

Ku-ring-gai Rotary Club



Annual Report 2019 - 2020

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President's Review

After a gala Changeover Ceremony at Avondale Golf Club on 24 June 2019, I knew I had a hard act to follow with PP Joy Newling in 2018/19 and PP Malcolm Braid in 2017/18, both wonderful club leaders. However, inspired by a phrase from a speech by Henry V in a Shakespearean play, *'Once more into the breach, dear friends, once more'* I kicked off my newly acquired Presidential role with my best shot.

The 2019 – 2020 Rotary Year can only be described as a year with a difference compared with previous Rotary years. It started off well, all going to plan, but in March 2020 it all came to a grinding halt due to government imposed public health risk minimisation strategies associated with COVID-19. But, thanks to Rob Hall, our Public Image AoS Chair, the show went on with the assistance of Rob's enthusiasm and the virtual conferencing software, ZOOM.

With 2019 being the club's 60th year, I was keen to make my presidential year one to keep current members engaged in club activities through enjoyable social occasions and entertaining, interesting speakers at our weekly club meetings. I was also keen to work with Lindfield Rotary club and get this club involved in our club's meetings. Lindfield Rotary has its own special culture through longstanding traditions of over 50 years. Ku ring gai Rotary Club was instrumental in this club's formation so we have a special bond. I became aware, early in my presidential term, that the club was wrestling with finding office bearers for the 20/21 year with its diminishing member base. President Trish Barrett also advised the club was considering handing in its charter at the end of the 19/20 Rotary year. This has now come to pass and in June this year, 15 LRC members transferred to our club. This should make KRC so much more dynamic and viable as these members will, not only boost our ranks, but will bring with them some exceptional local and international projects as well as enthusiasm and talent.

Thank you, all members of the KRC Board this Rotary Year and to my Avenue of Service Chairs for their contributions to another successful year. Our executive group this year was as follows:

19/20 KRC Board Members:

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| President: | Bob Elsworth |
| Vice President: | Ross Egan |
| Immediate Past President: | Joy Newling |
| Secretary: | Geoff Hungerford |
| Treasurer: | Chris Lewis |
| Director: | Rob Hall |
| Director: | Robyne Alexander |
| Director: | Gary Keating |

19/20 KRC Avenue of Service Chairs

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Community: | Michael Midlam |
| Administration: | Gary Keating |
| Membership: | Roger Desmarchelier |
| Public Image: | Rob Hall |
| Foundation: | Greg Newling |
| Vocation: | David Kitchen |
| Youth: | Anne Maslen |
| Fund Raising: | Ross Egan |
| International: | Peter Kipps |
| Welfare: | Joy and Greg Newling |

Public Image (Rob Hall – AoS Chair)

This Rotary year was unusual in that it could be divided into two parts—Pre-COVID 19 and during COVID 19. The emergence of the pandemic meant that from late March, meetings could not be held in person with groups of members in a single shared venue so we needed to switch to virtual meetings.

In early April, Bob Ivey and I worked to train KRC members in the use of Zoom as a tool for meeting virtually. By the end of April, a series of more or less regular meetings were being held under the banner of “*Klub Koongga*”. This name had been chosen because the lack of physical meetings and project work meant that our newsletter, *Koongga*, was not being published for lack of content but was replaced by the virtual meetings.

Program

While a number of speakers had visited our meetings at Killara Golf Club in the second half of 2019 and the first couple of months of 2020, we had only one guest speaker between April and June. The speaker was Lachlan Kitchen. Lachlan had visited our Club in late 2019 while on leave in Sydney. In April, he broadcast by Zoom from his base in Dubai. Among other things, this demonstrated the potential for inviting remote speakers even when physical meetings resume.

Social media

During the 2019 – 2020 Rotary Year, we posted regularly on our Club’s Facebook page. Many of these posts were boosted (by paying a fee to increase the number of people reached) and all were directed at specific demographic groups in the area within a 20 km radius of Gordon. In total, our messages were exposed to some thousands of people. Some hundreds of these people showed an engagement with our messages.

