

A Brief History of the Rotary Club of Broadbeach Inc.

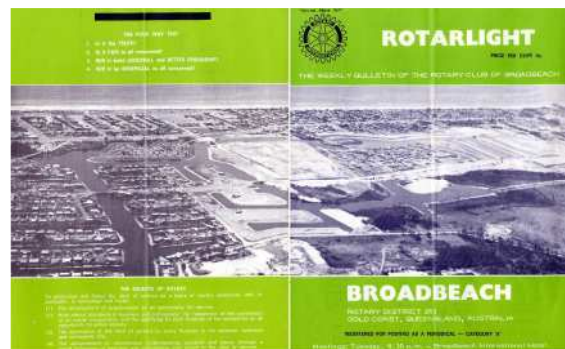
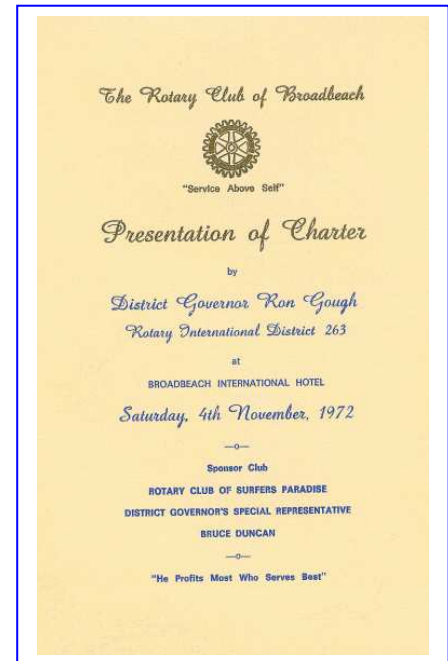
We were sponsored by the Rotary Club of Surfer's Paradise, formed at the Broadbeach International Hotel by PP Bruce Duncan, on July 25th 1972 and Chartered August 20th 1972 with 33 members. The Rotary Club of Broadbeach joined the other Clubs in District 263, (District 9640 from 1991)..

Among the 33 Charter members were 28 new Rotarians, 2 Past District Governors, and 3 Past Presidents, covering 30 Classifications.

After a "settling in" period, the members were soon involved in projects and investigating the needs of the local community, some of the more notable achievements are as follows.

Our first involvement with the community was to assist with a Circus that was set up to raise funds for charity. Our members manned the entry and parking areas, and a member supplied the music with an electric organ and player, mounted on a circus truck.

We painted the local kindergarten buildings, and supplied playground equipment, BBQ s and shelters, at Pratten Park in Broadbeach at a cost of \$800, the council helped by installing the equipment.



In 1975 it was down to business

In 1975, the club organised the first of six very successful annual Motor Shows.

It was held in the car park of the Sundale shopping centre in Southport and supported by parades and vintage car motorcades through the streets of the Gold Coast. Radio station 4GG provided the advertising.

Members organised and controlled the whole event and were well rewarded with profits of around \$5000 per event. Not bad considering entrance was only 60 cents for adults and 20 cents for children. *(Pics Top Right is Advert, Second top right is Promotional Model)*

In 1978 The Club presented a fully equipped Ambulance to the Southport Ambulance Brigade.

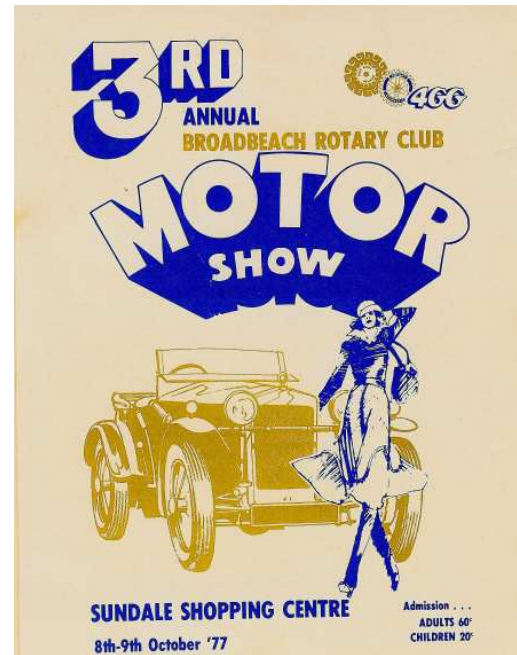
(Pic Bottom Right)

Later in the same year, \$20,000 was donated to the Police Citizens Youth Club in Monaco St. A plaque commemorating the grant was installed in the canteen.

