



**Project  
Management  
Institute**  
Melbourne, Australia

**Newsletter**  
December 2025

# NEWSLETTER 2025



## CONTENTS

• A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT .....	03
• A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT .....	04
• EVENTS .....	07
• MENTORING 2025 .....	12
• MEMBERSHIP OCTOBER 2025 .....	14
• MEMBERS CELEBRATING WITH PMI .....	15
• CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS .....	16
• VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH OCTOBER 2025 .....	18
• PROJECT MANAGEMENT FOR LIFE PM4L .....	19
• CELEBRATING PROJECT MANAGEMENT DAY OF SERVICE .....	20
• AGILE SYMPOSIUM 2025 .....	21
• PROJECT CONTROLS EXPO AUS 2025 .....	23
• PMI MELBOURNE CHAPTER	
- BOARD OF DIRECTORS .....	24
- OPERATIONS TEAM .....	25
- PROJECT CONTROL EXPO TEAM .....	26
- MELBOURNE EVENTS TEAM .....	27
- DIGITAL AND MARKETING TEAM .....	28
- AGILE SYMPOSIUM TEAM .....	29
- WOMEN IN PM TEAM .....	30
- PM4L VOLUNTEERS .....	31
• PM DAY OF SERVICE VOLUNTEERS 2025 .....	32
• FINANCE MANAGEMENT TEAM .....	33
• ALL VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH OCTOBER 2025 .....	34
• PMI MELBOURNE CHAPTER ACHIEVEMENTS	
- DIGITAL AND MARKETING TEAM .....	35
- EVENTS TEAM .....	36
- MEMBERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT .....	37
• PMI - END OF YEAR CELEBRATION .....	38
• PMI PARTNERSHIP AND CREDENTIALS .....	39
• OUR VISUAL IDENTITY .....	40
• ABOUT US .....	41
• THE EDITORIAL TEAM .....	42

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hello PMI Melbourne community,

As we close out 2025, I am incredibly proud of how our PMI Melbourne community has continued to grow, connect and lead with purpose. This year has shown the strength of a chapter that not only delivers meaningful programs locally but is deeply connected to the global direction of our profession.

Quarter 4 reflected some of our most impactful moments - from the Agile Symposium, which brought global practitioners together to share insights on modern leadership and ways of working, to the Project Management Day of Service, recognised as Sustainability Project of the Year for its contribution to community organisations across Victoria.

Our mentoring program was another highlight, with mentors and mentees coming together in November to celebrate a year of learning, confidence-building and career breakthroughs - a reminder of how powerful connections can be in shaping people's professional journeys.

We also gathered at the End-of-Year Celebration at Sofitel Melbourne, where we honoured our volunteers, reflected on a year of growth, and looked ahead to our milestone 30th Anniversary in 2026. A special moment this quarter was our Women in Project Management Virtual Coffee, where women across PM, STEM and transformation joined for reflection, inspiration and a powerful "Design Your Year Ahead" workshop.

As highlighted through the PMI Global Summit, our profession is transforming rapidly - driven by AI, modern practice standards and human-centred leadership. PMI Melbourne remains committed to supporting our members through this evolution, helping you lead confidently into the next era of project delivery.

Thank you to our members, volunteers, partners and Board for your commitment and contribution. Our greatest strength continues to be our people.

I look forward to celebrating our 30th year with you in 2026 - a year of legacy, innovation and possibility.

**Divya Pasupuleti GAICD**  
President, PMI Melbourne Chapter

# A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



**Dear PMI Melbourne Chapter Community,**

**A Glimpse into the Future of Project Management: Insights from PMI Global Summit 2025**

The PMI Global Summit 2025 in Phoenix brought together more than 5,000 practitioners, leaders, and innovators from around the world. It was a landmark event—one that reflected not only how far our profession has come, but also where it is heading at remarkable speed.

**A Clear Message From PMI Leadership: Progress, Purpose, and M.O.R.E.**

Pierre Le Manh, PMI's President & CEO, opened the Summit with a powerful message about the state of our profession. PMI's latest global research shows that project success rates have risen from 47.8% to 50.5%, a modest but meaningful step forward. His challenge to the community was clear: we can and must do more together.

Pierre announced several major initiatives shaping the future of project delivery:

- PMBOK® Guide – Ninth Edition (PMBOK 8) launched as the most data-driven version ever, informed by thousands of practitioners worldwide.
- PMI Infinity 3.0 is now mobile, AI-powered, and available through the PMI app, with new agent flows designed to support specific project tasks.
- The PMIXAI learning ecosystem continues to expand, now approaching 1 million enrollments, along with a new course "AI and Agile Delivery" developed with Agile Alliance.
- CPMAI, PMI's AI transformation project certification, is the fastest-growing credential, with over 1,000 applications in a single month.
- A new scenario-driven PMP exam will launch in July 2026, aligned fully with PMBOK 8.
- PMI is introducing a Project Professional Advanced (PPA) certification for leaders of the highest-stakes initiatives—piloting in December 2025.
- PMI continues to build innovation platforms across eight strategic domains: AI, sustainability, Agile, gigaprojects, product management, change management, and social impact.

All of this ties into PMI's forward-looking professional vision: **M.O.R.E.** — **Manage perceptions, Own success, Relentlessly reassess, Expand perspectives.**

Research shows that projects using all four elements achieve significantly higher success rates—yet only 7% of professionals apply them consistently.

### **Keynote Insights: Radical Candor, Innovation, and Human-Centered Leadership**

The Summit's speaker lineup delivered exceptional value across all three days.

#### **Kim Scott: Creating Cultures Where Teams Truly Thrive**

Kim Scott, author of *Radical Candor*, opened Day 1 with a compelling session on building teams that challenge directly while caring personally. Drawing on her experience at Google and Apple, she unpacked:

- How to give—and receive—feedback with clarity and empathy
- Tactics for building trust across diverse teams
- Techniques for structuring meetings that drive stronger decisions and faster progress

Attendees walked away with practical tools to reduce friction, elevate communication, and help teams focus on what matters most.

#### **Damian Kulash: Innovation Through Constraints**

On Days 2 and 3, Damian Kulash of OK Go energized the audience with a unique artistic perspective: constraints don't limit creativity—they ignite it.

