

ANNUAL REPORT
2019 / 2020

Rotary 
Club of Warragul

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BOARD MEMBERS 2019/2020

President:	Rosemary Allica
Secretary:	Richard Willis
Treasurer:	Andrew Lewis
Immediate Past President:	Ross Dawson
Director of Admin/Club Service:	Sunil Bhatt
Director of Community Service:	Chris Major
Director of Vocational Service:	Andrea Klindworth
Director of International Service:	Diane Carson
Director of Youth Service:	Chris Morris
Communications Leader:	Richard Habgood
Membership Leader:	Ross Dawson



Back: Richard Habgood, Di Carson, Sunil Bhatt, Richard Willis, Ross Dawson.
 Front: Andrew Lewis, Chris Morris, Rosemary Allica, Andrea Klindworth. Ab: Chris Major

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2019 – 2020

When I look back on the year, COVID 19 and the impact on our Club, on the District, on Rotary Clubs in every country and on the world in general, seems to dominate so much of our activities and operations. While COVID 19 has changed the way we operate, it hasn't changed our goals and our intentions and I'm delighted that the Rotary Club of Warragul has (and is) adjusted and has enthusiastically continued to give significant 'service above self'.

While COVID has majorly affected us in the last 5 months, I want to reflect on the full 12 months.

When I began the 2019 – 2020 year as club President, I had one goal: To enhance our capacity as a club to support the community through giving more time to club committees to plan their projects and work in committee teams.

Like many Rotary Clubs, meeting the impact of a changing world for the Rotary Club of Warragul is not easy. The number of members has decreased over the years, the average age of members has increased, the balance between work and person time is different with the many families having two working parents and there is a much greater demand on meeting legal requirements when engaging in projects. Yet, members of the Rotary Club of Warragul remain keen and determined to give 'service above self' at every opportunity. Individuals step forward and take on or assist with projects as much as possible, while still managing to have some fun as a club!



To give the Committees more time to plan and detail their projects, we adjusted our weekly meeting routine – moving to the three dinner meetings a month, with the second week being 'off site' committee meetings. While the change took a while to settle in and needed some tweaking over the months, by December the majority of members voted to continue in the new routine.

The Committee Chairs each developed a strategic organisational plan, set their meeting agendas, regularly checked on project progress, became more independent and continued to share across the club. This has helped us to balance the number of projects and reflect on how we carry them out, fine tuning the work commitment of club members while still giving generously of time, talent and treasure.

During the first half of the year, the club worked on our two major projects, the Arts Show and Raffle and the Christmas Trees. While we were able to complete these fundraising projects in 2019, the club may not be able to complete them in the same style in the next Rotary year, which will have an effect on our fundraising in 2020/2021.

The Arts Show, under the capable direction of Lyn Bennett and the Arts Show Committee planned and presented an outstanding show. Artists work was professionally showcased and the community was treated to a delightful presentation of art pieces. Congratulations to all involved for the wonderful Art Show.

The Christmas Tree project continued to bring joy to many families as they celebrated Christmas. Club members put in many hours harvesting, transporting and selling the trees.

Other projects, described in the Committee reports further on in this Report continued to be carried out by a variety of members, cheerfully putting in hours and thinking to benefit others.

In March 2020, COVID 19 hit Australia and normal routines were not possible. We quickly adjusted and moved to regular weekly contact through technology... a telephone tree was established and meeting online became part of our lives. After some learning to use the new ways of being in

contact, our Club activities and projects emerged as the focus once again. They may be different projects to those originally planned, however the Rotary Club of Warragul continues to strongly focus on giving our service to support the community.

I am delighted to say that the Rotary Club of Warragul has donated over \$54,000 in the 2019/2020 year. These funds were raised through the highly successful Art Show and Christmas Tree projects in 2019. This year, 2020, we may not be able to raise funds in the same style due to COVID 19 restrictions, which will have an effect on our fundraising in 2020/2021.

Therefore, the Board has put aside contingency funds for our own projects and for donations in the next Rotary year. This decision will enable our club through the incoming Board to continue our work supporting the community, despite the deep impact of COVID 19.

I would like to recognise and thank each of the 2019 / 2020 Board members:

Thank you to Ross Dawson, Immediate Past President for his thoughtful guidance and suggestions to myself, his contribution to the considerations of the Board and for continuing to promote membership of Rotary.

