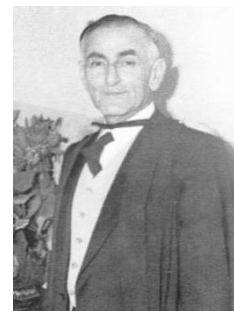


THE HISTORY OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF PADSTOW Inc.

Rotary came to the South Ward of the Municipality of Bankstown in 1957, and for that, credit must be given to George Proud, the Governor of District 29 (as it was then), to Arthur Vernan, President of the Rotary Club of Bankstown and most of all to Past President Tom Smith, District Governor's Special Representative. The territory ceded by Bankstown included the suburbs of Padstow, Revesby, Panania, East Hills, Milperra, and Picnic Point, areas bounded by Canterbury Rd, Salt Pan Creek, and the Georges River.

Information gained indicated that twenty two business and professional people were keen to bring service to their community, hence an inaugural meeting was held on May 9th 1957.

Rotary International granted Padstow its **Charter on 27th May 1957** with the founding members; Mick Cannon (President), Arthur Stephens (Secretary), Ben Thorpe (Treasurer), Carl Little (Vice President/Club Service Chair), David Law (Membership), Keith Cole (Vocational Service Chair), Frank Adams (International Service Chair), Bert Bayley (Classifications), Dom Durkin (Program), Vern Corstorphan (Fellowship), Vic Elliott (Bulletin), John Nolan (Rotary Information), Bert Tyson (Attendance), Russ Duncan (Sergeant-at-Arms), Ted Adcock, Tom Davies, Harry Carpenter, Lawrence Horsfall, Col Ingham, Bob Mather, Frank Rampling & Ralph Snodgrass.



Mick Cannon

The club was formally presented to the community on 20th June 1957 with a gala event held at the Capital Ballroom Bankstown with great social success, attended by 320 guests including Rotarians families & friends and community leaders.



Charter Night of the Rotary Club of Padstow, June 20th 1957.

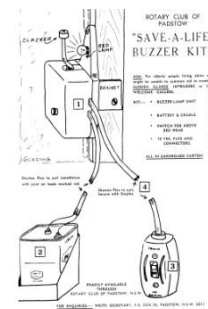
In the years that followed the club has never faltered, developing slowly but surely and gradually earning for itself a reputation in each of the Rotary Districts (D29, D969, D9690 & D9675) a reputation of which members are enormously proud.

The history of the South Ward reveals that as early as 1795, Surgeon George Bass and Midshipman Matthew Flinders, in the tiny *Tom Thumb* rowed some twenty miles up the Georges River. They made such favourable reports on the possibilities of the area that Governor Hunter himself visited it and gave it the name of Banks Town, after Sir Joseph Banks, the Botanist from *The Endeavour*.

In 1848 Robert Symons came to Australia, acquired an estate of 900 acres, which he named Padstow Park after the seaside village of Padstow in Cornwall in which he was born. Life was by no means easy, and development was slow, but the early settlers earned subsistence and gradually established themselves in their new homes. An essentially rural life was maintained until large overseas corporations (among them Lincoln Electric, British Paints, Amalgamated Batteries, and Yorkshire Fittings) began to introduce factories that eventually transformed the quiet countryside into bustling townships.

The advent of many companies and the organisations associated with them increased the potential for a promising new Rotary Club and soon there was a wide range of classifications to justify the action taken in 1957.

Among the projects that have been successfully undertaken by our members are the Save-a-Life buzzer kits for the benefit of elderly citizens living alone, dental treatment for disadvantaged children, the establishment of Senior Citizens Clubs at Padstow and Panania, the supply of a caravan for the YMCA at Revesby, the establishment of Rotary Supplies (started by member and Past District Governor Jim Stanford), and the initiation of the PACE program (Pacific Australia Cultural Exchange).



On-going support of Rotary International youth programs by sponsoring and encouraging young people to be involved in the youth activities is a feature of the club's contribution to the community: RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards), Rotaract, Interact, Careers Days, Apprenticeship Encouragement, Work Experience, Citizenship Awards to School Students, RYVA (Rotary Youth Vocational Awards), ROYA (Recognition of Youth Awards) and Rotary Youth Exchange, sponsoring outbounds and hosting inbounds year after year. GSE (Group Study Exchange) and PACE (Pacific Australia Cultural Exchange) have featured prominently by members taking roles in team leadership and hosting of the young people. Club members have held leadership and committee positions on all of these programs.



