



## *Rotary Club of Maryborough*

**Inc A0021123A: ABN 99 891 962 480**

**Club Id. 18240:**

Maryborough  
**Rotary**  
Club



**IMAGINE  
ROTARY**

## *Annual Report*

**2022 – 2023**

**Club President: Garry Higgins OAM**

**District Governor: Kathy Rivett**

**International President: Jennifer Jones**

# ***Rotary Club of Maryborough***

## ***Annual Report***

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## *President's Report*



This year was unique for our Club in that for the first time the board “rolled over” from the previous year. This is another “covid” response requiring our Club to “find a way” in order for us to continue to do the things that Rotary does.

I thank all those Board members who took the challenge of serving consecutive years on the Board. I know that at times it has not been easy, but here we are on the other side having achieved some great things as covered by committee chair reports.

First, I take the opportunity to thank my wife Julie for her continued support. Being involved in a lot of “stuff” requires a lot of support and understanding from your loved one and Julie has a Brownlow for this.

The covid pandemic is not over and members of our Club continued to be impacted with both members partners and their friends being affected during the year.

Attendance has been sporadic, although over half the meetings having 50% or above attendance.

This year I made membership our major project and we managed to recruit a significant number of new members; some have stayed and some have moved on, but this is membership. It doesn't matter how prudent or selective you are in the recruitment process; most of the time this is how the cookie crumbles: it really is a numbers game!

The real point is that as a Club we all need to acknowledge the phase that our Club is in and that all members need to find innovative ways of attracting new people from diverse backgrounds and age profiles.

It was pleasing that several members were able to attend the International Convention in Melbourne in May. Meryl, Geoff, Terry, Tracey, Garry, Derrick and John W attended.

The House of Friendship was busy and the speakers were excellent.



***PP's Geoff and Meryl James met PP Derrick Marsden with friends in the House of Friendship.***

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***PP Terry Allan enjoyed the Convention and learned to make a Peace Crane!***

I also give special mentions to PDGs Anthony and Geoff for their work in looking after the secretarial and governance work of the Club.

There is no way that our Club would have made it through without their great efforts and support. Their understanding of Rotary always has our Club at the front of the Rotary line.

Love, Light and Peace

***President Garry Higgins OAM PHF***

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## ***Secretary's Report***



This year just like last year this year has certainly flown, maybe being Secretary for more than one year reduces the effort or maybe the saying “familiarity.....” rings true.

As I said last year, 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 Leigh Williamson (Community) PP Alison Teese OAM, (Foundation), PP Brian Reed (Fundraising), Louise Hanby D’Wynn (International), Tracey Smith (Membership), Austin Taylor (Public Image and Harold Breitingner (Projects)), PP Meryl James (Vocation) and PP Martin Mackay (Youth

The year has included the:-

- ❑ Receiving of a multitude of emails/correspondence from: -
  - District 9780 District Governor and the Leadership Team,
  - Bulletins from Clubs in 9780, and,
  - Information from Rotary identities such as Disaster Aid, Australian Rotary Health etc.
  -

Whilst the decision to change our email server last year appeared to reduce the amount of “junk/scam” emails, this year has seen an increase however they have ended up in the trash section and deleted to never to be seen again.

- ❑ Collection and distribution of inward correspondence from the PO Box, this is become somewhat a rarity as the use of emails becomes more prominent and the decision has been made to cancel the PO Box.
- ❑ 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,
- ❑ Prepared the semi-annual returns to RI
- ❑ at 1st July and 1st January
- ❑ Updating the on-line records of members in:-
  - MyRotary for Rotary International,
  - Rotary Down Under, and
  - ClubRunner, advising:-
    - Of new members,
    - Change of status of members,
    - Retiring of members, and
    - Unfortunately, of deceased members.

There have been several highlights this year. They have included,

- ❑ The continuation of the #SayNo2Familyviolence project including the rebranding and development of the website,

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- ❑ The Club showing interest and being the catalyst for the rejuvenation of Bristol Hill and it's surrounds.
- ❑ The continued support given by the members to
  - Bunnings BBQ's
  - Woolworth's BBQ's,
  - Pyrenees Magic Bike Ride, and
  - The Energy Breakthrough

Pres Garry, it has been a privilege to work with and beside you for a second year as you have been guiding Maryborough Rotary into the future.

To Kerrie my wife, thank you for your support throughout the year.



***PP Anthony Ohlsen PHF***

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## ***Treasurer's Report***



Friends in Rotary, set out below is the interim treasurer report for Financial Year 23. As at 24/06/2023.

### Main points

A/ Internal Club operations currently show a surplus of \$2500.

B/ Our Fundraising surplus for FY23 is \$15,500 approx. [\$3000 committed to Disaster aid and Aqua box] There is \$12,500 to be distributed! Ideas and bids welcome!

C/ We have contributed \$2,130 to SayNo2Family Violence.

D/ Our club has contributed \$3805 to community projects this year. This includes \$2895 to cooperating Community Groups at the Woolworths Saturday BBQ.

E/ We are almost at to point switching completely to the Square Up system of Eftpos.

## ***Profit and Loss Rotary Club of Maryborough Inc***

***For the year ended 30 June 2023***

### ***Trading Income***

Club Admin - Changeover Dinner Income	1,620.00
Club Admin - Fines	906.40
Club Admin - Raffle Income	1,858.20
Club Admin: Dinner Fees	16,042.71
Club Admin: Interest Income	692.87
Foundation - Member donation to Polio Plus	434.00
Income from Change over Dinner FY2022-2023	975.00
Members contributions to Foundation	2,088.00
Membership: Membership Fees	8,601.00
Pride of Workmanship Dinner income	2,840.00
Revenue from Bar	<u>2,406.80</u>

**Total Trading Income** **38,464.98**

<b>Cost of Sales</b>	897.16
Club Admin - Changeover Costs	238.81
Club Admin - Dinner Costs	13,045.55
Club Admin: Club Runner	779.08
Club Admin: District Fees	2,373.50
Club Admin: Light, Power, Heating	646.23
Club Admin: Merchant Fees	759.59
Club Admin: Office Expenses	334.80
Club Admin: RDU Magazine	1,689.68
Club Admin: Rotary International Fees	4,576.62

