

# **THE ROTARY CLUB OF NUMURKAH Inc.**

## ***ANNUAL REPORT***

***and***

## ***FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***

**FOR**

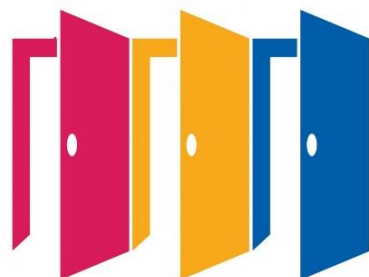
**THE ROTARY YEAR 2019 - 2020**

**Changeover**

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020**



**DISTRICT GOVERNOR BRIAN PETERS**



**DISTRICT GOVERNOR BRUCE ANDERSON**

## 2019 – 2020 Board Members

President	Lorraine Greenwood
President Elect & Membership	Jennifer Rodger
Past President	PP Stephen Mills
Secretary	Kay Moodie
Treasurer	PP Jeff Buzza
Public Relations	PP Lou Hamon OAM
Community Service Director	Julie Andrew
International Director	Marie Austin
Youth Services Director	Linda Boyd
Vocational Service Director	Sally Rose



## 2020 – 2021 Board Members

President	Jennifer Rodger
President Elect & Membership	Gary Phillips
Past President	PP Lorraine Greenwood
Secretary	Sally Rose
Treasurer	PP Jeff Buzza
Public Relations	PP Lou Hamon OAM
Community Service Director	Julie Andrew
Foundation & International Director	PP Stephen Mills
Youth Services Director	Chris Hardham
Vocational Service Director	PP John Watson

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2019 – 2020

The role of Rotary President is an honour that I am proud to have accepted. The past twelve months have proved a most interesting and sometimes challenging experience in which I have had the opportunity to do things that I never expected to be doing. I chaired the AGMs for both the Ladies and the Combined Probus Clubs of Numurkah and I represented Rotary at the Lions' Club 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. I had my photo in the newspaper more in the past twelve months than in my whole life; in fact, I have the details for our local reporter in my phone contact list. I was interviewed by Sandra Moon on the ABC, after several telephone chats with Matt Dowling. I addressed the members of the Rotary Club of North Balwyn at their Christmas meeting and spoke, albeit briefly, at the opening of our Art show. Life will certainly be less interesting after tonight!

Thank you to my Board for their support and contributions to our program this year. Special mention goes to my Secretary, Kay Moodie. Despite some initial technical difficulties with computers, which caused a great deal of frustration for Kay, she persevered, usually with a smile on her face. She has proved to be a very well organised person who contributed to the success of our year in so many ways.

Thanks also go to Lou Hamon who managed to keep us all in touch, especially during these difficult times of isolation. He continues to explore new ways to put Numurkah Rotary out there on social media, the latest being our new Instagram account.

A special mention is needed for our 'Grant Lady', Julie Andrew. Preparing grant submissions is time-consuming, frustrating when they are not successful, but very rewarding when they are. Through Julie's efforts, the club received grants totalling over \$13 000 this year, which is a great achievement. The sky is the limit, it appears, with Julie and future grants.

However, tonight is not just about me and my Board. Tonight is a night to celebrate Rotary. It is an amazing organisation that has the motto 'Do Good In the World'. What could be better than that?

For our club, it has been a very busy year, with a range of informative guest speakers and lots of activities. I have included our program for the year in the Annual Report as a reminder of the many things we have learnt and the things we have done.

Despite the limitations placed on our work by the Covid 19 pandemic, our club has achieved some wonderful outcomes this year. One of the most significant, from a community perspective, is the implementation of the Drought Relief Project, in collaboration with the Rotary Club of North Balwyn. Our club's community involvement, strength and active membership lead to the Numurkah and District community being selected as the beneficiary of this wonderful initiative. Details of this project are presented in a report from Geoff Kneale from North Balwyn RC, the Executive Director of the DRP.



One of my goals for the year was to support local businesses and community groups through our weekly meetings. Dinner meetings at the Telegraph, PALS, the Baulkamaugh scout hall, the RSL (catered by Mierlo) and Cactus Country with Cobram Rotarians allowed us to take Rotary meetings into the community and provide financial support to our hosts. Our combined meeting with the Lions' Club enabled us to make a significant donation to the Numurkah Fire Brigade. Although this program was limited by our busy schedule of commitments to long-standing events and then the Covid-19 restrictions, I am pleased with its success.

During the year we continued to make the Numurkah swimming pool an important focus. Grants enabled us to begin the process of upgrading facilities at the pool, with the aim of improving community involvement and attendance. Our working bee at the pool involved clearing and refurbishing the first aid room, with the installation of a split system air conditioner and ceiling fan being important additions. The purchase of \$6000 worth of games equipment and our first picnic table setting will be appreciated next summer, as will the plane trees we are buying to improve the pool grounds. Our new initiative to offer free family pool passes to local families was a great success, generously supported by the Rotary Club of Balwyn. I hope this program will continue in the future. Thanks to the North Balwyn Club we also received a large number of pairs of sandals that will be sold to raise funds for the Numurkah Swimming Club next summer.

Our club has developed and strengthened our links with the Numurkah Community House throughout the year. We began with a Saturday morning BBQ at the kiosk to raise funds for the House. Some club members assisted with maintenance work on the property, while others distributed fliers to advertise their Open Day. We also donated items to support their projects, including cosmetics and hair products donated by the North Balwyn club, as well as bottle caps and bread tags collected from the local community. All the club members who attended our Christmas party made donations of household products to help maintain the Community House. We were able to donate four large boxes of materials, including cleaning products, garden equipment, paper towels and tea towels, items that are needed every day to keep the House operating. Our biggest contribution is a donation of \$2650 for the installation of a sliding glass door at the back of the house to increase accessibility from the kitchen to the new ramp.



