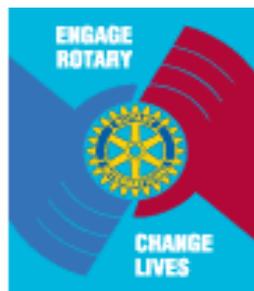




The Rotary Club of Morisset Annual Report 2014 - 2015



BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

President: Charles Phillips **Vice President: Murray Scoble**
President Elect: Georgina Anderson **Secretary: Barbara Walsh**
President Nominee: Craig Johnson **Treasurer: Ross Dickson**
Immediate Past President: Kerry Morrissey

Directors:

Club Administration: Mick Payze
Membership: Allen Hattaway
New Generations: Georgina Anderson
Project Management: Craig Johnson
The Rotary Foundation: Phillip Kesterton & Geoff Alderdice

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Firstly, we owe a great debt of thanks to Kerry and her Board for their development of the club and its strong condition at the start of my Presidential year. The club has continued to play an important part in the culture of Morisset and its surrounds as well as contributing extensively to communities in need outside of our area. We have indeed played our part in Lighting Up Rotary.

Our support of the youth in the area is a high priority. This year we have added a candidate for the National Youth Science Forum and approved expenditure for both outbound and inbound Youth Exchange Programme students for the coming year. The Morisset High School dinners which we organize twice a year contribute to the final year students' assessments. Here, they demonstrate their ability to provide a particularly high standard of food and table service. Our club continued its involvement with Morisset Police Citizens Youth Club by supporting their first "Bronze4Boys" programme.

There have been disasters both locally and internationally this year and the club has responded to these with special collections and direct donations to Shelterbox. Internationally we have continued to support a Timor Leste disease eradication programme and the Oonte Orphans Kitchen project in Namibia. Other international medical aid programs such as Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children and Interplast are among the club's core beneficiaries. Please refer to the various Directors' reports for more information on our major activities.

It was fortuitous that member, John Olive, acquired the donation of a substantial collection of vintage port from a deceased estate. Auctioning some of this has raised funds for Heaven Can Wait (for Cancer Council), Namibia Oonte Kitchen Project, The Humour Foundation (Clown Doctors) and MHERV (Men's Health Education Rural Van). With plenty of vintage port still in stock we expect to be able to raise further funds well into the future.

During the year we inducted one new member by transfer and two Associate Members. The introduction of Associate Members is considered to be a major step forward for the club as it will allow young adults such as full time students to fully participate in the club without fees. As with most clubs a lot more consideration needs to be given to the recruitment of new members.

Through retirement we lost long term member, Phillip Kesterton but presented him with Lifetime Honorary Membership. He continues to participate in many of the projects we have been undertaking. Toni McLean also moved on by transferring to Warners Bay club.

Once again we raised the Rotary flag and made money with our fast food proficiency at the Morisset Night Markets, the Morisset Horse Show and the Morisset Community Festival. Super Sunday and Tuesday bicycle counts also brought in additional money. Our major fund raiser for the year was the Christmas Trailer Raffle and our esteem in the community is really evident in this event with the assistance of many "Friends of Rotary" who gladly gave

their time. This help is invaluable and we thank them immensely. One of these helpers became the recipient of a Paul Harris Fellowship for his especially significant contribution.

In all, four Paul Harris Fellowships were awarded, two to Rotarians, Murray Scoble and Barbara Walsh and two to non-Rotarians. We also presented a Vocational Service Award to Toni McLean for her 50 years of service to the entertainment industry.

We have had a significant presence on the internet with our website and Facebook thanks to Ross Dickson, Kerry Morrissey and Georgina Anderson. Our links to the press have been further developed thanks to the work of Phillip Kesterton, Mick Payze and Georgina Anderson. With thanks to Craig Johnson's technical expertise cloud storage for our projects has been set up and his work on project development has given us a great start for the future.

One thing that is essential to a Rotary club is having fun and this has been experienced in a number of ways. Guest speakers on a range of subjects have kept our interest. Aspects of local public transport needs, Lake Macquarie Council Library services, the Women's Refuge, "Behind the Seen" and Ability Link were some of the topics on our list. We have had a number of dinners out, BBQs, visited Jazz in the Vines and listened to The Desperados (an Eagle's tribute rock band).

My thanks go to all club members but especially the Board and it's Executive for their wonderful commitment and achievement to what is, most likely, the greatest charitable organization existing today.

