

# **ROTARY CLUB OF NORTHBRIDGE**

## **A HISTORY**

**1983 – 1984 ‘SHARE ROTARY, SERVE PEOPLE’**

**1984 – 1985 ‘DISCOVER A NEW WORLD OF SERVICE’**

The necessary authorisation having been obtained from District 968 by the Rotary Club of Crows Nest, a survey of the Northbridge area, with particular reference to the proprietors of various local businesses, was conducted by PPs Kevin Sweeney, Dick Stewart and Paul Ogden of that club with the view to establishing a Rotary Club in the Northbridge area. As a result of that survey, an interest meeting was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Crows Nest at the Northbridge Golf Club on 15<sup>th</sup> November 1983 at which 38 interested and prospective members were given an insight into the origins, structure and activities of Rotary by DGE Don Keighran, supported by District Rotary Extension Officer Harry Fieldhouse and PP Kevin Sweeney.

There was obviously sufficient interest from those present on that evening and accordingly on the following Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1983 an Organisational Meeting was held under the auspices of DG Buster Pye. That meeting became the inaugural meeting of the Provisional Rotary Club of Northbridge with a membership of 24 and the following office bearers were then elected-

President	Frank Perriman
Vice President	Brian Melloy (Club Service)
Secretary	Frank Caputo
Treasurer	Mike Hovey
Directors	Geoff Crowther (Vocational Service)
	John Gilbert (International Service)
	Pat Brennan (Youth Service)
	David McDonald (Community Service)

During the course of the next 18 months Frank Caputo, Pat Brennan and John Gilbert all resigned from the Club and their positions on the Board were taken by Geoff Davis, Malcolm Tompson and George Puzey respectively

The application for membership of the Provisional Club was immediately sent to Rotary International with the result that the Club was duly chartered by Rotary International on 5<sup>th</sup> December 1983. The next milestone was the formal Charter Night arranged by our ‘Mother Club’ at the North Sydney Leagues Club and held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1984. This was attended by representatives of most of the then Clubs in the District together with District Officers and local dignitaries.

Whilst regular weekly meetings had been held following the meeting of 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1983, the Club got into full swing following the Charter Night with the everything falling into place by 7<sup>th</sup> February 1984 when we were away under own steam.

Our first bulletin appeared that night under the editorship of Peter Knibbs with the able assistance of Max Cail and Lin Kaufman. Our new Sergeant, Ross Alexander, was let loose on an unsuspecting membership and the regular weekly guest speaker programme was underway by 21<sup>st</sup> February 1984.

In the words of our Charter President, Frank Perriman, the first project of the Club was to make it perform smoothly as a Club. Accordingly, the activities of the Club were mainly directed towards creating a feeling of fellowship among the members, including a Christmas party with Santa for the children and a New Year's Eve dance. Every effort was made to encourage new members.

The Club did not become involved in fund raising activities or in projects that were of a charitable or community nature. However, under the chairmanship of Ross Alexander, the Club founded the first Probus Club of Northbridge which held its inaugural meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> December 1984.

As the Club had been chartered in December 1983, the office bearers elected at the Organisational Meeting held in November 1983, were to hold office until 30<sup>th</sup> June 1985 but an annual general meeting was duly held in December 1984 to elect the office bearers for the year 1985 – 1986 as detailed later.

Initially no charitable fund raising had been undertaken so that to 30<sup>th</sup> June 1984 the Club accounts consisted solely of the Club account which showed a profit of \$1071 for the period to that date. During the next 12 months to 30<sup>th</sup> June 1985 the Club funds suffered a minor deficit of \$162 leaving a credit balance of \$909. Projects of a charitable nature commenced to be undertaken and through the sale of scotch whiskey and Christmas puddings, raffles and a golf day, the Club netted a total of \$5,409 for the Charities account of which \$3,439 was disbursed to various charities.

As previously noted, the Club chartered with 24 members who were –

Ross Alexander	Pat Brennan	Max Cail
Frank Caputo	Geoff Crowther	Geoff Davis
Lindsay Field	John Gilbert	Peter Hodgson
Mike Hovey	Lin Kaufman	Peter Knibbs
Don Landers	Fabian Mammarella	David McDonald
Graham Medway	Brian Melloy	Frank Perriman
George Puzey	Jim Ravenhill	Colin Smith
Bruce Taylor	Malcolm Tompson	John Wright

During the period to 30<sup>th</sup> June 1985 the Club gained 26 new members being –

Charles Alma	Barry Anderson	Bruce Austin
Russell Bennett	Ted Brown	John Coleman
John Downs	Bob Edwards	Ron Erratt
Ernie Eves	Roger Harrison	Bob Hendy
Doug Herridge	John Kenyon	Don McDougall
Richard Milling	Brian Morley	John Roberts

Warren Rose  
David Stuart  
Richard Fremantle

Andrew Segal  
John Weingarth  
William Meiklejohn

Geoff Speers  
Robert Carter

but the Club lost 9 members due to resignations being –

Pat Brennan  
John Gilbert  
Robert Carter

Frank Caputo  
Lin Kaufman  
Richard Fremantle

Lindsay Field  
Jim Ravenhill  
William Micklejohn

finishing the period with a net gain of 17 members to have a total of 41 members at 30<sup>th</sup> June 1985.

### **1985 – 1986 ‘YOU ARE THE KEY’**

The first change-over meeting was held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 1985 at the North Sydney Club. The meeting was attended by 103 persons, including the Mayor of Willoughby, Alderman Noel Reidy, PDG Buster Pye, and ‘Mother’ PP Kevin Sweeney who led a strong contingent from Crows Nest Club. This occasion saw the introduction of the new Board of the Club who were-

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Directors

Geoff Davis  
Malcolm Tompson (Club Service)  
Ross Alexander  
John Kenyon  
Don Landers (Community Service)  
George Puzey (International Service)  
John Downs (Youth Service)  
Andrew Segal (Vocational Service)

John Downs was appointed Sergeant and Bruce Austin undertook the duties of Bulletin Editor.

This year saw the Club’s first foray into Rotary Youth Exchange with the hosting of Colleen Bailey from U.S.A. She arrived on 18<sup>th</sup> August 1985, her host families being those of Ernie Eves, Brian Melloy, Peter Hodgson and Bob Hendy under the watchful eye of her counsellor, Barry Anderson. This was not the most auspicious of introductions to the Youth Exchange Program, but the Club survived to continue to participate in the program over the forthcoming years. Our outward-bound student, Stephen Rush left for U.S.A. in January 1986. Stephen had a most successful exchange and delivered an excellent report on his return.

The Club also sponsored its first attendee at RYLA, Caroline Johnson, who attended the course in January 1986.

This year also saw the Club initiate the introduction of the Peer Support Program into a local high school. Willoughby Girls' High School was first approached to accept the program but after a lot of procrastination on the part of the school, North Sydney Boys' High was approached and enthusiastically adopted the program.

A number of fund raising activities were held, including two (2) book sales, the promotion and sale of a Wine Book, the continued sale of scotch whiskey and Christmas puddings and another golf day.

The social activities continued with a pre-Melbourne Cup dinner at the Dumpling Inn and a Christmas party at the home of Roger Harrison.

The Club finances continued to improve with the Club account showing a profit of \$209. A total of \$11,972 was raised for the Charities account of which \$7,550 was expended. The principal beneficiaries for the year were the Peer Support Program (\$2,000), Youth Exchange (\$1072) and The Rotary Foundation (\$1,467) with the remaining money going to other Rotary programs and a number of local organisations.

On the membership side, the year started with a membership of 41 and during the year a further 5 new members were inducted being –

Robert Clampett	Graham Goodfellow	Peter Kenway
Malcolm Lindsay	Brian Robson	

The Club lost 3 members being –

Mike Hovey	Fabian Mammarella	Colin Smith
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thus, finishing the year with 43 members.

### **1986 – 1987 'ROTARY BRINGS HOPE'**

The Change-Over meeting was again held at the North Sydney Club and saw the presentation of a Paul Harris Fellowship to our charter president PP Frank Perriman and the introduction of the new Board of the Club for the forthcoming year, namely –

President	Malcolm Tompson
Vice-President	Ross Alexander (Club Service)
Secretary	Don Landers
Treasurer	Brian Morley
Directors	John Downs (Community Service)
	David Stuart (International Service)
	Peter Hodgson (Youth Service)
	Barry Anderson (Vocational Service)

Bruce Austin accepted the office of Sergeant and Bob Hendy the position of Bulletin Editor.

This year the Club started to look outside itself and get involved with the local community. The first Senior Citizens' Christmas lunch was held at St. Marks Hall with the food being prepared by the wives of members. The Club also joined with the Progress Association to run the 'Carols Under The Stars' at Northbridge Oval for Christmas.

The Vocational Service Committee proposed and sponsored the successful nomination of Arthur Bishop OA for a District Vocational Excellence Award.

The Club also sponsored two young people, Katie Andrews and Graham Sellers, to attend RYLA and paid for four disadvantaged children to attend Rotary District 968 holiday camp at Vision Valley. The Club also continued to sponsor a Peer Support Program at North Sydney Boys' High School.

Stephen Rush, our first outward bound Exchange Student returned to Sydney and delighted members with details of his year in America.

Bob Edwards represented our Club in the Rotaract Swimathon, raising \$200 for the N.S.W. Deaf & Blind Children's Appeal. Two perpetual trophies were presented to the Northbridge Swimming Club

A joint meeting was held with the Lindfield Club at the Northbridge Golf Club to welcome the GSE Team from India and our Club hosted the members of that team for one of their days in Sydney. In honour of our guests, the then caterer had prepared a wonderful curry meal, a superb beef curry but when it was realised that the Team included several Hindus, the meal miraculously became a lamb curry.

The District Conference was held in March at Gosford and was attended by a number of our members and their wives.

On the social side, a progressive dinner was held at the homes of Ross & Chris Alexander, Charles & Elva Alma and John & Kate Downs in September and a Christmas party for the children of members in November at the home of Barry & Barbara Anderson. Also, a Christmas Sea Food Night was held at the home of Richard & Marilyn Milling in December. Our sailors took part in the District Sailing Day in March and a good representation of the members had an outing to the Manly Music Loft for dinner and a musical show that Bob Hendy had arranged and which was held in May.

In support of the Charities Account a further book sale that had been arranged through the efforts of Ross Alexander was held together with sales of Christmas puddings and scotch whiskey from which a total of \$12,816 was raised. A total of \$8,521 was expended including \$2,000 to Camp Breakaway and \$3,920 to Polio Plus Program. The Club Account increased by \$490 to \$1,608.

The year started with a membership of 43 and during the year 5 new members were inducted being-

Noel Anderson	Roland Voltz	Norbert Wyzenbeek
Kari Airas	Hugh Harris	

The Club lost 3 members being-

Max Cail	Ernie Eves	Peter Kenway
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The year finished with 45 members, a net gain of 2 new members.

### **1987 – 1988 ‘ROTARIANS – UNITED IN SERVICE – DEDICATED TO PEACE’**

The Third Change-Over Night was held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 1987 at the Incinerator Restaurant with the investiture of the new president and introduction of the new Board

President	Ross Alexander
President Elect	John Downs (Club Service)
Secretary	David Stuart
Treasurer	Brian Morley
Directors	Bob Hendy (Community Service)
	Bruce Austin (International Service)
	Graham Goodfellow (Youth Service)
	Barry Anderson (Vocational Service)

Our special guest was DGE Leon Becker. Peter Hodgson was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship by the Club. The evening also saw the presentation of the first of the Club's Trophies, the President's Cup which was donated by President Malcolm Tompson and was to be awarded to the member who, in the opinion of the outgoing President, had been of the most assistance to him during the preceding year. On this occasion the cup was awarded to PP Frank Perriman.

Peter Hodgson also undertook the office of Sergeant while Bruce Taylor took on the role of Bulletin Editor.

Our Rotary activities really got under way this year, firstly with the hosting of another exchange student, Thomas Eggert from Denmark who was hosted by the families of Ross Alexander, Malcolm Tompson, Barry Anderson and Frank Perriman with Graham Goodfellow acting as counsellor. In appreciation of the acceptance of Thomas by S.C.E.G.S. Redlands as a student at no cost to the Club, the Club donated to the school a cello for use in the school orchestra. Thomas together with Bob Edwards represented the Club in the Rotaract Swimathon.

The major highlight of the year was our inaugural 'Pride of Workmanship Award' night with awards being made to –

Nancy Beveridge	Paulian Villa
Allan Brett	John Morris Scientific
Henry Fox	Australia Post – Postman

Gay Saunders  
David Berry  
Alice Francis  
Ken Jack  
Norma Stephens

Pharmacy Assistant  
Campervan Manufacturer  
Fashion Retailer  
Plumber  
Medical Practitioner

The District Conference was again held at Gosford in March with a good attendance from the Club. David Stuart made his home at Avoca available to accommodate a number of the attendees and another cottage in the area was rented for the weekend for the remainder of those attending.

Again, the Club joined forces with Lindfield Club to welcome a GSE Team from Scotland at a dinner meeting at which a total of 163 members and guests attended at the Northbridge Golf Club.

In addition to the hosting of Thomas Eggert, the Youth Committee under the Chairmanship of Graham Goodfellow sponsored two children to the District 968 Vision Valley camp (Susan from Erskineville in year 6 and Brian from Glebe in year 5); Michael Steel of North Sydney Boys' High School to the National Science Summer School and two young people to RYLA, i.e. Elissa Crowther and Marcelle Cheng. The Committee also arranged a Teenagers' Disco and the installation of playground equipment at St. Philip Neri Primary School.

This was also the first year of the Family Fireworks Night at the Northbridge Oval. At this time, the ownership and display of fireworks by private citizens was not illegal so the presentation of the display was undertaken by Club members themselves. All went well until a stray rocket landed among the reserve stocks of fireworks whereupon there was the most brilliant display that could be imagined.

The Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch was held at St. Marks Hall, the food again being prepared and cooked by the wives of our members. A further Christmas event was the participation again with the Progress Association in the 'Carols by Candlelight' when Christmas pudding was distributed to all those who attended.

On the fund-raising side, the Club held a 'Back to the Fifties Night', conducted a Calcutta Night for the Melbourne Cup, held a Quiz Night, conducted sales of books, Christmas puddings, Christmas cards, scotch whiskey and of soft drinks on Australia Day at the Bicentennial Swimming Carnival organised by the Willoughby Municipal Council at the Northbridge Baths; obtained commissions from market research organisations and sold Rotary T-Shirts and Pro Hart prints.

The social scene produced a family picnic day at Tunks Farm in the Lane Cove River State Recreation Area in August, a family barbecue at Clive Park in October, a family Christmas party in December at the home of Barry and Barbara Anderson and a night at the Trots at Harold Park in March.

The year saw the Club Account increase by a further \$421 to \$2,030 and a total of \$14,928 was raised for the Charities' Account of which \$10,545 was expended. The principal beneficiaries for the year were Polio Plus which received \$4,245, Hopetown Special School - \$1,000 and the Kids' Pavilion - \$1,134.

As to membership, the Club started the year with 45 members and 10 new members were inducted –

John Buttenshaw	David Clancy	Mike Dureau
John Francis	Tom Ford	Martin McCurrich
Peter Grinter	Paul McQuarrie	Brian Rathborne
	Stephen Wright	

The Club lost a total of 5 members being-

Noel Anderson	Graham Medway	Warren Rose
Andrew Segal		Roland Voltz

Graham Medway and Warren Rose both died under tragic circumstances. This left the Club with a membership at the end of the year of 50, a net gain of 5

### **1988 – 1989 'PUT LIFE INTO ROTARY – YOUR LIFE'**

The Fourth Change-Over Dinner was held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 1988 at the North Sydney Anzac Memorial Club, the Club's special guests on the night being DGE John Lang and his wife Fay, the Mayor of Willoughby, Alderman Noel Reidy and his wife Mary, Alderman Eddie Britt and his wife Mary, Alan Shaw, the President of the Northbridge Probus Club and his wife Elizabeth and our exchange student, Thomas Eggert.

The night saw the investiture of the new President and the introduction of the new Board comprised of –

President	John Downs
President Elect	Graham Goodfellow
Secretary	David Stuart
Treasurer	John Kenyon
Directors	Bruce Austin (Club Service)
	Brian Melloy (Community Service)
	Brian Robson (International Service)
	Bob Hendy (Youth Service)
	Richard Milling (Vocational Service)

The President's Cup was awarded to Bruce Taylor.

Retiring President Ross Alexander also made a number of specific awards on the night to John Francis – 'Rookie of the Year'

Barry Anderson – in recognition of his organisation of the inaugural Pride of Workmanship Awards night and

Peter Hodgson and Don Landers for their 100% perfect attendance.



Geoff Speers was appointed Sergeant and David Clancy, the Bulletin Editor. The night also saw Ross Alexander presented with a Paul Harris Fellowship in recognition of his services to the Club, particularly in relation to the book sales and the formation of the Probus Club.

From the Youth Service report delivered at the end of the year, it is noted that the Club successfully nominated Harriet Playle to attend the National Science School in January. James Halliday was sponsored as an outgoing Exchange Student and he was successful in obtaining a posting to Norway. The Club also hosted an incoming Exchange Student, Vicki Skure from Sweden. Vicki's counsellor was Geoff Davis and she was hosted by the Landers, Dureau, Halliday and Edwards families.

In addition, the Club sponsored six (6) children to attend the camp at Vision Valley organised by the Rotary Camp Sponsorship Programme. Two (2) young people, Peter Davies and Sally-Anne Charlesworth were sponsored by the Club to attend the RYLA Course and both were successful in obtaining their Certificates of Efficiency

A 'Pride of Workmanship' Award Night was held and awards made to –

Pat Beckham	Sales Assistant - Northbridge Newsagency
Jan Gregg	Leisure Co-ordinator – North Sydney Council
Arnold Luciuk	Clerical Assistant – Australia Post
Dulcie Holland	Composer and Author
Bob Stevens	Electrical Contractor
Andrew Moncrieff	Timber Boat Builder

The Community Service Committee reported the successful conclusion of another Christmas lunch for the Senior Citizens of Northbridge in December.

The International Committee reported on the acquisition of a 'Tubb's Dilator' which was donated to a surgical team with which our member Dr Alan Gale was involved and that visited Kathmandu, Nepal to treat damaged heart valves caused by rheumatic heart disease. The Club also hosted the GSE Team returning from Scotland and the incoming GSE Team from North America.

Functions held by the Club, both as social events and fund raising included six (6) different book sales, an Oompah Night Dinner Dance at the Austrian Club, a Melbourne Cup Calcutta, the sale of Christmas puddings, the sale of T Shirts and watches, a Rock'n Roll 60's Dinner Dance, the Fireworks Spectacular and a food stall at the Castlecrag Primary School Open day. Funds were also raised through members attending numerous Market Research panels.

By the end of the year the Club Account had increased to a net balance of \$2,250 while the fund-raising for the Charities Account yielded \$17,979. Of this, a total of \$11,097 was expended, a total of \$2,743 being spent in relation to Youth Exchange and \$1,180 in relation to the Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch, and donations of \$1,150 to the

Dougherty Centre, \$1,000 to Hopetown Special School and \$1,000 to the Australian Rotary Health Fund

The year started with 50 members and during the year 11 new members were inducted, being-

Peter Andronicus	Peter Antaw	Noel Bailey
Tom Bartells	Peter Dodds	Wim Drayer
Alan Gale	John Hunt	Warwick Penn
Ross Pickard	Geoff Verco	

But the Club lost-

Brian Morley	Brian Rathborne	Stephen Wright
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Brian Morley died after a long illness due to cancer. The year ended with a membership of 58, a net gain of 8

### **1989 – 1990 'ENJOY ROTARY'**

The Fifth Change-Over Dinner was held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 1989 at the Crows Nest Club with the Club's guests of honour being DGE Don Durie and his wife Judith, the Mayor of Willoughby, Alderman Noel Reidy and his wife Mary and Alderman Eddie Britt and his wife Mary. The night saw the investiture of the Club's new President and the introduction of the incoming Board –

President	Graham Goodfellow
President Elect	Brian Melloy
Secretary	Bob Edwards
Treasurer	John Kenyon
Directors	Peter Hodgson (Club Service)
	John Francis (Community Service)
	Brian Robson (International Service)
	David Clancy (Youth Service)
	Richard Milling (Vocational Service)

At the dinner David Stuart was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship by the Club and the President's Cup was awarded to David Clancy. John Hunt took office as Sergeant and John Weingarth as Bulletin Editor.

Other awards presented by retiring President John Downs were –

Tax Collector Award – Geoff Speers  
Sexiest Secretary Award – Bob Edwards  
I've Sold My Soul Award – Geoff Crowther  
It Won't Rain Again Award – Graham Goodfellow  
South American Bank Award – John Kenyon

The highlight of the year was the chartering of the Rotary Club of Roseville Chase. Although founded by the Rotary Club of Northbridge, due to the territorial rules of Rotary, the new club was ultimately sponsored by the Rotary Club of Lindfield. Further, in April, the Club organised, hosted and ran, under the capable leadership of PP Ross Alexander, the District Assembly for DGE Don Durie at the Hawkesbury Campus of the University of Western Sydney.

The other projects accomplished during the year were-

1. the establishment of The Rotary Club of Northbridge Benevolent Fund
2. the presentation of a flagpole to the Northbridge Primary School
3. the presentation of community sporting awards i.e. Netball Player Encouragement Trophy and Soccer Most Improved Player Award
4. the inclusion of a Community Service Award and a Small Business Award with the Pride of Workmanship Awards
5. the initiation of District projects to support the Nepal Heart Surgery Program and the provision of funding towards the construction of a swimming pool at Hopetown Special School
6. the sponsoring of the training and provision of the cost of uniforms for four (4) Cub Leaders of the 1<sup>st</sup> Northbridge Scout Group.

The Senior Citizens' Christmas lunch was again held at St Marks Hall and also a Christmas Children's Party for the children of members. The 'Carols by Candlelight' was arranged this year by the local schools and the Club again assisted by handing out slices of Christmas pudding to all those who attended the function.

The Club sponsored four (4) children to the Rotary District Camp at Vision Valley and again participated in Exchange Student programmes by sponsoring the visit of Jamie Clampett to Finland and welcoming Sachiko Nagata from Japan. Sachiko was hosted by the families of Malcolm Lindsay, Don Landers and Charles Alma with David Clancy acting as counsellor.

As previously mentioned, the Pride of Workmanship Awards were expanded to include a Small Business Award and a Community Service Award the various recipients being -

Pride of Workmanship

Dr. Rodney Thomas  
Carmel Hanrahan  
Jenny Dean  
Joy Haupt

Medical Practitioner  
Home Nursing Service  
Bank Officer – CBA Northbridge  
Kids Pavilion, Northbridge

Small Business Award

Alan Holloway & Don Collyer

Northbridge Valet Service

Community Service Award

Gary O'Neill

Northbridge Soccer Club

The 17<sup>th</sup> of October 1989 saw the adoption by the Club of the new constitution brought about by the changes adopted by the Council of Legislation of Rotary International whereby membership was opened up to all adult persons, not just male persons.

The Club Account continued to grow, a surplus of \$210 being achieved so that the year closed with a net balance in this account of \$2,460.

Funds for the Charities Account totalling \$18,037 were raised through book sales, a Melbourne Cup Calcutta, the sale of Christmas puddings, a Fireworks Display, a Market Day, market research commissions and wine sales. A total of \$11,097 was expended from the Charities Account, including a donation of \$1,000 to Hopetown Special School, \$2,743 to the Rotary Foundation, \$1,000 to ADRA and \$1,150 to the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund. At the end of the year the Charities Account had a net balance of \$21,478.

The year started with a membership of 58 and during the year 6 new members were inducted -

Trevor Allen	Andrew Moncrieff	Chris Switzer
Mike Walter	David Price	Chris Wheeler

But the following resigned-

Mike Dureau	Peter Knibbs	David Price
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So that with a net increase of 3, the Club reached an until then, all time high of 61 members

### **1990 – 1991 'HONOUR ROTARY WITH FAITH AND ENTHUSIASM'**

The Sixth Change-Over Dinner was held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1990 at the Mollie Dive Stand, North Sydney Oval with guests of honour being PP Kevin Sweeney of the Rotary Club of Crows Nest, the Mayor, Alderman Noel Reidy and PP Lindner M. Thelwell III of Little Rock, Arkansas, who gave the keynote address. The new Board comprised-

President	Brian Melloy
President Elect	David Clancy
Secretary	Bob Edwards
Treasurer	John Kenyon
Directors	John Hunt (Club Service)
	Barry Anderson (Community Service)
	Alan Gale (International Service)
	John Francis (Youth Service)
	Norbert Wyzenbeek (Vocational Service)

John Downs and PP Malcolm Tompson were presented with a Paul Harris Fellowships by the Club. The night also saw the presentation of another Club Trophy, the 'Community Cup' which was presented to the Club by Graham and Joy Goodfellow and was to be awarded to the person who best represents 'Community Spirit' in the preceding year.

On this occasion, the trophies were presented to –

President's Cup	John Hunt
Community Cup	Ross Alexander

Warwick Penn took office as Sergeant and John Downs donned the mantle of Bulletin Editor.

In giving his keynote address PP Lindner M. Thelwell III very quickly brought the room to silence with his apparent blatant political incorrectness and what seemed to be racially biased comments. As the address progressed, it became apparent that President Brian had everybody fooled and our guest was none other than Jim Pike, a professional entertainer.

The year saw two of our members receive awards for excellence, Graham Goodfellow being honoured by Rotary International by being awarded the 'Exemplary Rotarian – Club Service' presentation at the Rotary International Convention in Mexico City and Alan Gale by the King of Nepal for his humanitarian services to the citizens of that country through the Nepal Heart Surgery Project.

The Youth Service Committee in its annual report highlighted the sponsorship of Robert McKechnie to RYLA, of Linda Fox of Willoughby Girls' High School to the RYPEN course, the ongoing sponsorship of the Peer Support Program at North Sydney Boys' High School, the sponsorship of Mary Ellen Feeney of Monte Saint Angelo Mercy College to the National Science Summer School and of Susan Halliday as an Exchange Student to Kuroishi, Japan.

The Community Service Committee took great pride in furthering the 'Trees for Survival' program by erecting shade houses at both Northbridge Primary School and St Philip Neri Catholic Primary School. The shade houses were officially opened by the Mayor, Alderman Noel Reidy and the respective School Captains on 13<sup>th</sup> November and 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1990. Again, the Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch was held at St Marks Hall and was a great success.

The Vocational Service Committee participated in the YES Scheme by sponsoring Mandy Terrey of Willoughby Girls' High School to a ten (10) week 'hands on work experience' with the North Shore Times, her chosen career path being journalism. The Pride of Workmanship Awards were of a slightly different format this year in that there were awards in five different categories –

Bruce & Marelyn Campbell	Village Outfitters – Small Business Award
Suzie Randall	Community Awareness Award
Don McKenzie	Northbridge Sailing Club – Sporting Involvement Award
Herb Bradley	Senior Citizens' Support award
Michael Milostic	Junior Soccer – Youth Support Award

The Committee also organised a fraternal visit to Bathurst, being hosted and entertained by the Rotary Club of Bathurst in October with a return visit by a number of members of that Club and their wives to Northbridge in the following April.

The principal activity of the International Service Committee was the establishment of the Rotary Nepal Heart Surgery Project under the chairmanship of Graham Goodfellow. This developed into a District Project with Graham speaking to more than 35 Clubs in the District in an endeavour to gain support for the project. As at the end of the Rotary year more than \$70,000 had been collected from the Clubs in the District.

The Committee also successfully nominated Julie Dunsmore to be a member of the District 9680 GSE Team to tour Bavaria

On the financial side, the Club Account incurred a deficit of \$973. For the Charities Account net funds totalling \$20,772 were raised through advertising, book sales, sales of Christmas puddings, a Christmas Stocking raffle, the fireworks display, a market day, market research commissions, wine sales and a 'Phantom of the Opera' raffle. Of the funds raised, a total of \$15,930 was expended, the principal beneficiaries being Hopetown Special School (\$1,000), the Nepal Heart Surgery Project (\$2,000), Youth Exchange (\$2,251) and the Trees for Survival Program (\$2,780)

Membership at the commencement of the year was 61 and during the year 2 new members were inducted-

Lee Jackson

Graham Kelly

But we lost-

Trevor Allen

David McDonald

Trevor Allen was the Club's second victim of cancer. The year ended as it started with 61 members

### **1991 – 1992 'LOOK BEYOND YOURSELF'**

The Seventh Change-Over Dinner was held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 1991 at the Chatswood Club with our guest of honour DGN Neville Chambers and saw the investiture of-

President

David Clancy

President Elect

John Hunt

Secretary

Don Landers

Treasurer

John Kenyon

Directors

Norbert Wyzenbeek (Club Service)

Andrew Moncrieff (Community Service)

Alan Gale (International Service)

Mike Walter (Youth Service)

Ross Pickard (Vocational Service)

Club Trophies were awarded to-

President's Cup

Bruce Austin

Community Cup

Norbert Wyzenbeek on behalf of the whole of Vocational Services Committee

Geoff Verco accepted the position of Sergeant and Peter Antaw that of Bulletin Editor.

The dinner also saw the first presentation of a Paul Harris Fellowship to a non-member, Elsie Kaye in recognition of her community work. Graham Goodfellow was also awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship.

The Club had an active social calendar this year with a Valentines' Night, Club Family day outing, a Yachting Raft-up, a night at the Harold Park Trots, a joint meeting with the Roseville Chase Club, an Italian Dinner, a Bats Night and the Darling Harbour Conference dinner dance.

The Club started preparing for its major project for the forthcoming year, the Celebration of the Centenary and the Lighting of the Suspension Bridge. Considerable time and effort were devoted to this preparatory work by many members of the Club.

The Community Services Committee conducted a 'Tree of Joy' at Christmas for the benefit of the Smith Family, the usual Senior Citizens' Christmas lunch and a barbecue at the Kids Pavilion Gala day. The Committee also continued to support the 'Trees for Survival' program.

The Youth Service Committee sponsored two (2) candidates to RYLA, Wendy Antaw and David McDonogh, and continued its sponsorship of the Peer Support Programme at North Sydney Boys' High School. The Club again sponsored four (4) boys to attend the District Camp at Vision Valley and sponsored Rowena Wicks and Nicole Hassen both of Willoughby Girls' High School to attend the RYPEN weekend and Sarah Eldridge-Smith and Julia Powell to the Rotaract Youth Transition Seminar. Whilst applications for the National Summer Science School had not been successful, the Club sponsored Angela Teo to attend the NSW Engineering Summer School.

The International Service Committee was able to report the completion of stage 1 of the Rotary Nepal Heart Surgery project which was initiated by the Club in the preceding year and for which Alan Gale and Graham Goodfellow had worked hard with the opening of the Heart Unit at Bir Hospital in Kathmandu, nearly \$80,000 having been raised in the District and a lot of the construction work having been done by FAIM teams from the District. The facility was opened by the RI President Rajendra Saboo in the presence of, among others, Alan Gale and Graham Goodfellow.

The Vocational Service Committee initiated the Mock Job Interview program with Willoughby Girls' High School and also sponsored two (2) girls from that school to participate in the YES Scheme.

On the financial side, the Club Account returned a profit this year of \$360 while the Charities Account netted a total of \$36,413 from advertising, book sales, a boxed trifecta and Melbourne Cup Calcutta, Christmas puddings sales, a Christmas cake and a Christmas stocking raffles, the fireworks display, fairy floss sales, market research commissions and a Port Douglas raffle. The principal beneficiaries for the year were Camp Breakaway (\$4,165), the Nepal Heart Surgery Program (\$2,000) and The Rotary Foundation (\$2,560), a total of \$17,263 being expended.

