

Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai Inc

ANNUAL REPORT
2004-05



President: Peter Kipps

ROTARY CLUB OF KU-RING-GAI

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2004-2005

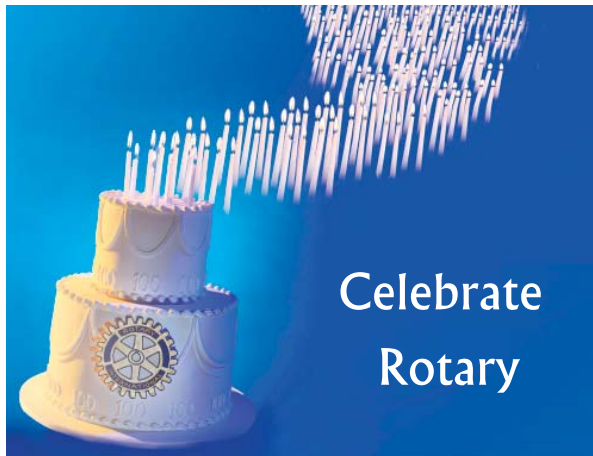
President	Peter Kipps
Secretary	Michael Tyler
Treasurer	John Aitken
Immediate Past President	Dilys Geddes
President-Elect	Ross Egan
Club Service Director	Paulus Briels
Community Director	Len Jackson
International Director	Adele Mitchell
Vocational Director	Bob Ivey
Youth Director	Malcolm Braid



CELEBRATE
ROTARY

100 Years

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The Rotary theme for 2004-05 was "Celebrate Rotary" and we celebrated in many ways.

Clarke Road School

We celebrated Rotary by providing significant new facilities to Clarke Road School for Special Needs as our Centenary project. The barbeque area we built was the most impressive hands on project completed by the club for many years. We are indebted to David Forsythe and his many helpers for this wonderful effort.

Clever Gardens Expo

We celebrated Rotary by starting a major new project - the Clever Gardens Expo. We are deeply indebted to Ross Egan for the effort involved in carrying this project to completion. Special mention should also be made of the contribution of Tim Philips. It was very gratifying that virtually all our members helped on the day. We now have a fundraising project with the potential to serve the community and the club's fundraising needs for many years.

Marketing

We celebrated Rotary by putting our club on the marketing map. Bob Ivey's efforts resulted in the best year of publicity this club has ever had. Continuing with this in the coming year will have a

considerable beneficial effect on membership recruitment and community support of our projects. Another form of marketing was the banners produced by Alan Rowe, which were once again of enormous value in publicising club events. Brenda Chad revamped the website, and we intend to make more use of this facility in our marketing in the future.

Centenary Dinner

We celebrated Rotary on 23 February with 250 other Rotarians, past Rotarians and guests, together with 3 other Rotary clubs. The Hon Brendan Nelson gave a thought provoking address to round off a memorable evening.

Exchange Students

We celebrated Rotary by hosting Maragot, our Thai exchange student, who was a wonderful ambassador for her country. In addition, we sponsored Julia Pursche to Brazil, and by all accounts she is promoting the good name of Australia over there.

Social Activities

We celebrated Rotary with a large number of social events. We had our annual bowls evening at the Bowling Club and held three restaurant evenings, including our Christmas party. We enjoyed joint meetings and dinners with the Clubs of Frenchs Forest, North Ryde, Lindfield, St Ives and Hornsby.

Other activities included a fun filled and enjoyable boating day, tennis picnic and



cycling days. We can continue to celebrate Rotary in the future by making all of these into annual events.

Presidential Citation

We celebrated Rotary with the knowledge that the District Governor has recommended to Rotary International that we receive a Presidential Citation for the work the club members have done during 2004-05.

International Award

We celebrated Rotary when we received the award for the best International program in our district of 68 clubs. This was a wonderful effort from Adele Mitchell and her team.

In addition, our Community program was highly commended. Given that the club won the Youth award last year, we deserve to also celebrate our own Rotary achievements.

This club is very lucky to have members who just take responsibility for an area and do the job without waiting to be asked. Each director has included their own report, but there are a few things that should be mentioned here.

Secretary and Treasurer

I would like to mention the efforts of Secretary Michael Tyler and Treasurer John Aitken. These two Board members continue to keep the Club's affairs on the straight and narrow, and we are very much indebted to them.

Avenues of Service

Club Service

Paulus Briels did an exceptional job of managing the Centenary Dinner for four local Rotary Clubs, with many activities and 250 attendees.

Emyr Evans, Neil Garling and Harry Jerram once again managed the speaker program, and it was wonderful to be able to rely on this week in and week out.

Tony McClelland delivered the club bulletin with unfailing regularity. We have five paper based recalcitrants; everyone else now receives their Koongga by email.

Peter Jones was a very accomplished Sergeant, and I would like to thank him for his efforts week after week.

Ken Murphy did the rosters for the door and the market. This all worked out very well, and much credit to Ken.

I have long felt that Rotary business was intruding into club fellowship time. When put to the club, the vote was in favour of extending the meeting time by 15 minutes to address this. Hopefully this will be used in future to give members more time to talk to each other.

