



Rotary Club
of Geelong Central Inc.

YEAR BOOK

2016-17



ROTARY
SERVING
HUMANITY

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Introduction

Rotary is a global network of 1.2 million neighbours, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who come together to make positive, lasting change in communities at home and abroad.

Solving real problems takes real commitment and vision. For more than 110 years, Rotary members have used their passion, energy and intelligence to take action on sustainable projects. From Literacy and peace to water and health, we are always working to better our world, and we stay committed to the end.

Our Motto: Service above Self

For more than 110 years, our guiding principles have been the foundation of our values: service, fellowship, diversity, integrity and leadership

What we do:

Rotary members believe that we have a shared responsibility to take action on our world's most persistent issues.

The Geelong Central Rotary Club Yearbook celebrates the impact and contribution we, as a Club have delivered both locally and globally throughout the 2016-17 year. It places our achievements in the context of the bigger Rotary International picture because, what we do locally impacts collectively.

Knowing the difference we are making is an important part of being an accountable organisation and each year Rotary Interna-

tional collects reported volunteer hours from all Rotary clubs across the globe. This data is used to demonstrate to governments, corporations and communities the value Rotary members give to our international community.

In the 2016-17 year our Club contributed over 12,0000 hours of our time as volunteers working collectively towards the six areas of focus.

Areas of Focus

-  Peace and conflict prevention/resolution
-  Disease prevention and treatment
-  Water and sanitation
-  Maternal and child health
-  Basic education and literacy
-  Economic and community development

Presidential Theme 2016-17

Rotary International President John Germ announced the 2016-17 presidential theme as, ***Rotary Serving Humanity***.

"I believe everyone recognizes the opportunity to serve Rotary for what it truly is: not a small opportunity, but a great one; an opportunity of a lifetime to change the world for the better, forever through Rotary's service to humanity," said RIP John.



From the President's Desk:

In July last year, when I became President of the Rotary Club of Geelong Central, fel-



low Rotarians alongside me, also renewed their pledge to Serve Humanity as new leaders take over from predecessors in a tradition

that spans over a hundred years and that stresses both continuity and progress.

As I near the end of my time as President, I am mindful of the incredible opportunity that this year has been for me and it is with a moment of nostalgia that I recall the gift of fellowship that has been shown to me by my fellow Rotarians, particularly here in the Club. Many of you have, without fuss nor ado, provided a gentle and guiding hand to ensure that we continue the traditions with respect, but that we also look to the future. Sometimes taking a risk that what we've previously always done, may not be right for tomorrow and as such taking a leap of faith that change is not always a bad thing and we must seek to journey beyond that of routine in order to set ourselves up for the future.

Whilst I have always been aware, that I share the road with some very notable characters, this year has certainly been inspiring for the company that I have kept – to each and every one of you, your wisdom, kindness and enduring support has

been exceptional and for which I will always be grateful.

In providing this, my Annual report, I reflect on the achievements of the past year and provide just a snapshot of the many and varied activities for which our club has undertaken over the past year:

Short Story competition – well over 100 stories were submitted into the Short Story Competition with the compilation of the best 40 into an e-Book available for students and parents to down-load and keep as a memento. This activity generated so much enthusiasm amongst the children who participated. The opportunity to present to the writers who were judged best was certainly a highlight.

The Public Speaking Competition also generated significant interest amongst the primary schools for years 3&4 students. 15 schools participated with 4 schools combining for the all-important grand finale. Fyans Park Primary School, Chilwell Primary School, Point Lonsdale Primary School and South Geelong Primary School representatives competed in two exceptional rounds of 4 minute presentations each. The standard of the students' presentations were absolutely outstanding and there is no doubt that a significant amount of work went into them. Well supported by their teachers, 12 students participated in this very exciting and most rewarding day. A number of parents also attended the event to hear their children speak and I am very sure that they would have been especially proud of

their efforts. The final result:

1st – Fyans Park Primary School

2nd – Chilwell Primary School

3rd – Point Lonsdale Primary School

Christmas Breakfast event – Many thanks go to Sandi Brown, and Roger Haebich for coordinating this event each and every year. Our special guests last Christmas were students and teachers from Northern Bay College who provided some very welcomed light entertainment singing Christmas Carols before enjoying a hearty breakfast. Our connection with Northern Bay students and staff continues to grow from strength to strength as does the enjoyment that our members receive in giving to supporting the school.