As to membership, the year started with 61 members and during the year 7 new members were inducted, namely

Bob Bateson	Tony Clauzel	John Land
John Marsh	Doug Olding	Hans Carlborg
	David Waller	

But the Club lost

Kari Airis	Peter Andronicus	Tom Bartells	David Stuart
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So that there was a net gain of 3 to bring the total membership to 64

### **1992 – 1993 'REAL HAPPINESS IS HELPING OTHERS'**

The Eighth Change-Over night was held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 1992 at the North Sydney Leagues Club with DGE Neville Chambers as our guest of honour and saw the investiture and introduction of our new office bearers –

President	John Hunt
President Elect	Alan Gale
Secretary	Don Landers
Treasurer	John Kenyon
Directors	Geoff Verco (Club Service)
	Bruce Austin (Community Service)
	Lee Jackson (International Service)
	Peter Antaw (Youth Service)
	Ross Pickard (Vocational Service)

Our Sergeant for the year was John Francis and Peter Hodgson took on the job of Bulletin Editor. Paul Harris Fellowships were awarded by the Club to Don Landers and John Kenyon.

This year the third Club Trophy was awarded for the first time, the 'Do It Now Award' presented by John & Irene Hunt and to be presented to the member who best represented the 'Do It Now' philosophy during the past year. The Club Trophies were awarded to-

President's Cup	Chris Wheeler
Community Cup	Ross Pickard
Do It Now Award	Geoff Speers

In August a number of the members participated, acting as marshals on a roster in the official opening of the Sydney Harbour Tunnel by the State Government. Rotary was given the task of arranging a walk-through of the tunnel on the day before the official opening of the tunnel to traffic and to collect donations for charity. The exercise was



handled jointly by the two Metropolitan Districts and a total of about \$750,000.00 was raised. Some 300,000 people walked through the tunnel

This was the year of the Suspension Bridge. The whole Club participated in the organisation for the fateful day, 17<sup>th</sup> October 1992, led by Geoff Speers as Commander-in-Chief of the activities ably assisted by David Clancy and Peter Antaw in relation to the actual lighting of the bridge. On the day itself thousands of people flocked to Tunks Park. All roads leading to the park had been closed and State Transit provided special buses from North Sydney Station and Northbridge Junction from 10.00am to 10.30pm to transport the people down to the park. The festivities started at 12 noon and all through the day there were performances by numerous bands, a vintage car rally, a power walk, a senior fun run and a junior fun run, a sheepdog demonstration, a limbo competition and all sorts of stalls. The evening saw the lights on the bridge turned on, preceded by a lone piper playing the bagpipes on top of one of the towers and a fireworks display and battle from and between the two sets of towers. The evening closed with a giant parade. As a result of the success of this project the Club was awarded the District Governor's Community Service Award for the year and also the Sydney Morning Herald Australia Day Community Service Award as Willoughby City Council State finalist.

The Vocational Service Committee concentrated on the youth of the community, conducting the Mock Job Interview program at Willoughby Girls' High School. Two girls from that school, Grace and Lowami were sponsored in the YES program and the Pride of Workmanship night recognised-

John Ainsworth	Sydney Electricity
John Erby	Architect
Sam Fleifel	Telegraphax
Sally Hayson	Northbridge Plaza
Peter Parry	North Sydney Municipal Council

The International Service Committee, as a result of an appeal by Dr. Stephen Colagiuri, sponsored the training of two (2) nurses from Tonga, Miss Olivia Samui and Miss Tani Taufā, as diabetes educators. On their return to Tonga they were to open a Diabetes Education centre at Vaiola Hospital, Tonga. The committee also arranged a joint meeting with the Rotary Club of Lindfield to welcome the visiting GSE Team from Malaysia and sponsored two (2) students from Willoughby Girls' High School to participate in the MUNA program. Finally, the Committee arranged for the attendance in May of 13 members and their wives to attend the International Convention that was held in Melbourne.

The Youth Committee sponsored two (2) students to attend RYLA, Sally McNair and Stuart Crowther while it was arranged that Michelle Clauzel should be sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai.

In August our next Exchange Student, Katya Lund arrived from Denmark and she was hosted by the families of Bob Edwards, Geoff Verco, Malcolm Lindsay and John Downs with Peter Antaw acting as her counsellor. Our nominee, Jane Hirst of North Sydney Girls' High School, was accepted as an entrant for the National Science Summer School.

The Committee was also involved with the ongoing Peer Support Program at North Sydney Boys' High School and in the establishment of YOTS (Youth of the Streets), an initiative of Father Chris Reilly. Two (2) girls from Willoughby Girls' High School were sponsored to attend the RYPEN Program and four (4) underprivileged children were sponsored to attend the District Camp at Vision Valley.

The Community Service Committee again arranged the Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch and a Tree of Joy at the Plaza for Christmas. Also a program of regeneration of the land surrounding the RSL Memorial adjacent to the Golf Club was undertaken with the assistance of Willoughby Council. Sponsorship for the 'Trees for Survival' program continued with both shade house yielding over 2,000 small gum trees for replanting

On the fellowship side, a 'Rotating Dinner' was held in October, a dinner outing at Gulzars and a theatre party to 'Ain't Misbehavin'.

The year saw the Club Account suffer a deficit of \$2,194 while a total of \$28,096 was raised for the Charities Account of \$26,410 was expended, the principal beneficiaries being the Tongan Diabetes Program (\$4,460) and Youth Exchange (\$2,289)

As to membership, the year started with a membership of 64 and during the year 6 new members were inducted-

Bob Prater	Dugald Cameron	Gordon Tremain
Ian Watt	Ferdinand von Merveldt	Paul Sullivan

Unfortunately we lost –

Noel Bailey	John Buttenshaw	Peter Dodds	Roger Harrison
Richard Milling	Ferdinand von Merveldt	Douglas Olding	Frank Perriman

The net result was a loss of 2 members leaving the Club with 62 members at the end of the year.

### **1993 – 1994 'BELIEVE IN WHAT YOU DO – DO WHAT YOU BELIEVE IN'**

The 18<sup>th</sup> of June 1993 saw the Club again at the Chatswood Club for the Ninth Change-Over Dinner with our special guest being our own DG Neville Chambers supported by our own DGE Graham Goodfellow. This occasion saw the investiture of our tenth president and the introduction of his Board who were as follows-

President	Alan Gale
President Elect	Geoff Verco
Secretary	Peter Grinter
Treasurer	John Kenyon
Directors	Ross Pickard (Club Service)
	Graham Kelly (Community Service)
	Peter Antaw (International Service)
	Tony Clauzell (Youth Service)

Mike Walter (Vocational Service)

Andrew Moncrieff accepted the post of Sergeant and for the first time we had joint Bulletin Editors in John Coleman and Russell Bennett. The evening also saw PP David Clancy honoured with the presentation of a Paul Harris Fellowship by the Club.

Club Trophies were awarded to-

President's Cup

Community Cup

Do It Now Award

Tony Clauzell & David Waller

Bruce Austin

John Francis

The highlight of the year was the hosting of the District Conference in the support of our very own first DG, Graham Goodfellow. This event was a prime example of the co-operative spirit of the Club under the guidance of Ross Alexander, coming to the fore. DG Graham had gone to considerable trouble to obtain past RI Director Richard King to attend the conference to deliver the keynote address which was inspiring. The Club was lucky enough to be able to welcome Richard and his wife Cherie as guests at the Club meeting held the following week.

The year also saw the commissioning of the Mobile Police Command Post, an initiative that came out of the previous year's Suspension Bridge Centenary Celebration. On that occasion, Chatswood Police had needed a command post on site at Tunks Park to co-ordinate the various activities of the Police, S.E.S. and Club members to control the crowd which was estimated to be between 30,000 and 50,000. For this purpose a caravan had been borrowed from another patrol area. It was obvious that such a command post could be of value to Chatswood Police and under the chairmanship of Barry Anderson and with the enthusiastic endorsement of Sgt Ron Cox of the Chatswood Patrol a caravan was acquired from Viscount Caravans and fitted out with all the necessary equipment and donated to the Chatswood Patrol.

The Community Service Committee conducted the Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch at the St Marks Hall for 125 worthy citizens of Northbridge, with the kitchen under the control of Gail Robson. The Tree of Joy at the Plaza produced some 150 presents for the children of Barnado's. The Trees for Survival program was again supported with both primary schools in the suburb still participating in the program. Bruce Austin's initiative of regeneration of the bushland at Bonds Corner was continued with 2 working bees.

The International Service Committee continued its support of the Tongan Diabetes program with funds provided to allow podiatrist, Mrs Shirley Allen, to visit Tonga and train health workers. Two (2) teams, one from North Sydney Girls' High School and the other from Loretto Kirribilli Girls School were sponsored to attend MUNA representing Nepal and Ireland respectively. The Committee also became involved in the District Donations-in-Kind program by donating \$500 to help cover the cost of sending the donated equipment overseas.

The Vocational Services Committee participated in the YES program by arranging for Amanda Dale of Willoughby Girls' High School to be placed at RMK Voice Productions

(John Downs) where she worked for some 10 weeks, gaining experience in her possible future career. The Committee also arranged a further round of mock Job Interviews at Willoughby Girls' High School and again held a Pride of Workmanship night when awards were presented to-

Lynne Peters  
John Coleman  
Ben Plummer  
Sgt. Ron Cox  
Peter Owens

Career Advisor – W.G.H.S.  
Scouting  
Apprentice Shipwright  
Chatswood Police  
Coal & Candle Creek Volunteer Bush Fire  
Brigade

The Youth Committee sponsored Julie Taylor to attend the RYLA course and Brook McCarthy of Monte Saint Angelo Ladies' College to attend the RYPEN course. As to Youth Exchange, the Club's candidate, Tanya Brown, was successful in being selected to go to Germany for 12 months. The Committee also supported, financially YOTS and the Peer Support Program at North Sydney Boys' High School.

On the social calendar, a rotating dinner, a theatre party to see 'Shindler's List' and a Club Christmas party were held in addition to a number of ladies nights at the Club.

Funds totalling \$36,525 were raised for the Charities Account from book sales, a Calcutta night on the Melbourne Cup, the sale of Christmas cakes and puddings, a Christmas wheelbarrow raffle, the Fireworks display, market research commissions, a golf day and approaches to various business houses for donations to the Police Community Command Post Appeal. A total of \$43,708 was spent from the account, \$20610 being spent in relation to the Police caravan and numerous donations, including Careflight (\$2,980), Northbridge Primary School (\$1,200), N.S.W. Ambulance Service (\$1,180), Ocean Youth Club of Australia (\$1,250), the Robert Swan Foundation (\$2,000), Rotary District 9680 Rachael & Sarah Fund (\$1,200) and The Rotary Foundation (\$2,900).

The Club Account had a surplus of \$1,751 to bring that account back into the black and the year finished with a balance in the Club Account of \$1,403 and in the Charities Account of \$3,625.

During the year only 1 new member was inducted being-

Keith Buckley

While we lost-

John Land

Paul Macquarie

John Roberts

So that the Club, having started the year with 62 members, finished up the year with a net 60, a loss of 2.

## **1994 – 1995 ‘BE A FRIEND’**

The tenth Change-Over dinner was held on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1994 at the Bunga Raya restaurant, Castlecrag, our special guest being DGE Ivan Skellett and his wife Patricia ably supported by our own DG Graham Goodfellow. This evening witnessed the investiture of the new President and his Board-

President	Geoff Verco
President Elect	Bruce Austin
Secretary	Peter Grinter
Treasurer	John Kenyon
Directors	Brian Robson (Club Service)
	Graham Kelly (Community Service)
	Tony Clauzell (International Service)
	Hans Carlborg (Youth Service)
	Bob Prater (Vocational Service)

The team was rounded off with the appointment of Lee Jackson as Sergeant and Graham Goodfellow as Bulletin Editor. Paul Harris Fellowships were awarded to Gail Robson and Martin McCurich.

This year a fourth Club Trophy made its first appearance; the ‘First to Break’ Award, inspired initially by the contest between those who tried not to be the first to break during the course of the meeting but subsequently to be awarded to the member who best represented the larrikin spirit of the Club. The award was presented by Alan Gale and Trophies were presented to-

President’s Cup	Andrew Moncrieff
Community Cup	Barry Anderson
Do It Now Award	Hans Carlborg
First to Break Award	Ian Watt

The Community Service Committee reported that the Tree of Joy had yielded over 200 presents that were distributed to needy children and adults in the western suburbs through Careforce which is an initiative of Anglicare. There was continued support for the Trees for Survival program and the Club participated in the Clean up Australia campaign with 15 Rotarians cleaning up the area around the RSL Hall. Bruce Austin continued with the bush regeneration at Bonds Corner. Money was raised to buy fodder for the drought-stricken farmers and through the efforts of Ian Watt was transported to Cobar. The normal Christmas Senior Citizens’ lunch was transferred to a Christmas in July lunch so that the Club could take part in a new program that took elderly people to Grace Bros. so that they could do their Christmas shopping.

The Youth Service Committee welcomed back Tanya Brown from Germany and also welcomed the Club’s next incoming Exchange Student, Alexandre Haberkorn from Brazil who was hosted by the families of Geoff Verco, David Williams, David Brown

and Emily Potts of Wahroonga under the watchful eye of counsellor Malcolm Tompson. The Committee was also very involved with YOTS, collecting Christmas gifts for the young people, participating in a farm barbecue, arranging a donation of PCs and also making a cash donation to the program. The Committee also sponsored two (2) attendees to RYLA, two (2) attendees to the C.R.A. Summer School and two (2) participants in Operations Hope.

The Vocational Service Committee again arranged Mock Job Interviews for some 70 Year 10 students at Willoughby Girls' High School, participated in and promoted the Rotary Program 'I Am Australian – Employ Australia' by contacting some 600 businesses to personally promote the program.

The 'Pride of Workmanship' evening saw the following people honoured –

Mary Bognar	Pharmacist
Serge Dansereau	Executive Chef
Susan McElhone	Receptionist
Maureen Smart	Kindergarten Principal

The International Committee sponsored two (2) schools to attend MUNA and continued the support of the Tonga Diabetes Project with a donation of \$4,000 to enable a further two (2) nurses to come to Sydney for training. A matching grant which ultimately totalled \$15,750 was arranged through AUSAID for the Paunchkula SOS Trade Skills Training Project.

The social events included a Rotating Dinner, a dinner at the Paradoxe Restaurant and another at U Thong at Cammeray, a Valentine's Night and a Christmas barbecue at Andrew Moncrieff's boat shed.

The fund-raising activities for the Charities Account produced a net \$21,532 from a Trivia Night, Market Day, the sale of Christmas cakes and puddings, a book sale, a Christmas Wheelbarrow raffle, a Golf Day, the Fireworks Display and market surveys. Of this, a total of \$17,208 was spent, the major beneficiary being the Tonga Diabetes project (\$4,000), the Rotary Foundation (\$2,780), Youth Exchange (\$1,149) and YOTS (\$4,375). The end of the year saw the Club account with a balance of \$3,404 and the Charities account of \$47,858.

As to membership, 5 new members were inducted –

David Brown	Phil Bennet	Bob White
Ian Burns		Peter Zorbas

On the other side of the ledger the Club lost 3 members –

Ted Brown	Hugh Harris	Geoff Speers
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Having started to year with 60 members, the total membership increased by a net 2 to 62.

## **1995 – 1996 ‘ACT WITH INTEGRITY, SERVE WITH LOVE, WORK FOR PEACE’**

The eleventh Change-Over dinner was held on 20<sup>th</sup> June 1995 at Roseville Golf Club and saw the induction and introduction of –

President	Bruce Austin
President Elect	Ross Pickard
Secretary	Russell Bennett
Treasurer	Ron Erratt
Directors	Andrew Moncrieff (Club Service)
	David Waller (Community Service)
	Peter Hodgson (International Service)
	Malcolm Lindsay (Youth Service)
	Bob Prater (Vocational Service)

Our special guest for the night was the Club’s own PDG Graham Goodfellow and the evening saw Paul Harris Fellowships awarded by the Club to PPs Alan Gale and John Hunt. The team was completed by the appointment of Bruce Taylor as Sergeant and David Clancy as Bulletin Editor.

During the year Barry Anderson replaced David Waller as Community Service Director and John Downs replaced Malcolm Lindsay as Youth Service Director.

On the occasion of the Change-Over dinner Trophies were awarded to-

President’s Cup	John Marsh & John Wright
Community Cup	Jan Morley
Do It Now Award	Bob Prater
First To Break Award	Andrew Moncrieff

From a Club Service point of view, Andrew Moncrieff had his hands full as during the year we had six (6) different caterers, some appointed by the Club and some thrust upon us by the Golf Club. This also led to a couple of the meetings being held at the club house of the Northbridge Women’s Bowling Club. However, things were resolved in due course and the Club returned to the Golf Club.

The International Service Committee again was involved with PP Alan Gale and the Sydney Adventist Hospital Outreach Program by financing the visit by Alan and Doug Herridge to Honiara, Solomon Islands to investigate the conversion of an existing ward building at the Honiara Hospital into a combined Post-Operative Intensive Care ward and Step-down wards for use in relation to the cardiac surgery being undertaken by the Program. Continued financial support was given by the committee to the Tongan Diabetes Program to again bring two (2) nurses to Sydney for training. The committee also supported the District’s financing of the ‘National Heart Foundation of Papua New Guinea’ with PP Alan Gale and a specialist medical team visiting Mt Hagen and there undertaking many operations.

The Vocational Service Committee successfully nominated Ruth Cracknell to receive the District Vocational Excellence Award. Also the Mock Job interviews were again conducted at Willoughby Girls' High School and a Pride of Workmanship night saw awards given to –

Ron Bendall  
Noel Reidy  
Eddie Britt

Editor - North Shore Times  
Former Mayor – Willoughby City Council  
Former Alderman – Willoughby City Council

Together with the Rotary Club of Roseville Chase, the Committee conducted a 'Vocational Ethics Hypothetical', the moderator for the evening being Jim Johnson of the Roseville Chase Club

The Community Service Committee again arranged a very successful Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch. The Committee became involved with the Ladies Committee of the Japanese Society of Sydney through Masanori Ohtani. The Club manned the fairy floss machine at the Society's annual jumble sale.

The Youth Service Committee sponsored Mark Thirwall as an exchange student to go to Brazil. The committee also sponsored Daniel Zanello to attend RYLA and Heidi Gregory of North Sydney Girls' High School to attend the National Youth Science Forum. Four (4) young local primary school students were also sponsored to attend the Vision Valley Camp.

This year also saw the start of the work associated with the establishment of the Australian Cord Blood bank under the leadership of Norbert and Sharon Wyzenbeek. This was to become a major project running over several years and ultimately involving the whole of the District.

On the social scene, the Club enjoyed a wine tasting organised by John Marsh, a Rotating Dinner and the Christmas party at the Boatshed. This event saw the inaugural performance of the 'Drunkettes'. The sight of them in their red nighties was one not to have been missed. There was also the usual New Year restaurant dinner.

As to financial matters, the Club account saw a total deficit for the year of \$3,007.46 leaving the Club with a balance at the end of the year of \$396.67. A total of \$20,010.75 was raised for the Charities account, while only \$15,789.39 was spent, leaving a balance of \$52,476.10

On the question of membership, the Club gained 4 new members

Mike Cocks

Masanori Ohtani  
Paul Norris

Kazuhiro Okasaki



Ian Watt having resigned due to business reasons in February 1996 was re-inducted into the Club in April 1996. On the other hand, the Club lost –

	Wim Drayer	Brian Melloy
Keith Buckley		
	Malcolm Tompson	

Accordingly the Club started and finished the year with 62 members.

### **1996 – 1997 ‘ADVANCE ROTARY WITH ACTION AND VISION’**

The twelfth Change-Over dinner was held at the Roseville Golf Club on 25<sup>th</sup> June 1996 and saw the investiture and introduction of –

President	Ross Pickard
President Elect	Norbert Wyzenbeek
Secretary	Brian Robson
Treasurer	Ron Erratt
Directors	Bob White (Club Service)
	Chris Switzer (Community Service)
	John Downs (International Service)
	David Brown (Youth Service)
	Mike Walter (Vocational Service)

Peter Zorbas was appointed Sergeant and John Marsh accepted the post of Bulletin Editor. The night also saw Paul Harris Fellowships awarded by the Club to Hans Carlborg and John Francis.

The Club Trophies were awarded to-

President's Cup	Bruce Taylor
Community Cup	Sharon Wyzenbeek
Do It Now Award	John Weingarth
First To Break Award	Lee Jackson

There were also special awards given to John Weingarth for his role in programming during the year and to David Brown for his activities in the youth portfolio.

The year, while not ignoring the various ongoing projects in which the Club was usually involved, was focused on the Australian Cord Blood Bank. Members were rostered to attend the meetings of all clubs in the District to speak on the subject and to encourage their participation in raising the funds necessary to set up the Bank. Also every effort was made to extract as much money as corporate donations from business houses. This project culminated in a spectacular evening at the Convention Centre for a sit-down dinner of some 1300 people followed by an auction. The year closed with some \$850,000 having been raised and pledges redeemable over the next three (3) years totalling \$1,100,000. The Club received a welcome Certificate of Appreciation from the

Australian Cord Blood Bank for its generous support which helped the Bank to become a reality.

The Club Service Committee arranged a Christmas party for members, again at Sailors Bay Boatshed and also a progressive dinner.

The Community Service Committee reported that a 'Tree of Joy' was again held in the Plaza at Christmas and as was the annual Fireworks display. The Senior Citizens' Lunch was again held in June instead of at Christmas.

The Vocational Service Committee again arranged the Mock Job Interview program for some 90 year 10 students at Willoughby Girls' High School. Also Sharon Moran of W.G.H.S. was sponsored to attend the YES program.

The Pride of Workmanship night saw awards given to –

Rosie Lappas	Insurance Claims Officer
Abdul Arian	Architect
Frank Halliday	Sculptor
Doug Herridge	Community Service award

The awards were presented by The Hon. Peter Collins M.P.

The Committee continued to promote the 'Employ Australians' program.

The committee also commenced the groundwork for the formation of a second Probus Club in Northbridge. So as not to alienate the existing Probus Club which was an all-male club, the new Club was initially intended to be an all ladies club but the thoughts changed and in the following year a mixed club finally emerged.

The International Service Committee supported the Rotary Foundation, The Mongolian Heart Program and the Tongan diabetes Program with suitable donations.

The Youth Service Committee reported the sponsorship of Nicole Whitfield and Andrea Stone, both Year 9 students at W.G.H.S. to attend RYPEN and also sponsored four (4) young people to attend the Vision valley Christmas Camp. A student was also sponsored to the National Summer Science School and a working bee was held at the new YOTS refuge that had recently been established at Crows Nest. Andrew Moncrieff introduced the Club to 'StreetWork' and an initial donation was made to this program.

As to finance, the year saw the Club Account increase by \$2,371 to finish the year with a credit balance of \$2,767. The fund-raising activities for the Club's Charities Account were severely curtailed due to the efforts directed to the Australian Cord Blood Bank whose funds were not channelled through the Club's normal accounts but paid into a special account. However a total of \$9,390 was raised mainly through the Fireworks Display (\$6,990). A total of \$36,486 was paid out of this account, the principal recipients being the Australian Cord Blood Bank (\$25,300), the Rotary Foundation (\$2,520) The

Tongan Diabetes Program (\$1,000), StreetWork (\$1,000) and the Warringah Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade (\$1,000)

The year started with 62 members and 1 new member was inducted being -

Frank Biggs

However, the Club lost 1 member –

Ian Watt

So, the year closed again with 62 members

### **1997 – 1998 ‘SHOW ROTARY CARES’**

The thirteenth Change-Over was held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1997 at the Moon Terrace Restaurant, Chatswood, the Club's special guests being Past RI Director John Carrick, Dr Keith Suter who spoke on the 'Community Concerns of the Global Village' and the Mayor of Willoughby, Eunice Raymond. The investiture of the new President and introduction of the new Board saw the following take office-

President	Norbert Wyzenbeek
President Elect	Bob Hendy
Secretary	David Brown
Treasurer	Ron Erratt
Directors	Lee Jackson (Club Service)
	Russell Bennet (Community Service)
	David Clancy (International Service)
	Mike Cocks (Youth Service)
	John Marsh (Vocational Service)

The team was rounded off with the appointment of Peter Grinter as Sergeant and Frank Biggs and Bruce Austin as joint Bulletin Editors. The evening also saw Norbert and Sharon Wyzenbeek both awarded Paul Harris Fellowships by the Club in recognition of the work that they had done in relation to the funding of the Australian Cord Blood Bank. By the end of the year, more than \$1,000,000.00 had been raised in direct donations and 1,000 cords donated to the Bank from newly born babies.

Club Trophies were awarded to-

President's Cup	Andrew Moncrieff
Community Cup	Ian Burns
Do It Now Award	Masanori Ohtani
First To Break Award	Ross Pickard

The Club Service Committee arranged a meeting with our partners at the Bunga Raya Restaurant, Castlecrag and a dinner at the Yuiiki Japanese restaurant and an 'Oom Pah Pah' night at the Austrian Club. Also, the Christmas party for members was again held at Sailors Bay Boatshed, with the January restaurant meal being held at 'Il Ponte' Restaurant. A theatre party was held at the Cremorne Orpheum with dinner after the show at Quincy's Restaurant.

The Community Service Committee continued with the 'Trees for Survival' Program with the two (2) local primary schools, growing seedling gum trees for distribution through the Molong Office of Greening Australia. The Christmas 'Tree of Joy' was run at the Northbridge Plaza and the Suicide Prevention Program promoted through a joint meeting organised with Willoughby City Council and the Rotary Club of Chatswood.

The International Service Committee promoted a further Life Membership of FAIM for all members and a display at the Plaza of Sister Club relations with a Club in New Zealand. The Committee also supported the District 'Donation in Kind' Program with donations of school and hospital equipment. Support was also given for a number of other District projects, i.e. 'Low Cost Housing in India', the 'Children of Russia' project, the visiting GSE Team from France and 'From Russia with Love'.

The Vocational Service Club promoted 'Operation Livewire' to help small business, the 'Employ Australians' program and again conducted Mock Job interviews at Willoughby Girls' High School to prepare the young ladies for their first job interview. A Pride of Workmanship night at Roseville Golf Club was held and saw the following being honoured-

Pride of Workmanship

Tony Alacqua

Hairdresser

Megan Nicholson

Physiotherapist

Cindy Taylor

Service Manager – Woolworths

Community Service

Di Butterworth

The Youth Service Committee reported the sponsorship of attendees to RYPEN and the sponsorship of disadvantaged children to the District camp at Vision Valley. Also, a Rotary Citizenship Honour Board was presented to Northbridge Primary School and a School Spirit Honour Board to St Philip Neri Primary School in December.

On the financial side, the year saw the Club account increase by \$1,741 to a closing balance of \$4,509. The Charities account received a total of \$13,205 from the Melbourne Cup Calcutta, the Christmas Wheelbarrow, the Fireworks Display, a market Day and a Golf Day and the sale of Christmas cakes and Puddings and Market Research commissions. A total of \$14,296 was expended, the principal beneficiaries being ADRA Mongolian Fund (\$2,500), Life Force (\$3,000) 'Rotary Against Malaria' (\$1,000) and The Rotary Foundation (\$1,420). The account had a closing balance of \$23,770.

During the year 4 new members were inducted being –

John Becroft

Greg Kelly

Chris Whitelaw

Tim Wilson

On the other side of the ledger, the Club lost 10 members, being –

Bob Bateson

Frank Biggs

Tony Clauzell

Graham Kelly  
Kazuhiro Okazaki

Malcolm Lindsay  
Geoff Verco  
Chris Wheeler

Paul Norris  
Mike Walter

Having started the year with 62 members, the year closed with 56 members, a net loss of 6.

### **1998 – 1999 'FOLLOW YOUR ROTARY DREAM'**

The fourteenth Change-Over dinner was held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 1998 at the Fresh Ketch Restaurant. The Special guests for the night were PDG Don Durie and Lady S. Martin who spoke on the Sir David Martin Foundation. The Club's new President and Board were-

President  
President Elect  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Directors

Bob Hendy  
John Francis  
Bob Edwards  
Ron Erratt  
Mike Cocks (Club Service)  
John Becroft (Community Service)  
George Puzey (International Service)  
Chris Whitelaw (Youth Service)  
Paul Sullivan (Vocational Service)

A Paul Harris Fellowship was awarded by the Club to Bruce Austin. This year marked the occasion of two (2) further Club Trophies being presented, the Attendance Shield which was presented to the Club by PP Norbert Wyzenbeek to be awarded to the member who attained the highest actual physical attendance at regular Club meetings and the Momoe Award which was presented to the Club by Sharon Wyzenbeek to be awarded to the partner of a member, such partner having contributed the most to the activities of the Club during the preceding year.

The Trophies were presented to-

President's Cup  
Do It Now Award  
Attendance Shield  
Momoe Award

Ron Erratt  
Peter Zorbas  
Peter Hodgson  
Momoe Ohtani

Neither the Community Cup nor The First To Break Award were awarded this year.

The team was rounded off with Dugald Cameron appointed as Sergeant and Bob Prater accepting the position of Bulletin Editor. Due to health reasons, John Francis was obliged to withdraw from the office of President Elect during the year and his position was filled by Masanori Ohtani.

The Club Service Committee got off to a good start, organising a dinner at the Austrian Club in August and a dinner at Parliament House, Sydney in September as the guests of

the local member, Peter Collins. A joint meeting organised by the Rotary Club of Forestville, held as a Calcutta on the Melbourne Cup, was held in November at which the Forestville, Manly, Northbridge and Roseville Chase Clubs all participated in the fun. A Christmas party was held at the Austrian Club in December and a cocktail party to celebrate the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the chartering of the Club was held at the home of Bob Clampett in January. Also in January, a dinner was held at La Botte Restaurant. Geoff Crowther on behalf of the Committee also organised a group (it was small 4 members and 3 wives) to attend the District Conference at Tamworth. George Puzey arranged a weekend tour of the Hunter Valley for a large group of members and wives in June, staying overnight at Singleton.

The Community Service Committee organised the Senior Citizens' Christmas lunch which was moved back again from Christmas in June/July (St Marks Hall being too cold in winter) to Christmas time. It was also necessary for the Committee to move the shade house that had been installed at St Philip Neri Primary School to Cammeray Primary School as St Philip Neri had commenced a major rebuilding program and needed the land on which the shade house was standing. The 'Tree of Joy' held in the weeks prior to Christmas and was a great success. The Committee also encouraged all members to participate in the Bowelscan program. In April a number of members joined with the members of other clubs in the District to render assistance to those in the community who has suffered damage during recent hailstorms. The Committee was also instrumental in forming a second Probus Club in Northbridge, a club for both men and women as the original Probus Club had remained a strictly men only club.

The International Service Committee joined with the Rotary Club of Artarmon in March to host the GSE Team arriving in Sydney from Turkey.

