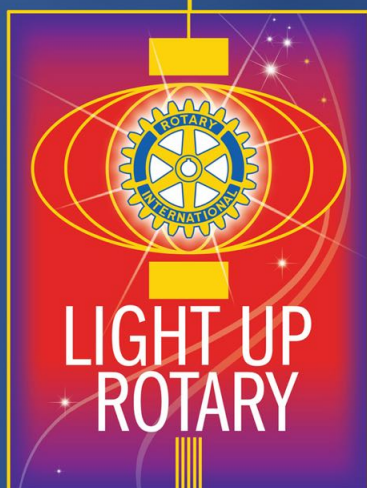




**Rotary Club of Bendigo  
South Inc. Rotary District 9800**



**56th ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2014-15**

## *President's Report*

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### **PRESIDENT – ROD SPITTY**

The Rotary Club of Bendigo South has had a busy year. It is with pleasure that I submit this Annual Report to the Club. The theme for the year was “Light up Rotary” and that became a base reference underpinning all Club activity as outlined in the Club Vision and Business Plan.

**Rotary International President 2014-15:** Gary C. K. Huang  
**District 9800 Governor:** Murray Verso  
**Assistant Governor (Goldfields):** Grant Hocking (South)  
 Greg Noonan (North)

#### **The main objectives for the year were:**

- To provide for members needs
- To have fun.
- To undertake constructive service work within the community through a Business Plan with a quarterly review.
- To further develop community partnerships.
- To develop a Major Project centered on a fishing competition at Lake Eppalock, women's violence (white ribbon) and support for the fit out the refuge centre.

#### **The Board for 2014-15 year consisted of the following members:**

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| • President  | Rod Spitty                      |
| • President Elect / Club Service & Club Protection Officer | Tony Plant                      |
| • Hon Secretary  | Mark G. Mott                    |
| • Hon Treasurer  | Greg Noonan                     |
| • Membership & Marketing                                   | Bernie Young                    |
| • Community Service  | Ian Ellis                       |
| • Foundation   | Helene Brown<br>& Andrew Palmer |
| • Vocation   | Gary Pinner                     |
| • Youth Services   | Ros Chenery                     |
| • International Service                                    | Lindsay Jackson                 |
| • Communications   | Matthew Scott                   |

Thank you to each member of the Club for their contributions throughout the year. It was terrific to see the various project committees at work implementing their project and ideas with enthusiasm and purpose. It was also a very sad time when we lost club member Elaine Harrington, but I was particularly proud of the Club when we formed a guard of honour at her funeral.

**There were many highlights throughout the year some of which were:**

- The Bill Ashman Testimonial Dinner where Bill was recognised with a double sapphire and Verna Ashman with a Paul Harris Fellow.
- The Past Presidents evening commemorating 110 years of Rotary.
- The ANZAC Centenary Remembrance Dinner.
- Cricket Week where the club hosted 80 international rotary cricketers and partners to Bendigo for the week.
- Commitment by the Club to a social program (5 activities undertaken)
- Four enjoyable and purposeful vocation visits.
- La Trobe University Health Science Scholarships
- Attendance at the International Conference in Sydney where 5 members registered and at the District Conference in Hobart where 3 members registered, our exchange student Gus from Brazil also attended.

I would like to thank the Board and the Club for their dedication, co-operation and commitment over the last 12 months. A lot has been done with regard to improved processes, reporting, financial management and communication. It is not easy to embrace change and implement improvements that are needed to be an effective club and remain relevant to the community. In particular building on Past President Helene's standard reporting process, quarterly reporting/club forums, improvements in the application of information technology, membership surveys and friends review. The Club has also been committed to ensuring that what it wishes to do is implemented.

The incomplete project for the year was the implementation of the fishing competition and recognition of women's violence as a major project. The Project Committee were not prepared to undertake the competition due to the level of registrations and condition of the lake itself. During the course of next Rotary Year, it is intended to further build on funding support for the proposed women's refuge in Bendigo and recognition of women's violence in the community.

**The following donations and support have been made to the following charities and organisations:**

- |                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| • Daffodil Day                    | \$500  |
| • Women of Note                   | \$850  |
| • 6 secondary school scholarships | \$3000 |

• St John Of God Kokoda Walk - Wheelchairs for kids	\$200
• Bendigo Special Development School	\$1000
• Foundation	\$3900
• Bendigo Library	\$200
• Loddon P12 – support for Anzac	\$500
• Junortoun Fire Brigade	\$500
• Royal Children's Hospital Appeal	\$200
• Breast Cancer Support McGrath Foundation	\$500
• National Science Forum	\$1600
• MEC Project (cranial facial)	\$800
• La Trobe University - Health Science Scholarship	\$2000
• Australian Cambodian Children's Taskforce	\$800
• Disaster Aid Australia	\$1200
• Nepal Earthquake	\$1700
• Scots Day Out	\$600
• Bendigo Coral	\$530
• Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services	\$500
• Bendigo RSL	\$500
• Men's Sheds Bendigo	\$280
• Camp Getaway	\$500
• St Valentines Day Ball (oncology unit)	\$500
• Cambodia - World of Difference	\$500
• Vocational Teaching Support (Bali)	\$500
• Inner Wheel – Cord Blood Research	\$300
• ROMAC	\$500

**TOTAL****\$24660**

Congratulations to District Governor Murray Verso and Assistant District Governor Grant Hocking on a very successful year. The Club really appreciated your support and advice throughout the year.

Congratulations to Tony on his induction as President tonight. As a Club we need to give him full support and build on the considerable achievements that have occurred.

In summary I would like to thank Gill and family for their support in particular over the last 12 months. It has been a privilege to be your President and I have enjoyed the year immensely. It is a great Club and we are part of a great District.

**“Light up Rotary”** .



**Rod Spitty**

**President - Rotary Club of Bendigo South.**

## *Club Service Report*

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**DIRECTOR:** President Elect Tony Plant

**Sub-Committee:**

- Fellowship and Program – Anne Peace, Helene Brown & Rod Spitty
- Bulletin Editor – Matthew Scott/Sue Hawking
- Attendance Officer and Meeting Preparation – Ros Chenery
- Property Officer – Graham Neivandt
- Pastoral Care – Tom Glazebrook
- Club Library – Ian Ellis
- Club Historian – Bill Ashman
- Protection Officer – Tony Plant
- Sergeants' Team – Tony Plant, Wendy Learmount, Terry Dalwood, Andrew Palmer, Lindsay Jackson and Gary Pinner.

**Tasks within the club:**

To insure the smooth operation of the club it was important to identify all the various tasks needed to be undertaken within the club and to recognize that all members do make a contribution to ensure all these things happen. (Please refer to the task list prepared at the commencement of the Rotary year). Also within our club membership it is important that every member has an identifiable role to perform, otherwise why bother turning up each week.