I am sure the club has a great future as it develops under the Presidency of Georgina Anderson and her Board. It is a magnificent club with a wealth of experience in its older (Rotarian and actual years) members and a great future in its younger Rotarians and Associates. I wish Georgina and her Board all the best in the new year of 2015-16 and thank everyone who has contributed to the success of Morisset Rotary this year.

Charlie Phillips
PRESIDENT

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CLUB ADMINISTRATION REPORT 2014-15: Mick Payze (Director)

Programs: The Club meets weekly with guest speakers or information sessions on a range of worldwide Rotary topics. Planning meetings complete our regular meeting activities. Our Board meets monthly to plan events and activities. Efforts have been continued to explore meeting variations to widen membership appeal to a greater range of potential members and has had regular social events also to mix “Work with Play”.

District Assembly/President Elect Training: Members of the incoming Board were well presented at these annual “in-service” sessions in preparation for taking leadership responsibilities in 2015-16.

Social Media: There has been further focus on the wider use of media to promote the club both externally and internally. Photos, weekly news and links to activities are all receiving increased interest (and “likes”). The Club’s Website address and Facebook page are included in all published material and advertising boards.

District Conference: A number of club members travelled to Forster in March and enjoyed the weekend’s events there.

Promotion: There has been an increased dialogue with the editors of local press which has also led to greater exposure of Rotary events.

Website: The club continues to use its website as a major platform for informing the community about events and achievements but its direction will no doubt start taking a new look with the addition to the Club of some younger Associate Members.

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MEMBERSHIP: Allen Hattaway (Director)

Arrivals: Interested people are encouraged to attend meetings to explore the possibility of becoming members. During 2014/15 we welcomed John Rodstrom who transferred from Gunnedah West club. Two Associate Members were also inducted. Our website and Facebook page both encourage the reader to become a Rotarian.

Departures: During the year we bid farewell to two long serving members. Phillip Kesterton 'graduated' to Probus, having been awarded Lifetime Honorary membership of our club. Toni McLean transferred to Warner's Bay club as meeting times there were more convenient for her busy work commitments.

Mentoring: A new Mentoring Programme is still under development, along with the revised Club Information Package.

Social: Involvement of family members is encouraged not only at Rotary social events but also at our meetings. High School dinners and our Christmas party were just some of the social highlights. The arrival of an exchange student in the coming year will create further opportunities for socializing together.

Associate Members: The position of Associate Member was established in this Rotary year to encourage the interest of young people. Two young members already enrolled and another will be inducted in July. They are encouraged to recommend projects & to actively take part in club activities without the pressure of fees or regular attendance.

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NEW GENERATIONS: Georgina Anderson (Director)

Primary Schools Liaison: Annual “Service Above Self” Book Voucher Awards were presented to ten local primary schools by club members at annual awards ceremonies. The Hunter Life Education Programme was funded at Morisset Primary School.

Morisset High School Liaison: Hospitality Class dinners and senior scholarships have remained the focal part of our connection with MHS where we have a very strong working relationship. Two Senior Scholarships were provided for Yr.11 and four for Yr.12 students from financially disadvantaged families. These students are supported through our school based mentoring programme. Annual Service Above Self Awards are provided for Yrs 7, 8 and 9. Five teachers are selected by the Principal for Rotary Excellence in Teaching Awards.

Science and Engineering Challenge: The senior format of this programme has been supported with volunteers and \$1000 donation. Planning is underway for our first Primary School level Discovery Day.

National Youth Science Forum: An excellent local student who attends St. Paul’s Catholic High School was co-sponsored with the Rotary Club of Toronto to attend NYSF in Canberra.

Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment: Our enthusiastic RYPEN student lives in our area but attends Toronto High School. She wrote in glowing terms of her RYPEN camp experience & has applied to become a “RYPENITE” graduate leader at the next camp.

Police Citizens Youth Club: Our club continues to support the Morisset PCYC and this year supported the first “Bronze4Boys” programme. A club member presented their Bronze Medallions & congratulated the boys. Further such programmes are in the pipeline.

Youth Exchange Program: This year we have endorsed the application of an outbound student. Early in the next Rotary year hosting an inbound student from Hungary will commence. This is the first time in seven years that the club has been able to commit to the YEP. We hope this will enrich and energize the club.

Rotary Youth Leadership Award: A new graduate physiotherapist was sponsored for this year’s RYLA programme. His feedback was extremely positive. In his talk to the club he was particularly grateful for the increased confidence he has as he meets the challenges of his new professional role.

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ROTARY FOUNDATION/INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS: Geoff Alderdice (Director)

The Foundation

Rotary International Funds: Annual donations are made to Polio Plus and The Rotary Foundation. In addition several club members also donate privately via the Centurion programme or through the Bequest Society.

