

Together, Everyone Achieves More



**Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai
Annual Report 2012 -2013**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It has been my honour to be President of the Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai for this year. I would like to thank all Members and their Partners for their support throughout the year.

My year as President has been very fulfilling and challenging. My approach to the position was to have the Club working together on worthwhile community projects, to have the weekly meetings be relaxing and interesting and to have a balance between external speakers and internal Club nights. The yearly programme shows that this balanced has been achieved.

In my Presidents speech at the Changeover Night last year, I put Membership attraction and retention as the major challenge for my Presidents year. We have run three Rotary Awareness nights for local business people, which have raised our profile in the local community. Whilst we have not been inundated with new member enquiries, I see this Membership Awareness programme continuing for the Club. I thank Michael Tyler and the Membership Committee for all the work and effort put into these nights.

Our major regular funding for the Club continues to be the Gordon Markets and all Members support the monthly roster needed to keep that event going. A successful theatre night and a Trivia night have been additional sources of revenue.



This year was the second year of the



Bobbin Head Cycle Classic, which has been run in conjunction with the Rotary Clubs of Turramurra and St Ives. This year we raised over \$80,000 for two charities, Lifeline and Bo Hospital in Sierra Leone. This event takes a lot of time and effort by Club members, and I thank

all of them for the considerable support they have given for this major annual



event. In particular I thank Peter Kipps and John Aitken for the effort they put in throughout the year to ensure the success of this event.

The Pride of Workmanship night was a great success this year with five presentations, one to an employee of Clarke Road School and four to members of the Police Force. Congratulations to Michael Midlam for his organising of such a successful night.

The participation and social interaction has been strong during the year. Two restaurant socials, the District Conference and joint Club meetings have all contributed to a year of fun and fellowship.

I have been well served by the Vice President John Aitken and the Sergeant Greg Newling, who have provided mentoring and advice to me during the year. I was also very fortunate in having a strong, supportive Board and I thank them all for their support and guidance.



The theme for this year is 'Peace through Service' and this is not a one year goal but is an ongoing one for Rotary and for our Club. We live in volatile times and the goal of peace should be with us all through many aspects of service to the community. I have gained a great insight into the workings of Rotary this year of my Presidency, through my attendance at District Presidents meetings and through liaisons with other Rotary Clubs. I feel privileged to have been President of such a successful Club as Ku-ring-gai is, having such a great history of achieving goals within the Rotary motto of 'Service above Self'. I leave this



position with a sense of pride in achieving a number of goals and many happy memories and thank you for giving me the opportunity in being your President this year.



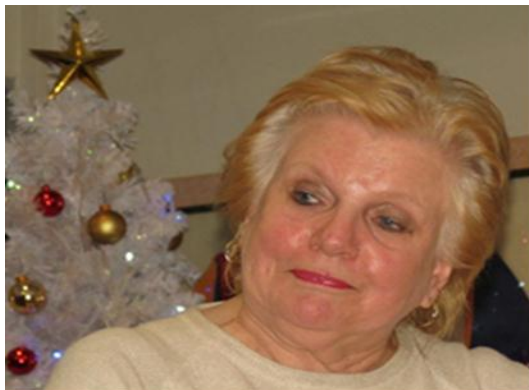
Roger Desmarchelier - President

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

We have had a wide range of speakers this year, including talks on Rotary projects such as Rotary Youth Exchange, Polio Plus and representatives from a number of organisations such as Angelflight, School for Life, Westmead Hospital and Clarke Road School. Our own members gave a number of talks on their business experiences and their travels. Graham Timms' once again opened our eyes to the enjoyment of wines, we travelled through Iceland with Michael Midlam and travelled in Russia with Bob Ivey. As well, we had a number of 10 on Me Member presentations through the year and visits to the DG's zone meeting and to other Clubs.

Administration Director

Through the year we lost the organisational skills of our Administration Director, Judy Houghton, who decided to move back to the country after many



years in the Sydney real estate industry. Judy has been a stalwart of the Club and her departure has left a large gap in the Club. Thank you Judy for all your assistance over the years and we know there is a welcome mat in Cowra for Members driving through.



Sergeant at Arms

Greg Newling has provided considerable support to me throughout the year as well as running fun sergeant's session each week and increasing the Club's financial position. Thank you Greg.

Door Team

This is an important weekly role and this year we had a conscientious team of members doing door duty and greeting our visitors courteously and efficiently. Thank you to all.



