



Rotary Club of Maryborough

Club Id. 18240 Inc A0021123A ABN 99 891 962 480

Annual Report

2019 — 2020

Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report

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Presidents' Report

Fellow Rotarians and friends,

It was my very great privilege and honour to be elected as President of Maryborough Rotary for 2019 -2020.

The incoming Board was inducted at the Changeover Dinner, held at the Maryborough Highland Society on Saturday, June 29th, 2019. The evening was a great success, attended by around 130 members and guests.

The Board Members for 2019 - 2020 were:

- Secretary - PP Thea Allan PHF
- Treasurer & Youth Service Director - PP Graeme Rogan PHF
- Past and Vice President, & Administration Director - PP Meryl James
- President Elect - Bob Butterfield.
- President Nominee & International Service Director - Alison Teese OAM.
- Membership Director - PDG Anthony Ohlson PHF
- Fundraising Director - PP Brian Reed PHF
- Public Image Director - Chris Frahn
- Rotary Foundation Director - PP Derrick Marsden PHF
- Community Service Director - PP Martin MacKay PHF
- Vocational Service Director - PDG Geoff James PHF



All Board members carried out their roles with commitment, enthusiasm and good spirit. I could not have wished for a better group to support me. Special thanks must go to Thea Allan, who did a wonderful job in the onerous position as Secretary. I commend her for her ongoing commitment to incoming President Alison. A particular

appreciation to senior Rotarians, Geoff James and Anthony Ohlson, for their thoughtful and considered mentoring, advice, and support. Many thanks also to Peter Haywood, for acting as Programme Director, and introducing all of the interesting guest speakers we enjoyed throughout the year.

Our Club has had a very good year in many different respects. We have had good attendances at all of our dinner meetings, and zoom meetings from late March, and enjoyed many interesting guest speakers.

I feel our Club has had a very good year in relation to our youth programmes, (Chair Graeme Rogan) our signature, “SayNO2familyvioience” programme, (Chair Garry Higgins OAM) and the Rotary Foundation. (Chair Derrick Marsden)

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Our membership increased by a net four (well against the trend in the English-speaking Rotary world) and importantly, some of the new members were in the younger age bracket.

The Club's fundraising was strong. We held two extremely successful bike rides (many thanks to Peter Haywood for his wonderful organisation), a Rock and Roll dance at the Town Hall (thanks to Jackie and Shane Dellavedova), Oaks Day fundraiser at the Highland - Society with 160 guests (Alison Teese, Esther Waters, Robyn Jennings



and Jan Williamson did a huge job), two film nights at the Paramount Theatre, a Cooking for a Cause dinner (thanks to Louise Hanby D Wynn and Chanaka), a strong fundraiser at Carisbrook Harness Raceway in aid of the #SayNo2familyviolence" programme (Bob Butterfield, Chris Frahn and Committee), a very well attended by members Bunnings BBQ at Kangaroo Flat, '(thanks to Robyn and Brian Reed), and a terrific New Year's Eve Dance (Meryl and Geoff James again to the fore).

The Energy Breakthrough in November was well attended by many members and friends and provided its usual strong financial result. The Swap Meet at Ballarat was also well attended by members and friends and was a good money earner - Derrick Marsden was there for every minute the meet was open, and more. Well done Derrick.

One fundraiser that typified our members and friend's willingness and commitment, was catering for breakfast at the curiously named "Chopped" event, held at the Carisbrook Raceway. We were invited to do the catering late on a Wednesday, and by 6am on the Saturday morning, the Club was in full swing. Many members and friends gave many hours, at short notice. We served 700 breakfasts over the two mornings and raised around \$3,000. A wonderful effort!

The funds raised during the year were distributed over a varied range of causes and projects. Some I have listed.

Maryborough Rotary gave \$10,000 to aid in the establishment of the Maryborough Aeromedical Transfer Station (donation foreshadowed in 2018 - 2019) in November, at a launch at the Highland Society.

The Board approved a quote for \$12,000, from ARC Ventures, to produce a " toolkit" for our SayNo2familyviolence program.

There were a number of Youth Programs that received substantial funding, among them being Defy the Drift (six local students involved) and two students to the National Youth Science Forum.

The Club gave funding to Gippsland Fire Aid, after the disastrous bushfires around the New Year.

Contributions to the Rotary Foundation were also strong during the year.

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Involvement and engagement in all of these activities means that our members and friends enjoyed a lot of fellowship, camaraderie, and fun through the year, which is so important for our Club to prosper.

It is unfortunate that the pandemic impacted on all of us in March. It is a

testament to our Club's resilience that we continued to function when many community organizations did not. Maryborough Rotary will be in a strong position when conditions return to some form of normality, hopefully sooner rather than later.