**Meeting Processes and Content:**

Thanks to our team of sergeants, club meetings ran smoothly and mostly to time, although on occasions due to the quality of our speakers we did do a bit of overtime. Thanks to Anne, Rod and Helene we have had an action packed program. Some of our speakers during the year have included our local Federal Member Lisa Chesters, Minister for Veteran's Affairs Senator Michael Ronaldson, our Bendigo Mayor Peter Cox and the Editor of the Bendigo Advertiser Rod Case just to highlight a few. We have also included a number of speakers from various rotary committees and many of our students who have been recipients of awards.

The smooth conduct of our meetings is very much due to the great work carried out each week by Ros Chenery. Attendance numbers for the caterers are collated accurately, the duty roster is always prepared and everything we need to get the weekly meeting up and running is always in place.

**Fun/Fellowship**

We had some feedback from our members via the survey that indicated that while our program was well organized it was a little too much of the same and all about hard work.

Taking on board this feedback during the second half year we have varied the types of speakers, engaged a little more, instigated a few social events separate from the regular meeting nights and also attempted to have some meeting nights more social than serious business. There have been some great festive occasions held on meeting nights too.

Examples are the shared meeting with Bendigo Strathdale at the La Trobe University to launch the painting raffle, the Bill Ashman Testimonial dinner, the Past President's night, the ANZAC Centenary Commemorative Dinner and the Foundation Dinner. A large number of barbeques have also been held where one has the opportunity to chat and crack a few jokes with other members while charcoaling a few snags.

Several members did attend the Rotary International Conference in Sydney along with the District Conference in Hobart in March 2015.

**Media/Communication**

The Club Signpost is still the traditional conveyor of weekly tidings to our members – although the majority does receive it in email format. The high quality of its presentation is due very much to Matthew Scott and has been continued by newly appointed editor in Sue Hawking.

Matthew has also continued to maintain the club website and face book page. It is vital in today's world that these forms of communication are kept up to date. Only too often I have logged onto other rotary club sights to find the information is well out of date. It is important to keep both mediums up to date and to learn from other clubs. For instance the Melbourne Park Club has been able to recruit 15 new members via the use of face book.

The club did buy its own laptop computer and we are gradually getting better at doing presentations using this technology. The next challenge is to be able beam into our meetings reports from members in absentia.

We have received quite a good coverage of club events from our local newspaper and we should be always looking for every opportunity to tell our stories within the community.

**Pastoral Care**

Thanks once again to Tom Glazebrook who continues to perform this important task of visiting and keeping in contact with members who are ill and reporting back to the club.

**Vale Elaine**

I would also like to acknowledge the contribution our recently departed member Elaine Harrington made to the betterment and wellbeing of our club over many years. We all have fond memories of Elaine and do miss her very much.

**Major Project – Lake Eppalock Fishing Classic**

**Sub Committee:** Tony Plant, Steven Lee, Greg Noonan, Gary Pinner, Bernie Young, Trevor Hawking, Ken Briggs, Tom Glazebrook, later co-opted Rod Spitty and Matthew Scott.

Members of the sub-committee undertook a detailed investigation for this major project with the intention for it to become an annual event. Unfortunately, with about three weeks from the first scheduled event the committee made the decision to withdraw. A comprehensive set of minutes has been prepared by Steven Lee and is freely available for any member wishing to explore what transpired in more detail. It was very disappointing for all those involved given the hard work that went into the planning, but given the seemingly lack of local community support the correct decision was made not to proceed. All I can say to all members we did give it a shot and fell short in the end but if there is nothing ventured nothing is gained.

**IFCR Australian Festival of Cricket**

**Sub Committee:** Tony Plant, Trevor Hawking, Russell McGibbon, Peter Ryall, George Ellis, Gary Pinner, Glenn Madden

In March we hosted around 80 Rotarians and partners to conduct the Australian Festival of Rotary Cricket in Bendigo. Participants came from every state in Australia (except Tasmania and Northern Territory), four from New Zealand, two from the United Kingdom, fifteen from India and two from Bangladesh. Four sides competed and played cricket on four of the six days of the festival. The other days were spent socializing and exploring what Bendigo had to offer.

All who took part had a great week and this was all due to the hard work of my wonderful organizing committee and well supported by our entire club. To top it off the festival made a tidy little profit that will support several club projects.

The cricket fellowship is one of over 100 similar friendship/interest groups available to Rotary members. I would encourage all club members to explore your own personal interest through a Rotary fellowship. If there is not one there for you, think about starting one up.

<b>Avenue of Service</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>Committee members.</b>
<b>Club Service</b> -includes	Tony Plant (president elect)	
Membership/retention/recruitment	Bernie Young	Jim Boyer, Cora Fuentes-Mahnec, Jim Rinaldi, Ruth O'Connell, David Lea, Andrew Palmer, Tony Plant
Club Financial Management	Greg Noonan	
Club Secretary	Mark Mott	<b>Matthew Scott (minute sec)</b>
Program/Fellowship activities.		Helene Brown, Anne Peace, Sue Hawking
Protection Officer	Tony Plant	
Club Library	Ian Ellis	
BBQ Trailer Maintenance	Gary Pinner	
Sergeants Team-Meeting Conduct	Tony Plant	Gary Pinner, Terry Dalwood, Wendy Learmount, Lindsay Jackson, Andrew Palmer
Attendance Officer	Ros Chenery	
Pastoral Care	Tom Glazebrook	
Club Archivist	Graham Neivandt	
Club Historian	Bill Ashman	
Communication/Bulletin Editor	Sue Hawking	<b>Matthew Scott &amp; Rod Spitty</b>
<b>Vocational Service.</b>	Gary Pinner	Peter Ryall, Russ Mc Gibbon, Geoff Mc Kinna, Tom Glazebrook
<b>International Service.</b>	Lindsay Jackson	Steven Lee, Cora Fuentes-Mahnic, Ruth O'Connell, Ros Chenery, Ron Deveraux,
<b>Youth Services.</b>	Ros Chenery	Jim Rinaldi, Anne Peace, Tony Plant, Ruth O'Connell, Peter Ryall, Emily Mudge, Gary Pinner
<b>Rotary Foundation.</b>	Helene Brown	Anne Peace, Wendy Learmount
<b>Community Service.</b>	Ian Ellis	T. Dalwood, K. Briggs, G. Ellis, M. Scott, L. Jackson, E. Harrington, G. Neivandt, J. Boyer.
BBQ Roster Supervisor	Bernie Young	
<b>Special Sub-committees</b>		
Science and Engineering Challenge	Rod Spitty	Tom Glazebrook, Ken Briggs, Peter Ryall, Emily Mudge
IFCR FESTIVAL of Cricket	Tony Plant	Gary Pinner, Rus Mc Gibbon, Peter Ryall, George Ellis, Anne Peace, Trevor Hawking, Glenn Madden
Horizons Committee	Terry Dalwood	Helen Brown, Rod Spitty, Tony Plant, Ken Briggs
Major Projects Review Committee	Rod Spitty	Jim Boyer, Mark Mott, Ian Ellis, Greg Noonan
Fishing Competition Project team.	Tony Plant	T. Glazebrook, G. Noonan, K. Briggs, S. Lee, T. Hawking, B. Young, G. Pinner



## Treasurer's Report

### TREASURER: Greg Noonan



Presented below are the interim financial statements up to 31st May, 2015. Given that the financial year, as set out in the Manual of Procedure is 30 June, a final set of financial statements will be prepared and subject to an Accountant's Review as at 30 June 15. These will be presented for approval at the club's Annual General meeting later this year.

