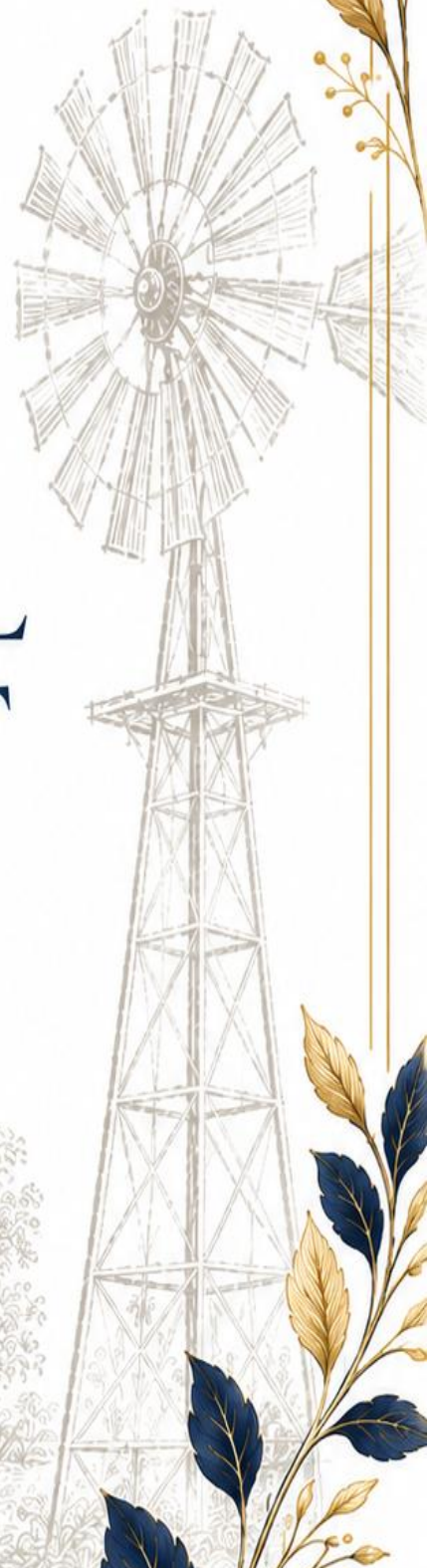


Rotary
Dubbo South



60TH
ANNIVERSARY

ANNUAL
REPORT
2025 / 26



Presidents Report

What a privilege it has been to serve as President of the Rotary Club of Dubbo South during our significant 60 year milestone in our club's history. As we celebrated 60 years since our charter in 1966, we reflected on the incredible legacy of service, fellowship and community impact built by generations of members.

This year has been filled with achievement, growth and connection. We welcomed two new members, Lyndal McRae and Santosh Koirala, whose enthusiasm and commitment will help shape the future of our club.

One of our greatest successes was reintroducing the weekly newsletter. Not only has it streamlined communication and significantly reduced the volume of emails sent to members, but it has also become an important record of our club's activities and achievements.

Ensuring our meetings remained engaging, informative and fun has seen attendance almost double throughout the year. We have been privileged to hear from an incredible range of speakers, including Joe Flick on "Bringing Them Home", representatives from the Askari Project discussing elephant conservation, Carol Mudford introducing us to Shedway, and presentations on the Nepal Eye Project, among many others.

The introduction of "Member Lessons" created some of the most entertaining meetings of the year. Few will forget George proudly wearing an apron while Sue taught members the finer points of baking packet cupcakes!

We celebrated the achievements of our youth exchange programs, particularly welcoming home Sabrina Jones from Germany and following the adventures of our inbound student Tereza, who embraced every opportunity presented to her during her year in Australia.

A highlight of our 60th Anniversary celebrations was recognising two outstanding Rotarians, David Duffy and Simon Keough, with Paul Harris Fellow recognitions for their exceptional service to Rotary and our community.

As only the second female President in the club's 60-year history, I have been humbled by the support, friendship and encouragement of our members. Together we have celebrated our past, strengthened our present and laid foundations for an exciting future.

Thank you to every member, partner and friend who has contributed to another outstanding year of Service Above Self.

Cheers

Karen

Treasurer's Report

Year Ending 30 June 2026

It is my pleasure to present the Treasurer's Report for the Rotary Club of Dubbo South for the financial year ending 30 June 2026.

Financial Performance and Fundraising

The hugely successful Tour de OROC (Orana Region Outback Challenge) was the Club's key fundraising event for the year and delivered outstanding results.

The event directly generated profit in excess of \$230,000

The associated Bourke Auction, an event linked to OROC and carried forward from prior years, raised a further nearly \$100,000 in support of Macquarie Home Stay.

The 2025 Tour de OROC also demonstrated exceptional fundraising efficiency, with a cost to raise a dollar of just 19 cents and generating over \$5 in revenue for every dollar spent. These metrics place the event in the top tier of fundraising performance, highlighting the strength, maturity, and sustainability of this flagship initiative.

Donations and Community Impact

By the end of the financial year, the Club will have made donations in excess of \$400,000, reinforcing its strong commitment to delivering meaningful community outcomes.

