



# The Rotary Club of Kwinana

District 9423 Western Australia

Chartered: 22 April 1971

Team 2025/26

President  
**Stephen Castelli**

Secretary  
**Genevieve Carr**

Treasurer  
**Karen Zabiela**

## Facts & Figures

### Attendance this week

Total Members 26

Apologies

Make-up

Attended 14

Guests

Visitors

Partners

65%



# Bulletin

No 20 01/12/2025



Rotary Club of Kwinana is 54 years' old 1971/2025

Been missing for a couple of weeks, November 17<sup>th</sup> no meeting. November 24<sup>th</sup> no meeting, members travelled to Mandurah to attend an International Service Dinner and Presentations on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> President Stephen reports, a good, interesting meeting well attended, great food and fellowship.

Summer started with a bang in Perth; we broke a record for the 1st day of summer with a temperature of 38.5c recorded.

The highest temperature recorded for Perth is 46.2c (116.1f) 23rd February 1991. In summer 2022 Perth recorded 13 days with temperatures over 40c including 6 consecutive days over 40c

The Australian summer of 2012-13 resulted in 123 records being broken over a 90-day period including the hottest day ever recorded for January.

PDG John informed the meeting that the Furniture Factory will be closed from December 20th until the 8th of January.

## Raffle



Rotary International President  
2025/26

Francesco Arezzo

Rotary Club of Ragusa, Italy

District Governor 9423  
2025/26

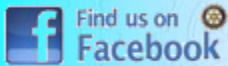
Veronica Lawrance

Rotary Club of Mill Point



## Heads & Tails

Norm



Meets on Monday  
6:00 for 6:30 pm  
At Rotary Hall  
Brownell Crescent  
Medina

Visitors are welcome  
Contact  
0400 837 603

## December 2025 – Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Club Meeting Zoom catchup with Tony Miller

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Club Meeting

Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Club: Annual General Meeting

Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Christmas at the Iriks.

Attendance: Members respond via 'WhatsApp'



ShelterBox



Rotary





Tonight, our guest speaker was Tony Miller (who is still a member of our club) but currently living in Vietnam. He gave a rundown on his life in Vietnam, including the recent flooding caused by a typhoon.

The board suggested that each week, we get a member to do a bit of research on an unusual fact about Rotary that could be provided to all attendees as "Rotary Information"

I commenced the weekly presentation with the following:

Rotary's primary moto is "Service above Self", but what is Rotary's secondary moto?

It is in fact "One Profits Most Who Serves Best"

PDG John Iriks will do next week.

There was no regular meeting last week (24/11) as the club elected to join a meeting with the Rotary Club of Mandurah Districts on 25/11 to celebrate the Internationality of Rotary.

13 members and partners attended from the RC Kwinana, with 1 of our tables winning the Flags Quiz, even though there were accusations of cheating (not my table).

There were a number of excellent guest speakers, including the District Governor, Peace Scholars, former Rotary Exchange Students, an update on the RC Mandurah Districts project in Sumba, as well as updates from RAWCS and District Grants.

We were given the opportunity to showcase the Indonesian School Renovation Project (in 7 minutes). It must have been OK, as I have been invited to visit RC Pinjarra to present the project to them.

#### **Calendar of Events:**

There are quite a number of events coming up in December.

01/12 – Guest speaker will be a rescheduling of our own Tony Miller from Vietnam. Tony will be giving a "Me Talk".

03/12 – Sundowner Night for Kwinana Community Groups. Yanti and I will represent Rotary.

09/12 – Frank Konecny Community Centre – invitation to their Christmas function at Medina Tavern commencing at 12:00. Let Erin Sergeant know if you wish to attend.

11/12 – ARHRF Dinner in Perth. They request that 2 "new" people that have not attended previously go, so that they can spread the word. **Are there any volunteers that wish to go to a very good night.**

13/12 - Providence Permaculture School fete from 2pm to 6pm. During the fete, somewhere between 3 and 4 pm, an official opening of the Greenhouse structure that was funded by the Rotary Club and Bendigo Bank and the container will be conducted. Everyone is invited to attend. If you are interested in going, please advise.