#### Rotary Club of Bendigo South Inc.

### Category Profit & Loss Statement

July 2014 through May 2015

Account Name	Year to Date
Admin	Club Administration
Income	
Dues & Subscriptions	\$10,683.34
Membership Nomination Fee	\$20.00
Dinner Meetings	\$31,411.00
Changeover Dinner	\$200.00
Fines	\$1,249.70
Raffle	\$36.00
Rotary Merchandise Sales	\$195.00
Donations Income	\$0.25
Cricket Fellowship	\$140.00
Grant- Other	\$500.00
Sponsorship - Cash	\$600.00
BBQs & Catering	\$1,100.00
Total Income	\$46,135.29
Expense	
Bank Fees & Charges	\$531.64
Bad Debt	\$298.00
District Assembly	\$217.00
Annual Return	\$106.00
Low cost assets	\$176.00
Insurance	\$116.88
Computer expenses	\$264.01
Rotary Merchandise / Badges	\$542.20
Dues & Subscriptions	\$8,163.55
Presidential Allowance	\$2,500.00
Club Service Expenses	\$113.95
Sundry	\$108.00
Repairs and Maintenance	\$95.00
Stationary & Printing	\$1,034.11
Postage & Freight	\$122.70
Dinner Costs	\$30,594.61
Changeover Dinner Expenses	\$433.60
Newspaper Advertising	\$185.84
On-Line Marketing (Web-site)	\$132.00
Other Catering Expenses	\$57.00
Scholarship	\$449.50
Workcover Claim	\$1,000.00
Total Expense	\$47,241.59
Net Profit (Loss)	(\$1,106.30)

**Rotary Club of Bendigo South Inc.**

*PO Box 346  
BENDIGO VIC 3552*

**Balance Sheet**

**As of May 2015**

<b>Assets</b>	
Administration	
Admin Cash On Hand	
Admin Cheque Account	\$9,016.02
Change Float	\$100.00
Total Admin Cash On Hand	\$9,116.02
Total Administration	\$9,116.02
Projects	
Projects Account-140951740	\$13,310.57
Pledged investments	
Investment Fund-119580967	\$43,617.36
Total Projects	\$56,927.93
Other Assets	
Trade Debtors	\$599.17
Total Other Assets	\$599.17
Fixed Assets	
Furniture & Fixtures	
Barbecue Trailer at Cost	\$3,050.00
Barbecue Trailer Accum Dep	(\$3,050.00)
PA System at cost	\$1,933.00
PA System Accum Dep	(\$1,933.00)
Equipment - at cost	\$598.00
Other Property Accum Dep	(\$11.14)
Total Furniture & Fixtures	\$586.86
Total Fixed Assets	\$586.86
Total Assets	\$67,229.98
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Current Liabilities	
Trade Creditors	\$3,449.46
Total Current Liabilities	\$3,449.46
Funds pledged	
Projects in Investment fund #2	
Swap Meet Capital	\$2,500.00
Major Projects Capital	\$5,000.00
Science Challenge	\$3,844.86
Scholarship Fund	\$27,055.70
Health Sciences Scholarship	\$2,185.00
Cricket Scholarship	\$3,000.00
Youth Programs (Lend Lease)	\$2,000.00
Total Projects in Investment fund #2	\$45,585.56
Other Pledged Funds	
Margaret Roberts Memorial MND	\$2,781.49
Storage Facility	\$4,000.00
Community Grants-(was Midnight	\$4,776.80
Total Other Pledged Funds	\$11,558.29
Total Funds pledged	\$57,143.85
Total Liabilities	\$60,593.31
Net Assets	\$6,636.67
<b>Equity</b>	
Administration Account	\$4,089.85
Projects Account	\$10,741.76
Current Year Earnings	(\$8,194.94)
Total Equity	\$6,636.67

<b>Rotary Club of Bendigo South Inc.</b> <b>Category Profit &amp; Loss Statement</b> <b>July 2014 through May 2015</b>	
<b>Account Name</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
Projects	Club Projects
Income	
Dinner Meetings	(\$1,238.00)
Fines	\$137.05
Raffle	\$687.45
Echidna	\$51.15
Rotary Merchandise Sales	\$120.00
Foundation Income	\$156.75
Donations Income	\$75.00
Cambodia World of Difference	\$257.60
Cricket Fellowship	\$1,078.54
Chocolate Sales	\$1,351.60
Cakes and Puddings	\$13,358.60
Olive Oil	\$96.00
BBQs & Catering	\$17,408.87
SWAP Meet	\$4,100.00
Trailer	\$116.00
Total Income	\$37,756.61
Cost of Sales	
BBQ Purchases	\$5,167.52
Chocolate Purchases	\$468.00
Opening Stock	\$1,781.75
Cakes & Puddings	\$9,328.81
Total Cost of Sales	\$16,746.08
Expense	
Bank Fees & Charges	\$0.60
Bad Debt	\$150.00
Stationary & Printing	\$19.99
Dinner Costs	(\$1,150.00)
Community projects expenses	\$929.12
Vocation expenses	\$3,000.00
Newspaper Advertising	\$169.83
On-Line Marketing (Web-site)	\$1,209.00
Printing	\$440.20
New Generations Grant	\$2,520.00
New generations Expences	\$3,492.80
Community Service Grant	\$7,671.00
International Service Grant	\$5,077.60
Scholarship	\$793.32
Rotary Foundation Grant	\$3,429.08
Aust Rotary Health	\$656.75
Total Expense	\$28,409.29
Other Income	
Interest Income	\$310.12
Total Other Income	\$310.12
Net Profit (Loss)	(\$7,088.64)

## *Membership and Marketing Report*

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**DIRECTOR:** Bernie Young

**Committee:** Jim Boyer, Andrew Palmer, Cora Fuentes-Mahnic, Ruth O'Connell, Jim Rinaldi, David Lea, Greg Noonan

### **Strategic Approach**

The membership committee adopted the following strategic approach in 2014/15:

1. Increase membership by attracting new members, and minimizing loss of current members.
2. Engage all members as ambassadors and recruiters, who actively promote the club, attract potential members, and contribute to a positive, vibrant club culture.
3. Use the Friends forum as a pathway to membership.
4. Widely promote the club and its activities and opportunities.
5. Participate in relevant District Programs.
6. Evaluate performance by monitoring member numbers and demographics.