During the period of enforced social isolation, a closed and “invisible” Facebook page was also created as an area in which KRC members could exchange messages, photos and videos as a means of staying in touch with each other. A small number of members joined this page but, in the main, it was not used by members.

Vocation (David Kitchen – AoS Chair)

The main event this Rotary year was the presentation of the Pride of Workmanship awards on 21st October 2019. We had 6 deserving awardees this year - two ladies with the YMCA, one lady with Westpac Gordon and one apprentice electrician. We also had two local businesses we wished to award - Campbells Meats of West Pymble and Pymble Newsagency. A short citation, as to why these awardees were nominated, was delivered to the club meeting on the night. In all, a very enjoyable and successful meeting.

There were plans to hold a debate with students from a local school in the early part of 2020. But, unfortunately, the restrictions placed upon us by the onset of COVID-19 prevented this. We now hope to resurrect this debate in the early part of 2021.

I attended the District Assembly Vocational Breakout Session on 24 May 2020 where some very interesting ideas were discussed. A new award is now up and running called RESCA which stands for Rotary Emergency Services Community Officer of the Year. I recommend this award be included in our club's Vocational line-up in next year's and future plans.

Club Service / Administration (Gary Keating – AoS Chair)

QANTAS Jumbo Flight

The QANTAS Jumbo Flight, a joy flight for disadvantaged kids that is part of the Rotary Club of Turramurra's (TRC) Community programme, was again conducted this year. Our club is normally invited to participate in this.

About 16 students, each with an adult carer, participated. CRSS gratefully provided us with a photo montage (see Koongga) of a very successful outing. Unfortunately, Eagles RAPS were unable to participate this year. Instead, our club sponsored Clarke Road Special School students on the flight.



West Pymble Picnic Table and Seating.

Following two successful grant applications for club projects in 2018/19 we sought funding from both Australia Post and the Federal Govt. (Stronger Communities Programme) in support of the West Pymble project. Unfortunately, neither was successful.

Bobbin Head Cycle Classic

I continued, along with Peter Kipps and Tony McClelland, to represent our club on the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic (BHCC) Executive Committee which meets year-round planning and co-ordinating this major event. The event was again to be conducted in late March 2020. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and government restrictions the event had to be called off at a late stage in its planning and preparations. Following this, the BHCC Committee approached the registered riders and sponsors with a request to donate their fees and sponsorship money to the Charities the event was raising funds for. Thanks to the generosity of riders and sponsors alike, \$130,000 was salvaged from this pandemic-thwarted event. Our club's sponsored charity, Eagles RAPS, was very surprised and extremely grateful to receive a \$16,250 donation from this event.

Representations

I represented Rotary Club or Ku ring gai (KRC) at external events such as Sir Eric Woodward School presentation day and Paul Fletcher's Christmas function.

Administrative Liaisons

I represented our club's interests with Killara Golf Club (KGC), external restaurants and the District Office as required this year.

Membership (Roger Desmarchelier – AoS Chair)

The Membership Avenue of Service includes initiatives for attracting new members to our Club as well as retaining existing membership. This year our membership numbers remained constant most of the year other than for one additional new member, Michael Dawkins, in late July 2019. Michael was introduced to our club through Malcolm Braid and came with great credentials in Management Consultancy. In June 2020, our numbers were further bolstered by the transfer of 15 Lindfield Rotary Club (LRC) members when it was decided to close this club down. We were also most fortunate to have our State Government Representative, Alister Henskens SC MP, Member for Ku-ring-gai, join our club as an honorary member on 29 June 2020 at our annual Changeover Meeting. Alister, generously donated \$1,000 to our club the day after this event.

The year can be broken up into two parts - before the impact of COVID-19 and afterwards.

