

# Annual Report 2018 - 2019



Rotary  Club of Ku-ring-gai

“To know that our Club was one of 4 that helped raise the \$186,000 which was distributed to Lifeline and other charities that night gave me goosebumps.”

Joy Newling



## PRESIDENT'S REVIEW

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2018-19

What an amazing year it has been! We achieved so much as a Club and I feel honoured to have been President of the Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai. The Rotary International theme for this Rotary Year was *“Be the Inspiration”* and our members, projects and achievements have been inspiring.

There were many fantastic projects and activities. For me personally, Cluck Road Farm and celebrating our 60th Anniversary were the most outstanding ones. We had an educational theme too with our support of Eagles RAPS, Clarke Road School and School for Life. These are all great examples of lives being changed through different areas of education.

We celebrated the completion of Cluck Road Farm at Clarke Road School in Hornsby in November. This is the biggest hands-on project our Club has attempted in recent years.

We started in Malcolm's year as President (2017 - 2018) and converted an area covered with weeds and rubbish at the rear of the school into the base for a hen house and gardens. We also started on the renovation of an existing shed which included cleaning, painting and adding new doors so it could be used as a room for senior students to learn new skills in preparation for leaving school.

In stage 2 this year we continued with the renovation of the shed and added and painted a deck and stairs at the front. We built the hen house which houses 5 hens and provided

them with a water supply. We finished construction of garden beds for vegetables and herbs, as well as propagation benches to help senior students learn new outdoor skills.



David Forsythe was the unofficial project manager and driving force behind this great project. David was ably assisted by Arthur Maltby and Ross Egan and at least two thirds of our members took part and contributed hundreds of hours. We were grateful for a District Grant of \$2000 received from The Rotary Foundation as well as donations from members and local suppliers. The official opening was a very special day and I think we will always remember everyone, VIPS included, doing the Chicken Dance!

Three Club members are on the Clarke Road School P&C and our Club held a very successful combined meeting and BBQ with over 70 parents, staff and Club members attending to celebrate the completion of Cluck Road Farm.

In its 8th year, the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic (The BOBBO) was held on Sunday 24 March. I felt very proud at the Bobbo Presentation Night to present a cheque for \$18,600 to Sally and Marten from Eagles RAPS. To know that our Club was one of 4 that helped raise the \$186,000 which was distributed to Lifeline and different charities that night gave me goosebumps. We should all be proud of that achievement and very grateful to our members who put in long hours in the BOBBO planning – Tony, Gary, Ross, John, Peter, Anne, Chris and Lindsay. Thank you all. There were many very tired members in the park at the end of the day, but it was worth it!

This year we established a new partnership with Sir Eric Woodward School at St Ives. Parents and staff gave an impressive presentation to one of our meetings and following that Gary Keating took the lead, talked with staff at the school and applied for a Stronger Communities grant from the Federal government. We were successful and the school gained 5 sets of iPads with Blue tooth switches through the grant of \$2500 matched by our donation of \$2500.

We raised and contributed \$3000 to drought relief through two different channels: the first was providing essential dog biscuits to the value of \$1000 to farmers in the Cassilis-Coolah area via their local store - when they bought a bag of dog biscuits, they were given another bag free courtesy of our Club. The remaining \$2000 was distributed through the Rotary Club of Rylstone Kandos to needy families via 20 vouchers of \$100 each. We received at least one moving letter of thanks for our support.

With the Rotary Club of Turramurra we ran the monthly markets at Gordon to help fund projects of both Clubs. Many thanks are due to Geoff Hungerford for his efforts on our behalf.

Under Partnership and Fundraising we continued working with the Rotary Club of Upper Northern Beaches to sell raffle tickets in their successful car raffle and involved other

community groups to do the same. We ran two BBQs at Bunnings at West Chatswood and helped with one at PCYC Waitara on Federal election day where we sold “Democracy Sausages”. Funds raised from this BBQ will help students to attend activities at PCYC who otherwise would miss out as they could not afford to participate.

