Inc A0021123A : ABN 99 891 962 480 Club ID 18240

Annual Report

2023 — *2024*

Club President: PDG Geoff James

District Governor: Ian Makay

International President:
Gordon R. McInally

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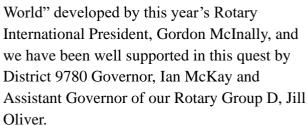
President's Report

I first served Maryborough Rotary Club as President in 2009-10, and it has again been a real privilege to act as your President during 2023-24.

In the role, this last twelve months has provided me with many enjoyable, fulfilling and satisfying moments, along with the usual run of challenges.



As a club, we have been inspired by the Rotary theme of "Create Hope in the



You will find a detailed summary of our club achievements in the various reports of our club

standing committees, but I will provide a summary here of the highlights.

In our local community, under the direction of Community Director PP Leigh Williamson, we have continued to develop our #SayNO2familyviolence program by establishing an interactive web site to provide quick, reliable information to people experiencing various levels of domestic violence. I would particularly like to mention the work in this area of PP Garry Higgins OAM

who initiated this project in 2012 and has continued to drive the development of the program ever since then. Garry and our club has recently been encouraged by the fact that the domestic violence cause has now been adopted in various formats and brandings by not only our Rotary District, but the whole Rotary Region of Zone 8 Australia and Pacific Islands





In other community areas, we have continued to work with local groups and non-Rotarians to develop and advocate for the development of the Bristol Hill Tower area, and we're pleased to say that progress has been made on this front.

We provided Judges and Supervisors for the Energy Breakthrough in November as well as helping to cater for the event.

We have provided our Barbeque Trailer and workers for various community groups including the Education Centre for NAIDOC week, the Guardians of the Spirit group on ANZAC Day, and The Uniting Church, the Historical society, and other groups on various week-ends in the Woolworths' Car Park. We have supported various local literacy projects such as "Books for Grade Four

Students" and assistance with the publication of Rotarian Lowen's, "My Yes Family Competition" books

We provided \$1000 to the Salvation Army to help provide sleeping blankets and equipment for the Homeless and we also contributed to the Salvo's Christmas Hamper effort.

On the Overseas front under the Direction of International Service Director Louise Hanby D'Wynn, we have facilitated the provision of used furniture and equipment from district



hospitals to be sent to developing countries by the Donations in Kind groups, now known as RARE (Rotary Australia Repurposing Equipment).

We have provided \$1000 for Aqua boxes and \$2000 for Shelter Boxes in needy areas of the world.

We have sold sunflower seeds to help victims of the war in the Ukraine.

We provided \$1000 to the Toilet Warrior for the construction of toilet facilities at schools in developing countries – something that has positively transformed the lives of girls in those communities.

We have donated money to ROMAC (Rotary Overseas Medical Aid for Children) for Cleft Palate operations on children.

On the Vocational Service front under the Direction of PP Meryl James, we conducted several Vocational awareness visits to local work places this year including the Water Treatment Plant, and Worsley Cottage.



We provided five Pride of Workmanship awards at our Pride of Workmanship Awards dinner in May.

We successfully nominated Jade Rodgers for a Shine On Award and PP Terry and PP Thea accompanied Jade to the Award Ceremony in Diamond Creek.

We promoted the values of the four-way test by discussing Ethical issues at a

On the Youth Service front under the Direction of Martin Mackay, we held a joint meeting supporting the Local Girl Guides group, we provided members to assist students with Mock Interviews at the Maryborough Education Centre, we provided a Citizenship scholarship to a student at the Education Centre – we offered one to Highview but it wasn't taken up this year. We also offered to sponsor young people to attend Defy the Drift and RYLA but places weren't taken up in time.

On the Rotary Foundation front under the Direction of PE Bec Lowery, we provided \$2000 to the Foundation Annual fund in addition to donations made by individual members, and we provided over \$500 for the Polio Plus campaign, in addition to those members who joined the new Polio Plus society initiated by the District.

To raise money for all of these projects, Fundraising Director Brian Reed and his committee have guided us to conduct two Pyrenees Tri Circuit bike rides in September last year and March this year, a barbeque at Bunnings in Kangaroo Flat early in this Rotary year, we helped to cater for the Energy Breakthrough in November, we



sold recycled containers as part of the VISY refundable/recycling program. The club also raised funds through deceased estates facilitated by both Louise Hanby D-Wynn's legal firm and also Noonan's legal firm in Maryborough and we raised over \$500 through a lucky ticket competition at our Pride of Workmanship event.



On the membership front, under the Direction of Tracey Smith we inducted three new members during the year – Lynne Hiscock, Tino Rumac and Geoff Bartlett, but two members resigned.

Our numbers currently stand at 36 active members and one honorary member, but those numbers might fall once we change over to the new year.

On the Public image front under the Direction of Max Berry, our Club Badges were updated to conform with Rotary Branding guidelines, kept our website up to date and maintained a presence in Facebook and Instagram.

In the Administration area, under the Direction of PDG Anthony Ohlsen a weekly newsletter was produced that was sent out each week to over 100 subscribers.

Club history and records were managed along with legal compliance and safety, and the operations of the weekly club meetings.

Along with the service, we had our fair share of fun and fellowship with regular fellowship-based breakfast meetings every two months, a music fun night, a quiz fun night, a Christmas celebration at the Britannia Hotel in Carisbrook, and barbeques at the homes of Rotarians.



I would like to thank all club directors and organizers for their efforts in leading their committees, and also our club Secretary, Thea Allan, and Treasurer, John Williamson, for their fantastic efforts in managing their areas of club operations.