In 1979 Broadbeach RC sponsored it's first new Club. On the 26th May 1979 the Rotary Club of Mermaid Beach was Chartered with 32 members.

The District tour to the Rotary International Convention in Chicago was sponsored by us in 1980.

Also in 1980 a donation of \$5,000 (together with \$10,000 later given) saw the first Drug Rehabilitation Centre built in Burleigh Heads.



Broadbeach RC in Action

From 1978 to 1983 Broadbeach Rotarian PP Roy Evans and his committee worked tirelessly on the Broadbeach Senior Citizens Club building project. They had been successful in getting a lease over a serviced block on the corner of the Gold Coast Highway and TE Peters Drive (the current Convention Centre site) from the Gold Coast City Council for just \$10.00 PA.

They set about raising \$110,000 with the help of other local organizations. They then approached the State government for a contribution of \$110,000 and then the Federal government for another \$220,000 matching grant. With these funds a building was erected for the use of the Broadbeach Senior Citizens Club. It had a hall that seated 300 people, meeting rooms, library, medical service facilities, offices, communication systems, tea-rooms and toilet facilities.

In 1982 it was finished at a cost of around \$440,000 and handed over to the BSCC.

(Pic Top Right Roy Evans)



There was a drive to form PROBUS Clubs in the District, which resulted in over 28 new clubs being formed in six years.

Broadbeach Rotarian Syd Garrett was the DG's Representative for this project from 1981 to 1987 and chaired the District Committee.

(Pic Bottom BB Rotarian Syd Garrett President BROADBEACH PROBUS CLUB)

Broadbeach RC did their share and sponsored seven clubs, including the first Ladies Probus club in Queensland.



Meetings moved to the Lone Star

In 1983 after 12 years meeting at the Broadbeach International we received notice that they could no longer cater for us. We moved to the Rick O'Shay room in the Lone Star Tavern on the corner of Sunshine Blvd and Markeri St., where we were to stay till 1993.

(Pic Top Second Last Meeting at Lone Star)

The same year we joined with RC of Mermaid beach to present the Inaugural Conference in Dist 964.

During 1984 the kitchen at the Broadbeach Senior Citizens Club was upgraded to accommodate a full "Meals on Wheels Service." Mermaid Beach RC joined with us on this project supplying stainless steel benches and sinks. Most of the work was carried out the by members, including laying the concrete, which had been donated.

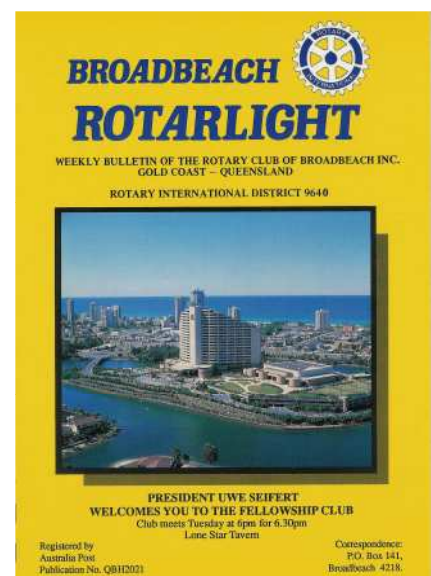
The Club was incorporated in 1986 thanks to Chris Thomsen (Solicitor member).

The Life Education Centre in Broadbeach was the main beneficiary of the \$20,156 raised in the project account during 1987.

In 1988 the major fundraising activity was the building and sale of two houses in Worongary. The projects were contracted and supervised by David O'Dwyer (builder member) and raised \$19,000 for the Project Account.

(Pics Second & Third from Top)

The same year a new cover for the Rotarlight was introduced. *(Bottom)*



The major fundraising activity for 1989 was an Art Show held at the Life Education Centre.

A new Club Banner was designed and produced by graphic artist member Brian Macdonald.

(Pic Top Right)

The new Rotary Club of Robina was sponsored by RC of Broadbeach, and chartered May 27th 1991, with 33 members including 3 female members.