Several initiatives for attracting new members to our Club were held during the year and thanks are due to Roger Desmarchelier. We ran a Rotary Awareness night at PCYC last November which was well attended, and guests were given a delicious meal and presented with the story of Rotary, our Club and the PCYC facilities.

West Pymble shopping mall has been the centre of our attention and 3 public image stalls and two BBQs were held there. I appreciated the support of at least 15 members each time and we made a statement in our Club shirts. Through these days we added names to our “Friends of Rotary” list, members of the community who are interested to know more or help on projects.



As we were also celebrating our 60th Anniversary this year we had been looking for a way to permanently commemorate this in the local community. We came up with the idea of a picnic table and seats in the playground park at West Pymble and when Rob put the idea to the local Facebook community group he was inundated with positive responses. That was the start of a campaign with talks with Council staff, a BBQ and a raffle with all prizes donated. Arthur and I visited all the local businesses and shops and were pleasantly surprised by the positive response. The raffle was drawn at our combined 60th Anniversary and Changeover Dinner on 24 June. Hopefully we will see the table and bench seats installed before the end of June 2020.

Another celebration during our 60th Anniversary year was a special meeting in February when we incorporated aspects from the Club’s Charter night in February 1959 into our regular Club meeting. These included dressing as members would have in 1959, singing God Save the Queen, musical entertainment, special meal of roast lamb and vegetables, an anniversary cake (beautifully cooked and iced by Helen Egan) and singing “Click Go the Shears” as they did then. It was an enjoyable night and one I will remember, as I will both Changeover Dinners.

While we gained one new member, Sally White, during the year, we lost two long serving members. Emyr Evans resigned for health reasons and David Forsythe moved to New Zealand to join his wife Patricia who had been appointed Australia’s High Commissioner to NZ for three years. They will be missed.

Rob Hall has been busy with our Facebook page and producing leaflets and signs for our membership opportunities as well as creating a video for our meeting at PCYC and producing our online bulletin Koongga. He also produced two huge helium balloons telling the world that our Club was celebrating 60 years of service to the community!

Rob also looked after our speaker program and we had some excellent speakers on a variety of subjects at our usual venue of Killara Golf Club. We also combined with Lindfield Rotary Club for a couple of meetings, a stand-out being a performance by the Hope Choir from Uganda.

During the year we had an eye-opening talk about the way payments were changing in Australia and that we lead the world in “tap and go.” This started our Club thinking about updating the attendance system we use each meeting night. We are well on the way courtesy of our IT Champions, Anil Fulwaria and Bob Ivey, who have spent hundreds of hours working on our attendance and payment systems. Now our presence is noted on an iPad and Anil is working with a Square payment device for tap and go payments in the very near future. We are all very grateful to Anil and Bob. Gone will be the paper and pencil and frustrations at the end of the night when it doesn’t balance!

In Timor Leste, through our International Committee led by Peter Kipps, we helped fund a Rotary youth program, RYPEN, which is designed to help young people gain self confidence and communication skills and thus help their communities. We also donated funds to help purchase solar panels for a school in Fiji, and funds to cover the salary of a teacher for a year at the School for Life in Uganda. One of the founders of the school, Annabelle Chauncy, spoke passionately about the school at our Changeover Dinner.

Our Youth Committee in the capable hands of Graham and Anne Maslen, has again been very active. We sponsored 4 brilliant candidates to the National Youth Science Forum. We also sponsored an entrepreneurial young man, Yousof, to the Rotary Youth Leadership Award week and at the end of 2018 presented awards to students at Clarke Road School, Sir Eric Woodward School, and three high schools – Ku-ring-gai, Killara and Turramurra as well as supporting other Rotary youth programs. Our Club is also supporting the formation of the new North Sydney Rotaract Club.

Our Club has donated to The Rotary Foundation, Rotary’s charity, and two-thirds of our members again donated to the Foundation through the Centurion Program. My thanks to Chris Hoch for continuing to raise it with members. We also contributed to Rotary’s worldwide effort to eliminate Polio from the world.

