

ROTARY CLUB OF MARYBOROUGH

THE ROTARY CLUB OF MARYBOROUGH FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE

COMPILED FROM TWO PREVIOUS VOLUMES

- 30 Years of Service - 1952-1982,
- Ten Years of Service - 1983-1992

WITH FURTHER MATERIAL FROM ANNUAL REPORTS AND MEMBERS

COMPILED AND WRITTEN BY ROTARIAN DARYL MCLEISH.

FOR THE CLUB'S 50TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS IN 2002

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	2
FOREWARD	4
THE CHARTER	4
THE FOUR AVENUES OF SERVICE	6
COMMUNITY SERVICE.....	6
THE ART SHOW	14
BOWEL SCAN.....	18
SKIN CANCER.....	18
ROTARACT.....	19
VOCATIONAL SERVICE.....	20
LIST OF APPRENTICE AWARDS 1954-1993.....	20
PRIDE OF WORKMANSHIP	21
OTHER VOCATIONAL PROJECTS	23
THE AUCTION	26
THE BRIAN DOWIE CONSERVATION PARK.....	27
INTERNATIONAL SERVICE.....	29
YOUTH SERVIUCE	33
STUDENT EXCHANGE	33
STUDENT EXCHANGE INCOMING AND OUTGOING CHARTS.....	34
R.Y.L.A. (ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD).....	34
R.Y.P.E.N. (ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM OF ENRICHMENT)	34
N.S.S.S. (NATIONAL SCIENCE SUMMER SCHOOL) (SIEMENS) THEN N.Y.S.F. (NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM)	35
AUSTRALIAN SCIENTIFIC INDUSTRY FOUNDATION.....	35
PEER SUPPORT	35
ROTARY ADVENTURE IN CITIZENSHIP	35
BHP NATIONAL ENGINEERING SUMMER SCHOOL.....	35
THE CRANBOURNE EXCHANGE	36
ROTARY FOUNDATION.....	36
LIST OF PAUL HARRIS RECOGNITIONS	36
CLUB RECORDS.....	36
LIST DISTRICT GOVERNORS - SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE MARYBOROUGH CLUB (UP TO 2002)	36
ROTARY CLUB OF MARYBOROUGH FOUNDATION MEMBERS	38
ROTARY CLUB OFFICE BEARERS 1952-2002.....	38

LIST OF LONG SERVICE MEMBERS CALLED TO HIGHER SERVICE	40
SOME FUN THINGS TO REMEMBER	40
'THE ROTARY PROJECT' POEM	40
GUEST SPEAKERS.....	43
FELLOWSHIP.....	43
INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS	44
INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF CRICKETING ROTARIANS (IFCR)	44
THE INTERNATIONAL GOLFING FELLOWSHIP	45
RECREATIONAL VEHICLE FELLOWSHIP OF ROTARIANS (RVFR).....	45
INNER WHEEL.....	46
RSL LADIES.....	46

FOREWARD

The following chronological account of the Rotary Club of Maryborough could appear to be a mass of facts and figures that fill the pages, or even just keep the covers apart; or on the other hand it could be an account of an energetic force that was created to improve the lot of mankind, without fear or favour, in the only way they knew, action!

Was it not Senator Robert Kennedy, when speaking of his brother President John F Kennedy, who said, 'Some people see the way things are and ask "why". My brother dreamed of things that never were and asked, "Why not?."' This statement was made some ten years after the Rotary Club of Maryborough was chartered and they were enacting the second phrase of Kennedy's speech right from 1952. There is very little that has happened in Maryborough that Rotary has not had at least some input into over the years, especially the early years.

You will read, probably with some amazement, of the club's involvement in many major organisations that we take for granted; many were originated by the Rotary Club, which often followed up with financial support. The Youth Club, Elderly Citizens (as they were known then), Hospital, Wattle House, (Special School) Library, Havilah, (hostel for the elderly and infirm) and even a hot water service for the Caravan Park when the City could not afford its own. Many causes benefited. including sporting bodies, youth programs, municipal facilities, and disaster relief.

Rotary is a club of business and professional people of high ethical standards, who carry their expertise with them wherever they go. They are by nature a group of self-made people who are respected in their professions, and in life, and are capable of making decisions of benefit for themselves, their businesses, and their families. This is the story of these people, of creativity, wisdom and vision in the City of Maryborough, Victoria, and the surrounding areas.

The Rotary Club of Maryborough has one failing! It seldom leaves any recognition of self-praise on its creations. Leave not your light under the bushel!

THE CHARTER

Rotary came to Australia when the Melbourne club was chartered in April 1921 and the first country club was Bendigo, chartered in July 1925. The first 'Organisational Meeting of the Provisional Rotary Club of Maryborough,' commenced on February 14th 1952 with weekly meetings until the Charter on June 14th 1952.

Hans Ebeling from the Rotary Club of Ballarat was responsible for the formation of the Maryborough club. Hans recalled that it was following his time as President at the Ballarat club that he suggested to the new club President, Bert Stohr, that they should sponsor a Rotary Club at Maryborough. This suggestion was readily taken up and Hans was immediately appointed as 'Governor's representative' to follow up the project.

Hans was born at Avoca, as had been his parents, and had the advantage of knowing a number of Maryborough people including Tom Boyle, who had recently transferred to Maryborough from Ballarat. When contacted, Tom was most enthusiastic, and several prospective members were interviewed, and the first meeting called. Several members from the Ballarat club attended and assisted in acquainting those present in the requirements of Rotary membership and qualifications.

When the 'prospective' numbers grew enough to form a club, an application was forwarded to Rotary International through the District Governor, Len Clarkson of the Adelaide Club. The

Provisional Rotary Club of Maryborough was then established, and the first meetings were held at Harris' Cafe at 73 Nolan Street.

For the first year some Ballarat members, as well as Hans, attended each Maryborough meeting and often supplied the guest speaker as well as providing valuable assistance in guiding the various committees in their work. Another asset was the fellowship developed, not only within the Maryborough members but also with the members of the Ballarat club and this close association continued for many years,

The Rotary Club of Maryborough received its charter on the evening of July 14th, 1952 at the Maryborough Town Hall. the meeting being chaired by President Bert Stohr of Ballarat, and assisted by District Governor Len Clarkson. Two hundred and one Rotarians and friends saw twenty-two members inducted. Another, R. H. Hill, Borough Engineer, withdrew just prior to the charter night.

It should always be remembered that the Rotary Club of Maryborough owes a great deal of gratitude to the Rotary Club of Ballarat for the help and guidance in the formative years and the work and enthusiasm of the first Honorary Secretary, Tom Boyle.

In 1955 Hans Ebeling became a member of 'his' Maryborough club until he resigned in 1963 to live in Melbourne until his passing in 1979.

The revamping of districts takes place regularly, and in 1952, Maryborough was in District 33. In 1957 it was No 250; 1966, No 278; and in 1977 No 980, then later District 9780. Generally, the Maryborough club has been on the borderline of most of its districts; when 'the rope' was placed on one side, Maryborough was included in with Castlemaine and the Daylesford Clubs in District 250, which included many Melbourne clubs. In 1977 there was another revamp placing us in District 978, replacing us in our most familiar territory. In 1991 this number was increased to District 9780.

Membership of The Rotary Club of Maryborough would be the envy of many clubs. By 1959 the membership had climbed to 49 and it remained close to that number for the next five years. Since 1959 the average yearly membership has always been more than 50. In 1975 the membership soared, for a short time to 72, and there was consideration that if this trend continued that another Club should be started in the town. However, it was also recognised that the membership was ageing and by the end of that year was down to 66 as the ride of retirees naturally came. According to the thirty-year report, there had been a total of 18.3 admissions and 134 losses due to the normal transfers, resignations and deaths.

1958-59 and 1972-73 were stellar years for membership with 12 new members in each of these, whilst 1974-75 and 1977-78 produced a creditable 10 new members each. Of course, the Charter year (22 inducted) was not included as a record in these statistics. 1970-71 and 1978-79 failed to see any gain of new members and 1979-80 saw the largest list of resignations, with 10 for that year.

As noted, the first meetings were held in Harris' Cafe which soon became Robinson's but this business was first started by Frank Lowery, who went on to be The Rotary Club of Maryborough's most decorated member. Frank is the only President to have served in that capacity for more than one year. Vern Benjamin was the first President but had to resign half-way through. Vice-President Frank Lowery, (the position President Elect commenced 1981-82) filled the position of President for the remainder of Vern's year, then his own term. Apart from this anomaly, no Maryborough Rotarian has served as President other than his own year making 50 Presidents in 50 years.

The increasing membership in the later 1950s saw it necessary to look for larger premises for the weekly meetings, so the R.S.L. Hall in High Street Maryborough, with the R.S.L. Ladies catering, was

chosen. From 1959 until this year of our 50th celebrations (2002), the ladies have most satisfactorily catered for our meals, and at an enviable price.

THE FOUR AVENUES OF SERVICE

At the beginning of each Rotary year, which commences on July 1st, the new president installs his committees for the year from a compiled list of members for the four specific avenues of service - Community Service, International Service, Youth Service and Vocational Service.

Membership is also broken up into other committees for the internal running of the club. Some of these are universal committees and others are the creation of individual clubs for their convenience. Sergeant, Rotary Information, Membership, Attendance, Bulletin, Program, Public Relations and Fellowship are officers and committees shared by all Rotary Clubs, whilst some that might be peculiar to the Rotary Club of Maryborough are the Brian Dowie Conservation Park, Golden Jubilee, Grievance Officer, Football Tipping and Bowel Scan.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community Service embraces a large variety of programs within the surrounding community which are generally identified by the members or instigated as need arises. The belief that some important project can become reality with the benefit of Rotary support, financially, physically or both, has seen prompt response from this committee over fifty years.

The first project completed by this committee was a Wishing Well at the main gate of Princess Park from which \$374 was collected in the first 16 years. The well continued for many more years with the main donation going to the Red Cross.

A jumble sale was created to assist the T.L. Stone Kindergarten, mainly for playground equipment, up until 1958. In 1972 an Op-Shop was started in Tuaggra Street by Mrs. Edna Moore, wife of Rotarian Syd who was also the Town Clerk and Mrs Boyle, widow of Tom, the first club Secretary. Earlier the revenue was for and on behalf of the Elderly Citizens Club (as they were known then) only, but later different organisations participated each month and gained the income they generated for their group. Rotary had the Op-Shop for themselves one month a year and the supply of saleable goods was augmented by the members. This was the same system used by the other groups that participated. They also supplied some staff for 'their' month.

The first venue was an old butther shop, over from the later Safeway, but when the owners were in need of their premises the Op-Shop was moved to Burns Street, to Trainor's old fruit depot near the underpass in 1983.

Following the departure of Syd and Edna Moore to Canberra, Rotarian Peter Haythorpe and his wife, Connie, took over the management, then when they left for 'greener pastures', John Selmon continued in this role. This final report was submitted by the long-time and virtually self appointed Chairman of the Op-Shop, PP & PHF Rotarian John Selmon. It reads:

Mrs. Anne Cornwill, to whom we will be eternally grateful, manager of the Op-Shop for the fast ten years, signified at the end of 1999 that she wished to retire in December 2000. Our efforts to find a suitable replacement were unsuccessful, so the decision to cease trading was made.

An approach was made to the local Scouting group to take over the shop. At their agreement, it was decided that Rotary would hand over all the fixtures and fittings, plus the stock held at that time. The Scouting body took over and immediately sought larger and more central premises in High

Street. The new premises saw it more as a shopping complex with longer trading hours. The relocation has by all accounts been a great success to the Scouting group.

The last Rotary year was again a financial success with \$11,159 being raised. This total, less expenses, was distributed to the following:

- Maryborough Benevolent Society
- Maryborough Brass Band
- Community Information Centre
- Back Creek Kindergarten
- Riding for the Disabled
- St Johns Ambulance
- T.L. Stone Kindergarten
- Maryborough Diabetic Group
- Inner Wheel Club
- Maryborough Specialist School.

These and many others were assisted over the years and at the end of trading in December 2000, a gross amount of \$154,208 had been raised. Mrs. Anne Cornwill and her helpers were treated to a Christmas function at the Cambrian Hotel, and final thanks were extended to the Committee and Past Presidents, Lindsay Willersdorf and Ian Zimmer. Another successful chapter in the history of the Rotary Club of Maryborough drew to a close.

Tree planting was alive and well. As early as 1954 Liquid Amber trees were planted in the streets, and in 1972 trees were planted at the Bristol Hill Reserve. During the 1980s it was decided to plant further trees on the still partially barren Bristol Hill. Prior to this, a landing was built so cars could park and view the town from this elevation. So successful was the tree planting that the view has been totally obscured since.

In 1955, in conjunction with the clergy, a survey of the elderly, was carried out. This led to the formation of the Elderly Citizens Club and the building of their clubrooms in Phillips Gardens. Rotary provided support for many years with transport to their meetings, annual outings that included teas or lunches in places such as the Log Cabin at the Black Forest with the then very generous proprietor, Mr. Van Vloter (this restaurant was later burnt to the ground), and other trips to the Begonia Festival, Melville Caves, White Swan Reservoir, Sovereign Hill, Ballarat, and Brownbill Park at Laanacoorie.

Wood bees were also held to supplement fuel for those in need. Town buses, natural gas, and increased public welfare over the years saw the need for Rotary's involvement minimised. There is no doubt that although it would be mostly denied, Government support has improved so that most can manage without all the once-necessary assistance.

Further initiatives were identified and established by this new energetic force. The proposal to establish a Municipal Library was met with rejection when a referendum was put to the people. The Library was ultimately established, thus vindicating Rotary's judgment. Later in the 1970s, this entity joined in with the Central Highlands Library Service, based in Ballarat, giving a greater access to a larger variety of library facility and books.

In the same year the Community Youth Club was sponsored by Rotary; 216 children in the age group of 14 to 16 were enrolled as members.

As the Youth Club firmly established itself with clubrooms by 1959, Rotary turned its attentions to other areas. In the broader field, with a flood threat to Murray Bridge, Rotary, at short notice, sent 2,000 sandbags in the winter of 1959. A community service survey was taken the same year and it was noted that thirty-two Rotarians had engaged in 149 activities in 32 spheres of community service.

An individual example is that over several years, farmer and Rotarian Ian Williamson grew strawberries and made them available for sale for a community fund that raised a total of \$80.

Rotary assisted in a concert that raised \$265 for the family of Constable William Harnetty who drowned at Carisbrook whilst trying to rescue sheep from the flooded Tullaroop Creek on the 18th of May 1956. A massive cleanup at the Maryborough Cemetery was organised in the 1957-58 year that was joined by a very enthusiastic band of citizens from Maryborough and the Tullaroop Shire, resulting in a big job very well done and donations received through the project saw a flame thrower and knapsack pump donated to the Cemetery Trust. Also during this year, Rotary joined Apex in supporting a participant at the Lord Mayor's Holiday Camp at Portsea, which went for fifteen years. In another area of need that year, milk to the value of \$23 was donated to a family.

In 1958-59, with the permission of the District Governor, an appeal was launched by our club for funds to combat Multiple Sclerosis in Victoria. Two hundred and ten dollars was raised. A further \$110 was raised by Rotary for the Maryborough Scout Troop in conjunction with the 3CV Radio Station Broadcast Show 'Swallows Parade.' Further to that year's involvement, Rotary assisted in the collection of \$1,080 for the 3CV Hospital Mothers' Day Appeal, functions associated with the Maryborough Back-To, Maryborough Hospital. Youth Club, Elderly Citizens Club Building Fund as well as the Annual Red Cross Appeal. In addition to the usual annual functions, a further contribution of \$190 from the Swallows Parade was made to the Community Youth club. A briquette water-heating unit was installed at a cost of \$230 at the Council Caravan Park.

