

Annual Report

Rotary
Altona City



Highlights of the 2020-2021 Rotary Year

A.C.R.C. Board Members 2020-2021

President	Maureen LeScoul	Community	Margaret O'Neill
PE & Club Service	Danny Civitico	International	Charlie Montebello
Vice President	Frank Landells	Vocational	Bryan Goodwin
Secretary	Danny Civitico	Membership	Leon Mancini
Treasurer	Ray Lipscombe	Foundation	Charlie Montebello
Sgt at Arms	Charlie Hommelhoff	Youth & Environmental Sustainability	Bronwyn Fanning

Club Details

**D9800 District Governor:
Philip Archer**

**President:
Maureen LeScoul**

**Secretary:
Danny Civitico**

**Treasurer:
Ray Lipscombe**

**Postal Address:
P.O. Box 412
Altona 3018**

**Meets Mondays
6.00 for 6.30pm
Koorngal G.C.
Wilga Avenue Altona
Melways 54/D12.**

The 2020- 21 Theme



Rotary Opens Opportunities

Club Website:

altonacityrotary.org.au

Email:

info@altonacityrotary.com.au

President Maureen's Report

Firstly I wish to thank my band of merry men & women on the Board who have unstintedly supported this President in 2020/2021, our Centennial year.

It has been a year of changes, as COVID has changed and shaped the way Rotarians go about their daily business, and our Club has wholeheartedly committed to succeed in any environment that life throws at us.

I also wish to send a special personal thank you to a few Board members specifically, Danny Civitico, such an amazing PE he has been to me this year, who has picked up the baton and run with it in many of our meetings and programs, his experience and dedication in all things Rotary shines through - he will be an amazing President next year.

Bryan Goodwin who has organised the technology and the teething problems that came with it for the Zoom meetings to enable our Zoom meetings be attended by both speakers and members alike, and organising our speaker program, with diligence and passion, doing an amazing job for us all and being a mentor to me in all things Rotary.

Frank Landells is the quiet achiever, who keeps us compliant and had the unenviable job of chasing up all the Volunteer forms required to participate in the Wyncspeak program this year. He has been a wonderful VP.

Having Charlie Montebello, Jan Douglas, and Marg O'Neill who are the front line warriors in Club projects and Community involvement, and we are also fortunate to have Charlie Hommelhoff who is also our consummate MC at all our gatherings.

I count my blessings that Jan has been a mentor to me since the first day I spoke to her prior to joining.

We are so blessed to have her in our Club, as indeed all of our members have been mentors to me in one form or another.

I am always amazed at the way our members and the Board can regroup and forward march, no matter what the circumstances - the experience and knowledge each and every one of the Board members bring to our Club is a testament to our continued success.

That to me epitomises a Club that is strong and resilient that can weather storms and still come out stronger at the other end.

We are definitely a Club that epitomizes service above self, and open the doors for opportunity as we see them.

A thought for us all:

A Rotarian is someone who through their efforts:

- Digs wells from which they will never drink
- Builds houses they will never live in
- Restores eyesight for those we will never see
- Vaccines children they will never meet
- Plants trees they will never sit under
- Educates children they will never know
- Feeds hungry people regardless of race or politics
- Knows real happiness

I continue to be on medical leave, and the whole Club has supported and been there for me, which of course is no surprise!

We are a definitely a Club that epitomizes service above self. That my friend, is only a small part of what being a Rotarian is all about.

Maureen Le Scoul, President

Secretary Danny's Report



Secretary / Public Officer Report

The club currently has 28 members, 18 active members and 10 honorary members. This is down from last year's figures of 22 members and 11 honorary members.

A few members have either taken extended leave or have left the club altogether and we endeavour to keep in contact with those people.

COVID has also affected club participation and attendance. It is hoped once COVID is completely eradicated, we may see an upturn in attendance and membership.

Our average face to face attendances were in the vicinity of 12 to 14 attendees plus guests and guest speakers. ZOOM meetings ranged from 10 to 22 attendees.

