



# 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 2**  
**Attended 14**  
Guests  
**Visitors**  
**Partners**

66%

Raffle  
**Terry & John W**

Heads & Tails  
**Alan**

Find us on  
**Facebook**

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

Visitors are welcome  
Contact  
0400 837 603



# Bulletin

No 22 15/12/2025



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

We held our mandatory AGM tonight, had a quorum present, all required business attended to. Some, not all positions filled for 2026/27.

On Sunday 14th, 30+ members, partners, family and friends attended the Golden Ponds Bistro for our Christmas function, good venue, food was good.

2025 is drawing to a close, we held our last meeting at Rotary Hall for 2025. Our last meeting, for 2025 on the 22nd, will be hosted by John and Chris at their home in Wellard.

Everyone is sickened and appalled by the tragedy at Bondi Beach, words don't describe the horror the people went through. Unfortunately, 'the world over' these occurrences are difficult to predict and prevent, Australia reportedly has some of the toughest gun-laws in the world, but how? do you prevent the crooks from possessing guns, legally or otherwise, hindsight would be a wonderful asset.

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Kwinana I extend to all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous 2026.



Rotary International President  
2025/26

Francesco Arezzo

Rotary Club of Ragusa, Italy

District Governor 9423  
2025/26

Veronica Lawrance

Rotary Club of Mill Point

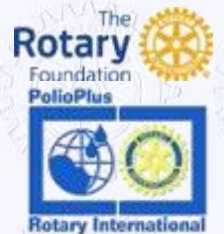


## December 2025 – Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

- Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Club Meeting Zoom catchup with Tony Miller
- Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Club Meeting
- Sun. 14<sup>th</sup> Christmas at Golden Ponds 12 noon
- Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Club: Annual General Meeting
- Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Christmas at the Iriks.



Attendance: Members respond via 'WhatsApp'





President's Pen



December 15th 2025



Tonight, we had the Rotary Clubs's Annual General Meeting.

Apologies were received from Bob Thompson and Norm Mulcahy

Results of AGM:

**Annual Financial Report** was presented and all questions posed by the members were duly answered. Financial Report for Rotary Year 2025 – 2025 was accepted.

**Standing Orders** have been circulated to all members, with changes being made to ensure that the Standing Orders align with the 'reality' of how the club is run. Standing Orders were accepted by the members.

**Election of Office Bearers** was conducted with the following results:

President Elect for 2026 – 2027 – Genevieve Carr

Foundation Director – PDG John Iriks

Vice President – PP Stephen Castelli

Treasurer – Karen Zabiela

Membership Director – Norm Mulcahy

Projects Director – PP James Sharkey

Public Relations Director – PP Bob Thompson

Secretary – Vacant

Club Services Director 2026 – 2027 and President Elect for 2027 – 2028 – Vacant

**General Business:**

The Providence Permaculture School had their annual fete on Sat 13/12. This was extremely well organised and well attended.

During the afternoon, there was an opening ceremony for the new Greenhouse that has been jointly funded by RC Kwinana and the Bendigo Bank.

I was contacted by Trudy Shulz (John Maskell's daughter) and was advised that Peter Carnley School had some Play equipment that was surplus to their needs. I inspected the equipment, and then collected it in the Furniture truck, and delivered it to the Providence Permaculture School. They were very grateful for it.

Since then, I have received a further call from Trudy advising that the school has some sports equipment. Once again, this has been inspected and will be delivered to Providence Permaculture School on Wednesday.

During the Fete at Providence Permaculture School there was a discussion regarding some lawn mowers, whipper snippers and blowers that the students had fixed up and made ready for sale. The club has agreed to take some of these and sell them on consignment for the school from the Furniture Factory.



### Calendar of Events:

There are quite a number of events coming up in December and January

**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

**Wednesday 31/12** – All have been invited to join Lynne and Cyril to celebrate New Years Eve at their place

No meeting 05/01

**Monday 12/01** BBQ at the hall. This will be a partner's night.

All to bring their own meat. Genevieve Carr has kindly offered to provide the salad. Anyone who wishes to assist with salad or desert is most welcome.

No meeting on Monday 26/01 as this is Australia Day, however Lynne and Cyril have invited all to join them at their home to celebrate Australia Day.

