

CLUB BULLETIN



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ASCOT ROTARY: [Home of Bricktober](#)

FOCUS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY:

Peace and conflict resolution month

Conflict and violence displaces millions of people each year.

Half of those killed in conflict are children, and 90% are civilians.

Rotarians refuse to accept conflict as a way of life. Rotary projects provide training that foster understanding and provide communities with the skills to resolve conflict. Through our service projects, peace fellowships, and scholarships we are taking action.

Can't make it to our meeting?

Send apologies to Attendance Officer, Mike B prior to the meeting please. Apologies received from Hugh this week.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

- 17 February: Satellite meeting
- 21—22 February—President Elect training
- 24 February: Breakfast meeting

MARCH

- 8 March: Foundation Grants Seminar
- 10 March: Breakfast meeting
- 13—15 March: District Conference
- 17 March: Satellite club meeting
- 24 March: Breakfast meeting
- 30 March: Board meeting



SNIPPETS FROM THIS WEEK'S MEETING

INTERNATIONAL TOAST

Our stand in Toast person this week selected Perth, Scotland as our Rotary club to toast this week. The Rotary Club of Perth, Scotland has been around since 1917. Their club number is 16. (Ours is 17573) Their members come from all walks of life and are united by a shared goal of making a positive difference everywhere. They have about 70 members.

They run and support a number of community events and projects including: a Silent Auction; a Charity Fayre; a Classic Car Tour; A Charity Golf Day and numerous youth projects.

They also get hands on with litter picking, gardening and landscaping for schools, hospitals and charities.

They meet for lunch every Thursday where they invite guest speakers to present to the club; and then once a month have a breakfast meeting at the Premier Inn, Mill St, Perth.

We wish them all the very best for the remainder of this year, and on into the next Rotary year.



At the end of January the official launch of the new Rotary Peace Centre at Symbiosis International University in Pune, India was conducted.

Do you have ideas for a great guest speaker?

Let Ros know please so she can finalise our speakers list for the year.

The best preparation for tomorrow is to do your best today.

From President Jodie:

A big thank you to Rossie for organising the Australia Day Breakfast and to Kerry for making that wonderful fruit salad. Thanks also to Mike for manning the tongs at the BBQ.

It was a great morning and lovely to catch up with everyone.

Don't forget the Rotary District Conference is on in Northam—come and join in. Wise Winery is one of the sponsors.

February 5 saw the first cohort from the Otto and Fran Walter Rotary Peace Centre in Istanbul graduate. A group of 13 now step into the next chapter of their professional journeys as peacebuilders.

From Treasurer Mike:

.All fees have been paid, all outstanding accounts have been dealt with.

From Kerry

.Had an update from Sustainable Cambodia

From Ros

At our next meeting on 24 February, the guest speaker will be Jim from Brolly Brigade.

Wine Raffle

Winner this morning was Mike Bermann. Enjoy.

WHO IS DOING WHAT AT OUR NEXT MEETING:

24 February

Host Chair: Di Reed

Guest Speaker: Jim, from Brolly Brigade

International Toast: Letter Q/R—Ros McLernon

10 March

International Toast: S—Hugh Langridge

This will be a club form to help Hugh get started on planning for his year as Club President. Please make an effort to be there to be part of the conversation and planning.

OUR GUEST SPEAKER THIS MORNING: CHRIS WALSH FROM CARE BAGS



Our guest speaker this morning was Chris Walsh, a recently retired Primary school Principal who decided to ease herself into retirement by supporting Care Bags. She was a founding member of the Ascot Rotaract Club and was there when Gerry and Jodie were also members.

Care Bags was set up to support those who are taken into care with nothing except the clothes they had on their backs. She indicated that the generosity of people was amazing and they are always delighted to receive suitable donations or money to purchase needed items.

The Bags are packed with brand new essential items, including clothing, toiletries, books, activities and more—to support children through those first days in care. Each bag is designed to show them that they matter and people do care about them. The bags are distributed through the Communities, Child Protection and Family Support offices around the state as well as refuges, hospitals and other community organisation that they know about.

They also have Transient Teenager Toiletry Bags for young people who are in care or living transient lives. Each of these bags contain personal care items to help the young people maintain hygiene and self worth.

Care Bags is run by volunteers and was founded by Sarah, supported by her mum Sandy and numerous other volunteers. As a social worker Sarah could see the impact being taken into foster care had on children and wanted to do something to make them feel special.

Chris said every bag is worth about \$90 once it is filled with the items. Over 3,000 bags, and almost 1,000 Teen Toiletry Bags were distributed in 2024.

Check out their [website](#) for ideas on how we can support them.

Thank you Chris. What a great programme. We are so glad we were able to help with a donation from our club.