

ROTARY CLUB OF HOWRAH INC.

ANNUAL REPORT 1999-2000

PRESIDENTS REPORT

It gives me great pleasure to present this report on the activities of the Rotary Club of Howrah for the 1999-2000 year.

This report, together with the attached Director's reports and Financial statement form the Annual Report. As the attached reports cover the years' activities in detail I have restricted my comments to a general overview and to recognition of the contribution made by members.

The past year has presented a number of challenges for the club and I am pleased to report that the majority of these challenges have been successfully met with some innovative initiatives yielding very positive results.

An early difficulty for the club was the state of disarray of the financial records, and I am pleased to report that through a herculean effort by our Treasurer, John Anderson, order was restored without any pecuniary loss to the club. The introduction of a computerised system, 'Clubmate' will ensure that a reoccurrence is most unlikely. We are indebted to John for his meticulous management of the club funds throughout the year and especially for his work in developing an understanding of the GST as it applies to Rotary clubs in general and our club in particular.

Secretary, Malcolm Salier, worked unstintingly on the introduction of Clubmate, as he has for the entire year, to ensure that the administration of the club has been very efficiently managed. Malcolm has given me tremendous support and I would like to thank him for all he has done. I would like to congratulate George Toepfer for the professional manner in which he performed the duties of Sergeant at Arms. It has been a delight to preside over meetings controlled by George.

An early vacancy in the Directorship of Vocational Service & Youth Affairs was willingly filled by Richard Wyatt; and what an outstanding year followed! Just look at all that has been achieved! I am particularly pleased with the high level of support given to youth projects.

The next major challenge was the loss of income from the cancelled Boat & Outdoor Leisure Show. A special committee was established to address this issue and the main initiative was the 9/11 Wine Auction, managed by Norm Cooper, which raised almost \$6000.00. Government House Open Day, managed by Max Dunstone, was a resounding success, contributing a further \$4500.00. Catering for Casimaty's clearance sale and Inter Hash 2000, Managed by Peter Calvert and Graeme Farrell respectively, provided a further welcome boost. These four projects, coupled with our traditional fundraisers, have given us an outstanding year financially. However the club needs to remain proactive in its search for major ongoing fund raising projects.

We are deeply saddened by the loss of three of the club's longest serving members PP George Casimaty, Peter Chew and PP Bob Jones. All three were stalwarts of the club and each contributed their own individual style of humour and colour to the texture of the club. Each has left a space that cannot be filled by any one else, but, we as individuals and the club as a whole, have been enriched through our association with them.

I was privileged to present Peter Chew with his Paul Harris Fellowship just two days before his death.

It was my great pleasure to welcome two new members, Ray Carpenter and Vicki Derkley and I was thrilled to re-induct Les Job. I wish Ray & Sue, Vicki & Peter and Les & Elaine a long and happy association with the club.

Recruitment of new members remains a challenge, approximately 80 prospective members and their partners were invited, by mail, to attend one of two Rotary Information dinners. Despite this effort our membership has fallen by one, to 28, while our age profile continues to rise.

To ensure the long term survival of the club, we must find an acceptable method of widening the scope and increasing the effectiveness of our recruitment. I cannot over-emphasize the importance of this task and strongly recommend that the incoming Board make membership its highest priority.

The Community Service Committee, under the able Directorship of Graeme Farrell, has administered an extraordinarily wide range of projects in which we can all take great pride. Our 'rescue' of the Clarence Plains Festival was, in my opinion, one of most significant community projects undertaken, while our construction of the shelter at Orana provided the club with a much needed 'hands on' project on which to build even greater fellowship. Our recent sponsorship of a child to attend the Giant Steps Autism Centre at Deloraine is a most worthy project. I was absolutely thrilled to see the Howrah club become a Companion of the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund, joining a select group of only six Tasmanian clubs to achieve that honour.

The International Service Committee effectively Directed by Dick Shoobridge has maintained our usual level of activities throughout the year, but it was disappointing to see the demise of the Tanzanian Nurse Training project. I am sure that the incoming committee will find a suitable replacement and we all look forward to a great International Night later this year.

The Club Service Committee Directed by John Bresnehan has provided the club with excellent services this year particularly in the areas of the comprehensive newsletter produced by editor George Gilbert and his assistant Richard Wyatt. The meeting programme managed by Jon Adams has been one of the best in the club's history, with some really great guest speakers, at least one partners night every month and ample opportunity for fellowship and socialising.