14/12 Rotary Club of Kwinana Christmas Party at Golden Pond on Mundijong Rd. Please advise Genevieve of numbers.

15/12 – RC Kwinana AGM. This will be for election of office bearers for the 2026/2027 Rotary year, as well as presentation of the annual financial reports.

Nomination forms for the board positions have been emailed out. We really need to fill each of these positions to ensure that we have a vibrant club moving forward.

The revised Standing Orders (as they stand) have been circulated to the members for their review. The Standing Orders will then go to the board for their review and approval. The final step will be for the revised Standing Orders document to be tabled at the AGM for approval.

Monday 22/12 – No meeting as the Irik's have invited us to their house for a Christmas Sundowner Evening. Please advise Christine Iriks if you are bringing a salad or a desert.

No meeting 29/12

No meeting 05/01

We are looking at doing a BBQ at the hall during January. Please advise if you can help.

No meeting on Monday 26/01 as this is Australia Day.

John Maskell, Yanti and I assisted the Frank Konecny Community Centre by taking the furniture truck to Foodbank near the airport and collected 250 Christmas Hampers. We estimate that the total weight was 2.5 Tonne and completely filled the back of the truck.

Our backs have been reminding us of this ever since.

I will be away visiting family in Melbourne as we have a new grandchild there (number 11), so will not be in attendance on 08/12.

President Stephen



### Public Relations Report



Our Club received good positive feedback on our staging of the 2025 Rotary Kwinana Community Fair.

A meeting was held Tuesday 25 November with James and Tim of Media Engine at Rockingham and between Bob Thompson and John Iriks.

The meeting discussed the Club's use of Face Book and social media opportunities and strategies for our Furniture Factory sales and for Rotary promotion.

A proposal from Media Engine on how they could work with the Club to improve our advantage through our Face Book and social media presence, together with the cost to us for their services, will be sent to us soon for the Club's consideration.

PP Bob Thompson



**Genevieve Carr President 2026/27**



**December 2025**

International Service Dinner at Mandurah Country Club on Tuesday 25 November was a successful and enjoyable evening.

President Stephen did a great job with his presentation on the Indonesian Schools project.

2. Christmas function on Sunday 14 December at Golden Ponds Bistro, commencing 12pm: Please advise as soon as possible if you are attending.
3. 2025 AGM: Set for Monday 15 December during Club meeting. Nomination forms for Club positions during 2026 – 2027 are available.
4. Christmas sundowner at the home of John and Chris Iriks on Monday 22 December. BYO drinks; John and Chris will provide chicken and nibbles. Please advise Chris as soon as possible if you are planning to bring either a salad or dessert

PE Genevieve Carr



**PP Genevieve Carr 01st Dec. 2025**



**Inward Correspondence.**

- November 2025 Rotary Leader
- Message of thanks from Inger Ward for Club support during Seniors Week
- Regional Council update
- Invitation to Frank Konecney Community Centre (FKCC) Christmas wind-up lunch at Medina Tavern on Tuesday 9 December
- Letter of congratulations from FKCC for success of Kwinana Fair
- Request for Club to be an auspice for Wellard Junior Football Club
- Notification of Rotary Foundation receiving highest rating from Charity Navigation for 17<sup>th</sup> consecutive year
- Camp Opportunity notice
- RDU.One
- Request for support from PortCare
- ShelterBox Newsletter
- RotaryWA Round-Up #40
- RDU Supplies update
- Notification from AssociationsOnline
- Rotary Marketing information

**Outward Correspondence:**

- Invitations to Rotary widows to attend our Christmas function



Vice Pres.  
Terry Evans



Treasurer  
Karen Zabiela



Project Director  
PP James Sharkey



Foundation Dir.  
PDG John Iriks

### Team 2025/26



Membership Dir.  
Norm Mulcahy



Public Relations  
PP Bob Thompson



Events Manager  
PDG John Iriks

Meeting at Rotary Hall Monday 1st December 2025





Rotarian Tony Miller online from Hanoi Vietnam



## Why Vietnam?

- At age 64 I wanted to start a new chapter in my life
- I had promised myself a 12-month hiatus following the 8 years of intense study
- My motivation is connected to the many years (15 of them) working and falling in love with many communities, the lifestyle and culture in the Southeast Asian geographic area.
- Quality of life and cost of living.