On the social and fundraising side, we enjoyed a successful International Night at the home of Ross and Helen Egan. Thank you both for giving us such a lovely venue, and thanks to Peter Kipps for his organization of the evening. We held another successful night at Pymble Players at their production of “Dial M for Murder” and my thanks to Roger for his promotion and organization and to all the members who prepared delicious food to share as well as donating bottles of wine.

David Kitchen was the MC for the Pride of Workmanship Night and thanks are due to the Vocational committee, especially David and Bob Ivey for arranging this excellent night. It was another opportunity to spread the word about our Club and Rotary.

Mike Midlam was again the champion for Eagles RAPS and arranged for members to run a BBQ for Sally, Scott, Marten and their students, as well as providing a delicious Christmas lunch. Both events were very much enjoyed and appreciated by all.

I am grateful for the co-operation and support from all the Avenue of Service Committee Chairs and appreciated them stepping up when needed. The amazing achievements of their committees are detailed later in the Club's report. I am also grateful to the members of the Board, especially Vice President Ross Egan for his support and practical advice, treasurer Chris Lewis who kept us up to date with our financial position and Secretary Lindsay Forrest who always produced board papers on time and navigated us through several issues during the year. My thanks to Geoff Hungerford for stepping in when Lindsay was away on family matters in NZ.

I have had much to be thankful for, including the support and guidance of Past President Malcolm Braid, and assistance from members of the district team and District Governor Susan Wakefield.

My thanks to all our Club members for their support and friendship during the year. I appreciated the usually high attendance and friendly atmosphere at our weekly meetings and the way you accepted the challenge to take part in the many activities and projects we undertook during the year.

I hope we can all continue to be the inspiration and grow our Club so we have more members, can do more projects and create more opportunities to help others. Thank you to incoming President Bob Elsworth for accepting the challenge.

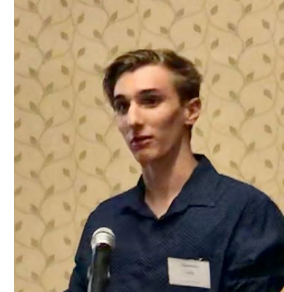
**Joy Newling – President**

# AVENUES OF SERVICE

## YOUTH



The Youth Committee has been involved with local high schools via the Benefic Awards, and Clarke Road School via the Role Model Award. The Sir Eric Woodward School has now been added as a recipient of this annual award.



Anne Maslen, Joy Newling and Gary Keating have also attended Clarke Road P&C

meetings.

RYPEN, MUNA and RYDA also appear annually on our list of beneficiaries.

Airflights for disadvantaged young people or students with disabilities and their carers also featured again in 2018/19.

The initiators of the pilot Rocket Program last year are due a lot of credit for the surge in interest in science projects and forums. This year our Club sponsored four brilliant candidates to the National Youth Science Forum.

Assistant Governor, Fiona Jenkins, Joy Newling and Anne Maslen representing Youth attended several meetings in North Sydney for discussions on the possibility of setting up a Rotaract Club on the lower North Shore. It is now on its way to being chartered.

Our RYLA attendee has since become active with Rotaract.

PCYC in Waitara has been a welcome addition for its involvement with schools and youth in the local and surrounding areas. It has also set up programs to assist indigenous youth from outback districts of NSW.

### Graham Maslen—Chair:- Youth

## INTERNATIONAL

These are the projects our club helped fund in 2018/9.

### TIMOR LESTE

#### Youth empowerment

This project provides RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Encouragement) courses for 14 to 16 year olds, on a 3 day camp. The courses are designed to help young people gain self confidence and communication skills, and to challenge themselves to help their communities. This year our club funded half the cost for a course for 60 students. The project is administered by Pennant Hills Rotary who have successfully completed 11 such courses over the years

### FIJI

#### Solar powered electricity for schools via the Its Time Foundation.



The Foundation has provided solar electricity for 18 schools over the last 9 years. Donations fund solar panels, batteries and inverters, and much of the wiring is done by volunteers. This electricity transforms the student's education, as they can now run computers and other equipment. Our donation this year helped fund the purchase of solar panels. We have applied for a District Grant to boost a further donation in 2019/20

### UGANDA

#### Funding a teacher via the School for Life Foundation

Two young Australians Annabelle Chauncy OAM and David Everett OAM founded School For Life in 2008. The Foundation's mission is to empower developing communities to become sustainable through quality education. The first school in Uganda was opened in 2011, and there are now 3 schools with 1000 students. Our 2018/9 donation will fund a teacher's salary for a year.

