

Rotary Club of Boronia

INCORPORATED • REG NO A0018626A

DISTRICT 9810 • VICTORIA • AUSTRALIA

Charter granted 25th April 1968

President: Greg Mossop
Secretary: Monique Smith

Fifty-sixth Annual Report 2023-2024





“Create Hope in the World”

Rotary International Theme
2023/2024

CREATE HOPE
in the **WORLD**

The Rotary Club of Boronia (Inc)

Board of Directors 2023/2024

President	Greg Mossop
Secretary	Monique Smith
Treasurer	Peter Dalwood
President Elect	Monique Smith
Club Service	Monique Smith
Foundation	Neville Windebank
Community Service and Environment	Ray Siegersma
International Service	Neville Windebank
Youth and Vocational Service	Bernadette Vanderwolde
Fundraising/Entrepreneurial Development	John Poke
Public Image	Glenn Tippet
Membership and Wellbeing	Mark Smith
Fellowship	Val Henry
Immediate Past President	John Poke
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Sergeant-at-Arms	Val Henry



“The Magic of Rotary”
Rotary International Theme
2024/2025

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Treasurer	Mark Smith
President Elect	Bernadette Vanderwolde
President Nominee	Ray Siegersma
Club Service	Bernadette Vanderwolde
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Community Service and Environment	Ray Siegersma
International Service	Neville Windebank
Youth and Vocational Service	Bernadette Vanderwolde
Fundraising/Entrepreneurial Development	Annette Griffin
Public Image	Glenn Tippet
Membership and Wellbeing	Geoff Griffin
Immediate Past President	Greg Mossop
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Sergeant-at-Arms	Ray Siegersma

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1 President's Report



When I started to compile this report, I felt that it was important to review what the Club had achieved and was involved in over the year. I chose to reread all the “Mosso Messages” that had been published in the Bulletin over the year, to ensure that I captured as many pertinent events and activities as possible. This turned out to be an enlightening exercise, not so much to review my literacy skills (which in several cases were lacking) but to see just what a wonderful year the Club has had. I will use this opportunity to highlight the majority of them, however I am bound to miss one or two; my apologies to those involved in any that I miss.

To start, the Club reinstated a tradition of having all the Presidents' signatures since 1968 updated on the back of the Club's Charter Certificate; I hope this tradition continues into the future.

The Club inducted five new members over the period, an excellent effort indeed.

Over the year the Club enjoyed many visits from other Rotarians but in particular we enjoyed the company of our DG Ian Ballantine, DGE Colin Bryon and their respective partners. DGN Peter Brehn was also a regular visitor. On the occasion of all their visits it was warming to hear and receive the accolades about our Club and how much they enjoyed attending Boronia's functions.

One of the Club's strong points is its annual contribution to the Centurion Club, and it was my pleasure to present new Centurion certificates to three new members.

One of the things that makes our Club stand out is its contribution to the local community, far too many to mention here but I have done an estimate, and I believe the Club has over the last year contributed in excess of \$70,000 to the community and those who are less fortunate. In addition to this we have been involved in hands on activities that are impossible to value, for example the support provided to Infolink via their breakfasts for the local needy and the provision of produce to the same organisation from our community garden.

The Rotary Club of Boronia has always had a reputation for quality guest speakers; this year we, if my memory serves me correctly, had twenty-nine guest speakers all of whom I believe were of outstanding quality. A special recognition, however, should be made of the presentations made by our own members when speaking to our Club. I recall, in particular, those by Tom Mason on cyber security, Peter Malden on the Taveuni projects, Glenn Tippet on Australian Rotary Health and Steve Spiers on the annual bike ride. Congratulations to all involved in this program.

During the year we had a number of “special” guest speakers and presentations that I believe are worthy of a mention. Firstly, who can forget the impact of the presentation by Frida Umuhoza and her incredible story; I had the pleasure of presenting her with a Paul Harris Award in recognition of her lifetime achievements. Then there was the presentation by Sam Bramham; although there was a very serious message from Sam, I can't recall a Rotary function where I have laughed so much. And, of course, there was the emotion charged evening listening to the lyrics of songs composed by participants of the Knox Rocks program.

The year has seen a number of changes within Rotary itself, the least of which is not the Zone 8 Regionalisation program, and I am very proud of the way the Club has embraced the concept and got involved at various levels.

If forced to indicate the biggest highlight for me, it was probably the District Conference in Warrnambool in March. The professional running of the weekend was brilliant, and the quality of the speakers was some of the best I have ever experienced. A special mention of Professor Arnold Dix and Tom Boyd whose messages I found incredibly inspiring. I encourage all members to attend the upcoming Conference in Bendigo.

A bit closer to home, the Club's, in my opinion, biggest day in relation to public image and respectful remembrance was our ANZAC day event. This year we had 650 students from years five and six with their teachers from 15 different schools attend. Over the years the Club has received various levels of funding for this event to be conducted; this year, however, although requested no funding was forthcoming from the various levels of government nor other sources. As such, the event was in jeopardy of having to be cancelled, but in true spirit of our Club we funded the entire program ourselves as such an important event should never be allowed to die.

Every year the Club is involved with the organisation and running of the Australian Rotary Health bike ride; this year was no exception. This year Steven Spiers and his team raised some \$40,000 for Australian Rotary Health. Whilst this is a wonderful result, the true value of this event is seen when we realise that since inception there has been an incredible 1.3 million dollars raised from this event for Australian Rotary Health. Congratulations to all.

One of my greatest thrills came in May when, with Doug and Ellen, I attended the Knox City Council's volunteer of the year awards. Doug's 56 years of volunteer work was recognised by the Council and the Club was nominated for the organisation of the year. Congratulations Doug.

If you measure the quality of a Club by the number of Paul Harris awards then we must stand out as this year there were nine awards presented and, whilst they were all warranted, two stand out due to the accumulation of the awards over the years. Firstly, Glenn Tippett's five sapphire award and Peter Malden's ruby award.

There are a number of ways that a Club's success can be measured but I believe that our Club and its members have excelled this year in whatever way you wish to measure it. And I am sure that the Club is in excellent hands with, to quote our District Governor Ian, our unheard of in Rotary succession plan of future presidents in place for the next four years.

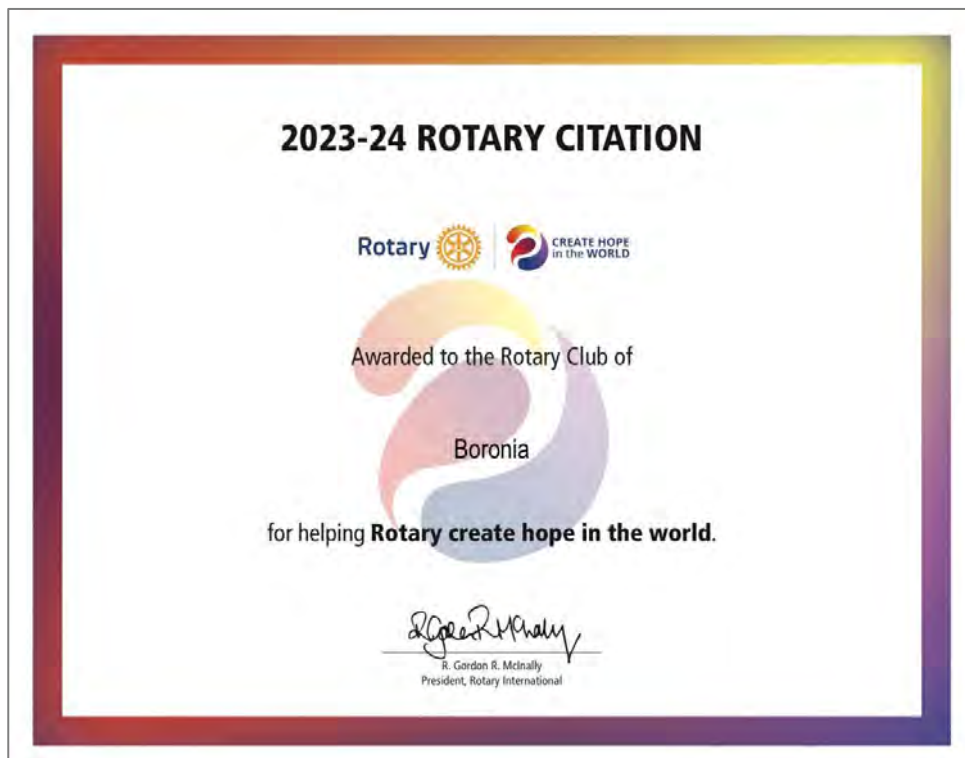
I have enjoyed this year, and it has been both a pleasure and honour to have served the Club as its President.

Greg Mossop
President 2023/2024

2 Awards

2.1 Rotary Citation

Our Club was presented with a Rotary Citation in recognition of our achievements during the 2023/24 Rotary year. We were one of only thirteen Clubs in the District to achieve this 'excellence award'.



The Rotary Citation is awarded by Rotary International to clubs who set and achieve their goals for the Rotary year. This year we achieved all 18 of the 18 goals set, in the four Areas of Focus:

- Enhance Participant Engagement;
- Increase Our Impact;
- Expand Our Reach; and
- Increase our Ability to Adapt.

The Goals we met were:

Membership; Updated Constitution; Review By-Laws; Service Participation; Annual Fund Contributions; Polio Plus Contributions; Social Activities; Service projects; New member sponsorship; Online Presence; Updated website and social media; Leadership development; District Conference attendance; RYLA participation; Use of official Rotary promotional materials; Stories about Club projects; Rotary Fellowship; and District Training attendance

The Rotary Club of Boronia can be proud of its achievement.

2.2 End Polio Now

The Club was also recognised by The Rotary Foundation for our contribution in support of the *End Polio Now: Countdown to History Campaign*. The Club contributed \$1,560, comprised predominantly of donations in recognition of our guest speakers, during the 2023/24 Rotary year.



2.3 District Award

The Club was once again awarded a District Award for our outstanding service across all three Rotary District Award area's: "Club Building", "Club Projects" and "Club Public Relations and Communications".



2.4 Paul Harris Fellow Awards

2.4.1 Club Awards

As is tradition in our Club, it was again the privilege of the President to present Paul Harris Fellows to members who have made significant contributions to the Club's activities at our annual Changeover. The following were acknowledged by the presentation of PHF sapphires by outgoing President Greg:



- **Monique Smith** was presented with a PHF with Sapphire (second PHF).
- **Mark Smith** was presented with a PHF with Sapphire (second PHF).
- **Glenn Tippett** was presented with a PHF with five Sapphires (sixth PHF).

In each case, the recognition was for the work they have undertaken in leading or contributing to projects and strengthening our Club.



President Greg Mossop with PHF awardees: Mark and Monique Smith (far left) and Glenn Tippett (left).

Incoming President Monique Smith then presented outgoing President **Greg Mossop** with a PHF with Sapphire (second PHF) for his outstanding work in strengthening our Club and Rotary in general.



Outgoing President, Greg Mossop being presented with PHF by Incoming President, Monique Smith.

2.4.2 External Award

At a special Club meeting in October 2023, we were privileged to have **Frida Umuhoza** present the story of her life during the Rwandan genocide in 1994, when 10 million people were slaughtered. Frida's story of strength and resilience is absolutely amazing; her ability to forgive the perpetrators is truly inspiring.

At the conclusion of the meeting, President Greg presented Frida with a Paul Harris Fellow in recognition of her work supporting the Rwandan people around the world.