### **Member Numbers**

The club membership was 36 at the end of the year (a net increase of three), plus one honorary member (Eddie Beer). We inducted six new members (Jim Rinaldi, Sue and Trevor Hawking, Peter Simmons, Merlyn Quaife, Craig Wright), and lost three members (Elaine Harrington passed away, Sam Tayeh became inactive and terminated, and Jim Boyer resigned). We have nine female members, which is consistent with the District average for female membership.

Member age, gender and service statistics are summarized in the following tables. Member age classes are skewed towards the older age brackets, and females are under-represented.

Glenn Madden joined the Friends group, increasing Friends membership to twelve. Five active volunteers have been invited to join the Friends group.

### **Membership Activities**

President Rod, Matthew Scott, Greg Noonan and Bernie Young attended the District Club Survival Workshop at Kew in August 2014, which provided many valuable ideas and interactions.

A club specific, full colour, membership brochure titled “Why Join Rotary” was developed to showcase the benefits of both being a Rotarian generally, and joining our club specifically.

To assist in retaining and building membership, a survey was undertaken inviting club members to identify what they like about the club, what is not working so well, and suggestions to increase member satisfaction. Members were surveyed face to face in small groups to facilitate group discussion. The Board reviewed all comments and determined a range of actions that will contribute to continuous improvement in member satisfaction and club effectiveness. Club Service Director Tony Plant implemented a range of changes and initiatives in response.

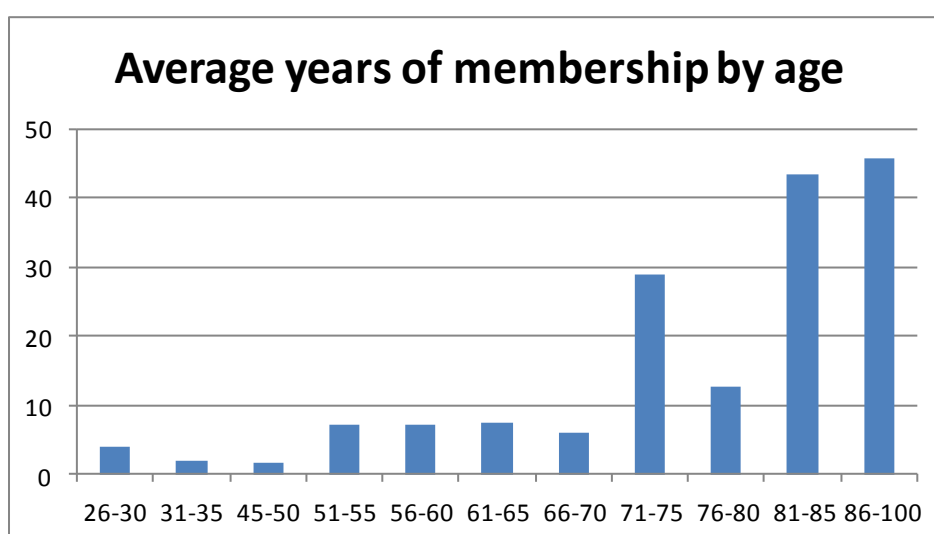
The members were also surveyed to identify preferred social activities, which were then implemented under an active social program led by President Rod.

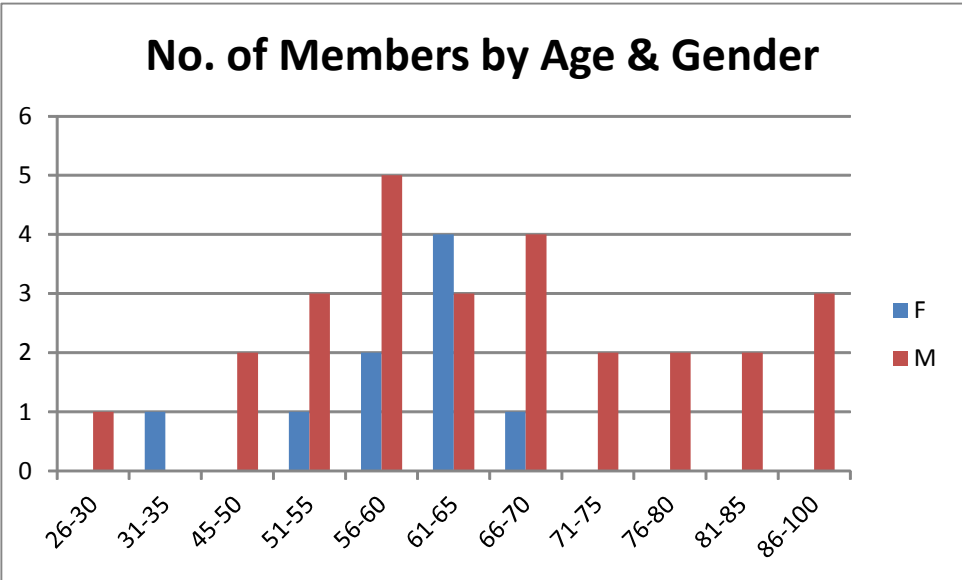
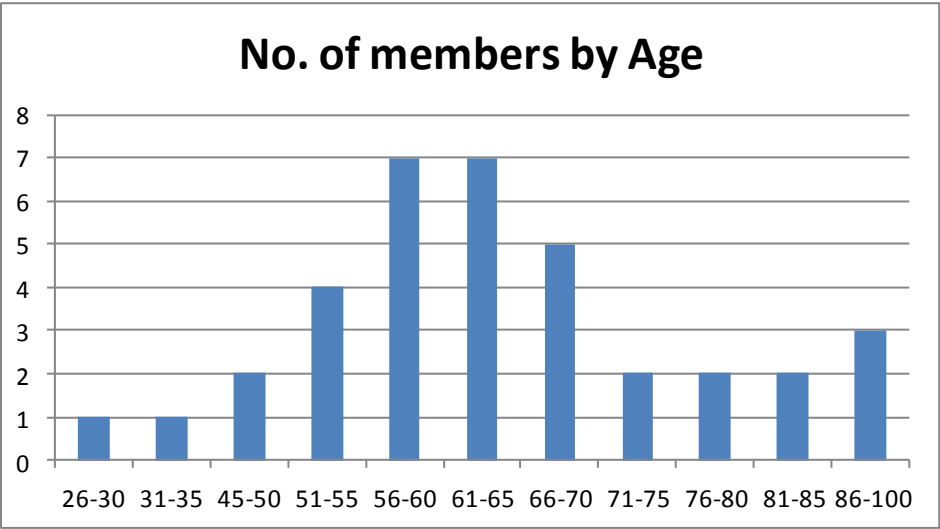
The club Friends of Rotary guidelines were reviewed in consultation with Friends and members, and updated to ensure more effective engagement and participation. Cora Fuentes-Mahnich was appointed as the inaugural Friends Group co-ordinator to strengthen engagement with Friends.

