

**Rotary**  
Club of Penrith Valley



# **ROTARY CLUB OF PENRITH VALLEY INC. BULLETIN**

Rotary International

President

Gordon McNally

District Governor

9685

Christine Owen

2023/24

The Rotary Club of Penrith Valley  
meets on the traditional lands of the Dharug people.

Chartered 20th May 1977

P O Box 267 Penrith NSW 2751 [www.penrithvalleyrotary.org](http://www.penrithvalleyrotary.org)

Meets Wednesday at The Coffee Club, Tench Reserve, Nepean River 6.30 for 7.00 pm

## CLUB DIRECTORY 2023/2024

President: Jean Vranich

Directors:

Pres.Elect: Mario Bellantonio

Club Administration: As Below

Secretary: Andrew Mizzi

Foundation: Glenn McFall

Treasurer: Alex Donaldson

Public Relations: Jean Vranich

Immediate Past

Service Projects: Bronwyn Jackson

President: Bronwyn Jackson

Youth: Chris Dallen

Social Director: Gayl Mallett

Vocational: Terry Davies

## COMMITTEES AND CLUB ADMINISTRATION

Sergeant: Shiva Prakash

Child Protection Officer &

Corporal: Elizabeth Aitken

Risk Management:

Bronwyn Jackson

Attendance & Venue: Andrew Mizzi

Program & Club Calendar:

Jean Vranich

Welfare Officer: Robyn Burton

Public Officer & Club Historian: Terry Davies

Bulletin: Jean Vranich

Calendar: Bronwyn Jackson

SERVICE PROJECTS: (Chair: Bronwyn Jackson)

COMMITTEE: Alex Donaldson, Jean Vranich, Richard Schiul, Christine and Brian Smith

PUBLIC RELATIONS: (Chair: Jean Vranich)

COMMITTEE: Andrew Mizzi

VOCATIONAL: (Chair: Terry Davies)

COMMITTEE: Shiva Prakash, Jason Cornelius

FOUNDATION: (Chairman: Glenn McFall)

YOUTH: (Chair: Chris Dallen)

COMMITTEE: Robyn Burton, Elizabeth Aitken

**MEMBERSHIP IS CONSIDERED THE ROLE OF EVERY MEMBER OF THE CLUB!!!**

**HONORARY MEMBERS:**

Marilyn Beach, Bruce Chenery, Jim Aitken OAM, Armand Sukhla, Peter Lindstrom, John Gollings, Arthur Harris, Chris Kuipers, Ron Chin, Amber Cini, Shamus Davies, Debbie Price

**Club website: [www.penrithvalleyrotary.org](http://www.penrithvalleyrotary.org)**



**Meeting at the Bowlo, 6.30pm**

**{If you are not members become one. \$5/yr or \$15/5yr}**

**Hazel Malhotra NYSF (National Youth Science Forum)**

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Upcoming BBQ days.

24th & 25th February

- ◆ 14th February: Hazel Malhotra, NYSF
- ◆ 21st February: Board Meeting
- ◆ 28th February: Member Talk
- ◆ March: 12th: Transfer meeting to Kingswood Bowling Club, Presentation Neola Funes from RYLA,
  - ◆ 15th 16th: District Conference
  - ◆ 20th: Visit to the Flying Doctors, Bankstown,
  - ◆ 28th: Board Meeting

*Rotary Club of Penrith Valley Inc Bulletin is published weekly. The editor welcomes comments on items but reserves the right to edit for style and length. Reports and articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or the leadership of the Rotary Club of Penrith Valley Inc. The editor respects the intellectual property and copyright of the writer including the writer's responsibility for errors of fact and spelling. Cross fines of \$1 will apply if the editor is fined for the writer's (copyright) inaccuracies! [editor@penrithvalleyrotary.org](mailto:editor@penrithvalleyrotary.org)*

## What has happened?

**Present:** Alex, Andrew, Bronwyn, Chris, Gayl, Glenn, Jason, Jean, Lizzie, Mario, Robyn, Richard,

**Apologies:** Chris and Brian, Shiva, Terry

**Welcome:** Jean -

**Grace** was led by Andrew.

**President's report** - Jean -

1. **Snap Printing** has shut and have been impossible to contact. There will therefore be no more printed bulletins.