A special mention to Geoff James. Geoff did a fantastic job editing the Bulletin for the year, an extremely important part of the fabric of the club. He continues to do so for the following year. Geoff organised the live meetings at Havilah and hosted all of the Zoom meetings from March on. His guitar accompaniment for the singing of the national Anthem at meetings end transformed the anthem to a rendition with verve. Many thanks, Geoff, for all of the "heavy lifting" you do for our Club.

Thanks to Graeme Rogan, for his great work as Youth Chair, but also for doing a great job as Treasurer, with challenging software to master. And to the rest of the Board, Meryl James, Alison Teese OAM, Thea Allan, Anthony Ohlson, Derrick Marsden, Brian Reed, Bob Butterfield, Chris Frahn, Martin Mackay, and Garry Higgins OAM, (Chair of the #SayNO2familyviolence subcommittee). Many thanks for your hard work, and support.

The end of year Changeover was conducted on a Zoom meeting on Thursday 25th June.

Congratulations, and best wishes must go to President Alison and her incoming Board for accepting their roles, and I wish them all the very best in a year that will have some quite different challenges to anything we have ever experienced before as a club. Alison is to be commended for accepting the role at short notice, replacing Bob Butterfield.

The Changeover meeting recognised Paul Harris Fellowships to John Stewart, Sue Edmondson, Meryl James, Alison Teese OAM, Terry Allan, and myself. I regard being recognised by my Club with a Paul Harris Fellowship as a great honour. The other recipients expressed similar sentiments.

My final thanks go to my dear wife Jan, for all of her hard work and support throughout my Rotary Presidency - she has helped greatly to make it a wonderful experience.

PP Leigh Williamson

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Secretary's Report

This has been my second stint in the Secretary's role.

The job has changed little since last time. The biggest change is more emails and less post. I have enjoyed having a computer for the Secretary's work. It has been useful to keep Rotary business out of my personal emails and has been useful when my personal computer played up!

The correspondence is written up for each board meeting. Mail that needs to be sent on is scanned and emailed; emails are sent to those who need them.

Minutes of each month's meetings are sent to all board members immediately after the meeting. Committee minutes are collected and sent to Board members before the meeting.

Annual Meeting Minutes are recorded.

The Membership list is updated as needed and sent to all members. Clubrunner member information is updated when necessary.

Changeover badges, the theme banner, the President's plaque, tie and scarf are all ordered.

Generally, the secretary supports the president and the Board.



Facebook is not specially the Secretary's role, but currently this secretary is the "admin" for our page.

Club photos have performed well. Stories taken for other club and District pages have also performed well.

I have not boosted posts for two reasons.

1. I believe we have better things to spend our money on at the moment, when our general account has very little coming in, and...
2. After Terry Allan's disastrous sojourn into boosting, he found he had attracted so many people with foreign names who were not actually interested in the product, I don't have the inclination to fend off those who are just trawling.

There were fewer messages through the Facebook page this year

PP Thea Allan

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Treasurer's Report

Maryborough Rotary has a substantial balance even though COVID-19 has taken a toll in regard to fund raisers not being held in the second half of the year.

Our fixed assets include the Rotary shed, BBQ trailer, Marquee trailer and marquees, Cool room and other small catering equipment.

Fundraisers included the Energy Breakthrough, Family Violence Race Day, Melbourne Cup Oaks Day, New Year's Eve Rock & Roll Dance, "Cooking for a Cause", Film Nights and "Chopped" to name a few.

All Service Committees were very active throughout the year.

The big spender again this year was the Youth Committee with its commitments to the National Youth Science Forum and Defying the Drift.

Member's Income is down - no 2020/21 membership dues have been sought at the time of printing but will be actioned by the incoming Treasurer. Member's Expenses have had several substantial payments made to The Rotary Foundation regarding R.I. Dues and the Rotary Centurion Program.

Assets

Chequing/Savings

• Bendigo Bank General Account	4,306.44
• Bendigo Bank Fundraising Account	26,269.79
• Bendigo Bank Debit Card	1,480.52
• Bendigo Bank Trust Account	30,770.11
• Total Chequing/Savings	62,826.86

TOTAL ASSETS	62,826.86
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Ordinary Income

Donations

• Donation from Members	140.00
• Donations – Youth Programs	80.00
• Total income - Donations	220.00

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Income from Community Events

