this year its 90th anniversary. Its purpose is the promotion and encouragement of practical and experimental horticulture. This is achieved through exhibitions, class-work, exchange with similar-minded clubs and monthly lectures and visits to near and far garden centres.

The club meets monthly at the Preston Shire Hall in Gower Street. The meetings can consist of guest speakers, raffles, competitions and supper. Competitions are held monthly with members' exhibits of home-grown fruit, vegetables, flowers and potted plants. Bus trips are amongst



their activities – many to the Dandenongs where there are numerous eye-opening venues for learning and buying different plant life. **Antoine Chair Peter Byrne Bill**



Bill spoke of the blending with other garden clubs and organizations. Their numbers have grown well in this current year and Bill invites Rotarians and friends to join in on one of their monthly meetings.

FAMILY OF ROTARY



Gerry Lyons 23/11

Jillian Schaber 18/12

Melody Musgrove 22/12

Peter Byrne 28/12

Frank Smith 17/01

Margaret Smarrelli 14/01

John McCarthy 14/01

Debbie and Wayne O'Neill 20/01



AGE DOES WEARY THEM: Joe Morris was unable to attend and Julie passed on his greetings to all.

President Wayne excused **David De La Coeur's** absence. David will probably be back all healthy for the Christmas Break-Up this week.



CELEBRATIONS were in the air last Wednesday as President Wayne inducted a new Rotarian in **Peter Harden.**

In an earlier life, Peter was a member of the Rotary Club of Ivanhoe. Now living in Ocean Grove he is keen to get back into action with the Rotary Club of Preston.

Peter will serve on the Youth Committee.

The photo shows Peter (left) with Peter Gilbert who introduced Peter.

CLUB NEWS

TRACEY is host to members and visitors at club luncheons at the Darebin R.S.L. Her task is not an easy one. Tracking down unwritten orders, delivering two course meals to all, coping with latecomers, members who have forgotten what they ordered . . . Yet, no screams, dropping of plates; just a patient smile.

President Wayne was backed with a loud applause when, last Wednesday, he presented Tracey with a gift of gratitude.

P.S. It's no accident that this week sees the 50th anniversary of **Cyclone Tracy**, an event a certain Preston Rotarian remembers so well.



CALL FOR RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS: **Phillipa Huynh**, an Australian Rotary Health PhD Candidate, is conducting a study on The Risk and Protective Factors for Complete Trauma in Australian Rural and Urban Men. Researchers at Swinburne University are looking for men to take part in a study.

Men who have experienced prolonged potentially traumatic experiences at some time in their lives as:

Bullying, being exposed to violence, emotional or physical abuse or neglect.

The survey may take up to 60 minutes.

<https://tinyurl.com/men-trauma> or contact Phillipa: phuynh@swin.edu.au

RIMERN: Rotary Inner Melbourne Emergency Relief Network is seeking help with volunteer work at the centre. Demand has grown and despite having 22 member clubs the need is heavy. It's on Preston's doorstep and volunteers can space their time abilities. Contact is club membership rep. Ruth McCall.

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/.



PACKING AND DISTRIBUTION OF CHRISTMAS HAMPERS:

Yet another day of packing and distributing where needed. One of the recipients, Associate Pastor at the Diamond Valley Baptist Church Heather Dunning, responded:

"I am writing on behalf of Diamond Valley Baptist Church to express our gratitude and appreciation for your extremely generous contribution to our Christmas Hampers!

The hampers are being distributed to families and individuals in our community who are doing it tough for some reason. The recipients are so appreciative, and I can assure you that being able to include 'Lego' items in the hampers is proving to be a big hit with the kids! 😊

So, please know that your generous contribution is making a very positive difference to many people during this Christmas season!

Every blessing and encouragement to you as you continue your very valuable service to the community!"

CLUB CHRISTMAS BREAK UP will be an evening dinner on December 18, 6.30 for 7pm. Members are asked to bring a Kris Kringle present valued \$10 to \$20 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.



WINNERS - ANNUAL RAFFLE BY ROTARY CLUB OF MOOROOPNA:

All tickets are in and rumor has it that three of the four prizes should go to Prestonians. The draw will be 10.30pm on New Year's Eve. Members are invited to hold their phones close to their ears.

ASSISI CENTRE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND PEACE, UGANDA:

Members will remember the club's donation to the Centre via the Vocations and the International Committees. Chris Shields rose last week to read out their gratitude for Preston's assistance in their work. The Rotary Club of Canberra is sponsoring the group.

Emily Nabakooza is a Ugandan Rotary Peace Fellow. Emily gained her Masters in Peace Studies degree just three years ago at the University of Queensland. She returned to her home city of Kampala Uganda and founded her **Assisi Centre for Social Justice and Peace**. The website www.acesjp.org explains the Centre's mission and current projects.



The Centre's aim has succeeded in many fields. It provides support to disadvantaged families suffering from extreme poverty and distress in the Masaka region. It is building educational facilities and refurbishing classrooms in primary schools especially in the area of female student sanitation.

FOODBANK delivery Tuesday, December 17.

CHRISTMAS AT RESERVOIR NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE: Secretary Geoff reported that all went according to plan; volunteers were many and the club was well thanked.

ROTARY CLUB OF STRATHMORE INVITES members and friends to an evening with Iain Findlay: Tuesday 21st January. The night is 6PM with the presentation 7PM. Location is Essendon FC Social Club, Brewster St. Essendon. RSVP by Jan 10.

www.trybooking.com/CUYMJ

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

DISTRICT CONFERENCE – ALBURY 2025

Unite, Inspire, Transform 11 - 13 April.

ROTARY CLUB OF PRESTON WEBSITE

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

SUE LEAVES A LIFE OF SERVICE AT BUNNINGS: To celebrate a community service person means that they have contributed to our community in many ways. Sue Baker, or Suzi Q to the many, is just that person. Service clubs, individuals and community joined Sue today for an afternoon tea to say thank you for all she has done to support those not for profit groups in need.

Sue started at Bunnings in 2007. Commencing on the registers and then in 2008 Sue got a position at the Special Orders desk where she stayed for 7 years. Then it was back to the registers for another 4 years.

In March 2019 she took on the role of "activities organizer/community involvement," to work alongside Meagan and this is where she shone. Her creative skills took over and whatever she put her mind to she gave 100% to make it the best it could be for everyone. The team, the customers and community as a whole.

Suzi Q is a special woman who has made a difference and her work has not gone unnoticed... THANK YOU to Preston Bunnings management team and staff, especially Suzi and Meagan who community knows so well.



SERVERS ALL!

Life's not just a sausage sizzle! That's Sue, middle front row.