

Rotary Club of Maryborough

Inc A0021123A: ABN 99 891 962 480 Club ID 18240



Annual Report

2021 - 2022

Club President: Garry Higgins OAM

District Governor: John Clue International President: Shekhar Mehta

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President's Report

Well, well, well, another year in which the recovery from a once-in-a life-time global pandemic has had huge, unexpected impacts on all aspects of our daily lives.

Our world is now confronting challenges to community, the global economy, social order and or personal well-being and our tiny little Club here in Maryborough has not been spared.

To continue to operate as though nothing had happened would have been folly and our Club took on the challenge at the end of last year and decided to try a new way of operating.

It designated Membership as being its highest priority and changing the usual way of operating in order to support this focus by introducing a "project based" way of operation.



We looked at finding a home again that would encourage a better feeling of belonging. We are re starting the "social" side of our Club with events and activities that don't include a "meeting". This focus has paid dividends with six new members being inducted.

We focused on getting our house in order again and introduced our Strategic plan. We completed a huge amount on work ensuring the Club's financial viability and at the same time making sure our Club was financially accessible to all.

We re-started our work in the community and got a lot of money off our books and into both our local and international communities where it belongs.

We decided for the first time in the Club's history to have the Board take on a two-year term in order to provide stability and to enable the Club to fully introduce our "reset".

This has taken all of 12 months and some, to introduce and to evaluate. I think we all have been challenged at some point along the journey and I congratulate all our members for their perseverance and commitment in ensuring that Maryborough Rotary is around to continue its great work.

During the year there was great sadness when saying "farewell" to PP Graeme Rogan PHF. Graeme was a dearly loved member in both our Club and District 9780. It was not just his work and commitment to our community through Rotary, but he was just a good bloke. RIP Graeme.

Celebrated Rotary's Birthday at one of our early face-to-face meetings at the Bull and Mouth hotel.

The Club's 70th anniversary was a celebration of our work in making the world a better place and the highlights could fill a book; and they did! A special Thank You to PDG Geoff James for putting this Club record together and also for leading the organising committee to celebrate this major Club achievement.



MC's Malley and Muzza, (the stand-in for Mal's usual partner-in-crime), did a great job keeping us on time and entertained.



A planning meeting was held at Bristol Hill park, with the view of re-generating interest in developing this community asset to a better standard than it is currently.

To PDG Anthony Ohlson, John Williamson and PDG Geoff James, thank you for your work in consolidating and modernising our administrative and financial systems. This has been long overdue, and your work will ensure that the Club continues to be compliant.

To Rotarians Tracy Smith and Austin Taylor who led our Membership and Public Image Committee, special Thanks to you both. You were charged with the challenge of rebuilding our Club and the process that was used is unique to Rotary. We have already seen the fruits of your labour, with six new members to the Club and I know that the processes developed by your team will ensure a regular injection to the Club of people, and the new ideas and enthusiasm that they will bring.

To PP Brian Reed and his Fundraising team, (or as I like to refer to them as our **ENABLERS**), my grateful thanks for your efforts to raise nearly \$20,000 which was donated to projects in our community and internationally.

To PP Alison Teese OAM and PP Terry Allan for your work in developing new processes around Foundation. This is work that has been overdue in our Club and I thank you for your work.

To our Club's Program team of PP's Thea Allan, Meryl James and Alison Teese OAM. Thank you for keeping us all engaged and entertained.

My wife Julie has been a tower of support and I thank her for her diligence and love.

Love, Light and Peace.

President Garry Higgins OAM PHF

Secretary's Report

Another year of Rotary has come and gone and I will not even mention Covid. It doesn't seem that long ago that I relinquished the Treasurer's role after 12 months, to take on a third stint as Secretary, The quick passing of the year indicates the support I have received from the Executive of the Club, President Garry Higgins OAM, IPP Alison Teese OAM, Treasurer John Williamson, Board members PDG Geoff James (Admin), PP Terry Allan (Foundation), PP Brian Reed (Fundraising), Tracey Smith (Membership), Austin Taylor (Public Image) and Harold Breitinger (Projects).

The year has included the:-

- □ Receival of a multitude of emails/correspondence from:
 - o District 9780 management,
 - Clubs in 9780, and,
 - Many other institutions/individuals.

Fortunately, the decision to change our email server, I believe, has reduced the amount of "junk" emails with most ending in the bin and never to be seen again.

- □ Collection and distribution of inward correspondence from the Post Office, this is become a rarity as the electronic world hastens.
- □ Preparation of agendas and minutes for Board meetings,
- □ *Preparation of the agenda and minutes of the Annual General meeting,*
- □ Reporting to Corporate Affairs Victoria,
- □ Dispersal of outward correspondence following Board meetings,
- □ Preparation of the semi-annual returns to RI as at 1st July and 1st January
- □ *Updating of the online records of members in:*
 - o MyRotary for Rotary International,
 - 。 Rotary Down Under, and
 - ClubRunner, advising:-
 - Of new members,
 - *Change of status of members,*
 - Retiring of members, and
 - Deceased members, unfortunately

Some of the highlights for the year for me have included,

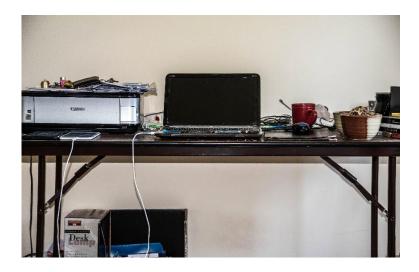
□ The ability of the members to accept the reset of the focus of the Club in terms of a major project and the few small projects that have resulted in community interest in the work of the Rotary Club of Maryborough, but even more to accept that a return to the service areas of Rotary will also allow the Club to prosper.

