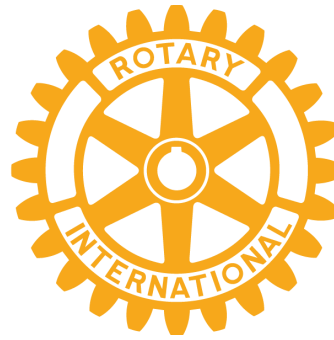


Rotary



The Rotary Club of Surfers Sunrise Inc Annual Changeover Luncheon

16th June 2024



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

2023-24



**THE MAGIC
OF ROTARY**

District 9640

2024-25

Programme

Master of Ceremonies: Trent Belling

Toast to Australia Franz Huber
Loyal Toast, Toast to Partners: Trent Belling
Introductions, Apologies: Trent Belling
President's Welcome: President Doug Lipp

Menu Braeside Estate

Entrée

Alternative drop of
**Stuffed Field Mushroom with black rice, walnuts &
vegan parmesan. (vg) (gf) (df)**
Or
**King Prawns in a white wine & garlic cream sauce
with jasmine rice. (gf)**

Mains

Alternative drop of
**Crispy Skin Chicken w/ coriander salt
& buttered carrots. (gf)**
Or
**Braised Beef Cheeks w/ truffle pommes puree,
parsnip crisps & a beef & port jus. (gf)**

Toast to Rotary International: Paul Seymour
Response: DGE Lisa Hunt
President's Report: President Doug Lipp
Club Presentations: President Doug Lipp

Handing over of Club Charter and President's Collar

Introduction of new board: President Andy Bell
Close: Trent Belling

ROTARY CLUB OF SURFERS SUNRISE Inc

Office Bearers 2023-24

President	Doug Lipp
Immediate Past President	Mitch Brown
Vice President	Mitch Brown
President Elect	Andy Bell
Secretary	Trent Belling
Treasurer	Charles Thomasson
Director, Club Administration	Franz Huber
Director, The Rotary Foundation	Gerald East
Director, Membership	Angus Miller
Joint Directors, Youth Services	Ashleigh Symes, Darrell Brown
Joint Directors, Services Project	Larry Murray, Geoff Croad
Director, Fundraising	Ross Augustine
Chairman of Wheelchair Trust	Larry Murray

Club Service and special projects positions

Bulletin Editor/Webmaster	Franz Huber
Facebook Administrator	Franz Huber
Rotary Information, Club Trainer	Darrell Brown
District Awards submissions	Franz Huber
Matching Grants Submissions	Mario Fairlie
District Grants Submissions	Mario Fairlie
Golf Day Coordinators	Charles Thomasson, Doug Lipp, Paul Smith
Vanuatu Project Coordinator	Mario Fairlie
Club Insurance Officer	Ian Mayberry

President's Report

Doug Lipp

Rotarians and Friends of Rotary,

Towards the end of this document, our Administration Director and Bulletin/Website Editor Franz Huber has included a summary of guest speakers and other events that we held over the past year for the Rotary Club of Surfers Sunrise, so I'll refrain from detailing these again.

We had some exceptional speakers throughout the year, complemented by the interesting 'Rotarian behind the Badge' presentations given by our new members. These included new Rotarian Thomas Robinson, who was inducted back in September, and three new members who all have had plenty of prior years' service with other Rotary clubs: Rock O'Keefe, Ralph Pownall and Dr Elizabeth Celi (see Angus Miller's Membership Report further on). Great to see that Thomas and Elizabeth will both be on the incoming board. Before this report goes to press, I will induct another experienced former Rotarian, Iain Campbell.

The club has again had a number of very successful fund raising activities. They included a number of Bunnings Barbecues and the annual Surfers Sunrise Golf Day at the Surfers Paradise Golf Club. The Containers for Exchange program, which we run in cooperation with a local company, Express Recycling in Nerang, has also been a steady, consistent source of income.

In August last year, we were able to purchase a ute for our wheelchair project shed. This was as a result of a grant from the Federal Government, organised in the previous year by the member for Moncrief, Angie Bell MP. Angie also hosted a Volunteers Gold Coast Award night. Our club had two Associate Members from the shed, Brian Tuesley and John Hall, who each received an award recognising their tireless work. Congratulations to both of you, and thank you to all the volunteers who turn up week after week to manufacture our Rough Terrain Wheelchairs.

Only recently, we were able to purchase a badly needed new electrically operated forklift (actually, it's called a "stacker"). This was financed by a grant from the Queensland Gambling Community Fund, again organised by our Fundraising Director, Ross Augustine.

