

## Half-year update of Annual Report from Directors, 11 Dec 2017

The consolidated Annual Report from Directors was provided to members for the Changeover on Monday 26 June 2017. An update for the ensuing half-year follows.

### Achievements in the past half-year

The club welcomed two new members: Marianne Chiron and Dennis Chiron.

Efforts during this half-year were primarily focused on helping build our local community, via the monthly auction, Curryfest, work towards improving the capability of the community to respond to cardiopulmonary emergencies, and refurbishment of the Rotary Bus Shelter, as well as through a variety of donations.

The six auctions raised a near-record amount, just short of last year's record. Seven local helper groups benefitted from a share of the proceeds.

We began an exciting new project called Soap Aid to collect used motel soaps for sterilising and reshaping into soap for use in remote communities here and overseas where hygiene related disease can be addressed.

There was also a strong focus on the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, including running a scuba diving course for all of the District 9650 inbounders. This year we are hosting one of them, Matilde Jakobsen from Denmark, while our own Kiahni Huthnance is in Finland.

Work on programs that benefit local youth continued.

Internationally, we donated funds to help disadvantaged children in Nepal, India and Bangladesh, and refugees in Bangladesh and Myanmar.

### Helping build our local community

- via assistance for monthly auctions, seven local groups were able to benefit from donations totalling \$4,500. All provided excellent help on their day.
  - **Sherwood Creek Rural Fire Service**
  - **Woolgoolga High School**
  - **Rainbow Cottage**
  - **Woolgoolga Rural Fire Service**
  - **Sandy Beach Rural Fire Service**
  - **Interact Club of Coffs Harbour**
  - **Red Cross with Woolgoolga High School students**
- made a major contribution to a very successful **Curryfest**, especially through club representative **Pamela Fayle's** key role as co-organiser and Chair; also the Rotary team volunteering on the main day at the gate and at the special **Rotary stall**; and the Marketing Report subsequently done by **David Fayle**. At the Rotary stall, **Pam Stone** managed fundraising for bringing safe water into Indian schools.
- organised and ran a **Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and defibrillator course** for 17 local residents. The professional trainers commented on the excellent level of attention, positive attitude and solid basic skills. Participant comments were very positive and supportive. Congratulations and thanks to organisers **Dennis Houghton** and **Patty Delaney**, and trainers **Belinda Flynn**, **Dona Powell**, and **Alan Bell**. The Curryfest organisers donated \$500 to Rotary for our work at Curryfest, and this was used to fund the CPR course.
- undertook an **audit of automated external defibrillators (AEDs), their accessibility, and community awareness** in the district; the audit so far identified 38 defibrillators in this district; however, almost all of these have extremely restricted access, and community awareness is very poor.

- The **Rotary Bus Shelter** opposite Big Garden Furniture is looking better than ever after a marvellous facelift done by **Dennis Houghton**. With bigger Rotary wheels, now on a Rotary blue background, freshly painted and tidied, it looks fantastic.
- donated \$500 to the **CanDo Foundation**. The Coffs Coast & Clarence CanDo Cancer Trust supports patients and families attending the North Coast Cancer Institute. Help is typically in the form of payments to creditors: household bills, phone, gas, electricity, insurance etc; sometimes vouchers for food or petrol, or 'quality of life' items may also be provided. a Rotary team participated in the CanDo Bowls day.
- \$500 was donated towards the **Lifeshouse Church Community Cafe and Christmas Party**.
- the **C.ex Community Crew Sleep Out** received a \$200 donation. This event was one of the main priorities for the Coffs Interact Club. Held during June 2017, this annual event encourages all community members to register and sleep out for the night, enduring what 105,000 homeless Australians experience on any given night. It raised over \$60,000, split evenly between three charities that provide frontline assistance: Homes for Heroes, Warrina Domestic & Family Violence Specialist Services Cooperative, and Bridging the Gap Men's Resource Centre.
- An **avocado tree** was donated to the **Woolgoolga Community Gardens** presented by Patty Delaney at their Open Day. **Costa Georgiadis**, the special guest on the day, was present, and very interested in the Rotary aim to plant more trees, a particular interest of current Rotary International President, Australian **Ian Riseley**.
- maintained and updated the **Woolgoolga Heritage Walk website**, and monitored the reinstallation of two pairs of panels that had been removed. Nearly 17,000 Heritage Walk pamphlets have been distributed, and a further print run of 5,000 is about to be ordered, one-third funded by our club.
- sales of the latest print run of Yeates' **Woolgoolga: History of a Village** continued.