2. **Our shirts** - Jean has found some money in the Administrative account to put our Rotary club and first name on our Rotary shirts. Please bring them in so that they can be delivered together to Golden threads.

**3. End Polio bike ride** - will be arriving on Wednesday 29th May. Andrew has now been emailed. It was agreed to hold a combined meeting with Nepean and Penrith on that night. There was some disagreement about the dates provided so Andrew will email the pair to double check the information. Jean also offered to put the cyclists up that night, and Mario suggested that the other clubs could cover their dinner.

**4. Rotary place mats** - Jean has laminated some Rotary sheets that have Rotary grace, the 4 way test and the objectives of Rotary. This can give any guests some information about who and what we are.

**5. Member lists in the bulletins** will resume with no personal details. Mario suggested that Classifications could be added.

**Treasurer's report - Alex** - A small trickle of members have paid their dues. If you haven't yet paid, please do so.

**Secretary's report** - We have no mail. Clubrunner has been updated with both our new members, and honorary members.

**Youth - Chris** - 1. Books in homes - catalogues have been delivered to schools. The presentations at assemblies will be organised for late March or early April.

2. **MUNA (Model United Nations)**- will be held at Nepean High school in June. Chris has let schools know.

3. **Hazel Malhotra** - will be at our meeting next week to talk about **NYSF (National Youth Science Forum)**. She had a great time.

4. **RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment)**- Noel has been helping at the BBQ, and has been suggested for RYPEN in June.

5. **School in a Box** - Jean and Chris met. There have been letters and contacts with Wellington and Broken Hill.

**Foundation report - Glenn** - received an email from RI encouraging clubs to become "promise clubs" by getting all members to donate \$1,000 US to go to an endowment fund attached to Foundation. No further comment.

Mario commented that he is unhappy about such fund-raising activities within Rotary. Service is what we are about.



## **Community service - Bronwyn -**

The escape bags for Domestic Violence for the Womens' Refuge are planned probably for April, depending on preparation time needed. I have received from Alex and Robyn what they have. I will go through those items and work out what still needs to be purchased.

**Penrith Community Knitters** have been busy supplying rugs to the Cancer Wellness Centre and sending the rest to Alexandria, via Robyn, for distribution both locally and overseas. Ukraine has recently received a load from them.

A letter of thanks from the Club and a thank you card from Boronia House were presented to them by Robyn.

The cube has slowed down a bit. We are currently only collecting once a fortnight.

**Social committee - Gayl** - Gayl noted that the club would like a social event about every two months. **While she has some ideas, Gayl would appreciate suggestions to maximise attendance.**

**The raffle** was won by Jean and Andrew.

## Our club in 2000-2001 by Robyn with the help of the bulletins from that year.

Robyn brought 2 bound books from that year. In those days, the bulletin editor would get the bulletins bound and present them to the president for that year.

Rotary Club of South Penrith was the name then. The office bearers included Mario as bulletin editor, Alex as treasurer, Andrew as secretary, Robyn as Youth Director and Terry as District Conference convenor.

The committees were: Community, Youth, International and Vocational.

Mario wrote an editorial about political correctness.

### **Activities:**

Whitewater rafting at the new centre.

A report from an exchange student to Finland called "Saunas, sausages and snow".

Australia Day festivities including breakfast at the regatta centre.

A bus stop was built at Edenglassie for the mental health of the residents.

District Conference was at Bingara.

Fundraising via a flight from the west to the east of Australia.



A guest speaker from the Maritime Museum who was promoting a welcome wall for migrants who arrived by ship. The migrants or descendants paid for inclusion on the wall. There will be a function soon to celebrate the final product.

