

Volume 64 | Issues 11 & 12 | Bulletins 3180 and 3181 | 3 & 10 December 2025

MEETINGS

Attendees at meetings are encouraged to be fully Covid Vaccinated
Meetings commence at 6:30 pm,
place meal orders before 6:20pm

RSVP

Click on the button or Ctrl+Click on the link below to notify your attendance at Club Meetings, and if you are eating.

<https://www.mitchamrotarysa.org.au/program-and-events>

CLOSE OFF TIME NOW 9:00PM MONDAY

14 January 2026 **10:00am**
Coffee Morning
Dolce Café
Mitcham Shopping Centre

MONDAY
19 January 2026 **5.30pm for 6.00pm**
Joint meeting with
Blackwood, Coromandel
Valley and Flagstaff Hill
clubs Hosted by the Rotary
Club of Blackwood
Belair Hotel
141 Main Rd, Blackwood

28 January 2026 **6:00pm**
Picnic
Mitcham Reserve BYOE

4 February 2026 **at the Ed**
COMMITTEES
Reception and Raffle *David Jones*

11 February 2026 **10:00am**
Coffee Morning
Eccoci
Bunside Village
447 Portrush Road
Glenside 5065

RECEPTION AND RAFFLE PRIZE ROSTER 2026

David Jones	4 February 2026
Antoinette Linquist	18 February 2026
Malcolm Linquist	4 March 2026
Jenny McCarthy	18 March 2026

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It was a balmy Wednesday evening on 3 December as we gathered at the Ed for our meeting which would include the AGM. Thanks to Ros Gooden for providing the Toast to Australia.



As is our new custom, we acknowledge and respect those who have gone before us, and Peter Dry gave us an entertaining and memory prompting history lesson. Interesting as always to hear about the projects undertaken in those early days. Coincidentally, Marty Smith's Last Word column yesterday was a surprise – "on this day in 1980, The Rotary Club of Mitcham presented the musical ensembles, "Polished Brass and Saxes in Concert", at the Adelaide Town Hall.

There has been a lot of activity with us being involved in a number of community events over the past weeks and with the general increase of activity prior to Christmas, I must thank each and every member who has united to serve, and to make these events a success. Your efforts are appreciated and do not go unnoticed.

It has been heartening to attend school award ceremonies, and to hear of the incredible efforts of these young people. Their passion for causes is palpable, and I feel that as we aim to encourage and mentor those who will come after us, there is an opportunity to expand our work in this sphere in the coming year. This may expand our reach and increase our impact.

In an effort to enhance the member experience, a recent survey was completed and tonight Sam provided the results - what matters most to our members, and of these attributes, where are we missing the mark?

- Fulfilment / Achievement
- Sense of belonging
- Sense of purpose / direction



Satisfaction/ value for membership
Interpersonal relationship

There were some initial ideas for improvement presented, but the next steps will include reviewing the goals set by committees at the start of the Rotary year, and using this as a base to draft activity plan for the next six months. This will be distributed to members of the Christmas break, and we will hold a Club Assembly when we formally meet again on the first week in February.

Our AGM was conducted as required, and it was noted that Locky McLaren, Dean Standish, Andrew Atterton, David Elliott and Alex Smithson will continue their current roles in 2026/2027. Peter Dry will move from being immediate past President to Director of Youth and Vocational Service. The Board is looking to fill the roles of President, Vice President, Director Club Administration, Director Membership and Public Image and President Elect for 2027-2028. Please take the time to consider how you may be able to serve in one of these roles and contact any Board member if you need to discuss or gather further information around what is involved.

Peter Dry was the lucky recipient of the raffle prize kindly donated by Barry Hurst.

Before we meet again I will add another number to my age and David Elliott will celebrate his 3rd club anniversary. It will be yet closer to Christmas when we meet to celebrate on the 10th of December. We are looking forward to reconnecting with our honorary members and to welcoming the current DG, Rajeev Kamineni and his wife Priya.

Thanks to all who keep our club and meetings operational. Until we next meet, be happy, stay safe and Unite for Good.

REPORT OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MITCHAM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 3 DECEMBER 2025.

The Minutes of AGM held 4 December 2024 were adopted.

The 2024-25 Club Annual Report was received.

The 2024-25 Club's Audited Annual Financial Statements were adopted.

