



**THE ROTARY CLUB OF CANBERRA SUNRISE INC.**

**ABN 14325874962**

PO Box 9155 Deakin ACT 2600 Australia

Rotary District 9705

**2023-24 ROTARY YEAR**

1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

**SECRETARY REPORT**

November 2024

**Club Membership**

- 29 2022-23 - reported at Board Meeting on 2 August 2023
- 21 2023-24 - reported at Board Meeting on 16 June 2024

**New Members** Inducted at Changeover:  
 16 July 2023 (2): Roger Crosthwaite & George Huitker

**Resignations**  
 30 June 2023 (5): Jill Bailey, Sue Bury, Mike Bury, Simon Cullen, Jen Taylor  
 31 Dec 2023 (3): Judy Mack, Bruce Osborn, Russ Walls  
 14 April 2024 (1): George Huitker  
 30 June 2024 (3): Bob Nield, Ray Livingstone, Maile Steele

**Honorary Member (1)**  
*NB: Does not pay Membership Dues, is exempt from the attendance requirement, and cannot vote for any resolutions or election. See Club's By-Laws and Dues and Fees Schedule for further details.*  
 Don Erickson – effective 1 July 2022 (after 20 years as Life Member)

**Friends (13)**  
 Jill Bailey, Phil Basche, Sue Bury, Mike Bury, Simon Cullen, Nara Khuon,  
 Ray Livingstone, Judy Mack, Randal Markey, Bruce Osborn, Maile Steele,  
 Pam Strickland, Russ Walls

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**Board Members**

President	Yohan Ramasundara
Vice-President	Alan McCulloch
Immediate Past President	Margaret Atkin
President Elect	Greg Hood (until 19 Nov 2023) <i>[reported at Board Meeting 19 Nov 2023]</i>
	Peter McDermott (from 14 Feb 2024)
Secretary	Maile Steele (resigned 28 Jan 2024) <i>[reported at Board Meeting 14 Feb 2024]</i>
	Margaret Atkin (from 14 Feb 2024)
Treasurer	Helen Deutsch
Director	Ray Livingstone

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**AWARDS 2022-23**

*ROTARY - THE FOUR WAY TEST: of the things we think, say and do...*  
 1. Is it the TRUTH? 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?  
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## Changeover held 16 July 2023 – for 2022-23

- District recognition
  - Bruce Osborn – Club Service Avenue of Service
  - Peter McDermott – Youth & Club Service Avenues of Service
- Departing Rotarians after 20+ years
  - Jill Bailey; Sue Bury; Mike Bury
- Club recognition: Paul Harris Fellow (PHF)
  - David Elder – 3 terms as President; integral to chartering 2 new Clubs (Woden Daybreak & Sundowners); multiple years as MUNA coordinator plus ongoing as MUNA Registrar co-chair; YEP host; led Membership arm with Club's over-arching Strategic Planning Program
  - Stephen Bramah – initiative of Commonwealth QEII Grant and led project planning for Jubilee Tree planting; Past President; Club Treasurer (4 years) & multiple Board roles; District Service Training Committee; multiple project contributions and co-ordinations
  - Helen Deutsch – Club Treasurer; MUNA Registrar co-chair; books for PNG
  - Lorraine Finlay – Human Rights Commissioner at AHRC; Keynote Speaker at MUNA and club meetings; former member of Canberra Sunrise.
- Club Rotarian of the Year
  - Ray Livingstone – master in a myriad of roles, not least of which BBQ coordinator
- Club certificates
  - Rosemary Everett (initiating Trivia Night); Ainslie Sowden (Club records); Neil Spalding (Assistant Treasurer & Quiz extraordinaire); Bob Nield (Sergeant).

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## ACTIVITIES throughout 2023-24

### MUNA, 11-13 August 2023

Professor Dr Garth Britton PHF was Keynote Speaker at the MUNA Opening, and Ms Lorraine Finlay PHF, the Human Rights Commissioner at the AHRC, was the Keynote Speaker at the Official Dinner and Closing Ceremony. Participants: 48 students in 17 teams attended the successful event. Feedback continues to be outstanding for this flagship event. Core working group included: Garth, Margaret, Helen, David, Greg, Peter and Gabrielle with many other volunteers working over the weekend.

### International Peace Scholars, 9-12 September 2023 & June 2024

2023 visit had a small cohort of amazing scholars. Program coordination was undertaken by Bruce Osborn with several Sunrisers acting as Hosts and drivers to meetings. The dinner presentations illustrate why Rotarians get so involved. Stories shared were extraordinary. In 2024 Canberra Sunrise took the primary Club role, with stalwarts Garth Britton and Bruce mentoring the new coordinators from RC of Bungendore. Sunrisers contributed to the hosting again and we expect that to continue.