• Ballarat Swap Meet Hired Hands	2,704.50
• BBQ Sales	6,217.50
• BowelScan	4,550.00
• Family Violence Donations (Fundraising)	15,894.85
• Melbourne Cup Oaks Day	2,425.00
• Bike Rides Income - BPMP, 3Res Ride	18,910.86
• Energy Breakthrough	1,350.00
• New Year's Eve Rock & Roll Dance	4,560.00
• Auctions	150.00
• Marquee Hire	1,700.00
• "Chopped" Event	104.00
• "Cooking for a Cause"	959.60
• Total Income from Community Events	59,526.31

Income from Members

• Bar	280.00
• Dinner Fees	24,432.50
• Fines & Spare Change	848.34
• Membership Dues	2,075.00
• Rotary Foundation	1,183.00
• Raffle Prize Pool ticket sales	840.90
• Friday Footy Frenzy	810.00
• Sale of Rotary merchandise	70.00
• Income from Conference T-shirt sale	170.00
• Total income from Members	30,709.74

Income to Rotary Programs

• Film Night	1,473.00
• Polio Plus	1,089.00
• NYSF	3,000.00
• DtD Student receipts	150.00
• Pop-up Book Shop	405.00
• Total income Rotary Programmes	6,117.00
• Bank Interest received	528.50

TOTAL INCOME	97,101.55
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Expenses

A. PROGRAMME EXPENSES	42,572.91
B. MEMBERS EXPENSES	40,257.76
C. ROTARY PROGRAMMES	19,511.00
D. SUPPORT TO OTHER PROGRAMMES	10,500.00
E. OVERHEAD COSTS	
• Bank Fees, Aerodrome Shed rates,	
• Trailers Registration, Shed Power,	
• Insurance, Other Expenses	
• Total Overhead Costs	4,499.75
TOTAL EXPENSES	117,341.42

PP Graeme Rogan

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Administration Committee

The Administration Committee made every effort to successfully address all their Strategic Goals for this year, although some had to be suspended or modified due to the onset of COVID-19 during the final 4 months of the year.



Despite the limitations of no face to face meetings during this time, our Club embraced online meetings on Zoom, and President Leigh and our Program Coordinator Peter Haywood made sure that meetings were kept informative and fun, with great guest speakers, games and hand delivered prizes. A great effort to keep members connected to the Club.

Special thanks to PDG Geoff James for his skill in organising and running these meetings.

The Maryborough Rotary Club Annual Report will again be published for all members online, with hard copies made available on request.

The Committee would like to thank the following members for their efforts in the administration of the Club:

- We thank PDG Geoff James for his hard work publishing an informative, attractive bulletin each week, and encourage all members to be sure they read it regularly.
- Members have been encouraged to keep Working with Children Cards up to date or obtain them if they do not have one.
- Thank you to our attendance officer PP Noel Jennings and Robyn.
- John Williamson has done a great job of keeping our bar stocked regularly, and we thank him for his efforts.
- AG Martin Mackay did a great job of monitoring Risk Management processes and documentation.
- Thank you to Tracy Smith for running her “fun” events during the year. Everyone enjoyed a good laugh on these social nights.
- Brian Reed must be thanked for his great efforts maintaining our club trailers and Barbeque throughout the year.
- A big thank you to Peter Haywood for coordinating our club program during the year. We had a variety of good guest speakers, vocational visits and social events. Thanks also to PDG PP Geoff James for his display of the club calendar, for our information, at each meeting.
- The monthly Meeting Chairs kept our meetings lively, each adding their own flair to the task.
- To PDG Anthony Ohlsen and PDG Geoff James for keeping our technology working well. Thank you.
- A special thanks to Esther Waters for managing the venue and helping serve meals, as well as being part of a permanent set up team with PDG Geoff James.

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Finally, a big thank you to my Committee, and to those members who stepped in when asked, or when they saw help was needed. You play an invaluable part to ensure the administration of our club runs smoothly.

The theme of “Rotary Connects the World” is certainly being played out as I write and I am sure “Rotary Opens Opportunities” will lead us all to look for opportunities for Service Above Self during the present Coronavirus pandemic.

PP Meryl James

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Club Planning Committee

Maryborough Rotary produced its working version of the 2019-2023 Strategic plan on July 7th 2019 and up until the commencement of the COVID-19 Pandemic, we were doing really well in addressing our vision, mission, goals and strategic objectives - as will be evidenced in the other reports in this Annual Planning document. In line with decisions made in 2018-19, the Strategic Planning document has a 5 year scope and only contains general goals and strategies, so once we are through this, we can pick up those thrusts that needed to be shelved during the crisis.

As for our 2019-20 Action Plan of specific annual objectives, we have understandably, due to COVID-19, hit a bit of a wall with many objectives needing to be shelved until we can start doing things physically in the community. Of course, the Rotary spirit has continued, and we have achieved quite a bit as a club through virtual meetings on Zoom.

