Altona City Rotary Club Inc. (Chartered 26 March 1987)

16 June 2024

Altona City Rotary Club Annual Report 2023 - 2024

Rotary Altona City

Report Editor
Danny Civitico
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Club Details

D9800 District Governor
Ron Payne

D9800 Asst. Governor
Graham Roper

President
Danny Civitico

Secretary
Lenore Thornton

Treasurers
Jan Douglas

Club Website
altonacityrotary.org.au

Email
info@altonacityrotary.com.au

Meetings
Fortnightly 6pm for 6.30pm Kooringal Golf Club, Wilga Avenue Altona

CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

2023 – 2024 Theme

Highlights of the 2023-2024 Rotary Year

A.C.R.C. Board Members 2023-2024

President	**Danny Civitico**	**Community**	**Brian Noordenne**
Club Service	**Lenore Thornton**	**International**	**Anne Morton**
Vice President	**Jan Douglas**	**Vocational**	**Bryan Goodwin**
Secretary	**Lenore Thornton**	**Membership**	**Leon Mancini**
Treasurer	**Jan Douglas**	**Foundation**	**Lenore Thornton**
		Youth	**Bronwyn Fanning**

Bronwyn receiving her PHF from DG Ron Payne

President's Report

Another Rotary year has gone by and I will be handing the reins over to our incoming President Lenore Thornton. I wish Lenore all the best for her year and I know that the club is in good hands with her at the helm and the team she has picked to continue the good work.

At the start of the year, I had several goals that I wanted the club to achieve. They were:

- Support the Rotary Theme of "Create Hope in the World"
- Create new partnerships and strengthen existing ones
- Link in with other service organisations
- Focus on Mental Health
- Recruitment

This year we welcomed three new members to our club, Tejas (TJ), Carol and Bob, who have made valued contributions to the aims of the club. They will be an asset going forward with the various projects we will undertake.

Some of the events we ran this year were as follows:

- Australia Day Celebrations at Central Square Shopping Centre
- Cluster BBQ - Clubs from around the cluster coming together in fellowship
- Black Dog Ride - Led by TJ and supported by Wyndham Harbour RC, a very important mental health and suicide prevention initiative
- Charity Golf Day - Raising funds for our primary beneficiary Very Special Kids
- Mock Job Interviews - Involving several local schools again this year
- Teachers Awards - Recognizing our children's educators
- Skin Check Van - 2 Day combined Rotary, Lions and Bunnings Health Project
- Wynspeak - Local students engaged in public speaking
- Laverton P12 - Student Awards Night
- Poster Competition - Local students involved in health and environmental issues
- Marooned the Play - Awareness and understanding of mental health and suicide
- Defying the Drift - Providing students the opportunity to learn about agriculture
- Donations of Food to the Salvos for distribution of those in financial hardship
- Packing and distribution of care packs for our local aged care facilities.

As you can see there are so many events that we are involved in that help make a difference in the community. I was particularly pleased with the bonds we have made with other service clubs and other organizations. There are lots of people out there who do similar work to us and linking in and pooling resources makes a lot of sense and builds great friendships and camaraderie.

It's been a productive year and as a club we punch well above our weight through our dedicated and hard-working members. I believe we have supported the yearly theme in meaningful ways. It all bodes well for the future and I'm sure Lenore and her team will further enhance our club and image in 2024 - 25.

Thanks to DG Ron Payne and AG Graham Roper from District 9800 for their support as well throughout the year.

Danny Civitico
President 2023/2024

Secretary's / Sergeant's Report

Another successful year for the Altona City Rotary Club saw three new active members join our Club.

Carol Aplin, Tejas Shah and Bob Hawkins have become part of the Altona City family. They have already made significant contributions to our club's Service Projects.

We also farewelled two members, who, for personal reasons, have moved on into other avenues of community engagement.

Our current membership stands at 20. Two members are on long-term leave for health reasons.

Board Meetings have been held regularly during the year with 9 meetings being held. The AGM was held on 21 November 2023. Minutes of all were taken and are available as a record of these meetings.

All reports have been completed as required for Consumer Affairs Victoria, a new fundraising Registration for the Club was carried out as part of this process.

A Special General Meeting to approve the new Club Constitution occurred on 4 June 2024. The Constitution was updated as part of Rotary International's Council on Legislation cycle and a Club Constitution template was provided by the District 9800 Governance Chair.

