

This is the last bulletin for 2024. Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and an enjoyable holiday season.

President Noel welcomed everyone to the Christmas meeting. Special guests were Barrie Aarons, Ruth Colliton, Julie Kennett and Marg Donehue and partners of Rotarians



Notes

- Letter of thanks from WDHS for our help with their Golf Day. Funds raised (\$21000) will purchase operating theatre equipment.
- Mosquito net project in New Guinea \$250 sent.
- Leo attended Baimbridge College to present three scholarships
- Tori Bell (scholarship recipient) has settled into Durham University
- Past Rotary Exchange student from South Africa Cheryl Gravenstein has graduated from university (mature age student) (Barrie Aarons reported)

Coming club events

2025

12 January Harness Racing Gate

15 January First meeting of the year at Parklands Golf Club

16 January Board meeting on Zoom

Weekly social events

Bike Riders: meet each Thursday morning, 09:00 at the Ansett Museum, finishing for coffee at Tosca Browns, around 09:35

Friday Coffee: meet each Friday Morning, 10:30 at the Roxburgh, all welcome

December is Rotary's Disease Prevention and Treatment Month:

- **Focus**

Rotary's efforts to prevent and treat disease are a key part of their work.

- **Projects**

Rotary members work on many health projects around the world, including:

- Supporting studies
- Helping immunize people
- Improving drinking water and sanitation
- Providing routine hearing, vision, and dental care
- Immunization for measles and other potentially deadly illnesses

BOARD MEMBERS

President

[Noel Howard](#)

Vice President

[Brian Jenkins](#)

Secretary

[Lyn Christie](#)

Treasurer

[Robert \(Bob\) Cadden](#)

Community

[James Dishon](#)

Environment

[Marg Moffatt](#)

Bulletin Editor

[Lorraine Wilson](#)

Vocational Services

[James Dunn](#)

International Service

[Jenni Barke](#)

Youth

[Leo Cummins](#)

Rotary Foundation

[Simon Wilson](#)

Immediate Past President

[Noel Howard](#)

Public Relations

[Lorraine Wilson](#)

Membership

[Brian Jenkins](#)

Catering

[Bruce Warburton](#)

District Governor

[Lesley Shedden](#)

Birthdays

James Dishon 11/12

David Garfoot 23/12

Meg Watson 28/12

Wedding Anniversaries

Kerryn and Barry Little 21/12

Gillian and Brian Jenkins

26/12

Induction Anniversaries

James Dishon 13/12/2009

Kevin Safe 17/12/1979

David Garfoot 18/12/1998

Congratulations!

Merry Christmas



Christmas in Australia: Multicultural Celebrations Australia is renowned for its multicultural society, which is vividly reflected in the way Christmas is celebrated across the country. The festive season here is a melting pot of traditions, with influences from various cultures contributing to a uniquely Australian Christmas experience.

A Summer Christmas Unlike the snowy scenes often associated with Christmas, Australians celebrate the holiday in the warmth of summer. This seasonal difference influences the way Christmas is celebrated, with outdoor activities such as beach gatherings and barbecues being popular.

Diverse Traditions Australia's cultural diversity means that Christmas is celebrated in various ways, reflecting the traditions of its many communities. Here are some examples of how different cultures contribute to the festive season:

European Influences Many Australian Christmas traditions have roots in European customs. This includes decorating Christmas trees, exchanging gifts, and enjoying festive meals. However, adaptations are made to suit the summer climate, such as serving cold meats and seafood instead of traditional roast dinners.

Indigenous Celebrations Indigenous Australians have their unique ways of marking the festive season, often incorporating elements of their rich cultural heritage. Storytelling, art, and community gatherings play significant roles in these celebrations, highlighting the importance of family and connection to the land.

Asian Communities Australia's large Asian population brings vibrant traditions to the Christmas celebrations. For instance, decorative lanterns and special meals featuring Asian cuisine are common. Many Asian Australians also participate in the broader festive activities, blending their traditions with Australian customs.

Middle Eastern and African Influences Communities from the Middle East and Africa add their own unique flavours to Australian Christmas. Music, dance, and traditional dishes from these regions enrich the celebrations, providing an opportunity for cultural exchange and understanding.

Inclusive Celebrations Australia's multicultural landscape ensures that Christmas is an inclusive celebration, where all communities are welcome to share their traditions. Many public events, such as Christmas markets and carol singing, showcase this diversity, allowing people to learn about and participate in each other's customs.