West Pymble Bowling Club

There was Member debate throughout the year in looking at the possibility of moving premises for our weekly meetings. I am pleased to say that the Club decided to stay in the same venue. The change of caterers was a deciding factor on this discussion.

Gordon Markets

This is our major fundraiser for the Club and requires a roster each month in 3 shifts to set up the markets, manage it through the day and then pack up at the end of the day. Geoff Hungerford, Graham Timms, Frank White and John



Thompson consistently helped with putting up and taking down the banners and setting up and tidying away. Their commitment has been time consuming and ongoing and much appreciated. Also appreciated was the regular group of helpers on the rosters who reliably met their commitments during the day.

The Bulletin and the Club's Website

Thanks go to Tony McClelland for the weekly Koongga newsletter commitment. It is a major job in having the magazine produced each week and having content that makes it interesting reading for Members. Bob Ivey is a vital part of the communication process, with our website recognised for its quality and interest. Congratulations Tony and Bob.

Welfare

A Carers Night was held during the year. The recipients were two parents of children from Clarke Road School. It was an emotional night for Members and a recognition of two mothers, who say they are really more mothers than identified as carers. Thank you Ross Lambert, for arranging this night.

Social Events

We continue to hold regular social events for our members and partners as they are always well supported. Nights out at restaurants, the Christmas dinner at Roger's place and other events bring Members and their partners together.





Trivia Nights

Ross and Helen Egan and Dilys Geddes and their helpers arranged a Trivia Night this year which was very well supported.

Movie Nights

This year we held a Movie Night at Roseville Theatre. The movie, 'Anna Karenina', was well received with around 150 attending the theatre that night and was a major fund raiser for the Club.

Bowling Night

The annual bowls night was also a success with the team of Judy Houghton, Graham Maslem, Emyr Evans and Tom Jackson being the winners.



Debate Night

This year we challenged Turramurra Rotary to an annual debate night. Congratulations go to Graham Timms, Ross Lambert and Roger Desmarchelier for representing our Club at the debate and for winning the cup for the second consecutive year.



Finance

Our Treasurer, Tony McClelland, has been running a very successful finance programme this year with regular reporting of the Club's finance position. Thank you Tony for your efforts.

District Conference

This year the last District Conference for District 9680 (before it merges to become District 9685) was held at Nowra. The Club was represented by a small but very active team.



Behind the Scenes

Each week unrecognised Members assist in ensuring the meetings are run efficiently and to the timetable. Apart from the Sergeant at Arms, we thank Bob Ivey for providing and setting up the technology each week and for his important role in taking photographs of Club events.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Again the Gordon Markets and the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic were our major Fund Raisers for the year. Income from the Gordon Markets will be \$16,000. Our partnership in BHCC with the Rotary Clubs of St Ives and Turramurra resulted in a distribution of \$82,000 to Lifeline and Bo Hospital. This was an outstanding result for our second year and we expect another significant improvement next year.

The General Account has a closing balance of about \$16,000 when all expenses have been paid. The Project Account will have a closing balance of approximately \$25,000 plus \$23,000 on fixed deposit.

Membership dues have been paid promptly by the majority of our members.

Tony McClelland (Treasurer)



THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

- ✚ The Foundation Committee's aims for the year were:
- ✚ Raising the awareness of the Rotary Foundation and encouraging the support of the projects the Foundation supports
- ✚ Support for the Foundation through the Annual Programs Fund
- ✚ Continuing to support the Polio Plus \$200m Challenge
- ✚ Seeking nominations for Rotary's educational programs

Raising Awareness of TRF

PDG Pam Pritchard gave us an update on the progress of the Polio Plus Program and the key focus areas at the cinema night in February. When Rotary launched Polio Plus in 1985 there were over 350,000 cases of polio each year. During this time the decrease in the number of countries that still suffer from the disease has been extraordinary. India has now been polio free for two years, however it is still endemic in Nigeria, Pakistan and Afghanistan. It is these hard-to-reach areas that are providing the most challenge and the political environment of those areas is also very insecure but Rotary still persists with its immunisation campaigns where it can. Our continued challenge is still the elimination of polio in the remaining countries and maintaining the focus to ensure that it does not reappear in those declared polio free.