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Club Admin: Zero Fees	704.46
Club contribution to the Rotary Foundation	4,721.00
Cost of running the Pride of Workmanship Dinner and Awards	3,560.00
Expenses for Change over Dinner FY22-	23 270.00
Fee of 1.9 %	51.16
Insurance	1,330.00
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>	<b><u>35,977.64</u></b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b><u>2,487.34</u></b>
<b>Other Income</b>	
Blue Pyrenees Bike Ride Fundraiser	12,880.03
Fundraising; Clothing Sales	530.00
Income from BBQ cooperators	2,898.20
Money in from sale of Pumpkins	629.40
Sales income from BBQ events	<u>19,601.50</u>
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b><u>36,539.13</u></b>
Community Service – Donations	424.80
Community Service - Family Violence	2,130.00
Contributions to Rotary Programs	660.00
Disbursement to community groups for BBQ staffing	2,895.00
Fundraising - Bike Ride Costs	3,607.45
Fundraising Bike Ride Administration	2,875.92
Fundraising; BBQ Expenses,	486.21
General Expenses	815.76
Purchase of BBQ consumables – food and paper napkins etc	4,217.38
Repairs, Maintenance and Improvements of the BBQ and BBQ trailer	1,371.19
Scholarships	485.00
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b><u>20,968.71</u></b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b><u>18,057.76</u></b>



***John Williamson***

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## ***Club Program 2022-23***

DATE	:	PROGRAM 2022-23 EVENTS
30/06/2022	:	Changeover Dinner
1/07/2022	:	<b>01_JULY - TRANSITION MONTH/ New Theme- Imagine Rotary</b>
7/07/2022	:	#01: Outline of What Committees Do & Committee Selection
14/07/2022	:	#02 (Zoom) Governance Committees - Chairs Outline new ideas/old ones we continue
18/07/2022	:	B01 Jul Board Meeting 7pm
21/07/2022	:	#03 (Zoom) Governance Committees - Chairs Outline new ideas/old ones we continue
28/07/2022	:	#04 (Zoom) What's ahead - program outline
1/08/2022	:	<b>02_AUGUST - MEMBERSHIP MONTH - Chair</b>
4/08/2022	:	#05: Rotary Moments of 3 Club Members
11/08/2022	:	#06: Rebecca Lowrie Job Talk
15/08/2022	:	B02 Aug Board Meeting 7pm
18/08/2022	:	#07: Service Committees
25/08/2022	:	#08: Regionalisation Videos
1/09/2022	:	#09: PDG Ron Pickford
1/09/2022	:	<b>03_SEPTEMBER - BASIC EDUCATION &amp; LITERACY MONTH</b>
8/09/2022	:	#10: AG Jill Oliver
15/09/2022	:	#11: Governance Committees
19/09/2022	:	B03 Sep Board Meeting 7pm
22/09/2022	:	#12: Public Holiday - No meeting
23/09/2022	:	Fund Raising Pyrenees Magic Tri Circuit Bike Ride
29/09/2022	:	#13: Literacy Project Report
1/10/2022	:	<b>04_OCTOBER - ECONOMIC &amp; SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT MONTH</b>
6/10/2022	:	#14: Ongoing Effects of Pandemic
13/10/2022	:	#15: "Welcome to Maryborough" Initiative
17/10/2022	:	B04 Oct Board Meeting 7pm
20/10/2022	:	#16: Service committees
27/10/2022	:	#17: AGM/ Janice Simpson
1/11/2022	:	<b>05_NOVEMBER - ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH</b>
3/11/2022	:	#18: DG Visit
10/11/2022	:	#19: Gillian Thomas - Foundation & Polio Update
17/11/2022	:	#20: Energy Breakthrough
21/11/2022	:	B05 Nov Board Meeting 7pm
24/11/2022	:	#21: Governance Committees
1/12/2022	:	#22: Bristol Hill Update Geoff Lovett
1/12/2022	:	<b>06_DECEMBER - DISEASE PREVENTION &amp; TREATMENT MONTH</b>
8/12/2022	:	#23: Cpt. Ron Scobie Salvation Army

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15/12/2022	:	#24: Christmas Break-up Event at Railway Station Café
19/12/2022	:	B06 Dec Board meeting 7pm
22/12/2022	:	NO MEETING
29/12/2022	:	NO MEETING
1/01/2023	:	07_JANUARY - VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH
5/01/2023	:	#25: Social Event at The Higgins home
12/01/2023	:	#26: Vocational Visit - Maryborough Advertiser
16/01/2023	:	B07 Jan Board meeting 7pm Confirm Planning Process/ Planning team
19/01/2023	:	#27: Service Committees
26/01/2023	:	#28: Providing Muffins for Australia Day
1/02/2023	:	08_FEBRUARY - PEACE & CONFLICT RESOLUTION MONTH
2/02/2023	:	#29: Rotary Peace Initiatives- Peace park
9/02/2023	:	#30: The Shed Working Bee - Aerodrome Inspect MATS
16/02/2023	:	#31: Governance Committees
20/02/2023	:	B08 Feb Board meeting 7pm
23/02/2023	:	#32: Rotary's Birthday - Celebration of Rotary and Peace
23/02/2023	:	ROTARY'S BIRTHDAY
1/03/2023	:	09_MARCH - WATER & SANITATION MONTH
2/03/2023	:	#33: Social Event at House of Henderson
9/03/2023	:	#34: Toilet Warrior – By Video Link
16/03/2023	:	#35: Service Committees
19/03/2023	:	Blue Pyrenees Magic Bike Ride Moonambel
20/03/2023	:	B09 Mar Board meeting 7pm
23/03/2023	:	#36: Vocational Visit to Centre State Asphalt
24/03/2023	:	ROTARY DISTRICT CONFERENCE - BALLARAT (24th to 26th)
29/03/2023	:	Planning Team 2b -Tweak Strategic Plan (if nec.) and email to members with Proposal form.
30/03/2023	:	#37: Report on District Conference
1/04/2023	:	10_APRIL -MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH MONTH
6/04/2023	:	#38: Easter Thursday Morning Meeting at Burgz
9/04/2023	:	EASTER SUNDAY
13/04/2023	:	#39: Jordan Peterson - The Importance of Telling the Truth
17/04/2023	:	B10 Apr Board meeting 7pm
18/04/2023	:	Herbert J Taylor's Birthday (1893) (4 Way Test)
19/04/2023	:	Paul Harris Birthday (1868) (Founder of Rotary)
20/04/2023	:	#40: Governance & Service Committees (Prepare Projects / Customs for Next Rotary Year)
27/04/2023	:	#41: Thea Allan - Clouds
1/05/2023	:	11_MAY - YOUTH SERVICE MONTH
4/05/2023	:	#42: Guides Hall Visit - Youth Month Speaker (Guides going for Queens Guide Award)