The Vocational Service Committee again arranged Mock Job interviews at Willoughby Girls' High School in November. A Pride of Workmanship night was held in March with Ken Done and the Mayoress Beth Reilly as the guests of honour at which the following awards were presented-

Margaret Fitzgerald  
Simon Gilbert  
Alison Peters  
Eric Sharp

Postal Assistant  
Ambulance Officer  
Hairdresser  
Service Manager

The Youth Service Committee started their year with the arrival of Sara Moller, an exchange student from Sweden who, under the careful eye of her counsellor, David Brown, was hosted by the families of John Wright, Norbert Wyzenbeek, Peter Grinter and Charles Alma. In January, the Club's outward bound exchange student, Samantha Morris, left for Canada. The Committee also sponsored Jessica Wyzenbeek and Natalie Charlton to attend RYLA and Chris Page (North Sydney Boys' High School) and Robyn Sinclair (Willoughby Girls' High School) to attend RYPEN



The Community Service Committee again organised a successful Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch in December and at which 98 guests attended. A 'Tree of Joy' was also held at the Plaza in December for the benefit of the Smith Family, in excess of 300 gifts being received. The 'Trees for Survival' program continued and the shade houses were given an upgrading. The Committee again supported 'Bowelscan' with a number of members participating in the program.

Under the leadership of Syd Grolman, the 'Blood Suckers' Challenge, a competition among the Club and 5 other local Rotary Clubs to get the most blood donations in a twelve month period, was inaugurated. The program ultimately became the 'Vampire Cup' by now a District project, with an appropriately red lined mounted cup being acquired for presentation to the winning club.

The Club Service Committee arranged for the installation of a notice board at the Plaza so that the local residents could be kept up to date with the activities of the Club. The Committee also arranged for a number of members to act as marshals at the Tunnel Walk organised by the three Sydney Districts for the opening of the Eastern Suburbs Distributor. In September a recital was given by Adrian Leung, a violinist with the Sydney Symphony Youth Orchestra who was raising money to support his candidature for a PRIME Scholarship. A successful Club Christmas party was also held, again at Sailors Bay Boatshed and a restaurant dinner at Chez Rene. In March a joint meeting with the Rotary Club of Chatswood was held to hear Tim Fischer speak.

In February 2000 the International Service Committee became aware of the desperate shortage of virtually everything in East Timor and decided to do something about it. Money was not the problem. Actual items could not be acquired in East Timor. There was a need for clothing, Manchester, toys, schoolbooks and requirements, toiletries and all basic items which we in Australia take for granted. A collection of these items was undertaken with the result that a very large quantity of goods was collected. The problem was then how to get all the stuff to Dili. Initially it was hoped that the RAAF would fly the goods in but this was not practical so everything was loaded into a container (filling it) and the Army moved it to Darwin and then the RAN transferred the container to East Timor.

The Vocational Services Committee held the Mock Job interviews at Willoughby Girls' High School in November

The Youth Service Committee organised the running of the RYLA Program this year at Vision Valley and sponsored two (2) candidates to attend, Robin and Andrew. This involved a number of members attending a training weekend at Vision Valley and arranging for members to attend all other clubs in the District to address the members of those clubs on the program and to try to muster support generally. The Club attended to Gala Dinner as its regular weekly meeting. The Committee also arranged for the presentation to Roseville Primary School of Final Year T Shirts for the Year 6 students.



Financially, the Club account suffered a loss of \$5,288 and the year closed with a credit balance of \$5,131. On the other hand, the Charities account received a total of \$28,206. The main fund raising activities were the Melbourne Cup Calcutta (\$6,522), the Christmas Wheelbarrow raffle (\$4,262), the Fireworks Display (\$6,956), the Market day (\$1,855) and the Golf day (\$7,230). Of the funds raised, a total of \$16,103 was spent, the main beneficiaries being the Mongolian Open Heart Surgery program (\$2,000), Roseville Public School (\$1,900), the Rotary Foundation (\$3,796), the RYLA organisational costs (\$2,824) and StreetWork (\$1,578).

The year started with 53 members and during the year 1 new member was inducted being –

Richard Guenther

On the other hand the Club lost 3 members

Ian Burns

Hans Carlborg

Chris Whitelaw

Accordingly the year finished with 51 members, a net loss of 2.

## **2000 – 2001 ‘CREATE AWARENESS – TAKE ACTION’**

The sixteenth Change-Over dinner was held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2000 at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, the Club's guest of honour being The Hon. R.J.L. Hawke, former Prime Minister of Australia. The changing of the guard brought the new team of –

President

Paul Sullivan

President Elect

Lee Jackson

Secretary

Bob Edwards

Treasurer

Ron Erratt

Directors

Peter Zorbas (Club Service)

Brian Robson (Community Service)

David Waller (International Service)

Peter Grinter (Youth Service)

John Becroft (Vocational Service)

The evening saw the presentation of another new trophy, the Kobe Cup. This trophy was presented by Masanori Ohtani and is to be awarded to the person who contributed best and continuously to the Club in the preceding year. On this occasion trophies were presented to-

President's Cup

Bruce Austin

Community Cup

John Becroft & Bruce Taylor

First to Break

David Clancy

Do It Now Award

Bruce Taylor

Momoe Award

Vicki Antaw

Attendance Shield

Lee Jackson

Kobe Cup

John Hunt

Paul Harris Fellowships were awarded by the Club to Barry Anderson and Russell Bennett. Ross Pickard and Syd Grolman were appointed joint Sergeants and John Kenyon took on the job of Bulletin Editor.

The Club Service Committee arranged a restaurant dinner as a social occasion for members at the 'Table 48' Restaurant at Surry Hills in October. A Christmas party for members was held at the home of Alan Gale in Hunters Hill and the traditional January restaurant meeting was held at 'Il Ponte Restaurant', Northbridge.

The Community Service Committee, through the efforts of Russell Bennett, sold over 80 tickets to attend the Paralympics. Also, the usual Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch was held in December. The Committee also arranged for the installation of tables and seats in the Upper Clive Park as a gift to the community to celebrate the Centenary of Federation of Australia. A perpetual trophy was presented to the Northbridge Swimming Club in March and a flagpole was donated to St Philip Neri School

In January the International Service Committee co-organised a joint meeting with the Rotary Clubs of Mosman, Balmoral, Manly Sunrise and Northbridge at the Taronga Zoo Centre to receive a report from Alan Gale in respect of the surgical team visit which he had led to Vietnam the previous year and to which the Club had donated. The Committee also organised several members to attend a welcome to the GSE Team from The Netherlands at the Castle Cove Country Club in March. The Committee, through Alan Gale, sponsored a student at Royal North Shore Hospital Medical School to go on an exchange program for 6 weeks to Hanoi Medical School

The Youth Service Committee sponsored three (3) young people to attend RYLA, Zoe Wood, Phil Coleman and Shaun Guenther all of whom addressed the Club in February after their return from the RYLA camp.

The Vocational Service Committee organised a very successful Pride of Workmanship night in October, Paul Cave of 'Bridge Climb' being the guest speaker and at which awards were presented to –

Julia Britton

Graham Bulger

Christie Grech

Martin Helm

Bill Hyde

Community Service Award

Nikki Mackay

Head Teller – Westpac, Northbridge

Butcher – Castlecrag

Travel Consultant

Produce Assistant – Woolworths, Northbridge

Automotive Manager

The Committee also organised the Mock Job interviews at Willoughby Girls' High School in November. A Local Business Night was held at which representatives of 6 local businesses attended and gave short addresses, highlighting the nature of their respective businesses.

The financial statements showed that the Club Account increased by \$7,684 to close the year with a credit balance of \$12,816. A total of \$24,533 was raised for the Charities Account, the main sources of revenue being the Melbourne Cup Calcutta (\$4,132), the Christmas Wheelbarrow raffle (\$4,794), the sale of Entertainment Books (\$1,105) the Fireworks Display (\$4,606) and the Golf Day (\$8,342). However a total of \$41,244 was spent, the principal expenditure being \$23,500 for the purchase of a bus for StreetWork. Other donations included the Paulian Villa (\$3,000) towards the cost of a new kitchen, The Rotary Foundation (\$2,820), RYLA (\$1,650) and the Vietnam Heart Surgery Fund (\$5,000). The year closed with the Charities Account having a credit balance of \$24,140.

The year started with 51 members and during the year 7 new members were inducted, being-

Gary Denhard	Robert Farrar	Christiane Gedoux
Ian Jones	Freya Luick	Malcolm Lye
	Alan Olsen	

However, the Club lost 7 members –

Bruce Austin	Christiane Gedoux	John Hunt
Don McDougall	Alan Olsen	Tim Wilson
	David Brown	

Both Chritiane Gedoux and Alan Olsen had to resign, having been posted overseas in the course of their respective employment, while David Brown was another of the Club's members to fall victim to cancer. Accordingly, the year finished with a total membership of again 51.

## **2001 – 2002    'MANKIND IS OUR BUSINESS'**

The seventeenth Change-Over was held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2001, again at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron. The author, Mathew Reilly, a nephew of Mayor Pat Reilly, was the guest of honour and gave a stimulating talk on how he became an author. The evening saw the new President inducted and the new Board introduced being-

President	Lee Jackson
President Elect	Peter Antaw
Secretary	Don Landers
Treasurer	Ron Erratt
Directors	Ross Pickard (Club Service)
	Warwick Penn (Community Service)
	John Francis (International Service)
	Peter Grinter (Youth Service)
	David Hyde (Vocational Service)

Paul Harris Fellowships were awarded by the Club to Bruce Taylor and Brian Robson and the Club Trophies were awarded to –

President's Cup	Peter Zorbas
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Community Cup	Graham Goodfellow
First To Break	John Francis
Do It Now Award	Freya Luick
Attendance Shield	John Kenyon
Kobe Cup	Bob Hendy

The Momoe Award was not awarded this year.

John Weingarth and Charles Alma were appointed Joint Sergeants and Malcolm Lye and Dugald Cameron jointly took on the role of Bulletin Editors and they introduced the Club to the email version of the weekly Club Bulletin.

The Club Service Committee arranged a social get together at the Paradoxe Restaurant in August. The Club Christmas party was again held at the home of Alan & Helen Gale in December. The normal January restaurant dinner was replaced with a dinner for members and guests at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron. Parties of members and their guests were arranged to attend the James Morrison Concert at Chatswood and the production of the David Williamson play, 'The Club', at the Zenith Theatre, Chatswood, both events occurring in May

The Community Service Committee, through the efforts of Syd Grolman and though he was not a member of this committee, continued to support the collection of blood donations for the Red Cross Blood Bank with collections in October and January. Another very successful Senior Citizens' Christmas lunch was held in December and a Tree of Joy installed at the Plaza for Christmas which resulted in the Lady Mayoress donating to the Club a new tree for future Trees of Joy as the old one was looking a bit worn. 250 gifts were collected for the Smith Family.

The 'Trees for Survival' program saw the shade house that was originally at St Philip Neri Primary School and later moved to Cammeray Primary School again moved as a result of a rebuilding program at Cammeray School. The shade house went to Castle Cove Primary School and the Rotary Club of Roseville Chase took over the responsibility of looking after this shade house.

The Youth Service Committee re-entered the Exchange Student program with the arrival in January of Denise Consolmagno from Brazil. She was hosted for the full term of her stay in Australia by Freya Luick with Peter Grinter acting as her Counsellor. Through the efforts of the Committee, the Club sponsored Simon Clancy and Peter Smith for the Rotary Club of Rydalmere to attend RYLA.

The Vocational Service Committee organised another very successful 'Pride of Workmanship' event in October at which Geoff Munday of Streetwork was the guest speaker and at which the following awards were presented by the Mayor, Councillor Pat Reilly-

Pride of Workmanship	
Jody Gatmaitan	North Sydney Hardware
Andrew Hay	Northbridge Shipwright
Warren Peacock	Northbridge Butcher

Kate Taurins

David Wong  
Community Service Award  
David Synott

For & on behalf of the Staff of Bambinis  
Cottage  
Chatswood Pharmacist

Northbridge Progress Association

The committee was instrumental in obtaining Board approval to the nomination of Emily Maguire, a graduate in music from University of Wollongong and the NSW Conservatorium of Music to obtain a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship but unfortunately District ultimately decided not to award a scholarship this year.

A Business Forum was organised by the Committee in February that allowed four (4) local businesspeople, Geoff Stewart of Sirius Management Services, Colin Parras of the Northbridge Hotel, Massimo Ararto of Bonds Corner Fine Foods and Liz Connor of Raine and Horne Northbridge, to talk about their businesses. The Committee also again arranged Mock Job interviews for Year 10 students at Willoughby Girls' High School and with the help of the Rotary Club of Crows Nest, the program was extended to North Sydney Boys' High School

The District Conference was held in Dubbo in April under the theme of 'The Gathering of the Clans' and a large contingent of members and wives represented the Club on this occasion. The Club also supported the Willoughby Lady Mayoress' Cabaret held in November to raise money for StreetWork

Willoughby Sunrise Rotary Club held a 'Tree Planting Day' at Hallstrom Park and the Club participated in the project by providing a sausage sizzle, all proceeds from the day going to StreetWork.

Masanori Ohtani organised the annual Japan-Australia Friendship Dinner at the University and Schools Club in June which was attended by a number of the members.

The year saw the Club Account run another deficit, this time of \$6,507 to leave the Club with a balance at the end of the year of \$6,308. The Charities Account received a total of \$23,889, principally from Book Sales at Chatswood (\$2,481), The Christmas Wheelbarrow raffle (\$7,802), the sale of Entertainment Books (\$2,375), the Fireworks Display (\$3,684) and the Golf Day (\$6,449). A total of \$23,600 was expended from the Charities Account, the principal beneficiaries being the Mongolian Open-Heart Surgery Program (\$2,000), the Northers Clinical School at the University of Sydney (\$2,000), the Paulian Villa (\$2,000) the Rotary Foundation (\$3,920), RYLA (\$1,190), StreetWork (\$6,000) and the Warringah Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade (\$1,000).

The Club started the year with 51 members and the year saw 7 new members inducted-

Michael Bartok  
John Turner

John Beare  
Gavin Taylor  
Elizabeth Connor

Christopher Meale  
Li Yu

However the Club lost-

Geoff Crowther and Robert White

Geoff was yet another of the Club's members to succumb to cancer.

So the year ended with a net gain of 5 new members, bringing the membership up to 56

### **2002 – 2003 'SOW THE SEEDS OF LOVE'**

The eighteenth Change-Over dinner was again held at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2002, the Club's guests of honour being the Mayor of the City of Willoughby, Councillor Pat Reilly and Alex Watson, former Australian Pentathlon Champion. The Club's new President was duly inducted and the new Board introduced, the team being-

President	Peter Antaw
Vice President	Freya Luick (Youth Service)
President Elect	Peter Grinter
Secretary	Don Landers
Treasurer	Ron Erratt
Directors	John Weingarth (Club Service)
	Gary Denhard (Community Service)
	Bob Farrar (International Service)
	David Hyde (Vocational Service)

Paul Harris Fellowships were awarded to Ross Pickard and Paul Sullivan.

The Club Trophies were awarded to –

President's Cup	Don Landers
Community Cup	Freya Luick
First To Break	Charles Alma
Do It Now Award	Gary Denhard
Attendance Shield	Peter Hodgson & Ian Jones
Kobe Cup	Ross Pickard

The Momoe Award was not awarded this year.

Outgoing President Lee Jackson had written a weekly Presidential message in the Club Bulletin and he was presented with a bound copy of all his messages which was entitled 'Thoughts of Chairman Lee – The Little Red Book of Presidential Ramblings'.

Gordon Tremain and Doug Herridge jointly filled the office of Sergeant and Ian Jones took on the role of Bulletin Editor.

The Club Service Committee arranged, through the auspices of David Clancy, a weekend away to the Hunter Valley for a group of members and partners to stay at Thistle Hill Country Cottage, Pokolbin. Thanks to Masanori Ohtani, a number of members were able to attend a performance of the 'Taiko Drums' at the Sydney Opera House in July. A theatre party was organised in August to see a play at the Opera House, 'Alone We Stand'. A further Rotating Dinner was organised by Peter Hodgson in November and the Club Christmas party was held at the home of Norbert and Sharon Wyzenbeek followed in January by the restaurant dinner at the 'Olive Branch'

Restaurant. A further social event was held in May, an outing again to the Austrian Club in French's Forest.

In May, The Club was awarded the 'Certificate of Achievement – Club Bulletin' in recognition of the outstanding coverage of the Club's Bulletin 2002 – 2003.

The Community Service Committee again supported Syd Grolman with the blood donation collections at St Marks Hall in August, November and January. In September the Club assisted at the Cancer Council's 'Relay For Life' by providing breakfast for the participants in the event. Under the able control of Liz Connor, the Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch was again a great success. The 'Tree of Joy' again went up in the Plaza at Christmas time. Members were encouraged to participate in the annual 'Bowelscan' program.

The International Service Committee organised a Pillow and Cushion Stall at the Willoughby Spring Fair in September, the pillows and cushions having been sourced by Bob Farrar's wife, Christine

The Youth Service Committee successfully nominated Tom Loneragan as an outward-bound Exchange Student to travel to Brazil in January. A joint meeting was held in November with the Rotary Club of Roseville Chase to farewell three (3) outgoing exchange students, all going to Brazil, including Tom. The Committee was also instrumental in sponsoring Evelyn Lewis-Enwright to attend RYLA. The Committee also sponsored an attendee from Willoughby Girls' High School to RYPEN

The Vocational Service Committee again held a very successful 'Pride of Workmanship' night in October with awards being presented to-

Pride of Workmanship

Emilio Bianciardi

Northbridge Golf Club – President

Dianne Gray

Dementia Day Care

Rob Blazer

Willoughby GP

Kym Stuart

Cardiac Nurse

Don Swonnell

Bush Care

Community Service

Hilda Wakelin

Northbridge Swimming Club

The Committee also organised Mock Job interviews at Willoughby Girls' High School for Year 10 students in November and a visit by members to the Sydney Fish Markets in May which was very educational: particularly in relation to the method of auctioning the fish.

A further Business Forum was arranged in March which allowed Tracy O'Sullivan of 'Bridge Gallery', Ruth Meli of 'Decoroom', Bruce Edwards of 'A.W. Edwards Pty. Ltd.' and Michael Milling of 'Homestone' to give the members an insight into their respective businesses.

Several members volunteered to assist with the Bill Walsh Cancer Research Golf Day at Northbridge Golf Club in March.

The District Conference was again held in Canberra and a contingent from the Club had a very enjoyable time at the Conference, staying at the Commonwealth Club. This had been arranged by Bob Prater.

The International Convention was held in June in Brisbane and a contingent of members, with partners totalling 22 attended. They stayed at Il Mondo Boutique Hotel and all those who attended had a very satisfactory Rotary experience

Under the leadership of Graham Goodfellow, another attempt was made to form a Rotary Club of Cammeray but after several interest meetings, it was found not to be a viable project.

After hearing a presentation by Ted Anderson, the Board, with the approval of the incoming Presidents Peter Grinter and Freya Luick resolved to participate in the Indigenous Medical Scholarship program which involved the Club in a commitment over three (3) years. The administration of the program was later taken over by the Australian Rotary Health Fund. This commitment in the first year was financed by the tipping competition on the Super 12s.

The Club set up its own web site on the internet under the guidance of Gary Denhard – [www.northbridgerotary.com.au](http://www.northbridgerotary.com.au).

The annual golf day was held in May and was dedicated to the late Geoff Crowther.

As to finances, the Club Account again saw a deficit of \$923, the balance of the account at the end of the year being \$5,384.

A total of \$31,801 was raised for the Charities Account mainly from the sale of Melbourne Cup Box Trifecta tickets (\$1,349), The Christmas Wheelbarrow (\$6,417), the sale of Entertainment Books (\$2,561), the Fireworks Display (\$7,266), the Golf day (\$5,657), the Pillow Stall at the Willoughby Spring Fair (\$1,913), the Super 12 Tipping Competition (\$1,810) and a Trivia Night (\$3,843). A total of \$22,135 was expended from the Charities Account, the principal recipients being Interplast (\$1,000), the Mongolian Open Heart Surgery program (\$3,000), Northbridge Scouts (\$1,000), Northers Clinical School at Sydney University (\$2,200), the Rotary Foundation (\$4,920) RYLA (\$1,210), the Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch (\$2,803), Warringah Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade (\$1,200) and the Wesley Mission – Operation Hope Camps at Vision Valley (\$1,100). The end of the year saw this account closed with a credit balance of \$24,429.

The commencement of the year saw the Club with 56 members and during the year 4 new members were inducted, being-

Hans Carlborg

Liz Grey

Sally O'Neill

Keiichiro Tomishima

but the Club lost 2 members-

Gavin Taylor and Li Yu



and so finished the year with 58 members.

### **2003 – 2004    ‘LEND A HAND’**

The nineteenth Change-Over dinner was again held at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron with the Mayor, Councillor Pat Reilly and the Lady Mayoress Beth as the guests of honour on the night. The induction of the new President and introduction of his Board saw the team as being-

President	Peter Grinter
Vice President	Gary Denhard (Vocational Service)
President Elect	Freya Luick
Secretary	Don Landers
Treasurer	Syd Grolman
Directors	Paul Sullivan (Club Service)
	Liz Grey (Community Service)
	David Clancy (International Service)
	John Becroft (Youth Service)

Paul Harris Fellowships were awarded by the Club to Alan Gale (Sapphire Pin), Freya Luick and Ron Erratt. The Club Trophies were awarded to-

President's Cup	Bob Farrar
Community Cup	David Clancy
First To Break	Ross Pickard
Do It Now Award	Russell Bennett
Momoe Award	Christine Farrar
Attendance Shield	Michael Bartok
Kobe Cup	Ian Jones

Bob Prater was appointed Sergeant and Freya Luick took on the job of Bulletin Editor.

The Club Service Committee arranged for the Club to join with the Rotary Club of Roseville Chase in a joint meeting to hear the former Commissioner of Police, Peter Ryan, speak. David Clancy again arranged a weekend away for a number of members to the Hunter Valley, staying at Pokolbin, in October. The Club Christmas party was held in December. This event also celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Chartering of the Club and was held at Roseville Golf Club. The usual restaurant meal for members was held in January at the 'Olive Branch' Restaurant in Northbridge. Under the leadership of George Puzey, a fraternal visit to Orange was organised in May. The group was entertained by members of the Rotary Club of Orange and was involved in a number of other activities over the weekend.

The Community Service Committee again helped promote the Cancer Council's 'Relay For Life' in September by providing the necessary chefs to cook breakfast for the participants. This year saw the Club put on an Art Show in October at the Baptist Hall.

This was the first of a series of fund-raising events carried out by the Club under the leadership of Ian Jones to raise funds for the Ry Langdon Fund. The Committee helped Syd Grolman again with the Blood Bank collections at St Marks Hall in October and May. Another successful Senior Citizens' Christmas lunch, organised by Liz Connor and Sally O'Neill, was held in December. 93 guests of the Club attended the lunch. The Committee also sponsored the 'Tree of Joy' at the Plaza.

The Club became involved with The Smith Family in relation to the running of the 2004 David Brown Memorial Golf Day for which it received a Certificate of Appreciation.

The International Service Committee supported Masanori Ohtani in promoting the Australian-Japan Friendship Society's Tanabata (Japanese Star Festival) held at the University and Schools Club in July and at which many members and their guests attended. The Committee also supported a school for girls in Bangladesh through the Matching Grant Scheme

The Youth Service Committee sponsored two (2) young people, Paula Williams and Stephen Wood, to attend RYLA. Two (2) students from North Sydney Girls' High School, Janet Mills and Chi Chi Huang, were sponsored to attend MUNA in June. Finally, after a long and difficult time, the Committee was able to report that the Provisional Rotaract Club of Northbridge had been formed as a result of the sterling efforts of John Becroft. The club was ultimately chartered as the Rotaract Club of Middle Harbour.

The Vocational Service Committee again ran a very successful 'Pride of Workmanship' night in March with awards being presented by the Mayor, Cr. Pat Reilly to-

#### Pride of Workmanship

Mary Preston	Hirondelle Private Hospital
Marco Delatovic	Northbridge Golf Club
Robin Phelan	Robin Phelan & Associates
Liz Paterson	Willoughby City Council
Annette Baldwin	Sydney Adventist Hospital

#### Community Service Awards

Alexa Swarzrock	Homecare
Mark Crews	Scouts
Donald Lynch	Willoughby Aged Care

The Committee again arranged Mock Job interviews at Willoughby Girls' High School in November.

The Club received some well-earned publicity by a group of members appearing in the Channel 10 Weather segment in February.

The District Conference was again held in Newcastle in March with a large contingent from the Club in attendance, all suitably dressed to comply with the theme 'On Safari'.

The Club Account achieved a surplus for the year of \$9,057 to finish the year with a credit balance of \$14,442.

The Charities Account received funds totalling \$33,184. The principal sources of revenue were an Art Show (\$5,845), the Christmas Wheelbarrow Raffle (\$4,869), the sale of Entertainment Books (\$4,370), the Fireworks Display (\$3,554), the Golf Day (\$9,914), another Pillow Stall (\$1,347) and the Rhy Langdon Raffle (\$1,196). A total of \$40,074 was expended from the Charities Account, the principal recipients being the Cancer Surgery Research Foundation (\$5,427), the Mongolian Open Heart Surgery Project (\$2,600), The Rotary Foundation (\$3,900), Rotary Youth Driver Awareness program (\$1,000), RYLA (\$1,240), the Rhy Langdon Fund (\$10,645), The Smith Family (\$2,000), the running of the Senior Citizens' Christmas lunch (\$2,909), Australian Rotary Health Research Fund (\$6,000) and Warringah Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade (\$1,000).

The year started with 58 members and during the year 5 new members were inducted, being-

John Galvin  
Tony Rouse

Norma Eaton

Peter Schell  
Gladys Berejiklian

However, the Club lost-

Hans Carlborg and Bruce Taylor

So, the Club finished to year with 61 active members. The Mayor, Councillor Pat Reilly was honoured by the Club by being appointed an Honorary Member of the Club.

### **2004 – 2005 'CELEBRATE ROTARY'**

The twentieth Change-Over dinner was held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2004 at the Black Stump Restaurant, Frenchs Forest with DG Danny Low attending as the guest of honour. The new team was comprised of-

President

Freya Luick

Vice President

Ian Jones (Club Service)

President Elect

Gary Denhard

Secretary

Bob Prater

Treasurer

Syd Grolman

Directors

Sally O'Neill (Community Service)

George Puzey (International Service)

Chris Meale (Youth Service)

John Turner (Vocational Service)

Paul Harris Recognitions were awarded by the Club to Peter Antaw, Bruce Taylor (Sapphire Pin) and Sally Hayson. The occasion also saw Alan Gale awarded a Paul Harris Recognition (Second Sapphire Pin) by DG Danny Low on behalf of District 9680.

The Club Trophies were awarded to-

President's Cup

Don Landers

Community Cup

Syd Grolman

First To Break Award  
Do It Now Award  
Attendance Shield

Tony Rouse  
Paul Sullivan  
Michael Bartok

The Momoe Award was not presented this year.

The team was completed with Mike Cocks being appointed Sergeant and Gary Denhard, the Bulletin Editor.

The Club Service Committee got off to a flying start by organising a dinner meeting at the Northbridge Hotel in July as the Golf Club was not available on one specific Tuesday night. Peter Hodgson again arranged a Rotating Dinner which saw 28 couples have a very enjoyable night. Through Gladys Berejiklian, members were able to dine at State Parliament House in November at which a total of 65 members and partners attended. In December, Lee Jackson organised the Club's Christmas party at the Golf Club; again, a very successful night was enjoyed by all those who attended. The January restaurant meal was held at the Bitt Brasserie at Neutral Bay. In May the 'Great Northbridge Rotary Debate' was held, the subject being 'This House believes that it is preferable to wear a suit on Fridays'. It was a dead heat.

The Community Service Committee again assisted Syd Grolman with the Blood Donations at St Marks Hall in August, November, February and May; the Club competing in the Inter-Club Vampire Cup Challenge within District 9680. The promotion of the collection of blood on behalf of the Red Cross within the District and its adoption as a District Project was the direct result of the efforts of Syd Grolman. The Club was successful in winning the cup for the year

In collecting the blood donations, it was noticed that St Marks Hall was in need of some repair so the Committee arranged for all the lighting tubes to be replaced and the interior of the hall to be repainted.

The Senior Citizens' Christmas lunch was again held in December at which 111 guests attended. The Committee undertook to promote the participation of members of the Club and the general public in the year's Bowelscan program. The 'Tree of Joy' was again set up in the Plaza for the benefit of the Smith Family.

The Youth Service Committee was well into the Exchange Student program again with Charlotte Weick arriving from France and Rachel McNamara being sponsored by the Club to go to France. Charlotte was hosted by the Bob Prater and his family, followed by Freya Luick and then by the families of Rachel McNamara and Tom Loneragan. Chris Meale was her counsellor. The Provisional Rotaract Club of Northbridge was finally chartered at the Rotaract Club of Middle Harbour in September. A total of three (3) young people were sponsored to attend RYLA, Peter Evans, Erin Davis and Greg Coleman

The Vocational Service Committee again arranged a very successful 'Pride of Workmanship' night at which awards were presented by Gladys Berejiklian M.P. to-

Heidi Denning  
Catherine Mairs  
Eilis O'Beirne

Jumpstart – Aid to Vanuatu  
Teacher – Northbridge Primary School  
Events Officer – Willoughby City Council

The Committee also again arranged Mock Interviews at Willoughby Girls' High School for Year 10 students in November. Through Bob Farrar, a visit to the factory of Siemens Logistics & Assembly Systems at Belrose was held in February with those attending going on the Warringah-Pittwater Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade H.Q. for a demonstration of the Brigade's activities and barbecue meal.

In October, another Art Show was arranged at the 307 Gallery at Northbridge to raise funds for the Rhy Langdon Fund. The Club also participated in a Trivia night that had been organised by the Fund in September.

In February, the Club combined with the other clubs in our Zone to a combined meeting at the Willoughby Town Hall to celebrate the Centenary of Rotary.

The District Conference was held in April at Darling Harbour and saw a large contingent of the Club and their partners attend the dinner dance on the Saturday night as the ELO (Electric Light Orchestra). Also, in April a joint meeting and Quiz Night was held with the Rotary Club of Roseville Chase

In May the Club undertook the running of the District Assembly on behalf of DGE Greg Muldoon which was successfully achieved under the leadership of John Beare. The Club provided all members with two (2) new Club shirts for the occasion.

Under the guidance of Masanori Ohtani on behalf of the Australia-Japan Friendship Association and Martin McCurrich, the Club started to make arrangements to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Australian-Japanese Treaty of Friendship. This would be an ongoing event into next year and will involve the Willoughby City Council and the local Primary Schools.

The Club Account suffered another deficit year of \$4998 to finish the year with a credit balance in this account of \$9,443.

Fund raising for the Charities Account totalled \$53,979, the principal contributors to this amount being the Christmas Wheelbarrow raffle (\$4,954), the Clarke & Walker Barbecue (\$9,994), the Fireworks Display (\$5,328), the Greenwich Fair Barbecue (\$1,357), the Golf day (\$18,876), the Rhy Langdon Raffle (\$4,525) and Trivia Night (\$1,000) and the Tsunami Appeal (\$3,361). Funds totalling \$51,276 were expended from the account, the principal beneficiaries being the Bone Marrow Register (\$10,000), Interplast (\$2,000), Jumpstart (\$1,000), the M.S. Society (\$1,000), Rostrum (\$1,000), the Rotary Foundation (\$2,640), the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund (\$2,000), RYLA (\$2,950), the Ry Langdon Fund (\$10,055), the Senior Citizens' Christmas lunch (\$2,211), the Smith Family (\$2,626), St Marks Church (\$1,972), StreetWork (\$6,000), the Tsunami Appeal (\$3,500) and the Warringah Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade. The account finished the year with a credit balance of \$23,501.

