



**THE FOUR WAY TEST OF
THINGS WE THINK, SAY
OR DO:**

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

THE OBJECT OF ROTARY is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service:

SECOND. High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society:

THIRD. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

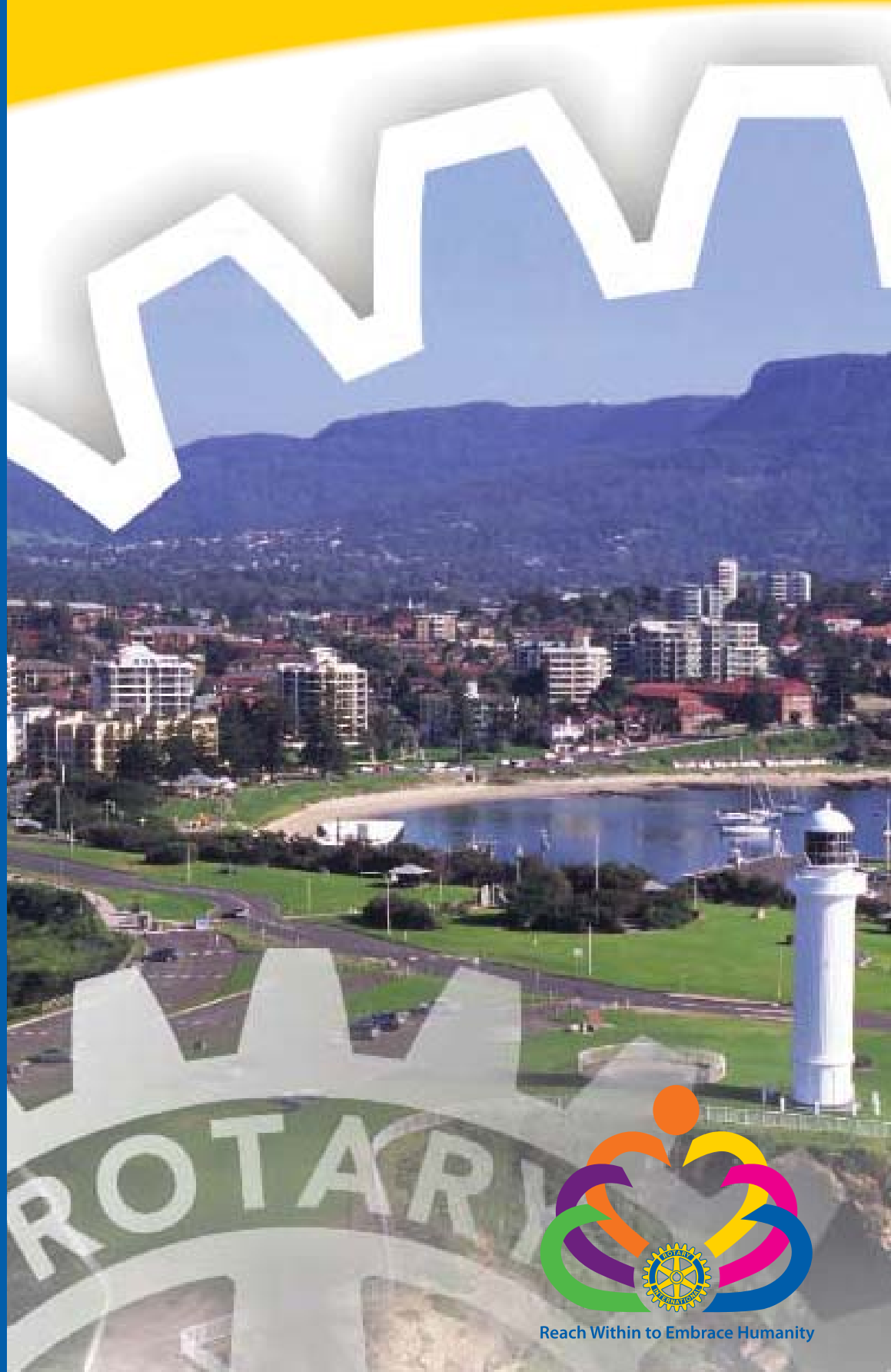
FOURTH. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Rotary Club of West Wollongong Inc. New South Wales Australia

(Chartered 23 March 1964)

Rotary International District 9750

ANNUAL REPORT 2011/2012



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

Polio still cripples thousands of children around the world. With your help, we can wipe this disease off the face of the earth forever. Visit rotary.org/endpolio to help.



END POLIO NOW

Rotary

We Are ThisClose to Ending Polio.

Bill Gates



BOARD MEMBERS

President	Netty Broekman
President Elect	Marilyn Phillips
President Nominee	Michael Crowley
Immediate Past President	PP Jim Christensen
Secretary	PDG Patrick Roberts
Treasurer	Bob Armessen
Auditor/Public Officer	PP John Harper
Club Administration	PP Bruce Inglis
Membership	PP John Erickson
Community Service & Projects	PE Marilyn Phillips
Public Relations	Aditya Ghose
New Generations	PP Ken Potter
Rotary Foundation	PN Michael Crowley

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Kalyan Banerjee

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Phil Whyte

ASSISTANT GOVERNOR

Lloyd Chatfield

HONORARY MEMBERS

PP Ron Pedersen
PP Goolam Ganey
PP Barry Blundell
PP Tudor Mackay
Bob Ridley
Peter Lainela



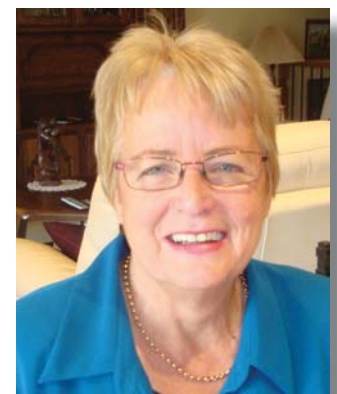
RI President
Kalyan Banerjee



District Governor
Phil Whyte



Assistant Governor
Lloyd Chatfield



President
Netty Broekman

COMMITTEES

CLUB ADMINISTRATION - Director PP Bruce Inglis

Attendance & Fellowship	PP Brian Davis, PP Michael Campbell, Bob Armessen
Bulletin, Programs	PP Marcel Benson, PP Noel Watt, PP Arthur Booth,
Sergeant-at-Arms,	PP Dennis Simpson, PP Ken Potter, Anne Christensen, PP Jim Christensen, Bob Armessen,
Risk Management	PP Kim Hockings