President Stephen



### Public Relations Report Dec. 2025



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**

1. Christmas function at Golden Ponds Bistro on Sunday 14 December was a very enjoyable occasion. Very special that Greg and Marge Williams chose to attend.
2. Club AGM held on Monday 15 December 2025

Board Positions for 2026 – 2027

President: Genevieve Carr  
Vice-President: Stephen Castelli  
Secretary: TBA  
Treasurer: Karen Zabiela  
Club Service Director: TBA  
Projects Director: James Sharkey  
Membership Director: Norm Mulcahy  
Public Relations Director: Bob Thompson  
Foundation Director: John Iriks\*

\*PDG John Iriks has stated that he will accept the role of Secretary if another member is willing to take on the role of Foundation Director and Manager of the Furniture Shop, Kwinana Fair

3. Christmas sundowner on Monday 22 December 2025 at the home of John and Chris Iriks. Please liaise with Chris Iriks or via WhatsApp chat group regarding food contribution.
4. First Club meeting after the Christmas/New Year break will be on Monday 12 January 2026. This will be a BBQ meeting with partners; BYO meat. Club Service Director Genevieve to organise salads.
5. Weekend away in Katanning from Saturday 25 April – Monday 27 April 2026: Catch-up with Kim Beciri and Paul Durant. Genevieve to liaise with Club Service Director of Katanning Rotary Club regarding possible social activity with the club over the weekend.

PE Genevieve Carr



**PP Genevieve Carr 08th Dec. 2025**



Inward Correspondence.

- Notification of WA Volunteer Service Awards 2026
- Message of thanks for assistance with 2025 Kwinana Children's Party
- ShelterBox appeal
- Reminder to update Club database y 1 January 2026
- RDU Supplies update
- RYLA invoice
- Message of thanks from Olive Lovitt for invitation to Christmas function
- Message from Regional Council regarding Bondi shooting tragedy
- Rego renewal notice for BBQ trailer

Outward Correspondence: None



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 15th December 2025



I wanted our street to have the best Christmas light decorations in the neighbourhood, so I strung a thousand coloured lights from house to house, all the way down the street. I did all the electrical wiring myself. If you'd like further information, just drive down our street, we're the third pile of ashes on the left from the corner.

Rotary Club of Kwinana held their Christmas Function for 2025 at Golden Ponds



Golden Ponds (WA) Pty Ltd, established in 1999, is a recreational fishing park located in Baldivis, a suburb in Perth's south.

The story of Golden Ponds began a decade earlier, in 1989, when founder and owner Mr Tony Pannacchione, a former professional fisherman and long-time participant in the wholesale food industry acquired 39.7 hectares of undeveloped land. Fuelled by his lifelong passion for fishing, Tony set out to build a modern aquaculture facility, turning his dream of owning a fish farm into reality. This vision marked the beginning of what would eventually become Golden Ponds.

Mr Pannacchione began developing the land long before the freeway and suburban sprawl reached Perth's southern outskirts. Over the course of ten years, the once-undeveloped property was transformed into a thriving fish farm, featuring 54 man-made ponds of varying sizes.

Golden Ponds officially opened to the public in 1999, beginning with a small onsite kiosk offering a selection of frozen fish, marron and crayfish. Over time, onsite hatcheries were established to cultivate and replenish the pond ecosystems. With a focus on sustainability and a catch-and-release model, the ponds have since become self-sufficient, nurturing a healthy and balanced aquatic environment with minimal external impact.

In the following years, Golden Ponds experienced significant growth. In 2000, a café and function centre was added, and by 2004, accommodation facilities were introduced. These developments transformed Golden Ponds into a sought-after destination for tourists seeking purpose, recreation, and relaxation.

Over the years, Golden Ponds has undergone a thoughtful transformation, guided by a deep respect for nature and a commitment to preserving the environment. What once began as a traditional fishing destination has evolved into a bird and wildlife sanctuary where recreational fishing now follows a sustainable catch-and-release model.

At the heart of this evolution is Tony's vision: to create a peaceful haven where the community can reconnect with the natural world. He wanted Golden Ponds to be more than just a place to visit—it's a place to slow down, breathe in the fresh air, and rediscover the simple joys of life.

Ever since Golden Ponds took ownership of the once bare land, Mr. Pannacchione has dedicated himself to transforming it into the vibrant oasis in Baldivis that it is today, brought to life by the massive tree-planting effort and the deep commitment to nurturing this land's natural beauty. With an emphasis on low-impact, nature-based activities, he takes great pride in how Golden Ponds not only brings people closer to the environment but also plays a vital role in protecting it. Every decision—from how the grounds are maintained to how visitors engage with the landscape—is made with care, ensuring the preservation of this unique environment for generations to come.

Tony firmly believes that the key to success in today's business world lies in fostering a strong sense of community—the core value at the heart of Golden Ponds. As the local area has grown, so too has the role of Golden Ponds, evolving into a much-loved hub for the surrounding community.

Golden Ponds has become the go-to spot for families and children looking to enjoy the outdoors. Golden Ponds continues to attract and delight visitors of all ages, firmly establishing itself as a treasured part of the Rockingham region becoming the oasis in Baldivis.

<https://www.goldenponds.com.au/the-heart-behind-us/>



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



P Stephen Castelli  
stand-in when required.



No matter what part of the world you live in, Christmas is usually a wonderful time of year. It is no different in the Southern Hemisphere, where Christmas time comes in the summer. The schools are all closed for several weeks while December 25th and 26th are considered national holidays.

The average temperature in Australia during the month of December is 38C (?) (100F) and many take advantage of the good weather by going outdoors for the festivities.

During this time of summer vacation combined with the celebration of Christmas, many families and friends commemorate the occasion with feasts, gatherings, musical events, outdoor activities, camping or trips to the seashore.

The climate of Australia is tied together with its Christmas traditions.

When the English colonists arrived in January of 1788, they must have noticed how warm it was. Starting with Australia's very first Christmas it was clear things were going to be different.

Many Christmas traditions such as pine trees, reindeer and snow were not available anywhere. So, they had to improvise with tropical plants of red and green, white kangaroos, swimming and cricket. The Australian Christmas traditions as we know them today took years to develop. However, the British roots of early settlers and government continue to be a strong influence to this day.



*There are so many gifts I could give to you this Christmas.  
Peace, love, joy, & happiness are what I am sending your way.*



### Global leaders pledge US\$1.9 billion in Abu Dhabi to end polio and protect children worldwide

Meeting this week in Abu Dhabi, international leaders, philanthropists and global health partners announced a collective US\$1.9 billion in pledges towards polio eradication. The event was hosted by the Mohamed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity, convening leaders from governments, civil society, philanthropy and global health from across the world. All stood shoulder to shoulder, powerfully demonstrating that governments, communities and civil society remain fully united behind this mission. [More](#).

### GPEI welcomes Rotary's Michael McGovern as next Polio Oversight Board Chair

The GPEI is pleased to announce that Michael (Mike) McGovern, Chair of the International PolioPlus Committee, Rotary International, will serve as the next Chair of the Polio Oversight Board (POB), effective 1 January 2026. After five years of dedicated service as the GPEI's POB Chair, Dr Chris Elias, President of Global Development, Gates Foundation, will hand over the role. [More](#).

### Polio EB report published

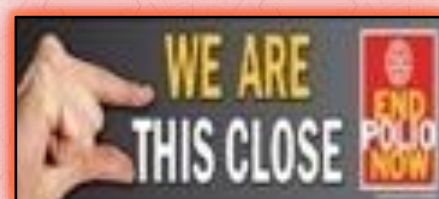
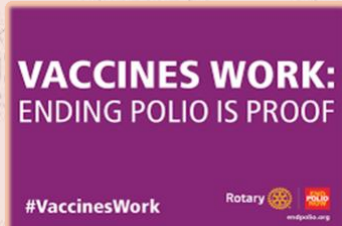
The polio report for the upcoming WHO Executive Board meeting (EB), taking place in Geneva during the week of 2 February 2026, has now been published. This report will inform Member State discussions at the EB. It provides an overview of progress in implementing and financing the Polio Eradication Strategy, including in the current geopolitical context. It also outlines ongoing planning to secure a lasting polio-free world, such as polio transition efforts and the development of *Sustaining a Polio-free World: A Strategy for Long-term Success*. The link to the report is available [here](#).