PHF awardee Frida Umuhoza (centre) with District Governor, Ian Ballantine (left) and President Greg Mossop.

2.4.3 Award from Beyond!

At our weekly meeting on 2nd April 2024, Club Boronia member, Peter Malden was named a Ruby Paul Harris Fellow (seventh PHF) in recognition of his outstanding and tireless work in support of the Taveuni Eye Project. Two members of the Rotary Club of Newmarket in New Zealand, Dave Birch and Roger Harvey, joined the meeting online to make the presentation; President Elect Monique Smith presents Peter with his award on behalf of the Rotary Clubs of Newmarket and Taveuni Island, Fiji.



President Elect Monique Smith presents a Ruby PHF to Peter Malden on behalf of the Rotary Clubs of Newmarket and Taveuni Island

2.5 Walter Goodwin Award

This was the second year that the Club presented the Walter J Goodwin perpetual award for outstanding service to both Rotary and the Rotary Club of Boronia. This award has been established to honour the life and service of Wal Goodwin who was a Charter Member of our Club.

Wally left a substantial gift to the Club in his will and the Club has initiated this award to honour him.



Each year at Changeover the Walter J Goodwin Award will be presented to a member of the Club that is deemed to be a Rotarian who has worked well through the year, as determined by the members. The awardee will be given a plaque to take home and keep; there will also be an Honour Roll/Shield that will be placed on the reception table each week to remind members of the fine service Wal provided to the Club. A donation to the value of \$200 will be made to Australian Rotary Health in the name of that Rotarian each year.

This year's Walter J Goodwin Award was presented to **Paul Cassidy** for his outstanding service to our Club and the community. The award was presented by the inaugural winner, Charter Member, Doug Gibson.



*Walter J Goodwin Award recipient,
Paul Cassidy*

2.6 Other Club Awards

At our annual Changeover, Youth and Vocational Service Chair Bernadette Vanderwolde presented **Janine Mossop** with a Community Service Award in recognition of the outstanding work she does in support of Backpacks 4 VIC Kids (refer **section 6.2.5** for further information).



*Community Service Award recipient,
Janine Mossop (front) with
Bernadette Vanderwolde*

2.7 Knox Community Awards

At the Knox Community Service Awards presentation night in May 2024, long-serving Club member Doug Gibson was presented with a certificate in recognition of “20+ Years of Service” at the Rotary Club of Boronia. In fact, as the last remaining Charter Member of the Club (Chartered 25 April 1968), Doug has now actively contributed to the work of the Club for more than 56 years.

During this time, Doug has been involved in all aspects of the Club’s activities. He was the Club’s first Community Service Director, initiating projects such as the Knox Debutante and Miss Charity Queen Ball (held at least annually for more than 25 years); served as Club President in 1974/75; and has chaired and actively contributed to the work of all avenues of service committees (Club, Community (local), International, Vocational and Youth). Doug remains a highly respected “elder statesman” of the Club.



The Club was also recognised as a nominee in the “Knox Community Organisation of the Year” award category, with President Greg Mossop accepting the certificate. As outlined in this report, the Club undertakes a significant program of activities and projects in support both our local and the international communities.



3 Administration

3.1 Secretary's Report

I am pleased to provide a report on my experience as the Secretary for the Rotary Club of Boronia. This was my second year running as Secretary, and during the year I had the opportunity to work closely with Greg Mossop, the President of the Club. It was a busy yet highly enjoyable and rewarding experience, serving as a stepping stone towards my upcoming role as President.



Throughout the year, my primary responsibilities as Secretary included maintaining accurate records of Club activities, organising and attending meetings, and facilitating effective communication between Club members. I ensured that Board meeting agendas were distributed in a timely manner and that accurate minutes were taken during each meeting. This allowed us to keep track of important discussions, decisions, and action items. I was also able to provide a *Report from the Board* to be published in the Bulletin.

Working with President Greg was a great pleasure. His guidance and support were instrumental in my growth. He provided valuable insights and shared his experiences, which helped me better understand the responsibilities and challenges associated with club leadership. Together, we collaborated on various initiatives and projects, aiming to make a positive impact in our community.



Being the Secretary of the Rotary Club was a busy role, requiring effective time management and multitasking skills. However, the rewards far outweighed the challenges. Throw into the mix production of the Bulletin for the last four months of the year certainly added to the challenge, but it was immensely fulfilling. From organising/co-ordinating fundraisers, to participating in community service projects we were able to make a difference and create lasting change.

Moreover, serving as the Secretary provided me with a solid foundation for my upcoming role as President of the Rotary Club. It allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of the Club's operations, build relationships with fellow members, and develop leadership skills necessary for successful club management. I am grateful for the opportunity to have served as Secretary and look forward to the new challenges and responsibilities that lie ahead as President.

In conclusion, my time as Secretary for the Rotary Club was both enjoyable and rewarding. Working closely with Greg Mossop and the rest of the Club members, I was able to contribute to the success of the Club and prepare myself for the upcoming role of President. I am grateful for the experiences and lessons learned during this year, and I look forward to another great year, working together with the Board and the members and encourage you to involve yourselves wherever you can so we can continue making a positive impact in our community through our amazing Rotary Club.

Monique Smith
Secretary 2023/2024

3.2 Treasurer's Report

Financial Position:

Audited financial statements for the 2023/24 Rotary year will be presented at the Annual General Meeting in November 2024. In brief, the financial position may be summarised by saying we had another very good fundraising year. While we managed to disburse funds to a variety of projects and charities, we have also retained a healthy balance to carry forward into the next Rotary year.



The re-introduction of raffles at Club meetings has helped considerably with putting the Administration account firmly in the black. This has allowed us to keep membership fees for next year at the same level as this year.

Bank Accounts:

This year we added two new bank accounts:

- **Investment account** – substantial funds were accumulating in the Committee account, where they earn no interest. In May we opened an investment account in which funds are deposited for a minimum of 3 months and earn interest at a reasonable rate. Currently we have \$10,000 invested at a rate of 4.7%
- **Debit cards account** – we also opened an account that has debit cards attached. Funds will be transferred to the account as needed to cover anticipated use. Currently there are two cards, held by the President and Secretary. These are available on request for use by members who need to purchase goods (e.g. BBQ supplies) without using their personal cards.

EFTPOS:

Several years ago, Bendigo Bank engaged Tyro to run their EFTPOS network, and we received a device that connected to the internet over the 3G mobile phone network. As the 3G network in Australia is now about to be shut down, we acquired a 4G terminal to replace our previous one. The new device is slightly more versatile and utilises USB charging, which means we no longer need to swap in a spare battery at BBQs.



Changing of the Guard:

This will be my final year as Treasurer, and I'll be moving on to a new role. I've enjoyed my time as Treasurer and appreciate the support I've received from members.

Mark Smith will replace me as Treasurer. I wish Mark well and will be happy to help him in the transition.

Club Donations:

Projects funded and donations paid out by the Club during the 2023/24 Rotary year were as listed in **Table 1**.

Peter Dalwood
Treasurer 2023/2024



Table 1 Projects funded and donations paid out during the 2023/24 Rotary Year (Unaudited)

Project/Recipient	Amount
Anchor Community Care – youth crisis support	4,740
ANZAC Day Commemoration <i>(Note: We did not receive any grants for the ANZAC Commemoration this year)</i>	5,564
Australian Rotary Health (Svaks cash collection jar)	76
Different Journeys	3,285
▪ <i>Golf Day share</i>	2,750
▪ <i>Sam Bramham dinner proceeds</i>	535
Disaster Aid Australia SkyHydrant (Trivia Night proceeds)	6,000
InfoLink support	5,975
▪ <i>Connecting Kids donation</i>	5,000
▪ <i>Food vouchers</i>	882
▪ <i>Community Garden plot</i>	93
“Knox Rocks” Youth music project	(2,236)
▪ <i>‘Local Hero’ grant</i>	(5,000)
▪ <i>Club contribution cost incurred</i>	2,764
Tamminya House – Golf Day share	2,750
Other community projects	1,526
▪ <i>Backpacks 4 Vic Kids</i>	503
▪ <i>Community Garden</i>	240
▪ <i>Little Libraries</i>	173
▪ <i>Probus Club</i>	110
▪ <i>Vietnam Veterans Museum</i>	500
RYLA (1 participant)	1,350
Schools’ projects	4,748
▪ <i>School Citizenship awards</i>	482
▪ <i>Knox Central PS – library books</i>	3,000
▪ <i>Boronia Heights PS - defibrillator</i>	1,266
Youth Skills Shed	(7,500)
▪ <i>Bendigo Bank Community Grant</i>	(5,000)
▪ <i>District Grant</i>	(2,500)
The Rotary Foundation	6,360
▪ <i>Polio Plus – \$60 / guest speaker</i>	1,560
▪ <i>Rotary Foundation - annual giving (\$100/member)</i>	4,800
UNICEF foreign notes and coins collection	300
Total project expenditure and donations	\$ 32,938

4 Community Service and Environment



4.1 Overview

Committee:

- Ray Siegersma – Chair
- Lance Deveson
- Marina Barker
- Paul Cassidy
- Bruce Crago
- Annette Haworth
- Ryan O'Shea
- John White
- Jan Malden
- Penry Green.

Introduction:

This year the committees has focussed on the continuation of established programs and projects within our local community. These have included our ongoing support for Knox Infolink and Different Journeys; adding to and maintaining our fleet of Little Libraries; and conduct of the annual ANZAC Commemoration for local schools. Our garden plots at the Knox Community Garden our now well established and we are growing produce for use by Knox Infolink in its breakfast and other community support programs.

A new and exciting major project this year has been the planning of the Rotary Club of Boronia Youth Skills Shed, which will be located at the Boronia Heights Primary School. This facility will be the basis of a new initiative in practical education for our younger generation.

Details in respect of each of these activities are set out in the following pages.

It has been a very productive and rewarding year for the Community Service and Environment Committee. I thank my team for their hard work and the contributions each and every one has made through the year.

Ray Siegersma
Community Service and Environment Committee Chair



4.2 Knox Infolink

We have continued to maintain a strong relationship with Knox Infolink this year, particularly through our involvement with the following projects:



- ***Boronia Community Breakfast***

Many Rotarians, along with other volunteers, help at the Community Breakfast held in the Boronia Progress Hall. Unfortunately, due to funding cuts the Wednesday breakfast had to be cancelled but Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday breakfasts continue to be well patronised.

Although having a good breakfast is the main function, the clients appreciate the opportunity for social engagement and soft entry to access various support options.

The average attendance at the Community Breakfast is around 50 people.

Some statistics:

- 1,403 community members have been clients;
- 2,627 breakfasts served;
- 56 free haircuts provided; and
- 68 clients accessed caseworker support.



*Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday Breakfast Crews
(top left to right; bottom left to right).*

We look forward to this much needed program continuing for some time.

- ***Knox Community Christmas Support (KCCS)***

With the help of Mark and Monique Smith, Ken Barrett, Ray Siegersma, Peter Malden and Paul Cassidy were able to assist with the collection of donated items of food and gifts from local businesses.

All donated items were delivered to a large storage shed at Caribbean Gardens then sorted into hampers by a team of volunteers.

KCCS was able to help 1,093 people (683 adults and 410 children) with 377 hampers, 1,250 gifts and vouchers for gifts (\$3,120) and meat (\$4,900).



