

Rotary Club of Stirling



Annual Report 2017 -18



President's Report

Neil Wickens 2017/18

When I was invited to be president of the Rotary Club of Stirling my first thoughts were of the honour and privilege of that position. I then quickly realized that it's not about me, it's about the Club. So, what could I do for the Club? We had achieved great things in the past, let's show that we're still up to it. We started this year with an almost entirely new Board so it was necessary to have a clear vision as to where we wanted to go. My dream or vision can be summed up as follows:

All activities, be they catering jobs (Bunnings sausage sizzle in the heat) or local visits, (Sinclair's Gully Wines in the rain) have been approached with a feeling of good humour rather than just a task to be fulfilled.

Membership now stands at a healthy thirty-five, and we welcome new members, Ruth Chapman, Nick Kentish, Lisa Medlen, and Jill Mitchell. It is excellent news that our female membership has increased by three this year, up from two! Getting the gender balance right is important to all our members and I hope we shall see it increase for the coming year too.

Improved media contacts, public profile and social media presence. This is an ongoing activity awaiting the completion of a new club website. The public profile aspect can be judged by our improved links with the Adelaide Hills Council, annual dinners at Heathfield High School and Stirling Hospital as well as participation in events such as, Light the Night, Polio Ute Relay, Nature Play (Kuitpo), Youth Week movie night (Stirling oval), Australia Day presentations (Mylor), Tour Down Under, Uraidla Show and the Stirling Christmas Pageant.

1

KEEPING IT FUN

All activities, be they catering jobs or local visits, need to be fun!

2

NEW MEMBERS

Increasing diversity in the club keeps our club expanding and balanced

3

COMMUNITY

Working within our local community keeps us relevant and useful



New Member Lisa Medlen

Neil and Owen welcome Lisa to our club. Lisa has a long career in health, midwifery and neonatal care.



New Member Jill Mitchell

Neil welcomes Jill to our club. Jill has a background in event management



Susanne Marie Assistant Governor

Susanne has spent a year working hard assisting all our Rotary Clubs as AG

A Year Of Planning - Club Restructure

It is clear that, in our modern, ever-changing world, a club such as ours must adapt in order to nurture the proud legacy of past achievements and to avoid decline. To this end, the Board has spent several months developing a strategic plan which is designed to ensure that we remain relevant to the communities we serve and to encourage new membership.

The refreshed organization structure which will shortly be implemented will provide new and more direct engagement with the community. It will see the development of a greater public profile for the club, it will improve the efficiency with which we manage the club through a rationalization of the

responsibilities of the various committees and it will encourage our members to be more participative in club activities through small operational teams and clear forward planning.

"The refreshed organization structure which will shortly be implemented will provide new and more direct engagement with the community. It's been a fantastic year, some new projects, some challenges but all part of being a Rotary member"

Our new Club portfolios are: Board Executive (President, Secretary, Treasurer), Directors: Club Administration, Youth & Education; Event Management; Community Outreach & Engagement; and, International. In order to update our financial responsibilities, it was felt that our methods of accounting and reporting should be more aligned to the needs of a restructured club. Our thanks to our Treasurer, Pauline Annear for her work.

CREATING SUCCESS - SCULPTURE EXHIBITION

The Club's third exhibition of Sculpture for Interiors & Gardens was held in April/May this year at the National Trust property, Stangate House, Aldgate. This was our biggest event yet with over eighty works from twenty artists. This exhibition is developing a growing reputation and is attracting an ever-increasing number of visitors each year. The major beneficiary of funds raised will be the Shelterbox appeal. These comprise a range of equipment such as tent, cooking facilities and lighting for refugees or persons displaced by disasters around the world. Our thanks to Tapanappa Wines for their generous sponsorship, Veronica Forsayeth for the opening-night catering and the sub-committee for their efforts in putting this event together. Special thanks go to Tim Boon and Jan Lyon without whose unflagging work this project could not possibly succeed.



Tim Boon, Exhibition curator adding the final touches

Friends Across the Ditch - Partnering with Whakatane West, New Zealand

The Rotary Club of Stirling has formed a partner club relationship with the Rotary Club of Whakatane West (18595), Bay Of Plenty, North Island, NZ. Good friends, Ses Webster (from Whakane) and our own Veronica Forsayeth suggested the partnering of the two clubs. Whakatane West was chartered in 1970 and has been proudly serving the Eastern Bay of Plenty community since then. We are looking forward to developing our relationship with our New Zealand Rotary cousins.

Friends of Rotary

We are very grateful to our Friends of Rotary for their ongoing support which is so important for the success of our club. These relationships will continue to be fostered in the coming years.

