# Applecross Rotary 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations



#### **Presidents Welcome**



On behalf of the Members and Board of Applecross Rotary a very warm welcome to our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebratory Event.

Across the 50 years there have been approximately 266 Members giving service to our Club, seven members have served as District Governor and 104 Members have been recognised as Paul Harris Fellows.

Thanks to our Past and Present Members, here we are today as relevant as ever, serving our community the Applecross Rotary way.

This small publication tries to encapsulate some of the contributions our Club has made over this period.

Enjoy the evening and let us all work towards serving our community for the next 50 years.

Ray Philp

50th Anniversary Club President

#### 50th Anniversary Club Board

PRESIDENT	Ray Philp	YOUTH	Logan Duncan-Smith
VICE PRESIDENT	Barry Mendelawitz	VOCATIONAL	Andrew Bower
SECRETARY	Chris Whelan	INTERNATIONAL	Barry Mendelawitz
TREASURER	Ray Philp	MEMBERSHIP	Peter McEwen
CLUB SERVICE	Tom Atkinson	FELLOWSHIP	Liz Palmer
FOUNDATION	Kenn Williams	PROGRAMME	Gordon Dunbar
COMMUNITY	Clive Pearson	JACARANDA FESTIVAL	Kenn Williams

#### **Early History of Applecross Rotary**

NOTES PREPARED BY PDG BRUCE JAMES



From what I can find, the Melville Rotary Club was Chartered on 17th August 1959, having been formed by the Fremantle Rotary Club.

Having formed the Cockburn Rotary Club in 1969, the Melville Rotary Club then formed the Applecross Rotary Club in 1971 with the idea that about half of their Members would transfer to the new Applecross Rotary Club.

Tom Cook was the Secretary of the Melville Rotary Club for the 1970-71 Rotary year and was elected to be the Foundation President of the New Applecross Rotary Club on 2nd June 1971. He held these two positions at the same time until 30th June 1971.

The Inauguration Meeting of those persons who had been approached to become Applecross Rotarians was held on Tuesday 13th May 1971 at a luncheon at the Sir Loin Restaurant at 35 Ardross Street Applecross. This restaurant became the weekly Club Meeting venue on a Tuesday with a 12.10 pm Fellowship preceding the Luncheon Meeting at 12.30 pm. Later on, the weekly Tuesday Luncheon Meeting was held in the Golden Host Room on the second floor of the Booragoon Hotel at Garden City. Since about 1988, the weekly Club Meetings have been Breakfast Meetings at the South of Perth Yacht Club at 7.30 am on Tuesdays.

The Club gained its Charter at the Charter Luncheon on 2nd June 1971 with a total membership of 32 Members of which 24 had transferred from the Melville Rotary Club. Seven of these Ex-Melville Rotary Club Members were themselves Foundation Members of the Melville Rotary Club since its Charter Celebration on 17th August 1959.

The Foundation Members of the Applecross Rotary Club were:

A. Original Foundation Members of the Melville Rotary Club who transferred to the Applecross Club:

Jack Bennett Peter Brackley
Colin Day Les Donley
Allan Eddy Len Hearn\*
Fred Sharpe Dennis Smith
\*(previously a Foundation Member of the Victoria Park Club in 1948)

B. Ordinary Members of the Melville Club who were not Foundation Members of that Club:

**Bruce Bertie** Peter Ellis John Boulton Ev Facius John Bromwell Vince Heales Allan Bennett Charles Jenkin Allan Cary Harold Luxton **Ken Collins** Dave Piggford Tom Cook Warren Saunders Frank Cruthers **Doug Shaw** 

C. Members who joined the Applecross Club at its Inaugural Meeting on 13th May 1971:

Lloyd Bassett Peter Gardner
John Cook Ken Hurst
Tom Cox Ian McCullough
Merv Dillon Don Steel

D. In the year following the Charter Date of 2nd June 1971, the following Members joined the Club:

Tony Adams Albert Lynch
Neville Brownrigg George Smith
Alan Bunnett Jim Wiggins
Bruce James Don Wignall



Some of our distinguished Past Presidents taken in 1987



# **Applecross Advocate**

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July 8, 1971

Here's your bulletin in formal dress. Hope all members like it and that, more importantly, it will effectively keep you informed about your Club activities. More about the bulletin later in this issue, but here now is further news of what is probably the most important social event in the Club's history.