## What I've Learned

- The community in Hoi An is incredibly **resilient**, especially during the floods.
- People remain calm, supportive, and united through challenges.
- The culture is **warm, open, and welcoming**.
- I feel genuinely **humbled and grateful** to be accepted as part of this community.
- Rotary International could provide some well received assistance here.

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## Major religions in Vietnam

- **Vietnamese folk religion:** This is the most prevalent belief system, encompassing ancestor worship and the veneration of gods, spirits, and other deities.
- **Buddhism:** Predominantly Mahayana Buddhism, it is the largest organized religion, with significant influence from Confucianism and Taoism.
- **Christianity:** With Catholicism representing the largest portion, Protestantism is also a significant minority religion.
- **Caodaism:** A relatively new religion founded in the 1920s, Caodaism synthesizes elements of Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Catholicism.
- **Hòa Hảo Buddhism:** A distinct, reformist Buddhist sect that originated in the 20th century

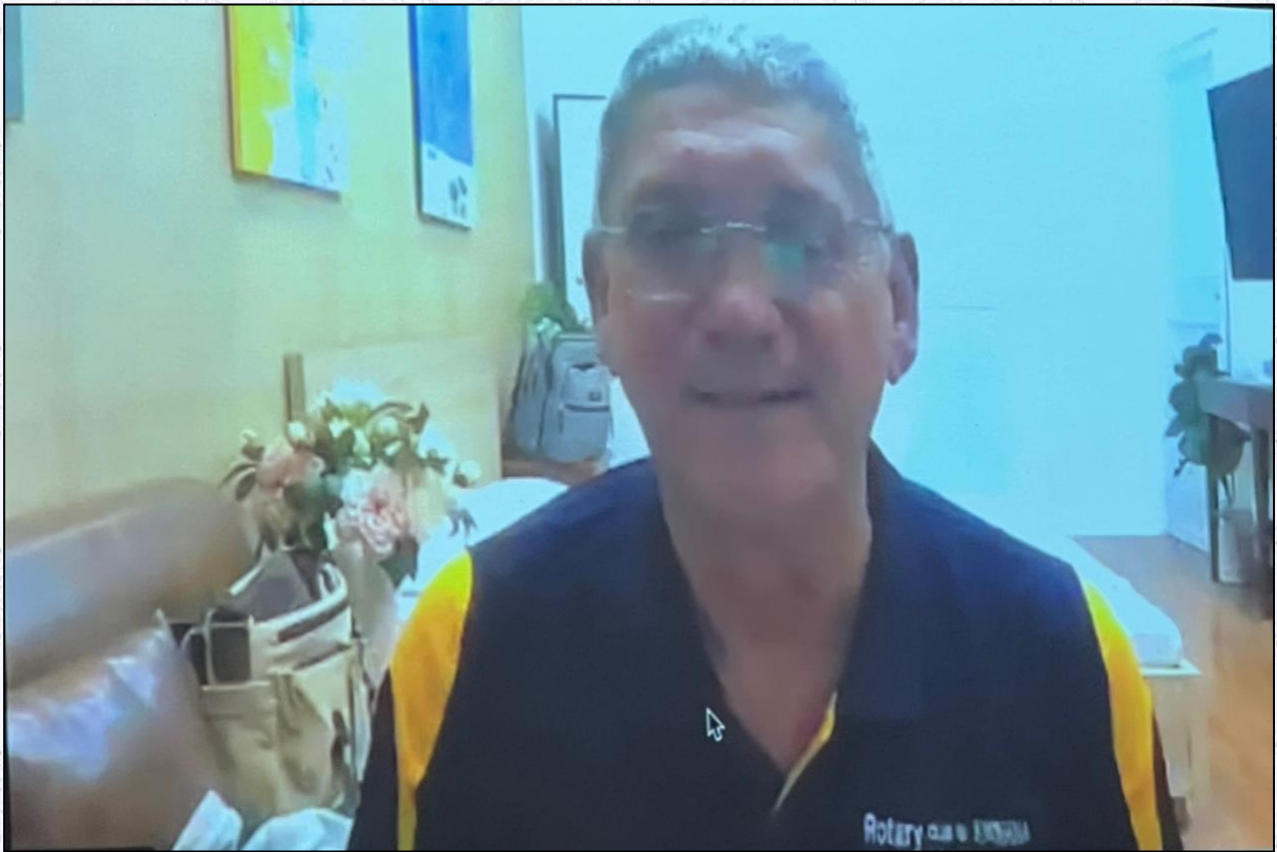
## Children's Hope In Action

- Children's Hope in Action (CHIA) is an Australian-registered charity founded by Australian woman Robyn Morley in 2006.
- Robyn felt that if she could help parents to continue caring for their children at home, the children and their families would be happier and healthier, and the burdens of the government would be reduced.
- In response to this problem, in 2006 Robyn founded Children's Hope in Action to provide care and assistance for some of the most disadvantaged children and their families in the Quang Nam province.

Established in 2006, Children's Hope in Action (CHIA) is a Non-Government Organization (NGO) operating in Hoi An, central Vietnam. We believe passionately that it is the right of every child to be raised within a nurturing family environment; to have access to essential services taken for granted by people living in the developed world. Children who suffer from disabilities, health issues or extreme poverty, are at high risk of being relinquished into institutional care. Hundreds of such children are helped by CHIA each month, enabling them to remain in the care of their families.

Children's Hope in Action seeks to offer culturally, socially and financially appropriate support services to disadvantaged children to provide them with the resources and opportunities they need to achieve success. The services are developed with no political or religious agenda with a main focus on health, disability, education and housing.