These projects help young people to build better lives for themselves and their communities.

Members, your efforts are definitely making a difference!

**Peter Kipps—Chair: International**



## **VOCATIONAL**

### **Vocational support**

The Committee for 2018 - 2019 was Michael Tyler, Robyne Alexander, David Forsythe, Bob Ivey, Ted Price, and Michael Midlam

### **Vocational support**

Responding to the Police Citizens Youth Club's wish to reinvigorate its association with Rotary, Robyne Alexander (and later David Kitchen) made numerous attempts to establish a dialogue with the PCYC in Waitara to find out how our club might be able to provide vocational support for the patrons of the PCYC, but nothing resulted.

### **Vocational recognition**

With the support of other members of the club who sourced nominees from local businesses, Bob Ivey arranged a very successful Pride of Workmanship awards night at the club. Awards were made to 4 very deserving nominees, who were supported at the event by 20 family members and work colleagues. David Kitchen acted as master of ceremonies with great skill.

### **Personal and professional ethics**

The club was unable to arrange a school or university debate on an ethical issue.

### **Michael Tyler – Chair : Vocational Services Committee**

## COMMUNITY

### Gordon Markets

#### **Team Leader: Geoff Hungerford**

Gordon Markets are conducted on the second Sunday of each calendar month throughout the year and take place on the second level of Ku-ring-gai Council's Wade Lane Carpark on the east side of Gordon. The Markets have been operating continuously now for over 25 years.

Two Rotary Clubs share this project – namely Turramurra and Ku ring gai Rotary Clubs, so net revenue from this activity is divided between the clubs for use on various Club projects. Patrons to the markets are encouraged to donate a gold coin on entry. Stallholders fees are calculated on the number of car spaces occupied....normally one or two spaces.

Both Rotary clubs provide volunteers for the 7 hours of operation. Our Club divides the hours into 3 shifts with 2 members on each shift. Each shift has designated duties and, all members assigned, undertake their respective duties.

The Markets deliver a great community service, help us to promote Rotary, and allow us to raise much needed funds for our club's many projects.

### Bobbin Head Cycle Classic

#### **Team Leader: Tony McClelland**

This year was the 8th anniversary of this community bike ride that continues to grow in popularity and meet the needs of not only the local community, but cyclists from all over Sydney and environs.

This year the event was held on Sunday 24 March 2019 and again was a resounding success with no significant accidents amongst the 2500 riders and netting \$186,000 for the supported charities.

Four Rotary Clubs share the staging and coordination of this event – the Rotary Clubs of Ku-ring-gai, Turramurra, Wahroonga and St Ives. These clubs provide approx. 500 volunteers to manage and marshal the event from within their own member ranks, from the supported charities, the SES, the police, and a range of other local community organisations.

Four different distances are offered – the shortest being 27kms and a 57km to cater to the social riders. For the more serious competitive cyclists, there is an 80km and 104km option. A 4 km timed hill climb from the bottom of Bobbin Head to the National Park gates on Bobbin Head Road forms part of the 2 longer rides. Prizes in the order of \$500 are given for the fastest male, fastest female and fastest group.

Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury, the Charity Partner for this event, receives 50% of the net funds raised. The balance is distributed to a number of Charity Beneficiaries nominated by

each of the 4 Rotary Clubs. Our club nominated Eagles RAPS again this year and presented them with a cheque for approx. \$18,000 from this event. Other beneficiaries include KYDS, Bo Hospital, Hornsby Women's Shelter and Cromehurst School.