MEMBERSHIP - Director PP John Erickson

Membership	PP Albert Cachia, PP Barry Stevens, PP Brian Davis, Bob Armessen, PN Michael Crowley,
Welfare & Member Retention	Aditya Ghose, PDG Patrick Roberts, Tim Koppel

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND PROJECTS - Director PE Marilyn Phillips

Baby Capsules, Bowelscan	PP Kim Hockings, Kerry Hayes-Williams, PP John Chaplin OAM, PP Dennis Simpson
Charles Hotel, Citizenship	PP Ken Potter, PDG Patrick Roberts, Anne Christensen, PP Albert Cachia, PP Jim Christensen
Pride of Workmanship	PP Dennis Simpson, PP Noel Watt, PE Marilyn Phillips, Lyn Epps, Rose Pope
Vocational Service, 50th Anniversary	

PUBLIC RELATIONS - Director Aditya Ghose

Advertising/Website/RDU	PP John Erickson, Angela Capri, Brendan Bermingham
Webmaster, Club History	PP Jessie Blundell

NEW GENERATIONS - Director PP Ken Potter

RYLA, RYPEN, RYDA, MUNA, Youth Exchange	PP Arthur Booth, PP Jessie Blundell, President Netty Broekman, Liz Depers, Angela Capri, PE Marilyn Phillips, Kerry Hayes-Williams, Helen Hasan, Peter Sewell
---	---

ROTARY FOUNDATION - Director PN Michael Crowley

Foundation Projects, International, ShelterBox & GSE	PP Bruce Inglis, Julie Price, PP Brian Davis, PP Michael Campbell, Ken Dixon, Tim Koppel, Brendan Bermingham, Liz Depers, PP Marcel Benson, President Netty Broekman
--	--

MEMBERS ON DISTRICT COMMITTEES

PP Bruce Inglis	Australian Rotary Health	Ken Dixon	Chair ShelterBox
PP Jessie Blundell	Youth Exchange	PP Ken Potter	RYDA
PE Marilyn Phillips	MUNA, RYDA, District Grants	PDG Patrick Roberts	Treasurer H.O.C -
Angela Capri	MUNA, Youth Exchange		2014 RI International Convention
PP John Chaplin OAM	District Resolutions		District Committee Chair -
			Community Service
			Convenor GRAND Stories Project

It is with great pleasure that I share with you the **Annual Report for 2011/12**. Being president of the **Rotary Club of West Wollongong** has been an interesting and very satisfying experience. I have personally learnt much about **Rotary** as a service organization and have been impressed with the enthusiasm and generosity of club members as they strive to make a difference for good in the local and global community while strengthening friendships and having some fun!

The **Rotary International** theme for this year, selected by **RI President Kalyan Banerjee** was, **"Reach Within to Embrace Humanity"**. We were encouraged to look within ourselves to understand that all of humanity has the same dreams, similar hopes and similar problems and to be instrumental in spreading peace, harmony and fulfillment in our world. While many challenges remain, our club has risen to the occasion through its involvement in the various service areas and club activities to achieve the goals we set for ourselves.

In keeping with the **Rotary District** and International priority on renewal to sustain the work of **Rotary** in the world, members of the Board were focused on exploring change and a new vision for the future. A beginning was made with the altering of some meeting protocols and implementation of a new meeting structure. This has led to more active involvement of members, productive outcomes in service areas and openness to making our club inviting for new members, especially younger ones.

As a club we are committed to many service projects as detailed in the following pages of this **Annual Report** by fellow Directors and highlighted by the following areas of involvement:

- Multi club initiatives such as the **Celebrating Rotary Networking Event, Pride over the Illawarra** and **Wings Over Illawarra**.
- **Social events** including the **Membership Cocktail Party**, the **Great Debate, Hat Day**, club visit to **Callala Bay**, restaurant and theatre outings.
- **Fundraising opportunities**: the **Charles Hotel** meat raffle, the **Baby Capsules** program, BBQs for community events, member donations and applying for various grants.
- **Outreach events**: **Pacific Literacy program, ShelterBox**, supporting **Foundation** programs, sponsoring various **Youth programs, Bowel Scan, Citizenship evening**, financially supporting various local charities and the **University of Wollongong Community Scholarship program**.
- Recognition of community involvement: **Pride of Workmanship and Vocational Service awards**.
- Education and formation through attendance at the **District Conference** and **District Assembly, Club Trainer** sessions and an industry visit.
- Enhancing public awareness through maintaining the **club website**, developing a new club brochure and advertising our projects.
- Building club community through vibrant weekly meetings, an interesting speakers program, informative weekly bulletins, growing club membership, putting our toe in with social media and balancing the budget!

My sincere thanks to the **Board** and **club members** for sustaining interest and encouraging each other to remain focused on the ideals of **Rotary**. In addition to club activities, several of our members also expand their dedication by contributing time to various District initiatives. We are very proud of you!

A major challenge for us all in the years ahead is to maintain the momentum for ongoing renewal of **Rotary**. Internationally and nationally **Rotary** is preparing for significant changes in governance and organization for the purpose of continuing its work to address social causes and improve the lives of communities. Amalgamation of **Districts 9750** and **9690** to become **District 9675** in 2013 will be an opportunity to contribute to a revitalizing of District initiatives. As a club we are preparing for our **50th anniversary** in 2014 – another opportunity to raise awareness of the continuing efforts of **Rotary** on behalf of the local community and celebrate what has been achieved.

Best wishes to **President Elect Marilyn Phillips** and the **2012/13 Board** as they embark on their journey to realize the **Rotary** vision both locally and further afield.

Netty Broekman
President 2011/2012



Board Members 2011/2012

L to R. Michael Crowley, John Erickson, Bob Armessen, Patrick Roberts, Aditya Ghose, Marilyn Phillips, Ken Potter, Bruce Inglis, Jim Christensen, Pres. Netty Broekman





Congratulations to **President Netty** and the **2011/12 board**. You have been able to achieve what none of our politicians have been able to do...create a balanced budget, adhere to it, and produce another surplus after meeting all commitments.

Overall gross income was in line with expectations with the **Charles Hotel** raffle compensating for the downturn in **Capsule Hire** revenue.