- □ This has, I believe been a catalyst in the induction of new Rotarians,
 - o Dr Lowen Clarke,
 - 。 Sharon Hall,
 - Kevin Lamb,
 - Bec Lowery,
 - o Adrian Masterman-Smith,
 - o Manpreet Singh,
 - o Riley Upton (unable to attend on the night due to illness)
- □ The continued support given by the members to
 - o The Family Violence Awareness Project
 - Bunnings BBQ's
 - Pyrenees Magic Bike Ride

It has been a privilege to collaborate with President Garry and beside him as he has been guiding Maryborough Rotary into the future.

It would be remiss of me not to mention the "7 **Decades of Service**" Maryborough Rotary celebrations and having the privilege to be on the organising committee with PDG Geoff James as Chair. Much work made for a fantastic evening.

Many past members and dignitaries attended as well as a former Exchange student To my wife Kerrie, Thank you for your support again throughout the year.



PDG Anthony Ohlsen PHF

Treasurer's Report

Profit and Loss

For the year ended 30 June 2022

Account	2022
Trading Income	
7 Decades Dinner income	5,270.20
7 Decades of Service book	370.00
Ballarat Swap Meet	2,632.50
Club Admin - Changeover Dinner Income	1,686.00
Club Admin - Fines	551.95
Club Admin - Raffle Income	447.65
Club Admin: Dinner Fees	3,508.00
Club Admin: Interest Income	120.36
Foundation - Member donation to Centurion progame	872.00
Foundation - Member donation to Polio Plus	565.00
Friday night Footy Frenzy	640.00
Internal Club Fundraiser - ARH hat Night	410.00
Members contributions to Foundation	1,050.00
Membership Gap Donation	2,151.00
Membership: Membership Fees	9,100.00
Revenue from Bar	210.00
Total Trading Income	29,584.66
Cost of Sales	
Advertising	273.50
Bar expenses	147.96
Club Admin - Changeover Costs	3,955.00
Club Admin - Dinner Costs	3,582.00
Club Admin: Bank Charges	46.58
Club Admin: Light, Power, Heating	575.07
Club Admin: Merchant Fees	371.25

Club Admin: Obituaries	167.00
Club Admin: Office Expenses	1,094.85
Club Admin: RDU Magazine	1,269.42
Club Admin: Rotary International Fees	7,350.40
Club Admin: Zero Fees	666.21
Club contribution to the Rotary	2 407 00
Foundation	2,497.00
cost of running the 7dd Dinner	4,295.00
Cost to produce 7D Book	1,016.00
Insurance	440.00
Motor Vehicle Expenses	122.80
Repairs and Maintenance	537.00
Total Cost of Sales	28,407.04
Gross Profit	1 155 60
Gross Front	1,177.62
Other Income	
Blue Pyrenees Bike Ride Fundraiser	7,368.39
Fundraising; BBQ's	4,220.20
Fundraising; Clothing Sales	1,015.00
Fundraising; Donations to	, ,
#SayNo2familyviolence	10,086.65
Income from previous years	11,795.00
Money in from sale of pumpkins	1,810.00
Oaks Day fundraiser	370.00
Total Other Income	36,665.24
Operating Expenses	
Community Service - Family Violence	8,222.50
Contribution to non Rotary programs	11,091.50
Contributions to Rotary Programs	4,299.00
Fundraising - Bike Ride Costs	1,932.75
Fundraising; BBQ Expenses	935.85
Scholarships	950.00
Total Operating Expenses	27,431.60
Net Profit	10,411.26
NCC I I UIIC	10,411.20

Main points

- A. Internal Club operations show a surplus of \$1177.
- B. Our overall surplus for FY 2022 is \$10,411
- C. We have forwarded \$2489. to the Rotary Foundation. This includes the amounts against the 3 lines of trading income that have Foundation in their title.

- D. Our club has contributed \$12,582.00 to non-rotary projects this year. This includes \$10,000.00 the MDHS for the Oncology Unit.
 - E. We have contributed \$4,299.00 to Rotary projects
 - F. We have contributed \$8,222. To SayNo2Family Violence

Notes

- 1. 7 Decades Celebrations, a surplus of \$329 plus x books to sell, the Dinner alone shows a surplus of \$980.
 - 2. Income from fines, raffles and FNFF is \$1640. [no costs]
 - 3. Income from the Ballarat Swap meet \$2632.
 - 4. Surplus from Blue Pyrenees bike ride was \$5435.
 - 5. Surplus from BBQs was \$5435 [mainly Bunnings]



Rotarian John Williamson PHF

Administration Committee

Committee Members: Director: Geoff James, Murray Henderson, John Williamson, Anthony Ohlsen, Thea Allan, Robert Bursill.



Michelle Baker from the Mill House Neighbourhood House.

Guest Speaker Program: Program Directors PP Meryl James, PP Alison Teese and PP Thea Allan prepared an interesting program for the 2021-22 year, even though many of the meetings during the first 6 months had to be

Zoom Meetings.

Guest speakers included Videos of **RI International President, Shekhar Mehta** and **President Elect, Jennifer Jones, Rotary**

Zone Director, Jessie Harman, Manpreet Singh (President of Australian Sikh Support) talking about the aid packages being delivered to those in need during the Pandemic, Michelle Baker (Mill House Neighbourhood House) on the changes happening at the new Mill House, Andrea Ford (Maryborough Education Centre) on Covid strategies, Kelsey Chandler (Scholarship Winner), Captain Ronald Stobie (Salvation Army), Janice Simpson on the Castlemaine Rail Trail, Helen Blazco and Nicola Allan (Maryborough District Health Service) on Covid strategies, District Governor John Clue, Dr. Lowan Clarke on his Literacy Research, Rebecca Buchanan on Literacy, New CEO of Havilah, Craig Young, and Manager of the Golf Club, John Sedunary on his Community project idea.

External, Social and Fun Events: Again, with Covid restrictions, external events were limited during some parts of the 2021-22 year, but club members did manage to enjoy a fancy hat night for Australian Rotary Health, a "Mask-erade night", a celebration of Rotary's 117th Birthday at the Bull and Mouth Hotel, a social evening at the home of Rotarians Thea and Terry Allan, a visit to the S.O.N.A.C. Factory, a St Patrick's Day Joke night, a breakfast at the Supreme Hotel and, of course, our "7 Decades of Service" Dinner at the Highland Society and a visit to the Guide Hall for dinner.