- ***Connecting Kids to the Knox Community***

Infolink has designed a pilot program to provide children and young people (aged 5-18 years) in the Knox Community with access to sport and recreational activities. During the period July 2023 to January 2024, the program supported 18 children to participate in a local sport or leisure activity for one or two terms.



The Club financially supported the program with a \$5,000 donation.

Paul Cassidy
Program Coordinator

4.3 Different Journeys



We continued to support the Autism support group, Different Journeys, at their swim events at Knox Leisureworks. Due to lack of funding the first swim event wasn't until January 2024. They were then able to run the swim events in February and April.

Rotarians assisted by supervising and helping some of the autistic participants to prepare food on the BBQ and serve to those attending.



At our meeting on 28 April 2024, a donation of \$3,285 was accepted enthusiastically by Jonathan representing Different Journeys. This donation is to be used by Different Journeys for another swim event later in the year.

Paul Cassidy
Program Coordinator



4.4 Little Street Libraries

“TAKE a Book, GIVE a Book, SHARE a Book”

During the last Rotary year, the Club again continued the growth of our “fleet” of Little Street Libraries. The 7th library was launched at the Alchester Village Pre-School/Kindergarten, in Lockwoods Road, Boronia on 15th November 2023, in conjunction with the kindergarten annual general meeting.



The library was constructed by (now) past member/Friend of the Club Chris Karajas and modified by kindergarten parent, Ben Walker to be accessible from the street whilst located inside the front fence of the kindergarten grounds.

Following the launch by President Greg Mossop and ribbon cutting by Ben Walker, Kindergarten representative Christine Ruff noted that the library reflects many of the pre-school’s values, including:

- the establishment and maintenance of community links
- the importance of reducing, re-using and recycling (the library was constructed and modified using re-purposed materials)
- the promotion of early childhood literacy
- the continued sense of custodianship of a community asset.



Subsequent to the launch, the library was hand decorated by Kindergarten Management Committee President, Elise Dartnell to depict native scenery as proposed by the children.



The new library joins other Club libraries located at Alchester Village (Koko Lime Café), Boronia Mall (main entrance foyer), Wantirna Mall (Ritchies IGA), The Basin Shopping Strip (Svak's Café), Stud Road Shopping Strip (Schokolade) and Boronia Village (Mum's Kitchen). Thanks to Club members Annette Haworth, Ken Barrett, Heather Anderson, Peter Dalwood and Lance Deveson who regularly visit the libraries ensuring that they are well and appropriately stocked.

Disappointingly, despite their community acceptance and success, two of our libraries have been subject to unsavoury behaviour. In September 2023, the library located at Svak's Café was knocked over and damaged, requiring offsite repair. The repair was undertaken by Lance Deveson and the library promptly returned to service.

In early June 2024, the library located at Schokolade Café was substantially vandalised and books destroyed; CCTV footage shows a group of adolescents inflicting the damage. This incident follows previous ones in which the library was knocked over and partially damaged in February, and again in April 2024. To ensure minimal disruption to the service provided by the Library,



Lance Deveson and Chris Karajas moved swiftly into action; using components already in hand, Lance and Chris assembled a new library, which was put into place two days after the damage occurred.

There is also a concern that books may be being removed from at least one library for “personal benefit”.

This project continues to provide a well-received service to our community, supporting the Street Library Association ethos of **“Take a Book, Give a Book, Share a Book”**. Initiated in recognition of the Club's 50 years of service in 2018, it continues to be a resounding success!

Lance Deveson
Project Coordinator

4.5 ANZAC Day Commemoration Service for Knox Primary Schools

Tim Neville Arboretum, 19th April 2024

The Rotary year, 650 Year 5 & 6 Students and teachers from sixteen schools in the Knox Council area assembled at the Tim Neville Arboretum and Cenotaph in Ferntree Gully for the now annual ANZAC Commemorative Service on Friday, 19th April. This annual service has grown over the past nine years from an initial 100 students to this year hosting 605 students plus staff.



In addition to the schools, invited guests included Mary Doyle MP, Member for Aston who welcomed the guests; Cr Marcia Timmers-Leitch representing Knox Council, who delivered a welcome from the Council; Jackson Taylor MLA, member for Bayswater; Daniella De Martino MLA, Member for Monbulk; Steve and Marie Everett, representing Boronia RSL; Incoming Rotary District 9815 District Governor, Colin Byron; Rotary Club of Boronia President, Greg Mossop; and Michelle Post, mother of guest speaker Kylie and wife of late Club member, Eddie Post.



The theme this year was focused on retired Australian Navy Captain, Kylie McDonald, and her service in the Navy, both in Australia and Overseas. Kylie, a past Rotary Exchange Student, is a local girl having grown up in Boronia. Kylie, who is now Harbour Master in Geelong, spoke about her years in the Navy as a navigation officer on active Navy ships, then Harbour Master for the Naval facility in Darwin. She also related to the students what ANZAC, and the ANZAC spirit, meant to her as a servicewoman.

During the sacred part of the Service, the “Ode to the Fallen” was recited by Marie Everett, herself a retired Navy officer. St Joseph’s College Year 10 Trumpeter,

Zsolt Szabo played the “Last Post” followed, after a minute’s silence, by the “Reveille”. All Schools and invited guests then laid wreaths at the Cenotaph.



The Service was enhanced by music from the St Joseph’s College Concert Band, Ferntree Gully directed by Bronwyn Dean and choral items by the St Joseph’s Primary School Choir, Boronia conducted by Gayle Ashdowne.



More than 20 Club members attended the Service, undertaking a variety of activities such as school and VIP hosts, sound technician, flag orderlies, and traffic controllers, which all contributed to a wonderful service for the Children. Schools attending were St Joseph's College, St Joseph's Primary School, Boronia K-12 College Primary, Boronia Heights Primary School, The Basin Primary School, St Bernadette's Primary School, Regency Park Primary School, Wantirna Primary School, Ferntree Gully North Primary School, Park Ridge Primary School, Boronia West Primary School, The Knox School, Bayswater South Primary School, St Luke's Primary School, Knox Central Primary School and Mooroolbark Grammar.



Lance Deveson and Glenn Tippet
Event Coordinators

4.6 Knox Community Garden

The Club has two garden plots in the Knox Community Garden. The purpose of these plots is to grow produce for Knox Infolink, who give it to people seeking emergency relief. Some of the produce is also used for the Boronia Community Breakfast Program.



The Knox Community Garden is a very impressive site where many in our local community grow their garden produce. Like other people all over the world, they enjoy their plots.

Over the summer period we harvested lots of valuable veggies and, if you consider tomatoes a fruit, please include them. A good range of capsicum and cucumbers have been grown; then there were onions, potatoes and lettuce. Strawberries have been a favourite!

Pam, one of our team makes a point of visiting the gardens twice a week and harvests what is available. Three 20 litre buckets of produce are delivered to Infolink each week.



Our busy team of gardeners, John Poke, Pam King, Paul Cassidy and Annette Griffin, supported by Shirley and John Messon (friends of John), maintain the plots, growing and planting seedlings, and keeping our space looking neat. During the warmer months, our team has regularly attended to watering to keep the plants going. During the autumn, we rearranged the garden beds and planting for the winter crops, so there is always plenty to do.

This is a wonderful engagement with the community as we are always asked about Rotary and what our Club is doing.

The gardening community has a real interest in our methods of gardening. In simple terms, we cultivate a no dig garden. We have enjoyed speaking to school groups about this method and its value. We use organic fertilisers to assist in developing the plants and bring them to maturity, which is very rewarding.

We are always on the lookout for any additional people who have a gardening interest to come in for an hour or two as and when available; it would be terrific to have you support us.



John Poke
Project Coordinator

4.7 CWA Hall Maintenance

In early June 2024, a small group of Club members, with the support of family, spent a Saturday morning ‘refreshing’ the local Country Women’s Association (CWA) premises in Boronia. Activity was focussed on garden maintenance and painting, with the following tasks completed:



The Country Women's
Association of Victoria Inc.
care empower contribute

- painting of external handrails;
- painting of toilet walls and ceilings;
- trimming of trees and shrubs;
- removal of ivy from fences and garden beds;
- removal of leaves; and
- general tidy-up/removal of debris of the grounds.

Those present were rewarded with a ‘full-blown’ CWA morning tea. Thanks to the ladies who provided it.



To finish the job, some mulch was required for the garden beds. We were able to pick up some free mulch with the “VW Amarok” and a trailer from the Monash recycling centre. Paul and Ray then delivered and spread the mulch over the garden beds.



Ray doing the hard work (left) (he made Paul take the photo); Ray with the Amarok in the background; and one of the freshly mulched garden beds.

All-in-all, a real face lift for the gardens and very much appreciated by the CWA.

4.8 Boronia Rotary Youth Skills Shed

Plans are well and truly underway for the Youth Skills Shed at Boronia Heights Primary School.



The Boronia Rotary Youth Skills Shed will be a safe place where children can come and participate in various activities which may be of interest to them. The Shed will introduce the participants to activities including woodworking, plumbing, electrical, metalwork, concreting, brick laying, tiling, safe tool handling, various machine operations and more.

It may also be possible to have excursions to different locations, for example Men's Sheds, Knox Woodworking Club and hardware stores.



Rotary
Club of Boronia

Initially the ages of the children will range from Grade 4-6 with appropriate levels of tasks and projects suitable for the age groups. Each group will be supervised by suitable Trade instructors/teachers/experts for the duration of their project and participation at the Shed.

Initially there will be a cap on participants to match available instructors. There is no cost to participants as the program will be fully funded by Rotary and donors.

The objective of The Rotary Youth Skills Shed, is to provide a space where children who may not have an interest in sport, art, school, or have no interests at all, but do have a creative or 'trade like' interest. The children will engage and learn from adults experienced in different fields of 'hands on' projects. The participants will, for example, be able to assemble a character or wooden piece with their own hands and it will be exciting for them and their growth in early childhood development.

Children's mental health and wellbeing is in the forefront of this program, especially after the impact of COVID 19 on student mental health. The program may also support those students disengaged from learning by presenting interest-based learning and activities within a school setting.

The Trade instructors will be able to guide and mentor the children through their journey of participation in The Rotary Youth Skills Shed. The education provided by the Trade instructors will be not only the activity or project, but also in life skills required in everyday life.



The outcome and success will be measured following completion of each project. The effect and happiness of participants, the results established, and the personal development achieved. Also measurable is the attendance from each participant. Rules, as outlined in the "Rules of The Shed", must be adhered to and participants will be monitored in their behaviour and manners.

The Shed has a proposed start date of 23rd October 2024, and each program will run for the school term. Then a new group of participants will start the program in the New Year 2025 for the first term.

The Shed has been made possible by donations and gifts from Bendigo Bank, Bunnings (with substantial discounts on equipment and materials), District 9815, Boronia Rotary Club, Fleet Plant Hire Solutions, Knox Woodworkers Club (also providing Tradies to run a session), Boronia Heights Primary School for use of the Shed, and our own Richard from Spincat signage.

The Shed has a budget of \$14,000 and to date, is under budget with a few more items to purchase.

The subcommittee formed within the Rotary Club consists of members, Peter Malden, John White, Annette Haworth, Jan Malden, Brad Hebblethwaite, Ken Barrett, Glenn Tippett, Greg Mossop, Jarom Deeks, Paul Cassidy and other members; all have contributed to this terrific initiative.

The Shed required an Incorporated Association to be set up as the Rotary Club cannot own the equipment and materials in the Shed. The Committee of Management required was formed, and the members are:



- Ray Siegersma – President;
- Peter Malden – Treasurer;
- Kristy Foster (BHPS Assistant Principal) – Secretary;
- David Orlandi (Principal Basin Primary School) – Member;
- John White – Member; and
- Lance Deveson – Member.