Last year's President, Dilys Geddes, has taken on the role of Assistant Governor for our Zone during the coming year, and we wish her luck in this assignment.

Youth

Malcolm Braid did a great job of picking up this portfolio a couple of months into the year. By the end of the year an impressive list of Youth projects had been completed.

Community

Len Jackson put much effort into rationalising the Gordon markets in an attempt to reduce the load on the club. I would also like to thank Alan Rowe and Wally Forbes for their ongoing efforts at the Gordon markets, and John Ellis for Bowelscan. Len is also



to be congratulated for managing the very successful Red Shield Appeal.

International

Adele and her team completed many international projects, managed the matching grant process very well and thoroughly deserved the District International award.

Vocational

Apart from a successful Pride of Workmanship evening, Bob Ivey devoted his time to doing an exceptional marketing job for the club. This will be of much benefit to us in the years ahead.

New Initiatives

Believing that we should always have a new project under development in the wings, we have started to research a fundraising cycling event, to be held in September 2006.

Areas of Concern

Rotary Foundation Donations

Greg Newling did a valiant job of promoting The Rotary Foundation week after week. In spite of his continuing efforts the club did not

meet its target for personal donations. We will have to investigate other ways of raising funds for this very important part of Rotary's program in the future.

Risk Analysis

Largely because we were so busy doing other things, some activities did not get timely risk analysis. We need to redress this for future projects and activities.

Membership

During the year we gained one new member and lost three. Notwithstanding much publicity and several initiatives during the year, the club continues to have a serious problem attracting new members. As a club our average age is almost one year older than it was this time last year. It is imperative that the club finds a successful way to attract and retain new members in the near future.

Along these lines, we have high hopes for our cocktail party and presentation to local business managers and owners on 19 July at the Lifeline Offices in Gordon. If this is successful, I propose we make this a regular and possibly bi-annual event, thus keeping the club, it's activities and achievements continuously in the public eye.

Conclusion

It is a pleasure to be part of this club as there are so many helpful, pleasant and committed members. Apart from those mentioned in this report, many other members have made contributions to the club's projects and welfare.

I would like to thank all our members, their partners and families for all the support I have received during the year.

Being President this year has not been difficult because the Directors have largely got on with the job and done what was needed. The club owes much to the Board for their dedication and hard work.

Our club moves into the next Rotary year in good hands. I am sure that Ross Egan and his team will do a first class job of looking after the club's affairs, and I wish them all the best for the coming year.



SECRETARY'S REPORT

The club began and ended the year with 47 members and ended with 45. We bade farewell to:

- Rtn Marc Banzer (resigned owing to pressure of other commitments)
- PP Peter Caves (moved north)
- Rtn Martin Mackley (resigned owing to pressure of other commitments)

We welcomed as a new member:

- Rtn Jana Pearce (Publishing - Editor) and Peter Kilcullen

Following Marc Banzer's resignation from the club, Rtn Malcolm Braid was co-opted to serve as Youth Service Director for the remainder of the 2004-05 year.

In the course of the year the board held 16 meetings (including a number of short ad hoc meetings).

The President Elect, Immediate Past President and the directors and officers of the

club elected for the year 2005-06 at the club's Annual General Meeting in December 2004 (and their respective responsibilities) are:

- President 2005/06 - Pres Ross Egan
- Immediate Past Pres - PP Peter Kipps
- President Elect 2006-07 - Rtn Len Jackson
- Vice President - Rtn Tim Philips
- Secretary - Rtn Michael Tyler
- Treasurer - Rtn John Aitken
- Club Service Director - PP John Hessel
- Vocational Service Director - PP Bob Ivey
- Community Service Director - Rtn Len Jackson
- International Service Director - Rtn Adele Mitchell
- Youth Service Director - Rtn Malcolm Braid
- Additional Director - Rtn Paulus Briels

Michael Tyler
Secretary 2003-04

TREASURER'S REPORT

Club Account

The Club Account bank balance is \$4,500, which is down from \$10,500 last year. This decline in the balance was planned, with the dinners at WPBC being subsidised by the Club Account.

The subsidy for meals cost the Club \$4,500 for the full year. As discussed at recent Club Forums, dinner fees will be increased to \$25 from the start of the new financial year.

The Club subsidised last year's changeover dinner, as well as other social functions (including the Centenary Dinner) to the tune of \$2,450 and \$1,100 respectively.

Expenditure on Club promotion increased substantially on previous years. This included expenditure of \$1,700 on Rotary T-shirts and \$1,100 on brochures and mailouts to prospective members. Club fine sessions income was \$1,200.

For next year the Club dues remain unchanged at \$270.

Project Account

Project Income was \$26,000, which was considerably less than budgeted. The major difference was due to higher establishment costs for the Clever Gardens project; a combined Lions/Rotary loss of \$8,000 is reported. Income by sources were Christmas cake sales \$1,300, Markets \$19,000, Clever Gardens Raffle \$1,250 and Tsunami Appeal \$3,485. Interest income remained the same at \$2,000. Hornsby Council returned \$2,503, being unspent money we donated to the Council a few years ago for a youth project.

