

Rotary Club of Box Hill Central Inc.



ANNUAL REPORT 2002/2003



ROTARY CLUB OF BOX HILL CENTRAL Inc.

Charter Granted 4 April 1990

Board of Directors 2002/2003

President Malcolm Chiverton

Secretary John Lambert

Treasurer Joe Mardjetko

President-Elect & Club Service Director Ken Clark

Immediate Past President Ken Rice

International Service Director Denise Kempster/ Dean Matchett

Vocational Service Director Dorothy Jackson

Community Service Director Bruce McEwen

New Generations Director Neil McMillan

ooOoo

District Governor 2002/3, RI District 9810 John Glenn

World President Rotary International 2002/3 Bhichai Rattakul

ANNUAL REPORT 2002-2003 BY PRESIDENT MALCOLM CHIVERTON

Rotary International World President Bhichai Rattakul challenged us to Sow The Seeds of Love throughout the Rotary year of 2002 - 2003. He told us in the video we all watched through stories that Service Above Self was the way to Sow The Seeds of Love, how he became a better Rotarian when an orphan boy who he had taken on an excursion said that "he wished that he was his father."

As I said in my message at the beginning of my term as your President "the best Rotary fellowship and service comes from the heart". In another statement attributed to World President Bhichai Rattakul "Friendship is the Foundation of Rotary, tolerance holds it together."

I have tried to work to these ideals as your President and feel that these ideals have rubbed off on you the members of the best Rotary club in the world. We are an active, vigorous and fun club which has done some amazing things for our community and each other.

World President Bhichai Rattakul implored us to bring in new members. Through Geoff Limmer we achieved this and more. My goal was to bring in 5 new members. I'm not sure if I told Geoff but he went and got 8 new members! Unfortunately we lost 3 members who I was sorry to see go, Steve Trahair, Peter Gibbs and Denise Kempster as they were all excellent Rotarians. However this still gave us a gain of 5 new members (the most in the Club's history since being Chartered) taking our membership to an all time high of 47 members. Well done Geoff.

A reason our Club is more lively and vibrant than the usual perception of Rotary Clubs is our involvement with young people through many Rotary projects, such as:

Rotaract with which I am involved through the Whitehorse Club. It is great to see the Charter President of Whitehorse Tom Garley nominated to be the Rotaract District Representative for this new year.

Group Study Exchange where we sponsored Sarah Cahill to go to Milan. She was a great ambassador for our Club. For her work as the Chairperson for GSE we saw President Elect Nominee Lesley Bell receive from District a Paul Harris Fellow Award. A worthy recipient!

Youth Exchange - we have our beloved visitor (more like a daughter to many of us) Jonna Piirainen from Finland, Barbara Hung who is currently in Switzerland and Olivia Baird who recently returned home from Belgium.

All of these young people have a happy infectious manner which makes you want to be involved with them, they keep you enthused and young in spirit.

Other avenues of involvement with the young have also been through Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN), Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), Summer Science School and through The Rotary Foundation the Ambassadorial Scholar Yoriko

Waki.

Another project that involved young people and the general community was Relay for Life. This year we had Sir Gustav Nossal launch the event at Fountains restaurant in conjunction with our friends at Box Hill Institute. Our third presentation of this magnificent event had the Club working as a whole under the Chairmanship of Lindsay Mackay and his hard working committee. Even though this was our third time at putting on Relay for Life it was somewhat harder as there was more hardship in the community with drought, bushfires and the Bali bombing all taking fundraising resources away from Cancer research. We had fewer teams than last year but were instrumental in raising \$191,000 for which we were paid a management fee, most of which has already been dispersed to pay for the following projects:

- Rotary Foundation \$5,000
- 2 PHF Awards \$4,000
- Oecussi enclave project \$2,000
- Box Hill Oncology Dept. \$1,500

The funds raised this year together with those raised in previous years gave us a combined total in excess of \$530,000 for 3 years. On Saturday night at the District Governor's Changeover the Club again won another award from District for its work for Relay for Life, A Governor's Commendation for Outstanding Community Service. Unfortunately the Club will not be involved in organising another Relay for Life as the Cancer Council changed its procedure of paying a management fee and changes in their personnel made life a lot more difficult.

