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**Annual Review**

**Peter Maxwell**

**District 9930 Governor**

**2019/20**

**A Game of 3 Halves!!**

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**1st HALF**

* Club Visits (bar 1) completed by mid-October
* Membership seeing positive growth with D 9930 overtaking D 9940 to become, in membership terms, the largest District in New Zealand.
* New Club chartered (Rotorua Passport Club)
* Successful Zone Conference in Christchurch
* Rural Support actively engaged with DG visits

**2nd Half**

* Club physical meetings suspended
* All National, Zone and International Conferences cancelled
* RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award) - cancelled.
* RYE (Rotary Youth Exchange) – suspended until at least January 2021.
* RLI (Rotary Leadership and Information) - training seminar in April cancelled
* CLS (Club Leaders Seminar - formally District Training Seminar) in May Cancelled
* RANZSE – exchange to Australia Cancelled
* RFE (Rotary Friendship Exchange) visits to USA and UK – Postponed
* RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment) suspended.

BUT clubs adapted

* Zoom Meetings and Telephone trees established
* Community Support became the focus for many clubs
* Recruitment of new members through virtual inductions happened
* International Speakers “zoomed-in” to club meetings
* Clubs found that love and care between members flourished
* Rotary International at a District and International level continued to function
* First ever Virtual International Conference held.

**3rd Half**

* 10th May the country moved to Level 2 moving to Level 1 on 8th June
* Clubs able to hold physical meetings
* Clubs discovering what is the “new normal”
* Learning from the lessons of Lockdown – speakers, committee meetings etc.
* The importance of our “Rotary Family”
* We can be flexible and adapt to change – it is not the end of the world.
* Change does not lead to collapse.

**Where to from here?**

* Ensure that we do not drift back to our old ways
* Need to have more diversity in the full sense of the word
* Look to develop new clubs and satellites
* Nurture our new members. Let them bring into our clubs their new ideas and thinking

**But Thank You**

* It has been a privilege and pleasure to be your District Governor for 2019/20
* Thank you for your hospitality when I have been visiting clubs
* Thank you for the way that you have welcomed Mary
* We have discovered that sometimes good things come in small packages.
* Copies of my annual report are on the tables for you to read and take away.
* The “thank yous” don’t stop here ----------

**Certificates of Appreciation**

* Assistant Governor - Russell Kilpatrick
* PI Chair - Janine Branson
* RLI Chair - Roberta Budvietas
* ROZops Director - Fergus Cumming
* RYLA Committee - Mel Hopkins
* RYPEN Chair - Vivian Edgar

**Bulletin Award**  Rotary Club of Havelock North edited by Ian Holford **Communications Award**  Rotary Club of Cambridge

**Membership Development Award**  Rotary Club of Ahuriri Sunrise

**Outstanding Rotarian(s) of the Year**  Rotary Youth Exchange Committee

**District 9930 Service Above Self Award** PDG John Tarbutt

**And Finally**

A massive congratulations to PDG Geoff Mathis on being awarded Rotary’s top award

**The Service Above Self award**



**And Finally Finally (!)**

I wish Grant Spackman a FULL and fruitful year as our next District Governor

**District Activities**

**Dictionary Project (Usborne Dictionaries)**

**Team** – Lyn Fraser-Jones

**Activities**

* Distribute about 1200-1300 dictionaries per year.
* Seeing the looks on the children’s faces when they receive their books is the highlight.

**District Public Image**

**Team** – Janine Branson (Chair) Max Patmoy, Gavin Petrie, Ralph Slooten and David Hulme

**Activities**

* The committee continue to work mainly quietly behind the scenes sending out notices and the District Newsletter on behalf of the District Governor.
* The website is kept up to date, club officers and information updated in time for 1 July and resources distributed around the District as requested.
* Report on what is happening in the social media world and share articles on Facebook published by Rotary International/Rotary Oceania and other clubs.
* The Pubic Image Chair has represented the District on the RozCom committee
* Provided training at District Training Assembly/Rotary Leaning and Information/Online.
* **Covid** presented some challenges for the world which none of us expected and it was interesting and to see how everyone coped with these.
	+ A closed Facebook page was set up to enable DG Peter to communicate with the leaders in the District in order to communicate not only keep everyone up to date with Rotary’s position on Covid-19 but to allow a platform for those leaders to express their views/concerns.
	+ It was heartening to see the use of technology and how those clubs who embraced Zoom benefited from ‘hosting’ international visitors as speakers at their clubs – this really did embody the theme for DG Peters year of Rotary Connects the World and for many paved the way for new members of a younger generation to view Rotary in a different way and see an organisation which they could be a part of.

