



ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

JULY 8

ROTARY CLUB OF BENDIGO SOUTH
Compiled by: Paul Gibbons



**SERVE TO
CHANGE LIVES**

Table of Contents

Rotary Year 2021-22 Leadership	3
President's Report	4
Donations made during 2021-22.....	5
Community Services	6
BSRC Membership Report.....	8
International Committee Report.....	10
Club Service and Administration Report	12
Club Programme 2021-22	14
Youth Services	19
Foundation Report.....	21
Finance and Fundraising Report.....	22
Science & Engineering Challenge	23
Seedlings Report.....	25
Firewood Project November 2020 – June 2022	27
Annie North Volunteering.....	28
SCOPE Volunteering.....	29
Vale Brian Thomas	30
Paul Harris Fellow Recognition.....	31
Club Records	32
MAX ELLIS AWARDS	32
PAST CLUB PRESIDENTS	33
CLUB MEMBERS 2021-22	34
ROYCE ABBEY AWARDEES	35
Special Awards.....	36

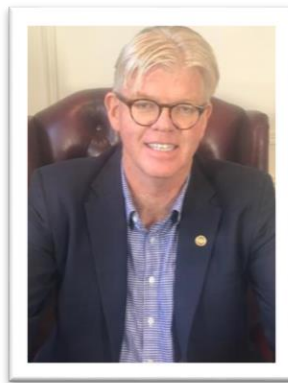
Rotary Year 2021-22 Leadership



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES



Rotary International
President:
Shekhar Mehta



9800 District Governor:
Dale Hoy



Club President of Bendigo
South:
Merlyn Quaife AM

Board Members: Paul Gibbons (secretary), Greg Noonan (Treasurer), Mark Tracy (Youth Services Director), Heather Nixon (International Service Director), Emily Mudge (Community Service Director), Tony Plant (Membership Director), Rod Spitty (Club Service Director), Peter Kilpatrick (Rotary Foundation Chair), and Gary Pinner (Fundraising and Finance).

President's Report

Merlyn Quaife AM

Once again, we were challenged by Lockdowns in the first six months of the Rotary year but the Club kept going via Zoom with face-to-face Meetings when possible. My thanks go to Tony Plant for being the Zoom host and facilitating our many Zoom Meetings. Fund-raising was of course largely hampered with no BBQs, Swap Meet etc. as events were unable to take place. However we did have an on-line Auction of various items donated by Club Members which was finalised in the Allies Pub (finally out of Lockdown!!) and raised a goodly amount to go to our waning Admin account.

With the experienced aid of Club Service Director Rod Spitty we had a varied Meeting Program as you will see from the list in the Annual Report.

Thankfully the second half of the Rotary year has seen us able to meet regularly at the Lakeview Hotel with a range of interesting guests, our Scholarship recipients included and a catch-up with former Exchange student Luisa Flinkmann via Zoom from Germany.

BBQs are also back on the agenda and Swap Meet will take place again.

I would like to thank my Board for continuing to keep the Club active and raising funds for our various projects outlined in their Directors' Reports. It has been good initiating our partnership with South Bendigo Football and Netball Club running their BBQ for 'at home' games as well as donating funds to kick-start their Uniform Library.

Our relationship with Annie North continues with gardening and donations. We have also started the process for a Fund-raising concert with the City of Bendigo Brass Band with James Morrison. This concert which will occur in the new Rotary Year, will raise money for the Ulumbarra Foundation, the Band and our Scholarship Fund.

We have joined with other Clubs in the Goldfields Cluster to continue the Knitting Project for Timor Leste and with RC Eaglehawk to run a successful Trivia Night.

Yours in Rotary,

Merlyn Quaife AM, President 2021-23

FOOTNOTE: In 2021-22, our club members completed over 1350 hours of volunteer service. The Rotary Club of Bendigo South supported over 45 organisations locally, state-wide and internationally either financially or by in-kind support in this past rotary year.

Donations made during 2021-22

Bicycles Project	\$ 865.00
Breast Cancer Association	\$ 100.00
Christmas Toys	\$ 400.00
Kelvin Baker Fundraiser	\$ 577.30
Live for Lily	\$ 400.00
Million Paws	\$ 67.67
Rotary Club of Lismore	\$ 1,000.00
RSPCA	\$ 100.00
Undies Project	\$ 184.46

\$ 3,694.43

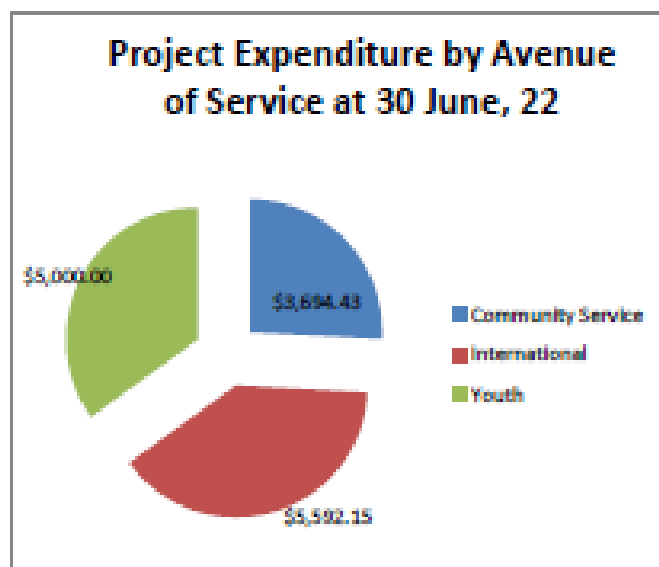
Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee	\$ 520.00
RAWCS	\$ 500.00
Rotary - End Polio Film Night	\$ 720.00
Rotary Club of Bendigo (International Knitting Project)	\$ 852.15
Rotary Foundation	\$ 3,000.00