Whilst thanking people, I would like to take this opportunity to particularly thank my dear wife, Meryl for all her support during the last year and for putting up with the many hours I was occupied with Rotary President related business.

Of course, like Service Clubs around the world, we have faced considerable challenges here in Maryborough. Our membership numbers have dwindled, and it has been difficult to attract new members.

It would be fair to say that the energy levels of existing members have also understandably fallen due to increasing age and the lingering effects of the Covid era.

We have also found that several of the traditional areas of service available to service groups are no longer available due to safety concerns or programs provided by Government sponsored groups.

Despite that, a loyal core of members has regularly turned up to meetings and club events and continued to serve as volunteers in the projects and fundraisers listed above. Through their efforts, the research shows that those volunteers have significantly enriched their own mental well-being, but at the same time they have enabled our club to indeed create hope in the world through their efforts.

Finally, I would like to wish President Elect Bec fulfillment, satisfaction, enjoyment and every success as she takes on the role of President in the 2024-25 Rotary year.



Board members: President Geoff James. Harold Brietinger, PP Martin Mackay, PP Meryl James, Louise Hanby D'Wynn, Max Berry, PP Brian Reed, PE Bec Lower, PP Garry Higgins OAM, John Williamson, PP Thea Allan and PDG Anthony Ohlsen.

President PDG Geoff James

Secretary's Report

I wish to thank PDG Anthony for continuing the Secretary's role while I was out of action due to health problems.

Anthony did his usual excellent job, including the EBT roster!

After major surgery and a good rest, I resumed the role in November and have enjoyed the task again.

I enjoy collecting the reports board meeting and sending out the minutes.

I also enjoy putting together the annual report using skills I have gained from over 20 years of volunteering for the Carisbrook Mercury.

I am continually amazed at how much Rotary does to Create Hope in our world.





On Australia Day in Carisbrook PP Thea Allan was presented with a Tilly Aston Achievement award.

Thea has been a volunteer for most of her life in her communities.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Main points

- A. Internal Club operations currently show a surplus of \$2795.
- B. Our external or fundraising giving / support / donating to projects shows a deficit for FY24 of \$3,148. We have funds from previous years to be spent so deficits are to be expected.



Statement of Income and Expenditure

For the year ended 20 June 2024

Account	2024
Trading Income	
Club Admin - Fines	915.10
Club Admin - Income from the previous Changeover Dinner Income	540.00
Club Admin - Raffle Income	2,060.70
Club Admin: Dinner Fees	16,721.00
Club Admin: Interest Income	1,423.13
Income from the next Changeover Dinner	1,240.00
Membership: Membership Fees	9,565.00
PoW Dinner income	3,583.50
Revenue from Bar	1,603.50
Total Trading Income	37,651.93

Cost of Sales	
Bar expenses	930.67
Club Admin - Changeover Costs	2,014.00
Club Admin - Dinner Costs	15,674.00
Club Admin - Zoom Fees	202.94
Club Admin: Club Runner	811.76
Club Admin: District Fees	3,060.00
Club Admin: Merchant Fees	473.55
Club Admin: Office Expenses	1,036.13
Club Admin: RDU Magazine	1,316.07
Club Admin: Rotary International Fees	4,609.12
Club Admin: Zero Fees	571.50
cost of running the PoW dinner and awards	3,335.00
Fee of 1.9 %	437.20
Insurance	385.00
Total Cost of Sales	34,856.94
Gross Profit	2,794.99
Other Income	
A contribution to the Rotary Foundation	64.54
Blue Pyrenees Bike Ride Fundraiser	11,852.99
Bristol Hill improvement account	588.00
Fundraising; Donations to #SayNo2familyviolence	390.00
Hours worked for various Fundraisers	840.00
Income from BBQ cooperators	4,515.63
Income from Donations and Revenue from Goods	97.70
Revenue from CDS recycle scheme	739.40

Sales income from BBQ events	8,828.70
Ukraine appeal money in	1,303.00
Total Other Income	29,219.96
Operating Expenses	
Club Admin - Badge purchases	948.31
Club contribution to Rotary projects and Appeals	7,500.16
Community Service - Contributions, Donations, and Scholarships	1,400.00
Community Service - Family Violence	1,354.50
Contribution to non-Rotary programs	940.00
Disbursement to community groups for BBQ staffing	5,339.00
Fundraising - Bike Ride Costs	3,299.04
Fundraising Bike Ride Administration	2,258.50
Fundraising; BBQ Expenses	909.42
Fundraising; Clothing purchase	122.50
General Expenses	1,324.71
Purchase of BBQ consumables eg sausages, bread, ice, drinks , sauce and toppings etc	2,909.94
Recycle Cans, Bottles etc setup and maintain costs	1,124.63
Repairs, Maintenance and improvements of the BBQ and BBQ trailer	483.08
Scholarships	450.00
Ukraine Appeal via Foundation money out	2,000.00
Total Operating Expenses	32,363.79
Net Profit	(348.84)

C. Foundation.

Eleven members contributed \$1928 to the Annual fund via the club account. That is an average of \$175 each. Other members contribute directly

via the My Rotary website.

Three members contributed \$452 to Polio Plus via the club account. Other members contribute directly via the My Rotary website.

The club sent \$2000.00 to the Foundation for the Turkiye earthquake and Ukraine appeals. Thank you, Louise, for your efforts towards these appeals.

D. The club made donations/contributions the organisations listed below:

\$2000.00 to Shelter Box

\$990 to Aqua Box.

