



A History of the
Rotary Club of
Brighton
Victoria, Australia

1973 to 2013

**40 Years
of Service**

Chartered
24 September 1973



The Objects of Rotary

To encourage and foster the ideal of service as the basis of worthy enterprise and in particular: to encourage and foster -

First: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

Second: High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

Third: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal business and community life;

Fourth: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Written by David Smyth, Tom Buxton and Max Martin, Club Historians.

Design by Max Martin.

Many Club members also contributed their knowledge, photographs, memorabilia and expertise.

Produced for the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Rotary Club of Brighton, celebrated on 20 September 2013.

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Foreword

Our stories define us. As individuals, as families and as clubs, they embody and communicate our personalities and our cultures.

The stories in this history stand as a proud record of our club's achievements over the forty years of its existence. The authors have recounted the highlights of our service to the communities in which we live, local, national and worldwide. They have recorded our fund raising, our socialising and some of the nitty-gritty of our daily operations.

Our club is its members, all of whom have fascinating life stories. In this history, we honour the members who served our country in uniform in times of war by including vignettes of their war service and their contributions to the club.

My thanks go to all those who have contributed their time and information to the making of this history and to the authors and graphic designer who put it all together.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pat Kearns'.

Pat Kearns
President

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In the beginning

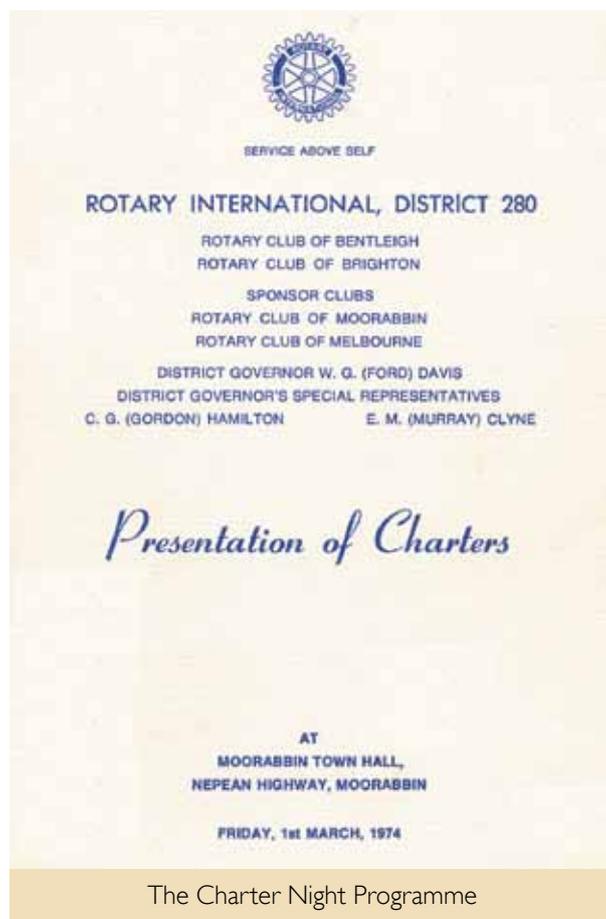
- A meeting was convened in May 1973 by District Governor's representative Murray Clyne of the Rotary Club of Melbourne
- The Club Charter was granted on 24 September 1973
- There were 23 Charter Members
- The first President was Os Bayliss, Principal of Sandringham Technical School and a Past President of the Rotary Club of Essendon
- The first two meetings were held in the staff dining room at Sandringham Tech, then the Club moved to the Royal Brighton Yacht Club
- The meal cost was \$1.



Charter President Os Bayliss (right) handing over to incoming President Jack Joel at the first Changeover Night 4 July 1974



Our sign goes up in St Kilda Street, 1979



The Charter Night Programme

and now

- We have 112 members (see the list page 33)
- We are the third largest Club in Australia
- At the time of our 40th Anniversary, the meal cost was \$30.

in between

- We have raised a total of more than \$4,000,000 for local and international community service
- We have hosted 37 exchange students and sent out 36...
- ... and contributed much more to local and international communities than can be mentioned in the few pages of this booklet.



The Club Charter



Our Second Banner
Created and painted by Betty Barberis,
the yacht was Ted Wall-Smith's "Rimfire".



Our First President,
Os Bayliss, 1973/74



Our Current President,
Pat Kearns 2013/14

The Charter Members and their Classifications

(Current members in bold and pictured below)

JOHN AKHURST
(Cement Distribution)

OS BAYLISS
(Technical Education)

BRUCE COWIE
(Refined Oil Products)

GEORGE CUNNINGHAM
(Electrical Retail)

RON JOYNSON
(Furniture Retailing)

MERV DEUTSHER
(Production Engineer)

RAOUL FAWKE
(Men's Wear Retail)

HARTLEY GIBSON
(Dentistry)

DERYCK GRAHAM
(Aluminium Products)

TONY HILLMAN
(Real Estate)

KERRY HORTON
(Tyre Manufacture)

JACK JOEL OAM
(Automobile Leasing)

PETER JOHNS
(Law General)

MAYER PAGE
(Tour Operating)

DOUG PEARSON
(Land Development)

NORM REID
(Decorative Hardware)

IAN ROBINSON
(Real Estate Valuation)

IAN STEVENSON
(School Supplies)

RICHARD THURSTON
(Auto Retailing)

HARRY TRINICK
(Insurance General)

ROBERT TUCKER
(Plumbing)

TED WALL-SMITH
(Physiotherapy)

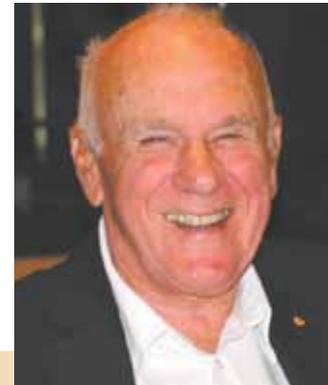
ROBERT WARD
(Motion Picture Theatres)



John Akhurst



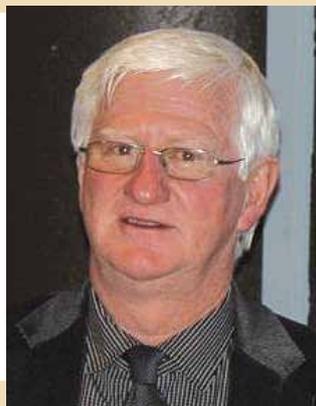
Merv Deutscher



Jack Joel OAM



Peter Johns



Robert Tucker



Robert Ward

Chapter 1 - Overview

Since its formation in 1973, the Rotary Club of Brighton has lived up to the ideals of Rotary in its community service, fundraising and social programs.

This history records the collective endeavours of many individual members who have been inspired to assist those less fortunate than themselves, just as the original founders of Rotary in 1905 were inspired.

From relatively modest beginnings with 23 members under the leadership of charter President Os Bayliss, in the cafeteria of the former Sandringham Technical School, to its present complement of 112 members at Milano's Hotel, it has become the largest evening club in Australia.

The fingerprints of the club are all over the Bayside area and far beyond, many of them not visible to the naked eye. Institutions such as the Bayside Recreational Centre, the Brighton Art Show, the Australia Day Swim at Brighton, community service agency BayCISS and Violence Free Families all owe their existence to the club.

One of the less visible results, achieved by the combined efforts of Rotary worldwide is the near eradication of polio in the world and our club has been proud of its part in this great humanitarian project. The Kids Under Cover Bayside home for homeless children must remain unidentified and the Life Education caravan for primary schools is rarely seen but they both provide a great community service.

Far more visible are our annual Christmas lunches for Bayside area pensioners. These are the highlight of the whole year for the several hundred who attend.

Major fund raising efforts have included the annual Sportsman's Nights, in some years raising nearly \$100,000, the Brighton Lunches and the fun runs along the foreshore roads in earlier years.

The Club has built and rebuilt schools in Samoa, East Timor and PNG, dug water wells in Indonesia, contributed in Vanuatu and Cambodia and run projects in indigenous communities in the Northern Territory.

Social events such as the "Changeover Nights" for new Presidents, the Christmas lunches, "Guess Who's Coming To Dinner" and many more keep the club together as a cohesive whole. Weekly meetings are addressed by a roll call of eminent and interesting speakers.

But at the end of the day, the club is its members, members who bring to the club and its work their skills, backgrounds and personalities. In this edition of the club's history, we honour our six known servicemen and tell a little of their deeds.

The Club remains all male, many years after the constitution was amended to admit female members, but the authors of this history expect that an updated history of the club in five years' time will record the admission of the first brave women. In the meantime, wives, partners and women friends of members have contributed selflessly to the work of the club.

Some have gone beyond the club in Rotary service, notably John King, who became District Governor in 1986/87.

Being "leaders in their professions", not a few members would rate as alpha male personalities. Having all this ego and testosterone in one organisation leads on occasion to some interesting interactions. These are best left to the reader's imagination but this energy, directed to common objectives, has produced spectacular results and many of them are recorded here.



District Governor John King and Elaine
at Adelaide District Conference, March 1987

Working together on the community services activities of the club, as well as shared social activities like the weekly “Ivan’s Hackers” golf days and weekends away at Cape Schanck and Marysville have cemented friendships that have endured for decades.

However, as the original members age, the challenge facing the club is continual renewal, both of membership and programs. For many years, Ian Stevenson was our membership secretary, His outgoing nature and fearless approach drawing in many new members over the years.

After his illness and passing, a more organic approach has continued to attract younger members and they are already becoming the torchbearers for coming years. The following chapters of this history record some of the highlights of four decades under the themes of Community Service, Fund Raising and Social Activities.



PP Ian Stevenson wearing the Club tie

Our Banners and Bannerets

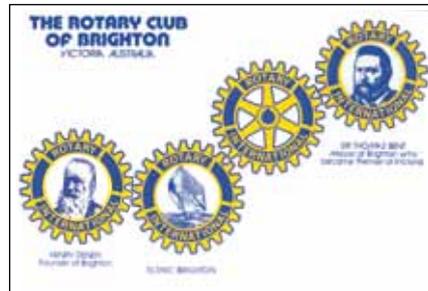
○ Our first banner was the “standard issue” gold-on-blue banner presented to the Club when it was chartered.

○ In 1983 Betty Barberis made our second banner, illustrated at right. It was presented to the Club at its tenth anniversary celebration on 1 March 1984. In the back of the banner is a “time capsule” containing the signatures of the members of the time and documents relating to the creation of this fine symbol of the Club. After the celebration of our 30th birthday, a new archive on calico with the signatures of most of the members at 24 September 2003 was added.

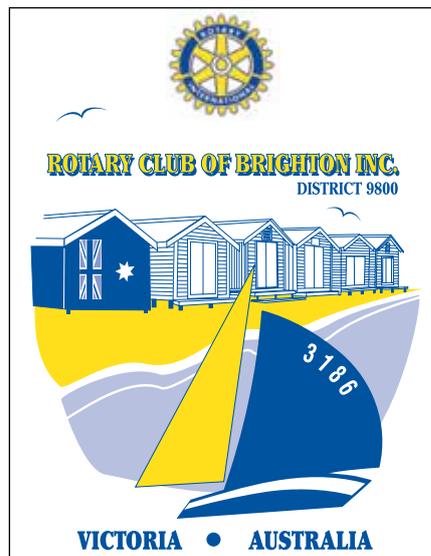


Our second Banner

○ Around 2000, at the request of a District Governor who was concerned about our “irregular” banner, we obtained our third banner, another regulation model.



