

Altona City Rotary Club Annual Report 2022 - 2023



Club Details

D9800 District
Governor
Amanda Wendt

D9800 Asst Governor
PP John Wall

President
Charlie Hommelhoff

Secretary
Lenore Thornton

Treasurers
Ray Lipscombe
Jan Douglas

Club Website
altonacityrotary.org.au

Email
info@altonacityrotary.com.au

Meetings
Fortnightly 6pm for
6.30pm Altona RSL
Sargood Street Altona

Report Editor
Danny Civitico
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Highlights of the 2022-2023 Rotary Year

A.C.R.C. Board Members 2022-2023

President	Charlie Hommelhoff	Community	Brian Noordenne
PE & Club Service	Danny Civitico	International	Lenore Thornton
Vice President	Frank Landells	Vocational	Bryan Goodwin
Secretary	Lenore Thornton	Membership	Leon Mancini
Treasurer	Ray Lipscombe	Foundation	Lenore Thornton
Sgt at Arms	Charlie Montebello	Youth & Environmental Sustainability	Bronwyn Fanning



Donna Griffiths Induction



Charlie M receiving his Paul Harris Fellow 2nd Sapphire

President's Report

This Rotary year was indeed a successful and rewarding year for the club in terms of projects undertaken, member involvement and the general health of the club supporting the Rotary Theme of "Imagine Rotary".

Our club continues to remain vibrant and viable with a couple of new directors providing fresh ideas and energy to their portfolios. The new and existing board members have done a great job leading the club. We were also able to induct two new members throughout the year to further strengthen the club and we can now proudly boast an even gender spread – a first for the club.

The club also looked at forming strong bonds with other clubs in the cluster with events such as the Altona City and Altona Rotary Club combined Christmas function and a very successful cluster BBQ graciously hosted by Brian Noordenne and his wife Jennie at their work facility in Altona. Thank you so much to Brian and Jennie for your generous support for the club this year.

We even reached out to our friends at Altona Lions Club and were able to work on a couple of projects together such as Mock Job Interviews as well as strengthening ties with the Altona RSL, Hobsons Bay Mens Shed and the Hobsons Bay Dementia Alliance.

We supported a number of overseas and local projects making donations to some and providing support or linkages as well to others. The Annual Charity Golf Day had a new day and time slot but that didn't dampen down the enthusiasm of all those involved.

Significant funds were raised for our major benefactor, Very Special Kids. We were very pleased that some awards were received this year: Charlie Montebello a Paul Harris Fellow with 2nd Sapphire, our club also received a District Vocational Award and Anne Morton who successfully completed a Rotary Leadership Program.

Special thanks to Assistant District Governor John Wall who supported the club immensely during the year and was also a regular visitor to the club.

Several visitors and friends invited to our meetings and its highly likely a couple of them will join our club in the near future giving it a bright future.

I know that the incoming team will continue to grow the club and provide much needed assistance to the community both locally and overseas.

Prepared by Danny Civitico PE for Charlie Hommelhoff Outgoing President



Charlie H being inducted and announcing his team

Secretary's / Sergeant's Report

Another busy but successful year comes to a close. I would like to express my gratitude to PP and President Elect Danny Civitico, whose guidance and support has made my role significantly easier.

Our membership has been fairly stable during the year at 30 members, of whom 19 are active and 11 honorary. We have recently had a number of guests visiting the Club, at least 2 of whom have shown interest in joining in the future.

All correspondence and Club documents are now digital, and stored on Club Runner, which is extremely efficient, and also used for the Club Bulletin.

Board Meetings have been held regularly through the year, and the Club By-Laws updated as required. The requirements of the Victorian Department of Consumer Affairs have been fulfilled and now up to date. The Annual General Meeting was held in November and conducted according to the guidelines of our Incorporation and Constitution.

Meetings, now fortnightly, have been well attended. Thank you to all members for their cooperation during the year and we look forward to another active and happy Club year.