Support of the Annual Programs Fund

The members of the Club have contributed approximately \$1,500 to the Annual Programs Fund as part of the Centurion Program, where members can make a tax deductible contribution of \$100 each year. The mission of The Rotary Foundation (TRF) 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. The Annual Program Fund is the primary source of funding for the programs of the Foundation and supports Matching Grants, GSE, Ambassadorial Scholarships, etc. It is our own charitable fund and the TRF provides integrity in management of funds – providing hope to millions around the world. Rotary changes the lives of so many people everywhere.

Polio Plus

The Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai continues to support the Polio Plus Program. Our cinema and trivia nights have been the main fundraising activities that support this wonderful program. These events are important as they provide visibility to a greater audience of the work Rotary is doing in the eradication of polio.

The success of these nights has been down to the great organisational skills of Ross and Helen Egan. A big thank-you also goes to friends and members who provided donations for the raffle at the cinema evening in February. It is also important to recognise the contribution from our members and their partners who generously supported the catering requests and brought along their friends to these events. Without you, your family and friends such events would not have been so successful and I am sure we will continue to provide these events during the next Rotary year.

Our Club also continues to provide a donation to the Polio Plus program through the recognition of our Speakers throughout the year and this provides an additional \$1,000 for Polio Plus.

Educational Programs

Rotary runs a number of educational programs and last year we became involved in the Ambassadorial Scholarship Program. This is a program where Rotary Foundation provides access to a number of university scholarships



throughout the world for successful applicants to study in another country. These scholars are ambassadors not only for the Rotary District and the Club that puts them forward but also their country and it is a wonderful opportunity for the successful applicant. This year we received 3 enquiries however they did not progress past the initial enquiry.

Thank you again to all the members, partners and friends of Rotary Club of Kuring-gai for your support of the Foundation throughout this year.

Finally, Roger thank you for your support and leadership throughout 2012–2013.

Dilys Geddes -Foundation Director



MEMBERSHIP

At the start of the Rotary year we had 35 members. Currently we have 32. We bade farewell to Past President John Hessel, who resigned due to illness, following many distinguished years of service with the club, which he joined in January 1974. Making the tree change back to Cowra was Past Secretary Judy Houghton, whose catering expertise (amongst other things) will be greatly missed. Moving up to the Northern Beaches for a retirement living and hence resigning from the Club, will be long time Rotarian Wally Forbes and Pam. Wally has been an active member for almost 23 years, during which he has made a substantial contribution to the Club's activities. Rotarians Bala Krishnan and Irene Kennedy resigned due to pressure of work. We thank all the retiring members for their service and wish them well for the future.

In August we held another Rotary Awareness Night, attended by 17 local business people. The evening generated a lot of interest in the club's activities and resulted in a number of expressions of support, mostly in the form of busy people wishing to provide 'hands-on' support for the club's projects periodically. We aim to build upon the connections established, so as to



increase our involvement with the local community and its involvement with the club.

At the time of writing preparations are being made for another Rotary Awareness Night in June, with the focus on inviting our guests to tell us what projects they would like to see carried out, whether locally, interstate or overseas.

We recently inducted Rotarians Nick Kenyon and Gary Dawson and we welcome them to our Club.

During the year a number of our existing members were prevented from attending the club's meetings regularly, due to work commitments or illness. Their absence was keenly felt, especially in the contrast between the atmosphere at our reduced size regular meetings and at well attended special events. Although Rotary now recognises that 'participation' (which can occur away from our weekly meetings) is more important than mere 'attendance', the message is that all members need to attend club meetings as frequently as they can, so as to develop and maintain the fellowship on which our club is founded.

Equally important is that all our members constantly invite friends, business associates and others to our meetings, giving them the opportunity to see Rotary in action and to become Rotarians if they would like to. This is vital to achieving our aim of building the membership to 60, so that the club has sufficient human resources to carry out all the things that it needs to.

My thanks go to Graham Timms (Deputy Chairman), Malcolm Braid, Roger Desmarchelier, David Forsythe, Dilys Geddes, Geoff Hungerford, Ross Lambert, Linda Lam-Rohlf, Tony McClelland and Michael Midlam, who served on or assisted the membership committee during the year.

Michael Tyler

Director - Membership



PUBLIC RELATIONS & BOBBIN HEAD CYCLE CLASSIC

Once again our main PR effort went into the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic – and the results were very pleasing.



Amazingly, we are only in our 2nd year, but had 1700 riders, no serious incidents and raised \$80,000 for our 2 charities, Lifeline and Bo Children's Hospital. This is shaping up to become one of the main Sydney rides and will continue to bring much community recognition to the Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai and partner clubs St Ives and Turramurra.