All of the Tradies who will run sessions have volunteered their time (and some materials) to participate in the program.

We look forward to the Grand Opening!

4.9 Other Community Projects

4.9.1 First Aid CPR Course



We had a CPR First Aid instructor come to the Club and run a First Aid and CPR refresher course. Many of the Club members attended and we were shown how to operate a defibrillator. Many thanks to Annette Haworth for organising this event.

4.9.2 Defibrillator for Boronia Heights Primary School

Our Rotary Club had previously provided a defibrillator at Boronia Heights Primary School. The one provided was no longer in a good working condition, so the Club provided a new one free of charge to the school. This was gratefully received, and they hope to never have to use it.



4.9.3 Blood Bank Lifeblood Team



Our Rotary Club has registered a Donor's Team at the Blood Bank. A number of Rotarians from our Club are members of the team and every donation they make will be added to the Boronia Rotary Club Lifeblood Team.

4.9.4 Support for Tamminya House

Early in the Rotary year, representatives of Tamminya House provided an overview of the work they do in our community. Tamminya house, a totally volunteer run registered charity, offers crisis/emergency accommodation for homeless single parents accompanied by their children, helping them work towards a better future. The accommodation facilities consist of seven studio apartments and can house up to seven adults and fifteen children.



Following our successful Charity Golf Day in February (refer **section 7.2**), we were able to present Tamminya House with a donation of \$2,750 (part proceeds of the Golf Day) in support of their ongoing work.

4.9.5 Christmas Gift Wrapping

In the lead up to Christmas 2023, volunteers from our Club wrapped gifts at Westfield Knox, an opportunity we were given following participation in the Westfield Local Hero program (Mark Smith was nominated as a Local Hero for his leadership of the “Knox Rocks” music program).



As well as providing a service to the Knox community, participation provided exposure for the Club, as well as a fund-raising opportunity. A small donation was made for each gift wrapped.



Thank you to all of those that helped out; it was lots of fun!



5 International Service



5.1 Overview

Committee:

- Neville Windebank – Chair
- Peter Malden
- Dushan Perera
- Stephen Spiers

Introduction:

This report presents the international projects we have been able to achieve in the 2023/24 Rotary year. Thank you to all who have assisted in this area; it has been a great year!

Neville Windebank
International Service Chair



5.2 Our Sister Club – the Rotary Club of Taveuni Island

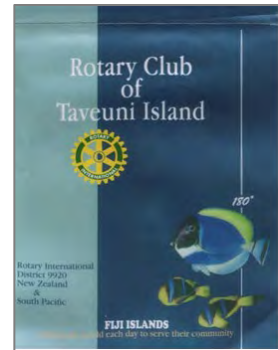
5.2.1 Rotary Club of Taveuni Island Snapshot

Club Officers 2023/2024:

- President: Peter Brown;
- Secretary: Helene Brown;
- Treasurer: Charlie Kuffner; and
- IP President. Alan Petersen.

Club Officers 2024/2025:

- President: George Qalovi;
- Secretary: Helene Brown;
- Treasurer: Charlie Kuffner; and
- IP President. Peter Brown.



Fiji Group of Islands



5.2.2 Rotary Club of Taveuni Island Activities

In addition to those reported below (in which the Rotary Club of Boronia was involved), projects undertaken by the Rotary Club of Taveuni Island during the 2023/24 year included:

District Governor's Visit:

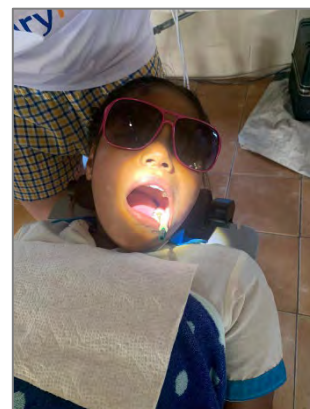
The Rotary Club of Taveuni Island was privileged to be visited by District Governor Vineeta Nand and Area Governor Erica Lee on Tuesday, 15th August 2023.

Visiting Dental Team:

The District and Area Governors' visit coincided with the Rotary Club's visiting dental team from New Zealand, which was a wonderful way for their Club to highlight its achievements in recent months.

The dental team visited the villages of Lavena, Bouma, Wainikeli and Naselesele.

Full details are on the Rotary Club of Taveuni Island website.



Laptop Computers:



The day of the visit was also the day that twenty-eight laptops were presented to the Holy Cross High School: the accompanying photo shows students using the new laptops.

Dreketi School Rebuild

The time had come to make the move to rebuild the school at the village of Dreketi, on the island of Qamea, in Fiji. This project had been hatching for several years. In 2016, because of cyclone Winston, the small school at Dreketi was swept away in a landslide.

The Fijian government funds were stretched to breaking point and funds for the rebuild of the school were simply not available. The Rotary Club of Taveuni took on the monumental task of raising about \$FJ225,000 to rebuild and enhance the school. Funds arrived from many places in the South Pacific.



Although it did not have sufficient funds to complete the task, the Club considered that it was close enough to make a start. Costings have been completed and a builder able to do the job has been identified. However, further financial support is required to enable the project to be finished. The children deserve the best education possible.

In October 2022, a team from the Rotary Club of Taveuni, together with a representative of the Rotary Club of Northbridge (NSW, Australia) visited the village to discuss with the stakeholders the best position for the new school.



Further details of all the Rotary Club of Taveuni Island's activities can be found on the Club website at: <https://taveunirotary.com/>.



Airport welcome sign.

5.3 Fiji Projects

5.3.1 Navakawau Catholic School – Taveuni Island Fiji

Supply of materials to allow the village to build a new School Toilet Block, Taveuni Island, Fiji.

During the Taveuni Eye Project 15 (conducted in June 2023), Peter and Jan Malden drove down to Navakawau and were shown around the school by the Head, Leone Solovani.

Mr Leone indicated all the school facilities that were currently at the school. Rotary Boronia was able to supply some computer equipment including a laser printer.

As he showed them around the school it was very obvious that the local village and the children take very good care of the school and its surroundings. The village owns the school and its grounds.

The one thing missing from the school was comprehensive toilets and a shower for the children, the girls in particular. Lack of privacy and inadequate numbers of units was a concern, especially as the older girls are now experiencing their monthly cycles.

A 'girls only' shower was considered a must have facility.

An engineered plan for a new toilet block was shown by the village and all agreed it would be a great asset to the children. Jan and Peter agreed to return home and seek the funds necessary.

Project details:

- **Funding** – RC Boronia and Marrich Foundation via RAWCS; the cost of the project materials was **\$A23,755.62**.
- **Contractor** – The Village of Navakawau; cost of **labour** for the project was **\$A0.00**.
- The village obtained an architect/engineered drawing of the required toilet block at their expense.
- The villagers were divided into five groups to provide labour for the building.
- The communal response mirrored Rotary's caring and wilful hearts to make Fiji lives better.
- The men provided the work force while the women catered for lunch and afternoon tea.
- **Project Oversight** – Head of School Mr Leone Solovani, Michael Prasad (RC Taveuni) and Peter Malden.
- **Material Supply** – Vinod Patel Home and Living, Taveuni Island.
- **Project was completed – April 2024**



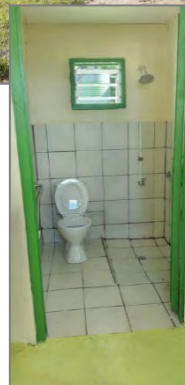
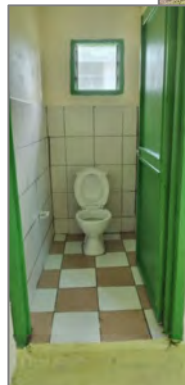
An existing concrete pad shown was retained by the school after cyclone rebuilding work and formed the basis of the floor. A tank water supply was very close.



A team of villagers working on site.



The existing concrete pad shown before work commenced.



The finished toilet block.



Very happy students.

5.3.2 Meeting Facilities



Our Club paid for twelve-months of full Zoom subscription to allow Rotary Club of Taveuni Island to better manage its meetings.

5.4 Dental Chair for Ukraine

Our Club was gifted a fully operational dental chair that is in pristine condition.

Following investigations, it was decided that it would be taken to Donations in Kind, in Footscray, and made ready for shipment to Ukraine.

I am sure that all will agree that Ukraine needs all the help it can get at this time, and they have indicated a huge need for such equipment.

A most worthwhile, inexpensive and easy project.



5.5 Supporting Sporting Teams in Papua New Guinea

The Club had the pleasure of presenting Desley Tunstall with three bags of netball tops and bibs for forwarding to the Tribal Kesgies Netball Club in Papua New Guinea (PNG). These were supplied thanks to John Poke who obtained them from a relative in Ballarat.

Desley lived in PNG for a number of years when her husband was working there for the ANZ Bank. During that time, she became involved in a number of Community activities including the local Netball Club. As the area is extremely poor the players do not have their own uniforms or shoes and often share shoes during a game, even though the court can get extremely hot.

Coincidentally with the presentation of the uniforms Desley had seen a local shoe shop selling sports shoes and had bought a number to send to the Club.

She advised that she has in the past sent supplies to PNG and has established an economical way of doing so. She forwarded the shoes, tops and bibs as a package, and provided photos after they had been received.

Desley advised that the Club has a number of teams in the finals from different grades and age groups, and that receiving the new uniforms will lift their morale.



5.6 Disaster Aid

Again working through Disaster Aid Australia, the Club this year funded the installation of a SkyHydrant MAX water filter at the Sherubgatshel Middle Secondary School in Bhutan. The SkyHydrant was installed in April 2024 to ensure access to safe drinking water for the students.



During the previous year, the school encountered a serious problem when approximately 172 boarding students suddenly became ill. Following an investigation by health personnel, it was determined that the drinking water was contaminated with high levels of coliforms and bacteria. Acting on advice, the school management started providing boiled water for consumption.

Installation of the SkyHydrant solved the problem. By providing reliable access to clean and safe drinking water, the school has significantly improved students' health, academic performance, and overall well-being. Access to safe drinking water has reduced illnesses, allowing students to attend classes regularly and focus better on their studies. This initiative has not only enhanced students' physical health but has also contributed to a healthier learning environment, a positive impact overall.



Furthermore, the SkyHydrant filter supports environmental sustainability by reducing the need to boil water using firewood, reducing the use of bottled water decreasing plastic waste, and increasing the volume of clean water available for consumption. The economic benefits are also notable, as the school saves money that would otherwise be spent on fuel, medical treatment, and bottled water.



At the time of installation, the SkyHydrant water filter was benefitting 484 students and 90 staff members, as well as their families who reside on the school campus.



Each SkyHydrant MAX unit can provide 10,000 litres per day of clean, bacteria free water for ten years. That is enough for a village of 700 people or a school with 1,000 pupils, well in excess of demand at the Sherubgatshel Middle Secondary School community.

These ultrafiltration units remove dirt and bacteria from water without the use of chemicals or needing a power source. They are extremely simple to operate and require the absolute minimum of mechanical devices, such as pumps, in the process.



Funding for this year's project was again raised through a Trivia Night conducted in October 2023, at which almost \$6,500 was raised (SkyHydrant cost \$6,000). Thanks to all who contributed by donating goods or services, contributing questions, setting/cleaning up, etc. Special thanks to Mark and Monique Smith and Nadja Wood for all the work they put into making the night a great success.

