

Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai



Annual Report 2009 - 10

51 Years of Service



Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai 2009-2010
“The Future of Rotary is in your hands”

DISTRICT GOVERNOR 9680
John Cameron

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Assistant Governor:	Dilys Geddes	
President:	Malcolm Braid	
Vice President:	Tom Jackson	
Secretary:	Judy Houghton	
Treasurer:	Petra Le Compte	
Immed. Past President:	Greg Newling	
President-Elect:	Michael Tyler	
Directors:	Club Administration	Geoff Hungerford
	Projects	Tom Jackson
	Committee Chairs	
	International	Graham Timms
	Youth	Eleanor Filewood
	Vocational	Chris Mc Guigan
	Community	Doug Miller
	Membership	Greg Newling
	Public Relations	Frank White
	Foundation	Michael Tyler

Club Objectives for 2009-2010

Provide a fun program through a variety of social events and Club activities in all avenues of service at Club and district level
Continue to grow a quality membership base with diversity of vocations, age, gender and ethnicity.
Implement successful projects that address the needs of our local and regional communities and those abroad.
Ensure a high level of member engagement and develop members who are capable of serving Rotary at Club level and above.
Support the Rotary Foundation through both program participation and financial contributions
Develop and implement a PR strategy to enhance our Club profile and the projects.
Active participation in Zone and District activities/projects

Forward from President Malcolm

It is amazing how quickly a year passes and I am now at the end of my term as your President.

The year has had a few challenges and that is just part of life. I didn't enter the year believing it would be plain sailing. However we tackled the challenges and worked together to have a successful year overall which resulted in our Club receiving a Presidential Citation from John Kenny the International President.

At the Changeover Dinner last year I proposed that a Club with a high level of engagement will be united and achieve success in the areas of service and membership. I am very pleased to acknowledge the spirit and manner in which everyone has contributed. Be it in a social context, Club meeting or project, it is a credit to the members for embracing the various projects and activities and contributing where possible. It is only by members being committed, that projects and activities are completed and with a high level of FUN.

This Annual Report is but a summary of our Clubs' Rotary in action for the 2009/2010 year. It does not do justice to the tremendous work undertaken by all our members in such a broad range of activities and projects. The report does highlight a number of the main events, achievements and member contributions in the year

During the year I received just over 1500 emails and probably sent 500. This sort of cyber volume is part of being in the role, but also highlights the level of activity from many other Rotarians.

The 2010 Garden Festival was a great achievement given the unfortunate demise of a proposed partnership with a third party. Initially it was the Club's intention to have a partnership with an independent Fair operator to help grow and develop the Festival to a new level. However these negotiations broke down after 4 months in November 2009. With Christmas approaching we needed to decide quickly how we proceeded to make the Garden Festival happen in March 2010. Dilys Geddes and her Committee met and decided to pull out all stops and make up for lost time. A tremendous effort by all the Committee and members who rallied and delivered particularly given the GFC and short time frames.



Our three 'hands on' projects through our Community Service Committee were particularly successful. The member survey earlier in the year identified the desire of members to participate in more 'hands on' activities. With Doug Miller as Chair of Community Service he organized and managed the projects at Clarke Road Special School, Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury and Sunshine Homes. Many thanks to Doug and all members and partners who participated in these projects. This was Rotary in action in our local community.



In our International Service the Committee Chaired by Graham Timms has implemented another great program of support to overseas projects. In particular the new Uganda program in which two local young adults provided hands on involvement.

With Eleanor Filewood as Chair of the Youth Committee we were again able to support many of the Rotary and local projects for our young people in the community.

The Vocational Committee provided a great Pride of Workmanship Award evening this year. Committee Chair Chris Mc Guigan was able to draw from the community 5 worthy receipt ants. I know Chris is keen to develop further vocational programs next year in the apprentice and young achievers areas.

The participation and social interaction during the year has been great, The Dinners for 8 on two occasions, two restaurant socials, two Trivia nights, the District Conference, Membership Awareness Days, and the friendly atmosphere of our Club meetings have all contributed to the year being full of fun and fellowship. Many thanks to Geoff Hungerford and the other members who coordinated these events



As our theme for the year states ' the future of Rotary is in your hands' it was pleasing to induct 5 members this year and so build on the great base of current membership to ensure that the Club continues and provides 'Service above self" in our communities here and aboard.

This year I have introduced two perpetual trophies to recognize individual and team achievements. The team trophy is for an 'Annual Sporting Team Challenge'. In January we held the traditional Bowls challenge and the winning team was Eleanor Filewood, Emyr Evans, Millie Constable and Justin Constable (our outbound student and her father). Congratulations to the team. It was a great evening with an excellent attendance

The individual trophy is for the floor member who was an outstanding contributor during the year. At the time of printing the Awardee has not been announced, however I am pleased to advise that the Board unanimously agreed on the recipient member

On a personal level, thanks must go to Vice president Tom Jackson, Assistant Governor Dilys Geddes and Sergeant Ross Egan who have provided mentoring and advice to me during the year. I also have appreciated the Boards advice and great cooperation and support during the year. We were very fortunate to have had a Board of dedicated and skilled members to guide the Club during the year.

I have enjoyed serving as your President and feel indebted that you have provided this opportunity,,,,,,,,,,,,,a sincere thankyou. I leave the role with many happy memories.

Malcolm Braid
President



Club Administration Report

Speakers Program:

We were pleased that our new member Bala Krishnan stepped up to manage the Speakers Program after Reg Barlow had ongoing health issues that required operations and care management. Bala provided a variety of interesting speakers and presentations. We introduced the opportunity for three of our partners to update the members on their career or sporting achievements. Particular thanks to Lindsay Le Compte, Susan Aitken and Jannet Pendleton.