His behind-the-scenes stories showed how experimentation, structured collaboration, and embracing the unknown can turn ambitious ideas into reality.

His message resonated deeply with project professionals:  
**Innovation isn't accidental—it's cultivated.**

#### **José Andrés: Leadership Through Compassion and Action**

Chef and humanitarian José Andrés closed with a powerful reminder of what leadership looks like when purpose and action meet. Through stories from World Central Kitchen, he demonstrated how food, community, and rapid mobilization can transform crisis response.

His message underscored a core theme of the Summit:  
**Projects succeed when people come first.**

#### **A Celebration of Community and Excellence**

The Summit concluded with an awards gala that brought together the global PMI community to celebrate impact, innovation, and collective achievement—a fitting end to three days of insight, inspiration, and connection.

## Looking Ahead

PMI Global Summit 2025 made one thing clear: our profession is transforming rapidly—through AI, modern practices, global collaboration, and a renewed focus on value. As members of the PMI Melbourne Chapter, we are part of a global movement that is redefining what project success looks like. The vision is ambitious and the path is exciting. With M.O.R.E., renewed tools, and a strengthened global community, the future of project management has never looked brighter.

As we reflect on the insights and inspiration from the Global Summit, we are reminded of the strength and resilience of our project management community here in Melbourne. The advancements shared—across AI, practice standards, professional development, and global collaboration—signal an exciting new era for all of us.

At PMI Melbourne Chapter, we remain committed to supporting our members as they adopt new tools, expand their skills, and lead with purpose. Whether through our events, mentoring programs, or learning initiatives, we are here to help you apply M.O.R.E. and drive meaningful project success.

We look forward to continuing this journey together—learning, growing, and shaping the future of our profession.



# EVENTS



## STRENGTHENING CYBER RESILIENCE IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The PMI Melbourne Chapter delivered another impactful Monthly Event this year, featuring an engaging and timely session on cybersecurity led by guest speaker Greg Clarkson.

Greg provided a clear and practical breakdown of the Essential Eight Cybersecurity Strategies, translating complex technical concepts into meaningful insights for project leaders. Through real world examples and actionable recommendations, he highlighted how project professionals can better safeguard their teams, systems, and organisations in an increasingly digital and risk-prone environment.

The event drew strong participation and was supported by the dedicated efforts of volunteers and partners, including Skye Bennett, Irfan Shehzad, Helen Snitkovsky, Achal Barla, Daniel S., Liz Zamora, Geoffrey Cooke, and the RMIT Project Management Chapter team. Their collaboration ensured a seamless and enriching experience for attendees.

This session reinforced the Chapter's commitment to equipping members with forward-looking skills and knowledge, and underscored the growing importance of cybersecurity awareness within the project management profession.



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## LEVEL UP LEADERSHIP: FOSTERING INCLUSION AND ENGAGEMENT

In November, the PMI Melbourne Chapter hosted a highly impactful Lunch & Learn session led by Mike Roberts, Director and Practice Lead at Millpond. This workshop focused on elevating leadership capability through inclusive practices, encouraging project professionals to rethink how they engage and empower their teams

Drawing on more than 18 years of experience in project management, consulting, and training, Mike guided attendees through practical strategies to recognise bias, strengthen team connection, and build high-performing, collaborative environments. His insights emphasised how inclusive leadership directly contributes to innovation, trust, and long-term project success.

The interactive 50-minute session, followed by a thoughtful Q&A, equipped participants with actionable tools to enhance their day-to-day leadership approach. Delivered online, the event attracted strong engagement from members seeking to deepen their people-focused leadership skills and earn professional development credit. This Lunch & Learn reinforced the Chapter's commitment to supporting the growth of project leaders who value inclusivity, awareness, and meaningful engagement at every level of their work.

## Future Ready: The Project Profession in 2025 and Beyond

Laura Devonport, Sarah White & Natalie Rainbow  
Michael Page

# FUTURE READY

## EXPLORING THE PROJECT PROFESSION IN 2025 AND BEYOND

The PMI Melbourne Chapter proudly launched its inaugural Monthly Breakfast Event, bringing together a full room of members and guests for an energising start to the day. The session focused on the rapidly evolving project landscape and what it means for project professionals as they navigate emerging opportunities in 2025 and the years ahead

Industry experts from Michael Page – Laura D., Sarah White, Danielle Rainbow and Paul Harris – shared valuable insights into Australia's project management job market, outlining current hiring trends, in-demand capabilities, and areas of growing opportunity across sectors. Their perspectives provided attendees with a clear picture of how the profession is shifting and the skills that will shape future career success

David Trott, PMI Head of Australia & New Zealand, offered an in-depth look at PMI's latest Global Talent Gap Report. With a projected global shortfall of 30 million project professionals by 2035, his presentation highlighted the scale of growth ahead and the unique opportunity for professionals in Australia and New Zealand to lead the way

The sold-out event created a dynamic space for discussion and connection, reinforcing key messages on adaptability, future-focused leadership, and preparing for a rapidly expanding profession.

The Chapter extends sincere thanks to Michael Page for their generous sponsorship and to our dedicated Events Team – Skye Bennett, Liz Zamora and Naveen Mandava – for bringing this successful new initiative to life

With strong community interest and positive feedback, the Monthly Breakfast Series is set to become an exciting addition to the Chapter's ongoing programming



# PROJECT CONTROLS EXPO 2025

The PMI Melbourne Chapter proudly participated as a sponsor and exhibitor at Project Controls Expo 2025, held at the Melbourne Cricket Ground in November. The Chapter's volunteer team supported the event by assisting with booth set-up and pack-down, engaging with attendees, and contributing to the Networking Event, helping to ensure a smooth and professional experience for all participants.

Volunteers also gained hands-on experience in event operations and represented PMI Melbourne throughout the exhibition, strengthening connections with the wider project management community. Their dedication contributed to the Chapter's visibility and impact at this key industry event.

## LEADING WITH CONFIDENCE IN THE AGE OF AI



The PMI Melbourne Chapter recently hosted an insightful and thought-provoking session on the ethical and effective use of AI in project management, featuring keynote speaker Dr. Michael Rowe. The event brought members together to explore how project professionals can lead with confidence as AI becomes increasingly integrated into project environments.

