



Rotary Club of Berri Bulletin



Meetings held fortnightly at the Berri Resort Hotel,
Riverview Drive, Berri. Mondays 6.15 for 6.45pm

District 9510 Governor – Paul Thomas AM

Area Governor – Bill Simons



2021 – 2022 Board

President: Peter Jarvis Secretary: Belinda Thompson Wilkinson Treasurer: Vicky Andriske
Directors: Bruce Richardson OAM, John Rix OAM, Mary Hansen

Last Rotary Meeting

At our meeting on the 11th of July 2022, we had the pleasure of hearing from Linda Forsythe who is the Uniting Church Chaplin who resides in Berri and practices in Renmark as her home base. Linda shared her life experiences with us, beginning with, where she is from.

Born in Owen and attended School in Balaklava. She grew up experiencing farm life and that was a positive experience for her. Halfway through Year 11 Linda was asked to be a Nurses Aid working in Balaklava in Aged Care. She enjoyed this experience very much. So much so that she went to Adelaide and continued to work in Hampstead Centre for twelve years.

She loved going to work and seeing the same people, taking the residence out to movies, shopping and other normal things. She shared one event where she took five patients on a houseboat trip. One was ambulant while the other four were in wheelchairs. The enjoyment came from doing things that were normal for most able-bodied people, like all the boys were sitting on the foredeck fishing and drinking just as they did before their accidents which changed their lives for the future. This activity changed the relationships with the clients, and they were like mates.

Linda Loved nursing. After this twelve-year stint, she went back to the farm for a while and then her next stop was at Adelaide Central Mission followed by Wesley Care. Unfortunately, when you work in the nursing field you lose patients. Linda said that she lost three that she was not prepared for. After this event Linda went into Administration for six months and left five years later.

Back home again, and while home with her father she was asking what is next. Life was whizzing by, and she saw a different side of life while working in Aged Care. This is when she looked at Preaching. Her Mother was a lay preacher, so she went off to Bible College. In 2016 she had the opportunity to serve the parish that



covered Kadina, Keith and Wallaroo. Working with the ageing community was familiar and she likes to work in a team, operating with all the talents available to run the congregations.

Linda shared an experience with us, that she discovered while assisting parishioners deal with deceased family members. She said that she never met a person that didn't want God in the service. She found that some people would say that they were not religious and when looking back over the plan for the funeral would ask "Where do you say the 'Lord's Prayer'?"

While Linda has been in the Riverland, she has been given the opportunity to provide comfort at eight funerals in the towns of Loxton, Renmark and Barmera. She arrived in Loxton in May 2021 and shared with us that the congregations are different, but the message is the same. Once upon a time people were forced to attend church services every Sunday or risk losing their jobs. Consequently, churches were full, and it was considered a social event.

Linda works out of Renmark, and she shared with us that the Renmark community provide a Food Pantry for those less able to meet every day meal needs. Also, the community knit Beanies for Newborn babies, as well as a group held called KAIROS. This is a group for those in prison and families of those in prison and in particular women, it is a Christian Based programme.

When asked if she enjoys what she does, Linda replied with "I Enjoy what I do, but get frustrated with slow change."

Next Meeting 2778 25th July 2022

July 25th Meeting at Berri Hotel

Future Meetings – (Two each Month)

August 8th The meeting on Monday 8th August at Berri Hotel has been cancelled

August 10th Meeting in Loxton with the Loxton Rotary club on the 10th August - details to follow

August 22nd Meeting at Berri Hotel and Board Meeting to follow (on a trial basis)

Sept 12th Meeting at Berri Hotel

Sept 26th Meeting at Berri Hotel

Dates for your Diary

Aug 22nd Board Meeting after Club Meeting

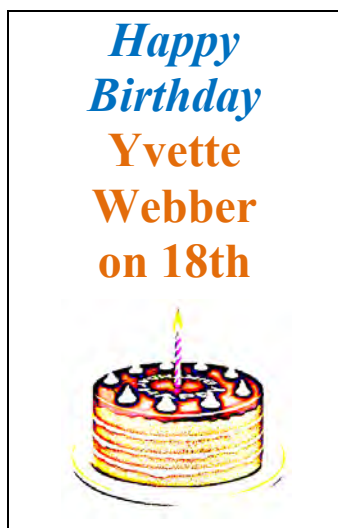
Aug 29th Pizza Night Games night at Smiths in Lyrup

Oct 12th Combined Services Club Meeting. Note it's a Wednesday

Dates to remember

Aug 29th Pizza & Games Night at Tony and Margy Smiths, bring a game.

The Birthday Box



Please take note of the roster below – Mark it on your calendar

Club Meeting Roster

Date	Equipment	Plaques		
July	August All members	August All members	Attendance: <i>Bruce Richardson</i>	Apologies to: <i>Belinda Thompson W</i>

If you are unable to fill your rostered duties please contact Secretary Bruce