Prepared on behalf of ...

Monique Smith
Project Coordinator





Certificate of Appreciation

Presented to:

Boronia Rotary Club

Disaster Aid Australia thanks you for the opportunity to deliver your international safe water project for

Sherubgatshel Middle Secondary School, Bhutan



PP Peter Faulkner
Chairman

Disaster Aid Australia is a project of



6 Youth and Vocational Service



6.1 Overview

Committee:

- Bernadette Vanderwolde – Chair
- Jarom Deeks
- Heather Anderson
- Jane Mifsud
- Janet Windebank
- Bronwyn Chang



Introduction:

This year we had another successful year supporting our youth and recognising vocational/community service. Details of these are set out in the following pages.

Bernadette Vanderwolde
Youth and Vocational Service Chair



6.2 Youth Programs

6.2.1 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

R (Rotary) Y (Youth) L (Leadership) A (Awards) is a program to support young adults (aged 18-30) to develop their skills as leaders in the community. Skills include team management, project management and communication.

In the 2023/2024 year we supported two students in the RYLA program.

RYLA was held after the Rotary year end from the 8th to 14th July at Phillip Island. The two students benefited immensely.



6.2.2 Anchor Community Care

We were pleased to learn a little bit more about Anchor and the amazing work they are doing within our community.

One of their many programs is Anchor Kinship Care.

Anchor Kinship Care supports the children and carers when children who can't live with their own immediate family, live with someone they know, such as an extended family member. We provided up to \$4,740 for three children to attend a respite camps.

For children who can't live with their own immediate family, the preferred option is sometimes to live with someone they know, such as an extended family member. This need is often urgent and unforeseen, and Anchor can provide help ranging from initial assistance to ongoing support.



6.2.3 Books for Knox Central Primary School



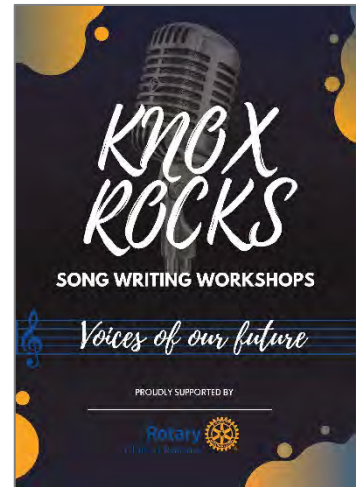
The Club donated some 300 books (value \$3,000) to Knox Central Primary School, thereby contributing to the library and classroom resources of this small but vibrant school in our local community. Club member, Julienne Hyams (pictured with students) is Business Manager at the school.

Following a local donation, we also donated boxes of paper and some unused tablets for the school to use.

6.2.4 “Knox Rocks” Youth Music Project

After the resounding success of the pilot program in 2022/23, the second edition of the “Knox Rocks” youth music project was conducted during the latter part of 2023/early 2024. Under the expert leadership of Mark Smith, the program once again fulfilled its objectives of giving the participants an increased sense of confidence, empowerment, achievement, engagement, mastery of skills and self-expression through the medium of music.

Extensive work was undertaken to ensure continued success, with several new initiatives being implemented based on the pilot program learnings. As with the previous year, the leadership group liaised closely with local schools to identify program participants.



The program again consisted of a series of six workshops that enabled the participants to develop musical creations and culminated in a session at a professional recording studio during which the created songs were recorded and processed to provide the participants with tangible outcomes from the program. All instruments, equipment and support materials were provided as part of the program.

Thanks and gratitude goes to the program organisers, Rotarians

Mark Smith and Melanie Karajas; song writing lead and mentor, Emma Jury; and backing musician, Noah as well as to Ivor and Lucy Santurini who made their studio available for the six workshop sessions.



This year’s program was brought to successful conclusion at our Club meeting on 13th February, when we were privileged to listen to the amazing compositions created through the song writing workshops offered by this program. We heard the very meaningful lyrics written by each of the seven participants, Zami, Mitch, Avery, Ash, Piper, Chloe and Justice performed by Emma Jury with musical backing provided by Noah.

Prepared on behalf of ...

Mark Smith
Project Coordinator

6.2.5 Backpacks 4 VIC Kids



At a meeting in September, Janine Mossop provided a presentation updating the Club of the work of Backpacks 4 Vic Kids. Janine is a volunteer who works tirelessly making kits and coordinating materials and volunteers in support of the wonderful work that Backpacks 4 Kids does to ease the lives of kids who have found themselves in need of emergency help.



Following Janine's presentation, members of the Club donated a large range of items for use in the future production of kits.

The presentation also inspired a working/sewing bee in support of this worthy cause. Conducted at the CWA Hall in November, six amazing volunteers produced Santa sacks, bucket hats, sanitary bags, soft toy teddies, soap bags and mix and match sets. When distributed by Backpacks 4 Vic Kids, these items no doubt put a smile on a child's face!

A big thank you to the Liz and Lance Deveson for setting everything up.



6.3 Vocational Programs

6.3.1 School Citizenship Awards

Coordinated by our amazing member, Jane Mifsud, various members presented awards to students in Year 6 for the following schools:

- Park Ridge Primary School
- Knox Park Primary School
- The Basin Primary School
- Knox Central Primary School
- Boronia Heights Primary School
- Boronia K-12.



The award recipients we selected by the school for their outstanding work and dedication to their community.

6.3.2 Vocational Visit – Knox Central Primary School

Club members participated in a vocational visit to the Knox Central Primary School, located in Darwin Road, Boronia, this Rotary year. For some it was a trip down memory lane; for others it was an opportunity to see how a school runs and learn more about our local community.



Hosted by the school's Business Manager, Julienne Hyams (also Club member) we were given a brief overview of the school before inspecting the facilities, including the library where previously donated books (refer **section 6.2.3**) are housed.

The school visit was followed by dinner at a nearby restaurant.



7 Fundraising and Entrepreneurial Development

7.1 Committee Report

Committee:

- John Poke – Chair
- Kristian Dauncey
- Monique Smith
- Helen Urban
- Sandra Hayes
- Michael Jacobs
- Julien Karolos
- Robyn Green
- Sandy Kemp
- Annette Griffin.



Report:

This year has been challenging! We have majored in doing **Bunnings BBQs** as a primary source of income throughout the year. For all who have assisted us with personnel on the different shifts and in difficult weather conditions, I am most grateful.



We enjoyed working at the **Shannon's Retro Car Rally**, where it was fun seeing vehicles do their laps around the METEC speedway.

We have enjoyed being associated with **The Basin Music Festival**. We sold plants to the patrons; we also offered children Rotary working packs along with distributing Rotary information to the public.



A new approach this year has been our opportunity to do a **BBQ at the Boronia Hotel**. We have been there each first Saturday for two months now. They provide us with the material and the BBQ; we have the opportunity to meet the patrons as they come and go. Again, this has been a great outreach into the community.

Then on 2nd June we had the opportunity to participate in a Knox City function at the Boronia oval. A good response was achieved. I am most grateful to all who assisted with this activity.

I want to acknowledge the fine work of Glenn Tippet who has arranged permits for each of the BBQ events. Having an approval to do a BBQ is essential. Glenn, on behalf of the Club this behind-the-scenes work does not go unnoticed. A big thank you for your assistance.

Then there is the fine support of Geoff and Annette Griffin for allowing the Club to freeze surplus stock, so it is kept for the next function. A huge thank you to you both.

In recent months we have been developing new approaches to raise much needed funds.



An online raffle is scheduled to be launched in July to assist residents in **Glengollan Village**, a fine aged care residence in our city. They will benefit from the proceeds of this, which are to be used to enhance the amenity of this facility.

The other development we are exploring is the opportunity for the Club to have an **Opportunity Shop**. This proposal has been developed by one of our members, Sandy Kemp. We are very glad to have her expertise in managing this kind of enterprise.

The feasibility study is now ready to be circulated to members for their comments. Members will have the opportunity to raise questions and make comments; they will be directed to Sandy who will provide members with answers to their questions at a Club forum. I believe this will allow the Club to raise much needed funds to support our Club's financial challenges into the future.

A **Wine Raffle** was again run over the last two months of the Rotary year. Michael Jacobs does really fine work with this each year. The raffle was to be drawn at Club Changeover on 28th June; however, was deferred to our 'Christmas in July' celebration on 23rd July. It was pleasing that first prize, a bottle of Grange, was won by Alan from Razer Graphix, Bayswater, a long-time supporter and Friend of our Club.



Annette Griffin is organising a bundle of raffle prizes for Changeover. The proceeds will assist the Club's community gardens, where we are doing magnificent work in providing produce to Infolink each week.

I am grateful to my committee who have been loyal supporters of our new approaches to getting out into the community.

The plans for the new Rotary year 2024/25 have been developed and submitted for approval. Annette Griffin will do a wonderful job in leading this committee going forward.



There remains a challenge to the Club. In October 2025 we will have the opportunity to receive the first instalment of the **Wally Goodwin** gift in will. This will be treated as a District grant.

The first challenge is the Club will need to have a project or projects that claim the Club's involvement. We will need to have these submitted by end of June 2025 in the usual manner we do District grants.

We also need to have the funds available to match the grant dollar for dollar. That is an additional \$8,345 on top of what we currently achieve each year. This amount will come to the Club each year so this will bring about a huge change to the way we as a Club do business. I am certain we can achieve this going forward.

Next year's Rotary theme is "*The Magic of Rotary*". It will provide us all with opportunities of service together as we make an impact on the community.

There are two final comments I need to make as I conclude this report:

1 All of us were invited to become a Rotarian. One day someone said to us we would love you to join Rotary. For a moment reflect on the people who invited you to join Rotary; we stand in their shadow. We will always be grateful to them.

2 In Rotary we have the four-way test:

Is it the truth.

It is fair to all concerned.

Will it build goodwill and better friendships.

Will it be beneficial to all concerned.

We will these values every day in our Rotary service.

I have been privileged to chair this group this year; I am most grateful for this opportunity.

As we enter into the Rotary year titled “*The Magic of Rotary*”, may we all make an impact for good in all we do as a Club.

To you all, the very best in Rotary service.

John Poke

Chair, Fundraising and Entrepreneurial Development Committee

7.2 Charity Golf Day

Our annual Charity Golf Day was this year run on Monday, 19th February 2024 at the Eastwood Golf Club. We had perfect weather, and it was again a great success.

This year more than 80 players hit off at 8:00am in the traditional shotgun start.

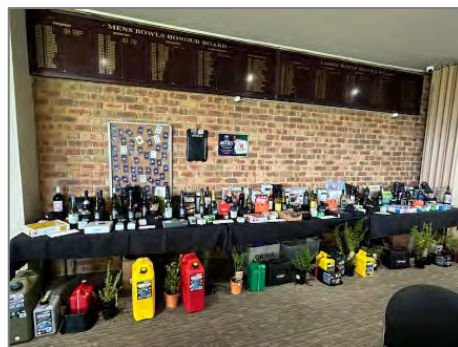
This day is our Club's biggest fundraiser of the year, and our many sponsors again not only had a great day, but they also helped us raise what we believe to be a record amount for the Golf Day.



I want to sincerely thank Ken for the incredible amount of work that he put in over many months getting all the teams that played on the day rounded up.

Thank you also to those Club members who helped set up the club house with

the raffle prizes and lucky envelopes, tickets for which were sold during lunch time. I would also like to thank Peter and Chris who were both out on the course at 6:30am setting up the tee sponsor signs and collecting them after play had finished.



