NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 6th FEBRUARY 2002 Time: 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm VENUE: THE OLD BANK CAFÉ, 161 SHARP STREET, COOMA SPEAKER/TOPIC: ROB SIMMS: PURCHASE OF RURAL LANDS FOR SNOWY INTRODUCED BY: Dr Bob VOTE OF THANKS: Dave Holgate

APOLOGIES OR GUESTS: Please advise Darrell Gaukroger on 6452 3302 by midday of meeting.

Non-apology & non-attendance means you pay for the meal.

Apology, Non-attendance & no make-up means you pay \$2

SERGEANTS FAX-A-FINE: Send to Graham French on 64526102

<u>FEBRUARY ROSTER</u>: Attendance: David Epstein & John Clarke *Property*: Dugald Mitchell Be Early. If not at meeting arrange for substitute. At another venue arrange to bring necessary property.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK BY: Richard Warner

Next Week: Claire N

Vision: for some is good eyesight but for otherS is a way of life.

LAST WEEKS MEETING:

The guest speaker was Esther Laub, our returning GYE student from Canada. Esther started her exchange in January last year in Chicoutini, about 2 1/2 hours from Quebec and said that on her arrival the Rotary Club became her extended family. Her first host family, which was for 8 months, was about 20 miles out of town, they had 2 daughters but one was at Uni and the other on a Rotary exchange to South America. So she was the substitute daughter, but they only spoke French, no English, which made it very hard to communicate with them, or even school friends or other exchange students being so far out of town. The second host family was in town, consisted of a single father and 4 children aged from 4 to 12, so Esther went from the youngest in the Laub family to the eldest in the host family. There were two rules (1) speak French, and (2) Smile. The first a bit harder than the 2nd. She went to an International school, where English was spoken but learnt French. Found the teachers very formal, even though they were addressed by their first names, different to Aussie. Also had a 2 hour lunch break which allowed more interaction with school friends. Went on several trips to Quebec City, visited a facility for the handicapped run by Rotary, to New York (before Sept 11) found the poliution effected her eyes. A 2 day schooner trip from Maine, and a 30 day trip across Canada with 87 other exchange students and a few chaperons. The Rocky Mountains made a lasting impression, but she also fond the opportunity to go SHOPPING (much to Wolfie's delight). She made may friends who she still keeps in touch with, thanked Rotary and our Club for the opportunity of a lifetime.

Thank you Esther for a very honest and informative talk, glad you didn't speak in French, you have been a great ambassador and done the Club proud.

**NEWS:** 

Sir William Hudson Nursing Home Fete: 11am Sunday 24/3/02. Rotary doing drinks and wine Auction. So please bring along some bottles of wine, or leave them at Alpine Dry Cleaners (John promises he won't sample them).

Market Day: 17/2/02. Des Trute, Lou Moore, Tony Slater & Graham French.

Cooma/Komoto Scholarships: President Ashley had the pleasure of handing these to James Dorahy and Anne Settin on Australia Day.

**Aus/NZ Twin Exchange:** The club has secured one exchange, still trying to facility the other. **Combined Churches:** are running a cake stall outside the Aussie Hotel on 7-8/02/02 to raise funds for the bushfire appeal. Donations of cakes etc would be greatly appreciated for this worthy cause.

ROTARY INFORMATION:

Attendance Last Week: 28 + 2 makeups =30 out of 40 members = 75% Visiting Rotarians: lan & Vicky Lovegreen (Dee Why); Noel Travaskas (Goulburn) Guests: Graham Hayward-Mercer, Rodney DuDa, Caroline Worofka, Louise B, Esther Laub (Club); Christina, Sabine & Anita Laub, Anne Bowman (Wolfie); Maree & Jodie Dunne (the Invisible Kevin D); Stan Donnelly (Geoff B); Allison Holgate (Dave H) Apologies: David B; Ashley C; Robyn C; James H; Patrick K; Ken P; Neville L; Kevin D; French; Steve S Leave of Absence: Col A; Phill P Make-ups: Ashley C & Robyn C (Aussie Day BBQ)