### Rotary Youth Exchange Program (YEP)

- All 12 of the District 9650 Youth Exchange Program (YEP) inbounders chose to spend a week with us, 8 of them doing a **scuba diving course**, while the other 4 snorkelled. Seven students completed the diving requirements for their Level 1 Open Water Diving qualification, though only one has so far completed the theory requirements. The club is very grateful to Friend of Rotary **Garry Kennedy** for organising and helping deliver this course and ensuring that everyone could attend. Thanks also to the families who hosted the students, and those who hosted functions (*details later*).
- **Kiahni Huthnance** is nearing the end of her year in Nokia, **Finland** and will return here in January 2018, coming out of the depth of northern winter into our summer. She is thoroughly enjoying her year and has made many friends. In July her host family took her to Sicily, a big contrast to Finland's coldest summer in 20 years. Recent highlights included a Weekend Festival, a weekend with her first host family in their summer cottage, a Rotary camp by a lake with the other exchange students, and running on a mossy, spongy swamp.
- YEP inbounder **Anneliese Schörghuber** returned home at the beginning of July to Graz in **Austria** after a wonderful year with us.
- Later in July **Matilde Jakobsen** arrived from Næstved, **Denmark**, for her year here, and settled in almost immediately. Highlights so far included snorkelling at Solitary Islands, the Coffs Coast Adventure Centre Commando Course at Bonville with other YEP students, Curryfest (including having a turban put on!), and a road trip with host family through north-western NSW as far as Lightning Ridge. Matilde is proving to be a very effective assistant auctioneer!

- Former YEP inbounder **Elisabeth de Halleux** (2011-12), from Belgium, came back for an extended visit, and spoke at a club meeting about her degrees and planned career in Biomedical Engineering.

### Providing opportunities and support for local youth ...

- two Woolgoolga High School students competed for the **Rotary District 9650 Chris Watson Travel Public Speaking Competition** club round. The winner in a line-ball decision was **Alexandra Rook**. **Kaleb Darbin** was a close runner-up, and the standard was impressive, with both speakers eloquent and interesting. Alexandra will compete in the semi-finals in February at Walcha.
- provided \$100 towards the primary school **Great Debate**. Five Public Schools competed: Corindi, Mullaway, Sandy Beach, Kororo and Woolgoolga. **David Fayle** attended the debate, held at Mullaway Primary School, and presented the prizes. The adjudicators were Alexandra Rook and Kaleb Darbin, our Public Speaking contestants.
- provided a **Club Scholarship** to a student moving from home schooling to assist with costs (\$150) to attend a camp to connect with his peers and develop independence.
- Two members attended **Getting Out There Day** for Year 12 Woolgoolga High students (many of whom helped at the auction, from which a \$750 donation was made to the school) Getting Out There Day is to prepare Year 12 students for life after school. **Patty Delaney** and **Mary Bryant** found the event very well run and pertinent. Youth Exchange Program inbounder **Matilde Jakobsen** also attended.
- supported end-of year presentation ceremonies (or the equivalent) in six local schools (total of \$1,150). At **Woolgoolga High School** the **Persistent Commitment to Education** awards went to **Chloe Chambers** (Year 7), **Lisa Turrise-Bizjak** (Year 8), **Byron Hartin-Singh** (Year 9), **Swe Aung** (Year 10), **Lochlan Beedie** (Year 11) and **Lyndon Coulson**. Members attended most of the ceremonies and presented awards.