Club Presentation Banneret to June 2001



Club Presentation Banneret 2001 to today

Highlights of Our First Decade 1973-83 ...

1973/74

- Club formed and charter granted 24th September 1973.
- First Club Bulletin issued 8th November.
- First Ladies Night on 25th November with Jim Vickers-Willis as our guest speaker.
- The first two members to be inducted by Charter President Os Bayliss at a regular meeting (2nd May 1974) were Rotarian John King, Past President of RC Warracknabeal, who transferred to Brighton, and Peter Thomson.

1974/75

- Our first Exchange Student, Amiel Chua, arrived from The Philippines. He became a neurosurgeon in Manila.
- First District Conference held in Canberra, March 1975, attended by the Joels, Smiths, Cranes and Shepherds - 8 adults and 11 children.
- Members commenced transforming the YMCA into the Brighton Recreational Centre, the "Rec".

1975/76

- Club wins Attendance Award at District Conference in Adelaide. On returning home there was much panic on discovering that Jack Joel had left the trophy behind in his motel wardrobe. Frantic phone calls resulted in it arriving by air express in Melbourne before he did.

1976/77

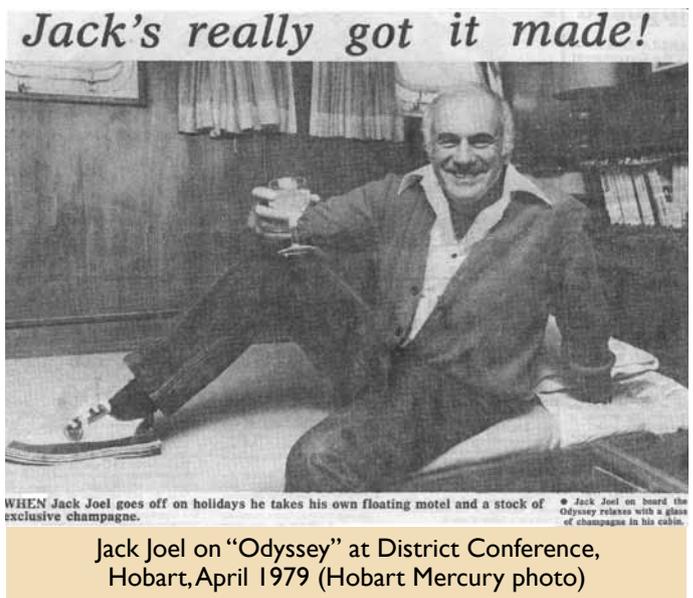
- First outgoing Exchange Student.
- Our first Brighton Art Show as partner with the "Rec".

1977/78

- First Sportsman's Night at Aylesbury Court, Brighton, August 1977.
- Fiftieth Club member inducted in April.

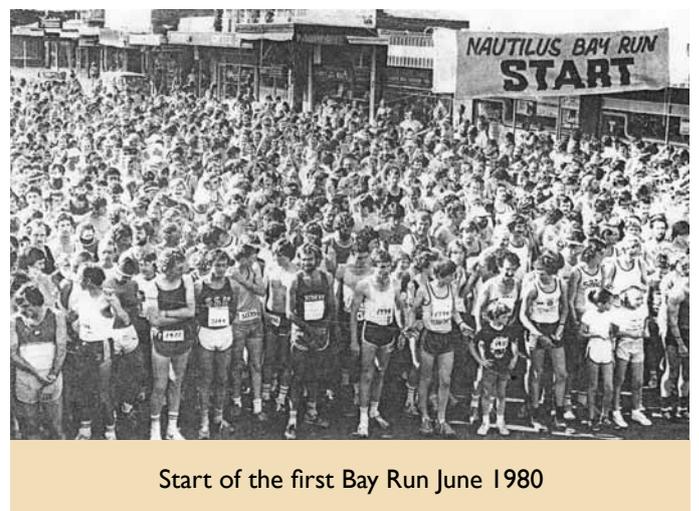
1978/79

- Vocational Service committee presents "Career Notice Boards" to Brighton Technical and Brighton High Schools.
- District Conference in Hobart, much fellowship and fun aboard Jack Joel's "Odyssey".



1979/80

- First Bay Run held from Beaumaris to Brighton in June 1980.



- We made our first major donation, for the purchase of a Community Bus for the City of Brighton for elderly citizen transport.

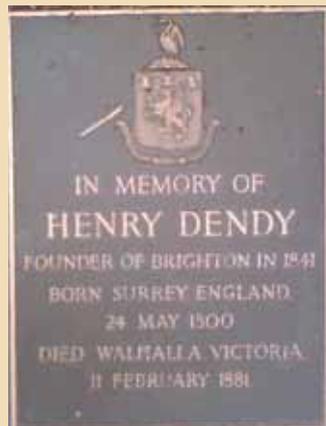
1980/81

- Rotaract Club of Brighton formed.
- First two Paul Harris Fellowship awards made, to Charter President Os Bayliss and Norm Williams.
- 1981 marked the centenary of the death of Henry Dendy, the founder of Brighton in 1841 and a patron of St Andrew's Church. Ian Stevenson led a committee that erected a commemorative plaque at the Brighton Council chambers, since moved to a rock near the entrance to the Brighton Library, and another at St Andrew's Church. The Mayor of Brighton, Cr Bill Park and Dudley Ward, a great grandson of Henry Dendy, unveiled the council plaque and Rev Harlin Butterley dedicated the church plaque.



Above:
Dendy's great grandson (left) with historian Leslie Szhumer and Mayor Cr. Bill Park (right) at plaque unveiling in 1981.

At right:
The commemorative plaque



1981/82

- Donated a Toyota Corolla Sedan (\$5,605) to the Children's Protection Society; \$3,000 to Elanora Homes for the Blind; \$3,000 to Bethlehem Hospital for digital scales to weigh wheelchair patients in their wheelchairs; \$2,500 to Salisbury Housing to subsidise a social worker.

1982/83

- The Club donated \$5,000 to the Ash Wednesday fires appeal.
- At the tenth anniversary, 13 of our 23 Charter members remained in Rotary, 12 of them at Brighton. Club membership stood at 68.



Tenth Anniversary Celebrations, Ripponlea:
Karen Joel, Merv Deutscher, Pat Deutscher, Geoff Smith



Olympian Ron Clarke and Pres Geoff Smith doing a bit of jogging to help promote the Big Bay Run 1980



Our Servicemen



John Akhurst

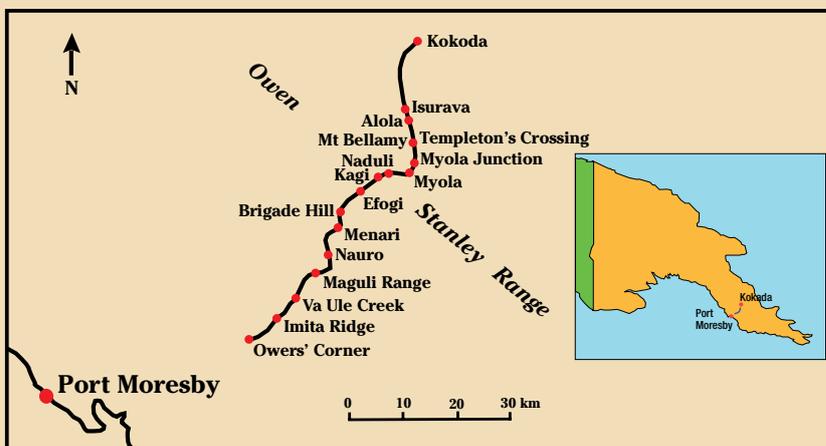


John was a soldier in the Australian 39th Battalion during the Second World War. One of his most significant experiences was fighting on the Kokoda Track in Papua New Guinea in 1942 and 1943.

One of a small number of survivors of his 1,000 strong battalion, John returned to marry Pat, raise a family and run a successful cement distribution business. He became a Charter Member of the Club in 1973. However, he never lost his connection with his wartime mates and in 2008, commenced a campaign to build a more fitting memorial to the fallen at the entrance to the Kokoda Memorial Track in Melbourne's Dandenong Ranges.

Even at an advanced age, John's fighting spirit and compassion were undimmed and he battled bureaucratic buck-passing and bloody-mindedness until the memorial was finally funded, designed, built and opened on 21 April 2013.

The photo at top of page shows John in his Army uniform in December 1942 at Port Moresby just before he was to take off to Popondetta. Photo top right at the Kokoda Memorial shows Alan Moore (39th Battalion) at left, John Akhurst in the centre with an unidentified member of the 2/16th Battalion.



Chapter 2 - Community Service

The Brighton Recreational Centre and the Brighton Art Exhibitions

In 1974 the Club learnt that the Brighton YMCA was about to fold up due to lack of funding and interesting programmes. A small group of members, led by Peter Sherman, lobbied the Brighton Council to ensure that this important community asset was retained. An interim Board was set up, with Club members Peter Sherman (as President), Don Ruffels, David Shaw and community members. They established Brighton Recreational Centre Inc., engaged Margaret Levin as manager and raised funds for its continued operation. Margaret served with distinction until 2005 and Rob Draper since then.

Neil Fisher later took over as President of the “Rec” and a Club Board presence continued for over 20 years.



The ‘Rec’ - A plaque in the foyer acknowledges the role of the Club

Art Shows to support the “Rec”, as it is now affectionately known throughout the district, commenced in 1976, at first at the premises in Outer Crescent and later at the Old Brighton Town Hall, where we could hang over 800 paintings. The 42nd Exhibition, held in 2012, raised \$20,000, bringing the total to over the years to about \$420,000.

The “Rec” is now a thriving community asset with 2,500 patrons each year, from tots to the elderly, and offers a range of programmes, from physical fitness to languages, from card games to gymnasium and many arts and crafts.



Youth Activities (“New Generations”) Student Exchange

Every year from 1974, with the exception of 2003 to 2006, the Club has hosted an exchange student at year 11 level and sent one to a foreign country. Many of them have remained in contact with the Club. The efforts of Tony Naughton and colleagues have been instrumental in keeping this program going in recent years.

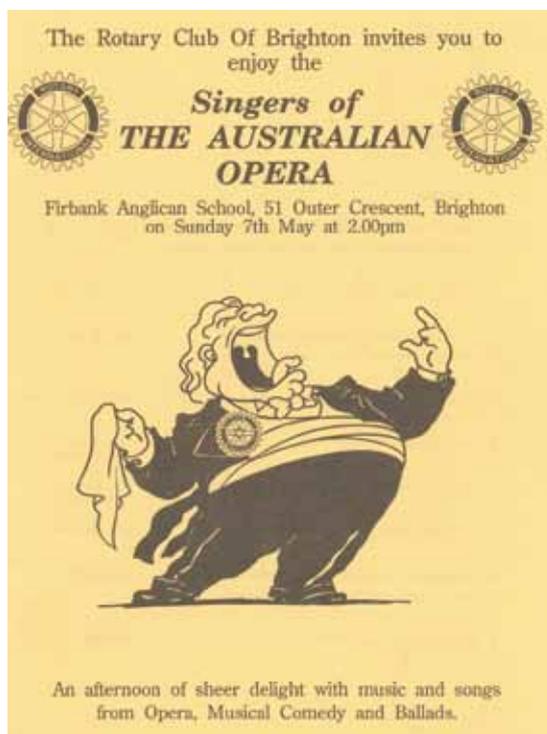
Group Study Exchange (GSE)

We have provided opportunities for early to mid career professionals to come to Australia and interact with their peers and for outgoing teams to do the same. John McCausland led the District’s 2002/03 team to Scandinavia.