In addition to major projects, the Club has continued to support emerging initiatives and partnerships, including the "Walk for Ma" initiative, which raised over \$5,000. This reflects the Club's ability to both lead and collaborate on community-driven fundraising efforts.

Systems, Efficiency and Innovation

Over the past 12 months, the Club has transitioned into effectively leveraging the website architecture developed in prior years.

- This platform:
- Was used successfully for the Tour de OROC event
- Enabled and supported partnerships such as Walk for Ma
- Is now being deployed for the second time with the upcoming Destination Outback event

As the system continues to mature, it is:

- Improving the efficiency of event delivery
- Enhancing participant and stakeholder engagement
- Supporting financial tracking, compliance, and audit requirements

The growing familiarity of members and organisers with this platform is already delivering tangible operational benefits, positioning the Club well for future events.

Governance and Compliance

The Board and Committee have maintained a strong focus on governance and compliance throughout the year.

I am pleased to report that the Club is fully compliant and up to date with its obligations, including:

- The Australian Taxation Office (ATO)
- The Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC)
- The NSW Department of Fair Trading

The continued use of a compliance checklist ensures the Club remains proactive in meeting its obligations. This disciplined approach supports ongoing transparency, accountability, and integrity in all operations.

Treasurer's Report - *continued*

Youth Programs

The Club's strong financial position has enabled continued support for a wide range of youth initiatives, including:

- Youth Exchange
- National Youth Science Forum
- Public Speaking Competition
- Science and Engineering Challenge
- School awards sponsorship
- RYLA, RYPEN and others

A total of over \$16,000 was budgeted for youth activities during the year, with approximately 80% of this funding utilised.

Members remain highly supportive of the Club's focus on youth. Increasing engagement with schools and youth organisations presents an opportunity to ensure these valuable programs are fully utilised and continue to grow in impact.

Conclusion and Outlook

The Rotary Club of Dubbo South remains in a strong financial position, supported by:

- Highly successful major fundraising events
- Growing partnerships and community engagement
- Improved systems and operational efficiencies
- A disciplined approach to governance and compliance

With the upcoming Destination Outback event and continued innovation in how the Club operates, the outlook for the 2026–2027 financial year is very positive.

Yours in Rotary,

Peter Graham

Treasurer

Rotary Club of Dubbo South



Geurie Goat trivia

Membership Report

Membership Coordinator's Report 2025–2026

This has been my first year serving on the Board, and I have thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The role of Membership Coordinator has been both rewarding and challenging, providing valuable insights into the issues surrounding membership growth and retention.

I believe our club, like many others, should review its membership strategy to ensure we remain relevant, attractive, and sustainable.

I am pleased to report that we welcomed two new members during the year: **Lyndal McCrae, Performing Arts Educator** and **Santosh Koirala, Mental Health**. In addition, we have a strong pipeline of five to six prospective members, with three expected to join the club in the coming month.

Looking ahead to 2026–2027, I am confident that through a renewed membership strategy and a focus on attracting a broader and more diverse demographic, we can continue to strengthen and grow our membership base over the coming years.

I would like to thank the Board and club members for their support throughout my first year in this role.

David Gazzoli
Membership Coordinator



Public Relations

SOCIAL MEDIA

During the 2025–2026 Rotary year, the Rotary Club of Dubbo South significantly strengthened its social media presence and community engagement through Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. Analysis of the club’s Facebook Insights data showed a dramatic increase in audience interaction compared with the previous year, reflecting a more consistent, visual and community-focused approach to storytelling and communication.

Total content interactions increased from 913 in 2024–2025 to 5,007 in 2025–2026 — an increase of almost 450%. The club’s strongest-performing content consistently featured members, guest speakers, fundraising achievements, community projects and local human-interest stories, highlighting the strong connection between Rotary and the wider Dubbo community. Major events and campaigns, including Tour de OROC and community recognition posts, generated particularly strong engagement and helped expand the club’s visibility across the region.

The results demonstrate the growing effectiveness of the club’s digital communication strategy in promoting Rotary’s impact, celebrating members, and strengthening community awareness of the club’s service activities. The continued growth in engagement also provides a strong platform for future membership growth, fundraising promotion, and community partnerships.

SIGNAGE AUDIT

A full audit of club signage was undertaken, identifying the need for several new signage assets. New signage was designed in line with Rotary International Brand Guidelines and produced locally in Dubbo.

CLUB MERCHANDISE REFRESH

The club undertook a full redesign of shirts, hats and aprons, including the introduction of a more formal business shirt option. A key focus was improving brand visibility through stronger, cleaner logo presentation. Mono white logos, combined with larger sizing, were identified as the most effective and visually appealing option.

At the time of writing, designs were nearing finalisation, with orders planned before the end of the 2025–2026 financial year and delivery expected as soon as possible thereafter.

COMMUNICATION ENHANCEMENT

The club continued to strengthen its digital communication and community engagement through Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn. Recognising that email is not always the most effective communication method, research is also underway into the introduction of a bulk SMS platform to improve timely communication with members.



Youth

Youth Portfolio Annual Report 2025–2026

The 2025–2026 Rotary year has been one in which the Rotary Club of Dubbo South has maintained a strong commitment to supporting the young people of our community through a diverse range of educational, leadership, scientific and cultural exchange programs.

