

# VALLEY VIBES

Volume 7 Edition 7

BULLETIN

March 2018

## 113 Years of Rotary International

Fifty eight Rotarians and friends from Fassifern Valley, Beaudesert, Boonah and Jimboomba Clubs along with Member for Scenic Rim Joh Kruase and wife Kit, Scenic Rim Mayor Greg Christenson and wife Denise, Honorary Member John Brent, Guest Speaker Mr Gerry Garard and wife Renita and Assistant District Governor Karen Thomas, attended a dinner at Black Hall, Kalbar, to celebrate the 113<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Rotary. On 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1905 the heart or 'spirit' of Rotary came from one man's vision, Paul P Harris. Paul Harris along with 3 other gathered in an office in downtown Chicago and formed the Rotary Club of Chicago so professionals with diverse backgrounds could exchange ideas, form meaningful, lifelong friendships and give back to their communities.

*"I was sure that there must be many other young men who had come from farms and small villages to establish themselves in Chicago...Why not bring them together? If others were longing for fellowship as I was, something would come of it."* Paul P Harris



Towards the end of Harris's presidency year in 1908 he worked to expand Rotary beyond Chicago, he persisted and by 1910 Rotary had expanded to several other U.S. cities. Today Rotary has members in over 200 countries and territories, 34,282 member clubs worldwide and has 1.22 million members.

Our guest speaker for the night Gerry Garard, a former Vietnam Veteran spoke about his vision 4 Aussie Heroes, a foundation he at first started to help Returned Servicemen and Women experiencing difficulties with readjusting to life after deployments and the struggle that PTSD was having on some of these individuals. Gerry

later realized that PTSD & Mental Health issues also had a huge effect on first responders, therefore his program is now designed to help all men and women who serve their country and community in various ways. Gerry and his dedicated board are working with council to purchase a block of land in the Scenic Rim area so they can build a center where they can offer a rehabilitation program, which includes equine and canine therapies to assist in the recovery of the issues which affect so many veterans and first responders.

As part of the fundraising for 4 Aussie Heroes, each year they run a fundraising bike ride around the beautiful Scenic Rim. The ride covers some 230km and has an overnight stay along the way.



This year's ride will be around the Kalbar and surrounding area and will be in October sometime, date to be advised. President Scott Champion challenged the cluster clubs to put together a team to participate in the ride. Gerry's message to the dinner was inspirational, and certainly a cause well worth contributing to, President Scott asked every Rotarian in the room to be upstanding for a headcount and for each Rotarian present the Fassifern Valley Rotary Club donated \$25. A cheque for \$775 was presented to

Gerry towards the foundation. After this announcement, each of the cluster club Presidents said they would match the amount RCFV donated. The dinner was a successful evening enjoyed by all who attended. We thank the Beaudesert, Boonah and Jimboomba clubs for their attendance and their kind donations towards the 4 Aussie Heroes foundation.



RCFV President Scott Champion, Assistant District Governor Karen Thomas, Boonah RC President Joy McDougal, Beaudesert RC President Susan Page and Jimboomba RC President Ray McCabbin.





The 113<sup>th</sup> Dinner was also a great opportunity to induct a new honorary member, Mayor Greg Christensen. Assistant District Governor Karen Thomas presented Greg with his badge and Rotary pin. We welcome Greg into our club and we look forward to seeing him and his lovely wife Denise at our meetings and functions throughout the year.



## Presidents Report

This month is looking to be more busy than most for each of us as Rotarians, particularly with the district conference being only a week away. Before that though, we have the business meeting this Wednesday. I cannot stress enough the importance of your attendance of this meeting, as we need to plan our activities later in the month and further down the track, especially what we are doing with the van. I also know that Andrew would like to discuss the makeup of the incoming board at this meeting, so please make the effort to attend.

The Wednesday immediately following the conference, will be the dinner meeting for the month. It is a bit unfortunate that it follows on so closely on the heels of conference, however I have asked Mayor Greg Christensen, our latest Honorary member, to come to speak to us and that was one of a very few nights that he had available. I have asked Greg to speak to us about where he sees our part of the Scenic Rim going in the near future, and how we, as a service club, might be able to assist in being a positive force in any future development. Please feel free to invite any and all community members who might be interested, to come along to join in what is usually a lively conversation following Greg's talks.