Peer Support and the Opera

Peer Support is a program in schools that encourages older students, typically in year 11, to act as mentors for new students, usually in year 7, but it also operates in some primary schools. This program functions in all secondary schools in the district, some Principals saying: “If we didn’t have this program, we would have to invent it”.

Richard Cornish, Club Chairman of Peer Support from 1989 to 2000, ran a series of concerts in the 1990's to raise funds for Peer Support and the Life Education caravan.



Other Youth Activities

Other youth activities are **Rotaract**, a late teens/early twenties club similar to Rotary in its objectives, which operated from 1980/81 to 1995/96; **Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)**, which train youth leaders; **Rotary Youth Programme of Enrichment (RYPEN)**, which helps promising secondary school students to develop socially and emotionally, **Student Vocational Awards** to encourage year 11 students who have improved most in their school year, the **Summer Science Schools** held at the Australian National University, the **Model United Nations Assemblies (MUNA)**, where young people debate the issues of the world on behalf of their “adopted” countries.

Family Violence Prevention

In 1994, President Rob Tucker became aware of the extent of the problem of family violence in the community, He challenged the Club to do something about it and Bayside Family Support was formed in 1995 under the Chairmanship of Stuart McIntyre. It engaged counsellors and, in a pioneering effort, provided behaviour change programs for violent men for the next six years.

In 2002, management of the programs was passed to LifeWorks Relationships Counselling and Education Services, which by then had several similar programs of its own.

The Club's ongoing productive relationship with LifeWorks has seen a period of ongoing financial support, followed by a small research program aimed at improving the quality of programs. This was run between 2006 and 2009 by Monash University and supported by the Club, LifeWorks and Australian Rotary Health.

In 2009, the Club faced a decision on whether to discontinue its efforts in this field or to initiate a much bigger program. It chose the latter and founded Violence Free Families (the Family Violence Prevention Foundation of Australia) in December 2009 to tackle all aspects of family violence in Australia.

Violence Free Families, through Monash University, is now running the first long-term research study into the results of behaviour change programs with agencies from three States, developing a new online behaviour change program for men who can't access a face-to-face program and initiating a primary schools education program.



Its programs received the District 9800 Significant Achievement

Award in 2011 and District Endorsement in 2012. It has a Board drawn from several clubs and outside Rotary and a Rotary Support Committee of about 16 members from all over the District and beyond. A Commonwealth Government Grant of \$100,000 has assisted in running the long-term study.

Between the Club and Violence Free Families, over \$550,000 has been raised over the years since the Club was first involved and the many men and their families have benefitted.



violence free families

“Kids Under Cover” House

Our “Millennium Project” in 2000 was to build a house in the Bayside area for homeless youth. It started in 1997 when Ken Morgan of “Kids Under Cover” addressed the Club on the need to assist homeless children and Phil Mellett accepted the challenge on behalf of the Club. The objective was to rehabilitate abused children and equip them with the necessary life skills to become self-supporting members of the adult community.

Under Phil’s leadership, we raised \$146,000, persuaded the State Government to donate a block of land worth \$300,000, secured government funding of \$200,000 a year and arranged for MacKillop Family Services to run the house under an ongoing agreement with all parties. Part of our fundraising was the establishment of Rotary Place in Church Street, Brighton. The Bayside Council allocated the area, prepared it at a cost of \$30,000 and agreed that we could sell plaques to donors. This raised \$70,000 towards the costs of the project. The house was completed in 2002/03 and is now serving its purpose in the community.



Opening of Rotary Place, 18 March 2001: Graeme Disney, Mayor of Bayside, David Efron, Louise Asher, MLA, John King, President Ron Sher.

Aged Care Programmes

Mayflower Retirement Community

We have made large donations to Mayflower, now the only aged care facility of its kind in Bayside. In 1991 the Club made a three-year commitment to donate to a Mayflower Building Appeal. It gave \$50,000 in that year and \$25,000 in each of the following two years. In return, Mayflower named the foyer of the new building the Rotary Club of Brighton Foyer and the Club’s emblem is prominently displayed there.

Further donations of \$20,000 were made in 2002/03 and 2003/04.

Christmas Lunches

Each year since 1993 we have hosted a Christmas lunch and entertainment for 150 to 200 elderly citizens who might otherwise be unable to attend such a function. We work with the Bayside Council to identify and invite guests. In recent years, Bill Kneebone, Jim Hay and many others have undertaken the organisation and significant logistics of these events.

Health and The Environment

End Polio Now

The Club has supported the Rotary International campaign to rid the world of polio since the program started in 1985 as “Polio Plus”. Partners in this endeavour are the World Health Organisation, UNICEF, the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The goal is total eradication, by which time over \$1 billion will have been raised by Rotary. Over 2 billion children have been immunised and polio has already been totally eradicated in the Western Hemisphere (1994), the Western Pacific (2000) and Europe (2002). In 2012 only 223 cases were reported and only three countries remain to be cleared of polio (Nigeria, Pakistan and Afghanistan).

Life Education Caravan

This large caravan visits all primary schools in the district, explaining to children how what we put into our bodies affects our lives and health. It is one of the Club’s great contributions to the community and we have raised a total of \$154,000 for this imaginative travelling classroom “show”. The project commenced in 1986/87

Rotary cash for Healthy Kids

BRIGHTON Rotary has continued its commitment to Healthy Kids with a donation of \$30,000 last week at the Church of Christ Grammar School in South Yarra.

The \$132,000 caravan, donated by the Brighton Rotary Club in 1987, was the second of its kind.

The idea was established in Sydney by adventurer Dick Smith and anti-drug crusader the Rev. Ted Noffs, in 1986.

Primary school children from Mentone, South Yarra and east to Caulfield, visit the caravan at least three times during their primary schooling.

The extra funds raised will be used to upgrade the caravan’s dummy with an integrated light display to illustrate the human nervous system.

The life education caravan teaches children good health habits. The caravan is one of seven in Melbourne whose running costs are funded by Healthy Kids Ltd.

President Stan Rankin presents a cheque for upgrading the Life Education Caravan to Rotarian Rob Dunn. Oliver Emrys-Evans and Antonia Green look on. Sandringham-Brighton Advertiser, 21 August 1990



The Life Education Caravan

and was completed the following year. The van was upgraded at Club expense in 1990 and again in 1998/99.

This benchmark project brought the whole Club together and the level of commitment was so high that, when there was a temporary shortfall of funds to meet obligations, several Club members lent the money. Operated by Life Education Victoria, the caravan continues to visit schools throughout Victoria 25 years later, with vital messages for children at each stage of their development.

Drains to Bay

Another Rob Tucker initiative, this project started when the Club and Melbourne Water developed school kits to increase awareness of the problems of litter and pollutants in our waterways. Over 400 kits were sold and by 1997/98



The "Drains to Bay" Stencil on Stormwater Drains

it was estimated that 22,000 children had used them. As one outcome, children stencilled "Drains to Bay" logos on storm-water pits throughout Melbourne.

In 1995, Rotary International recognised this effort with a "World Significant Achievement Award" to the Club. In 1998/99 the Club contributed \$21,000 for the installation of 10 major litter traps on stormwater drains entering Port Phillip Bay along the Brighton coastline and this contribution triggered funding of \$400,000 from Bayside Council and the Federal Government. These traps remove tonnes of rubbish from the environment each year.

The video and school instruction book were updated in 2003 and the kit was renamed "Drains to our Water Ways" to cover both city and country schools.



President Rob Tucker with Drains to Bay environmental project school group (Brighton Primary), March 1994.

Tree Planting

Rob Tucker and Peter Grey led expeditions in 2001 and 2003 to plant trees to reduce salination in rural areas. Now, 20,000 new trees are growing in the Bendigo-Heathcote areas. The drought of 2002/03 curtailed the program but since then quite a number of planting days have been carried out with the assistance of other District 9800 Rotary Clubs. Just before this history was completed, in the autumn of 2013, the Club participated in a Bayside Cluster Group day at Green Point, Brighton, to stabilise and beautify the northern slopes of the Point.

Australian Rotary Health (ARH) Foundation

The Club has supported the work of ARH, especially for mental health research. PP Des Thomas and his team have run ARH dinners every year since 2000 and ARH supported our Monash University Research project into men's behaviour change programs in 2006-09. The dinners have raised \$114,000 and the generous provision of the venue and catering each year by The Pantry Restaurant in Church Street has been recognised by a Ruby Companion award from ARH.

“BayCISS” - Local Community Service

When the Bayside City Council realised in October 2005 that several social welfare agencies in its area were struggling, it came to the Club for its managerial expertise to support them. Peter Sherman and Stuart McIntyre investigated and recommended that three organisations, Community Information Sandringham, Community Information Brighton and BayCISS should be amalgamated.

The resulting new agency, called BayCISS, was established in May 2006 and provides emergency financial support for families in need, often simply to put food on the table. The club donated \$5,000 and the Hampton and Sandringham Clubs also contributed. The Bendigo Bank branches in Highett and Sandringham have been major donors. It is currently funded by the Victorian and Australian Governments, the Cities of Bayside and Kingston, and by various service clubs, philanthropic trusts and donations.

From 40 volunteers at the outset, BayCISS now has over 100, and its programs fill some areas of desperate need. It operates from buildings provided by the City of Bayside in Hampton East, Brighton and Sandringham and has become the largest provider of emergency relief and advice to disadvantaged individuals and families in its area, assisting about 5,000 people each year with advocacy and support.

In addition, its education program provides funding to enable children to participate more fully in educational opportunities, assisting with school books and even fares. Funding for this program is provided by the Club and Highett Bendigo Bank.

Our Club continues to give support at Committee level by providing the Chairman (Stuart McIntyre) and the Honorary Treasurer (Bill Howley).

Open Family and 20th Man

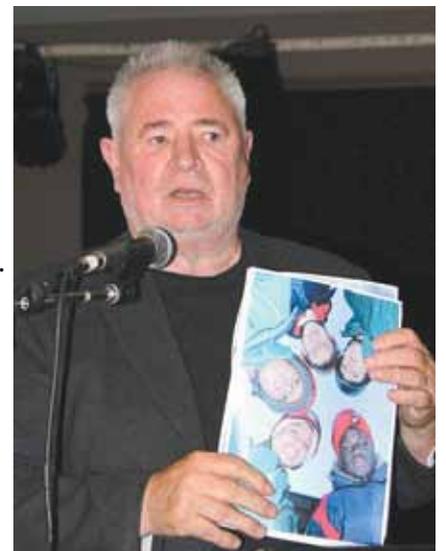
Les Twentyman, a charismatic social worker in the western suburbs of Melbourne, has been a friend of the club for many years. He was associated with Open Family, a charity that aids disadvantaged children, and later started his own charity, “20th Man”. As well as funding some of the activities of Open Family, one of the Club’s practical contributions was the collection of second-hand book sets from eastern and southern suburbs schools and transporting them by trailer to Footscray. Open Family has now amalgamated with White Lion, mentioned in chapter 3, and we continue to help them as well as Les Twentyman.



