



2012/2013

## **What is Rotaract?**

Rotaract clubs are part of a global effort to bring peace and international understanding to the world. This effort starts at the community level but knows no limits in its outreach. Rotaractors have access to the many resources of Rotary International (RI) and The Rotary Foundation. Rotary International provides the administrative support that helps Rotaract clubs thrive.

## **History**

Rotaract has evolved quickly in its short but dynamic history. In the early 1960s, Rotary clubs around the world began to sponsor university youth groups as community service projects. The 1967-68 RI president, Luther H. Hodges, and the RI Board of Directors considered this club activity to have international relevance, and Rotaract was approved in 1968 as an official program for Rotary clubs. The first club chartered was the Rotaract Club of North Charlotte, North Carolina, USA, on 13 March 1968. Several decades later, the Rotaract program has grown into a strong, international network of 7,300 clubs in more than 150 countries and geographical areas. Rotaract's 145,000 members are young men and women (ages 18 to 30) who serve the needs of their communities, widen their personal and professional contacts, and increase their understanding of the world.

## **Goals**

Rotaract has the following goals:

- To develop professional and leadership skills
- To emphasise respect for the rights of others, based on recognition of the worth of each individual
- To recognise the dignity and value of all useful occupations as opportunities to serve
- To recognise, practice, and promote ethical standards as leadership qualities and vocational responsibilities
- To develop knowledge and understanding of the needs, problems, and opportunities in the community and worldwide

- To provide opportunities for personal and group activities to serve the community and promote international understanding and goodwill toward all people

### **What does a club do?**

Rotaract clubs organise a variety of projects and activities, depending primarily on the interests the club members. However, within the Rotaract program, all clubs undertake three types of activities in varying degrees: professional development, leadership development, and service.

### **Leadership Development**

A club's leadership development activities aim not only to make members more effective leaders in their personal lives, but also to teach them how to develop and sustain strong clubs with relevant projects. Important topics to address in training club leaders include:

- Improving public speaking skills
- Developing techniques for marketing the Rotaract program to potential members
- Building consensus among members
- Delegating project responsibilities and ensuring necessary follow-up
- Identifying channels for project publicity and promotion
- Finding financial resources for strengthening club development
- Assessing project success.

### **Service Projects**

'Service Above Self' is Rotary's foremost guiding principle. A Rotaract club's service projects are designed to improve the quality of life at home and abroad. These projects often address today's most critical issues, such as violence, drug abuse, AIDS, hunger, the environment, and illiteracy. Each Rotaract club is required to complete at least two major service projects annually, one to serve the community and the other to promote international understanding. Each should involve all or most of the members of the club.

## Our club: Rotaract Club of Tamar Valley

The Rotaract Club of Tamar Valley are a group of 18-30 year olds in Northern Tasmania, who aim to participate in community service and professional development, as well as have fun along the way.

We strive to support causes locally, nationally and internationally and are constantly thinking of new and innovative ways to raise funds for a good cause and promote community awareness of the big issues.

We volunteer, we hold parties, we go on vocational visits, we network, we have social nights, we attend functions, we participate in various trainings, we support other clubs and causes and we sometimes even attend a quiz night or two.

Our club was chartered on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May 2010, after being sponsored by the Rotary Club of Tamar Sunrise.

### **Roles for 2012/2013:**

President: Reannah Douglas

Vice president: Shayne Nash

Secretary: Katie Upston

Treasurer: Casimir Douglas

The club meets every second Wednesday at 6:00pm at Launceston Aquatic.

Membership is an annual cost of \$30, plus an additional \$20 in your first membership year to cover a polo shirt, rotary pin and name badge.

## Roles and responsibilities

### **President**

As the club leader, the president helps members develop as leaders and works to ensure that the club's professional and leadership development activities and community and international service projects are successfully promoted and completed. The president:

- Identifies members' skills and interests and encourages involvement in projects
- Maintains club operations, delegating responsibilities and establishing meeting schedules
- Develops a plan for the year as early as possible
- Appoints all standing and special committees, with board approval, and follows up on committee progress with the help of the vice president.

The president should maintain regular communication with:

- Sponsoring Rotary club through joint activities and meetings
- District Rotaract representative through club participation in district activities and meetings
- Rotary International through participation in the Rotary causes.

In the Rotaract Club of Tamar Valley, the president is responsible for running board meetings, as well as providing a President's report at each fortnightly meeting.

### **Vice President**

The club vice president can serve more effectively by understanding the year's goals, projects, and activities, and being well versed in community and Rotary resources. To that end, it is important that the club president and vice president work together as a team. The vice president presides at all meetings when the president is absent and serves on the board of directors. The vice president is responsible for ensuring the recruitment and retention of its members, including the introduction and orientation of new members.

## **Secretary**

The Rotaract club secretary has many responsibilities that require a person who is detail oriented and organised. The secretary handles the club's communication with the public, maintains all club records, and takes the minutes for all board and club meetings. Once club members reach the Rotaract age limit of 30, the secretary sends the Notice of Rotaract Alumnus (Potential Rotarian) form (page 45) to the secretary of the sponsoring Rotary club. The secretary is also responsible for handling invitational communication, RSVP's and liaising with location representatives (i.e. the owner/manager of the meeting venue).

