



Bulletin

RI District 9800

Volume 59 Number 25

December 18, 2025

Celebrating 58 Years of Service

PRESIDENT

Joan Scott

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scottjoan27@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Alison Vickers

Ph 0402 431 590

alandmon@bigpond.net.au

MEETING

Kew Golf Club

120 Belford Road Kew East

Thursday 12:30 pm

Meeting begins at 1pm

Apologies: **Bob Crozier**

bob_crozier@hotmail.com

Bulletin: **Barb Brook**

Barbrook814@gmail.com

RI PRESIDENT

Francesco Arezzo.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Peter Shephard

Peter.Shephard@rotary9800.org

THE FOUR WAY TEST

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

Will it benefit all concerned?

LINKS

[Garden DesignFest](#)

[Facebook Rotary D9800](#)



President's Message



Kew Rotary Club's Christmas Luncheon was held today, December 18, at Kew Golf Club. Members enjoyed a delicious taste of Christmas in a very festive atmosphere.

MC Mark Bourke welcomed special guests, including Mayor Wes Gault and Councillor Sophie Torney, Rotarians from other clubs, and past and honorary members of our club.

Official apologies were received from Dr Monique Ryan, Elise Dunstan, (Kew High School), and Amanda Donohoe (Servants Community Housing.)

We were delighted that Jess Wilson, now Leader of the Opposition in Victoria, found the time in a very busy schedule, to call in to touch base with members, wishing them all the best for the Christmas and the holiday season.

Thanks to the many people who contributed to making today's lunch such a time of fellowship and support for each other. We are grateful for the Rev Gillian Crozier, who led a blessing before lunch, to Margaret Turner-Atkins and her committee for planning the event and setting up the decorations, (and Barry Atkins!) to Elise Turner who accompanied our carol singing, and especially to our fine MC, Mark Bourke.

During the meeting a Paul Harris Fellow Recognition and badge with 3 blue stones, was presented by Past President Pam Norton, to member Jill Forsyth, for significant donations to the Rotary Foundation.

This year, in lieu of a "Kris Kringle", members and guests brought donations of suitable items to be distributed by the charity "Hope in a Suitcase", which ensures that all children placed in foster care are given a small suitcase, filled with new items appropriate to their age.

Finally, whilst wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas/festive season, I commend to all members the recent email from the Rotary South Pacific Regional Council, which highlights the role of Rotary in promoting peace, goodwill and understanding, and finishes with "Our thoughts are with the victims... (of recent events in Bondi).....we encourage everyone to support one another and uphold the values that unite us.

Joan Scott

Dates for Your Diary

Thursday 15 January

Aquathon Boroondara Sports Complex (Belmore Road)

Monday 26 January

11.45 -2pm Australia Day Lunch for rooming houses

Thursday 29 January

1pm RCK meeting Kew Golf Club (first for 2026)

Aquathon Hawthorn Aquatic and Leisure Centre

Monday 2 February

10am RCK Coffee Fellowship - Via Verona

Thursday 5 February

1pm RCK meeting Kew Golf Club

Monday 9 February

10am RCK Coffee Fellowship - Via Verona

Tuesday 10 February

RCK Board Meeting

Thursday 12 February

1pm RCK meeting Kew Golf Club

Aquathon Boroondara Sports Complex (Belmore Road)

Monday 16 February

10am RCK Coffee Fellowship - Via Verona

Thursday 19 February

1pm RCK meeting Kew Golf Club

Monday 16 February

10am

Thursday 26 February

1pm RCK meeting Kew Golf Club

27 – 29 March 2026

2026 Multi District Conference – Horsham

13- 17 June 2026

Rotary International Conference Taipei City

Thursday 18 June 2026

6.30pm RCK Changeover – Kew Golf Club

Garden DesignFest 2026

Saturday 21 & Sunday 22 November 2026

Australia Day Lunch 2026

You will see that our District Grant to assist with the above is mentioned in the District 9800 Foundation Matters for December.

Thank you to those who have volunteered. The roster is on page 5 of the Bulletin

Christmas Lunch

Thank you to Margaret and her Team for organising a wonderful celebration to end our year and to everyone for bringing items for Hope in a Suitcase.

Thank you

Thank you Andrew for co-ordinating the removal of items from under the Kew Library.

Thank you

Pam for taking items related to Clean Up Australia

Margaret BBQ items

Pennie GDF items and

Andrew and Alison archives and any other items.

Christmas Luncheon 18 December

Thank you Gillian for leading us



1. In Past – Kew Rotary Club predominately male very few females. As a visitor, a highlight for me was Robert Levine's (Mr Carpet's jokes).
2. Things change over time – many more females in the Club and many of the old jokes we used to love - no longer seen as politically correct.
3. Another thing which has changed over time – and no longer seen as politically correct today – Nativity Plays, performed by children.
4. Memories of Nativity plays from the past: a) Wally, little boy with learning difficulty, who played the part of the inn keeper, b) the narrators of an Advent Play.
5. We need to reclaim the tradition of the Christmas Story that was begun as a story, because poetry was the only way the early followers of Jesus could capture their profound experience of their hero.
6. The fact that for some people the Christmas story has become a literal reading of impossible events must not be allowed to distract us from the origins of the tradition. That was never the intention.
7. Within the Christmas story there lies the universal longing for hope in the midst of darkness.
8. The Christmas story has so much to offer in terms of re-energizing each of our lives, as well as offering unity and healing in the world.
9. Jesus (the mystic, teacher and healer) taught that Peace, Nonviolence, Love, Mercy and Compassion are the way we each should lead our lives.
10. This is a message which needs to be heard today, and especially in view of the recent horrific and violent attack at Bondi. It is a message which is relevant to

Christmas Luncheon 18 December con'd

each and every one of us. And it does not change over time.