Members promoted the club twice at the Bendigo Market Place to attract new members, with strong female member participation to demonstrate our commitment to membership diversity.

A mentor was actively assigned to all new members, with guidance provided on the mentor role. Exit interviews were arranged.

A \$500 District membership grant was applied to member education and training.





## *Community Service Report*

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**DIRECTOR:** Ian Ellis

**Committee:** Bernie Young, Terry Dalwood, Wendy Learmount, Matthew Scott, Ken Briggs, Graham Nievandt, George Ellis, Ron Deveraux, Lindsay Jackson & late Elaine Harrington

As this will be my 2<sup>nd</sup> report as a community service Director, you are only as good as your committee and thanks to my outstanding committee we have had another great year. We set goals at the start of year and I can honestly say that we have achieved them all.

### **BBQ's**

Last year 2013-14 we completed 16 BBQ's. This year we have completed 26 BBQ's and made a profit of over \$13,500. This includes our Australia Day and Easter BBQ's. We couldn't achieve this outstanding effort without the dedicated assistance of Bernie Young and Gary Pinner and of course all members and Friends of our Rotary Club.

### **Bendigo Swap Meet**

This project was a big commitment over a 3-day weekend, and was supported well by our Club. Public attendance was a little down from last year, but with 7 Rotary Clubs involved we all shared a Profit of \$4200.

A big thank you to our Club Members for your commitment and also to the partnering of not for profit organizations being – The Women of Note, Bendigo Chorale, East Loddon P12 School and Men's Sheds Bendigo.

### **Christmas Cakes, Puddings & Panforts**

Thank you to all Rotarians who went out to the community clubs and various businesses to sell cakes, puddings and panforts. This year we sold all stock, selling 1288 items.

A big thank you to Terry Dalwood and George Ellis for running this activity.

### **Adopt a Highway**

This was our 16<sup>th</sup> year and involved collecting rubbish from both sides of the McIvor Highway for 5 kms, starting from Axedale Township heading towards

Bendigo. This activity takes place on Sunday twice a year. This project is under the direction of Vic Roads.

This year we have introduced a special award for this project judged by our President and the recipient must have found a particular item from the roadside that can be added to the Trophy. Our Club should be proud to start such an activity and a Club Member who will receive this award must hold the Trophy for 12 months and then happily pass it on with a smile.

### **Relay for Life**

This project was our 16<sup>th</sup> Relay and run in conjunction with the Rotary Club Next Generation, with Leesa Bice (Captain) and Jody Bice organizing this event. This was well supported by RC of Next Generation and some of our members despite of the rain and thunder. Breakfast was run by Rotary and is always well supported.

### **Camp Getaway**

Camp Getaway in Axedale is still progressing with many Rotary Clubs assisting the expansion of the Camp, and at the moment a new kitchen is being built.

A huge thank you to Graham Nievandt and Ken Briggs for all the outstanding time and effort you have put in over the years.

### **Men's Sheds Bendigo**

This program is run by Terry Dalwood and will be ongoing to assist Men's Sheds with our support and assistance where possible.

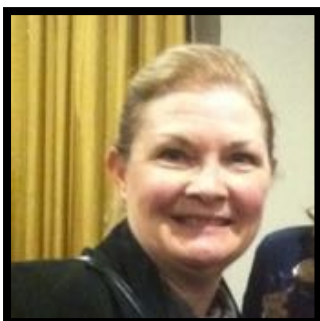


**Australia Day BBQ**

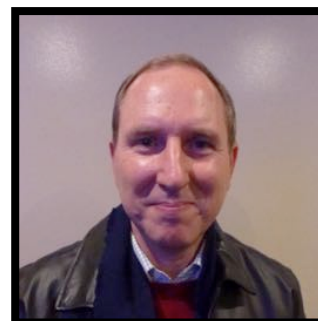


## *Foundation Report*

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**DIRECTORS:** P P Helene Brown & Andrew Palmer



The Rotary Club of Bendigo South held its second successful Goldfields Cluster Foundation Dinner in November. Assistant District Governors Grant Hocking and Greg Noonan invited Rotarians, partners and guests to attend. Rotary Peace Scholar Alumnus Charles Allen, currently Superintendent of the Priority Communities Division, Victoria Police was joined on stage by Russell Patten, Inspector of Centre for People Development, Victoria Police and talked about the challenges of maintaining law and order in Greater Dandenong where 62% of the municipality are of ethnic descent. Approximately 140 Rotarians and guests attended the dinner with our Club contributing 16. All 9 cluster clubs agreed to cancel their regular meetings and the Bendigo Stadium donated 50% of the meal costs to Rotary. Congratulations to our Secretary Mark Mott who was inducted into the Paul Harris Society.

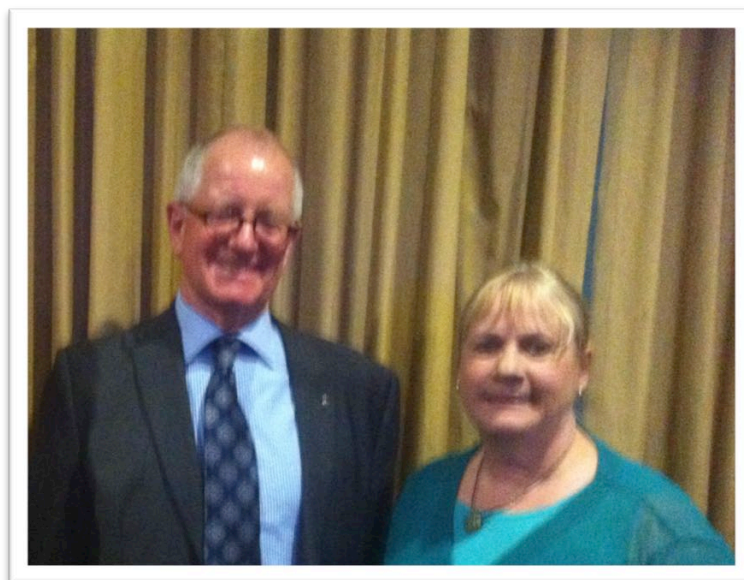
The Club organized a Past Presidents Night Dinner commemorating 110 years of Rotary in honour of our past presidents and our founding member and past president Bill Ashman. 30 past presidents, 40 current members and District Governor Elect Julie Mason attended the dinner. All the members and guests had much fun and fellowship. Anne Peace organized the raffle, which helped raise funds for the Junortoun Fire Brigade.