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10/05/2023	:	Planning Team 3 - Prepare Engagement Survey and Draft Action Plans
11/05/2023	:	#43: Pride of Workmanship - Highland Society
15/05/2023	:	B11 May Board meeting 7pm (Joint)
18/05/2023	:	#44: Service Committees (Final Meetings for this Rotary year)
25/05/2023	:	#45: Program Buy-in Event - Engagement Survey Completed
27/05/2023	:	ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION - MELBOURNE (27th to 31st)
1/06/2023	:	12_JUNE - ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS MONTH
1/06/2023	:	#46: Sue Tully – The Work of Vision Australia
6/06/2023	:	Planning Team 4 - Collate Survey, complete Draft Action Plan and Send
8/06/2023	:	#47: Action Planning Workshop - New Service Committees Finalize Action Plans for Coming Year
12/06/2023	:	KING's BIRTHDAY
15/06/2023	:	#48: Owen Macer – The new VCE Arrangements
23/06/2023	:	#49: (Friday) President's Celebration Night at Bull & Mouth
26/06/2023	:	B12 Jun Board Meeting 7pm (Joint) - Plan Confirmation/ Survey Report
1/07/2023	:	#01: (Saturday) Changeover Dinner - Affirm Plans



*Around the world of Rotary  
at District Conference.*



*Cataracts or Glaucoma – what it is like.*

# Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report 2022-2023

## Administration Committee



**Committee Members:** PP Geoff James (Chair), Murray Henderson, PP Anthony Ohlsen, John Williamson.

**Guest Speaker Program:** Program Directors PP Alison Teese OAM, PP Thea Allan with assistance from PP Meryl James prepared an interesting program for the 2022-23 year.

Guest speakers included **PDG Ron Pickford** (RI Cadre) talking about his work as a Cadre during the Pandemic, **Janice Simpson** on the “Words in Winter” Program and her experiences as an International Bike Rider, **DG Kathy Rivett** presenting her official club address, Polio Survivor **Gillian**

**Thomas** (via Zoom), Councillor **Geoff Lovett** on the Bristol Hill Tower, Captain **Ron Stobie** from the Salvation Army, **Emma Little** on the Maryborough Community’s Skilled Migration program, **Dr Lowen Clarke** providing an update on his Literacy Project, **PP Alison Teese OAM** on Peace Parks around the World, Toilet Warrior **Mark Balla** on his efforts to improve sanitation in developing countries, **Dr. Jordan Peterson** on the Importance of Truth (Video presentation), **PP Thea Allan** on “Clouds”, new Rotarian **Bec Lowrie** presenting her “Job Talk”, and three Rotarians presenting their “Rotary Moments”.



Janice Simpson

**External, Social and Fun Events:** External events included visits to the Advertiser Office and Centre State Asphaltting, a working bee at the Shed, a Christmas Break-up at the new Railway Café - “Tracks”, a Barbeque hosted by President Garry and Julie, a Barbeque hosted by Murray and Sally Henderson, an Easter Thursday Morning Breakfast at Burgz, a meal at the Girl Guides Hall with a presentation by two senior guides, and a Pride of Workmanship event at the Highland Society.

**Bulletin:** Austin Taylor continued preparing an informative and entertaining Bulletin each week up until May 2023 when he was forced to resign from the role due to ill health. PDG Geoff took over for the last couple of months of the Rotary year.



**Meeting Home:** The club was fortunate to be able to again make the “Mill House” Community House its base of operations for the 2022-23 Rotary year. With the assistance of the Mill House staff, we made a couple of tweaks to the way we operated during the year: our storage area was moved to a storage room just down a corridor from the meeting area, and an agreement was reached over the provision of a roast meal each week which would be made available on trays that members from each table would collect and return after the meal. That system seemed to work well.

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**A Large Agenda:** Apart from the program, bulletin and arrangements for a base, the committee was kept busy during the 2022-23 year with the following objectives - produce the weekly running sheet for meetings, liaise with the venue regarding meals / facilities, complete physical set up for weekly meetings, set up and run the drinks bar at weekly meetings, manage and organize prizes & gifts for speakers, produce and provide working technology / zoom for meetings including PowerPoint presentations, and laptop, promote and facilitate fun social events, provide hosting at meetings to welcome members and guests including provision of name tags for visitors, provide an annual report to club members, produce a photographic record of meetings and club events, provide a written record of club events in the form of a weekly bulletin to members and friends, manage the club asset register, manage maintenance of club assets, monitor and record attendance at meetings, maintain a club history of club events, ensure club records are stored securely online and are accessible by members, facilitate the collection of finances at meetings, promote the effective implementation of club and committee budgets, monitor risk management for club events, manage and monitor legal compliance regarding child safety, working with children, covid compliance, food handling, provide legal compliance training for members, and monitor compliance with the RI Club Citation.

**Club Planning:** Due to the significant load of objectives allocated to the Administration committee, a separate sub-committee of the Board was established which would handle the Strategic Planning process. See the separate report.

**Thank you:** Many thanks to the Administration Committee members who have met throughout the year and made diligent decisions for the more effective operation of our club so that we all might more effectively, “Do Good in the World”.

***PDG Geoff James PDG***

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## ***Club Planning Committee***

**Committee Members:** *Geoff James (Chair), PP Thea Allan, PP Garry Higgins, Bec Lowery, Adrian Masterman-Smith, PP Martin Mackay PP Anthony Ohlsen, John Williamson.*

**A Revival of a Committee:** The Planning committee in our club started out as a sub-committee of the Board, but in recent years was incorporated into the program of the Administration committee. This year, we realized that the Administration had more than enough to do, so we reverted back to the Planning Committee being a separate sub-committee of the Board.



**Planning Update:** Whilst the 2022-23 year was not meant to be the year for a new Strategic Plan, the Strategic Planning process was significantly revised based on recent experiences and changed emphases in Rotary. Rotary International research has shown that one of the main reasons members stay in Rotary is that they feel meaningfully engaged in the

service they do. If they don't feel that what they're doing is worthwhile, they leave. So, we have tried to build in a process of "Buy-in" into our planning program where members get the chance to say what they support in the proposed projects and customs available, and to indicate which activities they would be prepared to organize and work for. The plan is for that information to be used to prioritize the activities that members prefer to work for and increase the level of engagement of members. Next year's report will indicate how well that worked.

