

# VALLEY VIBES

Volume 10 Edition 1

BULLETIN

July 2020

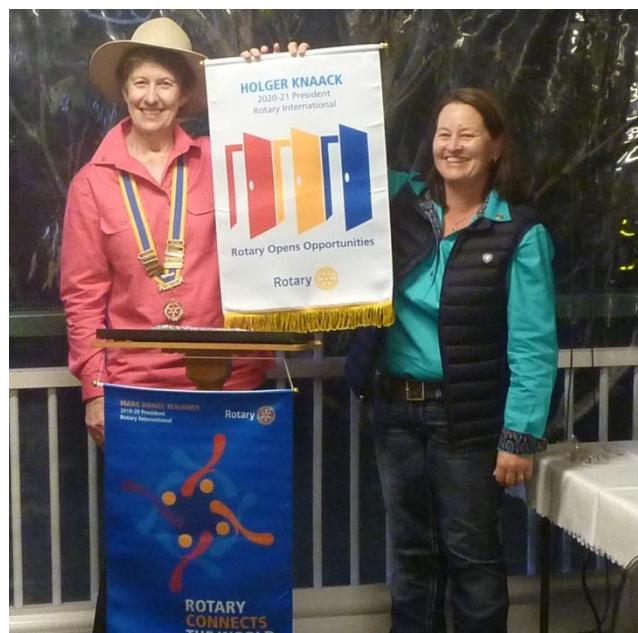
## CHANGEOVER, 12 JULY 2020

### Presidential Changeover in a World of Change

We are living in uncertain times. Whether we choose to change or change is forced upon us, we are in a world of change. Whether it is driven by fashion or external forces, change is upon us. Clothing which lasted the older generation a lifetime or wore out, is now thrown out by the young as no longer trendy. This voluntary behavior has changed our needs and lifestyle, resulting in increased consumption and more frequent shopping. Within this new pandemic world, COVID-19 has forced involuntary change upon us for our own wellbeing and good health. Our behaviour has been modified by legislation to stop the virus spreading. Such change has been welcomed or rejected by society creating a world of risk and uncertainty. Our individual habits and wellbeing are no longer entirely in our own hands. How refreshing and pleasurable it was to participate in our recent Fassifern Valley Rotary Club Changeover, where change of leadership was elected by club members and not forced upon us, in order to maintain public health and wellbeing.

Congratulations President Lindy for organizing and executing the excellent changeover from Past-President Cara. It was our first face to face Rotary meeting for some time and fully complied with statutory requirements for numbers attending and social distance. How refreshing to interact with others, the ingredient which Zoom meetings lack. We look forward to Lindy's leadership and hope the low risk of the pandemic in Queensland is maintained and a successful Rotary year ensues.

We especially thank Lindy for accepting the position of RCFV President for a second term.



President Lindy Kirchner receives the 2020-21 Rotary banner from Past President Cara Champion

## CONGRATULATIONS CR. DUNCAN McINNES OAM (Honorary Rotarian)



Duncan, Mary and family at Government House on receiving an Order of Australia Medal for service to the Dairy Industry, Show Societies and Community.



Welcome to our 10th year of the RCFV and 100th year of Rotary in Australia. Wow what a milestone!

For our Changeover Night at the cottage, we were certainly blessed with the most perfect weather which enabled us to fully appreciate the fire pit experience where many long chats were held!

Thanks to you all for making the night a wonderful success. Many thanks to Karen Thomas our DG Representative for her kind words and counsel regarding my position as your President.

Our Mayor, Greg Christensen, did a wonderful job as Chairman for the night and for this I am eternally grateful.

This year my focus will be on cohesiveness within our Club, making our monthly Business and Dinner meetings concise and productive. We are a small Club with limited people power and we need to work smarter and not harder, to achieve our goals. Zoom has taught us that if there is a need to catch up outside scheduled meetings. It is just a click away, and we can stay at home!

Also, I will be organizing some fun outings for us all to enjoy.

Our focus will also be on our Community as we all struggle with this world, Post COVID . Fundraising efforts will go to supporting people and businesses.

I look forward to our first major fundraiser of this year at Neil and Jenny's farm on August 30th. I am pleased that as of today, I have secured a coffee van - Hallelujah!! . Take care, be kind to everyone and spread this among our Community.

Love

**Lindy Kirchner - President**

## Centenary of Rotary in Australia



The Centenary of Rotary in Australia Baton Launch was broadcast via Zoom from Government House Canberra on Friday 10 July 2020.