We are registered as a charity in Australia (ABN 88 085 725 085) and licensed to operate in Vietnam. Through our Australian partner Global Development Group, we are able to issue tax-deductible receipts to Australian donors. Our American partner Global Development Group USA has 501(c)(3) approval.



At least 90 people have died and another 12 are missing after days of heavy rain in Vietnam led to flooding and landslides.

The Vietnamese government says 186,000 homes have been damaged across the country, with more than three million livestock swept away. Officials estimate there has been hundreds of millions of pounds worth of damage.

The mountainous province of Dak Lak has been severely impacted, recording more than 60 deaths since 16 November, according to news agency AFP.

## November 2025 Floods





Fine Session: Sergeant Norm Mulcahy  
PP Chris Oughton standing-in for Norm



P Stephen Castelli  
stand-in when required.

Eric: About time for a 'haircut'

Eric and John M: Carrying out clock maintenance.

Rotarians wearing shorts!!! Terry, Soren and Chris.

President being nasty to the sergeant.

John M: Drinking white wine with ice!!!

Karen: Bruises on her leg ?????????? also No raffle??

Terry: Didn't pick-up the sign.

John I rang Chris for assistance, Chris "I can't come you've got my car keys"

### Some strange Christmas traditions



**Japan:**

It is a tradition for families to eat KFC for Christmas dinner.

**Norway:**

People hide their brooms on Christmas Eve for fear that evil spirits will use them to attack people.

**Venezuela:**

In the capital, Caracas, residents often roller-skate to Christmas morning mass, as roads are closed to cars for the even

**Germany:**

On December 5th, children place a boot outside their door, and if they've been good, it's filled with treats from St. Nicholas; if they've been bad, it's just a bare branch

**Czech Republic:**

Unmarried women stand with their backs to the door and throw a shoe over their shoulder. If it lands with the toe pointing toward the door, they will be married within the year

**Indonesia announces closure of outbreak**

Indonesia has officially ended its outbreak of poliovirus type 2, which arose from years of low polio immunization coverage. Nearly 60 million additional doses of polio vaccine were administered to children during the response. [More](#).

**“Eradicating polio is like wrestling with a gorilla. Even when you have it down, you cannot let go.”**

At a special event in Karachi, Pakistan, last week, global and national experts concurred that ending polio in Pakistan, and the world, is within reach. “Eradicating polio is like wrestling with a gorilla. Even when you have the gorilla down you cannot let go.

Now we have so few polio cases, but if we let go it is again going to become a problem that is going to haunt us forever,” said Chris Maher, senior specialist in polio eradication and former chief scientist of the global polio programme at WHO.