As Youth Director and Club Youth Exchange Counsellor, I would like to acknowledge the many members, schools, host families and community partners who have contributed to the success of our youth activities throughout the year.

As the Club is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for the children involved in our programs, we have continued to improve our systems and compliance requirements over the past 12 months. The club has documented child-safe risk assessment processes for all activities thanks to the help of Rotary District 9660. Proudly, over 86% of our members hold a current Working with Children Certificate, and over 65% have completed their Rotary Youth Volunteer Information Declaration Forms. The majority of the club has also done the annual youth safety training.

Youth Activities Summary

Activity	Leader(s)	Students / Participants
Public Speaking Competition	Anthony Barnes	Students from Christian School, Central West Leadership Academy and St John's College
Tour de OROC	Ben O'Brien and Jemima Blight and Tour Committee and riders	Terez Mikulova, children of the O'Brien family and youth local riders on the Tour
National Youth Science Forum	Anthony Barnes	Elizabeth Butcherine and Emelia Hoskins
Science and Engineering Challenge	Anthony Geraghty and S&EC committee	Students from Dubbo schools and surrounding districts
Dream Cricket	Tim Lenord and the Dream committee	Students with disabilities from Dubbo schools and surrounding districts
Rotary Youth Exchange	Georgia Knight (Assistant Counsellor), Andrew Graham	Tereza Milukova (Inbound Student)
Outbound Youth Exchange Sponsorships	Rotary Club of Dubbo South	Sabrina Jones (2025 – Germany), Daniel Morby (2026 – Minden, Germany), Rhys Hutchins (2027 – Czechia)
Program finance	Peter Graham - Treasurer	

Science and Engineering Challenge

The club members, family and friends generously gave their time to support our involvement in the Science and Engineering Challenge, providing local students with opportunities to engage in practical STEM-based learning experiences.

A special thank you goes to Seamus McGeough, our 2023 outbound exchange student to Belgium, and to Terez for assisting with promoting Rotary youth programs to the high school students attending the event. Their enthusiasm and willingness to share their experiences provided an excellent example of the benefits of Rotary youth participation.

Youth Director Report - *Continued*

Rotary Youth Exchange

The Rotary Youth Exchange Program remains one of the club's most significant youth initiatives and continues to demonstrate Rotary's ability to help young people discover more about themselves, grow in confidence, develop leadership skills, and become global citizens. During the year, the club has been privileged to host inbound exchange student Teresa Mikulova. Teresa has been an absolute delight and has become a valued member of our Rotary family. She has grown and matured into a wonderful young lady.

The success of the Youth Exchange Program relies heavily upon the generosity and commitment of host families. We extend our sincere thanks to:

Janelle and Mark Eastburn and their family, who welcomed Terez into their home. Their daughter, Sophia, was previously a short-term outbound exchange student to Germany in early 2025. They helped Terez adjust to Australian culture and school life and opened her eyes to the beauty of Australia during their family holiday to the Gold Coast. Prue Duffy for her assistance and support for Teresa during transitions between host families and whenever additional help was required.

Tim Billiards and Manthe Steele and their family, who have hosted Terez for the majority of her exchange year. We particularly acknowledge Tim's role as Teresa's music teacher at the Senior Campus, helping foster her growing interest in music and involvement in the school rock band, which has performed on numerous occasions at the Senior Campus and at local venues.

The Youth Exchange Program has also benefited from the support of numerous club members, including Georgia Knight, Peter Graham, Tom Hill, Karen James, Lyndal McRea, Henry Jom, Sam Peacocke, Victor Walter and their families. Their support has ensured Terez's experience has been both rewarding and memorable.

I thank all club members for the interest, friendship and encouragement they have shown Teresa throughout her stay.

Looking ahead, the club is excited to welcome Yusei Euda from Toyama, Japan, who will arrive in July 2026 as our next long-term inbound exchange student.

Special thanks must also be extended to the Senior Campus leadership for their ongoing support of our exchange students. The school has now supported three consecutive Rotary Youth Exchange students, Mateus Onca, Terez, and Yusei, and continues to play a vital role in the success of the program.

RYLA and RYPEN

The club has continued to promote participation in:

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) for young adults aged 18 to 27 years.

Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) for young people aged 13 to 17 years, with Daniel Mawbey participating last September before he went on his exchange.

These programs provide valuable opportunities for leadership development, personal growth and community engagement. We thank the schools, families and club members who have assisted in promoting these opportunities to young people throughout our region.

The Rotary Club of Dubbo South's youth portfolio remains one of the club's most active areas of service. Through our involvement in the many activities, we continue to positively influence the lives of young people throughout our community.

I sincerely thank all club members who have volunteered their time, energy and expertise to support these activities. In particular, I acknowledge those members who have led programs and accepted additional responsibilities throughout the year.

The success of our youth portfolio is a direct reflection of our members' commitment and belief in investing in the next generation. Thank you for your continued support and dedication.



Youth Projects

National Youth Science Forum

Once again, the January 2026 event saw a huge increase in applications to attend the event compared to previous years, making this an extremely sought after program.

The Club sponsored Elizabeth Butcherine and Emelia Hosking to attend the Forum.

Both students attended the Club after their week and gave the best presentations to date.