**District Training**

**Team** - Nick Dangerfield (Chair) Hywell Bowen, Doug Lang and Jacqui Mathews-Harris

**Activities** – 4 major training events.

* Asst Gov’s and district chairs training, (August)
* Presidents Elect Training Seminar (PETS) in November
* South Pacific PETs held March where all Presidents Elects from across New Zealand and the Pacific Islands come together in Auckland
* District Club Leadership Seminar (previously District Assembly) which is normally held on the first weekend of May but had to be cancelled due to Covid-19. However, to provide some support and connection for incoming club leaders eight zoom training sessions were held covering the roles of Treasurers, Community Service, Secretaries, Administration, Foundation, Youth, Public Image and Membership . Overall, just over 100 people attended the sessions. Thank you to the facilitators for their part in these Zoom meetings.

Thank you to DGE Grant Spackman who had oversight of this team.

**District 9930 Rotary Foundation Committee**

**Team** - David Campbell (Chair), Gretchen Earle (Foundation Administrator), Michelle Tanner (Programmes & Promotion Chair), Ken Smith (Giving Chair), Alan Hitchcock (Grants Chair), Mark Gould, Jacqui Mathews-Harris, John McNickle, Pat Taylor, John van Boheemen, Chris Webb, John Reid (Minutes) Ray Kitchen & Rob Rowson

**Activities**

David Campbell writes - The district Rotary Foundation Committee began the year under the leadership of a new Chair, David Campbell, of Maketu Rotary. As in past years, they started the year with implementing the Rotary Foundation District Grant programme. 13 District Grants were reviewed and approved representing 15 clubs and a wide range of projects.

And then Covid-19 struck. Implementation of several District Grant projects was disrupted or delayed. The Foundation Committee responded. Two clubs had to rethink their projects, one in Cambodia and the other in Vanuatu. At the same time, The Rotary Foundation shifted its focus to Covid-19 and encouraged clubs with unspent District Grant money to redirect funds to Covid-19 needs. Both projects have been revised. Other District Grant projects will be carried over and completed in the new Rotary Year.

The committee also responded to the Foundation’s global focus on Covid-19 which resulted in a new District Grant strategy for 2020-21. Departing from the past approach of soliciting applications from individual clubs, the strategy for the new Rotary Year will result in a single district wide project implemented in 4 regions of the district. A team for four coordinators set about to implement this strategy, Pat Taylor (Tauranga Sunrise), Linda Bonne (Whakatane Sunrise), Aaron Kearney (Waikato Sunrise) and Jacqui Matthews-Harris (Napier), along with Alan Hitchock (Tauranga Te Papa) our Grants Sub-committee chair.

Recently you all received an announcement of the first major achievement of their efforts. Our district is entering into a partnership with Age Concern, a highly regarded nationwide organisation serving seniors. In the next few weeks you will be hearing a lot more about this partnership and the 13 Age Concern chapters that will be working with every club in our district to address the needs of seniors in the aftermath of Covid-19. It’s another example of the power of partnerships.

Another milestone of 2019-20 was the participation of two of our clubs in Rotary Foundation Global Grants. This year Havelock North Rotary, under the guidance of David Smith, joined with The Rotary Club of Jahú-Leste (Brasil) in a US$33,000 Global Grant project to provide facial prosthetics to post-surgery cancer patients. The unique part of this project is that the prosthetics are created with 3D printing. And Te Awamutu Rotary partnered with The Rotary Club of Thimpu (Bhutan), and with Interpast, on a US$81,000 project to carry out reconstructive surgery, and local medical training in Bhutan. The project was put on “pause” due to the Covid-19 travel ban but will resume once the skies are open again. This Global Grant is driven by the irrepressible Elizabeth Wright who is well known in our district.

Our district also joined with other Rotary districts in several Global Grant projects. This occurred though our annual allocation of Rotary Foundation District Designated Funds. We directed $US10,000 to a project in Madagascar that trains young people to do computer coding. It’s a project led by a dynamic 29-year-old Kiwi, and fellow Rotarian, from Auckland. We joined with Rotary Districts in the UK to support a Mercy Ship Global Grant project in Liberia. And most important, we contributed US$20,000 to the “Give Every Child a Future” immunisation project in the Pacific Islands. Michelle Tanner (Matamata) is a key player in this major Centennial project, which is supported by Rotarians throughout NZ and Australia, commemorating Rotary’s 100 years of service in the South Pacific. And Michelle is also well known for her tireless energy as the champion of Ending Polio. Our district committed US$15,000 to the eradication of Polio.

And the final decision of the District Foundation Committee this past year was to disburse all our remaining District Designated Funds to the Rotary Covid-19 Disaster Response Fund. The Rotary Foundation’s global response to this pandemic was, and continues to be, impressive. We are part of that response.