Hybrid meetings

Attendances this year was mainly a mix of ZOOM meetings and earlier in 2021 we were able to resume our face to face meetings. The general feeling is that face to face meetings provide members with the opportunity to link together in a meaningful way. We continue to offer both.

Vale

We lost two of our Rotarians this year.

Kevin Skehan and Peter McDermott passed away during this rotary year. Those who know Kevin and Peter well will remember the work they have done for Rotary over many years.

Board Meetings

There were 6 Board Meetings conducted throughout this year which was a mixture of online via ZOOM meetings and face to face meetings. Thanks to all our Board members for their work over the year. As required we also conducted an AGM in November 2020 where office bearers for the upcoming year were elected.

Satellite Clubs

We are also looking at the concept of a satellite club which we will further explore in the coming year.

Secretarial Obligations

As public officer I was also required to provide a financial statement to Consumer Affairs detailing our fundraising status and activities.

From a personal level, I was excited to plan and deliver an Information Technology project on behalf of the club that saw senior Victorians in our zone, gain valuable and basic computer and hand held device training this year. I hope to continue that project next year.

I look forward to the challenges the next Rotary year will bring where I will become the President of our club.

I know that the support I will have from club members will put me in good stead in this exciting and challenging role.

Yours in Rotary

Danny Civitico Secretary and PE

Golf Day Report (19th Annual Charity Golf Day)

Despite very genuine concerns during the early stages of preparing for our 2021 golf day that the impact of the many restrictions in place due to Covid 19 would adversely impact the success of our fund raising efforts, we could not have been more pleased with the outcome.

We had anticipated the possibility that COVID affected businesses, would reduce their ability to take part at this time, but it seems the lock down in 2020 had in fact generated a desire for people to get out and be more involved.

The absence of three or four of our regular participants was more than offset with additional new first time entrants and several absentees from 2020 returning to support our cause.

The Golf Course was as usual in excellent condition and we commend the ground staff for their efforts in this regard and also thank Brian McMahon and his staff in the Pro Shop for their assistance.

For the first time we had 26 teams (104 players) setting a new record in the field and 114 at the Presentation Dinner and Auction.

Congratulations to the Golfing Greats representing RC of Preston for retaining the much sort after “ Rotary Spoon “.



Another record was set with a gross profit of \$16,134.00 being realised well surpassing an average of \$11,744.00 over the last three years.

Funds were distributed as follows;

Very Special Kids	\$10,000.00
RCAC Charity Account	\$6,400.00

The event has now raised a total of \$194,000.00 of which \$118,300.00 has been donated to Very Special Kids and \$60,900.00 to RCAC's Charity Account.

As usual we are thankful to all participants, donors and supporters and to our volunteers on the day whose efforts combine to provide us with the continued success we have experienced to date.

We will continue to look to improve the event and welcome any ideas or suggestions anyone may have for consideration.

The Golf Day Sub – Committee comprising Bob Casley, Danny Civitico, Jan Douglas, Bronwyn Fanning, Frank Landells, Charlie Montebello and Brian Nordenne sincerely thank all who have contributed in any way to making our 2021 Golf Day our most successful to date.

Frank Landells



Cheque for \$10,000 handed over to Very Special Kids at a recent club meeting

Program Chairperson

This year we had a wide range of speakers and presentations to our club. As we were still under COVID 19 restrictions for a large section of the Rotary year, we needed to be more innovative and master technologies such as ZOOM to get as many club members as possible to hear our speakers.

A big thank you must go to Bryan Goodwin who took up the mantle of organizing and sourcing interesting and informative speakers for our meetings for a lot of the year making sure the topics were relevant to our club activities.

The topics covered this year were many and varied and a few of those highlights are reproduced here.