Another Fundraising Project the Club was successful at was the Business Breakfast organised by our irrepressible Scotsman Ken Rice. Ken had a small committee who worked tirelessly. They were superbly supported by Murray Baird and his staff. At the Breakfast the keynote speaker was the Right Honourable Tony Abbott MP. 150 people attended the Breakfast which included dignitaries from the City of Whitehorse, Rotary and the Liberal Party. The event was to raise money for Polio Plus Eradication and The House for Homeless Youth in conjunction with the Box Hill Institute. Funds raised totalled just under \$8,000 to which the Club made up the difference so both causes received \$4,000 each.

Our quiet achiever Michael Kirk managed to get his HIV/AIDS proposal up at the Resolutions session at District Conference which took place in Geelong this year. It now goes to the Council on Legislation to be held in Chicago next year. We wish you well with this proposal. Apart from being the instigator to get the Club involved in Relay for Life Michael also helped the Club put up a proposal for a Community Assistance Grant funded from Rotary International to assist Scope to receive a hoist for lifting their patients. There were only 3 grants in the District that were accepted.

At District Conference we had the greatest number of members from Box Hill Central attend. Some 16 members, partners, a Youth Exchange Student and 2 Rotex Students totalling a grand sum of 33. The week before Conference we were entertained by the Happy Wanderers namely Michael Kirk, Jonna Piirainen, Julia Thornton and Ken Rice all dressed in their bike riding attire for the monumentous journey to Geelong via the countryside of Victoria. Ken didn't let the moment pass without persuading us to all donate to The Ride For Research Appeal which funds The Australian Rotary Health Research Fund and in Jonna's case for Polio Eradication.

At Christmas time Garry Randall had us donating goods or toys to the less privileged via The Eastern Emergency Relief Organisation run by PHF Keith Rooney.

Another recipient of a donation from the Club was the Whitehorse Indigenous Forum of \$750. This money went some way in deferring their costs for running such an important event. Two of our members Colin Berris and Owen Jenkin attended and learnt more about our fellow Australians which resulted in the Club receiving a visit from Frances Bond one of the delegates at the forum who spoke to us about her life and the future.

Money was also donated to the Gippsland Bush Fire Appeal, the Canberra Bush Fire Appeal, a grant to the New Rotary Club in Dili East Timor and to the organisation Friends of Oecussi to sponsor two ladies from East Timor to study and develop skills in business management to take back to their local community.

Our attendance for the year has come in just over 80% - 80.74% a little down on the 86.5% from last year however we had more members on prolonged leave of absence.

We have 8 members who achieved 100% attendance for the year. They are

Lesley Bell, Jenny Coburn, Roger Coburn, Peter Enlund, Ken Rice, Julia Thornton, Ralston Wood and myself.

The Club has again been represented well at District level:

- Jenny Coburn - District Governor Elect, Geelong 2003 Conference Committee, College of Governors
- Peter Enlund - Club Service Growth Through Diversity Chairman, GSE Committee
- Murray Baird - Club Service Legal Adviser for Sexual Harrassment and Discrimination
- Ralston Wood - Community Service ARHRF Committee
- Michael Kirk - Community Service ARHRF Committee
- Denise Kempster - International Service ROMAC Committee
- John Lambert - International Committee Save Water Save Lives
- Andrew Forgas - Foundation Scholarships Committee
- Lesley Bell - Foundation Group Study Exchange Chairperson
- Julia Thornton – Youth Exchange Area Coordinator Americas: Brazil, Area Coordinator Central Europe: France
- Ken Rice – 2005 Centennial Celebration Committee
- Roger Coburn - Rotarian, Personal Assistant, Devil's Advocate, Confidant, Partner and Ever Loving Husband to DGE Jenny

I would like to thank all the host families - the Bairds (Olivia's parents), Enlunds, Thorntons and Andersons for their love and generosity providing a family environment to Jonna and to Neil Mcmillan as Jonna's Counsellor. To Libby Rice for her Counselling of Barbara Hung our co-sponsored student with The Rotary Club of Mitcham.