The principal fundraiser for 1960-1 was a motor show in co-operation with Patience & Nicholson, (a Maryborough tool and drill factory), the automotive industry and Police Public Relations Department. In all, this function raised \$720.

From this fund donations were made to the Ambulance Service for the purchase of base radio equipment, Ballarat Rowing Club, Ballarat Orphanage, Ballarat Mums' and Dads' Association, totalling \$27, Scouts Association \$13, Save the Children Fund \$10.

An entirely new project was initiated in 1961-62 without success, for only 13 participated in the first year and 14 the second. The Canadian Hell Drivers performed at the Show Grounds raising \$85 and a proposed Police Exhibition was considered to be impractical and was shelved.

A sum of \$100 was set aside to assist in the establishment of playground equipment at the corner of Fraser and Gillies Streets. This project was completed in 1970. This playground is still there today, some 32 years later. Major donations of \$100 were each given to the Kindergartens. T L Stone and California Gully as well as sundry donations to various other organisations. One hundred and seventy dollars was made available to the hospital for the purchase of a Spectro Calorimeter.

In 1962-63 normal activities were pursued and some others looked at but not followed up. A working bee to spread gravel was held at the Elderly Men's Home in Dundas Road, the Youth Club was assisted to conduct a carnival and fourteen visiting Rural Fire Brigades were entertained at a dinner with Mr. Arthur Coutanche of the Country Fire Authority as guest speaker.

Rotary decided to support a local disaster plan and be responsible for transport. A picture night was organised for the Boys Scours realising \$54. The painting of the seats at the Prince's Park grandstand, cleaning up of the cross formed with white stones at the old Bristol Hill Cemetery and assisting the Youth Club with a fishing bonanza, which was continued for many years, set the pattern for 1964-65.

The major project for 1965-66 was to construct a mobile street stall to be used by various organisations. A permanent spot was set aside in High Street and the stall was used for about 35 years in that position until new food handling regulations came into force. Most organisations were not able to conform to the new regulations and the fund raising from selling homemade cakes and jams declined under the new regulations. This van still figures at most functions with the sale of packaged drinks especially at the Carols by Candlelight, New Year's Day and similar functions. The amount of revenue that this van has been able to generate over the years is inestimable. It is one of the few projects that carry the Rotary symbol.

In 1966-67 chairs and tables were placed at the Soldiers' Memorial Plot on the corner of Majorca Road and Railway Street and in the 1967-68 year an association began with the Golden Wattle Festival. A float depicting 'Rotary Exchange Students Foster International Goodwill' and providing a 'Rotary Princess' were excellent public relation exercises. Floats were entered in the Wattle Festival procession on many occasions following. A panel entitled 'Assistance Anonymous' was formed with the purpose of advising people with particular problems but was abandoned through lack of response.

Nothing new or major occurred in the years 1968-69 or 1969-70 except in the latter a map depicting various points of interest around Maryborough was placed at the Caravan Park.

In 1970-71, in co-operation with the other service clubs, a sign was erected in Park Road advising of the service clubs in Maryborough and material was provided for the erection of a tool shed at the Maryborough Cemetery. This was made by the apprentice students at the Technical College. The major project was a Trotting Gymkhana held at the Carisbrook Racecourse raising the sum of \$1,650 which was handed to the Mentally Handicapped Association towards the erection of Wattle House, and the erection of 30 signs marked a City Tour around Maryborough. These were completed in 1971-72.

A proposal to provide a Cultural Centre at the Town Hall or at Prince's Park was investigated and the club committed itself to the provision of \$1,200 in architects' fees. This was met with a membership levy, but the centre never eventuated. The money was lost within the failed project.

A second Gymkhana in 1972 raised another \$500 for the Wattle House Committee and the third in 1973 was financially successful and \$792 was given to the Hospital Board for furnishings in the new wing of Clarendon House. The fourth Gymkhana in 1974 resulted in \$1,033 being donated to the Youth Club and the last in 1975 raised \$664 for Wattle House. It was remembered that at this event there was a camel race and Rotarian Merv Graham tested his ability at camel riding.

A scheme was devised to bring all the Maryborough service clubs together in one organisation called 'Maryborough on the Move' (M.O.M) in 1976-77. This proved to be unsuccessful, so only in-house projects prevailed.

The town tour was upgraded, plus \$1,000 was provided towards the furnishings of the new Tourist Information Centre located in the new Woolworth's Supermarket car park, plus the mobile Rotary Street Stall was repainted. A further \$1,000 was donated to the Information Centre in 1979-

80 and \$200 went to the Maryborough Lions Club for the arrival of a stage of the Sun Cycle Tour at Maryborough.

The quest for new ideas for fundraising was endless and this year, a novel and entertaining one was a Dutch auction where everyone brought a 'wrapped surprise' to be auctioned off between the members, raising \$100. A combined hayride with the Roraract Club netted \$100 each.

A further donation of \$3,000 was made to Wattle House in 1980-81; this coupled with the previous \$2,000 completed Rotary's promised commitment to that enterprise. Another Dutch auction was tried with \$200 being raised in the same manner as the previous year. The seemingly increased areas of need in the Community Service field in 1981-82 saw our subcommittees set up: Community Youth, Senior Citizens Handicapped, Recreation and Art Show.

The Community Youth Sub concentrated on a BMX track at the old Show Grounds with permission of the Council. Working bees did a big percentage of the preparatory work. It is to be remembered that Rotarian Graeme Leech turned up to the working bee with a huge 'Cat' and had the track formed, hills, dips and turns, in practically 'no time'. Rotary also assisted in the formation of the BMX committee who took over the conduct of the organisation. The enthusiasm for BMX riding did not last long, and soon the track was deserted and levelled. This 'fad' approach was remembered, and Rotary was somewhat reluctant to participate in the formation of a Skateboard park that was floated in 1999. This Skateboard Park has materialised, again at the old Show Ground site, and whilst we do wish it well, we watch with interest. So far, the signs are good.

The Senior Citizens-Handicapped Sub-Committee established a good liaison with the Maryborough Disabled Persons Committee and was able to give valuable educative assistance. Several of the committee participated in a highly successful seminar at Wattle House. With the elderly, several matters were raised and examined with the conclusion that not many problems now existed. Long running projects of outings and other functions had now been largely taken over by the Government, Municipal and Specialist organisations.

The principal achievement of the Recreation Sub-Committee was to support the Creative Arts Centre Committee in the redevelopment of the old Savings Bank Building as an Arts Centre. Our Art collection was to form the nucleus of a permanent display there. The Recreation Sub-Committee was also assisted with the organisation of a Fun and Fitness Trail to be erected the next year, with Rotary sponsoring signage at the start and finish. This track was ultimately placed around Lake Victoria, in Princes' Park, with various items of exercise equipment located every so often so there was a short walk, jog or run, then a dip, chin bar or hurdle to negotiate at these intervals. The popularity of this track lasted for a few years before it fell out of favour and was dismantled. It was also noted that there was a failure of other organisations to participate in with the Council in this venture.

1982-83 saw the continuing involvement with the Fun and Fitness trail and \$250 donated for the Start-Finish sign. This year also saw the commencement of involvement with the Skin Cancer Program. (See 'Skin Cancer')

A novel name for a project, Ro-Tree Project, was taken up and 75 trees from the Royal Horticultural Society were to be planted at sites suggested by the Council. Miss Narelle Simpson, of Maryborough, was chosen to enter the Teenager of the Year quest in support of the Save the Children Fund. Rotary donated \$20 to her funds.

The Australia Rotary Health Research Fund, national project was established with the setting up of a Trust Fund that would generate and allocate moneys to selected medical research projects. The

initial target of \$2 million was to be attained over the next two years. Maryborough Rotary aimed to commit \$2,000 to this cause. The first targeted program was Cot Deaths.

Following the Ash Wednesday' bush fire a donation was immediately made available from club funds and members' donations of \$1,202 and a further \$50 was donated to the Mayor's Bushfire Appeal.

The next year saw the completion of our commitment of \$2,000 to the Health Research Fund, 100 trees were planted on Bristol Hill and the Tidy Town program was encouraged with a street clean-up arranged with the St. Augustine's School children.

A unique painting by Rolf Harris was auctioned, raising \$678 to aid Community Service projects. There was an investigation of bushland near the Goldfields Reservoir that could be co-ordinated with the 150th year celebrations.

A novel return to the Dutch auction was revised with Sergeant at Arms, Rotarian Errol Walsh as 'Auctioneer' raising \$231.90 in his usual very entertaining manner. This year saw the sponsorship of the first Probus Club for Maryborough with President Graeme Leech and Past District Governor, Charter member and Past President Frank Lowery, taking the leading rolls. Probus will provide a much-needed activity for the semi-retired and the retired men. Frank Lowery was rewarded as being the inaugural President of the first Probus Club of Maryborough.

Art show raffles continued in 1984-85 with \$869 being raised from a Hugh Guthrie painting. A planned combined stall with Rotaract, as part of the 150th Anniversary Celebrations at Bristol Hill, did not receive the support it deserved but it was a wonderful success for fellowship as were all occasions with the Rotaract group. The Wayside Park at the Goldfields Reservoir was still underway in conjunction with the Council and led by Rotarian Jeff Mackay. The Skin Cancer team again visited with the assistance of Rotary. All the organisational side of venue, staff, and paperwork was given to the visiting team from Monash University.

The 'Dutch Auction' was revisited, again with the congenial Errol Walsh at the helm; a tidy sum of \$147 was raised from a depleted attendance. A number of members were visiting the Kyneton Club that evening.

Much time was spent in the prevention of road accidents and it was decided to liaise with higher authorities about the possible implementation of programs of Road Safety.

The January 1985 bushfire that raged from Avoca to, almost Clunes, back to Maryborough and Carisbrook, received much Rotary attention. Raffle books for the Bushfire Relief Fund were organised, sent and received with excellent response for all Rotary District Clubs. Past President Frank Lowery took a leading role in these and following operations.

The Civic Group (a group of ladies that were once attached to the Maryborough Football Club reformed as a Civic Catering Group, before 1980) raised literally thousands of dollars over many years, which was donated to many organisations. From time-to-time Rotary was included (\$400) in their disbursement of funds which allowed Rotary to contribute to areas not identified by the Civic Group. The leader of this wonderful civic-minded organisation, Mrs. Lorna Passalick was the first non-Rotarian to be awarded with a Paul Harris Fellowship by the Rotary Club of Maryborough.

The 1985-86 program was curtailed somewhat by the illness of the Chairman, Rotarian David Shaw, but later into this Rotary year the main focus was the establishment of a BBQ area at Goldfields. With the possibility of a Flora and Fauna Park to be set up in the area, an electric BBQ, to be set in a bluestone surround, was purchased with the SEC (the then State Electricity Commission) as was

floodlighting to the area. Picnic tables were generously provided by, (one each), Rotaract, Inner Wheel and Civic Ladies, to complement the scene. Bluestone screenings were also spread making this a wonderful bushland setting. The City Engineer, Peter Marshall and co-worker Mike Lovell were excellent in their co-operation. The SEC also supplied surplus poles for decorations and barricades.

Members also responded to a request from the City Council to participate by holding a BBQ in conjunction with the Australia Day lunch time Celebration.

A request from the Maryborough and District Sub-Regional Housing Authority, in regards to funds for an additional caravan had to be turned down because of lack of funds available. Rotarian Charles Mowbray and President Peter Haythorpe attended a meeting for the establishment of a Community Health Centre and a collection of 'unwanted tablets', arranged through the health department.

The BBQ area was still underway in 1986-87 and an official opening was held in which it was handed over to the Mayor for public use. A BBQ was held with the Maryborough Technical College Band playing for which a donation to their funds was contributed. The arrival of trees was awaited for designated plantings.

A huge amount of preparation in 1987-88 was put into supporting an Air Race. This event was eventually cancelled, leaving the year a bit flat.

Continuing events such as the Australia Day Celebrations catering saw some 900 attend and fed by the attending service clubs, including Rotary, and the Goldfields BBQ was still receiving much attention.

The year 1988-99 was off to a bad start when Community Service Chairman for that year, Rotarian Tom Davies and his wife Rosemary, were badly injured in a road accident, not far from Eddington. Rotarian Alherne Cupido took over as acting Chairman for the year as Tom and Rosemary, convalesced. Tom was not so badly injured but had to devote much time to Rosemary and their young family. This caused this service area to have a slow start, but progress was made with assistance being given to the setting up of a tourist attraction, a Toy Museum. Rotarians Daryl McLeish and David Woods completed painting outside of the old Fire Brigade building as a Rotary project.

Various working bees were held at the Goldfields BBQ scene and a new project initiated by the Rotary Club of Geelong, Bowel Scan, was being seriously considered. A committee was to be formed for its implementation here at Maryborough. (See "Bowel Scan"). The first in the series of Trailer raffles went ahead with an amount of \$3,145 taken with \$934 expenses. Five hundred dollars from Rotary funds and \$175 from the local banks was contributed to a wheelchair for a local youth injured in a road accident. The community also assisted in the running of The Expo, setting up and catering. Further work to the Toy Museum was undertaken. (The Toy Museum lasted about two years and because of poor patronage then moved elsewhere)

Work organised by Rotarian Jeff Mackay saw the erection of the gazebo covering the BBQ at the Goldfields which was overseen by Rotarian John Robins. The frame was completed in April and the roof in June. It was planned to concrete the floor and the total cost expended to that date was \$2,698. This was done with Rotary 1990 trowelled into the concrete by Rotarian Daryl MacLeish.

There was some discussion about a donation to the Maryborough Hospital to upgrade the Surgical Lighting. This was still at board level. Why this did not happen was nor fully explained.

The Chairman of Community Service, 1990-91, Rotarian John Robins, was a man of short sentences, his report said - 'BBQ building completed'. This was of course the Rotunda that was placed over the BBQ at the Goldfields. Other achievements were:

- BBQ Seating and Tables, completed - at the same area.
- Shade House at 404 School, completed - this project was to erect a shade house at State School 404 for the propagation of plants and plant study by the students. The cost to supply the Shade House and fittings was \$1,200. Unfortunately it was never used to its capacity and eventually removed. This program was originally titled 'Trees for Survival.'
- Shade House to be constructed at State School 2828.
- City Tour Signposting, underway. And a list of others to be followed up - Literacy Group Support, Hexagonal BBQ kit; to be erected in co-operation with the Lions Club (never went ahead). Piping of water to Goldfields BBQ from the main and the Trailer Raffle was a great success, thanks to Rotarian Frank O'Keefe, \$1700.

Most of these projects were carried over until the 1991-2 period for their completion.

It was proposed by the City Council that we become involved in the Adventure Playground project with the erection of a BBQ there. It was seen as a very low priority project as little had been done there for the past year.

Unfortunately, Rotarian and Chairman of the Community Sub Committee, Arthur Trainor, took ill in 1992-93 and the position was capably handled by Rotarian Rod Brown. The Shade House was completed at State School 2828. The Trailer Raffle was again very successful, but the amount was not singularly recorded and the BBQ at the Adventure Playground was progressing satisfactorily. Serious discussions were held with the City Council for a permanent kiosk to be erected in Nolan Street (near High Street) but a grandiose proposal by the Council saw the proposal shelved.

Community Service in 1993-94 saw the Betty Neville raffle finalised, further work on the BBQ at Princess Park, the Energy Breakthrough commitment continued and a major clean-up at the Creative Arts Centre before the Art Show. The Benalla flood appeal saw a fund-raising Jazz festival and a group of Maryborough Rotarians travelled to Benalla to assist with the clean-up.