Rather than focusing solely on tools and technology, Dr. Rowe introduced a philosophical and practical framework for AI-enabled leadership. His presentation highlighted how AI can enhance—rather than diminish—professional judgment, team cohesion, and stakeholder trust when used responsibly.

### **Attendees explored three core principles shaping the future of AI in projects:**

- **Ethical Leadership:** Transparency, fairness, and accountability must remain central, with project managers ultimately responsible for outcomes.
- **Critical Thinking:** While AI provides valuable insights, human context and judgment remain essential in decision-making.
- **People Empowerment:** AI should strengthen team capability, not replace it, with trust, training, and sustainable practices guiding adoption.

The Chapter extends its sincere thanks to Dr. Michael Rowe for delivering such a compelling session, to Network Overdrive for their event sponsorship, and to RMIT University for generously hosting the evening.

This event was made possible through the dedication of the PMI Melbourne Chapter Events Team, whose collaboration continues to drive meaningful engagement for our community. The discussion underscored the shared responsibility—and opportunity—for project professionals to shape a future where AI supports ethical, informed, and human-centered leadership

# EVENTS

## Melbourne Chapter Monthly Event

Better Together: Driving Impact Through Projects and Change



### Better Together: Driving Impact Through Projects and Change

In October, the PMI Melbourne Chapter hosted a dynamic panel event exploring the powerful intersection of project management and change management. Titled Better Together: Driving Impact Through Projects and Change, the session brought together industry leaders to discuss how closer collaboration between these disciplines can elevate organisational transformation and deliver sustainable results

The expert panel featured Fatimah Abbouchi, Founder and CEO of Agile Management Office; Matthew Mullins, Director of Customer Experience at SISU Solutions; and Krystyna (Krys) P. Paszkiewicz of Torrens University. Each panellist shared unique perspectives drawn from decades of experience across strategy, leadership, customer transformation, and organisational change. Their insights highlighted the growing need for integrated approaches that align people, process, and technology to achieve meaningful outcomes

Held at RMIT University and streamed online, the event provided an engaging forum for members to exchange ideas, learn from industry voices, and reflect on the future of collaborative delivery. It reinforced the Chapter's commitment to fostering dialogue that supports continuous improvement and impactful change across the profession

### Leading Minds, Not Just Milestones: The Psychology of Change

As 2025 drew to a close, the PMI Melbourne Chapter hosted its final Lunch & Learn session of the year, Leading Minds, Not Just Milestones: The Psychology of Change in Project Management, led by Clifford Morgan, Founder of Lumian Consulting. The session focused on understanding the human side of projects, helping leaders navigate change more effectively by addressing both plans and people.

Clifford shared evidence-based insights into how individuals respond to change and practical strategies for creating conditions that foster lasting engagement and adoption. Attendees explored the key psychological processes behind change, learned tactics to address resistance, and developed personal action plans to lead with confidence in complex project environments.

Delivered online via Zoom, the session combined science with storytelling to provide participants with both understanding and actionable tools. This final Lunch & Learn of the year reinforced the Chapter's commitment to equipping project professionals with practical knowledge and approaches to lead change successfully while supporting their teams.

The event offered members a reflective and empowering close to 2025, preparing them to step into the new year with renewed confidence and perspective.

# EVENTS



## **Women in Project Management: End-of-Year Virtual Coffee**

To close out 2025 with intention and community, the PMI Melbourne Chapter’s Women in Project Management (WIPM) community hosted a reflective and inspiring End-of-Year Virtual Coffee. Designed as a relaxed yet energising morning session, the event provided a supportive space for members to look back on their achievements and set meaningful goals for the year ahead.

The highlight of the session was the Design Your Year Ahead workshop – a practical and collaborative activity that encouraged participants to reflect on personal and professional milestones from 2025, identify key priorities, and begin mapping their aspirations for 2026. Attendees also benefited from insights shared by women leaders across project management and transformation, offering guidance on career development and intentional planning.

Held online to support accessibility and participation, the event fostered a strong sense of connection, empowering members to close out the year with clarity and step confidently into 2026 with purpose.

This session was supported by the WIPM leadership team, whose continued commitment strengthens the Chapter’s focus on inclusion, professional growth, and community-building for women in the project profession.



# MENTORING 2025 YEAR CELEBRATION



The mentoring community got together on Thursday, the 21st of November, to celebrate a successful year. Mentors and mentees shared the highlights and challenges of their mentoring journey.

Sohan Gunasekera and Liz Zamora spoke about continuing their mentoring despite a heavy workload and competing priorities. Liz shared how helpful Sohan's professional assistance was to her. Sohan highlighted that learning and discovery continued for both the mentee and the mentor.

Harry Varvarigos and Marcelle Granier, both mentors, responded to the questions from the Mentoring team, Frances Kirby, Edward Griffiths and Anna Bakhmoutski, about helping their mentees to navigate professional hurdles and how important it was for a mentor to be prepared to manage unpredictable situations.

Vishal and Kathy, mentor and mentee, were both grateful for the mentoring opportunity and experience, happy that Kathy was able to get a new job during their mentoring year, and looking forward to new mentoring connections in 2026.





# MENTORING 2025 YEAR CELEBRATION



We will start the 2026 Mentoring year with the kick-off event on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February.

Please come prepared with:

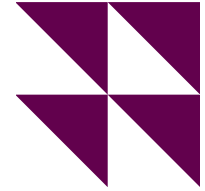
If you are a Mentor, your mentoring strengths, e.g., ability to help project managers with one (or some) of the following:

- Understanding the Australian job market and requirements
- Looking for a job
- Transition to a new role
- Preparing for PMP certification
- Agile environment
- “Soft skills”
- Planning to join the Melbourne PMI Chapter board
- Anything else you believe you can assist with

If you are a Mentee, be ready to specify what you need help with – any of the above.

The Mentoring Team is looking forward to working with you in 2026.