\$ 5,592.15

Bendigo Senior College (Music Scholarship)	\$ 500.00
Bendigo South East College	\$ 500.00
Catherine McAuley College Bendigo	\$ 500.00
Crusoe College	\$ 500.00
East Loddon P12	\$ 500.00
Girton Grammar	\$ 500.00
Kangan Institute - (Scholarship Aboriginal Student)	\$ 500.00
National Youth Science Forum	\$ 1,000.00
South Bendigo Football Club	\$ 500.00

\$ 5,000.00

\$ 14,286.58



Summary

Community Service	\$ 3,694.43
International	\$ 5,592.15
Youth	\$ 5,000.00
	\$ 14,286.58

Community Services

Director Emily Mudge with committee members Trevor Hawking, Ron Devereaux, Graeme Neivandt, Max Ellis, Zoe Pocock, Jan Pagliaro and Bernie Young



Many thanks to Zoe Pocock my co-committee Director for championing the first 6 months of the year. Committee members Trevor Hawking, Graham Neivandt, Bernie Young and Ron Devereaux were as always fabulous supports to the Community Service initiatives. The year in review includes:

- Food Share coordinated by the magnificent Merlyn was a regular volunteering opportunity, bringing tremendous and much needed support to those most vulnerable and effected by the pandemic.
- Annie North gardening, working bees and donation of essentials brought much needed and appreciated service, support and dignity to women and children escaping violence. Many thanks to all of the members who donated their time, money, energies and items to these initiatives.
- Highway Clean-up was not carried out on May 30, however a partnership with Land care on weed management and clean-up along our sponsored and adjoining roadway strips has been forged for the coming year.
- Camp Getaway working-bees have featured less, however plans for a Sensory Garden continue to gain traction through Bernie and Graeme's efforts, which is certain to be a focus of the coming year.
- Firewood Project - Firewood continued to pay dividends for the club and keep the lucky winner warm, with a trailer load being auctioned off for \$150 in the Club's 2021 Inaugural Online Silent Auction.
- The Millions of Paws Walk was supported with a \$100 donation from proceeds raised by one of our famous Rotary BBQs went to RSPCA for the continuation of the important work and advocacy they provide. Much thanks to George and Gary and volunteers making the fabulous egg & bacon breaky rolls for hungry dog walkers – I hazard a guess that the snags were popular amongst their K-9 friends also.

- Donation of \$1,000 was made to the Rotary Club of Lismore, following the disaster that was the Lismore Floods. This was made possible by the Disaster Fund set up by the club following the 2019 Bushfires. Communities from both the bushfires and floods remain impacted still today. Evidence of the funds impact and importance.

The year ahead promises to be a busy one, with the above and new initiatives in focus - just IMAGINE the impact we can have within our community. Feel free to bring friends along or nominate your interest in joining the Community Service Committee in 2022-23.

Yours in Rotary,

Emily Mudge

Community Service Director

BSRC Membership Report

Director –Tony Plant, with committee members Clive Hughes, Mathew Scott and Katie Kim.



With the gradual easing of COVID restrictions the club was able to return to regular dinner meetings at a new venue-The Boat Shed at the Lake View Hotel. At this venue for the first time in my 20 plus years as a Rotary member we are able to order meals from the full menu. This enables a wide choice to cater for all dietary needs and lots of different pricing options to accommodate individual budgets. Also a big plus is that the hotel management allow for some flexibility on our irregular numbers, meaning that one member is not burdened with the most unpopular task of doing a head count prior to each meeting. The tradeoff is we do need to have our guest speaker on first to enable the hotel kitchen the time to prepare the variety of main courses. Given our improved average attendances in recent times as compared to what was happening at our last two meeting venues, it could be said this new arrangement has more pluses than minuses and seems to be popular with the majority of members who regularly attend weekly meetings.

The need for Zoom meetings is no longer required on a regular basis but the club has retained a zoom account which is still very useful for small sub-committee catch ups and has also been useful where we use it to bring into our dinner meeting an overseas visitor or a Rotary member outside our community. Our venue does also enable us to make use of audio visual technology.

The Signpost has continued throughout the year, including our regular features of keeping our members up to date with what is happening in our Rotary Club, also the District 9800, and occasionally what was going on in the world. The Signpost was listed weekly on our Website for all to see, and we had the occasional post on Facebook.

At the commencement of the Rotary year our membership numbers were 43- one of our best returns for many years. Coming off quite an inactive year due to COVID restrictions it was inevitable a loss of members due to minimal engagement could occur. Departing members were Tom Campbell, Richard Epskamp, Jennie Hughes, Kylee McCalman, Kay McLaughlin, Andrew Palmer and Helen Steele. All of these parting members had made a valuable contribution to Rotary International within their time as Rotarians and we thank them for their contribution while members of our club. We welcomed two new members, firstly in Margaret Kelly, a past member of the Rotary Club of Kyneton, and new member to Rotary International in Dorje Tsering. If things go according to plan we will welcome two new additions to our club in former member Craig Wright along with Michelle Newman who has also been a Rotary member in Mount Isa.



A special thanks go to Sue for continuing to produce a great weekly Signpost, to Matthew for keeping our website and Facebook pages up to date and to Clive for his great photography work to enable our club to have active and interesting pictorial records.

Yours in Rotary,
Tony Plant
BSRC Director

International Committee Report

Director – Heather Nixon, with committee members Elizabeth Bell, Cora Fuentes-Mahnic, Anne Peace, Greg Penno, Lindsay Jolley, and Matthew Scott.

Timor Leste

- Scholarships in Maubisse for 4 girls either in year 10, 11 or 12.
- Restructure of Knitting project for young children in Timor Leste
 - Libby Hughes from Bendigo Club has taken on the coordinator's role. Several lots of Wool Bales have been sent overseas last year.