This year we built upon long-established links with our local schools and young people. We had six local students attend RYPEN, the Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment. Programs such as this build self-esteem and resilience in our young people, so I hope that we can continue to support this Rotary Youth program. We supported local families through the swimming pool family passes, and donated hair products to the three schools to distribute for Mothers' Day. Club members marshalled at the Fun Run, another opportunity to serve our community. We have committed \$4000 from our funds towards the cost of new playground equipment at Numurkah Primary School. I know that our incoming president, Jennifer Rodger, has plans in place already to expand our relationship with our local schools, and I look forward to supporting her initiatives.



Hosting our wonderful young visitor from Finland this year has been another highlight for me and for the club, and a benefit for the community. Tinja Nakki has made a positive impression on everyone she has come into contact with, especially the many friends she has made at Numurkah Secondary College.

Tinja is flying out of the country next Saturday to end her year in Australia. On behalf of our club, I extend our thanks to her host families for their generous support of Tinja during her time with them and I thank Tinja for being such a great ambassador for her country.

The 'Helping Our Hospital Heroes' project, organised by members of the Rotary Club of Sunbury, was another example of how Rotary can make a difference. With the wonderful support of a number of local women who love their sewing machines, we were able to donate over 250 scrub caps for hospital staff. The final total for this Rotary project, with its very small beginnings, was over 13 000 caps donated to hospitals throughout the country.



Rotary is an amazing organisation that brings people together from all walks of life, all countries, beliefs and socio-economic circumstances. Through the vision and commitment of people like Cathy Booth from Queensland, and Wayne Limbrick from Shepparton, our members have been given the opportunity to improve the lives of orphaned children in Kenya. We have made a long-term commitment to sponsor a child, Alare, who has lived at the Umoja Children's Village since he was five months old. We also sponsor a seven-year-old girl, Esther, in Ghana, through the organisation Plan International. This year our club will make a donation of \$1400 towards the construction of a new building at the School of St. Jude in Tanzania. Our contributions will help to improve the lives of Alare and Esther in particular, as well as other African students living in difficult circumstances.

So, thank you to all members of the Rotary Club of Numurkah, their families and friends for another busy and productive year. I also would like to thank Frank Malcolm for taking on the role of Chairman tonight. It is special for me because Frank was the President and the first person from Numurkah Rotary I spoke to when I was considering joining the club in 2012. He also inducted me into the club a few months later.

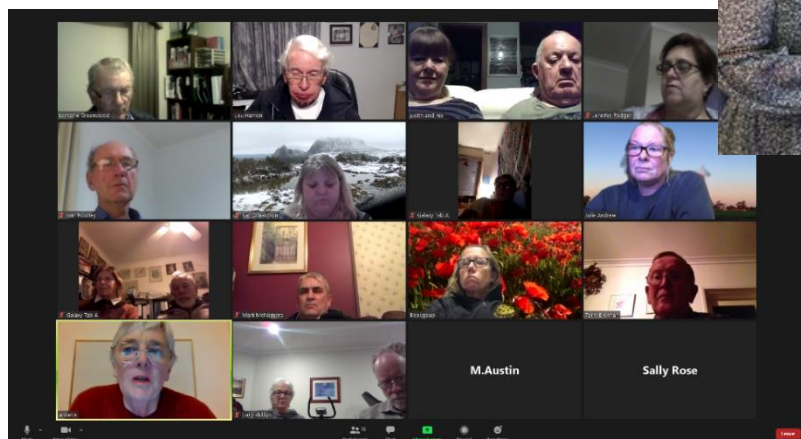
I would like to congratulate our District Governor, Brian Peters, for his leadership and commitment to Rotary. Brian took on his DG role with great passion and enthusiasm, but unfortunately a number of his projects, including the District Conference, were affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite these restrictions, Brian has had a significant influence on many members of Rotary District 9790.

Our own Assistant Governor, Chris Sutton, is to be commended for her commitment to Rotary District 9790 and our club. We thank her for the leadership, enthusiasm and organisation over the past three years, and wish her well as she takes on the demanding role of District 9790 Secretary for the next twelve months.

As my year as Club President finishes, I know that I am passing the club into the very capable hands of an enthusiastic new leader. I wish Jennifer Rodger a happy and successful year. I know that she has plans well underway already and I look forward to working with her throughout 2020-2021.

I would like to finish with a quote by the anthropologist Margaret Mead who said:

***Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens  
can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.***



## MEETING SCHEDULE 2019-2020

DATE	CHAIRPERSON	GUEST SPEAKER/TOPIC
July 1st	Lorraine Greenwood	ROTARY - Club Assembly
July 8th	Terry Brennan	Lyn Cooper, Moira Shire - Swimming pool
July 15th	Judy Newman	Barb Sinclair - Numurkah Film Society
July 22nd	Jeff Buzza	Telegraph Hotel <i>Guess Who's Coming to Dinner</i>
July 29th	Julie Andrew	Julie Andrew & Steve Mills Umoja Children's Village
August 5th	Kay Moodie	Nicole Wells - Numurkah Community House
August 12th	Marie Austin	Dale Atkins, RC Eltham - Aquaboxes
August 19th	Kate Hodge	Tinja Nakki & Bruce McIntyre Youth Exchange
August 26th	Linda Boyd	Paul Quinane - PALS Dinner
September 2nd	Chris Sutton	Rotary programs
September 9th	Rex Shield	Rotary Debate - Nathalia SC Teams
September 16th	Jacque Phillips	Linda Reidy, Cobram Lions - Need For Feed
September 23rd	Jason Andrew	Baulkamaugh Scouts - Dinner
September 30th	Phil Seager	Kit Drury-Smith - Kimberley Experience
October 7th	Judy McDonald	DG Brian Peters – 'Lift The Lid'
October 14th	Ross Hardham	Bill Winters - L2P Driver Training
October 21st	Mark McNamara	Jeff Stanyer, RSL - Mierlo Dinner
October 28th	June Hewson	Faye Holmes – Student issues
Nov 4th	Julie Andrew	Swimming pool working bee
November 11th	Lorraine Greenwood	ROTARY - AGM
November 18th	Jennifer Rodger	Ashleigh Rodger - Samoa
November 27th (Wed)	Frank Malcolm	Cobram RC – Cactus Country
December 2nd	No Meeting - Show Us Ya Wheels	
December 9th	Gary Phillips	North Balwyn RC - Drought Relief Program
December 16th (Sun)	Chris Hardham	Christmas Party
December 23rd	NO MEETING	
December 30th	NO MEETING	