Kerry Cue - author and humorous stories about her upbringing in country Victoria

Bron Williams - Conscious Biases and cultural norms

Maria Hicks and Leopoldina Gueterres - Youth and health programs in Timor Leste

Pia Demsky - Raising your club profile

Lien Trinh - Update on Trachoma project

Blaise Van Ecke - 800 km trek in Spain

Francesco Fedele - Mentoring

Erica Rasmussen - Crashendo (Youth Music Program)

Sally Hetherington - Empowering Communities

Suzie Cole - Inspiration

Kerry Anderson - Entrepreneurship

Des O'Shannassy - Wynspeak

Sue Foley - Community Programs

Mary Barry - Vocational Chair

Fabienne Nicola John - Sustainability

Peter Frueh - Membership

Phil Archer & Neville Joh - Satellite Clubs

Danny Civitico - Be Connected Project

Brian Noordenne - Behind the Badge

A pretty impressive list of topics and speakers!



Fundraising & International PP Charlie Montebello

Once again this year was a little bit different due to COVID-19. We didn't have any speakers in person until March 2021.

Baguia Project

Maria Hicks spoke to us about Baguia Project. Maria also spoke about the work with the Cambodian government on Menstrual Health Education programs whilst supporting her own WASH (Water Sanitation Hygiene) and Education Projects in Siem Reap.

On the same night via Zoom we had Leopolina Gutterres from Baguia-Baucau Timor Leste. Leopolina gave us a report on the conditions of Baguia Baucau Timor Leste.

She reported that people in Baguia are subsistence farmers living on approximately US \$0.80 cents a day. So, education is important for these communities to alleviate poverty. Our club gave a generous donation to help the Baguia Project.



Charlie Montebello (International) handing over a cheque to Maria Hicks

Donations In Kind Visit (DIK)

This year we had 8 members plus of course Barry Douglas (regular volunteer for the past 20 years at DIK) attend a tour of DIK. For a few of the members it was their first time and were totally amazed at the size of the DIK shed and the volume of goods.

As at 31 October 2020, DIK West Footscray has shipped 629 containers of equipment and supplies containing goods worth \$76.4 million to 33 countries and administrative regions, with a strong emphasis on items that improve education, medical and maternal.

There are many opportunities for Rotary Clubs to be involved with DIK which is a very worthy project to be involved in.

At the end of the tour, Laurie Fisher from DIK answered our questions and we all enjoyed morning tea. The club made a significant donation to DIK which was gratefully accepted and will help DIK continue their great humanitarian work.



International Director Charlie Montebello handing over a cheque to Laurie Fisher. Also in picture is Club member Barry Douglas long-time volunteer at DIK.



Fundraising & International PP Charlie Montebello cont.

In November 2020 we were concerned whether we would run our bigger Fundraiser for the year, The Annual Charity Golf Day.

We went ahead with the planning and come February 2021 crowd limits were lifted and we finished up having a great day and a great result. Frank Landells will cover the result in his Report.



Fundraising

Unfortunately due to COVID -19 our Fundraising was limited, We were not able to have a Major Raffle due to crowd limit numbers and only managed to conduct 2 Bunnings's Sausage Sizzles, The customer traffic flow at Bunnings was low and only managed to make \$2270.00 from the two Sausage Sizzles. (we would normally make around \$1400.00 to \$1500.00 profit from 1 sausage Sizzle). My tally of cooked sausages now is only 53,546



Our Club has been great supporters of Foundation. This year once again we will donate to the Foundation gift the sum of \$100.00 per member,

Charlie Montebello

Director International and Fundraising

Youth Services

COVID-19 has limited our opportunities to participate in the usual district 9800 Youth programs.

Junior School Citizenship Award 2020 - This was presented at their online speech night in December 2020 to Matilda Dang-Brown who is a Westbourne student, heavily involved in Community Service activities as well as displaying outstanding leadership and citizenship qualities in the Junior school. Jan was instrumental in the organisation of this award, and I thank Jan for all her work on this.

