

YVONNE MOON OAM

26.6.1948 - 26.3.2020

Yvonne Moon joined the Rotary Club of Williamstown on 1st December 1995. Coincidentally, our current Club President, Eddie Knight, was president that year also and he inducted Yvonne.

Yvonne quickly became an enthusiastic and popular Rotarian and well known throughout District 9800. Her vocational skills - event planning and promotion, sponsorship and marketing - became assets for Rotary. In her early days in the club, she served as the Club's Director of Membership Development but her major focus soon became community service. She was the club's **Director of Community Service** for 18 years, and for 3 years, she was the District 9800 Director of Community Service (2004 – 2007) and deputy director for another 3 years.

In 2008, in conjunction with the Victoria Police, Yvonne developed the **Kokoda for Troubled Teens Project**. Funds raised by this program enabled teenagers who had come to the attention of police to be taken on a life changing experience – walking the Kokoda Track.

Yvonne was the first female **President of the Williamstown Club (1999 – 2000)**. In 2001 the club honoured her for her service work by recognizing her as a **Paul Harris Fellow**. She was recognized again with a PHF Sapphire in 2011.

The project Yvonne is best known for is **ROCAN (i.e. Rotarians Against Ovarian Cancer)**. Following the death of her best friend from ovarian cancer in 1999, Yvonne convinced Rotarians in our club and beyond to do something about reducing the high death rates from this devastating malignant disease. With great drive, and passion she garnered wide support, to set up a charitable trust known as ROCAN in 2003.

The original aims of ROCAN were to raise public awareness of ovarian cancer and to fund the development of an early screening test for the disease. Since its inception, ROCAN has raised approximately one million dollars. Over the years, it funded research at the **Royal Women's Hospital** and the **University of Queensland Centre for Clinical Research**. Some of the research was funded with matching grants from **Australian Rotary Health**. ROCAN also supported the Olivia Newton John Wellness Centre with equipment and donations.

Over the years, Yvonne worked tirelessly for the cause by speaking at numerous Rotary Clubs and events as well as other community groups. To raise money, she organized dinner dances, lunches, fashion parades and rock & roll nights. Since 2011, the riders on the annual Ride to Conference have generously donated all the funds they raise to develop Yvonne's other dream – a Wellness Centre in the western suburbs. The ROCAN Wellness Centre is intended to provide respite accommodation for patients with cancer and their families.

In the Queen's Birthday Honours List of June 2007, Yvonne was awarded the **Medal of the Order of Australia**. She received her OAM in the words of the Citation *"For service to the community, particularly through the Rotary Against Ovarian Cancer program."*

Yvonne is survived by her husband, Fred Grundy, her two daughters and two granddaughters, and Fred's three sons and two grandsons. We extend our sincere sympathies to them all. She is mourned by all who knew her.