### BBQs

These fundraising events have been the main source of funds. Ray Livingstone was the motivator behind BBQ support across various Canberra venues, including Bunnings at Tuggeranong and Gungahlin.

### Fees

Club fees have risen quickly – from \$185 (2021) to \$234 (June 2024) for a 6-month period. Lunch costs at the Commonwealth Club had increased (\$38 from Jan 2024; \$65+ from July 2024). New venue is less cost. To retain members in 2025, acceptable fees are crucial.

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*NB: Fees collected are not available for community disbursements – only for administration.*

### **SIEC graduations at Dickson College**

President or Past Presidents officiate at the presentation of the Sunrise Rotary Award. Graduation ceremonies are held 3-4 times a year. Sunrise Awards are \$750-1000pa. Sunrise is proud of this continuing Awards opportunity, and relationship with the College.

### **YEP student**

Sunrise shared Jonas Stein (Germany), with RC of Canberra. Rebecca McNeill hosted from 14 January for 4 weeks, and also hosted Peace Scholar Yessica. Sunrise is appreciative.

### **End Polio Appeal, 28 October 2023**

Kim and Shirley hosted a fundraising afternoon tea to raise funds for “End Polio” and cut a special cake to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> birthday of Canberra Sunrise.

### **DreamCricket, 17 November 2023**

Canberra Sunrise and DreamCricket Gala Days date back to our former club member Jonathan Lyall, who built up collaboration with George Huitker, a teacher at Radford College, over a 10+ year period. George was inducted into Canberra Sunrise on 16 July 2023, via sponsorship from DreamCricket Australia, to be able to facilitate DreamCricket clinics in schools across the country, and our Gala Day, with cover through our Rotary Insurance.

The 2023 Gala Day was very successful, with 60 students from 6 local primary schools involved, and the then Governor-General attended to open the occasion. Some 40 student mentors from Grammar assisted. Organisation was undertaken by a small efficient team of Rotarians who deserve congratulations for the highly effective event. Team included: George, Bruce, Ray, Kim, Margaret and Yohan. Help on the day also from Peter, Anna, Neil and Roger. Our club received support from the Canberra Grammar School, DreamCricket Australia, The Lord’s Taverners ACT, the Belconnen Rotary Club and Cricket ACT.

The Board agreed on 21 May 2024, to provide cricket sets to Amaroo, Nepal (via Mary Brell, DreamCricket Australia) and Sunshine Coast. A fourth set to be donated to a school in the Canberra region. The Lord’s Taverners has donated \$2,000 towards DreamCricket by way of sponsorship for the next Gala Day.

### **Club Strategic Planning & Future Direction**

This has been the club’s biggest commitment. Strategists led members to 4 strategic priority teams – Membership, Community, Public Image and Club Service – to develop priorities and Action Plans to achieve the agreed goals.

Board adopted ‘Membership development’ paper prepared by David Elder. Three options:

- a. Continue as we have and face an inevitable process of decline (current situation);
- b. Reinvent the Club to align with a more viable approach to the future and where we could start to attract new members;
- c. Consider amalgamating with another Club

Club Planning Day on 16 March 2024 produced agreement to progress options to merge with another club or clubs. Progress has been slow. Members to receive timely updates.

### **Club Program & Guest Speakers**

Large range of guest speakers, including: Min Kim “Artificial Intelligence in everyday life: what we should know”; Lorraine Finlay AHRC at MUNA dinner; Lucy Hohnen CEO Vinnies; Rebecca McNeil “The ripple effect of Rotary”; The Shepherd Centre; Gavin Sidhu, “Nakivale Refugee Water & Sanitation” Uganda; CEO Beyond Water Kenya & The Girl Project. Significantly, the GG HE David Hurley opened the DreamCricket Gala Day at CGS oval. Club Changeover event – Saturday 15 June 2024.

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## Rotary Insurance for project events

Significant work compiled by B Osborn was acknowledged. New officer to be identified.

## AGM held in November/December 2023

2024-25 team: P McDermott (President); M Atkin (Vice-President); G Quadraccia (President-Elect); Yohan Ramasundara (Immediate Past President); K Barrett (Director); R Crosthwaite (Treasurer); A McCulloch (Secretary)

## Copyright issue – PicRights Australia Pty Ltd

Club was targeted by an unethical business (USA) requesting \$s, for uploading a Shelterbox Newsletter photo onto the Club website. Website management processes to be addressed. The Rotary District consulted their legal team on this issue – no further action for club/s.

## Youth Service

RYLA candidate Chloe Huynh provided feedback on 15 February. YEP Jonas Stein (inbound) met Sunrise on 22 February. NYSF candidate reported to club 21 March. Board support for an outbound YEP candidate for 2025. May need to pay for a blazer. PEACE scholar given Sunrise sponsorship may include a breakfast or two.

