ROTARY CLUB OF BERWICK INC
District 9820

ANNUAL REPORT

2017-2018

President: Ricardo Balancy
Secretary: Jim Wilson
Treasurer: Wendy Langdon
ROTARY CLUB OF BERWICK INC
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2017 – 2018

President: Ricardo Balancy
Vice President: PP Terry Carmichael
Secretary: Jim Wilson
Treasurer: Wendy Langdon
Administration: PE Lea Paton
Foundation: David Button
Fund Raising: Darius Mikolajewski / Trevor Bailey
Membership: Sharmaine Squire / Viv Armstrong
Public Image: Jane Moore
Service Projects: Jennifer Marshall

Rotary Officers
RI President: Ian Risely
District Governor: DG Ripper
Welcome to the Rotary Club of Berwick’s 56th Annual Report.

A year has passed since Past President Mark Caulfield performed the customary handover of the reins at our Changeover on 28th June 2017. As I prepare to repeat this custom and hand over the reins to President Elect Lea Paton, I can only but reflect upon what has been an amazing experience. I am very grateful for the opportunity that I was given to serve as President of the Rotary Club of Berwick, and for the responsibility that was entrusted to me. At this point I can only hope that I have acquitted myself honourably and that the Club is in as good a state, if not better, as it was twelve months ago.

Of course, nothing would be possible without the ongoing support and direct engagement of the members themselves. And so, I must firstly thank the members of our great Club for their ongoing service to Rotary in general and the Rotary Club of Berwick in particular. It is through the members that we can truly make a difference and I am proud to report that during the 2017-18 Rotary year, not only have we been very active in our many and varied service endeavours, but also in our fundraising activities. From mock interviews to cemetery and botanical garden clean up; planting trees; saving lives through mental health programs; equipping and promoting our youths and shaping future leaders; managing and running community events; doing our bit to improve literacy; donating warm clothes to the needy in winter; and simply lending a hand... our members have indeed been very busy this year “making a difference”. Through our fundraising efforts, the Club will distribute approximately $75,000 to various domestic and international Rotary causes and also, and perhaps most importantly, to worthy causes within our local community.

What I have enjoyed the most this year is the transition that we are making as a club towards adopting more contemporary approaches to the way we run our meetings, engage with our community and the world at large, and develop membership. We are doing all this whilst consolidating our governance processes and continuing to meet our obligations at all levels, including registering for GST and bringing our registration with various bodies up to date. We would not be in the advantageous position we are in today without the work of a progressive Board and a membership that embraces change, not for the sake of change itself, but for valid motives.

I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to induct five new members into Rotary during my year as President, including an unprecedented quadruple induction ceremony on the 1st of
November, when we warmly welcomed Gary Castricum, David Cutler, Gaetano Fina and Cheryl Zuhlsdorff into our Club. Clare Ganderton was the 5th member inducted this year, on the 4th of April, and she has been another great addition to our membership. If everything goes well, I’ll have the added privilege to induct a sixth member, Adwin Town, into Rotary on Changeover night, which will no doubt be quite an experience! I thank all the new members for their membership and I wish them a long and distinguished career in service to Rotary.

We did however lose some members during the year for various reasons, including Darius Mikolajewski, Carol Gadsen and Julie Allgood. Another two members, PP Terry Carmichael and PP Sjaak Kusters moved to other parts of the Victoria but remain members of Rotary. To each of these individuals I extend my sincere appreciation and thanks for your contribution to Rotary whilst members of the Rotary Club of Berwick.

During the year I also had the immense pleasure to present Paul Harris Fellow recognition to nine individuals, including PEN Isobel Caulfield, PP Mark Caufield, Lisa Norman, Josie Wilson, Trevor Thompson, Rob Porter, Carol Porter, PEND David Button and PP Laury Gordyn. The latter two Rotarians were actually presented with PHF Sapphire pins for their ongoing contribution. Congratulation to you all and thank you for your service to the community and to Rotary. Your lives exemplify the principles of Service Above Self.

At our Club meeting on Wednesday the 30th of May, the Board Directors provided reports to members and guests regarding their respective portfolios, focusing on the highlights, the opportunities for improvement, and the recommendations for future Boards. Whilst Boards come and go, the establishment of a Strategic Committee was one of the key initiatives implemented during the year that will ensure continuity and a level of oversight of major initiatives agreed to and supported by members.

In addition to the members as a collective, I would also like to thank the members of the Board for their initiative, commitment and hard work during the year and for assisting with a smooth transition to PE Lea’s Board. I particularly appreciate the contribution of the members of the Board who have seen the year through, including Vice President - Terry Carmichael, who despite moving to greener pastures since February has remained a vital support for me as President; Secretary Jim Wilson; Treasurer Wendy Langdon; Administration Director PE Lea Paton; International Service and Foundation Director PEND David Button; Avenues of Service Projects Director Jen Marshall; and Public Image Director Jane Moore. They have all made a significant contribution to their respective portfolios supported by their respective sub-committees. Thank you also to those who have come on board during the year to fill gaps and ensure continuity where necessary, especially PEN Isobel Caulfield who given her nomination as President Elect Nominee came on to assist PE Lea; PP Viv Armstrong who took on the key Membership portfolio; and Trevor Bailey who stepped into the very important Fundraising role. These positions were vacated by Sharmaine Squire and Darius Mikolajewski respectively due to changing circumstances. I take this opportunity to thank them for their contribution during their tenure.
After Darius’ resignation, given he was also the President Elect Nominee (PEN) who was meant to take on the Presidency after PE Lea, we faced a real challenge to our succession plan. I’m glad to report that the future of the Club is assured with the nominations of Isobel Caulfield as PEN and David Button as President Elect Nominee Designate (PEND). They will make excellent Presidents.


Sandi Tarant - for her patience and hard work as bulletin editor. This is a demanding role where you simply cannot switch off. With 48 editions of the Spoke ‘n’ Words issued during the year, Sandi has delivered a quality product time and time again to keep members and friends abreast of all the happenings in the Club. With my weekly collaboration with Sandi, I am acutely aware of the time and effort that Sandi has put into the newsletter week after week, up to 15 hours per week, to deliver a quality product.

Graham Johnstone - for his ongoing dedication and commitment to our members’ safety and ensuring that we continue to meet our Rotary and other obligations.

Sergeant David Nutter - for accepting to take on the role of Sergeant at Arms and for his relaxed and friendly approach to the role.

Di Double - for organising the many social events and finding ways to engage members through different avenues, from the visit to the Victoria Night Market to the Pasta Plonk and Poetry Night to name a few. Thank you also for the several chats and guidance.

Doug and Rhonda Anderson - for their passion and commitment to Rotary in general and the Rotary Club of Berwick in particular. Their dedication against the odds, especially when Doug was battling ill health, is admirable. I thank them for the many chats and words of wisdom and for your efforts in trying to capitalise on a very unique fundraising opportunity.

Di Scheepers - for taking on the management of the Duty Roster and all the challenges that the role entails, and for never saying no to whatever challenge is thrown her way.