The Club started the year with 61 members and during the year 5 new members were inducted, being-

Ian Burnett

Peter McNair

John O'Brien

Laurence Strano

Peter Wood

However, the Club lost-

Liz Connor and John Galvin

So, with a net gain of 3 the Club finished the year with 64 members.

### **2005 – 2006 'SERVICE ABOVE SELF'**

The Twenty-first Change-Over Dinner was held on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2005 as President-Elect Gary Denhard was due to go overseas in June and was again held at The Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron with our Guests of Honour being DGE Greg Muldoon and the Mayor of Willoughby, Cr. Pat Reilly.

The Board for the year comprised-

President

Gay Denhard

Vice President

Michael Cocks

President Elect

John Becroft

Secretary

Malcolm Lye

Treasurer

Syd Grolman

Directors

Ian Jones – Club Service

Sally O'Neill – Community Service

John Becroft – International Service

Chris Meale – Youth Service

John Turner – Vocational Service

Paul Harris Recognitions were awarded to Ian Jones on the night and at a later date to Andrew Moncrieff who was unable to attend the dinner.

Club trophies were awarded to-

President's Cup

Ian Jones

Community Cup

Malcolm Lye

First to Break Award

Gary Denhard

Kobe Cup

Sally O'Neill

Momoe Award

Audrey Hodgson

Tony Rouse was appointed Sergeant and Peter Hodgson took on the position of Bulletin Editor.

Early in the year The Probus Club of Northbridge celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its formation which had been achieved with the assistance and motivation of our Club and at a special anniversary luncheon. PP Ross Alexander, who was in charge of the project 20 years ago, was the special guest at the luncheon.

In October, President Gary launched the '20 Year Club'. Those members who had achieved 20 years membership of the Club were duly honoured with a certificate and other benefits. By the end of the year 15 members had achieved this distinction.

The Club also raised \$3,500.00 in October, manning appeal buckets at the Plaza for the District Tsunami Appeal.

In March 2006 the Club was well represented at the District Conference, which was held in Canberra, by 18 Rotarians and their partners. The group again stayed at the Commonwealth Club, having a very fine dinner on the Friday night. The theme of the dinner dance on the Saturday night was 'Circus' and the Club won the prize for the best turned out group and Martin McCurich won the prize for the best dressed individual, 'The Old Clown'.

The year saw action by the various Committees as follows-

The Club Service Committee again became involved in the sale of Entertainment Books, a good fund raiser for the Charities Account. A theatre party to see 'Fiddler on the Roof' was arranged during October. PP Freya Luick, with the assistance of the Plaza Bookshop, also arranged the Club's first 'Literary Lunch' at the Golf Club, the guest author being Gabrielle Lord.

The Club Christmas party was held at the Norths Bowling Club, St. Leonards Park, North Sydney.

The first meeting of the year was not the usual restaurant meal but a night at Northbridge Bowling Club with a game of barefoot bowling followed by a barbecue meal that had been arranged by Andrew Moncrieff

The Community Service Committee continued with the Saturday morning barbecue firstly at the premises of Clark & Walker until its closure in August and then at the Plaza. In November, at the request of Peter Schell, the committee organised a number of members to man the barbecue at the Harvey Norman Touch Football Challenge held for the benefit of the Leukaemia Foundation. The committee also obtained the approval of the Board to become involved with the Rotary Club of North Sydney in the 'Sailability' Program at Middle Harbour Yacht Club whereby disabled persons are able to enjoy the pleasure of small craft sailing in specially adapted skiffs. The Club ultimately purchased an Access 303 sailing dinghy of its own which, when launched was christened the 'Frank Perriman' in honour of the Club's charter president who, together with his wife, Lorna, was present for the occasion.

The Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch was held on 11<sup>th</sup> December and was again a great success, there being 96 guests at the lunch.

The Tree of Joy was again conducted at the Plaza and resulted in a total of 14 supermarket trolleys, each piled high with gifts, being delivered to the Smith Family for distribution.

The Shade House that had originally been erected at St Phillip Neri School and then moved to Cammeray Primary School and then to Castle Cove Primary School again had to be moved due to a rebuilding program at that school. It was moved to Artarmon Primary School in February 2006 and officially opened by the Mayor in March 2006.

Under the leadership of Dugald Cameron, the Club was again involved in the Bowel Cancer Awareness Campaign which was conducted locally through the two pharmacies in the area.

In March the Club, having finally reached its target of contributing \$25,000 to the Rhy Langdon Foundation, received a visit from Rhy and his mother to formally thank the Club for the contribution.

In April the Club participated again in the Cancer Council 'Relay for Life' by manning the barbecue for the lunchtime shift for which it received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Council. Also, in April the Club was involved in the presentation of a Mental Health Forum that was held at Chatswood for which the Club was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund.

The Club was again successful in winning the Vampire Cup for having arranged the most donations of blood for the Red Cross in the District

The International Service Committee organised a work party, under the leadership of Liz Grey to travel to Vanuatu under the auspices of RAWCS to take part in the refurbishment of a hospital and school on an outlying island. Also, the Committee undertook the provision of a number of wheelchairs to Papua New Guinea, taking advantage of a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant.

The Youth Service Committee continued its fine work with the Rotary Youth Exchange program, continuing to host Charlotte Weick who returned home on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2005. Her departure was soon followed by the arrival of the Club's next inbound exchange student from Norway, Marita Grontveldt Heimsvik on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2005. In January 2006, our outward-bound student, Joanne Ferris, left for Mexico.

The Club also sponsored two young people, Joyce Lee and Shane Dilanchian, to attend the RYLA seminar at Vision Valley in January.

In March the Club, through the efforts of Peter Grinter, again was involved in the Rostrum Voice of Youth Competition with a cash donation and a number of members participating in the finals as judges, timekeepers and other positions.

The Vocational Service Committee again organised the 'Mock Job' Interviews at Willoughby Girls' High School on 25<sup>th</sup> November. The committee also organised as a fund raiser, the annual Christmas Wheelbarrow Raffle at the Northbridge Plaza.

The Pride of Workmanship night was held on 7<sup>th</sup> February at which the following people were honoured-

Amanda Wilson

Bushcare Co-ordinator – Willoughby City Council

Frazer Dowling

Centre Manager – Northbridge Plaza

Judy Voltz

Director of Northbridge School of Visual Arts

Enzo Petrini

Chatswood Constructions – Building Contractor

Jenny Mossell

Teacher – Northbridge Primary School

In relation to finances, the Club Account received a total of \$10,378 but with the purchase of new polo shirts for all members and partners and the purchase of new



electronic equipment, the year ended with a deficit of \$9,252, leaving a balance in the Club Account of \$2,287.

The Charities Account received a total of \$40,611 principally from the Golf Day (\$19,104), the Plaza Barbecue (\$8,029), the Christmas Wheelbarrow (\$4,796), The Melbourne Cup Trifecta (\$2,126) and the Fireworks Display (\$2,061). A total of \$55,993 was donated to charity, the principal recipients being StreetWork (\$12,000), The Bone Marrow Register (\$9,000), Sailability (\$7,932), The Rotary Foundation (\$4,180), St. Marks Church (\$3,800), Youth Exchange (\$2,849), RYLA (\$1,950), The Senior Citizens' Lunch (\$1,853) and Warringah – Pittwater Rural Fire Brigade (\$1,500). The account finished the year with a balance of \$5,734.

As to membership, the Club started the year with 64 active members and 1 honorary member. During the year 5 resigned, 1 having moved interstate, 1 who lived in the eastern suburbs and no longer had connections with the Northbridge area, 2 for business reasons and 1 due to ill health. Further 3 long term members who had had a change of lifestyle or professional commitments resigned as active members and together with Russell Bennett who had resigned for health reasons, took honorary membership as they wished to retain their connection with the Club. The members who resigned were-

Ross Alexander	Russell Bennett	Alan Gale
Ric Guenther	John O'Brien	Norbert Wyzenbeek
Peter Schell		Peter Zorbas

On the other hand, 1 new member was inducted-  
Ros Virtue

Accordingly, the year finished with 57 active members

In addition, the club then had 5 honorary members being-

Ross Alexander	Russell Bennett	Alan Gale
Pat Reilly		Norbert Wyzenbeek

### **2006 – 2007 'LEAD THE WAY'**

The Twenty-second Change-over was held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2006 at Roseville Golf Club and saw the following installed as the Board of the Club for the forthcoming year-

President	John Becroft
Vice President	Martin McCurrich
Secretary	Malcolm Lye
Treasurer	Syd Grolman
Club Service Director	Mike Cocks
Vocational Service Director	John Beare
Community Service Director	Peter McNair
Youth Service Director	John Francis
International Service Director	Martin McCurrich
President Elect	Barry Anderson

During the course of the evening a Paul Harris Recognition was presented to Sally O'Neill.

Club trophies were also awarded to –

President's Cup	Mike Cocks
Community Cup	Sally O'Neill
Kobe Cup	Paul Sullivan
First To Break	Tony Rouse
Attendance Shield	Syd Grolman
Do It Now	Peter Wood
Momoe Award	Sue Meale

Outgoing President Gary also felt that there were not enough awards to go around so he also presented Certificates of Achievement to –

Andrew Moncrieff – Sailability  
 Syd Grolman – the Vampire Cup  
 Ian Jones – Club Service  
 John Coleman – Fireworks  
 Peter Hodgson – Bulletin  
 Masanori Ohtani – Sugunami Sister Club  
 Barry Anderson – Spring Fair  
 Freya Luick – Youth Exchange Hosting

The regular activities of the Club were continued including the Saturday morning barbecue at the Northbridge Plaza although there was a break in this activity due to some problems that temporarily arose with the Management of the Plaza.

Also, the Club continued to support Sailability with regular monthly sailings on a Sunday morning from Middle Harbour Yacht Club.

Through the continued efforts of Syd Grolman, four blood donation days were organised during the year at St Mark's Hall. The Club again won the inter-Club 'Vampire Cup' competition for which it received a District 9680 Award. Also, the Club received from Rotary Action Group 'Global Network for Blood Donation' a Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding commitment to voluntary blood donation.

Organised by PP Freya Luick, in July the Club held its second Literary Lunch with Peter Fitzsimons as the guest of honour who spoke on his latest book, 'Tobruk'.

September saw the occasion of the Willoughby Spring Festival. The Club had booked a stall to sell lengths of material on the market day but the whole event was washed out by rain. However, in association with the Willoughby City Council and as part of the Willoughby Spring Fair, the Club had undertaken to organise and run an 'Open Garden Day' a couple of weeks later. This involved opening 5 private gardens in Castlecrag and Chatswood to the general public. The event was a great success and showed every sign of growing in the future.

Quite a lot of the material was later sold on a stall at the Neutral Bay Fair which was held in October.

Also, in October a joint meeting with Roseville Chase Club and a number of other clubs in the North Shore Zone was held so that we could hear from Carolyn Jones, the first female trustee of The Rotary Foundation.

The District Conference was held at Mudgee during March but the Club was represented by a very small contingent.

The Club Service Committee organised a 'Rotating Dinner' in October which was very successful.

The annual Christmas party was again organised by Lee Jackson at the Northbridge Golf Club and was a great success in excess of 70 members and guests attending the function. Music was by courtesy of Alex Hadchiti.

This was followed by the first meeting in the New Year again being a bare-foot bowling night at Northbridge Bowling Club and a barbecue meal and a 'hoedown' with lots of line dancing and square dancing as organised by Geoff Williams.

Gary Denhard organised the Valentine's Night in February which saw those present sorely taxed by Gary's excellent power point presentation of a musical quiz.

February also saw the inaugural 'Rotary Awareness Week' organised by the Club (under the leadership of Gary Denhard) and the Rotary Clubs of Chatswood, Chatswood Sunrise and Roseville Chase and financed mainly by a grant from R.I. of US\$6,000 which was used on radio and press advertising.

As a result of the magnificent work of Gary Denhard, in May the Club was awarded the District 9680 Norm Roach Website Memorial Shield in recognition of the excellent effort put into creating and maintaining the informative and user-friendly Club website in 2006-2007.

The Community Service Committee arranged for a number of members to participate in the organisation of a Community Forum in September dealing with 'Understanding and Treating Depression' at the Bailey Hall, Chatswood.

In support of StreetWork, a number of members and partners, at the instigation of Syd Grolman, attended the annual StreetWork Christmas Appeal Dinner.

The Committee also ensured that the annual Senior Citizens' Christmas lunch was again held at St Mark's Hall in December with lunch being catered by the Golf Club caterer and approximately 100 guests being served.

Again, as a Christmas project the Tree of Joy was set up in the Plaza with the donated presents being passed on to The Smith Family.

Also in December, under the leadership of P.P. Gary Denhard, it was necessary to relocate the shade house originally erected in 1990 at Northbridge Primary School. This was due to the number of pupils at the school again increasing and the original site of the shade house was required for the installation of two new demountable classrooms.

In March the committee, with the co-operation of the two local pharmacies, participated in the annual Bowelscan Project

On ANZAC Day in 2007 the committee organised a barbecue brunch at the Baths.

Through the good offices of Sally O'Neill a number of members and/or their partners became involved with helping to care for and assist a local resident, Elaine Wood, who has major clinical problems and has the responsibility of raising two young boys.

The Club also became involved in the establishment of the 'Willoughby Men's Community Shed' at the former R.S.L. Hall with John Wright being the Club's representative on the programme, working with Tony Clifford who was subsequently inducted as a member of the Club.

In May the annual Fireworks Spectacular was held under the leadership and guidance of John Coleman. Due to alterations made by the Willoughby City Council to the area around the oval, the set up was different from previous years and the display featured one big session instead of the previous two sessions. As a result of the changes and the increased advertising program, the attendance by the public was much improved.

In relation to the International Service Committee the efforts of PP Masanori Ohtani and International Service Director Martin McCurrich in relation to the formation of a sister friendship agreement with the Rotary Club of Sugunami Tokyo came to fruition in September with the arrival of a delegation from that Rotary Club including Professor Toyomi Fujino, the Vice President of the Club and Nobuyoshi Toyofuku, the Club Secretary. The agreement was signed by representatives of both Clubs at a function on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2006 in the presence of Mayor Pat Reilly of the Willoughby City Council and Mayor Hiroshi Yamada of the Sugunami City Council.

The Committee also introduced the Club to the 'Shelter Box' program which is administered in Australia by the Rotary Club of Endeavour Hills in Victoria. Apart from the Club making a donation to the program, Martin McCurrich was able to induce a number of the members personally to make donations to the program which resulted in the supply of two more shelter boxes to those in need during the year.

In February a G.S.E. Team arrived from Brazil and the Sullivans hosted one of the members.

In December the Vocational Service Committee organised the annual mock interviews at Willoughby Girls' High School. Unfortunately, the number of the girls who chose to participate was a bit disappointing.

In May the Committee arranged the annual Pride of Workmanship and Community Service Awards Presentation Night, the recipients of the awards being-

Donna Fitton  
Dr. Rodney Thomas  
Christine Flannery  
Roy Grace & Michael Webber  
Colin McCall

Willoughby City Council  
Northbridge Medical Practice  
Chatswood Community Nursing Home  
Northbridge Football Club  
Northbridge Amateur Swimming Club &  
Northbridge Sailing Club

Following the departure of Marita Helmsvik in July the Youth Service Committee continued its commitment to the Youth Exchange Program by welcoming, also in July, another incoming student, Valentina Muller Lopez from Switzerland. Unfortunately, Valentina had to return home in October following the sudden death of her father.

However, the Club was able to then offer to take a replacement student and Valentina ('Vale') Gerter from Chile soon arrived.

January saw two the Club sponsoring the attendance of Daniel Antaw, nephew of member Peter Antaw and Stephen Copeman to the annual RYLA Course.

January also saw the return to Sydney of Joanne Ferris, the exchange student we had sponsored to Mexico who addressed the Club in February. Her arrival was quickly followed by the departure of Ciaran Gill who was sponsored by the Club and who went to Austria.

Through the efforts of P.P. Peter Grinter, the Club again was involved in the annual National Voice of Youth Competition for Secondary School Students which is organised by Rostrum

In relation to the financial affairs of the Club during the year, a total of \$64,231 was received into the Club account while the total expenses were \$64,549, a loss of \$317. A total of \$47,941 was raised for the Charities account. The major sources of income saw the Fireworks (including the Plaza sponsorship) raising \$16,694, the Golf Day raising \$12,792, the Plaza barbecue raising \$7,396, the Christmas Wheelbarrow raffle raising \$4,411, the Box Trifecta raising \$2,454. The census takers raised a further \$3,167 for the Benevolent Fund.

The total payments from the Charities account were \$29,703, the principal beneficiary being StreetWork (\$3,100) with a further \$3,500 coming from the Benevolent Fund. The Senior Citizens' Lunch (\$2,859), the Youth Exchange Program (\$3,193), The Rotary Foundation (\$2,500), St Marks Anglican Church, Northbridge (\$1,800), the Warringah Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade (\$1,908), the Vanuatu Project (\$1,411) and RYLA (\$1,300). The account finished the year with a balance of \$23,972.

As to membership, the Club started the year with 57 active members and 5 honorary members. A total of 5 new members were inducted being –

Stephen Blackburn

Terry Burke

Tony Clifford

John Garrett

Jotaro Horiuchi

On the other hand, the Club lost 10 members by way of resignations, 4 having moved out of the Sydney area following their retirement, 2 for health reasons and 3 due to their being unable to devote the time to Rotary because of family and/or business commitments. Those who resigned were-

Gladys Berejiklian

Dugald Cameron

Bob Clampett

Tom Ford

Bob Hendy

Freya Luick

Andrew Moncrieff

George Puzey

Tony Rouse

Keiichiro Tomishima

Thus, the year closed with an active membership of 52, a net loss of 5.

Gladys Berejiklian and Bob Hendy accepted honorary membership so increasing the honorary members to 7.

## **2007 – 2008 'ROTARY SHARES'**

The twenty-third Change Over was held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2007 at Cammeray Golf Club, a new venue for the Club. So as to start to implement the new Club Leadership Plan advocated by Rotary International, the titles of the various Directors had been changed so as to encompass their new responsibilities and chairpersons were appointed under some of them to chair separate sub-committees to actually carry out specific activities within the various portfolios. This meeting saw the installation of the following elected office bearers of the Club and the recognition of the Chairpersons of the new sub-committees –

President	Barry Anderson
Vice President	Martin McCurrich
President Elect	Ian Jones
Secretary	Don Landers
Treasurer	Sally O'Neill
Club Service Director	David Hyde
Membership & Vocational Service Director (Vocational Service Chair)	Malcolm Lye (Terry Burke)
Community Service Director	Peter McNair
Communications & Youth Service Director (Youth Service Director)	Mike Cocks (Peter Antaw)
Rotary Foundation & International Service Director (Rotary Foundation Chair)	Martin McCurrich  (Liz Grey)

During the evening Paul Harris Recognitions were presented to Sydney Grolman and John Wright and the following trophies were presented –

President's Cup	Malcolm Lye
Community Cup	Peter McNair
First to Break	Ross Pickard
Kobe Cup	Mike Cocks
Do It Now	John Coleman
Attendance Shield	Michael Bartok
Momoe Award	Christine Sullivan

September saw the culmination of the efforts over many months under the leadership of President Barry of the Northside Garden Fair and Open Garden Days. The event was held in conjunction with the Willoughby Spring Festival. Seven (7) private gardens in the City of Willoughby were opened for public inspection over two (2) days and then on the third day the Fair was held at Willoughby Bicentennial Oval. There were some 50 stalls at the Fair concentrating on gardening and/or community themes with musical entertainment, activities and entertainment for children and food stalls. Whilst the numbers who attended left a little to be desired, the event was a great success and hopefully will become an annual event.

The **Club Service** Committee under the leadership of David Hyde ensured that there was a full program of interesting speakers during the year. In November a Literary Lunch was

held when the guest author was Paul Ham who introduced his latest book 'Vietnam'. The New Year started with the Club again participating in some bare foot bowling at the Northbridge Bowling Club. Brian Robson organised a fun Valentine's Night for members and their partners even though the assembled throng balked at the prospect of performing on a karaoke machine.

In March another Rotating Dinner was organised by Ron Erratt which saw 24 couples involved in a very enjoyable night. Also, in March a further successful Literary Lunch was held at the Bay 23 Restaurant featuring the author, Paula Constant and her novel 'Slow Journey South'.

March also saw the District Conference which was held at Bathurst with 12 of our members and a number of partners attending. Finally, a theatre night was held in June.

The **Membership and Vocational Service** Committee joined forces with the Rotary Club of Chatswood in July to undertake a very successful series of 'Mock Interviews' at Chatswood High School for Year 10 students.

This year also saw the inaugural presentation of Awards by the Club at the instance of Terry Burke, recognising achievement in education by students of Aboriginal origin. The female Aboriginal student who achieved the highest result in the 2007 H.S.C. was Jessica Louise Tapp who had attended St. George Girls' High School, while the male Aboriginal student was Joel David Harrison who attended The Kings School. The Club also sponsored two (2) Nanga Mai Awards in the field of leadership. In addition, the Club sponsored two (2) Nanga- Mai Awards for Aboriginal Student leadership, the successful awardees being Jessie Maree King of Tooleybuc Central School and Krystal-Anne Chesterfield of Airs High School.

In February, following a survey of all businesses conducted in the Northbridge-Castlecrag area which found that there was in excess of 170 businesses, the Club organised a Business Forum to discuss the formation of a Northbridge-Castlecrag Chamber of Commerce. Representatives of some 40 of the businesses attended the meeting.

In May the Pride of Workmanship Night was held with awards being made to

**Pride of Workmanship Awards**

Malcolm Harris

Jack Lung

Dian Van Der Saag

David Watts

Veronica Yeung

Course Superintendent, Northbridge Golf Club

Postal Services Officer, Northbridge Post Office

Clinical Nurse Consultant, R.N.S.H.

Manager, Aboriginal Heritage Office, Northbridge

Food Service Assistant, Chatswood Community  
Nursing Home.

**Community Service Award**

Penny & Malcolm Lye

Service through Northbridge Progress Association

The **Community Service** Committee's involvement with the establishment of the Willoughby Men's Shed at the former R.S.L. Hall at Northbridge culminated with the

official opening of the Shed on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2007 by the Mayor of the Willoughby City Council, Councillor Pat Reilly in the presence of The Honourable Joe Hockey M.P. and Gladys Berejiklian M.P.

During the year the Club was awarded a Certificate for demonstrating how 'ROTARY SHARE' its talents through its projects program and also a Certificate of Appreciation from the Smith Family for the support given to the 2007 Christmas Toy & Book Appeal

The **Communications & Youth** Committee's proposal that the Club make a donation to Sibella Matthews to attend 46<sup>th</sup> Annual National Youth Conference sponsored by the United Nations Youth Association in Canberra was accepted and she was presented with a cheque in the sum of \$200 at the meeting of the Club held on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2007. As a result of Sibella's performance at Canberra, she was selected as one of the representatives of Australia to attend the World Conference in The Hague in 2008. A further donation of \$300.00 was made to Sibella to assist her in travelling to The Hague. Sibella addressed the Club on her return and was very impressive.

The committee's selection and nomination of Jaimie Aslanidis as a candidate to attend the National Youth Science Forum in Canberra in January 2008 was successful. Jaimie also addressed the Club as to her activities during the Forum and she was equally impressive. Sibella was the School Captain at North Sydney Girls' High School in 2007 while Jaimie was elected to the same office in 2008.

Unfortunately, due to some problems that arose at school, the Board found it necessary to recommend that our Exchange Student, Vale Gerter, should return home in October instead of completing her full time with the Club.

Two candidates were sponsored to attend RYLA at Vision Valley, David Benjabtr and Jessica Holmes. Also, the Club assisted the RYDA program, members assisting for 2 days when 2 schools went through the program.

The Club again participated in the Rostrum program of Voice of Youth through the efforts of P.P. Peter Grinter.

At the behest of the **Rotary Foundation & International** Committee the Club joined forces with our sister club, the Rotary Club of Sugunami Tokyo to support the refurbishment of the Arep High School in Vanuatu, each club donating the sum of \$1,000.00 towards the project. The project seemed to get bogged down and as a result the \$1,000.00 made available by the Club was used as a pledge towards the cost of purchasing a new boat for the school while the money received from the Rotary Club of Sugunami Tokyo was returned to be applied towards a charitable project of that Club in Nepal.

During the year the Shelter Box program emerged as a major international project for Rotary and the Committee was instrumental in the Club and various groups of members of the Club donating the funds necessary to acquire a number of the boxes. In all as a result of funding by the Club, the Benevolent Fund, members and the Baker's Delight, Chatswood, a total of 13 boxes were purchased.

The Committee also nominated two applicants to join the Group Study Exchange Team outward bound in March 2008 to District 7500 New Jersey U.S.A. One of our nominees, Sophie Stephens was successful and was selected to join the Team.



In relation to the **financial affairs** of the Club the Club finished the year with a slight profit in the Club Account to close the year with a net credit balance of \$8,218.68. The total income received into the Charities Account was \$49,381 with the Benevolent Fund raising a further \$2,967. The total distributions from the Charities Account were \$54,335 with a further \$4,200 from the Benevolent Fund. The principal beneficiaries of these distributions were RAWCS-ShelterBox \$10,800, StreetWork \$11,000 Bone Marrow Donor Institute \$7,560, Seniors' Christmas Lunch \$2,964 and The Rotary Foundation \$2,190. The year closed with the Account having a balance of \$16,495 while the Benevolent Fund had a balance of \$406.

As to **membership** the Club started the year with 52 active members and 7 honorary members. During the year a total of 8 new active members were inducted being-

Barbara Bell	Geoff Duggin	William Gill	Peter Lipinski
Roger Page	Andrew Skinner	Ranald Stewart	Christine Walichnowski

On the other hand, the Club lost 7 members-

John Beare	Steve Blackburn	Gary Denhard
John Kenyon	Peter Lipinski	David Waller
	Barbara Bell	

Thus, there was a net gain of 1 making 53 active members at the end of the year with no change in the number of honorary members

## **2008 – 2009 'MAKE DREAMS REAL'**

The twenty-fourth Change-Over Dinner was held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2008 at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron and was a very elegant black-tie affair. We were called to order by our incoming Sergeant-at-arms, Christine Walichnowski, resplendent in a brand-new red sergeant's sash. Christine is the first of our lady members to hold such office and in due course became known as our 'Sergeantina'. The changing of the guard went without a hitch and after the ceremonial passing of the President's lapel pin and the presidential collar, newly installed President Ian Jones introduced the new team;-

President	Ian Jones
Vice President	Peter Antaw
Secretary	Don Landers
Treasurer	Sally O'Neill
Club Administration Director	Peter Antaw
Community Service Director	Paul Sullivan
Membership/Vocational Service Director	Malcolm Lye
The Rotary Foundation/ International Service Director	Ian Burnet

Communications/Youth Service	Mike Cocks
Director	
President -Elect	Bob Farrar
Vocational Chair	Terry Burke
The Rotary Foundation Chair	Bob Farrar
Youth service Chair	William Gill
Immediate Past President	Barry Anderson

The posts of Bulletin Editor and Programme Chairman were taken by David Hyde and David Clancy respectively.

Masanori Ohtani was awarded a well earned Paul Harris Recognition by the Club.

The Club trophies were awarded as follows:-

President's Cup	Ian Jones
Community Cup	Tony Clifford
First to Break	Roger Page
Do It Now Award	Terry Burke
Kobe Cup	Mike Cocks
Attendance Shield	Peter Hodgson & Lee Jackson
Momoe award	Momoe Ohtani

The principal project initially undertaken by the Club under the guidance of President Ian Jones and Immediate Past President Barry Anderson was the organisation and implementation of the second Northside Garden Fair which was held in conjunction with the Willoughby City Council's Spring Fair in late September. This project again involved all available members manning five (5) Open Gardens one weekend and staging the Fair the following Sunday. The numbers through the gate were an improvement on the previous year but it is yet to be decided whether the project is sufficiently viable.

The 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2008 saw the celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the chartering of the Club with a dinner at the North Sydney Oval Function Centre which was attended by many of the members both past and present and representatives from the Crows Nest and North Sydney Clubs. During the evening the remaining Charter Members, Peter Hodgson, Don Landers and John Wright were honoured with a presentation of a gift and Geoff Speers was awarded a belated Paul Harris Recognition for his contribution to the 'Centenary of the Bridge' celebrations.

For the second year, again under the guidance of Terry Burke, March saw the awarding of the H.S.C. Aboriginal Student Achievement Awards to-

1. Jessica Buck of Gosford High School
2. Rubijayne Cohen of Batemans Bay High School &
3. Timothy Hill of Riverview College.

The Nanga Mai Awards for Student Leadership went to Callan Nickerson of Newcastle High School and Walter Towney of Moree Secondary College.

Later in March a small but select group of members and partners attended the District Conference which was again held in Newcastle but this time in the Exhibition Centre situated at the Broadmeadow Show Ground.

The **Club Administration Committee** under the guidance of Peter Antaw undertook a vigorous program of social activities for the Club. The first was held on 27<sup>th</sup> July when we undertook a 'Rotary Ramble' through parts of Artarmon and Naremburn following the course of Flat Rock Creek, finishing with a picnic lunch at Tunks Park. This was followed quickly in September by a lavish Italian Banquet at 'Amicis' in Cammeray. In November there was a theatre party arranged through Tony Clifford to attend a Hunters Hill Theatre Company production. In January 2009 a dinner was held at the Bay 23 Restaurant in Northbridge to commence the New Year.

The **Community Service Committee** continued to support Sailability with our involvement now being twice monthly as the project gained popularity with the disabled members of the community. The Tree of Joy was again conducted at the Plaza for the benefit of The Smith Family. A total of seven (7) Woolworths' trolley loads of presents were donated by the local community.

In a change of tradition, the Senior Citizens' lunch was held during 'Seniors' Week' in March instead of at Christmas. The Club had been finding that the workload in December was becoming increasingly difficult to satisfy. Notwithstanding the change of date, the function was well attended with 108 acceptances which is just about as many as can be catered for at St Marks Hall

The **Membership & Vocational Service Committee** chaired by Malcolm Lye who undertook responsibility for the 'membership' side of things organised a further new members' night in August.

Through the good offices of Terry Burke and Kevin Harris, the Director of the Northern Sydney Institute of TAFE a close working relationship was established with that organisation.

In December a team of 13 members and partners conducted 'Mock Interviews' for Year 10 students at Willoughby Girls' High School.

April 2009 saw the announcement of the Pride of Workmanship Awards and Community Service Awards, the awardees being-

1. Pride of workmanship Awards
  - Carmen Bekker – Manager, Taldamunde Youth Services
  - Margaret Rose – Manager and Owner of the Cammeray Bookshop
  - Julie Weathered – Sport Coordinator, Northbridge Public School
  - Judy Morris – Willoughby Council Bushcare Support Officer
  - Suzette Young – Principal, Willoughby Girls' High School
2. Community Service Awards
  - Kerrie Williams – Voluntary Musical Entertainer and Community Worker
  - Sydney Grolman – Community Volunteer.

The **Rotary Foundation & International Service Committee** chaired by Ian Burnet proceeded with the investigation of the Same project in Timor-Leste. The project will involve the building of a small building in the grounds of the local Government school and fitting out the same for use as a teachers' resource centre. It would be used by teachers coming from Australia to train the teachers in the local schools, both Government and Church, many of whom have had no formal training as teachers. The first step was undertaken by Tony Clifford travelling to Same to fully investigate the proposal and make a recommendation to the Board which was done. The Board approved the project and the preparation of plans for the erection of the building. These would ultimately be used to obtain a quotation from a local builder to build the building.