Thanks to our Club regularly conducting Zoom meetings recently, we didn't hesitate to register and watch this special occasion, with the MC in Melbourne, and some of the artists in other remote locations. .

The 55 min event is now on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nl9mgkVH-b8> and it is suggested everyone watch what was able to proceed with a variety of technological tricks. There are also some musical treats, especially the last 9 mins. Enjoy.

**Assistant Governor Cara - Boonah Changeover**  
Past President Cara addresses the Rotary Club of Boonah as Assistant Governor at their Changeover on 16 July 2020







## From the Secretary's Desk

Fassifern Valley Rotary Changeover 11.07.2020



Mayor Greg Christensen chairs RCFV Changeover

What a successful night on Saturday!! Thank you Lindy and Jim for holding the event at your place and everyone for their input to the yummy meal. It was nice to have Greg and Denise Christensen there to help with the official duties of the night. Once again Congratulations to Lindy as the incoming President of our club and also a hearty Thank You to Cara for her wonderful leadership over the last twelve months. The back to front dinner was a great idea enjoyed by all. I'm sure we all appreciated the fire in the Backyard, a wonderful start and finish to the evening.



### Andrew and Ann Kay

Congratulations to Ann and Andrew (above) for receiving the *Thyrlene and Arthur Devin Award* for going above and beyond.

Club President: Lindy Kirchner  
Assistant Governor : Cara Champion  
District 9640 Governor: Andy Rajapakse.  
Rotary International President: Holger Knaack



### Raffle and 100 Club

The raffle was quite a success too considering the number of people, due to COVID. We still have approximately 27 tickets for sale in the 100 Club

### Congratulations Assistant Governor Cara

Congratulations Cara on becoming our Club's first Assistant Governor for District 9640. A wonderful achievement, for someone with just 5 years Rotary experience. Best wishes for the next 3 years.



Cara in 2015 with the newest member dummy at her RCFV induction.

### Fruit Shop Kalbar – Fund raiser

Don't forget this Saturday is the Fund raiser at the Kalbar Fruit Shop. Kick off is at 8.00 am. We have organised a sausage sizzle. If you can contact Lindy with your preferred appearance time would be wonderful. Also don't forget your Rotary shirt and name badge. That's mostly a reminder to myself. The owner of the shop, Aleisha and her mum have donated some prizes and will be selling raffle tickets for us over the next couple of days.

### Car Day

The car day is to be held at Neil and Jenny's property at Allens Road, Peak Crossing on the 30 August. A coffee van has been organised for the event and there is talk of 10 percent being donated by the owner of the van.

### Jill Surawski – Secretary

Club Secretary: Jill Surawski  
Minute Secretary: Therese McInnes  
Club Treasurer: Neil Summerson  
Editor: Graham Porter OAM



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## Neil and Jenny Summerson's Early Life

Member's Profile



Neil grew up in the Brisbane suburb of Yeronga where several generations of his family had lived and where he and Jenny still reside. He emphasized the relevance that values such as punctuality, respect and honesty have played in his life.

Neil attended Yeronga State School where he sat the State Scholarship Examination at the age of 13. He spoke of the influence of his uncle, a prominent chartered accountant, and his father, who served in the Middle East during World War 2 returning a broken man. As a consequence his family was impoverished resulting in Neil commencing work following his Scholarship examination instead of continuing to high school. It was then at age 13, due to his Uncle Dudley's influence he decided to become a chartered accountant, not fully understanding what that entailed.

Uncle Dudley attended Brisbane Grammar School. His parents could not afford to send Neil to Brisbane Grammar School so his mother, through the connivance of her best friend, put Neil's age up to 15 and secured him a job with Waltons. Here at the age of 13 he sold toys at Christmas and furniture during the year earning £36. The following year he enrolled into Brisbane Grammar School paying fees from his earnings at Waltons. After Junior, at age 15, Neil won a Commonwealth Secondary School Scholarship. Together with

casual work at Waltons when possible, Neil personally funded his secondary education at Brisbane Grammar School.

At a time when there were tertiary education fees to attend University, as a consequence of his excellent grades at Brisbane Grammar School, Neil won a Commonwealth University Scholarship which enabled him to undertake a Degree in Commerce Law at the University of Queensland. Here, due to excellent grades and with the support of a private entrepreneur, he completed his accountancy degree and in 1968 commenced his career as a Chartered Accountant.