A big thank you Charles Thomassen for doing a sterling job as our Treasurer.

The Mauna Health Centre on Pentecost Island, Vanuatu, is almost complete. In subsequent pages you find Mario Fairlie's report, a detailed outline of this massive project, one of the largest ones this club has ever undertaken. What remains to be done is the commissioning and personnel training of the Xray and blood analyser equipment. This could not be done earlier, due to issues with electricity supply in that remote region of Vanuatu.

Special mention must be made to the construction team that gave their own time and money to travel to Pentecost Island to erect the building last July, with a follow-up team later in the year. Read more detail provided by Mario Fairlie, in his report further on.

I would like to thank all the Club Members and particularly the board members, who have made my job as President so much easier. I have enjoyed my time as President and I wish Andy Bell all the best for the incoming year.

With regionalization upon all Rotarians, I urge our members to embrace these changes and to renew your commitments to the Rotary organisation.

Yours in Rotary

Doug Lipp
President 2023-2024

Treasurer's Report

Charles Thomasson

Profit and Loss

Rotary club of Surfers Sunrise
For the period of 01 July 2023 to 03 May 2024

	2024	2023
Trading Income		
BBQ Income	9,207.38	16,469.09
Business Expo Fundraising	433.01	3,188.00
Change Over Function Ticket Sales	-	(327.50)
Christmas Dinner	(30.80)	(37.62)
Christmas Cakes	(690.56)	(329.60)
Containers Fundraising	16,911.70	9,553.30
Corporate Sponsorship	1,440.00	2,160.00
Donations Received	3,000.00	1,020.68
Foundation Fundraising	200.00	200.00
Function Income	-	19.38
Golf Day Income	9,008.04	8,435.40
Grants (Commonwealth) Capital	28,302.00	20,000.00
Morning Meeting Fees	583.00	3,648.86
Other Revenue	1,083.00	655.31
Rotary Club Annual Dues	9,900.00	8,820.00
Total Trading Income	79,346.77	73,475.30
Gross Profit	79,346.77	73,475.30
Operating Expenses		
Audit Fees	-	1,000.00
Awards	101.70	438.13
Bank Fees	381.77	88.06
Breakfast Costs	(53.10)	170.41
Club Runner Costs	1,020.51	701.65
District Dues	4,521.00	4,522.00
District Insurance	1,638.00	1,608.98
Donations paid	3,936.25	7,010.00
Dues Rotary International	4,286.75	3,950.76
Engraving-Badges-Pins	-	145.15
Freight	-	8,089.67
Golf Day Expenses	4,068.10	2,159.75
Insurance - Volunteers	500.00	-
Lutzy Award Board	2,200.00	2,550.00
Lutzy Award Meals	336.00	157.63
Membership Fees Paid	-	131.53
MV - Fuel & Oil	629.78	300.00
MV - Rego	871.25	-
MV Repairs and Maintenance	845.00	-
NYSF	-	975.00
Postage, Freight & Courier	416.00	381.24

Treasurer's Report

Charles Thomasson

	2024	2023
Printing & Stationery	70.00	99.00
Project Shed Costs	968.00	-
Project Shed-Electricity	1,519.73	2,987.29
Project Shed-Miscellaneous	1,693.61	2,317.20
Project Shed-Rates	1,023.29	1,202.65
Project Shed-Repairs & Maintenance	329.63	2,122.94
Project Shed-Security	297.00	-
Rotary Down Under	1,090.38	-
Rotary Foundation	3,400.00	3,300.00
Rotary Shirts Costs	69.31	127.93
RYLA	-	575.00
RYPEN	335.00	1,340.00
RYTS	-	2,025.00
Subscriptions	-	1,161.00
Sundry Expenses	386.75	138.00
Trailer- Registration & Insurance	234.85	227.10
Training Costs	532.25	265.00
Vanuatu Project	12,511.31	(13,065.30)
Write Off Expenses	-	(1.00)
Youth Programmes	-	360.00
Total Operating Expenses	50,160.12	39,561.77
Net Profit	29,186.65	33,913.53

Current Bank Account Balances:

Rotary Club of Surfers Sunrise General Account	\$19,007.45
Rotary Surfers Sunrise Project Account	\$2,953.08
Rotary Surfers Sunrise Vanuatu Account	\$4,953.73

Note: these figures are provided for the club's annual Changeover Report and do not representing the full financial year to 30th June 2024.