To kick off the fund-raising for the project, the Committee sponsored the inaugural Northbridge Golf Club 'Rotary Challenge' in March. A field of 157 Northbridge Golf Club members played and after allowing for approx \$400.00 for trophy expenses, \$1,119 was raised. Two Literary Lunches were also held during the year for the benefit of this project. The fund-raising activities concluded for the year with a Trivia Night held at St Philip Neri, Northbridge which was held in conjunction with the local Parish of the Catholic Church.

The **Communications & Youth Service Committee** followed up on our introduction to the 'Youth in Search' program by Theo Glockemann with William Gill organising a small group of members and their wives to undertake the cooking at the weekend camp organised by the program in August.

In November a team, under the leadership of Martin McCurich, acted as marshals for the day at the R.Y.D.A. program which was an interesting and informative day for those who attended.

In December a group of disadvantaged young people from Taldumande were taken sailing for the day through the generosity of Norbert Wyzenbeek.

In January 2009 David Shergold and Isabelle de Lavauix were sponsored by the Club to attend the R.Y.L.A. program at Vision Valley. Also, in January our outward bound exchange student, Victoria Swan left for Finland.

In relation to the **financial affairs** of the Club for the year, the Club Account again finished with a profit, closing the year with a net balance of \$8,562.02. The Charities Account closed the year with a balance of \$45,258.52 of which the sum of \$10,000 had been earmarked for the Victorian Bush Fire project conducted in association with the Rotary Club of Diamond Creek and the sum of \$9,220.65 was funds raised specifically for the Timor-Leste project of which \$7,540.30 was spent. A total of \$68,439.12 had been raised during the year, from which the other principal beneficiaries were Bowelscan (\$2,400.00), Midwives East Timor Aust Inc (\$2,000.00), Polio Plus (\$2,000.00), ShelterBox (\$2,400.00) and StreetWork (\$2,337.00).

In addition to the funds which passed through the Charities Account, the Benevolent Fund received donations totalling \$15,113.95 of which \$2,400.00 was paid to ShelterBox, \$6,000.00 to StreetWork and \$6,702.70 to the credit of the Timor-Leste Project account with RAWCS.

As to **membership** the Club started the year with 53 Active members and 7 honorary members. During the year a total of 3 new Active members were inducted being Fay Petrou, Brian Dwyer & George Raffan  
On the other hand, we lost 5 members – Jotaro Horiuchi, Andrew Skinner, Peter Wood, Brian Dwyer & William Gill, bringing the total active membership down to 51, being a net loss of 2 for the year. There was no change in the number of honorary

## **2009 – 2010 ‘THE FUTURE OF ROTARY IS IN YOUR HANDS’**

The twenty-fifth Change-Over dinner was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2009 at the Gunners’ Tea Room, a new venue for this occasion with a magnificent outlook over the harbour. A special guest of the evening was the incoming ADG Richard Green of Roseville Chase Club. The evening was a great success with toasts and speeches kept to a minimum so that we had greater time to enjoy our meal and fellowship before proceeding with the business of the night. President Ian Jones, thereby becoming Past President Ian, invested our incoming President Bob Farrar with the President’s pin and presidential collar. President Bob, in his address, outlined his vision for 2009 – 2010 before introducing his new team who were: -

President	Bob Farrar
Vice President	David Hyde
Secretary	Lee Jackson
Treasurer	Sally O’Neill
Club Administration Chair	David Hyde
Membership Director	Ros Virtue
Community Chair	Roger Page
International Director	Martin McCurrich
Public Relations Director	Mike Cocks
President Elect	Peter McNair
Vocational Chair	Terry Burke
Youth Service Chair	Peter Grinter
The Rotary Foundation Chair	Liz Grey
Immediate Past President	Ian Jones

The post of Program Officer was taken by Fay Petrou and the office of Bulletin Editor was then yet to be filled. The co-sergeants were Terry Burke and Ross Pickard.

Subsequently Roger Page felt that he would not be able to fulfil the duties of the Community Service Director due to his business commitments and Peter McNair moved from the Vocational Chair to head up the Community Service Committee, Terry Burke undertook the role of Vocational Service Chair and Roger Page became a co-sergeant.

Malcolm Lye was awarded a well-earned Paul Harris recognition by the Club.

Club Trophies were awarded as follows:-

President’s Cup	Don Landers
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First To Break  
Do It Now Award  
Kobe Cup  
Attendance Shield

Lee Jackson  
Sally O'Neill  
Peter Hodgson  
Ian Jones

As the intended recipients of the Community Cup and the Momoe Award were not in attendance, these awards were not announced and were to be awarded at a later time. The Community Cup was subsequently duly awarded to John Garrett and the Momoe Award to Barbara Anderson.

In addition to the usual awards, the then President Ian revived a tradition of some years ago by awarded the following Certificates of Achievement: -

Timor-Leste Project

Tony Clifford

Ian Burnet

Bob Farrar

Garden Fair

Barry Anderson

Senior Citizens' Lunch

Michael Bartok

Fireworks

John Garrett

Warwick Penn

Public Relations

Mike Cocks

The weekly barbecue at the Plaza continued to be a steady source of revenue but also became a source of discontent in the Club. Initially the roster was changed so that attendance on the barbecue was made voluntary which resulted in the number of members willing to participate in the project was halved, thereby throwing an intolerable burden on those who were still prepared to participate. The roster system quickly reverted to a compulsory one. However, in April 2010 it was decided to discontinue the barbecue. However, the Club's barbecue activities were extended so that addition functions were held at Castlecrag for the benefit of the Children's Hospital and at Northbridge Oval at the St Philip Neri Outdoor Cinema Night.

The regular participation on a twice monthly basis in Sailability continued throughout the year.

Two major events being the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Fireworks Spectacular and also the Club and District Golf Day which involved the whole Club raised enough money to enable the Club to present StreetWork with a new van to replace the previous vehicle which had been presented to StreetWork during Paul Sullivan's year as president, some 10 years previously.

There was quite a bit of discussion at several Club forums regarding the role of Rotary Clubs in general and our Club in particular in relation to The Rotary Foundation having regard to the 'New Leadership Plan'. There was also concern in relation to the format of the District Assemblies as it was felt that the then current format did not equip the incoming Board members sufficiently to enable them to fulfil their duties properly. These concerns were referred to the District Governor.

The Club received a Presidential Citation for strengthening Rotary's future through exemplary action and service.

The **Club Administration Committee** organised a Christmas party at the home of John and Vanessa Francis which was attended by some 72 members and partners. The evening was a great success and enjoyed by all who attended.

With the assistance of our Honorary Member Gladys Berejiklian and local member of State Parliament a further dinner was held at Parliament House.

The annual New Year's restaurant dinner was held at the Piccolo Restaurant, Neutral Bay and a disco dancing function held to celebrate Valentine's Day.

The first activity of the **Community Service Committee** was the Open Garden Days under the leadership of Barry Anderson. This event was again part of the Willoughby Spring Fair with five gardens in the Chatswood and West Chatswood area being open over a weekend in September and manned by Club members. In association with this event the third annual local Sustainable Gardens growing competition was run

In December the various churches in Northbridge held a Carol by Candlelight service for Christmas at the Oval and the Club was asked to run a barbecue for the night. Unfortunately, the attendance was not as anticipated by the churches but a profit of some \$400.00 was raised from the barbecue.

During the weeks leading up to Christmas the Club manned a 'Tree of Joy' at the Plaza for the benefit of The Smith Family collecting over 700 presents from the very generous residents of Northbridge and the surrounding suburbs.

Seniors' Week was again celebrated in April and the usual Senior Citizens' Lunch held at which some 90 senior members of the local community were entertained for lunch at St Marks Hall.

Again, the Club was involved in the organisation and support of the quarterly visits to the Plaza of the Red Cross Mobile Blood Bank. Similarly, the Club was involved with the presentation of the Mental Health Forum at Chatswood.

The **Membership and Vocational Service Committees'** first project for the year was to again conduct the Mock Interviews at Willoughby Girls' High School for year 11 girls to prepare them for job interviews in the real world after leaving school. In March we had the presentation of the awards to the top aboriginal students in the 2009 HSC who were Lani Barnes who attended Our Lady of Mercy College, Parramatta and Marwan Saddick who attended Malak Fahd Islamic School. The Nanga Mai Awards went to Manduway Dutton of South Grafton High School, James Rinkin of Singleton High School and Carys Griffiths of Gunnedah Public School.

In May 2010 the annual Pride of Workmanship night was held with awards being granted to-

**1 Pride of Workmanship**

Amanda Donlan – Principal, Northbridge Public School

Oscar Lenden – Proprietor, Borroso's Pizza & Pasta, Northbridge

Peter Mayoh – Architect

Doug Medcalf – Customer Service Delivery Officer, Woolworths, Northbridge

Janne Seletto – Journalist, North Shore Times

**2 Community Service Award**

Don Wilson – Volunteer Bushcare worker, Northbridge

In recognition of the activities of the Committee, Terry Burke as the Vocational Service Chair on behalf of his team was awarded the District Vocational Service Award for 2010.

**The Rotary Foundation and International Service Committees** got off to an early start with the Timor-Leste Cultural Day which was put on in conjunction with the Willoughby Friends of Ossa to raise money for the Teachers' Training Centre project to be built in Same, Manufahi, Timor-Leste. This was followed by a screening of the film 'Balibo' at the Roseville Theatre, again to raise money for the Willoughby Friends of Ossa and our project. A further literary lunch was run in conjunction with the Cammeray Book Shop featuring Ray Martin as the guest author. Throughout the months leading up to Christmas donations rolled in from many Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Parramatta which was an enormous contribution to the cost of the project. The Centre was officially opened on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010 in the presence of Senor Alfonso (Ministry of Education, Dili), Senor Carlito (Superintendent of Education – Manufahi District) Senor Arentes (Manufahi District Government) Pat Foley (Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta) Helen White (Timor-Leste Teacher Placement Program) and Ian Burnet (Our Club). The project was successfully completed thanks to the sterling efforts of Tony Clifford and Ian Burnet.

The **Public Relations and Youth Service Committees** got under way in July when the Club welcomed the latest inbound exchange student, Tomoki Takata from Japan. Tomoki's host parents were initially Bryan and Anna Bolton followed by the Prater, Grinter, Farrar and Gill families with Masanori Ohtani acting as his counsellor. Tomoki, very quickly renamed Tom, was a regular attendee at Club meetings and delighted members with his weekly report as to his activities during the preceding seven days. The improvement in his use of English was very quickly noticeable. In November Tomoki's grandfather, a Rotarian and several other Rotarians from the same club which had sponsored Tomoki's exchange, travelled to Sydney to meet with members of our Club. Subsequently the Club had a visit from Tom's mother who had been a Rotary Exchange Student some years ago with a Melbourne Club.

Victoria Swan returned from a very successful exchange in Finland and addressed the Club and the Club sponsored Alex Bouvier to go to Trieste, Italy for an exchange year. The Youth Committee also sponsored Jared Webster to attend RYLA 2010 in January 2010 and also provided adjudicators, chairmen and timekeepers together with making a donation of \$1,500.00 to help cover costs for the Rostrum 'Voice of Youth' semi-finals.

In relation to the **financial affairs** of the Club for the year, the year closed with balances in the various accounts as follows-

1. Club account - \$10,486.68
2. Charities Account - \$25,643.25
3. Benevolent Fund - \$731.73
4. Sydney Enterprise Education Account - \$43,884.70

During the year a total of \$101,241.59 was raised for the charitable projects of the Club, approximately half of this amount passing through the Benevolent Fund and according the various donors a tax deduction for their donations. Donations to the various charitable projects totalled \$119,961.30, the major recipients being the Timor-Leste project (\$56,395.67), StreetWork (\$22,000.00) and ShelterBox Australia (\$7,200.00, Ellimatta



Youth facility at Kingslake , Victoria though the Rotary Club of Diamond Creek for the erection of fencing destroyed in the Black Saturday fires (\$7,000.00) and for construction of wells in Africa (\$3,000.00). In all 35 different organisations and charities benefitted from the Club's activities during the year

As to **membership**, the Club started the year with 51 active members and 7 honorary members. During the year 6 new members were inducted being –

Valda Andrews, Tony Clauzel (a former member but now re-inducted), Jan Morley, David Robertson, Peter Schell (another former member but now re-inducted on his return to Sydney) and Therese Stubbs.

However, the Club lost 3 active members being John Wright who resigned due to ill health and who subsequently died, Christine Walchinowski who undertook a post graduate course which conflicted with her attendance at the regular weekly meetings and Charles Alma. At the end of the year there were 54 active members.

In addition, P.P. Bob Hendy, an honorary member died following a long battle with cancer reducing the number of honorary members to 6.

### **2010 – 2011 'BUILDING COMMUNITIES – BRIDGING CONTINENTS'.**

The twenty-sixth Change-over Dinner was held at Orso Bayside Restaurant on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010. The return to this venue was some twelve (12) years after our initial visit on the occasion of the installation of Bob Hendy as President. Our guests included our A.D.G. - Elect Bob Erskine, Mayor Pat Reilly and the Lady Mayoress Beth and Matthew and Kim Cross of StreetWork. There were 36 members present with partners. President Bob Farrar reported on the year's activities and completed projects which had seen the Club raise in excess of \$130,000.00. He took pleasure in formally installing Peter McNair as President for the year 2010 – 2011. Peter outlined his plans for the forthcoming year and then introduced his Board for the year who were

Vice President & International Director	Ian Burnet
Secretary	Lee Jackson
Treasurer	David Hyde
Club Service Director	Fay Petrou
Community Service Director	Therese Stubbs
Youth Director	John Garrett
President-Elect	Peter Schell
Membership Chair	Ros Virtue
Vocation Chair	Geoff Duggin
The Rotary Foundation Chair	Martin McCurrich
Public Relations Chair	Mike Cocks

During the course of the evening the Club presented Paul Harris Recognitions to Tony Clifford and Ian Burnet in recognition of their efforts in relation to the implementation and completion of the Teachers' Resource Centre at Same, Timor-Leste and to Lee Jackson for his continued dedicated service to the activities of the Club.

One of President Bob's final acts before installing incoming President Peter was to award the Club trophies to the following

President's Cup	Martin McCurrich
Community Cup	Therese Stubbs
Do It Now Award	John Garrett
Kobe Cup	Peter Grinter
First to Break Award	Brian Robson
Attendance Shield	Syd Grolman & Ranald Stewart
Momoe Award	Pat Buckley

Peter Hodgson and Malcolm Lye took office as co-sergeants for the forthcoming year.

Through the auspices of Barry Anderson, a number of members were involved in several events to raise funds for the Peters Family.

Peter Schell subsequently obtained employment in Melbourne and had to resign from the office of President-Elect, the position then being filled by Robert Shore

Syd Grolman continued to promote the visits of the Red Cross Blood Donor-mobile to Northbridge Plaza in August, November, May

The Club continued its association with Sailability with attendances by members at the Spit on two Sundays each month.

In December the Club officially handed over to StreetWork a new van to replace the one given some years previously.

The **Club Administration Committee** continued to promote a number of social events during the year with a visit to the Hunter's Hill Theatre in August to see a performance of 'The Importance of Being Ernest' and a walk in October from Watsons Bay to Vacluse House.

The **Community Service Committee** started the year with a fun raising event by selling Boxed Trifecta tickets on the Melbourne Cup. This raised some \$3,100.00 for the Club, only one winner claiming her prize. This was quickly followed by the Christmas Wheelbarrow Raffle and the 'Tree of Joy' which yielded 639 presents for The Smith Family annual 'Book and Toy' appeal. During Seniors' Week the annual luncheon for the senior citizens of Northbridge was again held at St Marks Hall and there were in excess of 100 members of the local community as guests of the Club.

In May a further Literary Lunch was held at the Northbridge Golf Club to hear author Lisa Genoa speak in respect of her latest books 'Still Alice' and 'Left Neglected'.

Also, in May the annual Fireworks Spectacular was held at the Northbridge Oval and was a great success.

During the year the Club received Certificates of Appreciation from the Leukaemia Foundation for the Club's involvement with Bunnings Chatswood raising funds for the "World's Greatest Shave" and Alzheimer's Australia for the support given during the year.

The **Vocational Service and Membership Committees** were active with New Member Nights being held in August and October.

In May the Club celebrated its Pride of Workmanship Night with the following awards being presented by our honorary member The Honourable Gladys Berejiklian, Minister for Transport –

Pride of Workmanship

Dr Lyn Robertson – a local medical practitioner for the past 33 years.

Peter Pace – Bar Manager at Northbridge Golf Club for the past 13 years

Barbara Eason – local physiotherapist

Sally O'Neill – organiser of the Club's barbecues and its involvement with Sailability

Dianne Burke

Community Service Award

Pam Clifford – unofficial historian of Northbridge.

The **International and Rotary Foundation Committees** started the year with the focus on raising money for and awareness of ShelterBox. Initially the Club and members raised enough money to buy six (6) boxes and this was quickly followed by a joint effort with the Northbridge Branch of Westpac Banking Corporation which resulted in enough money to purchase a further 2 boxes

The **Youth Service and Public Relations Committees** in relation to their public relations commitments started the year by being able to obtain good coverage in the North Shore Times for the appeal conducted in association with the Northbridge Branch of Westpac banking Corporation for the benefit of ShelterBox Australia.

The Youth Committee obtained approval for the nomination of three candidates to attend the RYLA camp in January 2011. The successful candidates were Christine Dwyer, Caitlin Switzer and Sean Mackay.

Again P.P. Peter Grinter organised a team from the Club to assist running the annual Rostrum program Voice of Youth.

In relation to the **financial affairs** of the Club, the Club Account finished the year with a healthy balance of \$10,110.69. During the year a total of \$83,084.44 was raised through the Charities Account, ending the year with a balance of \$50,042.20. In addition, a further \$19,157.73 was raised through the Benevolent Fund. The major recipients of money from the Club were Bowelscan (\$2,390.00), New Zealand Earthquake Appeal (\$3,860.00), Queensland Flood Appeal (\$9,103.64), ShelterBox (\$8,090.00), RYLA (\$2,397.00), Senior Citizens Lunch (\$3,022.96), StreetWork (\$10,746.00) and Water Wells (\$9,000.00)

As to **membership**, the Club started the year with 54 active members and 6 honorary members. During the year 3 new members were inducted being Rosemary Macey, Robert Shore, Thang Phan

However the Club lost 11 active members being John Becroft, Tony Clauzell, Ron Erratt, John Francis, Warwick Penn, Peter Schell, Gordon Tremain all of whom resigned for various personal reasons and also Laurence Strano who resigned to join another new Club closer to home and in which he was involved in the chartering of the same. Also Jan Morley died whilst holidaying in Britain.

In recognition of their meritorious service to the Club over many years Charles Alma, John Becroft, Ron Erratt, John Francis and Warwick Penn were elected as honorary members of the Club.

Accordingly the Club finished the year with 48 active members and 11 honorary members.

### **2011 – 2012 ‘REACH WITHIN TO EMBRACE HUMANITY’**

The twenty-seventh Change-over dinner was held at the Orso Bayside Restaurant on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2011. Our official guests were our honorary member Mayor Pat Reilly and the Lady Mayoress Beth Reilly. The function was attended by 36 of the active members and 3 of the honorary members with wives and partners. Retiring President Peter McNair gave a full report as to the Club’s activities which are reflected in the financial details referred to later in this report. During the course of the evening, firstly Lee Jackson was inducted into the 20 Year Club and Diane Burke received her Pride of Workmanship Award for the various charitable works in which she is engaged, she having been overseas when the Pride of Workmanship Night was held earlier in the year. President Peter later presented the following trophies-

President’s Cup	Ian Burnet
Community Cup	Sally O’Neill
Do It Now	David Robertson
First To Break	Rosemary Macey
Kobe Cup	Therese Stubbs
Attendance Shield	Syd Grolman
Momoe Award	Jan Duggin

Ian Burnet as the International Director then presented the following Paul Harris Recognitions –

1. Mike Cocks in recognition of his services to the Club over a number of years as the public relations and communications officer of the Club, particularly in respect of his rapport with the North Shore Times and the Northbridge Plaza management.
2. Sally O’Neill, a sapphire pin, in recognition of her services to Sailability.
3. Paul Sullivan, a sapphire pin, in recognition of his having organised and conducted the annual golf day so successfully for the past 15 years.

President Peter then as his last official function formally inducted Robert Shore as the new President and transferred the presidential collar to him. President Robert then spoke of his plans for the forthcoming year and then introduced his board and committee chairs who were as follows-

Vice President	Peter McNair
Secretary	Don Landers
Treasurer	Ranald Stewart
Club Service Director	Peter Antaw
Community Service Director	Liz Grey
International Director	John Garrett
Youth Director	John Turner
Membership Chair	Fay Petrou
Rotary Foundation Chair	Graham Goodfellow
Vocational Chair	Paul Sullivan
Public relations Chair	David Hyde

Past President Peter McNair also continued on the Board as Immediate Past President. As yet the office of President-elect 2012 – 2013 is to be filled.

In August through the generosity of Martin McCurich, P.P. Peter McNair was awarded a Paul Harris Recognition in acknowledgement of his most successful year as president whilst coping with his wife Susan's suffering which culminated with her death in July.

In August a group of young people from the tsunami devastated area of Japan came to Sydney for some respite, their trip having been organised by another organisation. However a number of the members of the Club were involved in entertaining them for a day with a trip to Koala Park and a sightseeing tour of Sydney.

The Club was also successfully nominated for a North Sydney Community Group of the Year Award which presented by The Hon. Joe Hockey M.P. at a function held at the North Sydney Leagues Club on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2011. The Award was accepted by President Robert on behalf of the Club.

Through the continued support of Syd Grolman blood donation days were again organised on a quarterly basis at the Northbridge Plaza by the Australian Red Cross with its 'Blood Donormobile'.

Under the leadership of Paul Sullivan the Club conducted two (2) very successful Golf Days being the annual 9680 District Golf Day and the annual Northbridge Rotary shield Golf Day with Northbridge Golf Club.

There was also a varied array of barbecue functions at the Chatswood Bunnings Warehouse and at the Club Willoughby during the Northern Suburbs Netball season.

The annual Fireworks Spectacular was again sponsored by AMP Capital Management on behalf of Northbridge Plaza and saw all members, spouses, partners and friends at work with some 2,500 local residents and children attending the event.

Throughout the year a number of members continued to support Sailability and we were heavily involved in the organisation and running of the World Access Sailability Championships held at Middle Harbour Yacht Club in April.

The **Club Administration Committee** in August/September was obliged to arrange two meetings at a venue other than the Golf Club and these were held at Bar Fredo in Cammeray and were very successful nights.

A Christmas Party was held in December at the Cammeray Golf Club ably organised by Peter Antaw with an attendance of 45. This was followed by the annual Valentine's Night in February and a theatre party to the Capitol Theatre for a matinee performance of 'Love Never Dies' both of which were greatly enjoyed by those who attended

The **Community Service Committee** organised the annual sale of the Box Trifecta tickets on the running of the Melbourne Cup with Christine Sullivan winning the one and only prize claimed. Whilst two (2) sets of tickets had been bought the second winning ticket was never claimed. The event raised some \$4,700.00

The Christmas raffle changed its format from the usual wheelbarrow to a raffle with three (3) major prizes, two of which were won by the same person, fortunately not a member.

Sally O'Neill was in charge of the running of the 'Tree of Joy' at the Northbridge Plaza for the purpose of acquiring gifts for the Smith Family. Over 1,000 gifts were collected and delivered to The Smith Family. This was a record number of gifts.

Once again the Club had the honour of conducting the District Golf Day at Northbridge Golf Club and despite the possibility of bad weather approximately 80 golfers attended the function and some \$13,000.00 was raised, the principal beneficiary of the day again being StreetWork.

The **International Committee** combined with the Rotary Club of Roseville Chase to fund the construction of an educational facility at Maliana in Timor L'Este to the extent of \$10,000.00. The Committee also became involved through Club member Chris Meale with the Jumpstart organisation in Sydney to fund the construction of a library and literacy facility in Vanuatu.

The Club was involved with the hosting of a group of Japanese school students who came to Sydney on a cultural exchange. Members took them out for the day, visiting Koala Park.

The **Youth Service Committee** nominated Marina Lee to attend the RYLA camp in January 2012.

On 4<sup>th</sup> February 2012 our next Exchange Student, Sofia Maturana Pozo arrived from Chile. Her counsellor was Therese Stubbs and her host families were Kate & Gerard Casey, Sue Rice, John & Penny Turner and William & Hung-Ying Gill.

In March, in conjunction with Rostrum, the Club was involved once again in supplying time-keepers, chair-persons and judges for the preliminary heats of the 'Voice of Youth' program.

The **Membership Committee's** efforts to gain new members by a greater exposure of the Club to the residents of Northbridge was assisted in July when the latest proprietor of Bond's Corner Fine Foods, celebrating the first anniversary of his acquisition of the business, asked the Club to man a free barbecue that he was running for a morning, the

Club also receiving the benefit of all donations made by members of the public who partook of the products of the barbecue.

The **Rotary Foundation Committee** organised the presentation of a number of Paul Harris Recognitions during the year. Firstly at the annual Christmas Party the following were presented-

Don Landers – a Sapphire Pin for continued work within the Club and for his involvement over some 50 years in various community activities,  
Rosaline Virtue for her conduct of the Membership Committee over two (2) years and  
Chris Switzer for his editorship of the Club Bulletin over a long period of time.

The **Public Relations Committee** arranged for the reprinting of a Rotary promotional brochure and the distribution of the same through the various contact of the members. A second edition of 'Harmony in Motion' was produced and the Club purchased 100 copies to be distributed to local business premises where it could be displayed to the public and also to be given to guest speakers.

The **Vocational Committee** celebrated Vocational Service month in October with a fine Pride of Workmanship night at which the Hon Gladys Berejiklian, N.S.W. State Minister for Transport presented awards to-

1. Janet France – local environmental contributor
2. Jane Cozens – Northbridge Librarian and Outreach Services Co-ordinator
3. Colin John Johnstone – pharmacist
4. Janet & Sam Lam – local Postmasters
5. Giovanni, Maria, Andrew & Christian Maggio – proprietors of a coffee shop and deli at Cammeray
6. Nicholas Martin – apprentice motor vehicle service technician

In November the annual 'Mock Interviews' were conducted at Willoughby Girls High School with some 60 Year 10 girls being interviewed by Fran Garrett and 15 of our members.

On matters **financial** the Club Account grew by \$2,800.00 to \$12,900.00. The total of the receipts into the Charities Account was \$52,527.15 whilst a total of \$56,293.15 was spent with a further \$1,050.00 from the Benevolent Fund. The principal recipients were StreetWork (\$10,000.00), Friends of Maliana (\$10,000.00) Polio Plus and associated Rotary funds (\$8,213.70), ShelterBox (\$7,000.00) and Exchange Student expenses (\$4,730.69).

As to membership, the Club started the year with 48 active members and 11 honorary members. During the year 3 new members were inducted, being John Bolton, Noel Phelan & Kim Wilkins. However we lost 2 members being Terry Burke (for health reasons) & Bob Prater. The year finished with 49 active members and 11 honorary members.

## **2012 – 2013 ‘PEACE THROUGH SERVICE’**

The Twenty-eighth Change-over dinner was held at the Cammeray Golf Club on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2012 with a smallish number of members and spouses/partners in attendance due to a large number of the members taking advance of the strong dollar travelling overseas and others escaping from the cold and travelling north. A new precedent was created on the night with President Robert Shore saddling up for a second year as President. The full team for the current year was formally introduced to those present and comprised –

President	Robert Shore
Vice-President	Ian Burnet
Secretary	Don Landers
Treasurer	Ranald Stewart
<u>Directors</u>	
Community Service	John Bolton
Vocational Service	Bob Edwards
P.R./Communications	Peter Grinter
The Rotary Foundation	George Raffan
New Generations (Youth)	John Turner
<u>Committee Chairs</u>	
Membership Committee	John Garrett
International Committee	Liz Grey
Club Service	Peter McNair
Projects Committee	Ros Virtue

During the course of the evening we had addresses from our Guests of Honour and Honorary Members, The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian and Mayor Pat Reilly and Paul Harris Recognitions were awarded to-

Bob Farrar  
Syd Grolman (Sapphire Pin)  
Audrey Hodgson

The Club trophies were awarded as follows-

President's Cup	Don Landers
Kobe Cup	John Turner
Do It Now Award	Ian Burnet
First to Break	Paul Sullivan
Community Cup	Sally O'Neill
Attendance Shield	Martin McCurrich
Momoe Award	Jan Duggin

The first ten (10) weeks of the new Rotary year were unusual in that the Club was without its President. Robert Shore had volunteered to go to South Africa and serve as a part time ranger on five (5) different national parks. He was involved in assisting a study of the numbers of the painted dogs still to be found in the parks. He was also able to indulge his hobby of wildlife photography and kept the Club posted with a very informative blog. During his absence the Club was left in the capable hands of V.P. Ian



Burnet while the actual Club meetings were chaired each week by a different past-president who gave some insight as to what had happened in their particular presidential year.

In February 2013 President Robert relocated to Queensland which resulted in his resigning from the Club. John Bolton was elected by the Board to fill the casual vacancy thereby created and to serve as President for the remainder of the Rotary Year. John was also elected to fill the casual vacancy in the office of President-elect to hold office as President for the year 2013-2014.

At the instigation of Syd Grolman the Club undertook the collection of books suitable for pre-schoolers for the Indi Kindi. These books were then dispatched to Aboriginal communities in the Borroloola area of Northern Territory. As at January 2013 in excess of 2,000 books had been collected.

A fairly solid program of barbecues was also undertaken with the manning during the cooler months of the Net Ball Season of a barbecue at the Club Willoughby on each Saturday morning when the Willoughby Netball Association played their home games at that venue. Again the guiding light of the barbecues was Sally O'Neill with her assistant Valda Andrews. In addition the Club continued to do occasional barbecues at Bunnings Warehouse Chatswood.

Christmas was celebrated not by the usual dinner party as a number of the Club was finding the pressure of the festive season a bit much, so a cocktail party was held at Peter McNair's new unit in Cammeray. This was a fitting venue as his unit is on the top floor of the building with large balconies on both the eastern and western sides with sweeping views up and down Long Gully and over Flat Rock Creek.

May saw the Club involved in the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Fireworks Spectacular, this year named the 'Rotary Centenary Fireworks' as part of the celebrations during 2013 of the centenary of the naming of the suburb of Northbridge. This year there were just under 3,000 visitors to the event just was a slight increase on the number attending the event in the previous year. Again the Club relied heavily on assistance of many 'Friends of Rotary', Rotaractors and other volunteers to make the evening a great success both from an entertainment and financial point of view. In addition the fine clear weather on the evening ensured that there would not be any problems.

The **Community Service Committee** again conducted the Boxed Trifecta on the Melbourne Cup in November and again the prize was not claimed thereby increasing the return to the Club. It was noted that the public interest in the continual fund-raising being conducted at the Northbridge Plaza by many charities was fading with the result that The Board subsequently resolved to discontinue this source of revenue.

With the assistance of the Plaza Management, the Tree of Joy was again conducted at the Plaza during December for the benefit of The Smith Family Book & Toy Appeal. The

generosity of the residents of Northbridge was once again amazing with over 900 presents being collected from under the tree.