Don’t forget every one of these amazing projects was funded by you. Every dollar committed by our District Foundation Committee to every District Grant project, to every Global Grant project, to end polio, to respond to Covid-19, came from your contributions. When you want to know how your Foundation dollar is being spent, look in a mirror. We are the ones doing the work of The Rotary Foundation. These are our projects, our partners, our collective effort to do good in the world.

So how is giving to the Foundation going? Well, our Foundation Chair tells me that it’s good news and bad news. Covid-19 has resulted in a giving decline to almost every charity and giving to The Rotary Foundation is no exception. Club fundraising was interrupted by Covid, and club meetings were in recess, which resulted in less club giving to The Rotary Foundation. And individual giving by Rotarians is also down. The impact of Covid-19 has a long reach. Three years from now our DG Nominee, Kevin Forgeson, will be laying the Foundation Groundwork for his successor and because the past years giving determines the amount of our District Designated Funds allocation in 2023-24, the amount available for District Grants and Global Grants will be significantly lower than it was for my year.

But there is on bright note on the giving front. This year US$165,000 was contributed in our district to The Rotary Foundation Endowment Fund. This represents a large bequest from the estate of Les McGreevy, a long-time member and past president of Gisborne Rotary, and a major contribution from two active Rotarians in our district. This good news means that these Endowment Fund contributions will continue to generate earnings, a portion of which will return to our district every year for years to come.

The Rotary Foundation is not a separate part of Rotary, it “is” Rotary. It’s our collective way of carrying out Rotary’s motto of “Service Above Self”. We are The Rotary Foundation.

**Georgia Scholarships**

**Team** – Michelle Tanner

**Activities**

The GRSP student, at the time of writing, has just returned and is currently in isolation. Michelle will be meeting with her asap. She has had a fabulous year!

**Give Every Child a Future**

**Team** – Michelle Tanner

**Activities**

Michelle writes – “I really appreciate the support that D9930 has given the project. I think we are leading many districts across both countries”

**Interact**

**Team** – Linda Bonne

**Activities**

Report to follow

**Interplast**

**Team –** Elizabeth Wright

**Activities**

* Interplast District Chair Elizabeth Wright visited clubs particularly in the Whakatane, Rotorua and Hawkes Bay areas.
* Attended and had an Interplast stand at the NZ-Australian District Conference in Christchurch.
* Continued with delicate and challenging ongoing negotiations with a Global Grant host Club and District in Bhutan/Nepal. The Global pandemic has put a temporary halt to this.
* The pandemic has led to us severely curtailing activities, however, virtual learning and mentoring were already in place, and were ramped up to support the local medical staff in multiple hospitals withing the 17 Asia/Pacific countries until face to face work can continue.
* During lockdown Elizabeth joined Club zoom meetings. Some Clubs are continuing using this platform and so she is connecting to their normal face to face meetings on zoom, while being available to travel to speak to others.
* Elizabeth has been heartened by and is extremely grateful for the support from Rotarians, Clubs and District - their interest in Interplast and the understanding of the importance and sustainability of the work. Her case study patients are so thankful for the opportunity to rebuild their lives.
* With training and mentoring of local medical staff, plastic surgery has the power to change the future of entire communities. In District 9930 we can be immensely proud of our involvement with this Rotary initiated programme.

**J R McKenzie Youth Education Fund**

**Team** - Elizabeth Dunn (Chair) Tony Richardson, Graham Jull, Russell Young

**Activities**

* The year was interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which effectively put a brake on applications for the final third of the year. Thus although $81,000 was received from the JR McKenzie Trust, only half of this amount ($39,616) was disbursed in response to claims. This situation may well self-correct over coming months as the consequences of the pandemic and economic recession are reflected in increased economic hardship.
* The breakdown of claims was like previous years, with the greatest proportion (86%) being for school uniforms. A further 6% related to educational camps, with minor amounts being claimed for stationery, glasses, epipens and other clothing.
* Payments are now all online, with some going through Rotary clubs and some direct to trusted social agencies. Although the direct payment method is more efficient and less likely to generate errors, it has the potential side-effect of reducing the visibility of the local Rotary club, and we should probably be recommending to clubs that they make contact with the social agencies at the time the grant is made. The committee enables this to happen by advising the club at the time the grant is made, but to date without any recommendation for club action.
* Following from the analysis done last year, which showed that applications to the fund are closely correlated with the level of engagement by clubs with the committee, it was recommended to the incoming District Governor that the committee should be significantly expanded, and this has been done to take effect from 1 July 2020. This expansion will require some changes in the way applications are processed, and this process is still being developed. Ultimately, the best solution would be for applications to be made, reviewed and paid online, but this is not currently achievable with existing software. Until an integrated system can be developed, constraints will exist on who can approve and countersign payments. Procedural aspects of the change are however not an immediate concern, as the principal focus of the expanded committee is to increase awareness of the Fund among local Rotary clubs, rather than to scrutinize individual applications.