Yours in Rotary

Charles Thomasson
Treasurer

Surfers Sunrise Wheelchair Trust - Financials Doug Lipp

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 1ST JULY 2023 TO 21ST May 2024

Balance as per Cash Book 1 st July 2023		43420.03
ADD: INCOME		
Receipted Donations	20200.00	
Container Income	1795.60	
Other Donations	2546.76	
Contribution to Led Lights	1190.00	
Sale of Chairs	3670.00	
Total Income	29402.26	
		74822.39
LESS: EXPENDITURE		
Bunnings	4490.69	
Nerang Nuts and Bolts	1741.67	
Ply Wood	8245.94	
Reimburse the Shed	679.49	
Post Clamps	990.00	
AK Automotive Parts	37675.12	
Seats	2112.00	
Total Expenditure	55934.91	
Balance as per Bank Statement 21 St May 2024		16887.48

Note: these figures are provided for the club's annual Changeover Report and do not representing the full financial year to 30th June 2024.

Yours in Rotary,

Doug Lipp,
Treasurer, Surfers Sunrise Wheelchair Trust

Fundraising

Ross Augustine

Below are the major fundraising activities for the year:

Bunnings BBQ

Last year we raised \$16,469 for the year over 10 BBQ`S. We will probably raise about \$11,000 this year (Will be 7 for the Year) as there has been greater demand for the BBQ`S restricting the number we were offered. We have bookings for Sunday 23rd June, Friday 9th August and Sunday 1st September.

Containers for Change.

Geoff Croad has done a great job coordinating Containers for Change. Wine and spirit bottles are now included. This has raised \$15,094 this year.

Golf Day

Raised \$4,940 this year, gross takings were higher but profit on the day was down because of increased expenses. Pancare and PCYC were the beneficiaries from this year and we need to establish beneficiaries for this year. The date for next golf day is Monday 28th October. A big Thank You to the organisers, Doug Lipp, Charles Thomasson and Paul Smith.

Long Lunch

Johnny has booked Thursday 11th July for The Italian Long Lunch

Queensland Government Gambling Community Fund

A grant for \$28,302 for the purchase of a Crown Pedestrian Powered Stacker SX 3000 has been approved and the club has received the funds. The stacker had been delivered at the end of May (picture right).

District Foundation Grant Application

The club is in the process of applying for a grant from the District for \$4,000 for installation of large ceiling fans at the project shed. This will cover the purchase and Installation of 3 fans. At present, the volunteers at the shed are using small pedestal fans on hot days. If approved, the District will pay half the cost and the club the balance.

Queensland Airports Limited Community Benefit Fund

An application has been made here for a grant of \$2,200 to cover the cost of the paddle board for the Lutz Award.



Thanks to the support from members, associates and volunteers over the seven BBQs we have held this year and the helpers on the Golf Day. Geoff Croad has done a great job increasing our funds with monies raised from the Containers for Change program. The club again needs to stipulate specific community service projects to which our funds are allocated and to give a focus for our activities.

Yours in Rotary,

Ross Augustine,
Director, Fundraising

Membership

Angus Miller

The last year has been a productive with regards to membership. We have had some interesting and positive new people joining, three of them had previously been members of Rotary and wanted to rejoin.



Most recently, we welcomed **Dr Elizabeth Celi**, who was inducted under the classification of '**Psychology—EDMR**' (Eye Movement Desensitization & Reprocessing), a method to address PTSD/cPTSD and the "hot memories". She is the incoming Director of the Rotary Foundation portfolio. Dr Elizabeth transferred from the Rotary Club of Gold Coast Passport and prior to that the Rotary Club of

then mentoring their children to reach high levels in their university studies.

Before that **Rock O'Keefe** was inducted in November 2023 under the classification of '**Education—Design Technologies**'. Rock is well known throughout the District for the various positions he had held. Rock also extensively mentored refugee families, not only helping them to assimilate into our country but



Ralph Pownall is a Charter Member and was the third President of Surfers Sunrise. He rejoined our club after a lengthy sojourn to various regions of Australia. He was inducted into our club in November 2023 under the classification of '**Jewellery - Valuation**'. Ralph, now retired (well, sort of...) is a registered jewellery valuer, specialising in opals.

Thomas Robinson, who was inducted in September 2023 under the classification of '**Youth Services**', works with Mission Australia and has a practicing involvement in service associations. Thomas is incoming Director of the Youth portfolio. It's great to see new members quickly becoming active at a board level.



After this report went to press, President Doug Lipp inducted **Iain Campbell**, who was nominated by Geoff Croad. Iain is also a former Rotarian who decided to re-join our great organisation.

