

# VALLEY VIBES

Volume 6 Edition 6

BULLETIN

Dec 2016 – Jan 2017

## MEETING, 7 DECEMBER 2016 Rotary Youth Programs Jarrad Cartmill



Our newest member Jarrad will discuss the various Rotary youth programs of RYLA, RYPEN & RYTS.

## Meryl Tress

### Boonah Community Health Centre

As Learning Centre Coordinator, Meryl will speak to us on the Rotary Gift Car which our club has donated to the Boonah Community Health Centre through the generosity of Arthur and Thyrlene, where less fortunate youth are assisted with their driving skills.

## MEETING, 25 January 2017 Soap Aid – Karen Thomas



SOAP AID is a not-for-profit organisation founded in Melbourne Australia by a family who had a 25yr involvement in the hotel amenities supply business. Their concern and awareness of their commercial impact on the environment, coupled with their desire to help the underprivileged led to the

the conception of SOAP AID. They partnered with Rotary to facilitate the collection and distribution of the soap. Toward the end of 2015 they expressed a desire to expand their collection to the Gold Coast. As the Rotary Coordinator for District 9640, I undertook this project in memory of my late partner PDG Max Wortman and his battle with Non Hodgkin Lymphoma and prevention of infection from a compromised immune system.

The unused portion of soap is collected from hotels and transported to a factory in Melbourne where it is cleaned and remade into soap bars and transported and distributed to needy areas.

Merry CHRISTMAS Happy NEW YEAR

## Invitation to Rotary Christmas Party

Club Members are invited to attend their Christmas Party at the home of Neil and Jenny Summerson at 97 Allens Road, Peak Crossing on Saturday, 10 December 2016. Bring a plate per arrangement.



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**MEETING, 9 NOVEMBER 2016**  
**John Baguley – RAAF MWD**  
**Remembrance Day Commemoration**



John with Military Working Dog pup Rory

Chairman Scott introduced John Baguley from the Air Force Military Working Dog Supply Flight at Amberley. John is now a civilian, having left the Air Force some 10 years ago and is the inaugural MWD Supply Manager.

John began his presentation by introducing his pup *Rory*, a *Belgian Malinois*, sometimes known as the Belgian Shepherd. *Rory* is one of 10 pups born in Australia to their pregnant mother, purchased in Germany some 4 months ago. The dog program consists of importing a breeding bitch a year from Belgium or Germany to strengthen the blood line of the breed in Australia going forward.

Working dogs were introduced to the Air Force shortly after World War 2 to protect aircraft and hangars. The dogs were viscous and permanently chained making them difficult to handle. In Melbourne in 1958 a training program for guard dogs was commenced with its first graduate named *Satan*. The last dog to graduate this year has the Service Number 2154 named *Arra*, Dogs are now named in alphabetical order.

Military working dogs are now based at all RAAF operational bases which have military aircraft. They provide security, crime prevention, patrols,

emergency response etc. Their main role is to deter people climbing air base fences which carry signs saying *Air Force Dogs on Patrol*. The second role is to locate persons who may enter the base, in order to protect the Air Force's assets. To members great consternation John advised that this was to be the future role of *Rory*, contrary to his present lovable nature.

The purchase by the Australian Government of our 5<sup>th</sup> generation aircraft, 72 x F35A *Lightnings*, at a cost of \$12 billion, places great responsibility on their security. They are easily disabled and it has been found that the most effective form of security is the man/ woman dog patrol team. Previously valuable aircraft were protected by dog patrols after hours. This has now changed to 24 hour security.

John advised the program breeds from 25 females, 80 pups a year, in the hope that 50 percent can be used as working dogs, in order to satisfy requirements. In 2015, 92 percent of throughput came from his breeding and development program with 8 percent purchased or donated. He mentioned that they are now moving to a single breed of dog, the *Belgian Malinois*. It is a relatively large dog about 5 kgs lighter than the *German Shepherd*. It has a square build with square shoulders and square back. They have a distinctive black mask, a high energy level and are a very good working dog. While liking the German Shepherd breed, John said 72 percent are rejected due to hip dysplasia or poor elbows. However, the *Malinois* is only 24 percent. These figures come from the University of Pennsylvania, dog quality control studies. Having attempted cross-breeding in the past to overcome this failure, John says they have now taken the decision to use only the *Belgian Malinois* breed. Also, the aggression of the *Malinois* is much higher than the *German Shepherd*. Our SAS and Israeli Special Services now will use only the *Belgian Malinois*. He showed an artificially inseminated breeding mum with her first litter of 17 pups.

