



Incorporated in Victoria A0004674V

P.O. Box 429, Geelong, Vic 3220



January 2024

What's Coming Up

Club Meeting's

24th January at the RSL

KIWANIS DRIVER PROGRAM

Message to Phil Knight on behalf of Department of Transport.

Hi Phil,

On behalf of myself, I would like to personally thank you for all your hard work and dedication to the Kiwanis Club and providing such an amazing road safety program and important road safety messages to your school and the wider community. It has been a pleasure working with you.

Without such wonderfully driven people to ensure these programs are delivered to a very high standard, the community would miss out on important information and campaigns targeting localised road safety issues.

I hope you have a wonderful, relaxing Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year with your family and friends. I will be in touch towards the end of January.

Take extra care on the roads during this time.

Kind Regards

Sally Swankie

Road Safety Partnerships Coordinator

Road Safety Victoria

Department of Transport and Planning



Sew & So Xmas

Break-up

Looks like the ladies were more interested in their presents than sewing on Wed, Dec 6th at the St George

Christmas Break-Up



After a busy period for the club a very enjoyable bbq lunch and convivial afternoon was spent at Bob and Carmen's home to end the 2023 year on 17th December. Thanks to our hosts for providing such a pleasant ending to the year.

Birtkdays

January

2nd Peter Phillips

2nd Graham Mould

5th Phil Dower

12th Margaret Mould

15th Rod Puls

February

28th Graeme Munro

Bunnings BBQ's

2024

22nd March 2024

24th May 2024

23th Aug 2024

22th Nov 2024

Grovedale College – Jason Thomas Award

The 25th Anniversary Commemoration took place at the West Geelong Memorial Park on Saturday 2nd December 2023 in memory of the five members of the crew of a Geelong West fire tanker who all perished while battling a bushfire at Linton, west of Ballarat on that day in 1998. One member of the crew was Jason Thomas, a devoted and much loved son of Bill and Val Thomas. Bill was a Past President of Kiwanis Geelong. Jason had been a member of the Grovedale College band for 5 years, was a Peer Support Leader and had been awarded two College Citizenship Awards.

The criteria for the Award included *Imitative, Character, Appearance, Conduct, Willingness to participate, Relationships with Staff and the Ability to socialise with people.*

Jason in his childhood had enjoyed the social activities of Kiwanis and later became an active helper in the community service projects of the club. In his memory members of the Kiwanis Club of Geelong initiated 'The Jason Thomas Award'. The first winner was Jessica McKenzie in 1999.

The award is presented annually to a student who has: demonstrated friendship/positive relationships and gained the respect of students and teachers at the college. Shown concern and great support for their fellow students, consistently contributed to the social service and club activities within the college community and extra curricular activities.

Jason Thomas Award Winner 2023

Thomas Welsh is one of the Grovedale College Student Leaders for 2024. Throughout his education and time at Grovedale he has consistently contributed to the College community and wider community. Thomas is an active, third generation member of the CFA Grovedale Junior Program, where he has led several fundraising initiatives and broader brigade activities in his local area. In 2019, he was an active member of a Bushfire fundraiser and in 2022 he contributed to the Harvest Education Agriculture Program.

Thomas has more recently been appointed as a member of the Waurn Ponds Memorial Reserve Committee, by the delegate of Minister of Environment. In this role he has regularly attended committee meetings as a youth voice in this space. As part of his involvement in this committee he spoke and lead at a recent Remembrance Day Service. Thomas aspires towards a career in politics and consistently contributes his services, time and enthusiasm to his local communities.



Past President Bill Thomas presenting the Jason Thomas Award To Tom Welsh who penned the following thank you letter.

*Dear Mr and Mrs Thomas,
I write to you once again to thank you for the Recognition as 2023 Grovedale recipient of the Jason Thomas Memorial Community Service Award. It was a honour to attend the 25th Memorial Service this month with the Grovedale CFA juniors. It is A privilege and honour to be recognized for my Community involvements. Kind Regards, Tom Welsh*



Award Winners - Board 2

Happy Birthday George



George Welsh came, and went, and came back again as he could not make up his mind on where to be and who was making the most fuss of him on his birthday on 17th December. He got cuddles, kisses and a cake in two places. What more do you want George?

Encouragement Award

Spencer at North Geelong



Dec 2023 was our Best Ever month raising \$5,694 from the 3 sausage sizzles!

Bandages & Tape Donation.

Through our contacts at Aero Healthcare and Pardeys Pharmacy in Belmont, Kiwanis was donated another batch of Band-Aids, tape and bandages for Kiwanis to distribute via our contacts to worthy causes. The latest batch consisted of 508 items with an estimated retail value of \$2,900. We will discuss at our January meeting what to do with the current batch of material. There are several options available such as:

- Offer to Christ Church Meals Program, St Mary's Parish Pantry and Foundation 61 to select what they can use.
- Offer any leftover bandages and tape to St John Ambulance.
- Make up balanced packages at a hands-on event and distribute where we get the best promotion for Kiwanis
- Offer to Lucy for the Lese Oalai School in Papua New Guinea, if she has transportation available.

Other options will be considered such as sports clubs as from discussions it is possible that we will get another delivery early in the New Year.



A Great and Happy 2024 New Year to everyone