\$1000 to Operation Toilet

\$1000 to Operation Cleft

\$1000 to the Maryborough Salvation Army - support local homeless people

\$1000 to Australian Rotary Health

\$1510 to ROMAC

The club has contributed \$2,130 to SayNo2Family Violence

E. Our club has contributed \$5339 to cooperating community groups at the Woolies BBQ.

KEY NOTES on Club operations. The club is fortunate to have several passive fundraisers due to our dinner meeting structure.

- F. A surplus of \$1000 income less costs on our meals
- G. \$900 from fines
- H. A surplus of \$670 from the bar
- I. A surplus of \$1300 from the raffle
- J. \$1400 from interest. Nearly all of this is reinvested in Sandhurst Trust.

John Williamson PHF

Administration Committee

Committee Members: Director PDG Anthony Ohlsen, PE Bec Lowery, Murray Henderson, John Williamson, PP Thea Allan

Committee Members: PDG Anthony Ohlsen, Thea Allan, John Williamson, Murray Henderson

Guest Speaker Program: Program Directors PDG Geoff James, PP Thea Allan and PDG Anthony Ohlsen with assistance of a number of Club members prepared an interesting program for the 2023-24 year.



Guest speakers included a video from **RI President Gordon McInally**, a visit by **Past Zone Director Jessie Harmon** talking about the role of a RI Directors, **AG Jill Oliver** speaking about ROMAC; a video presentation from **Prof. Harry Burns**, re Healthy Communities; **Robert Armstrong** spokes to us about the movement of Koala's; **Jonathan Haidt** spoke on Social media's affect on Mental Health & Educational Success; **DG Ian McKay** presenting his official club address; Salvation Army **Capt. Ron Stobie** spokes to us on Community Needs; **Tony Hudson** from Sutton Tools spoke on the history of Patience & Nicholson and the state of manufacturing;

Our AGM was held on October 26 and had **PP Gary Newton** speak to us via Zoom on polio, Gary is a polio survivor; **PP Aviv Palti** from the Melbourne E Club via Zoom spoke top us about the Cambodia; WASH program; **Kylie Emerson** from the Orange Door made a presentation; **Mayor Lisbeth Long** gave us a presentation on her life and activity in the Shire; our Shine-On attendee **Jade Rodgers** gave us an insight into the life of a "profoundly" blind person.

We had several Ink Spot presentations including Child Safety and Rotary Fellowships.

External, Social and Fun Events: External events included visits to the Maryborough Water Treatment Plant followed by a picnic meal provided by the Millhouse; Worsley Cottage; a working bee at the Shed followed by a picnic meal provided by the Millhouse;



a Christmas Break-up at the Britannia Hotel in Carisbrook;

a New Years Barbeque hosted by President Geoff and Meryl, our Easter Thursday Morning Breakfast was at Parkview Bakery, we also had breakfast meetings at Daily Dose and the Millhouse, we had a meal at the Girl Guides Hall with a presentation by three guides, and a Pride of Workmanship event at the Highland Society, we also met at the site of our BBQ at the Energy Breakthrough. Tracey Smith once again put her hand to a number of fun nights,

Bulletin: PDG Geoff James continued to prepare an informative and entertaining Bulletin each week.

Meeting Home: The club was fortunate to continue to use the "Millhouse" Community House as our base for the 2023-24 Rotary year. With the assistance of the Millhouse staff, Michelle Baker and Sarah McLean we have continued to have a



roast meal each week. The meal was prepared and placed on trays for a members from each table to collect and return after the meal. That system has continued to work well.

A Large Agenda: Apart from the program, bulletin and arrangements for a base, the committee was kept busy during the 2023-24 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 on Zoom throughout the year and made diligent decisions for the more effective operation of our club so that we all might more effectively, "to Create Hope in the World".

PDG Anthony Ohlsen PHF

Club Program Report 2023-24

Chair: Geoff James, PP Thea Allan, Bec Lowrie, PDG Anthony Ohlsen.

The Club Program committee met most months by Zoom to confirm the immediate up-coming program events and draft out the following month's program items.

The coming 4 weeks of events were published in the weekly club newsletter and also displayed in the meeting PowerPoint when we held meetings at the Mill House.

We worked out the program with the commitments to have at least three meetings each month at the Mill House – to meet our contractual agreement with our caterers, to have a "fun or fellowship" event on every fifth Thursday of a month, and to have a breakfast meeting every second month.

Thank you to program committee members for your efforts at securing speakers, developing program activities and attendance at program meetings over the year.

Here is program as it occurred during the 2023-24 Rotary year.

		PROGRAM 2023-24 EVENTS	
KEY		Black=Standard meeting events @ Mill House/ Red=Rotary Months/	
		Purple=Board Meetings/ Grey - Non Mill House Meetings/	
		Green=Other Events/ Blue=Planning & Program Meetings /	
1/07/2023	•	#01: Changeover Dinner - Highland	
1/07/2023	:	01_JULY - MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH MONTH/ Chair: Alison / Toby	
6/07/2023	:	#02: Video of RI President Gordon McInally at the Melbourne Convention	
11/07/2023	:	[TUE] Program Committee Meeting Via Zoom (Confirm Aug.; plan Sept.)	
12/07/2023	:	[WED] Ararat Changeover at Ararat Golf Club	
13/07/2023	:	#03 Governance Committees (Prepare Action Plans)	
16/07/2023	:	[SUN] Beaufort Changeover at Blue Pyrenees Winery	
18/07/2023	:	[TUE] Planning Team - from previous Rotary year - by Zoom	
20/07/2023	:	#04 PRID Jessie Harman - Being a Rotary Director	
24/07/2023		[TUE] B01 Jul Board Meeting (7pm) Zoom	