Lenore Thornton
Secretary 2023/2024

Sergeant's Report

The sergeants role this year was rotated around to give everyone a chance to experience the role. As we now meet fortnightly, we also introduced a donations of loose change tin to raise funds for our projects. All members and guests put their hand in their pockets and were very generous.

Fundraising Report

Our major fundraising activities for the year were as follows:

Sausage Sizzles	$8131
Major Raffle	$2864
Charity Golf Day	$15,000

Thanks to all those club members and friends who assisted with fundraising activities.

Lenore Thornton
Secretary 2023/2024

Golf Day Report (Annual Charity Golf Day)

On Friday the 16th of February our major fundraising event, The Charity Golf Day was conducted at the Kooringal Golf Course. Another perfect day greeted the players and officials as they arrived.

The morning format was again in use where players had an early breakfast before making their way out onto the course.

Twenty-six teams hit off, a total of 104 players made their way around the18 holes before finishing about midday. They then sat down with guests and visitors for an impressive 2 course lunch.

There were auctions, silent auctions and raffles. Players, friends and family dug deep to raise funds for Very Special Kids. My thanks for the support of our fantastic group of volunteers who helped make the day a great success and run so smoothly.

I also thank the staff at Kooringal Golf Club, especially Chris Mandas (Operations Manager), Brian Mc Mahon (Director of Golf), Nelson Lyall (Events Manager) and our go to man of the day, Jesse. Nothing was too much trouble for Jesse.

Gross Profit $15,000

Funds Distributed

Very Special Kids $10,000

ACRC Charity Account $ 4500 plus $500 held over in ACRC Golf Day Account

Total funds distributed since the Inaugural Golf Day $246,588

Total funds donated to Very Special Kids $150,800

Jan Douglas

Golf Day Convenor 2023/2024

Program Chairperson Report

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 programs presented.

Some of our speaker highlights included:

- Karen Ingram – Manager, Louis Joel Community Centre
- Marilyn Oliff - Hobsons Bay Wetlands Centre
- Ian Hamm - The Voice Referendum
- Alan Young, Bronwen Gray - Pier Street Pearls
- Ray Lipscombe – Upcoming bicycle ride for The Lost Dogs Home
- David Berner – Mystery Box Car Rally
- Heather Saidiechild Harris – Experiences of a nurse in war torn countries
- Robyn Kampo, Tamsin Capocardo - Altona Girl Guides
- Swati Baindur – Wyndham Harbour Story Writing

Swati Baindur

David Berner (L)

Pier Street Pearls

International Report

Two International projects were supported during the 2023-2024 Rotary year by Altona City Rotary Club: -

- Baguia Community Project in Timor Leste
- Jacob's Well Foundation in India

The $1000.00 donated by our club to Maria Hicks OAM assisted in the logistics of sending two loads of educational materials including laptops, musical instruments, sewing machines, sporting equipment and clothing to Baguia, Timor Leste, where 9 schools are involved in this project.

These materials assisted in the provision of Girls Hygiene Kits and Solar Buddy lights enabling students to study at night. It is hoped that a program based on our Teacher Awards will be introduced into this Community project.

The $1000 donation to be presented to Joan Roose this year will further assist in the provision of clean water to all in villages around Orissa, India from bores sunk by Jacob's Well Foundation.

Through this work families will be trained in raising health and hygiene standards in these villages.

The education program provided at Jacob's Well, Rejoice Centre, continues to enable hundreds of children and adults to become literate with many now having the opportunity to attend Colleges and complete degree programs.

Joan Roose (2nd from right)

Maria Hicks OAM

Anne Morton – Director International 2023/2024

Community Report

There were two major projects undertaken throughout the year to support the Community Portfolio. There were also a number of smaller projects or contributions made to community requests as part of our day-to-day operations.

Australia Day:

On 26th of January, 2024, we held another successful Australia Day Celebration at the Central Square Shopping Centre where hundreds of people attended and were entertained by local and indigenous artists as well as giveaways and many inquiries made about Rotary in General.

Through a grant supplied by the National Australia Day Council, we were able to put on a great show and information day. A big thanks to Bryan Goodwin who was the engine room for this event, and Brian Noordenne for making the shopping centre available to us.

Plans are well on the way for Australia Day 2025.