# MEMBERSHIP OCTOBER 2025



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS 2025

Martha Ospina Sarmiento  
Dilakshany Ganeshan  
BOO RADLEY  
Vimal S  
Mahishh Pranav Surendhar  
Rajasudha  
Harigowtham Muralidharan  
Mandar Pradhan  
Laxmi Naresh Rao Nammalam  
Stephen Wong  
Ben Scarlett  
Harrold Dominic Llanto  
Abdurrahman Khan

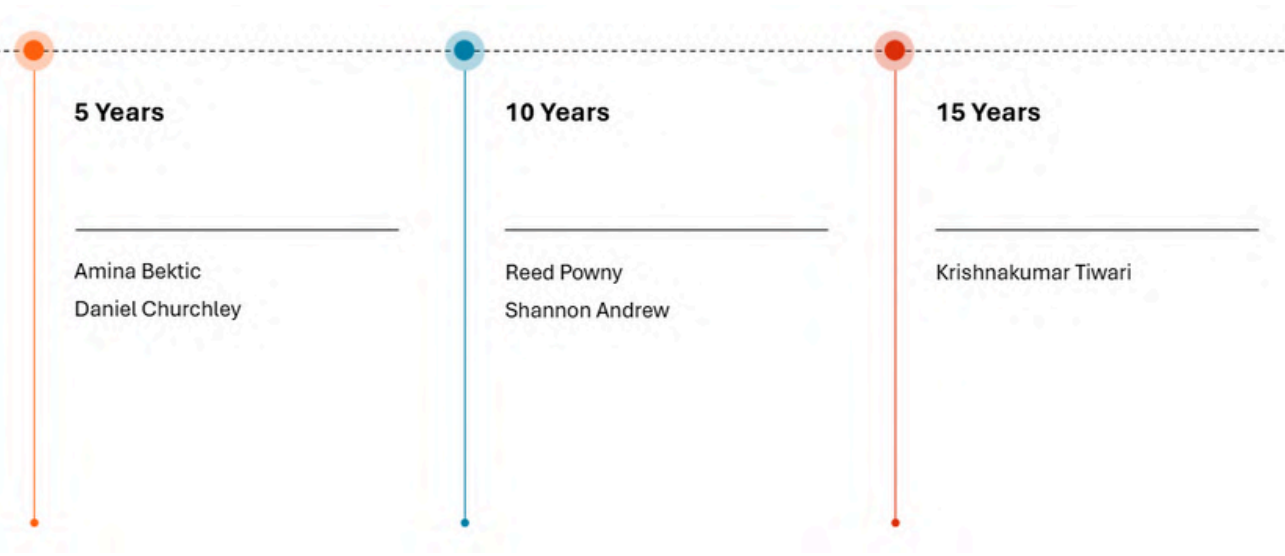
Hassan Taha  
Justin Lobo  
Mathew Jacob  
Dorothy Du  
Samuel Rukkesh Paul  
Ahmad Fahad Tayab  
Raghunath Arigakuti  
Mirka Bockova  
Alena Maiorova  
Pouria Shafi  
amjad alsaeed  
Melissa Birch  
Aditya yadav

Kaixi Zhang  
Kai Ho Kinson Lam  
Raeda Darwiche  
Fardeen Dendru  
Lauren Mann  
Terri White  
Nan Xu  
Mohammad Ali Al IBADI  
Vamsi Krishna Madala  
Ahmed Memon  
Jason Willis

# MEMBERS CELEBRATING WITH PMI MELBOURNE CHAPTER



## CONGRATULATIONS





## Highlights

As we close out another remarkable year at the PMI Melbourne Chapter, it's time to shine a spotlight on the true lifeblood of our community—our volunteers. With over 60 dedicated individuals contributing across 39 unique opportunities on volunteer.pmi.org, our chapter's impact continues to grow, fuelled by passion, expertise, and a shared commitment to excellence.

### Recognizing Excellence: Volunteers of the Month & Year

This year, we celebrated outstanding contributions through our "Volunteer of the Month" program, with special recognition for those who went above and beyond. Our "Wall of Fame" features dedicated members like Amit Merwar, Saba Iftikhar, Liz Zamora, Angelie Wright, Sathish Balachandran, Shih-Yuan (Linda) Lu, Ai Ling Lee, Mark Bodley, Juliana Kolaj, and Vishakha Marwah. Their commitment exemplifies the spirit of service that defines our chapter.

We also took time at the End of Year event to recognise Edison Tsui our Digital and Marketing Associate Director (AD) and Liz Zamora, Events AD as our inaugural 2025 Volunteers of the Year.

Finally, I want to give a shout-out to the unofficial Volunteer of the Decade, Mr PMDoS and Volunteer No.1, Achal Barla, who has served tirelessly as Volunteering Associate Director for the past four years. Achal is going on to study his MBA next year. Thank you so much for everything you have done to enable PMI Melbourne Chapter's success by creating a such a fun, stimulating and rewarding volunteer experience.



### Project Management Day of Service (PMDoS): Making a Difference

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Proin malesuada pretium sapien, at aliquam nunc porttitor pulvinar. Curabitur condimentum pretium tincidunt. Praesent ac velit a ligula dictum auctor. Donec vitae lacinia velit, vel bibendum quam. In tristique dui et elementum tincidunt. Curabitur mollis ac enim ut molestie.

A standout initiative this year was the Project Management Day of Service (PMDoS), where our volunteers supported not only large not-for-profits but also smaller organizations passionate about making a difference. The PMDoS team embraced the motto: "Difficult is easy, impossible takes time." Their dedication was recognized when PMDoS won the Sustainability Project of the Year at the Project Controls Expo—a testament to the quality, impact, and values our volunteers bring to every PMI Melbourne PMDoS since 2018.

### The Heartbeat of PMI: Our Volunteer Community

Behind every successful event and initiative is a team of volunteers working tirelessly—often behind the scenes—to ensure everything runs smoothly. Whether organizing events, mentoring, or driving innovation, their enthusiasm and camaraderie make volunteering with PMI both rewarding and fun.



## Why Volunteer with PMI?

Volunteering with PMI is more than just giving back—it's an investment in your own professional journey. Here's how our volunteers have benefited and contributed this year:

- **Level Up Your Skills:** Volunteers have the chance to execute projects in a supportive environment, building confidence and capability for their careers.
- **Network with Industry Experts:** Just as doctors and accountants have their professional circles, PMI offers project managers a vibrant networking group. Here, members learn from peers across diverse industries, discovering how core project management principles are adapted in different contexts.
- **Find Your Perfect Mentor Match:** Our mentoring programs connect volunteers with experienced professionals, accelerating growth and fostering meaningful relationships.
- **Ignite Growth by Mentoring Others:** Many volunteers have found that mentoring up-and-coming professionals is a two-way street—learning new perspectives while giving back to the community.
- **Stay Ahead of the Curve:** Volunteers are often the first to learn about the latest trends, such as advancements in AI and new PMO certifications, keeping their organizations at the forefront of innovation.