27/07/2023:	#05: AG Jill Oliver - The Work of ROMAC		
30/07/2023:	[SUN] Friends of the Tower Working Bee at the Tower		
1/08/2023:	02_AUGUST - MEMBERSHIP MONTH - Chair: Bec		
3/08/2023:	#06: Prof. Harry Burns - "Healthy Communities" (Video)		
10/08/2023:	#07: Service Committees		
15/08/2023:	[TUE] Program Committee Meeting Via Zoom 7pm (Confirm Sept; plan Oct.)		
17/08/2023:	#08: Breakfast Meeting at Daily Dose		
17/08/2023:	[THU] Inspiring Leadership Event (Ballarat Golf Club)		
20/08/2023:	[SUN] Friends of the Tower Working Bee at the Tower		
24/08/2023:	#09: Rob Armstrong - Are Koala Corridors Possible in this Area?		
29/08/2023:	[TUE] B02 Aug Board Meeting (7pm) Zoom		
31/08/2023:	#10: Fun Event – Quiz Night (Partners)		
1/09/2023:	03_SEPTEMBER - BASIC EDUCATION & LITERACY MONTH - Chair: Lowen		
7/09/2023:	#11: Jonathan Haidt: Social Media's Effects on Mental Health & Educational Success (Video)		
12/09/2023:	[TUE] Program Committee Meeting Via Zoom 7pm (Confirm Oct.; plan Nov.)		
14/09/2023:	#12: Governance Committees		
21/09/2023:	#13: DG Ian McKay Visit and Club Promotion Event (Partners)		
26/09/2023:	[TUE] B03 Sep Board Meeting (7pm) Zoom		
28/09/2023:	#14: Salvo's Leader Ron Stobie (Salvation Army) - Community Needs		
29/09/2023:	[FRI] Pyrenees Magic Tri Distance Ride		
1/10/2023:	04_OCTOBER - ECONOMIC & DEVELOPMENT MONTH - Chair: Leigh		
2-8/10/2023:	ROTARY ALUMNI CONNECT WEEK		
5/10/2023:	#15: Tony Hudson (Manager of P&N) on History of the Business		

10/10/2023:	[TUE] ARH Hat Day
10/10/2023:	[TUE] Program Committee Meeting Via Zoom 7pm (Confirm Nov.;
	plan Dec. and Jan.) Not needed?
12/10/2023:	#16: Service Committees (ARH Hat Day Celebration)
19/10/2023:	#17: Breakfast Meeting @ Daily Dose
24/10/2023:	[TUE] B04 Oct Board Meeting (7pm) Zoom
24/10/2023:	[TUE] WORLD POLIO DAY
26/10/2023:	#18: AGM, then Garry Newton on Polio by Zoom
1/11/2023:	05_NOVEMBER - ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH - Chair Terry
2/11/2023:	#19: Aviv Palti: Cambodia WASH Program by Zoom
9/11/2023:	#20: Governance Committees
11/11/2023:	[SAT] Remembrance Day Service 10.40AM
14/11/2023:	[TUE] Program Committee Meeting Via Zoom 7pm (Confirm Dec. AND
	Jan.; plan Feb.)
16/11/2023:	#21: Let's Celebrate The Foundation - Bec Lowery
18/11/2023:	[SAT] District President Elect Training
23/11/2023:	#22: Energy Breakthrough (Trackside) TBC
27/11/2023:	[TUE] B05 Nov Board Meeting (7pm) Zoom
30/11/2023:	#23: Fun Partners Event (Partners)
1/12/2023:	06_DECEMBER - DISEASE PREVENTION & TREATMENT MONTH -
	Chair: Louise
7/12/2023:	#24: Child Safety Information and Commitment
14/12/2023:	#25: Christmas Breakup (Britannia Hotel - Carisbrook]
21/12/2023:	NO MEETING
28/12/2023:	NO MEETING
1/01/2024:	07_JANUARY - VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH - Chair: Harold
4/01/2024:	#26: New Year Social Barbeque - Geoff & Meryl's Place

11/01/2024:	#27: Breakfast Meeting - Parkview Bakery		
16/01/2024:	[TUE] Program Committee Meeting Via Zoom 7pm (Confirm Feb.; plan March)		
18/01/2024:	#28: Service Committees		
25/01/2024:	Meeting moved to next day at Australia Day event.		
26/01/2024:	[FRI] #29 Rotary assists at Australia Day		
30/01/2024:	[TUE] B07 Jan Board Meeting (7pm) Zoom (Confirm Plan & Appoint Planning Team)		
1/02/2024:	08_FEBRUARY - PEACE BUILDING & CONFLICT PREVENTION MONTH - Chair: Adrian		
1/02/2024:	#30: Fellowship meeting		
6/02/2024:	[TUE] Program Committee Meeting Via Zoom 7pm (Confirm Mar.; plan April)		
8/02/2024:	#31: Governance Committees		
15/02/2024:	#32: Meal at Mill House then visit to Worsley Cottage - 6.30pm start sharp		
17/02/2024:	[SAT] Music Trivia Night To Raise Funds for Bristol Tower - Wareek Hall		
22/02/2024:	#33: Kylie Emonson - Orange Door Program (Zoom) - Group 7 Meeting - PHF Recognition / Induct new member		
23/02/2024:	[FRI] ROTARY'S BIRTHDAY		
27/02/2024:	[TUE] B08 Feb Board Meeting (7pm) Zoom		
29/02/2024:	#34: Fun Partner's Event - "Leap Day" Bull and Mouth		
1/03/2024:	09_MARCH - WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE MONTH - Chair John Caulfield		
7/03/2024:	#35: Water Treatment Plant Visit with Picnic Pack from Mill House		
12/03/2024:	[TUE] Program Committee Meeting Via Zoom 7pm (Confirm Apr.; plan May)		
14/03/2024:	#36: Meal at Mill House Then "#SayNO" website report		