Major expenditure items include Clarke Road \$20,000, inward exchange student \$3,500 and Clever Gardens \$34,000. A total of \$42,500 was allocated to the four Avenues of Service: Community \$25,000 (includes Clarke Road), International \$9,700, Youth \$7,700 and Vocation \$100. The Project Account closing balance was \$48,000.

John Aitken
Treasurer 2003-04

CLUB SERVICE REPORT

This year was Rotary International's 100 year Celebration and on 23 February our club was joined by the Rotary Clubs of St Ives, Lindfield and Hornsby for a joint celebration of this event. It was a truly great evening and it was great to work together with the other clubs to put such an event together.

To a large extent, with Club Service at least, it has been 'business as usual'. As usual the Club Service committees have done an excellent job with all those important 'behind the scene' functions, such as producing the Koonga, finding speakers, attending to the welfare of members and managing the door teams. Most of the work this year was done without a great deal of my involvement as I have been frequently absent. It all just happened, and my thanks to all those who made it happen.

It is always a challenge, but the Program committee has again this year managed to find an interesting mix of speakers.

Our Sergeant, Peter Jones, had his fair share of challenges in finding ways of extracting funds from club members. He has managed

to fine us all multiple times for some of the most interesting misdemeanors and observed hiccups in our respective lives.

After everyone worked so hard on our "hands on" project at Clarke Road, it was great to finally try out the brand new BBQ we built and to enjoy a pleasant social evening.

I am sure you will all have noticed that the facilities at the West Pymble Bowling Club have gradually been renovated. I think the food has improved and that we are now having a good meal at our meetings.

Getting the catering numbers right and making sure that members let the club know that they are not coming has been and will be an on-going challenge.

In the Rotary year ahead, Club Service will be in the very capable hands of John Hessel, while I take a bit of backseat role.

Thank you to all those who helped me throughout the year.

Paulus Briels
Club Service Director 2004-05

Marketing Report

The idea of broadening the role of the club's PR person to one of Marketing, with the primary aim of selling and projecting our club within our local area and raising community awareness of Rotary, has paid dividends this year. There is ample evidence of increased media coverage and community awareness of club activities, gained primarily through the conduct of our major projects this year.

The marketing strategy was to evaluate every club activity and assess its potential for marketing and promotional opportunities, at three levels:

- Widening community awareness
- New member recruiting
- Enhancing members' knowledge of individual projects.

However, we identified too many marketing opportunities to attempt in just one year. These included development of a club

website, production of printed material, press releases, photography, storage of archival and club library material for convenient retrieval, methods of promoting the club during the conduct of projects, marketing apparel (hats, shirts etc), club and project signage, and the need or otherwise for a club symbol or logo.

Finally, our marketing plan suggested it might be useful to modernise some of the old-world rotary terminology. For example, replace "development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service" with "networking and relationship building opportunity."

I wish to thank Brenda Chad for her excellent work on our website, and Ross Egan for acquiring our fashionable and eye-catching club shirts.

Bob Ivey
Marketing Manager 2004-05

COMMUNITY REPORT

AIMS

- ◆ Preserve Community Service programs from previous year that have been effective in the Community.
- ◆ Discontinue programs that proved difficult to run or where low financial return was achieved for effort expended.
- ◆ Conduct at least one new Community Service program.

This was a busy year for the Community Service function. In addition, the Clever Gardens Expo, headed up by Ross Egan and his very capable team, also fell under the Community Service banner.

Involvement in Community Services initiatives was generally good, and the support given reflected members' physical ability to contribute. In many instances, this meant that Club members were often backing-up, week after week, on multiple projects.

Towards the end of the year there was some indication that members were being overloaded, particularly in the first Quarter of 2005. However, there were no initiatives cancelled or compromised during the whole year due to lack of Club member commitment. Congratulations!

Gordon Markets

Jointly hosted with Turramurra Rotary Club on the second Sunday of every month, this craft and produce market is one of the key fundraisers for our club. It is expected to contribute \$20,000 to this year's profit.

During the year, the Markets began to show signs of diminishing as an attraction, and extra effort will be required in the new year to reverse this trend. The Markets need fresh marketing effort to make them more attractive to both sellers and buyers.

Special thanks to Alan Rowe for deploying our market banners, Ken Murphy for organising the roster, and Wally Forbes for managing the storage vault under St George.

Kites for Kids Day

Ku-ring-gai Rotary agreed to support this initiative in Bi-centennial Park, West Pymble with a staffed BBQ in aid of Early Childhood Intervention. The event was a great success

and the park was alive with kites on that windy August day.

Many thanks to Ross Egan who supplied his own BBQ on the day, and to Paulus Briels and Bob Ivy for helping me with the cooking.

Daffodil Day

This has become an annual event for our Club. Donations received and profits from the sale of daffodils support the Cancer Council of Australia in funding cancer research, early cancer identification mechanisms and the communication of progress in the area of cancer cures.