## Join Us!

<https://volunteer.pmi.org>

If you're looking to level up your skills, expand your network, or simply give back, consider joining our vibrant volunteer community. Together, we're not just advancing our own careers—we're empowering people, fostering clear communication, and living the PMI values every day.

Thank you to all our  
volunteers for your passion,  
dedication, and service.  
Here's to another year of  
growth and achievement!

# VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

## OCTOBER 2025



**SABA IFTIKHAR**  
**Newsletter Lead Volunteer**

We recognize Saba from the Marketing and Digital portfolio for her contributions to the Newsletter

The PMI Melbourne Chapter celebrates Saba's commitment, design and composition skills and volunteer spirit



**LIZ ZAMORA**  
**PMDoS MC**

We recognize Liz from the Events and PMDoS team for her energy, volunteer spirit and for keeping everyone on-task at this year's PMDoS event

The PMI Melbourne Chapter celebrates Liz's enterprise, leadership and volunteer spirit



**ANGELIE WRIGHT**  
**PMDoS Volunteer**

We recognize Angelie from the Volunteering portfolio for her drive, enthusiasm and logistical genius at this year's Project Management Day of Service event

The PMI Melbourne Chapter celebrates Angelie's enterprise, leadership and volunteer spirit



## 2026 Roadmap

- PM4L Official Website launch
- Sirius College Expansion: conduction workshops in 4 different campuses
- Volunteering team recruitment and onboarding
- Reaching out to other schools in Victoria

## Key Highlights

- **PM4L Website development**
- Thank you to Digital & Marketing team for the support
- 
- **PM4L Volunteers onboarding and team meetings**
- 
- **PM4L workshop at Sirius College, Broadmeadows**
- 3 workshops conducted during Oct – Nov 2025
- 30+ selected students participated these workshops
- Topics covered:
- Project Management overview, Scope and Scope statement,
- WBS, Risk Management, Tripple constraints,
- Communications, Stakeholder engagement



# CELEBRATING PROJECT MANAGEMENT DAY OF SERVICE OCTOBER 2025

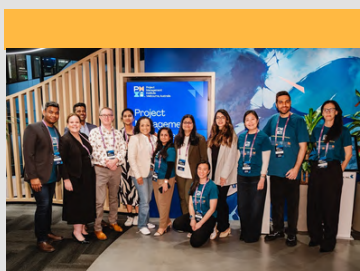


## HIGHLIGHTS

On October 24, 2025, the PMI Melbourne Chapter proudly hosted the annual Project Management Day of Service, a remarkable event that brought together passionate project management professionals, volunteers, and not-for-profit organizations (NFPs) to make a meaningful impact in our community.

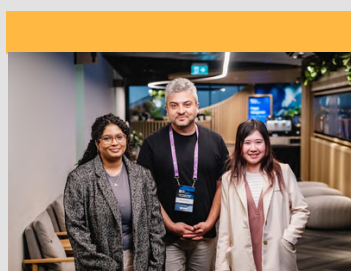
### A Day of Collaboration and Impact

This year's event saw an enthusiastic turnout with 60 consultants and 20 dedicated volunteers joining forces to support 7 not-for-profit organizations. These NFPs, each with unique missions and challenges, benefited from expert project management guidance, helping them to streamline their operations, enhance their project delivery, and ultimately increase their community impact.



### Student Engagement and Volunteer Experience

The event was exceptionally well received by all volunteers, with a special highlight being the opportunity for students to participate alongside experienced consultants. This unique collaboration provided invaluable hands-on experience for emerging project managers, fostering learning and professional growth within a supportive environment.



### Sponsored by Telstra

We extend our sincere gratitude to Telstra, whose generous sponsorship made this event possible. Their commitment to corporate social responsibility and community engagement was instrumental in the success of the day.



### Recognized for Excellence in Sustainability

We are thrilled to announce that the Project Management Day of Service was honored with the Best Sustainability Project Award at the recent PM Expo Melbourne. This prestigious recognition highlights the event's focus on sustainable project practices and its positive environmental and social outcomes.



### Looking Ahead

The PMI Melbourne Chapter remains committed to fostering a culture of service and excellence in project management. We look forward to continuing this tradition of giving back and supporting the vital work of not-for-profit organizations across Melbourne. Thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to making the 2025 Project Management Day of Service a resounding success!



# AGILE SYMPOSIUM 2025

## Melbourne: The Birthplace of the APAC Agile SIG – and Now the Launchpad for Its Regional Future

The PMI Melbourne Chapter was honoured to serve as a Host Chapter for the Agile Symposium 2025, a remarkable 48-hour "follow-the-sun" hybrid showcase of agility, collaboration, and global community. Held from 20–22 November 2025 (AEDT), the Symposium united nearly 3,000 participants, featured 70 inspiring speakers, and delivered 17 high-impact sessions across the Asia Pacific region and beyond.

This year's theme, "Celebrating Agility: Elevating Collaboration, Inspiring the World," truly embodied the spirit of this community-led event. And for us here in Melbourne, the Symposium felt especially meaningful – because Melbourne is where it all began.

The PMI APAC Agile SIG and the very first Agile Symposium were founded right here by one of our most respected leaders, Dr. Tiendung Le, whose vision created a movement long before it reached this scale. Melbourne is the birthplace – the spark that ignited what is now the largest Agile-focused regional initiative in PMI.

As we reflect on this legacy, we are reminded of Edison's powerful words, popularised by John Doerr in the book, Measure What Matters:

"Vision without execution is a hallucination."

What began as a vision in Melbourne has been executed with passion, commitment, and relentless community collaboration – transforming into a regional platform that continues to grow with every passing year.



## Melbourne's In-Person Capstone Event: Where Community, Ideas & Impact Converged

Our Melbourne in-person finale on Friday, 21 November was a vibrant homecoming – a chance to celebrate where the movement started and where it continues to thrive.

