

Bulletin # 01/21 - 25th June 2020



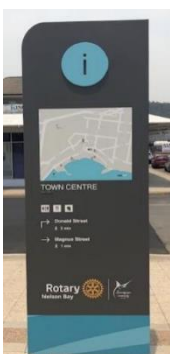
Changeover Covid Style

As one year fades away a new year of opportunities arises.

With Covid precautions still in force our Changeover this year was conducted via Zoom with around 41 attending (by my reckoning).

As well as members and partners, guests included DG Graham Hooper and Sue, DGE David Roach, DGN Amanda Roach, PDG Brian Coffey and Carol, AG Clarice Hamling, Incoming AG Christine Walmsley, Chris and Helen McGrath, Pres Elect RC Salamander Bay Peter North, Miltons son Leon, and Liz's children Fiona, Geoff and Jenny and Mayor Honorary Member Ryan Palmer.

Toast to Rotary International was proposed by PDG Helen Ryan. DG Graham Hooper responded to the toast and acknowledged the efforts of the Club during 2019/2020.



Some of the year's achievements.

\$20,000 Funding for HMRI Indigenous Ear Health Project

Town Clock project

Directional sign at Gan Gan

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Despite a year severely disrupted by the Covid 19 Virus which resulted in our Annual Charity Golf Day being cancelled and regular face to face meetings discontinued from mid-March, the Club continued with existing sound programs and participated in two additional fund-raising events - The Judy Mitchell Memorial Fundraiser in aid of Motor Neurone Disease raised \$27,200 and The Bushfire Relief Appeal raised \$16,151.

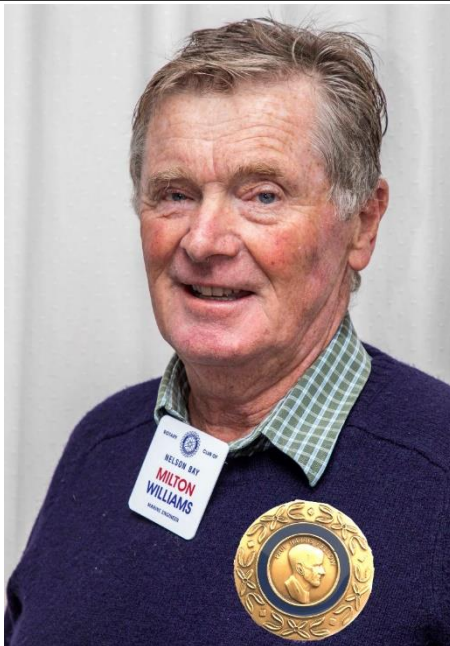
Income this year came mainly from Bunnings BBQ's, Binoculars at Gan Gan and catering minor catering events.

Other activities for the year included:

- Raising \$2000 for the End Polio Program at "Ride like a Girl" movie night
- Hosting a Friendship Exchange Team from United States, District 5610
- Honouring the 2018/19 \$20,000 commitment to the HMRI Indigenous Ear Health Project headed by Dr Kelvin Kong and pledged a further \$10,000.
- Installation of the long-awaited Town clock honouring PDG Bart Richardson
- Installation of directional sign honouring Larry McGrath at Gan Gan Lookout
- Assisting in the Newcastle Science and Engineering Challenge and State Finals held in Newcastle
- Assisting the Science Discovery Day for Year 6 Primary students held at Tomaree High School
- Commencement of outdoor meeting area at the Yacaaba Women's Refuge Centre
- Catering for:
 1. the "Street Eats and Beats Festival" charity day for Tomaree Youth Community Action Group, held Anna Bay
 2. the Navy Photographers Reunion held at Middle Rock Resort.
 3. Regional Touch Football Tournament
 4. Bunnings family nights
- Ongoing projects of:
 1. Rotary Reading project
 2. Project neighbour
 3. School awards and book donations
- Members attended functions at:
 1. Hunter medical Research the special awards night,
 2. School Presentation Assemblies,
 3. Tomaree High School thank you breakfast for community groups
 4. Fundraising Barefoot Bowls Night for Real Futures.