John Lambert capably performed his role as Secretary for the past two years and for his attempt at humour he has been elevated to a more befitting role, the Sergeant next year.

I am pleased to say that the finances of the Club are in fine hands under the ever watchful eye of Joe Mardjetko and his lovely wife Melissa.

Ken Clark has done a sterling job as Club Service Director and President Elect, only thing Ken you can't take a holiday this year at the beginning of your term because as a Past President I'm not sure the Club would want me to deputise for you.

Ken Rice as Immediate Past President performed his role admirably and only advised when I asked for it and as mentioned earlier is a natural at Fundraising. Moneys raised by the Bike Ride, Wine Sales, Sausage Sizzle, Fines, Auctions, Cancer Council fee for Relay for Life 2002, and the Business Breakfast totalled well over \$30,000 – more than double the funds raised in any previous year. Keep up the good work!

The International portfolio was a little slow to get going as Denise Kempster's real job workload seemed to double and then as she was surfacing for air she resigned to relocate to the country. However the new boy on the block Dean Matchett under the guidance of Geoff Limmer is steadily finding his feet.

Bruce McEwen battled on courageously in his role as Community Director after being stymied by a major fire burning down his workplace. Thanks for your help Bruce!

Our New Generations Director Neil McMillan has done another remarkable job as mentioned earlier involving the Club as a whole keeping us passionate, vibrant and young thinking with our youth projects. You have a real gift Neil!

Dorothy Jackson has been a tireless worker and a great contributor throughout the Club, on the Board, the Relay for Life Committee and in her portfolio as Vocational Director which she performs brilliantly when her other job allows her. As a result Dorothy is this year's worthy recipient of the Club Achievement "Sticky" Award.

The Board saw fit to recognise two outstanding Rotarians as Paul Harris Fellows. Their contributions to the Club independently for their unstinted drive and passion to see the best done for The Rotary Club of Box Hill Central has earned them each this high Distinction. Congratulations Geoff Limmer and Ken Rice.

Also on Saturday Night at the Changeover Dinner we were not only rewarded with another award for Relay for Life but also 2 other prestigious awards. First with a trophy reading "2002 - 2003 Rotary Club of Box Hill Central Rotary International District 9810 Best Club Website Donated by PDG Brian Foley and Helen". Brian Martin you were instrumental in winning this inaugural award by your relentless pursuit of excellence in operating a first class website. Congratulations Brian!

The second award is an award to all members of The Rotary Club of Box Hill Central. I have mentioned many of you in despatches and hope that you along with the members who I haven't especially thanked for their contribution share with me the thrill and joy that this award brings. To me, this is why we are Rotarians. It reads "Sow The Seeds of Love 2002 - 03 Presidential Citation Awarded to the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central In recognition of loving grassroots efforts to grow peace and understanding in your club, vocation, community, and world. Signed District Governor John Glenn and 2002 - 03 RI President Bhichai Rattakul".

Thank you everyone for achieving this award!

As has been said previously by PP Peter Enlund "we have a great Club, built on a solid base of service and friendship. I look forward to us all sharing in the personal fulfillment flowing from the success that will come from our commitment and hard work. The Past Presidents of the Club have built a solid foundation for us and I look forward to us all getting behind President Ken as we take on the new challenges of the future".

Thank you to my lovely wife Karen for supporting me in this fantastic role and to you all for allowing me to be your 13th President.