Unfortunately we lost one of our corporate members, the Cole Realty Group. Nicole Bricknell and Nick Cole resigned, due to other commitments with other service clubs and family.

The state of the membership in the club is always one we should be very aware of. A new member introduced is always another plus for our community. Bring a guest along and strengthen our club.

Yours in Rotary

Angus Miller
Director, Membership

Youth Services

Ashleigh Symes, Darrell Brown

Each year our Rotary club board approves \$3,300 expenditure on our youth programs funded via our role in the Gold Coast and Brisbane Business & Jobs Expos. Regrettably, the company running these events decided to discontinue them. Despite this shortfall in funds, the board approved a RYPEN candidate, but as it happened, the Rotary Club of Maclean ended up sponsoring as the candidate who lived close to that club. Also, our member Ross Augustine nominated a candidate but with a mix up in District another club ended up sponsoring.

A good reason why this was a quieter year in Youth was that our Youth Services Director Ashleigh Symes on maternity leave. However we are gearing up for a big 2024/25 year with our new director, Thomas Robinson. Who works with Mission Australia, at the helm. PDG Darrell Brown, as always, will be providing guidance. The board has approved \$1,445 towards the cost of a NYSF candidate and a survey currently being undertaken in the club to see if we would have sufficient hosts to sponsor a Youth Exchange Program student at a cost of around \$4,000 for the year.

We look to continue to build on our relationships with the Surfers Paradise Surf Club and Sergeant Cherie McLean, the PCYC's Youth Club Program Manager, in further supporting Gold Coast youth at a time when youth development is not only very topical but as important as ever.

Lutzy Award

Designed to be in honour of Keith Lutz, who was a prominent member of our club as well as a leader in the Surfers Paradise Surf Life Saving Club, it is aimed at an emerging young leader, nominated by the Surfers Paradise SLSC.



Lutzy Award 2023 (from left): Jan Lutz, David Orchard, President Doug Lipp, the winner Mia Watson and her father Rob Watson.

For 2023/24, **Mia Watson** was the recipient of the \$2,500 surf ski this year (picture above).

Yours in Rotary,

Ashleigh Symes,
Director, Youth Services

The Rotary Foundation

Gerald G. East

As Rotarians, we are all part of a global network that bridges barriers to create a better world. The Rotary Foundation impacts places that need us most because of our service and support, but help is needed more than ever, and we cannot do it without you.



Paul Harris Fellowship pin with 2 sapphires (in total awarded 3 times)

To this end, we have again gifted A\$100.00 per member to the Foundation. This started twelve years ago when we gave the requested US\$100.00 per member. Since then, the US Dollar has risen and to give the same now would cost us A\$150.00 per member, so for the past few years we have given in the currency we earn in. When a member's account reaches US\$1,000.00, they are awarded a Paul Harris Fellow, which is awarded every time a member donates this amount of money to the Foundation.

With not long now until the end of the financial year, is a reminder that any charity donations you make before 30th June are both tax deductible and come with a Paul Harris award for US\$1,000.00 multiples. If anyone has any queries on how to donate to receive these benefits, please don't hesitate to contact me by mobile or email.

If you are a Rotarian looking for a very good cause to donate some of your nest egg. A bequest to The Rotary Foundation will ensure your memory lives on in future Rotary projects. There is the Endowment Share program, where funds are shared between the World Fund and District Designated Funds. This option allows your contribution to grow over time and continue to transform lives. Alternatively, a General Bequest to the Foundation is for use by the Trustees at their determination, in one or more of Rotary's area of focus. This option allows you to support specific Rotary projects that align with your interests and passions. The amount you designate can be of your choosing.

However, for as little as US \$10,000.00. Rotarians can become members of the Rotary Bequest Society and receive a Bequest Society pin (picture right) as well as an exclusive piece of art, suitable for framing. There is also a range of additional options ranging from US\$25,000.00 to \$500,000.00 with various levels of recognition and naming rights of projects. These are listed on The Rotary Foundation website.



Working With Children — Blue cards

All Members of our Club who engage in Club projects that involve children, are required to obtain a 'Working With Children' Blue Card if they don't already have one. There is no cost involved to obtain a card for a volunteer. New applicants can download the form online, but will need to contact myself as the Organisation Portal User to confirm their identity (you will need a drivers licence or proof of identity card for this purpose). Members who already have a card can renew it online before expiry with no dramas. However, if you let it expire, you have to go through the new applicant procedure to renew your card. So, the word is, don't let them run out. Any Members renewing or obtaining a new card are asked to email me the card number and expiry date for our records. I thank you all for your cooperation.