With 1000 riders, the 105K group featured above, was the largest group, continuing the trend from last year. In addition 500 rode the 58K and 200 the 12K. This year the authorities required that we avoid the F3 and map out a new route down Mona Vale Rd. Passing through 4 council areas, several police commands and RMS and National Parks controlled areas, planning this was a big task. Starting at Karuah Oval in Turramurra the 105K and 58K routes traversed Bobbin Head via Hornsby and on to Terrey Hills, where the 58K riders turned for home. The 105K riders continued a tough ride out to West Head.



The 12K ride followed a completely different route to Jubilee Park Wahroonga, thus separating this family ride from the more ambitious riders, eliminating the congestion of 2012.

Having learnt what worked in 2012 we doubled our marketing effort. Bike shops were found to be a good channel for getting the word out last year so we increased our coverage from 5 council areas to 10, including most of the North Shore and Parramatta. Analysis of our responses clearly shows that this has worked, with riders from the new areas increasing around 100%. Next year we will target 20 municipalities.

We distributed flyers along the course of the Gong Ride and at the Rotary Loop the Lake event. There can't be a better targeted way of getting the word out to cyclists, and with good planning this year we should be able to cover 4 events, giving early notice to 10,000 + riders

We pushed up our banner and trailer sign coverage and had a much more professional PR campaign this year. There can't have been too many riders in Northern Sydney who didn't know about "The Bobbin". In the end more than 40 Rotarians played roles in marketing our event.



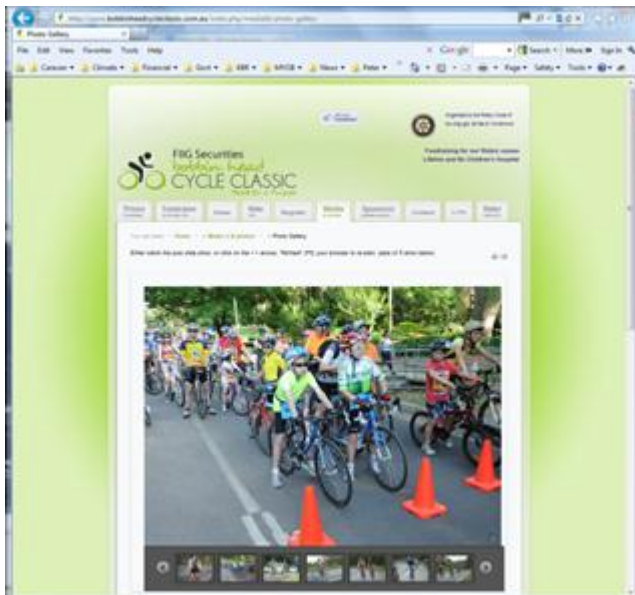
Once again our Facebook page and ads did us proud and as shown we now have over 2400 'fans'. We have started to have good 2 way interaction with our rider community and this has been to the benefit of both the riders and ourselves as organizers.

In addition we sent out over 9000 emails, both to encourage last year's riders back and this year's riders to set up a fundraising page for their friends to sponsor them.



Facebook Page

In the end all revenue sources ie rider fees, sponsorship and rider sponsorship trebled a great result. Our Facebook community together with our 1700 participants gives us a great base for kicking off next year's promotion.



However this year's ride was tough and some may not return, so we need to be vigilant and increase the marketing effort for 2014.

We had a few nervous moments before and during the ride, but in the end it was very successful with no major incidents. Many thanks to over 200 Rotarians, partners and friends and Lifeline and Bo for their help as volunteers on the day. So

many Rotarians from all 3 clubs played their part. Our club took lead roles in Web (Bob Ivey), Marketing & Rider Communications (Peter Kipps), Corporate Sponsorship (Graham Timms and Michael Midlam), Registration (Tony McClelland), Site Management (John Aitken), and Logistics (Ross Egan). A noble effort indeed. Many other club members played their part, too many to mention by name.

Last month we held a dinner with Turrumurra and St Ives to thank our volunteers and to give LifeLine and Bo Hospital cheques for \$41,000 each. Success indeed.

In 2014 we aim to get 2000+ riders, and double funds from Corporate and Rider Sponsorship to support a total of 4 charities.