Our club's use of virtual meeting software, specifically "Zoom" has been quite an achievement during COVID-19 times. We started conducting weekly Zoom club-meetings soon after the community was forced into lock-down, and we have been able to maintain a program of interesting virtual speakers and movies, fun events like heads and tails and plenty of enjoyable club "banter" across the internet. We have even conducted a virtual changeover, and in the 2020-21 year, presented several Paul Harris recognitions – see details in the President's report.



Our planning committee of 5 members, set up to oversee and monitor the planning process in our club, did not meet formally as a sub-committee during the past year, but ideas were passed along and commented upon through emails. It became apparent that all Board members were interested in the planning process, so those emails were accordingly sent to ALL Board members, and quite a bit of planning discussion happened during the actual Board meetings. This worked OK because all Planning committee members were on the Board. In 2020-21, not all planning committee members will be on the Board, so we may have to re-visit our arrangements. Of course, since COVID-19, we have not spent much time on planning as such, so it has not been an issue.

As happened last year, our planning system has been used as a model for District Clubs and an online set of two videos explaining our Maryborough planning process in detail was produced and included in the Virtual District Training Assembly in April 2020, and both videos are now available to everyone on the District Website, as well as on YouTube.

Once again, thank you to all those members of our club who have got on board with the club Strategic planning process during the last year, and in a broader sense, over the past decade.

PDG Geoff James

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Foundation Report

The Board and Members of the Rotary Club of Maryborough should be immensely proud of their support for The Rotary Foundation.

In past years, the Board approved a donation of \$2,000 as a club contribution to The Rotary Foundation, but because District 9780 Foundation donations were significantly down, your Board approved an additional amount of \$2,000, making the total Club contribution \$4,000.

Many Club Members donate to The Rotary Foundation in different ways: some by weekly and monthly direct contributions, others by gifts on their birthday, wedding anniversary and Club anniversaries and also via the Centurion program, with a donation of \$2 each week when they pay their dinner fees and a top up at the end of the year to cover missed meetings.

The total contributions forwarded to The Rotary Foundation, other than direct contributions, came to \$3,103.



The Rotary Club of Maryborough is honoured to welcome the following Paul Harris Fellow recipients:

PP Leigh Williamson

PP Meryl James

PP John Stewart

Pres. Alison Teese

Sue Edmondson

PP Terry Allan also received a Sapphire Pin.

Each Paul Harris Fellow recognition or Sapphire pin required a contribution of US\$1,000 (AUS\$1,540) or accumulated points from previous Club Donations.

We would like to thank P.P. Thea Allan for using her accumulated points to also honour President Alison Teese with her PHF recognition.

The total cash funds forwarded to The Rotary Foundation in Rotary year 2019-2020 was \$11,723.

I would like to thank the members of the Foundation Committee for their support throughout the year.

PP Derrick Marsden

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Fundraising Committee

This is my first year as the Fundraising Committee Chair with the Maryborough Rotary Club and my first year as a member of the club, so it has been a very steep learning curve.

First, I would like to thank all the Committee members for their help and guidance - Peter Haywood, Alison Teese, Graeme Rogan, Louise Hanby D'Wynn, Leigh Williamson and Shane Dellavedova.

Our Fundraising for the Rotary year of 2019-20 started in September with 3 events:

B. P. M. R. Blue Pyrenees Moonambel Ride and the 3 Reservoir Ride



These events were organised by Peter Haywood and are a testimony to his ability to put together an enjoyable day for the riders and a profitable fundraiser for the club. Also, a big "thank you" to all members who run the BBQ and other support roles.

The profit went into Community and will be used for local projects

B.P.M.R raised \$9046.21 (73% of sales), whilst the 3 Reservoir Ride raised \$3000

Rock & Roll Dance

This is an Annual event organised by Shane & Jackie Dellavedova for all the Rock & Roll Dance enthusiasts. It is usually held in the Maryborough Town Hall, and has a sell-out crowd every year due mainly to their organising.

Event Profit - \$1580.00

B B Q at Bunnings

This event was organised by Robyn & Brian Reed.

Coming from the Rotary Club of Bundoora, Robyn & Brian have a lot of experience organising these B B Q's and with Brian working at the Kangaroo Flat store made it that much easier. Thank you to all the members who turned up for their shifts on the day.

The Charity that benefited was the Say No 2 Family Violence program.

Event Profit - \$1040.50

In October we had another 3 Events:

2 Movie Nights: "Yesterday" and "Ride Like a Girl"

Both events were organised by Leigh & Jan Williamson and Louise Hanby D'Wynn.