Maybe the treasurer's theme for 2012/2013 could be:

"Keep the Joker Alive"

INCOME *main sources were*

• Charles Hotel Raffle	\$ 15,645
• Baby Capsule Hire	\$ 3,850
• Grants	\$ 3,300
• Donations General	\$ 1,237

EXPENDITURE *for the year assisted the following persons and organisations*

NEW GENERATIONS

- Exchange Student both inwards and outwards
- University of Wollongong Scholarship
- MUNA

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

- Pacific Literacy Program
- ShelterBox
- Ranfurly Library
- Indigo Foundation

COMMUNITY/VOCATIONAL

- The Wollongong Hospital
- Pride of Workmanship Awards
- Vocational Service Awards
- Citizenship Ceremony
- Youth Off the Streets
- Camp Kookaburra
- Denny Foundation

ROTARY PROGRAMS

- Australian Rotary Health
- PolioPlus
- Rotary Foundation

Bob Armessen
Treasurer 2011/2012



The support of members throughout the year has made my position as director of club administration a much easier job,

Dennis Simpson as chair of the sergeant's team of **Jim Christensen, Liz Depers, Anne Christensen, Ken Potter, John Erickson** and **Kim Hockings** has kept the meetings in a light hearted manner whilst not neglecting the other duties of arranging the wine raffle, setting up for the meetings and extracting "donations" from members for the fine box.

The important communication tool of the club i.e. The **Club Bulletin** was ably prepared by editor **Jim Christensen**. His efforts in sourcing items, photos and updating rosters to keep members informed is to be commended. Special thanks to **Angela Capri** for arranging the bulletin's printing. A difficult and ongoing job in maintaining the club's website has been well managed by **Jessie Blundell** ensuring that our online presence is there for other Rotarians and guests to access.

Our attendance for the year has averaged in excess of 90% which is an indication of our members commitment to the club. Thanks are due to **P.E. Marilyn Phillips** for maintaining the attendance reports.

A special acknowledgement is due to **Brian Davis** for his running of the social events, restaurant nights and theatre parties. Some of the events were:

RESTAURANT NIGHTS – Bon Aroma, Charles Hotel, Germania Club dinner dance.

TAFE Restaurant, Capitol Thai, Centro Italian.

THEATRE PARTIES – Jersey Boys, Cirque De Soleil, Mary Poppins, Annie, Love Never Dies.

Dennis Simpson hosted an observation drive and BBQ at his coastal "Shack".

Once again our club stalwart **Marcel Benson** organised and coordinated a varied program for club meetings during the year.

It is a difficult job in arranging club programs but the contributions of all members in the way of suggested speakers and events has helped **Marcel** in giving us a varied and interesting program for the year.

During the year the format of meetings has been reviewed with minor changes being implemented following input from members. Moving the National Anthem to special occasions, varying the content of formal toasts and having committee meetings on board meeting nights has given members more involvement.

PP Bruce Inglis
Director - Club Administration 2011/2012





Despite the ongoing difficulties facing service clubs in Australia to attract and retain active members, it is pleasing to report that we have achieved a net increase of four members this year. This certainly goes against the current trends of which Rotary is no exception. I believe it says a lot about our Club with our exciting and varied social programs, our extensive range of service programs, including support for the **Rotary Foundation**, and our activities in the **New Generations** programs. Recent changes to our meeting protocols are also designed to make our Club membership more attractive to younger business leaders and a sign we are prepared to "move with the times".

This year we lost the valuable service of **John Harper** who retired after many years in **Rotary** serving in several Clubs throughout Australia. John was responsible for many years of valuable input to membership through his chairmanship of that committee. John also gave valuable support to the sergeants committee and he will be missed by his Rotary friends.

New members joining this year were:

- **Helen Hasan** - Information Technology
- **Peter Sewell** - Castings Manufacture
- **Barry Stevens** - Computer Programming
- **Rose Pope** - Secondary Education
- **Lyn Epps** - Interior Design

I am sure all of the new members will make a great contribution to our Club's activities.

This year we trialled a potential new member information night where several of our members presented an outline of the various aspects of **Rotary's** activities. This occasion gave an excellent grounding designed to ensure the expectations of new members joining the Club are at least met or hopefully exceeded. We have also trialled an arrangement to allow new members to "try before you buy" before asking for their commitment to **Rotary**. This relieved the pressure to join almost immediately and to make the financial and time commitment without really understanding what we do and, as importantly, understanding what **Rotary** can do for them. It also reduces the incidence of Rotarians leaving the Club prematurely because it did not meet their unrealistic expectations. I believe both of these initiatives have been successful and can be a precursor to further innovations to keep **Rotary** current and relevant with today's society.

I would like to record my thanks to members of my committee and the Board for their support.

PP John Erickson
Director - Membership 2011/2012



L to R John Erickson, Peter Sewell, Helen Hasan, Barry Stevens, Rose Pope, Lyn Epps, Pres. Netty Broekman



Another year has passed and it is time to inform the club members about the workings of the **Club Service** for the year 2011/2012. Once again, I have found the portfolio to be most enjoyable due to a fantastic team. We are lucky in this club to have such enthusiastic members and this makes it easy to get projects completed and achieve success.

The club participated in **Bowel Scan** again in March. A number of kits were sold with a low percentage positive rate and these persons were followed up for further treatment. We must thank **Kerrie Hayes-Williams** and **John Harper** for their wonderful work organising the booth at **Westfield** and thank-you to the many people who assisted each day with the selling of kits.

Baby Capsules is presently being looked after by **Kim Hockings**. Hiring is slow with sales revenue down on previous years. We have reduced the hiring fee and deposit on a trial basis and are surveying customers to locate their source of information. We must thank **Jim Christensen** and **Anne Christensen** for their commitment to this project. They have delivered large amounts of information sheets to hospitals and health clinics, along with washing and dressing capsules ready for service and storing. Thank-you to **Peter Sewell** and **Ken Potter** for organising more storage racks. We are now attempting to sell some of our excess capsule stock and would like to thank **Peter Sewell** for his assistance in this matter. There is nothing like getting the new members fully involved to keep them busy. Lastly I would like to thank all the dedicated fitters and scribes who turn up every capsule day to keep this service thriving for without their devotion we would not have a profitable project.