Yours in Rotary,

Gerald G. East
Director, The Rotary Foundation and
Youth Protection Officer

Wheelchair Trust

Larry Murray, Geoff Croad

With the assistance of **Bryan Tuesley**, we finally were able to place the order via our contact in Hong Kong for the purchase (Aust \$37,675.12) of items that are required to manufacture 400 Rough Terrain Wheelchairs. These items were shipped in a 20ft container from China around August last year, with great assistance from Wendy Lau from AK Automotive in Hong Kong, who sources the various components from multiple manufacturers.

This past year has been a year of completing a number of loose ends at the shed.

The annual test and tag was completed with the assistance of **Michael Hickey** who instructed and lent us the equipment so **Paul O'Neill** (volunteer), **Ross Augustine** and myself could complete the job over a couple of days. All the electrical items with leads are recorded and tagged so we have a record, less the items that have been discarded plus new items that have been purchased, since the previous test and tag.

The club would like to thank **Paul O'Neill** who has spent a considerable amount of time recording all this detail on computer for insurance purposes and in addition Paul has also completed the photographing of all items of machinery and tools within the shed, which are now recorded on a card as a record for insurance purposes.

Paul has also setup a Financial Spread Sheet for the Wheelchair Trust on his computer to track all purchasers for the shed either by Cash, Credit card, Bunnings Card plus account showing sales of bikes, steel, aluminium, Container for Change. It shows where the income from the shed is being used, e.g. fuel for the ute, morning tea costs etc.

In addition, the Fire System within the shed was updated, including the testing of fire devices on site. Over a number of months, with the assistance of **Jimmy Pearce** (volunteer), a structure to house the compressor on the outside of the shed has been installed. This considerably reduced the noise when using the sand blaster.



First time we had a volunteer couple: Welcome Damian Lockett and Neat Bailie!

Jimmy has completed a number of items, such improvement to the structure of the mezzanine area to comply with Council requirements. This was finished with the assistance of **Nev Tait** (volunteer) replacing the rails around the mezzanine to comply. **Mark Traucniecks** (engineer) has now signed off the mezzanine via our member **Simon Brook**, so hopefully that should satisfy Council. Jimmy also erected 3 raised platforms to display our finished Rough Terrain Wheelchairs, so visitors can view the completed wheelchair.

The extension out from the back roller door has as yet not gone ahead, as it has not been presented to council for approval to construct, but that will be dealt with shortly.

Paul O'Neill and Rotaractor **Matt Hayward** have just completed getting our alarm system, security recording and cameras working correctly. There are 3 people receiving notification if the alarm is activated, plus 3 people have access to view the camera if we ever have a break-in. This will allow them to assess if they require to notify the police first before attending the site.

As all members are aware, **Ross Augustine** successfully applied for a grant to purchase a new forklift for the wheelchair shed, which the volunteers eagerly awaited. This forklift is a blessing for the workers at the shed; many are getting to an age where lifting stock by hand is becoming difficult.

Ross, as our members will be aware, has also applied for a grant to install 3 to 4 very large ceiling fans to be installed in the shed.

Rick Parry (volunteer) is of great assistance in the collection of used bikes and wheelchairs from around the Gold Coast. The sources have been Council Tips, Australia Fair at Southport (50 bikes), Pacific Fair (25 second hand wheelchairs). Further, he collected close to 300 moulded chairs from Biggera Waters State School. The moulded seats

of these chairs are ideal for our wheelchairs and thus saves us considerably on material purchases.

I would like to thank all the 25 Volunteers for their dedication over the last 12 months. You all do a fantastic job around the shed, not only in manufacturing wheelchairs but the assistance you give to each other. We did lose one member during the year and I am aware that Bryan Tuesley and one or two others are having some health problems, but they have the support of all the club members. We wish them well.



Geoff Croad, Tim, Sean and Pastor Ken Wigglesworth from the Spirit of Life Church, Rick Parry, loading 50 wheelchairs destined for Zambia.

Would also like to thank **Des LaRance** (the Rotarian who got this project off the ground many years ago) for his continued support for all these years. Des has this project at heart and it's great to see him at the shed on a Saturday.

We still have a couple of Rotary clubs up and down the coast, as well as Palen Creek Correctional Centre (near Beaudesert) supporting our project; a big thanks to them for their support.