7 **Decades of Service Dinner:** A highlight of the 2021-22 Rotary Year was the 7 Decades of Service Dinner held on March 31st, the anniversary of the day in 1952 when the club was awarded its charter from Rotary International. Over 120 Rotarians and other distinguished guests gathered in the Highland Society to enjoy great food, a brief history of the club's beginnings, an address by Rotary International Zone Director, PDG Jessie Harman, the launch of the Club's new History Book by District Governor, John Clue, and of course, the traditional Birthday Cake, cut by longest serving rotarian PP Tom Davies.

President Garry Higgins OAM, PP Tom Davies. Zone Director PDG Jessie Harman.

Bulletin: The Club Bulletin Editor during this Rotary year was new member from the previous year, Austin Taylor. Austin introduced a number of interesting changes to the

mail-out including regular informative articles about the National and International work of Rotary and kept us laughing with some great comedy.







Meeting Home: Throughout the 2021-22 year, the club Board actively sought to find a permanent "home" for club meetings. After the regular Zoom meetings, the club started meeting fairly regularly at the Highland society. The management at the Highland Society were very helpful and ensured that for the most part, club meetings could be held in the relatively private, Member's Lounge which had its own audio-visual facilities, and they also kindly provided a place to store some club equipment.

On other occasions, members met in the corner room at the Bull and Mouth Hotel. This room was certainly private, and the Bull and Mouth staff also kindly provided audio visual facilities for the meetings. On another occasion, the club tried the upstairs room at the Supreme Hotel for a breakfast meeting and that seemed to work OK as well.

In early 2022, negotiations began with the "Mill House" Community House about the possibility of the club meeting there on a regular basis with the Mill House staff providing meals. After a couple of "trial" meetings which seemed to go well for both parties, the practice continued through to the end of the Rotary year with the Mill House staff not only providing meals at a reasonable cost and audio-visual facilities, but also a small room and

locked cupboard where the club could store equipment. At the May Board meeting, the club Board decided to pursue the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Mill House to confirm this arrangement.

Club Planning: Maryborough Rotary tackled the 2021-22 Rotary year with a new strategic plan prepared during March and April of 2021. The plan included a new emphasis on the Rotary priorities to increase the club's impact on, and reach within the local community, to maximize member engagement by employing their skills, and to adapt to global trends.

In practice, the main innovation of the 2021-22 plan was to replace the four traditional Service Standing Committees (Community, Vocational, International and Youth) with a range of service sub-committees, each focussed on a particular project within those four areas. Due to the impact of Covid restrictions, the new club structure took a while to operate as envisaged, but several of the service sub-committees were able to deliver tangible results during the Rotary year.

The Peace Park/ Bristol Hill Revival concept made progress with a whole of club planning meeting at the Bristol Hill Playground and several follow-up committee meetings to explore further possibilities for the idea. Some of these follow up meetings included discussions with other interested community groups such as the Central Goldfields Shire Council and the Department of the Environment as well as more in-depth talks with interested individuals such as Councillor and local historian, Geoff Lovett.

The Overseas Aid sub-committee proposed a list of deserving overseas projects and over \$4000 was donated to those projects – as mentioned elsewhere in this annual report.

The Vocational Advice subcommittee also initiated a series of member talks on advice individual Rotarians would give to a young person just starting out on their career – more details can be found in this annual report document. There were also some meetings discussing the best way to implement Youth policies.

Club Positions for 2021-23: Due to the disruptions of Covid and the fact that no member volunteered to take on the President's role for the 2022-23 Rotary year, the Board decided to roll over the 2021-22 positions for the executive and Governance committees for another year.

Proposal to Revive Service Standing Committees: In early 2022, a proposal was put to the Board that the Service Standing committees should be re-instituted in the club. The arguments provided included:

- These committees would pick up many of the useful small services that the club used to provide but which have fallen by the wayside in the reset.
- These small services would help to restore the feeling in the club that it is actively serving in the community and the world.
- By meeting in these committees, members would become more aware of what is going on in the club, they would have more say in the shaping of various club service activities and projects and therefore feel more ownership of what the club does.

- These committees would give new members a place to "get the feel" for the way a Rotary club plans and organizes service activities better than in isolated service project committees.
- These committees would provide 3 or 4 more leadership opportunities for members.

The Board decided in June to reintroduce the four committees and include their chairs as directors on the Board for the 2022-23 year. The service project committees would continue to operate but would report to the Board through their related Standing committee. The Project Officer position introduced in 2021-22 would be retained as an advisory and assistant position. The Standing Service committees and Governance committees would meet monthly, but the meetings would alternate from being part of one of the weekly club meetings in one month, and as a Zoom or face to face home meeting in the other month.

The "Administration Chair" Saga: The issue of selecting the "Administration Chair" for the club continued in 2021-22 (See our club History book "Service Above Self 1999-2022" for details) with the position filled independently of any other position held in the club. Previously it was linked with the Vice President or Past President positions.

The "Service Above Self 1999-2022" History Book: On March 31 at the "7 Decades" Dinner, the District Governor John Clue officially launched the club's fourth History book, "Service Above Self 1999-2022" written and compiled by PDG Geoff James. The book contained over 160 A4 pages printed in full colour with over one hundred photographs of club events. The book was arranged around each of



the Rotary years from 1999 until the first half of 2022 and featured a summary of the main projects and services provided to the local and world communities through each of the main focus areas of the club.

PDG Geoff James PHF

Fundraising Committee 2021-2022

Due to Covid restrictions all fundraising in the last half of the year was postponed.

With the easing of restrictions in the new calendar year we were able to have the Ballarat Swap Meet in February and the Blue Pyrenees Magic Ride in March.