The raffle this year was a BBQ Fridge and very successful it was again, but two other very significant projects were also started this year. The first was the formation of a Ladies' Probus Club at Maryborough, some ten years after the original Men's Club was formed, headed by Rotarians Jeff Mackay and John Selmon. The first meeting was held on the 4th of July with Freda Jervis; President, Shirley Lowery; VP, Yvonne Redman; Secretary, and Olive Mackay; Treasurer. The second project was to become a major part of Rotary, the Carisbrook Nature Park. A Pine Plantation on the site of the onetime Chalk's No 3 Deep Lead Mine was selected to be a Conservation and Information Park and consultation was carried out with the Tullaroop Shire for its implementation. (See The Brian Dowie Conservation Park). This project was another to eventually be under the control of its own committee of management.

The 1994-95 report commenced with the progress of the Adventure Playground BBQ, mentioning that an amount of soil had to be removed to place the concrete slab. Thanks to the McLeish family, this was not a problem. Rotarian Daryl McLeish, who is a plasterer-cum-builder, had his son, Jamie, who happened to be a concreter in Queensland, home on holidays, as luck would have it: next our resident concreters laid bricks around the BBQ and finished off the top with tiles.

The Carisbrook Park was still in its formative years and grants were being sought for its development. The new Central Goldfields Regional Commissioners were approached but it was suggested that the project had more of a leaning to Rotary's Preserve Planet Earth program. The Energy Breakthrough was again on the agenda as was a quick raffle. The Rotary auction this year was a huge success and will be covered under that heading. It was considered that a toilet block should be built at the Goldfields BBQ site.

The Energy Breakthrough, Carols By Candlelight, Australia Day BBQ, Adventure Playground BBQ and investigations into a project - Paint Your Heart Out - were being planned with the view to painting the Girl Guides' Hall.

Carisbrook Park had received some funding for development and a mobile phone was donated to St John's Ambulance Brigade.

Much of the same in 1996-97 as in the previous year but the Guides accepted the offer to paint their Hall. A lot of ideas were floated but none were thought to be worthwhile. The painting of the Guide Hall took up most of the year's working bees for 1997-98. Not only was it painted but just about a complete renovation took place with the replacement of boards, doors, glass, etc. 1998-99 saw the finishing of the painting and the Energy Breakthrough was a major undertaking.

The big event in 1999-2000 was the auction, successful and greatly assisted by the use of Rotarian Gerard Harris' workplace, and the year 2000-01 reads the same. A working bee was held to demolish an old wooden walkway from the Centenary reservoir and replace it with a new steel one.

The effectiveness of Community Service may appear to have dropped off over the last few years but it is to be remembered that The Brian Dowie Conservation Park and Bowel Scan, although now conducted under separate committees, were, and are, part of the Community Service picture for any year, as was the Art Show.

THE ART SHOW

Earlier Wattle Festival Art Shows were held in smaller halls and at one time a bus shed in Nolan Street, all with success.

In its day this was, without a doubt, the stellar event in our Rotary calendar. It was big, high profile and definitely the yearly social event of not only Rotary, but of the town.

The Art Show was an event held during the Golden Wattle Festival each year. The President of that body, and also a Rotarian, Fred Treble considered that a body like Rotary had the expertise, in all areas, and the manpower to conduct this event. And they certainly did.

The Rotary Club agreed to pay a levy, or percentage, to the Wattle Festival. This helped with the running of the Festival and of course they did all the advertising, by radio, TV and in a fine brochure. In the earlier days, Rotarian Daryl McLeish would sleep overnight at the venue for security.

Art Shows were at a pinnacle during these years and Rotary took full advantage of this. Immediately the Railway Station was selected as the venue. This was a master stroke because, not only is the Maryborough Railway Station a beautiful heritage building lending itself to this type of occasion, but all the facilities were available and much more with planning. The Station had two main halls, one originally a function cum dance venue, known as the VRI Hall, and the other once the large dining room utilised by the Railways for catering to passing trains. Both were now out of use.

These two halls were ideal for an Art Showing and for the initial Chicken and Champagne Luncheon that was a feature of the Show. A section of the platform was cordoned off with large railway tarpaulins to surround the size needed for the occasion. The attending public, at these luncheons, were not only treated to the social occasion of the year and a sumptuous luncheon, but also had the opportunity of the first viewing of the works and first selection of purchase.

Later, when the Station was not available, (after 1988), the Art Show was located to a large premises in High Street, then the old Stare bank became available and an Arts Centre was developed until the interest in Art began to wane and the Rotary Art Show finally ceased to exist.

Probably no opening of the Art Show was bigger than in 1983 when PP Clarrie Smith arranged for Rolf Harris to open the show. Two hundred and thirty-nine attended the luncheon with an overall profit of \$2,000.

A few lines in the 1975-76 report, by Rotarian Frank Lowery stated that the Art competition in conjunction with the Wattle Festival in August of 1975, made over \$1,000 profit and over \$1,000 worth of paintings were presented to the City. This first Art Show run by the Rotary Club was opened by the Governor of Victoria, Sir Henry Winneke.

Frank went on to say that with the success behind us, he sincerely hoped that the Rotary Club of Maryborough would continue with this project and take it on to greater success. That they did. The Art Show prizes were increased by \$100, taking the total prize money to a total of \$1,600. First prize - open, \$700; Oil, \$400; WaterColour, \$250; Modern Art, \$200. Rotarian David Talbot was seeking sponsorship from 3BO of \$1,000 and another of \$400.

The Hon W (Bill) Borthwick opened 1977 and the judge was Julian Faigan. Special thanks were given to Rotarian Charles and Trish Mowbray for their input and it was noted that the Art Show Committee now owned all their equipment and there was a surplus of \$2,461. In total, 428 entries were presented in 1978, slightly up, the turnover was \$10,122 and the profit was \$1,301. Twenty items had now been donated either from winnings or by purchase to the City Council.

The prize money later increased to \$1,000, Best Oil; \$500, Water Colour; and \$250 Encouragement Prize, making a total of \$1,750. The attendance at the opening luncheon was down by about 50 but the duration of the Art Show was extended to two weeks taking in three weekends.

Lance McNeil was again the judge and the total attendance for the duration was estimated at 2200 with 500, 400 and 400 at each of the weekends. Senator Neville Bonner opened the 1979 Show and \$10,720 was taken and sales were worth \$4,000. Consideration as to whether a prize for pen and pencil sketching was warranted resulted in \$100 being suggested.

By 1980 things were flying: \$12,159 in sales, \$2,473 profit, the judge, David Moore was popular and the suggested prize for sketching had been installed at \$150, with the others at the same, this was a total of \$1,900. Door takings totalled \$1,789 and a further six paintings were presented to the Council.

Problems with too many entries were causing concern in 1981 so a limit of four per artist had to be put in place. It was suggested that a larger venue should be sought. Surprisingly, door takings were down some \$300 on the last year but the profit of \$1,864 was considered a successful amount. The prize money was on the increase with Best Oil, \$1,500; Water Colour, \$750; and Encouragement \$500. Nothing was mentioned about the Sketching prize.

The Art Show of 1982 was not the raging success of the previous year but a profit was recorded of \$1,800 and the value of paintings sold were \$1,293, as previously mentioned. The 1983 Art Show was an outstanding success due to President Clarrie Smith and British Paints successfully gaining Rolf Harris for the opening. Nobody could have done it better. It was recorded that Rolf would be truly a hard act to follow. The turnover was \$21,270 and the profit \$2,062. A good and detailed report on the success and the value to Rotary was the 1984 Art Show report, but not a lot of financial figures except that the Art Show raffle realised \$1,162. Two of the old stalwarts from The Art Show made their exit and their value over the years was recorded. An extensive balance sheet, for 1985, was presented showing that \$19,991 was turned over. A balance now held in the Art Show account revealed there was \$12,274.

A good profit was recorded for 1986, with \$1,888.54: Paintings sold \$17,647, Payout \$13,235 and prize money of \$3,350. The Art Show was good again with \$18,778.50 through the books and a slightly lower profit of \$782.13 for 1987. Almost a record year followed in 1988 with a profit of \$2,124.10 and it was re-emphasised on how valuable the Art Show was to the Wattle Festival and the Community. This was the last year at the Maryborough Railway Station.

There were questions on how money there was accumulating in the Art Show account. Some members were stating it not the aim of any service club to 'stash' money but to use it in service. This was not the view of the Arts Committee who saw this fund in a different light and that it should be used in the furtherance and promotion of Art. At the Annual Meeting there was a separate set of rules, a mini constitution proposed for the club's approval to secure the Art Show Funds. The majority passed these nine points.

A new venue was established in 1989 - Wally Grose's old garage in High Street, with plenty of room and centrally located - owned by Rotarian John Selmon. This was hailed as better than the Station and it certainly had more room. 567 paintings were hung but all in all there was a significant drop in patronage, attributed to it not being at the station. Overall, not much different from the previous year's results with \$23,758 in receipts and \$1,046.43 in the black.

The Art Show committee put forward a plan to sponsor an Arts scholarship to the value of \$1,000. This was for students of the Graphic Arts who reside in the City of Maryborough or the Tullaroop Shire.

There was a plan to increase the range of prizes to cater for the increasing 'local' patronage to all within the City, the Tullaroop Shire and those shires abutting the Tullaroop Shire.

The 1990 Art Show was again successful with 474 paintings but there was a noticeable decline because of rising costs such as freight/couriers fees, petrol and frames. The change of venue was again the topic of conversation, but it was pointed out that repairs and renovation to the station had put an end of any likelihood of returning there. There are a limited number of venues on offer these days, it was stated. Still \$13,055 worth of paintings was sold with \$503.96 profit.

The comment for 1991 was that the quality of the art was probably the

best yet and the best yet presented. Rotarian John Bartlett and his wife Beryl, along with some other members had upgraded the stands and the new venue (the old Tucker Bag Store in High Street) was acclaimed. In total 369 paintings were presented for display, 322 were sold, \$7,170 in value was the number for this our 17th Art Show and profit \$436.57.

The complete financial and other records were presented -

• Paintings Sold	\$1,272
• Total Exhibited	\$7,654
• Prize Money paid out	\$43,700
• Value of Paintings Sold	\$218,771
• Average Price	\$172
• Profit from Shows	\$21,219
• Purchase of Art	\$9,000
• Purchase of Equipment	\$3,000
• Current ANZ Trustees inv	\$38,454.

Difficulty was experienced with the 1992 Art Show. The new venue (the Youth Club in Napier Street) seemed adequate and the set up was acclaimed one of the easiest yet and the entries good but there were concerns. It was stated that it would be a challenge to continue the Art Show in the future. This was the first time the Art Show had made a loss, \$239.30. The cracks were certainly starting to show with the 1993 Art Show and there was a concerted and valiant effort to revive and revitalise it. Again there was a new venue, the Arts Centre, or the old State Bank, in High Street - definitely too small, but hard work of renovation and a professional approach by Jim Tanner, not yet a member, and his sidekick Neil Marksby averted what could have been a nightmare for Rotary, with a new hanging arrangement and other stands. They certainly hang much more that could normally be done.

A marquee, supplied by Rotarian Don Bruce, was set up at the rear of the show venue with an amazing turn-up but this was not reflected in sales. The show was shortened to two weekends thus having another impact on attendance and possible sales. The Hon Hadden Storey opened the Show and the judge was Geoffrey Stocks from Maldon who pleased all with his selections, for which he was thanked. It was thought that the restructuring of the prize monies would have an effect on the exhibitors, but this was not so. 343 paintings were hung but only nine were sold to the value of \$2,120 - The first time sales had been below \$5,000. Even though sponsorships were forthcoming there a loss was registered again but the positive approach was looked at, this is our contribution to the Wattle Festival, but a lot of work for a loss!

The twentieth Art Show went down the drain to the tune of \$1,911 even though some new approaches were tried and quality presenters were attained. Famous artist, Roger Buckmaster, officiated at the opening and popular Geoffrey Stocks was again the judge. The opening dinner was held at the RSL Hall and a 'Meander in the Moonlight' was the description of the walk to the Arts Centre that night. Different, romantic, or whatever one may call it, all failed to attract a bigger audience. There was a noticeable drop in support from within the club members which didn't help the cause either. The committee was really now looking down the barrel and striving for some inspiration and a successful approach.

A small profit was recorded in 1995. Held in the same venue, the Art Centre, only eight paintings were sold but a great effort put into the raffle pulled the log from the fire and saved the day.

It was recommended to the board that the Rotary Art show that had reigned for the last 21 years be wound up and also some decisions made about the funds accumulated. There had been a growing concern in the past few years as to where some of the paintings were and in what condition were they being held. Also, if some were still in existence. An inventory was organised with Rotarian David Shaw at the helm and a photographer in Rotarian Grant Kennedy to track all the paintings down. After much difficult detective work all were accounted for and caught on film.

Over the years \$52,513 had been spent on materials. \$1,090 contributed to the Creative Arts Centre for lighting installation, \$2,913 paid to the Wattle Festival Committee and \$9,000 paid for two paintings for the Arts Centre and presented to the Council to be held in trust. This was made up from \$5,500 for a Norman Lindsay watercolour and \$3,500 for an Eric Buckmaster oil.

In 1999-2000 a committee was set up called 'The Sound Shell Committee' with the expressed purpose of using the accrued monies from the past Art Shows, for the purpose of placing a Sound Shell at Princes Park. \$25,000 was to be expended from club funds, plus \$15,000 in kind (voluntary work in conjunction with), a further \$500 from Community funds and a \$5,000 Council contribution. The whole scheme was rejected. it seems over a (one) tree. The Rotary Club of Maryborough was devastated to the point that some members were hostile but sanity prevailed and the Club walked away with a bad taste in their mouths with little said but much thought and, dare I say, some resentment.

And what of the Rotary Art Show? Well one could say that it had run its race but on the other hand all those 'buyers' had virtually 'filled their walls' and we failed to attract a wider range of potential buyers.

BOWEL SCAN

As recorded, in the 1988-89 year the Bowel Scan project, was brought to the forefront by the Rotary Club of Geelong. Members of our Rotary club were approached with a view to conducting Bowel Scan in our area. In the next Rotary year, 1989, a Bowel Scan committee, comprising Medical Doctor, Rotarian and PP John Dodgshun, Rotarian Peter Terrens, Treasurer and Rotarian and PP Arthur Trainor as Co-ordinator was set up. This committee, with the help of Inner Wheel, applied themselves diligently for what was termed a reasonably successful project. About 400 kits were sold the first year. From these sales, four abnormalities were detected, one of which, upon further investigation, was diagnosed as a bowel malignancy. Max Watts was willing to share his experience with the community by agreeing to a paper interview. His story alerted people to the importance of Bowel Scan.

The overwhelming success of Bowel Scan in 1990 was probably due to the Max Watts story. As the Bowel Scan was in progress at the time of the 1990 report it was noted that the sales of kits were already double compared to the previous year. In 1991, 462 kits were sold and 21 were returned positive.

The first venue was at the Maryborough Town Hall. Other times, kits were sold through the chemists and there is a concerted effort to sell around the area with selling points at Avoca, Dunolly and other towns in the region. Foundation member and PP John Ritchie has been Chairman of the Bowel Scan committee for a number of years now. John is also on the District Bowel Scan committee.

SKIN CANCER

Early in the year 1982-83, Dr. Robin Marks visited us from the Monash Medical Centre of Monash University on the topic of Skin Cancer. His visit was facilitated by Rotarian PP John Dodgshun. We learned that skin cancer was very prevalent in our region of Central Victoria and the suggestion was made that a five year study be conducted, supported by Rotary. This was accepted.