Melbourne Cup Trivia Night - The club held our Melbourne Cup Eve trivia night on 31 October which attracted great numbers and raised much needed funds for two projects: Barwon Valley School playground rectification works and the Peace of Mind Foundation. Held at the Thomson Football club rooms it was a fantastic event with almost every table sold. The team did an amazing job of bringing together great prizes and a fun night of trivia questions, spin the wheel lucky tickets and above all, great company. My appreciations especially to the team, led by Joanne Clark, Geoff Hayles, and Christine Heath. Special notations and appreciation to Peter Drummond who stepped in to compare the evening at fairly late notice.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Cathy Roth and her Board on the official establishment of 'PALZ – Professionals with Alzheimer's'. Cathy and John Roth formally launched the initiative at BU-PA Geelong on the 8 November.

Habitat for Humanity - This project was successfully completed with the formal handing over of the keys to the new owners Michael McGlashan and his daughter Kiani. A formal event on the 14th December 2016, was held to officially hand over the keys to the McGlashan family by local member Christine Couzens MP. The formalities included Philip Curtis and Brian Finch from Habitat for Humanity, Tony Fenham (Dow Company), and Scott Hunt (Aspiron), and Geelong Central Rotary member. Particular thanks goes to Max Findlay, Scott Hunt, Geoff Hayles, Linda Carr, Doug McDonald and Jo Clarke for their support to this project, but also to the many others who supported the volunteer days by painting gardening building fences etc.

I congratulate Jane Cox on receiving the Royce Abbey Award at our celebratory dinner in April 2017. The Dinner, held in recognition of 100 year anniversary of Rotary Foundation provided the club with an opportunity to host the Sri Lankan Consul General, Mr Prasanna Gamage, Consul General for Victoria and South Australia. Accompanying him was Consul Nilusha Dilmini. Additional VIPS included, Past District Governor (PDG) Mani Seneviratne and

Sherwani from District 9790; PDG Geoff James and Meryl – D9780 Foundation Chairman; PP David Abbey and Roger Leask from the Royce Abbey Award committee. A number of our members also received Paul Harris Fellowship pins in recognition of their dedicated services to Rotary – Christine Heath, Joanne Clarke, Linda Carr, Richard Oakley, Colin Peel, Phil Beasley, Max Findlay and Geoff Hayles. Tony Stewart also received a Paul Harris Fellow pin in particular recognition of his services to the club during Jane Cox's year as District Governor.

Thanks as well to Cathy Roth and Don Shields for their weekly commitment to Sergeants duties! It's not an easy task and typical for this role, it can make one rather unpopular!

Other key events throughout the year include the Bethany Family Fun Day, Wheelchair Sports event, Ride the Bellerine, Passport to Employment, Barwon Health's Volunteers Vehicle, Revival Festival, Rotary Youth Driver Awareness program, DAL Awards and the Ian Fulton Awards for outstanding academic achievement in Architecture.

Of course, none of the above could have been achieved without our regular fund raiser, the Eastern Beach market days held on the first Sunday of each month, the market provides not only much needed funds, but also assists to raise public awareness of the club in Geelong. It takes about eight or nine volunteers each month to ensure that

the van is delivered to the grounds, that quality food is provided to the many market goers and of course, cleaned, packed and put away.

It goes without saying that the year has also had its challenges, however the Board has worked extremely well together to support each other, ensuring that we can continue to deliver on the work of Rotary. Those challenges, finalising the previous years' financial report, meeting venues, declining membership numbers and keeping traditions in a contemporary environment have all worked to bond us more closely as a group.