Sunil and the Club Administration team, thank you for making sure we had a varied and entertaining program, particularly over the last few months as we moved to online meetings and telephone tree.

It has been a pleasure to work with Chris Major, Director of Community Service. Chris, along with Lyn Bennett, Chair of the Art Show committee and members of the Christmas Tree Committee have ensured that our projects are well organised, closely involve club members and continue to raise an amazing amount of funds to support our club projects.

The International Committee, under the Directorship of Diane Carson has researched and lead us to new ways of long-term support for secondary students in Vanuatu, by investing in their education.

Thank you to Chris Morris, who has so capably lead Youth Service, supporting our exchange student Martina Narvarria and introduced a new way of supporting the education of young people in our community through the School Scholarships.

Richard Habgood has substantially contributed to raising the profile of Rotary through more frequent publicity of our work and assistance to the community. Great work, Richard.

Andrea Klindworth, Vocational Committee Chair has increased our interest and knowledge in sustainability and long-term effects, so that our projects are of benefit to all concerned, both now and in the future.

Many thanks to the thoughtful Richard Willis as he carried out the role of Secretary in wonderfully efficient and effective way.

Andrew Lewis is a 'quiet achiever' and is always so well organised with our funds, financial reports and banking tasks. Thanks, Andrew, for your calm and organised approach to our finances.

A huge thank you to the members of the Rotary Club of Warragul. So many individuals have contributed in so many ways over the year. Sometimes, it's hours of work, sometimes it's thinking of an effective way of managing a task, sometimes it's giving funds. Our members are the reason this club is so amazing... able to plan together to give 'our time, our talents and our treasure' to support the local community and contribute to Rotary International to have a significant collective impact across the world.

Finally, my best wishes to Sunil and the new board they begin the new Rotary year. Sunil, I hope you enjoy a wonderful year as the President of a club that is so involved and supportive. I hope you have many highlights and I'm sure the inevitable challenges will be shared by the team as you navigate the world of Rotary.

Rosemary Allica

79th President of the Rotary Club of Warragul

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer: Andrew Lewis.

Rotary Club of Warragul inc. Financial Statements

For the Period 01/07/2019 to 30/06/2020

			Balance	Total
Opening Balance (as per ledger) 01 July 2019				
Project Account			\$ 4,756.57	
General Account			\$ 6,606.54	
Cash Management Account			\$ 46,078.47	
Art Show Account			\$ 897.81	\$ 58,339.39
<i>Project Account</i>	Income	Expense		
Donations Received/Given	\$ 6,607.00	-\$ 44,201.08		
Pine Trees	\$ 33,855.00	-\$ 9,383.05		
Breathometer Project		-\$ 352.00		
Farm World Project				
Youth Exchange	\$ 400.00	-\$ 2,310.00		
Business Dinner				
Other	\$ 100.60	-\$ 1,823.70		
Total Project Account	\$ 40,962.60	-\$ 58,069.83		-\$ 17,107.23
<i>General Account</i>				
Membership Subscriptions	\$ 11,075.00	-\$ 135.00		
Meals	\$ 16,800.86	-\$ 15,509.59		
Rotary District & International Fees		-\$ 9,637.00		
Other	\$ 631.05	-\$ 3,402.34		
Total General Account	\$ 28,506.91	-\$ 28,683.93		-\$ 177.02
<i>Art Show Account</i>				
Art Sales	\$ 17,315.00	-\$ 13,053.64		
Sponsorship	\$ 19,280.00			
Raffle	\$ 5,810.00			
Prize Money		-\$ 7,100.00		
Venue Hire		-\$ 6,354.58		
Printing		-\$ 3,280.00		
Advertising		-\$ 883.34		
Artist Entry	\$ 4,335.00			
Admission Fees	\$ 3,339.25			
Other	\$ 457.11	-\$ 662.86		
Total Art Show Account	\$ 50,536.36	-\$ 31,334.42		\$ 19,201.94
Closing balance (as per ledger) 30 June 2020				
Project Account			\$ 5,103.68	
General Account			\$ 6,429.52	
Cash Management Account			\$ 48,124.13	
Art Show Account			\$ 599.75	\$ 60,257.08