### ... including planning 2018 events

- the fourth **Science and Engineering Challenge**, to be held on 10 April 2018 at Woolgoolga High School. The organising team comprises club members: Chair **Dennis Houghton**, **Karina Bettison**, **Leslie Casey**, **Peter Lacy** and **Pam Fayle**; **Phil Dalton**, Head Teacher Science at Woolgoolga High School, **Gordon Letts**, and Headmaster **Guy Wright**; and involves the program coordinators, the **University of Newcastle**.
- **Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA)** day for year 11 students, which will be held on 15 March 2018. Our application to Transport for NSW for funding from the **Community Road Safety Grants** Program was successful (as was our previous application, that part-funded last year's two RYDAs). Organiser **David Fayle** is hoping this grant will also help to improve the opportunity for students from **Southern Cross School Distance Education** to participate, as a few have done for the past two RYDAs.
- **Our Rotary Club's 30<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations in May 2018** when we are joining with the Woolgoolga Art Group to hold a month long art exhibition titled "Our Community: People, Places, Heart & Soul " which will celebrate Rotary's involvement in our local, national and international community including via displays of various Rotary projects as well as art by participating artists.

### Fundraising

- the six **Rotary auctions**, including a plant stall and a Christmas market, raised a near-record total of over \$20,600 (net of ads), not far short of last year's record for the first six months of the Rotary year. Helper groups, members, partners and others had to deal with very

large amounts of donated goods, and their sustained efforts were vital in achieving this result. A difficult continuing challenge for the club is to find enough buyers for the growing number of items donated by the generous local community. The newly purchased Rotary vehicle was put to work frequently.

- to support **Australian Rotary Health’s mental health research**, \$351 was raised via contributions from the **Recreational Vehicle Fellowship of Rotarians** who came to our club meeting, & from those who enjoyed our Hat Day on **Melbourne Cup Eve** at the Micheners.
- The **Rotary stall at Curryfest** raised \$190 for a project helping schoolchildren in India, covered in the next Section.
- Sales of the **Yeates book** (*Woolgoolga: History of a Village*) recouped the cost of the latest reprint run, and delivered a small profit. The sales of the remaining books will be 100% profit.
- almost \$22,000 has already been raised this year, not including the \$2,700 RYDA grant.

Six Rotary auctions (net of ads)	\$20,655
Rotary stall for India water project	\$190
Funds raised for mental health research	\$351
Curryfest volunteering donation	\$500
Yeates book sales (net of production cost)	\$152

## International

International work over the half-year focused on helping children in northwestern India, Nepal and Bangladesh, and refugees in Myanmar and Bangladesh:

- the proceeds of the September auction **Plant and Produce Stall** comprised the lions’ share of the \$750 donation to support children in an orphanage in Kathmandu, **Nepal**, the **Social Development Centre**. Over \$6,250 of support has now gone to this orphanage directly through the club.
- Funds were raised at the **Rotary stall at Curryfest** to extend the District project aimed at providing a **safe water supply for schools in northwestern India**. A Rotary Foundation Global Grant is currently being used to install water purification units in 80 schools in Punjab State and adjoining States, helping about 40,000 children. Our \$750 donation last year effectively funded three such units. This project (an initiative of Rotary Club of Tamworth) follows the successful installation of toilets for girls in a similar number of schools, many of which also needed safe water. The project helped celebrate the one hundredth year of **The Rotary Foundation**, founded in 1917.
- The ongoing crisis in Bangladesh and Myanmar caused by a million **Rohingya refugees** fleeing Myanmar is being tackled by **Red Cross**, which has teams on the ground offering relief on both sides of the border; has opened an emergency hospital; is helping people access emergency shelter, toilets, food and safe drinking water; is providing personal and social support, and establishing safe spaces for women and children; and is helping to reconnect families who became separated as they fled. Our \$500 donation will be matched 1:1 by the Australian Government.
- **Operation Cleft** is a unique Rotary project that provides free cleft repair surgery for underprivileged children in **Bangladesh**. This country is afflicted with a remarkably high incidence of cleft palate, and 40% of its people living in poverty. Children grow to adulthood untreated and ostracised by society, and suffering many problems. Surgical repair transform lives. \$200 donation.

## Continuing support for Australian Rotary Health

- our donations for mental health to Australian Rotary Health have already been mentioned.
- we also continued to commit \$50 to **Australian Rotary Health** for every **guest speaker**. Australian Rotary Health's major focus is mental health. Cancer is an additional focus. It also provides rural nursing and rural medical scholarships, as well as research grants & PhD scholarships.