Time Capsule:

25 years ago, The Rotary Club of Altona City instigated a Time Capsule Project, where 12,000 messages from students and residents were placed in a large container and then buried underground on what is now called the 100 Steps of Federation, Truganina Park.

The intention is to unearth the messages and read them in the context of what has changed in the last 25 years. In early 2025, the messages will be unearthed and those involved in the initial project and writers will be invited.

A council grant has been successful in funding this project and a working party of identified stakeholders are working on the logistics of the Time Capsule unearthing and curated display.

Vocational Report

In 2023/2024 we continued a focus on Rotary Programs for Schools. Two new projects were initiated: Early Act at Altona HS (by Anne Morton) and an inaugural Pilot Poster Design Competition for Year 10 - 12 Students.

2023/2024 Vocational Projects:

1. **Hosting the 2024 Hobsons Bay Wynspeak Heat:**

17 Junior and senior students from Caroline Chisholm Catholic Regional College, Emmanuel College, Footscray High School, Homestead Senior Secondary College, Mackillop Catholic Regional College, Mount St Joseph Girls' College, and Thomas Carr Catholic Regional College competed in the Hobsons Bay Wynspeak Heat at the Altona Theatre, on 9 May .

Adjudicator and 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.

Thank you to all our Club members who supported Wynspeak, and to the adjudicators and supporters from other Clubs, and to Feedback Coach Ricky Tuck from Toastmasters.

Wynspeak Heat 3 Participants

1. **Mock Job Interviews (MJIs):**

This year, Mock Job Interviews were held at Bayside College and Williamstown High School (for the 1st time). Students selected simulated jobs from a MJI handbook supplied by Rotary, and prepared resumes and cover letters which were emailed to the interviewers beforehand. The support by the interviewers from local Rotary Clubs and Lions is gratefully acknowledged. Both schools are keen to conduct MJIs again in September 2024.

2. **Rotary D9800 Foundation Scholarship Grant:** A new Year 11/12 Scholarship was initiated at Laverton P-12 College, with President Danny and Anne Morton representing the Club at the Schools' Academic Awards event.

3. **Hobsons Bay Rotary Teacher Awards:**

District Governor Ron Payne, an Educator whose career spanned 47 years, was delighted to present the 2023 Hobsons Bay Rotary Teacher Awards to the following teachers nominated by their schools:
Three Encouragement Awards for early career stage teachers: Tim Lilley (Williamstown HS), Heather Barlow (Emmanuel College, St Paul's Campus) and Maily Pham (Emmanuel College, Notre Dame Campus).
One Achievement Award to Dean Commons, an experienced Drama teacher at Williamstown HS for his role in coordinating the Music Production Fame which ran for six shows with a 90% sell out rate in a 350-seat theatre.

Vocational Report Continued

One Team Award for a team which had collaborated effectively to address an important new development. Bayside College nominated senior Leading Teachers Analia Diego (Student Wellbeing), Belinda Chandler (Disability Inclusion) and Judy Douglas (Student Learning) for their work to introduce a Disability Inclusion program into the school. The model the team are developing is a positive approach to support students with disabilities to learn alongside their peers in a supportive classroom environment.

5. Creating a better future, poster by poster

The 2024 inaugural poster competition titled, "Creating a better future," gave students the opportunity to showcase their creativity while delving into topics that were meaningful to them. Working closely with VET (Vocational Education and Training) Screen and Media teacher, Ana Tuckerman at Bayside College, Altona, they ensured that the project tied in with the requirements of the design curriculum.

"It was easy for me to adapt my program to the Rotary brief because it was so broad. Because we're by the sea in Altona, we focused on ocean conservation. Students worked just as they would in the design industry, workshopping their key statements and calls to action in small teams, which satisfies the vocational element of the VET course. Students loved the experience," said Ana. Department Chair of Communications Design within Swinburne's school of Design and Architecture, Dr Andrew Haig, advised Rotary about the judging categories, which included creativity, design elements and the key aspects of messaging. He was also on the judging panel.

"It was refreshing to see the students engaging with issues they face with such energy. It was also pleasing to see the diversity of approaches, from the colourful to the mysterious, with effective messaging," said Andrew.
Entries were judged blind by a panel of Rotarians (Carol Aplin, Sandi Fulcher and PDG Julie Mason) and design industry academic Dr Andrew Haig. Winners received gift certificates and the top three students are invited to attend the opening of GradX 2024, Swinburne University's School of Design and Architecture Graduate Exhibition.
This pilot program offers a promising pathway for scale-up to involve multiple clubs across Zone 8. "The topic is so comprehensive there's room to explore many areas including mental health, climate change, and recognition of First Nations peoples."