John spoke of the dog foster care program where pups are placed into foster care from 12 weeks to 24 weeks of age. The foster program is open to civilian and military people in S-E Queensland. It has a *try before you buy* option where potential carers may have a pup for a weekend. He spoke of the jackets worn by pups and the public attention it brings to the program. Because they desire repeat assistance from foster carers, the program provides generous support to those who qualify. They have found that older people make better foster carers

as they are more mature and have more time to give the task. The aim is to give the pup a wide range of experiences. There is no preference whether they live in country or city areas. However, there is a qualifying caveat on some other dog breeds which may also live with the potential carer such as the *Bull Terrier*, *Japanese Fighting Dog* etc. Dogs that don't graduate the training program are moved on to any number of other civilian programs or sold by public tender.



Ann Kay considers how best to take *Rory* home

John told of his complicated experience involving customs and quarantine while retrieving the black *Labrador* defence dog *Sarbi* from Afghanistan following separation from her handler. *Sarbi* subsequently died and has been preserved at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.

He spoke of a personal experience while training the *Belgian Malinois* as a guard dog, and its unforgiving nature which put him in hospital with a torn shoulder and considerable blood loss. Ironically it was the attitude and determination which he so admires in the breed which resulted in his becoming the victim.

John's story continued raising courageous experiences, some tragic, of other assault dogs on the front line. It was a very appropriate theme on which to commemorate Remembrance Day.

## MEETING, 23 NOVEMBER 2016

### Vicki James - Manager LifeFlight Community Engagement



Vicki James being thanked by Cara Champion

Chairperson Cara introduced Vicki James as the Community Engagement Manager of LifeFlight. Vicki has been in her present role for a year and a half preceded by 12 years in another community charity before which she was a nurse for 20 years. Her favourite saying is "Fundraising allows ordinary people to change the world" and philanthropy allows us to make a difference unachievable for individuals. This harmonises with the Rotary belief that collectively we can achieve more than as sole operators. She gave thanks to Rotary for this and what it does for the community. Without its assistance many community aspirations and goals would not be achieved.

LifeFlight (formerly known as CareFlight), over the last 35 years can proudly say it has flown 44,000 critical rescue missions and evolved into a multifaceted air-medical retrieval service operating 24/7. Vicki said, "today our organisation operates a fleet of 13 helicopters, a dedicated jet air ambulance service, plus a nationally recognised aviation training facility".

She also said "LifeFlight continues to evolve to deliver a world-class service, the one constant that will always remain is our focus on patients and saving lives. Its passion and purpose is to provide a total blanket of care to anyone, anywhere, anytime. We're here for you and your family, and we thank Rotary for being here for us".

## CareFlight is now LifeFlight

Vicki said that nowadays we have to choose to support charities that are closest to our hearts and relevant to us, as there are so many from which to select. That is why she chooses to work for LifeFlight. Her awareness of need came early in her life as a nurse at Royal Brisbane Hospital when her younger brother, while swimming at Tangalooma, was hit by a stingray and had to be evacuated by helicopter to the hospital where she was able to personally care for him. She believes that without that service her family's story could have been much different. People tell her today that without LifeFlight their circumstances could have been tragic.

Vicki advised that in July this year CareFlight changed its name to LifeFlight after being CareFlight for 35 years. This change didn't occur lightly but arose from CareFlight, New South Wales, owning the name. In 35 years LifeFlight has undertaken major changes from operating only 2 helicopters around the Gold Coast to now operating many more services including jets over the whole State. The name change allows better focus by the Queensland community and clear distinction from the NSW organisation. This avoids confusion when fundraising.

She spoke of the *Golden Hour* as being the optimum time to get trauma patients to hospital. Accident victims have a 50 percent better survival rate if transported to hospital within an hour, enhanced by having doctors on board each flight. This service costs on average \$12,500 for each admission. Patients are made aware of this cost but advised that payment is not compulsory. This figure includes the cost of aircraft and machinery, pilot, co-pilot, doctor and advanced care paramedics. To replace each helicopter rotor blade costs \$120,000.

Currently there are 13 helicopters operating with CareFlight throughout Queensland. They are equipped to undertake blood transfusions in flight. The jets are used when there is an urgent need to transport patients from say North Queensland regional areas to Brisbane. LifeFlight have two Lear- jets and a Challenger jet, which when required, can make international flights. This service is available to Australians abroad through their travel insurance. An example of this is the

need to return home injured Australians due to the Japanese earthquake.