Their slide presentations gave the members a real look into the activities the students engaged in, which included discussions on the impact of artificial intelligence and the science and operation of the Hadron Collider - the world's largest and most powerful particle accelerator. Built by CERN, it consists of a 27 km (17-mile) underground ring beneath the France-Switzerland border. By accelerating subatomic particles to near the speed of light and smashing them together, it allows scientists to recreate the conditions of the Big Bang and study the fundamental laws of the universe

Both students were incredibly complimentary of the program and thanked the Club for the sponsorship assistance to get them there.

Public Speaking Competition

This is the 4th year of this event, and we hosted the Club and Area rounds

Club Round 1

The Club hosted 3 students each from Central West Leadership Academy (CWLA), one from Dubbo Christian School (DCS), and I am pleased to report 2 students from St. John's College (SJC) attended for the first time.

Each student prepared a 5 minute speech covering the Rotary 4 Way Test and the topics were incredibly varied and just so impressive.

The speeches focused on:

- AI and its influence in education
- Communities
- Power of kindness
- Lying to find the truth
- Spotify and how musicians make money
- AI created art.

The winner was Hannah Bizabishaka (DCS) and Vaylia Sunderland (SJC) came in a close 2nd.



Youth Projects - *continued*

Area Round 2

Both Hannah and Vaylia were promoted to the Area Round where they competed against 2 other students from Dubbo (Dubbo College Senior & Delroy campuses) and a student from Coonabarabran High and St Mathews Mudgee

This event has a 5 minute prepared speech and a 2 minute impromptu speech

The prepared speeches focused on:

- AI and its influence in education
- Power of kindness
- Misogyny, sexual harassment and female safety
- Fairness in life
- How art impacts our lives in a positive way
- How books should have content warnings and age ratings

The impromptu speech had the students answer the question – ‘What are your greatest strengths and weaknesses’, to which all drew upon their own experiences, with only 2 minutes of prep time given to them

Georgia Heaney of Coonabarabran High School was the winner

She was a very impressive speaker who spoke with ease and referenced her notes minimally. It looked like public speaking came naturally to her, and as she is only in year 9, she has a bright future ahead of her

Georgia went on to compete against 8 other students in the District Semi-final in Tamworth. On a side note Lilly Hockley from Mudgee speech on misogyny, sexual harassment and female safety was quite moving and she was asked if she could do the speech at a domestic violence event later in the year which was a great outcome for her.

The standard of the students’ speeches is incredibly high and the above descriptions do not give the content enough justice.

If you missed these, you’ll simply have to attend the next one and experience it for yourselves!

My thanks to the judges from Dubbo Toastmasters - Sharon Allen, Emerie Anonical and Jeanette Hamilton

Anthony Barnes
Youth Projects





MY YEAR IN AUSTRALIA DOWN UNDER



I arrived in Dubbo on 23rd July last year, after a long and tiring flight with a stopover in Dubai. Despite being exhausted from all the travelling, I got welcomed by a large group of people, consisting of my first host sister Sophie and my first host mum Janelle, and couple of Rotarians, whom I got to know closer throughout my exchange year.

My first host family, the Eastburn's, took a great care of me for almost three months, took me on many trips and even holidays at Gold Coast! It was a rather small family, especially considering what was awaiting me (although at the time I have had no idea yet), my host mum Janelle, host dad Mark and host siblings Aiden and Sophie.



Just couple of days after departing from my first family, I took on a great challenge in a form of Tour de OROC, which quickly became one of the greatest memories of my exchange, after all, not every exchange student can say they rode 800km on a push-bike in Australia. After the OROC I stayed with my counsellor, David, and his amazing wife, Prue, for a month and had a great time full of cycling and enjoying Australia and Dubbo.

One of the biggest milestones of my exchange, however, took place in November, when I moved to this extraordinary family, with whom I stayed for the rest of my exchange year. When the Billiards/Morse family started hosting me. I was immediately welcomed with open arms, love and honesty. I experienced all sorts of lives while staying with them, whether it was living on a farm, surrounded with chooks, dogs and sheep, coastal holidays, spent sunbathing on beaches, a life of a "rock star", being a lead singer in a band (with my host dad being the lead guitarist), or a life of a minor and an adult, celebrating my 18th birthday with them and the whole Rotary Dubbo South club too!



Another great experience was the Rock'n'Reef trip with other exchange students. Travelling from Sydney, to Uluru, Cairns and back, we all had an amazing time full of friendship, fun, but learning too!



Squeezing this year into a one-pager would be one of the hardest challenges of my whole exchange, truly. This year was something extraordinary for me. I not only made new friends, but I think I can say that I found a family here, and it's a big one. When hearing about exchange years for the first time and having people describe it as, 'not a year in a life, but a life in a year', I thought, it can't be that life changing. But after my life in this year I can testify, it is not only life changing, but life giving. You start as a, perhaps, scared little soul, unsure of every single step, but quickly learn that living abroad, with people you have not known before, is not as scary as it sounds. It's full of fun, love, and shared memories that will stay with you forever.

Words can't describe how glad I am to be an exchange student and to have the opportunity to undergo every challenge, even if some of them weren't the easiest; the only thing I can say is a single "thank you!!" Thank you to all of my friends, families, and most importantly, the Rotary Club of Dubbo South!