## Soap aid – recycling and improving hygiene and health

- Partnering with Rotary International, **Soap Aid** aims to save and improve the lives of children in disadvantaged communities through the facilitation of improved hygiene practices around the use of soap and to contribute to a reduction in environmental degradation through soap recycling. The partnership with Rotary is to implement a pilot collection program, and we are now a part of this. The work of Soap Aid will also help in the fight against **trachoma in indigenous populations**. The club's involvement is an initiative of **Kim Thompson**. Information packs have been provided to a number of prospective accommodation providers in the region, and Oz Berries CEO **Kamaldeep Singh Clair** has kindly agreed to provide a collection area, into which we have placed pallettes.

## Two new members

- New members are the lifeblood of the club, so we were doubly delighted to induct two new members: **Marianne Chiron** and **Dennis Chiron**. We wish them a fulfilling and enjoyable membership.

## Communication and publicity

We recognise the important role of communication and publicity in making the community (including our own members) aware of what we do.

- The new **auction vehicle** has been very effectively “badged” with prominent signs and logos **advertising** Rotary and the major sponsors of the vehicle purchase and associated costs. Now, awareness-raising happens every time the vehicle is used, whether for auction pickups, or other club work such as the trip to Uralla for the Youth Exchange Program.
- The refurbishment of the **Rotary Bus Shelter** promotes the club more effectively.
- The **Facebook page** continued to be very effectively maintained by **Leslie Casey** and **Patty Delaney**: <https://www.facebook.com/rotaryclubofwoolgoolga>. So far, 537 different Facebook users have “liked” the site; the number increased 40% during the past 12 months, and is more than 2.3-fold higher than 2 years ago.
- Maintained the **Club website** [www.woolgoolgarotaryclub.org.au](http://www.woolgoolgarotaryclub.org.au). The live feed from our Facebook site is important to maintain the information flow and timeliness of the website.
- Continued to produce a high-quality bulletin for each non-auction meeting, the **Woopi Whisper**, current and past issues of which may be downloaded from the website.
- A promotional **stall** was set up at Curryfest, partly to publicise Rotary's work and attract potential new members.
- Newspaper **advertisements** during the two weeks leading up to auction day continue.
- Pamela Fayle attended a seminar for Rotary Clubs in the area at **Coffs Coast Advocate**.
- 12 articles in **The Woolgoolga Advertiser**, 8 with colour images; and 2 articles in the **Coffs Coast Advocate**, both with colour photos. The Woolgoolga Advertiser will cease publication this month, and the distribution of the Coffs Coast Advocate will be extended northward.

This will obviously change the circle of readers reached by our auction advertising and press coverage, and could potentially assist in attracting more auction buyers from further south.

- Coverage of some of those articles on the Coffs Coast **Advocate website**.

### **We continued to strive to run an active, attractive & fulfilling club ...**

- Social events included **beach reserve BBQs** to **welcome incoming YEP Matilde Jakobsen** and for the club's **Christmas Party** (to be held today); **dinner meeting** at the **Woolgoolga Art Gallery**, with plenty of lively conversation and ideas flowing, and delicious food catered by WAG members using the brand new kitchen; and **Melbourne Cup Eve** on 6 November at **Norm and Helen Michener's** home, where guests put on a great banquet, and the traditional horse race and quirky obstacle course game dreamed up by **Glenda Kennedy** caused plenty more hilarity, particularly when a spectacular electrical storm put us in darkness – which didn't really make much difference to the blindfolded person putting a tail on interesting places on a horse!
- To welcome medical student **Jane Ripley**, here for a 2-week posting, **hosted by Lynda Hagar**, 25 people greatly enjoyed the **visit to Yarrawarra Gallery and dinner**, and were treated to two absorbing talks and an educational quiz. The gallery itself was very impressive, and curator and artist Alison Williams welcomed us. The food was exceptional, and was based on traditional ingredients, from duck, crocodile & kangaroo to pepperberry and lemon myrtle.
- The **auction shed** is increasingly a hive of activity for many members – even on non-auction days. Their efforts continued to make improvements inside and outside the shed. A concerted effort to make the shed sales “**plastic bag free**” has been largely successful.
- Our program of interesting **guest speakers** (in addition to our Public Speaking contestants and Elisabeth de Halleux, already mentioned) included **District Governor Bob Ryan; Margaret Ryan**, about her Partners Project – Stem Cell Regeneration in the Muscle Tissue of the Heart; **Louise Hardman**, on an initiative aimed at tackling plastic recycling; **Sam Birch** on Boomerang Bags; **Cherie Topfer** on programs to help young people transition from school to the workplace; **Belinda Flynn** on defibrillators; **Tracey Tierney** on STARTT (Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors); podiatrist **Jacqui Bruce; Bob Palmer** on the Yarrawarra Aboriginal Cultural Centre; and (at Yarrawarra) Dr **John Drinkwater** outlining what he has learned working with indigenous people in many parts of Australia.
- Members of the **Recreational Vehicle Fellowship of Rotarians (RVFR)** visited one meeting, and some outlined interesting projects happening in their bailiwicks. **John Arkan** also provided them a tour of the Guru Nanak Sikh temple. **Leslie Casey** took some of the group to join a sewing session with the Glenreagh Creative Group.
- Members presenting included **Kim Thompson** on Soap Aid and (at Yarrawarra) on Bulgarr Ngaru Medical Aboriginal Corporation; and newly joined **Dennis Chiron** on his initiative Business Supporting Our Veterans.
- **Changeover** was celebrated at the C.ex Club, and the beautifully decorated room was buzzing with a full house of over 50. Assistant Governor **James Christian** and his Rotarian partner **Diana** came from Bellingen to attend.
- Members were challenged (and educated) by **quizzes** focused on caravans (when the RVFR were with us) and twice on Aboriginal topics.
- At the Special General Meeting at Woolgoolga Art Gallery, members adopted a **revised Constitution and Bylaws**.

