

2025 Christmas Newsletter

President's Christmas message

In just a few days, we celebrate Christmas day, summer holidays and the New Year's Day. But this year we also celebrate our seventh year as Geelong's own engineer's professional group. This has been a tremendously successful year with a full calendar of well subscribed events. We have much to celebrate, from our first and successful Mini Conference in Colac, Victoria to a 100% year-on-year increase in our membership numbers. The Mini Conference in Colac enables GREG to bring CPD and networking for professional engineers to regional Victoria. We aim to progressively increase our reach into other regional areas in Victoria as interest from these regional areas manifest itself. Your continual support and attendance in this year's events have been great and reflects the engagement and support from our members as well as prospective members.

For 2026, we already have a full calendar of events to keep our members engaged and we look to grow our membership as the year progress.

Our AGM will be held on April 16th 2026 and committee positions are up for elections. We encourage members to come and participate in the committee next year to help invigorate the team to ensure we continue to bring new ideas on board for the benefit of our members. We all look forward to having your continued participation and support going forward.



As the year draws to a close, the committee and I wish you all a very merry and safe Christmas in the company of family, loved ones and friends and have a 'beaut New Year.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Bernie Chen

President

End of Year Wrap up for 2025 on the Hygeia

On Thursday evening, the 20th November, we celebrate our end of year with a tour of Geelong industries viewed from the comfort of the catamaran Hygeia on Corio Bay. The event was very well subscribed including many student members taking this opportunity to network with professional engineers during the evening. We thank presenters, Sinead Redmond, Ross Newcombe and Lucas Nutbean for providing us with a great and interesting running commentary on the various industrial projects along the Corio Bay coast line.

2026 - New Elephant Enclosure Technical Tour (behind the scenes) at Werribee Open Range Zoo

We have secured an exclusive visit to the new Elephant Enclosure at the Werribee Open Range Zoo that will take us behind the scenes, (not open to the public) on the Saturday, 21st February 2026. The Werribee Open Range Zoo are proud to showcase their new purpose built structure that houses the elephants that have been recently moved from the Melbourne Zoo in Parkville.

The event is designed to appeal to both our professional members and their families, a first GREG family day. The official tour starts at 1:00pm. Ensure you are at least 30mins early to sign in. Unfortunately children under 8 years of age are not permitted to join the “behind the scenes” tour.

After the guided behind the scene tour of the Elephant enclosure, at 2:00pm, attendees will be given a guided walk through of the zoo’s public area with commentary on design, infrastructure, sustainability and engineering solutions used across the open range zoo. There are no age restrictions for this part of the tour. (Valid Zoo pass required).

IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTE! The Werribee Zoo safety policy prohibits children under 8 year of age to enter the secured non-public areas. Closed foot wear **MUST** be worn.

[Book your ticket using this hyperlink below.](#)



IMPORTANT NOTE ON TICKETS:

All attendees must also purchase a Zoo entrance ticket or already have valid Zoo Pass in addition to the GREG Humanitix ticket. Therefore it is essential to be early to ensure sufficient time to buy a day Zoo entrance ticket prior to the tour. Zoo entrance ticket is not included in the GREG Humanitix ticket price as there are multiple ticket pricing including annual membership pass. Some members may already hold family or annual Zoo membership pass which will negate buying an entrance ticket on the day.

Optional - Not part of the GREG ticketed tour:

- Attendees and their families may choose to attend the Safari Tour at 11:00am prior to the main event at 1:00pm. (Valid Zoo pass required).

If you have any questions please contact Lucas on 0425 856 686.

2026 - GREG International Women's Day Breakfast

To strengthen engagement and support for women within the Geelong Regional Engineers Group, will be hosting an International Women's Day breakfast on Thursday, 12th March 2026. This events aims to celebrate, connect, and inspire women in engineering. This will be held at the Novotel Geelong 8:00am – 10:00am.

Lucas Pardo

Committee member

Membership

Geelong Regional Engineers Group Membership is due on 1st of January each year.

We will send out an email with invoice and payment details to secure your continued financial support for the coming year. Your renewal invoice number is required to obtain a membership discount, when booking to attend events on the Humantix booking website.

Wishing everyone a good safe break over this Christmas season and we will see you all again in the New Year.

Robert Gregory

VC & Membership Officer

Call for sub-committee – Country Engineers Weekend – Oct 2026

We plan to host the next Country Engineers Weekend in October 2026 working in conjunction with the Engineers weekend committee and IPWEA. In 2018, GREG hosted Country Engineers Weekend as its very first event.

We hope to repeat this again in 2026. We are calling upon some of our GREG members who are not committee members, to volunteer and participate in this country weekend sub-committee, to help put the October weekend events together. Please contact Bernie Chen for more details or to indicate your interest in being on this sub-committee.

Your Committee members:

President – **Bernie Chen**

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Treasurer – **Gary Dunmore**

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Secretary – **Rory Lynch**

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VP/Membership Officer – **Robert Gregory**

membership@greg.asn.au

GREG's Engineers Registration Working Group – **John Lambert**

lambertj235@bigpond.com

General Committee – **Barry Chisholm, Stephen Hagebols**

Student Representative – **Neha Chavan, Nanthitha Ranganathan, Igor Dourado, Marwa Abdifatah**