



Morisset Rotary Club Annual Report 2018 – 2019



Board of Management

President:	John Rodstrom	Vice President:	Peter Comino
Past President:	Mick Payze	Treasurer:	Ross Dickson
Secretary:	Geoff Alderdice	President Elect:	Peter Comino

Directors

Eleni Comino	Barbara Walsh
Peter Comino	Mick Payze



Presidents Report 2018-19

Have we lived up to the ideals of Rotary in the past twelve months yes we have, we have ticked all the boxes plus some, I would like to mention a few highlights of what has been a very successful and rewarding year.

We have again seen a steady increase of membership this year welcoming 9 members into Morisset Rotary again bringing a great diversity of new members with incredible skills. This has seen the club advance into avenues of fund raising and new projects that I have not seen in the short time of my involvement with this Club. Our membership increase has also seen growth to a 50/50 gender balance way beyond the District average, of which personally I find very comforting and inspiring.

Morisset Rotary has always been extremely supportive of youth in our community, to see that involvement go to the next level over the past two years by taking on Youth Mental Health has been outstanding. Our very successful Golf Day last year and in conjunction with Morisset High School certainly gave us a kick start in helping our young future society meet the many challenges that they face today. This event raised about \$32,000 dollars net of which has already started to fund many mental health programs for our students in our patch at Morisset High School and Primary Schools that are part of the Western Alliance.

Even though we have had to cancel our Golf Day for this year due to the closure of the Morisset Country Club I am certain in what we have planned for November this year and March next year will be a lot bigger and better. Watch this space.

Again, we have hosted two Hospitality Class dinners at Morisset High School and continued to offer Rotary Scholarships to financially disadvantaged year 11 – 12 students along with also sending 5 young students to RYPEN and Rystars over the past 12 months. Our annual involvement with year 8 students around Shelter box reached an outstanding pinnacle this year seeing them raise over \$2,500. They were an inspiration to watch as they took ownership in raising this money to such a worthwhile cause through a trivia night and various other activities.

Our involvement with the Science and Engineering Challenge and Discovery Days were also again very successful.

Internationally we have more than met our international Humanitarian commitments. We have again seen enormous progress in our Tiba Farm project in Timor Leste headed up by Barbara in again providing funds for infrastructure to be more self-sufficient in growing their own food for the children's orphanage.

Our Morogoro project in Tanzania headed up by Eleni has seen the completion of a new shower and toilet block at a local girls high school and school based theatre groups spreading the word on Malaria prevention of which Eleni experienced 1st hand by travelling over there again last year to experience this first hand.

Our Christmas trailer raffle was again very successful raising in excess of \$11,000. of which a large majority has been passed back into our community to support many different organizations such as South lakes Markets, South lakes Carers, Heaven can wait Regatta, Australian Rotary Health, Men's Health Educational Rural Van at the Morisset Show, just to mention a few.

Morisset Rotary has been very active in the District Youth Exchange programme over the past 4 years and this year has been no exception, hosting lovely Eva Gerday from Belgium and Harrison Burgess from Wangi our out bound student who will be going to Switzerland, and of course looking forward to our next inbound student Samuel Bydel from Sweden arriving in July 2019.

On the club meeting front, it has been a very interesting, enlightening and at times an extremely amusing year. Our meetings are very relaxed, very nontraditional and very aligned to the modern era that we now live in.

We have had a fantastic range of guest speakers from outside of our club and from our very own members who have all proved that, everyone has a story to tell, this in particular I found to be very entertaining and inspiring.

On the technology side we have had some great Pizza Nights, teaching technology challenged members new tricks in the computer Lab of the Morisset High School by trying to get us all up to speed in the 21st centuries technologies a new web site for Morisset Rotary and on that word I believe that Morisset Rotary can be justifiably proud of the fact that we are certainly at the top when it comes to being social media compliant which is an absolute necessity to keep attracting members into this wonderful organization in 2019 and beyond.

We are moving with the times, thank you to my board that has supported me this year you have been incredible, I am always in awe of your skills that you have applied to your portfolios this year. Thank you to all of my fellow members and partners for sharing the workloads when needed and thank you to my wonderful wife for your loving support throughout the YEAR THAT WAS.

John Rodstrom President

PROJECT MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR 2018-19 YEAR

Hit4 Youth Mental Health Golf Event 31 August: This inaugural, and now one and only event, at Morisset Golf Course raised about \$35,000, however, notwithstanding planning progressing for a repeat performance in 2019, the unexpected closure of the course has set this event aside until an alternative venue can be found.

Living Smart 21 September: The Club manned the District ShelterBox stand and ran a raffle to raise funds for our projects.

Bicycle Network – Gravel Grit 27 October: This year the restrictions placed on the event by the Police reluctance to have the event run along Freemans Drive, resulted in the event starting from Laguna where catering was provided by the local school however, we assisted as a Club providing marshals along the route in the Watagans.

