

VALLEY VIBES

Paul Harris Dinner 113 Years of Rotary

On the 17 February 2018, the Rotary Club of the Fassifern Valley look forward to hosting the annual Paul Harris Dinner, at the charming new Black Hall in Kalbar. This dinner is to celebrate 113 years since the Foundation of Rotary. Our guest speaker on this occasion is Gerry Garard who represents 4 Aussie War Vets Foundation Ltd.

“Established to provide rehabilitation in a rural environment to help suffering and struggling military and first responder personnel, past and present, on the road back to normal life.”

Gerry Garard is a Vietnam Vet who has been aware of the fight our young servicemen and women are struggling with against mental health issues, in particular PTSD, for a number of years. A lot of these men and women have served in Iraq, Afghanistan and other overseas locations. There is now a mounting crisis in suicide, substance abuse, domestic violence, unemployment and homelessness amongst our

vets as a result of the service they have given to our great Nation.



In 2016 Gerry established 4 Aussie War Vets Foundation Limited, with a Board of Directors and a group of committed volunteers. They started working together towards the establishment of “Camp Courage”, where veterans can be helped onto the road back to a normal way of living through world best rehabilitation programmes. The programme will also be used to help first responders as well as veterans, both very important and worthy groups to rehabilitate. This decision led to a change of name to “4 Aussie Heroes Foundation”.

Not only will the programme help the individuals, but their families who also pay the high price of their loved ones who give their all for our Nation. The programme is 'unique' (in Australia) and ambitious, and needs the support of all sectors of the community to 'come along for the ride' to ensure the success to help those in need.

Fundraising is an integral and necessary component to achieving any successful and meaningful outcome for the charity's cause. Both Gerry and his Board of Directors personally believe that their cause is second to none as more returned Afghanistan veterans have committed suicide in Australia, than the amount that were killed in Afghanistan and more first responders are suffering serious trauma than ever before.

One fundraising event that the foundation holds is "Pedals'n Medals", a bike riding event that is run through the picturesque Scenic Rim. We look forward to hearing much more about the 4 Aussie Heroes Foundation on the night of the 113th Rotary dinner in Kalbar.

The Paul Harris 113 Years of Rotary Dinner is an excellent opportunity for the clubs in our district to enjoy fellowship with a lovely three course dinner. Drinks will be available for

purchase on the night, as well as raffle tickets and a lucky door prize. Tickets must be paid for prior to the event. More information can be found at

<https://www.fassifernvalleyrotary.org.au/events>

Dinner Meeting: 22 November 2017

Our last dinner meeting, held at the Royal Hotel in Harrisville had our members Neil and Jenny Summerson regaling us with their tour of New Zealand as a part of a Rotary Fellowship Tour and also their escapades in Europe. It was delightful to hear of their adventures and hear the interesting stories that they could tell. I know that each person who visits another country gets something different from their tour, so it is great to hear of the different journeys that our fellow Rotarians take. I was particularly interested in the New Zealand adventures as it gave us the opportunity to hear of the work that Rotarians in other parts of the world are doing.

Many thanks to Neil and Jenny for sharing that with us.



Christmas Break Up

Many thanks to Cara and Scott for hosting the 2017 Christmas Party. We all enjoyed your hospitality and company immensely. It was a great opportunity for fellowship in our club. The Secret Santa Steal is always enjoyed by everyone, with some of our gifts being passed back and forward between competing members many times, providing much laughter and merriment.





The President's Report

Wow we are already a month into 2018, and I can't say that I am sorry to have 2017 behind us as looking back it has felt to me like my most stressful year ever. I have found that many people have been echoing those sentiments to me, and perhaps because of this there have been some important changes in and around the operation of our club.

The most important of these has been Graham Porter's decision to take a step back from his usual level of involvement with the club. For many years Graham has been one of the most important driving forces behind the club, both in putting together the Valley Vibes, and in handling a multitude of tasks throughout the community on RCFV's behalf. Many of the avid readers of the VV will have already noticed how much his input will be sorely missed, but I hope that this break will see us learn to share the load better as others take up the shortfall. In the same vein, we have decided to reduce the time commitment required by RCFV members to attend meetings throughout the month, and to attempt to increase our level of social interaction within the club through the following changes:

- The first Wednesday of the month will be our business meeting
- The second Wednesday will be our normal dinner meeting with a guest speaker
- The third Wednesday will be a social get-together with the aim being to increase our level of comradery within the club, and
- To hold a goal-oriented project in the latter part of the month.