Bronnie

Community Margaret O'Neill

With a very disruptive year due to COVID there isn't a lot to report from Community this year.

As community work involves face to face contact, COVID restrictions meant that much of that community work could not be undertaken.

I did manage in the latter part of the rotary year, make a couple of community visits which involved visits to

[Latitude—Directions for Young People](#)

Louis Joel Centre

On behalf of the club, I was able to donate 10 large bags of good quality, new, waterproof warm clothing together with 10 bags from [PinchAPoo](#).

We were also able to deliver much needed clothing to the Laverton Community Hub for distribution.

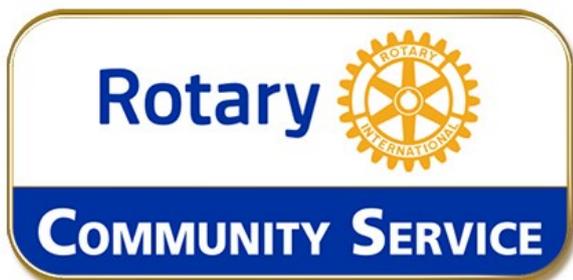
These were very well accepted by these organisations and they were absolutely blown away with the amount and quality of the clothing. With winter fast approaching, these items will help out those less fortunate than us to keep warm.

These packs were donated to Altona City Rotary from St Vincents Foundation.

As the impact of COVID lessens, I will be able to get those projects that have been on hold up a running again for the new Rotary Year.

Margaret O'Neill

Director Community Service



Vocational Services & Teacher Awards Night - Bryan Goodwin

The 2020 Hobsons Bay Teacher Awards were held as a ZOOM meeting on 19 October, in view of COVID-19 Lockdown. Our outstanding keynote speakers were Paula Kelly Paull (“Lifelong Learning”) and Inspector Chris Allen (VicPol) (“Modern Policing in a Multicultural Society”).

Team awards were introduced for the first time for where a group of teachers collaborated effectively to address an important challenge or new development for a School.

Nominations from the following Schools (listed alphabetically) were presented with Rotary Vocational Service Awards for distinguished service to the Community and dedication to vocational services:

- Altona College - Team Award for curriculum development;
- Annunciation Primary School - Team award to Classroom teachers for on-line teaching;
- Bayside College-Team Award for developing STEM curriculum;
- Emmanuel College - Encouragement Awards for two 1st year teachers;
- Williamstown High School:
 - Achievement Awards (2) for experienced teachers
 - Team Award for 2 support staff supporting International Students during pandemic.

As part of their Team nomination packages, Altona College, Annunciation PS, and Bayside College also prepared short videos to showcase the work of their teams.



As part of a D9800 Project to revitalise Vocational Services a District Template for a Teacher Awards Project has been prepared and is now on the District Website, along with several other Vocational Templates, and a new “Project Ideas Bank” for VS projects.

“Students Speak Up” (adapted from a Star Weekly article by Goya)



Altona City Rotary hosted the inaugural Hobsons Bay Wynspeak heat on Thursday 6 May.

Wynspeak is a public speaking competition for secondary school students in Melbourne’s west. Hobsons Bay students attending included 12 from Altona College, Bayside P-12 College, Mount St Joseph Girls’ College and Williamstown High School.

The competition is designed to provide a vehicle for young people to grow their self-confidence, build their creativity, critical thinking and leadership skills via public speaking. In 2021 the competition attracted more than 100 entrants from more than 35 schools.

The contest was held at Altona Theatre- the first event since March 2020 that this space had been used, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The winners of the five-minute prepared section gain automatic entry to the competition final, which was held at Thomas Carr College on 9 June, following the completion of eight preliminary heats. The topics chosen by the students showcased a range of current issues - some serious and others more light-hearted.

Bayside College Campus Principal, Nolene Symons, summed up the night: “What amazing young people we have!!! They were so inspiring, confident and a joy to watch. It was a great night.”

Vocational Services & Teacher Awards Night Cont.