I hereby close this, my last report, extremely pleased to hand over to your next President, Tony Still who I know, will be a fantastic President for our club. Can I wish you all the very best, and thank each and every one of you all for allowing me to be your President for the 2016/17 Rotary Year.

Alexandra Gunning



President Alex acknowledges the contribution of retiring members Geoff Hayles and Sandy Brown

Rotary Foundation – Celebrating 100 years

Rotary Foundation was an idea from Arch Klumph, who in 1917, came upon the idea of an endowment fund dedicated to “doing good in the world”. That one idea and an initial contribution of \$26.50 set in motion a powerful force for good that has transformed millions of lives around the globe.



This year was the 100th Anniversary of Rotary Foundation and in being such a year of great significance it was a great opportunity to focus on the work of Rota-

ry on an international scale. To mark this important event, the Rotary Club celebrated with an International Dinner with a particular focus on the work which the club has achieved in Sri Lanka.

It was fitting then, that we were exceptionally privileged to have the Consular General of Sri Lanka in attendance to mark this very important celebratory event.

Significant in this history with Sri Lanka is borne out through the connection of our own PDG Jane Cox who was District Governor during the 2015-16 year, the same year with Past Rotary International President Ravi Ravindran’s term as President.



Geelong Central Rotary

The Geelong Central Rotary Club Yearbook celebrates the impact and contribution we, as a club make each year both on a local basis and internationally throughout the year. The Yearbook is an opportunity to celebrate and recognize what we do as individuals working together to achieve significant outcomes for those in need.

A number of individuals were recognized through receiving a Paul Harris Fellow recognition pin. The Paul Harris Fellow is named for Paul Harris, who founded Rotary with three business associates in Chicago in 1905. Paul Harris Fellow recognition was established in his honor in 1957 to express appreciation for a contribution US \$1000 to the humanitarian and educational programs of The Rotary Foundation.

Those programs include an array of projects that save and invigorate the lives of people around the world and enhance international friendship and understanding. Foundation programs provide educational opportunities, food, potable water, health

care, immunisations and shelter for millions of persons. These activities are funded, implemented and managed by Rotarians and Rotary clubs around the globe. Rotarians also designate a Paul Harris Fellow to recognize another person whose life demonstrates a shared purpose with the objectives and mission of The Rotary Foundation to build world understanding and peace.

In addition, the Geelong Central Rotary Club also celebrated this year with a number of **Paul Harris Fellow Recognition Pins:**

Christine Heath
Joanne Clark
Linda Carr
Richard Oakley
Colin Peel Pin (+3)
Phil Beasley
Max Findlay
Geoff Hayles
Tony Stewart



Geelong Central Rotary cont.

A particular special mention also goes to our club member Jane Cox who was recognized for her contribution towards Rotary. The purpose of the Royce Abbey Award is to recognise members who have shown enthusiasm and commitment to Rotary, who use their talents to further the object of Rotary at Club, District and International Level.

Of great significance is that not only did Jane receive this prestigious award but that we were also privileged to have David Abbey and Roger Leask from the Royce Abbey Award Committee attend the dinner and present the award to Jane.



Our Members

President: Alexandra Gunning

Secretary: Tony Still

Treasurer: Christine Heath

Board Members:

Doug Mc Donald (immediate Past President)

Linda Carr

Phil Beasley

Joanne Clark

Geoff Hayles

Ralph Menchise (retired)

Scott Hunt

Club Members

Bob Barry

Arnie Bax

Sandi Brown

Jane Cox

Peter Drummond

Max Findlay

Lloyd Gosling AM

Atticus Gray

Sylvia Gray

Mitzi Hesper

Tim Hamilton*

Nicholas Heath*

Helen Hunter

Phil Jacobson

Dean Kennedy

Hans Kull

Gary Ludlow

Geoff Mann

Geoff Morgan

James Nott

Richard Oakley

Jean Paul

Colin Peel

Cathy Roth OAM

John Roth

Don Shields

Tony Stewart

Martin Stow

Friends

Ray Bassett

Michael Betts

Geoff Hutchinson

Rob Jeremiah

Our People

The Geelong Central Rotary Club is a thriving and dynamic service club where members are proud to join and keen to stay. It is only through the time and talents of our volunteers that we are able to make a difference in communities both locally and world-wide.