Christmas Trailer Raffle – 7 November – 23 December: The annual raffle was run again at Morisset Square as per previous years and raised about \$12,000 – the draw was performed at Morisset Square on 23 December.

Southlake Market Place Food Bank – Christmas event – 18 December: The Club again supported this organisation by funding its Christmas activities including the supply of bags for gifts to go to the Town's elderly at the annual Christmas Dinner (held on 24 December this year).

Alira House Christmas Gifts – 19 December: This year Kerry Rodstrom took over from Sandy Olive and arranged for the collection of gifts of pajamas for the mothers and children at the various refuges – these were passed on after the Club's Christmas party.

Morisset Show – MHERV Van – 9 - 10 February: The Club negotiated an arrangement with the Show Ground Committee whereby, for the provision of parking services, we would have a prime site for the MHERV van to offer its health check services for two days – the Club took the opportunity to run a concurrent raffle in aid of the MHERV van operations.

Newcastle Show – 1 – 3 March: For the first time, the Club obtain agreement from the Event Organiser, to cater for the volunteers on our BBQ trailer at this very successful three-day event.

Dystonia Support BBQ – 25 April: Six Club members gave up their ANZAC Day afternoon to man the Boolaroo Bunnings BBQ earning a net \$830 in just three hours – the funds went towards treatments required for Jason Lynch in a Korean Clinic.

Catalina Festival – 19 May: Here again the Club provided assistance with car parking and delighted in avoiding any undue queues of vehicles waiting to enter the event. In exchange for this service a site was obtained for ShelterBox to show-case its role in emergency response.

Other Club events reported elsewhere include: School presentations, School involvement with ShelterBox, Film nights, Tee Shirt sales, and the collection of Musical instruments for passing onto children;

Mick Payze (Director)

ANNUAL YOUTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

MORISSET HIGH SCHOOL: Hospitality Class dinners and the Senior Scholarships programme have remained the focal part of our connection with the school. During the year seven senior students from financially disadvantaged families are negotiating Year 11 and Year 12 with Rotary scholarships. In addition Community Service Awards are provided for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10.

RYPEN: We support two students to attend each of the two RYPEN camps. This is supplemented by others who are financed by Morisset High School. The change of venue has been problematic with the relocation being a two hour drive away. We continue to be impressed by the positive feedback from the attendees.

WWCC: The club maintains and regularly updates its Working With Children Clearance Register. Currently all our club members have clearances.

SHELTERBOX: Uniquely, we have provided Morisset High with a ShelterBox for a year 8 study unit for the last two years. Club members visit the school and present introductory information. Based on inspection of an erected ShelterBox, students chose research areas and some experienced a supervised ShelterBox overnight camp-out in the school grounds. After several weeks, very successful student project presentations are made with key club members present. The programme continues annually with recently updated equipment which has kindly been donated by ShelterBox.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS: Each year "Community Service" awards are presented to ten local primary schools. Annual awards ceremonies are attended by club representatives who do the presentations.

DISCOVERY DAY/SCIENCE & ENGINEERING CHALLENGE: In August a successful Primary School Discovery Day programme was held over two days at Avondale School with Morisset Rotary serving the food for the helpers. Several Toronto Sunrise members assisted Morisset Club to supervise the students as they worked on the challenges. Planning is underway for this event in the coming Rotary year. In July - August our volunteers also assisted supervising at the Science and Engineering Challenge events held at University of Newcastle in July - August.

YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMME: This year we have enjoyed the visit of a young lady from Belgium. After spending a very happy year with our club she has recently returned home. Our outbound student is enjoying his stay in Switzerland. We are now in the process of preparing an outbound student who will depart in January 2020 for a year in Italy. Our inbound student for 2019-20 is a young man from Sweden, arriving in July.

BARBARA WALSH - YOUTH DIRECTOR/ CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER

International Report

The 2018-19 year has seen Morisset Rotary Club's 2 international project progress steadily. The Rotary Club of Morisset also contributes significant annual donations to the Rotary Foundation, Polio Plus, ROMAC and Interplast.

Community Based Health Improvements Project- Morogoro

This project combines four components working together to improve health facilities, health education and health standards in the region of Morogoro, Tanzania.

The 2018-19 year began with project Manager Eleni travelling back to Morogoro in July for a successful trip in which we ascertained a strong direction for the project moving forward and established a positive relationship with the Morogoro Rotary Club. Whilst in Tanzania Eleni was able to witness the fruition of the initial stage of the project- the theatre performances by Ngoma Afrika. The performances were entertaining, interactive, educational and overall a huge success- an excellent beginning to the implementation side of the project.

In November 2018 a successful fundraising movie night was held to raise funds for the toilet block in conjunction with Morogoro Rotary Club. This toilet and shower block are now completed, the result is pleasing and the girls are making great use of it- an excellent initiative from the Morogoro club! The club also put in a huge effort for the Newcastle show weekend to raise funds towards Morogoro, resulting in a healthy account balance to help complete the project.

The project is now roughly half-way complete with two more components remaining. If all stays on track, the project may be completed by the end of 2020.