Winning this year's competition was the team from LMP Accountants (see left), with runners-up the team from SIMBA Global. Both organisations are long-term sponsors of the event.

The total raised from our Golf Day this year was again close to **\$11,000**. The majority of the funds raised on the day were distributed to:

- **Different Journeys**, which provides support to families with autistic children; and
- **Tamminya House**, which provide emergency housing for victims of family violence; and
- Rotary Club of Boronia **Youth Skills Shed**, a training initiative for our younger generation.

Our next Golf Day will be held on Monday, 17th February 2025.

John White on behalf of ...

John White and Ken Barrett
Golf Day Coordinators

8 Membership and Wellbeing

Committee:

- Mark Smith – Chair
- Susan Hanger
- Doug Gibson
- Brad Hebblethwaite
- Kathy Liu.



Report:

This has been another positive year for our membership. We finished the year with 50 members which represents a growth of 32% over the last 5 years, largely due to the implementation of a focused growth program by Greg a couple of years ago.



It is also very pleasing that we now have several family memberships consisting of husband and wives. Within the membership there has also been an increase in female numbers to 40%, which is slightly above the District trend.

The membership committee developed a more comprehensive visitor information package and mentoring program this year to assist potential and new members through the process. The focus over the next period will be on the wellbeing and engagement of our membership and maintaining the numbers at around 50.



New members during 2023/24: Jan Malden, Kristian Dauncey, Tom Mason, Robyn and Penry Green, Sandy Kemp and Annette Griffin.

Mark Smith
Membership and Wellbeing Committee Chair

9 Fellowship

Committee:

- Val Henry – Chair
- Chris Karajas
- Ken Barrett
- Lillian Daff
- Leigh Elsey
- Alan Jenkins
- Gonny Rundell
- Peter Van Zeyl
- Julienne Hyams.



Report:

I would like to sincerely thank the members of the Fellowship Committee – Ken Barrett, Leigh Elsey, Julienne Hyams, Chris Karajas, Gonny Rundell, and Peter Van Zeyl for their participation and great assistance organising various events during the Club year.

Alan Jenkins and Lillian Daff were also members of our committee; however, due to their location were unable to participate in our meetings. They were, however, kept advised through emailed meeting reports.

It is also noted that during the year Alan and Chris resigned from the Club.

It was my intention as Chair for each person to contribute to our Group's objective of providing interesting and enjoyable fellowship ideas for Club members to meet on an informal basis.



Each member of our committee was therefore asked to propose an event, investigate its feasibility and then if agreed by the group, they would then coordinate the event with assistance from myself and/or other group members.

When planning events, our committee was mindful of other committees' planned activities where Club members would either be attending a function and/or assisting with an event.

Below is a recap of events either proposed, planned and/or held during the 2023/24 year:

- **The Basin Theatre/Dinner (20th August 2023)**

This was organised by Val, however, as the performance was cancelled due to COVID unfortunately this event did not go ahead.

- **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner (27th/28th August 2023)**

This was a successful event organised by Val with thirty-one people participating.

Many thanks to Jan and Peter Malden, Geoff and Annette Griffin and Leigh Elsey and Betty for hosting either dinner or lunch and making their guests feel very welcome.

- **Grand Final Event (30th September 2023)**

A successful event organised by Chris and held at Chris and Karen's home with sixteen people attending.

Many thanks to Chris and Karen for making everyone feel very welcome.

- **Melbourne Cup Day (5th November 2023)**

This idea was not progressed as the proposed date was close to the Club's Trivia Night on 28th October. It was also anticipated that many members may be away as it was a long weekend.

- **Breakfast in the Park (26th November 2023)**

A successful breakfast organised by Leigh with approximately fifteen people attending.

Many thanks to Betty for helping with the event.



- **Christmas Party (19th December 2023)**

A successful partners' night with those attending bringing along a Kris Kringle gift.

Many thanks to John White who was Father Christmas.



- **First Rotary Meeting (9th January 2024)**



Initially organised by Leigh, this was planned to be held at the Boronia Bowls Club; however, as they no longer provide catering and the cost of hiring the facility was too expensive, it was agreed that we would make it a simple event with members meeting at The Basin Triangle (BYO food/drinks).



Approximately sixteen people attended and enjoyed the opportunity to catch up after the Christmas break.

- **Pizza Night (February 2024)**

Initially proposed and investigated by Chris, it was planned to hold this event at Hard Rock Brewery. However, due to his resignation this event did not progress.

- **Wine Tasting Event (16th or 23rd March 2024)**

Initially proposed and investigated by Leigh, this event did not progress due to difficulties in attracting a winery.

- **Easter Event (March 2024)**

This event was discussed but not progressed as it was anticipated that many Club members would be away for the Easter weekend.

- **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner/Lunch (6th and 7th April 2024)**



A successful event organised by Val with twenty-five people participating.

Many thanks to Monique and Mark Smith, Stephen and Jane Spiers and Robyn and Penry Green for hosting either a dinner or lunch and making their guests feel very welcome.

- **Weekend Away (12th to 14th April 2024)**

Initially investigated by Ken and Peter, this did not progress due to difficulty in locating a suitable venue and after discussion, it was felt many Club members may not be interested.

- **1812 Theatre/Dinner at The Royal Hotel (15th May 2024)**

A successful evening organised by Julienne with twenty-seven people attending.

This was held on the Wednesday in lieu of the Club's regular weekly Tuesday night meeting.



- **King's Birthday event (10th June 2024)**

Initially proposed by Chris, this did not progress due to it being a long weekend and it was anticipated that Club members may be away.

- **Breakfast with the Stars (June 2024)**

Initially proposed by Chris, this did not progress due to it being a long weekend and it was anticipated that Club members may be away.

- **Club Changeover (Friday, 28th June)**

The Fellowship Committee assisted on the night by welcoming guests and checking off attendance.



Val Henry
Chair, Fellowship Committee

10 Public Image

Committee:

- Glenn Tippett – Chair
- Geoff Griffin
- Jim Sly
- Richard Spinosa-Cattela
- Jackson Taylor
- Mel Karajas
- Peter Dalwood
- Tom Mason.



Public Relations Activities:

This year has been another great year for the Club, and it has been an honour to be part of such a vibrant and energetic group of community minded people.

The Public Relations Committee members this year were: Glenn Tippett, Jim Sly, Richard Spinosa-Cattela and Peter Dalwood. The committee has promoted the Club and its projects very successfully; congratulations to each member on the work they have done over the year.

Jim Sly has worked tirelessly on our website to keep it updated and current, with promotional articles on events throughout the year.



Richard Spinosa-Cattela produced banners and signage and a PowerPoint slide show of the Club's activities to be used both on social media and at events to provide information to the public about our Club and its activities.

Peter Dalwood has been involved with the development of a new IT strategy and has been involved with the local community newspapers promoting the projects we are running and items of interest to the community.

Glenn Tippett managed the Facebook page and supplied printed material throughout the year. He also liaised with Knox Council and Bunnings and several other groups about community events we partnered in. At the time of writing this report the Facebook page has 1,107 followers across the world; we have also launched a LinkedIn page which is starting to get traction.



Our efforts culminated in our Club being recognised with a District award for Public Relations and Communications.



As I regularly say, the best form of public relations is to be seen by our community actively doing things other than raising money for the Club. The list of events and projects we have run over the course of the year is extensive and are mentioned throughout this Annual Report.

Congratulations to President Greg Mossop on your great leadership and achievements over the year; it has been a pleasure to be part of your team.

Glenn Tippett
Public Relations Committee Chair

11 The Rotary Foundation



Every Rotarian Every Year (formerly Centurion Club):



As in previous years, the Club members have continued their strong support of the annual giving to Foundation with 34 members giving \$A100 or more per annum to The Rotary Foundation. A total of \$2,148 was contributed by members.

Foundation is a great selling point for Rotary as all administration costs are met from the income of the invested donations and therefore 100% of the donations are used on Rotary Projects.

End Polio Now:

Members and the Club donated a total of \$7,821 to the End Polio Now Campaign during 2023/24.

The first \$1000 donated by the Club was matched by a District Donation of \$1,000. With the addition of the 2 for 1 matching grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which has committed to matching the funds raised by Rotary to a maximum of \$US500 million per annum, the total amount will be \$US23,463.



District Grants:

The Club was again successful in obtaining a District Grant of \$2,500 to assist with the cost of the Rotary Boronia Youth Skills Shed (refer **Section 4.8**). This funding was matched by the Club.

Annual Foundation Giving:



The Club has contributed the sum of \$A4,800 to The Rotary Foundation as its annual giving. Member contributions, the Club's contribution and third-party donations resulted in a total of \$US12,070 being contributed in the name of the Club.

Fifty percent of these funds return to our District in three years' time and are used to fund District Grants. The other fifty percent is used for Global Grants. The administration costs of the Foundation are paid from the income earned on investing the funds for the three years.

Our Club is a major contributor in our District to Foundation and we continue to be strong supporters both on an individual and Club level. In the 2023/24 Rotary year, our Club contributed an average of \$US257 per member. The District 9810 average was \$US192 per member.

Paul Harris Fellowships:



Paul Harris Fellows (PHFs) were awarded this year to Mark Smith (sapphire), Monique Smith (sapphire), Greg Mossop (sapphire) and Glenn Tippett (fifth sapphire) for their service to the community (refer **Section 2.4** for further information).

President Greg also presented a Paul Harris Fellow Award to Frida Umahoza, who had been unable to attend a meeting the previous year when the Award was made.

Donations of \$US1,000 are made to The Rotary Foundation in the names of each of the awardees.

Neville Windebank
Foundation Chair

12 Club Service



12.1 Club Service Report

Club Service focuses on the effective functioning of the Club. It involves a range of activities, including (for example):

- *maintaining our membership;*
- *ensuring that our members remain informed and involved;*
- *ensuring that our weekly meetings are interesting, engaging and well controlled; and*
- *overseeing our engagement with the broader Rotary organisation, including our contributions to The Rotary Foundation.*

It has been an extremely busy year for me, not only as Secretary and Bulletin Editor, but also the responsibility of Club Service Officer. It has been a very rewarding year, as I feel that we have achieved so much.

I have had the responsibility of managing member data on ClubRunner, event updates on ClubRunner, organising meeting duty rosters, running sheets, coordinating communication, managing surveys, and ensuring the smooth running of weekly meetings; also serving as a member liaison for communication. This job highlights the importance of attention to detail and organisational skills in performing these tasks effectively.



I have thoroughly enjoyed this role but have also been reminded that doing too much can take a toll. Everyone has been very supportive and offered assistance where they can.

Thank you!

Monique Smith
President Elect and Club Service Chair 2023/24

12.2 Program

The 2023/24 Rotary year again featured a varied program of guest speakers and Club focussed activities at our weekly meetings.