**Guidelines and Roles:** The other task allocated to the Planning Committee is to review and update the Club's "Guidelines" document and "Club Role Descriptions" document. Both of these items have been extensively revised and are in the process of being presented to the Board for approval.

**Thank You:** I thank the members of the Planning Committee for your diligence in working through the planning process and documentation over the course of this planning period. Effective plans help our club to more effectively "do good in the world".

***PDG Geoff James PHF***

# Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report 2022-2023

## ***Community Service Report***



**Committee Members:** PP Leigh Williamson(Chair) PP Heather Blackman, Harold Breitingner, PP John Caulfield, Murray Henderson, PP Noel Jennings Kevin Lamb, Adrian Masterman-Smith, PP Anthony Ohlsen PP Brian Reed, Tracey Smith, PP John Stewart, Austin Taylor, Riley Upton, John Williamson.

This was another busy year for the Community Committee. The **Community BBQ** was a big focus for Maryborough Rotary. The plan was to run the BBQ on Saturday mornings , initially manned by Rotarians, but to encourage community groups to be involved. This transition steadily established itself, to the point that the BBQ was being run around twice a month by community groups, notably the Girl Guides, the Uniting Church, and the Historical

Society.

It was resolved at the Committee meeting in April that the Saturday morning BBQ only be run by community groups, with a Rotarian in attendance as BBQ Captain. Also, that Maryborough Rotary would focus on the Bunnings BBQ at Kangaroo Flat as a fundraiser, for the time being. The BBQ was used many times through the year at various community events. All Rotarians gave generously of their time. The BBQ trailer is recognised as a significant asset for the Club. Not only has it been an important source of funds generation, but it has also helped to promote Maryborough Rotary in a very positive way. Participation also engenders a wonderful camaraderie amongst members.

The Community Committee was heavily involved in ***the Energy Breakthrough*** last November, back after a Covid-enforced two-year break. Several members were to the fore, providing judges and supervisors, and ran the very successful BBQ - an excellent fundraiser - and generally displayed Rotary to advantage.

Maryborough held ***two bike*** rides this year. The first was on the Friday before the A F L Grand Final - in September. It started from and finished at the Summerfield winery at Moonambel. Around 200 riders from all parts of Victoria had the choice of three routes through the magnificent Pyrenees ranges.



The second ride was in March - again setting off from - and returning to - Summerfield Winery. While rider numbers were less for the September ride Summerfield Winery was considered a good base for the future and was a great success.

A big thanks to Committee member PP Brian Reed, who with the help of his capable wife Robyn, did the organisational heavy lifting for both events.

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The **SayNO2familyviolence** project was again ably stewarded by Committee member PP Gary Higgins. Club members PP Thea Allan, Rtn Lowan Clarke PP Martin Mackay and are supported by Salvation Army, MDHS and Victoria Police members.

Gary recently announced that the SayNO2familyviolence toolkit had been launched. This is a How-To-Do-It for any project and was prepared for Rotary by Arc Ventures' Raelene Williams and will be a valuable aid in the fight against family violence.

Also, the website is up and running in time to be useful for the Zone 8 project also working on Family Violence

The Committee provided members to participate in, and help develop, the Bristol Hill Peace Park project, with other community groups.

Baby Books have been provided to the Hospital, and to all new arrivals to the Central Goldfields Shire, for many years. This excellent project has been largely the "baby" of PP Derrick Marsden. This year the project was extended to grade four students at the Central Goldfields Shire primary schools - a great initiative.



***Some children were so delighted to have their own book.***

The Committee has been involved in helping develop ways to support Club Fundraising initiatives to help pay for Community projects.

The Community Committee has had great input from all its members and has been a pleasure to chair.

On behalf of all the members, I would like to congratulate Gary Higgins and his team for a job well done - for their two-year stint - to revitalise and refresh our club after the difficulties of Covid.

Best wishes to incoming President Geoff James and his team for the coming year.

***PP Leigh Williamson PHF***

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## ***Family Violence Awareness Committee***

### **#sayNO2familyviolence**

**Committee Members:** *PP Garry Higgins OAM (Chair) PP Thea Allan, Rtn Lowan Clarke, Rtn Louise Hanby D' Wynn, PP Martin Mackay, Capt. Ronald Stobie (Salvation Army) Tanya Miles (MDHS), Inspector Wendy Lambert and Sergeant David Semmens (Vic Pol) Justin Eales, Sharon Huggett (Asteria)*

This year we finally completed our SayNo website. This has been an incredible achievement for our Club and will provide a resource to local women and children impacted by family violence. It will also provide an opportunity for every Rotary club in the world that wishes to get involved in a community-based program the same as ours.

<https://sayno2familyviolence.com.au/> will take anyone to the interactive website.

The website also catalogues our project from its beginning to the present and our members can certainly be proud of the hard work over the years.

One of the unintended outcomes of our project is that Zone 8 (Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands) has also adopted the fight against family violence on a global scale. Maryborough Rotary is at the forefront of shaping this project and our experience will be invaluable in taking the project forward.

One of the major aims of the sayNO project has been to impact institutional change. Recently I had the opportunity to tour the “Nurturing Room” at the Maryborough Education Centre. What an amazingly unique and impactful concept!

Some years ago, local teacher, Kelsey Chandler, undertook an international scholarship to Scotland and Ireland to learn about nurturing programs. This was part of our Club’s social capacity building program and here we are, six years later, seeing the fruits of our labour providing ongoing support for vulnerable children in our community. This program in our local education centre is also providing a valuable resource to the teaching staff at MEC.

The other major focus of our sayNO project has been to reform the Services Working Group. It “ran out of puff” as a result of the impact of covid, diminishing Government funding and the changing landscape of service provision in the field. This has only been possible because of the credibility that our Club has earned over the many years of the project.

As we know, women feel most confident in disclosing issues around family violence to their GP. Our project was instrumental in organising a forum between local GPs and the Orange Door to create an important dialogue that immediately resulted in GP referrals to the Orange Door. This is a great boon for local women.

