

# BOX HILL CENTRAL ROTARY CLUB

2000-2010

## A BRIEF HISTORY BY RTN IAN PORT

See "BHC 1990-2000.pdf" for previous 10 year's history

### 2000-2001 PRESIDENT PETER ENLUND

We welcomed Peter Enlund as our President to take the club into its second decade. Peter is an experienced Rotarian having been a member of three other clubs including Albuquerque del Norte in New Mexico.

The highlight of the year was the extremely successful Relay for Life held in November 2000. This was the biggest single project ever undertaken by the club with \$108,000 raised for cancer research by the Anti Cancer Council. It also served to remind us of two of our much loved Founder members, Andrew Jackson and Barry O'Dea.

President Peter was delighted to receive the District 9810 Community Service Award in recognition of this project. The club also received the Premier Award of the Victorian Council of Community Service Clubs, with a \$1,000 prize which was donated to the Relay fund. Our special thanks were extended to club member Michael Kirk who challenged members to take on the project and to PP Brian McPhail who so capably led us as Chairman.

The RI President's Citation for 1999/2000 was presented to Jenny Wickland in recognition of the work she put in during her Presidential year.

We finished the year with 39 members, one up on last year and we were pleased to announce that 8 members achieved 100% attendance for the year. It was a great year in Rotary.

### 2001-2002 PRESIDENT KEN RICE

This was another great year in Rotary with a host of awards and continuing achievements. Our enthusiastic and hardworking President, Ken "Sticky" Rice was one of only three Presidents in our District to receive the RI World President's "Distinguished Club President Citation". Also, our club was one of only four clubs in the District to receive a "Distinguished Club Citation" from the RI World President. A record four Paul Harris Fellows were recognised during the year.

Peter Gibbs' eBulletin received the District "Most Improved Bulletin" Award and Brian Martin was awarded a Club Achievement Award (aka "the Sticky Award") for initiating and faultlessly maintaining the club's Website.

Under the leadership of Denise Kempster our ROMAC project with little Maria from East Timor was a great success and was awarded a District Highly Commended accolade.

The hardworking Relay for Life Committee, and nearly all members of the club on the day, came up trumps with our second Relay for Life, raising in excess of \$230,000 for cancer research.

Jenny Wickland<sup>1</sup>'s selection as the District<sup>1</sup>'s youngest and first female DG Nominee 2003/2004 was a highlight for the club and a well-deserved recognition of Jenny's commitment to Rotary since her days as a member of a Group Study Exchange team. On the same weekend as Jenny's nomination, Peter Enlund was selected to take the District GSE Team to The Netherlands. Our club was certainly making its mark in District 9810!

The club's ongoing success was reflected in the membership figures as we finished the year with 42 members, the highest number in the club's history. We also finished the year with a record overall attendance of 86.5% with 14 members achieving 100%. The club is indeed blessed with committed members.

### 2002-2003 PRESIDENT MALCOLM CHIVERTON

A most enjoyable evening was held at Joe Mardjetko's Glencoe Restaurant to welcome our new club President Malcolm Chiverton.

Malcolm challenged members to "Sow The Seeds of Love" – the theme used by new R.I. World President Bhichai Rattakul who told us in a moving video presentation how he had become a better Rotarian when an orphan boy he had taken on an excursion said 'I wish you were my father'.

Our club happily responded to Bhichai's challenge to add to club membership by introducing eight new members, which bettered by far Malcolm's goal of five. Thanks largely to Membership Chairman Geoff Limmer's hard work and endeavour our club numbers reached an all time high of 47. On the downside we were sorry to lose four members in Steve Trahair, Peter Gibbs, Denise Kempster and Anne-Marie Wells.

Our club maintained its active involvement with young people through various programs including Whitehorse Rotaract, Group Study Exchange, Youth Exchange, RYPEN, RYLA, Summer Science School and the Ambassadorial Scholarship awards.

Another successful Relay for Life netted \$191,000 bringing the total raised by the club in just three years to \$530,000. Under a new arrangement with the Cancer Council the club was paid a management fee which was dispersed to support Rotary Foundation \$5,000, two PHF Recognitions \$4,000, Oecussi enclave project (East Timor) \$2,000 and Box Hill Oncology Dept \$1,500.

