



Incorporated in Victoria A0004674V

P.O. Box 429, Geelong, Vic 3220



December 2023

What's Coming Up

Christmas Break Up – Dec 17th
at Bob and Carmen Chapman



Christmas Message from club President

Dear Friends in Kiwanis,

We thank you all for your commitment to Geelong Kiwanis in 2023 and look forward to working on our many projects with you in 2024. May the blessings of God be with you and your families this Christmas and New Year.

From your President and Secretary,
Greg and Chrissie Puls

Sew & So

Carmen and Jennifer delivered to Heather representing St John of God Hospital on Tuesday 14th Nov the latest items produced by the Sew & So ladies. Soft hats made for ladies who are subject to chemotherapy treatment. Lovely bags to carry the not too attractive drain tubes and bags plus several Pockets of Hope were provided to for distribution to patients of the hospital.



Annual Doll, Teddy & Craft Show

The Masonic hall in Belmont has been booked for Saturday 15th June 2024 for our annual fund raiser. Please put in your diary as plenty of help is needed not only on the day but also for setting up the tables on the preceding Friday night.

Birthdays

December

- 3rd Hilary Prideau
- 5th Phill Knight
- 17th George Welsh
- 21st Eugan Kardos
- 27th Cher Phillips

January

- 2nd Peter Phillips
- 2nd Graham Mould
- 5th Phil Dower
- 12th Margaret Mould
- 16th Rod Puls

Share The Dignity Program

Recently member George Welsh made the club aware of a promotion being conducted by Bunnings across Australia called '*Share The Dignity*'.

Each November, Share the Dignity calls on Australians to help ensure women and girls spending Christmas in domestic violence refuges, **homeless shelters, or living in poverty, receive basic essentials and the gift of love and hope for Christmas through their '*It's in the Bag campaign*'**. Bunnings acted as a collection agency, with bags to be dropped off by 26th November.

With a short turn around the club conducted an email and text poll, agreeing to fund the program up to 10 bags.

George and Graeme Munro purchased the goods, which included shampoo, conditioner, moisturiser, a toothbrush, toothpaste, body wash, deodorant, hair brush, pads, panty Liners, tampons, face wipes, a packet of pocket tissues.

Anna Porter and the sewing ladies made the bags and a face washer and club members packed the bags at our club meeting on 22nd November.

A small card designed by Graham Mould was included to provide a short note of encouragement to the recipient.

Seen here are Graeme and George delivering the bags to Bunnings Activities Organiser Lauren Schwab on Thursday 25th November

The cost of the project to the club was \$441.55



Care Kits for Christ Church Community Program

Recently Kiwanis Geelong received a request from the Christ Church Community Program for some of our much appreciated 'Care Kits'.

Care Kits are a budgeted item so Christ Church was informed that we could supply them with 15 male and 15 female Care Kits before the Xmas period, where the need for support increases.

Each '**Care Kit**' consists of a tube of toothpaste, a toothbrush, a packet of hand wipes (makeup removers in the case of females), a roll on deodorant, a bar of soap, a packet of pocket tissues, 3 disposable men's razors or one twin blade lady disposable razor, a bottle of shampoo and a bottle of conditioner.



A female kit

ANOTHER PROJECT OF THE Kiwanis Club of Geelong



A male kit



The cost per kit for this donation was \$14.60 with a total cost to the club of \$408.00.

The same kits cost the club \$9.80 in 2018.

Another interesting fact is since 2014 **Kiwanis Geelong** has distributed **1,521 Care Kits** to various support agencies who assist the disadvantaged in the community at a cost of **\$9,794.44** to the club.

Interclub Activities

Bayside Newcastle



Made with Love & care
by the Kiwanis Sew &
So Group



Kiwanis Club of Geelong

Margaret M has been assisting with a project of the Kiwanis Bayside Newcastle for several years that has been supported by Geelong Kiwanis previously. The project aims helps young mums through local agencies. This year Margaret with the other ladies of our Sew & So group have sent 20 colourful bags and 25 babies' bibs. The bags will be filled by Bayside club with a range of personal and sanitary items together with toys and Christmas gifts to bring a bit of joy at this special time of year.

Warrnambool Club 50th Anniversary



Ten members of Geelong club travelled to Warrnambool on Saturday 11th November to join them in their celebration of 50 years as a Kiwanis Club. The party including Greg, Chrissie and Rod Puls, Bob and Carmen Chapman, Graham and Margaret Mould, Spencer Harding, George Welsh and Heather Craig.

Presentations were made recognising the long service of members and the birthday cake was cut by one of their original charter membership. Several generous cheques were presented from Warrnambool club to local organisations. District Governor Ian Randall spoke not of the monetary value of the cheques but of the effect on struggling individuals that would be made as result of the donations.

Several Past Governors of Kiwanis Australia District from Victoria and South Australia together with current District Secretary Sue Kimberley attended.

An interesting and quite amusing gentleman guest speaker presented the history of the long search for what is known as the Mahogany Ship. The ship having the appearance of an early European sailing ship and rumoured to be buried in the dunes near Warrnambool was once discovered and then lost forever. It has since vanishing defeated every effort from digging holes to using ground penetration radar to be rediscovered.

Annual Kiwanis Encouragement Awards

With the end of the school year rapidly approaching members will be attending schools in Geelong between November 30th and December 18th to present Kiwanis Encouragement Awards. Each school selects the student who will receive the award with each winning student receiving a handsome plaque and \$400.00 towards their further education. Schools involved are; Belmont High, Grovedale College, Lara Secondary College, Matthew Flinders Girls Secondary College, Newcomb Secondary College, Northern Bay P-12 College, North Geelong Secondary College, Oberon High, Western Heights College and Nelson Park School. The Jason Thomas Award is also to be presented at Grovedale College in remembrance of Jason, son of past club President Bill Thomas.