Lenore Thornton
Secretary 2022-23.

Fundraising Report

This year we were able to return in running 3 Bunnings Sausage Sizzles with a total profit of \$6403.00 raised – Price increases in part raised our profit levels. Thanks to all members that assisted.

The Major Raffle was well supported by all members, past members and friends. I would like to thank my wife Kay for organising all the catering and every one that chipped in to help on the night. Our profit from the Raffle was \$2700.00.

Our Major Fundraiser of course was our 21st Charity Golf Day which was held on the 18th February 2023. Jan will cover the details in her report.

Sergeant's Report

Not a lot to report regarding this report as you all know we now only meet on a fortnightly basis so we don't raise as much money from the sergeant's session as we used too. (But we have a lot of fun). We had 20 meetings over the year that we had a fine session.

All Members and guests put their hand in their pockets and were very generous. Incoming President Danny has asked me to stay on and continue as sergeant in 2023/2024 Rotary year.

Charlie Montebello
Director Fundraising / Sergeant at Arms 2022 - 23

Golf Day Report (Annual Charity Golf Day)

As a committee, we feared the change of date and hit off time may discourage entries. However, Friday 17th February with an 8.00am hit off proved to be a good move.

Players started to arrive around 7.00am and enjoyed a bacon and egg roll for breakfast. Most were ready to tee off at 7.45am. The earlier they started meant the earlier they would finish as the day was predicted to be very hot.

As the last team was making their way back to the clubhouse, the temperature reached 38.2. As per Koorungal Golf Course policy, the course is closed at 38 degrees.

The consensus was the early start is preferred. The lunch and fund raising that followed was excellent. The auction was well supported, and the bidding was spirited.

Twenty-four teams hit off and one hundred and ten players, visitors and guests sat down for lunch.

My thanks for the support of Charlie M and Frank L and the fantastic group of volunteers. Without these wonderful individuals, events (like our golf day) would never be possible.

My thanks also to the staff at Koorungal Golf Club, especially Brian Mc Mahon (Director of Golf) and Chris Mandas (Operations Manager.)

Gross Profit \$17,500

Funds Distributed

Very Special Kids \$10,500

ACRC Charity Account \$ 7,000

Total funds distributed since the Inaugural Golf Day \$231,588.00

Total funds donated to Very Special Kids \$140,800.00

Jan Douglas

Golf Day Convenor 2022 -2023



Program Chairperson

We had a wide range of speakers both local and international that provided our club with interesting and informative presentations. As a result of some of these presentations, the club was able to make donations to some of these presenters or at the very least, spread awareness of their cause or issue. Many linkages were made that are in place now to assist with the many programs presented.

Some of our speaker highlights included:

- Michael Wasley - Very Special Kids
- Natalie Ive – Hobsons Bay Dementia Alliance
- Amanda Wendt - District Governor
- Bronwyn Rowleson - Altona RSL Community Programs
- Rotaract Siem Reap / Rotary Passport Club of Melbourne
- David Berner - Mens Shed (Mystery Box Rally)
- Mikaela Stafrace - Women Can Australia
- Maria Hicks - Baguia Project
- Michael Stewart – Instruments for Dhaka, Bangladesh Students
- Geoff Burnnard – Time Capsule Project

Danny Civitico PP – Program Chairperson 2022- 23



Maria Hicks



Michael Stewart



Bronwyn Rowleson

Previous Guest Speaker Maria Hicks OAM returned to the Club to provide an update on progress and remaining needs at the 9 schools in Baguia with whom she works. An additional \$1000 was donated to the Baguia project from the International Budget in October, following up from the original seed funding the club had provided previously.



Guest Speakers: Rotaract Club of Siem Reap



These five impressive young Rotaractors attended a Cluster Meeting hosted by the Rotary Club of Altona City and organised by PP Bryan Goodwin. The meeting, attended by more than 60 local Rotarians and guests, was a wonderful introduction to the lives and work of these dedicated and inspirational young people.

