



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Committee members: Mike Carter (Chair July–December), Alan Sinnott (Chair January–June), Dave Woods, Lyn Cassar, Ed Achorn, Julian Yeatman and Evan Platchinda.

As usual the Community Service Committee has had another busy but successful year and I would like to thank my committee members for their assistance throughout the year. It was sad to lose Mike Carter during his reign as Chairman. Mike was a valued member of our club and committee but we wish him well in his new ventures.

Our main activity for the year was the successful completion of the Botanic Gardens Project. We installed nine streetlights along the footpaths and surrounding areas adjacent to the tennis club and barbecue rotunda. This was a fairly large project (it seemed to get bigger by the minute), and would not have been possible without the help of so many volunteers. I would especially like to thank Danny Batista and Stevenson's Haulage Company for their donation of much appreciated labour. Of course we had plenty of help also from our club members and David Wilkinson. Pash Demagistris and I spent a fair amount of time planning and completing this project and it was well worth it as it has made the area far more attractive and a great deal safer at night. We held a 'Switch the Lights on' ceremony during June and invited the Latrobe City Mayor, local councillors and media to attend, along with the many Rotarians and volunteers who assisted with this project.

At Old Gipps town we had our annual Moe 'Carols by Candlelight' evening where we provided free sausages (but sold soft drinks) and, as usual, it was very well attended.

We had two large ride-on toy cars given to us that we donated to Baringa Special School. It was an absolute pleasure to hand them over and to see the enjoyment they gave to the students.

A Christmas Raffle was run this year and, given its success, will no doubt become an annual occurrence.

We ran several fundraisers during the year. Barbecues were held at various locations including Bunnings, Querencia, Harvey Norman and TM&H Hardware.

All yielded much needed money for our club. We may be able to add the Hill Climb Club on Coach Rd to our list of venues in the future as they have expressed interest in having us man the gates on special event days.

The cool-room is now complete and has already been put to good use. The barbecue trailer has had an overhaul thanks to Daniel Barry and Barry Dunstan, but more repairs to the burners will be needed sometime soon.

We have ordered three eskies through Neil McCluskey and his contact at Alpine Country in Morwell. These will come in very handy when we cater for future barbecues and Golf Days.



Before Mike Carter's departure, he organised and distributed Medic Alert booklets which proved to be very popular and they were well received. Another project was at the Botanic Gardens where the fishing platform is now structurally finished but awaiting a coat of paint.

A couple of things dropped off our calendar this year, namely the Tru Energy Fun Run and our usual wine tasting night. It will be good to have them back into the calendar for this coming Rotary year if possible.

In conclusion, I wish to thank President Wendy for her magnificent efforts during her tenure, despite experiencing a couple of health issues. I wish incoming President Pash a very successful year and I am sure he will do an excellent job. We will support him whenever and wherever we can.

Alan Sinnott
Chair – Community Service Committee