Above: The 20th Man van

Below: Les Twentyman

In 2011, the club bought a van for use by 20th Man, accepting a generous discount from the Toyota Metropolitan Dealership network. We continue to provide funding for Les’s activities to assist the children of the western suburbs.



Senior Citizens Award

In 2005 we instituted an award for the senior Bayside “Citizen of the Year”, managed by Ted Wall-Smith. Our awardees have been:

2005 Elizabeth McGregor, for service to the Black Rock Day Centre over 15 years and for raising money for the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

2006 Carmel Sullivan for service to Bayley House.

2007 Harold Warren for volunteer service on Bayside Council’s Older Adult’s Advisory Service and programmes for the disabled at Black Rock Bowling Club.

2008 Judee Stevenson for service to Mayflower as a volunteer, especially for her organisation of the kiosk.



International

The Club has mounted many international activities over the years. As far back as 1995, we were rebuilding cyclone-affected schools and libraries in Samoa and constructing a much-needed water well for a village in Indonesia. More recently, we built a science classroom in PNG (2002), laid the concrete floor of a hospital in Vanuatu (2007) and have participated strongly in the District-led construction of a school in Timor Leste, a school playground and a water project in Cambodia (2009 to 2013).

Stuart McIntyre and Arthur Hubbard have been prominent among the leaders and organisers of these projects and many other members have been consistent participants, including PP Tony Nanfra, Damien Hellard, Gerhard Sommer, Grant Azlin and Barry Hickman to mention only a few.



FAIM (International Service) team at work in Samoa, 1995
Members of team were: Arthur Hubbard (Team Leader), Tony Nanfra, Keith Lindner and Merv Deutscher with John Gooding, plumber and Eric Furby, carpenter; from Homes-glen TAFE (arranged by Smutzy Smith).



Playground erected in Timor Leste by a group from our Club in 2013.

Highlights of Our Second Decade 1983-93 ...

1983/84

- Club celebrated its 10th Anniversary at Rippon Lea, led jointly by Charter President Os Bayliss and President Robert Ward.
- Don Cameron established first Probus Club in Brighton.
- Donations to Elanora \$6,000, DUPA \$5,500, Australian Rotary Medical Research for work on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, \$3,500.

1984/85

- Rotary Club of Brighton North formed by PP Merv Deutscher; Charter granted on 29th March 1985 with 31 Rotarians being inducted.
- New bus for Bayley House \$6,500; racing wheelchair for John Lindsay \$1,250; Brighton Red Cross \$2,000; Interplast \$2,000; Rotary Health Research Fund \$3,500.

1985/86

- David Dodd took a Group Study Exchange Team to Finland.
- Boxing exhibitions at Sportsman's Night.
- Canberra District Conference well attended, addressed by Jenny Thurston and ladies of the Club.

1986/87

- John King became District Governor.
- Ian Stevenson headed a team to run very successful District Conference in Adelaide, March 1987.
- Club made its biggest commitment so far, to fund a Mobile Life Education Caravan at a cost of \$118,000 and puts down a deposit of \$36,000.
- First "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner".
- First Racehorse, the successful "Dendy Beach", was purchased for \$4,500 by a group of 40 members.

1987/88

- Final payment made on the Life Education Caravan and keys handed over to Life Education Australia.

1988/89

- Full management of the Art Show taken over by us but proceeds continued to be dedicated to the "Rec".
- Our first FAIM (International Service) team, Geoff Knight and Smutzy Smith, went to Elco Island, NT, to assist with dental and plumbing services.
- \$5,000 given to Victorian Children's Aid Society toward purchase of Rotary House.
- NZ Spina Bifida group of four young people sponsored for visit to Australia, Ted Wall-Smith in charge.



Happy Spina Bifida group from NZ aboard Ted Wall-Smith's yacht "Challenge III" October 1989

1989/90

- Second Probus Club formed by Don Cameron.
- Death of two members in December. Charter President Os Bayliss died while on holiday in Queensland and Peter Taylor in an accident while competing in the Sydney to Hobart yacht race.
- The Club Charitable Trust was founded. The first trustees were Harlin Butterley, Don Ruffels, and Peter Thompson.

1990/91

- President Stan Rankin conducted a pioneering experiment with members' wives conducting the meeting, Jenny Thurston in the Chair.



Peter Taylor Memorial Dinner 14 November 1990: John Bertrand, Skipper of "Australia II", Kaye Cottee, First Woman Sailor around the World and President Stan Rankin

- Over 700 attended Memorial Dinner for late Peter Taylor and Kaye Cottee was Guest Speaker. \$10,000 from proceeds used to establish the Peter Taylor memorial fund to "encourage youth in the sport of sailing" and the balance of about \$15,000 to the Life Education Caravan movement.
- We hosted this year's District Assembly at Latrobe University. Kangaroos abounded in the grounds.
- Club was incorporated.

1991/92

- DG Greg Ross introduced a novel District Community Project, "Paint Your Heart Out". Members with Rotaractors painted a weatherboard house in Canterbury.

1992/93

- Meeting venue changed from Mario's Brighton Beach Hotel to Julio's Restaurant, Middle Brighton.
- Our 100th member was inducted.



Our Servicemen



Keith Lindner



Keith grew up in Warracknabeal and joined the Navy in September, 1942, at the age of 17³/₄. After training on radar, he was drafted to the Destroyer HMAS Warramunga in March, 1943. He was the Action Stations Radar Operator and continued in this capacity throughout the war. In this role,

he operated the radar whenever the ship went into action and was in constant communication with the captain, supplying vital information.

The Warramunga was attached to the US Seventh Fleet and participated in numerous operations along the north coast of New Guinea in 1943 and 1944, effectively isolating 100,000 Japanese troops there from support.

In October, 1944, she took part in the massive US invasion of the Philippines at Leyte Gulf. During this operation, the Kamikaze attacks commenced. In the Fleet's second major operation in the Philippines, at Lingayen Gulf, Kamikaze action intensified and in three days HMAS Australia was hit five times. Adroit manoeuvring by the Warramunga's captain avoided descending aircraft but a nearby ship, USS Brooks, was hit. The Warramunga extinguished the fires and evacuated wounded sailors. Her last action in World War 2 was to put Australian soldiers ashore at Tarakan in Borneo.

During the war, the ship returned to Sydney for repairs and refitting several times and

her visits invariably coincided with a dock-workers strike, forcing the ship's company to do the work themselves. For the length of their service, the crew had only two shore leaves.

In January 1946, Keith transferred to HMAS Lismore, which was supporting the transfer of administration from the Japanese Army to the Dutch in the Dutch East Indies. He was discharged in April.

He married Joan in 1950 and they had two boys. Sadly, she died in 1995.

He enjoyed his work in the graphic arts and continued with this until retirement.

Keith joined our Club in 1974 and led our Anzac Day remembrances, with Doug Cummins, for many years. He also addressed the Club on his wartime experiences on a memorable occasion in about 1992. He was instrumental in founding the Warramunga Association and served as its Secretary for 25 years and President for 30 years.



HMAS Warramunga in action in the Philippines; view from the Flag Deck.

Chapter 3 - Raising the Funds

Sportsman's Nights

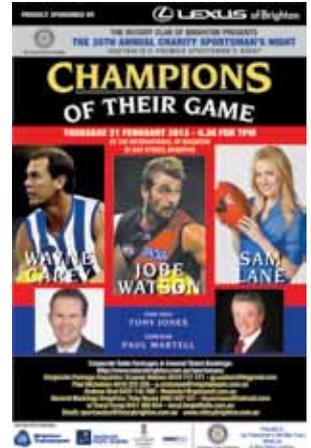
The cream of Australia's sporting talent has appeared at the Sportsman's Nights, first held in 1977. Neil Roberts, former St Kilda footballer and Brownlow medalist, was the first compère and numerous other football identities have appeared.

As well as football, themes have included cricket, yachting, motor racing, horse racing, athletics, boxing, swimming and skiing. For every sport, we have attracted the crème de la crème. We have also had some entertaining and some controversial comedians!

There was an amazing night in 1983 when Leroy Turner, special guest from the US "America's Cup" syndicate (alias impersonator **Campbell McComas**) fooled even the experts with his brash comments on how good

the Americans were. On another memorable evening, member Peter Sheppard generously **donated a horse** to be raffled and raised \$7,250.

The Sportsman's Nights have continued to be the Club's premier fund raising effort since the first one, when 340 attended and a sum of \$5,285 was raised. Central to its success has been the enthusiasm of sponsors such as Menere's of Brighton (Richard Thurston) and Brighton Audi Centre (Julian Goglia). In total, our Sportsman's Nights have raised over \$700,000 for charity.



Lou Richards, Collingwood great, raises the gun to start the 1984 Big Bay Run at Beaumaris Concourse.



The 1987 Bay Run Start from the Sandringham foreshore.



The Bay Fun Run

The first Fun Run went from Beaumaris Concourse to Elwood Park, a distance of 14 km, in 1980. We included handicapped contestants competing in wheelchairs. One of them, John Lindsay, to whom we subsequently donated his first racing wheelchair, went on to win a gold medal at the 1992 Barcelona Paralympics.



1986 Poster

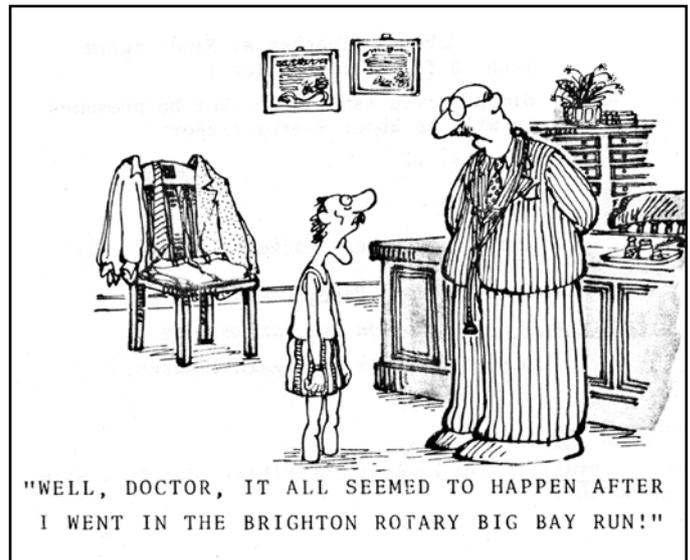
In 1986 we attracted a crowd of 3,500 runners, four in wheel-chairs. On the advice of athletic bodies, the run was then shortened to 10 km and the start was moved to Sandringham Gardens, at the corner of Beach Road and Bay Road.

The run continued for many years but under some difficulty. We had to contend with the vagaries of the weather, having one year an extremely strong hot north wind when drink stations ran out of water, and another year rain and fierce winds which prevented the erection of our start banner and entry form tent. On yet another occasion the whole marshalling area was flooded when a large steel tent peg pierced a water main.

Competition from other similar runs, policing problems and falling attendances led to the decision in 2002 to suspend this activity.