Cheryl Zuhlsdorff - for putting her hand up to manage the Farmer’s Market and the sacrifices that she had to make as a result. Also for making the Tree Planting Project a reality. Like her sister Di Scheepers, she is someone who just cannot say no when it comes to Rotary and making a difference.

Steve Marshall - for helping us deliver quality projects through his hands-on involvement and expertise and for bringing his friends on board when required. Through his engagement, as a
spouse of a Rotarian, Steve has helped lighten the load for our members and made sacrifices beyond the call of duty.

Rob Wingrave - for his role as Grants Coordinator and the keeper of the key for the Rotary Shed. Rob has worked hard to ensure that the Club is represented at Council meetings especially when it comes to opportunities for service.

PP Peter and Sue Batterham - for their work in ensuring the successful delivery of the deb balls. Peter and Sue, working with the Deb ball Committee have made a significant contribution to the Club through their efforts.

David Collyer - for his work as President of the Berwick and District Benevolent Society and for all the work that he has done to reinvigorate the Society.

Fred Edwards - for managing and reporting on Club attendance and his collaboration with the secretary, treasurer and Membership team, sometimes in spite of his ailing health.

Alf Giesen and PP Mark Caulfield - for their ongoing management of the Rotary BBQ, making sure that it is available and manned at various fundraising activities and community events.

Bob Lay - for being the conduit between the Club and our Partner, the St John of God Hospital in Berwick. Bob has been pivotal in securing a two-year partnership agreement with the Hospital and plays a key role in ensuring that the Club is able to collaborate with the Hospital to deliver for the Casey and broader community. Bob will also play a part in the implementation of Dream Cricket in the region beginning with the Officer Specialist School.

PP Gus Dominguez - for the work he did putting together the Club Program and for his ongoing involvement in the Club’s Solomon Island Dental Clinic Project.

PP Gerald Treasure - for his contribution to the Rotary Family with the weekly acknowledgement of birthdays.

David Grant - for his work in revitalising the Centurion Club ensuring its growth and continued success. Through David’s efforts, more members are now aware contributing to The Rotary Foundation.

PP Laury Gordyn and his team - for managing the Art Screens Hire Project, including coordinating volunteers, seeking out new hire opportunities, and maintaining the screens and trailers. The Rotary arts screens are now gracing some pretty big stages including the Melbourne Arts Gallery and Queen’s Hall at Parliament House in Victoria. The project has raised close to $22,000 this year and is one of our main fundraisers.

PP John Rosenthal - for the work he has done with his committee to administer the Paul Harris Fellow program. This year, in addition to personal contributions the Club has recognised six individuals within and outside the Club for their contribution to the aims of The Rotary Foundation.
PP Adrian Funston - for once again coordinating the Berwick Cemetery and Wilson Botanical Garden working bees and for organising the footy night and the annual bowls challenge with the Rotary Club of Monbulk. Most importantly he has helped us identify a suitable way to remember PP Mick Morland.

PP Jack Kraan - who despite the challenges he has faced this year worked with his committee and the Nossal High School to deliver the inaugural South East Feast, and for once again opening his home to Club members, the Inner Wheel and friends for the traditional New Year Family BBQ. Thank you also to Ann Kraan for the support she gives to Jack and for her own contribution to Rotary.

PP Mark Caulfield, the Most Wise - for his ongoing support as Immediate Past President and his words of support and encouragement during the year. Despite earning a well-deserved rest, Mark continues to contribute to the Club in whatever way he can, including managing the Club BBQ.

PP Geoff Double, the Illustrious - who accepted the challenge to coordinate the Club’s Vocational Visits and who along with his committee helped deliver another successful Australia day event. Thank you also for that phone call four years ago inviting me to join your Board and the subsequent call to serve as President.

PP Jim Armstrong - for accepting to take on the stewardship of the Golf Day event following PP Mick’s passing and for answering the call to Chair the Strategic Committee. Jim must also be acknowledged for the support that he gives to Viv in all her Rotary endeavours.

PDG Tim Moore – for his counsel during the year and his input to the Club in a bid to identify opportunities for membership sustainability and growth. This includes the membership survey he conducted in November 2017, that has provided the groundwork for the Strategic Committee.

PP Peter Mangan – for his continued engagement against the odds. Peter was initially asked to be part of this year’s Board, but he pull our at the last minute due to ill health. Despite the challenges that he has faced during the year Peter continues to be engaged and participate in Club activities when he can.

DGE Adrian Froggatt – For his counsel and ongoing contribution to the Club at various levels, especially as our resident Master of Ceremonies.

PP Bill Minns – our Club Historian who continues to be a Club stalwart, not only because he is a Foundation member but most importantly because he is a great Rotarian who continues to serve Rotary in his own way, despite his ailing health. Forever present...

Having thanked all those who contributed to my year as President, from the members as a collective, the Board, and the various individuals who have played key roles, I must also thank the Clissold family and especially the late Merv Clissold who was my sponsor into Rotary and an absolute inspiration. Thank you Merv, Lyn and Ben.
Thank you to our Partner St John of God Hospital Berwick, CEO Lisa Norman and her team for once again supporting the Rotary Club of Berwick. Thank you also to Andrew Gardner and his team from the Beaconsfield District Community Bank for their ongoing sponsorship of our Club and participation in community events.

I must also extend my deepest appreciation to President Lucy Rowlands and members of the Inner Wheel Club of Berwick for their ongoing support of our Club and involvement in our many activities.

I also wish to convey my warmest thoughts to members who have not been able to be actively involved in the Club this year due to ill health. I thank them for their continued association with Rotary and hope to see them back on their feet sooner rather than later.

Lastly, thank you to my wife Lisemay for her unconditional support not only during my year as President, but also in ALL my endeavours... and there are many!

It has been my immense honour and privilege to serve as President of the Rotary Club of Berwick for the past twelve months. I commend this report to the members and pledge my support to President Elect Lea and her Board. I look forward to serving as Public Image Director during the 2018-19 year and to continue my contribution to the Rotary Club of Berwick.

Yours in Rotary,

President Ricardo Balancy.
I would like to thank and acknowledge the work done by Jim Wilson as Secretary and Wendy Langdon as Treasurer of the Club during the year.

After beginning the year in the tradition of our previous historian Sergeant Darius, Sergeant David Nutter has grown into the role. Sergeant David enthusiastically produces short light-hearted fine sessions which are well received by Members. Sergeant David’s exuberance inspired the Members to become engaged in the fun.

Attendance has been a team effort this year. Fred Edwards has been creating the attendance sheets from the emails sent to attendance@rotaryberwick.org, Wendy Langdon started the year giving the numbers to the Caterer but handed the job over to Di Scheepers when her circumstances changed.

The Duty Roster was a collaborative effort from Sam McCurdy and Di Scheepers, although Sam told me that Di was doing most of the work. In December, there was a suggestion that it might be worth sending out reminder emails to the members on duty the day before the meetings. The reminders seemed to be effective.

We have had some very interesting speakers for our meetings this year. Our Program Coordinator Gus Dominguez can be thanked for our enjoyment. His ideas for thought provoking speakers involved in local projects that impact on our lives has seen us listen with rapt attention. Thank you, Gus.

