

VALLEY VIBES

Volume 9 Edition 1

Bulletin

July 2019

Annual Changeover Dinner

On Saturday July 22nd, members, visiting Rotarians and friends of our club celebrated our annual Changeover dinner. A big thank you to Andrew and Ann for all their hard work throughout the 2018/19 Rotary year and to all of our members for ensuring that success. Hopefully the 2019/20 year will be another productive and successful year.

Last year our club introduced the 'Service above Self' award, which is an annual award acknowledging the dedication and commitment that a couple, being Rotarians or Friends of Rotary, display within the community. The difficult decision of selecting the worthy recipients is made by the President & the President Elect prior to changeover.

This years' awardees, Graham and Marjorie Porter, have shown over the years that they are both very dedicated members of the community and they have both dedicated years of service to Rotary within our club & the district. They are both foundation members of our club and without their hard work and dedication, our club would not have grown into what it is today.

It was great to again enjoy fellowship with Rotarians from Boonah, Beaudesert, Jimboomba Sunrise and Toowong Rotary Clubs, as well as friends from Lions and Inner Wheel clubs. Assistant Governor Karen Thomas was in



Figure 1- Immediate Past President Andrew and President Cara presenting the Devin Award to recipients, Graham and Marjorie Porter

attendance, inducting new President Cara Champion on behalf of District Governor Terry Brown, who was unfortunately unable to attend.

The entertainment for the night was provided by local band 'Unbranded'. Lead singer Courtney Reberger (a recent RYLA attendee), with her sister Lauren and brother Clancy did an amazing job and we can't wait to hear them at the next function at which they are performing.

This year the names on the tables were selected to reflect some of our Rotary club's projects and other important Rotary projects around the world- to give us all a reminder of why we are a part of this great organisation, and what we are working towards in the 2019/2020 Rotary year when "Rotary Connects the World".



James Turner – Riverdale Herbs

James and his wife Stephanie run the family's Riverdale Herbs in Harrisville. Riverdale Herbs a major supplier of herbs to large supermarket chains, purchased the former Normandy Wines property, and over the last 8 months the landscape has changed from grapevines to sheds, tanks and other infrastructure that the company needs to grow their produce.

*Farmers and processors of herbs,
salads and speciality
produce*



Riverdale herbs has been established for about 19 years, and has been under the stewardship of the current owners for the past 11 years.

James' background has not always been in growing herbs, his Grandparents formerly owned 'Bukinham Station' where his father grew up. James's parents followed suit and purchased a 65,000 acre property in the Goondiwindi area, which is where James and his siblings were raised. Although farming has always been in his life, that direction changed from mixed grain & sheep farming to a far more intensive area of producing produce, but this suited the skills of James a Civil Engineer by trade. He originally decided to get more involved, when his parents decided to take a step back from the business about three years ago.



James Turner, Riverdale Herbs

Riverdale Herbs is a family owned and operated business focused on producing a progressive and innovative business environment in conjunction with constantly striving for exceptional results. The business grows, packages, transports and markets their own produce through the property in Harrisville and another at Yatala. The Yatala farm is on 2 hectares of land on the Albert River, with 6700sqm under production. The farm currently produces 800,000 units per year, which is dedicated to growing basil, mint and watercress. Parsley and coriander are bought in from another grower or the Brisbane markets and is repackaged for resale, however this is increasingly costly and not sustainable into the future.



The Yatala land is on the river flats and is subject to flooding, which it did in 2011, 2013 and 2017. There are two critical issues facing this business; these are space and protection from the elements, and the search for another property within 1hr of Brisbane took over 3 years, where they finally found a property that met the criteria of their needs and they purchased and settled at Dunns Avenue, Harrisville.

James showed a video of some of their machinery in operation where 100 pot trays go through a machine which soils, plants and waters the trays on a conveyor belt. The seedlings are then housed in sheds with transparent roofs which allows as much sunlight in as possible, with fans used to aerate when the weather is wet, and when these have sprouted they are transferred to the Yatala farm. Even though their name isn't visible on the packaging, Riverside Herbs sell product to the Markets, Woolworths and IGA.

Presidents Report



As our new Rotary year begins, I would like to say *Thank You* to Andrew for all your hard work throughout the year, and a special *Thank You* to his lovely wife Ann who is always big help and support in our club.

As our new Rotary year begins, I have asked all members of the club for their support in focusing our efforts on a local project that is, both very dear to my heart, and is also very worthy. This year I would like our club to support the 4 Aussie Heroes Foundation: Founded in 2017, 4 Aussie Heroes provides rehabilitation programs for Australian Defence Force Personnel and First Responders across the nation, both past and present, who are suffering due to their service to country and community. They aim to provide holistic programs in a rural setting for candidates who participate in their programs. Camp Courage will be located in our local area and it may just be the program that saves the life of someone you know who suffers from PTSD.