We heard powerful transformation stories from Evan Leybourn, Julia Steel, Murray Robinson, and Peter Moutsatsos, illuminating how real organisations are applying agility to reshape culture, delivery, and enterprise strategy.

During and after the session, conversations flowed naturally – from debates about scaling agile in complex environments, to personal reflections on team experimentation, to enthusiastic discussions about Melbourne's growing role in shaping enterprise agility. The networking celebration that followed was energetic, heartfelt, and full of pride for what our Chapter has helped build.





# AGILE SYMPOSIUM 2025

## Melbourne: The Birthplace of the APAC Agile SIG — and Now the Launchpad for Its Regional Future

### Looking Ahead: A Regional Evolution We Cannot Wait For

A significant highlight of this year’s Symposium was the inspiring announcement from Sohyun Kang, Managing Director of PMI Asia Pacific: PMI is officially launching the first PMI Agile APAC Regional Hub, part of PMI’s global Agile Content & Innovation Platforms (CIP), led by Denise Jarvie and supported by the PMI APAC team. Operational transition from the current community-led SIG will begin in 2026.

This marks a milestone moment - A Melbourne-born movement now evolving into a formal, PMI-supported regional structure.

This transformation wouldn't be possible without the contributions of leaders such as TJ Le, DJ Dua, and Joseph Pineda, and every volunteer and chapter member who played a role in this journey.

As Sohyun shared:

This event showcased the power of community and collaboration - different titles, one shared passion: agility.

For the Melbourne Chapter, there is immense pride in knowing that what began here is now shaping the future of agility across APAC.



### Thank You, Melbourne Community

To everyone who participated, volunteered, collaborated, or shared their story – thank you.

You remind us that Melbourne isn't just the birthplace of the Agile SIG; it's one of the beating hearts of agility in the Asia Pacific region.

Together, we will continue turning vision into execution, and execution into meaningful global impact.

### Stay Connected

For highlights, resources, and future initiatives: [www.pmiagilesig.org](http://www.pmiagilesig.org)

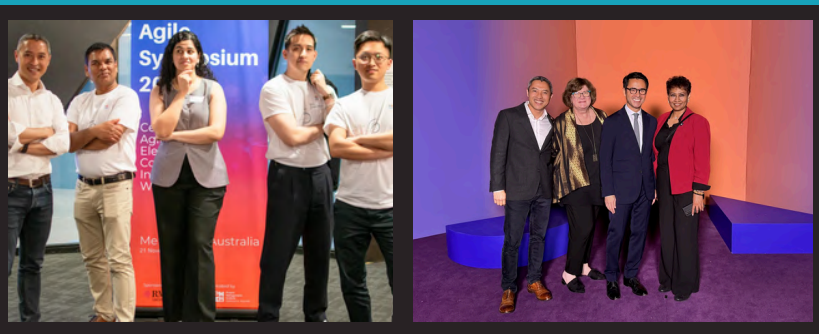
Here's to agility, collaboration, and a future built on action — all starting right here in Melbourne.

Sincerely Yours,

Joseph Alfred Pineda

Treasurer, PMI Melbourne Chapter

Vice-Chair, PMI APAC Agile SIG



# PROJECT CONTROLS EXPO AUS 2025



## Winner, winner, chicken dinner

PMDoS won the Sustainability Project of the Year at the Project Controls Expo!



## ABOUT PROJECT CONTROLS EXPO

Project Controls Expo is the world's largest project controls event, bringing together professionals, organizations, and thought leaders to share knowledge, showcase innovations, and advance the discipline of project controls. The 2025 Australia edition will be held at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG).

### Opportunity & Benefits

- ✓ **25% discount** on up to 35 Basic Combo tickets for PI Melbourne Chapter Members (limited ticket!!)
- ✓ **Volunteer opportunity** to help supporting the exhibition and to be the ambassador of Melbourne Chapter. Check out the opportunity now in PMI portal (deadline 12/10/2025)
- ✓ The successful volunteers will receive complimentary combo tickets (excluding workshop and awards night)



### Venue, Date, Time & Cost

- 📍 Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), Olympic Room B & Betty Cuthbert Lounge
- 📅 Day 2: Tuesday 25th November 2025;
- 📅 Day 3: Wednesday 26th November 2025
- 🕒 8:30 AM – 4:45 PM
- 💰 \$ PMI Members: 25% discount (limited tickets available)