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***PP Anthony Ohlsen, Nickola Allan (CEO, MDHS), CGSC Councillor Wayne Sproull, PP Thea Allan, PP Martin Mackay, Mellita Salmon, PP Malley Rowe supporting Ellie and Zonta for 16 Days of Activism in November.***

***PP Garry Higgins OAM PHF***

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## ***Foundation Report***



**Committee members:** PP Alison H Teese OAM (Chair), PP Thea Allan PP Derek Marsden, PP Meryl James and. Rtn Esther Waters

To encourage support for the Rotary Foundation, the Committee choose to highlight the value of Rotary's own charity, the Foundation.

We are fortunate that Club Secretary PDG Anthony Ohlsen serves as District 9780 Foundation Chair and he continued to advise our committee and club on the value of the Rotary Foundation as our own charity. Anthony emphasises that this is a charity that we can determine and influence how our donations form funds are used worldwide.

We invited **Rotary Foundation Cadres** PDG Ron Pickford from Ballarat and PP Mark Balla Global Box Hill Nth Rotary, Water & Sanitation Rotarian Action Group WASRAG Ambassador to speak to us about the involvement as Cadres.



In September, **PDG Ron Pickford** spoke of his work as a member of the Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisors. Basically, the role of a TRF Cadre is to safeguard Rotary Foundation funds through overseeing an evaluation process and provide advice to those applying for and using the money held by the Foundation.

To quote,

*Using my collective expertise, I serve as a Rotary International Humanitarian Cadre Technical Advisor and site auditor for water, sanitation, environment and low-cost housing in some of the most dangerous and poorest communities in the world, India, Philippines, Fiji, Africa and South America. These service activities are some of my most rewarding life experiences.*

### **Rotarian Mark Balla aka Toilet Warrior.**

At the RI Convention in Seoul in 2016 Mark was elected to the board of **WASRAG** (Water & Sanitation Rotarian Action Group).

He is a Global WASRAG Ambassador and member of the Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Experts.

In March, we were honoured to meet him by Zoom, Mark is a Past President of the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central. After a business trip to India, Mark's eyes were opened to the fact that most schools in India didn't have any toilets and this was preventing children, particularly girls from attending school. It was also causing concern for female teachers who had no bathroom to use the whole day.



# Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report 2022-2023

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Mark learnt how much toilets can make an impact on underprivileged children in India. 75% of schools don't have enough toilets. By changing this, enrolment has increased for girls and the number of girls dropping out of school when they hit puberty has decreased. His book 'Toilet Warrior' has just passed 20,000 copies with proceeds going towards the Rotary Foundation. He has also featured in a TEDX talk called 'Toilet Humour is Serious Business.'

## ***Centurion Level –what does this mean?***

The Committee sought to encourage members to each aim is to donate annually \$100. This used to happen through dinner meeting fees, and now we ask people to contribute as they wish.

To quote our President Garry Higgins, “*Have you as a Rotarian, thought about how you can become a ‘centurion’, or how you can be a regular contributor to Foundation? Perhaps a donation in recognition of your birthday, a special occasion or a tax-deductible donation or a small donation at each dinner meeting; it all adds up!*”

## ***How did we do in donating to the Rotary Foundation in 2022-2023?***

The Maryborough Rotary has contributed over \$4500 to the Foundation. This is up from the previous year. This is in addition to the donations that individuals make privately direct to the Rotary Foundation. As members become more familiar with their donation options, the committee expects this to grow next year.

## ***End Polio Now***

The Club noted World Polio Day – 24 October and the ongoing support of this worldwide eradication program. Plans are to focus on this in 2023-2024.

## ***New Paul Harris Fellowship Awards 2022-2023***

### ***1. Robyn Reed***

The Rotary Club of Maryborough wish to recognise Robyn Reed, with a Paul Harris Fellowship for her dedicated service to our Club and our community in and especially her involvement of our Rotary Barbeque Projects. Robyn is a friend of our Maryborough Rotary Club and partner of PP Brian Reed PHF.

### ***2. PP Brian Reed PHF***

The Rotary Club of Maryborough wish to recognise PP Brian Reed PHF, at a Sapphire Level. Brian for his dedicated service to our Club as Chair of the Fundraising Committee and especially the Pyrenees Magic Bike Ride and the Rotary Barbeque Projects.

3. Robyn Jennings PHF has been recognised earlier in the year at a Sapphire for her ongoing assistance with a range of club projects.



***PP Alison Teese OAM PHF***

# Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report 2022-2023

## *Fundraising Committee*



**Committee Members:** PP Brian Reid (Chair) Harold Breitinger, Shane Dellavedova, Louise Hanby D'Wynn, Kevin Lamb, PP Malley Rowe, PP Leigh Williamson.

Re-branding of the BBQ trailer was not completed as we are waiting on the hot water service being replaced.

**Community BBQs** This year at President Gary's request, we organised to have weekly BBQs at Maryborough.

The idea was for the first month or so to run them with only Rotarians and sort out the bugs, then offer them to other Community groups to supply club members to cook and serve and we would supply the BBQ

and all food requirements.

Invitations were sent to 17 Community Groups and four replies were received. The BBQs started in the Crameri Mitre 10 carpark on Saturdays from 10am to 2pm, then moved to Woolworths carpark. Sausage sales were on average 6 trays or 144 sausages. Currently, BBQs are run on the first Saturday of each month with the Historical Society, and the last Saturday with the Uniting Church.



**BBQ at Bunnings** four BBQs at Bunnings produced good revenue for the club in this Rotary year. Bunnings increased the price of a sausage from \$2.50 to \$3.50 at the request of service clubs due to the increasing cost of supplies.

The Fundraising Committee would like to thank all volunteers who made the days so enjoyable.

**Energy Breakthrough** Several members acted as judges for events before the 24-hour race. The BBQ was manned on Friday to Sunday and was a great social and financial success.

### ***New Year's Eve***

A very pleasant evening was held at Geoff and Meryl's place, with great music and good food where about 20 members and partners saw in the New Year.

# Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report 2022-2023

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*The Three Tenors of Maryborough Rotary.*

**Ukraine Appeal** Secretary Anthony sourced sunflower seeds as fundraiser for Ukraine. Many packets have been sold.



*PP's Thea and Terry Allan filling little bags of sunflower seeds.*

## **Pyrenees Magic Tri-Circuit Ride**



No rides were held last year so it was with great pleasure one went ahead on the March 24.