A major activity was a trip to Nepal to support the improvement of eye health. Medical practitioners used the Rotarians as technicians. Secondhand glasses were taken over. Locals' eyes were checked and they were given the nearest prescription. Some glasses were sourced from Lost Property at Central. The Rotarians were also involved in Cataract treatment in Kathmandu with the Fred Hollows foundation. There were hair raising stories of men with guns who didn't want them to leave villages until everyone had been seen. Much negotiation was needed to get people out, including the threat that no-one else would come again if it was proven too dangerous. The roads were very narrow, only one car wide and dangerous with steep cliffs 1000m high at the edge of the roads.

Robyn is hoping to offer snippets of our history on a regular basis.

Thank you Robyn for a most interesting night!

Meeting Finished at 8.35pm

# Lighting the path out of the dark



R. Gordon  
R. McNally  
President  
Rotary  
International

**I**n difficult times like these, it's impossible to avoid feeling heartbroken over the devastation and loss of life caused by war and destruction.

Rotary always stands against harming and displacing civilian populations and using armed aggression instead of pursuing peaceful solutions. We advocate for the observance and respect of international law. We believe in strong action to defend and promote peace, even in the darkest of times.

But we also take our position as an international, non-political, non-religious organisation seriously. To respect the global perspectives and experiences of our members, and to work most effectively in our peacebuilding efforts, we do not choose sides in conflicts.

Rotary is made up of 1.4 million people in communities all over the globe who are united in our commitment to building a peaceful world. We strive to ensure that our words and actions prioritise the health and safety of our

global membership and the communities where we live and serve.

Our members seek to offer humanitarian assistance to those affected by conflict, and our global reach requires that we promote peacebuilding and conflict prevention with cross-cultural, cross-border connections and friendship through Rotary.

For decades, Rotary has harnessed these connections to carry out service projects, support peace fellowships and scholarships, and establish programs like Rotary Peace Centres to help build lasting peace. Our members also take action to promote Positive Peace, addressing the underlying causes of conflict, including poverty, discrimination, ethnic tension, lack of access to education, and unequal distribution of resources.

Rotary members who wish to wage peace can use district grants and Rotary Foundation global grants to support projects with other Rotary members that help refugees and displaced people, provide medical support and more worldwide.

Members can also work with or join peace-focused Rotary Action Groups, Friendship Exchanges, Fellowships, and intercountry committees. And District Designated Funds or district cash can support our peacebuilding and conflict prevention efforts.

Members and non-members alike can learn more about peacebuilding through the Rotary Positive Peace Academy, a free online training course available to anyone with an internet connection. You can find it at [positivepeace.academy/rotary](http://positivepeace.academy/rotary).

There is no denying that incidents of violence and atrocities being perpetuated around the world seem to be escalating. Global peace is fragile, and the stakes are getting higher.

Still, we know that it is possible to bring all people together to work towards a shared goal. Rotary members do so every day in every part of the world. May our ability to unify in common purpose be a spark that helps light the path out of these dark days.

Together, let's *Create Hope in the World.* RDU

# Model United Nations Assembly

**ONE** of Rotary's most worthwhile youth programs is Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA). MUNA competitions have been held in many Rotary districts around Australia since 1980. For the past 78 years, Rotary has worked alongside the United Nations (UN) to address humanitarian issues around the world. Today, Rotary holds the highest consultative status the UN offers to nongovernment organisations.

The purpose of MUNA is to encourage young people to learn about other nations and to understand and appreciate the workings of the UN. The event provides an excellent setting for students to develop and practise their public speaking skills while debating current world issues. The teams can have two or three members and are usually students from Years 11 and 12.

Each team selects a country, in order of preference, from each of the five blocs (Asia/Pacific, Europe, Middle East, Developing Nations, Western/Other) and the MUNA Registrar allocates the country they are to represent. The teams then research their country's history, politics, economics, peoples, international relations, and policies on current world affairs. Then, at National MUNA, often

wearing the national dress of their country, they debate selected resolutions from their country's point of view.