Blessing:

Source of Wisdom, Source of Courage, Source of all good hopes – may we be open to the best wisdom, the best courage and best hopes.

Every day offers us the opportunity to make a difference not just in our lives but in the lives of others.

With our gifts and resources, we offer our hands, our minds and our hearts to help in turning the world to be a loving community of hope.

May our hearts and minds be open to the presence of the sacred both within us and among us.

May our giving, our living and our fellowship, as we gather together to share this meal, be blessed, that we may continue this great work of Rotary.

And may we, each one of us, experience the spirit of the Christmas Story: hope, peace, joy and love.

AMEN.



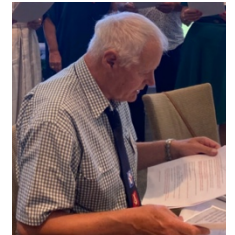
Congratulations Jill on your Paul Harris and 3 saphires.



Christmas Luncheon 18 December con'd



Thank you Choir for leading us. Thank you Elise for accompanying and thank you to our MC Mark



It was wonderful that Jess found time to join us for a short while.



Thank you Christmas Tree and Santa



Congratulations
Best Christmas Outfit
Russel and June
Most Outrageous
Das and Pennie

Aquathons 2026

Details of the Aquathons has just arrived and volunteers would be greatly appreciated by the new co-ordinator

Dates are

Boroondara Sports Complex

15 January and

12 February, and

Hawthorn Aquatic and Leisure Centre

29 January.

Please let Kim or Barb know if you can assist for these late afternoon events,

Thank you to those who have already volunteered.

Working with Children Card

An updated version of the Club Directory was distributed a few days ago. It shows that a significant number of Members do not have a valid Working With Children Check card.

A current WWCC card is essential if there is any possibility that you may be engaging with children in your volunteer work with Rotary. Given the recent controversy surrounding the WWCC card, and because Rotary demands that you have a current WWCC card, would relevant Members please bring their WWCC status up-to-date. A WWCC card can be applied for - or renewed - online at <https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>. And it is free for Rotarians.

Bob

Kew High School Friday 12 December

Thank you Joan and Pennie for representing the Rotary Club



Salmon

Thank youi Mah Hoon for organising the salmon sales and to everyone who purchased salmon.

RCK Committees

Members received an email from Joan last week with updated Committee lists for January – June 2026
If for some reason, you did not receive the email, please contact Joan.

Bank Account Details

When making payments directly to the Rotary Club of Kew Club, please use the following details:
Bendigo Bank BSB 633-000

Account 125381590

Please remember to include your name and reason for payment

Almoner

Das continues to have regular contact with our members, and we thank him most sincerely for his continual care.

Please let Das know if you are not well or having surgery or if you become aware of other members not well.

Will you Join Me?

I am attending this (see below).
I would love some of you to join me. Please reply directly to Jane.

Barb

You are invited to attend the

THE ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

A one day, face-to-face opportunity



The Rotary Leadership Institute Program presents a wonderful opportunity for experienced Rotarians, new members and indeed people interested in finding out more about Rotary to take some time to experience the history, current and new initiatives related to this great organisation we call Rotary.

It is especially relevant for people moving into leadership roles in the club.

Part 1 & 2:
In this session you will:

- Learn innovative ideas and strategies to influence improvement in your club
- Learn how to attract and retain new members
- Explore the resources in My Rotary and learn how these can help you and your club
- Find out about the structure of Rotary at Club, District, National and International level.
- Learn about effective leadership styles and behaviours when working with volunteers.
- Explore tips that work in effective Rotary teams and the importance of planning.

Part 3:
In this session you will:

- Understand about The Avenues of Service in your club and other clubs, projects that exist and the goals and purpose of such projects.
- Learn how to access funds to support projects.
- Gain an insight into the Rotary Foundation
- Learn about opportunities to secure District and International Grants.

Part 4:
In this session you will:

- Learn effective strategies in promoting the great work done by your club members.
- Learn a technique that will enable you to tell the stories that make your projects important for others.
- Learn tips and techniques that enable you effectively to use social and print media.
- Prepare and deliver short, impactful, and engaging information about "your Rotary" experience.

This will all be covered in one day.

Saturday 14 February 2026 From 9am to 5pm
At Djerring Flemington Hub
25 Mt Alexander Road, Flemington

All costs are covered by D9800 so you do not need to pay anything

To register email Jane Pennington
Jane.Pennington@rotary9800.org by 7 February.

Australia Day Luncheon Roster

Ivy Grange	Hamer Court	Romano	Carrical
3 Malmsbury St Kew	535 High St Kew	11/15 A Beckett St Kew	18-20 Mason St Hawthorn
Russel Hoath	Andrew Dalziel	Kim Wen	Bob Crozier
Wendy Garling	Evelyne Perks	Hengameh Amiry	Gillian Crozier
	Joel Cohen	Das Devidas	

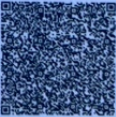
Final details will be distributed closer to the day



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