The **International Service Committee** arranged for Ian Millhouse of Hobart who is an associate of Liz Grey to address the Club in respect of a project that he wished to promote in Ringmu, Nepal which involved the completion of the construction and the fitting out of a school for the local community. This was followed up with a detailed proposal and costing of the necessary work in the sum of \$20,746.00 which was adopted by the Board in October 2012 with the proviso that efforts should be made to get a Matching Grant from Rotary International. The Rotary Club of Kathmandu was contacted and that Club joined with our Club in making application for such a grant which was ultimately successful and resulting in a grant being approved in the sum of \$11,132.00. The work continued to be carried out locally and was expected to take a total of 12 months due to the poor weather conditions experienced in the area.

Through Sally O'Neill an application to provide funding for the Vientiane Youth Centre in Laos to the extent of \$11,736.00 for running expenses for the current year was received and approved by the Board in April 2013.

The **Vocational Service Committee** again organised an impressive Pride of Workmanship evening with awards being presented by The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian to-

1. The Principal and Staff at St Philip Neri School nominated by Ceilidh Caillela, the President of the St Philip Neri P & C Association and accepted by the Principal's representative Joseph Younan.
2. Sports Focus Physiotherapy nominated by PP Paul Sullivan and accepted on behalf of the company by one of the principals, Ben Siu.
3. Captain Richard de Crespigny the Qantas pilot of flight QF32

During November the Club again conducted a program of 'mock interviews' at Willoughby Girls' High School to assist the students in equipping themselves for interviews for their first jobs when leaving school and starting to pursue their careers.

The Club also was successful in nominating Claire Graham-White to attend the National Youth Science Forum 2013 in Perth where she underwent an intensive scientific program for fourteen (14) days at the University of Western Australia.

Under the guidance of John Turner of the **Youth Service Committee** the Club continued to enjoy the company of Sofia, our Exchange Student whose knowledge and use of English and personal confidence improved no end. Sofia left us in January 2013 to return home to Chile. There she will start her tertiary studies at the University of Santiago. In addition, the Club was able to sponsor an outgoing exchange student, Oliver (Ollie) Loffhagen, who travelled to Sweden, also leaving in January 2013. Ollie was hosted by the Rotary Club of Uppland-Bro and lived in Bro.

As to the finances of the Club, the Club account grew to \$21,328. The Charities Account received income of \$54,640 and made payment of donations of \$62,026 leaving a balance

carried forward of \$38,890. The major recipients were Vientiane Youth Centre for Health and Development – Laos \$11,736, AIME \$10,000, Alzheimers Australia \$2,000, Jump Start Your Life – Vanuatu \$10,000, Polio Plus \$4,000. In addition a further \$4,250 was raised for the Vientiane Youth Centre for Health & Development through the Benevolent Fund and \$3,000 for ShelterBox.

As to membership the Club started the year with 49 active members and 11 honorary members. During the year the Club inducted 1 new member being Dianne Ball but lost 5 members being PDG. Graham Goodfellow who had resigned due to health reasons but who died before the resignation became effective, Chris Meale who returned to New Zealand, Thang Phan and Robert Shore who moved to Queensland finishing the year with 46 active members and 11 honorary members

### **2013 – 2014 ‘ENGAGE ROTARY CHANGE LIVES’**

The twenty-ninth changeover dinner was again held at Cammeray Golf Club on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2013 with a total attendance of 56 including spouses, partners and special guests. The guests were Mayor Pat Reilly, Joy Crowther and Honorary Members P.P. Alan Gale and Helen and P.P. John Becroft and Suk. As was the case last year, President Robert Shore having resigned from the Club during the year and being replaced by President John Bolton who had agreed to remain in office for the 2013 – 2014 year, there was no actual changeover of president whereas there was a change in most of the other members of the Board. The evening was to a large extent overshadowed by the news that PDG Graham Goodfellow had died the night before whilst on holidays in London. This news had quickly spread among the members and was in the minds of all when the meeting was called to order by MC Peter Hodgson who formally introduced and welcomed all the guests.

Liz Grey then proposed the toast to Rotary and in closing reminded the meeting that it had often been PDG Graham who had proposed this toast. The toast having been duly honoured by the meeting, President John then reminded the meeting of PDG Graham’s record of membership of the Club and his passion and service to Rotary in general and to the Foundation in particular.

George Raffan then addressed the meeting on the nature and importance of the Paul Harris Recognitions and proceeded to introduce the three (3) recipients of the Recognitions for the last year who were awarded their certificates and medallions by President John and who were-

John Garrett  
Liz Grey  
P.P. Peter Grinter

President John then reported on the past year, making reference to the difficulties that had been experienced due to the position President Robert Shore had found himself in and by his subsequent resignation. He described the various activities that had been undertaken

by the Club during the year and also detailed the various donations made from the Charities account. After thanking various members for their performance of their particular duties he presented the following trophies –

President's Cup	Don Landers
Community Cup	Sally O'Neill
Kobe Cup	Ian Burnet
First To Break	Peter Hodgson
Do It Now Award	Therese Stubbs
Momoe Award	Maryllin Stewart
Attendance Shield	Michael Bartok & Peter Hodgson

Mayor Par Reilly then addressed the meeting on the relevance of volunteers and service clubs from his perspective in local government.

P.P. Ian Jones then formally inducted President John as the continuing president for 2013 -2014 after which President John addressed the meeting on the relevance of the RI theme for the year, the hopes and plans of the new Board for that year and then introduced the team for the year being-

#### Officers

President	John Bolton
Vice President	Fay Petrou
President-elect	Noel Phelan
Secretary	Sally O'Neill
Treasurer	Ros Virtue
Immediate past President	John Bolton

#### Directors

Club Administration	Peter McNair
The Rotary Foundation	George Raffan
International Service	Liz Grey
Vocational Service	Bob Edwards
Youth Service	John Turner

#### Committee Chairs

Membership	John Garrett
P.R./Communications	Malcolm Lye
Community Service	Fay Petrou
Projects	Therese Stubbs

The Social sub-committee of the Club Service Committee (comprising Ian Jones and Peter Antaw) organised a weekend bus trip to Mudgee in July. A party of 30 members and some spouses/partners travelled firstly to Glenbrook where they visited the Glenbrook Markets. The Markets are a monthly event organised by the Rotary Club of Glenbrook. There were a multitude of stalls selling local craft and produce. The party then drove to Glen Alice in the Capertee Valley and had lunch at the home of Roger Page. The views in the valley of the sheer stone cliffs are magnificent. The party then proceeded to Rylstone and had a wine tasting of De Beaurepair wines at the Bridgeview Inn before proceeding on the Mudgee to spend the night very comfortably at the Parkland

Resort. The next morning the party drove north to Gulgong for morning tea and then to Lowe Family wines for another tasting and very interesting lecture regarding the growing of organic grapes. Then it was back to Mudgee for lunch and then on to Logan's Wines for a final tasting and then a long drive home.

In October there were devastating bushfires in a number of areas in New South Wales, including the Blue Mountains. Whilst there was no loss of life, many homes were lost. The Club organised a bucket collection on a Saturday morning at the Northbridge Plaza with the result that some \$6,725.00 were collected and passed on to the Rotary District 9680 Benevolent Fund for distribution wherever appropriate to alleviate problems in the Blue Mountains areas of our current District 9685.

Following the disastrous typhoon which struck the Philippines in November which caused to death of thousands of the population the Club organised an appeal for funds for the purchase of ShelterBoxes which raised sufficient funds to enable a further four (4) boxes to be purchased.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2013 the Club held a dinner/dance at Roseville Golf Club to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the chartering of the Club. Whilst there are still quite a few past presidents of the Club who are still members of the Club, it was noted that presently three (3) past presidents had died. Luckily, we had the attendance of Ross Alexander and Malcolm Tompson, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Presidents of the Club. A fun night was enjoyed by all those who attended.

Further celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the chartering of the Club, at the regular Club meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2013 being the closest date to the inaugural meeting of the Club 30 years later and number of people were honoured with Paul Harris Recognitions and Community Service Awards. The recipients were –

**Community Service Awards-**

1. Robert (Bob) McKillop of Castlecrag who is a Railway Historian and author on that subject and other rural subjects and was also a leading light in the Castlecrag Progress Association.
2. Geoff Munday, the current treasurer of StreetWork for the many years of dedicated work in relation to StreetWork

**Paul Harris Recognitions**

1. Keri Crittenden of the charity 'So They Can' started locally to care for the dispossessed children in Kenya following the riots that ensued some years ago after elections in that country.
2. Club member John Turner
3. Heidi Denning of the charity Jumpstart Foundation with whom the Club was associated in connection with the funding of the construction of a building on Tana, one of the islands in Vanuatu to house a library.

In May the Club held its annual Fireworks Spectacular at the Northbridge Oval. It was a great night with an attendance of just on 3,000. The work force of Club members

spouses/partners and friends totalled 105 and the gross takings exceeded \$42,000.00. The whole event was magnificently organised under the leadership of P.E. Noel Phelan.

In June the 105<sup>th</sup> Rotary International Convention was held in Sydney at the Olympic Park, Homebush. Some 18,000 Rotarians and partners were in attendance from all around the world. Whilst not all the 180 counties of Rotary were represented, there were a lot. Our Club was represented by 15 members and 4 wives/partners. During the address of welcome delivered by PM Tony Abbott, he announced the donation by the Australian Government of \$100,000,000.00 to Rotary International to assist in the cause of eradicating Polio worldwide. This has been the aim of Rotary for many years but still the goal eludes due to civil wars and the beliefs of the Taliban affecting four (4) countries with the result of new outbreaks of the disease from time to time.

In December 2014 the then PDG Graeme Davies attended the Club to present Sally O'Neill with the District Governor's Award for Meritorious Service for 2013 – 2014. Secretary Sally had carried on with her duties throughout the year while being treated for breast cancer.

The **International Committee** with the assistance of a District grant funded a number of projects on the island of Quiaia, Fiji, including two water tanks at the evacuation centre and the necessary equipment to set up a bakery to produce bread for the inhabitants of the island. Up until that time, the bread had to be imported from another island and there was not a regular supply of bread. David Robertson was instrumental in gaining the Club's involvement in the projects.

Also, during the year work continued on the rehabilitation of the school in Ringmu, Nepal under the watchful eye of Ian Millhouse finally being completed shortly before the close of this Rotary year.

The **Youth Committee** continued the Club's involvement with the Rotary Youth Exchange programme by accepting another incoming student in February. This was Chika Matsuo from Japan. She proved to be a very delightful young lady with remarkably good English.

The **Vocational Committee's** first project was to seek a suitable candidate to attend the National Youth Science Forum. An outstanding candidate, Brae Aslanidis was chosen and she was duly selected to attend the Forum in Perth in January 2014.

In October the Committee organised the annual Pride of Workmanship Award evening which saw the Hon Gladys Berejiklian duly present the following awards-

**Pride of Workmanship Awards**

James Wadley – Creative Director of Hammond & Thackeray Advertising Agency

John and Jennifer Bevege – Licensees of the Castlecrag Post Shop

**Community Service Award**

Peter McNair – Northbridge Progress Association and Northbridge Centenary Committee

In November the Committee organised a team of eleven (11) members to conduct the annual Mock/Simulated Career Interviews of the Year 10 students at Willoughby Girls' High School as had been done over many years. On this occasion there was a very large attendance of very keen and motivated young ladies out of a total possible attendance of 150 students in the year.

In relation to the finances of the Club, the Club account started the year with a very healthy balance of \$21,328.22 and during the year received a further \$66,729.62. This gave rise to two novel exercises in that it was decided to transfer \$6,000.00 as a donation to the Charities account and the social events for the members were subsidised to the extent of some \$5,000.00 over and above the moneys collected from the members for those events. The year closed with a still healthy balance in the Club account of \$9,497.06.

In relation to the Charities account, apart from the donation of \$6,000.00 from the Club account, a further \$60370.83 was raised. The main contributors to this amount were net BBQ sales of \$18,395.73 and \$29,929.09 from the Fireworks and a further \$9,702.20 from the Golf Day. Donations totalled \$45,692.93. The principal beneficiaries were Cerebral Palsy (\$10,000.00), Rotary Annual Fund (\$6,000.00), Rotary Polio Plus (\$5,000.00), Taldemunde (\$5,000.00), the SEE Trust (\$4,000.00). In addition, International Projects received \$14,568.50 for the Nepal project and the Timor L'Este project \$10,000.00.

The Benevolent Fund also raised a further \$14,634.00 and made donations of \$7,000.00 to ShelterBox and \$6,940.00 for the Bush Fire Appeal conducted by Rotary District 9685 Benevolent Fund.

As to membership, the Club started the year with a much reduced membership of 46 active members and 11 honorary members. During the year 3 new active members were inducted being Karin Eurell, Denis Fernandez and Derek Matz. However, the Club lost 1 member Rosemary Macey and an honorary member, Mayor Pat Reilly who died suddenly after a short illness. The Club wound up the year to finish with 48 active members and 10 honorary members.

### **2014 - 2015 'LIGHT UP ROTARY'**

The thirtieth change-over dinner was held on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014 at Northbridge Golf Club for the first time for many years with the MC being Liz Grey who formally welcomed the official guests being PDG David Rands and his wife Anne, The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian and Mayor Gail Giles-Gidney. Also present were a number of wives and partners and Joy Goodfellow. The formalities started with the toast to Rotary International which was proposed by PDG David Rands. Then George Raffan addressed the meeting on the subject of Paul Harris Recognitions and the criteria now adopted by the Club to justify the awarding of the same. The Board had approved the awarding of two (2) more Recognitions in the 2013-2014 year, namely Ranald Stewart and John Bolton. Ranald

was then overseas and his Recognition was to be presented at a regular Club meeting after his return to Australia.

President John then proceeded with the presentation of the various perpetual trophies to the following-

President's Cup	Sally O'Neill
Community Cup	Karin Eurell
Kobe Cup	Malcolm Lye
Do It Now Award	Ian Jones
First To Break	David Clancy
Attendance Shield	Syd Grolman
Momoe Award	Penny Lye

Liz Grey, in her capacity as the outgoing International Director then gave the meeting an update of the Nepal project which had recently been completed with some slides of the various buildings and improvements effected by the Club to the school buildings and the desks and chairs which had been manufactured locally, the new computer room and science facility. Finally, there was a photograph of a plaque which had been affixed to one of the interior walls of the building acknowledging the undertaking of the project by the Club and recording the fact that the project had been dedicated by the Club to the memory of the late PDG Graham Goodfellow.

Both The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian and Mayor Gail Giles-Gidney addressed to meeting and then President John undertook his final presidential duty by formally inducting President Noel Phelan for the year 2014-2015. President Noel addressed the Club with a power-point presentation as to his plans for the coming year and final introduced his Board and Committee Chairs as follows-

President	Noel Phelan
Immediate Past President	John Bolton
President-Elect	John Turner
Vice President	John Turner
Secretary	Sally O'Neill
Treasurer	Ros Virtue
Club Service Director	Ian Jones
Community Service Director	Karin Urell
Communications Director	Malcolm Lye
International Director	Derek Matz
Vocational Chair	Valda Andrews
The Rotary Foundation Chair	Therese Stubbs
Membership Chair	John Bolton
Youth Service Director	Peter Antaw
Service Projects Chair	John Turner

In December 2014 PDG Graeme Davies attended at a regular meeting of the Club to present Secretary Sally O'Neill with the District Governor's Award for Meritorious Service for 2013 – 2014. Sally was the Club Secretary during that year and was then diagnosed with breast cancer but continued in her duties as secretary whilst receiving treatment for her condition from which she was subsequently cleared.



On 9<sup>th</sup> December the Annual General Meeting was held and the financial statements for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014 were duly approved. The election of officers for the year 2015 – 2016 was also held. Whilst there were no nominations for the offices of President-Elect for the year 2016 – 2017 or Vice President 2015 – 2016, Peter Grinter was elected as secretary, John Bolton as treasurer and five (5) directors, Paul Sullivan, Derek Matz, Karen Eurell, Peter McNair & Ranald Stewart.

In May 2015 the Club ran its 28<sup>th</sup> Fireworks Spectacular with over 3,000 people from the local areas attending to see a magnificent display of fireworks and to enjoy a number of items of entertainment. Under the leadership of P.P. Peter McNair, a team of Club members, partners and volunteers totalling approximately 100 was assembled to run the event which yielded just over \$29,000.00 clear of expenses for the Club's Charities Account. On 2<sup>nd</sup> June the Club held a function to which all sponsors of the Fireworks were invited and at which an appropriate certificate of appreciation was presented to each sponsor. As usual donations were also made to the Rural Fire Service and St. John's Ambulance Service for their generous assistance on the occasion.

The major achievement of the **Club Service Committee** in the early part of the year was to bring the Club Bulletin into the new world of technology by having it distributed to the general public through the revitalised Club website and distributed to the members by individual email by way of the facilities of Club Runner.

Through the efforts of the **International Service Committee** under the leadership of Derek Matz and David Robertson a total of 240 solar powered lights were donated as to 120 each to the Nasaucoko Village and Yasayasa Moala College, Fiji for the use of the young people in furthering their studies at night, both places being without electricity.

In November Derek Matz received an offer from Newcastle Hospital of 150 bags of linen, blankets, surgical gowns and other items all of which were being replaced by the hospital but were of still usable quality. By coincidence it had then just come to his notice that the charity Ywam had brought to Sydney its new vessel, the MV Ammari, on a promotional and fund-raising tour, so he accepted the hospital's offer and arranged to on-donate the goods to Ywam for use in that charity's work in Papua New Guinea.

In December Derek Matz and Karin Eurell were able to arrange for the donation by Alcon of 200 lenses for use in surgical implantations which were then delivered to the Battambang Ophthalmic Centre in Cambodia.

In March a devastating cyclone, Cyclone Pam, struck Vanuatu causing widespread damage and destruction. Again, Derek Matz through his contacts with members of the medical profession was able to obtain the donation of 50 – 60 bags of linen, sheets, towelling and clothing and also 2 crates of children's books and was able to arrange for the same to be transferred to a warehouse then being used by Rotary – Donations In Kind for the purpose of packing containers to be shipped to Tana, one of the islands of Vanuatu which was most severely damaged. The Club also organised a Bucket Collection

at the Northbridge Plaza over a weekend in March 2015 and achieved a total collection of \$7,457.80.

This event was shortly followed by a devastating earthquake in Nepal. Again, a Bucket Collection was organised at the Plaza over a weekend in May which yielded a total of \$9,100.00. In the days following further donations received from Club members and friends boosted the collections to over \$18,000.00. Luckily the school that the Club had recently supported was spared from any damage although many thousands in and around Kathmandu and the epicentre of the quake perished. As a result of the total amount collected, the Club was able to arrange for the provision of 100 corrugated iron permanent shelters to victims of the earthquake through the Rotary Club of Banepa, Nepal and also for the provision of medical equipment for Sheer Memorial Hospital of Seven Day Adventists at Banepa.

In October the **Vocational Service Committee** under the leadership of Valda Andrews once again hosted the Pride of Workmanship night at which the following awards were presented by The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian on behalf of the Club-

1. Pride of Workmanship Awards  
Allyson Peters – Ladies hairdresser in Northbridge for over 30 years  
Julian Todd – Back Vintage Wines of Northbridge since 2003
2. Community Service Awards  
Linden Gulson – For using his accountancy skills to assist many Northbridge community groups  
Rob Coote – For revitalising the Northbridge Neighbourhood Watch and for service to Northbridge Progress Association  
Bruce Wilson – For service to many community groups in Castlecrag and the Friends of Northbridge Baths.

In November Valda Andrews lead a team of eleven (11) members to Willoughby Girls High School to once again conduct the annual Mock/Simulated Interviews for the benefit of the students completing year 10. With the assistance of the recently appointed new Careers Mistress, Rana Morris the team interviewed a little over 100 students during the morning, having an enriching and rewarding time in so doing.

In May 2015 Valda organised a trip to the RFS H.Q. at Terrey Hills. The RFS assists each year in the running of the Fireworks Spectacular and is also able to raise funds at the event to support its own activities.

For some years P.P. Peter McNair through his association with Northbridge Progress Association had been urging the Willoughby City Council to refurbish, clean and upgrade the War Memorial Clock at the foot of Strathallen Avenue. The clock had originally been erected by the Northbridge Branch of the Australian Comforts Fund and dedicated as a War Memorial at a ceremony which had taken place in 1946 in the presence of the then Lieutenant Governor General John Northcott. In the intervening years the clock mechanism had deteriorated and the sandstone from which the clock tower was constructed and which matched the stone of the nearby bridge had become very dirty and discoloured. The Council had resisted taking any action as a preliminary inspection had

shown that there was a problem with asbestos incorporated in the original construction and which would need to be removed. However, P.P. Peter McNair persisted and finally the Council agreed to carry out the necessary work. It was then noticed that whilst there was a plaque commemorating the actual dedication of the clock as a War Memorial, there was no recognition of those from Northbridge who had died in either of the World Wars. Accordingly, the **PR/Communications Committee** under the leadership of Malcolm Lye undertook to carry out the necessary research and so far as was possible to obtain a complete list of those who were killed in those wars. Ultimately Malcolm was able to put together a list of 3 residents of Northbridge who died in World War I and 36 residents who died in World War II. At the time of World War I there were only 65 houses in Northbridge. The Club then funded the manufacture of two (2) bronze plaques as appropriate honour boards honouring and listing the names of those who had died. The plaques were unveiled by Mayor Gail Giles-Gidney which took place on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014 in the presence of the Club, the Northbridge Progress Association, the Council and the residents of Northbridge.

The **Youth Committee** under the leadership of P.P. Peter Antaw contacted Willoughby Girls' High School and through the new Careers Mistress, Rana Morris, was able to arrange for the School to nominate two (2) students to attend the RYPEN course during the forthcoming Christmas holidays. The young ladies, Emma Hannigan and Sally Fenton, attended the Club's meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2014 to be formally introduced to and welcomed by the Club. On 14<sup>th</sup> April 2015 the young ladies attended the Club to report on their attendance at the RYPEN camp at Narrabeen. From the manner of their joint address to the Club it was obvious that they had enjoyed and benefitted from their participation in the program.

In January the RYLA programme saw the Club sponsor two (2) attendees, Kendall Judge of Northbridge and Pip Hodgson of Lane Cove North. Both these young people attended the Club following their participation in the programme and clearly demonstrated that their participation in the programme had been very rewarding. AS a result of their participation and a number of others a new Rotaract Club has been formed and it can be but hoped that this Club will survive whereas a number of previous Clubs formed in similar circumstances have ultimately failed.

Due to the amalgamation of the tree (3) former Districts into two (2), a second 'Winter' RYPEN was held in June at Springwood. The Club sponsored the attendance of Emily Wu and Ayesha Ray-Kirsh, both students at Willoughby Girls High School.

In January Chika finished her period of exchange with the Club and returned to her home in Nagasaki, Japan. She had been an ideal exchange student and had really enjoyed her time with the Club. Also the Club's latest out-going student, Lachlan Frohlich, left for Brazil.

On the subject of **Finances**, the Club account started the year with a balance of \$9,497.06 and received a further \$58,383.41 during the year. The normal outgoings for the year totalled \$62,590.90 so the year closed with a balance of \$5,289.57.

In relation to the Charities account the year started with a balance of \$23,205.31 and a total of \$70,485.94 was raised during the year while donations and projects totalled \$77,315.58 leaving a balance at the end of the year of \$11,375.67. In addition to the money which passed through the Club's Charities account, a total of \$34,627.50 was received into the Benevolent Fund of which \$16,000.00 was paid out to projects and donations in concert with the Club's payments, the balance being held at the end of the year for projects that were only in progress as at the end of the year.

The largest sources of revenue for the Charities account were the BBQ Sales (\$20,621.79) and the Fireworks Night (\$30,227.60). As to payments, the recipients of the largest amounts were Taldemunde (\$11,700.00), Rotary Annual Fund (\$5,000.00), Willoughby Netball Club (\$4,250.00) Day for Girls (\$4,000.00). Where the income received both through the Club's Charities account and the Benevolent Fund for specific projects were aggregated collections for the following specific projects were Vientiane Women & Youth Centre \$20,000.00, Nepal Earthquake Appeal \$18,905.25 and Vanuatu Cyclone Appeal \$10,789.44.

As to membership, the Club started the year with 48 active members and 10 honorary members. During the year the Club gained 2 new active members, namely Yvette Boulos and Robert Coote and a new honorary member Mayor Gail Giles-Gidney but lost 1 active member, namely Roger Page who had relocated to Glen Alice N.S.W. to finish the year with 49 active members and 11 honorary members.

### **2015 – 2016 'BE A GIFT TO THE WORLD'**

The thirty-first Annual Change-over Dinner saw the Club back at Orso at The Spit for the third time and again with Liz Grey as MC for the night. On this occasion there were no special guests of honour but the event was well attended by the members and their wives & partners. Derek Matz proposed a moving toast to Rotary International to start off the proceedings for the night. The first official business of the night was the presentation by President Noel of Paul Harris Recognitions. At this stage President Noel surprised the meeting and the intended recipients by awarding Sapphire Pins to David Robertson for his consistent charitable work in Fiji and to Malcolm Lye for his consistent support of the Club through his participation on the Board, particularly over the period of his chairmanship of the Communications & PR Committee. It was also understood that another Paul Harris Recognition was to be awarded but as the intended recipient was not present on the night, the recognition would be awarded at a regular Club meeting as soon as possible.

After the main meal had been served and eaten President Noel proceeded with his formal aspects of the night by firstly presenting the perpetual trophies of the Club. In making the presentation he advised that he had had great difficulty in selecting one person to be the recipient of any particular trophy and there anything up to four different members who

were qualified to receive each of the trophies. Whilst he appreciated that in past years only one person had been the successful recipient of each trophy, he intended to break tradition and to award each trophy to two members which he proceeded to do as follows-

President's Cup	Sally O'Neill & Malcolm Lye
Kobe Cup	Peter McNair & Malcolm Lye
Community Cup	Derek Matz & Karin Eurell
First to Break	Geoff Duggin & Michael Bartok
Participation Shield (formerly called 'The Attendance Shield')	Valda Andrews & David Robertson
Momoe Award	Penny Lye

The 'Do It Now Trophy' was to be awarded to Bob Farrar and Therese Stubbs but as neither of those members was present on the night, the trophy would be awarded at a regular Club meeting as soon as they were both present.

President Noel then gave his address detailing on the ten (10) points that he intended to address in running the Club at his induction as president 12 months previously, the funds raised by the Club for charitable purposes, the sources of the same and details of where the money had been spent. Details of which are included in the Club History of 2014 – 2015. He then called P.E. John Turner to the microphone and formally inducted him as President of the Club for the year 2015 – 2016 and dressed him in the ever weightier presidential collar.

President John, after his introductory comments, introduced his Board to the meeting as follows

Vice President	Peter McNair
Secretary	Peter Grinter
Club Service Director	Paul Sullivan
Membership Director	Noel Phelan
Community Service Director	Karin Eurell
International Service Director	Derek Matz
Vocational Service Director	Valda Andrews
Youth Service Director	Peter Antaw
Communications & P.R. Director	Ranald Stewart
The Rotary Foundation Director	Liz Grey

The positions of President-Elect and Treasurer were then yet to be filled. President John then outlined his ideals and plans for the forthcoming year. The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem (both verses).

In August the **Club Service Committee** organised a weekend away for a number of members and their wives/partners staying at the Coolangatta Estate near Shoalhaven

Heads. On the Saturday afternoon all those present visited the Robsons at their Berry property and tasted some of Brian's wines before returning to Coolangatta Estate for a very fine evening meal and some of the Estate's wines.

In October the **Membership Committee** under the leadership of P.P. Noel Phelan held an 'Open House' with a number of potential members invited to the function with the view to enlighten them as to the benefits of Rotary and with the hope that they would join as active members. The venture was a success with a total of four (4) of the attendees on the night becoming new members of the Club over the ensuing couple of months.

In October the **Community Service Committee** in association with the Northbridge Plaza Management Team introduced the local community to 'Pictures on the Pitch' with a return somewhat to the days of the drive-in theatre. It was held at the Northbridge Oval and featured a screening of 'Paper Planes', an Australian production starring a young Ed Oxenbould who attended the function. The venture was a great success and although the attendance could have been greater its success will mean that in future years there will be an increased attendance as the word spreads. Even so the venture raised a net of some \$5,000.00.

During 2014 – 2015, under the leadership of the then President Noel Phelan, the Club undertook the project of improving the quality of the grounds of the property used by Taldumande as its refuge for young people in need. The project involved the building of a pergola and whilst preliminary ground work was then completed and plans prepared for the necessary building work, the requirements of obtaining the necessary Council approval to carry out the work and then arranging for the work to be done meant that the project could not be completed in President Noel's year. Past President Noel continued to supervise the project which was finally completed with a formal hand over being effected on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

Through the assistance of member Ian Burnet, the Club through the **International Committee** was able to fund the purchase of a large quantity of reading books in Bali, Indonesia which were then distributed to a number of infants' schools in the remote islands of Indonesia by Ian in his travels from Flores to Ambon thereby helping the children with their learning.

In August the Committee successfully supported the proposal submitted by Sally O'Neill for the Board to sanction the purchase of 120 solar powered reading lights at a cost of \$1,257.00 to be delivered to the Vientiane Women & Youth Centre for Health & Development in Vientiane, Laos for distribution to students in need of light at night by which to study. The lights are solar powered and are quickly charged during the day to hold a charge sufficient for 8 hours use at night.

The Club continued the collection of second-hand books suitable for pre-school and young school age children at the Northbridge Plaza for distribution to various charities supporting the education of disadvantaged children. In January the Club was able to

deliver a total of five (5) very large boxes of books to the Australian Literacy & Numeracy Foundation for distribution to disadvantaged indigenous children.

In January Derek Matz, the International Director, announced that donations had been received firstly from a hospital in Newcastle of 150 bags of hospital gowns and secondly from Ansell of 80kg of rubber gloves. The initial problem was to arrange for the collection of these items and then the distribution of the same to worthy recipients. The distribution was resolved by various of the members in their overseas travel to countries experiencing shortages of equipment taking quantities of the gloves in their luggage for distribution to hospitals in areas in which they travelled. As to the gowns, through the generosity firstly of DHL Australia which arranged to pick the gowns which weighed some 1.5 tonnes, from the hospital and deliver the same to Sydney Airport free of charge so that Fiji Airlines could airlift them, again free of charge, to Suva, Fiji for collection by the Rotary Club of Suva which would then distribute 75 bags each to the Lautoka Hospital and the Colonial War Memorial Hospital in Suva. As to the rubber gloves, Derek arranged for Ansell to deliver the same to his home. Thereafter as members travelled overseas they took as many packets of gloves as they could in their luggage to donate to hospitals in their destinations.

Also in January the donation by Alcon of 300 10L cataract lenses to the Battambang Ophthalmic Hospital in Cambodia was facilitated.

In July the **Rotary Foundation Committee** announced the approval by RI of the Club's application for a Global Grant of US\$ 15,000 for the purposes of allowing the Club's proposed project to be carried out with the Rotary Club of Dili in Timor L'Este for the provision of water reticulation to Letefoho one of the outlying villages some 72 kilometres south west of Dili. This will involve the installation of a pipeline for some 3 kilometres which will bring clean water to the village including a school and a health clinic and also to those living along the route of the pipeline.

The Club also was able to arrange an Australian District Grant of US\$10,000.00 and contributed \$12,800.00 of its own funds to completely finance the project. This project had initially been undertaken during John Bolton's year as President but had taken nearly 2 years to get off the ground due to the delay in obtaining the co-operation of the Rotary Club of Dili and then satisfying the requirements of RI to obtain the grant. In June Liz Grey advised that due to the problems that would be encountered in installing the pipeline, the nature of the project had been changed and instead eight (8) very large water tanks had been installed to collect rain water which would go a great way in overcoming the current problems.