Sergeant at Arms:

Ross accepted the challenge of keeping the meetings in order and to plan as well as extracting contributions to Club funds through entertaining fine sessions. Ross undertook the tasks with enthusiasm and delivered a great result. The purchase of the Australian and Rotary flags provided a focus for our Toasts.

Door Team:

Many thanks to the members who undertook their turn on the door team during the year. The continued role of a weekly Greeter assisted the door team in ensuring all members and guests were received well and provided with their badge and a welcoming handshake.

Gordon Markets:

The market rosters worked reasonably smoothly. However its always a challenge to mix new members and others into the roster to ensure that all shifts were covered. Many thanks to the regular team of Frank, Graham, John T who assist me with the monthly tasks of banners, signs and set up.

Bulletin:

The onerous weekly task of writing and emailing our Koongga was again well done by Tony. His able assistant, Bob provided many great photos which added to the visual presentation of our bulletin. Tony has provided a great opportunity for members to check their spelling knowledge on a weekly basis. Well done Tony.



Welfare:

Wally has undertaken this important aspect of our Club life by keeping in contact with members throughout the year who have been unwell. Many thanks to all members who take the time to keep in touch with our past and present members and families who are on occasions unable to attend due the family or personal ill health reasons.



Club History:

Unfortunately the Club history has not been progressed. The boxes are still available for a budding historian to take up the challenge. A good project for several wet Sunday afternoons.

Risk management:

Our risk management continues to be managed by Ross who ensures that all Club activities are assessed and the risks managed in a professional manner.

Social events:

This year Malcolm challenged the members to have a high level of engagement. To help the members and their partners get to know each other and raise the participation in our activities and projects several social events were organized.

Dinners for 8

We were able to conduct a Dinners for 8 activity in September 2009 and May 2010. Many thanks to the following hosts who provided their homes for the dinners.

September 2009 hosts

Frank and Susan White
Petra and Lindsay Le Compte
Graham and Judy Timms
Bob and Gwen Ivey
Tony McClelland and Jannet Pendleton
Malcolm and Margaret Braid



May 2010 hosts

Graham and Judy Timms
Greg and Joy Newling
John and Susan Aitken
Petra and Lindsay Le Compte
Geoff and Patsy Hungerford
Howard and Caroline Fletcher
Frank and Susan White



Both occasions provided a great opportunity for the new Rotarians to meet others in an informal atmosphere and share a meal.

Trivia Nights

Drawing on the expertise of quiz master Ross we had a wonderful evening at Turramurra Bowling Club with nearly 80 members and friends. The evening a very successful from a fun and engagement perspective and also contributed over \$1500 to our accounts.

At the time of writing a second Trivia night is planned for 19 June. This will be held at Warrawee Bowling Club who have assisted us with a reduced hiring fee and all proceeds will go towards the Clubs annual commitment to the Rotary Foundation.



Restaurant Evenings

Members and partners enjoyed two nights at the Indian Tea and Curry Restaurant in Turramurra. On both evenings we had a large attendance and a lot of fun and fellowship.



Bowls Night

In a break from tradition we held the Annual Bowls night in mid January when members were back from holidays. This year we coordinated teams of 4 and had a round robin of games. The Presidents perpetual trophy was introduced this year to acknowledge the winners. The "Rotary Club of Ku ring gai Annual Sporting Team Challenge " was awarded to the winning team of Eleanor Filewood, Emyr Evans, Millie Constable (outbound exchange student) and her father Justin Constable. The wooden spoon went to Tom Jackson , Caroline (inbound exchange student) Margaret Braid and Bala Krishnan



Catering:

The Bowling Club has continued to provide the venue and meals for our weekly meetings. The current caterer Ray and his team have improved the standard and variety of meals. During the year we decided to change from a two course meal to a substantial main course followed by a savory desert of biscuits, cheese and fruit. However this is always a challenge to satisfy the palate of attendees, including those that have special dietary requirements.

Christmas Party:

Many thanks to Michael and Louise Tyler who provided their home again for a lovely Christmas party. In addition special thanks to Judy Houghton and her team of six who did the 'lions share' of the food preparation and to the other members who assisted in providing deserts, salads etc and the hiring of tables and chairs.



Secretarial Services – Judy Houghton

Judy Houghton has undertaken the role with diligence and commitment with the records and documentation always completed in a timely and efficient manner. Judy takes a well deserved break as Secretary after being in the role for nearly two years.



Many thanks to Judy H who secured a lock up storage unit in Wade Lane, Gordon for the Club equipment, records and property. The rent is manageable at \$1 per year and this has relieved Ross and others from storing gear and equipment at their homes.

In summary I would like to thank all members and partners for their assistance during the year and particularly for supporting the various social and fundraising activities.

Geoff Hungerford
Director - Administration



Rotary Foundation Committee

The Rotary Foundation Committee's aim for 2009/10 was to increase awareness of the Rotary Foundation and what it does and to encourage support of Foundation projects and participation in fundraising for the Foundation.

District Rotary Foundation Director Lindsay May gave a comprehensive presentation about the Foundation to a club meeting in November. The committee built on this by providing a 'Rotary Foundation Thought' in the Koongga each week and by period announcements relating to Foundation projects at club meetings.