Cambodia

- MEC – this project has sadly wound up.
- DSO
 - Initially known at Developing Skills Organisation, a name change has been ratified to Developing Schools Organisation which will allow our club to support any school projects in Cambodia. Funds raised from our recent Wine & Cheese afternoon will now go to buying bikes @ US\$50 each for a second-hand Japanese bike which also includes 1 front basket, 1 helmet, and 1 lock, 1 front light & 1 stand for poor children to pedal to school. The Rotary Club of Phnom Penh are our partners who will purchase and distribute the bikes plus organize the libraries on our behalf
 - Currently the RC Phnom Penh has a request for 20 bikes and the remaining funds will be allocated to libraries @ a cost of around \$600 each plus for an extra \$59 it will provide books for kinder children
 - Greg has kindly put in for a District grant application for our bike and library project which would take our funds from \$2,000 {wine & cheese event} to \$3,000. I.e. District would contribute \$1,000. For this Rotary year all District Grant money has been exhausted, but they will release funds in the new Rotary year for our worthwhile project
- Urgent Food Aid
 - Further funds have been sent to Cambodia to purchase food parcels for needy families and the RC Phnom Penh distribute our packages. The club has no financial commitment, but we support Greg Penno as the project manager for this worthwhile cause.
- Natalia project
 - A RAWCS account was sent up to bring Natalia to Australia for corrective surgery for a disfiguring facial condition which took place prior to the outbreak of the Covid pandemic. \$16,000 remains in this account for corrective leg surgery. Project Manager Greg Penno stated he has met with an Orthopedic

Surgeon who has agreed to perform the surgery for gratis at St Vincent's hospital Melbourne who are also waving their fees so this humanitarian surgery can be undertaken. Greg is now waiting to hear when Natalia can come to Melbourne for a medical consultation & +/- surgery to her leg. The family 1st organisation will accommodate Natalia at their property near Kilmore with Rotary providing her transport.

- The club has no financial responsibility for this project, but Greg Penno is the Manager for this project

Freight support for a container to be sent from DIK (Donation in Kind) to a recipient country in the Pacific area or PNG

- Due to the effects of the Covid pandemic, fundraising to send container of requested items to poor countries have been curtailed. Therefore, DIK have requested each club in District 9800, donate \$500 if possible and this money will be combined with other clubs to help meet the shipping costs. At our May Board Meeting our club decided to donate \$500 and requested our money be allocated to freighting a container to Timor Leste if possible

Yours in Rotary,

Heather Nixon

International Director

Club Service and Administration Report

Committee Members:

Rod Spitty - Chair, Bernie Young, Geoff McKinna, Ian Ellis, Peter Kilpatrick, and Merlyn Quaife

During the Rotary year this committee, or working elements have met on five occasions. The following has been achieved:

- The Club has remained operational during the COVID period of both Paul and Merlyn's Presidential year. We have emerged post COVID into face to face meetings at our new venue the Lake View Hotel and the Club has successfully transitioned from the Bendigo Tennis Centre into its new venue. Meeting attendance has been consistent with weekly numbers of 20-25 and exceeding 30 for special events.
- The club has remained financially viable during and post lockdown due to the relatively strong financial reserves and to the commitment of members during this period. The Club successfully organised an online Auction to strengthen the Administration account. Thank you to both Paul Gibbons and Tony Plant's initiative.
- Club morale has remained positive and the board and members have remained enthusiastic.
- The Club has successfully implemented cashless operations for the year in both administration and where possible Club projects and all members have been able to adjust.
- It has been interesting to observe the continuance over the last 12 months of zoom for club meetings during the COVID lockdown period and for district communication e.g.: District Assembly, Morning tea with the DG etc.
 - A special thank you to Tony Plant for maintaining the role of zoom officer as required. Zoom has been retained by the Club as there is definitely a place for this in Club operations. However it is considered by members that zoom does not replace the interaction of "face to face" meetings and project meetings.
- The Club's meeting program throughout the year has been varied and successful. It has been designed to meet members needs and wishes and to match where possible the Rotary monthly themes. Set out below is the completed meeting program for the year. A big thank you to members who regularly suggested meeting topics and to Paul Gibbons for his excellent and continued work in meeting "set up" and I.T. with "face to face" meetings. It is only through quality preparation that a "face to face" meeting will be successful. An example of this was the quality meeting that was

delivered with the Scholarship program, chaired by Mark Tracy and prepared by Lindsay Jolley.

- This committee has continued with research into club records improvement to include better use of the Cloud and options for safe storage of paper records. This will continue over the next 12 months.

I look forward to the role of Club Service and Administration Director and continued members support for the next Rotary year and thank you to both committee members and members for their ongoing contributions

Yours in Rotary,

Rod Spitty

Club Service & Administration Director



Club Program 2021-22

Rotary Club of Bendigo South - Club Program 2021-2022					
Date	Activity	Venue	Chair	Who Responsible	Confirmed
JULY THEME - SETTING THE SCENE					
Thurs 1st July	Guest Speaker: Ben Boxshall Agro Forestry	Lake View Hotel	Merlyn Quaife	Tony	Y
Thurs 8 th July	NADOC Week - Guest Speaker: Matthew Leeder President Rotary Club of Kangaroo Flat	Lake View Hotel	Bernie Young	Rod	Y
Thurs 15 th July	Guest Speaker: Katie Pagliaro – Chaplaincy program at Primary School followed by Board Meeting	Lake View Hotel	Jan Pagliaro	Rod	Y
Thurs 22nd July	Meeting Cancelled – Tree Planting Bairnsdale – Cancelled due to COVID	N/A	N/A	Merlyn	Y
Thurs 29 th July	Guest Speaker – Hamish Roberts Bendigo South East College – Science & Engineering Challenge	Zoom	Paul Gibbons	Rod	Y
AUGUST THEME – MEMBERSHIP					
Thurs 5 th Aug	Matt Oliver – Bird Photography Presentation	Lake View Hotel	Merlyn Quaife	Merlyn/Rod	Y
Thurs 12 th Aug	NO MEETING	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y
Sun 15 th Aug	Welsh Choir/Merlyn Quaife Concert – Cancelled due to COVID	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y
Thurs 19th Aug	Guest Speaker – Andrew McLean Chief Executive – Land care Victoria – by Zoom - followed by Board Meeting	Lake View Hotel	Bernie Young	Rod	Y
Mon 23 rd Aug	Science & Engineering Challenge Cancelled due to COVID	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y
Thurs 26 th Aug	DG Dale Hoy – Club Visit	Zoom	Merlyn	Merlyn/Tony	Y
SEPTEMBER THEME – BASIC EDUCATION & LITERACY					
Thurs 2nd Sept	Trivia Fun night	Zoom	Anne/ Matthew	Anne/ Matthew	Y
Thurs 9 th Sept	Football night Guest Speaker- Alan Ellis – President of Bendigo South Football Club	Zoom	George/Max Ellis	Rod	Y