From the stock we recently received from China, a little over 200 wheelchairs were manufactured so far. Of these, 50 were collected by Pastor Ken Wigglesworth of the Sprit Life Church, to be sent to Zambia.

I have been dealing with a Past Rotary District Governor of Fiji. They are in the process of applying for a grant via DFAT to cover shipping costs to take a 40ft container with approximately 165 Rough Terrain wheelchairs, 24 used medical beds and mattresses that have been supplied by **Del Cole of Someone Who Cares**, including an assortment of used wheelchairs and wheelie walkers. Some 12 months ago, we forwarded Rotary in Fiji all the requirements to apply for a grant from DFAT (supplied by Minister Penny Wong's office). They had indicated at the time that they had the funds raised to cover this shipment. Hopefully it will go shortly.

We also over the last few months had a small number of young adults coming on a Wednesday from the **Transition to Success Program**. The aim was for them to select a bike and refurbish it then at completion they could keep the bike to assist them in transition to full employment. The Wesley Mission have also introduced two new faces, Damian and Luke into coming to the shed to assist, so welcome guys!

Just in the last week or two we have re-ordered and had delivered over \$4,000 of structural ply wood, used for the base of our wheelchairs, and we have on order for 200 new seats outstanding at a cost of \$2112.00.

As we are coming into a new Rotary Year with a new President and Board, I would like to see more involvement by the Rotary Wheelchair Trust Board to table new ideas as to the future of the Wheelchair Factory long term. Also, I'd like to thank outgoing Chairman **Larry Murray** for all of his efforts and contribution to the shed over the past years.

In closing, may I mention that, on our club's weekly bulletin, we have a roster of Rotary club members to attend the shed on a Saturday morning. Please be aware of this roster and contribute your time, along with the volunteers. I am sure if more effort was made you would find that many of these volunteers have very interesting back grounds and would welcome a chat from the club members. All of us reach full retirement one day.

Yours in Rotary

Geoff Croad, Incoming Chairman
Larry Murray, Outgoing Chairman

Mauna Health Centre, Pentecost Is., Vanuatu Mario Fairlie

The X-Ray and Pathology unit for Mauna Health Centre, Abwatuntora, Pentecost Island, Vanuatu certainly would be the most complex and lengthy project ever undertaken. The project involved three Clubs, Gold Coast, Broadbeach and Surfers Sunrise. Complex not only by its scope of planning, raising the funds, pre-construction of the building at our project shed in Arundel, shipping it to its ultimate destination and re-erecting it on site. Complex due to the technical aspects of organising and getting the X-Ray and Pathology Analyser sourced and installed in an environment that can only be described as remote and difficult, without reliable supply of electricity and qualified technical and trade personnel. And we certainly didn't need the complication of COVID-19 emerging in late 2019. This is a historical summary (provided by one of the principal organisers, **Dr Graham Sivyer**, of events to date:

- **Dr Richard Leona** [surgeon, Vanuatu] while visiting the Gold Coast Medical Association in 2019 requested a portable X-Ray and blood pathology auto analyser for Mauna Health Centre on Pentecost Island. Currently, if an X-Ray is required, the patient needs to travel some 500 Km over rough terrain and ocean barge (10-12hours) to Port Vila. Also, if any pathology tests are required a patient could wait weeks for results.
- **Mario Fairlie** (then) President of Surfers Sunrise, **Dr. Graham Sivyer** (then) President of Broadbeach, and two local Gold Coast doctors visited Pentecost Island in mid-2019 to investigate the needs and the sustainability for a project of this nature.
- **Dr Richard Leona** (Dept of Health, Vanuatu) arranged for the delegation to travel the length of the Island visiting the various medical facilities including Mauna Health Centre.
- Subsequently, the three local Rotary clubs, **Surfers Sunrise, Broadbeach** and **Gold Coast**, arranged for this to be a District (District Grant) and subsequently a Rotary International Project via the Rotary Foundation Global Grant. Later a additional District grant was given to provide Training for the local medical staff.
- Then **COVID** resulted in a shutdown of the Project for a number of years
- **Mario Fairlie** and Dr. Graham Sivyer visited Vanuatu early 2023 liaising with a local Rotary club, Australian High Commission and various Vanuatu Ministry for Health and Hospitals to 'kick start' the project.
- We the aid of the **Rotary Foundation Global Grant**, an X-Ray Machine and Auto Blood (Pathology) Analyser was purchased from China, with the assistance of Rotarian **Wayne Leatham**. The cost of new equipment from China was about one third the price of purchase in Australia. Second-hand machines in QLD are 12 to 14 years old and unreliable and also the government required the issuing of special licences just to purchased them.
- The 'flat pack' building to house the equipment was built at the **Surfers Sunrise Project Shed** at Arundel. In total, thousands of man hours by



At the Ministry of Health [Dr Richard Leona, First Secretary to the Minister, Mario Fairlie, Graham Sivyer, Minister Mako (Minister for Health, Vanuatu)]

Rotarians, Rotaractors and volunteers were spent.