DONATIONS 2019/2020

Rotary International - Foundation	5,100
Rotary International - Polio Plus	1,000
Rotary International projects	\$6,100
Disaster Aid Australia	2,000
End Trachoma by 2020	1,000
Operation Cleft	500
Lift the Lid on Mental Health - Aust. Rotary Health	500
Rotarians Against Malaria	500
Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children	500
Rotary Australia projects	5,000
Gippsland Centenary House	4,500
Youth exchange - club student support	2,010
Rotary District 9820 projects	\$6,510
Vanuatu project - Central School Scholarships	3,508
Riding for Disabled (proceeds Art Show raffle)	6,000
President's Future Fund - 19/20	5,000
Art Show 2020 cost provision (4)	5,000
Contingency for 2020/21 donations - eg emergency management relief, local mental health (4)	5,000
Warragul Scouts	2,500
Shoes for Kimberley aboriginals	1,719
Secondary school scholarships - 19/20 & 20/21	1,500
Warragul Regional College - school scholarship	1,000
Small Business Awards - Warragul Rotary project	700
BBQ for hospital workers	500
Funeral clothes for Alice Springs aboriginals	202
Warragul Rotary club projects	\$32,629
Frankies Kitchen - cryovac sealer	3,893
Warragul Cemetery Trust	3,000
West Gippsland Healthcare Group - equipment	2,800
Warragul Community House - seating & blinds	2,000
Baw Baw Food Relief	1,580
Baw Baw L2P - WFI costs support	500
Olivia's Place	500
Local donation requests	\$14,273
TOTAL DONATIONS	\$64,512

CLUB SERVICE

Director: Sunil Bhatt

In 2019-20 the admin/club service team implemented the Board decision to modify the club meeting routine. Instead of meeting weekly for dinner, it was decided that the club would meet 3 weeks in each month with the second week of the month to be Committee meeting night. Committee meetings were held monthly to allow more time for their respective meetings. Additionally, board meetings were conducted once a month on a Thursday at The Golf Club's board room.

To ensure the club communicated effectively with its members and the community at large, the team worked to publish weekly bulletins with relevant events/dates. One of the team's objectives was to increase club membership, which is an ongoing challenge for the whole club, but we remain committed to this cause.

The team continued its efforts to ensure that club meetings ran smoothly starting with organising various guest speakers throughout the year. Some of the highlights of the year included Gary Blackwood, local MP, who spoke to the club about Men's Health and Danny Goss, the Mayor of the Baw Baw Shire who gave an overview of how the shire operates. A pre-COVID-19 highlight was a memorable BBQ held at member Chris Major's place. We look forward to club events like this once normal life resumes!

Once the COVID-19 global pandemic took hold, our club dinner meetings were put on hold. However, with the perseverance and aid of modern technology the club has successfully transitioned to virtual meetings via the internet, contact on messaging applications and of course the telephone.

Overall, we have enjoyed the year, however we are looking forward to seeing each other in person at club meetings once again, in the not too distant future.

Public Relations Report

Richard Habgood.

The club continues to get good coverage of club activities with regular articles and photos in our local newspaper the Warragul Gazette.

The club also has a comprehensive on-line presence with a club website and a Facebook page with regular postings to promote club activities. Specific Facebook pages are also used to promote the club's annual art show and the sale of Christmas trees.

A weekly club newsletter is produced to keep club members informed of ongoing club activities.

Membership Report

Ross Dawson

The club held a meeting centred around Club Membership in late 2019. The evening took the form of a presentation, and then a workshop managed by table community chairperson s(Directors). The meeting concluded with names of potential members being put forward as a discussion point for the general meeting, the notes from the evening were passed to President Rosemary for Board discussions.

I sought Board approval to have calling cards printed. The cards have the name and contact details of a club member. The cards can be given to prospective members, to encourage recipients to follow up with their club contact member.

Club membership was grown with the induction of Peter Davidson, Introduced by Rotarian Chris Wilkinson.

The club Constitution and By-Laws has been with 9820 district representatives for the purpose of developing a constitution that would comply with RI and District, rather than Warragul develop their own (at considerable cost). District has now sent a draft to be put forward to RC Warragul for consideration / implementation.

COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT

Director: Chris Major.

In compiling this report at a time when the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on our way of life, family connections, work and our Rotary club I am thankful that our main fund raising ventures were completed in the second half of 2019. This has enabled the club to still support some very worthy causes and also position the club's finances to continue with our various projects which are significant in the Community Services Portfolio.