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Before we entered the theatre to see **Ride Like a Girl**, we were treated to Finger Food (prepared by Jan), wine and Champagne in the Foyer - a very enjoyable night with friends.

The second movie night started with a meal at the Indian Restaurant, Rammi Desert, before going into see **Yesterday** - again a very enjoyable night with friends.

The Charity that benefited was Polio Plus

Event Profit: Yesterday - \$ 840.00 Ride Like a Girl - \$ 589.00

Total for both events - \$ 1429.00

Cooking for A Cause

Organised by Chanaka and Louise Hanby D'Wynn.

This event coincided with a visit from Chanaka to Maryborough. The night started with Hoppers prepared by Chanaka's mother. Then we were treated to multiple dishes of authentic Sri Lankan food - much to the delight of all in attendance. A big "thank you" to all members who helped organise and run the night, and especially Chanaka and Louise who paid for all the food.



The Profit from the Dinner went to Dennepitia - a small town in Sri Lanka and was used to connect the water supply and mains power to their Community Centre.

Event Profit - \$2325.21

Chopped

Profit - \$2965.21

Friday Night Footy Frenzy

Organised by Rob Rowe.

This event is organised annually by Rob who does a great job of getting the winners of each week to donate their winnings back into the game.

The profit was made available to International projects such as the Dennepitia project.

Profit - \$810

Say No 2 Family Violence Race Meeting

This Annual event is organised by Martin Mackay, Chris Frahn and Bob Butterfield.

It is held at the Maryborough Harness Racing Track where funds are raised by Sponsorship of horses in each race, and a Spinning wheel with prizes.

Profit - \$9255.15

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Oaks Day

Organised by Ester Waters, Alison Teese and Jan Williamson.

Held at the Highland Society Function Room

Funds were raised through ticket sales, raffles, and sweeps on each race.

A well organised afternoon event enjoyed by members and friends.

Profit went to the Rotary Youth Programs

Profit - \$2436.05

Energy Breakthrough

Thank you to all the members who erected and dismantled the Marquee, organised and run the B B Q, also to Martin Mackay and Brian Reed who volunteered to judge the school teams. The Club racked up 200 Volunteer hours in the event!

Profit - \$4835.05

New Year's Eve Dance

Organised by Geoff and Meryl James

This annual event has been organised by Geoff & Meryl for the last 4 years.

It was held at the Maryborough Town Hall, and has Geoff's band, "Seriously 60's" entertaining the crowd into the New Year.

Thank you to all the members who helped to set up and dismantle the tables and decorations.

Profit went to Youth Programs.

Profit - \$800.00



PP Brian Reed

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Membership Committee

Over the past 10 or so years, Service Clubs generally have had a difficult time retaining their levels of membership. Worldwide Rotary membership has grown from 1,189,466 members on the 1st July 2019 to 1,217,399 members at the 30th April 2020 - an increase of 27,933 members. There has also been a net increase of 235 new Rotary Clubs.

In Zone 8, which includes Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands there has been an increase in membership of 58 new Rotarians. 58 doesn't seem a large number, but it's better than 58 less. There has also been six new Rotary Clubs, however, there has been the closure of seven Clubs.

Within District 9780, the membership figure unfortunately is not in the positive with a loss of 14 members (as of the 30th April) to have a total of 1674, down from 1688 at the end of the 2018-19 Rotary year. The District has seen the closure of the Rotary Club of Mortlake.

The Rotary Club of Maryborough Inc can hold its head high as we have inducted five new members including one returning Rotarian. We have welcomed Candice and Thomas Anketell, Kylie Allen, Max Berry and returning Rotarian, John Sedunary. On the downside, we have farewelled with the best of wishes, long term member PP PHF Brian Thomas and Alison as they relocated closer to family in Adelaide. It has been good to see PP PHF Brian joining us on Zoom as we meet during the COVID-19 -19 lock down.

It is obvious that we need this level of membership in order to run an effective Club and support Rotary's programs in our local community, Victoria, Australia and around the world.



Another membership issue of 2019-20 was the research, planning and purchase of some updated badges for our members.