# PMI Melbourne Chapter Board of Directors 2025



**Divya Pasupuleti**



**Joseph Pineda**



**Daniel Simpson**



**Irfan Shehzad**



**Helen Snitkovsky**



**Skye Bennett**



**Omid Hass**



**Tiendung (TJ) Le**



## OPERATIONS TEAM



**Tushar Kelkar**



**Liz Zamora**



**Edison Tsui**



**Achal Barla**



**Amit Merwar**



**Anna Bakhmoutski**



**Guinevere Gilber**



**Juliana Kola**



## PROJECT CONTROLS EXPO TEAM



**Louise Yu**



**Alan David**



**Naveen Mandava**



## EVENTS TEAM



Liz Zamora



Geoff Cooke



Kanchan Wadhwa



Sathish Balachandran



Naveen Mandava



Navi Mandrie



Paula Pelayo



Mark Bodley



Samantha Rozek



Shreyaas Prakash



Garvita Ghandi



Bilal Ahmad



## DIGITAL & MARKETING TEAM



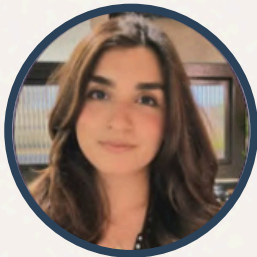
**Shih Yuan (Linda) Lu**



**Kevin Austin**



**Thisarani Nanayakkara**



**Saba Iftikhar**



**Dona M Joio**



**Dhriti Doora**



## AGILE SYMPOSIUM TEAM



**TJ Le**



**Ivan Mau**



**Surabhi Modak**



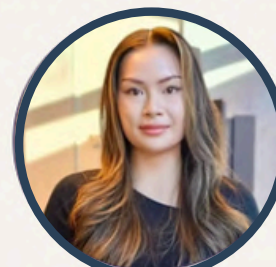
**Naveen Mandava**



**Geoff Cooke**



**Annika Khullar**



**Dorothy Du**



## WOMEN IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM



**Sumedha Arora**



**Katherine Cummings**

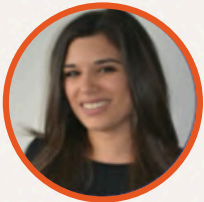


**Naomi McLean**



## PM4L VOLUNTEERS

HUGE APPRECIATION TO PM4L VOLUNTEERS- DREAM TEAM



Sonia Mateus



Shobhit Mathur



Ai Ling Lee



Nick Reynolds



Vanathy Shasitharan



Sajid Latif



Sharmistha Jana



Amit Merwar



Reza Soleimani



Guinevere  
Gilbert



Vikki Kapoor





## PROJECT MANAGEMENT DAY OF SERVICE 2025- VOLUNTEERS -DIFFICULT IS EASY IMPOSSIBLE TAKES TIME



Daniel Simpson



Liz Zamora



Angelie Wright



Achal Barla



Mark Bodley



Kanchan Wadhwa



Vishakha Marwah



Gimena Gonzales



Remya Pillai



Mehdi Boshrouyeh



Pratibha Lyer



Garvita Gandhi



Mehdi Moghadam



Samantha Rozek



Vikki Kapoor



Nithin Femandes



Gaurang Shah



Baasankhuu Baatarkhuu



## FINANCE MANAGEMENT TEAM



Lyn Windsor



Alan David



Sandra Orozco



Kashif Haider

# VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH OCTOBER 2025



## VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH- 2025 CELEBRATING COMMITMENT MONTH AFTER MONTH



Sathish Balachandran



Shih-Yuan (Linda) Lu



Ai Ling Lee



Mark Bodley



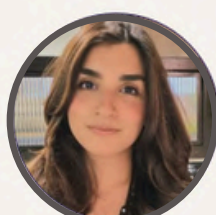
Vishakha Marwah



Juliana Kolaj



Amit Merwar



Saba Iftikhar



Liz Zamora



Angelie Wright



# PMI MELBOURNE CHAPTER 2025 ACHIEVEMENTS

## DIGITAL AND MARKETING



### PMI Melbourne Chapter as a Host Chapter of Agile Symposium

- 3,000 attendees across in-person and online sessions
- 70+ speakers from across the sector
- 15 Host Chapters participating globally

### PMI Melbourne Chapter as Supported Partner of Project Controls Expo

- Brand and thought leadership showcased to 800+ delegates and 40+ organisations
- Hosted a sponsored networking session with industry leaders
- Provided discounted tickets and Expo access for members

### Operational and Strategic Delivery

- All planned strategic initiatives delivered within budget
- Successfully expanded our digital tools to support Operations Leadership

### Marketing Uplift

- 6 new volunteers onboarded into the Digital and Marketing portfolio in 2025
- Supported our Chapter through ongoing digital transformation
- Delivered website updates and maintenance
- Increased engagement across LinkedIn and Instagram
- Maintained a quarterly newsletter cadence
- Completed a Cyber Security audit
- Strengthened chapter operations across email, SharePoint, and other digital tools

### Top-Performing Content

- Agile Symposium and events announcements
- PMP Study Group promotions
- Strong engagement across educational, community, and event-focused posts

# PMI MELBOURNE CHAPTER

## DIGITAL AND MARKETING / EVENTS



The Events team delivered **20 in-person and online events to a combined audience of 1,775, including several sold-out sessions throughout the year.**

Our 2025 Lunch & Learn program featured **11 new speakers** and **attracted 800 learners across 11 sessions.**

We continued to prioritise inclusive and accessible event formats, offering a mix of online, in-person and hybrid events.

We delivered specialist sessions on **emerging trends** including **change management, AI, leadership, ESG and sustainability, cybersecurity, the future of work, inclusion and engagement.**

We strengthened partnerships with **20 new speakers** and welcomed **three new event sponsors** - Monday.com, Solid Support and Michael Page.

### LinkedIn Performance - 2025

- **137,047 total impressions**
- **2,917 reactions** across **97 posts**
- Follower base grew to **6,664 (+948 for the year)**

### Volunteer Community - 2025

Volunteers remain the lifeblood of PMI **60 active volunteers** contributing across **39 roles** on volunteer.pmi.org



# PMI MELBOURNE CHAPTER

## MEMBERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



- **Strong Membership Growth:** Achieved 29% growth in 2025, expanding from 1,205 to 1,557 members with continued momentum heading into year-end
- **Regional Expansion Success:** Launched regional events program with two successful Geelong events attracting 40 members, generating strong interest for additional regional locations and significantly improving engagement for members outside metropolitan Melbourne
- **Inclusive Student Club Established:** Registered a chapter-wide student club to ensure equitable access and support for all student members, complementing existing university partnerships with RMIT, MBS, and Torrens
- **Enhanced Member Value:** Growth and expansion initiatives demonstrate the chapter's commitment to serving diverse member needs across geographic locations and career stages
- **Building Foundation for Sustained Growth:** Strategic initiatives in regional presence and student engagement position the chapter for continued membership expansion and deeper community connection

### Special Interest Groups - 2025 Highlights

- **48 members** of the **PMP Study Group** (including ATPs)
- **7 members** passed the PMP since April 2025 through the support of weekly study sessions
- **21 members** joined the newly formed **PM in AI Special Interest Group** and 49 members were a part of the **Built Environment Special Interest Group**
- Study Groups and SIGs continue to offer events, discussions, knowledge articles, and industry news



## PMI END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATION

What a brilliant way to wrap up the year with the PMI Melbourne community. Our End-of-Year Celebration brought members, volunteers and partners together to reflect on the work we've delivered and the impact we've created across 2025.

We celebrated the people who make our chapter what it is - the volunteers behind our events, programs and member experience. Their commitment continues to strengthen our chapter and supports a vibrant community of project professionals.