Aleeta and Cara have kindly volunteered to take on responsibility for the production of the VV, and we have decided to limit this to a quarterly production, which will see the next version come out in May this year. Aleeta will manage this initially, with Cara taking over when Aleeta becomes secretary. I hope that by making these changes, stress levels will be decreased and enjoyment of RCFV activities will be increased.

Looking back at recent events:

- January has been a reasonably slow start to the year, however it has seen us sponsor two young men to attend RYLA this year. Josh Aitken and Tyrell Champion have both reported that they enjoyed and got a lot out of the experience, and it is planned that they will speak to the club in late February about their experiences.
- The food van is nearing operational readiness, with Shane and William slaving away in the summer heat to make the required changes. The recent visit by the council health inspectors has assured us that it will soon be ready to roll.

All the best until next edition of the VV.

Scott Champion – President

Youth Matters

Cara Champion
Youth Director

December was a busy month for Youth, we once again awarded our annual Citizenship Award to a Year 6 student from one of our associated schools. This year however Warrill View didn't have any Year 6 students so instead, we presented each of the 3 Year 5 students with an engraved pen to acknowledge the hard work and responsibility that fell upon them and to recognise their leadership within the school. All awards nights were a pleasure to attend and it is something that as a club, we look forward to attending and presenting awards to the worthy recipients each year.

January is also a great month for leadership amongst our youth with the annual RYLA camp taking place at Tyalgum Ridge Retreat and this year we sponsored 2 awardees to attend, Ty Champion and Josh Aitken. Ty and Josh spent the week learning about leadership development, public speaking, teambuilding, motivation interpersonal skills and much more. We look forward to Ty and Josh visiting the club soon to hear about how their experience at RYLA will help them, not only in the short term, but how it will help set them on a successful path into their future careers.

Cara Champion - Youth Director 2017/18.



RYLA 2018: Jarrad Cartmill (Rotarian Volunteer), and awardees Ty Champion, Lucy Betts, Josh Aitken, Meagan Cooper, Emma Godfrey



PETS

Scott, Cara, Andrew and Aleeta will be attending the annual President Elect Training Seminar at Tweed Heads in February. We are sure that this will be a worthwhile activity for our club members as they take on new roles within the club.

District 9640 Annual Conference

Many of our members have already registered for the Annual Conference, which this year is being held at Seaworld on the Gold Coast. Our members will have the opportunity to hear from a number of keynote speakers, as well as enjoy the wonderful events that have been planned for the weekend.

2018 Fassifern Business & Community Directory

Our Annual Business Directory, which is now printed in colour, will be issued to residents in our district over the next few weeks. It is always a useful guide to local business and community groups within our area. Please

remember to support the businesses within the directory that support us.

Digger Boxes

Having had a lot of practice in packing our Digger Boxes, I believe that they were packed in record time this year, with Andrew delivering those to his local Post Office the next day, ready for distribution to our overseas troops. Again, our ADF personnel will delight in a selection of Aussie treats, including the must have packet of Tim Tams. We look forward to packing those boxes up again at the end of this year.

Marjorie Porter -
Club Secretary 2017-18

Upcoming Events

Feb 17 – Paul Harris Dinner: 113 Years of Rotary

Feb 24-25 – President Elect Training Seminar

Mar 9-11 – District Conference – Sea World

Apr 4-15 – Commonwealth Games – Gold Coast

May 6 – Opera in the Vineyard - Stanthorpe

May 20- District Assembly – Northern (Boonah)

May 25-27 – RYPEN Camp, Bornhoffen

Jun 30 – District Changeover

It's a Laugh!



Meeting Program and Duty Roster: November

DUTY ROSTER	Wed 7 Feb '18 Business Meeting	Wed 14 Feb '18 No meeting (Paul Harris Dinner 17 Feb)	Wed 21 Feb '18 No Meeting (Due to attending PETS)	Wed 24-25 Feb '18 PETS	Wed 28 Feb '18 Social Meeting
Duty Officer	N/A				N/A
Chairman/ Rotary Reflections	Pres Scott Champion				Pres Scott Champion
Meeting Venue & Time	Harrisville State School Library 6.45 for 7.00pm				TBA
Program and/or Guest Speaker	Club Business				Club Business RYLA Awardees

MEMBERS NOTICE:

1. To ensure a punctual 7.00 pm start, members are requested to arrive no later than 6.45pm.
2. When you have duties on the Roster and are not available, could you please arrange for someone else to fill in, and advise Secretary Marjorie of the change (Mob 0419 781 264).

Rotary
District 9640



2017/18

Club President: Scott Champion
Assistant Governor (Cluster 8): Karen Thomas
District Governor: Darrell Brown
Rotary International President: Ian Riseley



President 2017/18 - Scott Champion
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