January 6th	NO MEETING	
January 13th	Chris Sutton	Combined meeting with Lions' Club
January 20th	Lorraine Greenwood	ROTARY - Club Assembly
		Australia Day BBQ
January 27th	AUSTRALIA DAY	
February 3rd	Terry Brennan	Kathryn Watson - Respiratory Health
		Community BBQ
February 10th	Allan Canobie	Jorja Dixon - NYSF London
February 17th	Sally Rose	Chris Motton, Kyabram RC Group Study Exchange
		Shepparton IGA Raffle tickets
		Bunnings BBQ & Raffle tickets
		Shepparton IGA Raffle tickets
February 26th	LES LAWRENCE SHIELD – Bowling at Nathalia	
March 2nd	Katrina Donaldson	Chris Matheson - Love Our Lifestyle
March 9th	LABOUR DAY - ART SHOW	
March 16th	Stephen Mills	Bridget Golding - Dairy Farmer
March 23rd		No meeting due to Covid-19
March 30th		No meeting due to Covid-19
April 6th		No meeting due to Covid-19
April 13th	EASTER MONDAY	
April 20th		No meeting due to Covid-19
April 27th		No meeting due to Covid-19
May 4 <sup>th</sup> (Zoom)	Lorraine Greenwood	Welcome Back to Rotary
May 11 <sup>th</sup> (Zoom)	John Watson	Dominique Cosgriff - Numurkah leader
May 18 <sup>th</sup> (Zoom)	Julie Andrew	Annette Kope - Numurkah Vinnies
May 25 <sup>th</sup> (Zoom)	Jennifer Rodger	Planning for 2020 - 2021
June 1 <sup>st</sup> (Zoom)	Chris Hardham	Leanne Rawson - Numurkah Parkrun
June 8th	QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY	
June 15th	Dinner parties – Members' homes	
June 22nd	Sunday June 21 <sup>st</sup> - Tinja's farewell BBQ (Jackson's home)	
June 29th	Frank Malcolm	CHANGEOVER NIGHT

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT



At the beginning of 2020 we were disappointed to receive a resignation from Bill & June Hewson who felt they could no longer be active members of our club. Fortunately, they agreed to become Honorary Members which means that, although no longer as involved as in the past, they are entitled to attend all meetings and enjoy all the other privileges of the club. We hope to see them regularly at our meetings & social events. June and Bill have been presented with their Certificates of Honorary Membership.



This year, we have had the pleasure of welcoming Tinja Nakki to our Club. Tinja arrived in July 2019, as a 16 year old Rotary Exchange Student from Finland and she has been a delightful new member. I'm sure she will have fond memories of her year in Numurkah. We wish her a safe return home in July.

Congratulations to Stephen Mills who became our club's newest Paul Harris Fellow. His certificate was presented by District Governor Brian Peters.



We sadly say goodbye to some valued members of the Club, who due to various reasons have felt unable to continue with their membership. Thank you to Grant Deppeler, Phil Ashton, Kay Moodie & Judy Newman for the contributions they have made to the Club in the past. They will be sadly missed. Our door is always open if they wish to re-join us in the future.

A new Club brochure has been printed & we have added Instagram to our Facebook & Website pages to increase our online presence.

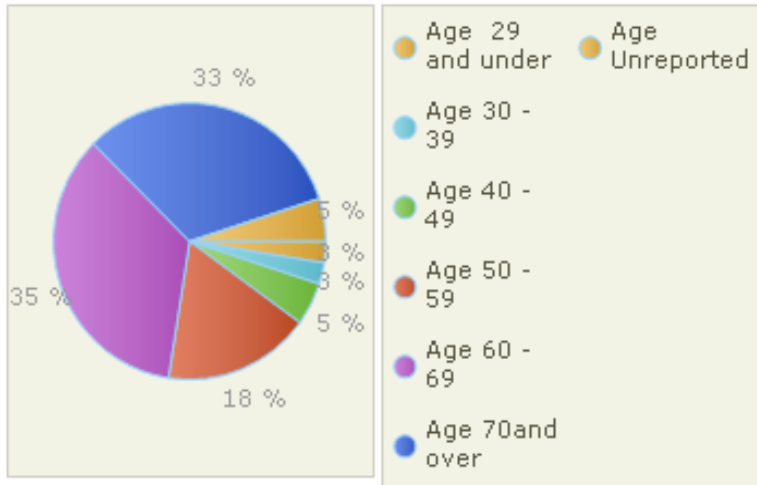
The best recommendation & advertisement for new members is from existing members. If we could recommend to friends, colleagues & neighbours the benefits of being involved in a service group such as ours, we would have a surge in membership applications, which will ensure the future success of the Club.

