

# VALLEY VIBES

Volume 8 Edition 3

BULLETIN

November 2018

## Remembrance Day

The Remembrance Day dinner meeting, beginning at 7:15 pm will be held this Wednesday, 7 November at the Royal Hotel Harrisville following the RCFV AGM. The topic for the night will be the history of the Remembrance Day ceremonies in Australia and England. This will help us understand the significance of the day that falls later this week.

## Rotary Drought Appeal



This year, following the annual Peak Crossing Car Display Day, our club donated the proceeds collected to those in need in the drought ravaged communities surrounding Charleville & Longreach through their respective Rotary clubs. RCFV is proud to have donated a total of \$6000 to assist these communities battling this extended drought, and would like to thank each and every individual who generously donated towards this appeal. September saw the Rotary Clubs of Longreach and Charleville each receive \$3000, money that would ultimately go to assist families in need to fund basic day-to-day necessities.

**Charleville** - The Rotary District 9630 Drought Appeal, the district of which Charleville Rotary Club are a part, has been delivering aid to drought affected communities since early 2014, using a "Whole of Community" approach. This aid is broken down to 3 main areas:

1. **Voucher System** – Designed to aid drought affected rural property owners who are identified through third party groups, such as the local drought committee. The voucher recipients then attend local businesses and make purchases for the value of these vouchers.
2. **Family Days** – These days are run so the small local community can come together and share in a relaxed no cost environment to combat the serious problems of suicide and mental health issues.

### 3. *Rotary Reading Assistance Programme*

– Young children in drought affected areas are sent age appropriate books each month.

The Rotary Club of Charleville has an area of 11% of the state under their wing. This is reportedly the most deeply drought-affected part of the state, and the Rotary relief effort is designed to not only assist severely drought-affected farmers and graziers, but also to provide relief to their local communities.



**Longreach** – RCFV members, Scott & Cara Champion, recently made a trip to Longreach, the town of their birth. Whilst there they attended the Rotary Club meeting, presenting President Russell Lowry with the \$3000 cheque. The Longreach Rotary Club is comparatively isolated, with Emerald the nearest club, approximately 400km away; Mt Isa and Townsville over 700kms away and Charleville over 500kms away. Despite their limited membership, this dedicated band support many of the small local communities in this massive area, especially those particularly affected most by the on-going drought.



Like the Charleville club they have a number of areas of focus where their donated funds are distributed:

**Movie & BBQ Trailer** – This trailer is taken to outlying communities, some up to 180kms away and put on a free BBQ and movies for families. For members, this is usually a half to a full day by the time they travel to and from the event plus host the event. But it is also something that is greatly appreciated to these outlying communities as often they are unable to get to town or afford such a small experience as going to the movies.

**Christmas Hams** – Every year the club order hams through the local butcher and distribute them to families in Longreach and the surrounding communities. Mostly



these will be given out to each family at the annual 'Christmas Tree Concert' where the club will put on a BBQ and activities for the children and send a ham home with each family.

**Food Vouchers** – Through the help of other volunteer organizations and the School of Distance Education, families in need are identified and are given vouchers of \$250 for food to spend in the local supermarkets. The club has a strong relationship with the school and do as much as they can to support the children of rural families to ensure they are getting what they need and not 'missing out' due to the unforeseen hardships that have hit their family's properties.

The club is aware of the need to ensure that all funds are not immediately spent, and they hold a



set amount in reserve which has been allocated to assist families with school fees. There is only 1 high school in Longreach and because of the distance that children have to travel to get to town, most rural families send their children to boarding school in Rockhampton or Brisbane to complete their education. With the continuing drought, the school fees are getting harder to pay on top of everything else.

Both clubs know that the drought, does not only affect the here & now, it is when the rains finally do come and properties need to be restocked and maintenance that was put off during the drought still needs to be carried out. Families will continue to experience hardship and will continue to struggle financially for a long time after the dams fill and the grass turns green and grows again. This is where Rotary's continued support & dedication to these families will really make a difference, it's a "long road" back from drought and recovery could take many years of help and support.

Once again we would like to say 'Thank You' to the outstanding generosity of the members of the attending car clubs, without your help our club would not have been able to make these donations. Even though our paddocks are looking greener and we have water back in our tanks and dams, the people of Central Queensland still have not had any significant rain, so please continue to think of them as they continue their drought fight.