Sandi Tarrant has completed another successful year of encouraging members to part with their well-earned cash to support Jokers Wild. Our most recent winner of the pot, David Nutter, will attest to that success with the pot in question being over $2,700.

Safety procedures are now being explained at the beginning of each meeting as requested by the Board last year. It is working well and members are now aware of the location of the fire exits and the car parks for muster points. Members are also aware that they must be marked off the attendance sheet before they leave so that no-one puts themselves in danger searching for a missing member.

Youth Protection became a hot topic at District with the introduction of standards to protect our Australian children with the same degree of dedication that we use to protect the children that we take in from overseas. Part of this protection is the process of positive vetting enabled by the completion of Form 3’s by existing and new members of Rotary. Graham is endeavouring to get all members to sign a Form 3 for our Club to comply with District Insurance requirements. New member’s packs now include a Form 3.
The Spoke’n Word was produced by Sandi Tarant with technical assistance from David Button and our illustrious President Ricardo Balancy. Our Members would agree that this document is a valuable tool from our Club’s communication toolbox.

Our Club Photographer has been a shared role between Di Double, Isobel Caulfield and Maureen Scott. The photographs taken by these members have been seen in Spoke’n Word, on Facebook and on our Club website.

Di Double has been our Social Coordinator this year. We have enjoyed many varied activities including the trip to the Queen Victoria Market in August. We saw the Scout Igloo in Upper Beaconsfield which was very interesting. Our Christmas function at Forest Edge in Gembrook was a great night for fellowship in a fabulous location. We even had a visit from the man in red. Our latest social event was a cultural experience at the Double’s domicile for the Pakenham Pasta, Plonk & Poetry. A great night was had by all who attended.

Mark Caulfield rounded up a dozen members to attend the District Conference in Sale in his role as On-To-Conference Coordinator. We all had a great time networking with other members from our District.

Gus Dominguez did a great job with getting the Club Handbook ready for the Ricardo’s Changeover meeting. He is on track to do the same with my Changeover. Well done Gus.

The Paul Harris Fellows team has had a bit of a slow start this year but finished with a flurry. Thank you to John Rosenthal, Bill Minns, Gerald Treasure and Di Double.

David Collyer made his first Rotary Information presentation on Literacy Month in September. He worked with Jen Marshall on a project to collect children’s books to pass on to Casey North Community Information and Support Service for distribution. An excellent result with over 200 books to hand over to CNCISS. In November, David asked to be relieved of this duty due to health problems. Adrian Froggatt took over this role and we’ve had some good presentations from Adrian.

Di Scheepers did a great job collecting and distribution orders of Christmas cakes and puddings this year. There was a generous donation to CNCISS so thank you to all the members who contributed.

It came to light during August that the Club’s 2015-2016 Annual Statement to Consumer Affairs was rejected due to being in an incorrect format. Our Club had been assessed as a Tier 2 entity and as such was required to submit much more formal Accountant reports. We had not been required to submit the Auditors reports in the past. The Accountant reports for 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 have now been submitted in the appropriate format to Consumer Affairs.

There are GST implications to being a Tier 2 entity. The Club was registered for GST from 1st November 2017. In February, I was able to get an Auskey with the help of the Club’s Representative with the ATO – Adrian Funston. He has asked me to change this to be the Secretary from now on. I submitted the first December BAS on its due date and we received our refund a few days later. The March BAS was submitted on its due date and required a substantial payment due to all the receipts from the Deb Balls.
Roger Gordon indicated that he did not wish to continue to do the audits for the Club. We have confirmed that our Club’s Accountant can do the Audit as well as prepare the Financial Reports for Consumer Affairs. Andrew Harper will be doing both for us at the end of the financial year.

The Rotary Club of Berwick Inc is now registered with the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation as a community or charitable organisation which was approved as per email from Licensing Officer, Judy Burridge. We have received written confirmation that we are registered for 10 years. We were able to start selling raffle tickets for the Golf Day 3 months prior to the event which was 16th December 2017.

We needed to change our accounting package to an online one so that more than one person could have access to get reports, answer members’ questions about their accounts, etc. We were looking at combining General & Projects accounts into one file because we are required to submit one report to Consumer Affairs anyway. To that end I have used the current Charts of Accounts to combine General & Projects. Jim W, Wendy and I will have this ready to go by July 2018. We will work with Andrew Harper to get a subscription that suits the Club’s needs and budget.

We are enquiring with the tax office regarding our registration as a Not for Profit Organisation which, among other things, would enable us to receive a discount on the software needed to run our emails. David Button has a plan to get a G Suite account for the Club which will give us greater flexibility with our communication.

Thank you to all my team, keeping the Club running smoothly is a joint effort.

PE Lea Paton
This year, The Rotary Club of Berwick has contributed to some amazing projects which have and will into the future make a difference in many people’s lives. One of the pleasing features of this year’s Foundation activities is the contributions made by the members to get projects off the ground. Each project may start with an inquiry from outside contact, but it takes a bit of effort to evaluate and act. I would encourage more members to seek worthwhile projects in our community to make sure our Foundation money is put to good use.

**District Grant: Robotics, Berwick Fields Primary School**

*Club contribution: $930*

*District Contribution: $930*

*Project instigator: Jen Marshall*

*Status: Completed*

This project was started to supply three Lego Mindstorms Robotic kits to Berwick Fields Primary School to establish a practical coding and robotics program in their STEM curriculum.

I liaised with the school Vice Principal, Dale Mills to access the suitability of the project for a District Grant.

Once the robots were delivered and assembled by the students, 14 Rotarians participated in a learning session set up by the students. The purpose was to have the students teach the Rotarians what they had learned and also allow the Rotarians to have hands-on experience of coding these robots. There were 14 robots purchased in total (3 by Rotary), so we had one on one learning over 2 hours.

The initial project was to create a vehicle for students to be able to learn robotic coding using practical, real-life robots instead of simulated computer-based models. This project, however, has added an unexpected element where the teacher has included collaboration with another country (Sale) Primary School. The students are using the learning and experimenting of coding to bounce/share ideas between the schools. Communication is via video conferencing and email where they can trade code snippets as well as ideas.

In my opinion, the creation of an opportunity to be able to interact outside the local school community using a shared interest (i.e., Lego Mindstorm coding) is a more powerful and long-term element than the initial project.
**District Grant: Mental Health First Aid, Scout Leaders in the City of Casey**

*Club Contribution: $1500*

*District Contribution: $1500*

*Project instigator: Viv Armstrong*

*Status: Completed*

The District Foundation Committee can see the value to the community in the Mental Health training area. Viv Armstrong, already well equipped with contacts, investigated logistics to train 16 local Scout Leaders in Mental Health First Aid.

This District Grant was a little bit hampered by the lack of Foundation Funds in the District, so we were fortunate to be granted $1500 when we were expecting $1000. Normally a District grant will give $2000 maximum which the Club must match. The Club can add extra funds if the project is over $4000. In this case, we saw that Mental Health training was a priority for our community, so the Club allowed $2000. Only $1500 was needed as the District contributed $1500 instead of the expected $1000. A very big thank you to the District!