Jennifer Rodger

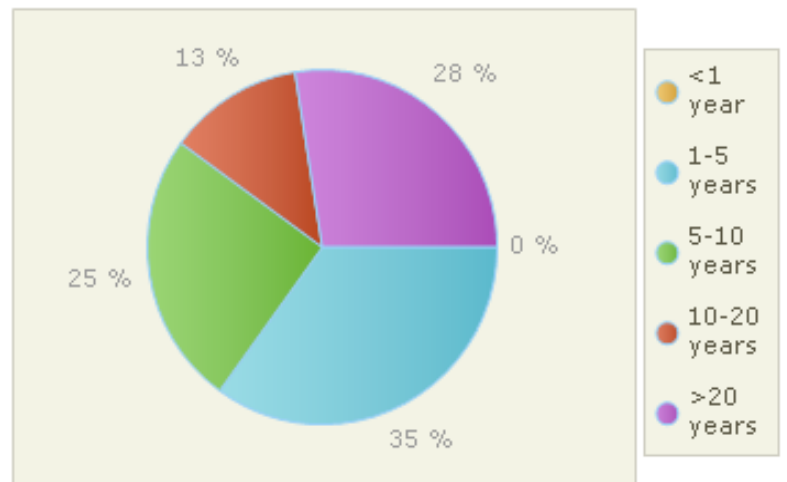




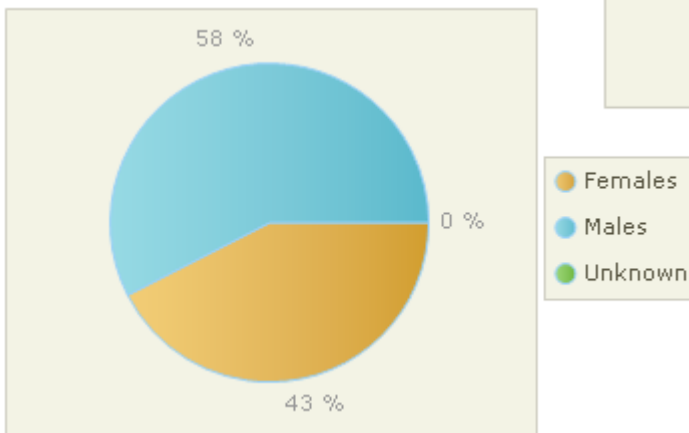
## CLUB DATA MAY 2020



AGE DISTRIBUTION

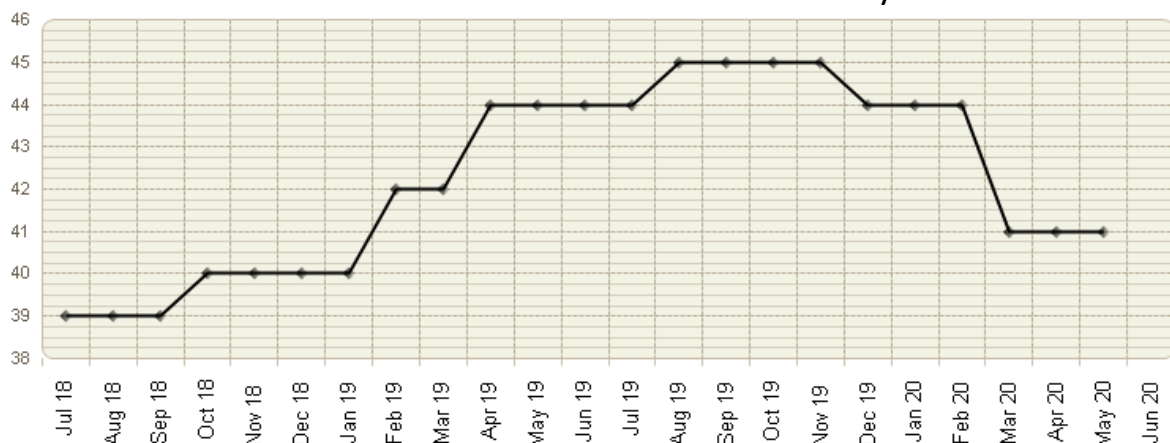


YEARS OF SERVICE

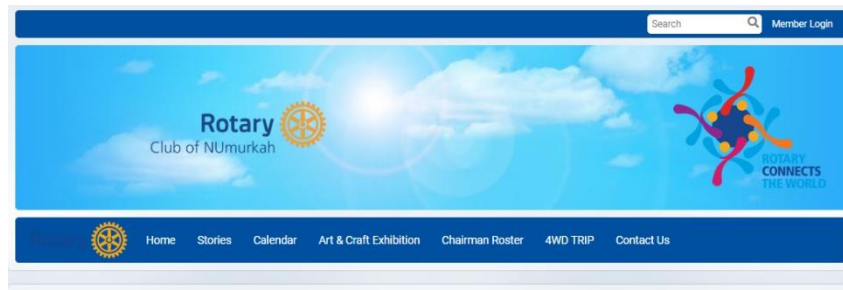


GENDER DISTRIBUTION

## MEMBERSHIP HISTORY July 2018 – June 2020



## PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT



Due to the valuable support from the Numurkah Leader, the Rotary Club has enjoyed considerable success with press releases, stories, articles, reports and photos published in the Leader throughout the year. We thank Numurkah Leader for publicising our activities in the community.

Our website [www.numurkahrotary.org](http://www.numurkahrotary.org) provides a wonderful window on our club to the public. It contains information about office-bearers, up-coming events, stories and activities, as well as a section with photos depicting the club in action. Annual reports and the weekly bulletin can also be viewed by the public. The stories on the home page are updated weekly.

Through the website, members have access to the club directory of our membership and members profiles, as well as the ability to email other members. It is pleasing to see more and more members avail themselves of this service. The website is used for tracking attendances, and gives a snapshot of the club membership by gender, age, length of service, etc.

The bulletin is emailed to each member reporting on the weekly meeting, and advising of coming events and members' responsibilities.

Without a weekly meeting because of the COVID-19 restrictions, the bulletin took on a new format, featuring stories from members on how they were coping with home isolation. This complemented the club Zoom meetings.

Our Facebook page is building a wide following. Each post receives "Likes", with the numbers growing every week. Stories from our proud past have been featured on our Facebook page which is another medium through which our club presents itself favourably to the public. An Instagram account has been activated to spread our story to yet another audience.

Lou Hamon

PR Director / Webmaster / Bulletin editor

June 2020

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	01	02	03	04	05


**Rotary Links**

- Rotary International
- RI President Home
- Rotary Global Rewards
- Joining Rotary
- Rotary History
- Rotary Foundation
- For New Members

RSS

**Club Information**

Welcome to the Rotary Club of Numurkah website. Here you will be able to learn more about our dynamic Rotary Club.



