

# VALLEY VIBES

Volume 11 Edition 1

BULLETIN

September 2021

## 2021 – 2022 CLUB CHANGEOVER

Wednesday, 8 September 2021, 6.30 for 7.00pm  
Commercial Hotel, Harrisville

**CHANGEOVER GUEST OF HONOUR**  
Past District Governor Andy Rajapakse



We are delighted to have as our Guest of Honour Past District Governor Andy Rajapakse of the Rotary Club of Burleigh Heads.

District 9640 membership is much stronger following Andy's excellent leadership in 2020-21.

Andy joined Rotary in Sri Lanka where he was a charter member of the Rotary Club of Colombo Metropolitan.

Many RCFV members have had the privilege of meeting Andy at District 9640 Conferences over the years. We are honoured to have PDG Andy as our Changeover Guest of Honour.

**PEAK CROSSING STATE SCHOOL**  
**150 YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

**Celebrating Peak Crossing State School's 150 year Anniversary**  
**Saturday September 4th 2021**  
**Time: 9:00am - 2:00pm**

Here's what to see and do on the day...

- History Displays of School & Community
- Bush Poets
- Tractor and Car Club Display
- Rides & Entertainment
- Old Fashioned Games to Play
- Anniversary books and 150 year merchandise
- Food Vans
- Cake and Market Stalls
- and so much more...

Members of Fassifern Rotary have volunteered to assist school organisers conduct program activities and attendees complete the QR Code on arrival.



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## Greetings All

Welcome to my first contribution for the year. Apologies that we didn't get the Valley Vibes out last month, but my grandmother always said if you don't have something good to say about someone (something), then don't say anything at all. And what good thing can you say about Covid-19?

So next week we would like to invite you to "Changeover 4", the story of a small group of Rotarians trying to induct the new president. The story line follows the cast's continued valiant efforts, ever hopeful that the villain will be defeated this time.

Despite the obvious setbacks though, we have been moving ahead with the year, albeit with a somewhat unsteady gait. Some of the highlights to date are:

- the work done by Therese and the Field day committee to lay the groundwork for the Field day. Unfortunately, Therese has felt the need step back from leading this committee due to a multitude of competing commitments, but we are continuing to lay the ground work in this, the development stage;
- the courage shown by Karyn Webber, to speak about how she was abused by a paedophile as a child, and to share her journey to becoming the person that she is now;
- beginning to use the Uniting Church hall in Peak Crossing as base for our club. This has been a reasonably long and drawn out process to arrange, but I believe that we will ultimately benefit from the increased exposure that this position provides;
- the visit by Rowan Johnstone, who spoke to us about his experience of growing the membership of his club whilst the Membership chair. The Q&A session, led by Rowan, that followed his address, provided

for me a clear insight of where RCFV wants to go with membership, and hopefully will enable significant advances in these areas.

Hopefully I will see each of you at the changeover next week, God willing that we get to hold it this time, as it will be great to finally be able to celebrate the end of Lindy's year as president, and to properly thank her for all of the hard work that she did to get the club through the Year from Hell.

## Scott Champion - President



## *From the Secretary's Desk*

### CHANGEOVER

All Club Members are looking forward to Changeover proceeding next Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> September, and are delighted that PDG Andy Rajapakse is attending. Had we been able to conduct this important annual occasion as earlier planned, he would not have been available, so one must be grateful to COVID for something.

### DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S VISIT

DG Jeff Egan had planned his Club visits for this time of the year, but alas, that has been put on hold as Jeff lives 'south of the border' and present restrictions make such activities impossible. We look forward to seeing him when that finally happens. In the meantime, we are well served by AG Cara Champion who is regularly in touch with District Leadership, and we thank her for her stewardship.

### PEAK CROSSING STATE SCHOOL 150 YEAR

Thanks to Therese for her assistance in coordinating with Peak Crossing School representatives and our own Members who are able to assist on the day – Lindy, Ross, Ann Kay and Therese. Another opportunity for Rotary to be seen serving the Community.

### ANNUAL CAR DISPLAY DAY – 3 OCTOBER 2021

We are grateful to Neil and Jenny Summerson for all their preliminary work leading up to our Car Display Day at their Peak Crossing home, which is now planned for Sunday 3 October 2021.

## Marjorie Porter - Secretary 2021-22



**11 August - Guest Speaker: Karyn Webber**

On Wednesday night 11<sup>th</sup> August we welcomed our first guest speaker for the 2021/2022 Rotary year. President Scott introduced local Ipswich hairdresser and fellow Rotarian from Ipswich City Rotary Club, Karyn Webber. Karyn is very proud of her Ipswich background and the opportunity that Rotary has given her. In 1996 at the age of 26, Karyn opened her own business. She has always looked up to and been inspired by clubs like Zonta and Rotary and aspired to be like that one day – therefore she feels privileged to share her story amongst fellow Rotarians

Karyn met her husband about 12 years ago and he got along very well with her family. Karyn thought she had told her husband her story. She had told him things and he had listened, and she assumed that he had understood what she had told him – but it turned out he had no idea about what Karyn was actually talking about. When he did realise, he reacted with anger and dismissal towards her family which was very hurtful for Karyn. She started writing her book which was originally only going to be a few pamphlets for her large extended family which once published has caused a lot of hurt with her family.