Start of the family ride shown on our web site

Peter Kipps and Caroline Jones -Bobbin Head Cycle Classic and PR Chairs



PROJECTS & COMMUNITY SERVICE

The year's major Project activity, FIIG Bobbin Head Cycle Classic, was a combined Rotary Club effort involving the Rotary Clubs of Turramurra, St Ives and Ku-Ring-Gai. FIIG Bobbin Head Cycle Classic raised funds for two charities being Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury and Bo Hospital Sierra Leone.

In addition the club supported other projects as outlined in the Avenues of Service reports detailed below. Avenues of Service Team leaders are

- **International - Greg Newling**
- **New Generations (Youth) – Joy Newling**
- **Community – Ross Lambert**
- **Vocational – Michael Midlam**

Funds were raised through the following projects as detailed below.

- **FIIG BHCC Cycle Classic**

The classic consumed a large amount of the clubs members' time and effort. A more detailed report is provided below by Peter Kipps. Particular recognition must go to Peter Kipps, Tony McClelland and Ross Egan.

Film night

Ross Egan organised an excellent film night at the Roseville Theatre.

Street Commodore Charity Auto Show BBQ

Ross Lambert organised a huge barbeque on behalf of the Street Commodore Auto club. While numbers attending did not quite live up to expectations it was never the less a large undertaking and good practice for next event.



Gordon Markets

This is our mainstay project and garners funds to allow the club to assist the particular projects the various avenue of service support.

Particular thanks are due to all those involved with the regular Gordon Market organisation. These members perform their tasks sight unseen and at very inconvenient times every month to keep that project functioning seamlessly. Those involved requiring particular recognition include Frank White, Geoff Hungerford and Wally Forbes.

Other Community Events

The club also participated in other ways supporting and assisting other organisations fund raisings or organisational assistance. Below is a list of activities the members were involved

- ✚ Daffodil Day collection at Pymble Station organised by Ross Egan
- ✚ Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal organised by Chris Hock,
- ✚ Clarke Rd participation on School P & C by Joy Newling
- ✚ Moving in assistance for Clarke Rd organised by Joy Newling
- ✚ Clarke Rd reading assistance organised by Joy Newling
- ✚ Demolition work at Neringah Hospital organised by Ross Lambert
- ✚ RYDA organised by Joy Newling and Malcolm Braid
- ✚ Youth Insearch – assistance to relocate premises at Kurrajong organised by Joy Newling

- ✚ Bowel Scan kit distribution organised by Roger Desmarchelier and Michael Midlam

- ✚ Tree of Joy organised by Ted Price
- ✚ Christmas Cakes organised by Ted Price
- ✚ Combined Churches Carols by Candlelight at West Pymble Bi-Centennial Park - assistance with funds collection



My thanks to all in our Community Services team and our Club for their efforts in making this year's contributions worthwhile.

John Aitken - Projects Director

AVENUES OF SERVICE—VOCATIONAL

Pride of Workmanship

This was organised by Michael Midlam with some assistance from Greg and Joy Newling.

We had five very good nominees; Hazel Richardson from The Clarke Road Special School, and Sr Constable Sarah Ireland, Sr Constable Sean Smith, Constable Rubien Dalton and Constable Andrew Bunce all from the Ku Ring Gai local area command. The nominees were all very well supported by family and friends, and it was a proved an interesting evening for all who attended.

Bowel Scan

Participation in the usual bowel scan project was organised by Michael Midlam with assistance from Roger Desmarchelier.

Michael Midlam - Vocational



AVENUES OF SERVICE: INTERNATIONAL

School for Life Uganda

What a year this amazing success story has had! The School was officially opened, the first cash crop of chillies has been harvested and now the school has electricity, partly thanks to our club.

This year we joined with Australia's first online club, The Rotary E-club of Greater Sydney, to successfully apply for a Global Grant from The Rotary Foundation. We joined with them to install a solar powered lighting system and a back-up generator. This will mean the school can do much more to serve its community; with evening classes for adults to strengthen the capacity of the whole community to develop income opportunities and move beyond the limits of the past.

Our contribution was just over \$3,000, The E-club \$9,500, and The Rotary Foundation \$27,000.

<http://schoolforlife.org.au/>

School of St Jude

We have continued to support the School of St Jude in Tanzania. Our continuing the operation rooms children are for by the funds. This children get their education



not have to endure hours of exhausting travel each day. Our sponsorship funds of two residential meaning that 16 housed and cared application of our helps those 16 greater value from well fed and do

not have to endure hours of exhausting travel each day.