BBQ at Bunnings

With Covid restrictions being eased we were able to have 4 BBQ's in this Rotary year, with each netting a profit on average of \$1,000, the Fundraising Committee would like to thank all volunteers who made the days so enjoyable.



Robyn Reed, Austin Taylor, Leigh Williamson, Brian Reed, Max Berry, Terry Allan, Martin Mackay and Jan Williamson.

Oaks Day

Organised by Esther Waters and eight lady Rotarians and friends had a lovely lunch at the Highland Society and raised \$370 for Foundation.



Rock & Roll Dance

The Rock and Roll dance was nmt held this year but should be up and running in the next Rotary year.

Say No 2 Family Violence Race Meeting

Organised by Martin Mackay, Bob Butterfield and Chris Frahn was also postponed this year.

Energy Breakthrough

Postponed again.

New Year's Eve Dance

The New Year's Eve dance was postponed this year, and hopefully will go ahead next year, subject to Town Hall conditions.

Blue Pyrenees Moonambel Ride

The ride went ahead on the March 24. The weather was perfect with 176 riders enjoying the day. The profit was \$ 5,250

Friday Night Footy Frenzy

Organised by Rob Rowe not held this year

Ballarat Swap Meet

PP's Derrick Marsden and Brian Reed did an excellent job of filling the roster and the BBQ was the most popular food outlet again and our efforts raised \$2,630 for our club.

Pumpkin Sales

One tonne of Butternut Pumpkins was donated to Rotary for fundraising. The sales started at Parkview Bakery. Thank you, President Garry, and staff for allowing this event in the bakery. Tracey took several bags to Maryborough Education Centre for her staff and they did not want to disappoint her!



The balance sold at the Talbot Market thanks to Patty Brown, coordinator of the market offering Rotary a free space to set up. Martin Mackay, Terry & Thea Allan, Bec Lowery and Austin Taylor had an enjoyable time and brought the profit to over \$1,800.

PP Brian Reed PHF

International Sub Committee

Committee Members: Chair: Meryl James, Tracey Smith, Austin Taylor, Geoff James, Louise Hanby D'Wynn, Shane Dellavedova.

International Showcase Select

The Plan: The original plan of this committee was to look at the Rotary Showcase site which is part of the Rotary International site and choose 3 or 4 projects to which the club could donate.

In practice, when we started searching the site, we discovered that it was difficult to determine which projects required funds during the part of the 2021-22 Rotary year that we had available. Most of them seemed to have already made their arrangements for funding. So, the committee decided to have a look at the Australian based "R.A.W.C.S." (Rotary Australia World Community Service) site, which was much easier to negotiate.



The Result: We held a Zoom meeting to discuss and put forward our recommendations. The Board subsequently approved payment for the following:

- 1. The Tonga Earthquake Appeal on the Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) site \$1,000
- 2. Shelter Box \$1,000
- 3. Disaster Aid \$1,000
- 4. \$800 was also donated to the Ukraine Rotary Appeal the proceeds of the Seven Decades Birthday Competition.



PP Meryl James PHF

Family Violence Awareness Committee

#sayNO2familyviolence

The sayNO2familyviolence committee has once again been very active in continuing to be a voice against family violence in our community. We have had to adjust to the ever-changing landscape of service provision and always look at ways in which our project can provide the most vocal voice for our local community.

The last year has seen the Go Goldfields Family Violence Action Group cease to exist and the Maryborough District Health Service closing its Family Violence Governance board into other areas of Health service operations. We have also observed the introduction of the Orange Door in our community.

These developments have left our community without a local voice and our project has adjusted most of its focus to provide an opportunity for local advocacy. To this end we have reconstituted our working group to include **Tania Miles** - Community Services, MDHS, **Sharon Huggett** - Asteria Services, **Justin Eales** - Loddon Campaspe Community Legal Centre, **Sergeant David Semmens** - VICPOL, **Craig Young** - Havilah and **Raelene Williams** - ARC ventures.

Our Club members include Rotarians, Louise Hanby D'Wynn, Thea Allan, Martin McKay, Anthony Ohlson and Garry Higgins OAM.

One of our major projects for the year has been a "brand refresh" which has given the "sayNO' brand a more modern, fresher and softer appearance. This work was funded by the Central Goldfields Shire Council and we extend our appreciation for their ongoing support.



Grant recipient

We ♥ community

#SayN02familyviolence

We community

Our "sayNO" website is nearing completion and we received funding for this major project from the Bendigo Bank. We extend appreciation to the Bendigo Bank for their support in enabling this very important project to be completed. This website will be available for all communities around the world who wish to start their own "sayNO" project.



During 16 days of Activism in November, community and Rotary members, ceremoniously paraded Ellie down the street to Parkview Bakery, where she still stands and starts conversations.

Rotary has also committed to introduce the "Toilet Door" project within our Shire. This project involves putting an awareness poster behind every toilet door in the Shire. We have received co-operation from or Shire council, industries, businesses and entertainment venues.

The project is based on a similar project introduced by Portland Rotary, which is one of the two Rotary clubs that have started their own project and been a valuable help to our Maryborough committee.



What is family violence?

Family violence comes in many forms. It can be inflicted by anyone who lives with you or you have had a previous personal relationship with, and can include:



In an emergency call 000

24 hr Helplines:

1800 RESPECT or 1800 737 732 Mensline 1300 766 491, Orange Door 1800 512 359 or have a conversation with your doctor





A major fundraising project was undertaken to fund this project by selling butternut pumpkins which were donated to Rotary by Mallee independent candidate Sophie Baldwin. We thank Sophie for her donation. We also thank members for selling these pumpkins at \$3 a unit with total sales of over \$1800.



Unloading butternut pumpkins at Parkview Bakery.

PP Garry Higgins OAM PHF

Foundation Committee

Committee Members: PP Terry Allan (Chair) PP Alison Teese OAM. PP Derrick Marsden, Esther Waters, Sam Sundermalik, Toby Bainbridge.