Mental Health First Aid training will enable Scout Leaders to identify and assist young people in their charge who may have mental health issues. MHFA is an Australian Rotary Health initiative and the winner of the 2017 The Mental Health Services medal at the recent Mental Health Service Awards of Australia and New Zealand.
About Mental Health First Aid

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Australia is a national, not-for-profit, health promotion charity focused on mental health first aid training and research. Its mission is to provide high quality, evidence-based mental health first aid education to everyone. Its vision is a community where everyone has the first aid skills to support people with mental health problems.

MHFA Australia has 16 Full-Time Equivalent staff members and a budgeted expenditure for this year of $2 Million. Funding is derived from fee-for-service training activities, government grants, and philanthropy. MHFA Australia trains then supports a national network of 1,386 MHFA instructors, who have trained over 500,000 members of the public.

The organization has spread MHFA training to over 20 countries and had in 2017 reached the extraordinary milestone of over 2 million people trained globally.

Extensive research to inform the curriculum and to evaluate MHFA training has shown that it improves mental health knowledge, reduces stigmatizing attitudes and increases helping behaviour.

**The Outcome:**

Viv negotiated to train 16 Scout Leaders with only $3000 (75% of the expected funding). The scout leaders have been trained and are qualified to look after their young charges. The Scout Commissioner is making up a badge to formally recognize all that have completed this training.

This Grant was completed by 30th April 2018

**Global Grant: Skyjuice Project, Philippines**

*Club Contribution:* $12,000 AUD ($8,000 US)
*District Contribution:* $13,000 US
*Foundation Contribution:* $13,000 US
*Project instigator:* Tim Moore
*Status:* Ongoing

This project has been in progress for quite a while now. The original Vocational Training Team project started by PDG Tim Moore in 2017 hit a couple of hurdles due to it not quite meeting the strict requirements of the grant model. It was a sensational project to send over a three-person training team to 10 communities in the Philippines to set up, use and maintain the SkyHydrant water purification systems (donated by Disaster Aid Australia) to provide safe drinking water.
The Foundation suggested, however, it will meet the criteria of a Global Grant - Humanitarian Project. The application process was taken over by PP Terry Carmichael, who regularly met with Tim and David Langworthy from Disaster Aid Australia and corresponded with our partners in the Philippines. Recently, PDG Tim has taken over the process as PP Terry has left the Club.

The project is supported by our District 9820 Foundation Committee $13000US and our the Rotary Club of Berwick of $8000US which is matched by our Rotary Foundation to give total funding of $34000US.

If we are successful, it will supply 6 SkyHydrant water purifiers and the installation of tanks and pump assemblies installations in 6 Philippine remote communities giving potable water to over 2500! It now includes training on public health to ensure that water sources are not polluted by current practices in the villages plus ongoing maintenance training of the facilities by the villagers themselves.

This project has not gone strictly to plan! Additional requirements by the Rotary Foundation to ensure sustainability above what was initially expected has created a lot of extra work. Other similar projects have come across the same issues, so this is a consistent approach to all projects. PDG Tim must be commended for his patience!

The current position of this project is that the $12,000 promised by the Club has been transferred to Disaster Aid Australia. This money is held in trust to ensure that it will go to providing safe water to people in the Philippines. If our grant application is not successful by the end of this Rotary year, the money will still be used to install 2 (two) Skyhydrants in the Philippines instead of 6.

In any event, clean water without the extra pathogens works for me!

For more information on Disaster Aid Australia, Skyhydrants and how you can help: www.disasteraidaustralia.org.au

**Balibo Conference Centre: Building Fit Out**

*Club Contribution: $5000*  
*Private Donor Contribution $2000*  
*Project instigator: David Button*  
*Status: Completed*

Balibo in Timor Leste has been an area of focus for our Club over the last two or so years. There are many projects going on in the area with Rotary Clubs from Victoria, NSW, and Tasmania joining together to make Balibo a great part of the world. There are Australian volunteers teaching, building and administering all the projects with Timorese counterparts ensuring that these projects are viable after we leave. Rotary is not alone but is a substantial driving force using
Donations in Kind to supply much-needed equipment to this area. The Victorian Government has also spent a lot of money through the Balibo Trust to make some projects turn from a dream to reality.

The Victorian Government has put in $100,000 to build a small Conference Centre to attract people to the area. The idea is to create a destination centre and therefore create direct jobs by employing conference staff as well as indirect jobs by way of catering, tourism, and local food production. A small recon group from three Rotary Clubs will be visiting Balibo in late June to check out the progress!

**Global Grant: Solomon's Dental Clinic**

*Club Contribution: $40,000 approx*

*Other sources of funds in progress including the Rotary Foundation and the New Zealand Government.*

*Project instigator: Gus Dominguez*

*Status: In progress*

PP Gus commenced rolling the ball on "a major international project" after contacting PP David Dippie (Donations in Kind) using the money set aside by the club over a number of years for such a purpose.

DIK has the opportunity to receive a large number of dental chairs, and this issue focused the discussion on a dental clinic facility very much needed in the Pacific Island Nations.

PP David Dippie realised that looking at East Timor for the creation of a dental clinic was not going to be sustainable from the perspective of ongoing resources (dentists and dental nurses) and looked at alternatives like Tonga, Samoa, and the Solomons. It took some time as PP Gus consulted with P Ricardo and PE Lea to ensure he had their support and P Ricardo asked to confirm that East Timor was not sustainable.

The conclusion was:

1. The Solomon Islands needed this facility in Honiara;
2. The Solomon Islands Government would back the venture of upgrading a very run down clinic (this is very important to ensure sustainability from the perspective of professional staff manning the facility after commissioning); and
3. The RC Honiara will help as the local partner in a Global Grant.

The piece missing was a Club with the dollars to start the ball rolling and the capability to manage the construction project. Here is where the RC Berwick comes along with our seed funding and our experience after having built the hospital in Halmahera.

This project is currently in PP Gus’s camp. PP Gus has visited the proposed building. However, no progress has been reported as per funding models, equipment required or any other details.
Centurion Club  
Project Leader: David Grant  
Backup to David Grant: David Button

The Centurion Club is a way for Rotarians and Friends of Rotary to make a small regular personal contribution to the Rotary Foundation. These donations are tax-deductible. The Rotary Foundation is the engine room of Rotary and allows us to do the things we do.

You can become a Centurion Club member along with fellow Rotarians and others by making a **tax-deductible** contribution of A$100 or more per annum ($1.92 per week) for as long as you are in a position to do so. Your contribution (payable to The Australian Rotary Foundation Trust) supports the work of The Rotary Foundation. 50% of the donated money comes back to District 9820 after three years to be used in developing our Foundation projects. Just look at the above projects as an example of what can be done.

This year, David Grant has stepped up to the mark and got the ball rolling. If you view our spend of Foundation money for our projects, we need to contribute keep our contributions up.

**Donations also contribute towards our club PHF credits.**

Please see David Grant if you would like to learn more or give a donation.

Rotary Donations in Kind  
Project Leader: David Button

For those who do not know what Donations in Kind are all about, they are junk recycler.