We thank all members for their contribution to our membership activities, and look forward to continued growth in membership in 2020/21

PDG Anthony Ohlsen

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Public Image Committee

SOCIAL MEDIA: Conduct a hands-on club seminar using tablets & laptops training members in how to use social media

Planned for late November or sometime in February depending on program

Failed to complete

LOCAL PROMOTION: Investigate a permanent display cabinet of family violence items in the local Information centre

Chris and Harold now looking at making a cabinet, still haven't ruled it out

LOCAL PROMOTION: Work to produce a half to full page advertisement each month that informs the public about Rotary International and Maryborough Rotary

Full page information advertisement

Still doing the ads. These have been quite successful, however a number of members failed to get their profiles published. This was not because we weren't trying, it seems that some members didn't have five minutes to spare to put something down on paper

LOCAL PROMOTION: Use Rotary's brand guidelines, templates, People of Action campaign materials, and related resources

Chris monitored this and the greater majority complied in the usage of branding

Rotary Fonts: Georgia, Frutiger

Some members still feel that their private email use of multiple colours and size is ok for their Rotary communications

SOCIAL MEDIA: At least once a month provide a reminder to members to view our club Facebook page

Being done



two weeks

This was being achieved by Bob Osborne but ceased with his passing. However, watch this space, negotiations have begun for Rotary to have its own hour at the radio station

LOCAL PROMOTION:
Include at least one article about Family Violence issues in the local press every month

An article is published at every opportunity and the Say NO banner is in every week

LOCAL PROMOTION –
Include at least one positive mention about Rotary on the local radio station every

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A program was scheduled to be launched in July 2020 but was then deferred to a later date, then postponed indefinitely because of the pandemic. A recorded program off site is still a goer

SOCIAL MEDIA: Ensure that at least two positive posts are made on the club Facebook page each week

Thea, Geoff and others maintained placing Facebook posts all year. Thank you to all those who did post again

WEBSITE: Update the club website with a new look (theme) each Rotary year

A big thank you to Geoff James who continued to maintain it

WEBSITE: Ensure the website has at least two new stories each week

Geoff James once again, thank you, you were right on this

LOCAL PROMOTION: Conduct a Manse Open Day to remind public of Rotary's work

Someone was to approach Terry Welch. Didn't eventuate

Still hoping to see this happen. Will see where the 2020/2021 team takes it

Chris Frahn

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Community Committee

I would like to thank the committee members and the members of the club for the assistance and support they have given this committee over the last twelve months.

Over the last five months the club has been restricted in the activities we have been able to carry out due to the corona virus and this has affected the projects we were able to carry out both as a club and as a committee. This, combined with issues arising from the shire council tightening its operational guidelines, has provided the club with some challenges.



The most notable one is the continued maintenance of Brian Dowie Park. Only one of the two scheduled working bees at the park was undertaken, and the continuing Rotary attachment to the park is under discussion.

Bowelscan is another project put on hold for the time being due to the virus.

The Preserve Planet Earth project scheduled for 19 April was likewise deferred, and the family project, "The Spring Fling", was cancelled.

The school Friendship Seats program with the MEC was completed and we are looking at extending this project to include other schools in the next year.

Baby Books has been a project that has successfully been carried through the year by Derrick Marsden, and it has been indicated that council support may be available.

Fortunately, the two cycling events, the Pyrenees Magic and the Three Reservoirs Bike Ride were completed before the lockdown came into effect. Both of these events were well attended and were popular with the participants. These events were also well supported by the club members. The committee is looking into the possibility of running these events in the future despite the pandemic.

This year's Energy Breakthrough participation by the club was completed well before the pandemic crashed our programs.

This year the Rotary Club was only involved in the catering side with our BBQ and did not provide support for the corner marshalling as we had done in the past. This was due to the aging demographic of participating club members.



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The family Violence project is continuing to grow and expand. More interest from other communities is evident and additional Rotary Clubs are participating with Maryborough Rotary in this area. The emphasis is changing from one of awareness to that of action.

The virus has prevented some of the programs in this area from being carried out at this time. The Champions of Change program and the Forum are on hold for the time being, and the Race Days have been put off until after the pandemic.

PP Martin Mackay

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Family Violence Committee

As with all Rotary projects, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on activities in the second half of the year. However, our #SayNO2familyviolence project continues to have a positive impact in our community.

Over the previous 12 months our community has been fortunate to gain the services of two family violence support workers as well as a local resource working in the men's behavioural program area.

The review of the Central Goldfields Shire Councils "Go Goldfields" project will see the family violence focus area, along with youth and work readiness, included in other areas of Council operations.

The "How to" project was started in April, and it is expected to be completed by the end of September. This is a major project which will be of immense value to any Rotary Club in the world that is considering a project working on the family violence issue.

The project will document our Club's journey and learnings, and also provide valuable tools and resources.

As members are aware, the Club's signage was removed by vandals and is to be replaced. We have decided to change the messaging to provide a more positive and local supportive message for members of our community who may be experiencing family violence.