**Membership**

**Team** – Mike Smith (Chair), Claire Mead, Janine Branson

**Activities**

* The membership numbers were positive at the beginning of the past Rotary year, with fluctuations up and down until Covid-19.
* January saw the charter of the Rotary Club of Rotorua Passport, our first new club of sometime with 21 members chartered.
* Work was also done to form a Satellite club in Whitianga as part of Thames Club. Although temporarily stalled it is still hoped that this will go ahead.
* Areas in the District which identifies where the establishment of new clubs are a possibility. This will be further developed at our first 2020 meeting in August.
* Rotary clubs move slowly, and it is challenging to get clubs to firstly think about the need for new members and then to appoint a membership champion!!
* Following on from this clubs need to step up more positively about consideration of member retention; members need to be valued, respected, and appreciated.
* Covid-19 influenced membership numbers with some clubs having members making the decision to not return to Rotary, for various reasons i.e. Health, Financial, done their part over the years, and moving out of the location.
* A plea - when a member moves locations their current President should contact the Assistant Governor or Club President of the new area and introduce the Rotarian coming their way. Something that is often forgotten about.
* Many clubs very successfully used ZOOM to communicate as well as club bulletins. Most clubs who used Zoom and other technology to stay in touch during lockdown are that much stronger for this activity.

**PolioPlus**

**Team** – Michelle Tanner

**Activities**

Michelle reports a difficult year for the programme. No real highlights. Just been encouraging clubs to continue with contributions. I have found it difficult to manage this on my own and have asked Jacqui Mathews-Harris to help.

**Rotary Australia and New Zealand Student Exchange – RANZSE**

**Team** – Sue Janes

**Activities**

* 3 students completed the application and interview process in D9930 unfortunately, due to the limited number (5) applying from Australia to match with the NZ students (12 from the country), only one from D9930 managed to match.
* Due to the Covid-19 situation getting more serious down-under, the Australian district coordinator of the only Australian district participating, along with the agreement of his DG, pulled the plug on the exchange on the Friday before New Zealand went into lockdown. Students were informed, and disappointed. Once lockdown took place, our D9930 family were more settled about the decision. The girls have continued to keep in touch and are determined to meet face-to-face sometime in the future.
* Australia had already stated that they would not participate in the 2021 exchange, due to districts merging and not sure how they would manage the RANZSE committees. So RANZSE is on hold now, but hopefully, in early 2021, we will begin sending out information for a RANZSE 2022 exchange!

**Rotary Friendship Exchange - RFE**

**Team –** Ken Collier (Chair), Colin Sheppard (Treasurer)

**Activities** - 2 Inbound Exchanged completed with 2 Outbound Exchanges postponed.

* Outbound exchange to Southern Alberta D 5360 in June / July 2019
* Outbound exchange to York D 1040 in September / October 2019
* Inbound Exchange from Greater Liverpool North Wales D 1180 was hosted February
* Inbound Exchange from York D 1040 was hosted in late March to early April.
* Two outbound teams were selected and prepared for travel to Western Kentucky D 6710 and the Greater Liverpool D 1180, both of which have had to be postponed because of Covid-19. These have been re-scheduled together with an Inbound exchange from West Kentucky in 12 months’ time.
* Plans for future exchanges are uncertain but an internal exchange with D 9980 in the South Island is in the process of being developed.
* The trans-Tasman bubble is also being eagerly awaited.

**Rotary National Science and Technology Forum**

**Team** – Jennifer Hamilton, Seddon Polglase

**Activities**

Jennifer writes – “The Science and Technology Summer School offers senior secondary students from throughout New Zealand the opportunity to explore Science and Technology courses at the University of Auckland and associated leading research establishments. Students can make informed choices about their future direction in these fields and prepares students for the transition to tertiary education. The Summer school is so much more than just academic opportunities – it is a place where young people can come together to enjoy each other’s fellowship. Through workshops lectures and recreation students live and breathe campus life. In these uncertain times are nation needs more people to go into science and technology work. I am always very humbled by the experts who give up their time to tutor the programme. Rotary’s assistance is vital is selecting and assisting young people to be part of the programme. The pastoral care provided by Rotarians and their partners is essential. This programme showcases Rotary at its best. Reports from the attendees of the programme speak volumes – this is a seminal moment in their lives. Most of our young people report back to their sponsoring Rotary Clubs – their presentations are wonderful, so much learning and personal growth has taken place. I encourage each club to work with their secondary school(s) to sponsor a student to this year’s (2021) event”

**Rotary Oceania Zone Operations (ROZOPS)**

**Team** – Colin Oleson

**Activities**

A big thank you firstly to PDG Fergus Cumming who has been District 9930’s representative on the ROZops board for several years. Unfortunately, he had to stand down at the end of 2019 due to ill health. Thank you also to PDG Colin Oleson who stepped up to take Fergus’s place.