“Surveillance systems in Pakistan are orders of magnitude above the sensitivity of anything we had in the early part of eradication. For the first eight years that I was working on polio, we did not know what it was. We didn’t have genetic sequencing. The sophistication of what exists now is remarkable, and it also affects our perception of what is going on, because, in the past, we did not have these tools. So, we were not finding as much virus as we are now.” [More](#).

**Puppets help win hearts for polio vaccination in Quetta, Pakistan**

Balochistan Emergency Operations Center’s creative World Polio Day campaign reaches children in high-risk areas. [More](#).

**Three facilities holding poliovirus achieve full containment certification**

As of November 2025, three facilities – in Belgium, Denmark, and the Republic of Korea – have reached the highest level of biorisk management certification for handling polioviruses. These are the first globally to earn a *Certificate of Containment (CC)* under WHO’s rigorous standards, ensuring that poliovirus materials are stored and managed with the utmost care. [More](#).

**Summary of new polioviruses this week:**

- Pakistan: three WPV1-positive environmental samples
- Angola: two cVDPV2 cases
- Namibia: one cVDPV2-positive environmental sample



# *Birthdays and Anniversaries December 2025*

## **Birthday Congratulations:**

Alan Johnson 2nd  
Deryl Wallhead 4th  
Terry Evans 6th  
John Walhead 12th  
Lucy Cuplovic 13th  
Sam Cuplovic 20th  
Sam Winmar 20th  
Lynne Bennett 25th  
Edd Samut 26th



## **Wedding Anniversaries**

Max & Diane 24th 59 years  
James & Cathy 20th 56 years



## **Club Anniversaries:**

John Iriks 1st 46 years  
Karen Zabiela 1st 3 years  
Sam Cuplovic 3rd 18 years  
Terry Evans 23rd 23 years since 1st joined RC Kwinana

*Congratulations*

John Maskell, Yanti and President Stephen with the food hampers collected from FoodBank





# What happened this week in history?



Dec. 01st to Dec. 7th



01<sup>st</sup>

1822: Franz Liszt, aged 11, debuts as a pianist in Vienna  
1913: Ford Motor Company institutes world's 1st moving assembly line for the Model T Ford  
1929: Game of Bingo invented by American toy salesman Edwin S. Lowe  
1953: Hugh Hefner publishes 1st edition of Playboy magazine, featuring Marilyn Monroe

02<sup>nd</sup>

1697: St Paul's Cathedral, designed by Sir Christopher Wren is consecrated for use  
1901: King C. Gillette begins selling safety razor blades  
1927: 1st Model A Ford sold, for \$385  
1969: Boeing 747 jumbo jet 1st public preview (Seattle to NYC)

03<sup>rd</sup>

1689: 1st successful separation of conjoined twins Elisabet and Catherina Meijerin, in Basel  
1854: Eureka Stockade: more than 20 goldminers at Ballarat, Victoria, are killed by state troopers.  
1910: Neon lights first publicly displayed (Paris Auto Show)  
1967: 1st human heart transplant performed in South Africa by Dr Christiaan Barnard