Club Citation - What an Achievement!

Rotary Citations are awarded for achieving goals that strengthen Rotary and the individual club. Goals include increasing club membership, developing sustainable service projects, giving to The Rotary Foundation, and building awareness of Rotary in the community.

“Throughout the year I have always tried to keep in mind that, “I am not just a member of Rotary, I am Rotary (as indeed are we all) !”

It was rewarding to sign off on so many areas, which represented many hours of dedicated service and commitment from our members. We do work very well as a team and the Citation is proof that with a good team you can achieve great things. I am proud to be able to announce that our achievements outlined above have resulted in our Club receiving a Rotary International Club Citation. My sincere thanks and congratulations to all.

AUSTRALIAN ROTARY HEALTH AND INDIGENOUS SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT EBONY WARREN

Indigenous Health Scholarship 2018
University of South Australia, SA
Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science
Scholarship Awarded 2017

Sponsored by: Rotary Club of Stirling

“I have now been successful in my chosen field to study at UniSA where I plan to become an expert in Medical Imaging and although I have not decided on what area I will specialise, my passion for human biology is wide and I am sure I will discover this quickly. Once I gain my qualification, I plan to become part of the Aboriginal health community firstly by offering my expertise in rural/remote hospitals, if the opportunity arises.

I feel this will give me a greater understanding of Aboriginal community health issues at the grassroots level. I am passionate about serving the Aboriginal community and contributing to help fix the poor health and mortality rates by engaging with people through providing medical services, through health promotion and by making a comfortable and culturally appropriate service”
We are very proud to support Ebony through her medical training.



Youth & Vocation: Building relationships with our local youth.

This year a number of terrific opportunities to build our relationships with youth groups and schools in our district have developed.

It's been wonderful to exchange ideas and possible projects with Heathfield High School Drama teacher and S4S coordinator, Jayne Fulbrook. Jayne's commitment to her students and the S4S is highly commendable given the huge workload that she has to juggle. We are currently negotiating the first Interact Club in our area and are very thrilled to get such positive support from HHS. With the support of our District youth coordinator, Damian Leach, we will have our Interact club operational within the year.

We have also been working with the Adelaide Hills Council, Community Development Officer Youth & Recreation, Mark DeLange, and will develop some interesting and creative arts based projects in the coming months. We are proposing a short film/photographic, and perhaps a spoken word poetry performance, on the theme of Home. We are all looking forward to developing this idea further.



Damian Leach, Isabel Lee & Veronica Forsayeth Club Meeting: Youth & NYSF

Working with us on our arts projects is Rotary members Tim Boon who is planning a sculpture masterclass at Heathfield High School.

This year our club sponsor several young women to Rotary Youth Programs (Isabel Lee NYSF, Georgia Perry and Phoebe Ingram Adventures in Citizenship, Olivia Gardener RYLA).

"Providing support for young people in Rotary youth programs is why we're here"

High on our list this is providing support to RYWELL, (the Rotary initiative that supports disadvantaged youth). We have been working on a new project called Pathways to Place, which provides outdoor foraging, cooking and camping for young people at-risk or in care. We hope to implement this project, in conjunction with Families SA and RYWELL in the coming year.

SAUSAGE SIZZLE FIZZLE IN LIGHT OF POSH DOGS TAKEOVER BID

We've been working hard on our Catering Van and BBQ ready to launch a new, delicious menu for our forthcoming events. While we'll never say no to a sausage sizzle, we're moving towards more upmarket catering. The purchase of a new deep fryer, kitchen equipment and streamlining our event management systems has been a considerable amount of work. The finalizing of our Catering Van & BBQ hire agreement will broaden our ability to raise funds for our Club. We're very happy to have passed our food handling and safety check with the Adelaide Hills Council too! We attended a number of community activities including the Christmas Pageant at the Stirling Oval, the Uraidla show, and Nature Play in the Kuitpo forest. Long hours of preparation and clean up goes into every event, and I would like to thank all our members, particularly Greg Russell, who have all contributed to these successful events.

Timor Leste - We're Pumped!

**District funding approved
for our international
project in Timor-Leste.**

Why Timor-Leste?

Much of the country is mountainous, and its highest point is Tatamailau (also known as Mount Ramelau) at 2,963 metres. The climate is tropical and generally hot and humid. It is characterised by distinct rainy and dry seasons. The capital, largest city, and main port is Dili, and the second-largest city is the eastern town of Baucau.



Timor-Leste is the second smallest country by population in Southeast Asia with a population of approximately 1.26m. Most people—750,000 or 70% of the population—live in rural areas, and 316,000 people (30%) live in urban areas. Almost half the population live in poverty, particularly in the rural areas. A significant number of children under the age of 5 years are undersized and malnourished.