Community initiatives including Carols by Candlelight *established in 1968*, and still a popular event today, Life Education Program, Padstow on Parade, Christmas tree sales, Reading for Wrinklies, a program distributing unsold magazines to aged care facilities weekly, partnering with Ray White Real-estate 'A Little Ray of Giving', Fun Runs, the Panania Village Markets, Christmas Trailer Raffle, Grocery Grabs, Golf Days, Australia Day BBQ's, the monthly Sausage Sizzles at Bunnings Warehouse, sponsoring Probus Clubs, Senior Citizens outings and bus trips, the 'Rotary Overnight Kits' program saw members meeting weekly and putting together hygiene products and blankets for homeless and displaced people, Graffiti removal and Bowel Scan are just some of the many projects and community events that the club has either raised charitable funds or provided support for.





In recognition of the community the club annually holds Pride of Workmanship Awards, Service Officers of the Year and School's Captains and Principals meetings.

Along with Rotary's ideal of *Service Above Self* the members have maintained a regular social calendar enjoying BBQ's, theatre parties, harbour cruises, train trips and dinners. These events have strengthened the club whilst sharing a social life with family and friends.



The Rotary Club of Padstow's Youth Advancement Program was established in 1999, providing financial assistance for young people in need to further their careers, has benefitted many young people in the community.

Members have been involved in Fourth Avenue in Motion (FAIM) projects where teams of Rotarians and partners travelled to developing nations in the Pacific Region and Nepal, building schools, hospitals, orphanages and other community housing. The club has continually collected supplies of books, educational and medical equipment and other materials for developing nations working with Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS).



Almost from inception the club and members have maintained support with contributions to Rotary's own charity The Rotary Foundation and its humanitarian areas of focus, Peace & Conflict Resolution, Disease Prevention & Treatment, Water & Sanitation, Maternal & Child Health, Basic Education & Literacy and Economic & Community Development and Environment. Polio Plus, Rotary's initiative of eradicating Polio Myelitis worldwide, Global & Ambassadorial Scholarships and Peace Fellowships.

Nationally, Padstow members are great supporters of Australian Rotary Health, ShelterBox Australia and support programs providing literacy kits and literature to indigenous communities in outreach areas of the Northern Territory. When disasters strike, such as flooding, drought and fire, the Rotary Club of Padstow always puts its best foot forward, raising funds and providing help where needed.

In 1986 club member Les Conley established contacts with the Rotary Club of Padstow Cornwall UK. During 1987-88 President Mike Koder along with efforts of Les and other Australian Rotarians visiting Cornwall, a sister club relationship was established between the two clubs. An on-going relationship has developed that sees frequent visits on both sides of the world and a sharing in international projects.

Many of our members have played important roles in various committees at District Level but our proudest contributions is to have had four members serve as District Governors: Jim Stanford in 1979-80, Barry Thompson in 1985-86, Barry McConville in 1994-95 and Keith Roffey 2012-13. Additionally, Barry Thompson has held many positions at International level, RI Director in 1996-97 and 1997-98, and RI Treasurer in 1997-98.

