

Rotary

Surfers Sunrise



A summary of 2020

Of all the virtues we can learn, no trait is more useful, more essential for survival, and more likely to improve the quality of life than the ability to transform adversity into an enjoyable challenge. Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, American-Hungarian Psychologist

So, the year 2020 was challenging. COVID-19 caused lots of disruptions. Did that stop Surfers Sunrise Rotary to perform and to enjoy the Rotary experience? Well, you be the judge. Here is a summary of the major events of the year. If you click on the links ([dark blue, underscored](#)), it will lead directly to the relevant story on our website. There are also a number of Photo Albums you might want to check out on the website (right hand side). If you feel that I have left something out, please let me know so I can include it.

January 2020

06/01/20	<p>Karen Holland - Languages Karen started off the new year talking about a subject we would never have thought would be at the forefront of one of our newer members. After all, she has a law degree, she is expert in home electronics... Read all about it here.</p>	
22/01/20	 <p>Wayne Leathem – Medical Repurposing Network Wayne’s network organises otherwise perfectly good medical electronics equipment to be re-deployed rather than put to the scrap heap.</p>	
29/01/20	<p>Chinese Dinner at the Highland Court Chinese Restaurant in Benowa. It was the last social function with partners we were able to enjoy for the remainder of the year until the 'Guess who is coming to Dinner?' in July.</p>	

February 2020

05/02/20	<p>Lucy Thorburn returned from the USA: Our Youth Exchange Student to the USA, former Lutz Award winner told us of her experiences in (sometimes freezing) Minnesota.</p>	
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19/02/20		Paul Smith – did a 'Man behind the Badge' with a difference: His talk's subject was "having a go", e.g. being an Entrepreneur.
Crazy Whist fundraising event cancelled due to COVID 😞		

March 2020

	District advised that all meetings where members meet physically are to be cancelled due to COVID , including the District Conference in Tenterfield. All monies paid already for registration to be either refunded or alternatively were donated to the Malaria Vaccine Project of Griffith Uni.	
04/03/20		Our speaker is YE Student from Japan, Ayana Sadaka . This was also to be our last physical club meeting until July.
	The Gold Coast Ramble managed to squeeze in as the last physical event for several months. Our corporate member Ashleigh Symes from Wilsons Advisory (picture) and our former member Rosie McIntyre fielded teams.	
Project Shed closed till further notice due to COVID 😞		
Excellence in Workmanship Awards cancelled due to COVID 😞		
Guess who is coming to Dinner? – cancelled due to COVID 😞		
Pimpama State Secondary College – FixEd workshop becomes involved with our wheelchair project		

April 2020

01/04/20	No April Fools joke: our first Zoom meeting . 18 members joined	
15/04/20		Our second Zoom meeting had the vast bulk of our members join: Dr Trent Lipp (Treasurer Doug's son, picture left) presented from Brisbane on COVID via Zoom , so did Past President Jo Winwood on her project 'Be Someone for Someone'
		

29/04/20		PDG Ross Smith , via Zoom, spoke on one of his passions: Architecture, specifically famous US Architect Frank Lloyd Wright (think Fallingwater, Guggenheim Museum in New York)
	Premier Timber & Trusses confirms they will donate all timber for Vanuatu project, trusses readily assembled	

May 2020

13/05/20		Maggie Twyford (Mark & Tanya's daughter) joins us via Zoom to speak on Misión México where she worked for several months
	AB Crane Hire and Diesel Services Queensland donate equipment and personnel to crane in a container, supplied by Sinclair Containers, at the Project Shed for storage purposes.	
27/05/20		Federal MP Angie Bell joins us via Zoom. First time in years we had a Federal MP speaking at our club in years (last one was Karen Andrews, MP for McPherson, several years ago). Interesting to note: In her youth, Angie Bell was a Youth Exchange Student to Denmark.