An educational program during the year featured our very own Rotarian Anne Peace educating our members on the important work that the Rotary Foundation carries out each year. Anne gave an interesting, informative and heart felt historical account of the Rotary Foundation and its goals during Foundation Month. In 1917 Rotary International President Arch Klumph proposed an endowment fund, which was renamed the Rotary Foundation in 1928, and has grown from initial contributions of \$26.50 to contributions now approaching \$1 billion.

During Foundation Month, we had the privilege of listening to guest speaker and Rotarian David Abbey from the Rotary Club of Shepparton speak about the life of his late father Past President of Rotary International Royce Abbey and of his contribution to Rotary and the Royce and Jean Abbey Foundation Endowed Fund, which was established as part of the Rotary Foundation.

Since 2004, the Royce Abbey Awards have been presented annually to Rotarians who show enthusiasm and commitment to Rotary.

“Every Rotarian Every Year” is an important program that allows Rotarians to donate to the Rotary Foundation. The Centurion Program allows Rotarians in Australia to start the process of personal giving without having to mortgage the house. It is simply a commitment to contribute a minimum of \$100 Australian a year for as long as you choose. Our Club has a goal of achieving 60% member participation. This year we were able to increase our participation by one additional member.



**Guest Speaker – David Abbey**

## *Vocation Report*

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**DIRECTOR:** Gary Pinner

**Committee:** Peter Ryall, Tom Glazebrook, Geoff McKinna, David Lea and Emily Mudge.

Vocational Service, one of Rotary's 5 founding avenues of service is quite often not very well understood or promoted within Rotary Clubs.

In this Rotary year our committee has taken the challenge to reignite Vocational Service within our club.

A very hard working committee has promoted 4 vocational visits including: Keech Castings, The Great Stupa, the RSL Museum Bendigo and the Lend Lease Bendigo Hospital Project.

Many thanks to Geoff McKinna, Matthew Scott, Anne Peace and Emily Mudge for arranging these very diverse but very important visits within our community, which were enjoyed by all attending.

Peter Ryall co-coordinated the five Year 10 Scholarships at East Loddon P12, Bendigo South East College, Crusoe College, Girton Grammar and Catholic College Bendigo. The introduction of a further musical scholarship was awarded to a student from Bendigo Senior Secondary School.

Matthew Scott was a member of a RAWCS team travelling to Cambodia on a "World of Difference" Project to work with teacher training in several local schools. The Club provided Matthew with \$500.00 to purchase classroom equipment needed for the local community. He was asked to identify a vocational project the Club could support to the value of a further \$1500.00. A project was then identified to sponsor a local schoolteacher for 1 year.

Matthew has continued to fundraise in our community supplying local BP service stations with "World of Difference" moneyboxes collecting small change, which has been quite successful to date.

The many new and older members "my Job My Life" talks have been well accepted by our members and it is great to hear a little of our members' lives now and then. As Graham Neivandt said "It's the same product now, as it was then...just the processes have changes!" when discussing waste water processes.

The reintroduction of adding member vocation to our dinner badges has had board member approval and will be available early in the next Rotary year.

Our committee believes this will encourage member and guest interaction and be a conversation starter.

It has been a privilege to again be a director of a Vocational Service Committee of the Rotary Club of Bendigo South. I thank my committee who have helped build Vocational Service appreciation and Vocational Service development in our club and our community.

Thanks to the Board and President Rod for the support and encouragement in what has been a fantastic year for the Rotary Club of Bendigo South.



**Vocation Visit - Bendigo Hospital Construction Site**

## *Youth Services Report*

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**DIRECTOR:** Ros Chenery

**Committee:** Ros Chenery, Tony Plant, Anne Peace, Ruth O'Connell, Gary Pinner, Emily Mudge, Bernie Young, Jim Rinaldi.

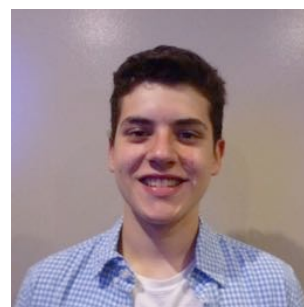
**The Youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow.**

With this in mind Rotary clubs around the world pay significant attention to supporting and advancing leadership and career development opportunities for the younger generation, both in school and as young adults.

Our Club has been very fortunate to sponsor some excellent youth exchange students, both incoming and outgoing.

### **Incoming**

We farewelled Anna Kollar in July, who returned to Hungary and her family and friends. Then in January this year we welcomed Gute Piexoto from Brazil. Both these students have been exemplary ambassadors for their countries, joining in school, club and district youth exchange activities, and having a great time learning about Australia and Australians. Whilst in Bendigo, they lived with four host families from our club and from the community.



### **Outgoing**

In January Tarleya McCalman returned home from Poland, having had a wonderfully enriching experience. Her family is now hosing our current exchange student, Gus Piexoto.

Jamie Spokes (Pascoe) headed off to Sweden in January and is really enjoying the experience. She will return next January.

### **NYSF**

Sarah Collins from East Loddon P12 School was sponsored to attend the National Youth Science Forum, a two week Summer school at a University campus. Sarah was selected to go to New Zealand for her placement.

We are currently going through the process of applications for next year's NYSF experience and have had a big response in the Bendigo cluster, with two students applying from within our club.

## **RYPEN**

We sponsored Heidi Pleydell from Sports Education cluster (SEDA) to attend the second RYPEN camp in March at Lancefield. This camp helps students gain more confidence in themselves and broaden their horizons.

## **RYLA**

Liam Oberin, who is also a past Youth Exchange student, stepped up to learn more about leadership by attending our week long Youth Leadership camp at Mt Evelyn in November. Liam is already involved in the ROTEX program which supports other youth exchange students and those interested in the future.

All those who participated in these programs have attended a Rotary meeting to report back on their experience and thank the club.

The Bendigo cluster Youth Services group was very active in planning and developing the youth programs for the year. This was very ably steered by Lynne Cooper from Bendigo Strathdale. The cluster has decided to share the NYSF costs across the cluster, also in preparing for the applications as they arise.

Thank you to the committee for your support and guidance throughout the year.