In 1991 the weekly meetings were made “non smoking”. A short recess was allowed for members to smoke outside the room.

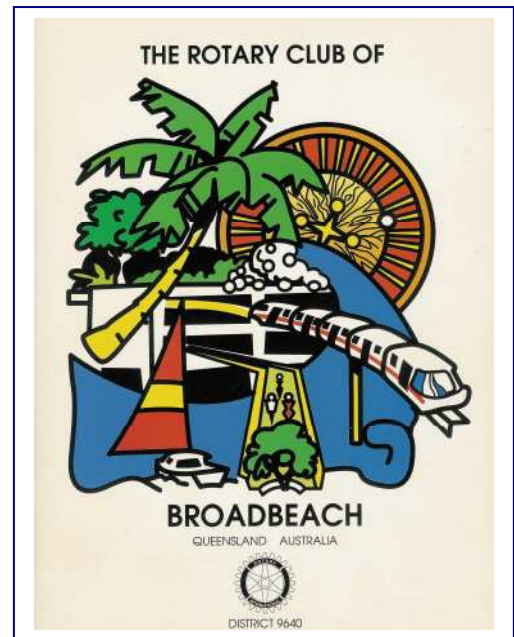
President Steve Pagram (builder) contracted and supervised the building of another house in Robina. Under his direction and the member’s muscle, the project raised over \$30,000.

(Pic Second Top Right)

On May 24 1992, a three-way Sister Club Agreement between Broadbeach, Tauranga in New Zealand and Kasaoka in Japan was signed. *(Pic Third Top Right and Bottom)*

Donations totalling \$43,000 were dispersed including a new station wagon to the Society of St Vincent de Paul, for their use in local community aid work and a large freezer/cold room facility for the Food Aid service conducted at Southport by the Salvation Army.

In 1992 a donation of \$7000 was made to the Wesley Rotary Lodge Project in to help with the building of an official Rotary Wing at the hospital.



20th Birthday and “The First Twenty Years Book”

On the 18th August 1992, the Members celebrated their club’s 20th Birthday at the Periwinkle Room, Pan Pacific Hotel in Broadbeach. Four Charter Members were present and they told of how the Club was formed. Thirteen of the nineteen Past Presidents addressed the Members and related highlights of their respective years. *(Pic Top Right)*

Syd Garrett and PP Roy Evans presented the Club with their book, “The First Twenty Years”. The two had worked for a year to bring the book to fruition and were assisted by the generous support of PP Terry Morris. *(Pic Second Top Right Terry Morris L with Syd Garrett R)*

In 1993 Broadbeach RC hosted the District Change-over Dinner at Nara Resort Seaworld. Bob Baldwin was the incoming DG, Keith Robson was outgoing DG.

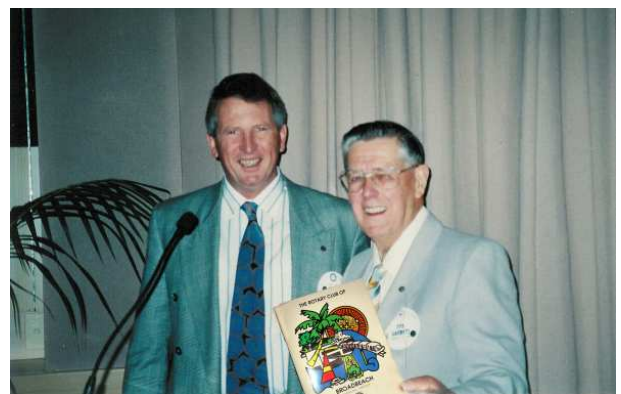
The same year, the Lone Star management advised they could no longer accommodate our meetings so we moved to what was then the Travelodge (later to be renamed the PARKROYAL and currently the Crowne Plaza) on the Gold Coast Highway. *(Pic Third Top Right)*

A party of fifteen Members and wives paid a visit to our Sister Club in Tauranga NZ. in 1994. Exchange student Lisa Perks also attended. *(Pic Bottom Right)*



PAST PRESIDENTS

Back Row Steve Pagram, John Burgess, David Harris, Keith Deely, John Mann, Ian Cowan, Terry Morris and Denis O’Brien. **Front** Roy Evans, Blair Thurecht, Royce Webb, Bob Webb, Jim Oxenford



