

## Korumburra Lions Club delivers valuable funding

KORUMBURRA Lions Club disbursed over \$10,000 locally from a total of just under \$14,000 to worthy organisations and causes for the 2023-24 financial year, with representatives of some of the recipient local organisations attending the club's recent changeover dinner to express their appreciation.

Immediate past president Roger Powell explained that about 10 per cent of yearly club disbursements go towards Lions Club international programs, 20 per cent into Lions activities around Australia, and the remaining 70 per cent towards local initiatives in Korumburra and South Gippsland.

Locally, a doubling of the KSC Music Scholarship program funding by the Lions Club has allowed more children to work on their musical skills, with Korumburra Secondary College principal John Wilson delighted to accept a cheque for just over \$1200.

Milpara Community House manager Jenni Keerie collected \$500 towards the centre's community dinners and food bank.

"I very much appreciate the relationship that Milpara has with Lions and we work together on a number of projects," she said.

Korumburra Scouts received \$450 towards the training of leaders and the local CFA and SES branches gained \$400 each.

Korumburra CFA's longest-serving current member Keith McPherson, who has belonged for 51 years, was on hand to accept a cheque to rapturous applause.

Korumburra Cemetery Trust's Geoff Wyatt was delighted to receive a cheque towards a sailcloth that will provide shade for those visiting the memorial garden.

\$1000 went to the Lions Club International Foundation, with the Australian Lions projects supported including Ride for Sight (\$500), Skin Cancer Testing (\$300) and the Eye Health Program (\$250), while the Gippsland-based Lions Licola Wilderness Camp received \$500.

# Lions Club's community focus continues under new leadership

KORUMBURRA Lions Club recently held its Changeover dinner, president for the last two years Roger Powell handing over the leadership to Jan Hutton who is excited about the opportunities and challenges ahead.

She decided some years ago to start taking on challenges, confident that will help her to grow and become a better person.

"That is why I have said 'yes' to the people who suggested to me to become a Lions president," Jan told her audience consisting of Lions Club representatives from around the area and people from other community organisations.

She reflected on personal challenges she faced almost a decade ago and how she responded, joining Toastmasters, developing skills, and becoming a life coach, and spoke of her subsequent move from Melbourne to Korumburra, with her and partner Steve joining their local Lions Club.

Jan said that as well as its aims of helping the youth, aged and needy and providing improved community infrastructure, Korumburra Lions Club has a role in creating experiences for local people that increase joy and community spirit.

"Community spirit will help this town grow and become stronger," she declared.

While acknowledging she'll make mistakes as club president, Jan expressed confidence that with the support of the members, both she and the community will flourish.

Earlier, Roger spoke of his time as president, describing the role as being a custodian.

"I need to make sure that when I step down from this position, the club is in a better position than when I started," he said of the philosophy that drove him.

There is no doubt Roger achieved his goal, taking the



Korumburra Lions Club's committee for the year ahead is Roger Powell (immediate past president, and now treasurer), Jan Hutton (president), Janet Powell (marketing chair), Jean Worthy (member wellbeing chair), Alf Dennemoser (secretary), and Val Wilson (membership chair) who was unable to attend the Changeover dinner. A02\_2624



New Korumburra Lions Club president Jan Hutton speaks to attendees at the recent Changeover dinner. A03\_2624



Marc Gribble reflects on his time as treasurer of Korumburra Lions Club. A04\_2624



Past president Ian Wilson speaks during Korumburra Lions Club's Changeover dinner. A05\_2624

club from a precarious position with just five members to a sound one.

Being named District Club of the Year for a second consecutive year demonstrates much has been accomplished, with Roger crediting all his fellow Korumburra Lions with that success.

As well as raising funds for dispersal to worthy community organisations, Korumburra Lions Club members provided support for several events, with a Halloween evening, Christmas Carols, Easter Egg Hunt, and the 50th Birthday celebrations of Coal Creek bringing joy for locals and those from further afield.

Catering for the local Swap Meet, Christmas Twilight event and the Korumburra Show has provided considerable funds, and Burra Brush n Bubbles continues to be a great success.

Roger also highlighted the Lions Anniversary Garden, which officially opened prior to Christmas, as an important project during the last year.

Past president Ian Wilson, who provided mentorship for Roger as he found his feet in the role, praised his accomplishments while in charge, and the promotion Roger has given the club through his regular Lions program on South Coast Radio.

With Roger shifting into the treasurer's post, his predecessor Marc Gribble was acknowledged for his hard work in managing the club's finances.

"There were five members, so I thought this would be easy; then Roger came and I've been chasing my tail trying to keep up with him," Marc said.

While Janet Powell has already helped boost the profile of the club as secretary, she will continue to do so as the newly appointed marketing chair, with Alf Dennemoser as the club's new secretary.

Jean Worthy is the member wellbeing chair, with Val Wilson the membership chair.

## Rotary Club brings community spirit to Cowes Community Meal

IN A heartwarming display of community spirit, the Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo has taken a hands-on approach to supporting the Cowes Community Meal. Previously known for their financial contributions, Rotary members stepped up last week to handle the entire evening's activities, from planning and cooking to serving and cleaning up.

Breaking away from their usual sausage sizzles, the Rotary team impressed attendees with a sumptuous meal. Diners enjoyed corned beef accompanied by white mustard sauce or traditional Irish sauce, served with a variety of fresh vegetables.

The culinary experience was topped off with a delightful lemon coconut custard pie, paired with vanilla ice cream.

The evening was spearheaded by Peter Hartley, who led the Rotary team with the capable assistance of fellow club member, Sharon Buxton. They collaborated closely with Glen Davidson, the



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regular organiser of the Cowes Community Meal, ensuring the event ran smoothly.

Rotary members who participated in the event found it highly rewarding.

"At Rotary, we always look for ways to support our community. We were thrilled to get involved with this amazing project," said Club President Rob Robertson.

"The best part for all of us

was serving a nutritious meal that everyone enjoyed. We look forward to working with St. John's in the future."

The club is already planning to lend their support to another Cowes Community Meal later in the year, demonstrating its ongoing commitment to the Phillip Island and San Remo communities.

The Cowes Community Meal is a project by St John's

Uniting Church, located at the corner of Chapel Street and Warley Avenue, Cowes. They offer a free meal every Monday night from 5.30pm to 6.30pm, and everyone is welcome. The Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo loved working with St John's Uniting Church in Cowes, building stronger community ties through this wonderful collaboration.



## Touching gesture brings comfort and connection

A REMARKABLE rug at Carinya Lodge serves as a powerful symbol of unity and compassion, telling the touching story of resident Elsie and a stranger who profoundly impacted her life.

The rug, made and gifted by Nancy, has brought comfort and connection to Elsie, demonstrating that we are never truly alone in times of grief.

Married for 75 years, Elsie's husband Bob recently passed away.

This act of kindness has deeply touched both women, showcasing the profound impact a single compassionate gesture can have on another's life.