Once again, the event was very well organised by Ross Egan, and conducted at Pymble Railway Station on Daffodil Day in August. Thanks to the great contribution of Ross' team (Brian Jessep, John Aitken, Peter Caves, Ross Egan, Emyr Evans, Wally Forbes and Alan Rowe), a profit of \$1,680 was realised for this worthy cause.

Trees of Joy

This has also become an annual Christmas event, with trees being set up in six shopping centre locations in the district.

Many thanks to the personal efforts of Neil Garling for making this event happen for the past few years. His work included the sourcing of details of underprivileged children in need of something special at Christmas, running a register of these details, and the placing of name tags on the trees.

Rotary Christmas Cakes

Co-ordinated through Lindfield Rotary Club, this is another annual Christmas event.

We commenced this year with a reasonable backlog of cakes and puddings from the previous Christmas, so were a little 'behind the eight-ball' at the start. Nevertheless, with a focus on clearing the prior year's stockpile first, we have now sold over 95% of our total inventory. Total profits were \$1,396.

With over 20% of all sales, by far the most successful seller of cakes and puddings was Ted Price at his Pharmacy in West Pymble. Thank you Ted.

Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal



We doubled our commitment this year and co-ordinated two sections of the appeal under the leadership of Turramurra Club.

We contributed a total of nine collection teams, averaging four adults per team over the weekend of 28/29 May. Participation was assisted by more than a dozen young ladies from PLC (Pymble Ladies College) and many friends and family members. Our Rotarian drivers were Dilys Geddes, Ross Egan, Adele Mitchell, John Hessel, Gerry Hoy and myself. Three other non-Rotarian drivers and their families also joined us in this activity.

A total of just over \$8,000 was collected. In general, donations were slightly ahead of last year's effort, which was contrary to expectations due to the magnificent Australian contribution to the Tsunami Relief after Christmas. Many thanks for the hard work of all our volunteers for making this a great success.

Bowel Scan

John Ellis and Neil Garling were again the linchpins of this annual Community Service event. Bowel Scan aims at raising the profile of Bowel Cancer, and creating an attitude where regular testing leads to early detection and hopefully a higher chance of cure. Interestingly, many patrons of this Rotary initiative now admit that they do an annual Bowel Scan.

To facilitate this event, a booth was manned in the Gordon Centre for several days in March, and over \$1,300 worth of kits were sold to shoppers. Many thanks to John Ellis

for organising the resources, and to Neil Garling who organised the collection and delivery of tests for processing from local participating Chemists. Thanks also to all other Rotarians who assisted at the booth for this worthy cause.

Carer's Night

Bob Vernon again worked his magic to make this one of the most heartfelt and emotional nights on the Rotary calendar. His selection and engagement of worthy people from a broad cross section of the community was truly excellent and there were quite a few 'tears in the eye'.

Those good people given recognition on the night showed the true depth of our civilisation and humanity, many awardees having given long and hard years of support to partners and relatives.

I feel that this is one event we really need to preserve going forward. Thank you Bob.

The Raffle

Community Services managed the Raffle for the Clever Gardens Expo, selling over \$3,000 worth of tickets jointly with the Lions Club of Ku-ring-gai. The Raffle was won by a young woman from Marrickville.

Many thanks to Rotarian Frank Fisher for contributing the major part of the raffle prize - a fully registered box trailer valued at \$750. We contributed a further \$1,000 worth of gift vouchers to make this into a great prize. Frank Fisher has also kindly offered to continue to provide a trailer or similar 'garden related' item for the next three years in support of the raffle. Thank you Frank.

In summary, a good year with many lessons learned. Approximately \$23,000 in profit was generated for the Club over the whole year.

Thank you to everyone who helped the Community Services function during the year, but especially to Gerry Hoy who was always there to step in and to support me whenever I needed it, which was quite often.

It has been my pleasure to have led the Community Service directorate this past year.

Len Jackson
Community Service Director
2004-05

CLEVER GARDENS OF TOMORROW EXPO

Held over three days from 8 to 10 April our first Garden Expo was a successful joint venture between the Rotary and Lions Clubs of Ku-ring-gai. Located at St Ives Showground, we were well supported by Ku-ring-gai Council, the SES and local garden clubs.

As a first year venture, the project was financially line ball - helped by the strong selling of raffle tickets by Len Jackson and his team. The prize this year was a trailer donated by Frank Fisher and \$1,000 worth of garden vouchers – won by a well deserving lady - who lives in a unit!

Our 2005 experience has built a project with great potential



as a major venture for our Club. Attendance was 3,000 people. Our target for 2006 will be to add at least another 2,000 people and another 25 exhibitors to ensure a significant donation to Lifeline.

The 2005 theme was drought survival, and this was well represented by exhibitors, including a number of rainwater and greywater tank suppliers.

Other exhibitors' products included many different gardening products, shade houses,

barbeques, potting mix, fertilisers, wroughtiron and stone garden art, pool services, composting tools, wildlife services and skincare products.

The nurseries were represented by Wirreanda Nursery, Eco Design Services, Tharwa Nursery, Australian Plant Society, Everyday Living Gardens, Ausplants, Four Seasons Nursery and Sanctuary Plants.

