IN YOUR COMMUNITY - WAHROONGA ROTARY

Club goes against trend

SLIGHT INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP WHILE OTHERS HAVE STRUGGLED

Tracey Findlay

WHILE many service clubs are struggling to retain members, Wahroonga Rotary Club is growing.

"We are one of the largest clubs in the Sydney area," president John Collins said.

It even has the distinction of having Premier Barry O'Farrell as a member.

"Wahroonga Rotary has really gone against the trend," Mr Collins said.

"We have slightly increased our membership over the past five or six years whereas many other clubs are having problems in that regard."

Mr Collins said the image once held of Rotary as being a club full of old men in blazers was no longer the case.

More than 35 per cent of Wahroonga rotarians are women.

"We are trying to make ourselves a more flexible club than we have been in the past," he said.

"Rotary is not the old style where you have to be there every week and you have to do things a certain way."



A fun time was had by all at the Wahroonga Park Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony.

FAST FACTS

- Wahroonga Rotary Club was chartered on November 25, 1975
- In 1984 it switched from being a lunchtime club to become the first Rotary breakfast club in Australia
- Members meet each Wednesday at 7.30am at Warrawee Bowling Club
- The club supports many international and community projects, and youth activities, including an orphanage in Mongolia, the Sydney Adventist Hospital healthcare outreach program, Studio ARTES, Hornsby PCYC, St Lucy's and St Edmond's schools
- Details: 0412 277 118

VOX POP — WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT BEING A MEMBER OF THE WAHROONGA ROTARY CLUB?

JANET GRUNDY
Warrawee



"It's an amazing thing, being connected to your community ... and being connected with what's going on in Australia and the world.

HAYDN DONNELLY
Terrigal



"Being part of a group of like-minded people who, when working together, can achieve some pretty spectacular things for the community.

ROCHELLE WILEY
Wahroonga



"It's a fun environment that is also giving a real service to the community. And being a breakfast meeting it's short and sweet.

JOHN COLLINS
Wahroonga



"The beauty is you have a pool of people with common interests and who are very friendly ... I have become good friends with a number of them.