From that time venues were organised and set up for the team that came from Monash and conducted their skin cancer tests for about a week at a time. The Inner Wheel Ladies also bolstered our usual high participation of members. Reception, cataloguing, bookwork, in fact all the additional 'office work' was done for this program by Rotary and Dr Marks was pleased and comfortable working in such a controlled environment. The response from the public was very encouraging and

added much to the research program. For five consecutive years this continued, and as expected, apart from the gratitude shown, we were not privy to any of the research information. This was understood, for our assistance was for the betterment of mankind and not personal knowledge.

In 1991-92, Dr Robin Marks and the team were back, this time to test a series of Anti-Cancer creams. It was an experimental program with absolutely no danger to all of those who participated, who were supplied with a cream for a reason. Some creams were medically formulated and some were 'shelf' creams but nobody knew which one they were given.

About 2000 people were inspected for any signs of skin cancer and some were referred to their own medical Doctor for treatment. Some 700, who had multiple skin lesions due to the sun, took part in the follow up program. For six months following the initial survey they applied cream supplied by the research team and the progress was monitored at regular intervals. As noted, some had 'Block-out' creams and others only moisturisers.

On each of the follow-up visits Rotarians and Inner Wheel members were rostered to help. It was quite an involvement by the volunteers. Dr Robin Marks was to return six months later and give a report at a public meeting.

ROTARACT

Probably not a lot of detail can be given about the Rotaract Club because they conducted their own affairs and meetings, and though formed by Rotary, every one of their meetings was attended by a Rotarian - generally it was a different and rostered one - not all reports were complete or recorded.

The origins of the Rotaract Club go back to 1975-76. A number of interviews, meetings and invitations were sent and enacted until we finally had a reasonably large group, all with the one-intent, all curious and adventurous.

On the 24th of April 1976, a Charter night for the Maryborough Rotaract Club was held, well attended by the members of the Service to Youth Committee members. It was also customary that many visiting Rotaractors attend and a mass of these came from near and afar. This kicked off the group with a great gusto.

Some things can be said about the young, vibrant people that joined Rotaract. They held meetings once a week, not at a hall but at different homes. Unlike the sedate oldies in Rotary who sat back straight in a chair in a 'dignified' manner, they congregated in a room sometimes too small for their number and proceeded to fall on the floor, sometimes in bean bags and sometimes not. They held a very lively meeting with each one topping the good idea of the last. No challenge was insurmountable, and distance was not a consideration. Their vibrancy was overpowering and addictive; they would almost invite themselves anywhere and it was pleasing to see them work. One could be regretting, 'Is this the life I have left?'

Car washes, soup kitchens, pennies down High Street, being auctioned off as slaves at Rotary and many unlimited things of fun and frolic that made money were undertaken. Probably the fact that most of them were schoolteachers, bankers and sometimes locals who had joined the bank or some such job subject to transfer, became the downfall of the Rotaract Club. The failure to recruit added to the eventual demise.

Whilst in operation a number of charities benefited from their fundraising activities. It also became a 'matrimonial club' because about twelve marriages eventuated from within the membership over the years. It seems wonderful that so many young people in a group like this were able to seek out a

partner of their own mind. It is also reflected in the fact that it is not known if one couple has parted since which adds to the marvellous record.

In 1988-89, 13 years later, the Rotaract Club went into temporary recess, which actually became a permanent shutdown. Several attempts have been made to revive the Rotaract Club without success. A major attempt was made in 1993-94 when 15 local prospective members and about 10 Rotaractors from Ballarat and St. Arnaud were treated to a 'night out' and informative meeting at the Goldfields Restaurant. However, a return evening saw only five locals in attendance, somewhat dampening the expectation from the earlier meeting. It was commented that a concerted effort was needed to succeed but try as we may we could not attract sufficient prospective members. Rod Brown's year as President was to push for the return of Rotaract, also without success.

The last attempt was during President Bryce Rawlings year and the early prospects looked promising, but some dropped off and some were transferred so all hope was lost again. Shane Dellavedova and David Hare have been the only Rotaractors to actually graduate to Rotary itself, but some did join Apex for a time, David Hare being one that comes to mind. Shane and Jackie, David and Sharon were both part of that 'matrimonial club'.

VOCATIONAL SERVICE

The first two years the Vocational Service Committee spent most of that time to see just where they could actually be of service. Out of many ideas, one in 1953 was to award an apprentice of the year. This was instigated the next year, 1954, and the list of apprentice awards is as follows.

LIST OF APPRENTICE AWARDS 1954-1993

YEAR	APPRENTICE	TRADE	EMPLOYER
1954-55	Ron Olver	Engineering	Patience & Nicholson
1955-56	Colin Dellavedova	Motor Mechanic	Wally F Grose
1956-57	Sam Hendrickson	Electrician	Patience & Nicholson
1957-58	James Rogan	Plumbing	William Phelan & Sons
1958-59	Robert Greenwood	Plumbing	William Phelan & Sons
1959-60	Malcolm Punton	Carpentry and Joinery	William Phelan & Sons
1960-61	Leonard Floyd	Carpentry and Joinery	William Phelan & Sons
1961-62	John Geuchner	Motor Mechanic	E H Preece, St. Arnaud
1962-63	Alan Pike	Carpentry and Joinery	William Phelan & Sons
1963-64	William Harnetty	Fitting and Machining	Patience & Nicholson
1964-65	John Hughes	Motor Mechanic	William T Rootes
1965-66	Geoffrey Hughes	Carpentry and Joinery	William Phelan & Sons
1966-67	Neville Trembath	Carpentry and Joinery	William Phelan & Sons
1967-68	Ray Matthews	Fitting and Turning	Patience & Nicholson
1968-69	Wayne Cameron	Carpentry and Joinery	William Phelan & Sons
1969-70	Ron Lovett	Carpentry and Joinery	William Phelan & Sons
1970-71	Graham Porter	Carpentry and Joinery	William Phelan & Sons
1971-72	Graham Porter	Carpentry and Joinery	William Phelan & Sons
1972-73	Jeffery Rootes	Motor Mechanic	William T Rootes
1973-74	Terrence Elliott	Fitting and Machining	Patience & Nicholson
1974-75	Ray Peterson	Fitting and Machining	Patience & Nicholson
1975-76	Wayne Eade	Fitting and Turning	Patience & Nicholson
1976-77	Peter Daniel	Plumb. and Gas Fitting	Brian Daniel
1977-78	Stuart Streeter	Carpentry and Joinery	William Phelan & Sons
1978-79	Desmond Melton	Farm Machinery Service	Lloyd T Forge

1979-80	Daryl Stewart	Fitting and Turning	Patience & Nicholson
1980-81	Robert Bartlett	Engineering	Patience & Nicholson
1981-82	Leigh Sutton	Motor Mechanic	Casey Truck & Tractor
			Center, St. Arnaud
1982-83	Shane Dellavedova	Motor Mechanic	Colin Dellavedova
1983-84	Robert Durbridge	Not Given	P & N Wiltshire
1984-85	Tracie Hodges		Patience & Nicholson
1985-86			
1986-87	Gavin Cadzow	Avoca	
1987-88	Dean Phillip Jones	Motor Mechanic	K R Little, Daylesford
1988-89	Mark Esmore	Motor Mechanic	Esmore Motors, St. Arnaud
1989-90	Allan Martin	Agriculture	(Father) - Adelaide Lead
1990-91	Martin Heagney	Motor Mechanic	Castlemaine
1991-92	Glen Cooper	Motor Mechanic	Graham Jacka Holden
1992-93	Jarrold Ross		

The Vocational Service report expressed disappointment that our once prestigious award, that had begun in the second year after charter, had been eroded to the situation where we were asked to supply a trophy for somebody else's party.

From 1954 until 1994, beginning with Ron Olver and covering a father son combination, Colin and Shane Dellavedova, there were 38 awardees with 39 awards (one, Graham Porter, won it twice) with ten apprentices from William Phelan & Sons and eight from Patience & Nicholson. This was our last involvement in this area, but we were building up on another front, 'Pride Of Workmanship'.

PRIDE OF WORKMANSHIP

The concept of awarding people for their hard work and achievement started with Rotarian Roy Strachan. Roy was President 1982-83 and Managing Director of the Maryborough Knitting Mill. He was a stalwart of the slogan that appeared about this time, 'Do it Once, Do it Well,' and to have pride in ones work. What better than 'Pride in Workmanship'.

Those awarded in 1983-84 were - Kaye Page, Maryborough Knitting Mill; Chris Rowles, Hedges & Bell; Peter Wall, Fosseys Pty Ltd; and Gerard Halpin, Sherwood Furniture.

It became a tradition that all award-winning persons, with either family or management, were guests of the Rotary Club for that award evening. Six companies offered to participate in the 1984-85 Pride of Workmanship awards from which there were four nominations: Malcolm Solomano, PT & RF Davies joinery; Betty Ross, Maryborough Fish Processors; Greg Leech, Graham Jacka Holden; and Darren Murrell, Patience & Nicholson. This evening Rotarian Roy was the speaker with his thought provoking, theme 'Do it once, Do it well.'

The normal program of Pride of Workmanship did not take place in 1986-87 but an Employer-Employee night was held with great success. The speaker this evening was Rotarian and Australian Print Group Manager, Trevor Lea, who gave a powerful address. Another big night in the life of Rotary was the Pride of Workmanship awards for 1987-88. Though no names were recorded nor the theme for the year, 75 guests attended the evening where the Mayor Cr Bruce Thornhill made presentations. The guest speaker was Graeme Trewartha, Manager of our Region of Development Committees.

Those who were awarded with their Pride of Workmanship, 1988-89 were from the field of commerce. Jason Steel, Townsing's Bakery; Jenny Elso, ANZ Bank; Dennis Chapman, Don Bruce Toyota; and Lynette Harris, Weir Family Supermarket. They were congratulated for their dedication to their chosen vocations.

At the end of year 1989-90 the awardees had not been chosen but the area of Professional Services had been selected. In 1990-91 these people were recipients of their awards: Administration, Colleen Rich; Engineering, Jenni Allen; Superintendents, John Harris; Community Care & Home Services, Noreen Tardrew; Health & Community Services, Kathleen McFarlane; Municipal Works, Noel Bullock; Parks & Gardens, Kevin Hare, and Ivan LeTisser; and Water, Alan Whitnall.

The Mayor Cr Margaret Harrison and the City Manager presented the awards; Peter Marshall spoke on the Development of a Corporate Plan, this being the 30th Anniversary of the creation of City of the Maryborough.

Over 100 attended the Pride of Workmanship awards night for 1991-92. The Maryborough Hospital was asked to submit names of suitable recipients, and they did, all 15 of them. The Vocational Service Committee decided that if the Hospital Board thought that there were 15 that deserved awarding, we would accept, and award them all. The evening was an exercise in expressing the value of the event, presenting the awards to the thrilled awardees and showing people in the workplace and industry that Rotary does care about perfection, a vital component in today's world.

1992-93 slipped by without any awards. It can be a difficult area to work because Pride of Workmanship awards do take a deal of co-operation from the areas of those chosen, and it was a challenge each year to have a change by selecting new places, not normally recognised. This year we had decided to award those in the Law-and-Order field but were unsuccessful. Off and running in 1993-94, and Small Business was selected - Wattle Office Supplies, Brian Patterson; Flowers by Katie, Katie Bond; and C&R Sheetmetal, Rob Longmuir. Rotarian David Tynan gave a resume of each business as they were awarded. The 1994-95 Pride of Workmanship awards happened on the 22nd of June, too late to be included in the annual report, but the source of the awardees was from the CFA volunteers with a slogan 'a good history of always being there when needed'. No names appeared in the following report and there were no awards the following year, 1995-96.

It was almost a return to the Apprenticeship Awards in 1996-67 for both of the awardees were Apprentices, one from APG (Australian Print Group), (Travis Linton), and the other from McPherson's, Bradley Pyke. Rotarian Lawrence Hass, from McPhersons organised these recipients.

Both of these large printing industries were in Maryborough and business wise plying for the same trade, and thus were in competition with one another.

Under the rules of Rotary, a holder of a classification has to agree if another from the same 'trade' can come in as an Additional Active.

Rotarian Trevor Lea had already done this, to let Lawrence be a member. It was now Lawrence's turn to be the Rotarian mindful of the Four-Way test 'is it fair to all'.

It was a brilliant evening with Lawrence the main speaker, and an amount of friendly jesting between Lawrence and Trevor, much to the enjoyment of all. Certainly, a night conducted without fear or favour, in the true spirit of Rotary, very much as we expect from the members of the Maryborough Rotary Club.

It seems that the Pride of Workmanship awards were taking place about every two years for 1999-2000 there were six people who were recognised as having displayed outstanding service in the field of Small Business.

Rotarian Grant Kennedy used his talents as a photographer to video an 'at work' film on each recipient for, and in place, of the usual citations. This was done with great effect and further enhanced the night.

Vocational Chairman Geoff James didn't let us down either with his presentations of the 2000-01 awards. It was the workers or managers of local business that was targeted with Andrew Earl at Toy World; the McKnight family (Alan McKnight accepted the award on behalf of this group. McKnights started a clothing business in Maryborough many years ago. Since then, they have had stores in many towns including Ballarat and Ararat. Their commitment in Maryborough has included the ownership of the Bristol Hill Motel, Retravision and the continuation of the apparel shop, not to mention property investments); Margaret Rumpff, Proprietor of Maggie's Cafe in High Street; Margaret Stonehouse, countless years of serving at Ritchie's Newsagency; Gary Weatherson, Maryborough Bearings and Industrial Supplies; Sandra Tuckett, IGA Supermarket; Bert Witnish and his wife Mary - Bert at Ritchie's Newsagency and Mary Witnish at the Safeway Supermarket. Both Bert and Mary have retired after distinguished and lengthy careers of serving the public.

The Rotary Club of Maryborough will continue to reward achievers.

OTHER VOCATIONAL PROJECTS

The 1954-55 Vocational Committee proposed as a Jubilee (Maryborough's, actually centenary) Project to conduct a survey of the community to establish the annual labour requirements and the employee availability to fill the annual vacancies. After quite a considerable amount of time and money expended it was found to be impracticable and abandoned.

The 1956--57 committee organised a Vocational Service Forum led by Rotarian Fletcher Jones from Warrnambool and was attended by District Governor S. Brown and past DG L. North, along with 12 representatives from other clubs. It was an outstanding success, Later in that year, Mr. Harry L Rushton, Managing Director of Personnel Administration of Australia Ltd, addressed the club and later gave a further address supported by a film. Executive and Administrative Directors of local industries accepted an invitation to be present. A further visit from a representative of the Snowy Mountains Hydro Electric Authority was also an outstanding success.

James Rogan, who was awarded Apprentice of the year for 1957-58 was given \$700 to further his studies under the auspices of Victorian Overseas Foundation. Jim was employed by the Canadian Comstock Company. Later he joined the Education Department, at Ballarat, teaching his trade.

In 1960, some 500 students from the three secondary schools, the High, Technical and Brigidine Schools were addressed, in the Town Hall, by Mr. Frank Eyre, Manager of the Melbourne Branch of the Oxford University Press on the subject of Books and their Publishing. An exhibition of hundreds of books was displayed for the students and the public.

A successful careers night was held in 1963 with the co-operation of the District Employment Officer and addressed by Mr. F. H. Brooks, Assistant Director of Education. Another Careers night was held in 1965. At some of these award nights, Rotarians were enlightened on the trades of Gardening, Bricklaying and Watch Making.

In 1976 Rotarians accepted the responsibility of employing fourth form students from the Technical College as a work experience program.

During this year, Rotary visited Chateau Remy Vineyard and Wine Factory, hosted by Rotarian John Robb, the Manager. The process of distilling Brandy and the production of Champagne was explained.

