

Weekly Bulletin



GUEST SPEAKER:

Peter Davis

Battle of Giarabub

Les Sutcliffe introduced Peter who spoke about his passion for military history, his current project and the differences between legends such as ANZAC and cowardly Italians, and the reality.

Peter described the evolution of the genres of Australian military histories starting with propaganda, official, popularist and now historiographical which critically examines all previous material to try to arrive at the truth.

Examples of historic perceptions such as the bronzed 6'4" Aussie, natural soldier, strong on mateship and sportsmanship or Italians soldiers carrying white flags and always surrendering were challenged by Peter.

Peter is currently working on a thesis at the Defence Force Academy in Canberra, on the Battle of Giarabub, an obscure incident in North Africa where 22 Australians and 250 Italians were killed following a 5 month siege.

It was the first battle and had the first casualty for the Australians in WW2, but was overshadowed by the much larger battles of Bardia, Tobruk and El Alamein.

The fact the Italians held out under siege on half rations for 5 months highlighted the reality of Italian military tenacity.

Slides showed maps, pictures of the desert fort then and now, the Italian's 300 km barbed wire fence and examples of materials used for research.



Peter finished by describing how, as in almost every Australian country town, every village or town in Italy has a memorial to their war dead.



Above - 300 km fence, still there today

Below - The Giarabub flag in the Australian War Memorial



WE MEET WEDNESDAYS 6:00PM FOR 6:30PM

AT THE SOVEREIGN MOTEL (OPPOSITE KENTUCKY FRIED) SHARP ST, COOMA



Left – Chris A, in kilt “Poses” for a photo. Right Mark C presents banned from club he attended in

Three Minuter

Chris Adams – opening his talk with the playing of his bagpipes – his talk being about the history of the bagpipes. It is believed that the bagpipes originated in the Middle East and spread throughout Europe. (Perfect by the Scots of course!) Were used as an instrument of war and played during battles. Originally the bag was made from leather – whole sheep/lambs were used in the construction of the bagpipes. After the Battle of Culladon, the bagpipes (and tartans) were outlawed by the British.

The modern bagpipe, although similar in construction – the materials are quite different. Synthetic materials are now used except for the reed in the chanter which is still natural – usually reed or bamboo.

Thought of the week – John K

(as told by an Texas rancher)

There is a lot of money in cattle.

Just so long as there is one of them their oil wells to Scratch their ass on!

News

District Changeover

DGE Phil Armstrong invites members to attend District Changeover. The Abbey, O'Hanlon Place, Nicolls – Sunday 1 July 2012

Australian Rotary Success Conference

21 & 22 July 2012 in Canberra. Expressions of interest from Rotarians to take on the role of scribes at breakout sessions at the conference. Ability to use a laptop to record basic points of discussions.

Nominate Operation Cleft

Contact AG Rowley Tompsett on 0422 235 095 AG Rowley Tompsett, Ambassador for Operation Cleft in Ginninderra Rotary Club as asked fellow Rotarians to nominate for a donation of \$5,000 from Radio Station 3AW. To nominate go to www.3aw.com.au/comp-cfs

March
Polio Eradication

April
Rotary Magazine

May
Planning

June
Fellowship

The contact for making apologies and for notification of guests for dinner meetings is Les Sutcliffe on 6452 7442 during business hours or e-mail leecooma@bigpond.com

**District Group
Study Exchange**

Applications for the next Group Study Exchange project are now being encouraged to apply. This year is in the area of Health

July
Literacy

**Pride of
Workmanship
Awards**

The Pride of Workmanship awards have now been postponed until November. Please start considering some worthy people for nomination.

August
Membership
Extension

Dinner Fees

A reminder to all members - your Dinner fee is now to be \$20. You will again have to pay for your raffle ticket \$2.00 to Margaret E.

September
New Generations

**Brindabella
Rotaract –
Charter Event**

Brindabella Rotaract invites you to join them to celebrate becoming a Rotaract Club.

Venue: Kremlin Bar – Northbourne Avenue
When 3-6pm Sat 30 June (RSVP 23 June to brindabellarotaract@gmail.com)

October
Vocational Service

November
Rotary Foundation

December
Family

**Polio Plus
Money Boxes
National Youth
Science Forum**

Black & White theme
Back to Chris A – ASAP

Canberra 1/1/13 to 19/1/13, and 21/1/13-2/2/13 –
Offers students in year 11 the chance to test drive potential careers in science.

**Honeywell
Engineering
Summer School
Exchange
Student Report**

2-7/12/12 – Offers students in year 11 to make choices which will influence their future careers in engineering.

Ellie Adams sent a postcard – has done well in a skydiving comp, dispelling the myth that Aussies can't ski.

Next Weeks Program**Three Minuter****Thought of the Week****Alex Lehmann**

His Exchange and Vocation
Intro – Kevin D
Thanks – Tony S

Ken D

Lou M

Following Week Program

Elaine M

Peter A

This Weeks Attendance: 55%

Visiting Rotarians: Nil

Guests: Mark Nattley (Chris A), Mario & Romana Fior (Peter D, Linda (Club)

Apologies: Peter A, Tom B, Ashley C, Brenda DB, Tony S.

Leave: John C, Cheryl & Colin M, David B

Makeups:

We also Missed: Marco R, Ashley C and Brenda CB

The Rotary Club of Cooma Inc

The Secretary

PO Box 14

COOMA NSW 2630

PHONE: 0402 138 150

E-Mail: coomarotary@home.netspeed.com.au

Web: www.coomarotary.net.au

The contact for making apologies and for notification of guests for dinner meetings is
Les Sutcliffe on 6452 7442 during business hours or e-mail leecooma@bigpond.com

WE MEET WEDNESDAYS 6:00PM FOR 6:30PM

AT THE SOVEREIGN MOTEL (OPPOSITE KENTUCKY FRIED) SHARP ST, COOMA

Rosters	June	July
Attendance	Ashley C Wolfgang L	Elaine M Tony S
Property	Marco R Elaine M	Geoff B Les S
Markets	Jim H (Van) Graham F Kevin D Margaret H Tony S Alison HJ (PA) Darrel G (MR) David H (Coordinator) Chris & Kim A (Coffee)	Dave L Marc C Brenda CB Ashley C Peter A Alison HJ (PA) Elaine S (MR) David H (Coordinator) Chris & Kim A (Coffee)
Fellowship	Margaret E Claire N	Margaret E Claire N

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 8.30am.

Member Happenings

Anniversaries	Birthdays	Years of Service
Graham and Helen French 47 years on 2 June David and Alison Holgate 24 years on 27 June Les and Jan Sutcliffe 30 years on 27 June	Joe V – 3 June Kevin D – 6 June Brian J – 8 June Chris A – 12 June Marco R – 14 June Steve S – 18 June	Chris A – 6 yrs on 28 June