In summary, I believe that we have shared a very successful year, with good representation at all District meetings, an active and effective involvement in Community, Vocational and Youth Affairs and International service. We have raised substantial amounts of money and have returned over \$13,000.00 to the community. We have had an excellent program, a great year socially and have maintained our usual high level of fellowship and I would like to thank every member and their partners, for their contribution in achieving this success.

In conclusion, I thank the club for the opportunity to serve as President and would like to tell you how very much I have appreciated the tremendous level of support you have all given me. May I offer my very best wishes to Glen and his team for every success in the new year

David Lamb
President 1999-2000

CLUB SERVICE REPORT 1999-2000

Committee

George Toepfer, John Anderson, Norm Cooper, Peter Calvert, Ron Schwanke, Jon Adams, Glen Woolley, George Gilbert.

New Members

Membership evenings have been well attended. However we need more and younger members. Good to see ex members rejoining. On a more sombre note, we miss George, Peter and Bob who have been called to higher service.

Fund Raising

As mentioned in the half yearly report, a wine auction, Jon Adams idea, brought to fruition by Norm Cooper, was very successful, resulting in a healthy donation to the ARHRF and an award to our club.

Government House Open Day, expertly managed by Max Dunstone and assisted by Norm Cooper, really tested our members and their families, however in true Rotary spirit, everyone helped and a very successful event ensued. Thank you to all who contributed.

Our chocolate wheel has again made a significant contribution to our coffers from functions at the Clarence Plains Festival, Richmond Village Fair, Royal Hobart Regatta and St. Johns School Fair. Thanks to manager, Ron Schwanke, John Anderson, Peter Calvert and all members who assisted.

Catering for George Casimaty's clearance sale and for Inter Hash 2000 also provided additional profits. Thanks to Peter Calvert, Graeme Farrell and Max Dunstone and all the other workers.

The Million Dollar Meal at Peter Chew's oyster shed was great fun and raised even more funds. Thanks to Peter and Jan. Our traditional annual family barbecue at Chewies will be sadly missed.

Meeting Program

Jon Adams lived up to his promise to arrange a varied and interesting array of guest speakers, the more notable being, David Boon, Neville Oliver, and Premier, Jim Bacon.

Social

Glen Woolley as Social Director, arranged two memorable dinners at the Royal Hobart Golf Club and our beach barbecue with Alan & Di Morriss at Primrose Sands was excellent.

Fellowship

Because of our excellent meeting program, our great social functions and our active community involvement, outstanding fellowship has been enjoyed by members and partners this past Rotary year.

Newsletter

Congratulations to George Gilbert and Richard Wyatt for their tremendous effort throughout the year in the production of an excellent newsletter, which kept us all informed and entertained

Club Photographer

Thank you to Jacob George for providing a record of the club's activities throughout the year.

Club Raffle

Thank you also to Lindsay Chivers and Fred Hampton for their conscientious management of the weekly club raffle.

Attendance

Despite having a number of our members touring 'the big island', attendance figures are satisfactory. Thank you to Tony Watts and Hank Bouman for maintaining our attendance register so efficiently.

Attendance Report – Individual Members – 1999-2000

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Jon Adams | 84% |
| John Anderson | 94% |
| Hank Bouman | 91% |
| John Bresnehan | 80% |
| Peter Calvert | 70% |
| Ray Carpenter | 93% |
| Lindsay Chivers | 76% |
| Norm Cooper | 66% |
| Vicki Derkley | 61% |
| John Drinkwater | 92% |
| Max Dunstone | 91% |
| Reg Emmett | 86% |
| Graeme Farrell | 90% |
| Jacob George | 82% |
| George Gilbert | 76% |
| Fred Hampton | 62% |
| Noel Jacobs | 82% |
| Les Job | 57% |
| David Lamb | 96% |
| Terry Morrisby | 78% |
| Alan Morriss | 76% |
| Malcolm Salier | 86% |
| Ron Schwanke | 56% |
| Dick Shoobridge | 76% |
| George Toepfer | 74% |
| Tony Watts | 54% |
| Glen Woolley | 68% |
| Richard Wyatt | 90% |

Conclusion

The Club Service Committee thanks all members for their support and assistance in making this past year a most enjoyable one.

John Bresnehan
Director Club Service

COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT - 1999/2000

Committee:- Max Dunstone, Reg Emmett, John Drinkwater, Noel Jacobs, Ray Carpenter and the late George Casimaty.

Community Service, this Rotary year, has basically been conducted along the traditional lines of previous years with a few exceptional variations.

Exciting new fundraising including our involvement with the following:-

- The late George Casimaty's auction catering, resulted in takings of \$1334.00
- Norm Cooper's 9/11 Wine Auction, resulting in proceeds of \$5739.00 and our healthy donation to the ARHRF, confirming the club as a Companion of the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund.
- Howrah Rotary Clarence Plains Festival chocolate wheel and presentation of a \$1000.00 cheque to the Clarence City Council, towards the cost of the skateboard ramp at Rokeby.
- Wilderness International Hash House catering at Bream Creek and \$1040.00 in the bank.

Our club is seen at its best when we are involved with 'hands on' projects and this point was highlighted on New Year's Day at Government House Open Day, where we catered for 10,000 patrons; a superb effort by members and their partners. A true example of Service Before Self. Profit \$4527.00. Congratulations to Max Dunstone and his team for the most successful Open Day yet.

The next working involvement was the construction of the shelter at Orana Guides Camp at Lauderdale and on completion, the Guiding Association sanctioning the honour and dedication to the late George Casimaty. Noel Jacobs ably managed this project and it was great to see so many Rotarians involved in the work. New member, Ray Carpenter made a particularly valuable contribution.

The annual Kangaroo Bay Rotary Charity Golf Day resulted in a payment of \$1164.00 to the club.

As a mark of respect to the late and Past President, George Bales, the Board approved the construction of a small lock up enclosure, at a cost of \$525.00, to secure a motorised wheelchair for his wife Lea. Lea strongly supported the club's Inner Wheel club for many years and the wheelchair will allow her to retain her mobility and independence. This project has been successfully completed under the expert planning and supervision of Noel Jacobs.

A recommendation to the incoming committee is that they may consider increasing the Student Citizenship Awards by \$50.00 to \$100.00 per school. Three schools failed to take up our offer for payment although presentations were carried out.

Finally, a word of caution! At a recent Club Assembly and subsequent Board meeting, it was resolved to release a substantial portion of our accumulated funds from our Service Account. We need to ensure that we do not make the mistake of filling the role of a charitable agency. We are a service club and are not qualified to exercise judgement on the relative merits of requests for assistance from the needy. We should leave these decisions to the established professional bodies.

EXPENDITURE – DONATIONS

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|---|----------------|
| We have supported the following:- | \$ |
| Community Youth – Support for Karate team to attend International meet in NZ | 200.00 |
| Rokeby High School MARSSS program | 300.00 |
| Rotary Central Launceston Club – Tas Bash | 100.00 |
| Giant Steps Autism Centre, Deloraine – Two raffles | 80.00 |
| Rotary Club of Glen Waverley – Christmas cards | 135.00 |
| Australian Axeman’s Hall of Fame | 100.00 |
| Million Dollar Meal – ABC Giving Tree | 500.00 |
| Student Citizenship Awards – Nine schools | 488.00 |
| Uniting Church Synod of Tas – Sun shelter, Buttons Creek camp-site | 50.00 |
| Anglicare Tas. – Right Now Conference, Launceston | 100.00 |
| Menzies Centre – Spectrophotometer Equipment | 300.00 |
| Clarence Plains Festival – Chocolate wheel profit – Advertising | 700.00 |
| Rokeby Neighbourhood Centre – Learn to drive | 200.00 |
| Giant Steps Autism Centre, Deloraine – Sponsor a child for one year (health bowl) | 250.00 |
| Wheel Chair Enclosure – Lea Bales | 525.00 |
| St John’s school, Richmond – From chocolate wheel profits | 200.00 |
| Aust. Rotary Health Research Fund | 5000.00 |
| Royal Hobart Hospital Dwyer Ward - Gift from stock for ward raffle | |
| Total | 9228.00 |

I would like to thank all members of the Community Service Committee for the great support and assistance I have received throughout the year and I would also like to thank all of the members and their partners, who have participated in our Community Service projects.