## **Treasurer**

As the collector and disbursing officer of club funds, the treasurer is responsible for the club's solvency and financial stability. Responsibilities of Treasurer include:

- Works with the board of directors to develop the budget
- Collects dues and all funds raised by the club
- Pays all club bills and reimbursements for club expenses
- Reports the club's financial status at each meeting
- Has the books audited at the end of the fiscal year

## **Board members:**

The board of the Rotaract Club of Tamar Valley consists of the president and vice president, the secretary, treasurer and past president from the previous year. Board meetings are held monthly. Minutes are taken by the secretary.

## **Responsibility of all members:**

All members must act in accordance with the standard Rotaract club constitution. In regards to membership, this states:

**IV.3:** Each member of this Rotaract club shall attend at least 60% of the club's regularly scheduled meetings annually, provided that absence from a regularly scheduled meeting of the club may be made up as follows: any member absent from a regular meeting of this club may make up such absence by attendance at a regular meeting of any other Rotaract club or any Rotary club on any day of the two weeks

immediately preceding or following the day of the absence, or attendance and participation in a club service event, or a club-sponsored community event or task authorised by the board.

**IV.5:** Membership shall automatically terminate (a) upon failure to meet attendance requirements unless excused by the board of directors of this club for good and sufficient reason or (b) by termination of the club or (c) on 30 June of the Rotaract year in which the member becomes 30 years old.

**IV.6:** Membership may be terminated (a) upon failure to continue to meet the qualifications for membership, or (b) for cause, as determined by this club by vote of not less than  $2/3$  of all the members in good standing.

**The Rotaract Club of Tamar Valley also has its own membership guidelines and expectations that accompany this document. These work alongside those requirements set out by the constitution.**

## Goals & Directions

The aim of the Rotaract Club of Tamar Valley is to provide service to community at both a local and international level, as well as provide leadership and professional development opportunities to its members. The Club also strives to provide a fun and interactive events in association with club service for its members and encourages social participation.

The projects that Rotaract club members undertake are limited only by their imagination and that of the sponsoring Rotary club. Rotaractors are encouraged to reach out to their local and international communities by fulfilling at least one community service project and one international service project per year. The Rotaract Club of Tamar Valley also places emphasis on fellowship and promotion. In the Rotaract Club of Tamar Valley, each member is assigned to a club focus group that will assist in the organisation and implementation of these projects.

### **Community Service**

Those involved in the community service focus group for each project are responsible for the development and implementation of the community service projects, as well as educating the entire club of causes supported. The director takes direct leadership in organising and facilitating the project and will delegate roles to members when needed.

### **International Service**

The international service focus group, led by the director, reviews the club's suggestions and develops strategies for the annual international service projects that are to occur. If the Rotaract Club of Tamar Valley is developing a long term partnership with an international community, the director may be responsible for coordinating multiple projects that ultimately link in support of the same cause. The international service focus group will work to develop other activities that promote international understanding among club members and throughout the wider

community. It will be the role of the international committee to liaison with other communities and organisations when necessary.

### **Club Service**

Club service is an integral part of the Rotaract Club of Tamar Valley as the club has strongly identified that a goal of their Rotaract experience is to have fun and become involved in social events. It is the responsibility of the club director to facilitate member functions and team development, as well as develop strategies for increasing fellowship and a unified club direction.

### **Professional Development**

Professional development is integral to any Rotaract Club and it serves as a way to educate both club members and those in the broader community. The professional development director is responsible for reviewing suggestions and recording areas of interest from members and then implementing these ideas into strategies that will educate the club and improve each member's vocational capacity. The director will take a leadership role in facilitating programs, training, vocational visits and other educational opportunities for members individually and on a group basis.

### **Membership**

The Vice President of the club is responsible for directing membership and promotional aspects of the club. This includes providing guidance to potential and new members, and retaining current membership by addressing member needs. This role also requires the promotion of our club and utilising local resources to reach a wide audience.

## Contacts and Communication

The Rotaract Club of Tamar Valley prides itself on being at the forefront of social media and communication. Connect with us through:

Our Website:

[www.rctv.com.au](http://www.rctv.com.au)

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/RotaractClubofTamarValley](http://www.facebook.com/RotaractClubofTamarValley)

Follow us on Twitter:

@RaCTamarValley

Email:

[secretary@rctv.com.au](mailto:secretary@rctv.com.au)

To contact the board:

[president@rctv.com.au](mailto:president@rctv.com.au)

[vicepresident@rctv.com.au](mailto:vicepresident@rctv.com.au)

[secretary@rctv.com.au](mailto:secretary@rctv.com.au)

[treasurer@rctv.com.au](mailto:treasurer@rctv.com.au)

[community@rctv.com.au](mailto:community@rctv.com.au)

Each member is also circulated a contact list of the entire club to ensure communication between members can occur easily.