Christmas Tree Project.



The Club planted approximately 1200 trees at Gulwarra Heights site this year which is where the club will maintain its sole focus on growing and harvesting Christmas Trees. The Club pays the Cemetery Trust for the use of the land.

Remaining trees at Landsborough Road will be harvested later this year, the site will be cleared and returned to Baw Baw Shire's management. A big thank you to John Gallienne and Frank Bevis, for their professional guidance and management of our plantations; Richard Habgood, Peter Dell and our dearly loved Ian Holdsworth for the management of sales and harvesting of trees for this important project. It is always special to see the Warragul Rotary Club members in action throughout the year at the Working Bees and

assisting with harvest and sales. Chris Wilkinson was a great help again this year with his Excavator removing the old stumps, ably assisted by Paul Sheppard from Gippy Tree Removals. The club did not need the assistance from a pine tree cutter as the club members picked up this task during harvesting. Once again, a big thankyou to all for their contribution to this worthwhile project.

Art Show Report

Lyn Bennett

Art Show Raffle: Our first prize was a Gary Miles Painting; second prize was Bed and Breakfast Accommodation at Paynesville and third prize was a Mimosa Outdoor setting. We would like to thank Gary Miles, Jenny Snape and Bunnings Warragul for donating the outstanding prizes.

\$6500 was raised from the raffle and was donated to the Warragul Riding Develops Abilities. The raffle sale committee lead by Roger Collis with assistance of other club members produced a great outcome through their commitment to selling raffle tickets under all manner of conditions.



Art Show: Attendance over the three days was estimated at 1000 people. A fantastic attendance for this community activity. 104 Artists entered their works totalling 290 exhibits. There was \$7100 worth of artists prizes distributed. Thanks goes to David O'Halloran 2019 judge from Latrobe Regional Art Gallery. Preview night was extremely well attended by Artist, Sponsors and Rotarians and was enjoyed by all.

The Rotary Art Show Sub Committee again undertook the task with gusto and produced excellent results as reported by Chairperson Lyn. The Clubs Art Show not only show cases the creative work of local and other Artists it also unites our local Business and the general public in an historic feature event. The Art show raises a considerable amount of funds for the club for various charitable organisations and provides support to our local community. Lyn and Roger Collis took on the lion's share of the work with Bob Lewis providing advice and guidance with a sub-committee of Ian Snape, Andrew Lewis, Pat O'Brien, Chris Drenen and Bobby Tatlow. Geoff Chilver as always provided professional support with lists and collation of the Artwork. Anita George from Baw Baw Arts Alliance is also on the committee and with other Alliance members assisted with the hanging of the Artwork. All Club members who were able to assist contributed to the success of another impressive Art Show held at the Exhibition Hall in South Road.

Probus

Bob Lewis again led the charge with the Probus Club Project, although there was a slight hiccup with the prospect of another club being formed without consultation with our club. However, Bob with his knowledge of procedure and willingness to help sorted out the issue at hand. Well done again Bob for your valuable input into the Probus Project that our club readily supports.

Breathometer Project.

The club had 4 machines obtained through a grant of \$24000 from Vic Roads some years ago. The Board has decided to hand over the responsibility of maintenance and collection of money to Breathometer Inc. who also have a number of other machines across Baw Baw Shire and Gippsland. Rotarian Des Malcolm owner/proprietor of Breathometer will share any profit from the machines with our club as he has agreed to accept responsibility for our four machines. Again a heartfelt thank you to Ian Holdsworth who persisted with the Breathometer program since its inception, maintaining the machines and collecting the funds raised from this very important Road Safety initiative that educates the community on drink driving and saves lives.

Farm World

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 virus Farm World 2020 was cancelled. New CEO Craig Debnam and his committee are very keen to keep our services for forthcoming Farm worlds once they are able to proceed again.

Snow Fest.

The Club supported the Snow Fest Festival again in July 2019 being a huge success with 10000 people attending this year. Thanks to Peter Dell, Suzie Warenycia Teresa Mitchell, and their team of Rotarians and Committee from the Business Group in Warragul.

White Ribbon Day

In November and in partnership with Vic Police and Baw Baw Shire, we held a sausage sizzle at Civic Park to support the project that is aimed at the prevention of violence against women and children. A very worthy project to support.