Vicki highlighted recent cases where their services were required in the Boonah area involving paragliders and trail bikes. Another service is neonatal care for prematurely born babies in remote areas needing to go to hospital. They pick up neonatal nurses from Lady Cilento Hospital, fly them to the patient and return with patient to the hospital. There were 1,854 missions in the last financial year including 337 primary care patients who were injured, gored by a bull, hurt by a tractor etc. 1270 motor vehicle accidents needing hospital transfers, 29 neo-natal and 18 search and rescue flights. The advantage of helicopter rescue is their ability to land near the accident scene, fly under controlled airspace without the need for air traffic control clearance and land on hospital helipads.

Thyrlene spoke of her own experience following a heart attack being flown from Boonah hospital by helicopter to Wesley Hospital where she underwent open heart surgery. Vicki mentioned CareFlight's commercial ventures where it trains in-flight doctors for the Royal Flying Doctor Service, under water rescue training etc. She answered the often asked question of what is the difference between RFDS and LifeFlight. The simple answer is RFDS have jets and not helicopters. The advantage of helicopters is being able to put down near the patient and quick, smooth transport to hospital compared to road transport. The LifeFlight hangar at Archerfield aerodrome has tours of inspection for those interested. Vicki ended her presentation with the helicopter crew saying thank you to us for our donation.

We were pleased to donate \$250 to Vicki to help LifeFlight with its humanitarian work.





## DECEMBER - JANUARY Secret Santa Coming Soon

As everyone battles the heat wave conditions at the moment, it's a bit difficult to imagine anything to do with a white Christmas. This week we have Jarrad as our guest speaker on youth matters, plus a short update from Meryl Tress, Boonah Community Centre, Learning Centre Coordinator, about Arthur and Thyrlene's generous offer of their vehicle for driver training.

Next Saturday Neil and Jenny are very kindly hosting our Christmas breakup and it promises to be a great night. After our meal we will again have our Secret Santa with a twist. I am still working out how to wrap up my bale of lucerne hay, and disguise it, so Neil will be surprised.

Our Christmas break will last until the 11<sup>th</sup> of January when we reconvene with a social night at the Commercial Hotel in Boonah. It will be a good opportunity to ease back into the second half of our Rotary year. The following week, on the 18<sup>th</sup>, we will have a club assembly to outline our operating environment for the remainder of the year.

And on the 25<sup>th</sup> of January, Karen Thomas will be our guest speaker. Karen will speak on a project called Soap Aid which Rotary runs with the accommodation industry to collect and reuse soap and other products to assist families in less fortunate regions to allow better sanitation.

We have a couple of members or spouses with some health challenges at the moment and I wish everyone a speedy recovery to spend some quality time with family at Christmas.

To anyone I don't catch up with in the next couple of weeks, I wish you a Merry Christmas.

**Ross McInnes – President**

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



# Youth Matters

Cara Champion  
Youth Director

## ROTARY CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

This year has seen the introduction of the Rotary Citizenship Award which we hope will become an annual award sponsored by RCFV. Presented to a Year 6 student from each of our associated schools Harrisville, Kalbar, Peak Crossing, Warrill View, Aratula, Mutdapilly and Roadvale, the award rewards leadership and citizenship as important aspects of the student's school life.

The criteria against which each student was assessed were:

1. Demonstrate acts of kindness, a caring attitude and encouraging towards others
2. Show respect towards staff, peers, visitors, school and others' property
3. Abide by school rules, expectations and act responsibly
4. Display reliability and trustworthiness
5. Demonstrate leadership skills and personal initiative
6. Be responsible for his/her own learning to the best of their ability and always be prepared to learn
7. Demonstrate growth in his/her attitude towards learning, and
8. Participate in school and community events.

Each awardee received a certificate and a cheque for \$100 to assist them with their future studies in high school. As a teacher it is a privilege to help organise an award that will hopefully become an annual award which helps a young person further their education.



(L to R) Aratula State School Principal Angela Armstrong, Patricio Dieterick-Silveira (Awardee), Marjorie Porter (RCFV) & Sandra Dieterick-Silveira (P&C President)

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

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

**Digger Boxes**

Our plan was to send 60 Digger Boxes to the Defence Force personnel serving in the Middle East this year, but the final number sent was 62. Of those, 14 were to thank Guest Speakers at our Dinner Meetings, 27 were sponsored by members of our Club, and 10 were packed on behalf of the RC of Hope Island to thank their Guest Speakers. Thank you to PDG Sandra Doumany for coordinating this.