## *International Service Report*

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### **DIRECTOR: Lindsay Jackson**

**Committee:** Ros Chenery, Ruth O'Connell, Cora Fuentes-Mahnic, Steven Lee, and Lindsay Jackson

#### **La Trobe University Scholarships**

A raffle of a valuable painting was conducted and a net profit = \$3635 was realized. The raffle launch, with a talk on the endangered Leadbeaters Possum, was a spectacular success thus getting the raffle off to a great start. Support from some secondary colleges was of great assistance while the club also made a sizeable contribution. From the money raised, 2 bursaries in Health Sciences @\$1000 each, were provided to La Trobe University, Bendigo. Thus \$2000 was allocated for 2015, with another \$2000 planned for 2016. Further years will be at the Board's discretion.

It has been agreed that this initiative will be taken over by Vocational Service going into the new rotary year.

#### **Multi-Cultural Relationship and Support**

Our support for the Loddon Campaspe Multi-Cultural Service (LCMS) continued throughout the year. Ros Chenery was heroic in organizing the dinner dance at the All Seasons on 21 March 2015. The silent auction was a feature and it raised the sum of \$1170.

A cheque for \$500 was recently presented to Cora Fuentes-Mahnic representing LCMS.

Further, a donation to the Nepal disaster was given -\$1700. (This was transferred through Disaster Aid Australia – see next item).

Our role in further supporting LCMS is to be reviewed.

#### **Disaster Aid Australia**

The Club continues to support Disaster Aid Australia.

A general donation of \$1100 was made recently to Disaster Aid. Thus the total donation to Disaster Aid Australia was \$1700 plus \$1100 = \$2800.

We plan to invite a speaker from Disaster Aid to address a Club meeting.

#### **ROMAC**

ROMAC – Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children, is a project we have supported for some time. It is a very worthwhile project in that the money raised provides the best medical and surgical expertise, which can transform a child's life. We donated \$500.

**MEC**

MEC is a life threatening condition that afflicts many children and young adults in Cambodia. The medical name is Meningoencephalocoele. The money raised provides for the necessary facio-cranial operations. We donated \$800 (funds one operation) through the Rotary Club of Bendigo Strathdale.

**ACCT**

ACCT – Australian Cambodian Children’s Taskforce. We made a donation of \$720 to this project.

**MUSKAAN**

This project supports teaching in the slum areas of Bhopal, India. Marion and Kevin Hardingham from the Rotary Club of Eltham are the contacts. A budget for donating to this project has yet to be prepared.

**WORLD OF DIFFERENCE**

This is a project which sponsors a child in Cambodia. Matthew Scott went to Cambodia and participated in this program - \$500 was allocated towards his attendance from a previously existing International Account. This is a RAWCS District 9800 project.

**SISTER ROTARY CLUB IN PHILIPPINES**

Consideration for establishing a connection to a Rotary Club in the Philippines has been ongoing.

With our member, Cora Fuentes-Mahnac being in constant contact with people in her homeland, particularly with residents living in the Southern Philippines, where her family resides, we have an opportunity to explore possible links to a Rotary Club in this area. Cora has recently been in the Philippines to undertake this exploration.

Relevant data which needs to be established will include the following initially:

1. Name of Rotary Club and Rotary District.
  2. Names and contact details for office bearers – particularly the President and Secretary and any other relevant people.
  3. Types of projects in which we could have a mutual interest.
- Further information may need to be forthcoming in due course.

If areas of mutual interest/projects are identified, then modes of liaison, funding, use of third parties etc. would need to be formulated.

There will be Rotary guidelines which need to be followed in establishing a sister club relationship.

Finally I would like to thank the members of the committee for their energetic and at time heroic efforts during the Rotary year. I feel we can be very proud of our achievements.



## *Communications Report*

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### **DIRECTOR: Matthew Scott**

What an exciting year it was this year in the Rotary Club of Bendigo South, with the role of Communications formerly being incorporated and recognized within the Club's Board structure.

Work surrounding the implementation of the communications portfolio began some way out from the changeover from President Helene to President Rod, with discussions regarding what the role would actually constitute leading to some exciting discussions and possibilities.

For me, it was extremely exciting to be welcomed into the Club Board for the first time, something which I have really enjoyed, being able to have a greater role in the administration of the Club.

In terms of professionalizing the IT experience of our Club, we began the year with the purchase of a Club laptop to be used by our Club Secretary and for the use of our visiting guest speakers. We also made the purchase of a 'clicker' to be used by our guest speakers for advancing slides when giving a presentation.

Throughout the year, members of the Club were able to see greater media exposure in the local press, especially in the Bendigo Advertiser, with several articles being published on a regular basis promoting Club events.

From our changeover night to promotion of our Bill and Verna Ashman testimonial dinner and an expose' of the Cambodian World of Difference trip, the Bendigo Advertiser has been a great avenue for promoting club events and activities.

Work is constantly evolving around updating our main Club website, and we have trialed a successful alternative with a modern website template with the launch of our recent Lake Eppalock Fishing Classic website. Our Face book page continues to be a useful tool for connecting the Club with the world of social media.

Towards the start of 2015, it was my pleasure to lead a training day at the Foundry Hotel on the use of IT and social media, allowing Club members to learn more about these new technologies and why they are important for our Club to be onboard with. Feedback received was well received and it was good to see how members interacted with the lesson content of day.

Finally, it was with great excitement that I was able to welcome Sue Hawking into the Club communications portfolio, taking over the role of Bulletin Editor from me with great enthusiasm. Sue is doing a great job with producing the SignPost each week and will hopefully enjoy doing the role for many years to come.

The role of Communications will always be evolving, much like the technology involved in the role. It has been my pleasure to be the very first Director of Communications at the Rotary Club of Bendigo South and I look forward to the exciting possibilities that lay ahead.



**Minister for Veterans Affairs Senator Ronaldson with chair Mathew Scott**

## *Paul Harris Fellow Awards*

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### **PAUL HARRIS FELLOW AWARDS**

1979	Jack Bright	1999	Margaret Roberts
1983	George Symons	2001	Ken Briggs
1984	Don Allen	2002	Gary Pinner
1987	John Parsons	2003	Max Ellis
1987	Bill Rodd	2004	Graham Neivandt
1988	Bill Ashman	2004	David Cotton
1988	Tom Glazebrook A.M.	2005	Ken Gittins
1988	Bill Hoare	2006	Elizabeth Allen
1989	Frank Budge	2007	Ken Briggs (Sapphire)
1989	George Ellis	2007	Ron Twitt
1994	George Dawson	2008	David Cotton (Sapphire)
1995	Graeme Norris	2009	Gary Pinner (Sapphire)
1996	Eddie Beer	2009	Greg Noonan
1997	Geoff Holland	2010	Ralph Birrell
1998	Laurie O'Farrell	2010	Terry Dalwood
1999	Ron Devereaux	2011	Ian Ellis
		2013	Greg Noonan (Sapphire)
		2013	Maggie Merigan- James
		2014	Erma Hoare
		2014	Bill Ashman (Double Sapphire)
		2014	Verna Ashman

The Rotary movement was founded in February 1905, by Paul Harris, a lawyer from Chicago, who recognized the potential of an association of like-minded professional and business people who could meet and share common interests on a regular basis.