At the time of writing, members of the club had contributed a total of \$3,370 to the Annual Programs Fund of the Rotary Foundation. On 19 June, a trivia night is to be held, at which it is hoped to raise at least \$2,280 towards the Rotary Foundation's PolioPlus program.

My thanks go to Howard Fletcher and Chris Hoch for their participation as members of the Rotary Foundation Committee and all the other members of the club for their support of the Foundation.

Michael Tyler
Director Foundation



Membership Report

We started this year with 44 members and subsequently lost Tanya who sadly for us, moved to Newcastle. Since then we have been joined by Bala, Roger, Joy, Michael and Marieken, which means we close the year with a membership of 48.

Numbers alone do not tell the whole story and the great thing about the members who have joined us in the last few years has been their willingness to get involved and contribute their skills and enthusiasm to our Club and its projects. That enthusiasm comes from existing members welcoming new members to meetings, social functions and project activity; so “well done” to all especially President Malcolm who has encouraged involvement from everybody.

Because we need to retain our existing members, we conducted a survey of Club members to look for areas in which we could improve the satisfaction members enjoyed from their membership. The results showed a number of areas which needed attention and most, if not all of those have been addressed, particularly the catering problem we had 12 months ago, and the need for more “hands on” projects.

However, the response to the survey was low in numbers and it would be a great benefit to the Club if we undertook another survey soon, with greater participation. Linda Lam-Rohlf did a great job of analysis and has a number of very good suggestions for an improved survey.

This year we have run information booths at the Gordon Markets, the Garden Festival and on two occasions at Ted Price’s pharmacy. The results have not been as good as in some past years but we do have several prospective members.



We need to keep recruiting members as inevitably some retirements occur and if we don’t keep adding to our numbers we will decline in effectiveness.

We have our Club information leaflet which Reg Barlow prepared, in the door team box. I ask everyone to be sure that you give a copy to every person you bring to a meeting whether a dinner guest, guest speaker, or visitor from elsewhere. We don’t know who those people know, so let’s spread the word!

At the risk of being seen to “go on and on” about membership, I will conclude by emphasizing again that we should expect, on a rolling average basis, to lose about 10 percent of our members every year. It is imperative that we continue to look for appropriate people to join us so that we can continue to do the things we do which are important to our communities, both local and international.

Finally, my thanks to all who helped with our efforts this year, particularly Tony McClelland, Frank White and John Thompson.



Greg Newling
Membership Director

Public Relations Report

Zone advertising

Attempts were made to combine the resources of the seven zone clubs to extract better value from media advertising but we were not successful on getting any significant improvement on typical costs for adverts in the North Shore Times or local papers.

Local Rotary PR

On every occasion that we had a public presence such as membership drives at West Pymble shops, the monthly Gordon market and the annual Garden Expo, we projected Rotary and our activities by means of banners, club flags and membership messages. Our membership promotion activities were enhanced on most occasions by displaying the shelter box kit as well as copious promotional material.

In order to encourage dialogue, we always staffed the various promotions with Rotarians who were familiar with the messages we were putting out. All of these promotions were very successful in enhancing public awareness of Rotary and its various activities and in many cases, resulted in members of the public indicating an interest in becoming members of either our club or clubs nearer to their homes or places of work.

We have commenced a design and purchase of additional banners, tents and flags that will further enhance our advertising/promotional presence in the community and we look forward to the awareness of, and interest in, Rotary these items will bring in the community.

Although not part of Public Relations, we have created a storage facility to safely house all this advertising material in the basement of a store in Gordon.

Frank White Public Relations Director



Treasurers Report

The Global Financial Crisis is still a significant part of the Australian psyche. This has been reflected in the Club's ability to raise and utilize funds and many believe that that we have not really seen the end of it.

Taking this into account, the club has fared well. The General Account had an opening financial year balance of about \$9,000 with a closing balance of about \$17,000. This includes \$3,000 balance from a Federal Government Grant for equipment. The Project Account had an opening balance of approximately \$11,000 and when all final expenses are paid and Project Account commitments have been paid, the closing balance will be around the \$12,000.

The Club has maintained the Project Investment Account with St George Bank. Interest earned for the year was just over \$700 and the Club will have a closing balance of approximately \$22,000. This could be facilitated by the Club to enhance any financial commitments that it may want to make.

The Club has also received a grant from DFAC of about \$4,500 and this to date has been used to obtain a new laptop computer and data projector for the club. There is still a list of further purchases to be made and they will be reflected in the 2011 Financial Year Budget.

Even with the limited time to "get organized" the Garden Festival was a success with the great work of Ross Egan and his team and the co-operation of the Club and some partners pulling together to make it a great weekend. Whilst the net surplus was not as we planned, in part, due to less sponsorship dollars it was still a great effort with the constraints the team had.

Most members have diligently paid their dues which I am very grateful and we have only had to pay for the meals shortfall twice this financial year which I am not so grateful. For the sake of a few minutes of your time notification to Judy Houghton and now online to Tony McClelland is very much appreciated as it does save considerable waste of the club's very limited resources each week.

The Youth Services had a budget for about \$6,000 which did not include any amounts for the French Exchange Student Caroline Ferrand. They did actually spend their full quota which did include Caroline's expenses for the 6 months from August 2009 to January 2010 and Camp Breakaway.

Community Services portfolio includes Gordon Markets which should bring in about \$16,000, Bowelscan which made about \$4,000, Xmas Cakes (about \$300). Contributions will be made to Eagles RAPS, Bowelscan, Carer's Night, and local community projects such as Lifeline, Clarke Road Special School and Sunshine Homes. These projects are very reliant on member participation and costs were minimal.