Donations were made to:

- **Nelson** Bay Junior Cricket Club, **Heaven** Can Wait, **RAWCS** – Drought Relief, **MHERV** Project, **Nelson** Bay Touch Football, **Dragon** Boat Club, **Yacaaba** Centre, **Tomaree** Hospital Nurses, **DG** Partner's Project, **Real** Futures, **PCYC**, **Shelterbox**, **RYLA**, **Rotary** Friendship Exchange, and **Australian** Rotary Health.
- Rotary Foundation. This year our total given to the Foundation over the years reached \$100,000.



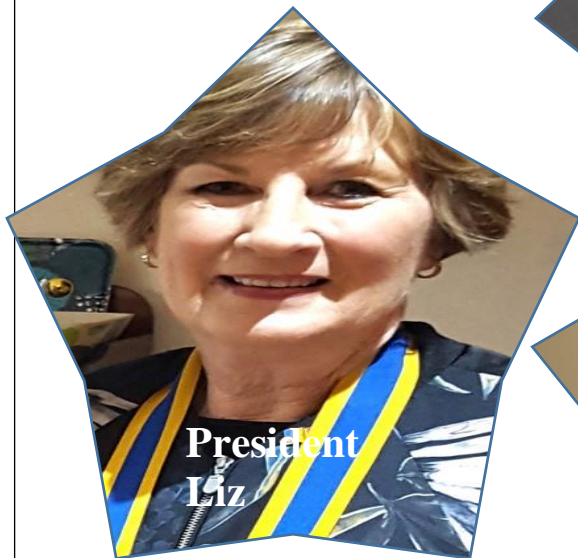
Our latest Paul Harris Fellow is Milton Williams. Milton came to us in November 2017 having previously been a member in Raymond Terrace and Tasmania.

In addition to his Rotary Service Milton was recognised in 2018 for his community work in Bulahdelah where he was involved in the conversion of the old RSL hall into a men's shed.



In the short time at our Club his expertise in applying for and receiving Government grants has been most beneficial, including the most recent grant for alterations to the Club's trailer for storage and transportation of equipment and foodstuffs to various events. His quiet demeanour and humility belies his knowledge, capabilities and commitment to community service. Milton was the only one surprised by his nomination. Congratulations Milton.

Your new Board



**President
Liz**



**Vice President
Helen**



**Secretary
Don**



**Treasurer
Narelle**



**Community
Milton**



**International
Arja**



**Administration
Phill**



**Membership
Kathy**



**Youth
Lesley**



**Sgt
Warwick**



President Liz unfurls her 2020/2021 year Banner.: "Rotary Opens Opportunities".

RI President Holger Knaack says:

Rotary gives people the opportunity to change a life with a Polio vaccination, to change a life by providing shelter from disaster or harm, to change a life providing clean water and sanitation, to change a life by teaching literacy or even to change a life by providing social contact. But the opportunity to serve also can change the life of the giver

In her acceptance speech President Liz congratulated Arja on her year as President – One full of real challenges, including her brother's serious injury early in the year and, since March, the Pandemic.

President Liz said that as we emerge from COVID, *"Rotary will have to make adjustments like any organisation, and, as a Club we can see this as an opportunity to re-think and find solutions that will help us attract new members and retain existing members"*.

"We need to build an awareness of Rotary, letting others know that Rotarians are people of action and show how our Club can provide tangible ways to serve others".

Liz said that from early on many people, young and old, were trying to find ways they could help others and COVID restrictions have changed us - for the better. We looked at what we valued: family, community, work-life balance, and health of course.

This provides our Club with an opportunity to tap into this volunteer spirit and to reach out to those in our community who may also be looking for an opportunity to serve others.

Our Club moved to Zoom meetings and this provided many new opportunities, such as being able to include members and speakers that might not otherwise be available. Zoom technology has also allowed us to join other Rotary meetings and conventions, anywhere in the world.

At a District level, our Leadership and Development Team has established Zoom meetings to hold mixed learning and discussions between Rotary Board members in the District as well as within each of the 4 Zones.

President Liz is keen to have all our future meetings connected via Zoom so that those who cannot attend in person, can log-on and still be part of the meeting and fellowship. Whilst we have all missed the ability to gather for fellowship, whether it is while cooking sausages, our dinner meetings or the various groups that gather socially or on projects, it was great to be able through Zoom to come together, to celebrate the last year's achievements and to look forward to continued fellowship, fun and service.