The weather was perfect with 176 riders enjoying the day. The profit, \$ 5,250 for local projects.

# Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report 2022-2023

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## ***Turkey – Syria Earthquake Appeal***

Rotarian Louise Hanby-De Wynn instigated a tin rattle for this appeal at the Bike Ride. Now smaller tins have been purchased for distribution to businesses in Maryborough.

## ***Estate & Downsizing Clearance Work***

Louise's has proffered the idea for Rotarians to be paid an hourly rate to pack up Deceased Estates and either donate or sell the unwanted items as a Fundraising Project.



## ***Container Deposit Scheme***

Jason Davenport and Tim from Visy met with Martin, Louise and Brian at Parkview Bakery.

A depot with truck access and close to the main shopping area in Maryborough will be established.

Currently those items suitable for recycling are soft drink and beer cans, beer bottles, plastic water bottles, juice bottles up to and including one litre.



The Mill House was inspected by Jason and Tim as a possible depot and they spoke with Manager Michelle who is eager to be involved in the scheme.

As a fundraiser for Rotary, collection boxes with the Rotary wheel printed on them will be placed in business lunch rooms and at Cafés etc for donations.

Watch This space!

***PP Brian Reed PHF***

# Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report 2022-2023

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## ***International Service***



***Committee members:*** Louise Hanby D'Wynn (chair) . Lowan Clarke, Shane Dellavedova, Bec Lowery, PP Malley Rowe.

The pandemic's effects were keenly felt by the International Committee faced with a reduced number of projects to inspire and to support and some uncertainty as to how to help raise the funds needed.

The Committee's desire to avoid the pressures of reactive fundraising each time a natural disaster or similar occurred was 'solved' by a commitment to donate two Shelter Boxes and two Aqua Boxes annually. We trust that donating these annually or as funds become available to make those donations enables Rotary to provide aid and support as soon as practicable after a disaster is detected.

The Ukrainian sunflower seed project in which packets of seeds are sold to raised funds to provide support to Ukrainians displaced by the war has raised \$630 at the time of writing.

At the Pride of Workmanship dinner, the raffle raised \$666 for the Rotarians against Malaria netting program.

A significant portion of the target of \$750 for the Rotary Turkey/Syria Earthquake recovery has been accumulating in a tin at Parkview Bakery, demonstrating once again that if we don't 'ask' - we won't raise the funds required to meet our commitments.

We will look to replace the tin with images and advocacy for the 2023-24 year very shortly.

The Club had the opportunity to learn of significant projects such as that of Mark Balla, the 'Toilet Warrior' although fundraising in that instance might not be by way of a donation tin at Parkview Bakery!

The Committee has been investigating the potential donation of hospital equipment to Donations in Kind when the Maryborough Hospital upgrade renders much of the current equipment redundant.



***PP's Alison Teese OAM, Meryl James and Thea Allan joined the International Women's Day celebrations with Margaret Flowers in March.***

***Louise Hanby D'Wynn***

# Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report 2022-2023

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## ***Membership Committee***



***Committee Members:*** Tracey Smith (Chair) PP Heather Blackman, PP John Caulfield, PP Garry Higgins OAM, Rtn Bec Lowery and PP Craig Young.

The 2022 – 2023 Rotary year for Membership, has been somewhat slow for growth in numbers. I believe the recovery period from Covid 19 has still been significant to volunteer groups and the Maryborough Rotary Club is probably no different.

Our committee this year has been extremely willing to meet and discuss plans for the future and ways to improve our membership, which is not just the responsibility of the Membership Committee, but of every Rotarian in our Club.

Some of the activities the Membership Committee have completed include.

In February this year I was contacted by the President of the Rotary Club of Bendigo – Peter Reading, who was very keen to bring several members of his Club to come and visit with our Membership Committee to share ideas and the improvement ‘diagnostic reset’ process that our Club had completed the year before.

Thank you, PP John Caulfield, PP Heather Blackman and PP Garry Higgins OAM for attending the dinner meeting with six representatives from the Bendigo Club. It was very interesting listening to the comparison of issues gaining members; the similar average age of members of both Clubs, and the sharing of ideas and learnings that we gained from the Improvement process we went through as a Club.

The Bendigo Club was keen to learn more about our planning process and review of our Strategic Plan and the important role the Plan plays in development of the Club and its members. It was a great learning experience for our members as well to talk through what we had learned through our review process and what the future could hold.

We also plan to make contact and discuss with Riley Upton and a group of younger people about other options of how they could assist and support our Rotary Club.

We have to be flexible and adaptable with membership as Rotary International has adopted with attendance requirements etc.

We will continue this process and approach in the next Rotary year to further extend options for Friends of Rotary or other types of membership.

We will continue to strive to reach our agreed vision from the previous Rotary year, we know we have to 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 2022 with 36 members. We thank all those who have been unable to continue their Rotary commitments at this stage due to various reasons.

- Sharon Hall – joined in June 2022 and due to family obligations requested leave in February 2023

## Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report 2022-2023

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- Austin Taylor – joined during Covid in October 2022 and due to ill health, resigned in May 2023
- PP Craig Young – joined our Club in July 2022 and due to relocation with work, resigned in May 2023
- Esther Waters – joined the Club in September 2012 and due to family health issues is currently on extended leave of absence from meetings and activities.

We wish all these members extremely well and thank them all for their service, contribution and commitments over their period of service, each in their own way.

We also pause to remember with sadness a Rotarian we have lost.