The Rotary Foundation program would like to meet the challenge of the US\$100 per member with the shortfall of up to \$5,000 being met by the Club as a donation to the Foundation. Also Speaker Recognition of about \$1,000 towards Polio Plus will be made.

The International Committee raised about \$600 on their fund raising night. Donations of \$2,000 each have been made to the Uganda Construction Project and Bo Hospital. International did budget to support the School of St Jude for \$2,100 and Shelterbox has been forwarded nearly \$2,000 which was raised at the Garden Festival.

Thank you to our other avenues of service (Vocational, Membership and Public Relations) for minimal cost to the Club. It is very kind of you to be so co-operative.

I would personally like to thank the Club for its patience with me and helping me along this last year. It has been a great learning curve for me while I have been setting up MYOB and transferring all the Club's accounts onto this system. Hopefully things will run a bit smoother in the next financial year and MYOB can produce all those wonderful reports that Malcolm dreamt of having but just seemed to be that – a dream!!

In summary, the Club's Bank Accounts have still maintained a good working balance while the avenues of service have achieved their goals and the Rotary Club of Ku-Ring-Gai has again shown good community responsibilities.

Petra Le Compte
Treasurer



“Avenues of Service”

Overview

The various committees should be highly commended for both their input and output throughout the year. Members of each committee responded well to the defined strategies employed and as a result, the structure of the club benefited as a whole.

Some of the year's highlights are set out below.

Youth Committee

Eleanor completed the Rotary year achieving most of the committee's plans and some new initiatives despite problems caused by committee numbers which, through circumstances, dwindled to a small group towards the end of the year. Despite this, activity proceeded at a good pace and Eleanor provided the club with some interesting and entertaining speakers who broadened our knowledge about many of the youth committee projects in 2009/2010.

International Committee

Graham, throughout the year, had a strong commitment from all his committee members which was reflected by their high meeting attendances on a monthly basis and their diligent approach to each of the International Club projects.

Whilst the year's activities revolved around project consolidation and development, there was a concerted effort to open up opportunities for some new and worthwhile challenges in 2010/2011. To this end, Graham undertook a working visit to East Timor with a group of District Rotarians. The results of this visit should be reflected in some exciting opportunities and new projects in 2010/2011.

Community Service

After a slow start to the year, the committee's activities picked up appreciably as Doug guided the committee and club to produce positive outcomes for 'on-going programs and major projects such as the Gordon Markets, Eagles Raps and various community health projects etc. In addition, the year was highlighted by a series of 'hands on' projects such as work performed at the Clarke Road School, Sunshine Homes (St. Ives) and a mammoth working bee weekend at Lifeline Offices in Gordon.

These activities provided wonderful opportunities for club personnel to work closely together in an environment which could also provide fun and fellowship whilst demonstrating to the community at large the ideals and the objects of Rotary.



Wendy Carver CEO
Lifeline H2H
& Rotary painters

Vocational

The chair of this committee, Chris McGuigan had early difficulties in bringing together some of the planning for this year's projects . This was not unusual as evidenced by similar problems encountered by previous year committees because of our club's location in a non-industrial area.

Nevertheless, Chris was able to arrange a very successful 'Presentation Night' in the second half of the year. No doubt this year's activities will set the scene for a productive and satisfactory year in 2010/2011.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking each of the 'Avenues of Service' chairs for their endeavours throughout the past year and in particular their prompt attention to monthly reporting.

My thanks also go to President Malcolm – it was a pleasure to work with him and his Board of Directors.

Tom Jackson
Vice President and Project Director.



Community Services

In line with President Malcolm's strategic direction for 2009-10, our annual plan took into account not only our 'business as usual' commitments but what we could do more innovatively and practically to give more 'hands-on' support to worthy causes in our community. In three broad areas - major projects, ongoing programs, and community service focused 'innovations' – we took on and accomplished a lot; but are only too well aware of how much more still needs to be done: a springboard for further action in 2010-11.

Major Projects

Gordon Markets (in conjunction with Turrumurra RC).

For many years the Gordon Markets have provided us with a steady flow of funds for our community support commitments. But we were concerned about the possibility that they might be drying up. The facilities were looking 'tired', stall-holder quality was 'patchy', and it was feared that the Global Financial Crisis' impact on discretionary spending might be adverse. In conjunction with our co-sponsors, our sister Club in Turrumurra, we formed a steering committee to see what could be done to shore the Markets up – to secure its future with a new lease, and attract bigger attendances through more prominent advertising, a better quality and mix of stallholders, and simpler administration and logistics for all concerned. Our focus paid off. Its future is now more certain, and returns to our club increased from \$12k (in 08-09) to a forecast \$17-18k this year. Special thanks must go to committee members Linda Lam-Rohlf, Geoff Hungerford and John Thompson; a small band of regulars led by Frank White, who set out our new signage each month come rain, hail or shine; and indeed to all in our Club who gave up precious chunks of their weekends for Market PR/Patrol purposes.

Eagles Raps

Eagles Raps is one of the most inspiring volunteer-based, self-help focused support programs for socially and economically disadvantaged adolescents in outer-western Sydney that we have ever come across. Having 'adopted' them and made them one of our principal targets for financial support last year, we wanted to work more proactively with their organisers in 2009-10: providing them with not just additional cash and equipment, but also professional help in their business planning, consolidation of their community support base, and vocational guidance for their ever-increasing student numbers. During the earlier part of this year we organised some sizeable shipments of office furniture and computer equipment (with special thanks to Tony McClelland and David Forsythe for their efforts); drew up plans for building extensions at Doonside (through Brian Jessup, on the eve of his 'retirement'); and (ably assisted by Greg Newling) helped with the development of their mid-range growth plans, including for their proposed facilities in Orange and Dubbo. Progress in these areas was then unfortunately brought to a halt because of State Government changes to their funding arrangements, which for a time seemed to put their future viability in doubt. Having had these concerns allayed, we'll hopefully be able to provide more concerted support along the lines just mentioned, next year.