What we do within our club may not be much when, considering the overall cost to build Camp Courage, but everything we contribute be-it via donations or through hands on work will make a difference, even if it is just to make one thing at a time easier.

Aleeta, Andrew, Ross and Marjorie and I spent last Friday peeling pumpkins and making Perfect Pumpkin Soup. This year the Winter Harvest Festival at Aratula was a great day to be selling soup and it was great to have so many compliments from our soup sales, well done everyone.

I'm looking forward to the year ahead and we already have a few things lined up, starting with a working bee at 'Camp Courage' to help clear some of the rocks and sticks before development takes place. Plans are also well under way for the Peak Crossing Car Day with proceeds going towards the 4 Aussie Heroes Foundation and to promote the foundation we will have CEO and founder Mr Gerry Garard attending to talk to people about the plans for 'Camp Courage' and the Triumph over Trauma program.

Yours in Rotary,

Cara



From the Secretary's Desk

As we begin our new presidential year, we welcome in our President Cara Champion to the role of leader of our club. Our Changeover Dinner was again celebrated at the Harrisville

School of Arts Hall this year, with the hall looking magnificent decorated with Australian Flora, teamed with vibrant yellow roses and fairy lights on our lovely black and blue table linens. It was wonderful hosting guests from Rotary Clubs within our cluster, as well as kindred clubs from the Fassifern Valley. We always look forward to their company. Our members have had also enjoyed the opportunity of visiting other clubs at their Changeover Dinners, presenting more wonderful opportunities of fellowship. Cara and I also attended the Rotary Club of Booval's Dinner meeting on June 25. It is interesting to hear of their continued efforts within the greater Ipswich Community, despite the small club numbers. A truly commendable and worthwhile cause. They gratefully accepted the donation of two packs of steak so that they may continue to feed homeless and disadvantaged members of the community in the future.



Andrew & Ann Kay, Aleeta Wozencroft and Anna Martin, Winter Harvest Festival

This year, our attendance at the Winter Harvest Festival in Aratula had us serving visitors to the district a Perfect Pumpkin Soup, served with magnificent locally made Vienna Bread, Sour Cream and Chives. I'd like to thank our members and friends who were able to give their time to help us prepare and sell soup over the weekend. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

As we head into the second half of the calendar year, we look forward to preparing for the Peak Crossing Car Day, where we will sell our fabulous steak burgers



and hot chips. The benefactors of this year's car day will be the 4 Aussie Heroes Foundation. We look forward to a continued association with this organization which benefits returned soldiers and first responders experiencing Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. A truly worthwhile cause.

Aleeta Wozencroft
Secretary 2019/20

Youth Matters

Guest Speaker: Wednesday 24th July Chelsea Carlson

This year in May our club sponsored Chelsea to attend RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of ENrichment), we all look forward to hearing about Chelsea's experience at RYPEN.

As the year seems to be going by very quickly members of the club will be looking for and thinking about awardees we can sponsor to attend RYTS - Rotary Youth Transition Seminar. This camp will be run from the 17 - 22 November 2019 and is for 17-18 year olds or students currently in Year 11. If you have a young person that you think would benefit from attending this leadership camp, contact our Secretary Aleeta, Youth Director Cara or any member of our club.



Something to think about!



Join Rotary - CONNECT with friends and make a difference!

Rotary is 1.2 million passionate individuals in 35,000+ clubs worldwide. We are both an international organization and a local community leader. Together we lead change in our own backyards and across the world.

Rotary District 9640 consists of 52 clubs located from Coomera to Grafton, inland to Goondiwindi.

Don't forget to check us out on:

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



Upcoming Events

July	August	September	October
1st: Beaudesert Rotary Changeover 6th: Jimboomba Sunrise Rotary Changeover 6th: Winter Harvest Festival, Aratula	14th: DG Harry Bolton's visit 25th: Peak Crossing Car Display Day		



Birthdays		Wedding Anniversary
5 th - Ann Kay		

Meeting Program and Duty Roster: July

DUTY ROSTER	Wed 10 July '19 State of Origin - Social Evening	Wed 17 June '19 Planning Meeting	Wed 24 July '19 Dinner Meeting	Wed 31 July '19 Social Evening
Duty Officer	N/A	N/A	Jill Surawski	N/A
Chairman/ Rotary Reflections	N/A	Cara Champion	Lindy Kirchner	N/A
Meeting Venue & Time	Andrew & Ann Kay's home	Cara & Scott's home 515 Middle Road	Royal Hotel, Harrisville - 6.30pm for 7pm start	TBC - Kalbar Hotel
Program and/or Guest Speaker	N/A	Planning - projects/events 2019-20	Chelsea Carlson - RYPEN Awardee	Social Evening

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 Aleeta of the change (Mob 0433 822 036)
3. Members please note: RSVP is important, if you don't RSVP there will be no meal for you - meals are only ordered if you advise you are attending.