The debates duplicate actual UN debates. The speeches are usually passionate and lively, the negotiations between bloc countries to influence outcomes are always stimulating and the points of order and motions of dissent generate much interest. Discussions can get quite heated, and participants really do take sides and argue strongly for their position. Bloc walkouts are not uncommon!

The venue of the historic House of Representatives

Chamber of the Old Parliament House, now home to the Museum of Australian Democracy (MOAD), is the ideal location for National MUNA.

Over the years, the organisers of National MUNA, Peter Hill, Garth Britton and the members of the Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise, have encapsulated the true meaning of a mentor. They have worked tirelessly to bring together students from around Australia and give them an insight into the way the UN General Assembly operates. Each team also brings along their own councillor to help develop ideas and use as a sounding board.

MUNA is such a rewarding experience for the students because it not only exposes them to other cultures, it also gives them an understanding of the importance of negotiating and working together. <sup>ROU</sup>

"The purpose of MUNA is to encourage young people to learn about other nations and to understand and appreciate the workings of the UN. The event provides an excellent setting for students to develop and practise their public speaking skills while debating current world issues."





## ROTARY PROGRAMS

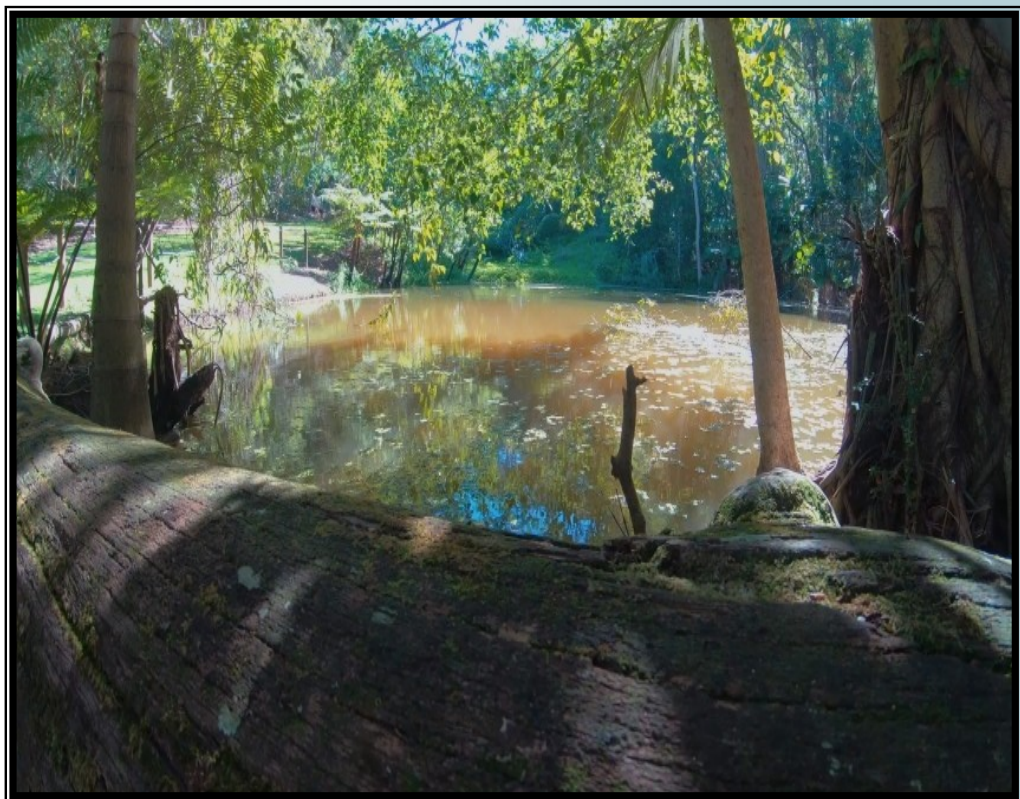
|          |  |
|----------|--|
| DIK      | Donations in Kind                          |
| GSE      | Rotary Foundation Group Study Exchange     |
| Interact | "International Action" High School Program |
| NYSF     | National Youth Science Forum               |
| MUNA     | Model United Nations Assembly              |
| RAM      | Rotarians Against Malaria                  |
| RAWCS    | Rotary Australia World Community Service   |
| ROMAC    | Rotary Overseas Medical Aid for Children   |
| RYDA     | Rotary Youth Driver Awareness              |
| RYLA     | Rotary Youth Leadership Award              |
| RYPEN    | Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment         |
| STEP     | Short Term Exchange Program                |
| YEP      | Youth Exchange Program                     |