PRESIDENTS

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL THEMES

1957 – 1958	Michael Cannon	<i>Enlist – Extend – Explore – Serve</i>
1958 – 1959	Bob Mather	<i>Help Shape the Future</i>
1959 – 1960	Ralph Snodgrass	<i>Vitalize! Personalize! Build Bridges of Friendship!</i>
1960 – 1961	Dominic Adcock/D Durkin	<i>You are Rotary- Live It! Express It! Expand It!</i>
1961 – 1962	Bert Tyson	<i>Act. (Aim for action, Communicate for understanding, Test for leadership)</i>
1962 – 1963	Frank Cope	<i>Kindle the Spark Within</i>
1963 – 1964	Bill Short	<i>Meeting Rotary's Challenge in the Space Age</i>
1964 – 1965	Bill Austen	<i>Live Rotary</i>
1965 – 1966	Les Conley	<i>Action, Consolidation and Continuity</i>
1966 – 1967	Bob Stewardson	<i>A Better World through Rotary</i>
1967 – 1968	John Ross	<i>Make your Rotary Membership Effective</i>
1968 – 1969	Vince Smith	<i>Participate!</i>
1969 – 1970	Tom Carr	<i>Review and Renew</i>
1970 – 1971	Gordon Parker	<i>Bridge the Gaps</i>
1971 – 1972	Gordon Taylor	<i>Good Will begins with You</i>
1972 – 1973	John McGregor	<i>Let's take a new look and Act</i>
1973 – 1974	John Barnard	<i>A time for Action</i>
1974 – 1975	Jim Stanford	<i>Renew the Spirit of Rotary</i>
1975 – 1976	Gae Peluso	<i>To Dignify the Human Being</i>
1976 – 1977	Bruce Dunlop	<i>I Believe in Rotary</i>
1977 – 1978	Ron Thomas	<i>Serve to Unite Mankind</i>
1978 – 1979	Keith West	<i>Reach Out</i>
1979 – 1980	Ron Tilbury	<i>Let Service Light the Way</i>
1980 – 1981	Bert Van Dam	<i>Take Time to Serve</i>
1981 – 1982	Barry Thompson	<i>Understanding and Peace through Rotary</i>
1982 – 1983	Barry McConville	<i>Mankind is one, Build Bridges of Friendship Throughout the World</i>
1983 – 1984	John Milne	<i>Share Rotary – Serve People</i>
1984 – 1985	David Edmunds	<i>Discover a new World of Service</i>
1985 – 1986	Peter Meredith	<i>You are the Key</i>
1986 – 1987	John McGregor	<i>Rotary Brings Hope</i>
1987 – 1988	Mike Koder	<i>Rotarians – United in Service Dedicated to Peace</i>
1988 – 1989	Tony Blazek	<i>Put Life into Rotary – Your Life</i>
1989 – 1990	Trevor Withnall	<i>Enjoy Rotary</i>
1990 – 1991	Russell Brideson	<i>Honour Rotary with Faith and Enthusiasm</i>
1991 – 1992	Mark Dayhew	<i>Look Beyond Yourself</i>
1992 – 1993	Peter Meredith	<i>Happiness is Helping Others</i>
1993 – 1994	Russell Duncan	<i>Believe in what you do. Do what you believe in</i>
1994 – 1995	Allan Sweet	<i>Be a Friend</i>
1995 – 1996	Terry Martin	<i>Act with Integrity, Serve with Love, Work for Peace</i>
1996 – 1997	Ken McMillan	<i>Build the Future with Action and Vision</i>
1997 – 1998	Veronica Necyporuk	<i>Show Rotary Cares</i>
1998 – 1999	Warren Bond	<i>Follow your Rotary Dream</i>
1999 – 2000	Trevor Walton/Allan Sweet	<i>Act with Consistency, Credibility, Continuity</i>
2000 – 2001	Veronica Necyporuk	<i>Create Awareness. Take Action</i>
2001 – 2002	Trevor Withnall	<i>Mankind is our Business</i>
2002 – 2003	Garry Metcalfe	<i>Sow the Seeds of Love</i>
2003 – 2004	Joan Wells	<i>Lend a Hand</i>
2004 – 2005	Barry Thompson	<i>Celebrate Rotary</i>
2005 – 2006	Keri Sweet	<i>Service Above Self</i>
2006 – 2007	Keith Roffey	<i>Lead the Way</i>
2007 – 2008	Colin Duff	<i>Rotary Shares</i>
2008 – 2009	Michael Kenny	<i>Make Dreams Real</i>
2009 – 2010	Julie Harris	<i>The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands</i>
2010 – 2011	Frank Katalinic	<i>Building Communities, Bridging Continents</i>
2011 – 2012	Charles Garcia	<i>Reach Within to Embrace Humanity</i>
2012 – 2013	Colin Duff	<i>Peace Through Service</i>
2013 – 2014	Frank Pezzimenti	<i>Engage Rotary, Change Lives</i>
2014 – 2015	Joan Wells	<i>Light Up Rotary</i>
2015 – 2016	Julie Harris – Terry Martin	<i>Be a gift to the world</i>
2016 – 2017	Paul McCarthy	<i>Rotary Serving Humanity</i>
2017 – 2018	Ann Laverty	<i>Rotary Making A Difference</i>
2018 – 2019	Anne Laverty/Julie Harris	<i>Be the Inspiration</i>
2019 – 2020	Barry Thompson/Keith Roffey	<i>Rotary Connects the World</i>
2020 – 2021	Bryan Doyle	<i>Rotary opens Opportunities</i>
2021 – 2022	Keith Roffey	<i>Serve to Change Lives</i>
2022 – 2023	Charles Mille	<i>Imagine Rotary</i>