Our most significant event was our Community Vigil which was conducted by our Club as part of the "16 Days of Activism". Conducted at the community hub, it raised awareness of the family violence issue, but more importantly, provided a time to acknowledge those women who had been killed by their partners. This was a very emotional experience for all of those in attendance, with a bell

tolling for each deceased woman.

The guest speakers were amazing, particularly the three young women from Highview College and The Maryborough Education Centre who spoke of their aspirations and hopes for a positive future – a future where all people in our community can live a life free from violence.

I wish to record my thanks to Raelene Williams from ARC Ventures who provided much support to our Group over the past year.

To the Maryborough Rotary Club for providing their continued support to sustain the #SayNO2familyviolence project.

And of course, a big "thank you" to our hard working crew, who all have a great time working on our project, but never ever undervalue the significance of the project in making our

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community a safer place for women and children.

Thank you to Rotarians Thea Allan, Meryl James, Chris Frahn, Bob Butterfield, Graeme Rogan, Martin McKay and Anthony Ohlson for your input and support

PP Garry Higgins OAM

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International Committee

The International Committee had another full year arranging and promoting ventures that assist people in need in other countries.

Here's a brief summary of how we went with our strategic goals for this last year. The outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic affected the last half of the year.



Louise Hanby D'Wynn and the Team.

The major event of the first half of the year was The **Sri Lankan Dinner** to raise funds for completing the Community Centre in the Village of Deniyaya which was affected by the 2004 Tsunami. This Feast, held at the Highlander Haven, was cooked by Chef Chanaka. It was attended by over 80 and over \$3000 was raised. The Project is on hold due to COVID-19. Thank you to

The Committee was keen to host the RFE **Rotary Friendship Exchanges** from USA and Canada, but these were postponed due to COVID-19.

International Toasts - brief toasts highlighting information on a Rotary club in another country at least monthly at Club Meetings. This is to be complemented by Skype meetings with International Clubs.

Donations in Kind DIK – two pop-up book shops were held in August and October, the funds raised were topped up to donate \$500 of funds Geelong DIK.

Aquabox – We provided funds for one Aquabox for a needy community overseas.

Disaster Aid – We were once again able to purchase one Disaster Aid box for deployment overseas in the last year.

Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children – ROMAC We supported this with our annual donation of \$500.

A new project for Nepal has been considered for simple stoves for a village. This is an initiative of the NZ Rotary Club of Blenheim South.

Footy Frenzy - These funds will support the Sri Lankan Project – thanks to Robert Rowe.

Women's issues – No specific activities for International Women's Day 2020 or a sewing workshop for Days for Girls.

Members have done mini fund raising of farm eggs, stamps and a money jar at meetings. Thanks to Murray, John and David, these funds go to our International projects.

Alison Teese OAM

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Vocational Committee

The members of the Vocational Committee are pleased with the outcomes of this committee during the Pandemic affected 2019-20 year

Members of our committee during the year included Thea Allan, Heather Blackman, Shane Dellavedova, Ted Edwards, Geoff James (Director), and Esther Waters.

Due to the hard work of these members, we achieved four of our 2019-20 objectives.



We made two interesting Vocational visits this year. One was to Rotarian John Stewart's new Funeral Parlour, "Phelan Park" in December - an impressive place - and to Harold Breitingner's Wood Stress testing place at the end of January - also impressive.

Members continued to provide talks about their vocations at club meetings, based on the topic of "The

Best Connection I Made In My Career" - in line with the 2019-20 Rotary International Theme of "Rotary Connects The World". These talks were always very enjoyable.

We thought we might have to abandon our Pride of Workmanship Awards this year, but we did manage to present an

award to a young apprentice, Sarah Tatchell at Wattle City Meats during April. This year, we changed our approach to offering awards by placing an advertisement in the Advertiser, asking any local Employers to nominate someone from their business. In recent years, we had chosen a vocational area and approached the employers ourselves. Even though we only got one applicant - probably due to the Pandemic - we think this is a fairer way to go.



Mainly because of the pandemic, but also for a variety of other reasons, we didn't manage to get a past scholarship recipient to speak at our club about their experiences, we didn't get around to inviting career teachers to speak at the club, we didn't manage to conduct a four way test breakfast, we didn't get to conduct a Young Entrepreneurship training event with a visiting speaker, we didn't find anyone for the Shine On awards, nor did we manage a Global networking promotion night in June 2020.

I would like to thank the Vocational team for all their hard work and friendship over the

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year. It has been very enjoyable working with them as we have endeavored to "connect the world" and "do good in the world" through the Vocational Avenue of service.

In summary, we see that the role and purpose of this committee is embodied in the second object of Rotary, which is to encourage and foster high ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society. We believe we've given that a good shot.