## 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday for Canberra Sunrise, 6 April 2024

Sunrise Birthday was celebrated at a lunch with a fundraising component, to support our Rotary youth programs. Royal Canberra Golf Club enabled us to provide a good result. Attendees were 40p. While only 10 members present, other former members, guests and Rotary District friends gathered with us to join in the fun. Various members and friends shared special memories of past projects and occasions, including Lorraine Finlay (Human Rights Commissioner), several Charter members and District personalities, including DG Andrea Grosvenor. Memorabilia was on display, a printed & electronic document of historical projects (*Thirty Years of Memories*), a photographic presentation, with Birthday Cake/s for dessert. Three-time President David Elder proposed the birthday toast, and newest member Roger Crosthwaite blew out the candles. Many were complimentary of the fun occasion. Sunrise deserves to be proud of the many achievements during the last three decades. Thanks to the PPs working group: Margaret, Stephen, Peter, Ainslie & Kim.

**Outcome:** Raised \$1090 towards our Rotary youth programs. Plus – we all had FUN.

*[NB: Donations & 'no shows' was \$420 + \$670.80 from Ticket charges & costs.]*

## Community Service Award - AG Cluster

Celebration of 5 clubs who each nominated one candidate to receive the Certificate Award at a ceremony at the Peace Bell on the shores of Lake Burley Griffin on Sunday 19 May 2024. Club was represented by PP Stephen Bramah, with Rotarians, family and friends attending:

- Rachel Gurney – nominated by RC Canberra Sunrise

*Citation:* As the Events Manager of the Canberra Grammar School, Rachel was instrumental in managing significant event management for the Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise 2023 DreamCricket Gala Day event, liaising with professional communication and performing a timely logistics role. Rachel was outstanding.

## Community Service Award - Canberra Sunrise

Acknowledgement of a former member's extraordinary contributions to the Canberra community, as well as actions within the Sydney environs, at a breakfast meeting on Thursday 3 October 2024 – as unavailable on 19 May 2024. Certificate Award to:

- Phil Basche PHF

*Citation:* In appreciation of your Outstanding Contributions & Achievements in Serving the Community. Rotarian and Galilee Board Member & Chair (10 years); instrumental in Sunrise raising around \$300k to rebuild Galilee School after the 2003 fires. Board Member of Financial Planning Association (two years in 1990s). As Shareholder and Director of Much More Than Money, gave philanthropic support to Menslink Canberra and Lifeline Canberra.

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Lifeline telephone crisis supporter since 2017; community training for Lifeline in Canberra and Sydney. Sponsors children through The Smith Family and World Vision. Foundation formed in 2022 supports charities like Menslink Canberra, Raise, Mentoring Men, Headspace Yass, Smith Family, Lifeline Northern Beaches, plus seed funding for Fearless Women in Canberra. Since 2021, involved with Mentoring Men as a volunteer mentor.

*Phil said: Thanks to Rotary, my initial exposure to the fulfilment derived from helping others who are less fortunate than myself, has been a wonderful journey.*

**Members at 1 July 2023**

Marwan Altalib, Margaret Atkin, Kim Barrett, Anna Boots, Stephen Bramah, Garth Britton, Roger Crosthwaite, Helen Deutsch, David Elder, Rosemary Everett, Greg Hood, Suzanne Howarth, George Huitker, Ray Livingstone, Judy Mack, Randal Markey, Alan McCulloch, Peter McDermott, John McKenna, Bob Nield, Bruce Osborn, Gabrielle Quadraccia, Yohan Ramasundara, Amardeep Singh, Ainslie Sowden, Neil Spalding, Maile Steele, Russ Walls

**Donations – Disbursements 2023-24**

Approved at Board Meetings 21 May 2024 & 19 June 2024

Local / International	\$s	Organisation	Notes	
International	\$1000	Australian Rotary Health		1
	\$1000	The Rotary Foundation		2
	\$1000	Polio Plus		3
Local Community Groups	\$500	Dementia Australia	In lieu of BBQ proceeds	4
	\$500	Epilepsy ACT	In lieu of BBQ proceeds	5
	\$500	The Shepherd Centre	Guest Speaker	6
	\$500	Communities at Work		7
	\$500	Muscular Dystrophy Association		8
	\$500	Muscular Dystrophy - carers		9
	\$1000	Hands Across Canberra		10
<b>TOTAL 2023-24</b>	<b>\$7000</b>			

Canberra Sunrise can be proud of their community contributions for 2023-24.

Margaret Atkin  
**Immediate Past President 2023-24**  
**A/Secretary 2023-24**