End Trachoma

Sally Dell District Champion.

The goal in 2020 for the End Trachoma program was to provide hygiene infrastructure asked for and owned by communities, to empowered them now and into the future with the tools and knowledge needed to sustain strong minds and bodies. Good hygiene will eliminate this disease.

Actions taken this year include:

- District 9820 have continually been very generous with donations and Ride to Conference donated \$6,200 recently.
- Completed projects have included 7230 Mirrors installed in homes across WA, SA and NT.
- 1 Educational Water Trailer-taken to Santa Teresa and other communities.
- 3 Portable Potable Water tanks
- Donations in Kind (DIK) have shipped over \$10,000 in products to communities in NT and SA.
- Laundry facility in Ltyentye Apurte (Santa Teresa).
- We are funding an Environmental Health Worker in Central Australia, jointly with
- Central Australian Aboriginal Congress and Fred Hollows Foundation. Cost \$50,000.
- A trip to Alice Springs in March saw the delivery of 100 hygiene bags – taken to Mt Liebig (325kms west of Alice Springs) and Docker River (670kms south west of Alice Springs).
- 320 towels (donated by Warragul Linen Service) will be delivered to APY Lands.
- Medical equipment, spectacles, clothing, blanket, funeral clothes, etc delivered to Santa Teresa.



Sally and Peter have been working tirelessly with the End Trachoma Project including their self-funded trip to Alice Springs. Sally and Peter have also been very active in supporting the fire victims in East Gippsland with warm clothing, other essential items and emotional support, great work Sally and Peter.

Peter was also the driving force behind the club providing financial support to "Frankies" Kitchen to purchase a Cryo-Vac Machine to help with food preservation and distribution to persons in need of support.

Peter has also been extremely active with Dream Cricket in Victoria and interstate well done again Peter.

The Club also shipped pallets of donated sports shoes obtained from Donation in Kind (DIK) to Western Australia for Jenny Kitchen to distribute in the Aboriginal Communities where diabetes and severe foot related problems are very evident and impacting severely on the local communities.

Once again, the club worked tirelessly to raise funds and provide much needed assistance and support to people less fortunate than ourselves.

VOCATIONAL SERVICES

Director: Andrea Klindworth

The goals of the Vocational Services Committee are to

- Recognise and promote the value of all useful occupations
- Promote Rotary's commitment to high ethical standards
- Use our unique skills and experience to address a community need

During the year, presentations to the club had us thinking about the value of work. For example

- The problems and opportunities associated with waste materials. In the future less waste will go to landfill and more will be reprocessed for further productive use
- Frankies Community Kitchen rescues food that would otherwise be wasted and distributes it to people in need.

Unfortunately, due to Covid 19 restrictions, we were unable to promote Rotary's commitment to high ethical standards by holding the Small Business Excellence Awards night.

Before restrictions were introduced, site visits included:

- A rural retreat with an artist's studio and pottery operating in conjunction with vineyard and wine production
- Baw Baw Food Relief: a food bank that takes unwanted food and redistributes it to provide relief to people who are struggling financially.

Following a presentation by Anita Huigen Lloyd of Good Shepherd Microfinance, some members of the club offered to use their skills and to support young people in the LaunchMe initiative. LaunchMe provides support and low-cost loans to people to help kick start their business.

Landsborough Street Pine Plantation Rehabilitation

The final harvest of pine trees from the Landsborough Rd site will occur in December 2020. As the land is owned by Baw Baw Shire, the club had discussions with the Shire regarding possible redevelopment of the site for passive community recreation. The council has now resolved to place the land on the surplus property list for rezoning and future development and Rotary will focus our energies on developing Rotary Park Stage 3 in Latrobe St, Warragul.

Rotary Park Stage 3

The Club has refocused its efforts from the Landsborough Street site to Rotary Park in Latrobe Street. The grassed hillside to the north of the children's playground offers an exciting opportunity to create a peaceful space for passive recreation with an indigenous arts theme.

An enthusiastic steering group is now meeting to process the many ideas generated during a site visit on the Queen's Birthday. During the next six months, the group will work toward developing a comprehensive plan identifying a design, works to be completed, potential sources of external funding and a community engagement strategy.



