

# VALLEY VIBES

Volume 6 Edition 11

BULLETIN

June 2017

**NEXT MEETING, 14 JUNE 2017**

**Ross Lehmann**

**Local Farmer and Businessman**



Ross Lehmann is a local lad having grown up and gone to school in Teviotville. He is married with two grown up children. His parents owned a dairy farm and when they retired Ross and his brothers took over the farm which they still run, growing the herd from 40 to 200 cows.

Other work experiences gained when younger are as a mushroom grower and three years in the Australian Army. Ross enjoys and takes pride in his success at business development with SEQ Tractors proof of his achievement.

We look forward to hearing Ross tell his unique life's story of a successful transition from farming to tractor sales.

**RECENT MEETING, 10 MAY 2017**

**Dr Ross Wilson BVSc**

**Veterinary Surgeon**

Ross grabbed our attention questioning our familiarity with the song *Eagle Rock*. Fortunately with much humour and not wishing to drop his *daks*, he admitted to not knowing it and moved on, asking the question *Did You Know?* He confessed that he had had the good fortune of being a vet

since 1972 i.e. 45 years and outlined the attributes of managing a mixed veterinary practice, working with farmers and enjoying drives in the countryside.



Vet Ross Wilson addressing RCFV

Ross began outlining his passion – immunology. He stated that antibodies have been keeping us alive since man emerged from the swamps, long before antibiotics were discovered. Then life was shorter as it fell victim to infectious bugs which we have almost beaten today with modern medicine. In discussing the immune system and how it operates, Ross spoke of *meningococcal* as a fatal disease not recognised as being foreign by our body's immune system leaving us undefended against it. *Meningococcal* is an acute bacterial infection that can cause death within hours if not recognised and treated in time. Modern medicine has increased our survival rate from the disease. Its severity is emphasised by the following quote from the Meningococcal Australia.

*"I've seen cases where someone has been well at breakfast – and dead by dinner!"*

— Dr Clayton Golledge, Microbiologist and Infectious Diseases expert.

Ross informed us that bacteria can't develop resistance to antibodies, however they can develop

resistance to antibiotics. His concern is that today before antibiotics have completed clinical trials, resistance is already developing in recipients. He mentioned the pressure on people like dairy farmers who develop products from animals, regarding antibiotic usage, because of residues which fuel resistance in by-products such as milk and meat. The worst thing which can be done with antibiotics is not to administer them as prescribed, either in strength of dose or for the period of time. This gives the bacteria a “look” at the antibiotic instead of having it removed from the body entirely. The potential problem is for bacteria to develop resistance. He mentioned the difficulty in developing new products, taking up to 20 years to move from discovery to clinical trials and reaching the market, stressing a lot can happen in that time.

He mentioned the problem that social trends such as “anti-vacces” can cause. He spoke of the concept of “herd immunity” and about 5% of the human or animal population which don’t respond to vaccination. By keeping the non-responding population low by vaccination of the whole population will control the risk of the disease in the wider community.

Before antibiotics there were a number of antibodies that were doing a reasonable job. When the horse and cart was a common means of transport from door to door, horses themselves were antibody producers. Diphtheria and snake bite were treated by antibodies produced by horses. In Australia treatment for a snake bite is antivenin derived from horses, likely to come from Plasvacc at Kalbar, where Ross was previously based, or CSL in Melbourne. If people in America are bitten by a rattle snake, chances are they will be treated by antivenin developed from sheep produced in Adelaide. They can now produce purer antivenin which is less dangerous than the venom of a snake bite. There was a time when the antivenin carried a similar risk to the snake venom. Negative reaction from Plasvacc antivenin reduced from 26% to 2% while Ross was involved with them demonstrating how “cleaning up” antivenin can work.

Antibody therapy which was developed in the 1940s had almost been forgotten with the development of antibiotics. An exception may be the treatment of *rabies* from a wild dog, a fatal disease to humans. However, antibody therapy has reemerged as treatment for breast cancer, due to some malignant melanoma, Hendra virus, Ebola virus etc. Ross predicts that reduced human disease immunity, brought about by resistance to

antibiotics, may in the future be overcome by the apparent bright future of new emerging antibody therapy derived from animals such as the horse, camel or cow. Were people prepared to submit themselves to the harvesting of antibodies, as currently undertaken in animals, this may yield a better antivenin for humans. However, he predicts ethicists may prevent this from occurring.

