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From the President

We are halfway through our Rotary year and have completed our visioning project for our club's way forward for the next five years. During the calendar year we have from March experienced the World wide pandemic that had challenges for all, constraining many activities we would normally be involved. Our raffle committee put together this year's annual fundraiser online to kick us off while still in lockdown. Now, as the rules are being relaxed especially the 4 sq metre rule, we have been able to have F2F selling raffle tickets through our access QR Code via RaffleTix. I believe all members should avail themselves of the operation as it is so quick and saves time writing tickets!

Our KNC volunteers continue to meet at the centre each Wednesday to pack food bags and re-stock the storeroom. Thanks to Lyn, Don, Christine and Ernie.

A new activity Sandy has been able to achieve with the Kincumber Shopping

Centre is a concierge spot in the centre where our senior shoppers can get the assistance of help with taking their groceries to their car. Check out the photo in the centre.

4 Villages - Shipbuilders Heritage Walk

The third of a planned five vessels for the Shipbuilders Memorial fleet has now been completed by Ralph Hannaford from the Sydney Model Ship Builders Club. The model is of a Sloop and typical of the vessels built along the Shipbuilders Memorial in the early 19th Century.

These models are being acquired in answer to requests from participants in the 2018 Shipbuilders Heritage Walk for examples of locally built ships to be on display and was expressed by Jan. Peter appealed to members of the SMSC at their Zoom AGM earlier this year, the response was almost immediate.



Xmas Trees

Our Christmas tree sales through the Square proved a real blessing. Tina advises that NFP organisations are no longer able to access this economical electronic unit – a change in rules - so we are so fortunate to

have this unit now and some members are very good operators of this method. I was amazed at the younger generations who think this is the normal way to buy products.



Club Video

Just a reminder that we are asking every Club to prepare a 3-to-5-minute video about what you have been achieving during this annus horribilis. The videos are due to the Communications Director by the end of January. The finalists will be featured at the District Virtual Conference in March 2021 and the winners will be awarded a PHF to give to someone of their choice. This is a bit of fun, a bit of a promotional opportunity for your Club and should be an enjoyable challenge for all.

Club's AGM this Monday

The night, 7th December via Zoom and afterwards we will hear from guest speaker Scott Levi, the ABC morning announcer who is never short of a word and a very keen fisherman.

Our Club's Christmas party is at the Avoca SLSC in the large functions room so bring your partner along as we can have up to 50 on the dance floor order off the menu unless I can make some arrangements for a Christmas menu and we have some entertainment on the night.

A message from DG David

Over my 45+ years in Rotary I have met many Rotarians at Rotary-related events and on these occasions, I frequently ask, 'What does your club do?' In most cases the first thing they tell me about is all the Club's fundraising efforts and how much money they give to

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So, my next question is, "what else does your club do?" which is mostly met with an awkward silence or a long pause and sometimes a "What do you mean?" As they dig deep to come up with an answer.

Why you ask, do I ask these questions? It has been my observation that most clubs too easily see their main purpose as raising money for other organisations, and they expend most of their volunteer resources to raise money at the expense of becoming directly involved in serving the community. Even our own RDU magazine last couple of months had a flyer in it that asked you to leave some money in your will to the St Vincent de Paul society.

So, it should be no surprise to anyone that we are seen and known in our community as (the bank of Rotary). Just ask a no-Rotarian, what does Rotary or their local Rotary Club do? And I bet they will tell you that the club raises money to give away to other organisations.

Yes, I know that fundraising for Polio or to support of your local or global Rotary projects is certainly an act of service. But, I have also seen fundraising consume most of their club's energy, which leaves little left for rolling up their sleeves and engaging personally in service in their local

community.

After a fundraising project has finished, the first thought in the club is almost always, "what new fundraising project can we do now"?

Through my travels in the past and as DG this year I have heard many enthusiastic and inspiring stories from Rotarians related to their personal and direct involvement in service. And I have seen clubs energised and strengthened by their direct service projects. I have not seen a similar sense of enthusiasm from fundraising activities. We must be mindful of our members' age and their capacity to do service work, but there are numerous things out there that we can do in the community without taxing our older members to exhaustion.

Fundraising is still an important role in any Rotary Club, but it should not take the **(Self)** out of **(Service Above Self)**.

In closing I would like to wish you all a very happy and beloved Christmas or holiday time enjoy your time off and let's come back next year (we hope) to a world a little more normal. Even if you don't believe in Christ or Christmas it is a wonderful time to enjoy time with family and friends and to give to others.

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who helped make this year just that much better for people in this COVID-19 period.

And remember "If it stops being Fun stop doing it"

Cheers,
David Clark
District Governor 2020-2021 Rotary District 9685



We acknowledge the traditional owners of this land the Darkinjung & Guringai people and pay our respects to Elders both past and present.