Promotion of Regular Giving:

During the lockdown phases of the 2021-22 Rotary year, the Rotary Foundation committee continued to encourage and monitor regular giving to the Foundation by members of the club. However, with club members not meeting regularly at the Havilah venue, no funds were collected for the Foundation as part of the dinner cost.

In December 2021, the Board decided to add a small meeting fee of five dollars for every member, regardless of where the club members meet each week, and from the fee, two dollars would once again go to the Foundation. This fee, planned to take effect at the beginning of February 2022, met with mixed success

Paul Harris Fellows were presented to Chris Frahn, Murray Henderson and community member Raelene Williams.



Murray Henderson accepting his Paul Harris badge from DG John Clue.

The Foundation Committee looked at other projects but were unable to bring any to a conclusion due to circumstance out of our control.

I trust that 2022-2023 will see more progress with Foundation matters and that having a new "home" at the Mill House, Foundation funds will improve.

PP Terry Allan PHF

Membership Committee

Our year for Membership, although seeming to be stagnant with numbers, will see the ultimate efforts we have produced with a major induction on Thursday June 16, 2022.

President Garry Higgins and other Membership/Public Image members (PP Heather Blackman, PP John Caulfield, Max Berry, Austin Taylor, PP Meryl James, Kate Ashton and PP Martin Mackay) have worked tirelessly to be at this point prior to the current Rotary year ending.

Following President Garry's suggested "diagnostic reset" reviewing where we were as a club, where we wanted to be and how we were going to get there, at the commencement of this current Rotary year the Membership/Public Image team members went through an excellent review process. It was called the DMAIC process. This was facilitated by Windsor Main (Edlyn Foods). The points of the process were;

- Define a problem statement
- Measure be able to know if are successful
- Analyse understand how to review the data you receive once you commence the process
- Improve ensure this stage can be achieved
- Control make sure once the process has been reviewed, identified the need for change that it can be maintained to always ensure you will continue to achieve

The Membership/Public Image team members participated in several workshop professional learning sessions to develop a problem statement. It took several attempts, as our first was too long and complicated as it covered to many issues to be able to implement. After reviewing this with a further workshop with Windsor, we reduced it to:

"In 2015, Maryborough Rotary Club had 48 members, over the past 6 years our membership has declined. The age of our membership during this time has remained at an average over 63, with the percentage of members being over 60 at 76% and under 29 at 24%".

Other areas we covered and discussed were regarding the gender percentages of male / female of our members, cultural diversity of our club and how to retain members to be active and engaged.

Our future statement from all our work culminated in an exciting and challenging vision statement.

"In 2025, the Maryborough Rotary Club will have a membership average age of 50 with an increased active membership maintained at 60%. The Club will have a membership count of 50 being cultural, diverse vocational, balanced gender and

community representation. To ensure we achieve this, our club needs to continue to value our long serving Rotarians."

To achieve the above vision, we know we must be more flexible in our approach; we need to interview the community, listen and grow our club for the many Rotarians we hope follow us and keep this club heritage strong.

We started our Rotary year in July 2021 with 41 members. Members have come and gone and we thank all those who retired; Candice and Thomas Anketell, Mark Edmondson, Judy Rinaldi, Bob Butterfield, Tony Coyle and David Hare over the last year for all their contributions, each in their own way.

We also pause to remember the Rotarian we have lost; PP PHF Graeme Rogan from his battle with cancer in October 2021. Graeme was not only an active member of our club but also within the district — only retiring from his role of Assistant Governor with our Group 7 area just before his passing. Graeme was a long-time supporter and initiator of youth programs within Maryborough including our initiative - Leadership Instruction for Teens (LIFT) program with the two secondary schools. Graeme took many school students to the Defying the Drift program annually and worked tirelessly with those disadvantaged in our local community. We sincerely thank PP PHF Graeme for his enormous contribution and service to Rotary over many years.



PP Graeme Rogan

The hard work by many in our Membership/Public Image team included an invitation to several members of our community to a Prospective Member's Breakfast, This was a great process at the Supreme Bar and Restaurant to encourage new members, providing crucial information about Rotary, what we as a club can do for them and also what they as a member can do for our club.

This has resulted in a special evening at Rotary on Thursday 16th June with six new members inducted from a diverse range of vocations, cultural backgrounds, age and gender.

It has been exciting to talk with the new members, engage them with projects (including the Bristol Hill Tower / Peace Park concept development) and plan for a concept to meet regularly with them, their mentors, and any other interested Rotarians. There will be meetings held monthly and our planned agenda for each meeting will include topics such as the following, in the first six months.

- Explanation and details of the Governance and Service committees within Rotary, including Foundation, Fundraising etc.
- Maryborough Rotary Strategic Plan.
- Rotary Leadership programs, Rotary International, RI Convention in Melbourne in 2023.
- Rotary Youth programs.
- District 9780, conference, Group 7 meetings etc.
- Fellowships.

Our new members inducted include;

- Sharon Hall Retail Sales
- *Kevin Lamb Carpentry*
- Adrian Masterman-Smith Administration
- Dr Lowen Clarke Author
- Bec Lowery Automotive Retail
- Manpreet Singh IT
- Riley Upton Journalism (unable to attend the induction evening due to illness to be held over)



Our Induction Dinner meeting – Thursday 16th June 2022.



Six new members and their mentors Front row: PP Martin Mackay, Adrian Masterman-Smith, Manpreet Singh, Dr Lowen Clarke, Bec Lowery, Sharon Hall and Kevin Lamb.

Back row President Garry Higgins OAM, Louise Hanby D'Wynn, PP Alison Teese OAM, PP Heather Blackman and Harold Breitinger.



PP Pres Garry Higgins OAM, Bec Lowery, PP Alison Teese OAM and Membership Chair, Tracey Smith .

President Garry Higgins OAM, Kevin Lamb, Membership Chair Tracey Smith, And Harold Breitinger.



President Garry Higgins OAM, Adrian Masterman-Smith, Membership Chair, Tracey Smith and PP Martin Mackay.