In 1979, another Careers night was held in the Tren Dubourg Hall in Neill Street. A visit to Hedges and Bell (printing works) was arranged in 1981-82 to acquaint Rotarians with the manufacturing sector of Maryborough. The Director of the Chamber of Manufactures was shown the local industries and the industrial areas, gaining a good impression of the industrial development of the city. That evening he delivered an excellent address at the Rotary meeting.

Two Group Study Exchange nominations were presented in 1983-84 for selection at zone level where they acquitted themselves well but unfortunately missed selection at District level. The club was disappointed as it was considered that Geoff Lovett and Leigh Kennedy were excellent representatives. George Barber was selected as Citizen of the Year for his unsparingly voluntary devotion to Wattle House.

A Study School leaver's kit was found to be already available, so this was shelved but the idea of mock job interviews was put to the incoming committee for their consideration.

The members enjoyed a visit to Penny and Lang Abattoirs, Carisbrook, in 1984-85. Stan Lang conducted the tour starting where the animals were yarded through to the cool rooms. Stan was congratulated on his enterprise in establishing a very large industry. The Citizenship award went to Luke Palmer for his long association with the St Vincent De Paul charity. Rotary caps were purchased by most of the members of the club, which it was hoped would give good exposure with future public appearances.

The purchase of 1000 Drug Slide Rules to be distributed to parents of the Technical college, High School and Christian Community College, were to be picked up when school reports were collected. The Advertiser made parents aware of the offer.

Ian Baker, Ballarat Manager of the Australian Fixed Trusts Group, spoke on 'Investments in the 80s' in 1986-87 and visits to the Oakdale Printing Works and Australian Print Group were conducted.

Speaker for the Vocational month of 1987-88 was John Owen, Executive Officer for Maryborough Regional and Development Committee, who spoke mainly on the forthcoming careers Expo and the aims of the committee to set it up. The Expo was acclaimed as an outstanding success and had received much Radio, TV and Newspaper coverage. Thirty took up the interview program and over 200 attended The Expo. The Careers Expo was acclaimed as the project for the year in 1988-89 in importance for the Maryborough region. This (the second) was held in the Sporting Pavilion in Gillies Street and 43 exhibitors attended providing a wide variety of careers. In excess of 1,200 students attended. Coca Cola provided \$1,000 in sponsorship.

The Vocational speaker for 1989-90 was Gerard Mullins from the Maryborough Knitting Mills. Admired for his leadership qualities he was asked back to speak on his methods to improve quality and productivity. The first visit of the year was to the Ranger Treatment Plant for the extraction of gold. Barry Shepherd, the manager, took us over the plant, at Betley, and explained its workings. Deputy Engineer Ross Goynes explained the operations of the water treatment plant when visited by the club. Another visit was organised to the Maryborough Knitting Mill and the opportunity of seeing new techniques in the textile industry was interesting.

The Careers Expo was again the centre of attention in 1989-90, again 1200 attended and over 60 exhibitors were in attendance. The Coca Cola \$1,000 was forthcoming as part of their Youth

Promotion campaign. It was declared that this donation made the difference between winning and losing on the day. The careers teachers from the three schools were praised for their patronage with their students and the question asked, because the whole of the two basketball courts was taken up, 'Where do we expand to next year?' This year the speaker was Victoria Jackson who spoke on the subject of Vocational Service from the viewpoint of the schools.

The 1990-91 the careers expo did not go ahead, and it was not recorded why but the committee was going to great lengths to have 'this worthwhile project resurrected'. A representative from the three secondary schools was on the panel along with the Rotary team. Coca Cola had withdrawn their support but \$100 was donated from Allens-Lifesavers, Cadbury-Schweppes, and the Commonwealth bank.

Much of the year 1991-92 was taken up with countless meetings trying to resurrect the Careers Expo. An enormous amount of work went into the preparation and all looked good with exhibitors attending. The schools seemed to have lost interest and had to be encouraged, on the day, to allow the students even to attend. When they did, the students were flooded in and out seemingly with little explanation or knowledge preparation, leaving one wondering if anyone really had gained any benefit. We hoped so!

It was agreed that the day was successfully run but we would like to see more benefit derived by those we desired to help. With the exhibitors, there was an underlying fact that industry and commerce was now feeling the pinch from the recession and there was a reluctance to promote at this stage.

There was a changing of the guard for 1992-93, the Apprenticeship Awards had been lost and the Careers expo was abandoned after the struggle of the previous year. To replace the Careers Expo, a Garden Expo was proposed, and the same number of enormous hours was utilised in the setting up of this one. It was decided to run it in conjunction with the sporting bodies, but this was a big mistake for their input was minimal except for the supply of the venue. The show was extraordinarily successful although a bit smaller in size than we anticipated - but then it was the first year, and

our share of the profit was about \$1,400. It was well patronised and with great expectation we were looking forward to next year for all the groundwork had been done. This was not to be as a couple of 'people within' had decided that here was something that they could ride on and make a 'fast buck'. Greed killed it off. Rotary was robbed of another great financial raising opportunity. I personally was sorely disappointed at the loss of this potential fund-raising project. I had noted that the Tullaroop Shire had run, for some years, Field Days. As these had run their race it was considered that the time was right for a Garden Expo.

Try as they did in 1993-94, Vocational was reduced to about one industry visit, which was Tuaggra Engineering. Combined with a BBQ it was a good social evening.

Things were much better in 1994-95. Visits to Ken and Lindy Coates' Emu Farm with a lovely ride in Rotarian Graeme Lean's coach and a BBQ was watched over by father-in-law Rotarian Fred Treble. A visit to a winery at St. Arnaud with the St. Arnaud club was a good social event also, then off to another Inter-Club visit with Castlemaine and a visit to Tate's Buggy Coach Restoration Business half way between Newstead and Castlemaine. All had a good time. Attempts to secure Bruce Bond of the ABC to visit Maryborough for an evening to discuss 'retirement and how to achieve it successfully' failed.

Vocational applied itself to the plight of the unemployed in 1995-96. David McKay from Netforce and Jeff Botha from the Area Consultative Committee brought along a speaker, Margaret Seelenmyer who enthusiastically told how traineeships put their business, in Harcourt, (Malden Callas) on the road to success. It was understood that four traineeships were started after. About 100 people attended the evening.

Visits undertaken in 1996-97 were to Central Victorian Photo Lithographers Pty Ltd, the Water Treatment Plant and the Australian Print Group (APG). A fund-raising day at the Cairn Curran Reservoir was arranged with a great day had by all. The theme of unemployment was continued in 1997-98 and a person was set up as self-employed, but this failed though it was said he had, at least, found permanent employment at Avoca.

A kit was presented to the Maryborough Regional College showing year 11 and 12 how to prepare themselves for the job market. A guest speaker to assist students to enhance their job opportunities was sought from TAFE.

A Rotary Plaque was procured to give to the Red Cross Blood Bank to honour its service to the community.

Cameron Taylor was awarded as student of the year in 1998-99 and a careers panel was offered to the Regional College for its approval.

A new approach in 1999-2000 to those at risk was selected. The Wattle Festival was revamped by the new F.A.C.E. (Festivals and Community Events) Committee, which asked Rotary to run a Ball and this was seen as an opportunity to raise funds for the TAFE building project for 'at risk'. The Ball was a great success raising some \$800 of which \$600 was donated through Rotarian Jim Field for the purchase of toolboxes for this youth project. It must be said, the band, "The Impalas", with Rotarian Geoff James, made a handsome contribution to the cause also.

The Vocational Director, Rotarian Shane Dellavedova, attended the monthly meetings of the Maryborough Network Group. With this group aiming to support youth at risk a program is being developed to train Rotarians as mentors in this area of expertise.

By 2000-01, Rotarian Brian Thomas had taken over attendance at the meetings of the Network Group. It was noted that five areas were developed the previous year but only two were showing some results.

It appears that some of the yearly reports may seem a bit sparse, but we have separated some of the Vocational events under their separate headings, but they are all, still, in this chapter. Another area that probably cuts across the Vocational scene is Program for alone in the year 2000-01 three nights out were placed on this calendar and they were, a picture night at the Paramount Theatre with 'Runaway Bride', a visit from the Rotary Club of Wendouree and the Nestle visit, believed to be the only one that was conducted within this factory in their 16 years in Maryborough. A combined club visit to the Clunes Campus of Wesley College and dinner at the Clunes Grand Hotel was enjoyed with the Rotary Club of Wendouree Breakfast.

THE AUCTION

Trash and Treasure, Elephant Sale, one man's trash is another man's treasure, Auction - call it what you may but this innovation may ultimately generate more money for Rotary needs than any other. At the moment only the now-defunct Op-Shop and Art Show would surpass the useable income for Rotary.

During Daryl McLeish's year as president (1988-89), Rotarian Don Bruce asked if we could assist the Salvation Army in the purchase of a truck. Don, of Don Bruce Toyota, had in his possession a suitable small truck that he was willing to sell at a reduced price to this group if the money was available. The Army could not manage all the funds towards the purchase of this necessary piece of equipment. Having only just heard of another club raising money in a similar fashion it was suggested to Don that perhaps we could hold a Trash and Treasure Auction. So, the Auction was born.

It was first held in 1988-89. It cannot be recalled where it was held but the princely sum of \$1,200 was raised with a profit of about \$800 but this sum was bolstered to \$1,200, thus allowing the Salvation Army to purchase their vehicle. The 1989-90 profit was \$797.30 followed the next year with \$1,106.35 and \$1,364.20 in 1991-92. All these initial Auctions were held at the Maryborough Drive-In, which was a very suitable venue. It may not have had much covering, but it was enclosed with a fence, and had toilet facilities.

A target amount had been set to assist the Hospital and Hostel appeal in 1992-93, so an all-out effort was made to make this a 'biggie'. Extensive advertising was undertaken and items, from a plastic cup to earth moving equipment, caravans, cars, you name it, all were there. It was massive and probably too big to handle in one session for by the time the last items were offered, most of the buyers had left. Nevertheless, The Monster Auction, as it was called realised a profit of \$4,500 for the day and the appeal. This one was held in the old Phelans shed in Christian Street which offered cover and an area outside for the big items. Today, Mitre 10, Goldfields Child Center and K.F.C occupy that site. \$2,092.95 was the gain in 1993-94, but the biggest was yet to come.

The Council amalgamations in 1994 saw a huge amount of equipment made redundant. It was planned to assemble all this gear at the Carisbrook Raceway for a monster auction. The new Central Goldfields Shire liaised with Rotary, because they had the manpower and the expertise, to catalogue, secure and virtually set up the auction for a percentage of the turnover. This all took place. Rotarian Daryl McLeish, who was a licensed security agent, undertook to stay at the venue over night and was assisted at time with some of the sons and their friends of the Rotary members.

An amazing sum for the 1994-95 year of \$45,942 was turned over with an amount of \$8,743 as our share.

The Carisbrook Auction in 1995-96 realised \$2,360, but in 1996-97 the thinking was why not try a Car Boot Sale instead. This was a disaster as the income was \$587.40 and the expenses, \$762.30. The old saying 'no pain, no gain' and the next year, 1997-98 we had a spell.

The Auction was back on track in 1998-99, this time held in Rotarian Charles Bovalino's newly acquired factory, Maryborough's old Flour mill.

Thirty-eight Rotarians attended that day and \$3,910.60 was the result. In 1999-2000 an auction profit of \$1,562.40 was recorded. This year, 2002, it is estimated that a profit of approximately \$5,000 will be made. The Auction is still as popular as when it started, and an excellent revenue earner. A rough check reveals that \$26,439.50 has been raised from Auctions to date and before this year ends, another Auction will have taken place.

THE BRIAN DOWIE CONSERVATION PARK

There is a story behind the naming of this park and much of it began long before this facility was even considered. Its evolution and eventual name was a sequence of events that ultimately honoured a man who had taken a leading role in conservation, with a passion, over many years, through many meetings and many hours of land caring.

This man was one of the first to embrace the new Rotary approach, which subsequently could have been an offshoot of his own creation, Preserve Planet Earth. He became a member of the District Preserve Planet Earth Committee and was, through his previous and long association, an adviser to that body. He was one of the first to become involved in The Carisbrook Park concept, for conservation, when Rotarian Brian Thomas proposed it.

It was he and two others who took up the challenge of land degradation, following some earlier attempts around Hamilton and St. Arnaud. After a while working with Alison Teese, of Carisbrook and Terry White, from Maryborough, they formed a deputation to the then Premier of Victoria, Joan Kirner and the world organisation, "LAND CARE" was born.

All three were honoured with Tilly Aston Achievement Awards at the Carisbrook Australia Day 2001 celebrations.

A short time into the project with his involvement in planning, Brian Dowie was struck down with a debilitating illness where it was feared that survival might not be possible, but in true fighting spirit he continued on and remains reasonably well, though incapacitated, capably looked after by his family.

The Brian Dowie Conservation Park was proudly named after him, by his Rotary Club, The Rotary Club of Maryborough. Our Rotary District 9780 also recognised Brian's commitment and forwarded a \$1,000 grant to the park's improvements.

As indicated, Rotarian Brian Thomas fostered the idea of a Conservation Park at the corner of Castlemaine and Maldon Roads, Carisbrook. This seven-acre site had not seen much improvement, maybe ever, and had at one time had pine trees planted on it when it was thought these could generate some capital.

In 2000-2001 further tree plantings took place as a result of work done by Barbara Willis in securing tree planting throughout Carisbrook. A bus load of students from Maryborough Secondary College planted 350 shrubs and trees in the Arboretum and most of them are putting on good growth. A grant from Parks Victoria for the gold mine interpretive centre allowed us to proceed with the planning and research and to let a contractor fabricate a steel interpretive shelter. The members at a working bee set this shelter in concrete and later concreted a base below it complete with a Rorav Wheel inset.

Research, into Chalk's No 3 shaft, was carried out by PP Daryl McLeish, President of the Carisbrook Historical Society. Rotarians Gerard Harris and Tom Davies jointly produced the information boards.

Unfortunately, the text says, 'Chalk's No 2.'

Rotary was also successful in gaining another grant for some picnic tables and seats.

Back in 1998-99, Rotarian Charles Townsing's year as president, there was a main gas line leaving Carisbrook to Horsham. Charles had some huge stones from this work moved onto the site and they have been used effectively bordering a walkway to the mine site display. The pictures here will do more to explain the progress and give a good idea of the format. Apart from the gazebo, a stone cairn was erected housing a brass plaque with relative information. Much information has been gathered regarding the area, mining and flora that can add to the interest of the place.

The Chief Commissioner of the Central Goldfields Shire at the time, unveiled the Cairn with Rotary and the Dowie family present; and during the Carisbrook 150th Birthday Celebrations on the

weekend of June 30th and July 1st 2001, the opening of the Brian Dowie Conservation Park was enacted.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

In the first year, 1952-53, an Asian student from the University of Melbourne was a guest, as were two Thai Airmen. The club received many letters of congratulation regarding its chartering from Rotary Clubs across the world. Over the years it became the norm to write to overseas clubs sending them publications and information about Maryborough. At the first Christmas dinner, Mr. Thoman of the American Embassy was the guest speaker. In 1956-57, the Press Attaché of the Information Service of India addressed the club on the major problems and achievements of administrations in his country. The club recognised the international activities of the Save the Children Fund by contributing over the many years. The guest speaker for international Week during 1958-59 was Dr. H.C. Robinson who described procedure at a conference of Asian students convened in Queensland for the purpose of endeavouring to provide better rural education for Asian communities. Other speakers during the year were the Professor Amrine from the Rotary Club of La Fayette, Indiana, USA and Dr. Sorg Tjoe Gie, the Commercial Secretary of the Indonesian Embassy, about economic and industrial life in his country.