They recycle medical equipment, school uniforms, school equipment, clothes, computers, anything that can be reused. Much of what they take is high quality.

The Board has approved a $500 ongoing donation to DIK to contribute towards the lease costs of the DIK warehouse along with many other Rotary Clubs in Australia.

**Donations in Kind (DIK)** an activity of Rotary Australia World Community Service Limited (RAWCS) grew out of the compassion and concern of returning overseas volunteers. This **recycling and reuse** program, focussing on health & education involves the collection, sorting, packing, dispatch and distribution of donated items to countries in need of these goods. Many goods and products, for which organisations in Australia have no further use, are
valuable commodities in needy countries overseas and in some regions within Australia.

Refer to Acceptable Goods Guidelines 2017

Donations in Kind have developed a facility to register consignments to overseas destinations. We request that all Rotary Clubs and Rotarians consigning containers or pallets of goods to overseas destinations use our Donations in Kind Depots and this facility. The purpose of this facility is to record all consignments by ROTARY in one place so that when shipping companies contact RAWCS looking for the consignee of a container, we can direct them to the person responsible and supply any relevant documentation.

If you have any goods suitable for DIK, please let David Cutler know.

In conclusion: Get involved!
Foundation projects are for every member of our club. Sure, we cannot see the outcome of every project, but we know every project is run for the best outcome from the dollars spent. The Rotary Foundation make sure of that!

Thank you for the support I have had from all Club Members throughout this year. It has been a lot of fun.

David Button
Fundraising Report
Trevor Bailey

Having assumed the role following Darius’ sad decision to resign from the Club was a daunting but exciting challenge. Club fundraising activities for the year 2017-18 were varied and reasonably successful. The overall performance was slightly under budget with some projects disbanded at the expense of new activities which are expected to offer better outcomes in future years. Support for club fundraising projects from club members was as usual beyond expectations. The opportunity for members to participate in raising funds for the club whilst enjoying some fellowship has obvious appealed.

Projects undertaken in 2017-18 were:

Barbecues
Team Leaders: Alf Giesen, PP Mark Caulfield and Rob Wingrave
With many conflicting activities, the Club was only able to conduct a few BBQ’s during the year, which were mainly community based. Thank you to the dedicated team for their ongoing contribution.

Deb Balls
Team Leader: PP Peter Batterham
Leadership of this project for 2017-18 was again taken on by PP Peter Batterham. The project outcome is directly related to the number of debutants assembled by the Berwick College, and on this occasion, numbers were just below fifty. The profit made from the event was commensurate with the number of debutantes. Debutantes were presented this year to President Ricardo & Lisemay Balancy on the Wednesday, and to Acting Principal James Double and Deputy Principal Alison Burkett on the Thursday. Thanks to all for a great effort.

Art Screens
Team Leader: Laurie Gordyn
This project never ceases to amaze. It just grows and grows due to the leadership of PP Laurie Gordyn. This is an excellent fund raiser and fellowship opportunity. For 2017-18, this was a major contributor to the revenue of the club. Well done to PP Laury and his dedicated crew.

Nossal South East Feast
Team Leader: PP Jack Kraan
This project was conceived by PP Jack Kraan in conjunction with the Principal of Nossal High School, Roger Page, and became a reality in April. The project attracted a variety of cultural groups – including artists, performers and food vendors – with the aim of this becoming an annual event. It will. All vendors and visitors surveyed expressed delight. Although this year’s even was run at a loss, this event is destined to grow over the next few years.

Berwick Farmers and Craft Market
Management: PP Terry Carmichael/ Cheryl Zuhlsdorff
This monthly project, which had been operating for over ten (10) years, used to be a significant project for the club. The project was highly demanding yet provided a regular income for the club. The market was affected by a number of newer markets that have started up in the area in recent
years, and by competition from commercial several outlets for ‘fresh produce’. Cheryl took over the reins from Terry early in the year. She endeavoured to get stall holders on side, attract new stall holders and generally sought to revitalise this project. However, despite her best efforts, dwindling proceeds and visitor numbers supported the decision by the Board to exit this project in December. It was not an easy decision for the board, but the correct one nonetheless. All who supported this project over the years and helped are sincerely thanked.

St John of God Hospital Golf Day  
**Team Leader:** PP Jim Armstrong  
The Golf Day is another one of our regular annual fundraisers. The event this year was headlined by Lisa Norman, CEO of St John of God Hospital Berwick, as the keynote speaker at the post game dinner and was a success. This year’s event saw the introduction of the inaugural PP Mick Morland perpetual shield. The event was well supported by local businesses and seems to have been reinvigorated.

Coles Coin Collection  
**Team Leader:** Trevor Bailey  
The Coin Collection initiative has been successfully implemented and although proceeds are below expectations, it is helped the Club raise close to $4,000 this year alone with very little effort. It is one of the few projects that any member can participate in, regardless of capability. A few hours a month based on availability is all it takes and no there is no physical exertion. This project has the potential to become one of our highest revenue raisers, with the least manual input.

Business Partnership  
**St John of God Hospital Berwick – Bob Lay**  
Earlier this year President Ricardo and St John of God Hospital CEO, Lisa Norman, signed a two-year Partnership agreement that will see the Hospital inject $16,000 into the Rotary Club of Berwick between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2019. Thank you Bob Lay for continuing to be a vital link between the Club and the Hospital.

Sponsorship  
**Beaconsfield District Community Bank – Gus Dominguez**  
This BDCB continues to be a major sponsor of the Rotary Club of Berwick contributing $6,000 to the Club’s bottom line. Thank you, Andrew Gardner and his Board, for their continued sponsorship. A two-year sponsorship agreement worth $12,000 is being considered for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2020

In summary  
Thanks to the efforts of the various committees and members in general, it has been a wonderful year we will have approximately $75,000 available to distribute to many worthy causes.

Trevor Bailey
SERVICE PROJECTS REPORT

Jennifer Marshal

Australia Day  Geoff Double stepping-in in honour of Mick Moreland

Geoff Double and his team held a very successful event on Australia Day. The weather was excellent, although a hot one for the boys our cracking the whips in the sun, we had a great turn out from both the public and our Rotarians, Inner wheel and Rotaract.

The kids entertainment was a highlight of the day, the day was a great success honouring PP Mick Moreland with Kay Moreland accepting the Rotary Club of Berwick’s invitation to be the Australia Day Ambassador accompanied by Councillor Susan Serey.

Carols Night  Gus Dominguez

On the 16th December we again held a very successful Christmas Carols, led by Gus and his team. The performances ran smoothly under the supervision of Diana Gomez-Fullaway. With an estimated crowd of 4,000 people in attendance, Santa Claus was the popular attraction yet again. This event was a great success and was a great way to engage with our community.

Nossal School Council  Jack Kraan

Following the rescheduling on the South East Feast from September 2017 to April 2018 due to wet weather, this annual event was held for the first time on April 21st 2018. While the weather kept the crowds away in the morning, it fined up and the public starting coming in. While the numbers were a bit lower than hoped, the performances were excellent, we had a great number of store holders, and it was a wonderful joint event between the club and Nossal High School which will be an annual event.