## CURRENT MEMBER LIST

| SURNAME         | FIRST NAME | PARTNER   | QUALIFICATION             |
|-----------------|------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| AITKEN          | Elizabeth  |           | Child Care Services       |
| BELLANTONIO OAM | Mario      | Robyn     | Law-General               |
| BURTON          | Robyn      | Mario     | Secondary Education       |
| CORNELIUS       | Jason      |           | Chaplaincy                |
| DALLEN          | Chris      |           | Education-Primary         |
| DAVIES          | Terry      | Marie     | Rotary Charities          |
| DONALDSON       | Alex       |           | Software Development      |
| JACKSON         | Bronwyn    |           | Education-Library         |
| MALLET          | Gayl       | Peter     | POS Equipment Hire        |
| MCFALL          | Glenn      | Cathy     | Surveying General         |
| MIZZI           | Andrew     | Kathy     | Optometry                 |
| PRAKASH OAM     | Shiva      | Jan       | Medical—General Practice  |
| SALAMAKIS       | Paul       |           | Hospitality Management    |
| SCHUIL          | Richard    |           |                           |
| SMITH           | Brian      | Christine |                           |
| SMITH           | Christine  | Brian     |                           |
| VRANICH         | Jean       | Luciano   | Valuation Administration. |
|                 |            |           |                           |

*We can cure physical diseases with medicine but the only cure for loneliness, despair and hopelessness is love. There are many in the world who are dying for a piece of bread but there are many more dying for a little love.*

Mother Teresa (1910-1997)



**PAST PRESIDENTS (\*Presidents who have passed away.)**

|         |                       |           |                |         |                  |
|---------|-----------------------|-----------|----------------|---------|------------------|
| 1977/78 | Arthur Bennett*       | 1992/93   | John Brown*    | 2007/08 | O'Brien Wyngaard |
| 1978/79 | Phil Magee*           | 1993/94   | Jim Aitken OAM | 2008/09 | Ron Norman       |
| 1979/80 | Ray Waters            | 1994/95   | Barry Preskett | 2009/10 | Graeme Butler    |
| 1980/81 | Denis Green           | 1995/96   | John Tourish   | 2010/11 | John Gollings    |
| 1981/82 | Bert Bragg*           | 1996/97   | Graham Beckett | 2011/12 | Catrina O'Kane * |
| 1982/83 | Shiva PrakashOAM      | 1997/98   | Max Shepherd*  | 2012/13 | Jean Vranich     |
| 1983/84 | Arthur Harris         | 1998/99   | Armand Sukhla  | 2013/14 | Don MacKenzie    |
| 1984/85 | Mario Bellantonio OAM | 1999/2000 | Terry Davies   | 2014/15 | Chris Dallen     |
| 1985/86 | Tony Robinson         | 2000/01   | Jim Honess*    | 2015/16 | Peter Murray     |
| 1986/87 | Lou Gal*              | 2001/02   | Noor Vellani * | 2016/17 | Sarah Whereat    |
| 1987/88 | Tom Walsh             | 2002/03   | Glenn Reinhard | 2017/18 | Neil Williamson  |
| 1988/89 | Keith Wakefield       | 2003/04   | Graham Wilson  | 2018/19 | Robyn Burton     |
| 1989/90 | Sachint Lal*          | 2004/05   | Alex Donaldson | 2019/20 | Andrew Mizzi     |
| 1990/91 | Malcolm Beach*        | 2005/06   | Linda Rios     | 2020/21 | Jean Vranich     |
| 1991/92 | Alan Richardson       | 2006/07   | Dario Poles    | 2021/22 | Glenn McFall     |
| 2022/23 | Bronwyn Jackson       | 2023/24   | Jean Vranich   |         |                  |

**PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS**

Up to 30th June 2021 the Rotary Club of Penrith Valley has awarded Paul Harris Fellowships to, or have the following as members or their partners who are PHFs:

Elizabeth Aitken, Jim Aitken, Dr Al\_Khhawaja, Charles Ancheta, Therese Attalah, Malcolm Beach, Marilyn Beach\*, Graham Beckett, Mario Bellantonio\*, Adele Crane, Arthur Bennett\*, Jane Bennett, John Boccanfuso, Bert Bragg, John Brown, John Buchtmann, Robyn Burton\*, Graeme Butler, Eileen Cammack, Dr Shailja Chatuvedi, Bruce Chenery., Dr Ronald Chin, Wally Cox, Sheila Cunliffe, Chris Dallen, John Daly, Shamus Davies, Terry Davies\*, Colleen Dawson, Alex Donaldson\*, Arthur Downes, Phil Fehon, Margaret Fenech\*, Kevin Forbes, Jim Freeburn, Lou Gal\*, Maggie Giddens, John Gollings\*, Denis Green\*, Lee Hampton, Arthur Harris\*, Jim Honess, Bronwyn Jackson, Phyllis Jenkins, Sue Kingsbury, Dipak Kumar, Dr Sachint Lal\* Tony Lauer, Julie McElrea, Glenn McFall, Andrew Mizzi\*, Peter Murray, Dr Ralph Nanan, Dario Poles, Dr Shiva Prakash, Barry Preskett\*, Helen Redler\*, Joe Redler\*, Glenn Reinhard\*, Andrew Rios, Linda Rios, Lorenzo Rositano, Marjorie Ross, Max Shepherd, Armand Sukhla\*, Dr Noor Vellani, Jean Vranich\*, Luciano Vranich, Keith Wakefield\*, Helen Wakeling, John Wakeling\*, Tom Walsh, Sarah Whereat, Neil Williamson, Graham Wilson, O'Brien Wyngaard

\* *Sapphire and Ruby Pins*

|                  |                               |   |                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>Nepean</b>                 | Penrith RSL   | 7.00 for 7.15am |
|                  | <b>Penrith</b>                | Penrith Panthers                                      | 6.30 for 7.00pm |
|                  | <b>Richmond</b>               | Richmond Club 6.30 for 7.00pm                         |                 |
|                  | <b>Springwood</b>             | Springwood Sports Club                                | 6.30 for 7.00pm |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>Lower Blue Mountains</b>   | Emu Plains Sporting & Recreation Club 6.30 for 7.00pm |                 |
|                  | <b>St Marys</b>               | Twin Creeks Golf & Country Club, Luddenham            | 6.00 for 6.30pm |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>Wallacia-Mulgoa Valley</b> | 1440 Mulgoa Road, Wallacia                            | 7.00 for 7.30pm |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>The Ponds</b>              | Griddle Restaurant, Rouse Hill Town Centre            | 4.00pm          |

**OBJECT OF ROTARY**

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprises and in particular, to encourage and foster:

**FIRST:** The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

**SECOND:** High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

**THIRD:** The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business and community life;

**FOURTH:** The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.



# PENRITH VALLEY

## The 4-Way Test

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

(© Rotary International 1943)

## Rotary Grace

O Lord, The 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 International 1946)