June 2020

10/06/20	Charter Member Peter Morgan speaks via Zoom on his involvement with the Catholic Finance Board, as well as with the Lifeline charity	
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		<p>First relaxation of COVID restrictions: Working Bees (with Social Distancing duly observed) at the Project Shed to get it massively reorganised, with completed wheelchairs moved into container and shelving dismantled to make space for 'Sleeping Sanctuary' and X-Ray Unit for Vanuatu projects. Work starts on the 'Sleeping Sanctuary'</p>
	<p>President Mario Fairlie presents <u>multiple Certificates of Appreciation</u> to various businesses and individuals who provided their equipment and services at no charge: Premier Timber & Trusses, Molectra Technologies, AB Crane Hire, Diesel Services Queensland, Graeme & Jed Stanyer.</p>	
<p>24/06/20</p>		<p>First physical club meeting since COVID restrictions: John Chirio presented a humorous summary of his professional career: <u>How to become an Engineer without a plan.</u> <i>Yeah right...</i> 😊</p>

July 2020

<p>04/07/20</p>	<p><u>'Guess who is coming to Dinner?'</u> – first physical social event since COVID restrictions were imposed / relaxed.</p>	
<p>08/07/20</p>		<p>New President <u>Charles Thomasson</u> conducts our first physical meeting since COVID started at Surfers Paradise SLSC! John Chirio: 'How to become an Engineer without a Plan'</p>
<p>Container with <u>29 Hospital Beds despatched for Kiribati</u></p>		

<p>15/07/20</p>	<p><u>Changeover Breakfast at Edgewater Restaurant</u>, Isle of Capri. Mario Fairlie formally hands over the Charles Thomasson. Geoff Croad is deservedly presented with the Rotarian of the Year trophy.</p>	
<p>18/07/20</p>	<p><u>10,000th Wheelchair has "officially" been manufactured</u>. Was loaded on container for Honiara with 277 more - and promptly unloaded again for formal celebration later in the year... Click on the link for lots of photos.</p>	
<p>22/07/20</p>		<p>It was a physical meeting at the Surfers SLSC, but Zoom still comes in handy: <u>Ray Krebs from NBN Co</u> joins us via Zoom from Brisbane.</p>

August 2020

<p>05/08/20</p>	<p>Our Guest Speaker was State Member of Parliament <u>John-Paul Langbroek</u></p>	
<p>15/08/20 19/08/20</p>	<p><u>First Bunnings Sausage Sizzle since COVID</u> Two new members, <u>Johnny Bueti and Paul Jaffar</u> present a 'Rotarian behind the Badge'</p>	

September 2020

<p>02/09/20</p>	<p>Our Guest Speaker was <u>Vandy S Kamara</u>, Rotary International Peace Fellowship candidate.</p>	
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<p>16/09/20</p>		<p>Our Guest Speaker was Dr Steve Macanovic – Men's Health.</p>
<p>20/09/20</p>	<p>'Lutzy Award' presentation: this year's recipient is Jade McMahon</p>	

October 2020

<p>03/10/20</p>		<p>Burleigh Rotaract Club members become involved with the Vanuatu project</p>
<p>07/10/20</p>	<p>We hosted District Governor Andy Rajapakse, who took the opportunity to induct our new member Ramez Salib to our club</p>	
<p>14/10/20</p>	<p>PDG Graham Jones presented on the US Presidential Elections</p>	
<p>15/10/20</p>		<p>We participated at the Gold Coast Business Expo – both fundraising effort as well as as an exhibitor</p>

<p>26/10/20</p>	<p><u>Surfers Sunrise Golf Day</u> is a huge success</p>	
<p>28/10/20</p>		<p><u>Jo Winwood</u> joins us from Byron Bay to speak on her project 'Be Someone for Someone', dealing with Loneliness</p>

November 2020

	<p><u>40' container loaded to the rim with wheelchairs</u> and other items is despatched for South Africa for distribution via the Rotary e-Club of South Africa</p>	
<p>11/11/20</p>		<p><u>PDG Michael Irving</u> spoke on Climate Change: Fact or ????</p> <p>A controversial subject if ever there was one!</p>
<p>14/11/20</p>	<p>Big <u>10,000th Wheelchair Celebration</u> at the Project Shed. Honorary Member Des La Rance, who invented the design concept, is presented with a special commemorative collage</p>	
<p>25/11/20</p>	<p><u>Farley S Tolpen</u> speaks on Mediation. President Charles Thomasson inducts our newest members Adam Sheppard and Tash Price – THE "Wheelchair" club welcomes its first wheelchair bound members!</p>	

December 2020

06/12/20	<u>Annual General Meeting</u> . Paul Seymour is elected President Elect for 2021-22. Click on the link for other positions.	
10/12/20	 <u>Italian Long Lunch</u> fundraiser, organised by John Bueti and Paul Jaffar. There is also a Photo Album on the website.	
16/12/20	<u>Surfers Sunrise Christmas Breakfast</u> at Edgewater Dining on Isle of Capri.	
19/12/20	 <u>Christmas Party at the Project Shed</u>	
20/12/20	Final Fundraiser of 2020: <u>Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings</u>	