#### ROTARY CLUB OF APPLECROSS CHARTER LUNCHEON-

As previously mentioned and referred to by President Tom at the luncheon on Tuesday, The Rotary Club of Applecross will have a Charter Luncheon rather than the normally accepted Charter evening.

Date: Tuesday July 27, 1971

Venue: Melville Civic Centre, Booragoon

Fellowship: 12 noon Luncheon: 12.45p.m.

Programme completes at 2.000.m.

Cost per head: \$2.50

Wives are invited to attend with their husbands and a special invitation is issued to Rotarians everywhere.

Applecross Rotarians, this is your day! Please make every effort to be there.

President — T.A. (Tom) Cock P.O. Box 109 Applecross, W.A. 6153 Tele: Bus, 30 5219 Priv. 64 5231 Secretary — Dennis Smith P.O. Box 184 Applecross, W.A. 6153 Tele: Bus, 64 1975 Priv. 30 2786 Bulletin Editor — L.M. (Lloyd) Bessett 68 Matheson Road Applecross W.A. 6153 Tele: Bus. 21 6427 Priv. 64 2840

#### RYLA-ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS

The Applecross Club requires applicants as soon as possible to represent its district. A young man or young woman between 17 and 24 years of age on December 31 this year, who is a youth leader or potential leader in any field such as youth associations, scouts, guides, church groups, sporting bodies to name a few. The representative chosen will attend the seminar to be held between September 25 and October 2 at Mandejal near Byford. Last year's seminar was a terrific success as Awardees who spoke at Club luncheons indicated. The sharing of youth leaders' ideas was invaluable. There is not much time, last week in July for nominations! So, if you know of a worth-while youth leader, contact FRANK CRUTHERS - 304999 (64 2908) for nomination forms.

#### REMINDERS

Club Services Committee Meeting - Tuesday July 13, at 8.00p.m. Doug Shaw's residence, 19 Drew Road, Ardross. Wives invited. Those concerned please contact Doug and indicate whether you are attending.

Community Services Committee Meeting - Wednesday July 21. Wives invited and members will be notified of venue.

#### APPLECROSS INDUCTION LUNCHEON TUESDAY JULY 6

This was a great occasion and the first social event in this new Club's history. District Governor, Jack Sweeney, and wife Brenda, were our special guests. Also attending was the District Governor's Group Representative Alf Smith and wife Wynne. Other notable guests were the President of the Melville Club, Ern Dillon and wife Kath and past Melville President Murray Day with wife Joan. Visiting Rotarians were Ken Collins of

the Launceston Club, John Down of Fremantle and Geoff Longson of Cockburn, President Tom, who was accompanied by his wife Jo, welcomed guests, their wives and esoccially members of the Melville Club. D.G. Jack Sweeney welcomed the ex Melville Club members to the new Applecross Club and each of the Melville Charter members was presented with a copy of the publication "Adventures in Service ". D.G. Jack, in an address to the Club, stressed the importance of involvement in the Club through activity and both he and President Tom, with reference to the many ladies present (all of whom looked especially beautiful for the occasion), stressed how important the ladies were to the success of any club. new Melville President, Ern Dillon, expressed his best wishes to the Applecross Club. Alf Smith and his wife Wynne were given a special welcome since it was their Silver Wedding Anniversary. important function of the induction of new members was carried out by District Governor's special representative, Peter Brackley, who presented each member with his badge and a copy of "Adventures in Service". The new members are:-

John Cook
Don Steel
Ken Hurst
Tom Cox
Cyril Gelle
Merv Dillon
Lloyd Bassett

A very successful luncheon was brought to a conclusion with Ev. Facius, our Sergeant at Arms; having a field day and really getting amongst his old Melville mates not to mention some of the new Applecross members.