It has taken Karyn 3 years to be able to mention any words related to abuse. Karyn's book is not about abuse, it is about the battles or challenges in our lives. It is about respecting the challenges and hurt we may have – teaching people that no one has it easy and that we all have our own scars, whatever they may be. It is about having

conversations and dealing with the hurt, not only the hurt for the person involved but everyone around them that may be feeling betrayed by the truth.

Through this book Karyn hopes that empathy and understanding can be brought back into families, where everything can be 'thrown onto the table', fight it out and start the healing. For Karyn this did not happen as she was trying to protect the people around her from the truth, but never put the truth out on the table. Karyn told her story about the abuse she suffered from her father to teach people that the hurt is not just about the person involved, it is about everyone around you and for Karyn this is her family – she can't truly be happy until her 'village', her family and the people around her are happy.

The book *Dangerous Animals in the Home* talks about her big beautiful family, the crime – what happened and her reactive behaviour and the continuing healing process. Karyn, who is Dyslexic, started writing the book on pieces of paper, cutting them up and sticky taping them together on bigger paper with lots of diagrams and arrows explain what page and where parts should go in the book. Karyn showed it to a psychiatrist friend who encouraged her to keep writing down her thoughts. Then another friend started typing it up and helped Karyn make sense of what she had written. The book has been published by Ocean Reeves Publishing and is now available through some outlets or online

President Scott Champion with Karyn Webber.



**Past District Membership Chair Rowan Johnstone - 25 August 2021**



August was Membership and Club Development month, which is an important part of Rotary's growth. President Scott stated that he would like to spend the next two months focusing on a membership drive for our club. Club Membership Chair Ross outlined his vision for dealing with the membership challenges for the rest of the year. To discuss our clubs' membership and layout some ideas about how we could increase our membership, we invited past District Membership Chair Rowan Johnstone to share his clubs' journey

Rowan has a vast background in membership through the various organisations he has worked for and currently works for the Salvation Army. He spoke about some key identifiers:

- Causes: what is the cause the club is working towards and why they are working towards it. These are identified by existing members and what is important to them.
- Social Media: the importance of using aspects of social media such as Face Book and LinkedIn; and various Chambers of Commerce, and the important role they can play in helping with the awareness and partnerships with Rotary.
- Mentors & Table Seating: using mentors and table seating to ensure that new and prospective members are welcomed into the club and get to know everyone so they can be guided through their initial Rotary Journey.
- Online Payments: by using Try booking, everyone books and pays ahead of the meeting and the person at the entrance is

purely for welcoming everyone – not for taking their money.

Rowan's experience has been that getting new members in creates a snowball effect, where once they got a few new members, it enabled them to draw in more members. Rowan said that it was important to ensure that the club was able to present its plans with passion. He concluded with three main points. The first, being a sense of connectedness so that new members felt like they were a part of the club. The second was that there was a sense of action, it felt like the membership was actually doing things and not just talking about them. Thirdly the sense of change, so that new members felt like they were making a difference in the world.



*Past District Membership Chair Rowan Johnstone, RCFV Membership Chair Ross McInnes and RCFV President Scott Champion*

Special thanks to AG Cara Champion for the above reports on Karyn Webber and Rowan Johnstone

**🌸 BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES 🌸**

Date	Birthdays	Anniversaries
3 Aug 2019		Stephanie & Tim V.
18 Aug		Jon & Kit Krause
9 Sep	Cara Champion	
27 Sep 1969		Graham & Marjorie P



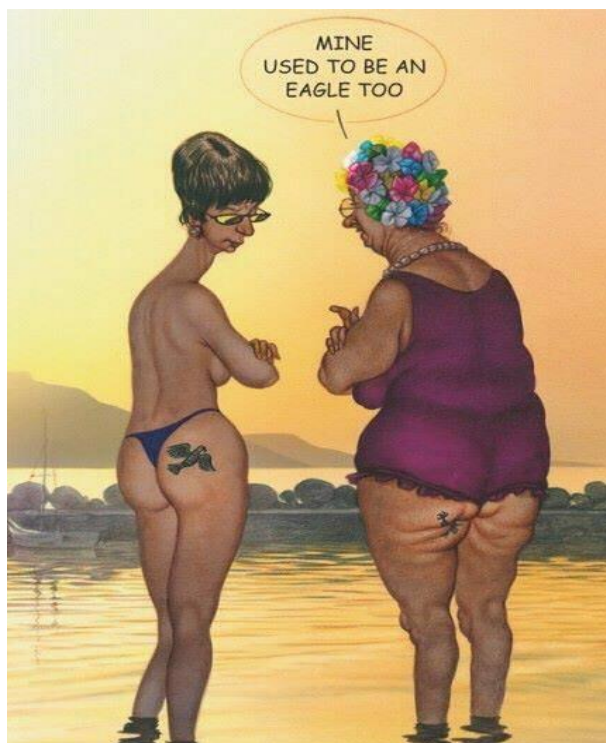
**SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**







## It's a Laugh!



## Meeting Program and Duty Roster: September

DUTY ROSTER	Sat 4 Sept '21	Wed 8 Sept '21	Sat 18 Sept '21	Wed 22 Sept '21	Wed 29 Sept '21
Duty Officer		Marjorie Porter Beve Ward			Scott Champion
Chairman/ Reflections					
Meeting Venue & Time	Peak Crossing State School	Commercial Hotel Harrisville.6.30pm	Peak Crossing Pub	TBA	Peak Crossing Hall
Program / Guest	Peak Crossing State School 150	Changeover with PDG Andy	Pig Races	Dinner Meeting Rotary Theme	Membership Information Night