Also in 1994 the Rotary Scooters project was commenced with the purchase of the first motorised scooter. (In 2009 the club currently has 21 scooters leased to needy people at one dollar per annum).*(Pic Right Top Pres Dick Holland with Howard Simon presenting Scooter to Judy Elms with husband Phil.)*



In March 1995 Dick Holland and John Harding represented the club at Tauranga's 50th Anniversary. John presented them with a new "Gong and Gavel" and returned the "Friendship Plaque"

(Pic Second Top Pres John Harding presents plaque to Pres Robin Bly)



In May 1995 we successfully hosted the District Assembly at Palm Beach for 382 attendees.

We supplied and erected two Gazebo shelters in Albert Park, Broadbeach Waters, complete with concrete floors in 1996.

In May 1997, a party of twenty-six members and wives visited Kasaoka RC in Japan to celebrate their 40th Anniversary.

(Pic Third Top Group at Mtajama)



Later a party of members from the RC of Kasaoka attended our 25th Anniversary in August 1997. They presented us with a pair of Kabuke Theatre masks.

1998 Howard Simon organised a fundraising "Dinner and Big Band Concert" at the Pan Pacific Hotel and raised \$7,000 for ROMAC to help treat Pape Minape from Papua New Guinea.

We held our first Trailer Raffle in Pacific Fair during Christmas 1998. *(Pic Bottom Right)*



2000 The New Millennium

The first meeting of the New Millennium was one big happy celebration. The theme was “The Magic of Rotary” and Arthur Coghlan, the famous escapologist and magician, together with his daughter, put on an amazing performance for the revellers, free of charge. He did it because he said he was happy to “repay a debt to Rotary”. *Arthur had been fortunate to get an early warning after using a test from the Bowel-Scan Project.* (Pic Top Chris and Diane Thomsen , second Pres Keith and Lorraine Hawton enjoy the show)

In December 2001 we conducted a “Gold Coast Round-up” of surplus, out of date medical supplies from doctors and pharmacies in our area, to be sent to the Pacific Islands under the RAWCS “Donations in Kind” (D.I.K.) project. This saw the introduction of the “DIK Pack” and it worked so well we ran it again in March. All in all we collected, packed and sent over one hundred large cartons (containing approximately 300 items each) of medicines and five hospital beds to the Wacol depot that year. (Pic Third Top Right)

The 2001 Christmas raffle at Pacific Fair was changed from the “Trailer” to the “Giant Christmas Raffle” and a “Wishing Tree” was also incorporated. We made a profit of \$9,245 plus we delivered over 150 gifts to the Smith Family. (Pic Bottom Right)

The “Club within the Club” was formed early in the year to see what could be done to increase membership. It was a great success. During this year Pres. Chris Thomsen inducted fifteen new members.



Senior Citizens Club Re-located

Early in 2002, the Broadbeach Senior Citizens Club building that we built in 1982 was closed, as the site was being cleared to make way for the new Convention Centre. Fortunately, thanks to the efforts of some of our members and others, the developers have built a new, bigger and better facility, a short distance away to accommodate the Senior Citizens in the manner they were accustomed to.

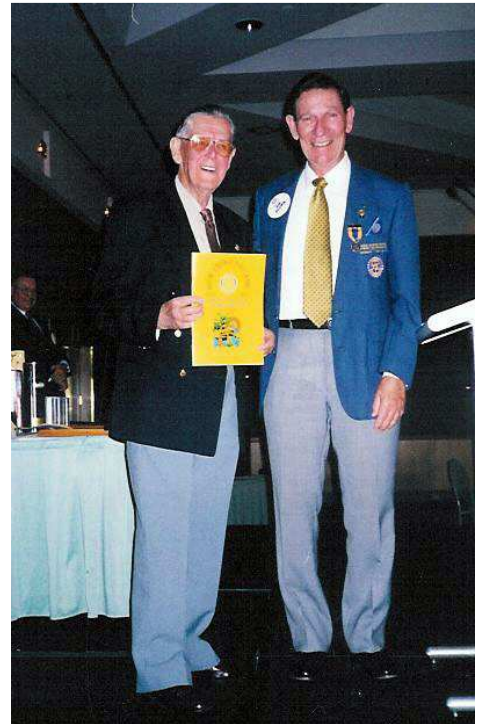
On 25th June 2002 the book "Our Third Decade" was presented to the Members at the Changeover Dinner. Once again this historical record 1992-2002 was compiled and organised by the one of Club's two remaining Charter Members, Syd Garrett PHF, who was at that time was eighty-eight years old.