In developing a new product for the market a producer must prove:

- it is safe;
- it works – it is efficacious;
- it does not cause birth defects;
- it does not cause cancer;
- the management of residues – in food or the environment;
- OHS for workers who produce, handle or package it;
- trade implication for Australia etc.

Ross spoke of the hasty development of Genetically Modified crops indicating that they had failed in win public and political support. He suggested there may be a preference for GM crops to those which require copious doses of insecticides to survive. Unfortunately the producers of GM crops have not done sufficient work to prove their safety and nobody knows the answer.

A current huge progression in our lives is the mapping of the human genome. This has the potential for determining what diseases we or our children may be susceptible to, or which are likely to cause our death. Our genes may now be modified by a new gene being placed into our bodies by a harmless virus – some known and some yet to be discovered. This procedure may be used to both treat and prevent disease. A consequence may be the enhancement of the human body for improved athletic performance, improved military performance through better eyesight, greater strength, greater stamina and even anti-ageing. It begins an ethical debate!

Ross concluded by again asking the question *Did you Know?* stating the risk of not keeping *Big Pharma* out of our lives. He warns that *Big Pharma*, as a result of their research, want to restrict our access to information on the human genome, primarily requiring us to pay heavily for such information that controls our lifestyle. (Ref. Source below) This triggers a moral, political and economic dilemma for future generations.

(Reference Professor Robert Blaskiewicz re **Big Pharma** conspiracy theory on medical establishments)



## LAST MEETING, 24 MAY 2017 ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE

**Sarah Jayne Curry & Rob Needham**



Scott Champion with Rob Needham of RFDS

Rob described the RFDS as being a great team of people providing medical services to remote Australia operating from 9 bases throughout Queensland, reliant on independent and government funding for its existence. He described it as a \$100 million business receiving Federal and State funding but having an annual shortfall of \$11 million for which he, Sarah-Jayne and their fund raising team are responsible for raising. Over the next 4 to 5 years that shortfall will increase to around \$15 million. Rob stated that recently they have been advised that the Federal government annual contribution is being reduced by around \$10 million, increasing the need for Queensland to raise an additional \$2.5 million. This presents a marketing challenge on them, for while the general community is aware of the RFDS, more information about what it does needs to be spread to Queenslanders, particularly those living in SEQ.

Rob complemented his presentation with a video showing the work of the RFDS. It showed a recent aircraft purchased for \$11 million and when fitted out as a flying intensive care unit costs an additional \$1.5 million. He described the RFDS operation as a mixture of aviation and medical, both very expensive activities necessary to fulfill their mission of providing primary health care across Australia. RFDS specialises in aero-medical retrieval service for medical emergencies; primary health care from general practice to oral health extending to social and emotional wellbeing, particularly for property owners affected by drought

and the consequences of resulting down turn in the economy.

Rob made reference to the vision of the RFDS founder the Rev Dr John Flynn, immortalized on Australia's \$20 note.



Sarah-Jayne Curry (RFDS) with Marjorie Porter

The organisation will celebrate 90 years of operation next year on 17 May, causing considerable excitement at the prospect of a Royal visit to mark the occasion.

The first RFDS flight was from Cloncurry to Julia Creek on 17 May 1928 with a borrowed aircraft from QANTAS. A Charleville base was established 1942 extending to Longreach in 2004. The organisation is known for its aero-medical evacuation with 10,000 patient transfers each year. This equates to 27 patients each day, 1,000 emergency evacuations and 10,000 inter-hospital transfers each year being about 70% of the RFDS's work. Anywhere in Australia is within 2 hours of the RFDS from anywhere in the Northern Territory, in remote Western Australia or outback New South Wales

The RFDS also provides a 24 hour telephone medical consultation service for patients in remote areas with non life-threatening conditions.



Beechcraft King Air 200 series



### Last Cab in the Rank

Writing the last column for the year in the Valley Vibes is similar to the President's report from our Changeover night. It is very much a look in review.

