

50 YEARS OF ROTARY IN THE TOWN OF CAMBRIDGE

On the 10th of July, 50 years of Rotary in the Town of Cambridge were celebrated with a dinner at Ambrose Estate, Wembley Golf Course on 10th July 2019.

The Club evolved from the merger of the Floreat and City Beach Clubs. The Floreat Rotary Club was formed in 1969 and the Club's first President was Ron Cohen. In 1986 the City Beach Rotary Club was formed with Bob Crowe as the inaugural President. Because of decreasing club membership, in 2007 the Floreat and City Beach Clubs merged to form Rotary Cambridge with Max Puddey as the first President.

Some notable achievements over the years have been:

- Four Cambridge Rotarians Bill Thornton, Len Fletcher, Ross Ledger and Lloyd Price had the honour of becoming Rotary District Governors.
- Support of the Catherine McAuley Centre by raising \$30,000. A Government Subsidy of another \$30,000 (1976 value) was promoted to help to build a cottage.
- It provided the Floreat Surf Club with a new Surf Boat and City Beach Surf Club with a Beach Trailer.
- The Club has sponsored over 50 outbound and has hosted a similar number of inbound foreign students through the Rotary International Youth Exchange Programme.
- In later years at the Wembley Golf Club, a Rotary fund raising Golf Day was held the proceeds of which gave initial support to the Gerard Neesham Clontarf Football Academy for Aboriginal children. This Academy is now very successful Australia wide.
- Rotary Cambridge has been a supporter of the Salvation Army for over 35 years having many Salvation Army Officers as members of the Club.
- The Club successfully held Rock and Roll Concerts at the Quarry Amphitheatre for some 15 years raising in excess of \$200,000 for various charities.
- The installation of exercise equipment in popular park and walking areas.

Today the Club is still very community minded supporting the local primary schools with speaking competitions and also supporting youth in the district through schools and sports clubs. It has ongoing International involvement with the East Java Hearing Project with the Surabaya Rotary Club, Indonesia.

The club has been very active in promoting the development of a Community Men's Shed in the Town of Cambridge – a project aimed specifically at protecting men's health.

The club works very closely with the Town of Cambridge and is very grateful to the Mayor, Councillors and staff of the town for their continued support for Rotary Cambridge as well as other service organisations.

Out of 47 Rotary Clubs in our District, the Rotary Club of Cambridge was successful this year in winning the 2018/19 Best Club Award in addition to winning Most Improved Membership Award.

The Club meets each Wednesday morning at 7.30am at the Cambridge Bowling Club. It has an excellent guest speakers' programme. New members and guests are always welcome.

For more information refer to the website www.rotarycambridge.org.au or contact President Peter Pearse on pearsefamily@bigpond.com