### ... involved in the wider Rotary family ...

- The scuba diving course for District YEP students was already mentioned. YEP Director **Patty Delaney** and **Garry Kennedy** promoted the Scuba Diving Course during the Bonville camp, and both drove to Uralla to collect the dive students from the western part of the District. **John Arkan** gave the students a tour of the Guru Nanak Sikh temple and explained Sikhism.
- President **Pamela Fayle** attended a cluster Presidents and Secretaries meeting in Dorrigo, while Secretary **Patty Delaney** attended one in Coffs Harbour.
- The club is organising the Woolgoolga portion of the visit of a Rotary **Group Studies Exchange (GSE) team** from **Uganda** on Wednesday 21 February 2018.
- Our donations to Australian Rotary Health and Operation Cleft have already been mentioned.

### ... underpinned by the contributions of volunteers, both members and friends

- Essential to our fundraising is the **ongoing work** in collecting donated goods to auction, organising and storing them, and disposing of rubbish. The volume of donated goods continues to increase, partly as a result of increasing awareness of Rotary's contribution to the community and the attendant goodwill.

### Recognition of club and personal achievement

- **Rotarian of the Year** for 2016–2017 was awarded to **Patty Delaney** for her exceptional contribution, including Youth Exchange Program (YEP)-related work, including outbunder interviews in Walcha, hosting Anne, and hosting the 2016 dive students; S&E Challenge organising committee; occupational health and safety work, especially re auction; club Facebook page; assisting with Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA) day, the Swap Party, helicopter golf ball drop & Bowelscan; inter-auction work; Rotary stall at Community Garden; and attending the District Assembly. Since then, she has continued at an even more frenetic pace!
- **David Fayle** was conferred a rare honour at the 2016 Changeover, a second (**Sapphire**) **Paul Harris Fellow** award for ongoing contribution. He organised and ran Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA) days; compiled Annual and half-yearly Reports & *Woopi Whispers*; assisted with auction pickups etc; assisted with S&E Challenges, Bowelscan and other events; arranged the reprinting of the Yeates book (*Woolgoolga: History of a Village*); played a major role in creating the Woolgoolga Heritage Walk; prepared Curryfest Market Research Reports and worked at Curryfests; maintained the club website; and has worked extensively on the Board.
- Our club was presented with a **Certificates of Appreciation** from **Woolgoolga Red Cross**, and from the **Woolgoolga and Northern Beaches Chamber of Commerce** on behalf of the Curryfest Committee for our work on Curryfest.