Our Sponsors

Fund raising relies heavily on the generosity of community-minded sponsors. The Club has been especially grateful to Julie Avery and Keiran Cromie of Brighton Travelworld, both Past Presidents of the Rotary Club of Brighton Beach, who have been sponsors for every Sportsman's Night since they started and every one of the Great Australia Day Swims too. They have also generously helped with many other events.



- from a 1986 Bulletin



One of our reliable and generous sponsors, Julie Avery of Brighton Travelworld



Fellow Director Keiran Cromie of Brighton Travelworld





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Apart from “Crazy John” Ilhan’s mobile phone company mentioned below we have been grateful to Pitstop Motors (Richard Thurston), Barloworld, Australian Pacific Tours (Geoff McGeary), Brighton Audi and European Cars (Julian Goglia), The Gardener’s Corner Store (David Grodski), Australian Unity and many others.

The Centenary of Rotary

Rotary was founded in February 1905 by Paul Harris and four friends in Chicago. The name was chosen to reflect the intention of rotating the meetings around the homes of the members and the rotation of the chairmanship or presidency. By the time of the centenary of Rotary there were 1 million members in many countries around the globe.



Paul Harris’s memory is kept alive by the award of “Paul Harris Fellowships” (PHF’s) to members, and occasionally to non-members, who have given outstanding community service. In Australia a PHF is the highest formal recognition that a club can give, although in the USA it is customary for members to purchase them with personal donations to Rotary Foundation.

We celebrated the centenary with Dr David Grodski in the Chair and our theme was men’s health awareness.

It was an extraordinary year. We raised \$305,000, an all-time record, with a string of innovative and imaginative projects.

The Great Seagull Race at Brighton Baths alone generated \$101,000. In keeping with the centenary theme, 100 floating seagulls were sold for \$1,000 each and the race was run on the 100th day of the year. Early on the day, fickle winds and weather caused organisers and seagull owners alike to fret but all was well when the starter’s pistol fired. The first to bob across the finishing line won a trip for two to Hawaii. Our generous benefactor of this and other efforts, “Crazy John” Ilhan, donated \$35,000 to buy the prizes and defray other costs to ensure that 100% of the seagull purchase money went to our designated charity, the Cabrini Hospital Men’s Health Programme known as “Foundation 49”. In fact \$118,000 was donated.



The late John Ilhan - a wonderful supporter of our club.



“Crazy John” mascot with admirers at the Great Seagull Race



PHF medallion and ribbon with old (small) and new lapel badges



Seagull Race A4 flyer

To support the men's health theme, a Fun Walk was organised along the beach front with participants rustling up sponsorships and having the choice of 5, 10, 15 or 20km on the day. Quite a few members took to gym training beforehand and some even continued afterwards. Charter Member Mayer Page, although very ill, came on a walking frame and walked a short distance to show his support. Over 100 walkers took part and, collectively, they exceeded the target of 1,000 km walked. More than \$35,000 was raised and a barbecue run by Greg and Angela Biggin and team finished a highly successful event.

The Sportsman's Night theme was cricket, with Shane Warne as the star and Sam Kekovich as MC. The night was a credit to organisers David Efron and Rob Nicholes. \$99,000 was raised, \$23,000 of it going to the Shane Warne Foundation and the remainder to the Club. Break Out of Gaol and a Fashionista were also run.



Shane Warne

Three special PHF's were awarded: to the indefatigable Club supporter Marion Nicholes, to Susan Alberti, recognising her amazing contribution to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and to John Ilhan for his great benefactions to our Club and many other community needs.

White Lion

White Lion is an organisation that assists young people who have been in trouble with the law. It provides advice, support and mentoring. Barry Hickman's

involvement has led to the club organising and supporting "Get out of Jail" and later, "Bail Out" Nights, often held at the Old Melbourne Gaol. Members volunteer to be locked up in the cells and not released until they have extorted sufficient bail money from obliging friends and relatives.

The Great Australia Day Swim

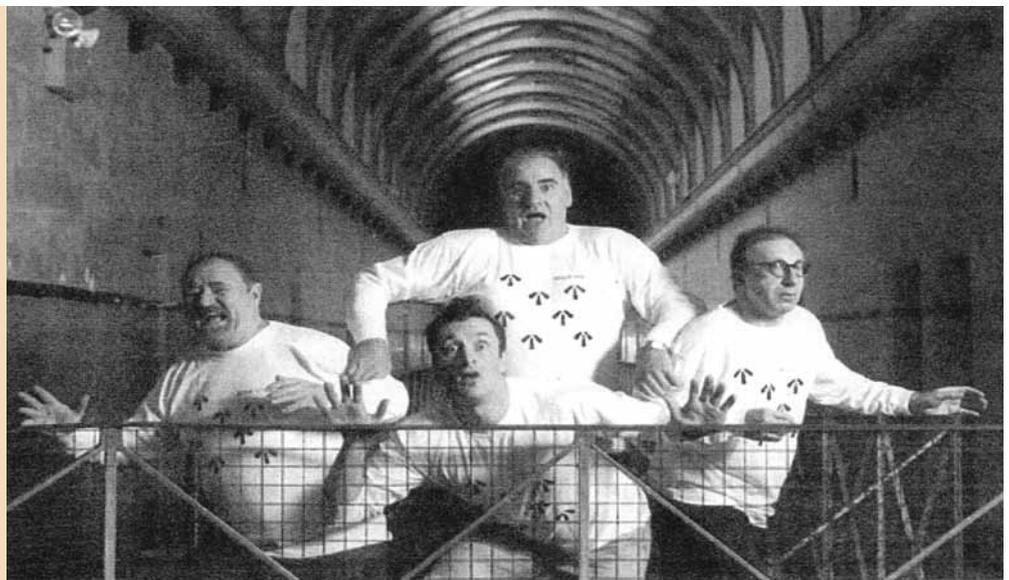
In 2009, Stuart McIntyre and Peter Sherman came up with the idea of a fund raiser to replace the former Bay Runs. The idea was a swim on Australia Day at the Brighton Pier to rival the famous Lorne Pier to Pub swim. They found a wonderful sponsor in Australian Unity and ran the first one on 26 January, 2010. They have continued each year since then.

Another great supporter has been swimmer Michael Klim, who has attended, participated and encouraged. The Klim Swim is now one of the features of these festive and successful events.



Damien Hellard with Michael Klim

This action shot was taken at the Old Melbourne Gaol - the venue of the great Break Out on 19 May 2005. Pictured are Les Twentymen of Open Family (now 20th Man), ex Carlton footballer Glen Manton (White Lion), Football Legend and host Sam Kekovich and comedian Elliot Goblet.



The Brighton Lunches

The Brighton Lunches commenced in 2010 and have been held each year since then at the Brighton International. The lunch was originally for women only but since 2012 an increasing number of men have attended. The lunch has had many outstanding guests and entertainers. Names such as Sigrid Thornton, Jane Flemming, Deborah Hutton, Olivia Newton John, Sam Stynes, Cathy Freeman, Tottie Goldsmith, James Reyne and The Chantoozies have all given their services



without charge in order to support Rotary, the Olivia Newton-John Cancer Centre and other charities.

There have been many highlights. In 2012 we had Olivia Newton-John as the main guest, but prior to Olivia's interview we invited Sam Stynes to the stage. This was the first function Sam had spoken at since the passing of her husband Jim Stynes. She spoke of the journey she had with Jim, the highs and the lows. She spoke for only 15 minutes but it seemed more like an hour

and the whole audience was in tears. She was truly a courageous woman and her address was an experience attendees will never forget.

Porsche of Brighton was our founding major sponsor and continued for three years. Their owners, the Preston Motor Group, attended each year. One of the principals, Geraldine Bergmuller, was being treated for lung cancer and she spoke on two occasions of her journey. On the third occasion, her son addressed the audience and spoke of the passing of his mother, a very moving experience.

The lunch has raised well over \$100,000 in its short history and is now a significant annual event for the Bayside Community.



The Chantoozies perform 2013

The 2009 Bushfires

The devastating bushfires of February, 2009, affected every member because of the immense loss of lives, property and forests. The destruction of the Cumberland Guest House at Marysville, mentioned as a venue for social activities later in this history was of special significance many members.

The Club "adopted" a street raffle initiated by Justin Davis of Ideal Fitness of Bay Street, Brighton, and raised \$5,000, which the Club donated to the District Appeal supporting the rehabilitation of the township of Marysville.



Bushfire Appeal Raffle flyer 2009



Plaque erected at the Marysville Community Centre acknowledging the efforts of Rotary District 9800

Highlights of our Third Decade 1993-2003 ...

1993/94

- The Club under President Errol Caddaye celebrated its 20th Anniversary at Rippon Lea.
- First FAIM team sent to Western Samoa.
- First Elderly Citizen's Christmas lunch held in Brighton Town Hall.



Tom Callender, PDG John King and President Rob Tucker with the District 9800 Rotary Image Award

1994/95

- Rotary Club of Brighton Beach formed by PP Ted Wall-Smith; charter granted 23rd May 1995. There were 34 members, 17 of them female.
- Meeting venue changed to Royal Brighton Yacht Club.
- Club shares the District Image Award (initiated by PDG John King) with Port Phillip Melbourne.
- Bayside Family Support Inc. established to provide counselling for men involved in family violence.

1995/96

- Drains to Bay project continues.
- Team of four Rotarians and two tradesmen went to Western Samoa to "Cyclone proof" local village school.
- Rotaract Club ceased operation.

1996/97

- The Club assisted in converting the former Brighton Courthouse into a Youth Drop-In Centre.

1997/98

- This year saw computerisation of membership records and the introduction of our Club tie.
- Donations to various causes exceeded \$90,000.



A Pack of Partying Presidents in full cry at our 20th Anniversary, Rippon Lea, September 1993: Jack Joel OAM, Stan Rankin, Merv Deutscher, Ted Wall-Smith, Peter Johns, John Osborne and Robert Ward

1998/99

- PP Robert Tucker was the Club's first recipient of a Paul Harris Sapphire award.
- A donation of \$3,500 was made to support the Life Education Caravan.
- Our 25th Anniversary celebration was held at Power House, Albert Park, jovial President Tony Nanfra in charge.

1999/00

- Our Millennium Project, "Kids Under Cover", construction of a house for homeless youth in the Bayside area, commenced.
- Rotary Place established in Church St, Middle Brighton. Sponsors' plaques to help fund the Kids Under Cover project.
- Charter Member, Past President and PHF Richard Thurston passed away early in this Rotary year.

2000/01

- Rotary Place opened by the Mayor of Bayside.
- The Club ran the District Assembly at Wesley College.
- FAIM team went to Papua New Guinea: Stuart McIntyre (Leader), Gerhard Sommer, Barry Vos, Kerim Van Der Looy, Tony Nanfra and Grant Azlin.
- In June we claimed the record for most members (9) inducted at one meeting.



2001/02

- The first "Fashionista" was held, a top-class fundraising fashion show at the Plaza Ballroom, led by Alan Pinkus.
- District Conference in Sydney, mostly aboard Jack Joel's cruiser 'Bahama'.



Jack Joel's 'Bahama'. The Club felt privileged to receive approval to moor at Darling Harbour during the Conference.

- A tree-planting program commenced to arrest salinity in rural areas.
- Club meetings held "away from home" at State Parliament House and the Chapter House, St Paul's Cathedral.
- Construction commences on Kids Under Cover House.
- Charter member Kerry Horton passed away, March 2002.

