

VALLEY VIBES

Volume 10 Edition 9

BULLETIN

May – June 2021

VALE THYRLENE DENISE DEVIN PHF

11 April 1931 – 10 June 2021
President RCFV 2013 - 14



President Thyrlene with AG Michael Irving (L) and DG Tony Heading (R) 2013-14

(The following celebrates the life of Thyrlene prepared by her family; extracted from funeral Order of Service.)

Thyrlene Denise Devin was born on 11 April 1931 (90 Years) to Norman and Jessie Caulley in the small regional district of Kanyan Estate/ Theebine near Gympie. They were successful dairy farmers, owning one of the first cars in the district. Thyrlene was the eldest of three having two brothers, Darrel and John (both deceased). She was educated at Theebine primary school and completed year 10 at Maryborough.

On finishing school Thyrlene worked in Maryborough and then later worked at Gympie Shire Council, saving for an overseas trip. She travelled through Europe and the UK in the 1950s to many locations such as Russia and Italy, soaking up and appreciating the culture.

On returning to Australia, Thyrlene worked in Quilpie as the Deputy Shire Clerk and met her husband Arthur Devin, the Shire Engineer. They married in 1959 and had four children in the following eight years.. In 1963 the family moved to

Boonah where Thyrlene concentrated on raising the four children, involving herself in school and community activities.

As the family matured Thyrlene took on the job of Boonah Show Secretary and assisted in other community activities, also playing golf, tennis, becoming President of Forum and ongoing involvement with Rotary. Thyrlene studied a Diploma of History and Records and put learnings to work for many years, volunteering at the Boonah Archives.

Thyrlene supported Arthur in the role of Rotary District Governor working as a team which involved intense training and travel. On completion of the term both Thyrlene and Arthur remained involved in Rotary, establishing and becoming Foundation members of the Harrisville Rotary Club. Thyrlene realising a life-long dream becoming a Rotarian and the Rotary Club President.

Thyrlene was a dedicated gardener spending many hours tending her garden, along with the family's various pet dogs and cats. Thyrlene travelled extensively with Arthur, discovering the ease of cruising in later life. Her other great love was family, particularly the six grandchildren with whom she spent many holidays. We remember Thyrlene and a life well lived.



Recent Speaker – 19 May 2021
AG CARA CHAMPION

District Conference 2021

Celebrating 100 Years of Rotary in Australia



Conference this year was a little different to previous years, fortunately we were able to attend this year as last year's conference had to be cancelled due to Covid. Saturday the 15th May 2021, a beautiful sunny day on the Tweed Coast at the Twin Towns Resort, where just over 250 Rotarians gathered for a day of fellowship and inspiration.

Being a one-day event, the program ran a little differently to previous conferences, but the day was full of guest speakers, some new and informative Q & A sessions and fellowship.

DG Andy opened the conference talking about his 'crazy idea' 12 months ago, when he announced he wanted our District membership to be 1400 by the end of his year as District Governor. His crazy idea has come to fruition and District 9640 now has over 1400 members, with a few weeks still to go until the end of the year. DG Andy is proud of the new clubs he has charted & started in the past year crediting the increased membership on the variety of clubs our district has available for people to join – *"People join Rotary Clubs because clubs suit their lifestyle"*. Because of the flexibility of the type and meeting time of newer clubs, we can attract a new range of people that wouldn't join Rotary because the traditional 'Dinner Meeting' clubs didn't suit their lifestyle.

We also witnessed the end of the 100 year Baton Relay with both batons that had passed through

every club in QLD & NSW being delivered to the conference venue.

This year we have celebrated 100 years of Rotary in Australia & New Zealand. To commemorate the year the Rotary Club of the Granite Belt put together a book of 100 stories from 100 Rotarians. PDG David Lee and member of the club presented a copy of the book to keynote speaker and RI President Holger Knacks Representative and Rotary International Director Elect 2021-2023, Dr Jessie Harman.



Jessie began her presentation speech as if she were writing a congratulatory letter from the Queen for turning 100 – if we had been an individual turning 100 we would have received a letter from the Queen! She congratulated our District on many achievements, but especially on our outstanding efforts in creating new clubs and attracting new members to reach over 1400 members. District 9640 has the biggest growth club in Zone 8 which decreases our Districts chances of amalgamation!

Jessie then spoke about core values, Rotary core values – Fellowship, Integrity, Diversity, Service & Leadership and how important these are.

The first of the Q & A sessions was about YEP (Youth Exchange Program) was hosted by Co Deputy YEP Chair Kathryn Koch, the panel of four was made up of previous and current rebounders speaking about their experience as YEP students, the last to speak about her experience was Hon. Angie Bell MP, Member for Moncrieff QLD and now a member of Gold Coast Passport Rotary Club. Angie spoke about how the YEP experience changed the course of her life and how grateful she was to Rotary and what it has given her. Now as a member she gives back to Rotary whenever she can.