Charles Hotel has improved slightly the last few weeks and hopefully this will continue through the year. The main problem is lack of clientele. The rosters are working well but without the commitment of **Dennis Simpson** every week we would not have this great project. He is totally devoted to this cause and I know he even assists by phone from his sick bed when it is time to set up the draw, now that is true dedication.

Citizenship was organised by **Patrick Roberts** with my assistance. Patrick contacts the **Immigration Department** and they arrange for around 10 nominees. This year we had 9 recipients that we invited to our club for the presentation on 29/2/12 and we were fortunate to have the services of our new **Lord Mayor Councillor Gordon Bradbury OAM** to officiate. The recipients were **Jim Chartprasop (Thailand)**, **Tracey Elkio (England)**, **Maria Herce-Fernandez (Spain)**, **Nina Kalache (Lebanon)**, **Jahanzeb Khan (Pakistan)**, **Sekove Kolitagane (Fiji)**, **Bu Meh (Myanmar)**, **William Nicholas (United Kingdom)** and **Mary Warner (New Zealand)**.

Vocational Service was held on 13th October and thanks to **Noel Watt** was a great success with four very worthy recipients. They were **Dwayne Hillier** and **Geoff Meehan** nominated by **Angela Capri**, **Raelene Kelly** nominated by **Arthur Booth** and **Leigh Evans** nominated by **Jessie Blundell**. I would also like to thank our club members for nominating the recipients for without their help we would not have such commendable people to present with an award.



L to R Geoff Meehan, Dwayne Hillier, Leigh Evans and Raelene Kelly

Pride of Workmanship was Jim Christensen's baby and once again he did an outstanding job on 16th March with some very worthy recipients. **Dianne Madden** was our guest speaker. Jim managed to get a sponsorship of \$1,000.00 towards our costs for the night. I am very thankful to Jim for all his hard work for this valuable cause. The recipients were **Anthony Francis** from **City Diggers** sponsored by **Phil Ryan**, **Theresa Westlake** from **Smart Financial** sponsored by **Michael Misiti**, **Robert Minns** from **NSW Police** sponsored by **Mark Lavers**, **Ellen French** from **SES** sponsored by **Andrew Harding**, **Gary Horsley** from **Wollongong Council** sponsored by **Joanne Pieper** and **Carolyn Brady** from **Catholic Education** sponsored by **Peter Fogarty**. In 2012/2013 we hope to amalgamate **Vocational Service** and **Pride of Workmanship** and have one big occasion for both causes. This would bring our project to a wider audience and showcase our club to a broader region of the public while reducing our costs just slightly.

50th Anniversary is chaired by **John Chaplin**. John asked the committee to search for suggestions for a major project the club could undertake during our **50th anniversary year 2014**, which would fill a need and have community impact. We have had some brainstorming sessions at our club meetings and have some fantastic ideas to bring to the council for approval and with their assistance will platform our club to the public.

We have had many great days cooking the sausage sandwich. The **Interchange BBQ** is a day we all enjoy, seeing those families having such a wonderful day is very rewarding. The **TIGS BBQ** was not the success we all had hoped for with few families attending on the day, but we managed to only loose \$6.00. The school was very disappointed about the turn-out and hopes to improve the numbers this year. Then we had the **NBN BBQ** and again it was run at a loss of \$30.00. But in both cases the **Rotary** brand was in the forefront and this is just as important as our **Rotary** projects.

I continue to be involved in a number of **District Committees** such as **RYDA** and **MUNA**, and **Grants** advisor and enjoy the challenge this provides along with my club work.

In closing I would like to thank my wonderful team for their conscientious attention to duty, enabling us to continually provide such a high standard of **Rotary service**. Without such dedicated club members we would not be able to continue to raise the funds necessary to support the worthy projects that we are assisting.

PE Marilyn Phillips
Director - Community Services and Projects 2011/2012



L to R Lord Mayor Councillor Gordon Bradbery OAM, Sekove Kolitagane - Fiji and Pres. Netty Broekman



I am pleased to report that the club has been busy with its many **New Generations Projects**. This year we have been involved with **Rotary Youth Exchange, [R.Y.E.] Rotary Youth Driver Awareness [R.Y.D.A.] Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, [R.Y.L.A.]** and **Model United Nations Assembly. [M.U.N.A.]**

In July last, we were happy to receive our incoming exchange student, **Annik Muller** from **Switzerland**. **Annik** was hosted, for a great deal of the time by **Angela Capri** and this worked very well. **Pierce Hanson**, you will recall, who was our outgoing exchange, returned from **Germany**, in January this year and reported back to the Club on his very enjoyable exchange. All good things, come to an end, and we must farewell **Annik**, in a few short weeks. She is at "short odds", to return to Australia at some time. But how long will she stay?

The Club was again strongly involved in the planning and operation of **The Rotary Youth Driver Awareness Project** held at the **Croome Sport Complex** at Albion Park. **Marilyn Phillips** was heavily involved in both the planning and operational modes of this project at Club and District levels and I thank her for her untiring support. This project took place over 5 weeks in October and November, with some 1600 students attending.

In January of this year the Club supported the **Rotary Youth Leadership Awards** by sponsoring one attendee to the week long camp at **Stanwell Tops**. **Christine Monteleone**, was understandably "Suitably Impressed" by her involvement in this "**Life \Changing Program**". **Christine** is a young lady with a bright future in **Catholic Primary Education**. My thanks to **Helen Hasan** for seeing to Christine's travel arrangements, to and from the venue.

This year again, the Club supported the "**Model United Nations Assembly**" at the **Nan Tien Temple** at Berkeley. **Marilyn Phillips** was again involved at both Club and District levels with organization and operation on the day. The Club sponsored a team from **The Illawarra Grammar School**. The team comprising of **Brooke Kolodziej** and **Thomas Bolt**, represented **Brazil**. Thomas reported back to the club about his enjoyable experience. In total 25 schools attended this year.

There were some gaps in the program this year, namely, **National Youth Science Forum [N.Y.S.F.]**. Of course the calibre of students required for this program is very high, and although we were unable to locate a suitable candidate this year, I am pleased to report, that the Club will be supporting the nomination of **Cassandra Leiske**, who, you will recall was supported by the Club, to attend **The Science Experience**, in January of 2011. So, **Cassandra** continues to excel in science. Interviews for nominees to **N.Y.S.F.** will take place in August, and we wish **Cassandra** every success.