Winning Poster – Amelia Danks Year 11

Teachers Award Recipients with DG Ron Payne

Bryan Goodwin
Vocational Director 2023/2024

Treasurer's Report

The 2023/2024 Rotary year has continued to be positive. I am happy to report our income versus expenditure is in a healthy state. However, we should not become complacent. Every year brings new challenges.

The fundraising activities and grants received, thanks to Bryan Goodwin's Grant Applications prowess, (currently $65,000 received to date) has allowed us to continue with many valuable programs and projects, along with numerous donations to community and international causes.

Very Special Kids is still our major benefactor with $150,800 donated to date.
The Annual Charity Golf Day together with Bunnings BBQ are our major fundraisers, along with other raffles etc. on a smaller scale. In the past we have also had the major raffle, most successfully run by Charlie Montebello but with Charlie's resignation we need to find exciting new ideas for fundraising events.

We also raise a portion of funds from the Annual Charity Golf Day, which in turn, benefits our local community. This is calculated after our contract commitment to Very Special Kids is honoured.

ACRC currently have 2 term deposits maturing in December 2024 and February 2025 invested at a rate of 4.75% interest. These term deposits were originally set aside for a major project that may come our way. I believe we could consider the benefits of the interest raised to support further projects.

The Square terminal has made a huge difference to the way we receive payments and MYOB along with a couple of other accounting packages is now requested by D9800 which allows for detailed reports as required.

Consider the future role of Treasurer. I believe we need to have backup. It is a major part of any successfully run Rotary Club.

Jan Douglas
Treasurer 2023/2024

Youth Report

Our relationship with **Altona College** continues to grow. I'm excited about the formation of an Earlyact club– **Earlyact** is a junior version of Rotary aimed at Primary school aged kids. Many thanks to Anne for all her work with this. We have continued to sponsor our **Citizenship award** for a Year 12 student attending Altona College. Thanks to Anne who attended on my behalf.

We sponsored Isla Scott to attend the Rotary Sailing Challenge - Isla spent 4 days sailing around Port Philip Bay on the Enterprize, learning teamwork and being responsible for the ship 24 hours a day. Isla really enjoyed learning about different parts of the boat, seeing the dolphins swim around the bow, and working with lots of different types of people. Isla said this experience opened up a new world and is something she will be thinking about for the future.

We also sponsored George McSweeny to attend they RYPEN Camp – thanks to Lenore for encouraging George to participate having met him at their community showcase. It was a pleasure to have taken George to camp and I am glad he got so much out the program.

In my roles on the District Youth Committee, I've attended both **RYPEN** camps. RYPEN stands for **R**otary **Y**outh **P**rogram of **En**richment 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 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). I attended **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.

Bronwyn Fanning
Youth Programs 2023/2024

More about EARLYACT

Initially this program includes Peer Mediation (PM) sessions being developed with a number of Year 5 students, teacher Casey Sperling, and coordinator Altona City Rotary Club member, Anne Morton. As part of the College's Student Leadership Program in the Primary sector, PM students are being introduced during recess breaks to mediate with students having issues with others during these breaks.

During fortnightly, one hour, meetings PM students, teacher and coordinator discuss issues that relate to safe, fair and beneficial to all outcomes (utilizing Rotary 4 Way Test) that have arisen from playground interactions. Issues that PM students find difficult to assist with are also discussed and problem-solving activities are introduced to support the PM students learning. As this program is further developed, activities that further student resilience, tolerance, understanding and creativity in leadership will be introduced.

Anne Morton Director 2023/2024

Foundation Report

Since its inception, The Rotary Club of Altona City has donated more than $138,000 to The Rotary Foundation. This donation consists of individual and Club donations to the Annual Fund and Polio Plus. In 2023/2024, the Club donated $2000.00.

Whilst there has not been any Global Grant involvement by the Club in 2023/2024, the Club maintains its enthusiasm for the District Grant process and has funds available from this source for Year 11 and 12 Student Scholarships at Laverton P-12 College.

Paul Harris Fellows.