- The building was then disassembled and shipped to Port Vila, transferred to barges and shipped on to Pentecost Island
- Rotary volunteers and Rotaractors from two clubs, with the assistance of Mauna Hospital locals (at Abwatuntora) assembled the building in July 2023.
- **Andy Lyons**, a biomedical engineer who is funded by **Vanuatu Australia**

Health Partnership (DFAT) and working full time with the Ministry of Health and Hospitals in Vanuatu became a vital part of the project to ensure sustainability for the project. He has assisted in checking and testing the equipment and the ongoing maintenance of the project.

- There have been **many volunteers who have worked diligently** to keep the project alive.
- **A second crew returned** in early 2024 to finalise construction and replace the flooring to accommodate the weight of the Portable X-Ray machine (battery powered)
- The final phase of the Project was the Training of the local medical staff at Mauna hospital in the use of the equipment. Two clubs, Gold Coast and Surfers Sunrise, and with the support of our District, a grant became available to carry out this work.
- Dr. Graham Sivyer together with Rotaractor Matt Hayward, travelled to Vanuatu and onto Pentecost Island in January-February 2024. Dr Richard Leona and Andy Lyons also travelled to Mauna Health Centre to assist in the training.
- Most of the training was completed, however, there are parts which could not be completed, due to the supply of electricity. The Solar Electricity System

was faulty. The X-Ray is portable and is possible of being moved to the bedside of the patient to perform the X-Rays. To this end the X-Ray machine is mobile and runs of batteries. Once charged the machine will operate for 3 days. The batteries were unable to be charged because of no solar electricity. Thus, the full training was not finalised.

- The Electricity system has been repaired and is now fully



The building is almost at 'Lock-up' stage! Selfie by Al Sirovs

operational. Therefore, there is a need to return to the island to complete the training program. The staff have been given all the formal and safety training but lack operational training.

- We have been in contact with John Brown (CEO of Mauna Hospital) and he has been slowly charging the batteries in readiness for the second part of the training.
- John Brown has also indicated that they will provide the accommodation and food for the personnel going there to finalise the training.
- Presently we have two major dilemmas:
 - * Air travel between Brisbane and Port Vila and Port Vila to Pentecost Island, due to the collapse of Vanuatu Airlines. Some flights exist between Brisbane and Port Vila on Virgin Australia (very limited and near impossible to get) or on Fiji Air (double the normal Price) or Solomon Airlines with a *stopover in Honiara*.. a 6.5 hour flight. For flights from Port Vila to Sara Airport Pentecost Island, an air taxi can be used.
 - * The other problem is the availability of key personnel: Both Dr Richard Leona and Andy Lyons, together with Rotaractor Matt Hayward are required, and possibly Ben Loots (X-Ray Engineer from the Gold Coast). The key person is Andy Lyons, as he and his staff at the Ministry of Health are the back stop to ensure sustainability in the long-term of maintenance and operation of this facility. Unfortunately, Andy Lyons will not be available until August.

Conclusion:

Based on the above information and the project is not yet fully completed. Our objective is to have it completed and handed over to the Mauna Medical Centre, (which, in essence is the Vanuatu Ministry of Health) as soon as possible. To achieve this, we need to fully utilise the funds allocated \$10,000 for the training. The remaining funds will be used to send a crew to Vanuatu in August.

Yours in Rotary,

Mario J. Fairlie

(Also, check the Mauna website www.maunahealthcentre.com as well as the Download files on www.rotarysurferssunrise.org for a slideshow and press release.



Once the building was all up, the first Vanuatu construction crew celebrated with the locals

Club Administration

Franz Huber

The year started with incoming President Doug Lipp with a traditional Changeover Luncheon, at a new venue, Braeside Estate in Merrimac. Overall feedback was very positive, thus President Doug Lipp and incoming President Andy Bell has chosen this venue again.

Venue, Program

All our regular meetings are held at the **Surfers Paradise SLSC**, where the upstairs venue is made available every fortnight for our 'formal' meetings. On alternative weeks we have a 'social' meeting, downstairs in the bistro. We much appreciate the Surf Club making the venue available to us; no doubt this would be the premier location to have a Rotary breakfast meeting!