Treasurer's information for members re 2024-25 Projects Account income & outlays was received.

In respect of the Board for 2026-27:

- Current President, Jenny McCarthy, will become Immediate Past President.
- International Service and Rotary Foundation Director Locky McLaren, Treasurer Dean Standish, Secretary Andrew Atterton, Community Service Director David Elliott, Youth and Vocational Services Director Peter Dry, Fundraising Director Alex Smithson.
- No nomination was received for the 2026-2027 positions of President Elect, Vice President, Membership and Public Image Director, and Director Club Administration.
- The President Elect position in 2025-26, to be President in 2026-27 remains to be filled by the Board.

In accordance with the By-Laws, the filling of these positions is to be undertaken by the Board.

PRESIDENT JENNY'S REMARKS ON THE 2025 CHRISTMAS DINNER

It was wonderful to gather together to celebrate not only Christmas, but also to reflect on the first six months of this Rotary year and how much we have achieved together as we Unite for Good.



From my perspective, it has been a bit of a whirlwind and I am not sure where the past six months have gone, but looking back at our goals and our achievements it is easy to see why it has passed by so swiftly. I have a very supportive Board and while I know I do not do things perfectly, and I may not follow the traditional ways to the letter and often miss points of order, we have made changes together and are all working hard for the cause.

At the start of the year, the Vision for Rotary International was "Together we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change across the globe, in our community and in ourselves". So how are we going about measuring up to this vision?

Let's start with a look at what we have done to create lasting change across the globe.

It is our intention to expand our reach and our Foundation and International committee have been very busy doing just this. We have continued our



tradition of giving to the Rotary Foundation, Shelter Box (for which we received a silver champion award) and Polio Plus. We are actively involved in projects in Nepal and with the Timor Leste water project and most recently we have made a donation to support the Rotary Club of Dillibazar's work in facilitating school eye clinics. Participation in the Teacher in the Box project has seen a server installed at the Lese Oalai School in the gulf province of PNG. This will be joined shortly by three further servers going in to remote boarding schools in the Gulf province. A very popular club activity has been combining a social night with packing Birthing kits and planning is underway to repeat this in the new year.

I think our work in this area is very strong, but how about in our community – what have we done to increase our impact and great lasting change.

We really can't achieve a lot if we don't raise funds to allocate to projects. Our Fundraising committee works very diligently to do this. Our Bookshop carries the lions share of fundraising and the first six months of this year see our projected income being exceeded. The support of all members and volunteers in this space is very much appreciated.

Other fundraising initiatives include our regular barbecues, two wine releases, Mitcham Carols Night, CLG school sports day, and a TAFE barbecue.

We started this Rotary year with a joint meeting where 5 clubs were represented. The focus of that meeting was Domestic Violence. In this space, we have participated in the DV safe phone project for which we received a Council grant. We also participated in the regional Lift the Lid walk to raise funds for ARH mental health initiatives.

We have developed a relationship with the Unley Salvation Army and now cook and serve a community dinner once a month. This compliments the work we do four times a year cooking and serving dinner at the Kilburn Community Centre for Freds Van. We have also provided pantry items for Ronald McDonald House.

At the request of our local Member of Parliament, we have also supported community events such as the launch of the Bushfire season and the 175th anniversary of the suburb of Clapham.

We support the friends of Brownhill creek with environmental initiatives and repairing picnic tables. We provide backpacks for immigrants and disadvantaged youth.

Our youth and vocational committee have been particularly active and especially so in the last few weeks. We have provided awards at several schools for well deserving students. We have supported RYLA participants, the Youth Sailing experience, the Head of the River experience, and made a donation to support a student next year through SA Youth Opportunities. We continue our very long association with supporting an Indigenous Health Scholar – this year it is Nathan Hartman.

It has been very pleasing to see our community involvement increasing and the more we can be out there being seen to be active, the more the community becomes aware of the work that we do.

So how does this work to create lasting change in ourselves? I think this is where I see an opportunity. Member engagement and participation will lead to satisfaction and a feeling that the work that we do is important and valued. We are clearly doing a lot of things both locally and internationally, but we are doing them with a smaller group of able-bodied people. Times change, and while we spend a little time each month looking back at our history, and the way things were, we also realise that we need to adapt to the environment in which we now serve. Essentially, we need to increase our ability to adapt.