### SAGE report published

The full report from the recent Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on immunization (SAGE) meeting has now been [published](#). On polio eradication, SAGE endorsed two important innovations for polio. It recommended that fractional doses of Sabin-based inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) be used in the same way as fractional doses of Salk-based IPV – helping stretch supply and reach more children. SAGE also backed the broader rollout of novel oral polio vaccine type 2 (nOPV2) to help stop persistent outbreaks of circulating variant poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) in some of the toughest places.

### Summary of new polioviruses this week:

- Angola: two cVDPV2 cases
- Nigeria: one cVDPV2 case
- Somalia: two cVDPV2-positive environmental samples
- Yemen: one cVDPV2 case



## *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



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

### **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*

- ? What happens to elves when they behave naughty? Santa gives them the sack.
- ? What kind of music do elves listen to? Wrap.
- ? Why didn't the skeleton go to the Christmas party? He had no-body to go with.
- ? Who hides in the bakery at Christmas? A Mince Spy!
- ? What says 'Oh Oh Oh'? Santa walking backwards!
- ? Why did Santa put a clock in his sleigh? He wanted to see time fly!
- ? What does Santa suffer from if he gets stuck in a chimney? Claustrophobia!
- ? What do you get if you combine Santa and a duck? A Christmas Quacker!
- ? Why are Christmas trees so bad at sewing? They always drop their needles!
- ? What happened to the thief who stole a Christmas Advent Calendar? He got 25 days!
- ? What is a skunks favorite Christmas song? Jingle smells!
- ? What is Santa's dogs name? Santa Paws!
- ? What falls at the North Pole but never gets hurt? Snow. .



# What happened this week in history?



Dec. 15th to Dec. 21st



15<sup>th</sup>

1582: Spanish Netherlands, Denmark and Norway adopt the Gregorian calendar  
1593: State of Holland grants patent on windmill with a crankshaft  
1939: 1st commercial manufacture of nylon yarn in Seaford, Delaware  
1961: Adolf Eichmann is sentenced to death for war crimes in Israel

16<sup>th</sup>

1431: King Henry VI of England crowned King of France  
1497: Portuguese navigator Vasco da Gama is 1st European to sail along Africa's East Coast  
1707: Last recorded eruption of Mount Fuji in Japan.  
1946: Christian Dior and his backer Marcel Boussac found fashion house Christian Dior

17<sup>th</sup>

1538: King Henry VIII is excommunicated from the Catholic Church, establishes new Christian denomination.  
1903: The Wright brothers make the first sustained, controlled flights in a powered aircraft.  
1938: Discovery of nuclear fission using uranium by Otto Hahn and his assistant Fritz Strassmann.  
1967: Australian Prime Minister Harold Holt goes missing whilst swimming at Portsea, Victoria.

18<sup>th</sup>

1603: First fleet of the Dutch East India Co under Admiral Stephen departs for the East-Indies  
1642: Abel Tasman's expedition sails into Golden Bay, first sighting local Māori in New Zealand  
1849: William Bond obtains 1st photograph of Moon through a telescope  
1917: The 18th Amendment to the US Constitution, authorizing prohibition of alcohol, is approved

19<sup>th</sup>

1686: Robinson Crusoe leaves his island after 28 years (as per Daniel Defoe's famous novel)  
1835: HMS Beagle with Charles Darwin aboard arrives in New Zealand  
1843: "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens is published, 6,000 copies sold  
1932: British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) begins transmitting overseas

20<sup>th</sup>

1780: Britain declares war on Holland  
1812: "Grimm's Fairy Tales" by Jacob Grimm and Wilhelm Grimm is first published  
1830: Great Britain, France, Prussia, Austria and Russia recognize Belgium  
1915: ANZAC troops complete their withdrawal from Anzac Cove on the Gallipoli Peninsula

21<sup>st</sup>

1835: HMS Beagle sails into Bay of Islands, New Zealand  
1872: Phileas Fogg completes his round the world trip in 80 days  
1898: Scientists Pierre and Marie Curie discover radium  
1929: Coco the Clown first appears for Bertram Mills Circus in Manchester, England