This year we have had one new member commence but sadly 5 of our members have called it a day after many years of dedicated service to Rotary.

Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI)

RLI training builds the leadership capabilities of our Club and ensures that we continue to deliver results in all the focus areas of Rotary International. We have a number of club members actively involved in RLI including Cathy Roth, Jane Cox and Joanne Clark. This year we had two of our newer members attend RLI, Syliva and Atticus Grey. Both reported that they gained a lot from the program and the Institute.

Ongoing development of members is an important part of what Rotary undertakes and is continued through the year at the following events, meetings

and conferences:

District Conference: Geelong

District Assembly: Stawell

International Convention:

Atlanta, Georgia

District Group 9780 Meetings:

Geelong

Fundraising

Our fundraising committee successfully raised in excess of \$35,000 throughout the year and we as a club were able to distribute \$25,000 in distributions, donations and sponsorships. These funds were distributed across our projects in five of the Rotary focus areas.

Makers and Growers Market

Melbourne Cup Eve

Revival Weekend



Club Service

Public Relations

In 2016-17 we continued with the frequency of media to promote and create greater awareness of the Club's activities, presence and contribution to the Community.

Public Relations activities this year included the following:

- Newspaper articles
- Web and Social media presence improved
- LCD Screen for mobile multimedia promotions'
- Club Yearbook
- Club Bulletin



Our social media profile has increased with a revamped club Facebook page and an updated market

Facebook page. We will continue this growth in social media exposure in the upcoming year.

Club Administration

Ensuring appropriate governance, compliance with legislation and Rotary International protocols, efficient and effective operation of the club, accurate record keeping and financial management is the main function of club administration.

Club administration activities throughout this year included the following:

- Club Governance
- The Club Bulletin
- Interesting array of speakers and topics to meetings
- Member survey conducted and recommendations agreed

Throughout the coming year our focus is on continuous improvements in governance and defining our culture as Rotary moves into new waters.

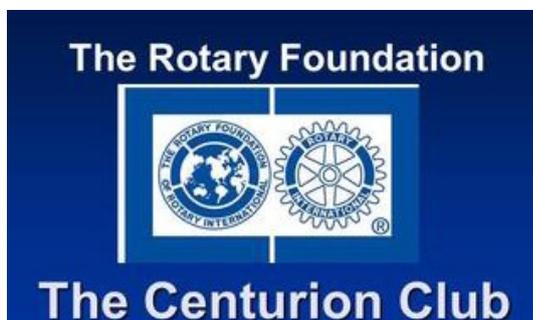


Foundation Centenary Year

The mission of The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.

Club members support the Rotary Foundation through:

- Centurion Donations (donating \$100 or more in the year to the Annual Fund)



- Paul Harris Fellowship Recognition Pins (\$10,000)
- Rotary International Foundation: \$2,000
- 2 Foundation Training Sessions delivered
- Royce Abbey Award Recipient - Jane Cox
- 9 Paul Harris Fellow recognitions
- Ride the Bellarine
- International Foundation Dinner



- Polio Plus: \$2,000 (eradicating polio from the planet)



Our Key Result Outcomes

2016/17 has indeed been a significant year in the life of a Rotarian, and no less of a journey for Rotarians of the Geelong Central Club. In continuing to deliver on the Clubs five year plan, the Board and our members have been active in driving a number of key achievements. The club has 3 Pillars and 9 areas of focus:

Community, Youth and Vocational Development

- Habitat for Humanity
- Basketball – Parallel Sports
- Bethany – Family Day and Christmas Hampers
- Short Story and Public Speaking competitions
- Australian Rotary Health – Lift the Lid campaign for Mental illness prevention
- RYDA – Rotary Youth Driver Awareness program
- Barwon Health Patient Transport Program
- DAL Awards