**Rotary New Zealand World Community Service (RNZWCS)**

**Team** – Lynne Joseph

**Activities**

* Many Clubs throughout the District have been involved in multiple projects overseas and especially in the Pacific, collecting and shipping items of need to Fiji, Tonga and Samoa.
* Clubs have continued to support of Emergency Response Kits with 58 new ERKs being donated

**Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC)**

**Team** – Glenys Parton

**Activities**

**Report to follow**

**Rotaract**

**Team** – Richard Cogswell

**Activities**

Rotaract with District 9930 has still been a challenge with no Clubs to date.

During the year there has been a couple of enquiries from students in Hamilton, one was a Ellarose Kilinac who has travelled from overseas to study at Waikato University. Aaron Kerney (Hamilton) has been in touch with support and liaison through the University however Covid 19 has not helped but we are all still trying.

**Rotary Youth Programme of Enrichment (RYPEN)**

**Team** – Rowan Anderson, Brien Higgins

**Activities**

**HAWKES BAY** co-ordinator, Larry McKenna died last month – out condolences to her family. Carol Charman has been appointed as the new RYPEN Coordinator for Hawkes Bay. Carol has previously been the programme assistant for Larry. RYPEN is booked in Hawkes Bay for 9,10,11 April 2021.

**ROTORUA** co-ordinator, Richard Fuller, has advised me he is no longer in Rotary so have asked Henry if he knows what is happening now.

**BAY OF PLENTY** was all set to have their camp at the end of March but Covid pulled the plug on that. Looking forward the plan is to have the next camp at the end of March next year. In addition, another venue is being sought as Ngarmuahine is becoming too expensive.

WAIKATO had sent out letters to the Rotary clubs and schools for our camp at Lakewood Lodge 15/16/17 May. We were also cut down by Covid so will wait until next year as schools are still trying to catch up and we are not out of Covid yet.

**Rotary Youth Exchange – RYE**

**Team** – Kevin Forgeson (Chair) Dianne Forgeson, Roger Miller, Vivian Edgar, Helen Tattersall, Mary Bailey, Paul Higson, Rachel Dackerley, Vanessa Dodunski, Pip Feast, Corolyn Stevenson.

**Activities**

* COVID-19 has certainly provided some difficulties for our Youth Exchange Programme, but the year has had some good points.
* Five of our Inbounds decided to return home to Europe in March and April, but four decided to stay on for the duration of their exchange.
* Eight of our Outbounds have returned home to New Zealand but the remaining three in France and Switzerland plan to stay on until January.
* A new exchange partner in USA has been established and a rekindled relationship with Switzerland underway. It is planned to resume our relationship with Sweden and take on new partnerships with two additional Belgium districts.
* The committee is working well and has a new member on board who has taken over the role of Treasurer. Succession planning is under way with a new Chairman being planned for July 2021.
* The South Island tour which took place in November 2019 was a great success and was enjoyed by all our Inbound students. Unfortunately, the global COVID-19 pandemic meant that we had to cancel our planned tour for 2020. It is likely that our students will take part in a tour provided by a professional international student tour company so that they still get to enjoy time seeing the South Island.
* Our July, September and December Orientations for our Outbound were all successful.
* In October 2019 we were granted $10,000.00 from Vic Davis Trust which will go a long way in keeping the costs as low as possible for our Outbound students.
* The selection process for our 2021 Outbound students has been completed, however we are still trying to work through our options to see if an exchange is possible. We have been issued with a complex directive from Rotary International with a range of conditions that need to be satisfied before the exchanges can go ahead. At this stage it may be possible to send our six students to Switzerland, Austria, and Germany provided that international travel restrictions have been resolved and there is an availability of international flights. A decision will be made after our Chair’s conference on July 4 2020 as to whether we can give the programme the green light for next year.

**Rotary Youth Leadership Awards**

**Team** - Co-chairs Carmen Goodwin and Bill Robinson, Lynette Dolman, Secretary Deb Robinson, Libby Gairdner, Miranda Thomson, Martin Nelson, Shelly Good and Tomairangi Chaffey-Aupouri

**Activities**

Bill writes - No real highlights but we had a top programme ready to roll organised by Carmen Goodwin. COVID lockdown caused us to cancel this year’s programme. We had 36 applicants ready to complete this year’s RYLA, so thank the clubs for getting behind us. Many clubs had paid their fees, and most have been credited with the remaining clubs in credit for next year. A large percentage of this year’s applicants have shown interest in coming to RYLA in April next year (18th till 23rd).