### Valete

With deep sadness we must record the loss of two men who contributed much to our club:

- **John Mitchell**, member, passed away on 21 October 2017. He lost his battle with cancer. In his short time with us, he made a significant and devoted contribution, despite his health problem. Our condolences to Cathie and to family and others close to John.
- **Merv Richardson** (James Mervyn) passed away on 29 October 2017. "Rowdy" was a well-loved member of our club from 2004 to 2011, and later a Friend of Rotary, and he and wife Joy contributed much to our club service and fellowship. Club members and partners assisted with catering a celebration service in his honour.

## Conclusion

Woolgoolga Rotary's achievements over the past six months augur well for the rest of this Rotary year, and beyond. Rotary's 2017–2018 theme is another particularly apt one for our club: "Rotary: making a difference". This small club has a strong track record of overachievement in making a difference, particularly in the local community, as the club approaches its 30<sup>th</sup> birthday on 21 June 2018.

### *Donations 2017–2018 so far*

#### *Helping build our local community*

Via assistance for Rotary's monthly auctions, 7 local groups were able to benefit from donations totalling \$4,500.

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation & defibrillator course for locals	\$180
Lifehouse Church Community Cafe	\$500
CanDo Cancer Trust (supports local cancer patients & families)	\$500
C.ex Community Crew Sleep Out	\$200

#### *Opportunities and support for local youth*

Rotary Youth Driver Awareness day (advance spending)	\$658
Primary school Great Debate (Mullaway Public School)	\$100
Club scholarship (assisting one recipient)	\$150
Woolgoolga High School (6 awards for end-of-year presentations)	\$150
Woolgoolga Public School (end-of-year presentations)	\$200
Mullaway Public School (end-of-year presentations)	\$200
Corindi Public School (end-of-year presentations)	\$200
Sandy Beach Public School (end-of-year presentations)	\$200
St Francis Xavier Primary School	\$200

#### *Supporting Australian causes*

Australian Rotary Health (to add: \$50 per guest speaker at club meetings)	\$351
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#### *and International causes*

Myanmar Crisis Appeal (through Red Cross) for Rohingya Refugees	\$500
India: safe water for schools (set aside for extension of District project)	\$190
Operation Cleft	\$200
Social Development Centre Orphanage, Kathmandu, Nepal (from plant stall)	\$750

Youth Exchange Program costs	\$986
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Subtotal	\$6,415
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Donations to auction helper groups	\$4,500
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<b>TOTAL (including cost of running youth programs)</b>	<b>\$10,915</b>
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- Pledge for proposed Multipurpose Centre for Woolgoolga & Northern Beaches \$20,000

## A partial thank you list

### Groups of members

- All the members who have helped at or for any of the six auctions.
- All those who helped with Rotary projects or representation not mentioned here.
- All members, partners and Friends who helped with the Celebration Service for Merv Richardson.

### Members

Board members for their devoted work:

Pamela Fayle, President; Director Public Relations  
Geoff Royal, President-nominee, Director Vocational Service  
Patty Delaney, Secretary and YEP  
Kim Thompson, Treasurer  
Dick Matthews, Director Auctions  
Karen Sedgwick, Director Club Service  
Norm Michener, Vice President, Immediate Past President  
Mary Bryant, Director Youth/New Generations  
Lyndee Hagar, Director Community Service  
David Fayle, Director International Service  
(Membership is shared responsibility)

Rod Mackenzie, Sergeant; work at Curryfest.

The late John Mitchell for his work, particularly for Bowelscan and the auctions, despite illness.

Patty Delaney for hosting YEP Matilde; for her work for the 2017 dive course, helping organise, publicise, hosting dive students, organising functions, and transporting students, including a trip to Uralla; for helping audit defibrillators and assisting with organising the CPR course; presenting a tree to the Community Gardens, and representing the club at a Cluster meeting, a school presentation ceremony, and Getting Out There Day; ; work at Curryfest; work for the Soap Aid project; and for auction work, including OH&S briefings for helpers.

Dennis Houghton for helping audit defibrillators and organising the CPR course; for refurbishing the Rotary Bus Shelter; for auction pickups and other work; judge at Public Speaking; and for further work on the Science and Engineering Challenge.

Dick Matthews for organising and carrying out many auction pickups, and a large amount of other auction-related work, including inter-auction sales; and for work at Curryfest.

Norm Michener for managing the auction vehicle, including badging and insurance; organising and carrying out many auction pickups, and a large amount of auction-related work; work at Curryfest, including initiating Rotary stall; work for the Soap Aid project; and hosting Melbourne Cup Eve.