(Pic Top Right Syd presents Book to PDG Bob Baldwin)

In 2002 we were successful with our two sister clubs in obtaining a Matching Grant from RI to purchase surgical equipment worth \$35,000. The instrument (a YAG Lazer, used for sight restoration) was for Marine Reach to install on their ship the Pacific Link which operates in the South Pacific Island region. *(Pic Centre Right)*

In April 2003 at a ceremony aboard the Pacific Link in Tauranga NZ the presentation was performed and the instrument was dedicated to Ken Allan PHF (Deceased 1996) who was the catalyst of the Sister Clubs agreement. A plaque was attached to commemorate the occasion.

(Pic Bottom Right)



100 Years of Rotary International

In 2005 the club celebrated the 100 Years of Rotary at a special Dinner on the 23rd February at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Twenty Broadbeach past Presidents were in attendance. *(top photo right)*

A party of ten members and partners travelled to Tauranga to attend the 60th Anniversary of our sister Club *(Mr Yoshioka from Kasaoka, Neil Rayward Broadbeach and Vern Pain from Tauranga pictured right)*

In 2005 we had 63 members (all male) and met on Tuesday nights at 6:00PM for a 6:30PM Dinner Meeting at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Surfers Paradise.

In 2005 the Inaugural “Gold Coast Police Officer of the Year Award” was presented to Constable Jamie Yea Yea by District Governor “Trigger” Tregurtha. *(Photo Right)*

The Inaugural Gold Coast Young Achiever Award was held in the same year.

Also in 2006 the RI Centennial project was completed. The project was the erection of an \$80,000 sculpture on the boardwalk at Kurrawa Park adjacent to the Surf Club commemorating 100 years of Rotary Service.

The surf inspired work of art was created by the Internationally acclaimed artist Andy Scott. Club member Howard Simon directed the project with the assistance of Hon. Member Cr. Eddie Sarroff from the Gold Coast City Council *(Neil Jones and Howard Simon pictured right)*

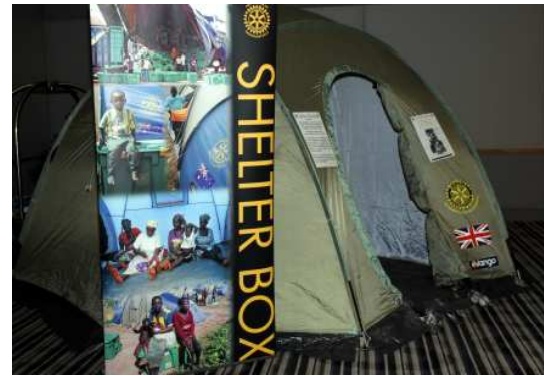


BROADBEACH ROTARY CLUB
PAST PRESIDENTS AT THE CENTENNIAL DINNER 23 FEBRUARY 2005
 Back Row (left to right) Jim Bergin, Denis O'Brien, Russ Hutchison, Wat Smith, Cive Evenden, Tom Hirst, Terry Morris, Howard Simon, Ian Cowen, John Harding, Chris Tixson, Ray Burton, Chris English.
 Front Row (left to right) David Harris, Col Makin, Dick Holland, Neil Roward, Steve Pogran, Uwe Seifert, Keith Howton.
 Celebrating 100 Years of Rotary International at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Surfers Paradise



Shelter Boxes

In 2006 the Club became the Zone Co-ordinator for the Shelter Box Project and was successful in promoting the program throughout the District mainly due to the efforts of member Greville Easte. *(Shelter box tent on display right top)*