The night also gave us space to look back at some big moments across the year:

- A strong calendar of in-person, online and hybrid events
- Growth in our study groups, SIGs and mentoring program
- Hosting the Melbourne leg of the 2025 Agile Symposium
- The launch of a Chapter wide student club
- Winning the Sustainability Project of the Year at the 2025 Project Controls Expo (PMDoS)
- Continued growth of our Project Management 4 Life initiative
- Fresh voices and diverse perspectives through our speaker lineup
- A continued focus on connection, learning and professional development.

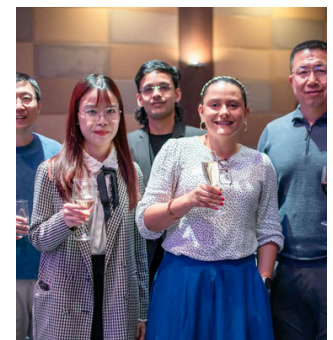
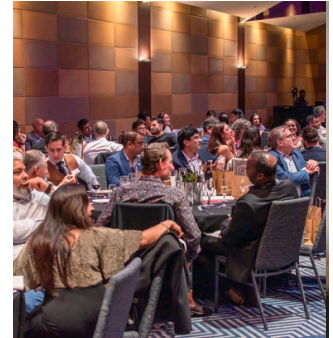
Thank you to our host and MC, **Donna Sherwani**.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and to every member who contributed in 2025. Your energy, support and involvement shape the chapter and drive us forward.

Here's to another year of learning, collaboration and community. We look forward to seeing you in 2026!

**Divya Pasupuleti Irfan**  
**Shehzad Joseph Alfred**  
**Pineda Daniel Simpson Skye**  
**Bennett Helen Snitkovsky Liz**  
**Zamora Amit Merwar Anna**  
**Bakhmoutski Edison Tsui**  
**Tushar Kelkar Achal Barla**  
**Juliana Kolaj Tiendung.(TJ) Le**

**Photography: Conner Schuller**





MELBOURNE CHAPTER

# PARTNERSHIP PMI CREDENTIALS TRAINING COURSES

PMI Melbourne Chapter members enjoy exclusive discounts on training offered by our PMI-approved Authorised Training Partners. Our partners—MetaPM, The PMX Company (formerly PM-COE), Millpond, and vCare—can be contacted directly for current discount details.

Visit their websites for in-person or online courses covering:  
**PMP, CAPM, PgMP, PfMP, PMI-ACP, DASM, DASSM, PMI-CP**



<https://www.metpm.com.au/>  
More Information: 1800 800 436 or  
[enquiries@metpm.com](mailto:enquiries@metpm.com)



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<https://millpond.co.nz>  
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[info@millpond.co.nz](mailto:info@millpond.co.nz)



<https://vc-reprojectmngement.com>  
More information: 1800 822 731 or  
[info@vc-reprojectmngement.com](mailto:info@vc-reprojectmngement.com)

# OUR VISUAL IDENTITY

PMI MELBOURNE CHAPTER



## CREATING A LANGUAGE FOR THE PROJECT ECONOMY

Our visual identity helps us define and lead The Project Economy. It begins with a design language. This is the language of The Project Economy and the qualities required to be a part of it: collaboration, determination, teamwork, outcomes, growth, vision and community. We represent each of these qualities with a unique symbol. These symbols will be embedded in our communications over time, reinforcing their meaning



### COLLABORATION

We can't do it alone. Whether it's partnering with a colleague, client, company or non profit organisation, each of us brings something unique to the table. And we are made stronger when we work together.



### DETERMINATION

Sometimes projects go according to plan. Most of the time, not. Perseverance is needed to complete any project and successfully deliver outcomes that make a difference in the world



### TEAMWORK

Projects are delivered by people, but winning projects are delivered by teams. Project delivery relies on team players and people who contribute added value to any project, making the team stronger.



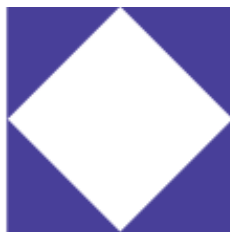
### GROWTH

Change and transformation, while at times unfamiliar, spur progress. Whether it's skill development or organisational expansion, growth brings new opportunities into our economy - and contributes to the greater good.



### INNOVATION

New ideas. New products. New methods. Constant transformation is what helps us tackle new problems and find fresh solutions. We know that the world isn't one-size fits-all. We bring new takes on everyday things to constantly move forward and make life better across the world.



### OUTCOME

We celebrate not just the process, but the positive impact that projects around the world make on society. We're changing the world - for the better - one project at a time.



### COMMUNITY

The people that are part of our world make it what it is today. Our community is one of our most valuable assets. We celebrate it and keep it going by welcoming all who wish to join us to make the world a better place.



### VISION

This can mean being unconventional. It can mean coming up with new ideas to solve new challenges. It's about perspective, seeing the big picture, and the ability to create solutions for now that are sustainable for generations to come.

# PMI

## PROJECT MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE



The Project Management Institute (PMI) Melbourne Chapter is part of a global, non-profit organization committed to promoting excellence in project management through professional development and knowledge sharing.

With a network of over 500,000 members in more than 170 countries, PMI represents the world's largest and most influential community of project management professionals.

Globally, PMI is known for its partnerships and advocacy initiatives with governments, corporations, and industries that recognize project management as a vital tool for achieving strategic goals and sustainable success.

The Melbourne Chapter, comprising more than 1,300 active members, continues to strengthen the local professional community by providing opportunities for learning, networking, and advancing best practices in project management.

## STAY CONNECTED WITH US

Contact Us

<https://www.melbourne.pmi.org.au>



[WWW.MELBOURNE.PMI.ORG.AU](https://www.melbourne.pmi.org.au)



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[@PMIMELBOURNE](https://www.instagram.com/pmimelbourne)



# THE EDITORIAL TEAM

PROJECT MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE MELBOURNE CHAPTER



**IRFAN  
SHEHZAD**

VICE PRESIDENT



**EDISON  
TSUI**

DIGITAL ASSOCIATE  
DIRECTOR



**SABA  
IFTIKHAR**

NEWSLETTER  
COORDINATOR LEAD  
& PUBLISHER



**DONA MERRIN  
JOJO**

NEWSLETTER  
COORDINATOR  
& PUBLISHER



DIGITAL & MARKETING TEAM PMI



**From the PMI family to yours,**  
*Merry Christmas!*

**PRO  
SERV** TM