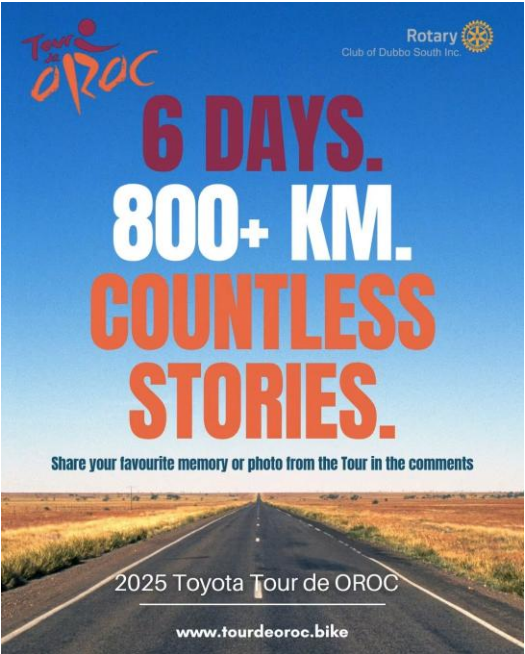
Tour De OROC

Tour de OROC 2025 was a landmark achievement for the Rotary Club of Dubbo South, raising a record-breaking **\$336,000** for Macquarie Home Stay. Over six days and nearly 800 kilometres, riders travelled across Western NSW, demonstrating remarkable endurance while raising vital funds to support families travelling to Dubbo for medical treatment.

The fundraising effort began before the first pedal was turned, with an incredible **\$100,000** generated through a Bourke-based online auction and radiothon led by the Bourke Rotary Club, Bourke Shire Council, 2WEB and the Rotary Club of Dubbo South. The ride itself showcased some of the region's most iconic landscapes and communities, including the Macquarie Marshes, Burrima Boardwalk, the WAM Museum, the Jandra paddle steamer and the ancient Brewarrina Fish Traps.

Under the outstanding leadership of **Chair Ben O'Brien**, the Tour de OROC committee delivered an exceptional event. Their countless hours of planning and coordination ensured another highly successful ride, while an expanded social media campaign generated tremendous excitement and engagement before and throughout the event, helping to build momentum and showcase the impact of the ride to a wider audience.

The funds raised will support the continued expansion of Macquarie Home Stay, helping provide affordable accommodation for regional and remote families accessing medical care in Dubbo. Since the Tour began in 2013, the event and the Rotary Club of Dubbo South have now contributed **more than \$1 million** towards the growth of Macquarie Home Stay, cementing Tour de OROC as one of the club's most significant and enduring community projects.

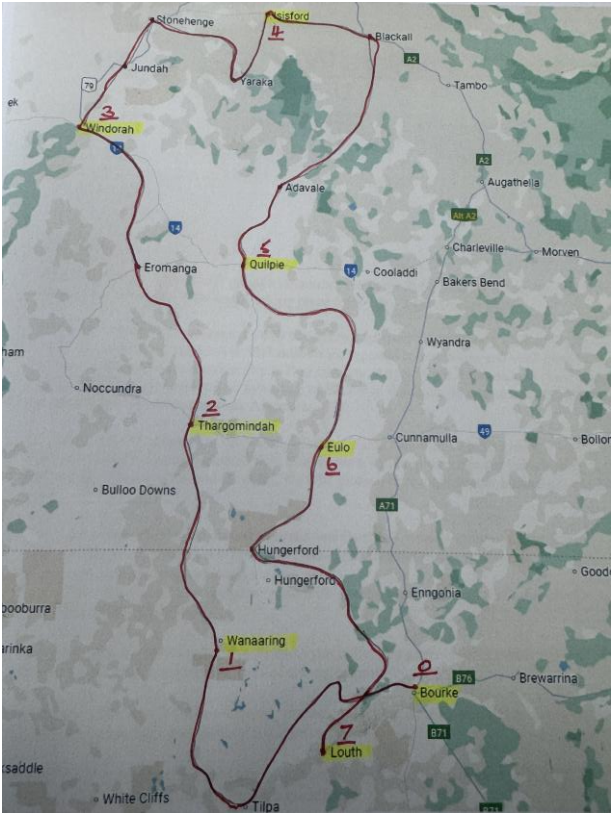


Destination Outback

With just a couple of months until the flag drops on **Destination Outback 2026**, excitement is continuing to build for one of the Rotary Club of Dubbo South's flagship fundraising events. Under the leadership of **Chair Grant Spencer** and his dedicated committee, months of planning have ensured the event is shaping up to be another outstanding success.

The response from participants has been overwhelming, with **158 participants travelling in 58 vehicles** set to embark on the adventure. Beginning in **Bourke**, the convoy will journey through **Wanaaring, Thargomindah, Windorah, Isisford, Quilpie and Eulo**, before concluding in **Louth**. Along the way, participants will experience the hospitality and resilience of outback communities while raising funds and supporting local initiatives, with a special **Pink Angels Night** planned in Isisford.