Thanks also to DG Michael for promoting our project in his Newsletter, the result of which was that the RC of Ashmore very kindly made a cash donation towards our Club to cover some of the expenses. Thank you President Karen and your generous team at Ashmore.

**Business Directory**

Our Business Directory is nearing completion and should be distributed in the New Year. Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way.

**Christmas Break-up**

Our Christmas Party will be at Jenny and Neil's Peak Crossing home on Saturday evening 10<sup>th</sup> December. I have sent an email to everyone. Please let me know if you need more information.

**Theatre Restaurant**

Plans are afoot for our Club to organise a Theatre Restaurant evening in the first half of 2017. More news in the next Valley Vibes.

**Citizenship Awards**

Thank you to our members who assisted in presenting awards at local schools at this busy time of year. The positive responses from the Awardees and their parents has been most gratifying. Unfortunately Thyrlene and Arthur were unable to undertake these duties owing to Thyrlene's health.

**Marjorie Porter – Secretary**



Scott Buchholz MP supplies goodies for Digger Boxes

We were grateful to our Federal, State and Local Government representatives for generously assisting us with items of a local nature to add to the boxes. Member for Wright, Scott Buchholz, personally delivered the contributions from his office. Thank you Scott.



Ethan Krause Grade 6 student at Harrisville State School, with Marjorie, delighted to be its 2016 Citizenship Awardee

**Party Time**

- 12 Dec **Arthur & Thyrlene Devin** – Wedding Anniversary
- 14 Dec **Scott Champion** – Birthday Celebration
- 31 Dec **John Wozencroft** – Birthday Celebration
- 12 Jan **Lindy & Jim Kirchner** – Wedding Anniversary
- 13 Jan **Neil Summerson** – Birthday Celebration



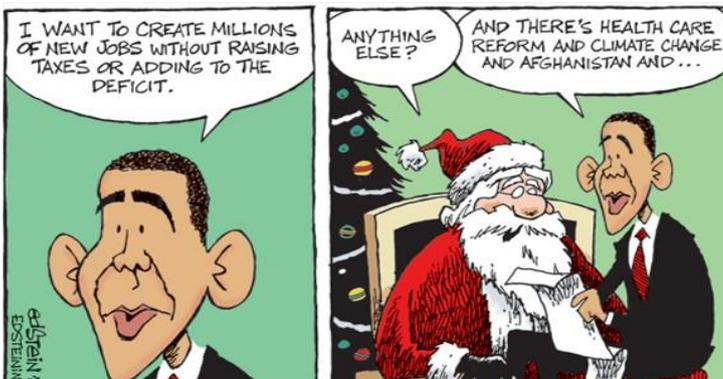
Packing Digger Boxes for our troops this Christmas

**Upcoming Events**

- Dec 10** – RCFV Christmas Party – Peak Crossing
- Jan 23-29** – RYLA Camp, Tyalgum
- Mar 11-12** – PETS/District Assembly
- Apr 1** – Theatre Restaurant, Harrisville
- May 5-8 2017** Rotary Conference Ballina keynote speakers: Ita Buttrose, Noel Pearson, Kerry O'Brien. **Make diary note NOW!**



**It's a Laugh!**



**Meeting Program and Duty Roster: Dec '16 – Jan '17**

DUTY ROSTER	Wed 7 Dec '16 Dinner Meeting	Sat 10 Dec '16 Social Meeting	Wed 11 Jan '17 Dinner Meeting	Wed 18 Jan '17 Business Meeting	Wed 25 Jan '17 Dinner Meeting
Duty Officer	Lindy Kirchner	Marjorie Porter	N/A	N/A	Aleeta Wozencroft
100 Club , Stamps and/or Raffle	N/A		N/A		N/A
Chairman/ Rotary Reflections	Cara Champion	N/A		Pres Ross McInnes	Bev Ward
Meeting Venue & Time	Royal Hotel Harrisville 6.30 for 7.00 pm	97 Allen's Road Peak Crossing from 6.00 pm	Commercial Hotel, Boonah 6.30 for 7.00 pm	Harrisville State School 6.45 for 7.00pm	Royal Hotel Harrisville 6.30 for 7.00 pm
Program and/or Guest Speaker	Jarrad Cartmill Youth Programs Meryl Tress BCHC	RCFV Christmas Party	Social Night	Club Assembly	Karen Thomas Soap Aid

**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).