A summary listing of the year's meeting program is as follows:

- July 2023:
 - 4th President Greg Mossop introduced his plans for the year.
 - 11th Speaker – Rotarian Gloria Hargreaves: Rotarians Against Malaria.
 - 18th Speaker – Josh Simmons: Rotary Club of Boronia sponsored RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) participant.
 - 25th Speaker – Debra Weston and Angelique Edwards: Tamminya House Cooperative for women escaping domestic violence.
- August 2023:
 - 1st Speaker – PP Peter Malden, Rotary Club of Boronia: Taveuni Eye Surgery project.
 - 8th Speaker – Lisa Burt, Principal of Knox Central Primary School.
 - 15th Committee meetings.
 - 22nd Speaker – Ron Hooton: Vision Australia.
 - 29th Speaker – Rotarians Darren Hill and Natalie Wild: Simple Steps: youth mental health care in Knox.
- September 2023:
 - 5th Speaker – Janine Mossop: Backpacks 4 VIC Kids.
 - 12th Speaker – Michael Simpson: Eastern Raptor Football Club.
 - 19th Committee meetings.
 - 26th Club Assembly.
- October 2023:
 - 3rd Speaker – Frida Umuhoza: lessons from the Rwanda genocide.
 - 10th District Governor, Ian Ballantine – Official Visit, and Speaker – Rotarian Christine Anderson: Knox Nocturnals Youth Club update..
 - 17th Speaker – Jenny Royle, Belonging Matters: employment for people with disabilities.
 - 24th Speaker – Cheryl Laks: Zoos Victoria Youth Programs.
 - 31st Committee meetings.



■ November 2023:

- 7th No Meeting – Melbourne Cup Public Holiday.
- 14th Speaker – Tom Mason, Rotary Club of Boronia: Cyber Security.
- 21st Speaker – Kristian Dauncey, Rotary Club of Boronia: Nadrasca.
- 28th Annual General Meeting and Committee meetings.



■ December 2023:

- 5th Speaker – Miya St John and Sarah Horton, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute: Stuttering Survey.
- 12th Speaker – Denis Johnston, Biyala: Respite care kindergarten program for children with disabilities.
- 19th Christmas breakup party.



■ January 2024:

- 9th Informal Fellowship Meeting – Picnic at The Basin Triangle.
- 16th Speaker – PP John Poke: recent travels in Europe.
- 23rd Speaker – Desley Tunstall: Netball in Papua New Guinea.
- 30th Committee meetings.



■ February 2024:

- 6th Speaker – Ian MacFarlane: Boxing for Parkinsons Disease.
- 13th Knox Rocks Project Presentation – Mark Smith, Rotary Club of Boronia and program participants.
- 20th Speaker – Krystal Bassett and Sheryl Weeks, Anchor Childrens Services: Respite for foster carers.
- 26th Speaker – Paralympian Sam Braham: his journey.



■ March 2024:

- 5th Committee meetings.
- 12th Speaker – Haylee Lawrence-Simons and Jadon Nunnis: Lighthouse Foundation childrens services.
- 19th Fellowship/Fundraising Night: Junk Auction.
- 26th Club Assembly.



■ April 2024:

- 2nd New Zealand Rotarians Dave Birch and Roger Harvey: Online presentation of Ruby Paul Harris Fellowship Award to PP Peter Malden for work done for the people of Taveuni Island (Planned speaker unable to attend).
- 9th Speaker – Helmet Abt, Bureau of Meteorology (retired): continued his story “A life in Weather”.
- 16th Speaker – Stephen Spiers, Rotary Club of Boronia: Review of 2024 Ride for Medical Research.
- 23rd Speaker – Desley Tunstall: her experience in Fiji.
- 30th Committee meetings.



- May 2024:
 - 7th Planned CPR night (Speaker did not attend): Boronia members spoke about their Rotary experiences.
 - 15th Fellowship Night – Dinner and 1812 Theatre play: The Great Gatsby.
 - 21st Speaker – Helen Widjaja: Eastern Palliative Care.
 - 28th Committee meetings.
- June 2024:
 - 4th Rescheduled CPR Course with Health Guard First Aid.
 - 11th Vocational Visit – Knox Central Primary School.
 - 18th Speaker – Cheryl Webster: Knitted Knockers.
 - 25th Committee meetings.
 - 28th Club Changeover.



Looking back on the program, I again this year wish to thank those members of our Club who stepped in to provide sessions that shared their knowledge and experience of programs such as the Taveuni Eye Project and the Ride for Medical Research, and arranged fellowship and vocational events such as the 1812 Theatre Night and the visit to Knox Central Primary School, as well as the excellent CPR training night.

Also, many thanks to those who rose to the occasion when scheduled speakers were unable to attend, as inevitably happens at times, and made sure we had enjoyable meetings despite the difficulty.

Sometime a bit later this year I will hand over the Program, and I wish the new Program Chair every success in this enjoyable role.

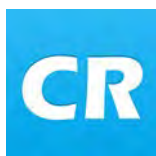
Janet Windebank
Program Coordinator 2023/24

12.3 Bulletin

As the Bulletin editor since January of this year, I took over from Mel Karajas and have thoroughly enjoyed putting together the Bulletin every week. I hope you have also enjoyed the content and found it informative and engaging.



I was the Bulletin editor two years ago. Mel took over in 2022/23, producing a very interesting and professional format. Many thanks go out to Mel for the time and effort she put into creating a great Bulletin.



We started using ClubRunner to access meeting registrations, which I hope now has become a little easier for you all since introducing the new Bulletin format in March, making it easier to access and navigate. The new format includes built-in links that direct readers to ClubRunner, where they can find more detailed information about Club activities, events, and announcements. This enhancement has made it more convenient for members to access additional resources and stay connected with the Club's activities.

Throughout my tenure as the Bulletin editor, I have strived to provide a variety of content that reflects the diverse interests and achievements of our Club members. This has included project updates, upcoming events, and any other relevant Rotary information. We have also had great reports from 'Mosso's Message', highlighting the events of the past week.

Thank you for your continued support and readership. I have enjoyed providing you with a high-quality bulletin that keeps you informed and engaged in the happenings of our Rotary Club.

Bernadette Vanderwolde will be taking on the Bulletin for the new year, and I'm sure she will add her own flare. I look forward to reading it.

Monique Smith
Bulletin Editor
January – June 2024

12.4 Sergeant-at-Arms

It was my great pleasure in being the Club's Sergeant-at-Arms for another year and having the opportunity to extract money from Club members for any perceived or fabricated misdemeanours.

This included taking the opportunity of perhaps being the only Sergeant-at-Arms to fine the District Governor on each occasion he visited our Club's meetings.

Always done and received with good humour, my role could only have been achieved with the help of people providing information, and all money raised is put to good use by the Club.

I take this opportunity of thanking everyone for their support and in handing over the reins to Ray Siegersma, wishing him all the very best for the 2024/25 year.

Val Henry
Sergeant-at-Arms 2023/24



12.5 On-to-Conference

This year, none members and partners from our Club attended the last District 9810 Conference, held in Warrnambool over the weekend 22-24 March 2024.



There were many highlights for those attending the conference; guest speakers covered a variety of topics with many relating to mental health, consistent with the theme “*Mind Matters*”.

A snapshot of the tenor of the speakers is provided in President Greg’s Bulletin report following the conference, an extract of which is provided on the following page.



As always, one of the highlights of the weekend was the Conference Dinner at the Warrnambool Racecourse. Our contingent addressed the “*Masquerade*” theme by dressing up as the “*Boronia Superheros*”, taking out third prize for best costume.

The opportunity to meet with other Rotarians from across our District was appreciated by all. All returned home with their enthusiasm reinvigorated.

Plan now to join the conference for next year, the first for our new combined District 9815, which will be held Bendigo on 28-30 March 2025.



MOSSO's MESSAGE¹

What an amazing week, while I was told “what goes on conference stays on conference” I must tell you some of the incredible things that occurred.

The overall theme of the convention was mental health. Firstly, the keynote speakers were all sensational. If I was forced to pick three, in no particular order, they would be Professor Arnold Dix, an Engineer from Australia who coordinated the rescue of 41 Indian miners trapped below the Himalayan mountains just prior to Christmas. Professor Dix explained how the tunnel under a mountain collapsed and why; then told us of the incredible rescue mission and the ebbs and flows of emotions that occurred amongst the rescuers, the trapped miners and the Indian press whom his continuing message was a simple “41 boys will come home, no one else will get hurt and they will be out by Christmas”. Our group was fortunate to share some time with this humble man and his lovely wife at the conference Gala Dinner. We were dressed as superheroes, but I know who the real hero was.

Imagine you were 18 again (if only) at the peak of your sporting career and you have just been told that you have secured a contract of seven million dollars over a seven-year term. This is the story of Tom Boyd, drafted to the AFL team GWS as the number one draft pick and then transferred to the Western Bulldogs on that incredible contract and played in a winning premiership team.

Tom explained the incredible mental pressure on such an elite but young athlete. After putting his hand up and seeking help, he walked away from the game he loved, but due to his ethics and upbringing he left two million dollars of his contact behind. His health was more important.

And then there was Haresh Ramahandani the Rotary International President Personal Representative (RIPPR). Haresh brought to the conference the message of finding hope in the world from the Rotary International president Gordon McNally. Haresh spoke three times and each time his message reinforced just what a wonderful organisation we are part of. His simple message was whatever you do, big or small in Rotary the effect is magnified around the world.

I will be the first to register to go to the conference next March which will be held in Bendigo. Let us as a Club turn the nine that attended in Warrnambool into at least twenty in Bendigo. I guarantee you will not regret it.”

¹ Extract from Rotary Club of Boronia Bulletin 2 April 2024.

12.6 Membership at a Glance

Details of our Club membership and associated activities are presented in **Section 8**.

Club Membership at a Glance is as follows:

- Members Lost During 2023/2024:
 - Helen Urban (resigned)
 - Julien Karolos representing LJ Hooker Boronia (resigned)
 - Chris Karajas (resigned)
 - Melanie Karajas (resigned).
- New Members During 2023/2024:
 - Jan Malden (11 July 2023)
 - Kristian Dauncey (22 August 2023)
 - Tom Mason (19 September 2023)
 - Penry Green (13 February 2024)
 - Robyn Green (13 February 2024)
 - Sandra Kemp (20 February 2024)
 - Annette Griffin (26 March 2024)
- Honorary Members 2023/2024:
 - Anne Boyd (from 29 August 2023)
 - Alan Jenkins (ongoing)
 - Stephen Payne (ongoing).
- Total Membership:

During 2023/24, our total membership increased from forty-seven (47) to a total of fifty-one (51) members, comprising:

 - 48 Financial; and
 - 3 Honorary.



A list of our members as of 30 June 2024 is presented in **Appendix B**.

12.7 Sponsorship of new Probus Club

At the request of the District 9810 Probus Committee Chair, and in response to an identified need, the Club was pleased to sponsor charter of a new Probus Club in our local community this Rotary year.

President Greg Mossop, President Elect Monique Smith and Bruce Crago (who has been long associated with Probus) attended an interest meeting for the formation of the new Probus Club on 9 May 2024. Pleasingly, the **Boronia Combined Probus Club** was formed.



The new Club held its first official meeting on Thursday, 13 June 2024. President Greg attended the meeting and underpinned our Club's support by presenting Probus Club President Kieran Smith with a Gavel.

The Boronia Combined Probus Club will meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Boronia CWA Hall. We are proud to be their sponsoring Club and look forward to a close relationship.

