

# VALLEY VIBES

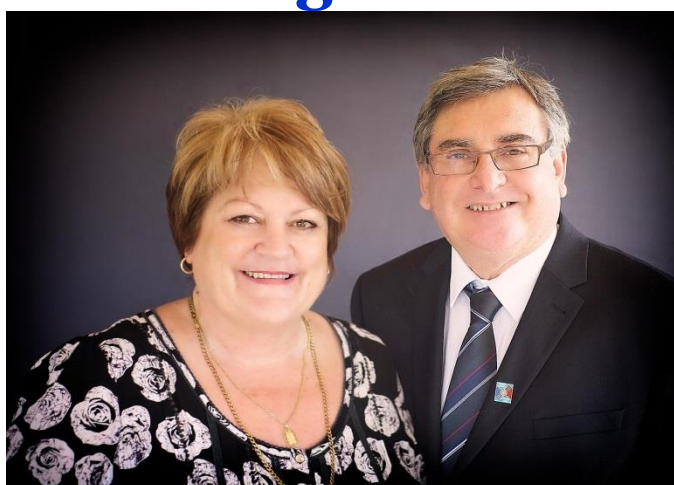
Volume 5 Edition 2

BULLETIN

12 Aug – 9 Sept 2015

**NEXT MEETING 9 SEPTEMBER 2015  
DISTRICT GOVERNOR VISIT**

**Anne Egan & Jeff**



District Governor Anne Egan and husband Jeff

Anne is a Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Mt Warning AM (Murwillumbah) which chartered in 2000. She has held most board positions in the Club including President (2002-03).

Anne was born and grew up in Sydney in a family of 9. She attended Sydney University and holds Bachelor Degrees in Arts and Law. She has been a resident of Murwillumbah since 1980 where she and her husband Jeff (also a member of the Rotary Club of Mt Warning AM), who is also a Solicitor, established a legal practice. They have practiced continuously in Murwillumbah since that time and are accredited specialists in their respective fields.

Anne and Jeff have three children; Kate (in England with her husband and children), Tim (who is also a Rotarian) and Ben, on the Gold Coast.

Outside of Rotary, Anne's interests include food and wine, reading and doting upon two grandchildren who reside in England whilst also amassing a substantial photographic collection of their images.

**LAST MEETING 12 AUGUST 2015  
WOOL CLASSER**

**Richard Thomson**



Richard Thomson explains a quality wool staple

What a nostalgic evening we shared with wool classer Richard Thomson. For some it invoked memories of wool shearing and their early lives in western Queensland wool growing areas. Others reflected on wool processing at the woollen mills of Ipswich and Redbank and production of yarn and woollen garments under the Woolmark brand. In all, the smell of lanolin in one's nostrils brought back memories of an earlier life for many, when Australia rode on the sheep's back. Even Richard admitted that after 7 years of retirement he was loving the experience again.

Rotary



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President Lindy with memories of Western Queensland

Richard revealed the mystery of wool and what growers seek to achieve with each fleece.. He said it is the length of the staple, the strength of the staple and the quality count in microns. He explained that fibres which make up the stable and staples make up the fleece. Two samples of fleece were discussed, one from western Queensland and another from New England. They illustrated the latter having a higher micron count, and hence more valuable, as it had more crimps per inch of staple. The finer the fibres the better for spinning and weaving resulting in the production of better quality garments.

The strength of the fibre is important when spinning yarn, as breaking of the thread during processing causes costly delays in machine time in order to rejoin the thread. The tip on the wool is influenced by the environment. Wool from Charleville, Cunnamulla and Quilpie has a red tip. Further north the colour is brown or grey. The season may create more vegetable matter such as burr in the wool. The content of lanoline and vegetable matter may influence the weight of the fleece - more burr; less money

Current value of the samples of fine wool from New England were 1100 cents per kilo, whereas the coarser wool from Goondiwindi was approximately 800 cents per kilo. In recent years there has been an increased demand for non-Merino wool. This has benefitted growers in the meat sheep and wool markets. Richard was not sure where that side of

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the industry was heading. He spoke of black fibre as undesirable as it devalued the fleece.



Merinos - the cause of all the commotion

The job of the wool classer is to assess the quality of the wool. A good shearer may shear 200 sheep a day resulting in 1000 fleeces for assessment from a 10 man shed. At the average weight of a fleece of 30kg that is 30,000 kg. Cuts were classed as 3A for the highest, 2A down to 1A. Courser wools go into carpets whereas finer wool is used in suiting and expensive women's garments. Buyers of Australian wool were Japan, years ago, then Russia and now China. Richard distinguished between lamb's wool from first shearing and that from older sheep, by the curl on the tip.

Richard explained the highs and lows of the industry over the years with the reserve price scheme resulting in a market decline of Australian wool. He explained the threat of foreign vegetable matter to the fleece and that there would always be a niche market for wool from Australia's better areas less affected by climate.

The evening finished as it started with Richard espousing confidence in the wool industry. We were privileged to hear his presentation.



PURE WOOL

The logo which makes Aussies proud

P.S. A record fleece of 42kg was shorn this week in the Canberra region.

Secretary: Carolyn Thamm  
 Editor: Graham Porter OAM PHF



It is official. The Car Shine event held at Peak Crossing was a resounding success!

Saturday set up went very smoothly and thank you to all of you who were able to make it on the day. The weather waited till the afternoon and evening to rain, and for the first time in my life I prayed for it to stop raining!

We awoke to a very foggy cool Sunday morning but by 9am, Mother Nature turned on the most spectacular day for us- sunshine, clear blue skies and a balmy 25 degrees.