Our membership has not grown, and we have had notice of a resignations. We don't hide from the fact that we are missing the mark in some areas. We have spent some time gathering data, we have Identified our challenges, and we will work to update our plans for the coming six months with an aim to improve the member experience.

If we can remember the focus for the year is Unite for Good as we move forward, we need to ensure that every member feels valued, that everyone participates to the best of their ability, and that everyone unites to reinvigorate and revitalise our Club, making it an attractive option for people looking to serve their community.

This evening we said farewell to Sharon Waterman who has been a valued and active member of the club since 2014 but it was also my pleasure to induct our new member, Julian Carbone. Your fellow members are happy to welcome you to membership of the Rotary Club of Mitcham in District 9510, with Sam Camporeale as your mentor, and your committee will be Fundraising with Director Alex Smithson.

It will be a welcome break for the Club over the Christmas season, and we kick off the year with the joint meeting with Blackwood, Coromandel Valley



and Flagstaff Hill clubs on January 19th at the Belair Hotel. Please RSVP through the usual channel if you are planning to attend this event.

Until then, stay safe, enjoy time with your family and cheers to a very positive 2026!



Welcome to our new member Julian Carbone pictured with Fundraising director Alex, Sam and President Jenny.



A few words from District Governor Rajeev Kamenini



President Jenny with DG Rajeev and our club's Past District Governors, David Jones, Malcol Lindquist, Graeme Dodsworth and Sam Camporeale



Ros, Helen, David, Roy, Sue and Marilyn



Juliana, Sue, Alex and Ros



Antoinette, Malcolm, Sam, Graham and Sandy



Sharon, Verlie, Sue, Helen and Julian



Terri, Tom, Matt and Amy



Rachel, David and Richard



Locky, Jayne, Barry and Julie



Marion and Colin



Peter and Chris



Graeme and Chris



Kevin and Jenny



John, David, Jenny and Michael



Dennis, David and Nikki



Phillip, Mary, Rosslyn and Brian



Andrew and Helen



Rajeev, Priya, Sue and Dean



Dean and Rosslyn

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Youth News:

The lead up to Christmas was very busy with presentations being made to no less than 7 local schools. Thankyou to members who shared that load and unanimously agreed these awards we present add a valuable contribution to our presence in our local community (even if sometimes the awards ceremonies can drag on!). We will be sponsoring Daina Rozitis in the Youth Sailing Challenge, embarking from Port Lincoln on 18th January. Separate sponsorship is covering her flight to Port Lincoln and her mother and brother will drive to meet her when she disembarks on 22nd January. You may recall meeting Daina when she attended with 2 fellow Urrbrae students to present on the Health Of The River. We will hear again from Daina on her return.



CONNECTION:

- The Power of Human Connection,
- Overcoming division,
- Engaging new members
- Finding purpose and community

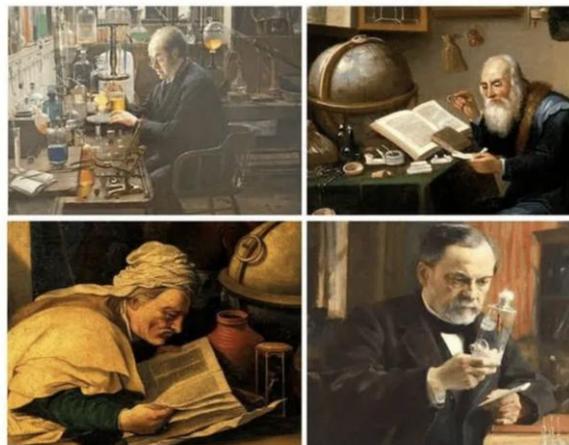
and

COLLABORATION

- Collaborating on service projects,
- Strengthening partnerships:
- Expanding reach and impact,
- Collective efforts

The 2025-26 *Unite for Good* message is a powerful call for Rotary to intentionally foster deeper human connections and actively pursue strategic collaborations. These will be the driving forces behind membership growth, effective service and Rotary's ability to be a unifying force for positive change in a divided world. –

Me trying to remember someone's name a minute after they tell me



THOUGHT OF THE WEEK



Edward Everett Hale



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The key themes of *United for Good* are: