



Rotary Matters

September 2021 DG Newsletter



Dear fellow Rotarians, partners and friends of Rotary,

Well, time has gone by very quickly and we are already 2 months into the new Rotary year. With restrictions easing, clubs have been able to return to most of their regular meetings and projects, although gatherings are still limited and we still have a few functions being cancelled. We are also conscious of the clubs in our District that are in other states that are still facing varied levels of lock-down. We think of those clubs in Alice Springs but more particularly the clubs that are being severely impacted in New South Wales and Victoria. I would encourage clubs in these regions to maintain contact with their members and utilize the technologies that have become available over the last 18 months to continue meeting where possible. I am sure that we are all looking forward to a time when restrictions are over and we can safely return to normal activities across the whole district.

Jenny and I have just attended the last of the Changeovers that were moved because of restrictions. As mentioned in last month's edition, Jenny and I started our official visits on the 2nd August and so far we have completed 15 club visits. We have 69 Rotary clubs and 5 Rotaract clubs still to go, but who's counting.



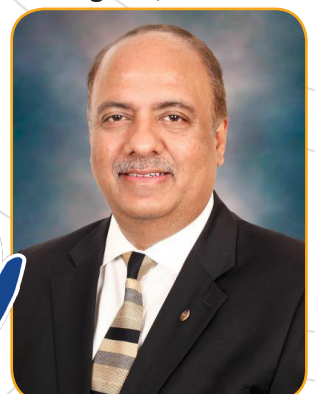
We have enjoyed the visits we have made so far and it has been a great experience. We have visited clubs near and far and there has been a common thread throughout all the visits and that is Rotary fellowship and commitment to serving the community. Although membership continues to be an issue for Rotary, it has been encouraging to note that regardless of size, clubs are still making an impact on their communities.

September is Basic Education and Literacy month. There are many opportunities to support this initiative in the community and overseas. One example of this is Jenny's partner project which is to support AllKids.



The purpose of AllKids is to ensure that all children in the Ream Commune Cambodia have access to Education by eliminating the barriers that prevent children from attending school. They also offer Early years education and school-based Education from year 1 to International Standard year 12. Jenny will be presenting information about this project as we visit clubs. [AllKids is a RAWCS project and information is available online.](#)

Although the Rotary calendar has a different focus each month, membership must still remain an important focus for us moving forward. Last month I shared some of RI President Shekhar's goals, many of which focused around increasing our membership and strengthening the impact Rotary has on the community. It has been encouraging to see the clubs have been engaging with these goals and ideas and incorporating them into their clubs strategic plans.



continued over....

SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Preparations are continuing for our District Conference in the Barossa Valley. Please ensure the 1st – 3rd April is marked in your diary and join us for a fantastic weekend of fun, great speakers and Rotary fellowship. The Conference registration site is well underway and should be available to you very soon.

[Click here for Conference page](#)

Thanks again to Euan Miller (Norwood) for continuing as Editor of Rotary Matters and to Graham Fussen (eClub D9510online) for his expertise in producing this publication. Thanks also to PDG David Jones for taking care of Rotary Classifieds. A reminder that articles are to be sent to District Secretary David Fenton.

It's great to be on the road. The Rotary Clubs have been welcoming and friendly and the hospitality has been excellent. If we haven't visited you yet, we are looking forward to getting to your clubs and learning more about what you are doing in your community.

Yours in Rotary

DG Jeff Neale

I would personally like to extend an invitation to to PDG's Presidents and Rotarians to join me in a "group session" at Charles Campbell College, 3 Campbell Rd., Paradiseto participate with the Zone 8 Virtual Conference on the 11th - 12th September please Register your interest. Website: <https://rotaryzone8.org/>

Please register on the following links:

Australian Rotary Conference - Day 1

<https://rotary9510.org/event/rotary-institute/>

Australian Rotary Conference - Day 2

<https://rotary9510.org/event/australian-rotary-conference/>



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Newsletter Editor

Euan Miller

Email: euan@gdaysa.com.au

Mobile: 0401 124 387



QUICK-SMART
MAZDA SERVICE

Regional Governance pilot for Rotary clubs

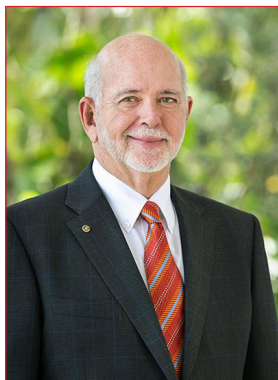
Rotary International is carrying out an extensive consultation process at the moment exploring the possibility of a regional governance model for Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific.

Back in 2011-12 RI Director Stuart Heal from RC Cromwell, New Zealand started exploring a model, which would provide a more effective regional public image and governance of Rotary. **PDG's Eric Russell and Bruce Richardson** were involved in the process.

While the RI Board eventually decided not to proceed the issue was raised again in 2017-18 by the DGs from Zone 8 (**PDG's Kim Harvey and David Egan**) and supported later by RI President Ian Riseley.

An RI committee was formally established entitled **Shaping Rotary's Future**.

PDG David Egan and PP D'Arcy Walsh from the **RC Adelaide** are members of the Zone 8 core group developing the model.



Regional Pilot Core Team

 Co-Chair: Peter Frueh (Aus) peter.frueh@gmail.com +61398881196	 Co-Chair: Ingrid Waugh (NZ) ingrid_waugh@rotaryoceania.zone +64274298507	 David Egan (Aus) dcegan@esc.net.au +61422817868	 Jennifer Scott (Aus) jennifer@scottadr.com +61414367631	
 Rebecca Fry (Aus) rmbfry@gmail.com +61408713235	 Mark Yaxley (NZ) smyxley@xtra.co.nz +6421437718	 D'Arcy Walsh (Aus) darcy@amiciconsulting.com.au +61418844170	 Russell Gurney (Aus) rigurney9810@gmail.com +61407212406	 Raphaela Oest (Aus) raphaela.oest@gmail.com +61438675401

Past RI President Barry Rassin is now leading the strategy for Rotary International.

RI is concerned that the continuing decline in membership, especially in developed countries, is also weakening Rotary clubs. It is aware that the current Rotary governance model may still work well in regions where there is strong Rotary growth such as India and Asia. However it is leaving clubs in our region with not only declining membership but also rapidly ageing members as well. As a result many clubs have had to restrict their projects because they no longer have sufficiently fit members to carry them out.

Volunteering is also changing with younger people more interested in cause-related hands-on actions and less interested in administrative roles. Female membership has risen to around of third in most clubs in our Zone but now seems to be stuck at that level. The lack of retention for new members is also listed as a cause of concern.



RI has acknowledged that "the one size fits all" model of Rotary may no longer be relevant and Barry Rassin's committee is proposing 3 regional pilots that are likely to reflect the different versions and culture of Rotary in different parts of the world. The 3 pilots are proposed for our Zone 8, the British Isles and a region in North America – all three regions exhibiting a worrying decline in membership and consequential weakening of clubs.

There are two major changes of governance proposed.

1. A 12 member regional council will be elected by clubs for a 3 year term to govern Rotary for Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific.
2. A series of mentors to coach and counsel up to 30 clubs each will be elected by clubs to support, motivate and inspire struggling clubs to change and grow. The mentors will not have a governance role. They will serve two year terms. These mentors will be similar to the cadre who are appointed by the Foundation trustees to help clubs develop and complete successful grant projects.

The consultations are expected to be concluded by February next year and the proposal for the three pilots is scheduled to go to the Council on Legislation next April. If approved the pilots are scheduled to start in July 2023. However because the Zone 8 proposal is much further advanced that the other 2 pilots it may be possible to start ours earlier.

Our district will continue to be governed by a District Governor until the pilot is evaluated.

Weekly walks with coffee...



One delightful development spreading across Rotary clubs in our district in an increase in social and fellowship activity through weekly get togethers of retired Rotarians.

Last month we reported on a breakfast club, **RC Playford**, that had changed its meeting time to a coffee morning tea. **The RC Norwood** has a fortnightly lunch of retired present and past members and spouses.

The **RC Regency Park** has taken its weekly walk and coffee to another level where it is involving other clubs in its walks and has now introduced a 'home and away' alternate walks with **RCs Prospect, Adelaide Parks and Walkerville**. Regency Park has also used the walks as a fundraiser.

When the "Walk in my Boots" annual fundraiser for the Hutt St Centre had to be cancelled because of COVID-19; it and **RC Eastwood** combined for their own walk. The two clubs have plans to repeat this with the "Lift the Lid walk" for Australian Rotary Health in October.



Rotary Clubs of Regency Park and Eastwood during their walk at Victoria Park to raise funds for the Hutt St Centre

*Perhaps other clubs can tell of their experiences that we can publish by sending details to ewan@gdaysa.com.au for publication in future **Rotary Matters**.*

Foundation Giving in 20/21 exceeds target

In the Rotary year 2020/2021, our District clubs and members proudly donated over \$350,000 USD to the Rotary Foundation, our own charity.

The
Rotary
Foundation



A portion will go to the End Polio Now campaign, enough to protect over 110,000 children, from Polio, (so much of this due to the success of the **Polio Ute Relay**, which will be back again this year).



D 9510 was 6th out of 19 Australian districts in its per capita giving to the Annual Programs Fund with USD143.57 per member donated to the fund last year. All districts strive to raise at least USD100/member each year for the APF and last year 12 Australian districts exceeded the target.

Half of the amount donated (\$143,570) will return to the District in 2023/2024 and become available to clubs as District Grants. Fantastic effort!

We can't think of a better reason to encourage your club to continue donations to the Rotary Foundation and for club members to support the Foundation when considering their own donations to charity.

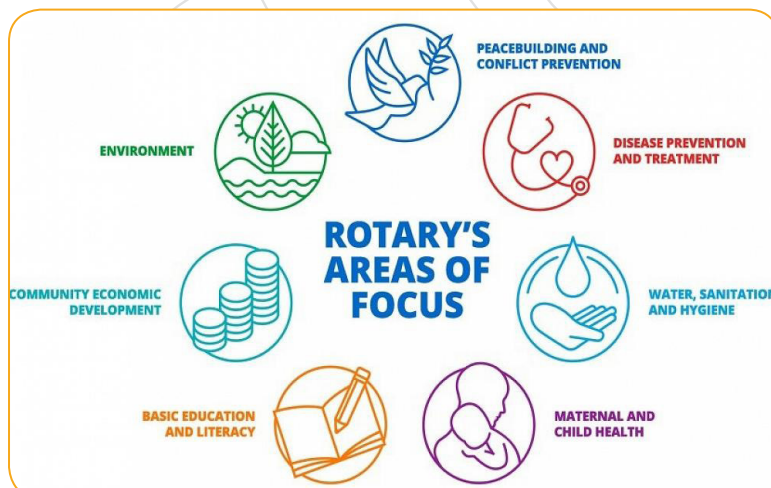
This year will also be the first where the Environment becomes an official Area of Focus and therefore eligible for grants for environmental projects that your club may be involved in or considering.

Thank you to every club and everyone who has donated and if you want to know more, head to the District website, rotary9510.org to donate or to contact the Foundation Chair to arrange a speaker for your club.

Save the Date – The Foundation Committee will be holding a “Foundation Luncheon” on Sunday 15th May, 2022, venue and details to be announced.

Why not put it in your diary now and bring a friend?

Darryl Webb
The Rotary Foundation Committee

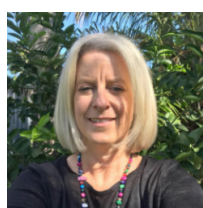


Public Image team 2021-2022

We'd like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the District 9510 Public Image team to enable you to put names to faces and also provide an idea of how we can help you. The team can provide guidance with all the areas which support your clubs' public image - from questions about websites, social media, branding correctly, promotional products, content creation, through to event and project promotion.

Our focus is on building partnerships, utilising the strengths and skills of members across the district, creating partnerships, and most importantly strengthening the reach and visibility of Rotary in our community. If you need guidance or support and are not sure if we can help you, please reach out anyway and ask the question. If not us, then we can certainly connect you with the right person.

Those of you who already doing great things then please get in contact with us as we want to hear what you are doing. Let's showcase Rotary Clubs who are doing great things – because the more ideas we can share, then the greater we can make the Rotary experience for everyone.



Fiona Biedermann

Fiona has been a Rotarian for a shorter period than some. She joined as a Charter member of the Seaford Rotary club in 2016. In her short time as a Rotarian, she's been President of her club, has presented on Membership at numerous clubs and District training events and is in her second year serving as the District Membership Chair, also picking up a dual responsibility taking on the Public Image role this year as well.

She brings 15+ years of Change Management, Project Management and Leadership Coaching skills in her work life into everything she does within Rotary. Fiona is passionate about building on the strengths and skills of every individual within our clubs to improve membership and public image across the district.



Julie Johnson

Julie has been a Rotarian for 14 years and grew up as a child in a Rotarian family. Member of Rotary Club of Adelaide and President Rotary Club of Prospect 2019-20. Julie had the pleasure of promoting the first ever District 9510 Conference on Facebook and working with District.

Julie enjoys hearing and seeing some of the wonderful projects/fellowship activities happening within clubs throughout the District and is delighted to be co-ordinating Public Image Facebook page for the District 9510 this year. Julie is District 9510 Rotaract Chair 2021/22.

Connecting to Julie is a big part of the Rotary Family and is passionate about connecting people and feels by showcasing some of the great things clubs are doing etc on District Facebook that Rotary Clubs can connect and reach out and share ideas. It also highlights to members of the public what great things are happening in their community and hopefully it will encourage new members.

We have a great membership/public image team and I'm sure you will all enjoy what everyone contributes and we invite you to message any one of us if you have something you would like to draw to our attention to share.



Public Image team continued...



Alyssa Morran

Alyssa started her Rotary journey through youth programs starting with RYPEN 9500 and following in RYLA 9520 where she was sponsored by Rotary Club of Norwood and inducted as a member in 2015. During her time in Rotary, Alyssa has been involved in a variety of Youth leadership teams in District 9520, while simultaneously being an active member of the Rotary Club of Norwood. She has experience in various Board and Club roles including Public Image, Bulletin editor, Website master, Fundraising, Youth Director, Secretary, and President in 2019-2020.

She transferred to Rotary Club of Campbelltown in 2020 and has recently taken on Public Image Director as well as Public Image for the upcoming District Conference. Alyssa joined the Public Image District committee this year because she enjoys thinking outside the square and is passionate about providing clubs with tools, education, and support to create Public Image content to better promote the good work Rotary does.



Gurkirat Singh

Gurkirat Singh has been part of the Australian Rotaract for just under a year. He joined Adelaide University Rotaract Club last year and took on the responsibility of Director of Marketing at the Club this year. He is studying Masters in Energy Materials at the University of Adelaide and will be graduating in December 2021.

He truly believes in the quote, "Rotary Opens Opportunities" as he experienced it first-hand. Coming to Australia with no contacts, family or friends, Gurkirat not only met like-minded people through Rotaract and Rotary but also a direction and motive to do something good and contribute to making our society better place than it was yesterday.



Ian Renshaw

Ian joined the Rotary Club of Castle Hill in 1985 and after 7 years transferred to Rotary Club of North Sydney Sunrise (5 years). A board member of both clubs – Vocational Service, Youth (Rotaract), Membership, Treasurer, Sargeant, Bulletin Editor. 9 years ago, Ian, Clare and dog returned to live in Adelaide – just a great lifestyle.

Re-joined Rotary as a chartered member of the Rotary Club of Seaford (November 2016) – Partnership Director (3.5years) with a passion of taking Rotary to the community creating

many partnerships.

Ian is passionate about the Rotary brand, wearing Rotary, growing membership via Corporate Membership and club projects.



Duan Kereru

Duan has been a member of The Rotary Club of Adelaide since 2019. His venture into Rotary started with The Salvation Army where he currently works in the PR Office as the Relationship Manager Community Fundraising for South Australia.

His passion for people and helping others continues to be a part of his Rotary journey.

Duan is currently an active committee member with the Science and Engineering Challenge and Chairs the Club Communications Committee. Duan also contributes to the clubs Social Media platforms and is also one of the club's photographers.

It has been a huge privilege for Duan to be invited to contribute to the Districts Public Image.

He is passionate about empowering others to engage, connect and share the enriching stories that Rotary has to offer in our local communities.

Learning & Development 2021-22

The Learning and Development team under the aegis of DG Jeff Neale and DGE Paul Thomas are excited to bring to you, news of a revitalised training program for District Leaders 2022-23.

You'll see some changes to dates, venues and scheduling. The program will engage you in workshops, provide opportunities to develop networks and have some fun.

We're promising you a big weekend in March with a back-to-back program for Presidents, Boards and members, with a guarantee that it will be fun.

A District subsidy will be provided to offset costs for members travelling from regional areas. Accommodation options are being sourced with a number of caravan parks, motels and Airbnb's in reasonable proximity being approached.

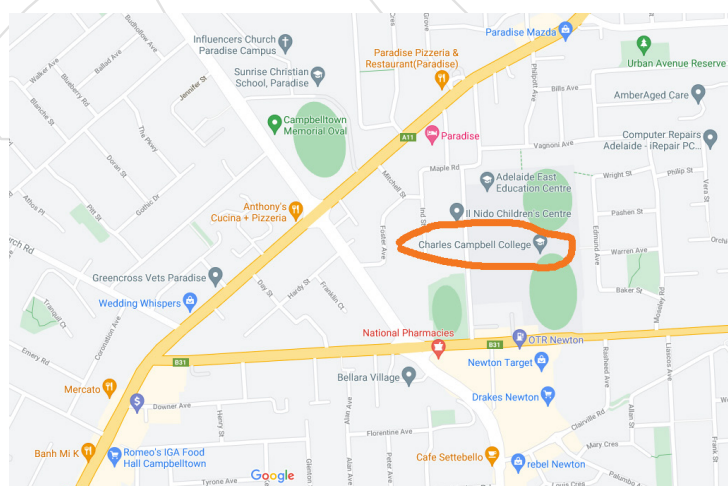
SAVE THESE DATES

6 February 2022	District Leaders Resource Committee Area Governors	Charles Campbell College 3 Campbell Rd. Paradise
4 March 2022	District Leaders Social event	TBC
5 March	Presidents Elect and Nominees PM. Social event BBQ Live music	Charles Campbell College Thorndon Park "Rotunda"
6 March	District Assembly	Charles Campbell College 3 Campbell Rd. Paradise



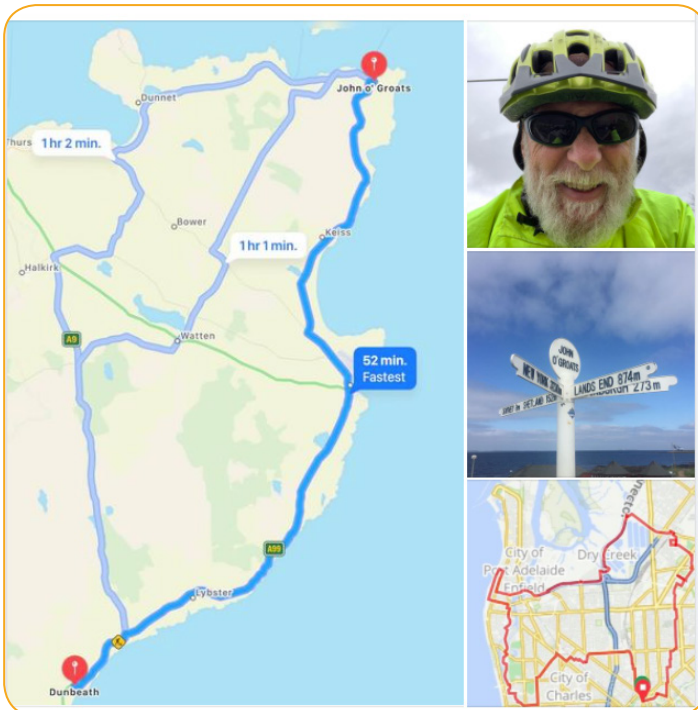
Thorndon Park Rotunda

Wendy Gaborit
Learning and Development Coordinator



Riding Down Under to free those Up Over

On August 14 Russell Green the Membership and Public Image Director of the RC Regency Park completed an 86 days, 1617 km bike ride from Lands End to John O'Groats in the United Kingdom.



He did this virtually by a series of rides around the Adelaide metropolitan region. Russell did this to raise funds to free an Indian village from slavery. The village in Uttar Pradesh, North India is in debt bondage. Through education and vocational training over 3 years the villagers can repay the debt and can be released from this form of slavery. Russell is an active member of Rotarians against Slavery Action Group.

While Russell was doing this virtually a fellow Rotarian, Simon John in the UK rode the actual route.

Through rain and sleet sometimes he persevered with his ride through a wetter than usual Adelaide winter which included a short COVID-19 lockdown. Even with a restricted 1.5 hours a day of exercise no more than 2.5 km from home, he managed 30 km a day on a circular route.

Together Simon and Russell raises USD3611.

The Upper Spencer Gulf Clubs

Four relatively isolated Rotary clubs in the Upper Spencer Gulf deal with membership and other issues in innovative ways as they spread the good work of Rotary in their local community and across the world.

At the head of the Gulf, the **RC Port Augusta** maintains an active program with only 6 members and a clutch of Friends of Rotary. They have just completed their second (of four) Car Boot Sales for the year and are now planning their annual Christmas Extravaganza in conjunction with the Salvation Army and the Port Augusta City Council.

This is a fete styled event, this year fenced off to be COVID-SAFE, which involves food vans and a parade around the Oval which replaces the street parade. Santa will be there, Carols will be sung and an outdoor Christmas movie will finish up the night.



Car boot sale



Food stall at the Christmas Extravaganza

Cleaning up the Gulf with Coast Care

It also has a partnership with **Whyalla Norrie** which is a similar sized club.



Another partnership is with Coast Care, an environmental group which it helps with clean ups of the coastline; another is the local racing club where it provides BBQs at race meetings (COVID-19 permitting).

RC Whyalla across the Gulf is the largest club with 18 members. Again partnerships dominate its projects.

Not only does it work with **Whyalla Norrie** too, Whyalla Rotary also has a major partnership with the City of Whyalla with the recently named Rotary Park.

It was named by the Council to honour the hours of volunteer work and money the club members put in to develop it.

The Club built a rotunda and has since added a globe of the world and a sundial.

Whyalla Rotary Club also maintains the Park.



Sundial and globe at Rotary Park Whyalla



Upper Spencer Gulf Clubs... continued

The Whyalla Show is the club's major fundraiser and this year the funds were used to purchase craft machines for Bedford Industries in Whyalla.

The club has provided toiletry kits as part of the End Trachoma campaign and has involved the local Girl Guide Company to collect items and help pack the bags.

With **Whyalla Norrie** it has produced 500 birthing kits and the club itself, on a regular basis, provides Packages of Hope to the Mental Health Ward of the Whyalla hospital.



Packages of Hope packed by Club Members



Food van at Whyalla Show

RC Whyalla Norrie also with six members has partnered with **Whyalla** and **Port Augusta** to place a sign promoting Rotary on the highway.

Its major fundraiser is regular BBQs at Super Cheap Auto. With these funds it has supported many youth programs including sending 23 local guides to a camp at Barmera, nominees for RYLA and RYPEN and with the Variety Club sending local disadvantaged children to a party at the Adelaide Zoo.

Shelterbox has benefited with 10 sponsored boxes to date.

RC Roxby Districts has 12 members, but because of the nature of this one industry town and lots of FIFO and DIDO employees, it has a very high turnovers of members. Managing membership inductions and separations is the number one strategy for this club every year. The club has been in existence now for 13 years and is the only service club in the district.

Its major project has been the development of a Park and playground for the town. It has also been named Rotary Park in honour of the work done by the club to create and develop it. It has recently added BBQs, seating, toilets and a shelter in conjunction with the Council.



Its other major project has been an Arid Recovery Program in conjunction with BHP. It is a fenced area 30 km north of the town used for breeding endangered species. The club has expanded the program and now runs bus tours which includes a camp oven meal and sunset viewing across the desert.

The club also supports the district youth awards programs as well running its own youth awards event in Roxby Downs.

Waikerie Cliff top walk

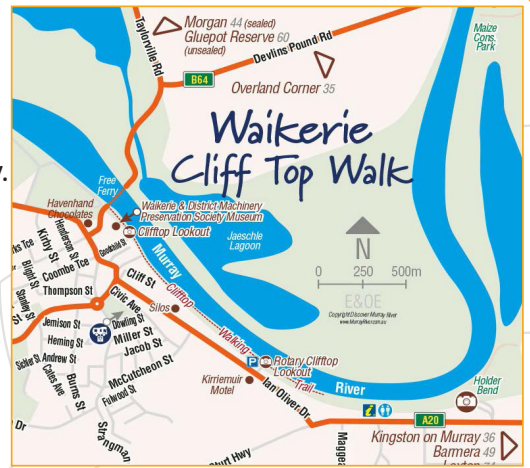
When a club wins a \$356,000 grant from the Murray Darling Basin Authority to repair, replace and refurbish its Cliff Top Walk; it knows it has long term credibility for doing good in its community.

The Cliff Top Walk project started in 1988 by the **RC Waikerie** and was completed as a Waikerie Centenary Project in 1994, to mark the centenary of the town itself. This 2km walk stretches eastwards from the Waikerie Ferry through the pumping station grounds to the lookout, and then along the picturesque clifftop.

The height of the cliffs gives a fantastic view over the River Murray and the meandering floodplain. River floods are now not as frequent, but high river activity is still evident in a complex of terraces, hollows, wetlands, billabongs, backwaters and anabranches.

In early 2020 the Rotary Club, with the support of the Loxton-Waikerie Council, decided it needed to refurbish what is one of the major tourist attractions in the town. In a modest beginning the club and the council shared 50% each for the cost of new signage on the walk. Rotary Volunteers designed and installed the new and more detailed signage.

Members of the Club then prepared a detailed report on the entire walk, with suggested upgrades and repairs, to a sitting of the Loxton-Waikerie Council. The entire Council supported the presentation and having knowledge of the Federal Government Grants Program facilitated a Grant Writer to apply for funding for the project. The Club was duly rewarded with a successful application outcome.



The club expects to complete the works within 12 months so it is a major project this year.

The club is busy not only repairing the track itself and installing safety features; it is also adding steps, renewing a bridge, extra seats and lookout viewing areas. It has also decided to construct a specific viewing area designed to cater for universal access to enable disability access to all.



Project Manager Graeme Thompson and a small management team oversee the work. Assisting with the project are Waikerie Community members and Cadell Training Centre volunteers.