Youth Exchange Program  Adrian Funston

This year the club took a break from hosting an inbound youth exchange student. However, our involvement in Youth Exchange continued with the club sponsoring Alex Kraan who spent 2017 in
Switzerland. Alex enjoyed his exchange year and hopefully this experience has provided him with invaluable life skills for the future.

**Working Bees** Adrian Funston
As always, our gardening guru Funno lead the charge as we watered, weeded, painted and pruned the Berwick Cemetery and Wilson Botanical Park earlier this year. Both working bees were a lot of fun and time for fellowship, while getting our hands dirty to give back to our community. These projects are long running projects as the Berwick Cemetery Committee and Lex from the City of Casey are very grateful for the assistance again from the club.

**School Interviews** David Collyer, Isabel Caulfield
In May, a group of our Rotarians assisted Nossal High School with conducting their school interviews. Those that attended said it was a great day to interact with the students.

**Vocational Visits** Geoff Double, David Nutter, Eric Boon
We had some great vocational visits this year, Scott Double gave our members a tour of the Split Rock Rover Crew’s headquarters in Upper Beaconsfield, we heard about the activities Scouts participate in, including the Rover Scout Motorsport mud bash, we saw the crew’s mud bash car and heard many stories of last minute repairs and creative fixes out in the muddy paddocks.

We were very lucky to get a behind the scenes tour of the brand new St John of God Private hospital here in Berwick. We learnt about the state of the art facilities available to our community, the design of the building which was developed in close consultation with staff and patients to ensure that the facility meets the needs of everyone.

We visited Jen Marshall’s husband Steve’s workplace Veolia Environmental Services located in Dandenong South. The club learnt about how our kerb side garden waste is turned into compost used for broad acre farming in regional areas around Victoria and New South Wales.

**Disaster Aid** Tim Moore
Throughout the year, Disaster Aid have seen some great success stories. The Casey Cardinia Rotaract Club allocated the $3,000 they raised from their Star Wars Trivia Night toward the Disaster Aid project in Colombia (a $33,000 project to install sky hydrants in rural schools throughout Colombia). Currently the Disaster Aid team, are working on getting the next project set up in Balay Mindanaw in the Philippines to install sky hydrants throughout rural areas.
MUNA David Button
Once again, the Rotary Club of Berwick saw success with the mixed team sponsored from Berwick Grammar and St Margaret’s receiving first place! This team will be heading off to Canberra later in 2018 to compete at the national level.

NYSF Jenny Marshall
This year our sponsored student was not successful at getting selected for this year’s NYSF.

RYPEN David Button
The 2018 RYPEN camp was postponed by the district until 2019.

Mental Health Training Viv Armstrong, Jim Armstrong, Isobel Caulfield
Lead by Viv the Australian Rotary Health Chair, this year saw 16 scout leaders complete the Mental Health First Aid training thanks to a grant obtained by Viv.
We had lift the lid day late last year and held a stand in Bunnings to promote lift the lid day and mental health awareness.

Christmas Cakes Di Scheepers
Di Scheepers did a great job last year selling Christmas Cakes. Her success resulted in approximately $1,600 in sales for the club.

Rotoract Jenny Marshall, Tim Moore, Steve Paton
The Casey Cardinia Rotaract Club had a great year for membership, growing their members to 16. They held a Star Wars Trivia night which raised $3,000 for Disaster Aid. They assisted at various event like Australia Day and ANZAC Day Dawn Service. They organised a sausage sizzle for the City of Casey and at Bunnings and attended various social functions throughout the year.
We also heard from one of their members, Lachlan, who the club sponsored to attend RYLA.

Berwick and District Benevolent Society & Casey North Community Information and Support Service David Collyer

David Collyer took on the role as the Benevolent Society president. He was able to identify a family in need who were eligible for a Dick Smith Grant through RAWCs.

We also completed a book collection late last year when our club donated over 200 children’s books to the Casey North CISS for distribution to children.

RYLA David Button
Casey Cardinia Rotaract Club member, Lachlan attended RYLA, he found the weekend very beneficial and returned to speak at the club of the many leadership skills he learnt and can apply to various aspects of his life.

Public Image Report

Jane Moore

Public image is an ambassadorial role creating community awareness of Rotary programs and service opportunities. It is about telling our Rotary story and demonstrating it across the many different mediums available to us. It is about living the four way test, upholding our Rotary integrity and standards in everything we do and say. It is about maintaining Rotary’s trusted brand. It is about leading professionally, acting kindly, enjoying friendship, mentoring, showing compassion, helping out where needed, living the example we promote. We need to demonstrate these values and let people know what we do so that they will be attracted to us and help us continue and grow our capacity to do good in the world. Public image is also about membership - retaining our valued members by being inclusive, engaging them and making sure their contributions are heard and considered. It is also about attracting new members who not only have much to give our great organization, but also have so much to gain. Public image works to support and strengthen Rotary and our club by showcasing and promoting the great work we do in our local and global community.

President Ricardo invited me to the board for a second term as Public Image director to build on initiatives implemented last year and to make these initiatives sustainable. This included an opportunity to work with and mentor incoming chair, Mick Morland. Mick and I had started working together on a succession plan with a view to establishing continuity. Sadly, Mick’s accident took our friend and an opportunity away from us.

Ricardo’s overarching plan for the year was modelled on achieving the criteria of the Rotary International President’s citation for 2017-18. The goals were encapsulated in Rotary’s three strategic priorities: to support and strengthen clubs, to focus on increasing humanitarian service and to enhance public image and awareness. Specifically, in the area of public image, four of eight criteria were required. I made a five point plan and can happily report the work of public image in 2017-18 stood us in such good stead, the five criteria were achieved and ready to report into Rotary Club Central by Christmas. Thanks to the great work of the club, one of the criteria was satisfied outside any contribution by the public image committee!

Again I used the Rotary prescribed publication, Lead Your Club Public Relations Committee guidelines, as a blue print to consolidate and further contribute to our public image campaign. Club image is deemed very important and the guidelines emphasise using specified branding materials and visual and voice standards to promote brand recognition and create a professional, cohesive image worldwide.
A second term did consolidate the work of last year’s committee with the member composition remaining much the same but the workload not so evenly spread. Retirement and travel opportunity took a number of members out of the equation!

Viv continued in her role as printed media liaison and kept a constant flow of club news supplied to Star News. She fostered a healthy relationship with the paper with many of Viv’s submissions going to print. Thank you to those who supplied information and pictures throughout the year, and thank you Viv for your consistent and persistent ownership of this job, even whilst caravanning!

Di Double joined the committee to help work on a new club brochure. Thanks to Di and Tim, the three of us tidied up the script written last year and chose photos from Di’s club photographer stash. Rotary International has an amazing array of easy to use templates available on Rotary.org. We used the brochure template customising the wording, graphics and photographs with a pleasing first result! Di has created a version of the template for future updates. The brochure has been a useful tool in telling our story at all of our events and functions with the original supply now close to exhausted. A new edition is on the way!