The Club also successfully nominated Alison French to receive a Rotary Global Grant Scholarship enabling her to study at Oxford University for a year to obtain her Master's degree.

In August the **Vocational Service Committee** arranged a visit to the Centenary Institute in Camperdown for a number of members and wives/partners. The Institute is a world-leading independent medical research institute. Its strength is in uncovering disease

mechanisms and applying the knowledge so gained to improve diagnostics and treatment of patients. The visit was very informative and worthwhile for those who attended.

In October the Committee arranged the annual Pride of Workmanship night with The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian as the Guest of Honour and who gave an impressive speech summarising the programme. The awardees on the night were-

1. Pride of Workmanship Awards  
Dr. Ruth Ratner – Northbridge General Practitioner  
Susan Peake – Pre-school teacher and contributor to Neighbourhood Watch
2. Community Service Awards  
Sally Peake – Bushcare Volunteer for ten (10) years  
Pat Gray – Community Volunteer with Meals-on-Wheels and a Pink Lady Librarian at RNSH, inaugural member of the Combined Northbridge Probus Club and a Committee Member at Northbridge Golf Club  
Glenda Bones – Head Teach at Rotary Sew Aid Programme.

In February the Committee organised a private viewing by members and partners of the exhibition at the Art Gallery of N.S.W. of the then current exhibition 'The Great' of paintings from the National Galleries of Scotland.

In August the **Youth Committee** under the leadership of PP Peter Grinter again assisted in the presentation of the finals of the Rostrum 'Voice of Youth' programme which were held in the Legislative Council Chamber at the New South Wales Parliament House but preceded by a cocktail party hosted by the State Governor, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley at Government House. A number of the members acted as time keepers and other officials in the event with more of our members in the audience.

The Committee also arranged for the Club to sponsor Emily Wu & Ayesha Ray-Kirsh to attend the Winter RYPEN weekend camp in July and Alisha Ashokan & Josephine Maltese to attend the Summer RYPEN weekend camp in January. All four girls were pupils at Willoughby Girls' High School. Also the Committee arranged for the Club to sponsor Alice Zhang & Joseph McCrossin to attend the RYLA camp in January. All six attendees attended Club meetings and favourably reported on the benefits of the camps which they had attended.

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As to **Membership** of the Club, the year started with 49 Active Members and 11 Honorary Members. During the year the club gained 5 new Active Members being Garth Carter, Jon Gidney, Helen Gulson, Alan Hession & Kevin Tatteri. On the other hand, the Club lost 1 Active Member being Norma Eaton to finish the year with 53 Active Members and 11 Honorary Members.

### **2016 – 2017 'ROTARY SERVING HUMANITY'**

The thirty- second Annual Change-over Dinner was once more held at Orso at The Spit with P.P. Barry Anderson as MC for the night. Special Guests on this occasion were The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian M.P. N.S.W. Deputy Premier and Treasurer and Honorary Member of the Club and Alison French who, on the nomination of the Club, was the successful awardee of a Rotary Global Grant Scholarship enabling her to study at Oxford University for a year and complete her Master's Degree. The toast to Rotary International was proposed by Liz Grey, the outgoing Rotary Foundation Director and duly honoured by those present. After the entrée had been served and eaten President John gave a summary of his year as President and then proceeded to award a number of the trophies. As a couple of the intended recipients were not at the function the awarding of those trophies was postponed to another occasion. The trophies then awarded were-

Community Cup	Sally O'Neill
First to Break	Michael Bartok
Do It Now	Ranald Stewart
Participation Shield	Peter Hodgson

Following the main meal President John with the assistance of Gladys Berejiklian awarded Paul Harris Recognitions P.P. Noel Phelan, Karin Eurell and Derek Matz all of whom were heartily approved by those present. President John was then joined by P.E. Paul Sullivan and the chain of office formally transferred. President Paul gave a short speech focusing on his plans for the Club for the next twelve months and concentrating on the new Rotary theme of Serving Humanity. He then introduced his Board for the year-

President-elect,	Vice
President & Club Service	Bob Edwards
Chair	
Secretary	Don Landers
Treasurer	John Bolton
Membership Director	John Garrett
International Director	Liz Grey

Community Service Director	Peter McNair
Vocational Service Director	Kim Wilkins
Youth Service Director	Yvette Boulos
Communications and PR Director	Ramald Stewart
The Rotary Foundation Director	Chris Switzer
Immediate Past President	John Turner

The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

Subsequently P.P. John Turner presented the following remaining trophies from his presidential year

President's Cup	Peter McNair
Kobe Cup	Valda Andrews
Momoe Award	Marillyn Stewart

In relation to **Community Service**, during the preceding year, through the efforts of P.P. Noel Phelan, the Club had developed a close working relationship with Taldumande, a charity centred in the Neutral Bay area that endeavoured to improve the situation and livelihood of young people who were experiencing problems in their normal domestic relationships. During that year the Club participated in the erection of a pergola at the Neutral Bay property which was completed this year. Bunnings Warehouse Chatswood kindly donated a lot of the material required for this project. P.P. Noel also undertook a speaking program, coupled with his position as an ambassador for the National Maritime Museum, to spread the word about the work of Taldumande to other Rotary Clubs in the District which achieved the desired result of creating a 'Rotary Taldumande Support Program' and getting a number of other Clubs to undertake the responsibility of assisting in the maintenance of the various properties used by Taldumande to provide homes for those in need.

In the year 2008-2009 on the winding up of Sydney Enterprise Education Inc. (SEE) an amount of \$42,460.65 was transferred to the Club by that Association as its committee wished to wind up the operations of the Association. The funds were transferred to the Club on the basis that they would be held in trust and applied for the purpose of assisting worthy young people to be able to get ahead in life who were otherwise financially incapable of assisting themselves. Over the intervening years numerous attempts were made to source an avenue which satisfied the criteria set by the committee of SEE but without success. However, having started to work with Taldumande it was found that a number of the young people who were being assisted by that charity were in need of some financial assistance to enable them to further their education, usually of a tertiary nature. This often was the need for a laptop computer as more and more courses are now conducted on line. This has now lead to a series of small grants being made to various young people for various educational purposes but particularly in the purchase of laptop

computers. The ability to maximise the benefit of this program was achieved by being able to arrange with Microsoft to supply fully reconditioned laptop computers installed with all necessary programs for a cost of \$300.00 each. The grant program got under way in early 2017 and by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 a total of seven (7) grants had been made

Throughout the year the Club continued to service its collection box at the Northbridge Plaza in which the local population deposited books, mainly children's books and books for early learners which were distributed to charities and community groups in areas where there was a need for this material. The original box suffered so much wear and tear that it was necessary to have it replaced with a brand-new box which was kindly made and donated by the Northbridge Men's Shed. The collection of the books continued to increase with quite a lot of books more suitable for adults being donated. Accordingly, it was decided to have regular monthly book sales of these books at the Plaza. The first was held just before Christmas 2016 and some \$760.00 was raised. The children's books were donated wherever possible included two (2) suitcases full to Suva Hospital by one of the members who went on an ocean cruise that called at Suva.

The annual Tree of Joy collection of Christmas presents was once more conducted at the Plaza with some 800 presents being delivered to The Smith Family.

As a result of a talk by one of the Club's Guest Speakers the Club partnered with the Manmos Cycle Club to donate the charity 'Fresh Tracks' a specially prepared recumbent tricycle to aid the recovery of brain damaged children and young adults resulting from accidents and other traumatic events.

During Seniors Week, the Club again hosted its annual luncheon for some 80 senior members of the local community.

In June the Club sponsored a performance of 'Comedy for a Cause' at the Golf Club at which some 110 people attended, the evening raising in excess of \$3,000.00 for the Charities Account.

The **International Service Committee** had taken some time to find a suitable project in which to invest an amount of \$2,200.00 collected at a bucket collection at the Northbridge Plaza following the last cyclone through Vanuatu and which had been directed to the Club's Benevolent Fund. Finally, the Committee was able to arrange a partnering arrangement with the Rotary Club of Currumbin-Coolangatta-Tweed Heads to direct the money to the Vanuatu Agricultural College for the introduction of an aquaponic scheme to help local villages to become more self-sustaining.

In recognition of the centenary of the founding of **The Rotary Foundation** the Committee participated in the world-wide RI sponsored 'End Polio Now Appeal' by organising a bucket collection at the Northbridge Plaza in October which yielded a total collection of \$1,390. As the Bill Gates Foundation, had promised to match all collections for the appeal at the rate of 2 to 1. This meant that a total of \$4170 was raised for the appeal as a result of the Club's efforts.

In relation to the **Youth Committee**, two (2) young ladies, Niamh Lennon and Lora Chen were nominated to attend the RYLA camp in January and their applications were accepted by District and they duly attended the camp. They subsequently addressed the Club and it was quite obvious that they had really enjoyed the experience.

November again saw the **Vocation Service Committee** present another great Pride of Workmanship Award night with the following awards presented-

1. Pride of Workmanship Awards  
Ambulance Service of N.S.W. – North Sydney Sector represented by  
Sabeeha Toynton & Renee Oldfield  
Sharam Farahani – Australia Post Courier Service Representative  
Colleen Gudman – Fix Hairdressing, Northbridge  
David Shoebridge – Northbridge Public School – Band Master  
Lisbeth Lowe – Northbridge Public School – School Administration  
Manager  
Laurel Thorpe – Concierge of the Forum, St Leonards
2. Community Service Awards  
Grant Sheldon – Involvement with St. Marks Church, Northbridge  
Football Club, Progress Association. Clean Up Australia & Walcha  
Aboriginal Community  
Philip Peake – 1<sup>st</sup> Northbridge Sea Scouts.

As to **Membership** the Club started the year with 53 Active Members and 11 Honorary Members. During the year 3 new Active members were inducted into the Club being Eleanor Chevor, Angie Fernandes and Sueki Owen but on the other hand we lost 6 Active members being Dianne Ball, Yvette Boulos, Sydney Grolman, P.P. Ian Jones, Martin McCurrich, Ross Pickard to finish the year with 50 Active Members. Also, the Club elected 2 new Honorary members, Sydney Grolman & Ross Pickard, to finish the year with 13 Honorary Members. Also during the year our former Active Member and currently Honorary Member, Gladys Berejiklian, was elected by the Parliamentary Liberal Party of the State to be its leader and as a result thereof was sworn in as Premier of the State.

Finally, as to the **Finances** of the Club, the year closed with a healthy balance in the Club Account of \$13,588 and increase of \$4,862 over last year. In relation to charitable fundraising, the Club collected a net \$79,426 with a further \$19,164 coming through the Benevolent Fund from donors desiring a tax deduction for their donation, making a grand total for the year of \$98,590. The total of the moneys paid out to various charitable enterprises was \$80,893 from the Club's account and a further \$21,814 from the Benevolent Fund making a grand total for the year of \$102,707. The principal beneficiaries of these payments were the Vientiane Women & Youth Centre for Health and Education (\$12,500). Rotary Annual Fund (\$9,000), Rotary Polio Plus (\$5,800), Queensland Flood Relief programs (\$6,980), Nepal Earthquake Relief projects (\$6,500), Youth programs (\$3,870) & Indonesian projects (\$3,500). In addition, grants totalling

\$2,690 were made from the SEE Account through Taldumande to young people to assist them in the furtherance of their education.

### **2017 – 2018 ‘ROTARY MAKING A DIFFERENCE’**

The thirty-third Change-over dinner was held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at Boronia House Spit Junction with over 70 members, partners and guests in attendance. MC Karin Eurell having called the meeting to order a toast to Rotary International was proposed by Chris Switzer, the then current Rotary Foundation Director and honoured by the meeting. Shortly thereafter President Paul Sullivan with the assistance of our Honorary Member, Mayor Gail Giles-Gidney rose to present the Paul Harris Recognitions. Whilst the Club had wished to recognise the efforts of three (3) intended recipients, only one was present on the night and Therese Stubbs was duly presented with her well-earned award. The other two (2) intended recipients were duly honoured at a later occasion in a regular Club meeting when it can be arranged.

Later in the evening President Paul delivered his report as to the activities for the year touching on the various activities that had been undertaken and the funds raised and the recipients of those funds. Then as a break from tradition he advised that it was not his intention to award any of the Club’s perpetual trophies but that he wished to honour a few relatively new members for their outstanding performances during the year and a couple of very long serving members similarly by naming them and presenting them with a bottle of champagne. Those so honoured were-

Rob Coote	His co-ordination of the Fireworks
Alan Hession	Stepping in at short notice to take over the Speaker Program
Kevin Tattrie	Stepping in and taking over the role of Youth Director
Kim Wilkins	His running of the Vocational Services Committee during his first year as a Board Member
Don Landers	The completion of his eleventh year as Secretary of the Club
Peter Hodgson	His role as Attendance Officer.

President Paul then formally called on President-Elect Derek Matz to officially assume the office of President and was adorned with the ever increasing weighty chain of office. President Derek outlined his plans for the coming year and introduced his Board which will comprise –

President	Derek Matz
Vice-President	David Clancy
Immediate Past President	Paul Sullivan
President-Elect	Ranald Stewart
Secretary	Liz Grey
Treasurer	Michael Bartok
Club Service Director	Alan Hession

Community Service Director	Rob Coote
Communications & PR Director	Ros Virtue
International Service Director	Ian Burnet
Membership Director	Peter McNair
The Rotary Foundation Chair	Ranald Stewart
Vocational Service Director	Kim Wilkins
Youth Service Director	Kevin Tattrie

At a subsequent regular meeting of the Club in July IPP Paul Sullivan advised that contrary to his comments at the Change-over Dinner there was one trophy that he did intend to award and then made presentations of the following to a couple who were not present at the Change-over Dinner being-

1. Valda Andrews – a Paul Harris Recognition and
2. Sally O'Neill – the Participation Shield.

Shortly into the new year, Kim Wilkins was obliged to resign from the Board due to a health problem and he was replaced by Garth Carter.

In April, in response to an invitation received from our sister club, the Rotary Club of Tokyo Suginame to attend a special function in Tokyo being held by that Club to mark the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the chartering of that club, PE Ranald Stewart and PP Masanori Ohtani lead a delegation of members, some with wives, to Japan to attend the function and then to have a short holiday in Japan on a tour organised by Masanori.

Towards the end of this year the Club undertook the Visionary Strategy to help guide the Club over the next five (5) years.

The **Community Service Committee** no longer had the constant pressure of the Net Ball Barbecues as the Club Willoughby property was being redeveloped and the net ball courts closed. On the other hand, this had a large impact on the receipt of money into the Charities Account. Accordingly, in August the inaugural Bridge Day was held at the former Bowling Club building. The lunch was catered by the Club members and there were 40 tables of players. A little over \$4,000.00 was raised on the day for the benefit of Mary's House and Disaster Aid.

The beginning of the current Rotary year saw the completion by the **International Service Committee** of the project started in 2015 -2016 following the severe earthquakes in Nepal which resulted in the destruction of many buildings throughout the country. Having raised money through a bucket appeal at the Northbridge Plaza and the receipt of a generous donation from a private donor, the Club was able to get a grant from RI which enabled it to work with the Rotary Clubs of Kathmandu, Nepal and Skivehus, Denmark to undertake through HIPRON a Danish/Nepali NGO the rebuilding of two (2) of the classroom buildings at Sagar Bhakanje in a remote part of Nepal. The project having been completed thus allowing the school to fully reopen, two (2) members visited Nepal and trekked to the area to assess whether the Club could assist further with the reconstruction work in the village. Before their leaving Australia the Club raised \$2,000.00 which covered the cost of in excess of 150 kits for 'Days For Girls.' While

there, the Club members were able to arrange for an initial distribution to the young ladies of the school of 65 kits to ensure that their attendance at school was not otherwise interrupted.

During the month of March, a sudden bushfire did considerable damage to the Town of Tathra with many homes being destroyed. The Club held a bucket collection at the Plaza over one weekend and raised just over \$3,100.00 which will be applied to some relief program that will be arranged through the Rotary Club of Bega.

As usual a luncheon was held for the Senior Citizens of the suburb to mark Seniors Week. However, this year the format was changed in that the invitation list was strictly limited to locals and the function was held at the Northbridge Golf Club which provided the necessary catering

The project of supplying a proper water system to Lete Foho in Timor L'Este having been virtually completed the **International Service Committee** decided to continue in the water business and working with Nusa Tenggara Association in Indonesia undertook the provision of 14 water tanks in villages on the island of Flores in Indonesia, very close to Timor. It was estimated that each tank would be a 15,000-litre tank constructed of ferro-cement and cost an average of \$25.00 which would include the cost of installation and connection to water supply from roofs of nearby buildings.

In February 2018 the **Vocational Service Committee** again organised a very successful Pride of Workmanship event at which the Club's Honorary Member the Honourable Gladys Berejiklian, Premier of New South Wales once more presented the awards to the various recipients who were-

1. Pride of Workmanship

Tim Sheerman	StreetWork
John Vaughan	Vexillology
Keryn Ward	Manager – Northbridge Plaza

2. Community Service Awards

Lesley Berry	Volunteer Gardener at Northbridge Golf Club
David Herridge	Parent Volunteer at 1 <sup>st</sup> Northbridge Sea Scouts
Geoffrey West	Organiser of the weekly J.P. Desks at the Northbridge Library & Plaza

The start of 2018 saw a flurry of activity on the part of the **Youth Committee** with the sponsoring of the undermentioned attendees at the respective programs-

1. RYLA – Clare Paynter, Geoffrey Mai & Dylan Gillespie
2. RYPEN (Summer Camp) – Hitza Gillani & Lauren Mai both from Willoughby Girls High School and
3. RYPEN (Winter Camp) – Anjail D'Cunha again from Willoughby Girls High School
4. CONCO SCIENCE EXPERIENCE – Portia Simon & Jacqueline Berthols again both from Willoughby Girls High School.

#### 5. RAIC – Helena Greenwell – yet again from Willoughby Girls' High School

As to **Membership** the Club started the year with 50 Active and 13 Honorary members. During the year the club inducted 5 new Active Members being Peter Fehon, Luke Keighery, Andrew Rennie, Darren Smith & Denise Woodward but lost 2 Active Members, being Sueki Owens & Darren Smith, to finish the year with 53 Active Members. There was no change in relation to the Honorary membership of the Club.

Finally, as to the **Finances** of the Club, the year closed with a balance in the Club Account of \$8,573. Whilst this was a decrease from the previous year, the Club had once more subsidised the cost of the Change-over Dinner and provided new shirts and caps for the members at a cost of \$4,403. In relation to charitable fundraising, the Club collected a net \$64,046 with a further \$14,654 coming through the Benevolent Fund, making a grand total of \$78,700. A major blow to the fundraising activities of the Club was in respect of the annual Fireworks Spectacular. The weather on the night was bad and numbers were down as a result the net from this activity was some \$13,000 less than the previous year. The total paid out to various charities and other worthy causes out of the money collected by the Club was \$41,198 with a further \$18,100 coming from the Benevolent Fund, making a grand total of \$59,298. The principal beneficiaries were the Early Ed project (\$7,000), Youth Projects (\$5,165), Indonesian Water Projects (\$2,749), the Seniors' Lunch (\$2,735, )Rotary Annual Fund (\$6,000) the Vientiane Women & Youth Centre for Health and Education (\$12,000), Rotary Polio Plus (\$3,520), Rural Fire Brigade (\$3,500), Tathra Fire Appeal (\$3,109), Disaster Aid Australia (\$2,000), ShelterBox (\$3,000) and Mary's House (\$2,000), Day for Girls (\$2,100), The Rotary Foundation (\$3,000). In addition, grants totalling \$4,022 were made from the SEE Account through Taldumande to young people to assist them in the furtherance of their education.

#### **2018 – 2019 - 'BE THE INSPIRATION'**

The thirty-fourth Changeover Dinner was held once more at Orso Restaurant, The Spit, Mosman. There was an attendance of 71 members, partners and guests including guests of honour A.G. Ward Pollard and Mayor Gail Giles-Gidney. Once the meeting got under way with P.P. Paul Sullivan as the M.C. the first item of business was the presentation of a Paul Harris Recognition to Geoffrey Duggin for his continuous service to the various projects of the Club that required physical attendance to ensure their success. After the main course President Derek gave his report on the year's achievements which once again were very laudable. During his address President Derek advised that in lieu of making the usual awards of the Club's standard trophies he proposed to present one specific award to Kevin Tattrie for his outstanding assistance to the IT front and for the great success of the various youth programs that Kevin had achieved as the Youth Service Director during the year which he then proceeded to do. President Derek went on to present several Presidential Award Certificates to the following for outstanding service to the Club generally and to him personally in some cases particularly, during the year-

Liz Grey (Secretarial Duties)

P.P. Peter McNair



Karin Eurell  
 Rob Coote (The Fireworks)  
 Sally O'Neill (Barbeques & Sailability)  
 Momoe Ohtani  
 P.P. John Turner &  
 P.E. Ranald Stewart

He then formally inducted P.E. Ranald Stewart into the office of President of the Club for the year 2018 – 2019 and decorated him with the presidential chain of office. President Ranald then proceeded to outline his policies for the forthcoming year and wound up by introducing his Board and Committee Chairs as follows-

#### **Board**

Fay Petrou	President-elect 2019-2020
P.P. Derek Matz	Immediate Past President
P.P. John Turner	Vice-President
Liz Grey	Secretary
P.P. John Bolton	Treasurer
Jon Gidney	Director – Club Service
Rob Coote	Director – Community Service
Ian Burnet	Director – International Service
P.P. Peter McNair	Director – Membership
Valda Andrews	Director – The Rotary Foundation
Kevin Tattrie	Director – Youth Service
Karin Eurell	Chair – PR/Communications

The evening closed with the singing of the National Anthem

Having adopted the Visionary Strategy programme late last Rotary year, it was started to be introduced firstly through the activities of the **Club Service Committee**, particularly in the fundraising activities if the Sergeant. Throughout the year several further Club forums were held dealing with the activities of other committees.

Finally the **Community Service Committee** was able to dispose of an amount of \$3,200.00 remaining in the Charities Account and Benevolent Fund from money raised in the bucket appeal held last year to raise funds for the relief of suffering caused by Cyclone Debbie in Queensland and northern N.S.W. The Club partnered with the Rotary Clubs of Townsville and Sarina to assist 30 school children to bus to school in Swayneyville following the closure of roads caused by the cyclone and still not repaired.

August was a busy month with the Club holding a bucket appeal and book sale over one weekend to raise money to assist the drought-stricken farmers of country New South Wales and an amazing amount of \$x was collected from the local community. In the following week a Bridge Day was held at the Golf Club at which 22 tables of players participated, raising money for Kids Like Bret and the current water project in Timor L'Este.

Again in November the Club hit the ground running, firstly with the function 'Clink for a Cause' to raise money for various Club projects. Andrew Rennie made his gallery available for the function and Luke Keighery's cousin provided a wine tasting of Two Furlong wines from his vineyard in Mudgee, raising in excess of \$2,400. This was closely followed by the Club's participation in the District project 'Soar & Roar' to raise money for the Special Olympics. Two teams, totalling about 20 members were involved at Bradfield Park and Luna Park, North Sydney on the day.

In March the Club once more, for the 32<sup>nd</sup> time, conducted an extremely successful presentation of its annual Community Family Fireworks Spectacular under the continued leadership of Rob Coote. Over 3,100 people attended the event. On the following Tuesday at the regular Club meeting President Ranald presented Rob with a Rotary District Community Service award for his considerable work with Rotary, particularly in relation to the Fireworks.

In April the **Vocational Service Committee** arranged the annual Pride of Workmanship evening, the guest of honour being our Honorary Member, the Premier of New South Wales The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian who made presentations to –

1. Pride of Workmanship  
Sandra Chow – Inner Cravings, Northbridge Plaza  
Jackie & Berj Yardemian – Pizza Tutti, Northbridge
2. Community Service Awards  
Dr. Chris Charlton, - founder and proprietor of the  
Castlecrag Chiropractic Clinic for his service to the  
public through his practice  
Ian Foster & John Kelly - - founders and organisers  
of the Bold and Beautiful Swim Club at Manly beach  
Bill (the barber) Pappas Formerly of Northbridge but  
now of Willoughby for his dedication as a player and  
coach of the Northbridge Football Club over 45  
years.

All the ground work of the **Youth Committee** during the first half of the year came to fruition in January with attendees, mainly from Willoughby Girls High School attending the following –

- RYPEN – Summer Camp – Lana Tims, Zali Bichta, Carla Murphy & Phoenix Warner
- UNSW Women in Engineering – Charlotte Han
- RYLA – Kaos Ludovic & Nicholas Muscat
- Conoco Phillips Science Experience – Susie Agudero & Zoe Lepro

Also attendees were confirmed for RAIC later in the year – Nitya Sethi & Alaa Douadi. The Committee had also been involved with other Rotary Clubs in the area with the Federal Member for North Sydney in exploring the possibility of chartering a Rotaract

Club of North Sydney and the first interest meeting was held in January with a good attendance of potential members. The viability of the Club continued to grow during the remainder of the current Rotary year.

Following up on groundwork undertaken in the prior year the **SEE Committee** Developed a great working relationship with Taldumande by being able to provide worthy clients of that organisation with various tools, particularly laptops, to enable them to undertake various courses thereby being able to improve job expectation. In the year the Committee was able to help a total of X clients for a total cost of \$2,901.00. This result was largely able to be achieved due to the generosity of Workventures in supplying refurbished laptops at very cheap prices and in many cases, at no cost at all.

In relation to **Membership** the Club started the year with 53 Active Members and 13 Honorary Members. During the year the Club gained 4 new Active Members, being Amy Brittain, Graham Foxcroft, Susan Law, Peter Russell but lost 2 Active members, being P.P. David Clancy & George Raffan. Also P.P. David Clancy was elected as an honorary member of the Club so that we finished the year with 55 Active Members and 14 Honorary Members.

On the subject of money, a total of \$93,228.00 was raised during the year from the Club's fundraising activities and donations to the Benevolent Fund. By far the largest contributor to this result was the Family Fireworks Spectacular which raised a net profit of \$45,033.00. The largest recipient of funds from this bonanza was the funds provided to the Drought Relief Appeal to benefit farmers of \$25,689. Also the Vientiane Women and Youth Clinic in Laos which received \$12,000.00. The Club also increased its activities in Youth Programs which incurred costs of \$7,610.00. Also the Club's International projects in Timor L'Este and Nepal cost \$15,936.00. In all a total of \$103,613.00 was spent on charitable payments and donations.

In relation to the **financial affairs** of the Club for the year, the year closed with balances in the various accounts as follows-

1. Club account - \$10,486.68
2. Charities Account - \$25,643.25
3. Benevolent Fund - \$731.73
4. Sydney Enterprise Education Account - \$43,884.70

During the year a total of \$101,241.59 was raised for the charitable projects of the Club, approximately half of this amount passing through the Benevolent Fund and according the various donors a tax deduction for their donations. Donations to the various charitable projects totalled \$119,961.30, the major recipients being the Timor-Leste project (\$56,395.67), StreetWork (\$22,000.00) and ShelterBox Australia (\$7,200.00, Ellimatta Youth facility at Kingslake , Victoria though the Rotary Club of Diamond Creek for the erection of fencing destroyed in the Black Saturday fires (\$7,000.00) and for construction of wells in Africa (\$3,000.00). In all 35 different organisations and charities benefitted from the Club's activities during the year

## **2019 – 2020 – ‘ROTARY CONNECTS THE WORLD’**

The 35<sup>th</sup> annual Change-over dinner was held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at the Gunners Barracks, Mosman, a venue which was first visited by the Club for this purpose some ten years previously. Our guests of honour for the night were the PGD duo of Harold Sharpe and Gina Growden. After welcoming the guests of honour, visitors and members present President Ranald gave his report for the year and then proceeded presented Paul Harris Recognitions to –

Robert Coote	Service to the Club particularly in relation to the presentation of the Fireworks Spectacular this year and previously
Elizabeth Grey (Sapphire Pin)	Continued service to the Club particularly in relation to secretarial matters and the International projects undertaken
Kevin Tattrie	Service to the Club particularly in relation to the activities of the Youth Service program.

President Ranald also then presented Certificates of Meritorious Achievement to Valda Andrews, Eleanor Chevour, Karen Eurell, Angie Fernandes, Helen Gulson, Alan Hession & Kim Wilkins for many and varied ways in which, during the year, they had advanced the cause of Rotary through their service to the Club. Following the meal PDG Harold Sharpe was formally introduced and gave a very inspiring address to the Club. President Ranald then called up President -elect Peter Antaw, the leading member of the troika destined to preside over the Club during the coming year and formally invested him with the chains of office, holding such office as and from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019. P.E. Peter addressed the meeting and introduced the rest of the leadership team for the coming year, including the two Presidents-in-waiting who will preside over the Club in the second and third trimesters respectively, the other Board members, including three members to be appointed to fill casual vacancies that have occurred since the election of office-bearers at the 2018 A.G.M. and finally two committee chairs as follows –

Derek Matz	Vice President
Peter Grinter & Malcolm Lye	Presidents-in-waiting
Kevin Tattrie	President -elect 2020-2021
Immediate Past President	Ranald Stewart
Jon Gidney	Treasurer-nominee
Liz Grey	Secretary
Garth Carter	Director – Vocational Service
Rob Coote	Director – Community Service
Luke Keighery	Director – International Service
Sally O’Neill	Director – Fund Raising
Fay Petrou	Director-Nominee – Club Service
John Turner	Director – Membership
Denise Woodward	Director-nominee – Youth Service

Valda Andrews  
Karen Eurell

Chair – TRF Committee  
Chair – P.R/Communications

The evening concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

January 2020 saw the start of the spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and in due course the impact of the virus was felt by the Club. By March, due to the advent of the self-isolation and social distancing rules prescribed by the Government, all plans for future fund-raising events had been cancelled. By the end of March it was necessary to cease all meetings of the members on a Tuesday night and of the Board. At this time the advances in intellectual technology came to the fore and at first the Board started meeting regularly online and in due course plans were put in place for regular meetings of the members also being conducted online. This eventuated in April, initially on a fortnightly basis.

Returning to the activities of the various committees before the advent of COVID-19 (BC), in August 2019 the **Club Service Committee** arranged for a group of some 22 members and partners to attend a live presentation of the television program 'Q & A' at the Ultimo studios of the ABC. It was a very enjoyable experience for those who attended with several topics being discussed. The one which seems to have captured the interest of a lot of the attendees was the subject of the ongoing debate as to an Aboriginal Voice in the Parliament enshrined in the Constitution.

Again in August the Committee started a trial whereby any member who wished to attend the meeting but did not wish to partake of a meal would only pay \$5.00 towards the costs incurred by the Club in holding the meeting instead of the usual \$30.00 which includes \$25.00 for the caterer.

In August, through our member Susan Law, the Club and in particular the **Community Service Committee** became involved with the Rotary Club of Wellington N.S.W. Due to the severe drought it was evident that whole families on the land were suffering but the children were being overlooked. In an effort to alleviate some of their suffering, our Club decided to partner with our country cousins in arranging and financing a day trip for every primary school child in the Wellington Educational Area to the Dubbo Zoo, including a barbecue lunch. There were approximately 750 children involved and the Zoo visits were conducted over a period of 10 weeks with a number of our members going to Wellington to assist in the running of the visits and the cooking of lunch. To further raise funds to be able to continue helping to support the Rotary Club of Wellington in their endeavours to assist their community, a bucket appeal was held over a weekend in October as a result of which a total of a little over \$6,000.00 was raised. The Club received a Certificate of Appreciation for its involvement in the project from St. Mary's Catholic School, Wellington.

