

ROTARY CLUB OF PORT FAIRY INC

Registration No: A002126/C

District 9780



Annual Report 2021-22



To be presented at Changeover Dinner on 20 June 2022



Membership of the Rotary Club of Port Fairy Inc.

Club Executive (Board Members) 2021-22

President:Jill Gleeson
Past President: Tony Bawden
President Elect: Graeme Cox
Secretary: Harry Bracegirdle
Treasurer: Jeff McLean
Director - Youth/International Service:Geoff Coxall
Director – MembershipBill Moore
Director- Community Service/Environment:Michael Crowe

Membership listing at 20 June 2022

Tony Bawden	William Moore
Maureen Beattie	Brett Murray
Reg Beattie	Annie Ridgway
Harry Bracegirdle	Sue Robertson
Margaret Broers	Kristie Simpson
John Clue	
Graeme Cox	
Mllee Cox	
Geoff Coxall	
Adrian Crosier	
Michael Crowe	
Barbara Eldridge	
John Ellard	
Jill Gleeson	
Joanne Levey	
Andrew Long	
Jeffrey McLean	

Members who left the Club

NIL



New member – Annie Ridgway

Incoming Club Executive for 2022-23

President: Graeme Cox
Past President/Rotary Foundation:.....Jill Gleeson
President Elect: TBD
Secretary: Mllee Cox
Treasurer: Jeff McLean
Director - Youth/International Service:Geoff Coxall
Director - Membership:.....Bill Moore
Director - Community Service/Environment:.....Michael Crowe
Director - Public Image:Harry Bracegirdle

President's Report

We have survived another Covid year. I remember back 12 months ago feeling excited about working with a great group of Rotarians, with a passion for community service and friendship. I thank all the members for giving me the privilege and honour of being their Club President for the past year. Also, I would like to thank my wonderful Board for their energy, direction, support, ideas & commitment to their positions. I would also like to thank my Secretary Harry Bracegirdle who gives 110% to everything he does for our Club. Thank you, Harry.

Covid lockdowns impacted our Club's usual meetings where we could gather resulting in Zoom meetings for the first half of the year, which the Club embraced with the odd hiccup.

As we had been locked down, we felt there was a real need to base the year on the Environment and Community service. Our Club has always been committed to community service for our town. Providing a BBQ for the Murray to Moyne Bike Riders after a two-year break due to Covid and Port Fairy Marathon Community Runners Festival for the first time, which one of our members Michael Crowe did the 10km circuit and achieved fastest time in his age group.

It was also wonderful to have the opportunity to celebrate 100 Years of Rotary in Australia & New Zealand and share this with PP Tony Bawden. To commemorate these 100 years, we proposed to have a Rotary centenary clock erected in the main street, which was rejected by the Moyne Shire, then it was suggested to replace one of the existing clocks in town, but that was met with rejection too, due to the Rotary logo on the clock face being seen as advertising and not in keeping with the heritage of the town.

Instead, the Moyne Shire decided to erect a water drinking fountain at Charles Mills Reserve (Rotary Park) over on the east side of the Moyne River to commemorate 100 years of Rotary in Australia and 60 years of Rotary in Port Fairy.

Port Fairy Rotary's contribution to the renewal of Battery Hill continued with tree planting at the historic site. This effort was part of a long-term project to return native vegetation, improve public access and restore the historic elements, coordinated by the Shire and local historian Marten Syme. Rotary is one of several community groups that have provided volunteer effort to the project over many years. On a rainy Sunday morning in September, Rotarians and friends got down to the job of planting trees and shrubs. The work was done in small groups to comply with COVID 19 regulations current at the time.

In December, the Club undertook the task of cleaning up the backyard of the local Sea Scouts Hall, which is in a very prominent position in the town. The yard was overgrown (waist-high grass) and had lots of rubbish scattered around. It was a major eyesore as well as being a fire hazard and unusable by the scouts.

The first task was to remove an abandoned ute, fortunately, done for free by a local tow truck operator, Yambuk Towing. The grass required two sessions with whipper-snippers before a mower could be brought in. We had four trips to the tip with the assorted rubbish. Damian Gleeson has kindly volunteered to continue with regular mowing of the site to keep it tidy.

The Rail Trail Centenary plantation is a project and the Club's permanent dedication to Rotary's centenary of service to the people of Australia. The Club was successful in obtaining a grant under Moyne Shire's Council-community Carbon Offset program. This grant will pay for the trees for the plantation.

A site has been selected on the Port Fairy to Warrnambool Rail trail located between Regent Street and the Highway. Planting will be undertaken this winter when soil conditions are suitable. The Club will also install a bench seat at the site, with signage made from recycled plastic, with funds from the Rotary Centenary R100 grant.

The Club has also agreed with Moyne Shire to undertake the ongoing weeding of the garden beds recently established in Barclay Street, Port Fairy and we are also in the process of drafting an Environmental Advisory Brochure for recycling unwanted household items.

Our youth program allowed a local student, Nina Fitzsimmons, a Year -12 student at Emmanuel College, to attend the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) in January 2022.

The Club, along with District 9780 Foundation Grants program, funded part of Nina's costs for NYSF. Unfortunately, again due to Covid restrictions, this could not be held in Canberra and was conducted entirely online rather than the planned event but despite this, Nina enjoyed the participation in the NYSF program and gained valuable Information. Nina was part of a team that took up the challenge surrounding sustainability issues and ultimately winning the challenge.

The RMIT Science Forum held in January 2022 was attended by Noah Hutchins who attends Woodlea Grammar, sponsored by Geoff Coxall (Noah's grandfather), is a program is for year 9 and 10 students.