Ongoing programs

Rotary Health-related and other fund-raising Projects

Under this general umbrella heading we helped raise funds and donations for a number of appeals:

For Daffodil Day (with thanks to organiser Ross Egan);

For Christmas gifts, through 'Trees of Joy' in Gordon Shopping Center and at West Pymble; and

For the sale of Rotary Christmas cakes and puddings (with thanks to Linda Lam-Rohlf and Ted Price).

For Bowelscan collections, which netted \$3600.

For the Red Shield Appeal (with thanks to organiser Chris Hoch)

Carers Night

Bob Vernon put his own passion into organising this much-anticipated annual event - a wonderful occasion for recognising unsung heroes in our community, and for becoming truly inspired.



New Community Projects

We launched a series of projects designed to help deserving organisations in our local community do their jobs better, by assisting them in upgrading their facilities.

At Clark Road Special School in Hornsby, 8-10 members assisted in re-laying the paving in a tree-root-damaged barbecue and recreational area established by our club some years further back.



At Sunshine Homes in St Ives, a facility for intellectually disadvantaged people of all ages, an even larger number of members assisted in building a 'sensory garden', from scratch.



And at Lifeline in Gordon, with the help of fellow Rotarians from other nearby clubs, we held a mammoth working bee to re-paint their general office, consulting rooms and telephone counselling area, in readiness for the installation of upgraded office and computer equipment donated by President Malcolm's employer, Hitachi Australia



Unfortunately two other initiatives in this area had to be deferred –

A project involving ground improvements at Neringah Hospital, Wahrenonga: postponed until completion of other basic site renovation work.

A proposal to assist with graffiti removal from public buildings in our community – a worthwhile endeavour championed by our sister club in Turramurra, and something that hopefully we'll be able to follow up more actively in 2010-11

In Summary:

'Community Service' is what we all stand for. It's inspiring, it can be visionary, and it brings us back to our grass roots. As we learned during our working bees, it gives us incredible opportunities also for further bonding, and fun. As our TEAM motto suggests: Together, Everyone Achieves More.

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

Doug Miller
Community AOS



International Avenue of Service

The International Avenue of Service Committee had a busy year but more in the nature of consolidation and development than of new projects.

Last year, 2008/9, was the year we reviewed all our long-standing commitments and began to think about where we might go in the future. This year we took that process a stage further. We discontinued some projects that we judged had either out-lived their purpose or where alternative funding was readily available and we began to assemble a list of potential new projects that are genuinely exciting.

Some long-standing commitments have, however, continued to receive our support. These are:

School of St Jude in Tanzania
Rotarians Against Malaria
R.O.M.A.C.

School of St Jude:

This is a remarkable school in Tanzania run by an Australian, Gemma Sisia. The school is committed to offering an education to the poorest children in the country. The children live at the school during term time and the school provides all their board and accommodation. The academic results of the school are astonishing.

In the past we have supported the maintenance of a school bus but following consultation with Gemma we agreed to double our contribution (from \$1,000 to \$2,000) to support eight young boarders at the school. We will be following the progress of those eight with interest.



Rotarians Against Malaria:

As part of this excellent program we supply anti-malarial bed nets to two villages in PNG, Messi and Kanabu. The nets have to be replaced every two years and so our on-going support is essential. In an area where malaria is endemic it has been reported to us that in the two villages we support there was only one new case in 2009.

R.O.M.A.C.:

ROMAC brings to Australia for medical treatment children with surgically correctible deformities. The surgeons provide their services freely and their achievements are stunning. Our contribution of \$1,000 is modest compared to the work they do.

Two projects that are more recent but still carry-overs from previous years are Bo Hospital in Sierra Leone where we are working with Turramurra Club (Adele Mitchell and myself are members of the hospital Committee) and an upgraded commitment to Shelterbox.

Bo Hospital:

For some time there has been some concern that the project was simply beyond our capacity but the introduction of Sydney University International House, the Rotary Club of Bournemouth (UK) and participation by RAWCS has now brought the project well within our collective grasp.

Early this year the ground breaking ceremony took place attended by the President of Sierra Leone (a Rotarian) as well as the Chief Imam and Catholic Bishop of Bo - a very encouraging sign for the future of the country. In 2009/10 we contributed \$2,000 towards the first stage and anticipate contributing at least double this amount in 2010/11.



Shelterbox:

The need for Shelterbox is obvious and on-going. In addition to our "usual" contribution from the Garden Festival proceeds we also raised an additional \$1,500 in donations at the Festival itself.



During the year we undertook two development activities that we hope will lead to projects in the future. These were my trip to Timor L'Este with a District RAWCS committee and our support for a building project in Uganda for an orphanage and school some 80km outside Kampala.

Timor L'Este:

The trip to Timor L'Este has led to two interesting projects for 2010/11, the most advanced of which is the development of a Timor L'Este RYLA program. Somewhat less developed is a project for teacher facilities at a school in Iliomar, in the north east corner of the country. A draft plan is currently being prepared by village representatives.