In furtherance of the Club's involvement with the Wellington District, our Club members went through their and their wives' stores of cosmetics and associated items and collected as many items as possible and sent them to the Wellington Club for distribution to appropriate recipients.

In October the Club again conducted a bucket appeal at the Plaza for funds for the relief of drought-stricken farmers and we raised an amount just shy of \$20,000.00. This was followed the next month with yet another bucket appeal at the Plaza to raise funds for victims of the severe bushfires then devastating the mid north coast of New South Wales. This raised just under \$16,000.00. Two months later we were back again asking for money for the victims of the fires then raging down the South Coast, and nearly \$26,000.00 to date has been raised. This is a grand total of some \$61,500.00

The money raised in the Drought Appeal was donated to Drought Angels Ltd while the money raised in the first Bushfire Appeal was distributed through a local Rotary Club program of financially assisting local residents who had lost everything. The money from the second appeal, in the main, was contributed to a fund established by local Rotary Clubs to rebuild the Kiah Pavilion near Eden with the residue being donated to a fund created by the local Clubs for the rehabilitation of Boomerang Indigenous Centre in Mogo.

In dealing with funds raised by means of these appeals when, quite often, there are national appeals being conducted to raise substantial funds for the same cause, the Club has found that whilst the needs of the individual victims of the particular disaster were being financially met by the national appeals, often the repair or replacement of community amenities destroyed did not qualify for such assistance. We know these amenities can assist devastated communities to achieve some return to normality so to overcome this problem our Club chose to work with the local Rotary Club in the affected area and direct funds to helping restore those amenities and allow the local community to rebuild as an interacting community.

In the middle of all this, the Club conducted its regular annual 'Tree of Joy' at the Plaza to solicit Christmas presents for The Smith Family's Annual Toy and Book Appeal for underprivileged children. This appeal resulted in our collecting enough presents to fill 24 waist-high, 75 litre, self-standing green plastic garden rubbish bags. Another magnificent effort by the local Community!

The Club was still actively involved with Taldumande during the year, erecting garden sheds at two of its refuge properties.

On the **International Service** front both the Club and the Benevolent Fund received certificates from ShelterBox confirming their appointment as Emerald Club Supporters having each donated over \$10,000.00 to the charity.

April saw the completion of the latest project undertaken by the Club in association with the Nusa Tenggara Association of Indonesia. The project which was initiated in 2017-2018, was for the manufacture and installation of a number of water tanks on the island of Flores in eastern Indonesia and for which a District Grant was successfully applied for. April also saw the number of appeals from Clubs, both locally and overseas, for funds to help overcome problems associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. The Rotary Club of

Kathmandu, with whom we have had joint projects in the past, was seeking to raise money to purchase personal protective equipment (PPE) for health workers in their local hospitals. The Club undertook to make a donation and to apply for a matching District Grant to double the gift. The application for the grant was duly approved and the Club was able to remit \$6,000.00 to the Rotary Club of Kathmandu which, together with other money raised by that Club, was used to purchase food packages for needy families and medical supplies, including PPE and washstands for local hospitals.

Following a request from a contact in Dili, Timor L'Este, the Club was able to source by way of donations and purchases, vital equipment required by the one of only two qualified Nurse & Midwife Educators in the country to enable them to continue with their work in educating trainee nurses in their profession so as to enable more trained nurses to be able to service rural and remote areas of the country.

The **Youth Service Committee** got its program for the year underway by sponsoring the Gratefulness Program for years 5 & 6 at St. Philip Neri Catholic Primary School, Northbridge for which the Club duly received a Certificate of Appreciation. The RYPEN Summer Camp was held in January and the Club sponsored three (3) young ladies from Willoughby Girls High School to attend. Unfortunately with the advent of COVID-19 and the restrictions placed on the population all other programs for the year were cancelled.

In August, the **Fund-Raising Committee** ran the annual Bridge Day at the Golf Club and raised just over \$4,000.00 from the event.

In November the **Vocational Service Committee** once more conducted the mock interviews at Willoughby Girls High School for the year 10 students, interviewing in excess of 100 young ladies with the usual successful outcome.

In March the annual Pride of Workmanship Awards Night was held, again with Premier Gladys Berejiklian being the guest of honour and formally presenting awards to:

**Pride of Workmanship Awards**

Dr. Michael Burke

Dr. Tim Clark

**Community Service Awards**

Elaine Ablett

Michelle Barry

Rosemary Bekker

Warringah HQ R.F.S. accepted by Captain Luke Robinson

As to **Finances**, the Club was severely affected over the last four (4) months of the Rotary year by the Covid-19 pandemic with major fundraising activities having to be cancelled and the Club ceasing to meet physically. Whilst the Club account ran at a loss for the year, it still closed the year with a credit of \$5,602. As a result of two (2) appeals

to the local residents for funds for bushfire relief programs and a further appeal for drought relief programs, a total of \$110,182 was raised. In all a total of \$139,977 was raised by the Club and through the Benevolent Fund. The major beneficiaries of the fundraising were Ermera Timor L'Este Water Project (\$41,523), Bushfire Relief (\$31,752), Farm/Drought Relief (\$10,451), the Vientiane Women & Youth Centre (\$9,700) and ShelterBox (\$5,000).

As to **Membership**, the Club started the year with 55 Active Members and 14 Honorary Members. During the year the Club did not induct any new Active Members, but lost 3 Active Members being, Dennis Fernandez, Graham Foxcroft and P.P. Lee Jackson. Also the Club gained 1 new Honorary Member being P.P. Lee Jackson but lost Russell Bennett as an Honorary Member. The Club finished the year with 52 Active Members and 14 Honorary Members.

### **2020 – 2021 – ‘ROTARY OPENS OPPORTUNITIES’**

The 36<sup>th</sup> Change-over of the Club was held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020 under unprecedented and unique circumstances due to the onset of the Covid-19 virus and the imposition of the lockdown by the Government and the social distancing requirements. It was a ZOOM meeting held online under the chairmanship of the last of the presidential troika, Malcolm Lye. With a large proportion of our members logged into the meeting, we were joined with our guest of honour, Mayor Gail Giles Gidney’ our current ADG Ward Pollard and future ADG John Zhang all of whom were officially welcomed by President Malcolm. The three Presidents for the year each gave a short report as to the activities of the Club during their respective periods of presidency and each made two (2) presentations of Certificates of Appreciation as follows:

1. P.P. Peter Antaw – dubbed the ‘Drought President’ to Secretary Liz Grey for her assistance to all three presidents during the year and to Bob Farrar for his constant work on the Club website and Bulletin.
2. P.P. Peter Grinter – dubbed the ‘Bushfire President’, to Barry Anderson and John Garrett for their efforts in raising so much money.
3. P. Malcolm Lye – dubbed the ‘Covid President’, to Luke Keighery in recognition of the International Committee’s work during the year in Indonesia and Nepal. And to Don Landers for his efforts in keeping the Club connected during the lockdown with jokes and entertainment on the internet.

TRF Committee Chair Valda Andrews then presented Paul Harris Recognitions on behalf of the club to:

1. Kim Wilkins for his tireless work in the area of fund-raising, especially the book sales and the initiation of the ZOOM book club
2. Helen Gulson for her work in Club Service in producing the Bulletin each week and managing the weekly attendance over the past few years.



Mayor Gail addressed the Club, congratulating the Award recipients and the PHR recipients. She then spoke about the stressful times being experienced by many in the community over the past few months and the various services provided by the Council. President Malcolm thanked Mayor Gail and then proceeded to pass the chain of office to and induct Kevin Tatttrie as President for 2020-2021 who thanked the troika of Past Presidents for their work during the past year and outlined his plans for the forthcoming year. He closed by introducing the Board and Committee Chairs for the coming year being-

President	Kevin Tatttrie
Vice President	Ranald Stewart
Immediate Past President	Malcolm Lye
President-elect	Jon Gidney
Secretary	Liz Grey
Treasurer	Jon Gidney
Club Service Director	Peter McNair
Community Service Director	Eleanor Chevor
International Service Director	Luke Keighery
Membership Director	Peter Grinter
Youth Service Director	Susan Law
Vocational Service Director	Garth Carter
Fundraising Director	Sally O'Neill
The Rotary Foundation Committee Chair	Valda Andrews
PR/Communication Committee Chair	Peter Russell.

The Club started the year holding the regular weekly meeting on ZOOM but by 4<sup>th</sup> August the restrictions placed on gatherings such as the meetings were partially relaxed and actual physical meetings were resumed at the Golf Club subject to the maintenance of social distancing and a number of other restrictions. The meetings continued to be shared on ZOOM for those who still did not feel comfortable in attending the actual meetings.

In December the Club was not able to have the usual Christmas party due to the Covid-19 restrictions so a socially distanced dinner was held at Millers Kitchen in Cammeray. During the course of the evening, to acknowledge his service as the administrator of the affairs of the Benevolent Fund since its founding in 1990 and from which position he was then retiring, Don Landers was presented with a second Sapphire Pin to his PHR with letters of commendation from Premier Gladys Berejiklian and Willoughby City Council.

In March, following the severe flooding in both the northern and southern regions of the State, the Club held a bucket collection at the Northbridge Plaza over a weekend to raise funds to assist those who had lost everything in the floods. A total of \$5,210.00 was collected on the weekend. Subsequently further donations of \$4,300.00 were received bringing the total collections to \$9,510.00.

In September, under the leadership of the **Community Service Committee** the Club held a Food Drive to collect tinned and packaged food for distribution to charities which were trying to help people through the troubled times of job losses and reduced income due to the virus. Having leaf-dropped the whole suburb and adjoining areas and otherwise publishing the event, the locals were asked to deliver their contributions to a central point one Saturday. The result was fantastic with the gifts being distributed to Oz Harvest, StreetWork and Taldumande. From information supplied by the representative of Oz Harvest who collected their share of the collection, it was estimated that the food collected represented about 2,400 meals.

In June, at the behest of the Rotary Club of Wauchope and a cost of in excess of \$9,000.00, the Committee organised the purchase of new wind jackets for the 130 pupils at Telegraph Point Public School and the purchase of a large quantity of readers for the school library, the school having been devastated by the flooding of the Hastings River.

In December A Tree of Joy was once more conducted at the Northbridge Plaza with donations of books and toys for children being collected that filled 14 large Woolworth's trolleys. This year the presents were shared between Starlight Children's Foundation and Narang Muru, an Indigenous Children's & Family support organisation at Fairfield.

Also in December the Club became involved with the Rotary Clubs of Crows Nest, North Sydney and North Sydney Sunrise in the establishment of a D-CAF Café at the Crows Nest Community Centre. The Café will open monthly and provide a meeting point for people suffering from dementia to gather.

In relation to **The Rotary Foundation** 2 members, Robert Farrar and Therese Stubbs, by virtue of their contributions through the Centurion program, were awarded Sapphire Pins to their existing Paul Harris Recognitions

In October the **Fund Raising Committee** was able to start operations and get involved with the general public once again. Firstly under the leadership of P.P. Paul Sullivan, the Club held a Golf Day in association with Northbridge Golf Club and raised \$3,500.00 and secondly under the leadership of Sally O'Neill, the Club was able to once more man the sausage sizzle at Bunnings Chatswood raising a bit over \$1,300.00. Next came a Christmas Raffle in December which involved all members selling tickets at the Plaza over a couple of weeks before Christmas. The raffle sold approx. 2,000 tickets and made a profit for the Club of \$7,878.00. The main prize was donated generously by three (3) Club members.

Due to the Covid pandemic the activities of the **Youth Committee** were severely curtailed but in February the Club was able to sponsor an attendee, Kristine Zhang of Willoughby Girls High, to participate in an online RYPEN Summer Program which was a success to a limited extent.

As to **Membership**, the Club started the year with 52 Active Members and 14 Honorary Members. During the year 4 new members were inducted as Active Members, namely

Sabina Allman, Rhondda Kingsbury, Jane Lovett-Cameron & Maggie Shanahan. No new Honorary Members were appointed by the Board. On the other hand the Club lost 2 Active Members, namely, Peter Fehon and Susan Law. There was no change with the Honorary Members. The year finished with 54 Active Members and 14 Honorary Members.

### **2021 – 2022 – ‘SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES’**

Once more the Covid-19 pandemic assigned to the scrap heap any thought of a formal Change-over Dinner being held and had the result that outgoing President Kevin Tattrie earned himself the title of the ‘Lockdown President’. The change-over of the Club’s officers was celebrated by two (2) ZOOM meetings, 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> July at which 29 and 40 members attended respectively with the first meeting dedicated to outgoing President Kevin’s year and the second to that of the incoming President, Jon Gidney. At the second meeting the chains of office were virtually but no less formally handed over from Kevin to Jon, the formalities to be finalised physically at some future date. President Jon then addressed those present and formally introduced his new Board to the members, being comprised as follows-

Jon Gidney	President
Rob Coote	P.E & V.P.
Liz Grey	Secretary
Karin Eurell	Treasurer
Kevin Tattrie	I.P.P.
Garth Carter	Director – Youth & Vocational
Eleanor Chevor	Director – Community Service
Peter Grinter	Director – Membership
Helen Gulson	Director – Club Service
Alan Hession	Director – Fund Raising
Luke Keighery	Director – International
Peter Russell	Director – PR/Communications
Therese Stubbs	Director – T.R.F.

The meeting then had the pleasure of an address from Trent Zimmerman M.P. our local member of the Federal Parliament for the electorate of North Sydney and a Past President of the Rotary Club of North Sydney Sunrise. Trent’s talk was wide ranging over the affairs of state and was particularly enlightening in relation to the number of potential vaccines that were initially started and the problems faced by the Government in choosing where to place orders before any of the vaccines had been approved for use.

The activities of the Club were severely curtailed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The continued lockdowns initially resulted in the only contact between members being by way of ZOOM meetings. As 2021 progressed towards closure, things did become easier and some activity was enabled with a Book Sale being held at the Plaza and a barbeque held at Bunnings before the Omicron variant arrived and our Federal and State

Governments both adopted the “Let it rip” attitude causing massive increases in the number of hospitalisations and deaths.

February 2022 saw Russia’s invasion of the Ukraine. During March 2022, through donations from Club members, an amount in excess of \$6,000.00 was raised to support refugees from Ukraine who were being transported to Sweden through the efforts of our former Exchange Student Vicki Skure-Eriksson. This was followed up in May with Vicki joining the regular Club meeting by ZOOM and updating us with her activities and a large number of photographs. Also at the meeting as our official guest speaker was Rotarian Jaroslav Duma OAM, the Honorary Consul for Ukraine. He gave a stirring speech in support of his country’s position.

In March 2022, a small number of members also attended the District Conference at West HQ, Rooty Hill. Unfortunately at lunchtime on the second day we were advised that one of our club members had come down with the COVID19 virus and isolation was warranted, bringing our participation to an abrupt end.

As to **Community Service** the Club with the support and assistance of the Plaza was able to run a Tree of Joy in December which sourced about 300 presents from the local community for the benefit of the Starlight Foundation at Naremburn and Narang Muru of Fairfield.

In March the east coast of the State suffered severe flooding and many river towns and cities were flooded. A Bunnings Barbecue was dedicated to raising funds for an appeal for the victims and a total of \$1280 was raised.

As to **Fund Raising** the Club was just able to get in a Christmas raffle before the COVID19 wave of the Omicron variant hit, which raised a total of \$6,521.00 and in February the barbecues at Bunnings were able to be restarted with the first one raising \$1,450.00, and total proceeds for the year almost \$9,000. An incredible result in the circumstances.

In February a bucket collection was held at the Plaza to raise money for the rebuilding fund established in respect of the damage suffered by Tonga in a recent hurricane. This natural disaster obviously had not created the public interest as a local disaster would have done, as only \$1,072.00 was raised.

In May the Club was able to run the Family Fireworks at Northbridge Oval once more, the first time in 3 years. The event was a great success with the Oval packed with spectators. More to the point, the event allowed the Club to raise \$47,653 for the Charities Account.

As to **Youth Programs** after a hiatus of two (2) years the Club was able to participate in the Rostrum Voice of Youth program once more but only to a limited extent, again due to the pandemic. We only provided the adjudicators as they did not have to interact with the young people as the other officials involved are required to do.

**Vocational Service** was just able to squeeze in one project before the close of the Rotary year with the holding of a Pride of Workmanship night in June. Seven awards were presented by Kylea Tink the newly elected member-elect for the Federal Seat of North Sydney to the following-

**1. Pride of Workmanship Awards**

Andrew Maggio – Café and bakery proprietor

Tyson Makin – Youth Case Worker with StreetWork

Jason Robolakis – Proprietor of fitness clinic (Evolve)

Lin Ma & Yvonne Quach – Coffee Shop (Schmooze) proprietors

**2. Community Service Awards**

Henry Wong & Winnie Wong – Service to the community in relation to a community garden.

Tony Salerno – Service to the community as a good and helpful neighbour

Annette Nazaroff – Service to the community through her business Insights Consultants to StreetWork.

As to **Membership**, the Club started the year with 54 Active Members and 14 Honorary Members. During the year 4 new members were inducted as Active Members, namely Anjana Karki, Nash Karki, Richard McDonald and David Perabo. On the other hand the Club lost 6 Active Members, namely, Sabina Allman, Tony Clifford, Peter Hodgson, Noel Phelan, Andrew Rennie & Jane Lovett-Cameron. During the year one Honorary Membership was bestowed on Peter Hodgson while three honorary memberships were terminated, being Ross Pickard who died on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021, Warwick Penn who died on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021 and Peter Hodgson who died on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022. The year finished with 52 Active Members and 12 Honorary Members.

As to **Finances** which were once more affected by the COVID 19 pandemic, the Club account received a total of \$49,430 with expenses of \$54,263. This result ultimately triggered an increase in fees and a change of attitude in relation to the ‘No Shows’ at the regular weekly meetings.

On the other hand we were able to run the Family Fireworks which raised a net \$47,653. A total of \$87,301 was raised for the Charities A/c with a further \$6109 coming through the Benevolent Fund. The main recipients from these collections were the RI Annual Fund of \$8,000 and Polio Plus of \$4,000 and international projects of \$10,649.

**2022 – 2023 – ‘IMAGINE ROTARY’**

The 38<sup>th</sup> Change-over was held at the Sergeants’ Mess, Chowder Bay on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022 with a gathering of some 60 members, partners and guests. Our Guests of Honour for the night were the outgoing District Governor Lindsay May and his wife Tania. In his summary of the past year President Jon thanked everyone for their persistence in the face

of COVID. He even resolved to instigate the award of some of the trophies formerly awarded by the Club on these occasions with the following awards:

President's Cup	Elizabeth Grey
Community Cup	Helen Gulson
Do It Now Award	Peter Russell
Kobe Cup	Karin Eurell

The Momoe Award was not presented and the 'First to Break' Cup was formally retired. Therese Stubbs as TRF Director then announced the following awardees of Paul Harris Recognitions for service to the Club and the ideals of Rotary:

Alan Hession  
Marko Delatovic (Northbridge Golf Club)  
Jon Gidney

The chains of office were then handed over to our new President Rob Coote who addressed the meeting as to his plans for the coming year and introduced the new Board for the forthcoming year being:

Rob Coote	President
Luke Keighery	P.E & V.P.
Liz Grey	Secretary
John Bolton	Treasurer
Jon Gidney	I.P.P / PR/Communications
Helen Gulson	Director - Club Service
Peter Grinter	Director - Community Service
Fay Petrou	Director - Membership
David Perabo	Director - Fund Raising
Ian Burnet	Director - International
Peter Antaw	Director - Vocational & Youth
Therese Stubbs	Director - T.R.F.

The **Club Service Committee** got busy as soon as it was able to organise mass gatherings by organising a couple to theatre nights for groups of members, including one to another season of the Mouse Trap. In November a large group of members attended a demonstration organised by the RFS HQ at Terrey Hills with a barbecue meal to follow. The Committee also organised a very successful Christmas Party at Attimo Restaurant as the last regular weekly meeting of the Club for 2022.

The **Community Service** Committee got off to an early start by conducting another Food Drive in July to collect food a major part of which, being a total of 43 cartons, was transferred to the Lismore area to help overcome problems still being endured by the locals as a result of recent floods. The cartons were transferred free of charge by a friendly Lismore removalist company that has regular deliveries from Lismore to Sydney.

The local distribution was arranged through the Rotary Club of Summerland Sunrise. The remainder of the collection was donated to StreetWork and Taldumande.

With the ending of many of the pandemic restrictions placed on the community emic, the Club's participation in the monthly Dementia Café at Crows Nest with the representatives of the other three Clubs in the Zone restarted successfully with a minimum effort required. This allowed Club members to interact with members of the public suffering with dementia and their carers.

The Club in association with St. John's Ambulance and the Stroke Foundation and a grant of \$4,400 from Willoughby City Council to cover costs, undertook the organisation of a series of six (6) lectures and practical demonstrations and teaching of CPR and First Aid . There were a total of four (4) sessions over October and November with the final ones in December allowing a total of 144 participants and which were well supported by Club members and the general public.

As to **Fundraising** most aspects of life started to become normal once more the Club started having monthly book sales and manning Bunnings barbecues when offered.

Following further flooding in NSW Central West, over \$8000 was raised, with funds directed mainly through RC Parkes (and Northbridge PP Robert Shore) to buy uniforms for children attending Eugowra Public School and bulk supplies of citronella candles to reduce the mosquito impact]

In November the Club was able to run a Golf Day with Northbridge Golf club to aid to the funds of the Charities Account in March 2023, a Quiz Night with a Difference was introduced, combining a fun night of trivia with musical interludes, and raising over \$4000.

As to **Youth Programs**, in June we were back to full swing in our support of the Rostrum Voice of Youth program with 16 of our members attending or adjudicating and each reporting high standards, particularly from the young women participants. The Club also sponsored Soraya Mackay-Kaolin and Charlie Forin to RYLA 2023.

As to **Membership**, the Club started the year with 51 Active Members and 12 Honorary Members. During the year 3 new members were inducted as Active Members, namely Michelle Barry, Enzo Smith and Hugh Kelly. On the other hand the Club lost Denise Woodward and Karin Eurell. During the year Honorary Membership was bestowed on Don Landers, while 2 Honorary memberships were terminated, being Ron Erratt who died on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022 and Don Landers who died on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023. The year finished with 51 Active Members and 11 Honorary Members.

As noted, sadly on 9 January 2023 our esteemed Charter member, Don Landers passed away after a short illness. Active in the club since its inception in 1983, Don's knowledge, wit and enthusiasm is sorely missed. Don was a solicitor with various partnerships over the years. From the outset in Rotary his prodigious ability to record and recall the history of our Club has meant that we have been able to treasure the enormous contributions of our Club to our local community and beyond. He has listed all the office

bearers in his records so each of us can retrace our own involvement which otherwise would have faded from memory. Don served as Secretary for a long period and knew intimately our constitution and applicable laws which meant that our Club always operated safely and efficiently, a legacy he has passed on. But more importantly, while he drew attention to our obligations, he was always practical in his approach and sought solutions rather than conflict. Don truly upheld Rotary's motto – Service above Self.

Finally, as to Finances the Club account received a total of \$75,960.22 with expenses of \$72,607.81. Following Board discussion regarding the relatively low carrying value of reserves in the Club account, an increase in membership fees for the 2023/24 year to \$500 (from \$350 previously) was proposed, to be somewhat offset by a reduction in weekly dinner charges from \$33 to \$28.

In relation to the Charities account, given we were able to again host a successful Fireworks raising a net \$54,372.93, a net surplus of 15,197.88 was reported, after reserving for projects identified but not yet committed. The main recipients of funding paid and/or reserved were Taldumande \$7000, Streetwork \$5000, the CPR Training Project \$4,480, RFS \$3500 and a top up to the SEE Fund, facilitating a matching grant of \$5000.

### **2023 – 2024 – ‘CREATE HOPE IN THE WORLD’**

The 39th Change-over was held at Foys Restaurant in Kirribilli on 28th June 2023 with a gathering of some 60 members, partners and guests, including a large contingent of the incoming President's family. MC for the event was fellow Rotarian Karin Eurell. The evening was a celebration of the year just past and the successes of our projects and fundraising; it was also an opportunity to thank outgoing President Rob Coote and his Board for their exemplary leadership, and to welcome in the 2023/24 Board. In his summary of the past year President Rob thanked everyone for their contributions and he presented an award - the President's Cup - to Helen Gulson.

TRF Director, Therese Stubbs, then announced the award of Paul Harris Recognition for service to the Club and the ideals of Rotary to Eleanor Chevor.

The chains of office were then handed over to the incoming President – Luke Keighery - who addressed the meeting as to his plans for the coming year and introduced the Board for the 2023/24 Rotary year:

Luke Keighery	President
Peter Russell	P.E & V.P.
Liz Grey	Secretary
John Bolton	Treasurer
Rob Coote	I.P.P / Membership (to Dec 23)
Peter McNair	Director - Membership (from Jan 24)
Helen Gulson	Director - Club Service
Bob Edwards	Director - Community Service



Richard McDonald	Director - International
Joe Campisi	Director - Vocational & Youth
Jon Gidney	Director – PR/Communications
Therese Stubbs	Director - T.R.F.
Michelle Barry	Director – Fundraising

Early in the new Rotary year the Club welcomed District Governor Christine Owen along with Assistant Governor Mark Wallis to our meeting. Christine spoke about the progress on the Regionalisation Pilot along with her goals of having the District participate in a Zone-wide campaign: Say NO to Domestic Violence and Family Violence and Say YES to respectful relationships.

At the commencement of the new Rotary Year, Club members were introduced to Rotary International President – Gordon McNally - through a pre-recorded video. Gordon spoke about the theme for the year: “Create Hope in the World”. He emphasised the importance of continuity particularly in Rotary’s ongoing efforts to eradicate polio. Additionally, he wants members to work to promote peace in the world and to restore hope particularly in those nations affected by war.

As noted in the 2022/23 Annual Report, Charter member, Don Landers passed away on 9 January 2023 after a short illness. In July, Don was awarded posthumously a second Paul Harris medal; this was presented to his widow, Shush.

A highlight of the 2023/24 year was the celebration of the club’s 40th anniversary. A dinner celebration was held on Tuesday 6 February 2024 at Foy’s Restaurant Kirribilli with 90 guests (including a number of retired Past Presidents) enjoying a welcoming drink, sit down meal, memories, conversation and dancing. A highlight of the evening was long-serving Club member Joanne Coleman giving a summary of the Club’s four decades. The evening was MC’ed by PP Jon Gidney. Thanks to all the organisers and workers on the night. Special thanks to Helen Gulson for leading the organising committee.

Weekly dinner meetings are the backbone of our Club. Meals continue to be wholesome with generous portions based on a rotating menu. A speaker is invited on most weeks to entertain / inform / educate our members and/or to seek support for their projects. Notable speakers included Marnie Ogg – a passionate advocate for the preservation of dark skies and dedicated to raising awareness about the harmful effects of light pollution; Fran Signorelli talked to us about Hope In A Suitcase - a NFP organisation providing suitcases of new essential items for children entering foster care, and Denise Ward spoke about her community work with the Crows Nest Community Centre. This is just a glimpse of our speaker list for the year – we are grateful to all our speakers and thank them for taking time to talk at our meetings. Speakers are organised by Helen Gulson and her Club Services committee.

In an attempt to broaden our membership base, our Club experimented with a breakfast meeting held at the Northbridge Golf Club on 12 December with guest speaker Melanie

Lewis. Melanie is President of the Rotary Social Action Network; she is also a Stanford Uni Innovation Fellow and an Expert-in-residence at the Macquarie Uni incubator. The topic of her talk was: Protecting the Environment – End Plastic Soup. A very inspirational presentation. However the breakfast format did not work too well and future breakfast meetings will need to take account of this.

Fund-raising is an essential part of our Club – raising funds to support and expand our projects. The Fund-raising committee had another busy and rewarding year, despite the postponement of our annual community fireworks event due to poor weather conditions. A postponement date of September 14 (in the 2024-25 Rotary year) was announced. Despite postponement of the fireworks, the associated Mother's Day raffle proceeded, netting \$4,500.

Bunnings BBQ's were another feature of our year; some five BBQs were held and raised around \$9,000. A Comedy for a Cause night was a terrific success; the sold out night raised \$4,000. Our fundraising activities included a Super Lottery with a \$10,000 first prize which netted over \$7,000. The Golf Day and the Christmas Raffle raised nearly \$7,000 collectively.

Our Club is grateful for the support of our sponsors contributing significant funds. Our major sponsor during 2023-24 was Northbridge Plaza Shopping Centre. We are thankful for their ongoing support. Our sponsors are listed and acknowledged via our website and various communications with the public throughout the year. Our intention is always to promote our sponsors at every opportunity.

Our Community committee organised a successful food drive, participated in the local Dementia Café, and in a walk to raise much-needed funds for the local shelter for victims of domestic violence - Mary's House, and attended the End Polio Train Ride, donating \$2,000 to the Rotary International program. The Northbridge public school celebrated its 100th anniversary and our Club donated prizes for their raffle.

The reliance on technology in support of Club activities grew in importance. A Technology sub-committee was formed to recommend pathways and assist with the introduction of this technology. The range of hand-held POS devices was expanded and the use of external software and apps increased. This technology also supported such things as event bookings and raffle ticket sales.

PR and Communications was driven by Jon Gidney. The Club's website was reviewed, our social media profile was raised and promotion of Club events, stories and activities was strengthened. Also the Club's history files were reviewed and consolidated, and the Club's branding was reviewed and tightened in line with Rotary International standards.

Our Youth and Vocational committees were kept busy working on re-establishing connections with local schools post Covid. One student was sponsored by our Club to attend a RYLA program (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards). Our Pride of Workmanship

& Community Services night was held in late November with 5 outstanding recipients of these Awards. Congratulations to these well-deserved recipients.

As to Membership, the Club started the year with 51 Active Members and 11 Honorary Members. During the year 4 new members were inducted as Active Members, namely Mia Bell, Roy McCullagh, Sam Lee and Jiji Lee. On the other hand, the Club lost several members mostly due to relocation out of Sydney or overseas. These include PP Rob Coote and PP John Turner (both joined a Rotary Club in their relocated area), PP Paul O'Sullivan and PP Masanori Ohtani. Paul and Masanori were made Honorary Members, along with Past President Derek Matz. Valda Andrews and Doug Herridge resigned due to health issues. Anjana and Karki Nash also resigned. The membership of our Club remained strong ending the year with 45 active members and 12 Honorary Members.

Treasurer John Bolton worked tirelessly to ensure that Club Policies and Procedures remained at or ahead of best practice, and members were aware of, and adhered to, these policies and procedures.

The Club account received income of \$78,210.81 with expenses of \$75,960.22. In relation to the Charities accounts, income was \$59,435.39 - down on the previous year mainly due to the postponement of the annual fireworks event to the 2024/25 financial year. Expenses were \$116,852.63. Total Accumulated Reserves as at 30 June 2024 stood at \$117,572.42, compared to \$177,638.45 at 30 June 2023.

The main recipients of funding paid and/or reserved were First Nations Project \$45,000, Taldumande \$6000, Streetwork \$5000, Ukraine humanitarian support \$10,000, RNS Hospital NICU \$4,000, Dhulikhel Nepal \$15,000 + Fiji \$17,000 (Nepal and Fiji funds incorporates a \$15,000 grant from the Rotary Club of Balwyn Victoria), and \$6,000 to PNG (includes \$3,000 matching District Grant).

The Rotary year 2023-24 was a memorable, successful and rewarding year. The President would like to acknowledge and thank Club Board members for their contributions and acknowledge the contribution of all Club members as in Rotary they place "service above self".