The branding identifiers on the Club Facebook sites are now uniform, consistent and correct across the website, Rotary Club of Berwick Facebook page and the Art Screen Hire page. Social media has grown exponentially with more than 600 people following our Rotary Club of Berwick Facebook page, at times reaching in excess of one thousand people a week. Interesting snapshots of our club activities plus informational posts about Rotary keep our audience of non-Rotarians interested and informed. Thank you David Button for your tireless efforts.

Rotary voice and identity guidelines were distributed to board directors and it was pleasing to see correct and consistent branding on all of our projects and events throughout the year. Thank you! Your promotional material and project Facebook sites have all been spot on and the use of branded public image club property has become second nature. Many more people know who we are, what we do and what the Rotary wheel represents now because of your efforts. Have you seen the art screen trailer? Laury and his team had it sign written and it is amazing.

Our suite of optional uniform items grew with the addition of women’s and men’s business and casual shirts as requested. Thank you for wearing your polos and any additional items when you are out and about at club events and projects. There have been a steady number of orders throughout the year and we are certainly noticed and look professional. Not only does it identify us and create awareness, it creates interest in what we do.
Individualised business cards for our presidential train were printed in conjunction with generic club cards for the use of all members. Please take a handful from 2018-19 director, Ricardo, and help spread the Rotary word.

Rotary Club of Berwick donation stickers were produced to brand the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) kits that went into a primary school. Book labels were printed and placed in the hundreds of children’s books donated during literacy month. The collection boxes at Coles were branded and A5 Rotary/club informational posters designed, printed, laminated and placed on community noticeboards at Coles stores.

We partnered with the Royal Flying Doctor again in a two way sponsorship arrangement for their annual golf day. A great way to support “the Doctor” and a great way to create further awareness of the Rotary Club of Berwick.

Thanks to Sandi and her support team for a fabulous bulletin this year. A massive task. The email distribution extends far beyond our club member base and the bulletin is the face of the club to many.

Thanks to Rob Wingrave and his information booth team. Your contribution at the Farmers and Craft Market was incredible.

It’s great to see our property being used. The tear drop banner at the Holm Park door not only shows our visitors the entrance, it shows passers-by we are there! The pull up banners, branded table cloths, uniform, tear drop banners et al complement the great team we are wherever we are.

Every club member can further enhance our image by:

• promoting Rotary and its core values in what you say and do, always remembering you are an ambassador
• wearing your club polo or uniform items to our events and projects
• using the correct Rotary Club of Berwick logo on everything you produce
• contributing news and project information to the Public Image committee so it can be publicised.
• inviting your Facebook friends to “like” the Rotary Club of Berwick Facebook pages and sharing the posts.

With every best wish to the incoming leadership team and the club for 2018-19.

Jane Moore
The 2017-2018 year started with a directive from Rotary Club of Berwick President, Ricardo Balancy, to continue the challenge of growing the Club and ensuring our existing Members would continue to embrace our Club, feel happy and eager to remain Members. As Membership Director, I felt we needed to focus on retention and for me it was very important that all Members felt valued and respected, for them to have a voice and that each and every one felt that they matter. Having the honour of being on our wonderful President Mark Caulfield’s Board, as Membership Director, it was very important to us to focus on our existing Members, with a personal one on one connection.

In line with Immediate Past President Mark Caulfield’s expectations, approval was granted for me to structure the Membership portfolio differently from what had been previously practiced. Rather than each Member of the Membership team being allocated a specific responsibility, I worked openly with the complete team to enhance all aspects of membership.

Each member of the team was extremely passionate about the Club and Rotary in general and have worked tirelessly for Rotary. I can’t thank them enough for their ongoing support, albeit I am aware that I needed to do more.

I personally have always been very conscious of RCOB’s Mentoring Structure, which has needed refurbishing for some time. Everyone within RCOB, in effect, automatically has a role as a mentor, i.e. all Members have a story of their own regarding Rotary and it is important for all to share their experience. As a fellow Rotarian, I utilised part of my role as Membership Director, by focusing to a large extent on our wonderful existing Members of the Rotary Club of Berwick and ensuring they feel valued, respected and are considered very important.

2017-2018 has been a successful year for the Rotary Club of Berwick having recruited five new members and another in the pipeline and looking to set up a “Satellite Club”. This is a very exciting addition/inclusion for the Club. As discussed with our members, a Satellite Club is an extension of the Club’s membership, NOT taking away from our Membership. Satellite Clubs have been designed to cater for potential Members, e.g. in their 30’s with young families.

**Rotary Club of Berwick’s New Satellite Club**

*Jenny Marshall*, RCOB’s “youngest Member” has diligently worked/chipped away at getting the Satellite Club off the ground and has done an amazing job and has had amazing success.

Jenny recently advised us that the Satellite Club has already received interest form six new members.

As Membership Director and on behalf of our Rotary Club of Berwick, *Congratulations Jenny* for a fantastic year, both personally and for your contribution to Rotary.
ROTARACT

ROTARACT and Rotary Club of Berwick are continuing to mutually build an even stronger Rotary relationship, which is definitely growing in the right mutually beneficial direction and I believe it is imperative that both elements of Rotary continue to enhance their existing relationship.

Training

The STAR programme, especially for new and prospective new Members for our Club, is such an excellent programme that is beneficial for old/new/prospective Members to attend.

Although we did not conduct a STAR training this year, members had the opportunity to attend the Rotary Leadership Institute training and District Assembly, both of which were held right on our doorstep at the Federation University in Berwick.

Historian

PP Bill (Henry) Minns is our longest serving RCOB member, whom we are very proud to have as our Club Historian. Bill has had an extremely difficult time health wise regardless, is more than “keen” to return to our Club as soon as possible. This can only be a win/win for us all.

Bill, I am not only lucky to be in Rotary with you, I am very happy to continue having you as a dear friend.

Inner Wheel

At this point I would also like to personally thank Inner Wheel for their unconditional support to our Club and the support they continue to give their husbands, partners, friends. Again, a group of amazing women doing amazing things within our community.

Rotary Club of Berwick 2018 Recruitment

This year has been extremely successful with the work undertaken to ensure retention of our existing Members, together with recruitment of five new Members since 1 July, 2017, until now, with our sixth new Member to be inducted in the very near future.

As previously noted, we have experienced a relatively successful year within our Membership component of the Club, complementing the success of all elements of our Club, without exception.

It is extremely important for all RCOB Members to understand that this is quite an exciting time for our Club.

Rotary International has made a number of changes in the membership area, examples being the inclusion of Satellite Clubs, the altered significance of Vocation and frequency of attendance. We have yet to fully embrace these changes so this will also continue to be a focus.

This year has been an extremely awkward year for me, being constantly squeezed, as a Board member of Rotary Club of Berwick, resulting in me needing to resign from the Board.

Nevertheless, I am extremely loyal to Rotary and worked extremely hard to continue in my own small way, concentrating primarily on recruitment and retention. We really do have many, many, amazing members, their partners, families, friends under the banner of Rotary Club of Berwick. Each and every individual newly recruited member are incredibly enthusiastic and passionate about...
what they know they can contribute, not just to Rotary Club of Berwick, but Rotary as a wholly successful International Organisation.