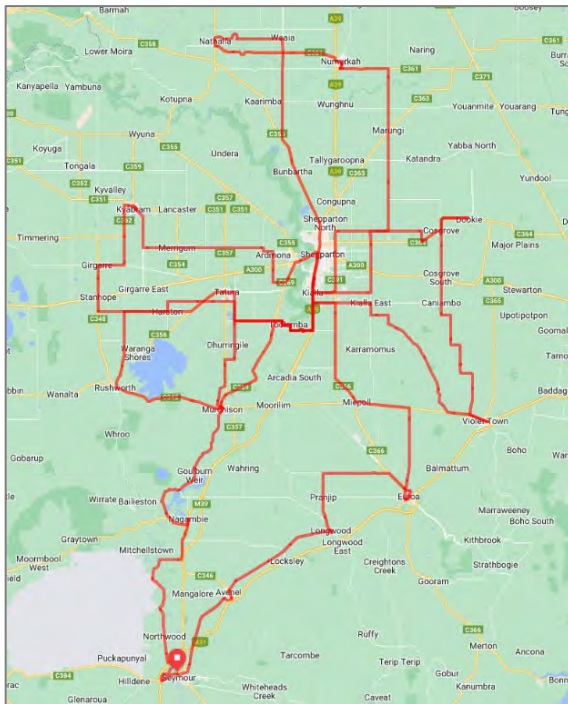


13 Australian Rotary Health – 2024 Ride for Medical Research



After six days and 595 kilometres, the 37th Ride for Medical Research, “**The Fruit Bowl Roll**”, concluded where it started, back in Seymour, following a week of challenging riding, gourmet lunches, great fun and fellowship throughout the Greater Shepparton area.

This was the last District 9810 Ride. A total of 37 rides over 39 years, covering 30,471 kilometres along the way, have been completed in support of Australian Rotary Health.



This year’s ride attendance was down a little with twenty-five riders and eleven support crew. Approximately half the participants this year were non-Rotarians, but all contributed to the fundraising and got into the spirit of the ride. All reports have been positive, with requests already coming in for news of the next one.

The ride began in Seymour and headed to Shepparton via Nagambie on the Sunday, followed by looping rides out of Shepparton each day visiting numerous small towns in the surrounding area. The ride took in the sites, scenery and numerous painted cows dotted throughout the region, as well as the lone Dragon gracing the corner of one farm. The ride concluded back where it started in Seymour on Friday, following a route from Shepparton via Euroa.

‘Club Chardy’ was again a feature at the end of each day’s ride, thanks to Gonny and Nicole for the effort in setting this up and running it over the years.

Thanks must go to all those on the committee who pitched in to make this event happen. Thanks also to all those who took part as riders or support crew and all their donors, who make the effort of organising the event so worthwhile.





This year the ride raised **\$36,017.00**.

The “Mad March Challenge” added **\$5,392.00**.

Bringing the total raised this year to **\$41,409.00**.

Which brings the total raised by the “**Ride for Medical Research**” and the “**Mad March Cycle Challenge**” over seven years, six rides and four Mad March Challenges to **\$289,724.00**.



This brings the total raised from all the rides over the 39 years, including Pedlin’ Pete, Ride for Research \$\$\$, Ride for Medical Research and Mad March Challenge to **\$1,325,424.00**, over twenty-five percent of our District’s total contributions to Australian Rotary Health, something we are very proud of.

Looking to the future and District 9815, we are pleased to announce that, yes, the ride will continue. At this stage it will become a joint project of members of the Rotary Clubs of Boronia and Traralgon, with Janet Wallis from the Rotary Club of Traralgon taking on the role of Route Planner and Ride Director, and hopefully ongoing assistance from members of other Clubs throughout our

expanded District. Planning is already under way with a route being planned around the Wangaratta region, to be conducted from 16-21 March 2025. It will be the 38th ride, celebrating 40 years of raising funds for Australian Rotary Health.



2024 Committee Members:

Members of the 2024 Ride organising committee were:

- **Rotarians:** Stephen Spiers (Joint Ride Coordinator), Ken Barrett, John White, Gonny Rundell, Peter Dalwood, Glenn Tippet (all Rotary Club of Boronia) and Nicole Osner (Rotary Club of Mount Waverley).
- **Non-Rotarians:** David Brown (Joint Ride Coordinator), Karen Brown, Will McKeown, Karlo Lavicka.

Stephen Spiers

Ride Chair and Coordinator

On behalf of the “Ride for Medical Research” Committee

Appendix A Club Photograph



Rotary Club of Boronia
Members present at Club meeting – 25th June 2024

Appendix B Club Members as at 30 June 2024

Member	Classification	Partner
ANDERSON Heather	Community Development	Lawrie
BARKER Marina		
BARRETT Ken	Insurance General	Miriam
BOYD Anne	Honorary	
CASSIDY Paul	Engineering General	Gaye
CHANG Bronwyn	Physiotherapy	Darrell
CRAGO Bruce	Local Government Management	Margaret
DAFF Lillian	Travel Agent	Stephen
DALWOOD Peter	IT Systems Analyst (Retired)	Pam
DAUNCEY Kristian		Silvana
DEEKS Jarom	Cattery Operator	Erin
DEVESON Lance	Information Services	Liz
ELSEY Leigh	Manufacturing	Betty
GIBSON Doug	Menswear Retail	Ellen
GREEN Penry		Robyn
GREEN Robyn		Penry
GRIFFIN Annette		Geoff
GRIFFIN Geoff		Annette
HANGER Susan	Counselling Service	Brian
HAWORTH Annette	Pre-School Teaching	
HAYES Sandra		Barry
HEBBLETHWAITE Brad	Metal Polishing	Marie
HENRY Valerie	Retired	
HYAMS Julienne	Primary & Secondary School Business Manager	
JACOBS Michael	Law - General Practice	Julianne
JENKINS Alan	Business Consultant	Val
KEMP Sandra		
LIU Kathy		Justin
MALDEN Jan		Peter
MALDEN Peter	Telecommunications	Jan
MASON Tom		Anne
MIFSUD Jane	Massage Therapy	David
MOSSOP Greg	Occupational Rehabilitation	Janine
O'SHEA Ryan	Tax and Audit Accountant	Marcia
PAYNE Stephen	Honorary	Lillian
PERERA Dushan	Refrigeration Equipment Import and Export	Niranjala
POKE John	Fundraiser	Mary

Member	Classification	Partner
RUNDELL Gonny	Commercial Property Management	John
SIEGERSMA Ray		Annette
SLY Jim	Environmental Engineering	Lucille
SMITH Mark	Business Solutions/Stationary	Monique
SMITH Monique	Business Solutions/Stationary	Mark
SPIERS Stephen	Commercial Refrigeration	Jane
SPINOSA-CATTELA Richard	Consultancy	Anne-Maree
TAYLOR Jackson	Member of Parliament	
TIPPETT Glenn	Printing Sales Management	Shereen
VAN ZEYL Peter	Business Development	Helen
VANDERWOLDE Bernadette	Insurance	Jon
WHITE John	Retail Consultancy	Gail
WINDEBANK Janet	Locum Lawyer	Neville
WINDEBANK Neville	Law - General Practice	Janet

Appendix C 2023/24 Committee Membership

Community Service and Environment:

Ray Siegersma – Chair
Lance Deveson
Marina Barker
Paul Cassidy
Bruce Crago
Annette Haworth
Ryan O'Shea
John White
Jan Malden²
Penry Green²

Youth and Vocational Service:

Bernadette Vanderwolde – Chair
Jarom Deeks
Heather Anderson
Jane Mifsud
Janet Windebank
Bronwyn Chang

International Service:

Neville Windebank – Chair
Peter Malden
Dushan Perera
Stephen Spiers

Fundraising and Entrepreneurial Development:

John Poke – Chair
Kristian Dauncey²
Monique Smith
Helen Urban³
Sandra Hayes
Michael Jacobs
Julien Karolos³
Robyn Green²
Sandy Kemp²
Annette Griffin²

Membership and Wellbeing:

Mark Smith – Chair
Susan Hanger
Doug Gibson
Brad Hebblethwaite
Kathy Liu

Fellowship:

Val Henry – Chair
Chris Karajas³
Ken Barrett
Lillian Daff
Leigh Elsey
Alan Jenkins
Gonny Rundell
Peter Van Zeyl
Julienne Hyams

Public Image:

Glenn Tippet – Chair
Geoff Griffin
Jim Sly
Richard Spinosa-Cattela
Jackson Taylor
Mel Karajas³
Peter Dalwood
Tom Mason²

Foundation:

Neville Windebank – Chair

² Joined Club during 2023/24.

³ Resigned from Club during 2023/24.

Club Service:

Monique Smith – Chair/President Elect

Bulletin Editor:

Melanie Karajas³/Monique Smith

Program Coordinator:

Janet Windebank

Sergeant-at-Arms:

Val Henry

Club Welfare:

Doug Gibson

Jim Sly

Facebook Administrator:

Glenn Tippett

Club History and Archives:

Jim Sly

Lance Deveson

Attendance/Knox Club Liaison:

Melanie Karajas³/Monique Smith

Club Protection/Risk Management Officer:

Bernadette Vanderwolde

Club Photographer:

Glenn Tippett

Technology Support:

Peter Dalwood

Jim Sly

Website Administrator:

Jim Sly

D.2 Golf Day Sponsors



- **Tasty Trucks – Ferntree Gully**
 - Colin Lear and staff
- **Ballard’s Solicitors – Wantirna**
 - Neville Windebank and staff
- **Bendigo Bank – Boronia**
 - Stephen Lakey and staff
- **Robyn’s Soap House – Knoxfield**
 - Robyn & Penry Green
- **Eastern Strut Recharge – Croydon**
 - Murray Gibson and staff
- **Pro Quip International – Bayswater**
 - Stuart Broadley and staff
- **L J Hooker Real Estate – Boronia**
 - Julien Karolos and staff
- **Knox Travel – Wantirna South**
 - Lillian Daff and staff
- **ASA Financial Advisors – Croydon**
 - John Tatterson and staff
- **LMP Accountants – Croydon**
 - Darren Haycraft and staff
- **Mackinnon Jacobs Lawyers – Boronia**
 - Michael Jacobs and staff
- **Morecraft Kitchens – Bayswater**
 - Matt Wallace and staff
- **Simba Global – Bayswater North**
 - Mehul Somaia
- **Muscle Harmony – Wantirna**
 - Jane Mifsud
- **Dorset Business Solutions/Office Choice – Boronia**
 - Monique and Mark Smith
- **WIM Technologies – Bayswater**
 - Ray Siegersma

D.3 Friends of Rotary 2023/24



- **Razer Graphix – Wantirna**
 - Alan Rye, Glenn Tippett and staff
- **Meyer Cookware Australia – Croydon South**
- **Mr Ajay Amrit – Fijian High Commissioner to Australia**
- **Mr Reg Hodgson – Honorary Consul for Fiji**
- **Knox Infolink**
 - Penny Robinson and staff
- **Knox Community Christmas Support**
 - Julie Hanman, Lori Dudley and team
- **The Knox Club**
 - Ally Lonie and staff
- **St Joseph’s Primary School – Boronia**
 - Gayle Ashdowne
- **St Joseph’s College**
 - Bronwyn Dean
- **Knox Central Primary School**
 - Lisa Burt and staff
- **Boronia RSL**
 - Rod Canobie and members
- **Bunnings Warehouse – Bayswater**
 - Karen MacDonald and Sharon Costantino
- **Country Women’s Association (CWA) – Boronia Branch**
- **Lightwavez Design – Bayswater**
 - Les Marton
- **Days for Girls – Ferntree Gully Chapter**
 - Michelle Gates and colleagues

**Rotary Club of Boronia
(Incorporated • Reg No 18626A)
Rotary International District 9810**

**PO Box 145 Boronia VIC Australia
Email: contact@rotaryboronia.org.au
Web: <http://www.rotaryboronia.org.au/>**



Rotary Club of Boronia
Website