In 1959-60 the club entertained 19 Asian and Ceylonese Students for a weekend. Included was a visit to Rotarian Ian Williamson's farm at Carisbrook which included an enjoyable picnic lunch. They also visited the Ballarat Begonia Festival.

Local new-Australians were entertained in 1960-61 at a club dinner and about 20 of the English Speaking Union entertained for a weekend of slides and local places and given information to send to Canada.

From 1961-62 until 1969-70 the International Service was in charge of a Rotary Foundation. Mr. Frank Hopkins, the American Consul General in Victoria and Tasmania addressed the club and during World Understanding Week, Mr. R. Sheith, an Indian businessman at that time residing in Australia, was a speaker.

Rotary President Aubrey Baker gave an address on the Rotary Foundation over the radio, which was also printed in the press.

Another group from the English-Speaking Union, who had visitors with them such as student teachers and post-graduate students from England and the USA, and a lecturer in Law from the University of Melbourne, were all entertained at Rotarian Ian Williamson's farm, Carisbrook.

From 1963, many worthwhile projects were undertaken including assistance with school requisites for Sarawak, educating two students from Hong Kong and assisting District 278 in sending livestock to East Pakistan. In 1967-68 a hand bore set was made available to International Community Projects for sinking wells in the arid areas of India.

World Understanding week was celebrated in a successful manner in March 1964 with the co-operation of the City Council, Radio 3CV, the Swedish Consul and Mr. Bob King, M.R.H, and the English-Speaking Union made another of their many return visits.

Attempts were often made to contact overseas clubs, not always with success, but correspondence and photo slides were exchanged with Seremban Club, Malaysia. Maryborough Rotarian Aub Baker visited this club and presented them with the publication, 'Land of the Southern Cross.'

In 1965-66 our matching club was Yamagata in Japan, with whom greetings were exchanged. The first Group Study Exchange arrived in Maryborough in 1967, seven young men from District 676, Tennessee, USA, studying various vocations during their time here. F.A.I.M. (Fourth Avenue in Motion) was strongly supported in 1972-73 with \$83 being donated to the National F.A.I.M. Committee and I.P.A.C. (International Projects Advisory Committee) was also supported. Eleven overseas members of the E.S.U. (English Speaking Union) were hosted in 1973. The E.S.U. members and their guests from Asia again visited in 1976.

Robert Parker employed at the Maryborough Knitting Mill was selected as a member of the Group Study Exchange (G.S.E.) team to visit Cleveland, Ohio U.S.A. During August, September and October, of 1974, he spent six weeks in District 663. The same year the visiting G.S.E. team from Louisiana spent two days in Maryborough as did a team from Sweden in 1976.

A book on Maryborough was forwarded to the Rotary Club of Blenheim, N.Z. in 1975-76 and information was exchanged with the Umatali Club, Rhodesia (Zimbabwe).

An Australian Volunteer was supported in 1977-78 to Asia to offer skills, not for monetary award, but out of the desire to extend friendship and share knowledge. This two-year appointment was for the 'Advancement of International Understanding, Goodwill and Peace.' The volunteer sponsored by Maryborough Rotary was Carol Jenkins, a young physiotherapist from Melbourne, who left in January 1978, to serve in Sarawak General Hospital, Borneo. The cost to Rotary for this project was \$840, which was described as 'covered in a very fruitful enterprise, the sale of pears.' There was an opportunity to supply colostomy bags to a woman in Fiji through Lion President Dr Ghaie, through a Rotary Club in Fiji.

Supporting several projects in 1981-82 was suggested by I.P.A.C. Finance was raised by a raffle of a painting at the Art Show. The supported causes were footwear for leprosy patients in New Guinea; Garden Tools for a School in Salamo; Onesua High School Library in Vanuatu; help for a student from Vanuatu who was attending the Maryborough Technical College and a donation of \$100 was made to the Tongan Cyclone Appeal.

Thirty-two new members of F.A.I.M. including three life members were enrolled. The committee contributed \$200 to F.A.I.M. The title of this committee was changed from International Service to World Community Service in 1977-78. Under the heading of the new title, World Community Service. In 1979-80 the first golf day was organised and after a blustery day \$100 was raised and the pear selling continued, raising another \$200 all of which was going to support Carol Jenkins in Sarawak.

The golf day was a washout in 1981-82 so with mixed feelings, a new date was set with a second round of raffles, including the Art Show raffle, were run and Rotarian PP Frank Lowery donated a shield for the golf competition. The Golf Day (\$270) and the Art Show raffle (almost \$1,000) helped finance the 1983-84 year.

The District was sponsoring a project in Tonga, Fish Farms, to which we donated \$150, \$100 was raised from member donations. I.P.A.C. received \$250 to be divided between Zimbabwe, Preventative Treatment for the Blind and India, Blinding Malnutrition.

A donation idea was devised so that 'members' could donate \$2 each on their birthday. \$200 was raised and the Maryborough club contribution had reached \$600.

The name International was back for 1984-85 but the contributions were less due to smaller returns from fundraising. The Art Show raffle was substantial, but the Art Show ran at a loss and needed funds. The golf day was again faced with bad weather which saw lower patronage.

Nevertheless F.A.I.M. received \$200 for Jane Sharwood, as Maryborough Representative, to Papua New Guinea; \$100 Project Eye Camp, Bangladesh; \$100 Aid to needy Students, Malaysia; \$200 Ethiopian Appeal; \$160 Interplast Australia. Funds were gained from The Op-Shop, Golf Day; Inner Wheel, Maryborough Golf Club and memberships.

A Lindsay Brown concert party made a profit of \$400, as did the Golf day. Yes, it was a washout again, but the raffle saved the day in 1985-86 and almost another \$100 was donated by members.

Donations were made to the 3H program (Polio Plus) \$250. The Salvation Army Boys - Boroka, \$400 and \$400 the Mt Hagen (in the Islands) Health Department to improve water supply.

The 1986-87 commitments were almost solely towards the Polio Plus program. The club had been given the task of raising \$9050 towards this appeal of eradicating Polio, plus six other diseases, from the world. A bumper golf day (for a change) was welcomed, which assisted the funds greatly, also a levy was placed on the membership of \$1 per member each week. Inner Wheel, the Art Show raffle and the Rotaract Club all kicked in and a sum of \$6,112,64 was raised with \$4,903.20 sent to Rotary International. We had \$2,938,36 to go. The District total to be raised was \$398,000.

But not all was happy on the ground for Swan Hill had won the Frank Lowery Shield with Greg Carter and Geoff Ward taking it away (unthinkable). Some skulduggery (nothing underhand of course - unless!) and much practice may be necessary to get it back. (war ... mmmmm?)

The golf day, in 1987-88 was again good (what about the Frank Lowery Shield?), 100 competed and a massive hamper raised \$375 so \$50 was given to Rotaract for their contribution.

A Group Study Team from Natal Province, South Africa spent three and a half days in Maryborough before being driven to Tullamarine. The team comprised a Zulu, an Indian and three of English Extraction. (We only mention the makeup of the team to highlight world understanding in Rotary). A ladies' night was arranged for the Monday night and the team fielded some very difficult apartheid questions. Contributions were made to F.A.I.M. and Rotary House during the year. A Dutch Auction raised \$111.70.

The club was awarded a 100% banner for fulfilling its commitment to the Polio Plus project. About \$9,500 in such a short time was a tremendous achievement for the members.

Two good Golf tournaments and a couple of good Art raffles made the task easier, not to mention the contributions from Inner wheel and Rotaract, etc. Even so, the club awarded four Paul Harris Fellowships, at \$1,000 each, (American) and were planning to repeat this number again. The Golf day was well attended again in 1989-90. Swan Hill was there, we won back the (our) shield (just as well!) and \$412.86 was the reward for a good day.

We, 39 in all, travelled to St. Arnaud for a combined dinner with the Swedish Group Study Team and Club visit. Maryborough hosted the team for half a day before they had to depart, so we decided to follow them. Whilst here, they visited Capilano Honey, Australian Print Group. then on to Ararat. The committee staged the Maryborough Community Dance and \$207.35 was raised.

An I.P.A.C. project was supported, with \$200 given to supply 'Slumber Kits for Needy Children'. Five children will now sleep warm at night. It was recommended that this program be further supported. The 'Foster Parent Plan' was chosen in 1990-91 with a lad named Kaliavanan from Malayankulam,

India, chosen. \$300 was sent for this project. A drift from the normal fundraisers was tried and a Col Elliott Concert, at the Highland Society was arranged and a good night it was, and \$560 raised. The Foster Parent Plan was continued and the Golf Day held in 1991-92. During 1992-93 letters were received from our foster child telling us of his village in India. The cost per year was now \$360. The golf day was a beauty and put \$900 in the kitty.

Five hundred dollars' worth of books were supplied through Interplast for a set of textbooks for a student nurse from Papua New Guinea. A further presentation of \$500 was made to Ron Beerham for his work on Interplast around the world.

Wendy Burns was chosen as an applicant for an Ambassadorial Scholarship. A Maryborough girl, Wendy was studying Psychology at Ballarat University and hoped to study in America.

The golf day was washed out and re-scheduled: the trophies were magnificent, thanks to Rotarian Bernie Turner. Members walked away with arms full and a healthy profit of \$600. The report said that Rotarian Peter Treble was seen walking away with arms full of crystal, pewter and half the trophies.

The Indian boy was again supported, and the club supported a request from PP Trevor Chapman to supply oversized blood pressure collars needed at Tonga hospital. ('Tongans are big men' was the comment). Plumbing supplies were sought to enable repairs on a Hospital at Tonga, with the help of Rotarian Tom Davies and Ajax Fasteners we were able to oblige.

Big things were bound to happen when Rotarian Charles Townsing took over as Chairman of International. Charles had joined the World Cricket Fellowship. It was not long before England was out here.

The Golf Day again took precedence in 1994-95 with \$600 being Rotary's prize and it was said that Alherne Cupido was off with the trophies this year and the comment was that his handicap should be looked at. Also, there was a bookmaker's stand at the 18th (shhh!).

A Group Study Team from District 2390, Sweden-Poland was being arranged. This team was at the conference and brought back to Maryborough by the attending members and the GSE dinner was held at the station. Visits to Ken and Lindy Coates' Emu Farm, Chateau Remy Avoca, Australian Print Group, Tom Davies Joinery, Capilano Honey and the Goldfields Regional Planning Office were arranged.

More visits to industry and the golf day were revisited, gaining another \$600 for projects for 1995-96. Much of the year was taken up with the selection of representatives for a GSE team from our District to Thailand. Three applied, two selected but at District level neither were selected in 1996-97. The Golf Day came in with \$1,405.85. Sponsored Holes made a big difference to the total raised.

F.A.I.M. volunteers were sought, and R.A.W.C.S. (Rotary Australia World Community Service) was looking for donations to send medical equipment overseas. Rotarian Bernie Waixel notified that there was an amount of unused equipment at the hospital that could be useful.

With sponsorships of \$900 the Golf Day netted \$1500 in 1998-99. Golf raised \$454 in 1999-2000 and much of this was attributed to the sponsorship.

Unused schoolbooks were sought from the scholars to be sent overseas and costs were being evaluated to freight these goods to their place of use.

The Warracknabeal Rotary Club delivered a GSE ream of Scots to us, 'fresh' from their day off at Horsham. With so many Scots and descendants of Scots in the club a visit to their places of interest was arranged and a BBQ was arranged at Rotarian David Tynan's. The five members and their team leader were great company where everyone sang the Scottish National Anthem 'Flower of Scotland' and they were made to feel further at home when Rotarian Daryl McLeish played "Scotland the Brave" on the Pipes.

A series of projects were looked at for the year 2000-01 and some recommended for next year. The golf day was highly successful with about \$1,500 being raised.

YOUTH SERVICE

They can be wonderful to work with, energetic, vibrant, inquisitive, fun loving and willing to learn, it takes one back to when you could do the same things, with the same ease. Mostly, some sort of Rotary activity that generated in house funds contributed to the running of the Youth maintenance but a novel raffle was undertaken in 1998-99 when a scaled down MG TC pedal car was the prize and a profit of \$2,740.00 was a welcome return.

STUDENT EXCHANGE

Early in 1963 it was decided to adopt the 'Student Exchange Program' with arrangements made to host the first student. Viki Bedant was only 16 and stayed from August 1963 until May 1964. Due largely to the enthusiasm of the members and the quality of this student, this venture proved to be an outstanding success so was followed by hosting another student the following year. The first two outgoing students from the Maryborough Club were daughters of members - Bill and Kath Gilbert, and Cliff and Nancy Phelan. From 1981 until 1987 there was only one exchange. The members had had students for many years and as their own children had left home, there was not the same environment or enthusiasm as before.

Continuing requests from District saw most of the members decline a return to Youth Exchange. Free voting always showed two thirds against and one third for. The Rotary Club of Maryborough at this time had around 60 members, so it was realised that there were about 20 members willing to return to Youth Exchange, so a canvas of these numbers was conducted, and it was put to the board with success. Youth Exchange recommenced in 1987. Rotarian Daryl McLeish was the driving force behind this return and became the club student councillor for eight years. By then, Youth Exchange was very firmly entrenched back into the Rotary way of life.

Another thing that was noted at that time was that there was a growing younger membership that had never been involved with Youth Exchange before.

Very few problems were to be confronted, thankfully. Only two students had to be relocated because of family pressures causing situations that were uncontrollable, and on a more serious note, whilst Heath Cameron was on exchange in Canada, his mother was badly injured in a horrific car accident. Heath was sent home by his Canadian host club and was at the bedside when his mother passed away. Heath remained home for about six weeks and returned to Canada to complete his exchange.

At the re-commencement of the exchange program in 1988, we found it difficult to break that barrier and get our club-nominated student selected at District level, for exchange. Once we were able to 'school' our nominees, we had a 100% acceptance. One year we had two excellent students for selection, so not to be outdone, we approached the St. Arnaud Club and they nominated Sarnia

Rawlings who was also successful and completed an exchange to Canada. For some years we had one out and one in during the one year, but this success rate has declined in later years.

In all, the Rotary Club of Maryborough has received as much from the students as the students have gained from their exchange in Maryborough, Australia.

STUDENT EXCHANGE INCOMING AND OUTGOING CHARTS

R.Y.L.A. (ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD)

This program requires selected young people aged between 18 and 24, to attend a week-long bonding and leadership seminar that raises expectations and self-esteem. When a person attends R.Y.L.A., and returns, they then know as a Rylarian. Our first Rylarian explained her experience as, what six days at Glenormiston Agricultural College did for me -

- Met new people from many places who soon became best friends
- Learnt more about my self and the way I feel
- Became aware of some of the skills needed to become an effective leader. The key points to lead gently and communicate effectively.
- Practice speaking in front of an audience. "No one is a born speaker; they are made a speaker through practice."

"These are just a few of the things I learnt at R.Y.L.A. What I'll remember most is the warm feeling we developed for each other in the matter of days."

Rylarian Patricia Govan, the R.Y.L.A. awardee thanked Maryborough Rotary for providing her with the great opportunity to be part of a great learning exercise.

The early camps were held at the Glenormiston Agricultural College, near Colac, then Wimpy's Little Desert Lodge, near Nhill, Kangarooie Princetown near Cape Otway, and Cave Hill Creek near Raglan and Beaufort.