There was a variety of food sellers, as well as children's entertainment.



Ground management was very effectively managed by Frank White, Wally Forbes, Tony McClelland and their team.

Advertising was well achieved with Alan Rowe's banners, and next year will see us extending this into other suburbs. Given the short lead time, the promotions team of Bob Ivey and Adele Mitchell was critical to the success of the event.

The lectures by horticultural experts were a great success and a credit to Tim Philips, Emyr Evans and team.

The old Gillott's bus ran a shuttle service between Gordon Railway Station, Eryldene Historic House and Garden and the Garden Expo. The State Emergency Services looked after traffic control the parking during the weekend.

There is no doubt that 2006 will be much bigger and better!

Ross Egan



INTERNATIONAL REPORT

International Committee

*Adele Mitchell (Director), Emyr Evans (Deputy),
Raymond Au, Lou Coenen, Verella Hobbs, Chris Hoch,
Greg Newling, Ian St Clair, Graham Timms, Michael Tyler*

AIMS

- ◆ Assist in alleviating hunger, illiteracy and disease where possible.
- ◆ Promote and support the work of The Rotary Foundation and help rid the world of polio.
- ◆ Increase the involvement of members in International Service
- ◆ Raise funds for International Service projects
- ◆ Promote Rotary in the community through our involvement in International Service

We have supported a wide range of projects again this year - in India, Tanzania, Vietnam, New Guinea, Indonesia and Chile - and I'm excited about the humanitarian impact our funds will have. The projects we funded in India last year have now commenced, and because of the professionalism of our partner club and the great need in that country, we have commenced two more projects with the Rotary Club of Nasik Grapecity. Thank you to my committee members for their support and contribution to our club's winning the District 9680 International Service Award, of which I am extremely proud.

Adele Mitchell, International Service Director 2004-05



Nasik, India

Last year we established a relationship with the Rotary Club of Nasik Grapecity by obtaining matching grants from The Rotary Foundation for two projects. The first, to provide water for a village by constructing a pipeline, has commenced. The second project is also under way.

Sewing Machines



Vocational training and sewing machines are being provided to 50 women from the ten identified slums in Nasik. This will create job opportunities for these women who are currently either jobless or earning a meagre living as domestic help.

Five training centres were opened in May. The first centre was opened in the Prabhudh Nagar slum area, and the response was tremendous. Ten sewing machines were installed and 20 women were selected for the three months training. On completion of the training, ten of these women will be awarded the sewing machines.

This pattern is being repeated in the four other locations: Nagalwadi Village, 25kms from Nasik; DIDCO, a women's organisation in Prakalp Kalyani; Krupa Prasad Kendra, a centre which provides free education to Adivassi girls, treatment to HIV patients and other activities; and Kamgar Nagar.

Centenary Project



This year the Rotary Club of Nasik Grapecity adopted a slum area at Prabudh Nagar as their Centennial Project. This is an industrial area in Nasik city where about 1,000 families reside in squalid conditions. There is no adequate drinking water supply, nor any toilets in the area. To support their families, some of the women work as domestic help in nearby residential areas. The men work in nearby industrial areas on temporary labour jobs.

With no medical facilities in the area, the Rotary Club of Nasik Grapecity started a free dispensary where their doctor provides consultations for two hours twice a week and dispenses free limited medicines for common ailments.

Medical Clinics

Our club will provide funding for Medical Clinics for slum residents. This includes a Dental check-up clinic for children, an Ear Nose & Throat clinic, cataract surgery and intra ocular lens implants. Follow up treatment and surgery will be provided for selected patients. The clinics will be

conducted with the help of Rotarian doctors free of charge. Funds are required for such things as dental treatments, drugs, hospitalisation and consumables. The total project cost is \$12,300, of which our club will contribute \$3,200. Our District 9680 will contribute \$2,500 and District 3030 in India \$1,300. Our application to The Rotary Foundation for a matching grant of \$5,300 has been approved.

Literacy Centre



Our club has funded two Literacy Centres, where 60 women are being taught to read and write for two hours per day, six days a week for six months. The first Centre for 35 women commenced in March in the Indira Nagar slum area. The second Centre for 25 women started in May at a slum behind Kalika Mandir.

In the belief that an educated mother will see to it that her child gets some education, this project will in the long term help build a better society. We've provided \$850 for the teacher's salary, blackboard, slates and chalk.

Talagante, Chile

Our club is helping to fund a revolving loan project in Talagante County, which is a semi rural community of 59,000 inhabitants located south of the capital, Santiago. The beneficiaries of the project are very low income women.

Loans of up to USD200 will initially be given to 75 women to establish their own businesses, such as dressmakers, food sellers, bakers and weavers. Interest of 2%

is charged and the loans are repaid weekly over a four month period. Having repaid their loans the women become acceptable for credit from banks, and the funds can then be loaned to other women.

We will contribute \$1,270, our District will also contribute \$1,270, other Rotary Clubs and Districts \$7,600. Our application to The Rotary Foundation for a matching grant of \$8,340 will be processed in October.