Applecross Rotary Club, here is your bulletin and here is your bulletin committee:-

Lloyd Bassett - Editor Fred Sharpe- Committee Len Hearn - Committee

And we need help from each of you to make it a success. We need reports and notices of meetings from all directors and club officers. And we would especially welcome contributions from any Club member. We want to make this bulletin one of the best and one which you will find readable each week - not one to ignore. The bulletin role can only be effective if it is given support.

#### DESCRIPTION.

If you mant your choto to appear above your details in the new Applecross handbook of members, a passport size photo will have to reach the President's office by Friday 16th July.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Les Donley now lives at 152 Stonekam Road, Attadale. 6158. Tel.30.1237.

#### MORAL

The lion sprang upon the bull and devoured him. After he had feasted, he felt so good that he roared and roared. The noise attracted hunters and they killed the lion. The moral is that when you are full of bull, keep your mouth shut.

With acknowledgement to Imperial Printing Co.'s "Printing Patter".

### Past District Governor Tom Cook Foundation President of the Rotary Club of Applecross





Tom proposing a toast

Tom & Jo at a Club dinner in 1989

Tom Cook joined Rotary on 20th November 1960 and was a Member of the Rotary Club of Melville. He was instrumental in forming the Rotary Club of Applecross and became the Foundation President on 2nd June 1971.

Tom was District Governor of District 945 in 1984-85 and organised the transition from one to two Districts in Western Australia. Thus District 9460 was formed.

In 1985, Tom was nominated to join the International Projects Advisory Committee (IPAC), and later was appointed to the Rotary International Committee as the Vice Chairman for the South Pacific Region. In 1987-88, he was the Chairman of the World Community Service Committee. Tom saw the expansion of Rotary World Community Service to many new parts of the world.

Within the Rotary Club of Applecross Tom held most positions and continued to be a very active member. He was Bulletin editor for many years until 2010. Our Club was pleased to present Tom with a Ruby Paul Harris Fellow Recognition in September 2008.

On 18<sup>th</sup> November 2010 in recognition of his 50 years of long and valuable service to Rotary, we were pleased to present him with a letter from RI President Ray Klingin Smith at a special "surprise" Sundowner fellowship event.

All Members of the Club applaud the wonderful service Tom has given to Rotary, with continual support of Jo by his side. Tom passed away peacefully on the 18th of February 2011 and is survived by his wife Jo.



10 year Anniversary Group - 1981

#### Special memories from our Life Members PDG Bruce James and PP John Henderson

**ON BRUCE JAMES**... with comments from the early years of Applecross Rotary.

Bruce, recently proclaimed a Life member the Club, joined Rotary soon after he turned 40, having previously served the community through APEX, of which he was a State President.

Bruce joined Applecross Rotary 3 months after Charter, and recalls its early meetings at the at Sir Loin in Applecross, and then tat the Booragoon Hotel

He worked closely with the late Tom Cook on many projects, especially with local schools and Polio Plus, and many of the Club's significant International Projects.

His many years on Applecross Rotary Board saw a concentration for community focus, both in fund raising and support for the needy, and culminated with his 1977/78 year as Club President and 1991/92 year as District Governor. He was presented with many Rotary Awards in his 50 years of Membership.

His enduring memory of the Club is one of a 'team effort' for the greater good, of happy Club social events, especially with our partners, and forward looking: Bruce was always keen on females in the Club, and on talking with Primary School children about their opportunities in the life ahead.

In his working life, Bruce served at the top level of the S.E.C., and answered for around 1,000 employees at the peak of his career.

He was married to the late Helen James for over 60 years. Helen was a great support to Applecross Rotary.

Bruce has the immense respect of all Club Members. We acknowledge his contributions over decades to civic life in Western Australia: "Well done Bruce" on a life of leadership in giving back to your community. Bruce was also present at the Club's 25<sup>th</sup> celebration in 1996.







PP John Kelly at the Club's 25th Anniversary.