## **AG Karen Thomas**

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October AG Karen Thomas visited the club and inducted our newest member Anna Martin. Anna was our guest speaker a few weeks ago and we welcome Anna and look forward to having her as a valued member of our club.

Karen then spoke to the club about her job as a Diabetes Educator. She has previously had her own practice at the Gold Coast for the past 18 years, and in May this year she was asked to join the team at Diabetes QLD to do some outreach work. Karen is currently travelling to Mt Isa and Cloncurry working in clinics to provide care to those that live in these remote places. Both towns have limited employment and are generally very low socio-economically. The main consideration is that the cost of living in remote towns is a lot higher than in the cities, and wages are a lot lower which can be lead to people climit heath care for themselves and their families.



The death rate of people with diabetes is very high, however it is more noticeable in remote areas as they do not have access to the same care and facilities that people who live in the city do. People with diabetes can receive refunds from Medicare, but there is a cap for this and the funding will only cover so much. If people then don't have private insurance the go into the public system and may be eligible for some help from Diabetes QLD and this is where Karen comes in.

Being a Diabetes Educator with a nursing background is a benefit for Karen, as she was previously a Registered Nurse, due to the remoteness of the places she is working. Karen has found the work challenging servicing two clinics in Mt Isa and one in Cloncurry, which is and hour & half drive from Mt Isa. But she is making some significant headway, Karen laughs as she says she has had to 'learn a whole new vocabulary' being in Mt Isa, especially with those that work in the mines. They call dinner 'tea' and a 'crib' is their lunchroom. She will soon be starting another clinic in Charleville and again will have to work hard to gain the trust of the Doctors and community.



## Presidents Report

G'day all,

*Busy November*

There is a very full itinerary for all members as this year quickly comes to a close. Our Annual General Meeting will be held next week and apart from the normal procedural items, our club needs to encourage the election of our President Nominee for the 2020-21 year.



On the 14<sup>th</sup> we are having a meet and greet night with some of the business people at Yamanto. District Governor Terry Brown's goal of having new satellite clubs provides an opportunity for our club to investigate whether there is demand and desire to increase our footprint.

The change in the boundaries between the Rotary districts also means we will have closer working relationships with Ipswich clubs into the future. Many of the shoppers who are the catchment for Yamanto shops come from the RCFV area, so building a relationship with those traders is something we should strive for.

Packing our famous Digger Boxes will take place the following week and the club is looking at filling 60 boxes to ensure a better Christmas for some of our military personnel serving overseas. The Digger boxes have become a signature project for our club and judging from the feedback we get from recipients indicate they are fully appreciative of our efforts.

Our month will finish off with Neil and Jenny hosting our Christmas breakup. A little earlier than normal, but with the silly season filling up all our calendars, I am sure everyone will appreciate an opportunity for some early Christmas cheer.

YIR,

*Andrew Kay*

President 2018/19

## Youth Matters

*RYTS* is approaching fast, this is a leadership camp for students finishing year 11, heading into year 12. This camp will set anyone up for a successful senior year and into their years after school. Applications close Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2018 and we welcome any nominations if you know of or have a student in this age group that would love to attend such a valuable youth camp, please let any member of our club know.

We are pleased to have two young ladies to sponsor who will attend RYLA in 2019. This leadership development camp will give them a once in a lifetime opportunity to listen to and learn from some of the world's best motivational speakers and receive advice and inspiration from a range of professionals that could help them into any future endeavors. Applications close Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

The Citizenship Awards will once again be presented to a Year 6 student this year, one from each of the seven schools that are in our area. The Citizenship Award is given to a student who has shown leadership, friendship, care and Respect throughout the year. The \$100 that is given to each recipient is to help them purchase supplies towards their education as they go into high school. Our club looks forward to being involved in this award every year.

*Cara Champion*

Youth Director 2018/19



## *From the* **Secretary's Desk**

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### **Social Evening**

The last two months have again been very busy for members of our club, which saw some of our members attending a fun painting night at Brush and Barrel in Fortitude Valley. The session that we attended was a paint your pet night. A week before our painting session, photographs of our pets were sent to the studio for an artist to sketch these images onto a canvas. Upon arrival we could immediately identify our own pets, with all having a unique quality to them. Step by step instructions on painting our pets was given along the way, with all attendees leaving the studio with their own amazing work of art.