During the first half of the year, we continued to raise our profile at Bunnings Barbeques, at two Federal Government Jobs Open Days at Homebush and Penrith and another at Robert Pymble Park in Pymble to support a Ku ring gai Council plan to renovate the park. Whilst interest was shown at times regarding what our Club does, we did not attract any new members through these events.

Our Club website and Facebook page provide a comprehensive profile of KRC, as does the distribution of leaflets, promoting our Club. All these activities continue to tell the Ku-ring-gai Rotary story.

Foundation (Greg Newling – AoS Chair)

Once again, this year, we received a grant from The Rotary Foundation – our charity.

Three Thousand dollars of our club's funds was matched with a further \$3000 from our District's (District 9685) Designated Fund. This enabled us to contribute a total of \$6,000 towards solar power supply for a school in Fiji.

Doesn't sound like much does it? Solar power – big deal! But, to a school that has only inadequate and expensive diesel generators to meet its power needs, it makes a fundamental difference. For many schools, the solar power unit means that for the first time ever, the children have access to computers and tablets – things we take for granted, tools that make a huge difference to their education.

In the last nine years we have received grants from the District totaling at least \$23,000. That is vastly more than we have contributed through our Centurion program in the same period that I estimate to be in the range \$13,000 to \$18,000.

We can, and do, use the funds of The Rotary Foundation to support projects both locally and overseas, but as you can see from the previous paragraph, we could do more to pull our weight. Members, please join or renew your Centurion membership and seriously consider what you can do to help. Can you join the Paul Harris Society? Can you join our six previous members who made provision for The Rotary Foundation in their wills?

Welfare (Joy and Greg Newling – AoS Chair)

During the year we have tried to keep track of members and be aware of those who have been missing from meetings for an unusual length of time. Before COVID-19 impacted us, the answers usually came through another member or a phone call.

Our last face to face meeting was on 9 March and before we started Zoom meetings in early April, we thought it would be a good idea to phone members and check on how they were. Thanks go to Bob Ivey and Malcolm Braid for helping us cover everyone. We later heard that these calls were appreciated and so we kept up calls when members were missing from our continuing Zoom meetings.

Sadly, we heard of the death of two past members during this year, John Waring and Ken Sackville.

Various members have suffered health issues during the year but have come through well and we are glad to see them back at meetings. If you hear of any members or partners who are not well or need some support, please let us know.

There have been new grandchildren born to members too which is always something to celebrate!

We know many of us miss being able to meet and chat face to face. Hopefully, we will be able to do that early in the new Rotary year.

Partnership & Fundraising (Ross Egan – AoS Chair)

Our strategy this year was to continue ongoing partner relationships that focus on service in the Community and fundraising to support these activities.



Fundraising

Initiatives this year included;

1. The Lindfield Fun Run

We joined forces with the Rotary Club of Lindfield (LRC) this year to partner the Lindfield Fun Run. The LRC established this event some 25 years ago and it was again due to be held on Sunday 26 April 2020. Unfortunately, the event had to be cancelled this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. However, during our preparations for the event, we established a close working relationship with our Lindfield colleagues and contributed in the areas of marketing, logistics and traffic management.

2. Raffle Ticket Sales

We continued our working relationship with the Rotary Club of Upper Northern Beaches, where for the past 20 years or so, they have run a successful car raffle to raise funds for community groups. The ticket promotions allow an individual community group to sell raffle tickets & achieve revenue,

without taking on the administration & capital funding of the scheme. We used Ku-ring-gai Rotary events to sell tickets. These events included:

- Bunnings BBQ's;
- KRC weekly meeting nights;
- The Clarke Road School end of year function;
- The Pymble Players Theatre Night;
- Our Roseville Cinema Film Night;
- Our International Fundraising Night; and
- A Ku-ring-gai Council BBQ at Robert Pymble Park

During our involvement this year we sold \$1147 worth of tickets. Unfortunately, the Raffle had to be cancelled this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. All funds raised were offered back to ticket purchasers as refunds. However, ticket purchasers were generally quite happy not to take a refund. Ticket sellers then generously donated the money raised to Rotary. Our plan next year is to continue this activity, particularly with local primary school P & C groups.