### **Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal**

#### **Team Leader: Chris Hoch**

Normally Red Shield Day assist happens in late May and, in conjunction with Turramurra Rotary Club, we provide volunteer members to transport and supervise small groups of private School senior girls from PLC and Abbotsleigh. These students do the door to door fund raising within our area. This year the Red Shield appeal occurred on the same day as the Federal Election and we were unable to assist as we had made an alternative commitment to assist PCYC with an election 'Democracy BBQ' as detailed below.

### **PCYC Assistance**

#### **Team Leader: Lindsay Forrest**

On Saturday 18 May 2019, Federal Election Day, our club assisted with a BBQ at PCYC at Waitara. Our club provided around 12 volunteer members over 4 shifts. Funds raised went directly to the PCYC to support a fund for disadvantaged students to participate in PCYC activities. A bacon and egg roll or a sausage with onion on a bun were the main offerings to voters attending the polling booth at the PCYC. We did not need to provide drinks as the PCYC café sold these.

### **West Pymble Shopping Mall – plan to provide outside table with bench seats**

#### **Team Leaders – Arthur Maltby and Rob Hall**

Following some research, particularly by Rob Hall through the West Pymble Community Facebook Page, it was determined that the West Pymble community would like to have an outside table with bench seats adjacent to the children's playground at the northern end of the shopping mall. KRC committed to this as a project to commemorate the Club's 60th anniversary in 2019. Due to Council regulations we were not able to construct it, but Council agreed that if we provided the funds to purchase the table and seats, Council staff would be able to install them. On Saturday 1 June President Joy Newling organised and managed a BBQ and raffle outside Price's Pharmacy to raise funds for the project. Arthur and Joy visited local businesses in the mall and asked them to donate the food items and raffle prizes and they did so generously. The net profit on the day was \$660. A number of our members attended & assisted in shifts. Not only did this event raise funds, it also gave our club good PR exposure in the local community.

### **Cancer Council Daffodil Day Assistance**

#### **Team Leader: Ross Egan**

On Friday 24 August 2018, six of our members made themselves available at Pymble Station from 6.15 am to 8.15am to sell daffodils, pins, dolls and other merchandise to commuters. The purpose of this event was to assist the Cancer Council with its Annual

fund raising. It was a great morning and very successful. Again it was encouraging to see many Pymble Ladies College students buying flowers and merchandise.

## **Bowelscan**

### **Team Leader: Roger Desmarchelier**

This initiative took place in May 2019. It is an annual program that has been taking place for more than 10 years and involves the promotion and distribution of bowel test kits to local pharmacies for them to sell to members of the public. The test kit enables the purchaser to check for blood in their own faeces which is an early indicator for bowel cancer. Government media and marketing promote this program and our club assists with the take up rate through our distribution of the test kits to local pharmacies.

## **Trees of Joy**

### **Team Leader: Ted Price**

This annual project was again undertaken by Price's pharmacy at West Pymble. Each year non-perishable items are collected for Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury, as part of its Christmas Appeal.

The wonderful community of West Pymble responded very generously to our Annual Trees of Joy appeal for non-perishable food items for Lifeline's Christmas Hampers which are distributed to those hidden local families struggling to make ends meet. For a static, not really promoted project, the quantity of donations given always astounds us.

## **Rotary Cakes and Puddings**

### **Team Leader: Ted Price**

This annual project was again undertaken by Price's Pharmacy. To raise funds, Rotary Christmas cakes and puddings are sold to members of the public in the month before Christmas. The funds raised are then donated to the Rotary Foundation. Our club benefited by \$160 and the Rotary Foundation by \$156 from the sales of these cakes and puddings this Rotary year.

## **Eagles RAPS**

### **Team Leaders: Michael Midlam & Greg Newling**

Our commitment to Eagles RAPS continued this year and marks the 10th year we have been doing so. Eagles RAPS provides a service for young people who don't fit into the normal state school system, where they can be educated and engaged. This small charitable organisation was originally established by members of the Doonside community to address youth suicides in the area. It operates from premises in Doonside and services the western suburbs of Sydney.

Members this year again conducted a BBQ and provided Christmas lunch for the students and staff.

Students from Eagles RAPS participated in the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic in March this year as riders and some staff and committee members assisted as road marshals.