Environment Sustainability Rotary Action Group

Following a call from the Rotary District 9820 Environment and Sustainability Chair, Andrea Klindworth was appointed as the Club contact. ESRAG is very active sending monthly newsletters, promoting World Bee Day and holding an online World Environment Day Forum.

YOUTH SERVICE

Director: Chris Morris

Youth Exchange:

After one year without an exchange student, it was with great pleasure that Penny & I met Martina Navarria from Darfo in northern Italy at the airport on the 15th July 2019.



Martina stayed with us for 10 days while she settled in and had her first days at Warragul Regional College. Martina has been hosted by Chris & Rosemary Drenen, Geoff Chilver & Monique Segafredo, Susie & Gerry Warrencyia and Andrea and Darold Klindworth. Thank you to each host family for inviting Martina into their home.

Martina gave the club an interesting talk about the area she comes from in Italy. Unfortunately, COVID 19 hit and Martina was not able to participate in the annual Ride to Conference bike ride or the Rock to Reef tour; instead she was in "lockdown" at Susie's & Gerry's.



Unfortunately, due to the COVID virus, there will not be any exchange students for the coming year.

National Science Week:

Teresa Mitchell organised this event and Dr Darlene Lim, a NASA scientist, spoke at the West Gippsland Arts Centre on the 13th August 2019, encouraging students to take up the challenge and study STEM subjects. At the preliminary meeting with Warragul Regional College we were able to promote the youth projects currently undertaken by the Rotary Club of Warragul

School Community awards:

Once again in this Rotary year, we decided to give out community-based awards to either year 9,10 or 11 students at the three secondary schools in Warragul. The awards are given to students who has embraced the school community in a positive way, taking an active role in the Baw Baw community.

After some discussion at board level, the club decided to change the nature of the awards and give a scholarship to a student whose family may be struggling to meet the ever-growing costs of schooling. Concurrently the Rotary District Foundation Committee announced a program called the "Low Level Student Scholarship Grant". We have been successful in applying for a grant and will be giving four \$250 scholarship awards to deserving Warragul Secondary College students



Zoe Binns, St Paul's
AGS awardee

Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN):

This Rotary year the RYPEN format returned to a weeklong program held at Swinburne University. The purpose this year was to encourage young employees to take the TAFE certificate 4 or higher qualification. Unfortunately, we couldn't find a participant to sponsor from our club.

Unfortunately, **National Youth Science Forum, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards and Model United Nations Assembly** were each cancelled this year due to COVID 19

I wish to thank all members of the youth committee for their work over the year and wish Teresa Mitchell, the new youth director, all the best for the 2020/21 Rotary year.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Director: Diane Carson

The areas of focus for the International Committee this year were:

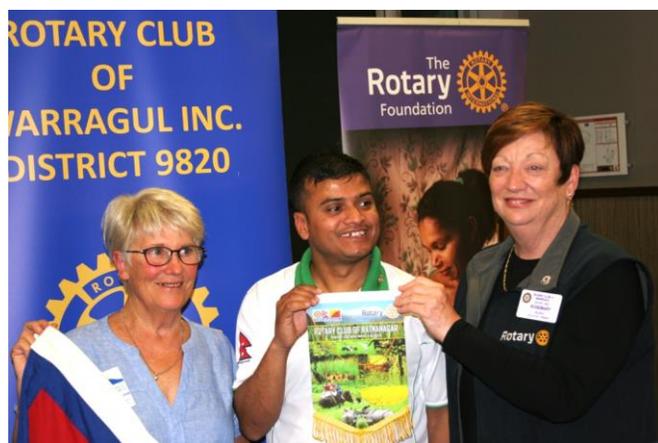
- Rotary International Projects.
- International Project in an underdeveloped country; and
- Humanitarian Projects in Australia.

Activities in the first area of focus were to include investigating the possibility of a Group Study Exchange for the latter part of 2020; and what support we might have been able to provide for carers who accommodate children who are being assisted by ROMAC and Interplast between hospital visits/appointments.



Due to the COVID emergency these activities have been placed on hold.

The second area of focus was achieved with the assistance of a generous donation from the Warragul Uniting Church. The combined funds were used to pay the tuition fees of two Year 13 students at Central School, Port Vila, Vanuatu. Without this assistance the two students – one male and one female – would have been unable to complete their secondary education. The students were identified by the school as being hard working and diligent with good leadership potential. It is intended that the funding of scholarships at Central School will be an ongoing activity.