Our club also contributed equipment & resources for the UNBRC 'Big Day' on 14 September 2019, and UNBRC assisted our club by providing frequent use of their superb BBQ trailer for major BBQ operations.

3. Theatre Night

The Theatre Night we held on Thursday 10 October 2019 was a resounding success both as a fundraiser and social event. The Pymble Players performed the play 'The Odd Couple' (female version). I managed this night with the assistance of Roger Desmarchelier, our Team Leader and Sommelier for the event, Joy Newling (organising beverages and raffle ticket sales) and Greg Newling (set up). Members invited friends and family and contributed food and wine as well as selling raffle tickets.

We were almost able to fill the 84-seat theatre.

Funds raised from the event were \$1,560. Also 323 car raffle tickets were sold on the night which raised a further \$387.

4. Film Night

We conducted a Film Night again this year at the Roseville Cinema on Thursday 22 August 2019. The movie was the Australian produced film 'Palm Beach'. This night was a combined social event and fundraiser for members and their families and friends. The event also aimed to raise awareness of our Rotary Club and seek involvement, from those attending, in our Rotary projects. Members who attended brought a plate of food or nibbles for a pre movie snack and chat. The night raised around \$1,450 net from the 102 attendees and also gave us another opportunity to sell raffle tickets.

5. International Night,

An International Night was held on 3 February 2020 at a Member's home to raise funds for teaching staff at School for Life in Uganda and solar power systems for island schools in Fiji. Prizes donated included 2 offers of weekend stays at beach side home/resorts.

6. Daffodil Day

On 23 August 2019 we again conducted Daffodil Day at Pymble Station to raise funds for the Cancer Council. However, this year, our fund raising was hampered by a rail accident affecting north bound rail. Funds were still raised and the event was, yet again, a success for a worthy cause.

Service

A major feature of club service this past year was the high level of involvement and commitment by all members supporting our fundraising activities. Initiatives this year included a number of opportunities to form new relationships.

We assisted the Australian Government with two Department of Employment 'Jobs Fairs' – one at Homebush on 19 November 2019 and another at Penrith on 7 February 2020. Both these events required major BBQs (4 plates operating!!) and a commitment from our members to produce 2000 sausage sandwiches, at each, to those attending the Fairs.



We assisted Ku ring gai Council with a Community Communication event at Robert Pymble Park on 3 November 2019. At this event we provided a free sausage sandwich to entice visitors to view an exhibition on changes proposed for the park.

Monthly we continue to conduct the Gordon Markets on the second level of the Wade Lane carpark at Gordon on the second Sunday of each calendar month. This is a joint venture with Turramurra Rotary and now approaches 20 years of operation. The event raises a regular income for our club's community projects.

On a not so regular basis we run Bunnings BBQs for which our members volunteer for 2 to 3-hour shifts. These have provided a good extra source of income towards our club's projects. This Rotary year we held one on 27 January at Belrose Bunnings, one on 29 September 2019 at Chatswood and another at Chatswood Bunnings on 16 February 2020. These are fun events that involve most of our KRC members in organising, raising funds and achieving public awareness of our Club.

Every year in late March we, along with three other Rotary Clubs (Turramurra, Wahroonga and St Ives), run the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic (The Bobbo) ably assisted by our Charity Partner – Lifeline – Harbour to Hawkesbury and other sponsored Charities nominated by each club. This year's event was due to take place on 29 March 2020. However, our preparation this year were unfortunately cut short due to COVID-19 restrictions and the event had to be cancelled. By the time it was cancelled we had organised volunteer marshals and packed 600 volunteer and team leader bags as well as procured a range of rider supplies.