### **Drought Appeal**

Also in September, members Scott and Cara delivered a cheque to the Rotary Club of Longreach, which was a share of the proceeds from our Car Display Day Drought Relief fundraising. Cara and Scott returned to our meeting, delivering a report on how these funds are distributed to farming communities that they assist. The remainder of the proceeds were sent to the District 9630 Drought Appeal, with the request that these funds were to be distributed to the areas surrounding Charleville, whose communities have experienced more than 6 years of drought. The District 9630 Drought Appeal has a Whole of Community Approach which not only helps the farmers in need, but also the businesses and citizens nearby.

### **AG Karen Thomas**

On October 10, our AG Karen Thomas inducted Anna Martin in to our club. We'd like to take this opportunity to welcome Anna and look forward to her valued insight on various projects.

On October 24, a casual dinner was held at Mackaway's Café and afterward, we had the pleasure of attending the Leadlighting studio of local Sue Russ. Sue explained the processes of new installations, as well as restoration projects that she has worked on. Thank you again, Sue.

### **2019 Business Directory**

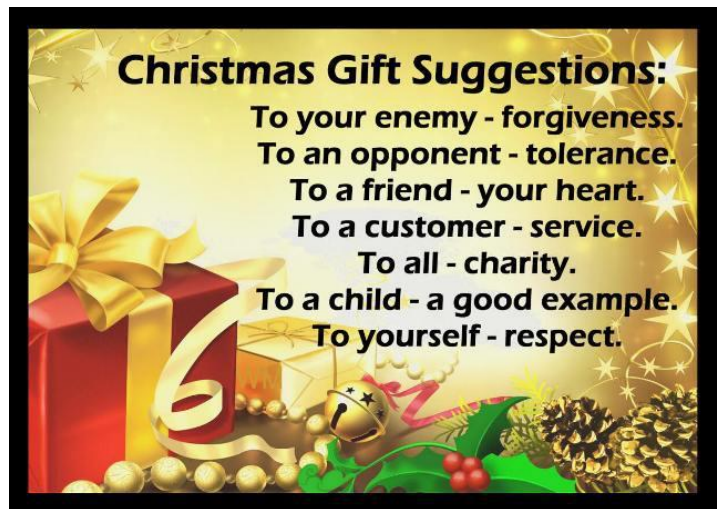
Finally, the processing of 2019 Business Directory advertisers is well underway, with all invoicing for businesses previously advertising sent out and members seeking new advertisers.

Best wishes for a safe and merry Christmas

*Aleeta Wozencroft*  
**Secretary 2018/19**

# Something to think about!

  
 when  
 you  
 CHOOSE  
 joy  
 You feel good  
 & when you feel  
 good, you do good  
 & when you do good  
 it Reminds others  
 of what joy feels like  
 & it just♥  
 might inspire  
 them to do  
 the same.



## Upcoming Events

November	December	January	February
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup></b> <u>AGM</u> - Harrisville State School, 7pm <u>Remembrance Day</u> Dinner Meeting - Royal Hotel, Harrisville, 7.15pm (after AGM) <b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup></b> <u>Information Evening</u> Yamanto Tavern - Ale House, 6pm <b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup></b> <u>Digger Boxes</u> - Packing at Harrisville State School	<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup></b> <u>RCFV Christmas</u> <u>Party</u> Neil & Jenny Summerson's home		



Birthdays	Wedding Anniversary
05 November - Arthur Devin	12 December - Arthur & Thyrlene Devin
10 November - Jarrad Cartmill	
27 November - Lindy Kirchner	
29 November - Mary McInnes	
30 November - Carolyn Braithwaite	
14 December - Scott Champion	
31 December - John Wozencroft	

## Meeting Program and Duty Roster: August

DUTY ROSTER	Wed 7 November '18 AGM 7pm	Wed 7 November '18 Dinner Meeting	Wed 28 November '18 TBA	Wed 5 December '18 TBA
Duty Officer	N/A	Aleeta Wozencroft		N/A
Chairman/ Rotary Reflections	President Andrew	President Andrew		President Andrew
Meeting Venue & Time	Harrisville State School 6.50 for 7pm	Royal Hotel Harrisville 7.15pm		
Program and/or Guest Speaker		Remembrance Day Speaker - CPL Scott Champion		

**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)

*We would like to thank all of our family, friends & acquaintances for the help and support throughout 2018. We wish you all a Merry Christmas & a safe and Happy New Year*