Paul Harris Fellowships: Four PHF awards were presented during the year.

Support for International Projects

ShelterBox: Assistance for Vanuatu cyclone disaster.

Rotary Oceanic Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC): Seriously ill and deformed children are brought to Australia for treatment and surgery which cannot be provided in their country. Specialists make assessment visits to the country to assess suitability patients.

Interplast: Less complicated corrective surgical intervention is provided by visiting volunteer specialists in countries of origin overseas.

Timor Leste: *Fundu Isin-Di'ak ("Good Health Fund")*: The aim is to eradicate lymphatic filariasis and intestinal hook worm infections in the Timor Leste population. Managed by the Rotary Club of Sydney, the Chairman of the project is Prof. Peter McMinn, infectious disease specialist from Sydney University. Our club assisted the Rotary Club of Sydney with funding support for this programme.

Namibia - Oonte Village Orphans' Kitchen: Further contributions were made towards the orphans' kitchen project with funds to continue floor tiling. This was overseen by a Rotarian's daughter who has lived near the Oonte area.

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**ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT - Craig Johnson (Director)**

**Christmas Trailer Raffle:** Thanks to the generous donations from local businesses and individuals, the major prizes were of excellent quality and attracted good public support. Outstanding assistance from Rotarians and Friends of Rotary ensured success of the event.

**Loop the Lake:** The club supervised the western area of the lake for navigation, nutrition and general well-being of more than 1500 cyclists for this event. In partnership with several other clubs significant funds were raised for John Hunter Children's Hospital.

**Morriset Horse Show:** Catering for the event we used the on-site Showground canteen as good experience for later in the year when we supported the Morisset Community Festival.

**Street-beat:** Provided another vehicle for our club's high profile involvement with an information booth, an erected Shelter-Box tent and the sponsorship of an event prize.

**"Good Neighbour" Programme:** Our main support for these three Rohingya refugee families is providing helpful advice, assisting with medical appointments, dealing with language problems & facilitating their adjustment to a very different way of life. Three gorgeous babies have been added to the families & another is on the way.

**Super Count Days:** The opportunity for club volunteers to participate in various bicycle counts days to raise funds for the club and take the opportunity to observe the world go by.

**Women's Refuge:** Each year members donate Christmas gifts for the women & children at the local refuge & half way houses.

**Morriset Night Markets:** This was our first time involvement to gauge interest for future participation. The success will likely spark similar interest in such future events.

**Morriset Community Festival:** Our club had a huge but successful day catering from the showground canteen and dining room. An information booth with a Shelterbox displayed brought interest. Putt - putt golf added to the worthwhile exposure for the club on the day.

**Paul Harris Dinner:** Held in recognition of Rotary's 110th anniversary and the club's 48th anniversary, the event included Paul Harris Fellowships being awarded to Barbara Walsh, Murray Scoble and to the guest speaker Kate Salisbury. A further financial contribution was made to her Namibia Oonte Village Orphans' project. The vintage port auction added some fun to a successful evening.

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ROTARY CLUB OF MORISSET - TREASURERS REPORT 2014-2015

MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES: Members and their guests contributed \$4,110.00 to Morisset High School attending the dinners prepared by the Hospitality students

COMMUNITY ACCOUNT: Funds donated are as per the table below:

	Funds Distributed	Totals	Outstanding Commitments
Community		4,556.50	
Aust Rotary Health	1,000.00		
BlazeAid	1,000.00		
Refugee Project	198.50		
South Lakes Business Chamber	500.00		
South Lakes Carers	500.00		
Heaven Can Wait Regatta	500.00		
Medical Information			
Books	308.00		
SLMASC	50.00		
Morisset Show	500.00		
International		13,050.00	
Shelterbox	2,400.00		
Rotary Foundation APF	2,000.00		
Rotary Foundation Polio			
Plus	1,000.00		
ROMAC	2,000.00		
Interplast	2,000.00		
RAWCS	1,000.00		
Gentle Hands/Xmas box freight	150.00		
Oonte	500.00		
East Timor	2,000.00		
New Generations		4,832.00	
RYLA	600.00		
NYSF	500.00		
RYPEN	230.00		
PCYC	350.00		650.00
Science & Eng Challenge	1,000.00		
Local School Awards	503.00		
Morisset High School	1,649.00		
		<u>\$22,438.50</u>	<u>\$650.00</u>

2. Gross Community Account income for the year was \$26,469 and costs were \$5,001.

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