Our \$1,440 is helping to eliminate poverty through education. What could be more worthwhile? www.schoolofstjude.org



ShelterBox

The need for this vital project never goes away. ShelterBox has now provided shelter warmth and dignity for over a million people affected by natural disasters or conflicts in all parts of the world. This year we again provided funds for two ShelterBoxes (\$2,000). The goal of ShelterBox internationally is to have every Rotary Club donate a box each year. Some, in less fortunate countries, obviously cannot afford to do so. We have a proud record of support for ShelterBox, which I hope we will maintain.

www.shelterboxaustralia.com.au

Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC)

ROMAC arranges and manages lifesaving and/or dignity restoring surgery for children from developing countries. This work transforms the lives of the children ROMAC helps by correcting deformities either from birth or caused by accident. ROMAC is often the only hope for people who would otherwise be condemned to a sub-standard life. We gave \$1,000.

Rotarians against Malaria (RAM)

RAM provides bed nets to vulnerable communities. Impregnated bed nets which kill malarial mosquitoes are a very effective way of preventing the spread of this dangerous disease. The RAM Committee is grateful for our continuing support. This programme continues saving lives year after year and we should be proud of our long term contributions. We gave \$1,000.

Bo Hospital

The outstanding project at Bo, Sierra Leone is the biggest international funding project we have been involved with this year but it is covered elsewhere in this report as it was a major beneficiary of the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic.



Members of the international committee: Adele Mitchell, David Forsythe, Peter Tang, Graham Maslen, Greg Newling

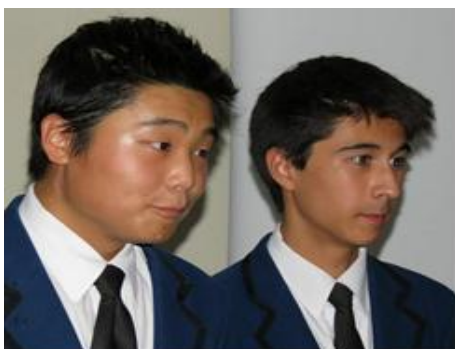
Greg Newling -International Chair



AVENUES OF SERVICE - NEW GENERATIONS

We have had another very busy year in New Generations, and have met and assisted some very impressive young people. We have encouraged them in many areas, both through programs organised and administered by our Rotary District 9680 and other programs conducted by outside organisations.

National Youth Science Forum



Sean Dawson and Dillon Lin, two students from Knox Grammar, applied to us for sponsorship to NYSF. They were impressive at interview and so we decided to part sponsor both of them. In January, Sean attended NYSF in Canberra and Dillon attended in Perth. They both attended a Club meeting in February and spoke



enthusiastically about their NYSF experience. Another positive by-product is that Sean's father, Gary, has joined our Club!

Interact Club at PLC

My thanks to Caroline Jones for continuing to keep in touch with the Interact Club and teachers at PLC. Caroline presented a certificate to the PLC girls and talked about ShelterBox at School Assembly. Members of the Interact Club had raised \$1000 last year for a ShelterBox, mainly by selling \$1 ice blocks at lunchtime, and they were very interested to know where their ShelterBox had been deployed. Caroline organised an excellent ShelterBox display at the PLC Garden Party in September. Interact Club members assisted Caroline and talked to the public about the role of ShelterBox in the international community and the actual contents of the ShelterBox.

Rotaract

I would like our Club to have closer ties with Crosslands and Lower North Shore Rotaract Clubs and it appears the best way to communicate with them is through their Facebook pages. Do we have any volunteers to assist? I have also asked to be put on the list to receive their newsletters.

Youth Insearch

Youth Insearch is a community organisation that focuses on resolving adolescent issues at a peer level. Greg and I met with new CEO, Heath Ducker, and were impressed by his enthusiasm and plans for the future. Several of our Club members assisted with two working bees and garage sales at their Kurrajong property before it was sold. We also donated funds to help two



young people attend a weekend camp. We hope to be involved with catering for a weekend next year.

Benefic Awards

This is an annual award for one Year 9 student from each of Turramurra, Kuring-gai Creative Arts and Killara High Schools who displays 'a favourable influence' amongst their peers. A perpetual trophy and book voucher were presented to each of the students and my thanks go to Lou, Tom and Malcolm respectively for representing our Club and presenting the awards at Presentation Days/Nights at the end of last year.

Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA)

RYLA is a residential leadership training seminar for 18-25 year olds which is conducted for a week in January each year at Vision Valley and this year we sponsored Karina Barrett. Karina is studying Civil Engineering at UTS and is a Leader of Junior Guides at Cherrybrook. Karina visited our Club before RYLA and also came back afterwards and talked about her RYLA experience. She is keen to know more about Rotaract. Greg, Emyr and I attended the RYLA dinner and enjoyed talking with the other young people attending RYLA and hearing keynote speaker, Kemuel Lam Paktsun, past RYLarian, Rotaractor, now Rotarian and working with Australian Federal Police.

Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)

This year MUNA was held on March 23 and 24 at Knox Grammar and we sponsored one team from Pymble Ladies College and one team from Killara High School. (PLC funded a second team and Rotary Club of Lindfield sponsored another two teams from Killara.) PLC students represented the Philippines and Malaysia and Killara students represented Kenya, China and Norway. They wore costumes appropriate to their respective countries at the Assembly and debated international issues from their individual country's point of view, including deforestation, climate change, the Arab-Israel conflict



and Security Council reform. Caroline visited during the weekend and was impressed.

Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA)

Bob, Malcolm, Nick and past member Brian Jessop assisted with the RYDA program in May when a group of students from Ku-ring-gai Creative Arts High School participated. They were impressed with the program and the way the road safety message was delivered to the students.

Life Education

Life Education is the largest non-government provider of drug and health education to children and young people, and their families and communities Australia-wide. Many of you will have seen their trademark Harold the giraffe on one of their vans at a local school.

We were pleased to support their great work again with a donation.



Camp Breakaway

Camp Breakaway on the Central Coast is committed to enhancing the lives of people with disabilities and at the same time allowing relief for their families and carers through their respite camps. This year we again covered the cost of a young sibling of a child with high medical needs attending a respite camp where they can briefly escape their home environment of care and



responsibilities. Amongst other benefits, they also have the chance to meet and form friendships with others who are in a similar situation at home.

National Student Leadership Forum

Hikari So, a student in her final semester of International Studies Degree at the University of Sydney, was very appreciative of our donation to help her participate in the National Student Leadership Forum in Canberra from 30 May to 2 June. Hikari lives in Turramurra and will come and talk to us about her experience at the Forum in the near future.

Eagles RAPS

Sally and Marten Wynd, together with two of their students, Stephanie and Cassie, visited our Club and spoke passionately about Eagles RAPS. Marten said how much they appreciated the bus which has already taken their students on several educational excursions including twice to Canberra. The bus will soon have some minor body repairs and repainting before appropriate signage is applied, and then they will be able to come and show us the finished product! Stephanie and Cassie told how they had both dropped out of mainstream school for different reasons and how Eagles RAPS had given them a second chance at an education. To quote Stephanie, “the people at Eagles don’t judge, they help you. Both Sally and Scott are amazing teachers, offering help with work and even help with anything else even if it doesn’t involve the school work.....everyone here is accepted for who they are.”



Clarke Road School, Hornsby



What a year it has been! Our association with Clarke Road School has grown and we have been able to assist and support them in so many ways. I am enjoying being the Community Representative on their School Council and am continually learning.

- ✚ Bob and Caroline read stories to all classes in Literacy and Numeracy Week in August.

- ✚ New Principal, Diane Robertson, spoke to our Club in October and amazed us with her enthusiasm and commitment to the students and staff and managing the move to temporary premises while their brand new school was being built. We all learnt more about education for students with disabilities.

- ✚ Greg and I represented our Club at their Presentation Day and again, it was inspiring. Every child was recognised and received a certificate. Our Club donated the Rotary Role Model Award and I was honoured to present it to Lachlan Tekema.

- ✚ Two parents, Margaret Meaker and Jane French, who were recognised at Carers' Night, also enlightened us about caring for children with a disability and the load on families.

- ✚ Hazel Richardson, Administration Manager, was recognised at our Pride of Workmanship night.



- ✚ We were also able to donate \$1000 to the school which was very much appreciated. It will probably be used towards the cost of a new lectern in their new school hall and would bear the school crest and the Rotary wheel and our Club name.

- ✚ In May, Emyr visited and received a very warm welcome. “I was given the whole school, all 57 of them, and we had some very pleasant music making experiences and lots of the students ‘came out of their shells’ to have a go individually and as a large group.” Emyr is looking forward to doing more music making with them all.