2002/03

- John McCausland led District 9800 GSE Team Leader to Sweden and Lithuania.
- Kids Under Cover house opened and final cheque for \$60,000 handed over, bringing the total to \$140,000. (see separate article page 11)
- Record Sportsman's Night with \$66,000 raised. Proceeds went towards Prostate Cancer research, Mayflower and Rotary Foundation.
- External meetings held at ANZ Bank Head Office and MCC Longroom.

One of Geoff McGeary's Coaches and the Vintage Bus - used by the adventurous for various outings.



Our Servicemen



Doug Cummins - 1918 to 2012

Born in Yea and educated in Melbourne, Doug enlisted in the RAAF at the start of the war. After receiving his commission in 1940, he was sent to Singapore to act as an Observer. In 1942, the Japanese invaded and Doug escaped to Batavia, intending to try to reach Australia, but was captured by the Japanese and interned in a POW camp in Java for the remainder of the war. As the senior ranking officer (Flight Lieutenant), he became the OIC of the prisoners, who were mainly Australians but included Kiwis, British and Dutch servicemen.

On his eventual return to Australia, Doug married Marjorie, established a family of which he was very proud, and made a successful career in commercial real estate and valuation.

He became an active member of the Club and 40 years after the end of the war, Doug agreed to speak to the Club about his experiences. Marjorie and members of his family attended the meeting to hear him, as he had rarely spoken of his ordeal, even to his family.

In a moving address, he showed artefacts that he had brought home: a wooden hair brush with a secret space in the back containing newspaper maps of the

region so that the POWs could follow the progress of the war and a crystal set hidden in a hollowed-out book, with which they picked up broadcasts. The Japanese would have killed anyone found in possession of these items.

Doug mentioned that, despite the Geneva Conventions concerning the rights of POWs, he received only three letters from home in 3½ years of captivity. They were all the same letter, sent by three routes, telling him that his father had died. He spoke little of the brutality he endured, especially as the OIC of the prisoners, but wept for those who had died there.

When the end of the war came and they were free to leave, Doug lined the men up and instructed them to hold their heads high, not to look at their Japanese captors positioned on either side of the road and to march out with dignity.



Ted Wall-Smith, John McCausland & Ken Paterson

The Club acknowledges the war service contributions of PP Ted Wall-Smith, John McCausland and Ken Paterson.

Ted Wall-Smith deferred medical studies at Melbourne University to enlist in the RAAF in May, 1945. He was discharged in July, probably because the war was clearly coming to an end, and served another three months in the Department of the Army as a clerk before returning to complete studies as a physiotherapist.

He was a Charter Member of the club and served as President in 1984/85.

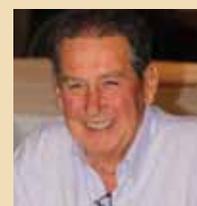


He remained an active contributor right up to his final illness and death in 2011. His sailing exploits were remarkable and have been mentioned elsewhere in this history.

John McCausland served in Vietnam but the authors were unable to contact him in time to find out the details of his service. He was an active member in his time with us but resigned to move to the UK in 2008.



Ken Paterson also served in Vietnam between 1967-1968 as a Transport driver in the Australian Army.



Chapter 4 - Social and Sporting Activities

Our Olympian

The Club's sporting tradition starts almost from the beginning, when Olympic weight-lifting champion PP Vern Barberis joined the Club a few months after it was chartered. He had won a bronze medal at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics, Australia's first in weight-lifting and competed again at the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne.



Vern Barberis - our first (and only) Olympian

Yachting

As Bayside community, our yachtsmen are numerous and Ted Wall-Smith's "Rimfire" graces our second Club banner, shown at the beginning of this history. For several years in the early nineties Tom Warwick organised the "Brighton Super Sailor" contest for Club members in Sabot dinghies borrowed from the Royal Brighton Yacht Club, publicly destroying the reputations of some yachting identities.

Peter Johns in "Farr Fetched" sailed with Jeff Bartrum for many years, enjoying the racing and the glass of red that followed. Stan Rankin at Sandringham Yacht Club is a consistent performer and "Fast Eddie" Wall-Smith's exploits on the water in Challenge III and other yachts were legendary.

Golf

One of the most enjoyable 'Fellowship offshoots' of our Club is "Ivan's Hackers" inspired and introduced by Ivan Vojlay at the very close of the 20th Century in 1999. The 'Hackers' are a merry group of golfers of remarkably varied talents who meet at first light every Saturday morning at "Royal and Ancient" Brighton Golf Course in Dendy Street. Typically 15 to 20 tee off, sometimes less and sometimes more!

Over the years the program has become more sophisticated even if the standard of play hasn't achieved a remarkably high standard of sophistication! However all and sundry have great fun - or usually do - have been occasions when rage and disgust have seen a mortified player decide enough is enough and storm off - however these 'volatile incidents' are fortunately rare.

Seasonal competitions have been introduced and an early innovation was the voluptuously named " Lips of Venus" 8th Hole which is a difficult Par 3 with enchanting alluring bunkers lovingly enveloping the green. There is now a " Lips of Venus Perpetual Trophy" and all who 'Birdie' this challenging hole have their names engraved for evermore.

Every now and then competitions are organised to include our more attractive halves and for these more salubrious events we elevate our standards and re locate to Sandringham with its 'whiff' of Royal Melbourne. Recent captains Bruce Crossley and Ian Cole have displayed literary talent beyond even their impressive golfing ability so 'The Capers of the Hackers' are all

richly and humorously recorded. Ivan the photographer snaps away merrily before and after each game so the 'Hackers'



The Saturday morning Hackers, April 2012

rival 'The Australian Open' in complete if limited media coverage. Quite a significant number of non Rotarians have become regulars and have 'discovered Rotary' through the 'Hackers' and eventually becoming members of our Club which is most gratifying.

This most enjoyable weekly event is now into its 15th year and has become a permanent fixture in the Club's life.

Regular weekly outings to the Royal Brighton Golf Club have led to weekends at Cape Schanck and Marysville and the 17th hole birdie trophy for the Brighton course is keenly contested. Jim Moore has upstaged all comers so far with the only hole in one.



Happy Golf Group, Cape Schanck, 2010

Marysville Getaways

Back in the 1980's, we began having wonderful 'Spring Weekends Away' at the beautiful little village of Marysville in the mountains about two hour's drive from Brighton.

These pleasant escapes were centered on the Cumberland Guest House, where most arrived on Friday afternoon. Early in the evening, we went up to the foot of Steavenson's Falls, a few minutes away, and enjoyed champagne and nibbles, very generously provided by Jill Barr in later years. The evenings continued with a splendid dinner in the Cumberland Dining Room.

Saturdays saw many on the golf course, some bushwalking, others pottering around the village and yet more relaxing around the splendid log fires reading



Champers at Steavensons Falls, Marysville

books and newspapers, especially on the occasional cold, wet days.

Another sumptuous dinner followed in the evening and trophies were awarded to those who starred in the day's golf at the Marysville Club. Men played for the Noel Williams Trophy, women for the Sue Fairlam Trophy and the Grodski Holy Grail Trophy was awarded for the best morning round.

These outings waxed and waned over the years, being led in turn by Tony and Jennifer Nanfra, Chris and Kathy Tuck and Jonathon and Kaye Hough. Later, they were "fired up" again by Eric and Jill Barr, with excellent numbers attending over the past decade.

Many individuals contributed in various ways: Barry Morris with his light-hearted humour consistently over the years and David Smyth, Brendan Kierce and Tony Naughton have played a part. Marysville is an annual highlight of the fellowship year of our Club.

Bowls

Bowls social days have been held at the West Brighton Club regularly from 2006. Rob Nicholes, an avid bowler with a Victorian Championship record, has been one of the leading lights of these days.

Horse Racing

The horse-racing fraternity is also numerous and Peter Sheppard led many members into syndicates, purchasing Dendy Beach and Dendy Park for \$4,500 each and proving his good judgement by their outstanding success. Dendy Beach won 7 races and \$110,000 in prize money while Dendy Park went on to win 12 races and \$241,000. Its career highlight was winning the Yarra Glen Cup at 103 to 1. Needless to say, the Club punters loved him.



Dendy Park, Winner of the Chairman's Stakes, Adelaide in 1992

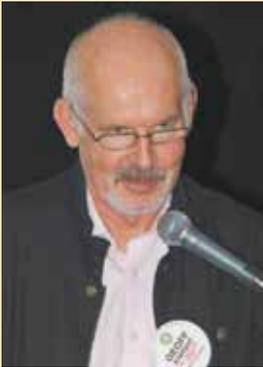
Pictured with Dendy Park are David and Noelene Mann, the Chairman of the SA Turf Club, Jockey Mark Flaherty, Strapper and Trainer Gerald Ryan



Golfing weekend at Marysville 2009



A Prototype



The End of a Dream, Patriot Hills, Antarctica

A Tricycle to the Pole

Our 'Daring Dentist', Geoff Knight, amazed the Club by endeavouring to ride a tricycle to the South Pole. This private project took the best part of a decade and numerous prototypes were tried. One was abandoned after Geoff rode it up Waratah Beach on a test, only to be overtaken by a little old lady on foot, who remarked: "That looks like hard work, sonny". The final model made it to Patriot Hills in the Antarctic in 2004 but bogged down in the snow and never got out of the base. As Geoff remarked: "At least I won't die wondering".



Christmas Cheer at Rippon Lea, 1997:
Marguerite Woodford, Phillip Mellett,
Ted Wall-Smith, Ian Mence, Greg Woodford

Walking

On a number of occasions, Club groups have engaged in bushwalking activities at Marysville on social weekends, led by David Smyth. From 2004 we have had a more serious "fun" walk for charity, now known as the Mayer Page Walk. Other Club sports are snooker, bridge and even film-watching, organised for a time by Percy Cowen.



Happy Group on walk at Steavensons Falls

Social Activities

The most popular of the more official social events have been the **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner** evenings, hosted by Club members and their wives and partners. They have mixed new and old members and are always well-attended. **Changeover Nights** have provided opportunities to shake the moths out of the dinner suits once a year. **Christmas parties**, for many years generously hosted by Richard and Jenny Thurston migrated for some years to the West Brighton Club and are now usually held at one of the Sand Belt golf courses.

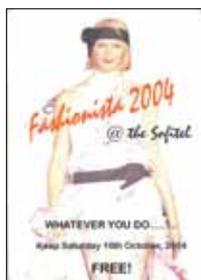


Guess Who's Coming to Dinner May 2013.
This happy group were guests of the Nicholsons.

Highlights of The Fourth Decade 2003 - 2013...

2003/04

- Record Sportsman's Night led by David Efron; \$72,000 raised.
- Third Fashionista, at Power House, makes a small profit (\$11,000). Jonathan Hough and an enthusiastic team of ladies and members were responsible.
- First "Get out of Jail" night arranged by Barry Hickman and team makes \$30,000, most of it given to "Open Family" for marginalised youth.
- We celebrated our 30th anniversary at International Receptions and launched the first edition of this history.



Fashionista Poster 2004

2004/05: Centenary of Rotary, President Dr David Grodski.

- This special year was celebrated by a unique "seagull race", a fun and health walk, an outstanding Sportsman's Night and other activities (see separate article).
- Charter member, Past President and PHF Mayer Page lost a long battle with cancer and died late in the Rotary year.



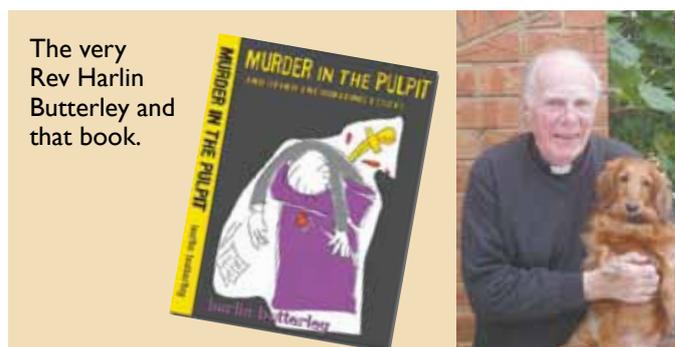
Mayer Page, 1980

2005/06

- A Sportsman's Night led by David Efron on the theme of the Olympics brought Kieren Perkins and others to add gloss to the night. It raised \$75,000 and the Art Show \$23,000.
- John King was awarded a second sapphire to his PHF in recognition of his ongoing efforts for the Club and District.
- The proceeds of the Peter Taylor memorial fund were spent on the "Sail for Life" programme, supervised by Ted Wall-Smith and Stan Rankin, with gratifying results in rehabilitating young people with difficult lives through learning the disciplines of sailing.
- The "BayCISS" project commenced (see separate article page 13).

2006/07

- Our second fun walk this year was named the Mayer Page Walk in honour of our departed colleague and his valiant effort to support the first one. \$36,000 was raised.
- The Sportsman's night theme was cricket, starring Matthew Lamb (England captain), Ian Botham and Rodney Marsh. Under David Efron's able captaincy once again, raised \$88,000.
- We signed a \$55,000 contract with ARHRF and Monash University for research into better methods of preventing violence.
- Geoff Knight, assisted by Glenn Ross, Rob Nicholes and Arthur Hubbard in Port Moresby, arranged for two PNG dental nurses to visit Melbourne for training. Dental School. Members provided home stay accommodation for them. One of these nurses went on to become a fully qualified dentist in PNG.
- The highlight of year's Christmas party for the children was the sight of Father (Greg Biggin) Christmas's trousers gracefully descending to his ankles.
- Rev Harlin Butterley donated \$6,000, being the proceeds from his latest book "Murder in the Pulpit".

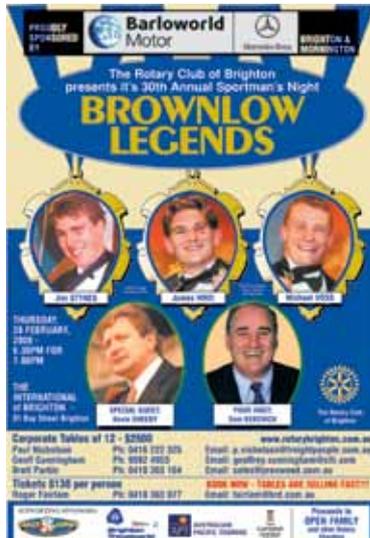


- Contributions were made to Bayley House, Cabrini Men's Health, Rotary Foundation and for Shelterboxes for displaced people who have been victims of natural disasters. In all, we donated \$193,000.

2007/08

- Early in the year, the ladies again ran the meeting and Marion Nicholes, Helen Grodski, Christine Nicholson and Karen Joel put on a sparkling show.

- The football themed Sportsman's night (James Hird and others) raised \$85,000 of which \$15,000 went to Trailblazers, a cerebral palsy support organisation at the Royal Children's Hospital.



Flyer for Sportsman's Night 2008 featuring Brownlow Legends

- Thanks to the initiatives of Tony Naughton and David Efron, we participated again in the international student exchange scheme. Our incoming student, Klas Turdel from Sweden was made most welcome.
- Through ROMAC (Rotary Overseas Medical Assistance for Children), we sponsored the visit to Australia of a Bangladeshi boy, Babu, for fascio-maxillary surgery. The 11 hour operation saved his life and a Bangladeshi surgeon assisted, gaining valuable experience. A second operation was performed on a man, Nicasio, from the Philippines, with a serious facial deformity. We paid \$25,000 to support these two operations.
- In May 2008, we participated in "Breakout" at the Old Melbourne Goal, an event run by "White Lion", an organisation supporting the rehabilitation of young people who have been in trouble with the law and raised \$43,000 for this programme.

Mark Watt (front) co-founder and CEO of White Lion pictured with co-founder Glenn Manton and staff from past sponsor Metlink.



- Rob Nicholes was awarded the Four Avenues of Service Award by Rotary International in recognition of his dedication to the work of the Club.
- The sudden death of our benefactor and PHF, John Ilhan, was a shock and a great loss to all who knew him.
- We raised the magnificent total of \$320,000 for our work in the community.

2008/09

- Under the leadership of Ian Mence, we had a night at the Victorian Parliament House Dining Room, Dinner at the Melbourne Club, held the Art Show, heard a string of interesting speakers and have many more activities in progress.
- We raised \$95,000 for the 2009 bushfire appeal (see separate article page 21).



President Ian Mence and partner Suzie with speaker Geoffrey Blainey at Melbourne Club 2009

2009/10

- We established a national charity, named Violence Free Families and embarked on an ambitious research program to improve the quality of men's behaviour change programs (see separate article page 10).
- Another "first" this year was the Great Australia Day Swim at Brighton Pier on 26 January, 2010. With the assistance of sponsor Australian Unity, it attracted hundreds of swimmers and raised \$44,000.
- First Ladies Lunch (see separate article page 21)
- Charter member and long term membership secretary, Ian Stevenson passed away on 13 June.



Flyer for first Great Australia Day Swim 2010

2010/11

- Long-term member and contributor, sailor extraordinaire and Past President Ted Wall-Smith died in March.
- Our largest donations were to Les Twentyman's 20th Man Foundation (\$30,000), the Shane Warne Foundation (Shane was a guest speaker at the Sportsman's Night - \$22,879), and BayCISS (\$21,000).

2011/12

- We conducted the last two of three missions to participate in the construction of a school in Maubisse village in Timor Leste.

2012/13

- We ran the Art Show, John Ilhan and Brighton Luncheons, Great Australia Day Swim and more, and raised a total of over \$193,000.
- We supported BayCISS, Violence Free Families, the Cathy Freeman Foundation, 20th Man and other good causes, distributing a total of \$185,000.
- Our oldest member, Sam Morris, passed away in his 101st year.
- We also lost Colin Davey, sports psychologist and football guru, who often donated tickets to sought-after games for auction for club funds.
- Stuart McIntyre led our international activities: a playground in Timor Leste, following on construction of a school there last year and a Cambodian water management project. Geoff Knight made a dentistry mission to Timor Leste
- David Grodski and others assisted with the establishment of a school garden for an indigenous school in the NT.
- Norm Thomas led a well attended strategic planning workshop, producing a three year plan for the club.
- Ron Stark and his chief website designer, Kereni White, created a new website for the Club.

2013/14

- The year has started with a bang, relocating the Art Show to the Sandringham Yacht Club and the profit was \$27,000.

Chapter 5 - Housekeeping

Meeting Programs

The standard of our guest speakers has been the envy of every club in our district. Ian Mence, our longest-serving Programme Chairman (1997/98 to 2002/03 and several subsequent years), elevated "Speaker-Seeking" to an art form. Speakers have come from all walks of life: business, commercial, sporting, religious, both sides of politics and the excellent but infrequent addresses by our own members.

Tom Buxton has also done an outstanding job in attracting the highest quality speakers to the club over many years, including his own Presidential year of 2011/12.

A few of our weeknight meetings each year have been held at external venues, with appropriate speakers. Some of these have been outstanding. We have visited the Aquarium, the Chapter House at St Paul's Cathedral, where the Dean's comedic talents put Rowan Atkinson in the shade, the MCG before the old Long Room was demolished and Victoria Barracks.

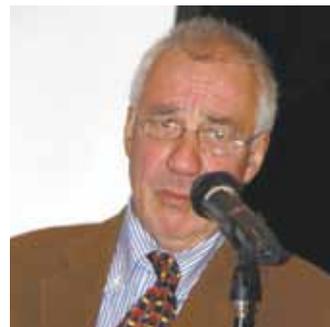
We visited the Melbourne Club, where we heard from historian Geoffrey Blainey, Victorian Parliament House twice, where we met a number of senior politicians and took a memorable cruise on the Bay.

Sergeant's Sessions

A highlight of every meeting is the Sergeant's session, when members pay fines for "misdemeanors" of real and imaginary kinds. Star sergeants such as Peter Johns and Ian Stevenson have never failed to amuse and have filched large sums of money from Club pockets over the years on flimsy pretexts. In recent years Jeff Bartrum, Chris Bevan, Geoff Shaw, Geoff Knight, Damien Hellard and others have continued the tradition of painless extraction.



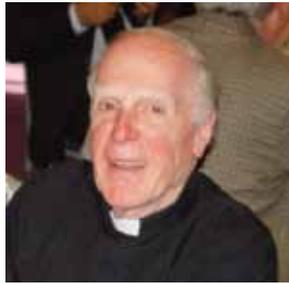
PP Peter Johns



The late PP Jeff Bartrum.

The Bulletin

A mirror of the Club, smoky at times, the Bulletins reflect the image of a lively Club with a succession of superb speakers, absurd fines, hatchings, matchings and despatchings. Our communication lifeline, Presidents continually remind us to: "Take your Bulletin home and read it, partners too".



Edited for 23 years, from about 1984 to 2006, by the late very irreverent Reverend Harlin Butterley, it was interesting, entertaining and informative. Its quirkiness was unique.

Harlin's work in the Club went beyond the Bulletin. At Changeover Nights his original graces and libellous "annual report" litanies enlivened our evenings for many years and he worked quietly on the pastoral care committee.

After Harlin's retirement Colin Goddard took over this onerous task for two years with distinction and we continued to be as proud of our Bulletin as ever, winning the District Award for 2007/08. In the same year, electronic distribution of the Bulletin commenced and the number of paper copies was reduced. Cameron Ward became editor for the 2008/09 year, followed by Tom Buxton for two years and now Max Martin has accepted that responsibility with characteristic flair.

Membership

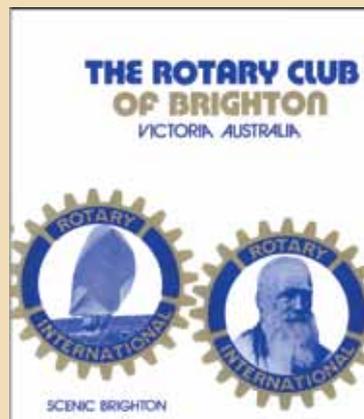
An active Membership Committee, led by Ian Stevenson, invited numerous new Rotarians into the fold over the years. This ensured the vigorous growth and health of the Club and played a major part in putting it into the top league of Australian clubs.

After Ian's death in 2010, a more organic approach was adopted which has resulted in a steady stream of new members. Unfortunately, this has only kept pace with deaths and resignations. The fall in the past five years is mainly due to stricter implementation of the attendance policy requirements.