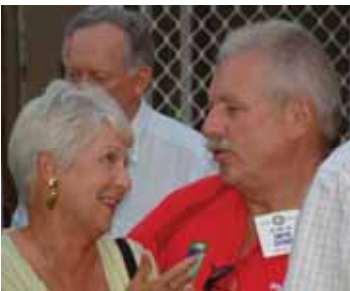
Uganda - Village of Manjeri:

On the basis of a presentation by two young Australian volunteers, Jesse Buckingham and Andrew Thomas, and after consultation with the Rotary Club of Mukono, Uganda, we committed \$2,000 to developing classrooms for an orphanage and school in the village of Manjeri. The classroom has now been built and we are presently in consultation with the Rotary Club of Mukono about further aid projects for the orphanage.



International Night

The other part of our activities is fund raising. The International Night in November 2009 raised around \$800 and this year we plan to double that. As previously mentioned, our Shelterbox display raised over \$1,500 at the Garden Festival and again, we plan to increase that in 2010/11



Lastly, this successful year could not have been achieved without the assistance of the International Committee: John Aitkin, Emyr Evans, David Forsythe, Caroline Jones, Tony McClelland, Adele Mitchell Peter Tang and Tim Philips. I thank them all for their contribution.

Graham Timms
International A.O.S.



Vocational Service

The main activity of the Vocational Service committee in 2009-10 was the presentation of Pride of Workmanship Awards.

We also began a collaboration with Young Achievement Australia (YAA) to assist in developing their Business Skills Program for Year 11 students in the Ku-ring-gai area. We provided support to a Gordon based group set up to manufacture and market tie dyed T shirts. We were able to introduce them to Rotary and give them access to the Gordon markets for promotion of their product.

Regrettably YAA lost its Government funding this year and we were unable to develop further programs.

We are continuing plans to recognise the vocational achievements of young people by developing an annual Awards program for Trainees and Apprentices.

The Vocational Service committee continues to recognise the expertise and experience of members in their various vocations and encourages them to speak at club meetings on developments in their fields of work. New members Bala Krishnan and Roger Desmarchelier gave us most interesting insights into their vocations, mortgage financing and banking respectively.

Pride of Workmanship Awards

At our Club meeting on 12 April 2010 we presented the Club's annual Pride of Workmanship Awards.

Pride of Workmanship is an approved Rotary project instigated in 1975 by the Rotary Club of Pennant Hills (Australia, District 9680). The scheme is now used by over 600 Rotary Clubs in Australia, New Zealand, the South Pacific, Malaysia, Canada and the USA.

Pride of Workmanship Awards are offered through Rotary as a way of acknowledging the efforts and contributions of employees who consistently achieve an overall high standard of work performance and display personal qualities worthy of such a public award.

Pride of Workmanship is not a competition and there are no winners. It is a recognition of individual achievement and commitment.

For the 2009-10 year the Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai presented Pride of Workmanship Awards to 5 outstanding employees in the workplace.

The Awardees were:-

Jenny Pepper, Office Manager, Statina Healthcare, Mt Kuring-gai.

Pam Rogers, Manager Accommodation Aged Care Services, Sunshine Home, Parklea.

Tracey Sherwin, Coordinator Community Access Programs, Sunshine Home, French's Forest and St Ives.

Rochelle Goodall, Admin and Human Resources Officer, Hitachi Australia, North Ryde.

Tim Gorman, Butcher with Exclusive Meats, North Turramurra

Each awardee received a trophy and their employers were presented with certificates to acknowledge their support of Rotary's Pride of Workmanship Awards scheme.



Names of people left to right.

Graham Lade Statina Healthcare, Cathy Goshi Nicole Ash Pam Rogers Sunshine Home, Jenny Pepper Statina Healthcare, Chris McGuigan Chair Vocational Service Committee, Rochelle Goodall and Hitoshi (Harry) Ishihara Hitachi Australia, Tracey Sherwin Sunshine Home, Tim Gorman Exclusive Meats.

Chris McGuigan
Vocational AOS



Youth Report

Aims

To provide a range of opportunities for the youth in our local community.
To support organisations working with needy young people.
To build a closer relationship with Interact and Rotaract clubs in our area.

Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE)

Caroline Ferrard arrived from France in August 2009 and joined her first host family Petra and Lindsey Le Compte. Caroline enrolled at Killara High School and visited the Club meetings regularly. As her English improved, Caroline was able to communicate with members about her life in France. In November she transferred to the second host family with Derrin and Bruce Heilbuth (sister in law of PP Frank White). At the end of January Caroline transferred to the care of the Rotary Club of Roseville Chase.

Many thanks to our Youth Counsellor, Frank White coordinated many of the arrangements for Caroline whilst under our Club's care.

In January the Club farewelled Millie Constable to Denmark as our outbound exchange student. Millie attended our Club meeting in January with her parents to receive the blazer and our best wishes for a successful year in Denmark.



Siemens Science Experience

This 3 day hands-on science weekend for Yr 9-10 students was held during the year and we were pleased to endorse Sejung Park from Roseville Ladies College to attend the weekend.

Interact

Two teachers from Pymble Ladies College (PLC), Robyn Campbell and Miriam Teeney currently organise the Interact Club at PLC. They visited our Club to speak of the plans club are undertaking in 2009/2010. We encouraged the teachers to take on the Shelter Box as a project for fundraising. There is an ongoing opportunity for an occasional guest speaker for their lunchtime meetings. Any prospects?