Sow The Seeds of Love.
Malcolm Chiverton.
President 2002 - 2003

CLUB SERVICE REPORT 2002/2003

Our club has completed another very successful year, in part, due to the efforts of those who filled the various Club Service positions this year. In particular, outstanding service was rendered in the following areas:-

Membership Geoff Limmer is to be commended for the hard work he has contributed in this field. During the year we have welcomed the following new members to the club:

- Anne-Marie Wells (introduced by Roger Coburn)
- Bob Wells (introduced by Jenny Coburn)
- Dean Matchett (introduced by Craig Hoath)
- Greg Cooper (introduced by Jenny Coburn)
- Graham Reynolds (previously a member of Rotary Club of Griffith)
- Vici Funnell (introduced by Michael Kirk)
- Jill Carson (introduced by Murray Baird)
- Helen Hsu (introduced by John Cybula)

As a result, our membership as at 30th June 2003 sits at an all time high of 47.

Bulletin & Website Maintenance Brian Martin has established and maintained an outstanding website for our club, and produced an excellent club bulletin each week. To Ian Port and his "roving reporters" Ian Cross, Geoff Barnes, Colin Berris, Kerry Barrett, and Michelle Hart, you have done a great job in recording details of our meeting each week for the club bulletin.

Program Garry Randall has produced a great range of speakers throughout the year, who have provided us with interesting presentations covering a wide range of topics. In many instances, more time would have been appreciated, and in two instances we did invite them back to continue their presentation.

Rotaract Representative Malcolm Chiverton has been outstanding in fostering our relationship with Whitehorse Rotaract Club. Malcolm has also provided the venue for their club meetings.

Sausage Sizzle Craig Hoath has kept the sausages sizzling, organising the roster and supplies, and ensuring that our team are there each month. Thank you also to members who served on the sausage sizzle during the year.

Sergeant What an imposing figure he represents within the club. Controlling the meeting with "an iron fist", extracting the last dollar from unsuspecting members (particularly Geelong supporters), and laughing about it as he goes along. Our thanks to Trevor Dalziel for a job well done, and also to other members who filled in in Trevor's absence.

To all club members who helped out in so many ways throughout the year, thank you for your input. Your efforts have ensured that our club continues to operate effectively.

Ken Clark
Club Service Director

NEW GENERATIONS COMMITTEE 2002/2003

What a great year for the Club!. We said our good byes to Sarah on changeover night and she has since returned to Belgium. We then welcomed Jonna our incoming student from Finland. Jonna has continued to be actively involved in our Club activities and has endeared herself to us all with her bright personality.

The committee has worked well together, to promote many of the Rotary programs:

- A Satchel of Information was placed into 15 schools highlighting the various Rotary Programs for 2003. Each committee member made themselves available to speak personally with one member of staff at each School.
- Interviews were carried out with numerous students and parents for different Rotary programs which resulted in :-
 - Successful selection of an outgoing student for Youth Exchange in 2003/4
 - Successful selection of one candidate to attend the RYLA week long training camp in 2002 and three will be sponsored by our club in July 2003
 - Successful selection of three (Yr 10) students to attend the district weekend RYPEN Course
 - Selection of a student to attend final interviews of the Summer Science School for summer 2003. This student got to the finals but the competition was fierce for the 12 places.
- Continued support by the club for host families. We thank those who did support us this year. The Baird (Olivia our returned exchange student) family and our Rotary families as follows, Thorntons, Enlunds, Andersons & McMillans as counsellors. We also thank Libby Rice for acting as the outgoing exchange student Counsellor to Barbara Hung in Switzerland.

Finally a big thankyou to those members of the committee who assisted throughout the year. They were Michelle Hart, Sam Pho, Colin Berris, Craig Hoath and Bob Wells.

Neil McMillan
Chairman.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE 2002/2003

Having only been 'in the job' for about 3-4 months, I would expect that this report will be the shortest of all Rotary reports this year. However, looking forward (with a greater knowledge of the International Committee's function), I trust that many wonderful achievements can be reported in the 2003/04 International Committee report.