Tmoknai, Papua New Guinea

Our club is again supporting the Foster a Village program run by RAM (Rotarians Against Malaria) and ADI (Australian Doctors International). This program aims to prevent malaria through the use of chemically impregnated bed nets. Any mosquito which lands on an insecticide treated net is killed, which also benefits those who don't have a net.

Malaria kills 2.5 million people in underdeveloped countries each year. Seventy percent are children under the age of five. The female mosquito, needing blood for their eggs to develop, bites between dusk and dawn. So bed netting is the most effective method of preventing the disease.

Our village this year is Tmoknai, which is in the Ningerum rural area of the North Fly District – 70 kms north of Kiunga, placing it half way between the Ok Tedi mine and



the port from which they send their ore to Australia. We are providing bed nets for the 700 people who live in Tmoknai at a cost of \$1,945. In addition to receiving the nets, the villagers will be educated about malaria.

Malang, East Java, Indonesia

There are over 600 children in Malang in East Java whose parents cannot afford to send them to school. Working with a local charity, the Rotary Club of Malang Central has started a Foster Parents Program to enable some of these children to continue their education at the Elementary School in Malang. The head and teachers actively participate in the program, selecting children with good grades from the poorest families.

Our club fosters ten children, aged between

10 and 14, at a cost of \$85 per child, which covers one year's school fees, uniforms, shoes, stationery and textbooks. Their family income ranges from \$32 to \$40 per month.



Pictured here is 11 year old Fitri Dwi, who wants to be a teacher. Fitri's father is a garbage collector.

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam



The Phu My Orphanage in Ho Chi Minh City provides a home and ongoing care for 400 children with physical and intellectual disabilities, who have been

abandoned by their parents because they could not afford to care for them.

Whilst many of the children are severely disabled, 90 attend classes from pre-kindergarten to the end of primary school, including a housekeeping class to help them become more independent. Sixty-six of the children have graduated to live and work on a farm operated by the orphanage. Phu My also operates a Day School for 180 children, which assists families to keep their disabled children living at home.

Our annual donation of \$500 represents over seven months' salary for a staff member.

Arusha, Tanzania

Last year our club paid to freight a container load of computers, furniture and books to the School of St Jude in Arusha in East Africa.

This year we continued our support of this ever expanding school by sponsoring a bus at a cost of \$550.

The Tanzanian government does not provide any assistance to get students to and from school, so St Jude's has to provide its own buses. With most of the 500 students living over 10 kms from the school, the existing seven buses are jam packed every day. Our donation will help the school purchase and maintain an additional second hand bus.



Landmine Action



In partnership with the Rotary Club of Frenchs Forest and AUSTCARE we planned a program to raise funds for landmine clearance. To launch our program we held a joint club meeting in November, where members and partners were addressed by AUSTCARE's Fundraising Manager.

A number of schools in the Ku-ring-gai area were approached to adopt Landmine Action as their community service project, with positive results being received from Ravenswood and Ku-ring-gai Creative Arts High School. The students have been addressed on landmines, and we produced a newsletter to keep them informed and interested. Our theme is "Playing Fields Not Mine Fields."

To supplement their own fundraising we will organise for them to sell landmine dogs and puzzle pens for two days in local shopping centres during Term Four.

A planned Golf Day had to be cancelled due to the difficulty in securing corporate sponsorship following the tsunami.

Thanks to Chris Hoch and Verella Hobbs for their help with this project.

Polio Plus & The Rotary Foundation

In September we held our second annual Car Observation Rally in aid of PolioPlus. Starting at Hornsby, the Rally entrants drove a scenic route to finish with a picnic at Wisemans Ferry. We raised \$485 and had a great fun day.

Our club has also make a donation to Polio Plus on behalf of each of our speakers. And a donation of \$5,000 has been made to TRF.



Wheelchair Foundation Australia

An estimated 100-150 million disabled people worldwide need wheelchairs, although less than one percent own or have access to one. The number of physically disabled is likely underestimated, due to the difficulty in accounting for “forgotten” citizens who spend their lives hidden from sight.

It is estimated that the number of people who need wheelchairs will increase by 22 percent over the next 10 years, with the greatest need existing in developing countries.

Our club has donated \$550 to provide wheelchairs to five people with physical disabilities who need a wheelchair but cannot afford one. The wheelchairs will bring with



them mobility, dignity and independence for five people living in a developing country.

Interplast & ROMAC



Interplast Australia has been a joint operation between the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and Rotary

Australia for 21 years.

This year 25 Interplast surgical teams visited countries throughout Asia and the Pacific, as well as Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Tanzania to perform remedial surgery, and at the same

time, transfer their skills to local doctors. Nearly 1,000 patients, mainly children, were given a chance at a normal life.

Rotary Overseas Medical Aid to Children (ROMAC) provides medical treatment for children aged 15 and under from developing countries, whose appearances have been disfigured by accidents or congenital conditions. ROMAC brings these children to Australia when they are unable to be helped by their own or visiting surgeons.

Our annual donations of \$500 to each of these worthy organisations will provide for two more life-changing operations.