15/03/2024:	[FRI] DISTRICT CONFERENCE - MT GAMBIER (15th to 17th)		
21/03/2024:	#37: Service Committees and Briefing for Bike Ride		
24/03/2024:	[SUN] Pyrenees Bike Ride		
25/03/2024:	[MON] Planning Committee 1: Review Strat. Plan.		
26/03/2024:	[TUE] B09 Mar Board Meeting (7pm) Zoom		
28/03/2024:	#38: Easter Thursday Breakfast Meeting – Parkview Bakery		
31/03/2024:	EASTER SUNDAY		
1/04/2024:	10_APRIL - ENVIRONMENTAL MONTH - Chair: Meryl		
3/04/2024:	[WED] Nominations Close for POW Awards		
4/04/2024:	#39: Clean Up Shed Area. Picnic provided by Mill House		
7/04/2024:	[SUN] Bike Ride Debriefing by Zoom		
9/04/2024:	[TUE] Program Committee Meeting Via Zoom 7pm (Confirm May.; plan June)		
11/04/2024:	#40: Service & Fundraising Expo - List Projects & Activities for Next Year		
18/04/2024:	#41: Liesbeth Long - Mayor of Central Goldfields Shire		
23/04/2024:	[TUE] B10 Apr Board Meeting (7pm) Zoom		
25/04/2024:	#42: [ANZAC DAY] Encourage members to Attend Services - Informal Dinner at Highland		
27/04/2024:	[SAT] Goldfields Community Festival		
1/05/2024:	11_MAY - YOUTH SERVICE MONTH - Chair: Martin		
2/05/2024:	#43: Meeting at Girl Guides Hall - Youth Speaker		
7/05/2024:	[TUE] Program Committee Meeting Via Zoom 7pm (Confirm June.; plan July AND Aug.)		
9/05/2024:	#44: Pride of Workmanship Night (Highland Society)		
14/05/2024:	[TUE] Planning Committee - Prepare Engagement Survey and Plan Buy-In Event		

16/05/2024:	#45: Breakfast meeting - Mill House			
19/05/2024:	[SUN] SHINE ON AWARDS - Diamond Creek			
23/05/2024:	#46: Program Buy-In Event - Complete Engagement Survey			
25-29/5/24:	[SAT] ROTARY CONVENTION SINGAPORE			
28/05/2024:	[TUE] B11 May Board Meeting (7pm) Zoom (Joint)			
30/05/2024:	#47: Meal at Mill House Then Call Push Shock Event at MEC			
1/06/2024:	12_JUNE - ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS MONTH - Chair: Anthony			
4/06/2024:	[TUE] Planning Committee 3 - Collate Survey, produce Governance Committee lists			
6/06/2024:	#48: Jade Rodgers on Shine On and Book / Ink Spot on Fellowships			
10/06/2024:	[MON] KING'S BIRTHDAY			
11/06/2024:	[TUE] NEW Program Committee (Plan Rest of July and August)			
13/06/2024:	#49: New Governance Committees Meet to Finalize Agendas			
15/06/24:	[SAT] #SayNO2familyviolence Football Match at Hedges Oval			
18/06/2024:	[TUE] Planning Committee 4 - Prepare Draft Action Plans, Fundraising, Timeline, Templates			
20/06/2024:	#50: Final Club Meeting For 24-25 - Ethical Discussion Forum			
25/06/2024:	[TUE] B12 Jun Board Meeting (7pm) Zoom (Joint) - Survey Report / Approve Action Plan			
27/06/2024:	NO MEETING due to Changeover on Saturday			
29/06/2024:	[SAT] #00: Changeover Dinner at Highland Society - Affirm Plans for 2024-25			

PDG Geoff James PHF

CLUB PLANNING COMMITTEE

President Geoff James (Chair), PP Thea Allan, Bec Lowrie, PDG Anthony Ohlsen, John Williamson.

Format: The Planning committee continued in the same format for 2023-24 as in the previous year, but this year, President Elect Bec did most of the organizational work for the committee. The committee met by Zoom on Tuesday evenings as required.



Change of Structure – Yet Again: As we headed towards planning time for the 2024-25 year, we realized that as a club, we were struggling to get sufficient members to take on responsibilities for next year's standing committees. So, one option that presented itself was to return to a variation of a structure we'd tried a couple of

years ago, and do away with separate Service standing committees and have one "Service Projects Director" report on service and fundraising efforts at the Board. To assist this process, we plan to have bi-monthly service activity club meetings where all members can get involved in helping to organize service projects and fund-raising activities. We will call these meetings, "Service and Fundraising Workshops", and the first one is planned for mid-July.

Thank You: May I thank the members of the Planning Committee for your diligent work in working through the planning process and documentation over the course of this planning period. Effective plans help our club to more effectively "Create Hope in the World".

Finally, I'd like to wish PE Bec every success and sense of fulfillment as she takes on the role of President in 2024-25.

PDG Geoff James PHF

Annual Report 2023-2024

Community Committee

Director PP Leigh Williamson, Harrold Breitinger, PP John Caulfield, Murray Henderson, PP Garry Higgins OAM, Adrian Masterman Smith, PDG Anthony Ohlsen, PP Brian Reed.

The Community Committee had another busy year in 2023 - 2024.

Maryborough Rotary Clubs signature project

SayNO2familyviolence has continued strongly, with the establishment of an interactive website to provide quick, easy to understand information to those unfortunate people experiencing domestic violence.

