

# 2017 ROTARACT AWARDS

Every year, Rotaractors who have gone above and beyond in their service to the community are recognised at the Australian Rotaract Conference. Congratulations to the winners!

## Highest fundraising Rotaract club: Rotaract Club of Western Sydney, NSW

This year, the Rotaract Club of Western Sydney held a hugely successful Movember Ball, attended by over 200 people, as well as raised funds with the Rotaract Club of Westfields Liverpool for the Shepherd Centre – a hearing impaired school for kids. Members spent the day manning barbecues, wrapping gifts, selling balloons and face painting. They further put their support behind a disabled man’s dream to climb Mount Kosciuszko, with members also participating in the climb (See RDU May 2017, page 46). Their efforts contributed to over \$20,000 raised for critical community projects.

## Best engagement of the community: Rotaract Club of Monash, VIC

The Rotaract Club of Monash ran a trivia event and wine and cheese night to raise funds for the Queen Elizabeth Centre, which provides young families with education and support to manage the challenges of early parenthood. Funds specifically went towards establishing therapeutic gardens and sponsoring the staff Christmas party.

## Rotaractor of the year: Andrew Anthony

As president of the Rotaract Club of University of Canberra, ACT, Andrew led the club to receive a commendation award for best community group at the Young Canberra Citizen awards in 2017. He increased membership, overall engagement and organised many personal development opportunities, including first aid training, mentoring and guest speakers.

## Most creative event: Rotaract Club of City of Gosnells, WA

The Rotaract Club of City of Gosnells held a high-tech, dog-friendly Geocaching Easter Egg Hunt. Instead of hiding chocolate, which is toxic to dogs and other animals, the game hides containers, which participants find through GPS. It is a rapidly growing sport, with two million participants worldwide and counting.

## Most outstanding project: Rotaract Club of Mount Lawley, WA

Rotaractors travelled to Cambodia to work with the Volunteer

Building Cambodia Organisation to build a house for a disadvantaged family. The club raised thousands to support the project through fundraisers, including the Comedy for Cambodia event held at the Comedy Lounge in North Perth.

## Most outstanding event: Rotaract Club of Casey-Cardinia, VIC

The Rotaract Club of Casey-Cardinia hosted a Harry Potter themed trivia night, selling out of 200 tickets in two weeks and raising nearly \$2500 for the Melbourne Royal Children’s Hospital. Everyone got into the spirit of the night, dressing up in themed costume. The club was thrilled to be asked to present their cheque on Channel 7 for the Good Friday Appeal (See RDU July 2017, page 40).

## Highest membership increase: Rotaract Club of University of Canberra, ACT

The Rotaract Club of the University of Canberra recorded the highest membership increase out of all the Rotaract clubs in Australia. The club is known for its active and diverse activities, participating in Rotary Floriade Gnomes to volunteering for Safe Shelter ACT. It was recognised within the university as Social Club of the Year 2017. •



Rotary



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## Doubling Rotaract

During his presidential theme address in February, RI president elect Barry Rassin issued the challenge to double Rotaract numbers by the end of next Rotary year. “We must develop their skills and leadership abilities to ensure they will become the Rotarians of the future,” Barry said.