Sirubari, Nepal

Our latest project is in the remote village of Sirubari in western Nepal, in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Patan West. Although Sirubari boasts a rich cultural history and a new tourism industry, many impoverished farmers still struggle to produce enough food to meet their families’ basic nutritional needs.

We are currently investigating the purchase of 40 cows with new born calves, which will be given to low-income farming families to reduce malnutrition, particularly among children and seniors.



VOCATIONAL REPORT

AIMS

- ◆ To recognise at a Rotary function people who are contributing to our community by exhibiting pride in their workmanship.
- ◆ To recognise people who are exhibiting commitment in their occupational training, particularly in trade and/or skills training.
- ◆ To raise the profile of Rotary through these projects.
- ◆ To increase the focus on Vocational Service within the club.

'Three on Me' Program

This program aims to keep members informed about other members' activities, interests and developments in their vocations, thereby contributing to club fellowship. We commenced this program late in the year and it will continue through next year.

Training Program

We cancelled the proposed training awards program due to difficulties in identifying suitable candidates.

Bob Ivey
Vocational Service Director
2004-05

Pride of Workmanship Awards



A successful function was held on 2 May, where three worthy people were recognised.

Juan Perez (left), Ku-ring-gai Council, for leading the team that presented a number of most successful events and festivals in Ku-ring-gai.

Joan Anderson (centre), an employee of Lifeline for over 10 years, for her exceptional organisational skills and helping the Gordon Lifeline

centre to streamline all its internal systems and procedures.

Acting Sergeant Michael Lewis (right), NSW Police, Gordon Police Station for his involvement in education programs for young drivers and being an excellent a role model for young Police.

YOUTH REPORT

Youth Committee

Malcolm Braid (Director) David Forsythe (Deputy)
Scott Drake, Tom Jackson, Alan Rowe,
Patricia Skellet, Arthur Stautner, Frank White

AIMS

- ◆ Continue the Youth Exchange program in the club
- ◆ Consolidate activities of the PLC Interact Club
- ◆ Nominate candidates for RYLA, RYPEN, MUNA, Operation Hope and other youth programs as recommended
- ◆ Allocate awards in local High Schools

Youth Exchange



During the year we welcomed back **Jeremy Skellern** from Belgium. Jeremy addressed the Club on his experiences and challenges as an exchange student. He certainly got into the spirit of things and enjoyed a

number of the local social activities.

We finished the year of hosting **Maragot (Job) Kongkiatkul** from Thailand as our inbound student for 2004-05. She developed and assimilated into our culture and returned to Thailand to complete her schooling. In her own words Job writes:

Twelve months ago I came here with very few English. I attended Turrumurra High School, but couldn't speak and understand anyone for the first few months. Fortunately my first host family (the Tylers) was very nice, help me with my English a lot. I was with them about four months and that was the beginning of my English.

I stayed with my Counsellor, David Forsythe as my second host family. He was absolutely awesome (but always teasing), helped me all the time when I had problems and looked after me very well, even after I left. During the time that I stayed with my third host family (the Pursches) I went on safari with the other

exchange students. It was great. We got to know each other more and learn new things at the same time. I made a lot of good friends on safari and we all feel very sad when we realised that we were to leave and say goodbye.

Since I've been in Australia I've done a lot of things and I've got heaps of new experiences, such as catch the bus to school and back by myself (I've never done it before in Thailand), walk to the station and ride a kangaroo from the advice of my counsellor (only joking).

I would like to say that every Rotarian in the club was awesome during the year. Some Rotarians took me to interesting places such as National Park, theatre (it was interesting for me to watch movie in the theatre in English), or took me on the plane and flew around Sydney. I'm so appreciated and impressed of your kindness and everything that everyone have done for me, and I would like to say thank you for the Rotary Club of Angtlang (my sponsor Club) and Rotary International of



Thailand that given me this great opportunity to be in the awesome club of Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai.

I now can speak English (although not very well), and can understand most of the things that people says. At the moment I'm staying with my funniest host family, the Braids. I would like to say a thank you to them for take care of me very well and tried to get me to eat beetroot all the time.

I'm sure that I'll miss everyone and everything in Australia and a lot when I go home. But I'll definitely come back and visit you guys again, and you're more than welcome everyone to come and visit me and my family in Thailand any time. But don't forget to take the map that I gave you just in case you get lost !!!

But don't worry if you get lost, I'll go and get you (if I'm not lost too!).

*Thank you
Maragot Kongkiatkul*

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)



We were pleased to sponsor Ty Southern as our RYLA nominee this year. Ty was an impressive young man having excelled at Killara High School, where he was School Captain and a

member of many sporting and peer support teams. Currently studying for a Diploma in Real Estate, Ty addressed the Club on what he learnt at RYLA and expressed his appreciation to the Club for providing this opportunity.

Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN)

Our two nominations to this program came from Year 9 at Turrumurra High School. The Year 9 Advisor wrote a note of appreciation saying, "After attending the program both Ailao and Peter were extremely enthusiastic about what it offered. They really enjoyed it and got a lot out of the camp. They especially enjoyed the activities and learnt strategies to help them take on more of a leadership

role, saying they now have the confidence to speak up and express themselves."