**Service Above Self**

We meet Mondays at 6:30 PM  
Numurkah Golf & Bowls Club  
Turnrock Road  
Numurkah, VIC 3636  
Australia

[District Site](#)
[Bulletins](#)
[Venue Map](#)

**ClubRunner**  
for iOS and Android  
[Learn More >](#)

**Club Executives & Directors**

- President  
Lorraine Greenwood
- Secretary  
Kay Moodie
- Treasurer  
Jeff Buzza
- President Elect  
Jennifer Rodger
- Community Service  
Julie Andrew
- Vocational Services  
Sally Rose
- International Service  
Marie Austin
- Immediate Past President  
Stephen Mills

## COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT

**Due to the Global Pandemic the projects were mainly carried out in the first part of the year.**


**However, our Rotary Club has still been active in the local community.**

### **Service projects included:**

- Support of Bowel Scan Project
- Soldier Settlement Project is nearing completion, with a donation of \$2000 from Lady Lions High Tea function
- A grant of \$3097 from Bendigo Bank to update the first aid room at the Numurkah Pool – Working Bee provided by 15 Rotarians
- Drought Relief Program enabled drought affected farming families to access vouchers for use in Numurkah businesses
- Neoen Solar Farm grant of \$2500 to install picnic table seating at the Numurkah Pool – installed by David Roberts from Moira Shire Council
- District Grant of \$2500 to purchase equipment for the Numurkah Pool – including out of water cricket and volleyball gear
- Moira Shire grant of \$5000 to purchase equipment for the Numurkah Pool – still awaiting delivery due to imported goods sitting on wharf due to Covid-19
- Collection of items at the Numurkah Kiosk to support Rotary projects – bottle caps, stamps, glasses, toiletries, animal pouches
- A wreath was presented on behalf of the club at the ANZAC Day service
- Pinchapoo toiletry products were purchased and delivered to the Community House and Numurkah Health for distribution to people in crisis and drought relief hampers for local farming families
- Assisting the Community House with distribution and printing of flyers for their open house day
- Boxes of cosmetics were donated by RC North Balwyn and were distributed to local primary and secondary schools to use as Mother's Day gifts. Boxes also donated to the Community House as part of the Drought Relief Program
- Our combined meeting with Lions Club raised funds for the Numurkah CFA to purchase two angle grinders
- Save the Koala raffle raised over \$14500 to be used for a university research project. Thanks to the commitment and hard work of Rotarian Sieg Seiter.
- The car raffle, in conjunction with RC Mooroopna, raised \$2630.



- Commencement of a community battery drive has raised over \$2000. Thanks to the commitment and hard work of Rotarian Geoff Holmes.
- Boxes of sandals were provided by the RC of North Balwyn. They will be sold as a fund-raiser for the Numurkah Swimming Club.
- 250 scrub caps for medical staff to wear when working in Covid 19 environs. The 'Save Our Hospital Heroes' was an initiative of the Rotary Club of Sunbury.
- Ten boxes of children's' books, collected by Elli Mestrom and Tam Perry, were distributed to schools and the Nursing Home in Corryong and Khancobhan.
- Lorraine Greenwood represented the club at two fire-recovery fundraising events run by the Rotary Club of Corryong.



**Numurkah Rotary Club**

*are collecting used auto batteries for recycling.*

*The following businesses have generously agreed to be drop off points for our bi-monthly collections:-*

*Murray Valley Rural & Plumbing*

*Numurkah Bearings & Hydraulics*

*Numurkah Home Hardware*

*Ultimate Auto Repairs*

*GKH Electronics*

*Agnew's Plumbtec*

*Stephen Holmes Enterprises Pty Ltd*

*Your donation will help Rotary support our local community projects and help the environment.*

*If you require private collection, please contact*

*Geoff Holmes 0428 843074*

*holmes.gk@bigpond.com*

### Our barbeque was well used until Covid-19 struck.

Every Wednesday it was made available for the Numurkah Community Kitchen, providing meals, friendship and support for people in need within the community.

Other BBQ activities included:

- Every first Saturday morning at the Kiosk to promote our club and current projects
- Christmas Carols in Newman Square
- Australia Day Awards
- Providing food at clearing sales in the district
- 'Lift the Lid' on Mental Health
- Numurkah Community Plan information session in Newman Square
- 'Break-through for a brighter future' – John Padman
- 'Show Us Ya Wheels' - catering in December





## ROTARY DROUGHT RELIEF PROJECT

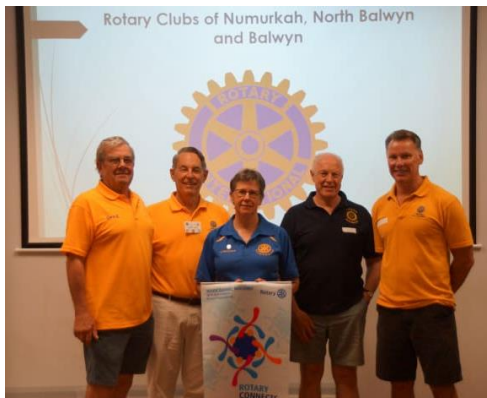
In January, the Rotary clubs of North Balwyn and Balwyn, together with Numurkah Rotary Club, launched the Numurkah Drought Relief Program.

The program is aimed at bringing both financial and well-being support to our farming community specifically under drought afflicted stress.

Since the program was launched, the crippling effects of COVID-19 have made the importance of the Drought Relief Program even more critical for our community.

Rural Financial Counsellors have been distributing store vouchers to clients for expenditure at Numurkah essential services retailers.