**Shelterbox**

**Team** – Stephen Dorrington

**Activities**

Stephen writes - Highlights probably Otorohanga Book Fair Shelter box set up and display in October last year

**Tanzania Project**

**Team** – Geoff Mathis

**Activities**

Geoff writes - The Tanzanian Dairy project at Mwika has had a particularly good year - the $30,000 funding of the milk truck was finalised with the help of District funds. Additional funding came from the private sector (one personal contribution of $15,000) plus some top up from the Polish Government.

Six months ago, a new manager came on board. Adrian ( a TZ local with very good CV background) who initially was employed as a marketing person, which we had been fighting for a number of years but he had skills well beyond those needs. A food technologist and I from Christchurch - Rotarian Rod Finch are in regular contact with him as much as a support and guidance basis but also Rod’s technical knowledge is immense, and Adrian is a sponge to absorb and learn.

We were getting milk into schools; margins were not good but acceptance was high and then came along Covid-19 and school shutdowns. So the tough decision had to be taken to reduce supply and better match supply with the market.

So we have succeeded in reducing milk intakes from some farmers (mainly the 1-2 litre per day suppliers) which was loss making at the best of times.

A massive debt owed by Tanga Fresh milk Co-op , (a purchaser of surplus bulk milk) when I was there July last year was a major concern (70 million TZ dollars- 50-60,000 NZ dollars) - has finally been settled with all IOU's squared off - probably the biggest win with strong encouragement and guidance from our end. Tanga Fresh was a NZ story some 30 yrs ago.

The other achievement over the last 18 mths is as Rotary and MFAT signed off of their funding program, with the project the Polish Government has coming on board with some positive funding streams and just as importantly hands on support - I challenge them on some points of view from time to time (at times a silent reply 😢) but they were a major contributor to a retail outlet for local farmer’s needs. (A farm Source/ Farmlands type store)

So, the project is ongoing, always frustrations but farmers and the community have a greater secure source of income for their milk supplied than ever before.

**Youth Scholarships**

**Team** - Michelle Tanner

**Activities**

Nothing to Report

**AREAS**

**Area 1**

**AG** – Ken Smith

**Activities**

Ken writes - The highlight for me was the way Area 1 Clubs each separately pulled through a very difficult year and dealt with the various challenges that they each have faced and in particular how they dealt with the Covid 19 crisis and continued to serve their communities.

Members have gained a renewed focus and enthusiasm for Rotary and the fellowship of their fellow members because of the Covid 19 lockdown.

**Area 2**

**AG** – Evan Cowan

**Activities**

Otorohanga.

* Held no meetings over lockdown.
* Continued planning for book sale and community directory (regular projects)
* Maintained membership unchanged at 19.  (There are a couple we don't see however)
* Maintained sufficient funds to operate satisfactorily although low interest rates mean we cannot distribute much without extra fundraising.

Te Kuiti

* Held several Zoom meetings over lockdown.
* Lost several members who didn't come back after lockdown.
* Continuing with regular community projects.
* Operating well at the local level.
* Kevin Forgeson has been appointed to District Governor Nominee

Te Awamutu

* Gained 5 members from the closure of the Kihikihi Rotary Club.
* Much larger and stronger club than the other two, which is reflected in the more active support for projects, both local and overseas.

**Area 3**

**AG** – David Hulme

**Activities**

* Putaruru celebrated their 70th anniversary with a dinner and they also opened a toilet block in a nature area in town
* Tokoroa hosted a RFE team from Northern Wales and Greater Liverpool and along with Matamata participated in a very successful toy drive for Women’s Refuge in association with the Warehouse.
* Matamata has run several successful fundraising projects including Red Nose Day in town and the toy collection as well as Christmas Tree Sales and being involved with a combined District Grant application for an overseas project.
* Cambridge has been very busy with a movie night for Polio Plus (which included Matamata club members), as well as supporting numerous local charities in a very busy year (sorry Robyn has not got back to me which is very unusual and I did not take notes at their changeover but maybe you can remember some of their successes from that night?)

**Area 4**

**AG** – Richard Hunt

**Activities**

The AG and the District Governor Peter Maxwell were well received and encouraging. Much emphasis was placed on working together and increasing the Rotary profile in our communities, as well as supporting the International body and its worthy projects, especially relieving of polio worldwide. Although the Covid-19 pandemic halted much of the involvement with club projects, it did allow for the zoom technology to evolve as a real means to communicate at club and individual group level. The clubs were encouraged in their sharing and maintaining knowledge and updates and agreed that it had been a valuable resource. However, it was inevitable that there would be membership casualties from the break due to illness, finance, and absences. It is pleasing to report that membership has been maintained despite this, and new members were being added. Women have continued to add value to Rotary and now occupy directorships and vice president positions in the clubs.