Thurs 16 th Sept	Club Forum quarterly reports - followed by Board Meeting	Zoom	Merlyn	Directors	Y
Thurs 23 rd Sept	Guest Speaker – Tracy Purcell & Bendigo Office Operations Manager Justin Marshall Guide Dogs Victoria	Zoom	Rod Spitty	Rod	Y
Thurs 30 th Sept	Guest Speaker – Andrea Salmon – MS Society	Zoom	Merlyn	Merlyn/Rod	Y

OCTOBER THEME - Economic and Community Development					
Thurs 7th Oct	Guest speaker - Dr Rob Blum Director of Oncology – Bendigo Health	Zoom	Merlyn	Merlyn/Rod	Y
Thurs 14th Oct	Rotary Club of Phnom Penh – Cambodia – by Zoom Distribution of food packs & club operational matters	Zoom	Greg Penno	Greg/Rod	Y
Thurs 21 st Oct	Guest Speaker – Bev Watson – Victoria Convener - Polio Network. Board meeting to follow.	Zoom	Merlyn	Merlyn	Y
Thurs 28th Oct	Vocational visit to Iris Farm - meal to follow at Allies Hotel	Iris Farm/Allies Hotel	Merlyn	Merlyn	Y
Fri 29 th Oct	Science and Engineering Challenge National Final – Event cancelled due to COVID	N/A			
NOVEMBER THEME – FOUNDATION					
Thurs 4 th Nov	Guest Speaker – Trish Mifsud MS Ambassador	Lake View Hotel	Merlyn	Rod	Y
Thurs 11 th Nov	Milton Long – overseas scholarships & Remembrance Day message by Heather Nixon	Lake View Hotel	Heather Nixon	Merlyn/Rod	Y
Sat/Sun 13 th /14 th Nov	SWAP Meet – Cancelled due to COVID	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Thurs 18 th Nov	Annual General Meeting, Social Night & Demonstration of club's defibrillator by Heather Nixon Board Meeting to follow.	Lake View Hotel	Paul	Rod	Y
Thurs 25 th Nov	Vocation: Langley Hall Inspection followed by hotel meal	Lake View Hotel	Merlyn	Merlyn	Y
DECEMBER THEME – DISEASE PREVENTION					
Thurs 2nd Dec	Guest Speaker – Matt Maudlin ROMP	Lake View Hotel	Rod Spitty	Rod	Y

Thurs 9 th Dec	Guest Speaker – Toni West – CEO Impact Recovery and Board Meeting to follow	Lake View Hotel	Rod Spitty	Rod	Y
Thurs 16 th Dec	Christmas Function - Guest Speaker being finalised. Inspection of Club shed facility	Mechanics Institute	Paul	Tony	Y
Thurs 23 rd Dec	No meeting – Xmas break				

Date	Activity	Venue	Chair	Who Responsible	Confirmed
JANUARY 2021 – VOCATIONAL					
Thurs 6 th Jan	No Meeting				
Thurs 13 th Jan	Resume Rotary Year – Social night at Betty & Tony Plant's house – Cancelled due to COVID	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y
Thurs 20 th Jan	<i>Julie Oberin – Centre Manager – Annie North</i>	Zoom Meeting	Tony	Tony	Y
Wed 26 th Jan	Australia Day	N/A			
Thurs 27 th Jan	Member Talk – Emily Mudge	Zoom	Tony	Merlyn	Y
FEBRUARY – PEACE & CONFLICT RESOLUTION					
Thurs 3 rd Feb	Directors Quarterly Reports and Club Forum	Lake View Hotel	Merlyn	Merlyn	Y
Thurs 10 th Feb	Camp Getaway Inspection and meal	Camp Getaway	Paul/Graham	Paul	Y
Thurs 17 th Feb	Guest Speaker – Dorje Tsering From Tibet Board Meeting to follow	Lake View Hotel	Greg	Greg	Y
Thurs 24 th Feb	Guest Speaker – Michael Deschepper – Homeless women	Lake View Hotel	Jan Pagalaro	Jan/Rod	Y

MARCH – WATER & SANITATION					
Thurs 3 rd March	Club Member – Ian Ellis – History of Bendigo Fire Brigade	Lake View Hotel	Rod Spitty	Rod	Y
Thurs 10 th March	Peter Faulkner – Chair Disaster Aid Australia	Lake View Hotel	Ian Ellis	Rod	Y
Thurs 17 th March	Guest speaker – Adrian Martins “Ride for Lily” Childhood cancer	Lake View Hotel	Bernie Young	Rod	Y
Thurs 24 th March	No Meeting in lieu of Club Wine and Cheese tasting fundraiser	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y
Sunday 27 th March	Wine & Cheese Fundraiser	Lindsay Jolley’s house	Heather/Lindsay	Heather/Lindsay	Y
Thursday 31 st March	Movie Night – Maubisse Fundraiser	Star Cinema	Tony	Tony	
APRIL – MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH					
Thurs 7 th April	Secondary School Scholarship Recipient Presentations	Lake View Hotel	Mark Tracy	Lindsay	Y
Thursday 14 th April	No Meeting in lieu of Good Friday	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Friday 15 th April	Good Friday				
Thurs 21 st April	Guest Speaker – Paul Taylor – Sacred Heart Cathedral Music program & Board meeting	Lake View Hotel	Merlyn Quaife	Merlyn	Y
Friday 22 nd – Sunday 24 th April	District Conference	Albury	N/A	N/A	
Monday 25 th April	ANZAC Day	N/A			
Thursday 28 th April	ANZAC Presentation – Guest Speaker – Sharon Opie – her Grandfather & his brothers involvement in WWI & “Memory Trees” Bendigo	Lake View Hotel	Rod Spitty	Rod	Y