04<sup>th</sup>

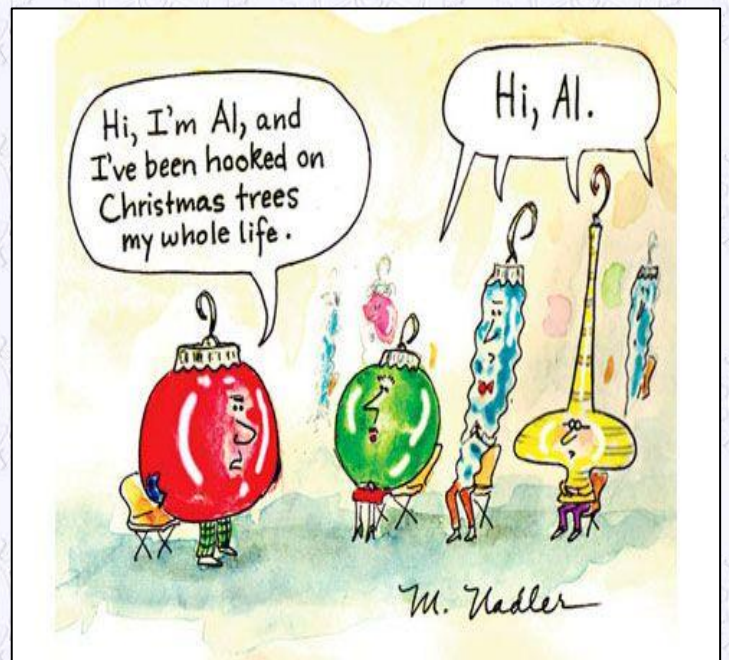
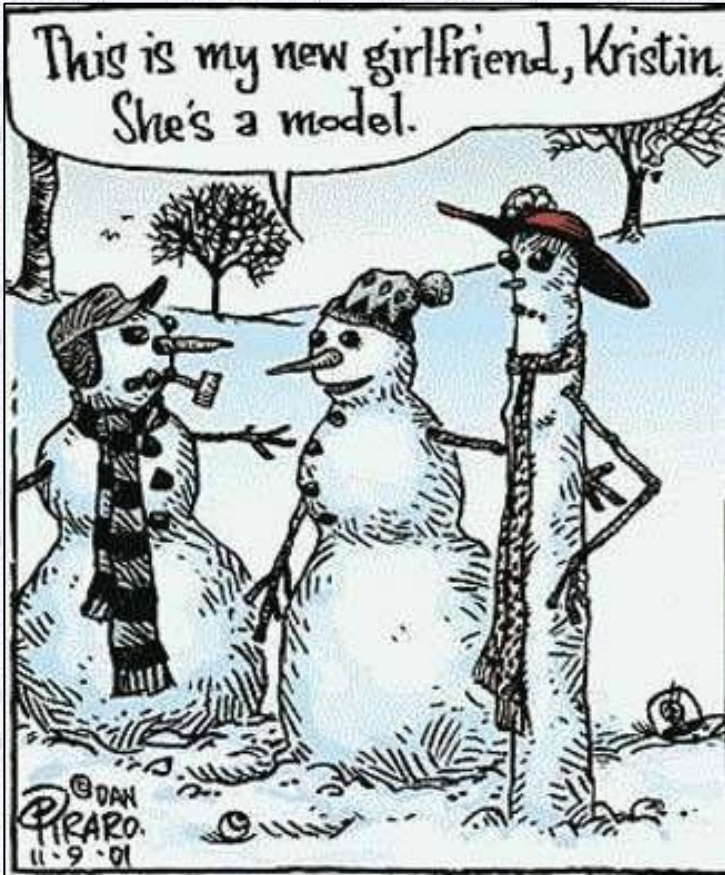
1791: Britain's Observer, oldest Sunday newspaper in the world, first published  
1843: Manila paper (made from sails, canvas and rope) patented in Massachusetts  
1930: Vatican approves rhythm method for birth control  
1961: The female contraceptive 'pill' becomes available on the National Health Service in Britain

05<sup>th</sup>

1360: The French Franc is created  
1766: World's largest auction house - Christie's hold their first sale in saleroom in Pall Mall, London  
1848: US President James K. Polk triggers Gold Rush of 1849 by confirming gold in California  
1893: Electric car built at the Dixon Carriage works in Toronto, could go 15 miles between charges

06<sup>th</sup>

**1196:** Northern Dutch coast flooded, "Saint-Nicolas Flood"  
1735: 1<sup>st</sup> recorded appendectomy performed by Claudius Amyand at St George's Hospital in London  
1768: 1st edition of "Encyclopedia Britannica" published in Scotland  
1897: London becomes the world's first city to host licenced taxicabs



**Nearby Rotary Clubs, Meeting Times**

Rockingham  
Palm beach  
Baldivis  
Cockburn

Monday 6pm  
Wednesday 6.30pm  
Tuesday 6.30pm  
Wednesday 6pm

Armadale  
Mandurah Districts  
Pinjarra  
Byford & Districts

Tuesday 7pm  
Tuesday 6pm  
Thursday 6.45pm  
Monday 7pm