



Show Rotary Cares



1997-1998

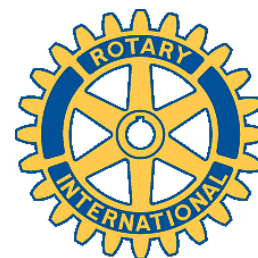
President: Ian Albertson

Secretary: Roger Vince

Treasurer: Fred Haddon

District Governor: Jack Elliott

RI President: Glen Kinross



RI Theme: Show Rotary Cares

President Ian Albertson's early focus was on improving the quality of guest speakers and before taking office he had filled the first six months of the club's calendar with an excellent array of speakers. Among the most notable were Hugh Mackay who was keynote speaker at the Pride of Workmanship night, Assistant Commissioner Clive Small, Director of Education Dr Ken Boston, Dr Rabbi Brasch, Fr Chris Riley, author Alan Gold, guitarist George Golla, Rev. Bill Crews and Dr Simon Longstaff of St. James Ethics Centre. The one disappointment was the inability of Tom Keneally to keep his engagement. Ian also initiated a weekly bulletin leader "President's Prelude," an idea that has been continued by subsequent presidents under different titles.

The event of the year was the Gala Dinner organised by Sal Tosto and his committee at Conca D'ora Lounge in support of Fr Chris Riley's Youth Off The Streets which raised \$15,000 with a further \$5,000 contributed to the cause from the golf day. Another event which captured the imagination and support of members was the Christmas in July dinner from which the club raised \$1,500 plus donated tinned food for Rev. Bill Crews' Exodus Foundation. In addition, there was a number of fellowship events including a Hunter Valley Wine excursion and a theatre party to "The Boy from Oz". The club also held its inaugural Fun Run and Walk at Bicentennial Park organised by Rick Collins and his committee. In all the club raised approximately \$42,000 for service projects.

Strathfield sponsored six young community leaders to RYLA and hosted Youth Exchange student Helen Miranova from Kiev. The club sponsored an exceptional candidate, Lilian Chan, to the National Youth Science Forum and Meriden finished in third place in MUNA (Model United Nations Assembly).

Six new members were inducted into the club – Roy Cotton, Kevin Freund, Keith Stockall, Allan Petersen, Pat Lancuba and Bob Kelly. Five members left the club with David Ryan and John Elvy joining other clubs.