



2019-2020

President – Arie Pappas

Secretary – Dimitry Palmer

Treasurer – Rod McDougall

District Governor -Dianne North

RI President – Mark Daniel Maloney

RI Theme – ROTARY CONNECTS THE WORLD

Our club's achievements throughout 2019-2020 resulted in our club achieving a Rotary Citation with Presidential Platinum Distinction. Whilst the eligibility criteria were relaxed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our club met the requirements as originally specified. In addition, our club's herculean efforts have made us the Best Club in the District Award

Our hardworking board consisted of Treasurer PP (Past President) Rod McDougall, Secretary Dimitry Palmer, Club Service Director PP AG (Assistant Governor) Rick Vosila, Community Service Director PE (President Elect) Usha Garg, International Service Director PP Thaya Ponniah, Vocational Service Director Paul Anton, Youth Service Director PP Peter Smith, and IPP (Immediate Past President) Charles Pitt.

Our country was in lockdown mode for the final quarter of the year. This resulted in many projects being postponed or cancelled, all fund-raising efforts were severely hampered and "in person" meetings cancelled. Despite these challenges, our board and members rose to the occasion to ensure that our club continued to stay connected through weekly zoom meetings and to undertake numerous community service projects to assist those affected by the pandemic.

Below is a summary of some of our club's achievements and highlights over the past year:

1. Community Service: Director PE Usha Garg & Director PP Thaya Ponniah
 - COVID19 Relief projects:
 - Mother's Day Celebration Gifts
 - Free food distribution and volunteering to assist homeless people
 - Felicitation of more than 100 Cleaning Staff at Concord Hospital on International Cleaner's Day
 - Distribution of computer equipment for Chalmers Road School
 - Yuendumu Community Project (Northern Territory)
 - Drought Relief Project (Wellington NSW)
 - Graffiti Removal Project
 - Bowel Care Program
2. International Service: Director Thaya Ponniah
 - Rotary Foundation contribution this year our highest ever US\$13,395.
 - Spinal Cord Project (Sri Lanka)
 - Prevention of Drug Abuse and HIV/AIDS Project (Sri Lanka)
 - Sister Club arrangement with Rotary Club of Colombo South (Sri Lanka RID 3220)
 - Polio Awareness Day Project
3. Vocational Service: Director Paul Anton
 - Hosted the Police Officer of the Year Awards, including significant donation to Police Legacy
 - Raised external sponsorship to fund the awards
4. Club Service: Director - Assistant Governor PP Rick Vosila
 - Co-ordinated vital efforts to allow online zoom meetings which enabled member engagement and communication
5. Youth Service: Director PP Peter Smith
 - Sponsored 3 participants to attend RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) program
 - Sponsored 3 students to attend RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment) program

President Arie highlighted some individuals who when called upon provided support, assurance, energy and passion.

- PP Thaya Ponniah – 'the little engine that could'
- PP Rod McDougall – 'the backbone of our club'
- PP Raymond McCluskie – 'Mr Can Do'
- Paul Anton – 'Whatever you need'