The list of speakers and events throughout the year (see full details with corresponding links further on in this report) shows a nicely balanced program across a variety of subjects. On multiple presentations, our own members demonstrated their expertise, such as Charles Thomasson and Ashleigh Symes on the Stock Market and Superannuation, and Ralph Pownall demonstrating his expertise on opals. Contrasting, we enjoyed presentations of new members introducing themselves, health care specialists (yes, some of us are at an age where we may well heed their advice - your Editor included!) and **Angie Bell**, MP for Moncrieff in what now has become a regular annual event. But one of the events I must specially mention: the 'Lutzy Award' (see Youth Service Report above).



Shadow Minister for Youth, Angie Bell

Website, Bulletin, Social Media, Communication

I've always maintained that editing the bulletin, website and Facebook is to be treated as a hobby, not as a chore. But the work can only be enjoyable if the club is as active as Surfers Sunrise. This hobby has one major additional benefit: I claim to get more out of our guest speakers than anyone else, as I really need to pay attention! Both the website as well as the Facebook pages are regularly updated, with some stories also appearing in our club's weekly bulletin and vice-versa.

Club Administration

Our weekly club bulletin and website are running via 'ClubRunner', an Internet (or 'cloud based') system adopted by Rotary International. The same system is also used to notify members and the public of upcoming events, allows the downloading of photo albums and documents, and is a depository for club documents. Those documents are accessible to all members (it requires a login and password to protect privacy), and so is membership data. An app, which runs on either iPhone or Android mobiles, allows members instant access to our website, as well as such items as member's contact details.

I am very grateful to members who contribute to the smooth running of our club's administration and particularly who do a presentation or assist with arranging guest speakers. Keep them coming!

Social events

This year's Christmas Breakfast was at Skypoint, at the top of the Q1 building, organised by Graeme Isaacson. This venue was visited again when we hosted the Rotary Friendship Exchange Team from Pennsylvania in March.

In closing, a special, big 'Thank You!' must go to our outgoing President **Doug Lipp**. Under his leadership, this has again been a dynamic and invigorating year for Surfers Sunrise. And welcome, incoming President **Andy Bell**! Looking forward to another great year.

Yours in Rotary

Franz Huber
Director, Club Administration

Club Committee Changes		
	2023–24	2024-25
President	Doug Lipp	Andy Bell
Immediate Past President, Vice President	Mitch Brown	Doug Lipp
President Elect	Andy Bell	Paul Seymour
Secretary	Trent Belling	Trent Belling
Executive Secretary	Franz Huber	Franz Huber
Treasurer	Charles Thomasson	Charles Thomasson
Director - Club Administration Program, Communication, Website & Social Media Administrator	Franz Huber	Franz Huber
Joint Directors - Service Projects (Vocational, Community Service, International Service, Young Leaders)	Larry Murray, Geoff Croad	Geoff Croad
Director - Public Image (Media Relations, Advertising, Market- ing, Social Media)	TBA	TBA
Director - Membership Recruitment, Retention, Orientation, Education, Diversity	Angus Miller	Angus Miller Evan Mita
Director - The Rotary Foundation Polio Plus, Fundraising for TRF	Gerald East	Dr Elizabeth Celi
Director - Fundraising	Ross Augustine	Ross Augustine
Joint Directors, Youth Services	Ashleigh Symes, Darrell Brown	Thomas Robinson
Chairman, Wheelchair Trust	Larry Murray	Geoff Croad
Treasurer, Wheelchair Trust	Doug Lipp	Doug Lipp
Bulletin Editor / Webmaster	Franz Huber	Franz Huber
Facebook Page / Social media	Franz Huber	Franz Huber
Youth Protection Officer (incorporating Blue Cards)	Gerald East	Gerald East
Matching Grants Submissions	Mario Fairlie	Mario Fairlie
Welfare Officer		Graeme Isaacson
Fellowship, Social Program	Graeme Isaacson	Graeme Isaacson



Just a few of the memorable moments: Clock wise from top left: A trailer load of kids bikes, VIP visit at the shed: (Lisa Else - GCCC, President Doug Lipp, Sam O'Connor MP, John Paul Langbroek MP, volunteer Ray Drowley), one of our Bunnings Sausage Sizzles, Rotary Friendship Exchange Team from Pennsylvania, Bryan Tuesley receives award from Angie Bell MP, Christmas party at Skypoint, the winning team at the Surfers Sunrise Golf Day.