To the end of April, Rotary and the RFC network have distributed over \$28,000 of vouchers for expenditure at Numurkah Foodworks, Ritchies IGA, Louis Hamon Amcal Pharmacy, Numurkah Guardian Pharmacy, Meat on Melville, R & B Butchers, Numurkah Home Timber & Hardware, Murray Goulburn Trading Numurkah and McPherson's Numurkah. As the vouchers circulate through the local economy, the vouchers represent an injection of over \$140,000 into Numurkah.



Various RFC clients who have received the Rotary vouchers have reported -

*"This is the first time I have filled my pantry in 12 months".*

*"I have one less thing to worry about now".*

*"I've now been eating regularly".*

*"Thank you very much, meat is our most expensive grocery item so it was great to stock up at the butchers...."*

*Many more responses expressing their gratitude.*

Not to be forgotten are the children of Numurkah. North Balwyn Rotary has also presented Numurkah schools with hundreds of L'Oreal hair and beauty products.

Numurkah Rotary President, Lorraine Greenwood said *"Our Rotary teams of volunteers have been very busy over recent weeks delivering L'Oreal products to a number of different places.*

- \* *We gave 10 boxes of each type to the secondary school; they are preparing packs to send to families with all the products included.*
- \* *Eight boxes of each type went to the Catholic primary school; they will be given to school families in need.*
- \* *We made up 80 gift bags, each containing a shampoo, conditioner and hairspray, for the primary school - they will add to them for children's' packs for Mothers' Day.*
- \* *We also gave the primary school eight boxes of each product for distribution.*
- \* *All the remaining boxes were given to the Community House. The products will be distributed to families in need through the House, the Learning Centre and from the home of one of the coordinators."*

Rotary is proud to be working collaboratively across the clubs of North Balwyn, Balwyn and Numurkah to provide much needed support for the community of Numurkah and surrounds

**Geoff Kneale Executive Director**  
**Drought Relief Project**



## 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ART & CRAFT EXHIBITION

The Rotary Club of Numurkah's 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Art & Craft Exhibition attracted outstanding entries from around Australia.

At the well-attended official opening on Friday evening, Club president Lorraine Greenwood said to those present *"You will be amazed and inspired by the outstanding array of exhibits"*.

Rotary District Governor Brian Peters spoke on the work of Rotary, locally and internationally, mentioning the Polio Plus campaign to eradicate polio in the world.

PP Jeff Buzza, from the major sponsor Home Hardware, said *"Art is important. Looking at the entries, some are pleasant, some are spectacular and some even confronting"*. He said each work revealed a little about the artist and maybe what they felt. We might learn a bit more about how other people see the world and be better off for it. Summing up, Jeff said *"Maybe that is why art is important."*

The exhibition was a great success, with 46 paintings sold. We had good attendances throughout the weekend, with many positive comments about the quality of the works and the standard of presentation.

Special thanks to the Art and Craft Show Committee members who worked tirelessly to bring the exhibition to fruition.

- Kate Hodge and Julie Andrew - Art section entries
- Judy Newman and Sally Rose - Craft section entries
- Terry Brennan - sponsorship; special thanks go to those businesses who responded so positively
- Katrina Donaldson - Art Show Treasurer
- Stephen Mills – Raffle coordinator
- Gary Phillips - Catering
- Geoff Austin – Musical entertainment
- Special thanks to Linda Watson for providing the beautiful floral displays

Thanks to all club members and partners for their full support.

For the eighth consecutive year the Art & Craft Exhibition raised over \$10,000 for our club disbursements to community and international projects.

Lou Hamon  
Chairman  
Art & Craft Committee





# RESULTS OF THE ART AND CRAFT EXHIBITION JUDGING

## BEN WINSPEAR – ART JUDGE

Ben praised the exhibition as being one of the best regional art shows.

He announced the following winning entries.

- ✚ Best in Show - Ross Paterson *Tumut River*
- ✚ Runner Up - Glenn Hoyle *Sunset in Tumut*
- ✚ Best Watercolour - Linda Bryan *First Light*
- ✚ Best Oil - Geoffrey Smith *Forgotten Ledge*
- ✚ Best Pastel - Deborah Lynch *Winter Sunrise*
- ✚ Best Pencil - John Stevens *Boots*
- ✚ Best Regional Artist - Judith Waite *Galahs*
- ✚ Moira Arts & Culture Encouragement Award - Bev Williams *Tradescantia & Tiny Blue Dragonfly*
- ✚ Photographic Award - Adrienne West *Bridge in Smoke*



## CLAIRE REID - CRAFT JUDGE

Claire congratulated the entrants on the quality of their work.

- ✚ Best Craft Entry - Yvonne Visser *A Country Journal*
- ✚ Fibres, Threads or Beads Award - Shona Thomas *Purple Lace*
- ✚ Framed Needlework Award - Jenny Barnes *Noah*
- ✚ Quilt Award winner - Yvonne Visser *A Country Journal*
- ✚ Quilt Award Second place - Patricia Grotaers *Dragon Quilt*
- ✚ Craft Award - Tonina Hore *Mosaic Tile*
- ✚ Australiana Award - *Koala crochet blanket.*

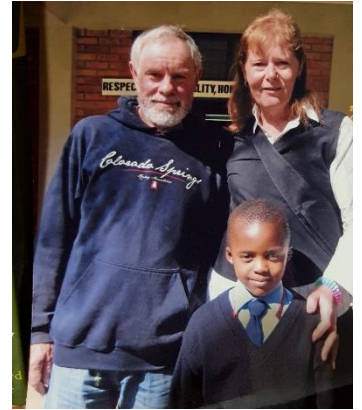


## INTERNATIONAL SERVICE REPORT 2019 – 2020

Our first main event for the year was the International Service Workshop held in Euroa in October 2019. It was run by Kerry Kirk, from the Rotary Club of Sunbury, who is the Chair of the International Service Committee. It was attended by about 60 Rotarians from across the District, including Chris Sutton, Lorraine Greenwood, Marie Austin, Geoff Austin and Jennifer Rodger from Numurkah.