Significant improvements have also been made behind the scenes, including enhancements to the Destination Outback website to streamline online registrations which sold out in just hours and sponsorship opportunities to be managed more efficiently than ever before. With strong community support, a passionate organising committee and participants eagerly counting down the weeks, Destination Outback 2026 is well positioned to continue its proud tradition of connecting people, supporting regional communities and showcasing the very best of outback Australia.



Day 0: Friday 7th August 2024
Bourke

Day 1: Saturday 8th August
Bourke to Wanaaring

Day 2: Sunday 9th August
Wanaaring to Thargomindah

Day 3: Monday 10th August
Thargomindah to Windorah

Day 4: Tuesday 11th Aug
Windorah to Isisford

Day 5: Wednesday 12th Aug
Pink Angels Night
Isisford to Quilpie

Day 6: Thursday 13th August
Quilpie to Eulo

Day 7: Friday 14th August
Eulo to Louth



DESTINATION

Outback

60th Anniversary

In May 2026, the Rotary Club of Dubbo South proudly celebrated its **60th Anniversary**, marking six decades since the club was chartered in 1966. More than **65 members, partners, past members and friends** gathered at **Lazy River Estate** for a memorable long lunch celebrating the club's rich history and enduring commitment to service.

The afternoon was filled with stories, laughter and fellowship as members reflected on six decades of achievements, friendships and community impact. Guests enjoyed video messages from former Youth Exchange students from around the world, reconnected with past members and heard heartfelt memories from current members that highlighted the unique spirit of the club.

The celebration also recognised the outstanding service of **David Duffy** and **Simon Keough**, who were each presented with a **Paul Harris Fellowship** in recognition of their exceptional contributions to Rotary.

The milestone was a fitting tribute to the generations of Rotarians whose dedication has shaped the club over the past 60 years, while also looking confidently towards the future and the next chapter of service to the Dubbo community.



Hansard

Mr DUGALD SAUNDERS (Dubbo) (21:09): I recognise the Rotary Club of Dubbo South and congratulate it on achieving the truly remarkable milestone of 60 years of friendship, fellowship and dedicated service to the community. On Saturday 30 May, last weekend, I had the privilege of joining more than 70 Rotarians along with their partners, friends and supporters for a fantastic long lunch at the beautiful Lazy River Estate. It was one of those perfect Dubbo afternoons with great company, plenty of laughter, a few stories that may or may not have improved with age and a real sense of pride in what has been achieved over six decades.

Over the years members of the Rotary Club of Dubbo South have shown an unwavering commitment to improving the lives of others, and they have done so with energy, creativity and a strong sense of community spirit. From Destination Outback, the Tour de OROC and the Black Tie Ball to the Christmas Fair and youth programs like the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards and driver awareness initiatives, the club has a knack for turning great ideas into meaningful action. Destination Outback, for example, started as the spark of an idea between Rotarians Howard Laughton and Peter Scott, with the enthusiastic backing of then president John Robertson, and grew into something truly extraordinary. The first trip was a week-long four-wheel drive adventure in 1990 that laid the foundation for what is now a flagship event.

Fast forward to today, and Destination Outback has raised more than \$3 million to support communities—an incredible achievement by any measure. This year's event is already at capacity, with 57 teams setting off from Bourke and travelling through towns like Wanaaring, Thargomindah, Windorah, Quilpie and Eulo before finishing at Louth. While the landscapes are stunning, anyone who has taken part says that the real highlight is the people. It is the conversations, the shared experiences and the unique ability of the outback to bring everyone onto the same level—no titles and no barriers, just connection.

Then there is Tour de OROC, which is no less impressive and perhaps a bit tougher on the legs. First held in 2013, this biennial cycling event supports Macquarie Home Stay, which provides vital accommodation for people travelling to Dubbo for medical treatment. Covering more than 800 kilometres, it is not exactly a Sunday morning ride, but it is all for a very worthy cause. So far, the tour has raised over \$1 million, helping to expand facilities, including much-needed family accommodation. Anyone who has ever ridden 800 kilometres will know that every dollar earned is well deserved.

The club has also shown strong and ongoing support for the Royal Flying Doctor Service, particularly through its ever-popular Black Tie Ball. I understand the very first ball in 2013 was deemed a little disappointing—but only for those left without a ticket because they tried to book it too late. These days it is one of the highlights on the local social calendar, bringing people together for great food, live entertainment and some spirited bidding in both silent and live auctions. The results speak for themselves, with \$125,000 raised in 2023 and an even more impressive \$150,000 in 2025.

Beyond those marquee events, the club's commitment to the community continues in many other ways, whether it is supporting fundraisers like Walk for Ma, which contributes to dementia awareness, cooking meals at Macquarie Home Stay or simply showing up where it is needed most. Of course, beyond the fundraising and events, there are the quieter acts of service, like supporting Rotary programs and giving time, week after week, to plan, organise and simply connect as a club. Those weekly meetings are clearly about more than just agendas and guest speakers; they are about friendship because, at the heart of Rotary, it is the relationships that make everything else possible.

It is no surprise that, in the 2024-25 financial year alone, the Rotary Club of Dubbo South contributed an outstanding \$412,315 to support local, regional and international causes. That is a phenomenal effort and a reflection of the dedication and generosity of every member. Saturday's celebration was a fitting tribute to 60 years of service, and it was made even more special with the presentation of Paul Harris Fellow recognitions to David Duffy and Simon Keough. Established in 1957, that honour acknowledges those who have made significant contributions to the community, and those two recipients are clearly deserving.