A grand total of 33 club members, partners, Youth Exchange and Rotex students attended a most successful District Conference held at Geelong that saw the club's much discussed HIV/AIDS proposal adopted at the Resolutions session. We now await in anticipation the outcome of this resolution at the Council on Legislation to be held in Chicago in 2004. We congratulate Michael Kirk on his drive in pursuing both this proposal and our involvement in Relay for Life.

At the District Changeover Dinner the club was the recipient of District awards for Relay for Life and Best Club Website – take a bow Brian Martin.

Another very successful Business Breakfast, with guest speaker Federal Minister Tony Abbott MHR, organised by PP Ken Rice with much assistance by members on the day, was attended by 150 and raised \$8,000 of which \$4,000 each was distributed to Rotary Foundation for Polio Plus Eradication and Box Hill Institute for their House for Homeless Youth project.

In addition the club supported the Whitehorse Indigenous Forum with a donation of \$750 and other donations were made to the Gippsland Bush Fire and Canberra Bush Fire Appeals. A Foundation grant was made to the new Rotary Club of East Timor.

A citation by R.I. President Bhichai Rattakul reads – “Awarded to the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central in recognition of loving grassroots efforts to grow peace and understanding in your club, vocation, community, and world”.

This was a year when, under the leadership of President Malcolm we set out and achieved our aim to Sow The Seeds of Love.

### 2003/04 PRESIDENT KEN CLARK

Box Hill RSL was the venue for our Changeover Dinner on Wednesday 2 July 2003, when long serving member Ken Clark took over as Club President.

This year's District Governor was our own Jenny Coburn, the first District Governor from this club, the first female District Governor for our District, and the youngest District Governor for our District.

RI President Jonathan Marjiyabe's theme for this year was LEND A HAND, and our club members certainly lived up to this theme. A number of our members were actively involved in organising an outstanding District Conference in Hobart, with Peter Enlund as Conference Chairman. Eleven other members served on District Committees, or as advisers to District.

Our Community Service Committee commenced development of a Men's Shed project and successfully applied for a District Simplified Grant of \$2,400, to purchase three new wheelchairs for Box Hill Hospital. We also purchased two sets of “parenting” dolls for Queensland Health to use in the Torres Strait islands. Funds for this project were donated by Colin Macfarlane from Glencoe Foundation.

Our Vocational Committee achievements included a Vocational visit to Carlton & United Breweries Abbotsford plant and the provision of two scholarship for disadvantaged students at Box Hill Institute of TAFE. Our club also sponsored two attendees to the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) seminar, three Koonung College students to attend Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) seminar, and nominated a student for Summer Science School.

The International Committee were involved with Youth Exchange, welcoming Juliann Vandermeer from Canada, welcoming home Barbara Hung from Switzerland, and sending Kathleen Murphy to Denmark. Our club also organised a very successful Welcome Home Dinner for Youth Exchange Students in February.

Along with 9 other Rotary clubs, we donated US\$1,000 towards a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant project for water pumps in Bangladesh. During the year, we donated \$2,000 towards an Interplast team, US\$2,000 to the Rotary Foundation, and continued our sponsorship of our foster child through Plan International. We also supported Australian Rotary Health Research Fund (ARHRF) in various ways.

Our Fund raising committee organised a most successful concert, featuring the Victoria Police Showband and Pipe Band. Other significant fund raisers were our wine sales and sausage sizzle.

We remained in close contact with the Whitehorse Rotaract club due to the commitment of Malcolm Chiverton, who attends all their meetings, provides them with their meeting room, and assists them in countless ways.

Kevin Sheedy was Guest Speaker at a “recruitment” breakfast held in May with approximately 70 people in attendance. On the membership front, we inducted four new members, but lost six due to resignations or transfer to other clubs.

Whilst our members worked hard throughout the year, we also had a lot of fun, as our Family and Fellowship committee provided us with a great variety of fellowship activities, which were thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

To be continued...