The main theme for the workshop was “Together we can do more”. While international projects may be too large financially for a single club, small contributions from the 61 clubs in District 9790 can add up to a significant sum of money. A number of participants outlined their club plans for, or their personal interest in, a variety of interesting projects.

We were very proud of Marie Austin who did an impromptu speech about the School of St. Jude in Tanzania and her desire to assist them to build additional facilities at the school. Marie and Geoff have sponsored a student at the school for a number of years and have visited him several times. Marie organised a BBQ in the Numurkah Kiosk as a fundraiser to support the School of St. Jude. We thank her and her helpers for their commitment.



### UMOJA CHILDREN'S VILLAGE, KENYA



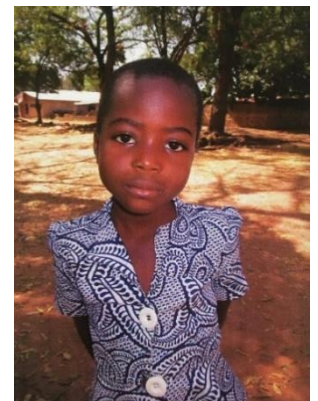
In February we held a BBQ at the Bunnings store in Shepparton to raise money for Umoja Children's Village. Thanks go to Marie Austin and Kay Moodie for their outstanding organisation of the event, and to all those club members who contributed on the day.

To formalise our club's ongoing support of the Umoja Children's Village, we are now sponsoring one of the children in their care. His name is Alare, he is about 2 years old, and together with his twin sister, has lived at the home since he was 5 months old.

### PLAN INTERNATIONAL – The Charity For Girls' Equality

For a number of years our club has been sponsoring a child through Plan International. The focus of this organisation is to *'work alongside children, young people, supporters and partners to tackle root causes of the injustices facing girls and the most marginalised children.'*

Our current foster child is Esther. She is 7 years old, lives in Ghana with her extended family and attends school. If you would like further information about Esther and the work of Plan International, please talk to Marie Austin.



### AQUABOXES – DALE ATKINS ROTARY CLUB OF ELTHAM

The club welcomed Dale Atkins as our guest speaker in August to talk about Aquaboxes. These are boxes of life-saving emergency supplies and a water purification system that can be readily sent to places where there has been a major disaster, such as an earthquake, tsunami, landslide, hurricane or other significant events. The main goal of the project is to have Aquaboxes strategically placed around the world so they can be quickly distributed as required.



# YOUTH SERVICE REPORT

## ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM OF ENRICHMENT (RYPEN)

We were delighted to receive six applications from Year 9 students at Numurkah Secondary College to attend RYPEN, which was held over a weekend at Lake Nillahcootie Camp. Our club paid for the students to attend and organised transport both ways. Both the drivers and the school staff involved reported that the students loved the experience and are even keen to go again next year.



## IAN MURPHY MEMORIAL DEBATE

Our club hosted the second heat of the debate in September between two teams from St Mary of the Angels, Nathalia. The negative team was sponsored by Nathalia Rotary Club and the affirmative team was sponsored by Numurkah Rotary Club. The adjudicators were John Watson, Michelle (Squish) Davis and Carolyn Drennan.

The topic of the debate was: "*Worrying Serves No Useful Purpose*".

Speaking on behalf of the adjudicators, Squish Davis congratulated the students and provided constructive feedback. The winner was the Negative Team.



## INDIGENOUS EXPERIENCE

Kitarna Drury-Smith, a Year 10 student at Numurkah Secondary College, spoke to club members about her adventures on the 2019 Cultural Kimberley Exchange. The experience enabled her to learn first-hand about Australian history and geography. The participating students met with indigenous communities who shared their culture and food, and told stories of the land and people. We are proud to help a local student participate in what she believes was a life-changing experience. Kitarna finished by thanking our Rotary Club for making it possible.

## BAULKAMAUGH SCOUTS

Rotarian Jason Andrew, Scout Leader of the 1st Baulkamaugh Group, welcomed Rotarians and partners to their scout hall for a delicious roast meal, cooked in camp ovens.

With the assistance of the scouts, Jason explained the activities and award system of Scouts section, then Cub Leader Judy Stedman explained the activities and award scheme for the Cub section. Group Leader Stuart Hodge gave a brief overview of the history of the 1st Baulkamaugh Scout Group. We thank the members of the Scout Group for their hospitality.

## PORTSEA CAMP

Once again, this year we coordinated the enrolment and attendance of nineteen local students at the Portsea Camp. All reports were that it was an 'awesome' event, with some students indicating their desire to attend again next year. Thanks to Chris Hardham for her organisational skills.

## ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLIES PROGRAM

Our club also provided financial support for some local young people to experience overseas travel for the first time. A number of students from St. Mary of the Angels attended the Alternative Schoolies' Program in Cebu, in the Philippines. They visited some of the poorest areas of the country, and made donations to projects where they felt they could make a difference.

## ROTARY EXCHANGE STUDENT REPORT – JULY 2019 TO JULY 2020

Our Rotary Club has been so fortunate this year to host a lovely student from Finland, Tinja Nakki. Tinja arrived with a huge smile on her face, greeted warmly by our President Lorraine and Tinja's first host family, the Kneebones. Tinja spent the next 6 months with them in Numurkah, feeling well supported and very much part of their family. Numurkah Secondary College was close by, so lunchtime visits home were much enjoyed. Tinja with her sunny, positive personality quickly settled into school life and formed many friendships. She felt closest to her year 11 peers, so continued with them into year 12 this year. Her English was very good on arrival in Australia, but has improved even further as her year has progressed.

In the first 6 months, the initiative of having Tinja welcome all Rotarians at our weekly meetings was a great way for all Club members to speak to her and vice-versa. Tinja also gave an excellent presentation on her homelife in Finland and discussed her hopes and dreams of her Australian year-long exchange. She helped with multiple fundraising events and BBQs, the Art and Craft Show and accompanied the Kneebones to the Club's Christmas Party.