Eleni Comino, (Project Manager)

SHELTERBOX

Club Activities: The club has again been active supporting several ShelterBox displays at local events. Each year we donate to this programme. Over the last seven we have made donations in excess of \$17,000.

Morisset High School ShelterBox Programme. A popular inclusion for Year 8 students is the Shelterbox project as part of their geography/social studies focus. Individual or group projects are developed after a session with display & explanation of a ShelterBox & Shelterkits. After working on their projects for a term the students run a feedback session in the school library with club members in attendance. In the current year their fund-raising efforts brought in almost \$3000.

TIBAR FARM DEVELOPMENT - TIMORE LESTE

Morisset Club has been involved with Timor Leste projects since 2013 when we supported construction of school classrooms and a disease prevention project in conjunction with other clubs. The development of the farm at Tibar in the Liquica District has been the club's focus over the last 4 years, assisted by District Matching Grants. Produce from the farm will significantly reduce the annual food bills for local orphanages.

To date, perimeter fencing for the whole property has been erected, a water bore and water reticulation have been installed. Fruit trees, melons and root vegetables have been planted and a duck pond has been added. Large areas still require development for planting. Next stage will involve further cultivation use of local coffee bean husks to fertilize the soil.

Barbara Walsh has been managing Timor Leste projects since her original visit there in 2013. A more recent visit was made in September 2017. The project is overseen locally by a paid NGO team registered as "Rotarians Helping Timor". This team was originally set up by RAWCS Australia. Young Dili Rotarians are employed at this office to manage project funding. They also manage arrival of Donations in Kind and the outgoing paperwork for other Rotary projects eg ROMAC and YEP. The Tibar Farm project has been supported with District Matching Grants each year. The matching grant application for next year was not successful as less funds were available. This will curtail development for the coming year. However for 2019-20 the club has acquired a donation of \$3000 from a local church & will match that later in the year. (BARBARA WALSH - PROJECT MANAGER)

Eleni Comino (International Director)

TECHNOLOGY 2019

Communications and connectivity are very important to the club as it reaches out to members, prospective members and the community at large.

Social communications of different type play a significant role in all club activities, such as digital photographs for the web site and Facebook. There is no better medium to reinforce the Rotary brand and promotes who we are & what we do. We've had some major changes including consolidation of our web pages in the year. Now #joinrotary, tee-shirt sales (www.joinrotary.com.au) and the original morissetrotary.org.au now sit in morissetrotary.club sporting a much younger, brighter and interesting façade and better servicing potential members with information.

We continue to maximize our communication, maintaining three Facebook pages (Morisset Rotary, #joinRotary and a major even site), the consolidation of 3 web pages plus a smart phone Team App and distribution of the President's weekly bulletin.

Craig Johnson (Director)

ROTARY CLUB OF MORISSET

TREASURERS REPORT 2018-19

MEMBER' ACTIVITIES

1. Members and their guests contributed \$5,430.00 to Morisset High School attending the dinners prepared by the Hospitality students and Members also contributed \$3,300.00 to the Rotary Foundation, Annual Program Fund. This amount was in addition to the Rotary Foundation Polio Plus donation listed below.

COMMUNITY ACCOUNT:

1. Funds donated are as per the table below:

	Funds		Proposed	
	Distributed	Totals	/Approved	
			Donations	Totals
Community		4,010.00		0 00
Aust Rotary Health	1,000 00			
South Lakes Market Place	500.00			
Cooranbong Probus	300.00			
South Lakes Carers	500.00			
Heaven Can Wait Regatta	500.00			
SLMASC	50.00			
Morisset Show/MHERV Van	1,160.00			
International		24,152.66		8,735.18
Shelterbox/Aquabox	3,000.00			
Rotary Foundation Polio Plus	2,000.00			
Morogoro	10,539.56		5,735.18	
Ttimor Leste	8,613.10		3,000.00	
Youth		8,445.00		29,969.72
RYPEN	1,610.00			
Youth Exchange	1,690.00			
Cooranbong Public School	2,000.00			
Science & Enginrng Challenge	1,000 00			
Local School Awards	250.00			
Morisset High School	1,895.00		29,969.72	
		<u>\$36,607.66</u>		<u>\$38,704.90</u>

2. Gross Community Account income for the year was \$72,888.03 (\$38,609.87) and costs were

\$12,365.09 (\$8,914.92). The income amount included a Rotary Grant of \$3,500.00

3. The Club's cash position is as follows:-

	2019	2018
Members Funds		
General Account	4,436.07	7,843.87
Fundraising Accounts		
Community Account	8,234.08	10,671.92
Morogoro Hospital Appeal	5,735.38	9,580.21
Timar Leste Appeal	387.50	2,315.00
ING Direct Investment Account	30,610.85	10,232.90

These balances include the sum of \$1,000.00 that has been received for sponsorships for the Hit 4 Youth Mental Health Golf Day on 28th August 2020.

Ross Dickson (Treasurer)