Thames has focused on raising funds for the lifeboat, and Paeroa featured in many social projects within the town. Morrinsville and Te Aroha raised money locally by auctions. These were enjoyed jointly by clubs including Matamata. Other significant fundraising was with the fertiliser drive, and battery collection, stewardship of the rugby gates, and catering for events in the community. The new initiative to develop the Hauraki Trail has now begun to flourish and all the clubs have members once again clubs to establish and update this extremely popular tourist attraction.

The cancellation of the 2020 Rotary Conference in Rotorua was a major disappointment. The conference committee had reached final organisational details prior to the cancellation. Clubs had worked together and included other 9930 clubs like Rotorua to develop the project. It has however been a real joy for members to realise that they had generated this project to its conclusion, and cases are happy to be made available to clubs should they choose to use them. It is also worthy of note that our exchange student Nuen was exemplary in his year living and working within Rotary before his enforced to France because of Covid-19.

Finally, it is interesting to note the operational changes that clubs are trying as they seek to encourage and sustain new and existing members. Some maintain the weekly meeting and meal with great effect and add social events to maintain balance. Others have reverted to a bi-weekly club meeting interspersed with a social meal/ event. Another innovation was a club that changes its venue according to its programme. As a result, we as an Area, learn and encourage each other, and look forward to the new year programme.

**Area 5**

**AG** – Pauline Evans

**Activities**

* Main standout – chartering of the Rotorua Passport Club
* Excellent delivery scheme to support the community during lockdown

**Area 6**

**AG** – Ron Fyfe

**Activities**

As with everybody else it has been an unusual year with Covid 19 having a significant impact on clubs towards the latter part of the Rotary year. Overall, it has been a successful year with a good cohesive hard-working group of Presidents. We held 5 Joint Presidents Meetings which were well attended and received, DGE Peter’s attendance at our joint meeting of last year’s and this year’s Presidents was particularly appreciated.

We are constantly assessing where our clubs can join forces on joint projects and the main area of focus is on K Valley, said to be the largest wetland reclamation in the Southern Hemisphere. This was initially started by the four Tauranga Rotary Clubs as a millennium project and they are still involved mainly in regular tree planting days although the main management now is run by Council and Iwi. Tauranga Sunrise now hold an annual K Valley cycling event which is gradually building in popularity, it is hoped other clubs in future may help with this.

Tauranga Rotary Club held their successful annual book sale but now find it beyond the scope of their own club members so call on the help of Otumoetai and Katikati to assist along with many non-Rotarians. It is one of my ongoing challenges to encourage this sort of cooperation between clubs.

Katikati, being geographically apart from the four Tauranga Clubs tends to do its own thing very successfully but I am pleased to say that their Presidents are always keen to attend our joint meetings. Katikati is a very self-contained community and the Katikati Rotary Club is a strong contributor and driver for local causes.

Each club has continued with their main fund-raising events enabling funding to be distributed to their favourite projects although they are aware that following Covid this may not be so easy next year; money may not be so readily raised but this will not limit their efforts.

Covid 19 brought some interesting challenges but I am pleased to report that all the clubs managed to run at least some Zoom meetings, the highlight possibly being Tauranga Sunrise inducting three new members during a Zoom meeting. I was made aware of one of the benefits of the Zoom experience when I visited Tauranga Te Papa Club last week where their speaker was one of the leading lights in Weta Workshops giving a Zoom presentation, it made me realise that we need no longer be limited to local speakers, the world is our oyster for speakers.

All in all, an interesting and challenging year, I would like to finish by thanking past DG Peter for his untiring support during the year and look forward to working with Grant for the coming year.

**Area 7**

**AG** – Barbara Joyce and Russel Kilpatrick

**Activities**

Report Awaited

**Area 8**

**AG** – Donald (Scottie) McLeod

**Activities**

The End of year 2020 for the Rotary Clubs of the Eastern Bay Report. As you know it all started with a hiss and roar but came to a sudden halt when Covid 19 lock down hit. Some clubs had the odd virtual meeting, some had an enterprizing bulletin editor with regular editions of many humorous and interesting items in it, another club each member had to write a few word on what they had been up to or a story about something. All this kept the various clubs connected in some way which was important.

Kawerau Club had President Angus lead off well and he had time out just after Christmas but the Club has strong membership and carried on to the end of the rotary year and a new president, Lynette Dolman is being installed next week. This Club handled the lock down well and their bulletin was circulated around the whole of Area 8.

Opotiki Club is full of life for the whole year under the stewardship of Erica Tingcombe. They had lots of small and successful projects that kept them busy. Erica will be leading the Club next year again, so they are in good hands.

Whakatane Sunrise Club They had a quieter more and settled year this year under Gordon Faber. They seemed to have retained membership. The new President is Chris Bullen who is an experienced Rotarian.

Whakatane Club had an active year until lockdown. It is looking at a big project of restoring a School damaged by a cyclone in Fiji, Taveuni and the usual number of smaller local projects. Ian Finch has led the Club for two years and has handed over to John Puller who has a good team involved.