The winners of the Hobsons Bay Wynspeak Heat were Bea Payla of Altona College (Junior Section) and Sofia Bikicki of Williamstown High School (Senior Section).

The support of ACRC members, Des O'Shanassy and the Wynspeak Committee, Gaye Witney and Peter Shephard (Altona RC), and a grant from Hobsons Bay Council are gratefully acknowledged.

We look forward to hosting the next Hobsons Bay Wynspeak Heat in 2022.



Wynspeak Participants



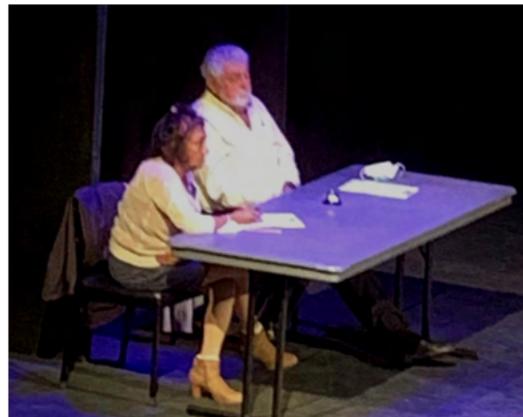
Junior category winner - Bea Payla



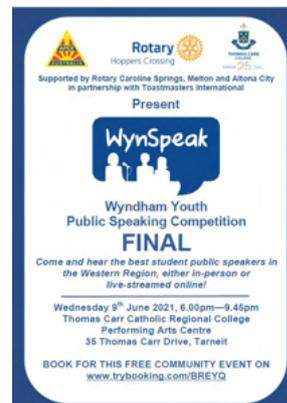
Senior category winner - Sofia Bikicki



Master of Ceremonies Danii Thielke



Our timekeepers Mandy and Barry



Treasurer's Report - Ray Lipscombe

Prepared 21st May 2021

Over 2019/2020 the club had very little activity and very little fund raising but as we were very healthy financially from years of good financial management, we started 2020/2021 in good shape.

Fund raising this year has been very limited, however our Charity Golf day was a great success both as an event and financially.

Bunnings Sausage Sizzles also made a small contribution to our fundraising.

In the last half of this rotary year the club has run two very worthwhile community activities, both funded by council grants. Both have been very successful at no cost to the club financially. We provided the know how and people power.

Our activity this year has still been limited with limited expenditure from our Charity account.

Both of the clubs bank accounts have very healthy positive balances.

Club dues this year will all be fully paid by 29th June as all the periodic payments are via direct debit. We also this year collected \$424.00 club subscriptions that had not been paid prior to the 30th June 2020.

Our club membership subscriptions for year 2021/2022 have been set at \$330.00. We will still continue to pay some of the clubs management fee from our Charity account as a way to keep membership fees at a manageable level.

It's the view of the last few club boards that without a club there is no Charity Activity. So in an effort to

contain membership costs the club pays for some of the clubs management tools from the Charity account.

At the end of the year I will submit a full financial report to the clubs board of management. The board will make the full report available to all members that wish to receive a copy.

Although this year has constrained our activities and we have had limited opportunities to fund raise we are in a great position for this coming Rotary year.

I would like to thank the Charity Golf Committee and the Sausage Sizzle team for their efforts this financial year.

I also thank the club for the privilege of serving as its treasurer.

Yours in Rotary

Ray Lipscombe.



2020 - 21 Year Highlights



Club members visiting Kevin Skehan in 2020



Sausage Sizzle during COVID restrictions



Christmas Break Up



Very Special Kids Golf Charity Day 2021



Cheque Presentation to Very Special Kids



Be Connected Project April 2021

2020 - 21 Year Highlights



Participants of Wynspeak Heat 3 at Altona Theatre



Club visit to Donations in Kind



Altona College presentation at Teachers Awards



Latitude—Donations for the needy



Hobsons Bay Men's Shed - IT training



No caption required