The Club has significant credit (>50), available for the recognition of Paul Harris Fellows. Representatives of the Rotary Foundation Australia are encouraging Clubs to use their credits to recognize Community leaders and members for their contribution to community service. In 2023/2024, three recognitions were made by the Club.

Joan Roose, Founder and CEO of the Jacobs Well Foundation, and an active Rotarian, was recognized with a sapphire to her original PHF. DG Ron Payne was delighted to hear of the work Joan has done in India, providing clean water to poor villages and starting a successful Boarding School for children of poor families.

PP Bronwyn Fanning was another recipient of PHF recognition. An Altona City Rotary Club member 2007, and previously a Rotaract member, Bronwyn has dedicated her service to the Youth Service area at both District and Club level. AG John Wall and DG Ron Payne were both familiar with Bronwyn's service as they presented her with the sapphire to her PHF.

PP Janis (Jan) Douglas has held many roles in the Altona City Rotary Club since joining in 2004. Prior to 2004, Jan was actively involved in Club activities with husband and Charter Member Barry. Jan is currently club Treasurer and Co-ordinator of the hugely successful Charity Golf Day.

The Royce Abbey Award is generally given to newer members who have demonstrated enthusiasm and commitment to Rotary since joining.

Community Service Chair Brian Noordenne was recognized, as a member who has demonstrated these qualities and was a Royce Abbey Award recipient.

Brian Noordenne

Jan Douglas

Joanne Roose

Bronwyn Fanning

2023 – 24 Highlights

Packages for local aged care facilities

Bob Hawkins Induction

Australia Day Central Square Shopping Centre

Another Sausage Sizzle

Black Dog Ride – Suicide Prevention

2023 – 24 Highlights

Clean Up Australia Day

Cluster BBQ

DG Ron Payne Visit

Food for Salvos distribution

Charity Golf Day

VSK CEO Michael Wasley

2023 – 24 Highlights

Pier Street Pearls Presentation

Hobsons Bay Sustainability Project

Laverton P12 Presentation

Rotary Award for an ACRC Project

Mock Job Interviews

2024 Rotary Poster Design Competition

Design a Poster for a Chance to Win Prizes

Expand your creative portfolio and flex your visual communications skills by responding to a real-world brief. Competition open to students from years 10 – 12.

2023 – 24 Highlights

Lions, Rotary and Bunnings Combined Skin Check Project

Teachers Awards Recipients

Wynspeak Heat 3

Combined Christmas Party with Special Vocal appearance from Michael Lapina

Altona City Rotary Club Honor Roll

Club Presidents 1987 to 2024

Years	Member
1987-88	Les Crofts
1988-89	Kevin Leslie
1989-90	Barry Hanson
1990-91	Bryan Goodwin
1991-92	Wayne Bridle
1992-93	Ivan Board
1993-94	Barry Douglas
1994-95	Peter McDermott
1995-96	Bob Dickins
1996-97	Bill Leung
1997-98	Bob Rawson
1998-99	Frank Landells
1999-00	Barry Douglas / Charles Montebello
2000-01	Charlie Montebello
2001-02	Joe Gianchino
2002-03	Hans Kopans
2003-04	Charlie Hommelhoff
2004-05	Dermot Heron
2005-06	Ken Vazquez
2006-07	Bernie Dierker
2007-08	Jan Douglas
2008-09	Chris Davis
2009-10	Charlie Hommelhoff
2010-11	Ray Lipscombe
2011-12	Chris Davis
2012-13	Ray Lipscombe
2013-14	Bronwyn Fanning
2014-15	Charlie Montebello
2015-16	Ray Lipscombe
2016-17	Maureen LeScoul
2017-18	Maureen LeScoul
2018-19	Bronwyn Fanning
2019-20	Ray Lipscombe
2020-21	Maureen LeScoul
2021-22	Danny Civitico
2022-23	C. Hommelhoff
2023-24	Danny Civitico

Paul Harris Fellows 1992 to 2024

Member	Classification	First Presented
Bryan Goodwin	PHF + 8	June 1992
Barry Douglas	PHF + 1	June 1992
Robert Hawkins	PHF + 1	July 1993
Barry Hanson	PHF + 1	June 1996
Robert Rawson	PHF	July 2004
Charlie Hommelhoff	PHF	June 2006
Janis Douglas	PHF + 1	May 2009
Lenore Thornton	PHF + 2	February 2015
Bronwyn Fanning	PHF + 1	June 2015
Anne Morton	PHF	December 2021