President Garry Higgins OAM, Dr Lowen Clarke, Membership Chair, Tracey Smith and Louise Hanby D'Wynn.



President Garry Higgins OAM, Sharon Hall, Membership Chair, Tracey Smith, with PP Heather Blackman.



President Garry Higgins OAM, Manpreet Singh, Membership Chair Tracey Smith.

A huge thank you to all Maryborough Rotarians for your friendship, energy, connectedness and support for one another over the last 12 months as we look forward to the next year for the exciting times ahead.

Thank you to my family for their support and understanding with my Rotary commitments

Bring on 2022 -2023

Rotarian Tracey Smith PHF

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Public Image

The objectives as laid down for the committee were to;

- Promote the Club locally
- Manage social media
- Manage the website
- Manage Rotary radio
- Feed material to the Advertiser
- Monitor use of Rotary Brand
- Prepare /maintain a Brochure to promote the club

While initially some 8 members had put their names down for the Public Image Committee, the reality is that only 2 members regularly have shown any interest or involvement in the merged committee. For some it was because of other commitments they were not available, for others it may have been the merging of Public Image and Membership that caused them to lose interest.

As a result of the merging of the two committees all meetings centred around Membership with little if any discussion about Public Image. I accept responsibility for not being more forceful in promoting the need for an active Public Image discussion of our objectives & Programs at the meetings.

Regardless we did have some successes: -

Added the word Club back into all media to become "Maryborough Rotary Club" in place of "Maryborough Rotary".

Gained membership to Canva Pro the design program version for non- profits at no cost to the club. This program is easy to use and a login can be provided to any member who would like to have access to it.

Provided updated digital brand imagery to comply with RI brand standards. Produced new compliant signage for use on the directory boards at the town entry points.

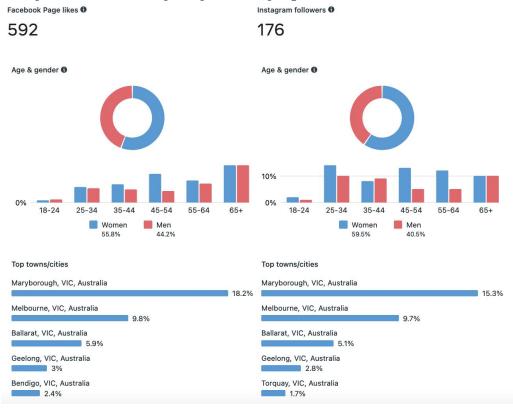
Example of the new signage:



Refreshed the weekly bulletin resulting in an increase in "opens" to an average of 50%

Added Instagram to our social media effort and upgraded Facebook to enable us to post to both simultaneously and pre-schedule posts. This enabled us to schedule daily posts over the 70 days leading up to our 70th anniversary event and gave us an extraordinarily strong response over social media.

From nothing our Instagram site has 176 followers and facebook achieved 592 likes. Instagram has a much younger demographic than Facebook.



Currently we are working on the design of flag signs to be used alongside the BBQ trailer to build awareness in the community.

To achieve our goals in the coming year, Public Image should operate separately from other committees and have 3-4 ACTIVE members if it is to achieve its objectives.

Rotarian Austin Taylor

Vocational Sub Committee

Committee: Chair: Geoff James, Tracey Smith, Austin Taylor, Meryl James, Louise Hanby D'Wynn, Shane Dellavedova.

Report of "Three Pieces of Advice" Speeches- 2021-22

This Vocational sub-committee introduced a "member talks" series based on three pieces of advice each Rotarian would give to a young person just starting out on their working life.

Some valuable wisdom was presented by members, and the plan was to collect all items into a package that could be offered to schools, and/or placed on the internet. Some of gems of wisdom that members passed on included the following ...

PP Heather Blackman

- 1. Be reliable be on time, and if you are given a task to do, be sure to see it through.
- 2. Be respectful and open to feedback.
- 3. Self-care if unsure how to go about things, don't pretend, ask questions. And look after yourself; make sure you are ready, on time and be ready to do things.

PP Alison Teese OAM PHF

Three pieces of advice for someone getting involved in an industry for which they had no experience - based on Alison's experiences of getting into the B&B accommodation business:

- 1. People do not worry about things being "old" as long as they are clean.
- 2. The key to get people coming back to your business is to get very good bed linen and towels.
- 3. Get connected to a professional support group specializing in your industry and feed off their wisdom and support.

PP Robert "Malley" Rowe PHF

"Malley shared two sets of advice for a young person just starting out on their career.

The first set was based on actual bits of advice that were given to him by his first City Engineer on day one at his first job:

- 1. Don't let anyone know who you vote for
- 2. Don't let anyone know what religion you are ... and,
- 3. If you barrack for Collingwood, don't even bother unpacking your bags."

After more reflection, Malley shared these three things with someone just starting out...

- 1. You can get a job anywhere, but what makes a job enjoyable are the people you work with, and the people you can help along the way . Take the time to develop friendships and relationships.
- 2. "Put your All" into it and whatever you do, always put your best foot forward by showing respect, integrity, compassion and be worthy of trust.
- 3. Each day, try to tick something off someone else's list.

PP John Caulfield PHF

- 1. When you arrive, make sure you listen carefully and hear the expectations of your workplace that wisdom will be invaluable.
- 2. Showcase your values e.g., respect for others, taking responsibility, showing initiative etc.
- 3. Seek out a mentor look for a champion of the workplace to guide you.

PP Terry Allan PHF

- 1. You have to be worth more to your employer than your cost.
- 1. You are a lifter or a leaner you are either part of the problem or part of the solution.
- 2. Hitch your chariot to a star.

Rotarian Toby Bainbridge PHF

- 1. Find yourself a job that you can enjoy every day of your life.
- 2. Learn something new every day.
- 3. Do not antagonize the people who help you.

PP Thea Allan PHF

- 1. Don't just put things down, put them away where they belong.
- 2. Don't go to bed angry.
- 3. You will never be lost when you have a tongue in your head.
- 4. Turn up and on time be interested and punctual build up a bank of respect.

