

The Rotary Club of Cooma Inc.

The Secretary

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THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE: 34 out of 46 = 70%

VISITING ROTARIANS: Nil

GUESTS: Veronique (Club), John and Judy Wyatt and Maree (Kevin D), Cameron Bridges (Geoff B).

APOLOGIES: Julie J, Patrick K, Elaine M, Lou M, Cheryl and Colin M, Matthew T, John V, Claire N, Brian J.

LEAVE: Monica A and John Mercer.

MAKEUPS: Nil

WE ALSO MISSED: Alan Dodd

Duty Roster February and March

Thought of the Week	Fellowship	Attendance
Alan Dodd	Margaret Echarri and Claire Neumeyer	February - Alan Hall and Mark Cooper March - Brian Jeffries and Joe Vescio

Property	Introduction	Markets
February - Graham French and Patrick Kwan	John Clarke	February - David B, Tom B, John V, John M, Monica A, Alyson H-J - PA, Colin M - Coffee
March - Neil Brown and Des Trute	Vote of Thanks Alan Dodd	March - Lou M, Peter A, Robbyn C, Katrin H, David E, Alyson H-J - PA, Kevin D - Coffee

SOME SIMPLE RULES ABOUT ROSTERS

GENERAL: Members rostered on and not able to attend are to make arrangements with another member to take their place.

MARKETS: Those nominated to tow the caravan or chuck wagon are to be at the Rotary shed no later than 8am. Ensure you get the key to the shed from David Holgate PRIOR TO THE EVENT SO THE EQUIPMENT CAN BE SET UP EARLY. If you are unable to tow the van or chuck wagon PLEASE ASK SOMEONE WHO CAN, or advise David Holgate before the event. Others nominated should be at the Park by 8.45am.

The contact for making apologies and for notification of guests for dinner meetings is Darrell Gaukroger ph: 0407411422 or dgcooma@bigpond.net.au

MEETINGS:

We meet every Wednesday

6:00pm for 6:30pm at

Dodds Hotel

94 Commissioner Street Cooma



Weekly Bulletin



The Rotary Club of Cooma Inc.

Visitors Centres Visited - Jim Hatfield

Guest speaker was Rotarian Jim Hatfield who spoke on Visitors Centers he has

visited. After 22 years in the RAAF, Jim came to Cooma working at the Credit Union, but has been involved in many community programs; Men's Shed, BEC, Cooma Railway, to mention a few. Jim and his wife Mary hook the caravan onto the car, attach the push bikes, (occasionally accompanied by the mother-in-law) and set off on their trip. In the last 10-15 years they have clocked up close to 100,000 kilometers. They call into Information Centres to check locations out, some of which are outstanding, some excellent, some just good, sadly many are quite ordinary. Jim said the influencing factor is money. Some centres are large, even opulent, well positioned and for obvious reasons these attract more visitors than the smaller, sometimes poorly located centres. Good, well informed staff with excellent people skills are essential though. They recently called in at Visitors Centres in Gladstone and Maryborough in Queensland. The Gladstone centre is big and beautiful, whereas the Maryborough one is



Jim Hatfield

quite small and within the council chambers. Both are mainly staffed by volunteers, doing a good job, wearing compulsory uniforms. Daily in Maryborough there is a well patronised walking tour of points of interest, conducted by rostered volunteers, dressed in period costumes, this is a free tour. They also saw flood markers at extraordinary heights, dating back many years, no doubt to be increased



Introduction by Katrin

Issue: 2 February

Items of special interest:-

- February-World Understanding Month
- March - Polio Eradication Month
- April - Rotary Magazine Month
- May - Planning Month
- June - Fellowship Month
- July - Literacy Month
- August - Membership Extension Month
- September - Youth Activities Month

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Visitors Centres Visited cont.

again shortly. The Maryborough centre also offers a map to facilitate driving tours of homes of historical interest and other significant attractions. There is also a CD that you can pop into your car CD player that will guide you. Maryborough also have a weekly working day 'market day' where the main street is closed off and local retailers and outside stall holders offer a range of goods for sale. This not only keeps tourists in town but brings people in. They also visited Bundaberg (were their son and daughter in law live and work). There are two visitors centres - one quite small in the CBD, and one in a bigger centre on the edge of town near the Burnett River, mainly staffed by trained volunteers. They are always keen to look out for places suitable for bike rides. Quite a few information centres have knowledge of such opportunities but don't have maps, but some have introduced specific bicycle track brochures as a result of the Hatfield's suggestions. One of the most impressive centres they have visited is near Undara Lava Tubes on Savannah Highway a very small town with a big centre with a wide range of facilities, souvenirs and information covering the area. There were also impressive centres at Cobar and Bourke. Jim said at times it is hard to find suitable parking for a car towing a caravan. Lastly, what about Cooma? It is small, it is in the centre of the town, staffed by council paid employees, adjacent to a nice park, limited range of souvenir type items, has a touch screen for after hours information, has a limited telephone information service, has extended hours of operation during the snow season, serves a large volume of tourists, but has limited financial support. Jim then gave a short review of attractions in Cooma and mentioned a brochure distributed by a hotel in town which does nothing for Cooma, but sends guests up the mountains. No doubt there is a lot that can be done for our visitors centre, just get someone to start.

Thought of the Week - Joe Vescio

*I have often wanted to drown my troubles,
but I can't get my wife to go swimming.*

Member Happenings



Anniversaries

Jim and Mary H - 5 Feb
Claire and Hans N - 7 Feb

Birthdays

Doug A - 8 Feb
Alan H - 9 Feb

Years of Service

Nil

Gallery



Tom and John paying homage to Bill Shanley



Revenue generators in action



Mr Clarke up to no good



Neil had time for a toast?

News

APOLOGIES TO KATRIN WHILST DARRELL IS AWAY PLEASE

CLEARING SALE at the Adams' farm was a great success for our club. Thanks to the volunteers who worked on the BBQ in the hot sun and in the van.

SUBS If you are paying in two installments, your second installment is now due.

COFFEE CART President Chris has a coffee cart set up. Some members will be instructed in its use shortly.

RURAL URBAN NIGHT Dugald advised this will be held in Berridale, but would like suggestions of a suitable guest speaker.

COOMA RODEO is on 12 February and the club needs volunteers to man the BBQ, van and maybe the coffee cart.

KEMABOLO working bee to check all the goods and load them onto the container is taking place on last weekend in February.

Next week's program: Paul and Ange Hart
"Effective Community Websites"

Following week: Brian Coyte PHF
"The Future Prosperity of Cooma and the Region"

Bulletin Reporter - Des Trute

Bulletin editor & production - Irene Shirvington