Several of our members continue to have major, yet unheralded roles, supporting Lifeline H2H in a range of activities including Book Fair Bump Outs and regular sorting and filtering of donated books to be sold at Lifeline Bookfairs.

We assisted Legacy this year on Legacy Day (4 September) by selling pins and other Legacy merchandise at St Ives Shopping Centre to raise funds for this Charity.

Our relationship with the Killara Golf Club, where we hold our weekly meetings each Monday night from 6.30 to 8.30pm, continues to be a success. Our evenings often include novelty themes such as 'Hat Day' or a French Night. Golf Club staff are always courteous and attentive, and we appreciate the professional attention of their team, led by Alicia.

Apart from the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic, media promotion of our activities continues to be a major challenge for our Club, and we continue to renew and develop a working relationship with local media and Ku ring gai Council. Our media exposure has improved significantly this year under the skilful management of Rob Hall with Facebook and other social platforms, including our COVID-19 Zoom meetings.

Guest Speakers at our weekly Club Dinner Meetings continue to include high standard presentations. Our guest speakers are major attractions to our club. This year we held several combined dinner meetings with Lindfield Rotary Club, where the speakers attracted more interest than usual.



Speakers who addressed us this year and other weekly meeting activities included:

- 1/7/19 Member David Kitchen 10 on me
- 8/7/19 Roger Desmarchelier and Tony McClellan (2-10 on me) + Greg Newling on Foundation
- 15/7/19 French Night hosted by Roger Desmarchelier
- 22/7/19 Rob Edwards on Fiji Solar Panels for Schools hosted by Lindfield Rotary
- 29/7/19 Legacy Talk hosted by Lindfield Rotary
- 5/8/19 Member Rob Hall on Facebook
- 12/8/19 Theo Glockemann on RYPEN
- 19/8/19 Mark Haughton on Making a Musical Instrument
- 26/8/19 DG Kalma McClennan on District Issues, a combined meeting with LRC
- 2/9/19 James Gribble on inspiring disabled, a combined meeting with LRC hosted by KRC
- 9/9/19 Scott Connor on Sydney Metro, a combined meeting with LRC hosted by KRC
- 16/9/19 Members Bob Ivey and Anil Fulwaria on Cashless Payment System developed for KRC
- 23/9/19 BBQ at Clarke Road School organised by Member Joy Newling
- 30/9/19 Breakfast Meeting at Bar Fresco Gordon organised by Bob Elsworth
- 14/10/19 Hat night at KGC for mental health
- 21/10/19 Pride of Workmanship Awards hosted by Member David Kitchen
- 28/10/19 KRC Strategic Planning Workshop & Member Survey hosted by Member Rob Hall
- 4/11/19 Melbourne Cup Sweep plus 3 – 10 on Me - Michael Dawkins, Joy Newling & Lou Coenen