Awardees sponsored by the Rotary Club of Maryborough were

1985 Patricia Govan, 1986 Charlie Johnson & Louise Gowers, 1988 Darren Mitchell, 1990 Christine Alexander, 1991 Shannon McKay, Terri Chandler & John Stroud, 1992-93 Natasha Boyes and Lisa Kaye, 1993-94 Lyal Marshall, 1994-95 Natalie Caulfield, 1995-96 Tracey Dahmes, 1996-97 Jillian Waterson-Broad and Nancy Brown, 1997-98 Sarnia Rawlings, Jason Hendrickson and Craig Jennings, 1998-99 Erin Delahunty, Natalie Rowett and Claire Williams, 1999-2000 Hanna Mortlock and Celia Williamson, 2000-01.

At the RYLA Camp in 1998-99 Rotarian Eric and Marissa Tunks from the Rotary Club of Maryborough officiated as Mum & Dad. Barry Furness and his team rated them as the 'best ever'.

R.Y.P.E.N. (ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM OF ENRICHMENT)

This is a weekend camp at a selected venue where students of possibly non-University ability are tutored in confidence and enrichment programs. Selected students over the years have been - 1988 Peta McDonald and Ricky Rudford. 1989 Stewart Collins and Jamie Barlow, 1990 Amanda Gillett and Lucinda Barber.

N.S.S.S. (NATIONAL SCIENCE SUMMER SCHOOL) (SIEMENS) THEN N.Y.S.F. (NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM)

This program requires that the student is proficient in science and spends a week at the University of Canberra or some other venue.

Attendees over the years have been - 1985 Ingrid Cutter, (Canberra); 1987 Andrea O'Connor, (Canberra); 1988 Rowena Butler, (Canberra); 1992-93 Guy Woodhatch, (U of Melb); Gabrielle Follett, (La Trobe) and Judith Brown, (Monash); 1994-95 Michael Goyne was nominated, 1995-96 Jacinta Knight, (U of Melb); Sally Mangan, (Deakin U Geelong); and Andrew Hogan, (U of Ballarat): 1997-98 Nellie Pierce, (U of Melb); 1999-00 David Symington, (U of Melb); Ashley Laurens and Ewan Dowie, (U of Ballarat); and Sally Hodson, (U of Adelaide); 2000-01 Wendy Field, (Canberra).

In 2000-01 Wendy field was chosen to represent the Rotary Club of Maryborough, her school, her country and herself at the National Youth Science World Forum in South Africa. Wendy was one of 26 from 300 students. Wendy attended Universities in Pretoria, Johannesburg, and Cape Town. Her family, the University of Canberra and the Rotary Club of Maryborough undertook fund raising to assist Wendy in her quest. Wendy was selected to return to Canberra as a student councillor for the 2001 intake.

AUSTRALIAN SCIENTIFIC INDUSTRY FOUNDATION

This is a seminar held for 5 days at Melbourne University and our sponsored student was Jason McKenzie. The benefits derived by the participants at these seminars are very evident in their subsequent reports to our club.

PEER SUPPORT

Early in 1988, a committee established a Peer Support Program in the local secondary schools. A raffle and the weekly Heads and Tails competition provided the necessary \$1,400 to finance the project. This worthy enterprise has been supported since with various proceeds from various efforts. The monies donated were to finance a teacher from one of the schools to attend a special school to address the incidence of student behaviour and cohesion. The program was to have the upper grades as minders and mentors in connection with the lower grades at school class breaks. Peer Support was still alive and well (also supported) in 1993-94

With the advent of the one secondary school that saw the old High School become the Maryborough Regional College, Palmerston Street, Junior Campus (years 7 & 8) and the original Technical College become the Nolan Street Senior Campus (Years 9 to 12), so it was not as necessary to continue with the Peer Support Scheme.

ROTARY ADVENTURE IN CITIZENSHIP

Fabian McHoul was selected by the club to attend this inaugural experience held in Canberra. Fabian later reported that his experience had enabled him to better understand the workings of Government.

BHP NATIONAL ENGINEERING SUMMER SCHOOL

The BHP-NESS '98 brings together 125 students from around Australia who are about to enter final year (12) and are faced with choices, which will influence their future careers. Extensive interviews are offered to spend one week living at a college residence at the University of Queensland attending various lectures and demonstrations. In 1996-97 Shannan Olssen and James Mullins were applicants.

THE CRANBOURNE EXCHANGE

This program involves 12 students from the Cranbourne Secondary College visiting the Highview College and 12 students from Highview visiting Cranbourne each year in an exchange. The habit is that the Cranbourne group is bussed to Melton where they are met by a Maryborough bus and taken to Maryborough. At the end of the stay the same procedure is used. Rotarian Don Bruce of Don Bruce Toyota supplies the bus and Rotarian Daryl McLeish officiates as the 'this end' driver. This is purely a school-to-school exchange ably assisted by the Rotary Club of Maryborough through the aid of transport. In 1999-2000 the Cranbourne students were taken to a farm, bush walking, and gold panning, and enjoyed pizza and video nights.

A visit to Sovereign Hill was undertaken on the return trip in 2000-01.

ROTARY FOUNDATION

The Rotary Club of Maryborough has always been a good contributor to the Foundation.

At the District Conference at Broken Hill, Maryborough charter member, Aubrey Baker, delivered an excellent address on the subject and was asked by the District Governor to serve on the District Foundation Fellowship Committee for the next three years. Aub stayed on and served six years in this position.

This aspect of Rotary service is financed mainly by contributions by the members for their birthday or on some such occasion of major event in their personal lives. After the first thirty years, Maryborough Rotary had contributed \$US1,000 which made it a 900% club.

The Foundation embraced an award called the Paul Harris Fellowship award that could be awarded to a person who had rendered outstanding service to the community, club or organisation. Another avenue was instituted that a member could donate the necessary amount and receive the award for the donation. The highest honour that can be awarded in Rotary is the Paul Harris Fellowship award, and the awardee is then known as a Paul Harris fellow or PHF. This award money and birthday and 'event' donations go to supplement the Foundation and is used for the administering of R.I. (Rotary International), Rotary Scholarships and GSE (Group Study Exchange) Teams. The Rotary Club of Maryborough has awarded about 14 Paul Harris Fellowships. There have also been some awardees who have joined our club, so the list contains all the Paul Harris Fellows that have been associated with the Rotary Club of Maryborough including the new members and of course non-Rotarians.

LIST OF PAUL HARRIS RECOGNITIONS

CLUB RECORDS

LIST DISTRICT GOVERNORS - SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE MARYBOROUGH CLUB (UP TO 2002)

District Governors 1951-1992			
Years	District	Name	Club
1951-52	33	Ted Clarkson	Adelaide
1952-53	33	Alan F. Drayton	Colac
1953-54	33	Les North	Ballarat
1954-55	33	Arthur Hart	Unley

1955-56	33	John Kneebone	Hamilton
1956-57	33	Stewart Brown	Horsham
1957-58	250	Arthur Sampson	Adelaide
	280	Leslie Taylor	Dandenong
1958-59	250	David Clarkson	Woodville
	280	Joseph Bradbury	Essendon
1959-60	250	Fred Claridge	Unley
	280	Horace Bedggood	Melbourne
1960-61	250	Arch Ramsay	Mildura
	280	Ern McCann	Geelong
1961-62	250	Leo Degaris	Naracoorte
	280	Roy Nichols	Heidelberg
1962-63	250	Harry Cartledge	Adelaide
	280	Ern Grainger	Bendigo
1963-64	250	Fred Bennett	Warrnambool
	280	Ern Oliver	Bacchus Marsh
1964-65	250	John McArthur	Ararat
	280	Len Greenwood	Wangaratta
1965-66	278	Bill Wood	Charlton
1966-67	278	Cec Kentish	Mt Gambier
1967-68	278	Bill Sones	Geelong West
1968-69	278	Albert Bell	Geelong
1969-70	278	Walter White	Mt Gambier
1970-71	278	Jim Chisholm	Geelong West
1971-72	278	Bob Pola	Nhill
1972-73	278	Wynton Thorpe	Millicent
1973-74	278	Ian Stewart	Echuca
1974-75	278	Ray Graetz	Warracknabeal
1975-76	278	Murray Mitchell	Geelong West
1976-77	278	Ian Coghlan	Rochester
1977-78	978	Ray Downey	Bendigo
1978-79	978	Alex Davis	Mt Gambier
1979-80	978	Geoffrey Betts	Geelong
1980-81	978	Frank Lowery	Maryborough
1981-82	978	Jack Hill	Colac
1982-83	9780	Jim White	Ballarat East
1983-84	9780	Ellis Bickley	Mortlake
1984-85	9780	Frank Jacob	Warrnambool East
1985-86	9780	Ken Hall	Geelong
1986-87	9780	Barry Downs	Hamilton North
1987-88	9780	John King	Boort
1988-89	9780	Alf Swan	Highton
1989-90	9780	Barry Lange	Geelong East
1990-91	9780	Keith Grimm	Bordertown

1991-92	9780	Ken Broadbent	Colac
1992-93	9780	Jeff Binder	Torquay
1993-94	9780	Dennis Wilson	Geelong
1994-95	9780	Geoff Tually	Horsham East
1995-96	9780	Henry Hudson	Ocean Grove
1996-97	9780	Geoff Anderson	Highton
1997-98	9780	John Oxley	Ararat
1998-99	9780	Ray Welsford	Warrnambool East
1999-00	9780	Bruce Ridland	Mt Gambier
2000-01	9780	Eddie Loughnan	Geelong East
2001-02	9780	Ron Pickford	Ballarat

ROTARY CLUB OF MARYBOROUGH FOUNDATION MEMBERS

	Maryborough Rotary Club	
	Foundation Members - 1952	
1	Baker A.W.	Physician
2	Bassett J.R.	Small 'Tools Manufacture
3	Benjamin V.A.	Estate Agent
4	Boyle T.J.	Garage & Service Station
5	Coutts F.D.	General Law Practice
6	Du Bourg E.R.	Hospital Adminis1ration
7	Ellis T.C.	Hardware Retailer
8	Fisher H.B.	Underwear Manufacturing
9	Forbes W.A.	Flour Manufacturing
10	Holberry T.A.	Life Assurance
11	Kane F.W.	Grocery
12	Lowery F.L.	Aerated Waters
13	Manser R.W.	Surgeon
14	Phelan W.	Building Materials
15	Prescott J.A.	Newspaper Publishing
16	Rasmussen A.W.	Tyre Retailing
17	Ritchie J.D.	Pharmacy
18	Rogan F.H.	Municipal Administration
19	Thonard D .M.	Dentistry
20	Whitney E.E.	Banking - Trading
21	Willersdorf L.A.	Grain Distributor
22	Wills S.G.	Capital Investment

ROTARY CLUB OFFICE BEARERS 1952-2002

Year	President	Secretary	Treasurer
1952-53	V. Benjamin/F. Lowery	T. Boyle	Ed. Whitney
1953-54	F. Lowery	W. Forbes*	H. Fisher*
1954-55	S. Wil1s	W. Forbes	H. Fisher
1955-56	T. Boyle	W. Forbes	H. Fisher
1956-57	A. Baker	W. Forbes	H. Fisher
1957-58	E. Allen	R. Whitmore	H. Fisher
1958-59	W. Forbes	H. Hunter	H. Moorhead
1959-60	G. Bell	H. Hunter	H. Moorhead
1960-61	H. Fisher	H. Hunter	H. Moorhead
1961-62	W. Phelan	E. Allen	H. Moorhead
1962-63	J. Ritchie	E. Allen	F. Moore
1963-64	L. Willersdorf	F. Moore	J. McPherson
1964-65	J. Hedges	J. McPherson	E. Jones
1965-66	Syd Parsons	J. Bagnara*	M. Brown*
1966-67	C. Fuller	J. Bagnara	W. Gilbert*
1967-68	S. Moore	J. Hedges*	W. Gilbert
1968-69	E. Ross	K. Pearson	W. Gilbert
1969-70	W. McDowall	K. Pearson	M. Dunn
1970-71	W. Gilbert	K. Pearson	M. Dunn
1971-72	J. McKay	K. Pearson	C. Mowbray
1972-73	J. Bagnara	R. McLeod	C. Mowbray
1973-74	M. Brown	R. McLeod	C. Mowbray
1974-75	J. Dodgshun	R. McLeod	C. Mowbray
1975-76	E. Du Bourg	R. McLeod	C. Mowbray
1976-77	J. Selmon	R. McLeod	A. Orr
1977-78	D. Hutchinson	T. Spencer	A. Orr
1978-79	R. McLeod	T. Spencer	A. Orr
1979-80	R. Carr	P. Donnelly	J. Dodgshun
1980-81	K. Banks	R. Ison	J. Dodgshun
1981-82	R. Verso	R. Ison	J. Dodgshun
1982-83	R. Strachan	R. Ison	J. Dodgshun
1983-84	C. Smith	A. Hodgens	J. Dodgshun
1984-85	B. Dowie	D. Hutchinson	A. Timmins
1985-86	P. Haythorpe	D. Hutchinson	A. Timmins
1986-87	G. Leech	J. Mckay	A. Timmins
1987-88	I. Zimmer	D. Wiggins	A. Timmins
1988-89	D. Mcleish	T. Lea	A. Timmins/ P. Terrens
1989-90	D. Shaw	R. Cochrane	P. Terrens/ I. Zimmer
1990-91	R. Osborne	D. Mcleish	M. Hine/ R. Power
1991-92	T. Lea	J. Selmon	G. Jongebloed
1992-93	F Treble	J Selmon	R Holland
1993-94	B Thomas	J Selmon	N Jennings
1994-95	P Treble	J Selmon	N Jennings

1995-96	T Davies	B Thomas	A Cupido
1996-97	D Boyes	B Thomas	A Cupido
1997-98	R Brown	B Thomas	P Treble
1998-99	C Townsing	C Knight	P Treble
1999-00	D Bruce	C Knight	E Tunks
2000-01	B Rawlings	P Walsh	E Tunks
2001-02	N Jennings	P Walsh	B Thomas

LIST OF LONG SERVICE MEMBERS CALLED TO HIGHER SERVICE

SOME FUN THINGS TO REMEMBER

We had one new member who never returned after being inducted.

We had another who was given the job of Sergeant and never came back but somehow remained a member for some time, even representing our club at a World Conference in Germany whilst a non-attending member.

We have had only one member that returned. This was Ian Zimmer. Ian was a member in 1953-54 but left the next year to go to Geelong where he actually became a Lion. Ian returned in 1981-82 and became President in 1987-88.

P.H.F.& P.P. Brian Thomas in the 50-year history of the Rotary Club of Maryborough has become the only member to have held all the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer after having only joined in the year 1989-90.

In the 1970s a poem was written about a fictitious project that, it said, involved all the Rotarians at that time in the club. To understand the names that were used in the poem they will be named at the side of the line - it is to be understood that their vocations were used most times in association with the story.