PDG Geoff James PHF

- *P Pursue* "what is good for all concerned" in all your workplaces.
- 1. A Apply the habits of a professional to all work situations.
 - *P Perfect the knowledge you need.*
 - *R Rehearse* your skills before use.
 - *O Obtain regular "on the job" training.*
 - F Familiarise yourself with the vision of the organization.
 - E Exhibit honesty and integrity in all your work.
 - *S Show accountability for your mistakes.*
 - S Show respect to others, especially when under pressure.

- *I Intuit the emotions of colleagues and customers.*
- *O Outfit yourself with the right clothing and tools*.
- *N Nail each job and do it right first time.*
- *A Abide by your commitments.*
- *L Look out for leadership opportunities.*
- 2. *T Take* opportunities for effective leadership.
- 3. H Hone your negotiation skills.
- 4. S Share your vocational story with others

Rotarian Tracey Smith PHF

- 1. The most important people to get to know at your work are the cleaning staff. Why? Because they will be cleaning up after you and will get to know your habits better than most.
- 2. Never burn your bridges you never know where and when that person may turn up in your life again
- 3. The wheel always turns be patient; if you continue to do the right thing, karma is a bitch.
- 4. Always do the right thing and role model your expectations, and never ask a staff member to do something you wouldn't be prepared to do yourself.

PP Martin Mackay PHF

- 1. Always make sure that you prepare well for any presentation or activity that you are assigned and ensure that you know what you are talking about so prepare well!
- 2. If you are asked to do something, always say "Yes" even before you think about whether you can do it. The people who asked you to do the job will have considered whether you are capable or not, and there are always people around you to whom you may go for guidance.
- 3. Take the time to reflect on any task you have been assigned don't jump in headfirst until you have got your head around what is required of you and what is expected by the people you are talking to.

President Garry Higgins OAM PHF

- 1. Early in your work history, reflect on what you believe, especially in relation to your business or workplace. Identify what you believe in, and why you believe in it e.g., in his own business, Garry identified the Rotary "Four Way Test" as the basis of his beliefs.
- 2. Make sure you have the courage of your convictions and never stand back put yourself forward and have a go even if you feel unsure about your ability. Use your initiative and own your job if you're employed to do something, own it, and take everything that goes along with it.

3. Never stand in the shadow of others because 90% of the world is average and it does not take a lot to go from being average to being really good at what you do. No matter your vocation, strive to be the absolute best you can be.

Rotarian Shane Dellavedova PHF

- 1. Always be honest about sharing your feelings, because no-one can really disagree with you when you share from your heart.
- 2. Be ethical in your advice and never try and sell somebody something you know they do not need. Put the customer's interests first it is not about the sale, it is about what the customer really needs.
- 3. Aim to understand how and why you do the things you do in your workplace get loved ones to honestly share how they see you in operation and use that knowledge to become wiser.

Rotarian Murray Henderson PHF

- 1. Some advice from a farmer who had to sell some prized sheep even though the market wasn't at a stage when he would get the best price "You'll never go broke by taking a profit."
- 2. Advice from another farmer, "One hour in the morning is worth two later in the day." If you start early, get up before everyone else, you'll always be that little bit in front, you'll never be chasing your tail, you'll do things safer and better with a whole lot less stress.
- 3. Have a good work ethic, be proud of what you do even if it seems to be the most mundane job in the world, do everything to the best of your ability and take pride in it.

PP Noel Jennings PHF

- 1. Advice from a Bank Manager to Noel when he was just starting out... "When you've got a whole lot of jobs ahead of you, always do the worst one first and it will make you feel good for the rest of the day."
- 2. Turn up on time, look smart, look interested and remember the names of those who can assist you, especially the first person you are assigned to work with.
- *3.* You catch more bees with honey be "nice" and take everything from there.
- 4. Never judge people; always look at them with an open mind and remember the old scruffy guy who came in to buy a Mercedes and no one in the car dealership would talk to him so he went down the road and bought a Mercedes from the rival dealer and parked it in front of the first dealer's shop.
- 5. Be ethical if something doesn't seem right, put it to the "pub test", or if you're a Rotarian, the "Four Way Test".

Rotarian Austin Taylor

1. Treat people like you would like to be treated yourself - treat them with respect, learn from the people you respect, listen to them and hear what they say. But as

you listen, filter out whether they are genuine or whether they have got their own hidden agendas. Ask yourself, "Has this person got something I really need to pay

attention to, or do they simply want me to follow their idea of how things should be?"

- 2. Don't take everything as you see it look at things carefully, especially if they seem a little "off". Austin shared a sad story of a client who lost their home because their son had been "tickling the till" without their knowledge they just could not see it because they didn't check things carefully.
- 3. When you start a job, do not get caught up in the politics of the place especially comments and behaviours that might be sexist or misogynistic. Treat all other colleagues, male or female, with the same level of respect. Then you will be able to enjoy everybody's company and enjoy your job.

Rotarian Harold Breitinger

- 1. Have a mentor. Try and find someone who has been in the game for a while to help you get to know the ropes and how to best work in the company.
- 2. When ideas are required, don't be too shy and think, "I've just started so I'll just listen." A lot of ground-breaking discoveries have been made by people outside the area of expertise. Offer your suggestions because you might just have a novel way of looking at things or doing things.
- 3. Be on time. It is sign of respect for other people when you're on time, you respect their time.
- 4. Stay alert. Especially in repetitive jobs because if you don't stay alert, you could make costly errors and cause damage. To help stay alert, keep asking yourself, "What am I doing here?" "Is there a better way of doing this without sacrificing quality?"
- 5. Enjoy your job. But remember that there are very few jobs where it is interesting all the time. There will be times when the job is challenging, or when it will be repetitive and even boring. Just wade through these stages until you get to the more interesting bits and try to enjoy every aspect of the job.

Rotarian John Williamson PHF-

for a young person about to work on a farm ...