MAY – YOUTH SERVICE					
Thurs 5 th May	Former Exchange student – Luisa Presentation by Zoom	Lake View Hotel	Merlyn	Merlyn	Y
Thurs 12 th May	Guest Speaker – Georgie Redmond – Heart Matters presentation	Lake View Hotel	Heather Nixon	Rod	Y
Thurs 19 th May	Guest Speaker – Dr Emma O'Reilly – Acting Principal Girton Grammar & Girton Grammar scholarship recipient presentation. Board Meeting to follow	Lake View Hotel	Merlyn Quaife	Lindsay Jolley	Y
Thursday 26 th May	No meeting in lieu of Trivia Night	N/A			
Friday 27 th May	Joint Trivia Night with RC of Eaglehawk	N/A	N/A	Tony	Y
June – Fellowship					
Thurs 2 nd June	Guest Speaker – Author Ken Arnold – History of Hotels in Bendigo	Lake View Hotel	Tony Plant	Tony	Y
Thurs 9 th June	Guest Speaker – Dan McKee – Science & Engineering & Catherine McAuley College updates	Lake View Hotel	Rod Spitty	Rod	Y
Thurs 16 th June	The year in review and change over board meeting	Lake View Hotel	Merlyn	Merlyn	Y
Thurs 23 rd June	Change Over Dinner	Camp Getaway	Merlyn	Merlyn	Y
Thurs 30 th June	No Meeting	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y



Youth Services

Director – Mark Tracy, with committee members Lindsay Jolley, Peter Simmons, Phillip Lethbridge, and Lyn Comer

Scholarship winners:

Recently all our Secondary Scholarship winners attended and spoke at two club meetings. All the recipients spoke very well and impressed as motivated and passionate young adults. Despite the best efforts of club members, there has been little progress in getting our Latrobe and TAFE winners finalised/coming to speak.

Cluster Youth Directors Meetings:

The group comprising the Bendigo Clubs (and now Rochester) has met twice this year. A number of issues were discussed and the group has decided to follow up on pursuing funding to purchase some E pens for district schools. These devices ‘read the words’ to students and would be invaluable for those experiencing difficulties with their literacy. District Clubs continue to provide additional support for students in need (e.g. to attend camps)

- A RYPEN camp was held in March in Malmsbury with reasonable numbers (about 20) considering that the “COVID hangover” is still having an impact. Very positive feedback was received for Weerona College who have not participated in this event for a few years. The next camp is in November and the group is exploring ways to further promote the event.
- Work is being done to try and increase numbers and interest in future RYLA events. It is costly, and this restricts numbers. A tentative date has been set for November.
- NYSF applications are open and schools are generating interest. CMC have confirmed their interest and I am aware that BSSC is actively promoting the event. A small number of students participated in on-line activities in January.
- Youth Exchange – none in 21/22 due to COVID.
- SANTOS – some discussion and planning started for upcoming event.

-
- Science and Engineering Challenge – Rod Spitty and his team continue to drive this initiative. Hopefully the event will go ahead with solid numbers. Rod has been asked to send some additional promotional material to district clubs.
 - MUNA – (Model United Nations Debating Competition) – the timeline for getting interest from schools was impacted by the Term 1 holidays. Maybe look at 2023 competition.

General Promotion:

Regular updates on Youth events have been included in the RCBS “Signpost”. We need to ensure this continues as schools and other organisations begin to emerge from the COVID ‘cocoon’.

We also need to be mindful that there is still some hesitancy from parents in allowing their students to attend some of these events. (For example, numbers at school Year Level camps have been low due to COVID fears, increased costs and the need for regular testing).

Yours in Rotary,
Mark Tracy
Youth Services Director

Foundation Report

Director – Peter Kilpatrick, with committee members Glenn Madden and Greg Noonan

The main event to raise money for foundation was a movie night. It was meant to happen in November, but hesitancy due to Covid meant it didn't happen until March. The event was organized by the Rotary Club of Bendigo.

It took place on the evening of Tuesday 29th March 2022 and was attended by 123 Rotarians, partners and friends from the Rotary Clubs of Bendigo, Bendigo Sandhurst, Bendigo South, Castlemaine, Eaglehawk and Rochester.

123 people attended including 36 members and friends from our club. The movie was "The Duke" which was enjoyed by all. A total of just over \$1,600 was raised for End Polio Now.

Our club received donations from a number of people totaling \$110. This was forwarded directly to End Polio Now separate from the main funds. All up our club contribution was \$470.

Yours in Rotary,
Peter Kilpatrick
Foundation Director

Finance and Fundraising Report

Director – Gary Pinner, with committee members George Ellis, Maureen Plant, John Stewart and Greg Noonan.

The stop- start 2021 – 22 Covid affected year has been an improvement on the previous Rotary year but still has impacted on fundraising income. The BBQ's have continued to be the main source of income with an estimated \$5,000.00 income into our projects account from 18 events over the year. This equates to approximately 300 volunteer hours for our club's members and friends' involvement.

Notable cancellations include Latrobe Uni Open Day, Bendigo Dog Obedience Trials, Tafe Inclusion Day, Relay for Life, MS Walkathon, White Night Bendigo, Swap Meet Catering, Red Ribbon Rebellion, Australia Day and Scott's Day Out. Pre-Covid interruptions we would normally expect involvement in 25 – 30 events raising in excess of \$25,000.00 and totaling 1,000 plus volunteer hours. Hoping the next Rotary year will see a more normal Covid free year.

This Rotary year we have had the opportunity to purchase a mobile cool room trailer which should produce income through hire, and will be a great asset on our larger BBQ's. Thanks to George Ellis for his fantastic work co- coordinating all the volunteers for the events and to everyone who has volunteered to help run the events that we could.

Looking ahead to the next Rotary year plans are well in place for the Welsh Choir concert, Swap Meet Catering, Christmas Trailer Raffle and Australia Day. So, as you can see, we have many activities and Community involvement planned for the 2022 – 23 Rotary year.

Congratulations to President Merlyn on what has been a very challenging but rewarding year and we look forward to continue to be working with you again to achieve great things.