I hope that we can relax a bit, following this hectic fortnight, so I am suggesting that we push the social meeting back to the fourth Wednesday of March, but I will confirm this at next week's meeting. And speaking of the social meetings, I am continuing to enjoy the increased amount of fellowship that these events are providing. The way that our RYLA attendees, Josh and Ty spoke at the last social night was certainly great advertising for the RYLA experience as a whole, and the photos of the night showed the delight with which all who attended received their words of thanks.

Looking back at February, I just want to thank everyone for the support that they gave in hosting the 113<sup>th</sup> Rotary Birthday celebrations. Back in October last year, we gave Cara and Aleeta carte blanche to organise this celebration, and didn't they come through! It was a very

enjoyable night, and I think that we may have been able to even impress some of the less believing members of other clubs in our cluster (those that came at least). Gerry was a fantastic speaker, and more importantly, he has a very worthwhile cause that I hope we will be able to continue to support for many years to come.

I drove over to Boonah last Saturday, and just happened to see their Heritage Day setting up. This would have been the ideal opportunity to bring the van into service, if we had had enough notice to get organised to attend. It was unfortunate to miss this event as we need to take every opportunity to make this van work, and there are very few opportunities such as this available in our area. We need to be much more proactive moving forward.

For those attending conference, enjoy the speakers and the chance to join in fellowship with other Rotarians from our district. It may be one of the last opportunities to enjoy such an intimate gathering, considering the proposed future boundary changes. I also challenge you to please attempt to attend each of the meetings that we have planned this month, as without you we are that much weaker.

Thanks for reading,

President Scott Champion

## March Dinner Speaker



### **Greg Christensen**

Born and raised in the Scenic Rim at Moorang, Mayor Greg Christensen lives in the rural district of Tarome with his wife of 40 years Denise. While his family connection to the Scenic Rim region dates back to the 19th Century, Greg's own career has seen life from the view of the factory floor to the executive window. His career spans the manufacturing,

mining and agriculture sectors and has prepared him well to be the Mayor of the Scenic Rim region.

Immediately prior to his election as Mayor, Cr Christensen provided consultancy and coaching services in the areas of leadership, business development, organisational and process change. This business was built upon his passion for lifelong learning, which included a Masters in International Management and accreditations in Executive Coaching and Mentoring.

Mayor Christensen will speak about the direction for the north western region of the Scenic Rim as he sees it, and will hopefully provide an insight as to how RCFV can assist in the region's development

# Youth Matters

Cara Champion  
Youth Director

Josh Aitken & Ty Champion attended our social evening on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February to speak about their experience at RYLA. Josh spoke about how it had helped him to connect with other people and about self-reflection, which will help him to evaluate what he does and also help him to

move forward. Josh couldn't speak highly enough about the confidence that he feels he has gained through the program and the people he has met, as these will most likely be friends that he will keep for some time to come, if not lifelong friends.

Ty spoke about the uncertainty of what RYLA would be about, however he said this was probably one of the best parts of the week as it forces you to have an open mind, to be adaptable and to be ready for anything. Opportunities for reflection were presented so that all of the information from guest speakers and lectures could be absorbed. Both Josh & Ty embraced the week of opportunities and highlighted that the experience was amazing and had been unlike anything they had done before. Josh & Ty both concluded by thanking the club for the once in a lifetime opportunity they were given to attend RYLA.



RCFV member & RYLA volunteer Jarrad Cartmill, RYLA Awardees Ty Champion & Josh Aitken and RCFV President Scott Champion

## Social Evening - 28<sup>th</sup> February

It was great to see most members were able to attend our last social get together at Lizzy's Kitchen in Harrisville. Great company and fellowship was enjoyed by all and the evening was a great atmosphere for everyone to sit back and relax. It was so good to see Arthur and Thyrlene come and enjoy the evening, especially as we had Josh & Ty speaking about RYLA, a subject close to Arthur's heart as a Past District Governor and Youth Director. Arthur's contribution and effort towards sending youth from our community to Rotary Youth Camps over the many years was outstanding and a hard act to follow.





## Talent Amongst Us

Our very own Past President and local Dairy Farmer, Ross McInnes shared one of his many talents at our social evening on the 28<sup>th</sup> February. Ross has been working on a lead light project with Sue Russ at Lavender Leadlights in Harrisville. Ross has made a leadlight Rotary Wheel, which can be used at future Rotary events. The end result was nothing less than impressive and will be a great asset to the club. Congratulations and well done Ross on a fantastic job.