I rely heavily, on members to forward names of potential young persons, for all the programs of **Rotary**. Let's fill the gaps in the program.

My thanks to all fellows, who assisted this portfolio, during the year.

PP Ken Potter
Director - New Generations 2011/2012



We were able to raise the profile of the club and its activities in the public eye through both media coverage and public participation in a range of club events.

Media coverage: Plans are in place for media coverage of the **Baby Capsules Project**. Thanks to the efforts of **Jim Christensen** we have a commitment for editorial coverage of the project in the local print media. Paid advertisements will also be run for the project.

Websites: Thanks to the efforts of **Peter Sewell**, a new site for the **Baby Capsules Project** has been set, at the domain: www.babycapsulehire.org.au. As always, **Jessie Blundell** has done a stellar job as our club webmaster.

Other coverage:

- Several of our events in 2011/2012 kept the club brand alive in the public mind, including our participation in **Wings Over Illawarra** and the **ShelterBox project**.
- A new brochure for attracting new members to the club was developed jointly with the Membership Committee. Many thanks to the hard work of **John Erickson**.
- An article on the **Pride of Workmanship** event, featuring **Ken Potter's** inimitable poetry, has been sent to **Rotary Down Under**.

In addition, the **Citizenship Night** was effective, as always, in highlighting our club to the community.

Aditya Ghose
Director - Public Relations 2011/2012



The Rotary Foundation committee and indeed all Club members have had a busy 2011/2012 year by developing and implementing plans to support the Foundation through participation in various programs as well as financial contributions and personal involvement in community and international service.

Some of the highlights over the past year include:

- **PolioPlus**, the **Rotary International** program that focuses on the eradication of polio throughout the world, received significant attention during the new members' cocktail evening in September last year as well as during the presentation to members in **Foundation Month** in November. A brief history on the **PolioPlus** program was provided including the partners involved and progress achieved. When **Rotary** launched its **PolioPlus** program in 1985 there were over 350,000 cases of polio each year throughout 125 countries. Since then, Rotarians, **PolioPlus** partners and supporters have been working diligently to eradicate polio and, although we are not quite there yet, as of February 2012 the number of countries in which polio is endemic has been reduced to three; namely, **Afghanistan, Pakistan and Nigeria** as the **World Health Organisation** officially removed **India** from the list of polio endemic countries in February this year. Our Club continues to actively support this program not only through education, but via direct donations to the **PolioPlus** program.
- **Banks Benitez**, a **Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar** from the USA, provided members with an inspirational address during Foundation month. Banks was working with an international aid organisation before arriving in Australia to undertake his Masters in '**International Development**' at the **University of Sydney**. During his talk he outlined his many experiences in developmental work in places like Africa, India, Bangladesh and Central America. Banks' view is that poverty, illness and fear threatens dignity and he believes that "**Rotary is in the business of promoting dignity**". Banks clearly demonstrated that he is certainly an individual that 'walks the talk'. He moved to India in December 2011 to carry on with his work for a social enterprise in that country.
- **World Understanding Month** (February) and **Literacy Month** (March) were filled with several activities, all of which were designed to heighten the awareness and importance of the work of the Foundation. The activities specifically related to the themes of these months included:
 - o Participating in the combined clubs' networking meeting to '**Celebrate Rotary**' in February, during which our members played an active role in promoting the various avenues of service, including **The Rotary Foundation** – Rotary's own charity.
 - o In early March, **Liz Depers** provided an interesting and informative presentation on her challenges as the project manager for the **Illawarra Children's Play Centre**.
 - o **The Great Debate** this year was a challenge for both the '**Honourable Wog Boys**' (AKA **John Erickson, Peter Sewell and Brendan Bermingham**), who represented the affirmative, and the '**Mongrels**' (more affectionately known as **Helen Hasan, Ken Potter and Jim Christensen**), who argued for the negative. It was a difficult position for both sides with such an ambiguous topic as "**Why worry about foreigners, let's get Australia right**"! While **Kerry Hayes-Williams** kept all speakers to time, our fearless adjudicator, **John Chaplin**, had the unenviable task of deciphering the arguments and declaring a winner. While the topic did have a serious theme, the debate also achieved its secondary aim of generating a bit of fun and fellowship.
 - o The **Samoan Literacy** project has developed into one of the Club's great success stories due in no small part to the efforts of our Treasurer, **Bob Armessen**. While Bob has been a driving force behind this project, all associated activities have been accomplished in no small part to the dedication and efforts of members.

Now in its 4th year, this project continues to be a gratifying success. In August last year, our Club was able to send another container for distribution by the **Rotary Club of Apia** and, although a few of our members were there to help, the ship did not keep to schedule and arrived too late for the members to be able to give more than just a little assistance. During a visit to one village school, **Kim Hockings** was able to give a lesson in computer use and technique ... a small event that may turn into a future program.

W

orld Understanding Month (February) and Literacy Month (March)

o The **Samoa Literacy** project cont.

Thanks need to go to the library staff at Holy Spirit College and St John Vianney's Primary School. As a result of their generosity, the Club was able to send more than 6,000 books - enough to create four new libraries at village schools. As well as these books, there were also enough desks and chairs to outfit 12 classrooms, provide musical instruments, sporting uniforms and equipment and many boxes of other educational material. Due to the efforts of our Club in supporting a large, but underprivileged primary school, they have been able to secure funding to rebuild the entire school ... congratulations again to all involved.

This is a very worthwhile project that requires members' ongoing support to enable the good work and beneficial outcomes for the children of **Samoa** to continue.