The second Q & A session was hosted by District Youth Chair PDG Darrell Brown, his panel consisted of two previous RYTS (Rotary Youth Transition Seminar) awardees and two RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) awardees. Each person spoke about their experiences, emphasising the impact that the Youth camps have had on their journeys as young adults. The two RYLA speakers also spoke about how this camp has helped them grow as individuals as well as in the workforce.

The third session was hosted by DG Andy. His panel consisted of PDG Harry Bolton talking about his experience as District Governor and DGE Jeff Egan (2021/22), DGN Karen Thomas (2022/23) and DGND Dave Harmon (2023/24) talking about their journey as they learn about and prepare for the role of District Governor in the future.

Another keynote speaker, **Jason Browne**, Public Image Coordinator, Zone 28 & 29 Pennsylvania State University Rotary D6290 in USA talked about membership. Is membership growth or membership retention more important in your club? *M & M's – Make Membership Memorable* M & M's are colourful, diverse and sweet!



Without great membership you cannot have great clubs, without great clubs, you cannot support the foundation or projects – membership is the most important aspect of Rotary. We need to change our approach to membership. Jason talked about 3 main areas:

- *Acting Old* - How old is your mind? We act a little old when we lose our perspective;
- *Information Overload* – We can only take in so much information.
- *Status Quo* – Innovation is necessary for progress!


Jason continued with 5 ways we can improve our clubs:

- Strong Identities
- Clear public Image
- Business Minded
- Innovative & Fearless
- Great Partnerships

Do something new, make M & M's!

We look forward to next years' conference in Tenterfield, but for now Rotary has once again opened the doors of opportunity for many.

Cara Champion – Assistant Governor



THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

THE OBJECT OF ROTARY IS TO ENCOURAGE AND FOSTER THE IDEAL OF SERVICE AS A BASIS OF WORTHY ENTERPRISE AND, IN PARTICULAR, TO ENCOURAGE AND FOSTER:

1. THE DEVELOPMENT OF ACQUAINTANCE AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE;
2. HIGH ETHICAL STANDARDS IN BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS; THE RECOGNITION OF THE WORTHINESS OF ALL USEFUL OCCUPATIONS; AND THE DIGNIFYING OF EACH ROTARIAN'S OCCUPATION AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE SOCIETY;
3. THE APPLICATION OF THE IDEAL OF SERVICE IN EACH ROTARIAN'S PERSONAL, BUSINESS, AND COMMUNITY LIFE;
4. THE ADVANCEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, GOODWILL, AND PEACE THROUGH A WORLD FELLOWSHIP OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL PERSONS UNITED IN THE IDEAL OF SERVICE.



Our Rotary Year at the RCFV has been filled with many challenges beyond human control but we have soldiered on as a co-operative and successful Club! We will talk about the year/s of COVID for many years to come, but just as Polio struck an unexpected population many many years ago, the development of vaccines changed the world, and I think the COVID vaccines will also be written down in history as yet another notable advancement in medicine. I wonder if Rotary will become involved with this vaccine as they were with Polio?

This year saw our Club, celebrate our 10th Birthday since Chartering and 100 years of Rotary in Australia. We received the baton from the Warwick Club and we passed it on to our Sister Club, Boonah. The baton had travelled all around our District as a symbol of the Centenary.

After postponing our Annual Car Day at Peak Crossing several times, we finally gave in and with a remarkable turn of events, our Club applied for and was successful in being given a large grant through Rotary and we successfully staged an Australia Day themed small classic car event! The day included Best dressed male, female and couple wearing Australiana clothing! We ran a thong throwing competition with the help of our Friend of Rotary, Wendi Silcox as judge. We sold delicious lamingtons and pies, peas and potatoes with the kind help of Wasyl and his partner Deb. They were a hit with everyone! Our coffee lady, Marion, did not disappoint patrons with her delicious coffee and frappes. This was a very successful day financially with Neil Summerson bursting the proverbial boiler to make our grant application and successful acquittal of same, be so worthwhile. We publicly gave the Founder of 4 Aussie Heroes, our donation of \$5000 which was used to help build the Ablutions Block at the Camp Site.

Jill Surawski successfully planned with Bunnings, to run our inaugural sausage sizzle at the West Ipswich store. Our group rose to the challenge of enough people to man 2 by 5 hour shifts and once again, we came away with a successful fundraising event figure.

To continue our positive pathway through COVID, we were approached by the Peak Crossing Social Club to help them cater for a Bull Ride event held at the Peak Crossing Hotel grounds. We pulled out all stops and in a short time frame, we had organised all the necessary items for the barbeque and drink sales and once again, this was a very successful event financially for us with, to be honest, not a lot of work!

