



2018 – 2019

President – Charles Pitt

Secretary / Treasurer – Rod McDougall
District Governor -
RI President -

The Club's Directors working as a Board for the year were: Charles Pitt President; Arie Pappas President-elect; Rod McDougall Secretary/Treasurer; Usha Garg Vocational Services; Chris Virgona International Service; Thaya Ponniah Community Service; Peter van der Sleen Youth Service; and Paolo Giammarco Club Service.

A reminder of this great year: Christmas In July, the Presentation of the \$10,000 to Chalmers Road , Police Officer of the Year Awards, Pride of Workmanship Awards, welcoming back the Trish Golf Day, support for the children in a Colombian School with the Rotary Club of Fusagasugá, Election day BBQ support for Chalmers Road, Youth Achievement Awards, Salvation Army Red Shield, and, the collection of the Bowel Scan kits from pharmacies. There are other events, of course, including in October, the Girl Guide BBQ dinner provided at Sydney Olympic Park, feeding hundreds of the hungry girls, at the end of a big day at their Jamboree.

As President, my last duty on 30 June, 2019, was to send a congratulating e-mail to our Honorary Member, Ms Jodi Mackay, on being elected the leader of the Parliamentary Labor Party. Jodi has been supportive of the Club and attended many of our community activities, and it is our honour to list her as an honorary member.

The Trish Golf Day returned to the Club this year on Thursday, 21st February, 2019, after an absence of six years. The event was solely for the Trish Multiple Sclerosis Research Foundation. The golf and the dinner brought together in excess of 120 players and dinner guests, it was a success. In total \$33,500 destined for MS research.

It was our first partners night at the new Golf Club, and visiting were a number of former Rotarians, amongst whom were Bob and Jan Templeman. Back in 1980, as a young accountant, I would chat with Bob, the local newsagent. It was at Bob's invitation that I joined the Club. The Golf Day would not have occurred were it not for our honorary members - Niall King and Ray Wilson, supported by Rotarians Joseph Saad and Rod McDougall. Thank you, fellows.

We partnered with the Club Rotario De Fusagasugá, in Colombia, to provide 30 kits for children starting primary school at a disadvantaged school in Fusagasugá, in Colombia. The project was a success, and the Directors being Peter van der Sleen and Chris Virgona, and I am thankful for their

efforts. The success was not only the school kits. It brought this Club in contact with another Rotary Club, in South America with Peter visiting the Club, now having strong bonds of friendship. I am grateful this project found us, hope the friendship will be long lasting.

During the year we had three functions at Nonna and Co, Italian Restaurant. They were Christmas in July, the Meriden Interact presentation of their trip to Laos and our Club Christmas Party. We were welcomed by restaurant owners Robert and Stefano, supportive of the Club, and our sincere thanks to them for their hospitality.

So many of our activities are working with children and youth. In order to be compliant with Rotary and statutory requirements, and for members to participate in youth activities, a "Working with Children Check" is mandatory. I must thank Ed Dunlop, Child Protection Officer, for his diligent approach to maintaining the Club Register and to Rod McDougall, who has worked with Ed in developing policies and procedures.

On 30 June 2019, the Club accepted the resignation of two longstanding members, Guru Singh and Richard Horwood. We induct three new members, Marvin Manrique-Velasquez, Nella Hall and Jan Barrett. The final membership number was 45, an increase of one. Three new Paul Harris Fellows were named: Dr Usha Garg, Peter van der Sleen and Rick Vosila. My brief citation is that our club is much richer for their membership.

Bulletin editor Brad Ayres would always find space for my piece and a poem and tidy, up the output, plus add the photos. Our Web Master, Raymond McCluskie, posting my piece and the Bulletin each week. How did they publish every week!

Peter Smith's service work across so many areas (including those beyond Rotary) requires special mention this year. His outstanding contribution was recognised by Volunteering NSW at their annual awards in August, where Peter was named both Senior Volunteer of the Year and the Overall Regional Winner. A wonderful, thoroughly deserved, achievement. Congratulations Peter.

Our Club's engines were running 24/7, our Chief Engineer, was Rod McDougall. Grahame True, our Sergeant-at-Arms, who helped me each week, reminding of the time, hurry up. Finishing near on time. Rick Vosila, for keeping the raffles going each week, with a different Club member taking charge, and furnishing the prizes. A successful change.

At the beginning of the year, we were meeting at the Massey Park Golf Club, at Concord. We were back the Strathfield Golf Club, in October, 2018; a magnificent venue and new caterers- Forté.