As an honorary member, I feel incredibly fortunate to be associated with such a remarkable group of people who quietly, consistently and wholeheartedly make a difference. I congratulate President Karen James and her entire committee on a wonderful celebration and wish every member of the Rotary Club of Dubbo South a happy sixtieth anniversary. I thank the club for everything it has done and continues to do for Dubbo and beyond. May the next 60 years be just as impactful, just as inspiring and filled with just as much friendship, laughter and community spirit.

Nyngan Weekend

The Nyngan Fellowship Weekend, held on 18 April, was a wonderful opportunity to strengthen the friendships that underpin Rotary across western New South Wales. Members from all four Dubbo Rotary clubs were joined by members of the Bourke Rotary Club for an enjoyable evening of fellowship at the Nyngan Hotel.

The gathering provided a relaxed setting to reconnect with familiar faces, welcome new friendships and share stories of projects, challenges and successes from across our region. While Rotary is best known for the difference it makes in local communities, the evening served as a reminder that strong relationships between clubs are equally important in supporting that work.

The event demonstrated the value of regional collaboration, bringing together Rotarians who share a common commitment to service despite the vast distances between their communities. The conversations and camaraderie throughout the evening highlighted the strength of Rotary's network across western NSW and reinforced the benefits of clubs working together.

The success of the weekend left members optimistic that it would become the first of many similar gatherings. It provided a strong foundation for greater cooperation, stronger friendships and continued collaboration between the Rotary clubs of western New South Wales, ensuring that our shared commitment to Service Above Self continues to grow well beyond our individual club boundaries.

Rotary Fellowship Nyngan Weekend

Make a weekend of it in Nyngan as Rotarians come together for a relaxed evening of great food, fellowship, and country hospitality at the beautifully renovated Nyngan Hotel.

Saturday 18th April

Dinner: Nyngan Hotel 6pm
Registration required but buy your own meals on the night

Accommodation: Nyngan Hotel and Riverside tourist park will run a courtesy bus on the night



Coordinated by
Rotary
Dubbo South



Scan to register
Or visit the event page at www.rotarydubbosouth.org



Meetings

Throughout the year, President Karen placed a strong focus on making Tuesday night meetings something members genuinely looked forward to attending. By streamlining meeting agendas, keeping club business efficient and prioritising engaging guest speakers, meetings became more dynamic, informative and enjoyable. A new initiative, **Members Lessons**, added an extra element of fun and variety, with members sharing their own skills and passions—from animal training and home brewing to cupcake decorating and sourdough making. These interactive sessions created plenty of laughter while allowing members to learn more about one another beyond Rotary. Combined with a diverse range of quality guest speakers, the refreshed meeting format contributed to consistently strong attendance, with regular Tuesday night meetings attracting crowds in the 30s and reinforcing the importance of fellowship as a cornerstone of club life



Pink Angels Birthday Celebration

On 21 April, members of the Rotary Club of Dubbo South stepped away from the regular meeting room to join the community in celebrating the **15th birthday of the Pink Angels** at Billy O Bush Retreat. The evening recognised an organisation that has provided unwavering support to local people facing cancer, and one that our club has proudly supported for many years. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the dedication of the Pink Angels

volunteers, reflect on the incredible impact they have had across our region, and reaffirm South Dubbo Rotary's commitment to supporting their ongoing success. The evening was filled with fellowship, gratitude and admiration for an organisation that continues to make a real difference in our community.



Board

Position	2025-26	2026-27
President	Karen James	Tim Lenord
President-Elect	Tim Lenord	Tom Hill
Vice President	Tony Geraghty	Henry Jom
Imm. Past President	Simon Keough	Karen James
Secretary	Kath Clark	Tom Hill
Treasurer	Peter Graham	Peter Graham
Membership	David Gazzoli	David Gazzoli
Service Projects	Tim Lenord	Brian Haling
Foundation	Sam Peacocke	Joe Canalese
New Generations	David Duffy	David Duffy
Public Relations	Tom Hill	Tom Hill
Destination Outback	Grant Spencer	Grant Spencer
Child Protection	David Duffy	David Duffy