A small group of our members attended the Eagles RAPS Annual Fundraising dinner and auction.

Eagles RAPS lost a major sponsor during the year and that caused a major financial problem.

They were the KRC nominated charity as our club's beneficiary from the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic. This year we were pleased to be able to present them with a cheque for \$18,600.

### **Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury Assistance**

#### **Team Leaders: Bob Elsworth & Arthur Maltby**

Arthur Maltby continued to provide weekly assistance with book sorting at the LL West Lindfield Depot.

Members assisted LL on two occasions with two of Lifeline's annual book fairs. One for the Macquarie University Book Fair in November 2018 and the other for the Thornleigh Book Fair in April 2019. Our club provided 6 members on each occasion to assist with loading trucks with boxes of books at the Hornsby LL Depot.

### **Flights for Disadvantaged Young People**

#### **Team Leader: Gary Keating**

This year we were again invited by the Rotary Club of Turramurra to provide approximately 12 students and carers for the 90-minute Qantas flight for the disadvantaged. We were able to identify people to participate and our Club covered the costs required for these attendees. All participants thoroughly enjoyed their flight this was a great example of Rotary endeavouring to make a difference for those less fortunate.

### **Clarke Road School**

#### **Team Leader: David Forsythe and Arthur Maltby**

Our major project at the school was to design, procure materials and project manage a new chicken coop, vegetation area, shed renovation and a new deck in a disused portion of the school grounds. This project commenced in the previous Rotary year and carried over to this Rotary year. The project was essentially divided into two parts with part one financed from KRC's previous year's funds and part two funded in the 2018/2019 year with a matching grant from the District.

The project was professionally managed by David Forsythe and his 2I/C Arthur Maltby. They were supported by many members who gave exceptional hours on Thursdays and/or Sundays. In addition, a number of members donated financially towards materials. David was able to secure a large donation of timber and hardware from a local supplier.

## **Bunnings Fundraising BBQs**

### **Team Leader: Bob Elsworth**

Members again donned their Rotary aprons and caps to run two BBQs at Bunnings Chatswood Store this Rotary year. The first was on Sunday 19 August 2018 and the second was on Sunday 3 March 2019. We managed to have the drinks donated by Lindfield Coles on both occasions. However, profits were down this year compared to the two Bunnings BBQs conducted last year.

## **Legacy Day Assistance**

### **Team Leader: Chris Hoch**

As in previous years a small number of members assisted with the annual Legacy Day at St Ives and Gordon Shopping Centres. The local Legacy branch really appreciated the extra help the members provided to support this great charity.

## **Bob Elsworth—Chair: Community Avenue of Service**

## MEMBERSHIP

The Membership Avenue of Service includes initiatives for attracting new members to our Club as well as retaining existing membership. This year we inducted one new member, Sally White.



In November we ran a Rotary Awareness night at the PCYC Waitara to attract more new members. It was well attended by 29 guests, who were presented with the story of Rotary International, our Club and the facilities for the community of the PCYC itself.

Public image stalls were held in West Pymble shopping

centre during the year. One was based around the 60th birthday of Prices Pharmacy, run by the Price family for that period of time. Congratulations to Ted Price for the longevity of that well patronised community pharmacy. Another bar b que stall was held there as part of the Club's 60th year fundraising. Through these we added several names on our list of "Friends of Rotary" who are interested to know more or help on projects in the future.

Membership initiatives are ongoing activities for our Club and marketing opportunities through the Bunnings bar b ques, our theatre nights and other social events give us an opportunity to raise our profile amongst the community for prospective new members. Our Club website and Facebook page also give us a strong profile and distribution of leaflets promoting our Club at all our activities continues to tell our Ku-ring-gai Rotary story

**Roger Desmarchelier – Chair : Membership**

## PARTNERSHIP & FUNDRAISING

Part of our Club 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; -

**Rotary raffle:** We continued a 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 the individual community group to sell raffle tickets & achieve revenue, without taking on the administration & capital funding of the scheme. Community (not for profit) groups involved & selling tickets include; -

- Bobbin Head Cycle Classic
- Clarke Road School
- St Ives Rotary Club
- PCYC at Waitara
- Local tennis clubs

This year's involvement sold \$2600 tickets as part of overall annual sales of \$181,000. We plan to expand on this activity next year.