In 1957, the Rotary Foundation launched the Paul Harris Fellowship in memory of the founder as an expression of appreciation for those who have contributed to the Foundation's humanitarian and educational programs.

A contribution of US \$1,000.00 is made to the Rotary Foundation in the name of each individual to be honored. The recipients receive a pin, medallion and certificates that identify them as advocates of the Foundation's goals of world peace and understanding.

After more than forty years, recognition as a Paul Harris Fellow remains a respected and prestigious honour for Rotarians and non-Rotarians alike.

## *Max Ellis Awards*

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### **MAX ELLIS AWARDS**

1974-75	Jim Porter	1994-95	Keith Inglis
1975-76	Bill Rodd	1995-96	Gerald Kavanagh
1976-77	George Symons	1996-97	Jenni Hillman
1977-78	Alan Williams	1997-98	Bill Ashman
1978-79	John Parsons	1998-99	Tony Plant
1979-80	Graeme Norris	1999-00	Marilyn Botwood
1980-81	Len Pascoe	2000-01	Gerald Kavanagh
1981-82	Gordon Hellyer	2001-02	Graham Neivandt
1982-83	Don Allen	2002-03	Ken Gittins
1983-84	Frank Monti	2003-04	Bev Ormerod
1984-85	Vic Wodetski	2004-05	Ruth O'Connell
1985-86	Graham Neivandt	2005-06	Ken Briggs
1986-87	Bill Hoare	2006-07	David Carbury
1987-88	Darrel Walker	2007-08	Andrew Palmer
1988-89	Bob Forbes	2008-09	Wendy Learmount
1989-90	Ken Gittins	2009-10	Ian Ellis
1990-91	Laurie O'Farrell	2010-11	Elaine Harrington
1991-92	John Grylls	2011-12	Greg Noonan
1992-93	John Vercoe	2012-13	Tony Plant
1993-94	Tony Britt	2013-14	Bernie Young
		2014- 15	Anne Peace

The Presidential award

### **“For dedicated and selfless service by a Non-Board member”**

This award was introduced by Past President Max Ellis during his term of office. In his words it is the honour of the incumbent President to choose a club member who is the “Best and Fairest” for that Rotary year.

## *Past Presidents of the Rotary Club*

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### **PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BENDIGO SOUTH**

1959-60	Les Harris	1985-86	Laurie O'Farrell
1960-61	Alan Fraser	1986-87	Ralph Birrell
1961-62	John Corbett	1987-88	John Hewitson
1962-63	Ian McHardy	1988-89	Rod McLeod
1963-64	Bill Ashman	1989-90	Rob Aitken
1964-65	Jack Bright	1990-91	Brian Thomas
1965-66	Len Knox	1991-92	Colin Walton
1966-67	Alex Fraser	1992-93	Geoff McKinna
1967-68	George Ellis	1993-94	Neil Zantuck
1968-69	Harol Macdonald [dec]	1994-95	Eddie Beer
	George Ellis	1995-96	Geoff Holland
1969-70	Neville Howell	1996-97	Gary Pinner
1970-71	Don Allen	1997-98	Kay Branson
1971-72	Colin Sheumack	1998-99	Jenni Hillman
1972-73	Jim Osborne	1999-00	Dean Shirley
1973-74	Bill Rodd	2000-01	Paul Blacker
1974-75	Max Ellis	2001-01	David Cotton
1975-76	Ron Twitt	2002-03	Ian Ellis
1976-77	Bryan Milne	2003-04	Ken Briggs
1977-78	Bob Johns	2004-05	John Steele
1978-79	Ray Foley	2005-06	Terry Dalwood
1979-80	Brian Thomas	2006-07	Beverley Ormerod
1980-81	Tom Johnson	2007-08	Greg Noonan
1981-82	Graeme Elvey	2008-09	Frank Cinquegrana
1982-83	John Parsons	2009-10	Philip Jan
1983-84	George Dawson	2010-11	Geoff McKinna
1984-85	Bill Hoare	2011-12	Ruth O'Connell
		2012-13	Wendy Learmount
		2013-14	Helene Brown
		2014-15	Rod Spitty

### *Special Moments from throughout the 2014-15 Rotary Year*

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**Bill Ashman testimonial dinner.  
Presentation of Paul Harris fellow awards with double sapphire.**



**The ANZAC Centenary Commemorative Dinner  
at the Foundry Hotel.  
Members and guests in 'mess dress.'**





**Celebrating 110 years of Rotary International with our Past Presidents and Club history night.**



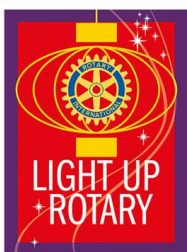
**International cricket arrives in Bendigo with our club hosting the International Fellowship of Cricketing Rotarians. This event lasted for one week, and consisted of both cricket and several fellowship events.**



**The Board of Directors**

### ***The Four-Way Test***

*Of the things we think, say or do:*



*Will it be  
BENEFICIAL to  
all concerned?*

**4**



**1**

*Is it the TRUTH?*

**2**

*Is it FAIR to all  
concerned?*

**3**

*Will it build GOODWILL and  
BETTER  
FRIENDSHIPS?*

**Who else do you know that would make a great Rotarian?**



# Strong foundations and trusted advice to our clients **since 1932.**



Strategem is a Bendigo and Melbourne CBD based firm offering accounting, business advisory and wealth management services.

With its Head Office in Bendigo, the beginnings of Strategem can be traced back to 1932 when some of the forefathers of the firm were in practice. In 1981 Bill Ashman and Frank Iredale merged their practices to form Ashman & Iredale. With three Partners, this firm later merged with another three Partners from Every King & Co. to form a large new entity called Ashman Ralph & Associates in 1984.

Ashman Ralph & Associates continued to grow until 2001, when the Partners made their first steps towards a corporatisation of the firm and Strategem was introduced into the company name. In 2007 the company moved to full

corporatisation which included the introduction of a Chief Executive Officer and in 2011, expanded its operations by opening up a branch office in the CBD of Melbourne.

Strategem won Bendigo Business Excellence Awards "Business of the Year" in 2008 and now has over 65 well trained staff offering a range of professional services to our broad client base.

Strategem continues to be a locally owned and operated firm which has strong connections to its community through the Strategem Community Foundation.

## Tax Accounting Services:

Business Strategy  
& Advice

Accounting

Auditing

Taxation

SME Valuation  
& Succession Planning

Self Managed  
Superannuation Services



## Financial Planning

Investment Advice

Risk Insurance

Sharebroking

Portfolio  
Management

Pension Plan  
& Centrelink Advice

## Wealth Management :