Rotary Driver Awareness Program (RYDA)

For our second year we sponsored Ku-ring-gai High students to attend this very beneficial program for young drivers. In recent years we have witnessed many young driver fatalities, and the club's sponsorship is our commitment to young driver awareness in the local community.

Interact

The Interact Club we chartered in 2003 at Pymble Ladies College is continuing to develop and grow. They have been very active in the local community doing several service activities as well as continuing the bush regeneration program in the school grounds. We were pleased to have a small number of ladies from the Club participate in our Clever Gardens Expo this year.

Operation Hope

Our support for the Vision Valley children's camps continued with the club sponsoring three students. The participants selected came from various family backgrounds and had been suffering from the effects of any of the following situations: domestic violence, drug and alcohol abuse, poverty, sexual abuse, family breakdowns, death/suicide of a parent and other family related problems.

This program aims to provide much needed support to children in extremely unfortunate circumstances and our Club's commitment will continue in the coming year.

Awards

This year we varied the school prizes to local schools by providing a perpetual trophy and book voucher to Year 9 students at Turrumurra and Ku-ring-gai High Schools. The "Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai Benefic Award" was presented to the Year 9 student who displayed honesty, fairness, goodwill and friendliness amongst their peers.

It was agreed in consultation with the schools, that Year 9 is a most challenging year students from a development perspective and many are tempted and fall into poor habits and lifestyles. The trophy sought to acknowledge the student/s who displayed the attributes of the award.

Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)

The Club sponsored two teams from Pymble Ladies College to this years MUNA held at Abbotsleigh College. We were extremely pleased when the two teams cleaned the field by being selected winner and runner up.



The teams will now go on to compete at the National Assembly in Canberra later this year. We wish them all the best.

In Conclusion



When President Peter asked me to assist with the Youth portfolio following the resignation of Marc Banzer, I was pleased to move into the role even though some momentum had been lost in the first few months of the Rotary year. Despite this, with the support of the Committee we were able to achieve the majority of our aims.

The achievements of the participants in the various programs is very heartwarming, and continues to inspire the Committee and our Club to provide more opportunities to the youth in our local community and beyond.

My thanks to President Peter for his support and encouragement, and to the Board for allowing the program to develop successfully during the year.

The contribution from David Forsythe in managing the Clarke Road Special School project is especially appreciated. His motivation and enthusiasm was infectious and ensured a successful outcome for the students and School community.

We look forward to a successful year in the Youth program for 2005- 06.

Malcolm Braid
Youth Service Director
2004-05

Clarke Road School for Special Purposes

The Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai selected Clarke Road School for Special Purposes for its Centennial Project. Not only did this project see us directly assisting children with intellectual disabilities, but also the much wider school community, the dedicated staff, and particularly the families of those students, whose lives are already heavily committed to constant support.

Intellectual disability is a major community issue that impacts on far more than just the directly affected children. It is important that we as the

community do not isolate those families, but rather show we care and acknowledge them for the wonderful work they do, and lend our hand where possible. The measure of any community is how it deals with its most vulnerable members.

With this thought in mind we implemented and are progressing the completion of our major project that commenced with the provision of a new changeable message sign to allow



the school to communicate its achievements and program to the local community. This sign promotes a sense of pride within the students and their families.

We enlisted the help of Pennant Hills Rotary to provide \$7,000 of funds to enable the resurfacing of the multi purpose court. This has proved a great success with the local Special Olympics group of intellectually disabled sportspersons of all ages, who use the school facilities for a variety of activities each weekend.

We embraced the parents group and showed them that they too can be effective participants in school projects, despite the relentless demands placed on them by their circumstances.

We constructed a major new barbeque area adjacent to the “grad house”. This area seats 50 and is used as an outdoor classroom for socialisation programs, a social centre for the school community, and a place where community groups and families can meet in the safety of the school environment.

The barbeque area was “handed over” in February at a very happy function with the school community, and presentations were made to the



club and members. Excellent publicity was obtained and the project was included in Rotary's 100 years feature articles in the media.

The final part of the project has been the removal of an old and rusted shipping container used to store the school sporting equipment and bikes, and its replacement with a new garage/storage shed. With final approvals from council to hand, the new facility is now being erected. Our final involvement will be to ensure the school can make effective use of the shed through appropriate shelving and racking.



The committee will seek a final allocation of funds from the Board when the shed is completed and needs assessed. This project will have spanned three club Boards and years, and will be a testament to the vision of three Presidents (Dilys Geddes, Peter Kipps and Ross Egan) and all the club members who raised the



\$20,000 plus in funds, put in the planning, put their backs to the task, and provided the encouragement to finish the job.

We will continue to keep close touch with the school community through smaller but consistently



helpful projects. In this way we will provide constant encouragement to the families for the effort they input into the worthwhile challenge they face daily to lift their children's horizons to be valuable members of the community.

We rate this as probably our club's most significant Community project, and it is fitting we did this in the Centennial year of Rotary.

David Forsythe



Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai

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