In the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, remarkable progress in water supply and sanitation coverage in the last 10 years means that the country may meet Millennium Development Goal targets for overall water supply coverage but is unlikely to do so for sanitation. These targets are for 78% of the population to have access to improved drinking water sources, and for 60% to have access to improved sanitation facilities.



Rural residents account for 92% of the 358,000 people nationally that do not have access to improved water supply, while rural residents make up 86% of the 704,000 people nationally without access to an improved toilet (2015).

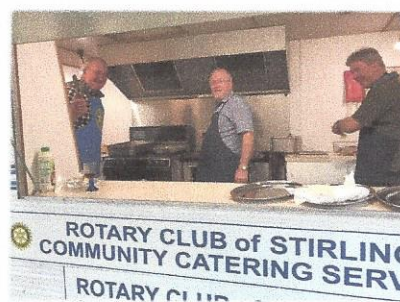
At the instigation of The Rotary Club of Stirling, the clubs of Mount Barker and Murray Bridge have combined resources with Stirling together with the newly-formed Rotary Club of Dili to provide clean water and sanitation to a village area, Talitu Sucu south of Dili in Timor Leste. Together with the large number of volunteer hours involved in this project, a budget of almost \$80,000 has been approved (including a Rotary Foundation grant of \$55,000) which will meet the costs of pipework, pressure and storage tanks, tap standpoints and training in operation, management and maintenance. As water borne disease, exacerbated by a lack of clean water and modern sanitation facilities, is a major issue in Timor Leste, this project will considerably improve the health and lives of a considerable number of Timorese together with fostering friendship and goodwill between our two countries.

**“The sanitation and water project in
Timor-Leste will be a major project
for the Stirling Club.”**

Rotarians Robert Koehne and Ron Malcolm are to be congratulated on the time and effort that they have put in to bring this project to fruition.

It's not all hard work at Rotary. We also have lots of great times, sharing a meal and a glass of Adelaide hills wine....

We love to get out there and have fun together, even when we're out fundraising! Our social activities are great fun too! There's always room for a scrumptious meal and a glass of wine!



Who would have thought that under Dick Wilson's gentle exterior lay the heart of a pyromaniac? Great fun at our annual bonfire night!



Our attempts at last year's quiz night was a bit dismal but at least we won a prize. We did much better this year, coming third at The Hut fundraiser.



What a great turn-out for the film night in Mt Barker



Christmas is a great time to spend together and the club had a wonderful time at the home of Mark Higgins in Mylor.



Working with our Friends Of Rotary is extremely important to our Rotary Club. Susanne, Neil and Pauline stand with Michelle Golding proprietor of Tranquilo with these Christmas donations.



The guys hard at work doing what we love the best: BBQ!

Board Members 2017/18

President

Neil Wickens

Secretary

Mark Ramsay

Treasurer

Pauline Annear

Director - Club

Grant Andrew

Director - Youth & Vocation

Veronica Forsayeth

Director - International

Ron Malcolm

Director - Community

Greg Russell

Sergeant At Arms

John Norris

Speaker Program

Dr Dick Wilson

Welfare Officer

Rob Hill

Meeting Coordination

David Wing; Dean Foote

Special thanks to the Stirling Hotel and staff for their services and assistance throughout the year

That's All Folks!

Summing up, I can say that this has been a very interesting year for me. It has been quite challenging and occasionally rather time consuming.

Although, looking back, we seem to have achieved a great deal, I do feel that the most important work of restructuring our club in order to meet the demands of a changing world has been bubbling along just under the surface and will manifest itself more fully in the coming months and years.

We have also been honoured to have Assistant Governor, Susanne Marie, as a member of our club. This has ensured that we have been kept very well informed about all aspects of District activities and structural reorganization.

I should like to extend my heartfelt thanks, not only to the Board, but to all members of our club without whose invaluable contributions my task would have been impossible.

I now feel happy (and somewhat relieved) to pass on this privileged position to my successor Greg Russell.

With my very best wishes for a fruitful year ahead,

Neil Wickens

President



THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS OF ROTARY SPONSORS.
WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

TAPANAPPA
AUSTRALIA



 **RED CACAO**
CHOCOLATIER of THE ADELAIDE HILLS



The
Stirling
Hotel


 **LJ Hooker** Stirling

nextra
OAK PLAZA
NEWSAGENCY & TOYS

Bakers Delight
We're for real.

Phil Hoffmann
travel



 **GREEN DISPENSARY
PHARMACY**



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