I was extremely proud of all our members efforts on Changeover night. It was a wonderful night and Cara and Scott's special touches made the event all the more memorable. (See photos page 6)

I feel very proud of our Club's efforts for the year and I sincerely thank all members for their support for me during my year as President. We have a great blend of people within our ranks and having Jarrad and Ross join us this year adds to the diversity.

All our members have busy lives and it was unfortunate that Jon's work commitments didn't allow him to continue with the club this year. It was particularly pleasing that Jon and Melita could help the club at our Theatre Restaurant.

We didn't tick off every box, but the end of one year gives us the opportunity to refocus for next years goals. One of our challenges with fundraising is to constantly be on the lookout for other opportunities. The worst thing we can ever do is to assume that everything will stay the same. By its very nature, change is healthy and makes us more resilient.

Our list of guest speakers this year has been very pleasing and it has added to the occasion of our dinner meetings. As we enter changeover month for other clubs, I encourage all members to get to at least a couple of other clubs for their nights.

I look forward to working with Scott in his year and his passion will ensure the club has a very successful year.

Thanks to everyone

**Ross McInnes**

President 2016-17



## From the Secretary's Desk

### State of Origin 1

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May, the 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday last month, and traditionally an opportunity to enjoy a social function, saw most members meet at Aleeta and John Wozencroft's home to partake of Pizzas, followed by watching this year's first State of Origin match. Although the result did not please most present, it was a good opportunity to relax in each other's company. Thanks to Aleeta and John for offering your hospitality.

We all had a chance to 'Guess the Score' and Ann Kay's hunch proved the closest. Our Kookaburra, whose contents always go to End Polio, benefitted from numerous gold coins on the night.



State of Origin round table at Aleeta's home

### Other Club Changeovers / Special Events

Members please note significant dates coming up for other local Clubs. Please contact me if you seek more information.

#### ROTARY

|            |               |
|------------|---------------|
| D9640      | Sun 25 June   |
| Boonah     | Thurs 29 June |
| Jimboomba  | Sat 1 July    |
| Beaudesert | Tues 11 July  |
| Allora     | Mon 17 July   |

#### LIONS

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| Boonah      | Sat 8 July  |
| Harrisville | Sat 22 July |

#### INNER WHEEL

|        |             |
|--------|-------------|
| Boonah | Sat 15 July |
|--------|-------------|

#### RED CROSS

|        |               |
|--------|---------------|
| Boonah | Thurs 22 June |
|--------|---------------|

### Welcome to new members Ross Blanch

Welcome to our newest member Ross Blanch who was inducted at our Changeover at Roadvale. I have added Ross to our Club's RI records. This may be a convenient time to remind all members to ensure that their records (e.g. phone numbers, email) on D9640 and RI records are correct.

### Peak Crossing Car Club Display Day

Plans are well in hand for our annual day at Neil and Jenny's home at Peak Crossing, with even more cars and people expected than last year. Please note this date in your Calendar – Sunday 27 August (with setting up on the Saturday).

## Youth Matters

**Cara Champion**  
Youth Director

As this is my last official contribution as Youth Director, I would like to take a quick look back at what we've achieved over the last year. We made an additional contribution towards youth development in our community by introducing a Citizenship Award for a Year 6 student from each of the seven schools in our club catchment area. In addition to Rotary's Youth Programs (RYLA, RYTS & RYPEN) this will become an annual award presented at the end of each year.

The Citizenship Award was presented to a student who met a select set of criteria, they were awarded with a certificate, and a cheque for \$100 to assist them with their future studies. The schools involved were Harrisville, Peak Crossing, Kalbar, Aratula, Mutdapilly, Warrill View and Roadvale.

In April we made our annual donation of a beautiful set of books for primary aged children at each of the previously mentioned schools, as part of our ANZAC Day contribution to youth.

This year we have sponsored four young people to attend Rotary Youth Leadership events. This included:

- two awardees from the E-Club to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) camp at Tyalgum in January, and
- 2 students to attend Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) in May at Bornhoffen PCYC.

Thank you to all of our members for their continued support of youth programs in our community, and I look forward to another year of continuing to improve our youth involvement.