#### LIFE MEMBER JOHN HENDERSON REMEMBERS....

John, who recently celebrated his 90th birthday, first joined AxR in 1976 but took a short 'sabbatical' to travel (Attendance rules were much stricter back then!) before rejoining again in 1980 and has given 45 years of wonderful support to our Rotary world.

He served on the Board for many years, including 1995/96 as President, and Assistant DG when our own Bob Cooper (Dec'd) was DG. He was a recipient of a Paul Harris Fellowship and other Rotary awards.

John counts his involvement in helping rebuild a remote area school in the Solomons following a severe cyclone in the 80's as one of his great contributions, along with the very successful Carols By Candlelight at the Melville swimming pool in the 70's. This project raised lots of funds and had big crowds attend, but after only 2 years lost impact against other similar Christmas events.

Another Club project that John was heavily involved with was establishing the East Timor Dental Clinic.

He recalls many wonderful Club picnics and social events where the emphasis was on creating fun and activities for all, especially the kids, and John would bring along one of his truly vintage cars for joy rides. He also arranged a Club bus trip to his brother's wheat property to see first-hand at harvest just how a large cropping enterprise operated.

Of latter years his Roleystone property was home to many great Club social events, including a lamb on the spit!

John counts his Rotary priorities as being a commitment to project and service work, welcoming Club social activities and the opportunity to make new friends as keys to his enjoyment of 45 years as a Member of Applecross Rotary. The opportunity to participate with several other AxR Members on a journey up the Canning Stock Route helped create John's belief in the value of spending time with your mates and thus developing enduring friendships.

John was always supported by his wife Helen throughout his Rotary years.



Club celebrating John's 90th birthday (16/2/21) with Lorri's wonderful cake making skills on display

#### Some facts from our 50 years

#### PAUL HARRIS FELLOWSHIPS FOR THE 50 YEARS.

Over the years, Applecross Rotary has presented a total 104 PHF's to 60 recipients.

A further 4 Benefactor presentations were made.

In the past 10 years, the Club has presented 28 of these Awards, plus one Benefactor.

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#### MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS FOR THE PAST 50 YEARS.

Since Charter, there have been a total of 266 Members of Applecross Rotary.

In the years 1971 til 1989, 120 Members either retired or passed away.. an average of 7/yr.

For the period '89 til 2016, 80 Members retired or passed away. ... an average 3/yr.

From 2016 til the present, 36 Members retired or passed away ... average 7/yr.

Current Membership stands at 30 Members.

At its peak, Membership rose to over 50.

The average length of service per Member after 1989 rests at 15 years.

Since the admission of Lorri Brazier as our first female Member (an acceptance which did cause a furor at the Club!) we have had 47 new Members join, of which 14 are women. (30%)

A huge thanks to our fabulous female Members. The Club needs more female members.

#### **APPLECROSS ROTARY SIGNATURE EVENT - History of the Jacaranda Festival**



#### BEFORE THE END OF LAST CENTURY...

In 1999, Applecross Rotary were planning for something to celebrate the spring blooming of the fabulous JACARANDA trees in our home town.

'There is one in NSW, why not here!!'

PP George Mavros and the late Bob Hollingsworth initiated the first Jacaranda Festival in late November, 2000: it and the 2001 JF were held at Heathcote and formed the basis for what, some 20 years later, remains the heart and soul of what we in Applecross Rotary do in and for our community.

What has followed is now one of the most successful Rotary events in WA, one that is very professionally managed and sets the standard for street festivals in WA!

#### **SOME HISTORY**

In 2002 the event was relocated to Applecross Village and, apart from one early year, after the terrorists attacked New York and public liability insurance was unavailable, has been an annual feature for Applecross.

Those early years of establishing the event, more for the community rather than as a fundraiser, were challenging.

No initial Grants from Lottery West or The City of Melville to underwrite the costs, no established format for what would/would not work for community interest support, and our Applecross businesses somewhat hostile to Rotary 'stealing' a prime trading day in the lead up to Xmas!