I need to mention here the great work that PP Garry Higgins OAM has done, firstly to initiate the programme in 2012, and then , with great enthusiasm, to continue to drive the programme since then.

A great Rotary project that has been picked up by a number of other Clubs around Australia

Another project that has flourished with the enthusiastic input of Rtn Garry is the development of the Bristol Hill Tower area. This project, The Friends of The Bristol Hill Tower, with the input of Rotary, and other individuals and groups, has seen steady progress this year. The tower has been cleaned up. The area is in transition from an overlooked and neglected eyesore, to a facility of which the town and region can be proud





The Community Committee has made available - and manned - the Rotary BBQ Trailer for various Community Projects. These include - at the Pony Club for NAIDOC Week; at the Wareek Hall as a fundraiser for the Tower Project; for the Guardians of the Spirit group on Anzac Day(pictured), and for 16 Days of Activism in November

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Cooking for Guardians of the Spirit.
Pictured: PP Martin Mackay, Geoff and Deirdre Bartlett

The BBQ trailer also went out on a number of Saturday mornings in the Woolworths car park, as a fundraiser for various Community groups. These groups included the Uniting Church, Girl Guides and the Historical Society. The Rotary livery was on proud display, including the red *End Polio Now* aprons.

The Committee has supported various literary projects, including "Books for Grade Four Students", and provided \$ 400 in assistance towards the publication of Rtn Lowan's "My Yes Family Competition"

The very worthwhile, and long running, Books for Babies project went into recess for a time, in the absence of Rtn Derek, but we have committed to reviving the project in the near future, The Committee developed a roster to provide judges and supervisors for the massive Energy Break Through event.

The Committee carried through on its commitment to the Salvation Army, to provide \$1,000 towards sleeping blankets and equipment for the homeless. We also contributed to the Salvo's Christmas Hamper effort.

The Club showed its commitment to diversity, with a significant contribution towards the Pride Outburst Festival.

All in all, a busy and extremely fulfilling year.

My sincere thanks to the committee members for their enthusiastic and loyal support.

PP Leigh Williamson PHF

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Family Violence Awareness Committee

"sayNO2familyviolence"

The effects of covid still linger and the "Say No" project has not escaped its impact, however we have managed to re-ignite the project.

This year we welcomed the completion of our website and contact QR code. The project has taken quite a while to complete but the end product has been worth the wait.





The website was launched at this year's International Women's Day in March and it was well received.

Other Rotary clubs all over Australia have expressed a keen interest in adopting the program.

Readers can view the website by going to "sayno2familyviolence.com.au"

The "family violence action group" was one of the casualties of covid and this has impacted the sharing of knowledge between agencies.

We have had our first meeting to reform this very important group. Participating agencies are VICPOL, the Orange Door, Central Goldfields Shire Council, Maryborough District Health Service and Rotary.



During the 16 Days of Activism last November the Bristol Hill tower was lit with orange lighting.

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The sayNO2familyviolence football/netball round was re-instated and this gave us a great opportunity to distribute our wallet cards and to speak to young footballers and netballers about our project.

We have also corroborated with Zonta to participate in a "toilet door sticker" project. to use in male public toilets.



PP Garry Higgins OAM PHF

Fundraising Committee

Community BBQ's

This Rotary year started out with 2 to 3 BBQ's a month but due to members commitments it was getting harder to have a Rotarian available on each weekend, so by January the only BBQs were the Uniting Church with John Williamson.



Energy Breakthrough

Was held in November and Rotarians and friends helped with judging on the days before the overnight race.

The BBQ was one of the only dry places!

New Year's Eve celebrations

This year was held at Geoff and Meryl's place, where about 20 Rotarians and partners had a very pleasant time.

Pyrenees Magic Tri-Circuit Ride

Both the March and September rides went ahead, with the March ride down in numbers due to a bush fire along the route and a rumour that the ride was cancelled. Everyone who attended commented on how good it was.



Before the ride at Summerfield winery in the Pyrenees

Container Deposit Scheme

Wool Bail frames have been made and set up at the Airport Shed, one each for aluminium cans, plastic bottles and Tetra pack containers (flavoured milk etc). Due to their weight, glass bottles are stored in 20 kg feed bag



Our first big run to the recycling centre at Madman's Lane saw a return of around \$600.00.

Some club members take smaller quantities which are also credited to club funds.

PP Brian Reed PHF

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Foundation Committee

Committee Members: Director Bec Lowery, PP Terry Allan, Toby Bainbridge, PP Derrick Marsden, PP Alison Teese OAM, Esther Waters.

In august of 2023 we embarked on completing just 3 objectives. Emails set up to encourage Foundation member giving, Marketing material to encourage Foundation giving and run a Foundation night at Rotary promoting the Foundation.



We managed to create an email template but did not manage to work out how we could use club runner to set up the emails in advance of everyone's birthdays. John Williamson believes we can arrange.

The next committee could easily send a general email to all members in foundation month which will work better.

We have the banner downloaded ready for the End World Polio and will need to design a Foundation banner using the style guide on myrotary.

Rotary International South Pacific and Philippines office (RISSPO) suggested using the images and templates found on the brand centre in myrotary.

We managed to order five hats and two aprons with *End Polio Now* for use at BBQ's and Rotary functions to encourage conversation and giving to polio eradication.

In November Meryl James and Rebecca Lowery led the meeting with an ink spot outlining where the money goes. They wore the end world polio hats while conducting a trivia night auctioning off Anthony Ohlsen and Geoff James to be on teams as foundation club experts. We raised just over \$50 for Polio for the night.



We also encouraged the Pride of Workmanship dinner to raise money for End World Polio and raised over \$500 to the cause.