Jenny and Neil met at a Methodist youth camp at Bargara near Bundaberg in 1967. 50 years on at the ages of 21 and 22, they were married. He spoke humorously of being the first university graduate to be employed by the accounting firm in January 1969. His first job required writing up a set of books urgently for a Central Queensland client and posting a ledger. Not fully understanding "accountancy speak" Neil completed the task and duly mailed them, resulting in their being lost in a flood. While nearly sacked after his first job, it demonstrated the firm's respect for Neil, and in particular that of his boss Graham Brown, who remained a good friend throughout Neil's professional career.

Neil admits to marrying Jenny for her money. She was wealthy with \$722, while all he had was enough to fill the petrol tank of his Volkswagen. It safely transported them to Sydney soon after, where they commenced married life.

After working for a few years, including 9 months in Sydney, and a couple of children later, Neil and Jenny were looking for future opportunities.

It was a practice of the firm that should you wish to become a partner, overseas experience was necessary. Where to go posed new challenges such as France where neither had a command of the language. This was resolved by choosing Florida, USA.. So they moved to Tampa.

Neil claims that the introduction to international travel with two small children brought about stresses which he blames for his loss of hair.



### Scenic Rim Fruit & Veg Grand Opening



Shop owner Alecia Lower plans to source locally grown produce and sell it from her shop on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. She is calling for any surplus fruit and vegetables grown locally to be sent to her for sale.

Members of RCFV were invited by Alecia to assist her opening by conducting a Sausage Sizzle on Saturday, 18 July 2020. It was highly successful. .

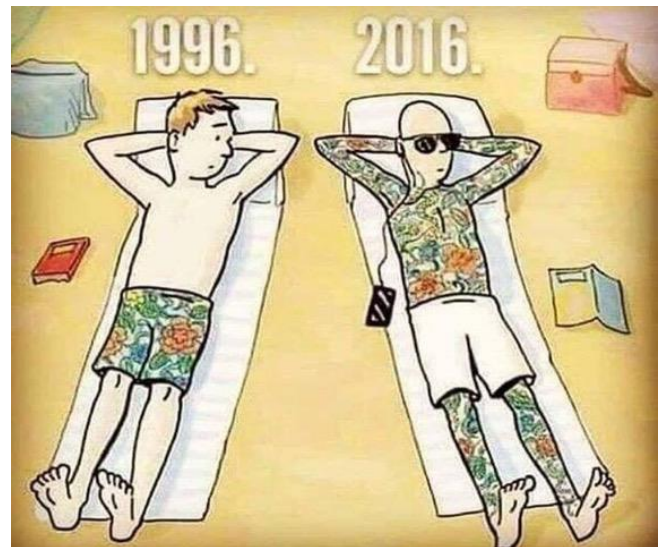




# It's a Laugh!



**They discovered how the virus passed from animal to human**



**If you're sitting in public and a stranger takes the seat next to you, just stare straight ahead and say, "Did you bring the money?"**

| Birthdays                           |                                                     | May – August | Anniversaries             |                                                        |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 6 May<br>13 May<br>22 Jun<br>5 July | Beve Ward<br>John Brent<br>Graham Porter<br>Ann Kay |              | 1 May<br>30 May<br>18 Aug | Andrew & Ann Kay<br>Neil & Jenny S<br>Jon & Kit Krause |

## Meeting Program and Duty Roster: July

| DUTY ROSTER                        | Wed 1 July '20<br>Business Meeting<br>(Zoom) | Sat 11 July '20<br>Changeover       | Wed 22 July '20<br>Dinner Meeting | Wed 29 July '20<br>No Meeting |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Duty Officer                       | Nil                                          | Jill Surawski<br>Beve Ward          | Jill Surawski                     |                               |
| Chairman/<br>Rotary<br>Reflections | Lindy Kirchner                               | Cr Greg Christensen                 | Lindy Kirchner                    |                               |
| Meeting<br>Venue & Time            | Zoom 7.00 pm                                 | Lindy's Cottage<br>6.00 for 6.30 pm | Lindy's Cottage<br>6.30 pm        |                               |
| Program<br>and/or Guest<br>Speaker | Business Meeting                             | Dinner Meeting<br>Meal \$25         | Social Night<br>Meal \$5          | Nil                           |

### MEMBERS NOTICE:

- To ensure a punctual 7.00 pm start, members are requested to arrive no later than 6.45pm.**
- When you have duties on the Roster and are not available, could you please arrange for someone else to fill in, and advise Secretary Jill of the change (Mob 0411 468 959).**