## *From the* Secretary's Desk

### Acknowledgement From Parliament

We received a letter from Scott Buchholz MP advising that he took the opportunity to speak about our Rotary Club's achievements in Parliament. The speech acknowledged the contribution that we make to our serving diggers overseas when we send our digger boxes full of goodies, which arrive just in time for Christmas. Mr Buchholz supports this project every year by donating puzzles, pencils Australian flags, diaries, notepads and envelopes. These items are sent along with a variety of other 'home comforts' to try and give a little bit of home to those away from theirs.

### PETS

President Elect Andrew, Cara and Aleeta attended the weekend at PETS on 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> February. The weekend was informative and inspirational for the year ahead. Andrew has set the date of 16<sup>th</sup> June for his changeover dinner, more details to follow.

### District Conference

Many of our members will be heading to the Seaworld Resort on Saturday morning. This year, more than any other year we have the highest number of members from our club attending District Conference. We are all looking forward to hearing the guest speakers, learning more about Rotary and enjoying some fellowship among friends & acquaintances. It should be a great weekend and we are all looking forward to it.

## RCFV Business Directory

The Business Directory has been printed and delivered to post offices within the local areas. The new look Directory looks great with a lot of advertises choosing to go to full color this year, the color adds a great contrast to the Directory.



## Upcoming Events

| March   | April  | May  | June   |
|---|--|--|--|
| <p><b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup></b><br/>Business Meeting @ Harrisville State School</p> <p><b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 11<sup>th</sup></b><br/>District Conference - SeaWorld Resort</p> <p><b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup></b><br/>Dinner Meeting - Guest Speaker Mayor Greg Christensen</p> | <p><b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April</b><br/>Commonwealth Games</p> | <p><b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May</b><br/>26<sup>th</sup> Opera in the Vineyard - Stanthorpe</p> <p><b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May</b><br/>District Assembly, Boonah State High School, 8.30am - 2.30pm</p> <p><b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup>- Sunday 27<sup>th</sup></b><br/>RYPEN Camp, Bornhoffen</p> | <p><b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup></b><br/>Beaudesert Rotary Club Changeover</p> <p><b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup></b><br/>RCFV Changeover</p> <p><b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup></b><br/>Boonah Rotary Club Changeover</p> <p><b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup></b><br/>District Changeover</p> |

**It's a Laugh!**

**If you haven't grown up  
by age 50,  
You don't have to.**

### 10 FUN FACTS

1. You can't wash your eyes with soap.
2. You can't count your hair.
3. You can't breathe through your nose, with your tongue out.
4. You just tried no. 3
6. When you did no. 3 you realized it's possible, only you look like a dog.
7. You're smiling right now, because you were fooled.
8. You skipped no. 5
9. You just checked to see if there is a no. 5
10. Share this with your friends to have some fun too! :-)

# Meeting Program and Duty Roster: March

| <b>DUTY ROSTER</b>              | <b>Wed 7 Mar '18<br/>Business Meeting</b>                     | <b>Fri 9<sup>th</sup> - Sun 11<sup>th</sup><br/>Mar'18<br/>District Conference</b> | <b>Wed 14 Mar '18<br/>Dinner Meeting</b>        | <b>Wed 21 Feb '18<br/>No Meeting<br/>(Due to Conference)</b> | <b>Wed 28 Mar '18<br/>Social Get Together</b> |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|
| Duty Officer                    | N/A   | N/A  | Marjorie Porter                                 |  |   |
| Chairman/<br>Rotary Reflections | Pres Scott<br>Champion  |  | Ross Blanch                                     |  |   |
| Meeting Venue & Time            | <b>Harrisville State School Library</b><br>6.45 for<br>7.00pm | Seaworld Resort,<br>Gold Coast   | <b>Royal Hotel, Harrisville</b><br>6.30 for 7pm |  |   |
| Program and/or Guest Speaker    | <b>Club Business</b>  |  | <b>Mayor Greg Christensen</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)



2017/18

Club President: Scott Champion  
 Club Secretary: Marjorie Porter  
 Executive Secretary: Cara Champion  
 Webmaster: Aleeta Wozencroft  
 Editor: Cara Champion

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