- **Australian Rotary Health (ARH)** is supported by almost every Rotary Club in Australia and our Club has again been particularly active by donating \$1000 towards ongoing ARH research programs. **ARH Month** (May) was another busy month that included a variety of speakers for the benefit of members that included content to raise awareness not only of the great work achieved by ARH but also other groups within our local community. Our speakers included:

- o **Ally Kelly** from **Mind Blank** provided an interesting and thought-provoking address to members in early May. **Mind Blank** is a relatively new and local not-for-profit organisation that increases community awareness of mental health issues, particularly those affecting young people, in a creative, interesting and engaging way. In essence, **Mind Blank** is all about education around youth mental health with the use of theatre and laughter.
- o **Cheryl Deguara, District Secretary** and **Program Coordinator** for ARH, provided members with a comprehensive update on the wide ranging activities of ARH and the benefits from research funded in areas such as cot deaths and indigenous health. The \$1000 donation from our Club will assist in supporting ARH's objectives through a range of scholarships and research grants. ARH is yet another success story of the great work initiated and maintained by **Rotary** in addressing health and wellbeing issues in areas of great need in Australia. Cheryl's talk also coincided with our Club's support of **'Hat Day'**, which is ARH's newest fundraising event in support of mental health research. Congratulations also go to **Dennis Simpson** and **Suzanne Pope** (aka Rose) for their efforts in taking out the awards for the best hat creations of the evening.
- o **Amy Dawson**, a PhD student in the **Centre for Translational Neuroscience** at the **University of Wollongong** and also an ARH research grant recipient, spoke to members on her project entitled **"Does early developmental disruption make the brain more vulnerable to the effects of cannabis"**. Amy revealed that her career objective is to contribute to the knowledge and understanding of mental health issues by being part of a leading research team that dedicates time and effort to discovering treatments and preventions from mental illness. Indeed a much needed and well worthwhile project supported by ARH.

- **ShelterBox:** For more than 10 years **ShelterBox** has given light to over 100,000 families worldwide in their darkest hours. **ShelterBox** has assisted thousands of people affected by a variety of disasters and tragedies. Although our Club has been a regular financial supporter of **ShelterBox**, through the efforts of **Ken Dixon** and **Tim Koppel** in particular, our Club has been an avid supporter of the programme in other ways by acting as a pivotal point within the district for organising **ShelterBox** equipment displays as well as an information point for other Clubs in the District. Over the past 12 months Tim & Ken have assisted Bulli, Sydney Darling Harbour, Caringbah and Kiama Clubs as well as manned a tent at **Wings Over Illawarra**. During the same period, **ShelterBox** deployments have been made to many countries including Japan, Peru, Congo, Madagascar, New Zealand, Philippines, Brazil, Kenya, Ethiopia, Fiji and Italy. Another fine example of Rotarians banding together for the good of the international community.



- I****nternational Toasts:** Through the efforts of our Bulletin editor, **Jim Christensen**, we are enlightened each week with a variety of international toasts to Rotary Clubs throughout the World. Jim provides us with an insight into the history and activities of other overseas clubs and their members. These weekly communiqués are a gentle reminder of the extent of Rotary around the world.
- University of Wollongong (UoW) Community Scholarship:** The Board has agreed to continue the UoW student scholarship of \$2000 per annum for the next two years. The successful applicant, **Blake Milton**, will be addressing Club members in the near future. As part of the scholarship arrangement, Blake will be encouraged to attend Club meetings and we will be looking for him to provide progress reports on a half yearly basis along with his goals and aspirations.
- Centurion Club Program:** It is indeed heartening to have 16 members of the Club become Centurion club members over the past year by donating \$100 each to the District's Annual Programs Fund. This represents a primary source of funding for **The Rotary Foundation (TRF)** and its programs, which finance quality Rotary projects in more than 160 countries on 7 continents.

Activities undertaken throughout the year could not have been accomplished without the dedication and efforts of all members. As with all Club projects and associated activities, without the willing support and ongoing cooperation of all members very little would be achieved.

Thanks to all members of the Club for supporting our Foundation and international projects and related activities throughout the 2011/2012 Rotary year, with particular appreciation to all members of the Foundation committee.

Michael Crowley
Director - Rotary Foundation 2011/2012

Hat Day

for Mental Health Research





The Great Debate



Pride of Workmanship



Citizenship Night

PAUL HARRIS FELLOW



In appreciation of tangible and significant assistance given for the furtherance of better understanding and friendly relations among peoples of the world.

Bob Armessen PHF





My “exchange year” from inbound exchange student Annik Muller

It's very hard to summarize my exchange year, especially because it was the best year of my life. I had so many wonderful experiences, I met a lot of amazing people and I learned so much about myself, **Australia** and the rest of the world.

Rotary made all of that possible and I wanna say **“THANK YOU SO MUCH”**.

I'm **Annik Muller** from **Switzerland** and spend my year in the wonderful **Illawarra**, hosted by **West Wollongong Rotary Club**. I went to **St. Josephs Catholic School** in **Albion Park**. It's a great school. When I arrived my school was the biggest difference. I've never worn a school uniform, I've never caught a school bus, I wasn't used to have areas where each year group sits and even the relationship to the teachers was completely different. But I love my school so much. I made so many good friends and I enjoy all the traditions at my school. I went with my school to **Rocko**, I joined the musical and I came second at the **Cross Country** and could represent my school. I have also very close relationships to certain teachers and the trip on the school bus is also a lot of fun.

I can practice my passion of cooking in **Hospitality** and enjoy the Australian food (**Sausage Rolls** and **Meat Pies**), because our history teacher always brings that in for a double lesson.

I played touch football during summer time and enjoyed this Aussie sport a lot. I'm also doing dancing at a dancing school and we had a big Christmas performance.

I organised my work experience at the **“Lagoon”** (the Seafood restaurant in Wollongong). I had a great week there and learned a lot. I could cook everything and wasn't just the kitchen hand.

I stayed with two great families. I'm really close to them and felt always welcome and part of the family. It's great to have a family on the other side of the world.

I did a trip to **Canberra** at the beginning of my year. I went there to the national **MUNA** with the representatives from the **Sydney/Wollongong** area.

In my first holidays I away with my host mum for a week. We went to **Phillip Island**, to **Melbourne** and to **Sovereign Hill**. We had an amazing women trip together.

I learned of course a lot about the **Australian culture** and experienced the openness and friendliness of Australian every day again. I enjoy the food here, but I have to say that, you can't eat the bread here, I wouldn't even call bread! I found vegemite disgusting at the beginning, by now I enjoy it almost every morning on toast.

I had a very special **Christmas** here in **Australia**. I enjoyed the heat, the food and all the new traditions. I got as well really spoiled.

When I went to **Melbourne** with my host mum, we were sitting at the table next to a couple in an Italian restaurant. We talked for a few minutes and they gave me their business card and told that I should come and visit them in **Sydney** or on their farm in **Gerringong**.

I was so lucky and could spend **New Year** on the top of a house at the **Sydney Harbour** with view on the **Harbour Bridge** and the **Opera House**. The firework was just amazing. I spent as well another week with them on their farm and got very close to them. I had a great time.

