



Incorporated in Victoria A0004674V

P.O. Box 429, Geelong, Vic 3220



January 2022

Next meeting 25th January

Location to be advised



Found on facebook.

A Bit of History

An annual event for some 15 years was the Kiwanis Club of Geelong "Special Disco". The event provided an opportunity for physically or intellectually disabled young people to experience a 'Disco' in a real venue with all the lights and glitter. With the support of Barwon Regional Special Olympics and other support agencies and what was then the Eureka Sportz Saloon in Lt Malop Street the program included the Victoria Police 'Code One' rock band, and the attendance of Geelong Football Club celebrities. No alcohol was served as the venue was provided exclusively to disabled people of Geelong. It was always a time to dress up and party dresses and even Tuxedos were worn. Clients were able to be escorted by their carers and family. Many arrived in wheelchairs while special parking permits allowed disabled access to the club. Supervision and assistance was provided by volunteers from Kiwanis and off duty Victoria police.



Geelong Mums

A large donation was made mid December to Geelong Mums of 180 mixed bibs for babies and toddlers, eight baby blankets and several stuffed toys. Member Carmen Chapman, Janine Oakley, Kathy Pattie and Anna Porter are seen with one of the Geelong Mums volunteers.



It's amazing how many parents went from "I don't understand my kid's 6th grade maths homework to "I'm an infectious diseases expert" in just six months.

Encouragement Awards 2021

The 2021 Kiwanis Geelong Encouragement Awards have again seen students from all over the city recognised for their potential to progress into higher education. The annual award is presented to a student with academic potential, outstanding personal character, good relations with their peers and who would benefit from financial assistance to progress to higher education. It is envisaged that the \$400 awards is spent on books, uniform, material costs, excursions or other school related costs. The awards are presented to students from, Northern Bay P-12 College, Western Heights College, Belmont High School, Geelong High School, Matthew Flinders Girls Secondary College, Newcomb Secondary College, North Geelong Secondary College, Oberon High School, Nelson Park School and Grovedale Secondary College. An additional Award 'The Jason Thomas Award' is presented at Grovedale Secondary College. The awards together with a trophy have been presented annually for 20 years and are presented wherever possible by a member of the Geelong Club. This year due to covid some schools did not have a formal ceremony however, Spencer Harding, Phil Knight, Graeme Munro, Graham Mould and Bob & Carmen Chapman attended ceremonies to present in person.



Spencer Harding presenting at Western Heights College.



Graeme Munro presenting at Grovedale Secondary College.

International President Peter Mancuso's main priorities.

First priority is to improve the club experience in order to increase the value every Kiwanian finds in membership, as well as to attract new members. Start out by recognising that everything of value happens at the club level, and that the purpose of every part of our organisation is to help the clubs offer outstanding fellowship and service opportunities to their members. In order to succeed in recruiting and retaining members, a club needs to provide a membership experience that would make a prospective member want to join it

Second priority is to increase membership through club growth, retention and new club openings. A growing membership means more service – in particular, hands-on service. A growing membership means greater fellowship. A growing membership solves financial problems at every level of our organisation. A growing membership means more outstanding leaders who are willing to serve. And all of these things will be even more important as we recover from the effects of the pandemic.

Third priority is to expand Kiwanis Youth Programs to positively impact more young people around the world and develop tomorrow's leaders. It is his hope that in the future our predominant form of service will be in developing tomorrow's leaders through our Service Leadership Programs. It is very important for our clubs to appoint advisers who are faithful to the duties of sponsorship. The SLPs are what makes Kiwanis unique. They are what we know how to do best. They represent hands-on service, not just raising money to give to others who actually render the service. They (Service Leadership Programs) offer our greatest opportunity to make the world a better place.

Excerpts from Peter Mancuso's address at the 2021 Education and Leadership Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA:

Birthdays in February

6th - Margaret Cox

28th - Graeme Munro