We also put to the board to support the recommendation of Lyn Curry a local long-standing volunteer of the Maryborough Girl Guides as a Paul Harris Fellow recipient and was passed by all board members.



DG Ian McKay presented double sapphire pins to PP Alison Teese OAM and John Williamson Treasurer.

He also presented PP Meryl and President Geoff James with Major Donor pins and a crystal trophy.

PE Bec Lowery

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International Committee

Director Lousie Hanby D'Wynn, PP Terry Allan, Shane Dellavedova, PP Brian Reed

It was my pleasure to chair for a second and final year the Club's International Committee. In this past Rotary year, the Club has made the following payments to International projects and causes:



\$990 Aquabox - The Club's commitment to funding two of these boxes annually is intended to ensure our providing proactive support to rather than reaction to disasters such as earthquakes and floods

\$2000 Shelterbox (Likewise the Club's commitment to funding two of these boxes annually is intended to be proactive rather than reactive to the inevitable need for disaster aid in any year}

\$1000 The Rotary Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal

\$ 1000 The Rotary Ukraine Appeal

\$ 1000 Operation Toilet (supporting the installation of toilet facilities in schools to enhance hygiene and retention of girls in formal education)

\$1000 Operation Cleft {supporting the surgical repair of congenital cleft palate deformities in the third world)

\$1510 Romac (Rotary Oceanic Medical Aid for Children) which supports the opportunity from children in the ASEAN Pacific requiring expert surgical treatment to travel and stay in Australia or to be treated by Australian surgeons in own country working alongside their own medical practitioners.

Three members made a combined contribution of \$452 to Polio Plus via the Club Account, while others made their contributions directly utilising the My Rotary Website.

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Three members President Geoff, Meryl and Thea became Polio Plus Society members giving \$100every year for the eradication of polio pictured above receiving their Polio Plus Society certificates from DG Ian Mackay.

Eleven members contributed to Foundation via the Club Account with an average donation of \$175 each while other members made their contributions direct, utilizing the My Rotary Website. These contributions from our Membership evidence their genuine commitment to the ideals and purposes of Rotary as an International organisation doing good in the world.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

The International Committee was assisted by the Club's commitments to fundraising in various forms including the benefit of the Pyrenees Magic Bike Ride.



We tried for the first time to 'hire out' Club Members to assist Executors of a Deceased Estate to sort and price tools and garden

equipment and to then assist at a garage sale with those funds being directed to the Turkey/Syria Appeal which was meaningful to that particular Estate.

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The International Committee was conscious that fundraising was not merely a task for someone else to work out and sort out but that we could try to align some form of fundraising with the cause that we were trying to assist.

Another highlight of the year was working with Rotary Donations in Kind and Maryborough District Health Service in identifying items that could be 'reclaimed' from the discarded hospital equipment and sent to overseas communities who identified those items as being of value and

assistance to them.

Adrian Masterman-Smith and Dr Lowen Clarke were particularly engaged in this activity.

Upon seeing the value attributed to discarded sewing machines by the Donations in Kind team Lowen and Adrian have generated an idea of collecting unwanted and unused sewing machines from the Maryborough Community and donating them for the same purpose.



Through this activity we were reminded

that we could 'make a difference' in regards to International projects by means other than just raising money and that by helping to repurpose medical equipment we were helping to minimise waste and landfill.

Rtn Louise Hanby D'Wynn

Membership Committee

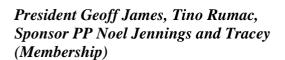
Chair Tracey Smith, PP John Caulfield, PP Noel Jennings, PP Garry Higgins OAM, PP Robert Rowe.

Thirty - four members started the year and two joined very soon into the new year when

Lynne and Tino were inducted into the Maryborough Rotary









Sponsor PP Noel Jennings, Tracey Smith (Membership), Lynne Hiscock, Bec Lowery (Mentor) and President Geoff James.

Smith

Later in the year Geoff Bartlett was inducted and wife Deirdre was also welcomed



President Geoff James, Geoff Bartlett, Deirdre Bartlett and Tracey Smith (Membership)

Unfortunately, past member Bob Butterfield passed away.

Bob was instrumental in helping with the Family Violence Awareness project and the race meetings, which were very successful in getting the message out. RIP Bob.





Members and Partners attended the District Conference and enjoyed a dinner together before the start.

Members had fun with our four fun nights, and early morning breakfasts at various cafes.

There is a full list of members and years of service at the end of the annual report.

Rtn Tracey Smith PHF

Public Image

Director: Max Berry, Toby Bainbridge, Harold Breitinger, Lowen Clarke, PP Martin Mackay, Adrian Masterman Smith.

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In 2023-24, the Public Image Committee built on the work of the 2022-23 PI chair Austin Taylor, notably in the social media domain, and I record my thanks to him.



The club's website and Facebook and Instagram accounts are in good shape and we use them to good effect for major club events such as the Pyrenees Magic Bike Tri Distance Rides and the Pride of Workmanship Awards events

We also endeavour to secure coverage of major events in the *Maryborough & District Advertiser* when possible and advertise our major events in them, notably the recent Pride of Workmanship Awards.

With the club now assuming full in-house management of the Pyrenees Magic Bike Tri Distance, the PI Committee is working on a new poster to advertise the event on social media, the *Maryborough & District Advertiser* and other channels in time for the September 2024 event, with Lowen taking the lead on this project.

The changed arrangements have also added to our remit and a Facebook page dedicated to the



bike ride. We will undertake a rider survey of the September 2024 event to help us continually improve our event and ensure its ongoing success.