Be punctual, and if you are going to be a "no show", communicate this as soon as possible.

- 1. Be observant, particularly with regards to livestock. Are they happy or marching up and down the fence suggesting they might be thirsty. Keep an eye on the troughs. Do they have enough feed? Are the fences OK, or has a limb fallen on a fence which could lead to livestock getting out? Learn the paddock names and the road names so you know where you are in an emergency.
- 2. For a young person likely to inherit the farm, make sure you are on top of the finances and financial management. Know what the structure is, what is the

will, what is the succession plan? Spend your capital wisely, conserve it as much as possible, and where possible, use contractors.

Rotarian Louise Hanby D'Wynn

- 1. Your employer's time is not your own. If you can't leave your phone alone, leave it at home.
- 2. Your kitchen and bathroom manners matter at work. Clean up after yourself and be prepared to clean up after others.
- 3. Every action and communication in the workplace may have consequencesyour speech, texts, Facebook posts, messenger posts, social media chat and personal interactions - all have different meanings and consequences once you are employed and when sent it enacted in your workplace. If inappropriate they may result in criminal or civil law sanctions against you. Learn about what constitutes bullying, stalking, trolling, gaslighting and inappropriate personal behaviour and step away and seek guidance if your behaviour puts you and others at risk.



PDG Geoff James PHF

Youth Sub Committee

Many visitors attended our 7 Decades of Service, and one was our seventh Exchange Student Gwen Hanna.

Gwen went to the Philippines in 1972 and said "it was a very memorable year with an earthquake, floods, and the declaration of martial law!"



Former Youth Exchange student Gwen Hanna with Past District Governor Anthony Ohlsen

Due to a difficult year, few youth programs were held. We will try harder next year to find students for Rotary Youth Leadership Award, Defying the Drift, National Youth Science Foundation, and other projects

Rain and Dog food A story of Service Interstate

At the District 9780 Conference, in March, Terry Allan was asked if he had a truck. Alfredton Rotary had dog and cat food to get up north to the flood affected families Lismore NSW. It transpired that they found themselves at Evans Head NSW. (Google it)



PP Terry Allan with
District Governor Elect Kathy Rivett and David

After loading 3 tonne of dog and cat food and chaff they headed north up the Hume Highway in fine weather. It started raining overnight during the second night on the road at Taree and did not stop!

The flood waters had receded in Woodburn which they drove through to Evans Head, by the time of their visit. There were piles of flood damaged belongings everywhere.

Most piles were topped with soggy Gyprock, as people had dismantled their homes

At Evans Head (closer to the coast) they found the shed and some excited people inside. It rained the whole time the dog and cat food were unloaded.

They took the chaff to Ballina to a racing stable which was housing rescued horses.

Unloading in the rain by hand as no forklift available

A cash donation was given to Natasha who runs Affordable Weddings and Events Hire, to give it to Days for Girls or someone who had lost a sewing machine. You may wish to follow their wonderful work on Facebook Rebuilding NR 2022 (NR means Northern Rivers). Natasha is the coordinator who is doing a mighty job getting goods to those in need. (Just like Rotarians do)

District Governor Elect Kathy used her Rotary network and found Thea and Terry a billet with Rotarians Heidi and Hans in Evans Head.

Heidi did not have a clothes dryer so Terry's wet clothes went into a bag (where they quietly "ensiled" for the next three days!)

It was still raining so instead of going home via the Pacific Hwy they crossed the mountains. It rained all the way up and over the Great Divide then patchy rain on the way down the Newell highway.

They spent Sunday night in Coonabarabran which has wonderful memories for those who went on the Highview College busses to Expo 1988!

They stopped at Peak Hill for a break and Terry wandered into the Southern Cross hall. There he found Rhonda Read. Rhonda was sorting boxes of Bonds clothing for Under 10's, and large bags of non-perishables, all of which were destined for the

Yindyamarra Aboriginal Service. The week before Rhonda had sent out two truckloads of goods!



Rhonda Read, coordinator with the Yindyamarra Aboriginal Service

Thea gave Rhonda a donation and Rhonda insisted she take a bag of goodies, even though Thea said they did not need food, she could not argue! Since writing this Thea has heard that Rhonda had been nominated for a new car and had one delivered not long after they met her!

After another night (fifth) at Grong Grong, they arrived home about 5pm on Tuesday, thankful that their local district was not suffering as they are up north. There was more rain, more evacuations and things were still grim for another week. Work continues getting families rehomed and dispatching home wares and white goods.

More loads have gone north from Alfredton Rotary since Terry and Thea's adventure!

PP's Thea and Terry Allan PHF's

Members @ June 30, 2022

Allan	PHF	Terry	21
Allan	PHF	Thea	13
Ashton		Kate	9
Bainbridge	PHF	Toby	22
Berry		Max	2
Blackman		Heather	9
Breitinger		Harold	9
Bursill	PHF	Robert	20
Caulfield	PHF	John	26
Clarke		Lowan	О
Davies	PHF	Tom	39
Dellavedova	PHF	Shane	26
Frahn	PHF	Chris	11
Hall		Sharon	0
Hanby D'Wynn	PHF	Louise	6
Henderson	PHF	Murray	11
Higgins OAM	PHF	Garry	19
James	PHF	Geoff	23
James	PHF	Meryl	9
Jennings	PHF	Noel	32
Lamb		Kevin	0
Lowery		Bec	0
Mackay	PHF	Martin	13
Marsden	PHF	Derrick	21
Masterman Smith		Adrian	О
Ohlsen	PHF	Anthony	27
Reed	PHF	Brian	3
Rowe	PHF	Robert	26
Sedunary		John	17
Singh		Manpreet	О
Smith	PHF	Tracey	9
Stewart	PHF	John	21
Sundermalik		Sam	5
Taylor		Austin	1
Teese OAM	PHF	Alison	9
Tynan		David	31
Upton		Riley	0
Waters	PHF	Esther	9
Williamson	PHF	John	24
Williamson	PHF	Leigh	8