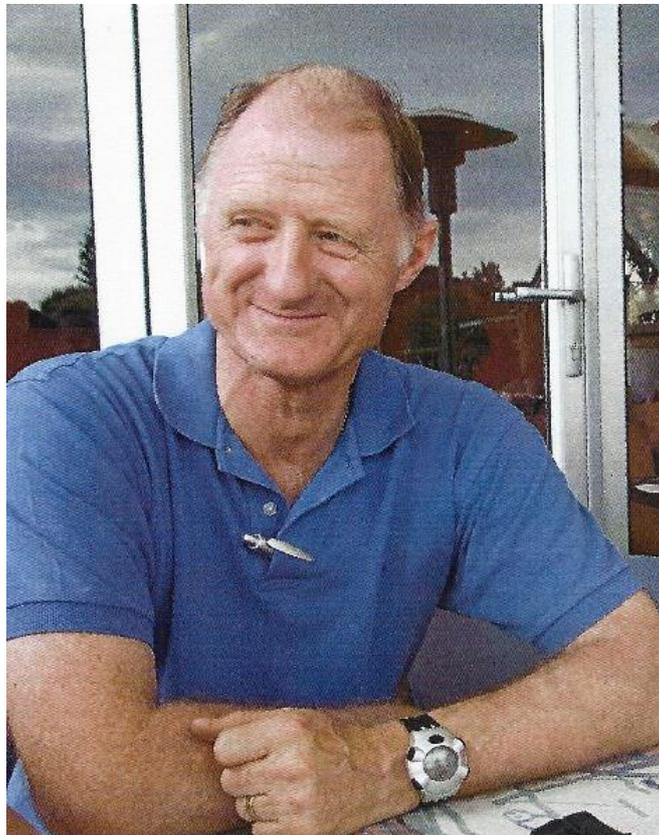
**John Hazledine PHF** – joined the Club in September 1997 and was an active and generous member, holding positions within the Club and being a Board member on more than one occasion over his 24 years.

John used his dentistry skills when part of an International Rotary Health program in November 2016.

Unfortunately, John had to resign from Rotary due to ill health in June 2021 and sadly lost his battle and passed away in January this year.

We sincerely thank PHF John for his enormous contribution and service to Rotary locally and overseas over many years.

***RIP John.***



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On a happier note, Maryborough Rotary Club was fortunate, whilst visiting the club on November 3rd, 2022, that District Governor Kathy Rivett inducted our newest member, Grace La Vella.

Grace was proposed by President Garry, will have the classification of "Local Government - Councillor" PP Thea Allan is her mentor.



***PP Thea Allan (Mentor), new member Grace La Vella and  
District Governor Kathy Rivett***

After new members are inducted, we will continue to follow our new membership induction process with meetings planned to include relevant topics such as the following in their first six months;

- Explanation and details of the Governance and Service committees within Rotary, including Foundation, Fundraising etc.
- Explanation of the Maryborough Rotary Club – Strategic Plan.
- Rotary professional learning available including the Leadership programs.
- Rotary International (RI) – explanation of what is available.
- RI Convention in Singapore in 2024.
- Rotary Youth programs.
- District 9780, conference, new Regionalisation changes within our District etc.
- All the amazing Fellowships available to Rotarians.

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 study and Rotary commitments these last 12 months.

***It is exciting where we can go as a Club so bring on 2023 – 2024.***

***Tracey Smith PHF***

# Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report 2022-2023

## ***Public Image Committee***



***Committee members:*** Austin Tayler (Chair), Toby Bainbridge, Max Berry, PP Martin Mackay, Adrian Masterman-Smith, Manpreet Singh, Riley Upton.

Public Image had a small, active committee of Martin McKay, Max Berry and Austin Taylor with occasional appearances/input from Adrian Masterman-Smith and Toby Bainbridge.

The committee purchased two Rotary branded marquees; one 3 x 3 metre square and a 6 x 3 metre.

The marquees have been very welcome at Club and community events such as the Community fair, bike rides, BBQs and Energy Breakthrough. The marquees have sides for use in inclement weather.



***Hard at work on Australia Day with our small, branded marquee sheltering the free muffins.***

A new Rotary branded A-frame sign was made for use during community BBQ's.

Re-branding of the BBQ trailer was not completed as we are waiting on the hot water service being replaced.

While not exactly a Public Image project Martin & Austin with the help of Thea & Tracey completed the purchase and distribution of books to every grade 4 student in Central Goldfields Shire.

# Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report 2022-2023

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***PP's Thea Allan and Martin MacKay with Grade 4 students  
at Carisbrook Primary school.***

While this project was delayed due to Covid, until August 2022, to see the children receive their own book was a huge reward and a great public relations exercise for Maryborough Rotary Club.

We will seek the assistance of MEC Librarian to determine the best age group to target in the future.

Special Thanks to MEC and Readings Books for their assistance in sourcing the best books for the age group.

Special thanks to Martin who single handed organised and completed a Rotary display in the vacant shop on High Street. The display was for three weeks after easter. Job well done Martin.

Work is underway to update member name badges with the correct Maryborough Rotary Club logo.

Working closer with the Maryborough Advertiser and Carisbrook Mercury papers will ensure that club events are promoted and reported by the papers to assist with building public relations and membership for the club.

Public Image will have a new chair for the coming year, I wish Max Berry the new chair every success in this role.

***Austin Taylor***

# Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report 2022-2023

## Vocational Committee



**Committee:** PP Meryl James (Chair), PP Terry Allan, Max Berry, PP Geoff James, Esther Waters.

Our two **Vocational visits** this year were both informative and enjoyable.

In January, (Vocational Service Month), Rotarian Riley Upton hosted us at the Maryborough Advertiser, followed by a meal at Bangkok Thai.

In March, we visited Centre State Asphalt at Flagstaff (pictured), followed by a barbecue. Thanks to the members who organized these nights.



**Members enjoying the late sun  
at Centre Sate Asphalt**

At one of our Club meetings, we showed a short video from Jordan B Peterson on truth, which was followed by an interesting discussion amongst members on the importance of truth in modern business, and the significance of **the Four Way Test**.

One highlight was the re-establishment of the **Pride of Workmanship Awards**, which had proven difficult over the Covid years.

An advertisement was placed in the local paper, asking employers to nominate someone from their business, especially someone who had helped keep their business viable during the pandemic.



Six very worthy awardees were presented with a plaque by Local MP Martha Haylett, at a dinner at the Highland Society on May 11.

Pictured from left to right, Sue-Ellen Wright (Maryborough News and Lotto), Councillor Grace La Vella (Mayor), Julie Driscoll (Avoca Co-operative), Kelly Mason (Bounce Australia), Hon Martha Haylett (Member for Ripon), Tanya Miles (receiving the award for Kylie Monk of the Maryborough

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District Health Service), Linda Parry (receiving the award for Julie Nicholson of Rinaldi's Fashions) and Matthew Doherty (Little Produce Box). It was a very successful evening. The raffle on the night raised \$640 for Rotarians Against Malaria to purchase Mosquito Nets.

At one meeting, we provided information on the importance of **classifications in Rotary**, and, in preparation for new badges, we are asking members to speak for 3 minutes on their classification, and to decide if they would like to change it or not.