- 18/11/19 Lachlan Kitchen (son of David) on Working in Dubai + PoW award to Hamish Wylie
- 25/11/19 Member Rob Alexander on possible Club Fundraising events & Members Peter Kipps and Tony McClellan on the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic
- 2/12/19 Mike Tozer on employing people with Autism + Member Greg Newling on Foundation + Theo Glockemann on Timor L'este RYPEN update
- 9/12/19 Annual General Meeting + Christmas Party at Member Michael Tyler's hosted by Roger Desmarchelier and Joy Newling
- 13/1/20 Putting Competition at Killara Golf Club with LRC hosted by Member Malcolm Braid
- 20/1/20 Update on Hong Kong by LRC member Barry Ng and KRC member Peter Tang hosted by Malcolm Braid
- 3/2/20 International Night at Waitara Bowling Club hosted by member Peter Kipps
- 10/2/20 Youth Night – Guest Speaker Ali Rezeal – hosted by member Anne Maslen
- 17/2/20 Restaurant Night at Land of Smiles Thai St Ives hosted by Roger Desmarchelier
- 2/3/20 Guest Speaker John Kell on Investment Casting
- 9/3/20 Guest Speaker Kelly from Black Dog Institute on Breaking Down Depression
- 16/3/20 Meeting cancelled due COVID-19 restrictions
- 23/3/20 Meeting cancelled due COVID-19 restrictions
- 30/3/20 Meeting cancelled due COVID-19 restrictions
- 4/4/20 Zoom Meeting – Member Roger Desmarchelier and Arthur Maltby on Way Forward for KRC next Rotary Year hosted by Member Rob Hall
- 6/4/20 Meeting cancelled due COVID-19 restrictions
- 13/4/20 Zoom meeting over drinks hosted by Rob Hall
- 20/4/20 Zoom Meeting – Guest Speaker Lachlan Kitchen from Dubai
- 29/4/20 Zoom Meeting – Hosted by Rob Hall on innovation and planning
- 4/5/20 Zoom Meeting – KRC Member Rob Hall hosted this meeting on Shaping the Future
- 11/5/20 Zoom Meeting – TRC Member Rob Byrne and KRC Member Greg Newling on the Rotary Foundation
- 18/5/20 Meeting cancelled due COVID-19 restrictions
- 18/5/20 Meeting cancelled due COVID-19 restrictions
- 25/5/20 Zoom Meeting – Guest Speaker Hon Member David Forsythe on NZ Experiences
- 1/6/20 Zoom Meeting hosted by Rob Hall
- 3/6/20 Zoom Meeting – LRC Closure and member transfers to KRC hosted by Rob Hall
- 8/6/20 Zoom Meeting – Royal Night Quiz hosted by member Roger Desmarchelier
- 15/6/20 Zoom Meeting – WRC Members Doug Reid and Stuart Armstrong on Hornsby Connect
- 22/6/20 Meeting cancelled due COVID-19 restrictions
- 29/6/20 Zoom Meeting – Changeover chaired by Past President Joy Newling and hosted by member Rob Hall

International (Peter Kipps – AoS Chair)

International Projects 2020

We were able to donate \$14,000 to 4 International projects in the year. The projects were in Fiji, Timor L'este and 2 in Africa. The focus was on education, which is so vital for development. International nights raised just on \$4,000, a district grant \$3,000 and the balance of \$7,000 was from club funds.

Fiji school Solar Panel project \$6,000



Our donation of \$3,000 became \$6,000 through a district grant. This was part funding for panels, battery, inverter and wiring for the Vuna Primary school. This project will continue for years (200 schools to go!) It would be good for our club to be involved in this project on an ongoing basis.

Uganda School for Life \$3,072



This school was started by 2 young Australians. Their mission is to “Educate poverty out of existence”. They have built 2 primary and 1 secondary school in 10 years, and 2 more are under construction. Our donation supports a teacher for a year.

Timor Léste RYPEN project \$4,000



The Rotary Youth Program for Enrichment (RYPEN) consists of a 2.5 day workshop and activities for young people aged 14-16, who have shown qualities of decency, courage, persistence, sincerity, and application in everyday life, which deserve further development. It helps them develop personally,

challenge themselves, build friendships with like-minded people, and build life skills. This year we funded 80% of a course for 50 youngsters.

Kenya Umoja School –project \$1, 000

Underdeveloped countries have been hit very hard by the COVID 19 world pandemic and many institutions have closed. Our donation of \$1,000 was in response to an appeal for help from Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWKS).

Community (Michael Midlam – AoS Chair)

This year our Community Service was, as usual, active with Eagles Raps, doing a sausage sizzle and Christmas party. We were also involved in helping with a cocktail party put on by accountancy firm KPMG to help find donors for the school. We also informed members about the 500 dollar a year donation scheme that was taken up by 16 of our members and assisted in the formation of DCaf Dementia Café for local community members, living at home with early onset dementia and their carers. This weekly event allowed them to mix socially for a couple of hours at West Pymble Aquatic Centre and has been a great success. Following the onset of COVID 19 restrictions we were able to continue these meeting to a large extent using social conferencing software Zoom.