Yours in Rotary,
Gary Pinner

Science & Engineering Challenge

Committee: Rod Spitty (Chair), Paul Gibbons, Bernie Young, Emily Mudge, Mark Tracy, Peter Kilpatrick, Tom Glazebrook AM (Hon Member), Steven Lee (Community Member) and Hamish Roberts (Industry Rep)

During the last 12 months the project committee have been planning for two major events in the 2021/2022 rotary year. These were:

- Science & Engineering Challenge Regional Event - 23rd August, 2021 to be held at Girton Grammar Stadium.
- Science & Engineering National Final - 28/29th October, 2021 to be held at Bendigo South East College Stadium.

The successful implementation for both events was COVID dependent.

The club has been undertaking the annual regional event for 16 years and last hosted the National final in 2009.

A special thank you to all committee members for their dedication, hard work and support to this project which is aimed at developing science & engineering commitment to year 10 students so as to study and undertake a career in these demanding and expanding disciplines and to assist in the skills base deficiency in Central Victoria and Regional Australia.

Thank you to our extensive industry and community partnerships for their ongoing commitment over the years in what is a difficult and challenging project to implement in these current times. Over the last 12 months the COVID situation nationally and locally forced Newcastle University to cancel all events, therefore our scheduled events did not take place. Both events were to be re- scheduled for some time in 2022 depending on the COVID situation. The project committee had no alternative but to put all its planning and partnerships on hold.

In early 2022 Newcastle University set new dates. These are:

- Regional Event - 22nd August to be held at Bendigo South East College Stadium
- National Final - 20/21st October to be held at Bendigo South East College Stadium

Each event will involve participation of 250 year 10 students with all activities supervised by La Trobe University final year students and undertaken by Newcastle University. The budget for the Regional event is \$10,000 and 8 schools have registered. The budget for the National event is \$15,000 and will involve the 8 top schools throughout Australia competing.

Three problems have emerged:

- Changes in sponsorship have led to increased costs
- COVID requirements of the day and the Victorian Education Department must be complied with.
- Specific sponsor partnership requirements have changed due to changing individual circumstances.

All these matters are being managed with difficulty by the project committee.

During the year Tom Glazebrook stepped down from the project committee. On behalf of the Rotary Club of Bendigo South and the project committee I wish to thank Tom for many years of continuous service.

All being well both the Regional Event and the National Final will take place in 2022 as scheduled.

Yours in Rotary,

Rod Spitty

Chair - Science & Engineering Challenge Project Committee

Seedlings Report



In this past year, Rotary Club of Bendigo South members in conjunction with Friends of the Campaspe River Walk, Rochester Rotary Club members and the Strathallan Family Land care Group undertook some planting of our well-nurtured and well-nourished seedlings along the Campaspe River Walk.

This activity occurred in July 2021 with club members planting on Saturday and Sunday. According to my reckoning we planted approx. 350 seedlings along the reserve over the weekend.

This was due to the club being unable to proceed with its planned planting trip to assist the East Gippsland Fire Aid Group due to COVID. It is hoped this trip can occur next year when circumstances change.

It also is an area that is frequented by Squirrel Gliders and it is great to know we have assisted in a small way with their continued existence in the local environment.

The club was adding to its already good environmental credentials with this working bee and the establishment of further links with another Rotary Club as well as an inspiring Land care group and the very impressive Strathallan Glider Sanctuary which we were able to visit to see some of the Gliders.

According to my reckoning we planted approx. 350 seedlings along the reserve over the weekend. A big thanks to all those club members on both days as well as Tony for

the BBQ lunch on the Saturday. In addition, Heather Watson and her Rochester members that were able to assist us in this working bee.

The Seedlings Team have also been able to find locations for all of our useable seedlings this week, thanks to the great efforts of club members and friends. All should be in the ground over the next few weeks and after all this rain they will get a great start!



Recipients of the seedlings included:

1. Clive Hughes and Friends down Elmore way.
2. Glenn Madden's sister at Birchip.
3. Glenn's contacts at the Friends of the Old Church on the Hill, Quarry Hill.
4. Debbie Bish Rochester.
5. Heather Watson President of Rochester Rotary club.
6. Scope Garden, Bendigo.
7. Strathallan Land care Group, Rochester
8. Strathfieldsaye Primary School via Greg Penno.

Thanks to all members for their assistance and we hope to have our next batch ready to go in December for Nurturing and Nourishment for planting in early 2022.

Yours in Rotary,

Paul Gibbons

On behalf of the Seedlings Team

Firewood Project November 2020 – June 2022



A semi-trailer load of firewood is a lot. This was the scene that greeted club members when CLUB member John Stewart was able to source the previously mentioned wood from his contacts at VILLAWOOD. Thanks to local transport group DUNLOP AND PITSON the firewood was delivered to Tony Plant's Paddock.

The real fun then began and after several months of weekend working bees the firewood was split, stacked and delivered.

It is great to report that over a two-year period all the firewood has been sold with over \$2,000 the result.

Thanks go to all the working bee attendees and club members involved including those who purchased the same to support the project. In addition, many thanks to past Secretary TONY for the use of his paddock, his firewood cutting chainsaw skills, logistic organisation, sales skills and solutions for the delivery of the firewood.

Thanks also to those members who assisted Tony with Firewood deliveries.

Annie North Volunteering



Each week two club members of the Gardening team visit Annie North to assist in maintaining the grounds and gardens.

Team members are Jan Pagliaro, Merlyn Quaife, Trevor Hawking, Phil Lethbridge, Tony Plant, Clive Hughes, George Ellis, and Paul Gibbons.

The club has also donated goods as required over the past year which has included women's products and toys and games for the children.

Wonderful Results from the recent Annie North Working Bee

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following members Clive, Trevor, Merlyn, Paul, Bernie, Dorje and Llamo for assisting me in providing a very productive working bee in the garden at Annie North last Friday.