Pamela Fayle, Curryfest Chair and co-organiser (Rotary representative on committee); and for hosting & transporting dive course students; planning to celebrate 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary; representing the club at events, including meeting on future of planned Multipurpose Centre, Cluster meeting, *Advocate* meeting, Red Cross function for Seniors, and school presentation ceremony; compiling two quizzes at very short notice; and for auction work.

Kim Thompson for further work in establishing the Soap Aid project, and for auction work.

David Fayle for Woopi Whispers and this Half-Yearly Report; the Curryfest Market research Report; work at Curryfest; auction pickups and work; fundraising poster on India project; helping host & transport dive course students; successfully applying for the RYDA grant; work for the Soap Aid project; representing club at Great Debate; maintaining club website.

Echah Wright for work on the plant stall and for auction work, and for hosting dive course students.

Lyndee Hagar for organising the plant stall raffle; organising the Yarrawarra visit and quiz; preparing 3 Woopi Whispers; and for auction work.

Leslie Casey for maintaining the very effective Facebook page; taking members of the RVFR to visit the Glenreagh Creative Group; work at Curryfest; and for auction work.

Glenda Kennedy for hosting a dive course function; assisting with accounts audit; organising activities at Melbourne Cup Eve; ; work at Curryfest; and for auction work

Pam Stone for running the Rotary stall & fundraising for the India project, and for auction work.

Karina Bettison, carrying out Community Service Director's responsibilities for several months; judge at Public Speaking; work at Curryfest; and for auction work.

John Arkan did a great job again auctioneering, & educating the dive course attendees and the Recreational Vehicle Fellowship of Rotarians.

Mary Bryant for representing the club at a Cluster meeting and Getting Out There Day, liaising with Woolgoolga High School; interviewing candidate for Honeywell ESS; work at Curryfest; and for auction work.

Karen Sedgwick for her efforts to seek out and organise interesting guest speakers for club meetings and occasional social events, and for auction work.

Peter Lacy for auction work.

Geoff Royal for auction work.

## **Others**

### **Auction vehicle**

Bryson Kelly and Woolgoolga Motors for discounted repairs and maintenance on the auction vehicle.

Ferntree Signs, Boambee, for signwriting on auction vehicle.

Banana Coast Credit Union (BCU), for a donation toward insurance for auction vehicle.

### **Auctions**

Assisting at the auctions were partners: Marie Matthews, Graeme Smith, Allan Casey, and Cathie Mitchell.

Those helping with auction pickups and/or on auction day (including the plant stall) included the late Merv Richardson, Joy Richardson, Peter Backman (including using his own vehicle), Allan Bryant, Chris Edwards, Abdu Adem, Margie Hawtin, Megan Hart, Joan Vinckx, Heather Messer, Thea Eves, Elisabeth de Halleux,

All of our hard-working and essential helper teams.

Professional auctioneer Mark Bibby, from Coffs Harbour, for stepping in as auctioneer at no notice.

### **Other events**

Garry Kennedy, for initiating, organising and helping instruct at the dive course, as well as promoting it to the District YEP students, and driving to Uralla to collect students.

Stephan Soule for hosting a special visit to the National Marine Science Centre for dive students.

Graeme Smith, for hosting dive course students, functions and transport.

Heather Messer & Greg Williams, for hosting dive course students and functions.

Megan & Aaron Hart, and Graeme Wright, for hosting dive course students.

E and K Lawn Maintenance service, Mitre 10 Woolgoolga, and Dural-based firm Power Planter, for donating raffle prizes for the plant stall raffle.

Thea Eves for helping judge the Public Speaking contest.

CPR course trainers Belinda Flynn, Dona Powell, and Alan Bell.

Sarah Barker for maintaining the Heritage Walk website.

Tim Sutherland, 681 Consulting, for fixing a club website design issue.

Helen Michener for hosting Melbourne Cup Eve.

Work with Rotary at Curryfest: Bronwyn Mackenzie, Matilde Jakobsen, Heather Messer

Woolgoolga Art Group's catering team of Carolyn Boyden, Jane Mann and Karen Wyborn for the delicious meals.

The Café at Yarrawarra's excellent catering for our visit.