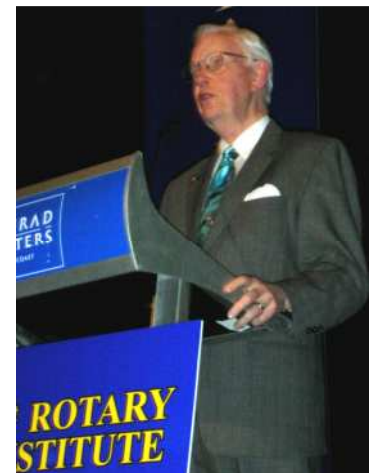
Kasaoka RC 50th Anniversary

A party of eight attended the 50th celebrations in Japan. The three Clubs presented Carol Allan with a PHF with two Sapphires in appreciation of her continuous support of the Sister clubs program since inception in 1985 *(Carol Allan in Kasaoka Japan pictured right second)*



RI President Elect visits Broadbeach

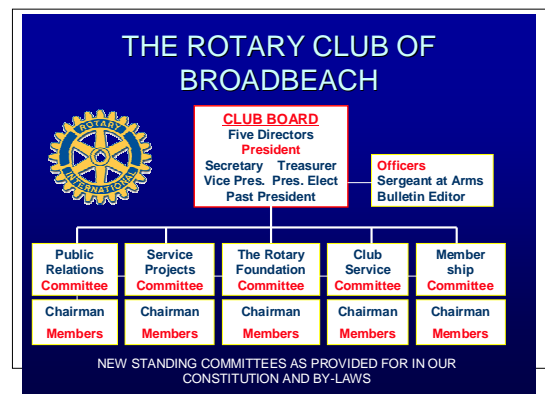
In October 2006 our Club hosted the 41st District Rotary Institute Dinner at Conrad Jupiters. RI President Elect Wilf Wilkinson attended and addressed the members. Chris Thomsen organised the event and Bill Rex was Sergeant for the night. *(RI Pres Elect Wilf Wilkinson pictured right)*



Constitution and By-Laws changed

In 2007 the Clubs Constitution and By-Laws were changed to accommodate the “New Leadership Plan” as recommended by RI. The new Constitution prescribes five standing committees. Public Relations, Service Projects, Rotary Foundation, Club Administration and Membership.

All Members were allocated to the new committees. There were few complaints.



Broadbeach RC celebrates Thirty Five Years of Service

In August 2007 we celebrated the Club's 35th Anniversary at a Gala Dinner held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Ballroom. Fifteen Past Presidents and two Charter Members were among those who attended. *(top photo)*

Gold Coast Mayor Ron Clarke and DG Brian Wheatley addressed the Members. Other Distinguished Guests included Steven Ciobo MLA and Hon Club Member Qld Premier Rob Borbidge.

Twelve members and partners from Sister Club Kasaoka attended and nine from Tauranga RC made the trip across the pond.

(some of the International visitors pictured second from top)

The weather during the period of the celebrations was "cyclonic" and the visitors were mostly confined to their hotel rooms for the whole time.

Kasaoka RC President Hiroi Yasumasa presented Club President Ray Milton with a giant Sister Club banner.

(photo third from top)

Tauranga RC Past President, Don Pilbrow presented the Club with a very welcome cheque for the Project Account

Despite the inclement weather, the Kasaoka delegation managed to find the time to visit the gravesite of the late Broadbeach RC member, Ken Allan to pay their respects.

(bottom photo)



First Female Member

In 2008 Aileen Halter was inducted into the Rotary Club of Broadbeach. She was sponsored by Greville Easte.

Whilst RI had proclaimed female membership desirable more than a decade before and most clubs on the Coast had accepted female members, Broadbeach RC had not actively sought out members of the opposite sex. Two or three long serving members resigned in protest but in the main the changing of the times caused little disruption. *(top photo)*



The Language Trainee

Agreement between Kasaoka RC and Broadbeach was signed and sealed in 2008. Under this scheme Kasaoka RC sends out a student to study English at Bond Uni for six weeks each year. Broadbeach members supply the home hosting and support. *(Dick Holland holding the official Agreement written in two languages, second top)*



Miki Yagyu was the first “unofficial” Trainee. She arrived in March 2008 and stayed with the Pagrams, Hodges and Joneses for six weeks. *(pictured on arrival in Brisbane photo third top)*



In September 2008 Chiho

Nagashiki arrived as the first official Trainee under the program. She stayed with our members for twelve weeks then went out to private home-stay accommodation for a further two months before returning home in February 2009 *(Chiho pictured with Neil Jones and Noel Hodges who were two of her four hosts, bottom photo)*