Tinja is a mature, confident and warm young lady, making the most of her exchange year. A special friendship has been formed between Tinja and her host sister Tenille, which will continue long after Tinja returns home. This is an example of one of the huge benefits of hosting students. A highlight of her stay with the Kneebones was a trip to the Gold Coast where she enjoyed the beach and good Aussie beach culture.

Tinja was disappointed that she was unable to attend Tenille's dance concert due to the compulsory Mittagundi outdoor experience program. I was very impressed by her ability to cope with such a disappointment and soldier on. The Mittagundi week brought all extremes. The students had to be evacuated in the middle of the night due to a bushfire threat in the high country and the very next day the exchange students were in a snowstorm and then pouring rain! Tinja said it was an amazing experience, but due to the lack of a flushing toilet, a comfy bed and a hot shower, she wouldn't do it again!

Tinja was then very lucky to be invited into the Jackson family home. Kylie, Wayne and Cody welcomed her as a daughter and sister, and there were lots of social activities, laughs and good times - then Covid-19 hit. On the day of her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, strict government isolation rules were enforced and school turned to an on-line program. For the next 2 months, Tinja was not able to go to school or catch up with friends - but she felt so lucky to be in a beautiful home with a wonderful caring family. When I asked Tinja about how this had affected her exchange, in her typical positive fashion, she replied that "she missed all her school friends but will only remember the good things, not the bad".

Unfortunately, the Australian Safari, which is normally a highlight of the exchange year, was cancelled but Tinja has still made the absolute most of every opportunity offered to her during the year. Her involvement in the Dookie weekends and our Club meetings and its projects, prior to Covid-19, was exemplary. Her sunny nature warmed everyone around her. She attended the local gym regularly and visited other places including the Kyabram Fauna Park, Ulupna Island (to see the compulsory 'roos and koalas), the Great Ocean Road and Melbourne. She settled in to our small town well, considering how different it is from her home city in Finland. Tinja made the most of her year and our Club, the host families and her school friends will remember her as a wonderful inbound exchange student and friend.



**Kate Hodge   Youth Exchange Counsellor**

## My year in Australia

I can still remember the day when I got the notice that I'm going to Australia. It was my first option on the list of 5 different countries and I was so happy to hear that I get to do my exchange in Australia. Australia has always been a country where I've wanted to go and this was a perfect opportunity for me to go and see the country.

Australia wasn't exactly what I expected. I pictured Australia as a warm country with surfers everywhere... it was partly true. I arrived to Victoria and it was 10 degrees, not exactly what I thought it would be. Also, even though everyone told me that it's going to be cold inside it was a bit of a shock for me. The biggest difference was Numurkah. I remember driving through Shepparton and my host parents said "This is the biggest town near Numurkah ..." and the way home from Shepparton felt like 3 hours. For a girl that is used to living in a big city with a population of 200 000 people, Numurkah was a big shock. Don't get me wrong, I love it and it's been an excellent experience for me!

Some highlights from my year have been getting a really good friend group, without them my year wouldn't have been the same at all. Also, two amazing host families where I feel that I'm genuinely a part of the family. Even with the virus, I've got to see a lot of different places. Out of them Great Ocean Road and Surfers Paradise have been my favourites; the ocean is just breathtaking. Overall, my year has been fantastic. I've enjoyed every little thing, learnt so many new things and grown so much just in one year. I've been so lucky with everything. I haven't had any bad experiences apart from Corona virus but there is no point bemoaning about that; the situation with it has been very good compared to other countries. It helped me to appreciate every little thing in life and to not take everything for granted.

As I've said to many people, there is no way I'd want to leave. I just love everything about Australia. I've built so many relationships with different people and soon I have to say goodbye to everyone. It's going to be the hardest thing I've ever done in my life. I'm really lucky to have people in my life that makes goodbyes so hard, that's for sure. I know and I'm sure that someday I'll come back. Who knows when I get the opportunity or when the time is right but some day it'll happen. That's my dream and I'll work hard to achieve it!

Huge thank you for Rotary for this opportunity!

Tinja Nakki



## VOCATIONAL SERVICE REPORT

Paul Harris wrote: *"Each Rotarian is a connecting link between the idealism of Rotary and their trade or profession"*.

Rotary's vocational service objectives underline its importance to the philosophy and culture of Rotary:

- To encourage and foster high ethical standards in business and professions, to recognise the worthiness of all useful occupations, to dignify the Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society.
- To apply the ideal of service in personal, business and community life.
- To advance international understanding and goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional men and women united in the ideal of service.

For Rotarians, vocation is more than a job – it is a commitment to their community – where upholding the ideals of their chosen vocation is a life encompassing compulsion. Our vocations travel with us in the paid work we do, as well as the volunteerism we undertake.

Our evening with the Baulkamaugh Scouts shows where the vocation of leadership is not confined to paid workers and is life changing.

Thank-you Jason Andrew

Our visit to PALS highlighted that vocation is not just a job – for the PALS clients and the dedicated support staff their vocation is also life changing.

Thank-you to Linda Boyd

At most meetings the club enjoys the presentation of a guest speaker. Faye Holmes inspired us with her presentation about the children facing disadvantage in our own community.

Thank-you Faye Holmes

An inspiring young speaker this year provided evidence of the commitment in the next generation.

Thank-you Ashley Rodger

At the club's first Zoom meeting, Dominique Cosgriff spoke about her role as journalist with the Numurkah Leader. She described it as the best job ever, feeling that she has been accepted into the community.

Thank-you Dominique Cosgriff

I congratulate President Lorraine Greenwood on an excellent year. Her commitment to giving relatively new members the opportunity to serve the club has come with challenges – and not all related to Covid19. Lorraine's vocation as a teacher has been demonstrated in her desire to look at learning for the whole club, and seeking broad and varied opinions.

**Sally Rose**

**Vocational Service Director**