Graeme Farrell
Director
Community Service

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE REPORT - 1999/2000

Basically, we had good year although we need a new international project to replace the Tanzanian nurse training proposal.

Achievements by our Club during the year included the following:

1. **RAWCS Ltd** (Rotary Australia Community Service Ltd). We continued our support towards the education of five children in Indonesia. Our donation is through the Rotary Overseas Aid Fund.
2. **Youth Exchange Program.** In November 1999, thirteen students from South Africa, Brazil, Argentina, Denmark, Finland, Belgium, Germany, Norway, Switzerland and Japan attended a Club meeting on 11 November and stayed with families of ten members. This is always a fun evening with new friends. We helped the group with lunch on 14 November as well.

Members confirmed the previous decision not to support the Host Club Program.

3. **Tanzanian Nurse Training Project.** This project did not proceed and was abandoned in November 1999 due to administrative difficulties in Tanzania.
4. **Group Study Exchange.** With other Eastern Shore clubs, we welcomed the group from New Brunswick, Maine, USA in March 2000.
5. **International Night.** Revival of this night has been deferred to September/October 2000 when more of our members are in Tasmania.
6. **Rotary Foundation.** Our Club donated \$469 to the Foundation for use in programs around the world such as the polio and anti-malaria programs.
7. **Tasmanian Police International Exchange.** The club donated \$200.00 towards expenses for a small group of Tasmanian Police Officers to visit Japan on an international vocational exchange visit.

Thank you to the members of the International Service Committee, Lindsay Chivers, Tony Watts, Terry Morrisby, Fred Hampton and the late Peter Chew for their support and assistance.

R G Shoobridge

VOCATIONAL SERVICE AND YOUTH AFFAIRS REPORT - 1999/2000

Operation Livewire. Russell Crook with his “Crooked Herbs” business plan came 2nd in the State competition. Thanks to Reg Emmett, Alan Morriss and the late Peter Chew for providing assistance as counsellors. Russell was guest speaker on May 25th.

RYLA. Leah Watkins from Lauderdale represented the club at this workshop in Ulverstone from 2nd-7th April. She reported to the club on April 27th.

MUNA. Teams of two students from grade ten at both Rokeby High and Emmanuel Christian School represented us at Deloraine on 13th and 14th May. The students and their counsellors attended the meeting on June 22nd. Thanks to Denise Kelly, Julie Evans and Susan Hovington for their assistance.

National Youth Science Forum. Our club liaised with the other Eastern Shore Rotary Clubs to select four nominees from Rosny College to represent the Eastern Shore Clubs at the District selections to be held in July.

School Liaison. Job interview sessions and information talks have been held at Rokeby High by President David, Alan Morriss, Norm Cooper, Kim Farrow and myself.

Emmanuel Christian School was given \$250.00 to support a group of past students to go to Sydney to represent Tasmania in a national eisteddfod.

Megan Redway, head prefect and dux of Rokeby High School in 1999 was given \$300.00 towards expenses associated with a year long AFS exchange to Japan. Megan, accompanied by her parents, attended our meeting on March 16th.

Vocational Excellence Awards. Following last year’s successful “Pride of Workmanship” awards, Vocational Excellence Awards were made to John & Gaye Gough, Robert McVilly and Andrew & Debbie Mackey at the meeting on June 15th.

Vocation or Job Talks. These became the “I am” segments that have been running since 6th of January this year.

Guest Speakers. Many dinner speakers talk about their vocations, thereby enhancing our appreciation of other occupations, a prime responsibility of this committee.

Thanks to Alan Morriss, Jacob George, Hank Bouman, Viki Derkley, and the late Peter Chew for their input and support during the year, to Norm Cooper and David Lamb for their work at Rokeby High School, to Dick Shoobridge for passing on so much valuable information and to President David for his helpful advice on many issues.

Richard Wyatt.

Director.

Vocational Service and Youth Affairs

Vocational Service and Youth Affairs – Expenditure Report

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|---|------------------|
| Operation Livewire | \$ 10.00 |
| RYLA | \$ 405.00 |
| MUNA | \$ 650.00 |
| Emmanuel Christian School – National Eisteddfod, Sydney | \$ 250.00 |
| AFS Sponsorship – Megan Redway | \$ 330.00 |
| Vocational Excellence Awards | \$ 169.00 |
| Total | \$1814.00 |