

Board report September 2026

We currently have multiple grant applications in progress or approved:

- Knox Council - \$2,400 for a defibrillator for the Men's Hub meetings
- Bendigo Bank - \$3,000 for the Men's Hub program running costs
- District 9815 Foundation - \$3,788 matching grant for the annual dividend from Wal Goodwin's bequest, to go towards the Knox Rocks music project
- Red Energy D9815 Saver Program - \$5,000 for Boronia K-12 Skills Shed.

At last month's Board meeting a Nominating Committee was appointed consisting of PE Geoff Griffin, IPP Bernadette Vanderwolde and PP Lance Deveson. The committee is tasked with selecting a suitable candidate to be elected as President-Nominee at the AGM in November, to take office as President in the 2028-29 Rotary year.

As in recent years, the Board agreed to spend \$1000 to subsidise the cost of sending a team of students from Boronia K-12 to the Ryda road safety awareness program. (Note that Ryda is not all capitals as it is no longer an acronym! Historically it grew out of the Rotary Youth Driver Awareness program but is now run by a company called Road Safety Education Ltd in partnership with Rotary clubs.)

Members who subscribe to Facebook will have been following the almost daily posts emanating from Alotau in the Milne Bay province of Papua New Guinea. Our container arrived there several weeks ago, and honorary member Desley Tunstall has been on site doing a magnificent job supervising the unloading and distribution of goods to the local community. The Board agreed that, once the container is empty, we will donate it to the Alotau Netball Association and Tribal Keksies Netball Club for ongoing use as an equipment storage facility.

Our club also organised financial support to send members of the local netball teams to Port Moresby to participate in the PNG national netball competition, happening this month (September).

President Ray and Paul Cassidy attended the Boronia Scouts awards night on Wednesday 18th August and spoke about the Men's Hub and how successful it has been. They were thanked for their support in providing the hall at no cost to Rotary.

The Boronia Rotary club was approached by the Eastern Ranges School for assistance in running their Year 11 and 12 students' formal. The Board agreed to make a financial contribution of \$2,000. The school agreed to have Rotary banners displayed on the night.

Peter and Jan Mlden and Paul and Gaye Cassidy all attended a thank-you afternoon tea at the CWA on 22nd August and received a certificate of appreciation from the CWA for our ongoing support.

The Tilly Aston Awards will be announced at the Knox School on Saturday 12th September. Monique Smith is a finalist in the Leadership Award category, Ray Siegersma in the Local Hero and Lifetime Achievement categories and Peter Malden as Volunteer of the Year. Good luck and well done to all our finalists.

Boronia K-12 wants to apply to Knox Council for a minor grant to fund a petting zoo at their annual fete. As the school is not eligible to receive grants directly, they have asked our Rotary Club to auspice their grant. The Board agreed to support this request.

We have 2 students from Fairhills Secondary College attending RYPEN on 18-20th September.

The Community Committee has approached Knox Council for support in identifying an appropriate dead tree in the Knox area that we can paint blue. In their initial response they were only able to identify one suitable tree within Boronia at the Arboretum and decided they could not support painting it because of proximity to traffic on Dorset Road. We have asked them to consider suitable dead trees in The Basin or other parts of Knox.

The Board agreed to make an initial donation of \$AU1,000 to the RAWCS Nepal Disaster fund. We will continue to monitor the situation and may do something further when the disaster recovery moves to the rebuilding phase.