'THE ROTARY PROJECT' POEM

THE ROTARY PROJECT by Daryl McLeish (1978-79)

We though that we would build a Weir (Ken Weir)
 Some said they would like to try (Bill McDowell)
 Bill McDowall doesn't fancy fishing (Ken Rochester)
 In Rochester or Mackay (Jeff Mackay)

When we asked around the club
 David thought he Wood (David Wood)
 Barry said he May (Barry May)
 If Lin Willersdorf could (Lindsay Willersdorf)
 Brian Dowie, he was keen (Brian Dowie)

Said, don't stand in the way
 Jim Drysdale, worried stood there (Jim Drysdale)
 Didn't like the rate of pay
 The Jaycees said they'd help us (Jaycees club)
 But, things went off fine

Rotarians worked like Lions (Lions Club)
To reach the Apex in time (Apex Club)
The Rotary women they were there (Heather McLeish)
Heather, Laurie, May and Jean (Laurie Rochester) (May Lovett) (Jean Hutchinson)
Rory brought some girls along (Rory McLeod)
His regular harem

The day we started in to dig
We had a torrid time
Two Lowery's they were singing (Frank Lowery) (Shirley Lowery)
As we scrambled through the Vine (Jack Vine)
The Jacks were all taken up (Jack Pascoe) (Jack Murphy)
By Pascoe, Murphy, Vine (Jack Vine)
And the John's by Ritchie, Selmon, Dodgshun (John Ritchie) (John Selmon) (John Dodgshun)
Were finished just in time
The Parsons and McGregors (Syd and Wes Parson) (Duncan McGregor)
Were working side by side
Hugh said we'll need More-head (Hugh Morehead)

If the fishing is to be fine
Tren was there as usual (Tren duBourg)
With pin and badge and flower
And something else we noticed
He sat down every hour
Peter Donnelly broke his pick (Peter Donnelly)
Clarrie knows a Smith (Clarrie Smith)
Bill Gilbert says he hasn't a forge (Bill Gilbert)
That he can fix it with
Peter Munster, said come hurry (Peter Munster)
Ken, the Banks are a' crackin' (Ken Banks)
To fix it Osborne grabbed a team (Bob Osborne) (Ken Purcell)
Purcell, Forbes and Strachan (Wally Forbes) (Roy Strachan)
Tom Ellis, where is Jonesy? (Tom Ellis) (Reg Jones)
I know he can't be far
Tom Spencer, go and tell Reg (Tom Spencer)
To get him in the Carr' (Reg Carr)
Koos, was that a train Den-Hooting? (Koos den Houting)
Peter Haythorpe it was a bell (Peter Haythorpe)
Don Bruce had asked Malcolm Dingle (Don Bruce) (Malcolm Dingle)
Its time to have a spell

Who's going to boil the billy?
The weight watchers said scrub it
But given the opportunity
Charles said he'd Lovett (Charles Lovett)
The drinks and spell was popular
Tea and Big M in a mug
But a publican named Toleman (Ron Toleman)
Produced the favourite jug

The bikkies they were wholemeal

The shortbread was enticing
Frank Harris said I got a cake (Frank Harris)
But Russell has the Ison (Russell Ison)

Anyone for seconds
was the question cry
Syd and Brian yelled for Moore (Syd and Brian Moore)
Tom Ellis did not reply (Tom Ellis)

Rotaract supplied the meals (Rotaract)
Aspinall's not getting thinner (Maurie Aspinall)
McLeish you had better shut your mouth (Daryl McLeish)
Or you will wear a casserole dinner
John Selmon never Tyered (John Selmon)
Hutchinson he just Doug (Doug Hutchinson)
And could that be Ron Verso (Ron Verso)
Swiggering on the jug?
Chas Mowbray, how's it up there? (Charles Mowbray)
Asked Glenn Richards with a grin (GVlen Richards)
I'll put his bleeding lights out
If I ever catch up with him
Bob was feeling mighty Gray (Bob Gray)

Max a little Brown (Max Brown)
You could tell how Cliff was Phelan (Cliff Phelan)

He didn't mess around
The pick came down with a thud
Ken fixed with needle and thread (Ken Banks)
Cliff and Reg just stood there (Cliff Phelan) (Reg Jones)
To check he wasn't dead

Another minor accident
It could have been far worse
Aub Baker called the ambulance (Aub Baker)
But Henry brought the Hurse (Henry Hurse)
The way the work had progressed
It just made Ali-stair (Alistair Williamson)
Rory's gerring tired (Rory McLeod)
Please get him a chair
Rotarian Whitmore had a Rod (Rod Whitmore)
So Allan could find some Orr (Allan Orr)
Fools gold is easily found
But wont Kidd Fred no more (Fred Kidd)
Gordon yelled it's finished (Gordon McRae)
Errol Walsh said, 'look out' (Errol Walsh)

Your standing on my plurry foot
And there's no need to shout
The job was done, the fish were in
Les Durbridge built a stand (Les Durbridge)

Fred was Mayor, he gave a speech (Fred Treble)
He even brought the band (Maryborough Brass)
The Murphy's they were boating (Dennis Murphy)

And there's bikinis in the swim
Birdwatcher Eric's on the bank (Eric Du Bourg)

And binoculars are with him
Rotarians, another project?
You go North, South, East, West
I guess I got my answer
That is a four-way test

GUEST SPEAKERS

Our club has been blessed over the years with some of the best dinner speakers available. Over the club's years, it would be a game man to say which one was the best, but in my 27 years I will stick my neck out and say Peter Tobin, with the portrayal of the account of "The Unknown Soldier".

Peter was an undertaker at Ballarat and was selected to go to France with the team to exhume the remains of The Unknown Soldier. His account of the whole procedure was nothing short of brilliant, intriguing, and captivating. But then everyone would have their own favourite speaker.

FELLOWSHIP

What a wonderful side to any organisation is fellowship. Rotary with its all for one and one for all attitude has the makings of a bonding fellowship within.

The Sergeant and his fine sessions are generally the fun part of the evening and the ability of the members to be laughed at and to laugh at without reprisal is the sign of great mates. It is hard to single anyone out for the top award, all have been great. Remember the one that you thought 'this will be a dour year.' that turned out to be almost the best! Errol Walsh took some beating with his fluent 'ockerisms.' His 'loudmouth' shovel and 'nature's helicopters' (blowflies), kept one guessing and amused at the same time. David Boyes has the ability to 'make the most' of any occasion too.

Other fellowship is developed by the many outings organised through-out the year and the years. B.B.Q's, dinners, changeovers and special events add to the relaxing times had with Rotary friends. Working bees are also a great social time with much jesting and ribbing and the only serious thing thought is how to 'get 'im back'.

Some of the standout times could be Clarrie Smith's Magical Mystery Tour, which after a 'trip around the world' ended at a hotel at Avoca, another was a dinner at the Maldon Hotel. The tour in Graeme Lean's bus around the gold areas to Guildford and the subsequent dinner at the Black Duck (hotel) was much appreciated, as was the dinner at the fish farm at Smeaton, who remembers except they were great. The Bone China place out Amphitheatre or somewhere? Who cares! Great nights!

The king of them all was the Rotarian Reg Carr Mystery Train Ride. One had to be there to appreciate it. It could never happen again in a lifetime. The train left the Maryborough Station early, with a couple of passenger carriages and a couple of cattle trucks, maybe more. There were lots of, well, refreshments, and 'some' food. In one of the cattle trucks there was also a band to dance to. Off we headed as the night became inky. We ended up at Castlemaine but didn't stop there, changed lines and on to Malden. At Malden as the engine prepared for the return journey a ute arrived with more,

well, refreshments. We danced and sang, some quenched a thirst as we rode the night away until our return ticket was spent.

It is fair to say there was hardly a man standing.

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS

The Maryborough Rotary Club, and particularly PP Charles Townsing has been heavily involved in promoting International Fellowships at club levels.

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF CRICKETING ROTARIANS (IFCR)

The International Fellowship of Cricketing Rotarians was formed at the Melbourne Rotary International Conference in 1992 at the Melbourne Cricket Ground Long Room, this being part of the House of Friendship in Rotary. International President and former RI Board member, Geoffrey Pike, from the UK and Australian Secretary, Gordon Fenwick, Mount Lofty-Stirling Rotary Club, South Australia were in attendance. Keen interest was shown in Australia with the membership climbing to over 200 in eight years.

An IFCR tour of four weeks to the U.K. comprised Qld, WA and NZ, all playing under the logo of the IFCR. As this was the first visit to the UK most of the team members met one another for the first time at the airport. The team consisted of 16 members, 13 of whom were travelling with their partners. (Maryborough Rotarian Charles Townsing was chosen as an all-rounder). The highlights of the tour were the home hosting and the international friendships made. The team was fortunate to only lose one of the eight fixtures played.

After this tour, President Peter Daly, NSW, Secretary Gordon Fenwick, SA and eight board members were elected. Rotarian Charles Townsing represents Maryborough on the board. A second tour was to the UK in June 1997 for four weeks. Once again Charles Townsing was selected amongst the touring party. Home hosting was again most enjoyed. The last week of the tour saw the first official IFCR Festival rake place between the United Kingdom, Australia, India and New Zealand.

In February 1999, the second IFCR Cricket Festival was held in Chennai in India. The Australian team was this time led by Bob Aitken (CEO of Rotary Down Under). Maryborough was again well represented this time by Charles Townsing and new fellowship members, Rodney Brown and Peter McRae. The tour was for ten days duration with matches being played every day. In order to beat the Indian heat, all matches were started early in the morning with most matches being completed then by early afternoon. On this tour there was no home hosting as in previous tours.

The Australian Rotary touring team won the test match against the United Kingdom team. Kookaburra Australia kindly donated the tour equipment with the expressed wishes that the equipment be donated to a worthy cause in Chennai. A group of the Australian Rotarians made an official visit to the Rotary Club of Chennai Towers and became aware of an orphanage that was benefiting from a current Rotary project in which Chennai Towers club was involved. Arrangements were made for the Australian members to visit this orphanage and present the cricket equipment to the children. This proved to be a very moving experience for the Australian members.

The Chennai Towers Club was involved in a building program at this same orphanage. Such was the emotion of the visiting members, it was decided by most members that it would be a terrific opportunity to help with this project. Matching grants were organised and in all, six clubs within Australia contributed to the program, which enabled a far greater development to take place.

At the 1999 Singapore Rotary International Conference, Rotarian Charles Townsing along with his wife Faye and son Joel, manned the House of Friendship IFCR Information Booth, taking along touring cricket jackets and uniforms, photos, and membership forms. Some very unusual questions were asked about cricket.

In February 2000, the IFCR toured both the North and South Islands of New Zealand for three weeks. This tour was led by IFCR Australian President, Peter Daly of NSW. Hosting was again the highlight and the cricket quite social. Travelling at the same time through New Zealand on a different itinerary was once again the United Kingdom team. Both tours were coordinated so that they would finish their tours in Auckland. Whilst in Auckland a small carnival was run where both countries met each other in official IFCR games. The return Test between Australia and the United Kingdom saw this time a victory to the United Kingdom team.

Since the IFCR was formed in 1991, reunions and cricket carnivals have been played in Mildura, Bathurst, Armidale, Adelaide, Melbourne, Strath Creek and Yass. England IFCR have toured Australia twice, the second in 1998 where they played at Maryborough and were hosted by the Maryborough Rotary Club members for a few days. Everybody enjoyed the firsthand experience of witnessing a true Rotary Fellowship in action.

The membership of the IFCR is currently around the one thousand member level.

THE INTERNATIONAL GOLFING FELLOWSHIP

The IGFR, (International Golfing Fellowship) 33rd World Golfing Championships came to Australia for the second time in 1996 with 400 Rotarians coming from 22 countries. Maryborough's Charles Townsing entered the Fellowship Division C Grade Champion Cross.

With scores of 97 - 95 - 91- 87 on a par course of 75, Charles took out the C Grade Championship.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE FELLOWSHIP OF ROTARIANS (RVFR).

This worldwide Fellowship operates in Britain and Europe under the title of International Caravanning Fellowship of Rotarians. (ICFR) and in the U.S.A., New Zealand and Australia as RVFR. The Victorian Zone of the Fellowship has 48 members representing many of the Clubs and all of the Districts.

The objective of the fellowship is to promote caravanning, camping and the use of recreational vehicles for the enjoyment of Rotarians and partners, and their friends. Membership is available to all Rotarians. The group has three activities per year (musters) in different parts of Victoria, typically an activity is over four nights and includes a visit to a local Rotary Club.

The Victorian Zone had its first muster in February 1995 at Dromana with 16 people in attendance; at the 21st muster in November 2001 the number had grown to 80. There have now been 22 musters and the Fellowship consists of good friends who enjoy each other's company and welcome new members.

The Muster held at Maryborough in November 1998 is still remembered with great pleasure by the members. Rotarians from all over Victoria were welcomed at the Club Dinner and enjoyed the talk by P.P. Lindsay Willersdorf. In the following days, many eyes were opened as the group visited the Australian Print Group, the Railway Station, Dunolly goldfields, and then went on the Historic Treasure Hunt including special items of interest in Amherst, Talbot, Clunes, Stoney Creek Oils and Mt Lonarch Fine China.

P.P. David Shaw and P.P. Brian Thomas are members of the Fellowship, and Brian is currently Chairman Elect, and the group looks forward to continued growth and perhaps activities with its Fellowship members throughout the world.

INNER WHEEL

The first Inner Wheel Club was formed at Manchester, England in 1923. By 1930 there were 35 clubs in Britain and in 1931, the first overseas Club was formed at Ballarat. Inner Wheel was primarily formed to promote friendship among the wives of Rotarians and through that friendship render service. Members feel that any contribution that they can make towards better relationships and understandings between members and those of other clubs is worthwhile.

Projects organised for charities, besides benefiting the community, provide an excellent opportunity for forming and furthering friendships.

The Inner Wheel Club of Maryborough received its Charter on November 26 1957. Mrs. Vee Baker was the Charter President. Jean Ritchie was the only charter member to 'have seen the distance' being present when the Club Folded in the year 2000.

Jean recalls that the club in Maryborough was the brainchild of Vee Baker and everyone was very reluctant to warm to the idea, we were all too busy, but Vee, who was a very persistent person, finally got her way and we were off and under way. The club met every fourth Tuesday at one of the members' homes and over the years supported by donation VISCA, Red Cross, Ladies Benevolent, Wattle House, Save the Children Fund, Salvation Army, Bushfire Appeals and Fire Brigade, to name a few. Other times assistance was afforded through Rotary projects with both funds and on some of the bigger occasions like Skin Cancer and overseas projects. The Inner Wheel was of valuable assistance in the administration area, along with their Rotary partners. Inner Wheel members also played a big part during the years that the Rotary Art Show operated.

In conjunction with other service clubs, Rotary presented the Maryborough Hospital with a tympanic thermometer, and a young disabled man with a wheelchair and a hoist.

The club had friendship days with other clubs in the district, where they have had garden parties, mannequin parades and a silverware display. Often members were volunteers at the Rotary Op-Shop and frequently made donations of clothing and items for sale. It was not uncommon for Inner Wheel to contribute to Rotary's work and \$300 was donated in 1998-99.

During the 90th Birthday of Rotary for which a shop was obtained for a display of all aspects of Rotary, and its offshoots, the Inner Wheel was to the fore and at that time was a member of the District A 60 which comprised of 14 clubs, namely - Ballarat, Bendigo, Bendigo South, Geelong, Geelong East, Castlemaine, Daylesford, Echuca, Highton, Irymple, Maryborough, Mildura, Swan Hill and Wendouree.

RSL LADIES

'The way to a man's heart is through his stomach.

If this old quote is in fact correct, then the Maryborough RSL ladies have the hearts of all the members of the Rotary Club of Maryborough in their hands.

In 1959, the RSL ladies commenced catering for the weekly Rotary meeting, and have over the next 43 years, prepared and served, approximately 80,000 three course meals, at all times considering the likes and dislikes of our members and in particular those with special dietary requirements.

Initially the ladies worked in rather primitive conditions, with only an IXL wood stove for cooking and all water for washing up etc. boiled in kerosene buckets outside. The meals, however, were always of the highest standard and ready to be served at 6.30 on the dot for, at times 70 or 80 people.

Over the years the kitchen has been continually upgraded to meet ever changing health requirements, and to perhaps make the ladies lot a little easier. However, there are still many hours of hard work put in every Thursday to ensure a quality meal is ready to be served as soon as our call to order bell rings at 6.30pm.

The members of the Rotary Club of Maryborough sincerely thank the Maryborough RSL Ladies Committee for their dedication and service co our club, and also congratulate them for their loyalty, dedication and service to the RSL movement, and the Maryborough Community at large.