PDG Geoff James

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Youth Committee

Chair: PP PHF Graeme Rogan

Committee Members: Graeme Rogan, Harold Breiting, Tracey Smith, Shane Dellavedova, Anthony Ohlsen, Robert Rowe and Kate Ashton.

LIFT (Leadership Instruction For Teens) Program. On Thursday 22nd August 2019, 27 Year 7-11 students from MEC and Highview College participated in a LIFT Program organised by Maryborough Rotary Club. This is the sixth year that LIFT has been conducted and is a youth leadership program highly endorsed by Maryborough Education Centre (MEC) and Highview College.

Thanks to the CG Shire for providing “The Hub” as the training venue.

Facilitated by Shane Green - Innovative Learning Solutions, the program offers young leaders from both secondary schools the opportunity to gain an appreciation, understanding and to participate in the many facets of leadership. The one-day program assists students to develop their leadership potential and set goals for their future.

This is an annual event and is included in Club Activities calendar.



RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment 29-31 May 2020)

An intensive residential weekend for young people aged approximately 14 to 16 years to develop increased motivation, improved life skills, better self-image, pride in themselves and an understanding of setting and achieving goals. At the same time, participants interact with peers from different backgrounds, and different parts of our Rotary district, improving their teamwork skills whilst having fun. All done in an

informal atmosphere, where questions and debates are encouraged.

Cancelled for 2019/20 due to COVID-19.

This is annual event and has been included in Club Activities calendar.

RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) for young people 18-26.

Another highly valuable Rotary youth program. We had an excellent aspiring participant, but due to work commitments, he was unable to participate.

2020 Program cancelled due to COVID19.

This is annual event and has been included in Club Activities calendar.

DEFYING THE DRIFT (DtD) - a Rotary program aimed at Year 10/11 students who want to remain and work in the rural area.

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Defying the Drift is a program designed to empower young people to:

- Identify and explore agriculture and Agribusiness career opportunities
- Build communication skills and develop career-enhancing networks

The programme ran from Monday September 23rd to Wednesday 25th September 2019 at Longerenong Agricultural College, Dookie, with a 3-day residential program where participants learn new skills, discover many rural futures, meet some great young agriculture role models and have a great time.



The second part is a presentation by each participant at their sponsoring Rotary Club – a great chance to meet community leaders. Presentations are expected to cover what participants have learnt through the Defying the Drift program and their personal reflections on possible rural futures.

Six local students attended:

MEC: - Charlotte Cain, Keynan Lanfranchi, Lachlan Gablek, Zac Grant
Highview College - Ethan Freemantle and Jamie Beavis.

2020 Program cancelled due to COVID-19.

This is annual event and has been included in Club Activities calendar.

NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM – The NYSF Year 12 Program is designed to give students a broader understanding of the diverse study and career options available in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), and to encourage them to continue their studies in these fields.

Maryborough Rotary was represented by Kayla Blazko -Highview College, and Deacon Farrow – MEC.

This is an annual event that has been included in Club Activities calendar.

MOCK JOB INTERVIEWS

Approximately 17 VCAL students from MEC participated in mock job interviews with Rotarians during Term 3.

The task for the students is to choose from some prepared job advertisements and go through the application process. They then create a resume and cover letter which they bring with them to a mock job interview and receive feedback from the interview panel.

2020 Program cancelled due to COVID19.

This is an annual event that has been included in Club Activities calendar.

“POLISH” PROGRAM

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This highly interactive program focuses on practical skills and knowledge that youth require in the transition from education to employment, including communication, networking, personal presentation, interview skills, general etiquette, teamwork and goal setting.

Conducted throughout August 2019 for two student groups of 30 MEC students.

2020 Program cancelled due to COVID19.

This is an annual event that has been included in Club Activities calendar.

MELBOURNE CUP “OAKS” DAY

A very successful gala day out for the ladies held on Thursday 5th November 2019 at the Maryborough Highland Society. Proceeds from the day go to Rotary Youth programs.

2020 Program may be held/deferred due to COVID-19.

This is an annual event that has been included in Club Activities calendar.

SCHOLARSHIPS were again presented to students at both Highview and MEC. These scholarships are in memory of past Rotarians.

This is annual event and has been included in Club Activities calendar

In conclusion, I thank all of the Youth Committee members for their efforts during a very successful and fruitful year.

Due to the effect of COVID-19, a number of our Youth Programs were unable to be conducted or were deferred; and this severely impacts on our Youth, their future and aspirations.

I also wish Rotarian Shane (Incoming Youth Chair) and the Youth Committee the best for the new Rotary year, where Rotary will, and does “Open Opportunities”.

PP Graeme Rogan