**Film Nights at the Roseville Cinema** - continuing to raise awareness of our Rotary Club and involve the community and friends in supporting our projects. The evenings include raffle, lucky door prizes, refreshments, project promotion and new membership opportunities. These events will continue to be run in conjunction with other Rotary Clubs, Friends of Rotary and community groups.

**Guest Speakers promoting partnership opportunities** included Graham Edwards from Sydney Transport who has offered access to government assets ranging from retired buses to office and domestic furniture for our projects.

### Service

Initiatives this year included; -

Identifying new opportunities and relationships such as;

**Bunnings Sausage Sizzles** (2 events) at West Chatswood store. These are fun events that involve most members in organising, raising funds and achieving public awareness of our Club.

**Hornsby PCYC** – we conducted a Democracy Sausage Sizzle on Federal Election Day. We plan to reinvigorate our support and involvement with this successful youth group.



**Lifeline – Harbour to Hawkesbury.** Apart from the Bobbo Cycle Classic, we have increased our day to day support of Lifeline with regular property maintenance, facility repairs, graffiti removal, etc – and generally being on call for emergencies. Several of our members have major (yet unheralded) roles supporting Lifeline enhanced by their background skills and experience

**The Killara Golf Club** – where we hold our weekly meetings, is becoming more active in the local community. A recent presentation from their Club President and General Manager has highlighted some partnering project ideas, to be developed further.

**Media promotion of activities** – Apart from the Bobbo Cycle Classic this continues to be a major challenge for our Club, and we will continue to renew and develop a working relationship with local media and Council

**Guest Speakers at our Dinner Meetings** – the high standard of presentations and ongoing success of our weekly speakers is a major attraction of our club. Indeed this year we have held several combined dinner meetings with Lindfield Rotary Club, where the speakers attracted more interest than usual.

### **Ross Egan Chair - Partnership & Fundraising**

## PROGRAMS & MARKETING



### Program

During the year we had guest speakers covering a broad range of subjects,

### Koongga

During this Rotary year, 20 issues of our Club Newsletter, *Koongga*, were distributed through the web-based email list to members and friends of Ku-ring-gai Rotary Club. Special thanks go to Greg Newling who assisted in preparing and despatching *Koongga* during from March to May 2019.

### Social media & marketing collateral

To celebrate our Club's 60th birthday, three helium-filled balloons were created for use at celebration BBQs and at the Gordon Rotary Markets during the birthday week. An 8-minute video was also created as a way of introducing potential new members to Rotary itself and to Ku-ring-gai Rotary Club. It was first shown at our "Introduction to Rotary" night at Waitara PCYC and then placed on Youtube.

Our Facebook page was updated after significant events. Each post was aimed at a target audience of people resident in the geographic area that is the likely catchment for potential members (i.e. centred on Turrumurra with a radius of 17 km). The imagery used was intended to indicate that our Club is not an "old blokes outfit" but one that involves women and young people in their events and activities.

We also posted to the Pymble - West Pymble Community Facebook Page on a number of occasions to promote our Club and to research people's enthusiasm for the table and bench we proposed installing in the park area adjacent to the paved mall courtyard.

### Rob Hall – Chair: Public Image

## **CLUB SERVICE – 2018/2019**

### **SIR ERIC WOODWARD SCHOOL (SEWS)**

Our Club established a new partnership during the year with this special education school in St Ives. Parents and staff made an impressive presentation to one of our regular meetings. Wishing to respond positively, but without a budget provision with which to do so, RCK moved quickly to apply for a “Stronger Communities” grant from the Federal Government. Our local member, Paul Fletcher, convenes a screening panel for such grants in Bradfield electorate. We passed that test and ultimately secured the \$2,500 sought for the provision (as a gift from RCK) of 5 sets of iPads with Bluetooth switches by which disabled students, both locally and being educated at distance in NSW, would be able to broaden their communication and learning possibilities. These grants are not available to schools directly.