Operation Hope

Operation Hope seeks to assist children who face overwhelming odds in life's challenges, often leaving them believing that life is hopeless and consequently putting themselves at risk. Yvette McCloohry visited the Club and spoke passionately about her work with these children, trying to break the cycle of hopelessness. We presented her with a cheque to cover the sponsorship of 2 children for a program in 2009/2010



Rotary Youth Programme of Enrichment (RYPEN)

This is a Year 9 leadership camp for students who need development in this area. Unfortunately a delay in receiving applications from the schools resulted in the camp being fully committed with other enrollments.

Here's a potential opportunity for a second RYPEN camp.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)

RYLA is conducted for a week in January every year. It is a residential camp for 18 - 25 year olds who aspire for more leadership growth training. The Club's attendee was Lauren Taylor who will speak to the club in July about her experiences at camp.

Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA)

We were pleased to support this program again this year with donation to assist students from Ku ring gai High School attend the day.

Benefic Awards

This is an annual Award presented to a Year 9 student at Turramurra High, Ku ring gai High and Killara High Schools and The Clarke Rd Special school.

The Benefic Award is for the student/s who displays 'a favorable influence' amongst their peers. As year 9 is one of the challenging years in school life with exposure to many undesirable influences it is important to acknowledge the students that say 'no' and thereby display a favorable influence to fellow students.

The awardees receive a Book voucher and a perpetual trophy. Many thanks to Petra, Caroline (RYE) and Eleanor who represented the club at the various Presentation Days.

United Nations Youth Association Conference

Our Club sponsored Angela Lee a Year 11 student from Pymble Ladies College to attend this event. We look forward to having Angela address the Club in July on what she gained from the conference.

Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)

This year we sponsored 2 teams from Pymble Ladies College. (PLC). They represented the countries of Argentina and Qatar in the Assembly wearing national costumes of their respective countries to debate problems and issues of international concern from their selected country's point of view.

School Public Speaking

Unfortunately it was difficult to generate interest with the local schools to conduct this event in 2009/2010. Maybe next year.

Life Education

This is a drug and health education programme for primary school students which we again supported with a donation.

Camp Breakaway

We were pleased to again sponsor one person to attend this camp on the Central Coast. The camp provides a respite holiday for a disabled person who is then given an opportunity to experience activities never before attempted, hopefully boosting self confidence and self esteem.

National Youth Science Forum

Angella Lee has applied to attend this 2 week science meeting in Canberra in January 2011. The committee has endorsed her application and if accepted. the Club will assist with sponsorship

In conclusion I wish to thank the committee and members who assisted implement the above programs. Unfortunately, Judy and Tanya resigned during the year, but we were able to achieve the majority of the year's plan.

My special thanks to Petra and Ross for their assistance and Tom for his guidance.

Eleanor Filewood
Youth AOS



2010 Garden Festival

Our Garden Festival was held at St Ives Showground over the weekend of 13th and 14th March with great weather.

The event was a success in spite of the fact that we delayed our normal Garden Festival planning activities. Ross Egan took up the reins for stallholder management and did a wonderful job engaging ensuring the Festival had an almost full booking of stallholders and an improved mix of garden specialists, themes and services.

We welcomed new members to the Garden Festival management team with Chris McGuigan and Roger Desmarchelier taking over the marketing and sponsorship activities.

Petra Le Compte managed the financials which was not a job for the feint hearted as it required careful tracking and reporting.

Bob Ivey, who has been heavily involved in the Garden Festival management since the beginning, provided handover and support to the Garden Festival team.

Emyr Evans continued to work his magic with the entertainment for the Festival and we saw an excellent line up of musicians and singers including many from the local school choirs and bands participating. We also provided Rotary Voices with an opportunity to strut their stuff before their debut at the District Conference.

This year we also enlisted the help of a sound specialist, Peter Mudie and this was a master stroke as Peter and his team set up the sound system for the whole site and ensured that quality of the sound experienced in the different areas of the Show Ground was optimal.

Frank White, John Thompson and Ross Egan managed the site operations, including the set up of the event which was done as usual seamlessly. This was a huge task which these gentlemen made it look deceptively simple – don't be fooled it is not a trivial task.

The beneficiaries of the Festival were Shelterbox, Studio Artes, LifeLine, EagleRAPS and the SES.

The Club had put a particular emphasis on Shelterbox this year, with a display near the entrance manned by members of the Club, to raise awareness to one of the more important projects Rotary Clubs globally have been involved in. The display got a lot of interest and the funds raised in the buckets placed at this display was good recognition of the fact that members of the community recognised and appreciated how Shelterbox supports those people in the global community who suffer loss of their homes and belongings through natural disasters.

Studio Artes is a not for profit organisation, based in Hornsby, providing an invaluable service with their activities for members in our community with special needs and they require a specialised bus to help transport their members to various activities.



LifeLine continues to be a recipient of our support. EagleRAPS is an initiative being run by volunteers for the help and support of youth in our community that are at risk.

Ku-ring-gai SES support the Garden Festival in managing the traffic control at the event.

During the planning phase for the 2010 Festival we made some changes to some aspects, such as our ticketing, security, some of these changes were more successful than others. As in past years we have reviewed the excellent feedback we received from stallholders, visitors and the members of the Club and these will be taken into consideration as we plan for the event in 2011.

The Garden Festival met the criteria that we set ourselves being:

- Did it meet the needs of the Community? Yes
- Did it have member involvement? Yes - we had the biggest participation of Club members in the Festival and everyone contributed to the success of the weekend.
- Did it get media attention? Yes – through radio and the press. 2BBB did a number of interviews on ShelterBox, the Garden Festival itself and Rotary Voices – very good exposure for Rotary and for The Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai
- Did it meet financial demands? Yes
- Did we meet the criteria? Yes
- Did we have fun? Yes

Should we do it again next year? Yes, the Club gave overwhelming support to continuing with the Garden Festival and it will be held on the weekend of 26th & 27th March.

