



Peace Through Service

Guest Speaker: Marnie Stewart - The Community Chest Inc

Intro: Elaine S

Thanks: Margaret H

The Community Chest which is currently being organised came about after Kay and Adrian Chapman from Cowra called into her shop. They left a brochure with her outlining what they did in Cowra with their Community Chest. They asked if the Cooma community would be interested in starting their own Community Chest and the more that Marnie read the more she was convinced that Cooma would be interested. After the Dancing with the Cooma Stars fundraiser had been completed she contacted a number of community organisations including Rotary to gauge interest and then invited all the contacted organisations to a meeting and subsequently a steering committee and board was created. The board consists of 11 people from various areas of experience and expertise within the Cooma community.

The first step was to become incorporated and the second step was to apply to the Tax Office to be able to issue receipts for donations. An initiative to have a constant source of monies coming in was to introduce memberships of \$10 per annum. Current patrons are John Cahill and Dean Lynch and there is support from all the smaller townships around the area. The commitment of the townships is to host one event a year to contribute money to the chest. It is hoped to have an official launch in about 3 months.

There is a single contact person with a large amount of experience, he is Bruce Bashford. His role will be to act as a single point of contact for enquires also he will allocate a request number so any request for financial assistance is confidential. The request is then assessed by a committee as to eligibility for assistance. There will be no cash payments made to the requestor but accounts would be paid or food or wood purchased on their behalf. Feedback from the community has been positive and many people have already volunteered their time or materials.

The team in Cowra have been in operation for 9 years and have learnt from experience the biggest hurdle is getting the people to believe in what the Community Chest is doing. That it is a genuine offer of assistance. To help the Cooma Community Chest get underway they have offered to be mentors so we can take advantage of their experience.

The main aim of the Community Chest is to offer assistance when all other possible avenues have been exhausted. It really is a port of last resort. For example if Government assistance is available then the requestor would be referred to seek assistance from the relevant department. Word of the resource would be spread through Church groups, health services and a variety of publicity.

Assistance requests can be small or large, examples from the Cowra experience include paying for a load of wood, meeting the gap for medical services and purchasing a vehicle with a lift mechanism. In the last example the vehicle remains the property of the Community Chest but the user pays for the rego and running costs for as long as they need the use of the vehicle.



Marnie Stewart & Elaine S



Pres Richard, Marnie & Elaine



Margaret H & Marnie

The contact for making apologies and for notifications of guests for dinner meetings is Les Sutcliffe on 6452 7442 or e-mail leecooma@bigpond.com by 10am on Tuesdays.

PEACE THROUGH SERVICE**3 MINUTER**

Our 3 Minuter this week was from Kevin D. He shared with us what they did over the holiday break. They decided earlier this year that it would be important for all the family to get together. They decided to meet as a family group between Kangaroo Valley and Berry, NSW in an area up on the escarpment. They hired a 10 acre property which slept about 10 - 12 people. They managed to get everyone together for Boxing Day and the most exciting part was that they would not let him into the kitchen. But he was a little disappointed as he had completed a 9 week cooking course which he passed. The two things he was allowed to do was open the can of plum pudding and put the cream on it when it was served. The people who organised the meal was one of their son's and his wife. He works at Aria in Sydney and she would like to be a contestant on Master Chef.

Activities included backyard cricket. A challenge was created by the pitch being situated on a slope. It was well grassed and they played with a tennis ball. One of the sons-in-law was wicket keeping and took off after a catch and ended up with a 6cm tear in his calf muscle and Kevin injured his heel. A tip from this experience is if you are going to play backyard cricket do so on a flat surface.

It was a great experience, but not easily achieved. The group included Kevin and Maree's 4 children plus partners, 6 grandchildren along with one blow-in.

Photo Gallery

Wolfgang & John V



Pres Richard & Chris A



Marnie Stewart & Dave H



Kevin D



John K



Joe & Anthony Vescio

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK: Margaret E

Quote from Barak Obama - A good wife always forgives her husband when she is wrong.

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PEACE THROUGH SERVICE

**WE MEET WEDNESDAYS 6.00PM FOR 6.30PM
AT DODDS HOTEL, COMMISSIONER ST. COOMA**

THIS WEEK'S NEWS

Rotary is doing the Australia Day BBQ on Saturday 26 January in Centennial Park - calling for volunteers. If you can help out let Dave H know so he can organise a roster.

The 5 cent challenge is still on. It is going well and we have raised over \$100 so far but more 5 cents would be greatly appreciated

John K spoke about catering for the current fires. The need came to fruition and thanks to all those assisted in this effort.

Photo Gallery

Elaine S



Dugald & John C

This Weeks Attendance: 26 out of 39 - 58.9%

Visiting Rotarians: None

Guests: Marnie Stewart (Club), Maree (Kevin D), Kim Adams (Chris A), Anthony Vescio (Joe V), Irene S (Steve S)

Apologies: Peter A, Tom B, Neil B, Brenda C-B, Ashley C, Katrin H, Jim H, Brian J, John K, Claire N, Peter D, Les S, Matt T.

Leave: Graham F

We Also Missed: Tony S

Make-ups: None

**The Rotary Club of Cooma
The Secretary
PO Box 14
Cooma NSW 2630
Phone: 042 138 150
E-Mail: coomarotary@home.netspeed.com.au**

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PEACE THROUGH SERVICE

ROSTERS	January	February
Attendance	Lou Patrick	John V Dugald
Property	Tom Elaine M	Brian Elaine S
Fellowship	Margaret E Clair N	Margaret E Clair N
Markets	David H - Co-ord Alyson H-J - PA Tony S - MR Wolfgang - V Mark C Joe V Richard L Claire N	David H - Co-ord Alyson H-J - PA Jim H - MR Dave L - V Geoff Ashley Brenda Peter D

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.

Next Weeks Program	Three Minuter	Thought of the Week
Tony S - East Timor	16 Jan - Neil B	16 Jan - Geoff B
Intro - Kevin D	23 Jan - John K	23 Jan - John V
Thanks - Marco R	30 Jan - Les S	30 Jan - Claire N

MEMBER HAPPENINGS

BIRTHDAYS	YEARS OF SERVICE	YEARS OF SERVICE
Dugald - 1 January	Alyson H-J - 20 years on 2 January	Kevin D - 13 years 9 January
Bob E - 5 January	Darrell G - 29 years on 3 January	John M - 19 years 9 January
Ken D - 10 January	Robb S - 31 years 3 January	Tony S - 33 years 9 January
Marjorie Revelant wife of Marco - 12 January	Alan D - 16 years 5 January	Bob E - 46 years 11 January
Janine John-Natley wife of Mark - 26 January	Marco R - 21 years 5 January	Wolfgang - 24 years 11 January
	Ashley C - 16 years 6 January	Dave L - 42 years 11 January
	Brian J - 23 years 6 January	John C - 18 years 12 January
	Lou M - 16 years 6 January	Tom B - 13 years 22 January
	Des T - 23 years 6 January	Geoff B - 15 years 29 January
There are no listed anniversaries for this month.		

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