Having been involved in the early stages of the development of the garden since the facility opened our club should be proud of the contribution, we have made in helping to provide such attractive surrounds at this complex. Given the amount of maintenance and further improvement we were able to achieve in about 4 hours it should ensure our regular rostered on weekly gardeners will be able to better maintain things for at least another year.

Perhaps one annual collective effort, similar to what we did last week could be good future policy? Our donation of labor is very much appreciated by the management and staff at Annie North. If we were to express our donation of labour in dollar terms it would be right up there with any of our more identifiable fund-raising projects.

SCOPE Volunteering



This project has involved over 60 hours of working bees which included incidental weeding, mulching and watering system maintenance. The whole project has been a great success which has beautified the front entry of the Scope Centre. It is much appreciated by the clients, families, staff and visitors to the centre. It is also commented on by the neighbours walking past the centre. Future working bees in spring will be required when the weeds take off again.

This has been an environmental project where the transformation from the beginning to now is quite significant and it is satisfying to know that the hard work by Club members has produced such good results.



Vale Brian Thomas

In late April 2022, we received the sad news of the passing of Brian Thomas, a Past President of our Club in 1979 and 1990, having joined the Club in 1963. Finance was his expertise and he was Manager of the Bank of Bendigo. Brian was 95 years old and resided in Gisborne for the last part of his life. Brian is survived by his wife Judy and five children.



THOMAS **Brian**

The President, Board, Current and Past Members of the Rotary Club of Bendigo South regret the passing of their Past President 1979 /1990 year, and a club member of 30 years service.

We offer deepest sympathies to
his wife Judy and Family.

Paul Harris Fellow Recognition

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 introduced a recognition known as a Paul Harris Fellow in memory of the founder as an expression of appreciation for a contribution of US\$1,000.00 or more to the Foundation's humanitarian and educational programs. The recipients receive a pin and certificates that identify them as advocates of the Rotary Foundation's goals of world peace and understanding.

In Australia and New Zealand it has become a tradition that a club may determine to recognise a Club Member or community member as a Paul Harris Fellow for meritorious service, where the club contributes US\$1,000.00 to the Rotary Foundation from club funds. Recognition as a Paul Harris Fellow remains a respected and prestigious honour for Rotarians and non-Rotarians alike.

Recipient	year	Recipient	year	Recipient	year
Jack Bright	1978	Elizabeth Allen	2006	Cathie Steele	2021
George Symons	1982	Ken Briggs OAM (S)	2007	George Ellis	2022
Don Allen	1984	Ron Twitt	2007	Anthony Plant (S)	2022
John Parsons	1987	Lindsay Jackson	2007		
Bill Rodd	1987	David Cotton (S)	2008		
Bill Ashman	1988	Gary Pinner (S)	2009		
Tom Glazebrook AM	1988	Peter Kilpatrick (S)	2009		
Bill Hoare	1988	Greg Noonan	2009		
Frank Budge	1988	Ralph Birrell	2009		
George A Ellis	1989	Terry Dalwood	2010		
George Dawson	1994	Peter Kilpatrick (S2)	2011		
Graeme Norris	1995	Ian Ellis	2011		
Eddie Beer	1996	Greg Noonan	2013		
Geoff Holland	1997	Maggie Merigan-James	2013		
Trevor Phillips	1997	Greg Penno (S2)	2013		
Laurie O'Farrell	1998	Paul Gibbons	2013		
Ron Devereaux	1999	Erma Hoare	2014		
Margaret Roberts	1999	Bill Ashman (S2)	2014		
Rob Hunt	2000	Verna Ashman	2014		
Ken Briggs OAM	2001	Lynette Comer	2016		
Gary Pinner	2002	Tom Campbell	2017		
Lindsay Jolley	2002	Anthony Plant	2017		
Max Ellis	2003	Richard Epskamp	2019		
Graham Neivandt	2004	Geoff Mc Kinna	2019		
David Cotton	2004	Max Ellis (S)	2019		
Anne Peace	2005	Rod Spitty	2019		
Elizabeth Allen	2006	Graham Neivandt (S)	2020		
Ken Gittens	2006	Julie Oberin	2021		

(S) Indicates Sapphire 1. (S2) indicates double Sapphire

Club Records

MAX ELLIS AWARDS

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 the Rotary Year".

1974-75	Jim Porter	1998-99	Tony Plant
1975-76	Bill Rodd	1999-2000	Marilyn Botwood
1976-77	George Symons	2000-01	Gerald Kavanagh
1977-78	Alan Williams	2001-02	Graham Neivandt
1978-79	John Parsons	2002-03	Ken Gittins
1979-80	Graeme Norris	2003-04	Bev Ormerod
1980-81	Les Pascoe	2004-05	Ruth O'Connell
1981-82	Gordon Hellyer	2005-06	Ken Briggs OAM
1982-83	Don Allen	2006-07	David Carbury
1983-84	Frank Monti	2007-08	Andrew Palmer
1984-85	Vic Wodetski	2008-09	Wendy Learmount
1985-86	Graham Neivandt	2009-10	Ian Ellis
1986-87	Bill Hoare	2010-11	Elaine Harrington
1987-88	Darrel Walker	2011-12	Greg Noonan
1988-89	Bob Forbes	2012 -13	Tony Plant
1989-90	Ken Gittins	2013-14	Bernie Young
1990-91	Laurie O'Farrell	2014-15	Anne Peace
1991-92	John Grylls	2015-16	Sue and Trevor Hawking
1992-93	Tony Britt	2016-17	Jennie and Clive Hughes
1994-95	Keith Inglis	2017-18	Heather Nixon
1995-96	Gerald Kavanagh	2018-19	Merlyn Quaife AM
1996-97	Jenni Hillman	2019-20	Graham Neivandt
1997-98	Bill Ashman	2020-21	Clive and Jenni Hughes
		2021-22	Susan Duncan