While the main organization was done by Ross Egan, we also assisted in the Bunnings and government sausage sales.

We also assembled a group to clean up Lofberg Oval at West Pymble for Clean Up Australia Day. Like almost everything else, the COVID 19 lock down put a stop to just about everything we were doing, but Lindsay Forrest and I are now in the process of planning the coming year, and discussing how we can involve our new members.

Financial (Chris Lewis - Treasurer)

Over the year, the General Account has maintained its current sound financial position and is expected to end with a small decrease in its net position (before allowing for prepayment of 2020/2021 dues). This is after three months of no activity following the outbreak of COVID-19.

For the Project Account the year has seen very successful fundraising activities leading to a substantial increase in its financial position. The club has continued to support many worthwhile projects with significant donations for drought relief, solar panels in Fiji, the School for Life in Uganda, RYPEN in Timor, Shelterbox, Polio plus, as well as other community and youth activities.

Youth (Anne Maslen – AoS Chair)

Youth started with the prospect of a very busy year but unfortunately, due to COVID-19, some of our yearly programmes were cancelled, RYLA, MUNA and RYPEN.

We are again involved with the High Schools – Turrumurra, Ku ring gai and Killara, Clarke Road School and Sir Eric Woodward School via the Benefic Awards.

We had a very enthusiastic and grateful RYLA Candidate.

We were involved at Clarke Rd School attending P&C meetings and volunteering at their Disco Night and Presentation Day.

Our club sponsored two great candidates for the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) but unfortunately, one session was totally cancelled and the other partially cancelled.

The Youth Budget was \$9,115 this year. However, due to the COVID-19 circumstances, was only partially utilised.

I have enjoyed being the Youth AoS Chair this year, even though the number of cancelled programmes was truly disappointing.

I wish the incoming Youth Leader, Malcolm Braid, all the best for the 2020/21 year and hopefully things will improve.

Information Technology (Bob Ivey – IT Manager)

While the COVID19 restrictions brought about a sudden reduction in use and development on the club and Bobbo Volunteers websites, we should remind ourselves of the significant work undertaken by Anil Fulwaria (supported by Bob Ivey) to both sites in the first half of this rotary year. To recognise Anil for his significant efforts, our club awarded him a Paul Harris Fellow.

Club Website Development

Anil built a completely new modern database system that eliminated previously cumbersome separate systems to manage Member contact details, Meeting and Functions Attendance and paperless system for the Door Team. Access to the backend of the site is no longer needed as management of these functions is now much simpler and done from the front of the site (by any member with the appropriate access level). Improvements include:

- Paperless attendance system, using an iPad instead of paper for Door Team. This was introduced in July 2019 and trialled while still using cash.
- Tap&Go credit card payments via SQUARE (in conjunction with cash) was introduced two months later – it was preferred by members and cash payments for meals were soon eliminated (except for fines).
- The new Attendance system together with SQUARE is also used for members & guests to register for 'away' functions. (Registration / payment by members of the public for events such as theatre night still uses a separate 'events' system).
- The SQUARE device can be used to accept payments (from anyone) anywhere there is internet access, which can be provided via a mobile phone.

Bobbo Volunteer System

Following feedback from the 2019 Bobbo event Marshall Team Leaders, improvements requiring significant re-programming were built into the Volunteer system. These included:

- Reports of tasks volunteers had for previous events;
- A simplified system for allocation of tasks to Volunteers;

- Identification of double bookings for tasks and double entry of people;
- Review of the various admin teams required by the Karuah Oval site manager and;
- King/Queen of the Mountain recording of times system designed to replace the previous (expensive) professional system.