Members beyond the PI Committee have worked to ensure the club's public image – and our in-house communications – remain in good shape.

On Austin's resignation, President Geoff stepped up to write and publish the *Weekly Bulletin* and has

not missed a beat – or a week. The jokes have a reputation well beyond the club it seems!

Rtn Max Berry

Vocational Committee

Committee: Chair: PP Meryl James, PP Terry Allan, Max Berry, Shane Dellayedova

Our first Vocational visit this year was to Worsley Cottage, recently refurbished by the Historical Society. Our thanks to volunteer Barbara Nielsen for her informative talk. In March, we had an interesting visit to the Water Treatment Plant and Desalination Plant pictured) followed by a barbecue. Thanks to members who organized these nights.



To start our Rotary year, Maryborough Education Centre Careers teacher, Owen Macer, provided our members with a clear, engaging and comprehensive understanding of Vocational Pathways available to local young people. Owen explained how the updated Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) now includes an opportunity for students to complete



vocationally based subjects as an integral part of their studies. We thank him for sharing his time and knowledge with us.

A highlight for our Committee this year was again organising the "Pride of Workmanship



Awards" evening at the Highland Society on May 9th. Five awardees were chosen by their respective businesses, and each was awarded an official "Pride of Workmanship" plaque. Pictured are the five awardees along with guest speakers and the club's Director of Vocational Service:

From left: Guest Speaker Mayor Liesbeth Long, Awardee Brad Morris from SONAC, Awardee Liam Palling from Hendrickson Electrical, Vocational Director, Meryl, Awardee Jackson Barby from Maryborough Harness Racing Club, Awardee Robyn Roth from Waste-Not Stockfeeders, Awardee Sarah McClean from Mill House Neighbourhood House and Guest speaker, Brian Gould, Economic Development Officer in Central Goldfields Shire.

The competition on the night raised \$530 for Polio Plus.

Having provided information on the importance of classifications in Rotary, members continued to speak for 3 minutes on their classification. New badges were purchased to reflect their choices.



On May 19th, Jade Rodgers was our worthy nominee for the Annual Shine on Awards. She was presented with a Certificate of Commendation at the event, this year held in Diamond Creek. Jade suffers from severe vision loss which has not stopped her from pursuing a Bachelor of Nursing degree and writing a book on Dementia in the Church. She has started a support group and is working as a volunteer. Jade is well known in her community work in the Maryborough regions with St Johns Ambulance, Red Cross and Apex. She has also been

active in SES South Australia and the Country Fire Service. Jade was awarded Australia Day Youth of the Year in 2007. Garry Rodgers and Rotarians Thea and Terry Allan (pictured) were also present at the awards. Congratulations Jade and thank you to PP Thea and PP Terry for making the trip to the Awards, and thanks to Rotarian Max Berry for organizing the Awards for our Vocational Service Committee.

A meeting has been planned in June, for members to discuss ethical decision making.

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 nearly all our goals for the 2023/2024 year.

PP Meryl James PHF



Rotarian and Councillor Grace La Valla was appointed the 161st Cheiftan for the Highland Games

Youth Committee

Director: PP Martin MacKay, PP Thea Allan, Bec Lowery, Grace La Valla, John Williamson.

After an initial review our options some programs were continued and others will be re-assessed and possibly run in the future.

As requested of all committees, a deputy chair was to be appointed and Thea Allan volunteered to fill this important role. Thea has also accepted the responsibility for the taking notes during committee meetings.



Lowen Clark took over the literacy program and has been busy in this role promoting books in different areas.

Books for year 4 was very successful in the past and an assessment of this program will be carried out as the club is eager to continue this program. We missed Youth month but will present the books in Literacy month next year.

For the following youth programs, we were unable to find young people to attend.

Defying the Drift, RYLA (Rotary Young Leadership Academy), LIFT (Leadership Information For Teens, L2P drivers program, National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) and the Siemens Science Challenge.

Never-the-less these programs are excellent and the club has had significant results from participation in them in the past. With support from members and the public we look forward to having our young people attend these programs in the future.

One program that did go ahead was the Mock Interviews conducted at the Maryborough Education Centre. This program was supported by Rotarians over a two-day period.

All programs will be assessed when the new committee can meet and appoint program leaders.

Most members have a Working with Children card and most have signed the Safe Children agreement.

PP Martin Mackay PHF

Membership to June 30, 2024

Allan	PHF	PP Terry	23
Allan	PHF	PP Thea	15
Ashton		Kate	11
Bainbridge	PHF	Toby	24
Berry		Max	4
Blackman		PP Heather	11
Breitinger		Harold	11
Caulfield	PHF	PP John	27
Clarke		Lowan	2
Davies	PHF	PP Tom	41
Dellavedova	PHF	Shane	27
Hanby D'Wynn	PHF	Louise	7
Henderson	PHF	Murray	13
Higgins OAM	PHF	PP Garry	21
Hiscock		Lynne	1
James	PHF	PDG Geoff	24
James	PHF	PP Meryl	10
Jennings	PHF	PP Noel	43
La Vella		Grace	21
Lowery		Bec	2
Mackay	PHF	PP Martin	15
Marsden	PHF	PP Derrick	23
Masterman Smith		Adrian	2
Ohlsen	PHF	PDG Anthony	29
Reed	PHF	PP Brian	5
Rowe	PHF	PP Robert	28
Rumac		Tino	1
Sedunary		John	19

Stewart	PHF	PP John	2
Teese OAM	PHF	PP Alison	10
Tynan		David	32
Upton		Riley	21
Waters	PHF	Esther	11
Williamson	PHF	John	26
Williamson	PHF	PP Leigh	10