This year, we donated \$3000 to three of the local Kalbar essential items shops, the Fruit and Veg Shop, the Butcher and the Chemist, who were able to give \$50 vouchers to their customers whom they knew were doing it tough. The feedback from these businesses was that it made such a difference to a wide range of recipients of those gift vouchers. The Chemist is still in the process of giving these vouchers for medications needed by deserving people. We also donated \$1500 to Rotary Foundation and \$500 to Jimboomba Club to support them assist Domestic Violence sufferers.

With sadness, we learned of our dear friend and Past President, Thrylene Devin's passing. Her family called me and were sad but also very grateful that Thrylene's life was full of meaning, full of giving and full of kindness to others in her Community and in giving of herself to help vaccinate thousands of people overseas with the polio vaccines, in cooperation with Rotary International and Bill and Melinda Gates. A truly wonderful lady whose life has changed for the better, many people's lives. Her values and the life she lived, are truly an inspiration to all. I am truly humbled to be a part of her life. She passed away peacefully, on June 10th, 2021, with her dear husband and our friend, and Past District Governor, Arthur, by her side, holding her hand. How beautiful.

May our next year be a Club Vegemite Year-putting a rose and smile on every face, as we serve our community in our beautiful Fassifern Valley.

Thank you all so much, for your support throughout the year, 2020-2021.

Kindest regards

Lindy 

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MEMBERS CHANGEOVER ARRANGEMENTS

As all Members are aware, the situation with uncertainty around the impact of COVID has meant that our Changeover Dinner, originally planned for Saturday 3rd July, is now scheduled for **Friday 23rd July** at the Commercial Hotel, Harrisville.

Please feel free to contact me for any further information about this function.

Marjorie Porter
Secretary, 2021-22.
M: 0419 781 264

🎉 BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES 🎉

Date	Birthdays	Anniversaries
5 July	Ann Kay	
3 August		Stephanie & Tim

District 9640 Newsletter (Abridged)

The Final News Letter from District Governor Andy

In January 2020 at the Rotary International Training Assembly in San Diego California USA, then-incoming World President Holger Knaack inspired us 540 District Governors-Elect from 182 countries with his annual theme, "Rotary Opens Opportunities". In February, when we boarded our flights to return home ready to lead our Districts, none of us ever dreamt that we were flying into a global pandemic where every door of opportunity kept closing on us. By March, International and National borders closed. The world went into lockdown. No living Rotary Governor or a World President before us had led a Rotary District of volunteers during a global pandemic. So each of us had to innovate our own style of "crisis leadership". I believed that "no one went blind by looking at the bright side." That's what I did all year long since taking office on 1st July 2020 as your District Governor of 9640. I looked for new opportunities in a global crisis. My amazing District Leadership Team and my coach PDG Prof. Michael Irving believed in my vision and backed me.

Look what we did together as a team! 50 of our clubs and members like you contributed A\$421,000 to our Rotary Foundation. This is our charity. This year we joined mega service projects by supporting 4 Global Grants as an overseas partner for Indian Districts of 3232 and 3000 to obtain a US\$1.2 Million grant from our Foundation to operate 100

vision centres in South India to prevent avoidable blindness of 1 Million people over the next 5 years. With support of these Indian districts, we lodged a Global Grant application for US\$60,000 by 3 of our Rotary clubs and a Rotaract club to equip a medical centre in Vanuatu. We gave AU\$70,000 as district grants to 13 of our clubs for community service projects in Australia. With support from the Rotary Foundation, we supported the "Give Every Child a Future" project led by Melbourne Rotary Club to vaccinate 100,000 girls in the Pacific Islands to protect them from cervical cancer.