**Cara Champion** - Youth Director 2016-17



### Inner Wheel Australia

When the first Inner Wheel Club was formed in England in 1924, its members all had a close association with the local Rotary Club. This practice was followed in Australia in 1931 when this country's first Club was formed in Ballarat, closely followed by North Sydney.

The link between Inner Wheel and Rotary remains strong with three members of the Boonah Inner Wheel Club, being the wives of members of the Rotary Club of Boonah, while another three are Rotarians themselves, all members of the RC of Fassifern Valley. Still others have no direct link with Rotary, but are keen to belong to a group offering fun and friendship while undertaking some fund raising activities.

Recent functions include a fashion parade at the home of Club Secretary Zelma Hanley, when over \$1,000 was raised. Two weeks later we hosted the RC of Boonah at a Dinner meeting, with that occasion raising nearly \$1,000.

Our Club has recently celebrated its 7<sup>th</sup> Birthday and members are busy at the present time preparing for the A77 District Meeting in July, hosted by our Club, when our Charter President, Zelma Hanley, will be inducted as the District Chair.

We are delighted that our 2016-17 President Jan Miles has enthusiastically agreed to continue in the role for another year. With most Executive positions of the Club remaining the same, this year we are not having a Changeover Lunch.

If you would like to know more about Inner Wheel, please contact President Jan Miles on 0419 076 662 or 5467 1341.

**Marjorie Porter** - Club Correspondent  
Boonah Inner Wheel Club  
M: 0419 781 264





Club President: Ross McInnes  
 District 9640 Governor: Michael Irving  
 Rotary International President: John Germ



Secretary: Marjorie Porter  
 Webmaster: Aleeta Wozencroft  
 Editor: Graham Porter OAM

## Upcoming Events

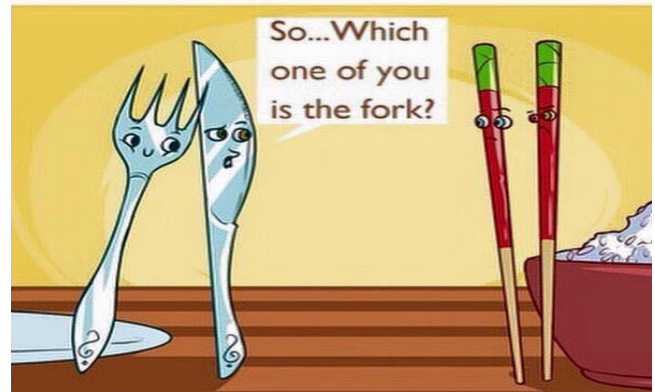
**June 25** – District Changeover – Kingscliff Bowls Club

**Aug 27** – Peak Crossing Car Display Day – Summersons' home



“Those who don’t study history are doomed to repeat it. Yet those who *do* study history are doomed to stand by helplessly while everyone else repeats it.”

## It’s a Laugh!



## Meeting Program and Duty Roster: June

| DUTY ROSTER                     | Wed 7 May '17<br>Business Meeting            | Wed 14 May '17<br>Dinner Meeting                       | Sun 18 May '17<br>Business Meeting                   | Wed 28 May '17<br>Dinner Meeting               |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Duty Officer                    | N/A  | Aleeta Wozencroft                                      | N/A  | Bev Ward                                       |
| 100 Club , Stamps and/or Raffle | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  |
| Chairman/ Rotary Reflections    | Ross McInnes                                 | Ross McInnes   | Scott Champion                                       | Cara Champion                                  |
| Meeting Venue & Time            | Harrisville State School.<br>6.45 for 7.00pm | Royal Hotel, Harrisville<br>6.30 for 7.00pm            | <b>Mackaways Cafe.<br/>Harrisville</b><br>Time : TBA | Royal Hotel,<br>Harrisville<br>6.30 for 7.00pm |
| Program and/or Guest Speaker    | <b>Club Business</b>                         | <b>Ross Lehmann</b><br>Business Development – My Story | <b>Planning Meeting for 2017-18 Year</b>             | <b>RYPEN Students Report</b>                   |

### 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).