We even celebrated a Rotary Wedding

Past Presidents

Year	President	Year	President
1966/1967	Doug Greenwood	1996/1997	Michael McKenna
1967/1968	Fred Vincent	1997/1998	John Grattan
1968/1969	Noel Burnes	1998/1999	Peter Scott
1969/1970	Jack Wray	1999/2000	Scott Tourle
1970/1971	Ted Chin	2000/2001	Henry Jom
1971/1972	Graham Ford	2001/2002	Jeff Chopping
1972/1973	Peter Lord	2002/2003	Tony Speirs
1973/1974	Trevor Harrison	2003/2004	Sandy Dunshea
1974/1975	Doug Crawford	2004/2005	Colin Knight
1975/1976	Max Heather	2005/2006	Peter Singh
1976/1977	Don Henderson	2006/2007	Peter May
1977/1978	Mike Blake	2007/2008	Peter May
1978/1979	Alan McKinney	2008/2009	Tony Speirs
1979/1980	Howard Wye	2009/2010	Fred Griffiths
1980/1981	Laurie Medcalf	2010/2011	Gordon Bentley
1981/1982	Mike Logan	2011/2012	Neil Williams
1982/1983	Harold Woodley	2012/2013	Joe Canalese
1983/1984	Michael Duffy	2013/2014	Tim Manning
1984/1985	Lindsay Tegart	2014/2015	Damien Mahon
1985/1986	Bill Cole	2015/2016	George Richmond
1986/1987	Murray Hannigan	2016/2017	Sue Lomax
1987/1988	Ian Stratton	2017/2018	Bob Male
1988/1989	Jack Baxter	2018/2019	Michael Adams
1989/1990	John Robertson	2019/2020	Brett McCarthy
1990/1991	Harvey Rowe	2019/2020	Brett McCarthy
1991/1992	Bernard Ayrton	2020/2021	David Parish / Damien Mahon
1992/1993	Andrew Graham	2021/2022	Mathew Dickerson
1993/1994	Malik Vitharana	2022/2023	Tony Geraghty
1994/1995	Barry Hildebrandt	2023/2024	David Duffy
1995/1996	Ray Tobin	2024/2025	Simon Keough
		2025/2026	Karen James

Paul Harris Fellowship

1975	Bill Hornadge	1999	Marion Dormer	2015	Nino Patriarca
1976	Doug Greenwood	2000	Brian Harvey	2016	Sue Lomax
1979	Graham Ford		Bob Newton		David Lomax
1980	Ted Chin	2001	Tony Dormer	2017	Jen Cowley
1984	Alan McKinney		Bill Carlton		Tim Manning +1
1988	Allan Larsen		Jack Baxter		Gordon Bentley
	Ray Jaques	2002	Leslie Clark		Neil Williams
	Peter Lord		Harvey Rowe	2018	Brian Haling
	Nancy Dunlop	2003	Peter Scott +1		David Hayes
	Jack Wray	2004	Roger Fletcher		Mark Knaggs
	Fred Vincent	2005	Sandy Dunshea +1		Troy Grant +1
	Doug Crawford		Michael Martin	2019	Damien Mahon
1990	George Lincoln	2006	Howard Laughton +1		George Richmond
	Michael Logan	2007	Joe Canalese +1	2020	David Ringland
	Ian Stratton		Geoff Gleeson		Peter Debus
	Harold Woodley	2008	Tony Speirs	2021	Danny Russell
1991	Malik Vitharana		Ray Tobin		Molly Croft
	John Robertson +1	2009	Barry Hildebrandt		Mathew Dickerson
1992	Alfred Duker	2010	Peter May	2022	Michael McAnespie
1993	Max Heather +1	2011	Peter Singh +1		Michael Adams
1994	Brian Barnes	2012	Brett McCarthy	2023 2023	Craig Dickinson
1995	Henry Jom +1		Fred Griffiths		Racheal Mahon
1996	Terry O'Mara		Bernie Shakeshaft +2		Kim Dickinson
1997	Faye Layton	2013	Terry Clark	2024	Scott Tanner
	Neil Maxwell +1	2014	Colin Knight		Pamela Dickerson
	Andrew Graham +3		Donna Falconer		Paul Loxley
1998	Terry Trethowan		John Furney		Ashley Wielinga
1999	Dot Hargraves		Pat "Aunty" Doolan	2026	David Duffy
					Simon Keogh



Membership at 30 June 2026

Member	Partner	Member	Partner
Active Members		David Ringland	Heather
Anthony Barnes	Maree	Andy Robertson	Sarah
Tony Burgun	Karen	Peter Scott	Pamela
Joe Canalese	Vicki	Tony Speirs	
Kathleen Clark	Adam	Grant Spencer	Louise
Phil Comerford	Jo	Jeff Temesvary	Donna
Jack Conyn		Victor Walter	Renee
Peter Debus	Virginia	Brian Zaia	Rebecca
Mathew Dickerson	Trine		
Craig Dickinson	Kim	Corporate Members	
David Duffy	Prue	Pink Angels – Sue Gavenlock	Jason
Kerry Fields	Ngaire	Sing Out Choir – Anne Gemmell	David
David Gazzoli	Anne		
Tony Geraghty	Jenny	Honorary Members	
Andrew Graham	Alleyne	Bill Carlton	Pat
Peter Graham	Ally	Terry Clark	Sue
Fred Griffiths	Lyn		
Brian Haling	Shaye	David Lomax	Susan
Barry Hildebrandt	Barbara	Susan Lomax	David
Tom Hill	Matt	Tim Manning	Mandy
Karen James	Ashleigh	Peter May	Sally
Henry Jom	Denise	Ben O’Brien	Jemima
Simon Keough	Lorraine	John J Robertson	Jean
Santosh Koirala	Anu	Dugald Saunders	Karen
Colin Knight	Mary Ann	Peter Singh	Barbara
Georgia Knight	Ben	Ray Tobin	
Tim Lenord	Cynthia	Neil Williams	Annette
Damien Mahon	Racheal	Harold Woodley	
Drew Martin	Corrine		
Lyndal McRae			
Sam Peacocke	Helen		
George Richmond	Sarah		