I did a few trips to **Newcastle** and made many friends there.

The **Safari** was the biggest highlight of my year. It was amazing to spend three weeks with thirty other exchange students from the whole world. We got all so close and had even during the driving time always a lot of fun. It was just fantastic to see all the nice places in **Australia**, where a lot of Australians have never been.

We went up the **East Coast** (**Byron Bay**, **Dreamworld**, **Sunshine Coast**, **Whitehaven Beach**, **Great Barrier Reef**, **Cairns**) and flew to **Alice Springs**, where we could experience the **Aboriginal culture**. To see **Uluru** was so impressive. After **Cooper Pedy** we went to **Adelaide** and **Melbourne**.



My “exchange year” from inbound exchange student Annik Muller cont.

But not just things like the **Safari** are special, I think little things make an exchange year a wonderful experience. One time I made for example my own pasta with my host mum.

In my last weeks I try to do as much as possible. I can even go to the **Gold Coast** with my host mum. That was always something on my bucket list. I've planned a lot of farewells with friends and families.

I'm very sad that I have to go home and it will be hard to say goodbye to such a great country and so many amazing people.

Annik Muller
Rotary Youth Exchange Student - Switzerland To Australia 2011/2012

Annik's Great Adventure.

by KenThePoetFromOz

25th May, 2012.

I read, Annik's adventure, board "Terra Australis Bus",
But I could see no reason, for all of the "detailed fuss",
Because, as everybody knows, it always rains up north,
And, well, you should have packed a rain coat, before you set forth.

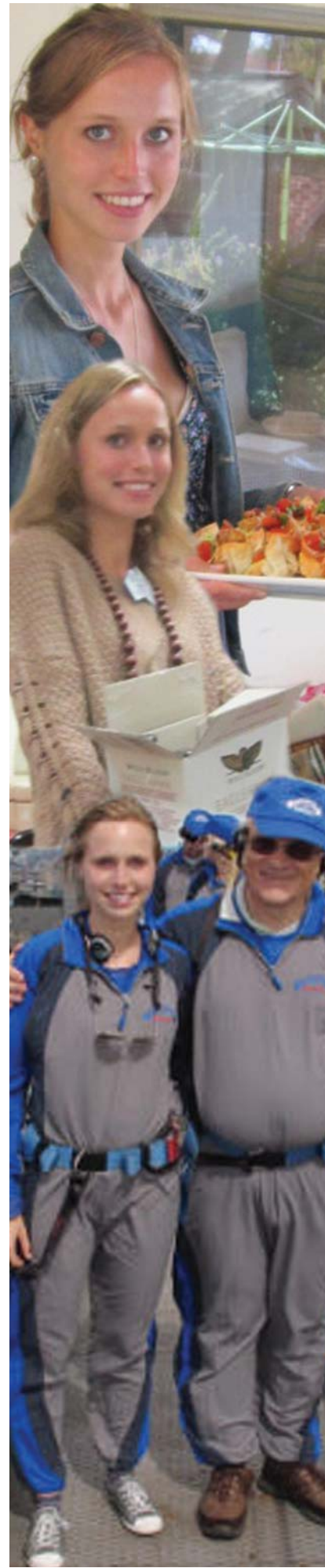
Apologies for sand flies, they like northerners, the best,
They're not a problem, compared to "March Flies", of the west,
We had a "wet summer", with not many "flies, to pollute",
So, there was not much time to practise, your "Aussie Salute".

The group had touched many places, in the rush up the coast,
And Australia has much beautiful scenery, to boast,
It's a good job, the sharks weren't too hungry at "The Reef",
For if they'd tried to "sample you", the paper work, "Good Grief".

I'm glad to hear, there's lots of time to practise, "Swimming Styles",
I should have warned you about, "sea snakes and crocodiles",
Then I read, that finally, you left the "Tourist Mecca",
To see the true Australia, in the dusty "Red Centre".

I hope your flight was smooth, and you noticed, the changing land,
From the green richness of the east, to the desert's red sand,
Do you feel a sense of awe, at the vastness of this place?
You have touched Australia's grandeur, majesty and grace.

No Central Australian trip's, complete, without "The Alice",
I recall driving tent pegs, in the lawns of "That Palace"
Strueth! You're very lucky that your "slivering friend", was well fed,
Or you may have been a "Flying Doctor", patient instead.





I don't suppose, at King's Canyon, you saw Aladdin's Lamp,
You wouldn't have had a cold beer, on your return to camp,
I know you would have felt the air, had lost humidity,
To our vast, arid landscape, you found, close affinity.

I'm glad to hear, you did not try to climb, "Old Uluru",
'Cause then, you couldn't fall off, as climbers sometimes do,
I wondered, why you didn't walk round, it's only 8 K's,
Still, you'll remember the shadowy image, all your days.

Next you went to Coober Pedy, a moonscape, here on earth,
People rarely find, "The Colour", still, they try, all their worth,
Glad you didn't stay too long, for it gets a grip on you,
"Came for a day and stayed thirty years", people sometimes do.

Rattle of chains, shrill up your back, from a long dead prisoners wail,
Strong willed Annik, felt no effect, to sleep in Gladstone Gaol,
When next you go to Adelaide, don't waste your time with bats,
There are wineries in the Adelaide Hills, perfect for chats.

The steep cliffs of the "Ship Wreck Coast", and all who perished there,
Stark reminders of early days, and need to be aware,
London Bridge has fallen down, Apostles just eleven,
Australia, is as close as, some of us, will get to heaven.

This poem is an example of "Taking the Micky Out of Someone"

Meaning to "poke fun at", or "have a go at someone's efforts".