Thank you to each and every one of the Club Members who participated in assisting with this years Festival and we look forward to your support next year.

Dilys Geddes Chair of Garden Festival



District Conference 2010

The District Conference was held from 19 to 21 March 2010 at Port Macquarie. The weekend was an action packed 3 days with plenty of fun, fellowship and interesting speakers. It was very pleasing that a large group from our Club were able to attend and enjoy the weekend. Many thanks to Greg and Joy Newling who acted as the Club organizers, arranging accommodation and other requirements to make it a successful few days.

Our members and partners who attended were

John and Susan Aitken
Greg and Joy Newling
Judy Houghton
Geoff and Patsy Hungerford
Roger and Gay Desmarchelier

Malcolm and Margaret Braid
Michael and Louise Tyler
Linda Lam-Rohlf
Caroline Jones
Dilys Geddes



A highlight of the weekend was the 'Wild Colonial' night on the Saturday. Our group attended the evening with Squatter Hungerford and his lovely wife Patsy from their property 'Ku ring gai'. Judy Houghton attended as the 'visiting matriarch' and the others were in appropriate costume, the ladies being fitted out from Susan Aitken's school costume wardrobe.



District Choir

For the first time about 40 Rotarians from the District joined together to provide entertainment at the Conference. Our own members Judy Houghton and Linda Lam-Rohlf took part in the choir and our musico Emyr assisted with a number of the practice sessions before going overseas.



Member	Partner		Classification	Membership year	Rotary Title 2010
Aitken	John	Susan	Plastic Products Manufacturing	1995	PHF & Past Treasurer
Barlow	Reg		Journalism	2008	Member
Boyle	John	Janet	Real Estate - Licencee	2005	Member
Braid	Malcolm	Margaret	Human Resources - Management	1993	President
Briels	Paulus	Heather	IT - Business Solutions	2000	Past President
Coenen	Lou	Rita	IT - Project Management	2001	Member
Cribb	Ivan	Joyce	Legal - Local Government	1993	PHF & Past President
Desmarchelier	Roger	Gay	Finance - Consulting	2009	Member
Drake	Scott	Jacquiline	Jewellery - Retailing	1995	Member
Dunn	Norris	Suzanna	Building Materials - Retail	1959	PHF & member
Egan	Ross	Helen	Project Engineering	2001	PHF & Past President
Evans	Emyr		Education - Music	1999	Member
Filewood	Eleanor		Education – Physical	2006	Member
Fisher	Frank	Patricia	Safety Equipment Manufacture	1993	PHF & Past President
Fletcher	Howard	Carolyn	IT Consultancy	2008	Member
Fletcher	Rebecca	Graham	Management - Community Sector	2008	Member
Forbes	Wally	Pam	Waste - Management	1990	PHF & member
Forsythe	David	Patricia	Accountancy - Business Management	1987	PHF, Past President and Past Treasurer
Geddes	Dilys	Dilys	IT - Vendor Management		PHF & Past President
Hessel	Hjohn	Pauline	Real Estate -Licencee	1976	PHF, Past President and Past Secretary
Hoch	Chris	Amanda	Business Consultant	1997	Member
Houghton	Judy	Judy	Real Estate - Property Management	2008	Secretary
Hungerford	Geoff	Patsy	Retail Sales – Newsagency Management	2008	Member
Ivey	Bob	Gwen	Business Administration Services	1988	PHF & Past President
Jackson	Tom	Laurel	Pharmaceutical - Distribution.	1998	PHF, Past President and Vice President
Jones	Caroline	Caroline	Publishing	2008	Member
Kipps	Peter	Christine	Software Distribution	1989	PHF & Past President
Krishnan	Bala	Dilshad	Finance - Mortgage Brokering	2009	Member
Lam-Rohlf	Linda	Linda	Information Security	2009	Member
LeCompte	Petra	Lindsay	Accountancy - Audit	2008	Treasurer
McClelland	Tony	Jannet	Computer Distribution	1986	PHF & member
McGuigan	Chris	Anne	Employment Services	2009	Member
Midlam	Michael	Kerry	Graffiti Removal Management	2010	Member
Miller	Doug	Marieken	Human Resources - Consulting	2006	Member
Mitchell	Adele	Ross	Travel - Consulting	1996	PHF & Member

Member	Partner	Classification	Membership Rotary Title 2010 year		
Newling	Greg	Joy	Human Resources - Consulting	2001	Past President
Newling	Joy	Greg	Network Marketing	2010	Member
Philips	Tim	Sharna	Hospital Administration	1998	PHF & Member
Price	Ted	Eunice	Pharmacy	1989	PHF & Member
Skellet	Ivan	Patricia	Engineering Construction	1959	PHF, Past District Governor, Past President & Past Secretary
Tang	Peter	Margaret	Engineering-Electrical	2008	Member
Thompson	John	Sue	Network Marketing	2008	Member
Timms	Graham	Judy	Wine Production	2003	Member
Tyler	Michael	Louise	Solicitor - Commercial Law	1991	PHF, Past Secretary and President Elect
van Ewijk-Miller	Marieken	Doug	Project Management - Telecommunications	2010	Member
Vernon	Bob	Edna	Travel - Consulting	1987	Member
White	Frank	Susan	Manufacturing - Furniture	1990	PHF & Past President

Note: PHF - Paul Harris Fellow