The Rotary Club of Berwick’s incoming Membership Director is PP Viv Armstrong.

I have no doubt that Rotary Club of Berwick will be more than supportive of Viv and the new Membership Team.

As I have previously, frequently mentioned, I strongly feel that the “Four Way Test,” adopted by Rotary, does need to be utilised and for our Club to remind all RCOB Members of that Mantra.

Thanking you.

SHARMaine SQUIRE

Membership Director 1 July, 2016 - 26 February, 2018

Membership Part Year Report (B) - PP Viv Armstrong

Having been asked to become membership chair for this coming year I found myself moved into the role three months earlier after Sharmaine resigned and stepped aside. President Ricardo and PE Lea suggesting I get my feet wet a little earlier than I had planned. It was a good suggestion in light of the fact that we have many changes occurring throughout the Rotary world regarding membership categories, attendance relaxation, satellite clubs, and the strong push to make Rotary clubs more relevant to the communities in which they operate.

The Rotary Club of Berwick is discussing new membership categories of Dual Rotaract /Rotary membership, Corporate membership, and a proposed satellite club, so it is important that our membership team develop proposals for how our club implements these new categories. This is being done in conjunction with the Strategic Planning Committee of which Jim Armstrong is Chair. This is to be an important basis for how we target future members moving forward.

Part of my ongoing role is to create consistency in the information our guests at meetings receive and consistency in the interview process when they choose to join our club.

Eric Boon has taken up the role of Fellowship mentor which is an addition to our membership committee. There are some 100 Fellowships in Rotary and many members receive a great deal of satisfaction from their participation in these fellowships. Sadly, many people don’t know they exist and Eric, who has been involved in the skiing fellowship for many years, will be able to help interested people find one to suit them.
Our Board has continued to promote Leadership training and District Assembly attendance by members and it is pleasing to note the participation of so many from our club at these events. This is a valuable way to gain information not only about how Rotary works, but about how other clubs function and the projects they do.

We will be developing “a go to” page of members expertise so those running a project, or wanting some advice on a certain topic, can easily find someone within the club knowledgeable they can talk to. We have many experienced members in our club and it will be beneficial to us all if we can channel some of that experience into projects run by our newer members.

We have had a very fortunate year as far as new members are concerned. Gary Castricum will be taking over as Treasurer in 2018-19. David Cutler is doing lots of work within the club, especially with DIK. Gaetano Fina has taken a position on the Strategic Planning Committee amongst other work. Cheryl Zuhlsdorff was managing the market till we discontinued that project and is very busy helping in many other areas. Clare Ganderton has hit the ground running as is heavily involved with ROMAC and with helping me with Australian Rotary Health. Adwin Town has just made the cut for getting his name in the book and is looking forward to getting involved in helping us find the Grants that make some of our projects possible.

On the sad side we have a number of members resign or leave during the year, including Darius Mikolajewski, Carol Gadsen and Julie Allgood who have resigned, PP Jacques Kusters has transferred to Frankston, and PP Terry Carmichael transferred to the Rotary Club of Traralgon at the end of May. Sadly, we lost both PP Peter Castricum and PP Mick Moreland to a higher service. This gives us a net loss of 2 and a total of 60.

I look forward to the coming year in anticipation of the plans the club is putting in place to invigorate and engage all our members.

Viv Armstrong
Treasurer’s Report
Wendy Langdon

This year has seen the continual use of the Quickbooks Accounting Programme and the club’s financial reporting will move into Quickbooks in the cloud starting 1st July 2018.

The presentation of the Financial Reports gives a comprehensive state of the club’s financial status, and at any one time any club member can request to see these. They remain transparent and all activities are reported correctly.

The General Account is used for Club operations, and only monies raised from the members of the Rotary Club of Berwick are deposited into this bank account, and so kept separate from any fundraising events the club may undertake.

Projects Account - Any income that is taken from the public for projects and fundraisers are deposited into this account, and expenses relating to these activities are kept separate in this set of Financial Reporting.

This year, members of the Rotary Club of Berwick have participated in many Fund-Raising activities, Art Screen Hire, Deb Balls and many more. From this the club has been able to provide money to numerous charities and one of the main ones being the Sky Juice Programme. Every one of the members should be proud, as many times we have been able to pull together as a club and work as a team to achieve so much.

Berwick and District Benevolent Society – Income is raised from Donations from the public and the Dandenong Magistrates Court and the funds are directed into area of need.

The reports Year ended 30 June 2017 were audited by Roger Gordon and passed, and then put in a format by HBT Advisory as Australian Security Commission has requested that the Rotary Club of Berwick now be a Level 2 Reporting Entity.

As of the 1st November 2017, GST Reporting has been introduced which is reported to the Australian Taxation Office every quarter.

Annual Dues were set at $308.00 by the current Board and will be reviewed at the start of the next financial year.

St John of God and Beaconsfield Bendigo Bank have once again been a sponsor of the club. This has also contributed to the fundraising activities that the club run.

Fred Edwards has continued in his role as Attendance officer, without his assistance the recording of meetings would not be possible.
Joker’s Wild has seen another successful year, half of the money raised will go towards subsidising members going to the District Conference in 2019, and the other half jackpots from week to week. One of these Jackpots paid out over $2,500 and was won by David Nutter. Most nights, all members participated, and once it started to grow I believe members started to purchase numerous amounts of tickets and table pooling in the hope of winning the jackpot.

Our Sergeant David Nutter has led a very humorous fine session with the money raised going towards the subsidising of members as they make their way to conference.

Kahn’s Hospitality has continued to look after us at the weekly meetings, where we have been looked after by Naomi and fellow staff members with the most upmost efficiency. It is paid by EFT after the event.

Overall, I have enjoyed my role as treasurer and I have appreciated the support of the board, Ricardo, Jim and Lea (have not changed my mind she still is the Excel Queen). So now it’s time to hand over the Baton to Gary Castricum and as Lea said to me “Tag, you’re it Gary.” YAY!

Wendy.
Rotary Club of Berwick Funds Distribution Report 2017-18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Available for Distribution 2017-18</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Beneficiaries of Current Year project Account</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Scout Training - Mental Health</td>
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<td>Skyjuice</td>
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<td>Balibo House Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper Beaconsfield Scouts Group</td>
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<td><strong>Total Beneficiaries Paid to date</strong></td>
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| **Proposed Disbursements** |          |
| St John of God Hospital Berwick       | 10,000.00 |
| Foundation                            | 8,000.00  |
| Polio Plus                            | 5,000.00  |
| Berwick Secondary                     | 8,000.00  |
| ROMAC                                  | 2,000.00  |
| Dream Cricket                          | 550.00    |
| Wheelchairs for Kids                  | 1,500.00  |
| Windemere                              | 1,000.00  |
| 4Cs                                    | 1,000.00  |
| Berwick & District BS                  | 1,000.00  |
| Special Needs Disco                    | 1,000.00  |
| Interplast                             | 1,000.00  |
| **Total - Proposed Disbursements**     | 40,050.00 |

| Balance Current Year Project Account - Available | 3,003.98 |