Unfortunately, we were unable to find a nominee for the **Shine On Awards** this year, but plan to try again in 2023/4. This is to celebrate people with disabilities who continue to make a difference.

We invited Owen Macer, a career advisor from The Maryborough Education Centre to speak at one of our meetings during June, regarding any recent trends in changes to career choices by students, the new Year 11/12 courses, and the state of apprenticeships.



***Owen Macer and his slide of the new names VCE Major (VM) and Victorian Pathway Certificate (VPC) so that everyone who completes the course has a VCE certificate.***

I would sincerely like to thank the members of the Committee for their help and support throughout the year. Working together, we have been able to complete our goals for the 2022/2023 year.

***PP Meryl James PHF***

# Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report 2022-2023

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## ***Youth Committee***



***Committee Members:*** *PP Martin Mackay (Chair) PP Thea Allan, Toby Bainbridge, Sharon Hall, Derrick Marsden, Manpreet Singh, PP Alison Teese OAM.*

The most successful Youth Committee project this year was the Books for Year Four project early in the 2022-2023 period.

Rotarians distributed books to all the year four primary students across the Central Goldfields Shire.

This report was facilitated by a district grant which enabled the club to purchase the books selected for the children in this age group.

Shane Green, the trainer who was engaged to undertake the LIFT (Learning Instruction for Teens) and RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment) programs has been unavailable for several years.

This was a pity as his efforts were appreciated by the students.

This, combined with the loss of a venue, threw the programs into disarray.

Shane is happy to be involved in 2024 so the LIFT program will recommence.

RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards), mock interviews at Maryborough Education Centre, Defying the Drift and NYSF (National Youth Science Forum) were not conducted this year.

We have found it hard to encourage young people to attend these excellent program  
We will keep trying!

Scholarships were presented to two MEC year 12 students.

In May the Girl Guides hosted us in their Guide Hall.

It was warm and great food was enjoyed.

Elizabeth and Hannah spoke about their guiding journey as they proceed into their Queen's Guide program.

There are leaders in the making in the Guide organisation.



***PP Martin Mackay PHF***

# Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report 2022-2023

## ***Project Management***



It was a slow start to business in the first half of this year. Two Main Projects that have been progressed are;

### ***Community Group's Use of the Rotary BBQ***

The process of using the Rotary BBQ by the Community was formalised into a General Policy.

A Survey was circulated to the Community Group in and around the Maryborough area, and a BBQ Policy was then sent out to all the Community Group and they responded by requesting dates to use the

BBQ.

The responsibility of Managing the use of the BBQ is shared between all those Rotary Members on the Community Committee.

This is operating smoothly now, and any issues that arise from the Community Groups using our BBQ are being systematically resolved.



### ***Bristol Hill Peace Park Project***

In 2022/23, our Club identified the Bristol Hill Peace Park as a major project. The tower had been “condemned”, the precinct had been neglected and the management was “unknown”.

Over the course of the year our Club has achieved significant progress in redressing many of these issues.

The tower has had its structural integrity assessed and this has been deemed as safe.

A contract has been signed to replace the fence guard and to re-render the exterior of the tower. It has been established that the Department of Energy, Environment Climate Action (DEECA) is the management authority, which is in consultation with Parks Victoria to incorporate the Bristol Hill reserve into their sphere of management.

Central Goldfields Shire has been actively supportive of the work.

Maryborough Rotary has conducted several community consultations with some very positive outcomes and a ***Friends of the Tower*** group has been established to further the project.

Some working groups have been established as part of the ***Friends of of the Tower*** including Communications, Environment, Peace Park, Restoration and Maintenance, History and Youth Engagement.



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***First Bristol Hill Meeting with  
Rotarians and community members***

A Web-Page has been set on the Maryborough Rotary Website dedicated to the Major Project.

Community Groups can register their intent to be involved with this project. In due course all works done on this Project can be displayed on this web-page and Community Groups can register the number of their members wanting to participate in the various tasks. Six areas of interest have been established to date, and the public will be asked to show their interest,

1. History
2. Maintenance/Restoration
3. Youth Engagement
4. Peace Park
5. Environment
6. Communication.

Bristol Hill Tower will be tackled first.

***Harold Breitinger***

# Rotary Club of Maryborough Annual Report 2022-2023

## *President Elect Report*

**Here we go again:** At the start of the 2022-23 Rotary year, I had no intention and no idea that I would be writing this report as President Elect - again.

I first became president of the Maryborough Rotary club in

A Clean-Up Working Bee has organised for Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July starting at 9:30am. An area with a radius of 100m around the Bristol 2009-10 and for many years our club could boast that we didn't have any members who had been President more than once. The late Bob Osborne OAM was the first to become a second term President, and then current President Garry OAM stepped up for his second term in 2021-22, and again in 2022-23. It now seems reasonably common for Service clubs to have members take on the President role more than once. Most, and maybe all of the clubs in our District would now be in that situation.

**The Decision:** When President Garry announced last September that District Governor Elect, Ian Mackay had sent him a reminder that Maryborough had not reported their President Elect yet, and the training period was just about to start. I toyed with the possibility of another term, and after a discussion with Meryl, informed Secretary Anthony and Garry that if they couldn't get anyone else, I would be prepared to do the role again in 23-24. Personally, I was "in-between projects" having just "published" the book I had been writing for ten years, and I was looking for another challenge.

**The Learning:** The Learning process started with attendance at the first President Elect Training day which was actually held at the Maryborough Education Centre on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022. I then started attending the online "Mac Chat" sessions held on the last Sunday of every month, where incoming Presidents could share their concerns and ask questions.

Then I was informed that incoming Presidents had to complete a series of online learning sessions provided on the Rotary International web-site. I initially found it a bit difficult to get started on these, but once I got into them, I found the sessions really well developed,

informative and quite enjoyable. I thought I had a reasonable grasp of the Rotary world having been trained as a District Governor, but I learnt a lot from those sessions. Then, at the end of April, 2023, I attended the President Elect Training Session 2 and the District Assembly held on succeeding days in Hall's Gap. I also found those events very helpful and informative.



**The Opportunity and Gift:** As I have got into the year and the learning, I have increasingly been looking forward to the valuable opportunity and gift I have been given to serve as President of Maryborough Rotary in 2023-24. I am now actually looking forward to the year and I thank members for supporting my application.

***PDG Geoff James PHF***