Our members agreed to make a special effort to find the matching \$2,500 required, as a result of which \$5,000 was donated by us to the SEWS Foundation.

RCK, led by our President, was effusively thanked at SEWS Presentation Day, both as donors and as a new Community Partner of the school.

This is the first time that our Club has accessed this grant programme and we look forward to developing our new relationship with SEWS and furthering that with Paul Fletcher’s office, with whom we worked closely during the application process.

### **KU-RING-GAI COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANTS**

Having successfully won a \$2,000 grant from KMC in 2017/18, we remain keen to supplement our funds for Community work through this and other grant programmes in future. With this in mind, several members attended a KMC-hosted seminar on applying for such grants, to better understand the opportunities and constraints involved.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT**

Club Service continued to provide behind the scene administrative support for our regular Club meetings at Killara Golf Club and for our special functions/events elsewhere during the year.

### **BOBBO**

Again this year, Club Service provided one of our two representatives to the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic Executive Committee.... our Club’s major fundraiser and a joint effort with three other Rotary Clubs in our local area. This is a year-round commitment. We also managed the road signs teams for the event itself, sorting, erecting, removing, repairing and storing in excess of 500 signs in total.

### **Gary Keating – Chair: Club Service**

## SECRETARIAL

### **NSW Government – Office of Fair Trading**

Annual Return (Annual Summary of Financial Affairs – Form A12) submitted as required December 2018 post AGM.

### **NSW Government – Office of Liquor, Gaming & Racing**

RCK's Charitable Fundraising Authority (Number 14191) remains in place, expires 15 July 2020.

### **Ku-ring-gai Council**

Licence to Ku-ring-gai & Turramurra Rotary Clubs to run Wade Lane markets remains in place, expires 31 December 2019. RCT reminded.

### **AGM and monthly Board Meetings**

All have taken place in 2018/19 according to Constitution and By Laws. Minutes are available if any Member wishes to view.

### **RI/District/Rotary Down Under**

Secretary maintains RI, District and RDU records on current membership (and all changes as they occur such as new members) and any annual Returns required including District Rotary Club Insurance & Compliance Declaration.

### **Specific Activities**

**Working With Children** – as the Club's Youth Protection Officer, and also WWC Verification Officer (as also is Geoff Hungerford), have maintained & updated RCK's WWC Register of Volunteers with WWC Clearance & Verified), and all activities that have included working with children in 2018/19 have had fully signed off Checklist which shows all attendees are WWC Cleared and Verified.

**Form 3** – a new Volunteer Declaration Form for suitability for being involved with Youth was adopted by District. Secretary has actively engaged with District Youth Protection Officer (John Wakefield) and District Insurance Officer/AON and a more acceptable version of Form 3 has resulted. Agreed with District that unless a Member is involved in a Rotary Youth Program (e.g. Youth Exchange, RYLA) the only Members who need to complete Form 3 (as there is the possibility of 1:1 meetings with young people) are the Clubs Youth Chair and Youth Protection Officer. These have been completed, declared on the Clubs Annual Insurance Declaration and copies submitted to District. This will need to recur annually in April.

### **Special Thanks**

To Geoff Hungerford for stepping in as Acting Secretary in my absences – hugely appreciated'

### **Lindsay Forrest – Secretary**

## FINANCE

Over the year, the General Account has maintained its current sound financial position and is expected to end the year in a similar balance to that at the start of the year. This is after the cost of purchasing a new laptop and projector, which was largely but not fully funded by a grant from Council.

For the Project Account the end of year balance is expected to be around \$5000 higher than the opening balance, in addition to the money set aside in the term deposit which has been left untouched . The club has continued to support many worthwhile projects with significant donations for Nepal, Trachoma, Clarke Road school, School for life in Uganda, Indonesian Small grants,ROMAC, PCYC and other youth activities, - to mention a few. This has been balanced this year by an increased and successful focus on fund raising activities following a couple of years where, consciously and intentionally, the focus was more on making donations and reducing accumulated reserves.

**Chris Lewis—Treasurer**