Rotary Victoria has been engaging with Ambulance Vic, to provide mentors for ambulance officers and our Club member, Rotarian Andrew Long, took on the role of mentoring Nelly (Narelle) Joseph who works as a team manager in clinical operations at Port Fairy Ambulance station.

Our Club has continued connecting in the local community and beyond with *Books for Newborns*, school awards for both Port Fairy Primary schools, our Club's ongoing commitment to Meals on Wheels, Folk Festival gates, East Warrnambool Rotary Club *Hole in one Golf Competition*. Our Club continues the Sponsorship of Bandari 9-year -old student Evaline John.

Club secretary Harry Bracegirdle set up MS Teams for board members, a platform for online meetings that can be extended to all members, as this option is free compared to Zoom.

Continuing with two meetings per month, the first meeting of the month with a guest speaker, coordinated each month by John Ellard and the second being a business meeting. We also, continued to have five-minute talks by Club members which were a mixture of Happy/Sad stories.

We have continued with member welfare and friendship, welcoming new member Annie Ridgway to our Club taking us to a total of 22 members. We are very fortunate to have such great numbers in our Club especially when we are a small town, as I attended the Probus Club Changeover meeting in March, where they are struggling to attract new members since Covid. Some members have mobility issues making it difficult to attend the meetings and they are now down to seven members and wondering if they can continue.

Our Club hosted a very successful District 9780 Conference in Port Fairy, with the theme being **RESILIENCE – RENEWAL - REGENERATION**. As Club member John Clue was District Governor for 2021/22, the conference was hosted in Port Fairy, and this was a new experience for our Club and was well-received by all who attended. It was highlighted by an interesting collective of quality speakers, with the Reardon Theatre being a very suitable conference venue, followed by a memorable evening at the conference dinner. My thanks to John Clue and all the members and Friends of our Rotary Club, also to Harry's task sheets and Jo Levey's troubleshooting. I have to say how proud I was of what the Club produced overall to run this conference.

The Club upgraded some equipment this year including a new gazebo with current Rotary branding, a BBQ used for catering, a small table and chairs for selling raffle tickets with a Commonwealth Government Volunteers Grant.

The Friends of Rotary held a very successful afternoon Trivia quiz to raise funds for Cancer research. Thanks to friends of Rotary for your great commitment to Rotary and the community.

As with other years, our Club has once again made donations to various humanitarian groups as well as clubs and organizations within our community. A list of these can be viewed in our Annual Report.

The Rotary Club of Port Fairy can be very proud of its achievements, and I thank all members for their support, hard work and commitment to all the various activities that we have undertaken over the past year. I wish incoming President Graeme Cox and his Board a successful Rotary year and I am sure with the ongoing support of members this will be achieved.

Jill Gleeson - President, Rotary Club of Port Fairy. (2021/22

Planting at Battery Hill



Cleaning up the Scouts' premises



Financial Report 2021/22 (as mid June 2022)

Activities	Notes	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
Club Operations				
Income	\$14,437 <i>Meetings, fines, membership dues, Fees etc</i>	16825	\$23,410	\$27,599
Expenses	17,458 <i>Meetings, Rotary Subs, admin exp, Equip.</i>	16141	\$24,714	\$29,178
Fund Raising				
Income Fundraising Activities	12,206 <i>* see list below</i>	3243	\$37,645	\$27,618
Expenses	2,081 <i>* see list below</i>	447	\$8,224	\$6,175
Grants Projects/Activities				
Income	6,285 <i>Volunteer Grant, Folk/F Gate ,Carbon Offset</i>	8650	\$5,730	\$1,570
Expenses	4,505 <i>Centenary Rail Trail Proj. Nat.Youth Science</i>	3708	\$5,025	\$1,923
Donations Distributed				
Total Donations Distributed	11,537 <i>* see list below</i>	2940	\$32,210	\$20,605
Total Income	32,928	\$28,718	\$66,785	\$56,787
Total Expenses & Donations	35,581	\$23,236	\$70,173	\$57,881
Profit/Loss	-\$2,653	\$5,482	-\$3,388	-\$1,094
Fund Raising Income	Amount	Donations Distributed	Amount	
BBQ Port Fairy Marathon	960	Aust.Rotary Health "Lift the Lid"	\$500	
District Conference Port Fairy	1,795	Aust. Rotary Foundation	\$1,500	
Film Night inc. Raffle	3,652	Bandari Project - Sponsor Student	240	
Dist.9780 Changeover Raffle	975	Belfast Community Pool Group	500	
Spring Raffle	1,715	Donation In Kind District 9780	500	
Summer Paint Raffle	1,008	Foodshare Warrnambool & District	1,000	
Christmas Raffle	159	Marternal Health Books	97	
Collection Rotary Foundation	432	Moyneyana Festival	500	
Trivia/Quiz Function	1,510	PFSLC Nippers	500	
Total Fund Raising Income:	\$12,206	PF Biggest Morn.Tea -Cancer Rsearch	2,500	
Less: Fundraising Expenses:		RAWCS: Dandenong Ranges Storm	1,000	
Advertising & Promotion	22	RAWCS: Flood Relief NSW-Qld	2000	
BBQ Port Fairy Marathon	471	School Awards	200	
Film Night inc. Raffle	1342	The Francis Foundation	500	
Spring Raffle	165			
Trivia/Quiz Function	81			
Total Fundraising Expenses	\$2,081			
Net Fund Raising Income:	\$10,125	Total Donations Distributed:	\$11,537	