WEEKLY PROGRAM JULY 2011 TO JUNE 2012



Date	Topic & Speaker	Date	Topic & Speaker
6-Jul-11	(SESIAHS) - Healthy Heart, Healthy Mind - <i>Kelly Andrews</i>	4-Jan-12	No Meeting
13-Jul-11	Psychological Research <i>Paul Smith (UOW)</i>	11-Jan-12	Rotary Awareness Month Fellowship - RYLA
20-Jul-11	Short Night - <i>Committee and Board Meeting</i>	18-Jan-12	Short Night - <i>Committee and Board Meeting</i>
27-Jul-11	Club Assembly	25-Jan-12	Motor Vehicle Spare Parts <i>Ray Lane/PP Brian Davis</i> Site Visit
3-Aug-11	Club Membership <i>PP John Erickson</i>	1-Feb-12	World Understanding Month Club Assembly and RYLA Experience <i>Christine Monteleone</i>
10-Aug-11	Assistant Governor's Visit <i>AG Lloyd Chatfield</i>	8-Feb-12	Rotary Peace Scholarship <i>Yvette Salim/PP Michael Campbell</i>
17-Aug-11	Short Night - <i>Committee and Board Meeting</i>	15-Feb-12	Short Night - <i>Committee and Board Meeting</i>
24-Aug-11	District Governor's Visit <i>DG Phil Whyte</i>	22-Feb-12	Friendship & Fellowship <i>Master Builders Club</i>
31-Aug-11	Sailing <i>PP Jim Christensen</i>	29-Feb-12	Citizenship Night <i>Partner's Night</i>
7-Sept-11	Fifth Avenue of Service <i>PP Ken Potter</i>	7-Mar-12	Literacy Month - Play Centre <i>Liz Depers</i>
14-Sept-11	New Members Cocktail Night <i>PP John Erickson</i>	14-Mar-12	Great Debate - <i>Michael Crowley</i> <i>Partner's Night</i>
21-Sept-11	Short Night - <i>Committee and Board Meeting</i>	21-Mar-12	Short Night - <i>Committee and Board Meeting</i>
28-Sept-11	Camp Kookaburra <i>Diane Madden</i>	28-Mar-12	Pride of Workmanship Night <i>Partner's Night</i>
5-Oct-11	Club Assembly	4-Apr-12	UOW Scholarship Recipient <i>Tim Mathie/Michael Crowley</i>
12-Oct-11	Leukaemia Foundation <i>Bianca Carboni</i>	11-Apr-12	Traditional Chinese Culture <i>Brendan Bermingham</i>
19-Oct-11	Short Night - <i>Committee and Board Meeting</i>	18-Apr-12	Short Night - <i>Committee and Board Meeting</i>
26-Oct-11	Vocational Service Awards <i>Marilyn Phillips</i>	25-Apr-12	No Meeting - Public Holiday
2-Nov-11	Exchange Student <i>Annik Muller</i>	2-May-12	Mind Blank <i>Allyson Kelly</i>
9-Nov-11	Ambassadorial Scholar <i>Banks Benitez (USA)</i>	9-May-12	Club Assembly
16-Nov-11	Short Night - <i>Committee and Board Meeting</i>	16-May-12	Short Night - <i>Committee and Board Meeting</i>
23-Nov-11	The Rotary Foundation <i>Polio Plus</i>	23-May-12	Australian Rotary Health <i>Cheryl Deguara</i>
30-Nov-11	Board Elections & AGM	30-May-12	Early Development Disruption Cannabis Effect <i>Amy Dawson</i>
7-Dec-11	Club Christmas Dinner <i>Partner's Night</i>	6-Jun-12	Community Influence Young People Drinking <i>Professor Sandra Jones</i>
14-Dec-11	Short Night - <i>Committee and Board Meeting</i>	13-Jun-12	Youth Exchange Student <i>Annik Muller</i>
21-Dec-11	Fellowship Evening	20-Jun-12	Short Night - <i>Committee and Board Meeting</i>
28-Dec-11	No Meeting	27-Jun-12	Club Changeover



PAST PRESIDENTS

Charter 1964	Elwyn Mackay	1988-1989	Ian Bowmaker
1965-1966	Alan Reid	1989-1990	Barry Blundell
1966-1967	Jack Poel	1990-1991	Goolam Ganey
1967	Neville Trotter	1991-1992	Brian Davis
1968	Elwyn Mackay	1992-1993	Michael Campbell
1968-1969	Bill Shoobert	1993-1994	Bill Whitting
1969-1970	Ron King	1994-1995	Darryl Pearce
1970-1971	Roger Kee	1995-1996	Michael Mitchell
1971-1972	Doug Gorrell	1996-1997	Arthur Booth
1972-1973	Allan Hoy	1997-1998	Ross Willmot
1973-1974	Vic Evans	1998	Arthur Booth
1974-1975	Hubert Burrows	1998-1999	Albert Cachia
1975-1976	Bill Fancourt	1999-2000	Patrick Roberts
1976-1977	Mike Calway	2000-2001	Jessie Blundell
1977-1978	Ken Barnes	2001-2002	John Bown
1978-1979	Marcel Benson	2002-2003	Noel Watt
1979-1980	John Chaplin	2003-2004	Kim Hockings
1980-1981	George Reynolds	2004-2005	John Crakanthorp
1981-1982	Tudor Mackay	2005-2006	Jason Hedley
1982-1983	Harvey Chesterfield- Evans	2006	Greg Hart
1983-1984	Hilton King	2006-2007	John Crakanthorp
1984-1985	John Aldridge	2007-2008	Ken Potter
1985-1986	Brian Hedley	2008-2009	Bruce Inglis
1986-1987	Ron Pedersen	2009-2010	Bruce Inglis
1987-1988	Neil Preston	2010-2011	Jim Christensen
		2011-2012	Netty Broekman

PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR

2005-2006	Patrick Roberts
2008	Patrick Roberts

GRAND STORIES

Grand Stories is a project developed by members of our club, supported financially by **West Wollongong**. It was launched to the **D9750** conference in 2010. Since that time it has become a project under the district Community service banner.

Grand Stories is presently lead by **AG Sue Hayward** of **Darling Harbour club**. Members of the committee include **Michael Crowley, John Chaplin, Jessie Blundell** and **Patrick Roberts** of **West Wollongong**.

Grand Stories is designed to capture a family member's history on disk thus capturing the voice, accent and vocabulary of the subject for future generations. Some 12 months ago we presented the family of our late esteemed member **John Crakanthorp** with John's history on disk. **PP Jessie Blundell** arranged for her husband Barry, a Past President of our club, to record his history which has been accomplished. Another member of the club **Michael Crowley** captured the history of his father-in-law.

Anyone interested in either undertaking a history capture, learning more about **Grand Stories** should contact anyone of the above members involved.







FELLOWSHIP



***With thanks to
Southern Classic Cars Group
for their generous sponsorship in the
production of this Report.***

Southern Classic Cars Group



Das Auto.



Audi

SIMPLY CLEVER