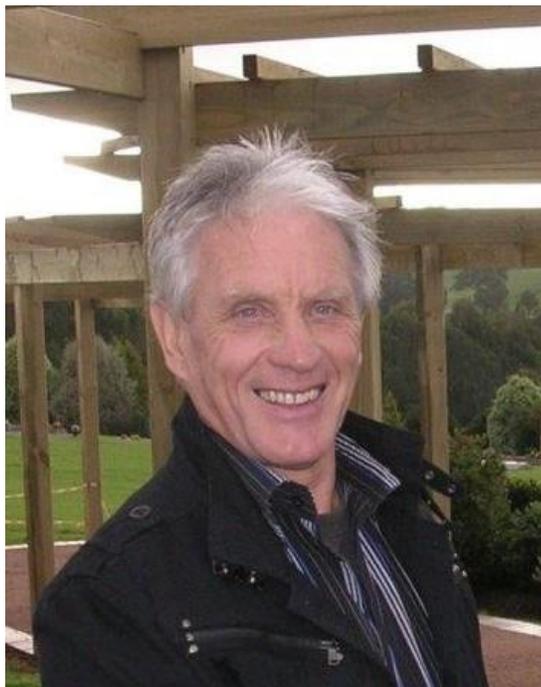
President Rosemary accepts a banner from Prakash of the Rotary Club of Ratnanagar

In March this year, our international understandings were further developed when AG Peter Dell organised a visit from Mary Brell, OAM, a member of the Rotary Club of Orange Daybreak, and Prakash Aryal, a member of the Rotary Club of Ratnanagar, Nepal, and a Paul Harris Fellow. Mary and Prakash spoke at length about the work being undertaken in Nepal by each of them and their organizations. Mary, who has a training consultancy business, went to Nepal to train teachers, and saw there was a need for other services and programs. She formed a lasting friendship with Prakash and together they have pioneered programs to help the local people.

The Committee's Humanitarian Project in Australia was the shipment of a pallet of new shoes – provided by Donation in Kind - to remote Aboriginal Communities in the Kimberley region of Western Australia. This was in direct response to a need that was identified by one of the committee members who is a podiatrist who undertakes contract work in the Kimberley. A District Grant assisted the transport costs for the shipping of the shoes.

The Committee's plans to hold a Fundraising Dinner were also placed on hold due to the pandemic.

IAN HOLDSWORTH – OBITUARY



Our Rotary Club lost an outstanding contributor on Thursday 11th June, when Rotarian Ian Holdsworth passed away.

Ian Holdsworth became a member of our Club in 1987 with the member classification of 'Equity Investment'. He was sponsored to the club by Past President and Paul Harris Fellow, Darryl Donaldson, 2nd July, 87. In his thirty-two years of active service Ian was a club director many times and President in 2010/11.

Ian started his working life as a dairy farmer at Ripplebrook and then established a successful exhaust repair business in Warragul. It was this practical, hands on experience that Ian brought to many of the projects undertaken by the club over the years. He was actively involved in many facets of the club including the annual Art Show, Rotary Park, the arbour at Gulwarra Cemetery, Snow-fest, the Warragul Community Garden and Rotary conferences. If there was a working bee you could always rely on Ian being there.

Growing and selling Christmas trees is the club's major revenue raiser and Ian has been one of the backbones of the project for many years taking important roles in the ground preparation, tree planting, maintenance, cutting, loading, delivering and selling of the trees.

Ian and his wife Sue were great supporters of the Rotary International Student Exchange Program hosting numerous overseas students in their home. Enduring relationships were developed with students with Sue and Ian staying with past students while traveling overseas.

The social side was an important part of Ian's involvement in the Rotary Club of Warragul. He enjoyed the fun nights at Rotary meetings, footy nights, dressing up and clowning around. Ian was often the "celebrity chef" at club BBQ functions.

Paul Harris was the founder of Rotary and a Paul Harris Fellow recognises the outstanding service by either a Rotarian or others in the community. For Ian's outstanding service to the club and the community he was recognised as a Paul Harris Fellow in 2006. Last year he was further recognised by the club with a Paul Harris Fellow with Sapphire Pin.