Foundation and International Projects

- Tavenui (Fiji) following Cyclone Winston
- Ride the Bellarine – A ride to end Polio –
- Work has commenced on the new

project to support the Mvumi Hospital in Tanzania – however much is still to be done to get this off the ground, particularly to ensure that the community can maintain the suggested equipment after it has been installed. Solar panels and pumps

Administration, Fundraising, Public Relations and Membership

- Market – contributes significantly to the club being able to provide the much needed support for both local and international requests.
- Melbourne Cup Eve
- The Geelong Revival Weekend
- Car Raffle
- Member Fines and Donations to the piggy bank
- Delivering on the Clubs Governance requirements to ensure that the club remains strong, vibrant and continues to grow.



Max Finlay was recognised for his contribution to the Habitat for Humanity building project



2017-2018 Board of Management

President: Tony Still

Secretary: Tony Stewart

Treasurer: Christine Heath

Immediate Past President: Alexandra Gunning

Board Members:

Phil Jacobson (Service Projects)

Cathy Roth (Club Administration)

Jane Cox (Membership)

Sylvia Grey (Public Relations)

Colin Peel (Foundation)

Phil Beasley (Environment)

you are.... Having only been a Rotarian for such a short time meant that there were some mistakes, but with a little guidance and steering in the right direction, I made it through.

I'd like to wish the new Board of Management well in this the new Rotary year of 2017-2018. A significant amount continues to be achieved by a small but very dedicated number of people – well done. I will sign off now feeling that I have Served Humanity and now Making a Difference!

Alexandra Gunning
Club President
2017-16

The Final Word:

A wise woman once told me that my Presidential year will be a year of significant growth and opportunity and that I will learn a lot during my tenure as President. Well, she was right! I have indeed learnt an enormous amount over the past 12 months and it may not have been so, if it had not been for some seriously fantastic people in the club. You know who

‘Rotary Serving Humanity’

2016-17 Presidential Theme

– John F. Germ

Rotary’s founder, Paul Harris, believed that serving humanity is “the most worthwhile thing a person can do,” RI President-elect John F. Germ said, and that being a part of Rotary is a “great opportunity” to make that happen.

Germ unveiled the 2016-17 presidential theme, Rotary Serving Humanity, to incoming district governors on 18 January at the International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA.

“I believe everyone recognizes the opportunity to serve Rotary for what it truly is: not a small opportunity, but a great one; an opportunity of a lifetime to change the world for the better, forever through Rotary’s service to humanity,” said Germ.

Rotary members around the globe are serving humanity by providing clean water to underdeveloped communities, promoting peace in conflict areas, and strengthening communities through basic education and literacy. But none more important than our work to eradicate polio worldwide, he said.

After a historic year in which transmission of the wild poliovirus was stopped in Nigeria and all of Africa, Germ said we are closer than ever to ending polio.

“We are at a crossroads in Rotary,” he added. “We are looking ahead at a year that may one day be known as the great-

est year in Rotary’s history: the year that sees the world’s last case of polio.”

Last year’s milestones leave just two countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan, where the virus still circulates. Polio would be only the second human disease ever to be eradicated.

When that moment arrives, it’s “tremendously important” that Rotary is ready for it, said Germ. “We need to be sure that we are recognized for that success, and leverage that success into more partnerships, greater growth, and even more ambitious service in the decades to come.”

Germ, a member of the Rotary Club of Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA, encouraged attendees to return to their clubs and communities and spread the word about Rotary’s role in the fight for a polio-free world.

“People who want to do good will see that Rotary is a place where they can change the world. Every Rotary club needs to be ready to give them that opportunity,” Germ said.

Enhancing Rotary’s image isn’t the only way to boost membership. “We need clubs that are flexible, so our service will be more attractive to younger members, recent retirees, and working people.”

He added: “We need more willing hands, more caring hearts, and more bright minds to move our work forward.”