



2009 - 2010

President - Kevin Freund

Secretary - Charles Pitt

Treasurer – Keith Stockall

District Governor - Paul Read

RI President - John Kenny

RI Theme – THE FUTURE OF ROTARY IS IN YOUR HANDS

This was the year we lost two of the great supporters of our Club, PDG Harry Pickett and his wife Lilian. PDG Harry chartered our Club in 1971 and has hardly missed a changeover or a special Strathfield function in the past 39 years. We were also all very saddened by the death of Fred Haddon who became an active member in 1984, a great supporter and computer teacher at the Strathfield School for Seniors. Three of our long time members also moved on to other Rotary Clubs – PP Brian Driver to Cowra, Peter Harries to New Plymouth NZ and Peter Douglas to Narellan.

The administration of the Club was in good hands this year with Rod McDougall as Club Service Director. Trevor Duxbury produced an informative and quality bulletin each week with the help of several members, this was in addition to his position as International Service Director. Ray McCluskie kept us in touch with the world as our 'Webmaster Extraordinaire'. As the year's Sergeants at Arms, Allan Petersen and Tony Lanzafame, provided a double act with entertainment and humour. Another unsung but essential position for a smoothly running Club is the Treasurer who was PP Keith Stockall again. David Martin produced quality prizes each week for the raffle, many donated by members. Our public relations this year were again a success under the chairmanship of PDG David Croft and his team. This was also a year when the Club again had a good representation of members at the District 9690 Conference. This year it was held at Forster where we all dressed up in a circus theme – a great weekend of fellowship and information about Rotary. Another important initiative started by the Board this year was a Strategic Plan to carry us forward to do a better job in the future. Peter Smith as next year's President plans to make the planning process inclusive and involve all members as a work in progress for the Club. As part of this process, perhaps for the first time, members were invited to participate in a Members Survey which was discussed at a Club Assembly during the year.

Our successful candidate, Cate Robinson from Strathfield Girls High School, was part of D9690 Group Study Exchange team which visited D7820 in Eastern Canada. The Club was also involved with organising vocational visits by the Inbound GSE team when they visited our zone. PolioPlus, ShelterBox and the School of St Jude's in Tanzania were all recipients of donations as part of our International obligations.

Kevin Beltrame as Youth Service Director reported a range of initiatives which the Club provided to directly benefit over 400 young people for a cost of \$7500. Many Strathfield Rotarians volunteered their time to facilitate these initiatives which provided personal development and recognition in a wide range of Rotary programmes. Meriden Interact raised \$7000 which they distributed to local, national and international charitable causes - a remarkable achievement for 26 girls years 10 & 11.

Vocational Service under the Directorship of Connie Galletta, who was rewarded with a well-deserved PHF, ran a very well attended Police Officer of the Year award and Pride of Workmanship and Ray Sherry Award during the year. Again, the TRISH Golf Day exceeded all expectations by raising \$52,135 bringing the total raised in the last 9 years to just over \$250,000, mainly through the dedication of Niall and Ray and their band of helpers. Unfortunately, this is the last year Strathfield Rotary will be officially associated with this event. PE Peter Smith organised very successfully our contribution to The Carols in the Park which resulted in a donation to the Girl Guides of \$3500 to help with repairs to their hall in Ismay Avenue, Homebush. Our Club was instrumental in much needed repairs in 1991 with a hands-on approach when we were much younger and fitter. The Red Shield appeal this year resulted in helping to raise \$27,000, a record for Strathfield. Strathfield Rotarians have been involved for the past 20 years especially PP George Hallworth and his family who ran the appeal for many years.

Fellowship was an important part of the year with another trip to Domenico and Johanna's home at Bowral, a wine tasting, a rugby match at Concord Oval and our January game of croquet with a barbecue. A wonderful fellowship night later in the year to celebrate PP Ted Ingall's 50 years in Rotary saw Ted present Mary with a PHF. On the same night President Kevin presented a cheque for \$10,000 to the RPA Lighthouse appeal making over \$100,000 allocated over all the avenues of Rotary Service for the year.