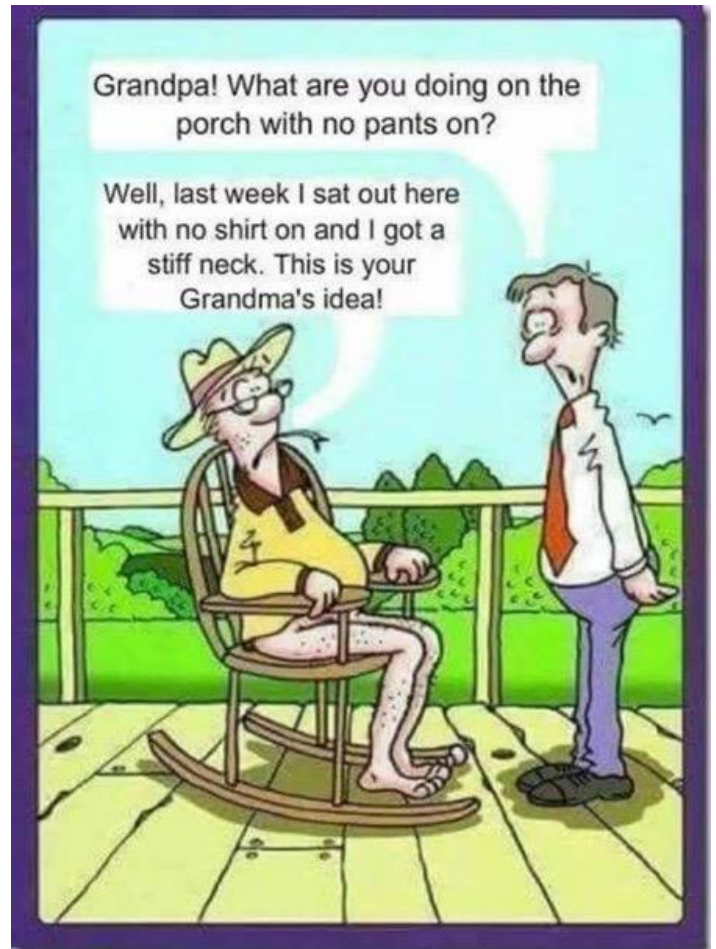
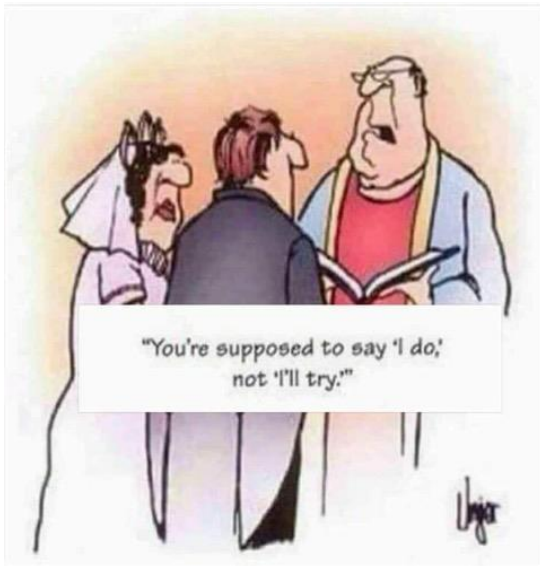
No Rotary District in 100 years of Rotary in Australia has attracted so many new members to Rotary in one year. This resulted in a growth of 200+ members this year. This is a new benchmark in Rotary in Australia. We are one of only 71 Rotary Districts in the World to record a growth of over 200 members in 2020-2021. This is also the highest membership growth recorded in a Rotary year in the 38-year history of our District 9640. Rotary is a membership organization and our members do wonderful service changing lives. Membership is the lifeblood of every Rotary Club. With more members, we can reach more and do more to impact more lives. Clubs that grow, do more!

Every July a new Rotary year starts with a new leader, new enthusiasm, and new energy to do better and do more than the year before. That is performance. And performance is the only measurement of leadership. On 1st July I hand over the leadership of our vibrant district with confidence to incoming Governor Jeff Egan who will improve on our performance this year.

Rotary International has invited me from 1st July to take on a challenging new role in the Zone 8 Regional Leadership Team as the Assistant Rotary Coordinator (ARC) to assist in starting new style Rotary clubs across Australia, New Zealand and 14 Pacific Countries. I am looking forward to this opportunity to work under the leadership of Rotary International Director Jessie Harman and Rotary Zone 8 Coordinator PDG Adrian Roach. I thank you and your families for the commitment and time extended to Rotary this year and for believing in my "One Goal, One Focus, One Vision" strategy that gave our district a 360-degree growth to be a world-class team. Together we showed the world by example how to grow Rotary in a developed country. So please accept my invitation to share this success and be part of the action in the coming Rotary year!

Andy Rajapakse

It's a Laugh!



After being married for 30 years, a wife asked her husband to describe her, He looked at her for a while, then said, "You're an alphabet wife A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K." She asks "What the hell does that mean?" He said, "Adorable, Beautiful, Cute, Delightful, Elegant, Fabulous, Gorgeous and Hot". She smiled happily and said ... "Oh, that's so lovely, but what about I, J, K?" He said, "I'm Just Kidding!" Memorial Service will be held Tuesday afternoon.



Meeting Program and Duty Roster: July

DUTY ROSTER	Wed 7 July '21	Wed 14 July '21	Wed 21 July '21	Fri 23 July '21	Wed 28 July '21
Duty Office		NO MEETING State of Origin	Committee Meeting	RCFV Changeover	NO MEETING
Chairperson Reflections	Scott Champion			Ann Kay	
Meeting Venue & Time	62 Pamplings Road, Peak Crossing 7.00pm		Venue to be advised	Commercial Hotel Harrisville 6.00 for 6.30pm	
Program / Guest	Business Meeting		Business Meeting	Dinner Meeting	