While in Melbourne to attend the Rotary International Convention, the students have had the opportunity to connect with the global Rotary community and showcase the community service projects of the Rotaract Club of Siem Reap at the House of Friendship. They were excited to gain new insights and experiences during their time in Australia, which they will take back to Cambodia and share with the students of CRST and the Rotaract Club of Siem Reap.



Odisha – India - Jacob's Well Foundation founder – Joan Roose

Many villages in Odisha (India) do not have access to clean water. Jacob's Well is taking clean water into the remote villages where there is no water and no hope. Villages are transformed by clean water provided by either a bore well or a water filtration plant and by the hygiene education given to all villagers by our team.

No longer do women and girls spend hours each day collecting water from the river, freeing them to work in the fields or in the forests gathering products to sell at weekly markets. No longer do families have to drink muddy, polluted water – there is a reliable supply of clean, fresh drinking water 'on tap' just outside the door. No longer do families have to suffer from gastroenteritis because they've learned that by simply washing their hands there is a dramatic reduction in gastro.

There is water for home vegetable gardens, water to bathe children, water for drinking and cooking – clean fresh water that is essential to life.

The Rotary Club of Altona City continues to support the work of the Jacob's Well Foundation with a donation of \$1500. The average cost of a new village well is \$AUD2500.

Community

In October along with the Altona Rotary Club, the Laverton Rotary club and The Altona Lions Club we assisted the Bendigo Bank in celebrating its 22-year anniversary of the Altona Bank Branch with a huge BBQ at Logan Reserve.

Thanks to over 30 volunteers from the clubs (Altona City Rotary Club had 9 members volunteer for the day) we cooked over 1000 sausages over 3 hours which were given away free.

In January we assisted the Hobson's Bay council with a BBQ at the Newport Community Hub for the Youth Festival, once again we gave the sausages away for free and being a youth festival the young school students keep coming back for seconds.

During the year we made a few donations one was a \$500.00 to Altona College for a prize in search of excellent, we have given these kinds of donations over the years to a few schools.

Our big donation for the Year was a donation of \$8000.00 to the Bendigo Rotary Club to help the Flood Victims in the area. One area that was very badly flooded was Rochester which we have a very good relationship with the Rochester Rotary Club thanks to Jan and Barry Douglas.

The Big Community Day happened on Australia Day, Thanks to Bryan Goodwin for applying for a grant from the National Australia Day Committee, we were able to hold a community day at the Central Square Shopping Centre. We were entertained on the day with live music featuring PP Danny Civitico and his band.

On the day we gave away Shopping bags, 400 x \$10.00 refreshment vouchers to be spent at the shopping Centre as well as badges with the Australian, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island flags, bookmarks pens, towels and for the children, we had face painting and balloon figures.

Community Report 2022/2023



Altona City Rotary Club – Serving the Community

In 2021/22 our Club received a District 9800 Vocational Recognition Award for the 1st time- for Enhancing Rotary Programs for Schools.

In 2022/23 we continued a focus on Rotary Programs for Schools and are currently investigating two potential new projects- Early Act at Altona High School (via Anne Morton) and potential for running an online poster design competition for students in Visual Communications courses.

2022/23 Vocational Projects included:

Hosting the 2023 Hobsons Bay Wynspeak Heat:

18 Junior and senior students from Altona College, Bayside P-12 College, Emmanuel College, Footscray High School, Mount St Joseph Girls' College and Williamstown High School competed in the Hobsons Bay Wynspeak Heat on 4 May at the Altona Theatre. Supported by a \$2200 grant from the State Government's West Gate Neighbourhood Fund the Hobsons Bay heat involved competitors presenting five-minute prepared speeches on a variety of topics followed by two-minute unprepared presentations. In a 20-min pre-event window while the students were being briefed, a Year 12 VCE Student from Williamstown HS, Samantha Dunn, performed 4 songs using backing music on her I-phone.

