

Vale Ernest Malcolm Arthur Dunstan
Rotary Club of Richmond



Aged 77 26.07.1944 – 29.12.2021

The Rotary Club of Richmond mourns the loss of Ernest (Ernie) Dunstan, a much loved and respected member of 37 years.

It did not take Ernie long to get involved in activities in the Club after joining on 12th March, 1984. He could see the need and opportunity for our Club to be involved in fund raising in the catering field. He purchased an old caravan and together with other Rotarians they produced a very workable catering van. This project paved the way for our Club to build a canteen kiosk with storeroom and refrigeration unit on the Hawkesbury District Agricultural Association Showground, returning good profits from which many charities and projects benefited over the years.

At the end of Ernie's tenure as President (1989-1990), the Club's membership was 54, the largest club membership of District 969 at that time. Ern was a prolific membership developer having

nominated and sponsored some 20 members into the club, the majority just prior to his being diagnosed with his illness.

Ernie introduced and sponsored his wife Josephine into the Rotary Club of Richmond and she has adapted very quickly, having been President in 2020-2021 and is President Elect for 2022-2023. Ernie often commented he was very proud of her achievements in Rotary.

Always keen to see an opportunity for fund-raising he was involved in the Hawkesbury Millennium (2000) Calendar with 11 other tradies and hardware proprietors, posing semi-nude, cleverly displayed so as not to be arrested. The calendar was a sell-out, but Ern was labelled the "Kelso" barrow man and was a good source of fund-raising for our Sgt.at Arms.

Ernie, despite his being admitted to a local Care Home, still maintained regular attendance at meetings, contributing to activities of the Club right up to his passing.

Ernie was a leader and mentor and a good friend. His life was dedicated to the service of others and was a life well spent.

Some highlights of Ernie's life.

- Successful tradesman (plumber) and hardware store proprietor.
- President, Rotary Club of Richmond, 1989-90.
- President Hawkesbury District Agricultural Association 1999-2002, 3-year term.
- The HDAA Showground Grandstand completed in Ernie's tenure as President.
- Largest Rotary Club District 969, end of Presidency 30.06.1990.
- Rotary HDAA Showground "Kiosk" completed after 3 years' construction in Ernie's year as President (later named The Chris George Memorial Kiosk).
- Nominated and sponsored some 20 members into Rotary.
- Honorary Patron of the HDAA, 2019.
- Free Mason, Windsor Masonic Lodge.
- Raised over \$100,000 for Camp Quality in the Bush Bash car trials
- Awarded Rotary's Paul Harris Fellowship, and for ongoing service, the Rotary Sapphire Pin.
- Volunteer fireman, Windsor and Richmond Fire Brigades
- 34 Years of 100% attendance at meetings of Rotary Club of Richmond.

Ernie is survived by his wife Josephine and his first wife Wendy and their children Cheryl and Jodie, and sisters Karen, Jeanne and Beth. He was step-dad to Phillip, Shane and Adeline, Grand-dad of thirteen and Great Grand-dad of two.

See also the tributes to Ernie in the newsletter of the Rotary Club of Richmond on 17.01.22 by clicking [HERE](#)