The Classic Cars began rolling in- some as early as 8.30am and they continued to stream in during the morning. 188 Classic Cars in total! What a wonderful turnout of like-minded people to enjoy a wonderful day in the country. Our venue at Neil and Jenny Summerson's property was just perfect. The live entertainment was very well received. We have had many emails of congratulations and thanks from the Car Clubs represented and some very personal thanks yous as well. We are so blessed to have so many people who want to give of their time and money, to help our small Club fundraise for the benefit of our community.

Once again the catering done by the RCFV ran smoothly thanks to all our wonderful members and enjoyed by all who partook of the food. The food chain ran like a well oiled machine, just like the cars that came to be on show for the day. The lamingtons were a resounding success again. The Entry staff worked so well as a team and had those cars in and paid for so that no hold ups occurred. The raffle prizes were a hit and raised much needed funds. Final amounts for the money raised will be known Wednesday night as we count the takings, add on generous donations and take off the expenses.

Our next matter to finalise is the Business Directory, which is on track according to our time line of planning. The Combined Service Clubs'

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Dinner planning is also well underway for 28 October 2015.

Thank you all for your support and kindness. Team K all the way for the RCFV!

**Lindy Kirchner**  
President



Scott and Ron sizzling



Rush hour



"Isabella", a 1926 Dodge with 1919 motor owned by Jeff Robinson



Secretary: Carolyn Thamm  
Editor: Graham Porter OAM PHF

## Green Field @ Peak Crossing



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## Arthur's Rotary Notes

### Forward Planning

My congratulations go to the organisers of the "Car Shine Day" led by Neil and Jenny Summerson. Neil's planning even got the weather correct. It was great teamwork by the Club led by President Lindy.

The euphoria of our success was tempered at our very full Business meeting by Jenny Summerson in her report to the meeting that the ongoing staging of the day is not guaranteed in the future with the unknown uncertainties of the future. I am certain that we need to have forward planning to preserve this great event and fund raiser. Other nearby Clubs, particularly those over our Rotary District border with whom we have little conversation, may take over our event. Also commercial interests in search of expanding their business are following our successful Community Directory project. These two fundraisers support our Youth programs for which we receive praise and so some of our youth of our community receive life changing education that we are capable of providing.

Without any positive contribution on both matters, I just state that old saying "if we fail to plan, we plan to fail" and plead that we have a forward plan to protect our investments.

I am starting to realise more fully that many of our Rotary clubs are much smaller than they were some years ago and whilst we should actively continue to increase the size of our club and have greater members' participation, I believe that we should also continue to investigate how these small clubs survive as they are and how we can apply it to our Club.

**PDG Arthur Devin OAM, PHF – Club Trainer**

### ADVERTISEMENT

We seek **FOUR candidates for RYTS camp** - date 29/11 to 5/12 (16-18 in Years 11 and 12 preferably year 12) and

**TWO Candidates for RYLA Camp** - date 23/1/2016 to 29/1/2016 for 19 years to 28years.  
 Nom. Fee \$50.00 **Arthur Devin Youth Director**

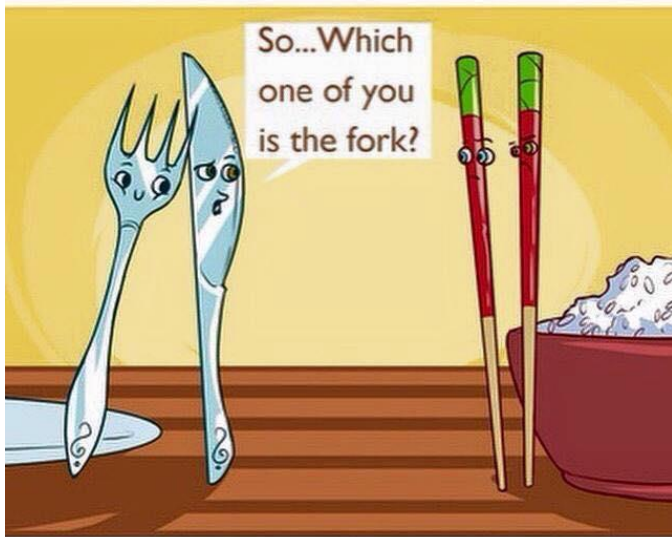
### Upcoming Events

24 Sept '15 (Thursday) Visit Boonah RC @ Simon's  
 28 Oct '15 Combined Service Clubs' Dinner @  
 Peak Crossing Community Hall



Secretary: Carolyn Thamm  
 Editor: Graham Porter OAM PHF

# It's a Laugh!



*"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire."* – Winston Churchill

*"He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends."* – Oscar Wilde

*"He is simply a shiver looking for a spine to run up."* – Paul Keating

## Meeting Program and Duty Roster

DUTY ROSTER	Wed 9 Sept '15 Dinner Meeting	Wed 16 Sept'15 Business Meeting	Thu 24 Sept '15 Club Visit/ Dinner Meet	Wed 30 Sept '15 5th Wednesday
Duty Officer	Bev Ward			
100 Club , Stamps and/or Raffle	Ron Smith			
Rotary Reflections	Ross McInnes			
Sergeant at Arms	N/A			
Sergeant's Assistant	N/A			
Meeting Venue & Time	Royal Hotel Harrisville 6.30 for 7.00pm	Harrisville State School Library 6.45 for 7.00pm	Simon's Tavern High Street, Boonah 6.00 for 6.30pm	Kirchner Residence Alexander Lane H'ville
Program and/or Guest Speaker	<b>District Governor Anne Egan &amp; Geoff</b> Annual DG visit to RCFV	<b>Club Business</b>	<b>Club Visit to RC of Boonah</b>	<b>Club Business &amp; Dinner</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 President Lindy of the change (Mob 0407 160 141).

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