Adjudicator and Past President Danny Civitico said the students were very focused on various issues the world faces. They presented compelling arguments and offered some innovative, and at times unconventional solutions. These students clearly have the bit between their teeth in wanting to make meaningful change to our everyday lives.

Topics discussed included:

- Learning in Lockdown
- Misinformation and the Media
- Effect of War on Children
- Artificial Intelligence
- Formula One Racing
- Australia day
- Advocating for Peace rather than War.

Thank you to all our Club members who supported Wynspeak and to adjudicators Damien Hynes (Williamstown RC), Pam Barnes and Gael Meadowcroft (Point Gellibrand RC).

Mock Job Interviews (MJIs):

On 22 August 2022, a panel of 20 paired interviewers, coordinated by ACRC, conducted mock job interviews with 40 year 10 Students at Bayside College. The students had selected jobs from a MJi handbook supplied by Rotary, and prepared resumes and cover letters which were emailed to the interviewers beforehand.

The support of the 20 interviewers who came from 6 Rotary Clubs, 1 Lions Club, the Altona Council, and a Community Member is gratefully acknowledged.

Plans are currently being developed for MJIs in Term 3, 2023 at Bayside College and Williamstown High School.

Vocational Continued

Rotary D9800 Foundation Scholarship Grant: PP Jan Douglas has arranged and is managing a \$1000 scholarship grant (for two years) at Bayside P-12 College.

Hobsons Bay Rotary Teacher Awards:

In another Pandemic recovery step, Altona City Rotary Club recognised fifteen outstanding Hobsons Bay Teachers at an in-person event for the first time in three years. Award Founder, Past School Principal and Rotarian, Julie Mason AM says that it's never been more important to support and honour teachers for the extraordinary requirements put on them during the Pandemic and its recovery.

Williamstown High School nominated their Warchild Production Team for a Rotary Teacher Team award for organising the 2022 Warchild benefit concert at the Newport Substation to raise money for families torn by war. With live music being a distant memory over the past few years, the production team drew upon the talents of Willi High students to produce an amazing evening. This followed hours of rehearsals, costume design, make up, lighting and sound and an 18-hour day to set up and pack up.

Bayside College Nominated Effie Hatzikosmidis for a Rotary Teacher Achievement award for the tireless energy and passion she brings to her role as Drama teacher and Performing Arts coordinator. Effie produced an outstanding production in 2022, juggling roles on performance nights, sometimes having to step into roles herself when students were suddenly unable to perform due to illness.

Bayside College also nominated Camilla Bishop, Natalie Hammond, Samuel Levy and Darren Sutcliffe for a Rotary Teacher Team award for their leadership and collaboration with others to introduce an innovative range of student assessments that focus on skills and competencies for students from P-12, sitting alongside the traditional academic demands. Team awards recognise where a group of teachers have collaborated effectively to address an important challenge or new development for a school.

Ashleigh Botica and Lachlan Christopher (Altona College), Paige Byrne and Kate Challen (Emmanuel College) were nominated for Encouragement awards for each making exceptional starts to their teaching careers.

Bryan Goodwin
Vocational Director 2022-23



Wynspeak Heat 3 Winners
Stanley Webb & Leila Thomas



Heat 3 Participants

Treasurer

TREASURER

The 2002 – 2023 year commenced with my role as Assistant Treasurer. With the resignation of Ray Lipscombe in January 2023, I agreed to continue as Treasurer.

As we progressed, it became more apparent that our club needed to raise the opportunities offered from the accounting package MYOB and the purchase of a Square Terminal (used at every meeting).

Members are now able to pay membership dues, meals, and event payments online. It also enables EFT payments directly to our creditors such as Rotary International, D9800, RSL etc. This also includes donations and reimbursement of expenses straight into the nominated account as required.