A vintage Bulletin masthead 1993-94.

This prompted a letter to President Errol Caddaye from Reginald Doulton-Stevenson, Director of the Outhouse Publishing Company, congratulating the Club on its choice of three crows flying over two dunnies as its official image.



Our first Bulletin Cover, 1974
Editor:
Ian Robinson

Bulletin Cover, 1982/3 showing a painting by Betty Barberis of Brighton and the Bay



The Bulletin 2006
Editor:
Rev Harlin Butterley



The Bulletin 2009
Editor:
PP Tom Buxton



The Bulletin 2013
Editor:
Max Martin

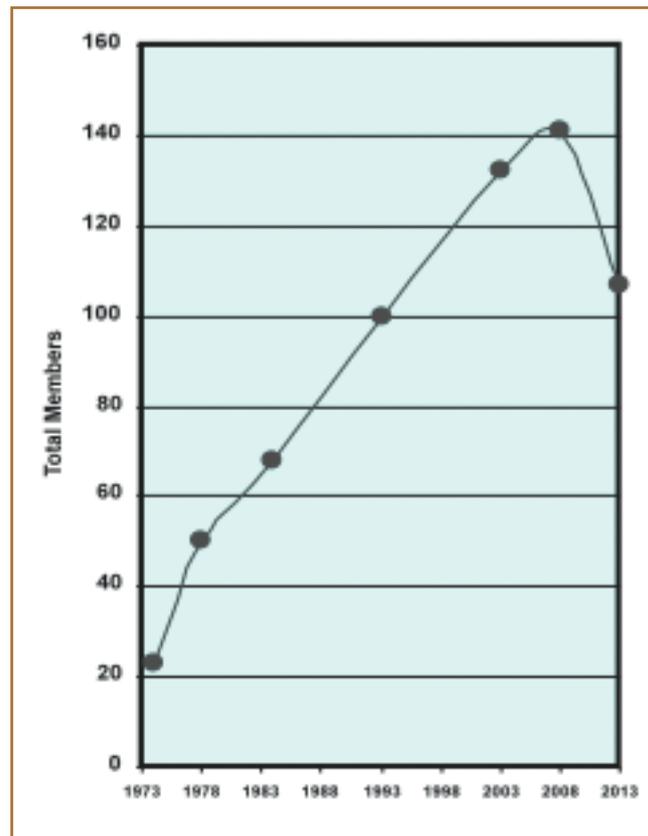
From a humble beginning of 23 members, Club membership now stands at 112, including 6 of the original Charter Members and 4 Honorary Members.

Conclusion

It is doubtful whether our Charter Members could have envisaged the outstanding success of the Club that they founded 40 years ago. This history attempts to capture some of the vitality and enthusiasm that has been generated by its members and as far as possible in the available space, to record the successes that have resulted.

As for the future, the Club is in excellent shape and we can, like Tennyson, imagine a continuing vibrant future:

*“For I dip’t into the future, far as
human eye could see,
Saw the vision of the world, and all the
wonder that would be”.*



THE MEMBERS 6 SEPTEMBER 2013

John	Akhurst	Cement Distribution	Geoff	Knight	Cosmetic Dentistry
Tom	Atkin	Corporate Financial Management	Michael	Kuzilny	Barrister & Solicitor
Grant	Azlin	Regional Commercial Manager	Paul	Laband	Investment Management
Mario	Azzopardi	Manufacturer - Industrial Detergents	Nic	Mardling	Catering - Training
Eric	Barr	Cinema Exhibition	Alan	Marks	Wholesale Pet Supplies
Marcus	Bastiaan	Digital Media Production	Max	Martin	Graphic Design
Geoff	Bentley	Info Technology & Telecoms	Trevor	Martyn	Company Director
Greg	Biggin	Real Estate - Finance & Management	Geoff	McGeary	Bus Tour Operations
Andrew	Bird	Private Investment Banking	Chris	McGetrick	Travel Agents Consultants
Sven-Erik	Bredenberg	Saw Milling Machinery Sales	Stuart	McIntyre	Mining Marketing
Albert	Burgio	International Banking	John	McKell	Law - Corporate
Tom	Buxton	Real Estate	Rev Kenyon	McKie	Religious Services
Don	Cameron	Honorary - Stockbroking	Phillip	Mellet	Computer Data Communications
Keith	Cameron	Law	Ian	Mence	Timber Wholesale
Michael	Cassar	Management Consulting - Organisational Development	Patrick	Michaelson	Master Mariner
Bob	Challis	Company Director	Jim	Moore	Lifestyle Planning
Mac	Chapman	Laundry Operator	Barry	Morris	Giftware Importing
Gavin	Coote	Finance Corporate Acquisitions	Herman	Mott	Management Consultancy
Valentin	Corchado	Hotel Management	Tony	Nanfra	Video Entertainment
Bruce	Crossley	Engineering Marketing	Tony	Naughton	Solicitor - General Practice
Kavin	Crundell	Information Security	Bruce	Newham	
Geoff	Cunningham	Stockbroking - Investment	Rob	Nicholes	Education Administration
Tim	Deeks	Corporate Fashion Supplier & Retailer	Paul	Nicholson	Freight Consulting
Merv	Deutsher	Fastener Manufacturer	Colin	North	Engineering - Mechanical
Darren	Donnellan	Dentistry	Brett	Parkin	Office Furniture Equipment
Jim	Donnelly	Actuarial Services	Ken	Paterson	Screen Printing
John	Doyle	Silver Importing - Giftware	Alan	Pinkus	Ladies Shoes & Accessories
David	Eden	Funeral Services	Rod	Potter	Financial Planning
David	Efron	Timber Merchant	Stan	Rankin	Real Estate
Roger	Fairlam	Garden & Building Supplies	Glenn	Ross	Commodities Consulting
Daryl	Forge	Business and Financial Advisor	Tony	Rouse	Management Consulting
Robert	Foster	Pharmacy	Michael	Rundle	Plastics - International Sales
Julian	Goglia	Automotive Sales & Service	Geoffrey	Shaw	Computers - Finance Systems
Peter	Grey	ENT Specialist	Ron	Sher	Machine Tools Distribution
David	Grodski	Landscape Design	Peter	Sherman	Private Equity Funding
Graham	Gude	Timber Treatment	David	Smyth	Historian
Jim	Hay	Health & Safety Consulting	Gerhard	Sommer	Building Construction
Damien	Hellard	Occupational Health & Safety	Chris	Sparrow	Automotive Pre-owned Cars
Peter	Henderson	Ophthalmic Surgeon	Alex	Spear	Aluminium Products
Barry	Hickman	Photographic Supplies	Cameron	Spence	Computing-Micro Soft Business Solutions
Jim	Hill	Architect	Ron	Stark	Computer - Internet Services
Bill	Howley	Forest Industry Consulting	Wayne	Styles	Photographic Retailing
Dale	Hoy	Financial Services - Planning	Kien	Teh	Accounting - Tax Advice
Arthur	Hubbard	Banking	Des	Thomas	Plastics Manufacturing
Alan	Jarrott	Life Insurance Broker	Norman	Thomas	Management Consulting
Bill	Jeans	Dentistry	James	Tisdall	Industrial Insurance-Underwriting
George	Jerzyk	International Business Consultant	Rob	Tucker	Industrial Pipework & Engineering
Michael	Jess	Honorary	Erik	Vandenberg	Automotive Services
Jack	Joel,	OAM Automotive Fleet Management	Ivan	Vojlay	Insurance Commercial - Broker
Peter	Johns	Jewellery Retailing	Graeme	Wallace	Metal Recycling
Ian	Jones	Envelope Manufacturing	Cameron	Ward	Computing, Software Development
Lindsay	Jones	Ophthalmology	Robert	Ward	Film Distribution
Pat	Kearns	Transport Logistics	Graeme	Watson	Commercial Real Estate
Brendan	Kierce	Automotive Oils	Clyde	White	Corporate Advisory - Reconstruction
John	King	Self Storage Services	Peter	Whitechurch	Honorary
Bill	Kneebone	Honorary - Education	Noel	Williams	Hotel Broker

HONOUR BOARD

Past District Governor

John King

Royce Abbey Award

Gavin Coote
Geoff Cunningham
Darren Donnellan
Daryl Forge

Ken Gallaher
Barry Hickman
Dale Hoy
Bruce Newham

Frank Nicolazzo
Cameron Ward

Four Avenues of Service

Rob Nicholes

Presidents

Os Bayliss*	73/74	John Osborne	87/88	Herman Mott	01/02
Jack Joel OAM	74/75	Peter Johns	88/89	Arthur Hubbard	02/03
Ian Stevenson*	75/76	Noel English*	89/90	Ian Vojlay	03/04
Peter Thomson*	76/77	Stan Rankin	90/91	David Grodski	04/05
Merv Deutsher	77/78	Jeff Bartrum*	91/92	Brett Parkin	05/06
Mayer Page*	78/79	Don Cameron	92/93	Julian Goglia	06/07
Geoff Smith	79/80	Errol Caddaye*	93/94	David Efron	07/08
Des Thomas	80/81	Rob Tucker	94/95	Ian Mence	08/09
David Shaw	81/82	Tom Atkin	95/96	Paul Nicholson	09/10
Vern Barberis*	82/83	Barry Morris	96/97	Chris Tuck	10/11
Robert Ward	83/84	Geoff Knight	97/98	Tom Buxton	11/12
Ted Wall-Smith*	84/85	Tony Nanfra	98/99	Peter Sherman	12/13
Richard Thurston*	85/86	Geoff McGeary	99/00	Pat Kearns	13/14
Alan Pinkus	86/87	Ron Sher	00/01		

Paul Harris Fellow Double Sapphire

Julie Avery[^]
Rev Harlin Butterley*

John King
Ian Stevenson*

Paul Harris Fellow Sapphire

John Akhurst
Tom Atkin
Greg Biggin
David Efron
David Grodski
Graham Gude

Michael Jess
Jack Joel OAM
Geoff McGeary
Stuart McIntyre
Laurie McNamara*
Rob Nicholes

Alan Pinkus
Ron Sher
David Smyth
Alex Spear
Des Thomas
Peter Thomson

Rob Tucker
Ivan Vojlay
Ted Wall-Smith*
Norm Wright*

Paul Harris Fellow

Susan Alberti[^]
Eric Barr
Jeff Bartrum*
Os Bayliss*
Bruce Beck
Geoff Bentley
Tom Buxton
Errol Caddaye
Don Cameron
Bob Chapman*

Richard Cornish*
Bruce Crossley
Doug Cummins*
Geoff Cunningham
Merv Deutsher
Darren Donnellan
Marina Donnellan[^]
Jim Donnelly
Noel English
Roger Fairlam

Neil Fisher*
Rob Foster
Ken Gallaher
David Gardner
Colin Goddard
Julian Goglia
Peter Grey
Jim Hay
Damien Hellard
Barry Hickman

Kerry Horton*
William Howley
Arthur Hubbard
John Ilhan^{^*}
Bill Jeans
Peter Johns
Lindsay Jones
Brendan Kierce
Elaine King[^]
Bill Kneebone

[^] Non member * Deceased



The Rotary Club
of Brighton
Victoria, Australia

www.rotarybrighton.com.au

The story continues.....