**Area 9**

**AG** – Gary Hemming

**Activities**

**Ahuriri**

Had a very quiet year but joined in with combined projects and their success story is their Interact Club with strong membership, projects and working with Rotary on a regular basis.

**Ahuriri Sunrise**

The **highlight of their yea**r was achieving a primary goal of handing over to Phil (incoming President) a healthy, happy, vibrant Club.

After the previous year being ‘disruptive’ for Ahuriri Sunrise, this was the goal. - Achieved.

President Lynne’s private goal for Membership was 10 new Members.

Achieved.  (well 8 and 2 more on 1 July before 7:30am).

**Taradale**

The Puketapu Auction and Fair.  It was the biggest one so far in terms of, number of stall holders, public attendance numbers, revenue for stall holders, profit for the club, member participation and interclub participation.  There were several other things, but the Fair would be the major one.  The increase in inter club co-operation during the year was very pleasing to see and it seems to be continuing.

**Napier**

Our major event was the Triple Mission Concert collection which raised some $50,000 for local charities. The main beneficiary was Women’s Refuge which following Shut Down proved a very worthy cause. Our Interact Club at Girls’ High continues to thrive.  Although we lost several members at the end of the year the club has finished strong with great fellowship and spirit.

**Greenmeadows**

Peter and his team had a good year, high on activity, positive membership, successful fund raising, social activity and working with the other clubs in Napier. There Star project was another particularly good RYPEN weekend.

**Area 10**

**AG** – Ken Haines

**Activities**

**Waipukurau** hosted the first RYDA programme which was attended by well over 100 students from several Central Hawkes Bay colleges.  Successful day for everyone concerned.

Several club members (under 70) assisted locals with shopping during Covid19 lockdown.

Initiated Zoom meetings very successfully.

A good vibrant club where having fun is mandatory.  Some excellent projects.

**Hastings** inducted two new members into the club only to see one of them die from a cancer that was diagnosed after she joined the club.  They continue to support the local community financially.  Unfortunately, the RYLA candidate they sponsored didn’t attend the week as it was cancelled.

**Hastings Karamu** were also affected by Covid however they were previously able to donate $75,000 to the Hastings Health and Fitness Centre at HB Sports Park.  Also financially supported a number of other local organisations.  No other major highlights but did attract several new members.

**Havelock North** had a good year especially in obtaining a Foundation Grant for the purchasing of 3-d facial rebuilding equipment in conjunction with a Rotary club in Brazil where a member had been visiting at a very opportune time on a Rotary Friendship Exchange.  The club held Polio Plus, and Foundation events sent 3 students to the National Science Forum and had a good number of Zoom meetings which including speakers from outside the Area including Sir Don McKinnon. Supported local organisations financially.  They lost their regular fundraiser so very quickly became security guards keeping people away from timber felling operations in Te Mata Park which helped raise money.

**Stortford Lodge** enrolled 6 new members on top of 7 the previous year.  Lost their Annual Quiz Night to Covid 19 so quickly initiated a firewood project which involved virtually all members including the new ones and raised a good amount of funds to continue assisting local community organisations and their Youth programme.  Ran regular Zoom meetings which were very well attended. Overall a very vibrant club with enthusiastic new members participating in projects and social gatherings.

**Area 11**

**AG** – Ray Kitchen

**Activities**

There are only 2 Rotary Clubs’ in Area 11 – Gisborne and Wairoa. Both are small in membership but never-the-less reasonably active in their districts.

GISBORNE:

Fortunately for Gisborne, their main fundraiser was able to take place just prior to the March 2020 Covid19 government-imposed lockdown. This takes the form of an annual duck race financially supported by both business duck sponsorship and public ticket sales.

Working bees are a periodic activity as and when assessed needs are warranted.

In December 2019, the Club was fortunate to receive a bequest from the Estate of a recently deceased member that was to the Rotary Club of Gisborne Charitable Trust. The amount was significant (similar amount bequeathed to the District Foundation) and the Club is now ensuring that a portion of these funds are retained for future growth while also identifying appropriate recipients for financial support of some of these funds. (ensuring that we do not assist other groups/organisations that were supported by the benefactor).

Unfortunately, members choose not to have Zoom meetings during the Covid lockdown which was a shame.

WAIROA:

Wairoa were also fortunate that they were able to complete most of their normal projects although the Book Fair had to be postponed due to Covid19.

Wairoa enjoyed Zoom meetings during the Covid19 lockdown period.

Both Clubs’ continue to “suffer” from static membership numbers. We all know what does not work in attracting new members, but what we do not know yet, is what does work in our 2 areas. Wairoa do experience members transferring out of their District and this never helps.

**Area 12**

**AG** – Ian Dykes

**Activities**

Report Awaited