During the last 3 or so months, the International Committee can report that James Mureu is liaising with an African Rotary club in linking with RCBHC in relation to a community AIDS awareness campaign that Michael Kirk has worked so tirelessly on.

Further, it was decided that RCBHC would contact a number of local schools to assist in raising money (through 'casual clothes days', etc) in order to sponsor another child through Plan International. In terms of our current sponsor child (Domalyn Sison), she is doing very well and her family and community greatly appreciate her sponsorship.

Having attended the District Conference in May, it was a real eye opening at the range of activities that Rotary and Rotarians are involved with and I greatly look forward to speaking to you about any thoughts and ideas that you may have. Let's make 2003/04 a great International Rotary year.

Best regards

Dean Matchett
Chair, International Committee

COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE 2002/2003

Committee: Michael Kirk, Ian Port, Libby Rice, Ian Cross, Kerry Barrett, Lesley Bell, Bruce McEwen (Chair)

Sow the Seeds of Love, the RI President's theme for this past year, will always be more effective if it begins with my helpful actions and attitudes around my own home – in my own local community.

Relay for Life 2002 Through the planning and organising of the 2002 Relay for Life event, we have for the third year running increased the recognition of Rotary significantly and highlighted its commitment to serving others in our own back yard. The benefit to our local community from the more than \$500,000 raised for cancer research over the past 3 years is immeasurable. We are assured that these positive outcomes in the fight against cancer will touch the lives of many people, individuals and families across our suburbs and beyond.

Local Community Support Our Club members at the Wednesday morning meetings and at conferences held over the year have appreciated the many special stories of people and organisations who give so much dedicated time and effort to providing services to meet the many needs of the people in our community. We as a club continue to encourage each other to get involved in a wide range of service within this community. It has been a good to have nearly a dozen of our members involved in collecting for the *Salvation Army Red Shield appeal* this year.

House for Homeless Youth Project The Committee and Board during the year have continued to promote and encourage this exciting Box Hill Institute House for Homeless Youth project. Already funds received from Rotary and the broader community are nearly \$30,000. This will allow the project to progress to the next important stage of locating a suitable block of land in preparation for the building of this much needed, specially designed home.

ARHRF Our Club over the year has again been impressed with the outstanding work undertaken by the Australian Rotary Health Research Foundation. Many of our members have continued to give generously to ARHRF and thus have assisted the advancement of its significant work.

Indigenous Forum It was a highlight to have two of our members, Owen Jenkin and Colin Berris represent our Club at the "Whitehorse Deliberates on Indigenous Issues" Forum, held on the weekend of May 17th and 18th. The purpose of the forum was to examine the issues surrounding reconciliation between the original occupiers of Australia and the post 1770 Australians. It has been extremely helpful to have Colin and Owen provide us with their reactions and impressions following the forum and to help us appreciate the many challenging questions raised and positive outcomes achieved from the issues discussed over the weekend.

Bruce McEwen
Community Service Director

VOCATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT 2002/2003

A \$1,000 scholarship for a worthy Box Hill Institute of TAFE student working well under financial difficulties has been organised.

The Trivia Night, intended to raise funds to assist another Box Hill Institute of TAFE student with overseas travel, had to be cancelled due to insufficient numbers. The Institute is keen to hold the evening later in 2003.

A vocational evening was held at the Nelson Road Campus of Box Hill Institute of TAFE. Participants learnt of the developments East of Elgar Road and viewed the Computing facilities at the Nelson Campus. Money was raised for the purchase of a book to help an IT student.

The contact details of Careers Teachers in the Eastern Region have been obtained and permission gained to speak to these people regarding a suitable project to assist students in selecting a career. A possible funding source for such a project has been found; submissions are required early in the new year.

Dorothy Jackson
Vocational Service Director