Expenditure and income can be viewed at any time of the day or night via the Bendigo Bank App which is such an advantage when reconciling.

Our accounts are in a very healthy state going forward but we need to continue this trend. The annual golf day is our major fundraiser along with the major raffle, Bunnings barbeques, cluster events and Charlie's raffles to name a few.

Thanks to Bryan Goodwin and the detailed applications he presents when applying for grants. These grants allow our club to hold events such as the very successful National Australia Day held at Central Square Shopping Centre, WYNSPEAK hosting and senior prizes also covering venue hire from Hobsons Bay City Council.

ACRC currently have two term deposits which will mature in December 2023 and February 2024. They were invested at a rate of 3.300%PA. We will investigate opportunities for interest rate improvements as maturity draws closer.

I would like to thank Ray Lipscombe for all his hard work and dedication to ACRC.

Jan Douglas
Treasurer 2022 – 23



Our relationship with **Altona College** continues to grow. We are investigating the formation of an Earlyact club in the new year – **Earlyact** is a junior version of Rotary aimed at Primary school aged kids. For the second year, we have sponsored our **Citizenship award** for a Year 12 student attending Altona College. It was my pleasure to attend the year 12 graduation night and present the award to a fantastic member of the school community. Thanks to Jan who was going to attend on my behalf, but alas sickness got in the way.

In my roles on the District Youth Committee, I've attended both **RYPEN** camps. RYPEN stands for **R**otary **Y**outh **P**rogram of **E**nrichment a weekend long camp for year 9 – 11 students who are potential leaders that need a boost of self confidence to allow them to reach their full potential. Along with My Co-Chair Chris Richardson, we ran selections for **NYSF** – National Youth Science Forum – a program for the “best of the best” year 11 STEM students and volunteered in January at the Melbourne Hub (A hybrid of Online and State Hubs ran).

I attend **MUNA** – Model United Nations Assembly – where teams of Year 10 – 12 students debate various real word issues from the perspective the country they are assigned. I've also been supporting the District **Rotaract** clubs – which give young adults an opportunity to serve, learn and have fun being part of the family of Rotary.

We were to sponsor Aremel Von Uan to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (**RYLA**), a week long program to develop leadership skills for 18-25 year old who live, study or work in our district. After the program was cancelled due COVID, we had hoped to sponsor him to attend this year, but the new dates did not suit – would love to sponsor him in the future.

Aremel is currently studying architecture and construction management at Deakin. He writes “I find the creation and design of building to be a rewarding and challenging process. I knew I wanted to study architecture before starting high school.”

He is passionate about Song Writing/Preforming/Music Production: In his words “Music a big part of my life! I enjoy listening to any type of music. In my spare time, I enjoy creating songs which provides a great way to express my feelings in a creative way.”

Outside of Uni and work Aremel serves a number of organisation “I volunteer for Ardoch as a Classroom Assistant. I've also volunteered as a Gardener at Milparinka Disability Centre, Vice President of Competitions and Events for the Student Organised Network of Architecture (SONA) and a Peer Support Network Mentor at Deakin University.



2022 – 23 Highlights



Supporting ANZAC Day



Anne Morton Leadership Award Presentation



Australia Day Entertainment



Australia Day Stand



Elyse Banks Induction



Hobsons Bay Cluster BBQ

2022 – 23 Highlights



Community Day



Dementia Alliance Presentation



DG Visit Working Party



DG Amanda Wendt



Charity Golf Day Raffles



VSK CEO Michael Wasley

2022 – 23 Highlights



Altona College Info Stand



Traditional Didgeridoo Playing



Combined Christmas Party



Getting in the swing of things



Another Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

2022 – 23 Highlights



International Women's Day



Reverse Raffle



Rotaract - Siem Reap Presentation



District 9800 Vocational Recognition



Very Special Kids Presentation