PAST CLUB PRESIDENTS

1959-60	Les Harris	1990-91	Brian Thomas
1960-61	Alan Fraser	1991-92	Colin Walton
1961-62	John Corbett	1992-93	Geoff McKinna
1962-63	Ian McHardy	1993-94	Neil Zantuck
1963-64	Bill Ashman	1994-95	Eddie Beer
1964-65	Jack Bright	1995-96	Geoff Holland
1965-66	Len Knox	1996-97	Gary Pinner
1966-67	Alex Fraser	1997-98	Kay Branson
1967-68	George Ellis	1998-99	Jenni Hillman
1968-69	Harold MacDonald (dec)	1999-00	Dean Shirley
	George Ellis	2000-01	Paul Blacker
1969-70	Neville Howell	2001-02	David Cotton
1970-71	Don Allen	2002-03	Ian Ellis
1971-72	Colin Scheumack	2003-04	Ken Briggs OAM
1972-73	Jim Osborne	2004-05	John Steele
1973-74	Bill Rodd	2005-06	Terry Dalwood
1974-75	Max Ellis	2006-07	Bev Ormerod
1975-76	Ron Twitt	2007-08	Greg Noonan
1976-77	Bryan Milne	2008-09	Frank Cinquegrana
1977-78	Bob Johns	2009-10	Philip Jan
1978-79	Ray Foley	2010-11	Geoff McKinna
1979-80	Brian Thomas (Dec)	2011-12	Ruth O'Connell
1980-81	Tom Johnson	2012-13	Wendy Learmount
1981-82	Graeme Elvey	2013-14	Helene Brown
1982-83	John Parsons	2014-15	Rod Spitty
1983-84	George Dawson	2015-16	Tony Plant
1984-85	Bill Hoare	2016-17	Tony Plant
1985-86	Laurie O'Farrell	2017-18	Bernie Young
1986-87	Ralph Birrell	2018-19	Rod Spitty
1987-88	Rod Mc Leod	2019-20	Glenn Madden
1988-89	John Hewitson	2020-21	Paul Gibbons
1989-90	Rob Aitken	2021-22	Merlyn Quaife AM

CLUB MEMBERS 2021-22

Elizabeth Bell	Nursing	Heather Nixon	Nursing
Lynette Comer	Silo Manufacturing	Greg Noonan	Management Accounting
Ron Deveraux	Bread Manufacture	Jan Pagliaro	Disability Services
Sue Duncan	Property Management	Anne Peace	Education
George Ellis	Emergency Services	Greg Penno	Driver Education
Ian Ellis	Emergency Services	Gary Pinner	Automotive Repairs
Max Ellis	Signwriting	Tony Plant	Catering
Cora Fuentes-Mahnic	Ethnic Management	Maureen Plant	Retail Sales
Paul Gibbons	Education	Zoe Pocock	Environmental Planning
Trevor Hawking	Building Supply Sales	Merlyn Quaife	Music Education
Clive Hughes	Carpet Laying	Matthew Scott	Education
Lindsay Jolley	Environment Mgt	Peter Simmons	State Emergency Services
Peter Kilpatrick	Project Engineer	Rod Spitty	Engineer Local Government
Katie Kim	Music	John Stewart	Public Accounting
Philip Lethbridge	Law	Mark Tracy	Education Secondary
Glenn Madden	Primary Education	Dorje Tsering*	Translator
Emily Mudge	Civil Engineering	Bernie Young	Public Land Management
Geoff McKinna	Police Service	Margaret Kelly*	Sales Professional
Graham Neivandt	Waste Water Disposal		*joined in 2022

HONOURARY MEMBERS				
David Cotton	Genealogy	Wendy Learmount	Banking Management	
Ken Gittins	Sheep Grazing	Trevor Phillips	Engineering Consultant	
Tom Glazebrook	Highway Construction	Laurie O'Farrell	Law	
Lindsay Jackson	Tertiary Education			
2021-22 DEPARTURES				
Thomas Campbell, Richard Epskamp, Jennie Hughes, Kylee McCalman, Kay McLaughlin, Andrew Palmer, Helen Steele.				
FRIENDS OF ROTARY				
Jodie Bice	Leesa Bice	Daniel Giles	Chloe Kilcullen	Brock Pinner
Mercy Saddul Priest	Robin Shepherd	Val Payne	Gemma Wilson	

ROYCE ABBEY AWARDEES

This program is to recognize Club members in their early years of Rotary who show Enthusiasm and commitment to the ideals of Rotary. The selection is by the President of the Rotary Club and it is hoped by early recognition, members will be encouraged to continue to enjoy their membership and appreciate the contributions Rotarians can make to the community, both locally and internationally.

This Award encourages Clubs to contribute AU\$1,000 through the Rotary Foundation to the Royce & Jean Abbey Cultural Ambassadorial Scholarship, a program that is available to assist the training of young men and women in developing countries.

2007-08	Helene Brown, Peter Ryall
2008-09	Marie Jenkins
2009-10	Wendy Learmount
2011-12	Ros Chenery, Matthew Scott
2015-16	Bernie Young

Special Awards and Changeover

Incoming President Merlyn had some special awards and entertainment at the club's recent Changeover Dinner at Camp Getaway, Axedale.

Pictured- The choir from Axedale Primary School and performer Jade Cuskelly.



On June 23 we ushered out the old Rotary Year and welcomed in the new year with the theme of 'Imagine'. At our Changeover we welcomed DG Dale Hoy and Maureen in his last few days as DG. Dale proposed the Toast to Rotary International and assisted with the presentations of a Paul Harris Fellow and a PH Sapphire.

The two recipients, George Ellis and Tony Plant respectively, were not expecting these honours and a little overwhelmed. Susan Duncan received the Max Ellis Award for her sterling work producing The Signpost for the past three years.



The night started with the Axedale Primary School Choir singing the National Anthem and a song for us. What a delight their enthusiasm and joy of singing was to behold.

MC Gary Pinner kept the event ticking, the Camp Getaway Team served us a delicious roast dinner and dessert and we raised a goodly amount from the Raffle to donate to the Axedale Primary School for their 'Inclusive Space'. We were honoured by the presence of COGB Mayor Andrea Metcalf who addressed us with her thoughts on the association of Rotary with the Community of Greater Bendigo, then singer JadeCuskelly entertained us with a beautiful rendition of John Lennon's 'Imagine'. Jade is definitely a talent to watch!