And in those early days, we did everything ... stall booking/communications, set up/pull down (exhausted!), day management, cost underwriting, all the promoting, all the planning, and at the end, all the celebrating of our success! (Drinks and cold sausages by the central gazebo!!)

We chased gazebos up and down the street when the wind arrived, and before we could get them weighted, we dealt with the theft of sound equipment and of course, local business resentment to what the day was all about!

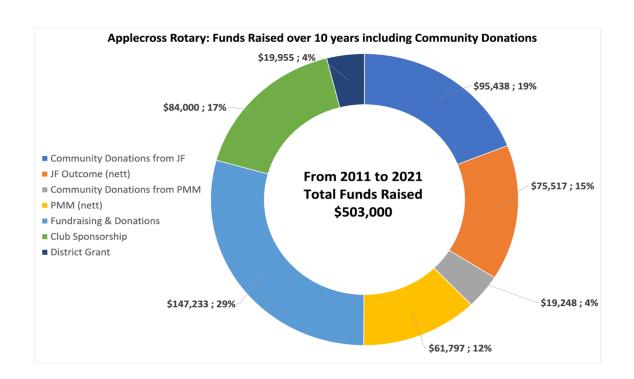
I am exhausted just thinking about it.

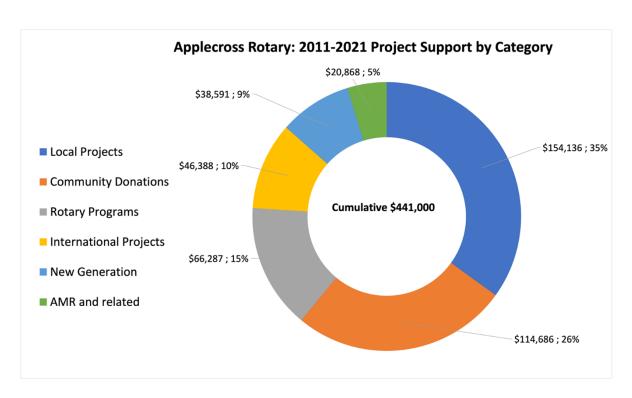
AND NOW... 21 YEARS ON...

Over the years, we have built on our successes, learnt to listen and negotiate, and found wonderful support from our community to help make the Festival happen and also to help offset the essential costs of the day.

The annual JacFest now sits strong and well sought within the Perth Events scene, the fourth Sat in November locked in for Applecross Rotary and our wonderful community activity.

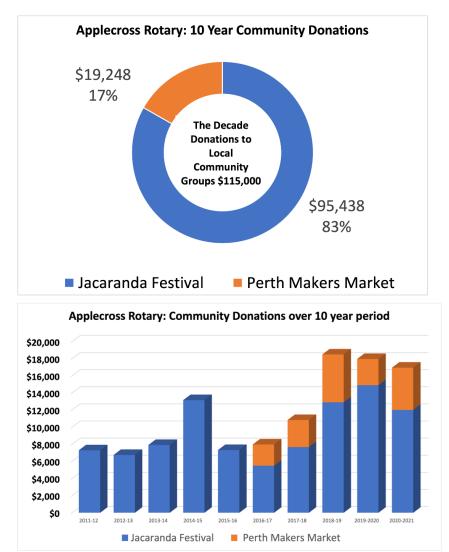
It attracts far more interest from Stallholders (many returning year after year) than the 150 or so that we can accommodate, we estimate annual attendances now at around 15,000 happy visitors, and a day that is strongly supported by our major Event Sponsors Lottery West and the City of Melville, and our four Club Sponsors The Good Grocer, Mont Realty, Pharmacy777 and Ross North Homes.