- ✚ Monday 20 May 2013 was a very special day because it was the students first day in their brand new, multi-million dollar school. The staff had two pupil free days to complete the move from their temporary school across the road, and we were able to help out, as you will see below. My thanks go to Anne Maslen, Laurel Jackson, John and Sue Aitken, Bob and Gwen Ivey, Michael Midlam and Greg for giving up a day for one of our special projects.

- ✚ Finally, I would like to quote from their May 31 Newsletter where Kati Herrington, P&C President, said “A wonderful part of our school community is the Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai. On Friday the 17th a team of 9 people came in for the day and worked and worked and worked. There was so much to do and yet no task was too menial or dirty for them. At the beginning of the day the school still looked like a building site and the job seemed impossible, by 3pm it looked like a school. The humble generosity of this team, who even brought in frypans and cooked the lunch we were putting on for them and the staff, was impacting. And the team was a lot of fun to. Thank you to the Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai, we are very grateful for your support, we are fortunate indeed to have you on our side.”

Yes, a very busy year. Thank you to my committee members Tom, Emyr, Bob, Lou and Malcolm for their support, as well as the many other Club members



who assisted at different times. We hope to make a bigger impact in the coming Rotary year with some new projects and be able to make a positive difference in the lives of more young people.

Joy Newling - Youth Chair

AVENUES OF SERVICE – COMMUNITY

Street Commodore Car Show



This project came out of nowhere when the Club received a letter from Bubblegum Events asking if our club would like to cater for an event at St Ives Showground. It certainly was not your 'run of the mill' Rotary Project;

however it did appear to be a wonderful opportunity as a fundraiser. We were told by the organisers that they run these events all over Australia and at this show they expected around 200 people for breakfast and 1000 for lunch.

Following a number of phone to validate the projected numbers we set out to cater for these 1000 people. I must say I was more than concerned when there were just a handful of people for breakfast I think our own Members were our biggest Customers?

Then at around 12 midday in rolled the Commodores possibly not 500 however there was an awful lot as the lined up across the showground's main field. Then for the next three hours we served sausage and steak sandwiches, pies, sausage rolls, bacon and egg rolls and drinks lots of drinks. We sold over \$8,200 worth of food which represented about half of what we had catered for.

Fortunately we managed to contact Oz Harvest who rolled up on site to pick up all the food we didn't sell. Oz Harvest distributes all food donations to the soup



kitchens throughout the city. We were very pleased that Oz Harvest was able to assist. The guys from Oz Harvest described what we had provided as 'gold'.

Gordon Markets

This is our major fundraiser for the Club and requires a roster each month in 3 shifts to set up the markets, manage it through the day and then pack up at the end of the day. Geoff Hungerford, Graham Timms, Frank White, and Wally Forbes and others consistently helped with putting up and taking down the banners and setting up and tidying away. Their commitment has been time consuming and ongoing and much appreciated. Also appreciated was the regular group of helpers on the rosters who reliably met their commitments during the day.

Neringah Hospital

Earlier this year we were approached by Bunning's Thornleigh to assist in the renovation of the old Kiosk at Neringah Hospital Wahroonga. Not to restore as a kiosk but to create a lounge area for visitors when they come to visit their love ones.

The garden that surrounds the 'Kiosk' has been quite beautifully landscaped; our role is to create a lounge area with a coffee machine.

We have already removed all the timber work inside and by the time this Annual Report goes to print we will have removed the brick walls. The next stage will be to patch and make good followed by painting.

Finally we will add new light fittings, floor coverings, a small kitchen and new furniture.



The Lab

The Lab is a Melbourne-based pilot project for 10 to 16 year-old young people with Asperger's Syndrome who enjoy working with computers. It offers one-to-one tuition by technology professionals in areas such as programming, 3D, digital design and gaming. The pilot program has spread from Melbourne into Sydney and in partnership with Just BetterCare Pty Ltd has created a sister program in Hornsby.



The proposal is to widen the reach of 'The Lab' and set up multiple branches initially on the north side of Sydney. Over time we would involve other Rotary Clubs and establish new branches in western and southern Sydney.

We very much look forward to bringing life to the joint project of The Lab and its future expansion.

Finally, I would like to thank Greg Newling, Malcolm Braid and Roger Desmarchelier for their support and guidance throughout this year.

Ross Lambert - Community

