



PAUL HARRIS FELLOW AWARD

CONFERRED UPON MARY WATTIE, JUNE 27TH, 2017

The following text was read at the awards presentation ceremony.

This honouree works hard as a volunteer. She has helped get things done on several Club committees, although perhaps she is best known for her role as Club Secretary. Three and a half years ago she took on the job in mid-year and was up-and-running in no time. To be Secretary is to be the Club's point-person: Rotary wants updates on membership and attendance and the like while members need various Rotary pins, membership cards and awards, etc. Our honouree, Mary Wattie, has frequently earned our praise for the way she handles the job's many demands.

More recently, Mary has become a part of our Club's newly formed, tripartite, treasury office. She takes in the money and makes the deposits. That sounds easy. However, it is trickier than it sounds because of the different accounts and sub-accounts kept for book-keeping purposes. Her business-like approach again helped her to step in and get up to speed in short order. This job she took on while in her fourth year as Treasurer on the Board of the Ottawa Rotary Home. There she represented our Club. As such she presented the Home's financial reports to the Board. Then as a key member of the Finance and Audit Team she would help plan the audit and receive the resulting report.

Mary has been a faithful member of the Club's teams for our literacy projects. Each year she presents Dictionaries-4-Life to grade-three pupils in participating schools. As well, with the Ottawa Reads program, she reads each week to younger children. That the children acquire a love of reading is an intended outcome of these projects. On the other hand, with older children Mary has presented Four-Way Test awards while also helping to form and support the Interact Club at Woodroffe High School.

With fundraising Mary has also been active. With the Mums for Thanksgiving fundraiser, she has helped with the routing and sorting. She and her husband, Joe, also deliver them. Mary was keen as well to help lead our Club's participation in annual, inter-Club, scotch-and-wine-tasting, fundraising events. These have been super events for sipping single malts and fine wines while nibbling mouth-watering desserts. Then she helped organize the Club's 60th Anniversary party, another great food-tasting experience.

Mary, you have made exemplary contributions to the work of our Club. You are a fine example of a person who gives a lot back to the community and then some. Please step forward to receive the Paul Harris Fellow Award.