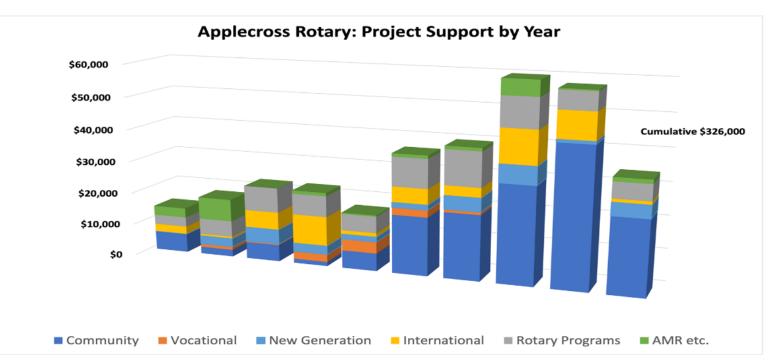




**Overview:** In the 10-year period to June 2021, Applecross Rotary secured \$487,000 to support the Club's initiatives. This includes funds obtained from the regular Jacaranda Festivals and the Perth Maker's Market events that were passed to other community groups.

Community Donations: Community donations by year, totalling \$115,000, are shown below.





Local community groups that have received these donations are listed below. Some recipients from earlier years are not included.

Waylen Bay Sea Scouts	Esther Foundation	Capella West
Melville Cares	Shelterbox	Baerlie Puppets
Applecross Primary	Perth Men's Homeless	South Perth Rotaract
Red Cross	Foodbank WA	City of Melville Rotaract
St John's Ambulance	2 Cents Professionals	Rossmoyne Rotaract
Capital Radio 101	Choir for Kids	Rotary Club Willeton
State Emergency Services	Lemming Area Big Band	Paul Davis
Map Producers	South Side Community Orchestra	Sienna Perruza
Specialist Road Services	Wesley College	St Benedicts PC
Toilet Cleaning Services	Scottish Dancers	Rotary Club Attadale
Local Photographers	Starick Services	Rotary E-Club WA
Aquinas College	Cockburn Cougars	

Over the decade Applecross Rotary paid \$342,000 to several local businesses on a commercial basis to support the Jacaranda Festival. These payments were underwritten, in part, by generous sponsorship from Lotterywest and the City of Melville totalling \$167,000. The gap of \$175,000 was funded at the initiative of Applecross Rotary to foster the event. Other stakeholders involved then funded the additional \$175,000 injection into the civil and commercial life of our local community; these amounts are ignored in this report.

### 50 years of Presidents

1971/72	Tom Cook	1996/97	John Kelly
1972/73	Doug Shaw	1997/98	Peter Major
1973/74	Frank Cruthers	1998/99	Ossie Symonds
1974/75	Allan Cary	1999/00	Prof Ray Wales
1975/76	Lloyd Bassett	2000/01	George Mavros
1976/77	Don Wignall	2001/02	Greg McKenzie
1977/78	Bruce James	2002/03	Malcolm Taylor
1978/79	Murray Miller	2003/04	Tony Jakovich
1979/80	Doug Telfer	2004/05	Ralph Fardon
1980/81	Peter Gardner	2005/06	Chris Dawson
1981/82	Michael Dillon	2006/07	Dr John Hosking
1982/83	Robert Bray	2007/08	Dr Barry Mendelawitz
1983/84	Geoff Bennett	2008/09	Ronald Bower
1984/85	John Cook	2009/10	Kenn Williams
1985/86	Richard Lewis	2010/11	Melodie Kevan
1986/87	Tim Barwood	2011/12	Jamie Kelly
1987/88	John Hayes	2012/13	Dean Lawrence
1988/89	David Donaldson	2013/14	Murray McKay
1989/90	Gil Goodwin	2014/15	John Kevan
1990/91	Dr lan Lander	2015/16	Lesley Combes
1991/92	Tom Cox	2016/17	Chris Whelan
1992/93	Cyril Geach	2017/18	Hamish Turner
1993/94	Dr Graham Sexton	2018/19	Dr Ian Fairnie AM
1994/95	lan Hutchinson	2019/20	Dr Barry Mendelawitz
1995/96	John Henderson	2020/21	Ray Philp



## HONORING 50 Years of Membership

The Rotary Club of

#### Applecross, Western Australia, Australia

admitted 2 June 1971

is recognized for its dedication to the Object of Rotary and its commitment to the ideal of Service Above Self.

2 June 2021 Date President Rotary International