Due to restrictions on people attending funerals a guard of honour lined the funeral cortege route with members from Warragul Rotary, Warragul Inner Wheel, the Gippsland Car Club and Ian's friends from the Thursday morning coffee group.

Ian's commitment to the Rotary Club of Warragul, his involvement and fun approach to projects and club fellowship will be truly missed by all members.

Ian Holdsworth's family can be truly proud of the contribution Ian made to our community.

The Rotary Club of Warragul will very much miss Ian, his wonderful contributions and his laughter across the room for a long time to come.

PAUL HARRIS FELLOW AWARDS

The presentation of Paul Harris Fellow recognition is Rotary's way of expressing its appreciation for a substantial contribution to humanitarian and educational programs.

The Paul Harris Fellow Award is named for Rotary's founder, Paul Harris, a Chicago lawyer who started Rotary International with three business associates in 1905. Rotarians often designate a Paul Harris Fellow as a tribute to a person whose life demonstrates a shared purpose with the objectives of The Rotary Foundation.

For each Paul Harris Fellow Award and Paul Harris Sapphire Pin, a donation of \$1000 US is made to the international arm of Rotary, Rotary Foundation, by the Rotary Club of Warragul. With these funds, The Rotary Foundation is able to carry out an array of programs that achieve beneficial changes in our world: improved living conditions, increased food production, better education, wider availability of treatment and rehabilitation for the sick and disabled, new channels for the flow of international understanding, and brighter hopes for peace. Rotary Foundation gives grants to Rotary clubs to enable these programs to be carried out. You may be aware of the well-known Rotary program, End Polio Now which is an example of one of the programs and has almost eliminated polio across the world.

A contribution to The Rotary Foundation is an investment in the ideal of good will, peace and understanding. That is an ideal held high by Rotarians the world over. Working with such individuals of good will, we believe the ideal will become a reality.

At our Changeover this year, the Rotary Club of Warragul took great pleasure in presenting the emblems of appreciation give to a Paul Harris Fellow: 3 Paul Harris Fellow Certificates and pins to two individuals in the community and one individual in our club. We were also delighted to be presenting a Paul Harris Sapphire Pin, a second Paul Harris Award, to one individual in our club, making 4 presentations in all.



Paul Harris Awardees:



Mr Peter Dell: Peter was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow in recognition of his outstanding commitment to the common goals of world understanding and peace, through his significant work with the Rotary Club of Warragul projects, contributions to Rotary District 9820, to bushfire relief and particularly the substantial work with the Dream Cricket project and support of the End Trachoma project. Peter has been generous and unflinching in the hours he has given to Rotary projects over the years.



Mr Robert (Bob) Lewis: Bob was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow Sapphire Pin in recognition of his outstanding commitment to the common goals of world understanding and peace, through his significant volunteer work with the Rotary Club of Warragul. Bob has participated in the club's projects in the community and in particular, this award is to recognise his leadership and contribution to the Rotary Club of Warragul's Art Show in recent years. The Art Show was being reviewed several years ago and it was Bob's determination that ensured it was rejuvenated. It was his 'every ready battery' approach that has continued to make the Art Show successfully show case Artist's work and bring in significant fundraising for the club.

Ms Kerry Elliott: Kerry was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow in recognition of her outstanding commitment to the common goals of world understanding and peace, through her significant volunteer work with the Warragul Ratepayers & Citizens Association for a number of years. The Association exists to work for the West Gippsland community to ensure that citizens have a strong voice and receive value for money for our rates. Kerry is recognised as a key driver behind the work of Association and is currently the secretary. One of the most notable contributions was Kerry's part in organising a petition for a new hospital and delivering the 12 thousand signatures to that petition to our Government representatives. Kerry is currently the Associations Secretary.



Mr Gary Miles: Gary was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow in recognition of his outstanding commitment to the common goals of world understanding and peace, through his significant work with the Arts in the Gippsland Community for over 50 years. Gary's contribution included mentoring of students at secondary schools, promotion of the Arts to the community, support of the Rotary Club of Warragul Art Show, the Ficifolia Festival and West Gippsland Hospital fund raising among a myriad of other actions.

As our changeover was held online, using the zoom platform, each of the recipients was hosted by a member of the Rotary Club of Warragul. The certificates were displayed on screen and at the end of the on-screen presentation, the Rotary host presented the recipient with their hardcopy certificate and pin.