



Peace Through Service

Guest Speaker: Allie Adams - Returning Exchange Student

Intro: David B

Thanks: Mark J-N

This week our guest speaker was Allie Adams who has recently completed her Rotary student exchange in Austria. She said anybody who has looked at Austria while spinning a globe will know that Austria is not a large country but it has a large history and it's name carries weight - Austria, rich in honour and victories, has participated in the good and bad fate of Europe. She said when you think of Austria you probably think of clear lakes, running streams and snow capped mountains and to tell the truth that is exactly what Austria is like.

One thing she did that she would not have done here in Australia was joining the scout group in her town. Her host brother and sister were both members of the group and she went along to a meeting and decided she liked what she heard and she continued attending meetings. Eventually the Scout Master offered her a place at the scout camp which took place for a week in Summer and it was a really different experience. She said that it was a great experience which helped her learn how to work as a member of a team, for example if one person was struggling then everyone helped that person out. She said that she was usually the one who was struggling but her team members always were willing to provide assistance. She was not a very experienced hiker so everyone slowed down to match her speed. They camped all around Austria and also spent two nights in the Czech republic. They saw salt mines and ice caves and in general it was an amazing experience. She also went on a Euro Tour and saw lots of cakes made out of lollies and Belgium chocolate. It was during this time she realised she had become independent and couldn't rely on her parents all the time. The realisation was caused by a small thing which was she needed to get the top off a boiled egg - usually Mum or Dad did this for her but now she had to do it herself. She also learnt the need to be responsible. On the tour they were allowed to explore towns on their own but had to be back at the hotel by a certain time so it was necessary to be aware of the time and how far away you were.

Of the many experiences she had, two stood out the most. The first was how many homeless people there were in Europe and the fact that most of them were disabled and there were no welfare programs to provide assistance. This made her realise how lucky she was with the life she had been given. The second was Christmas. In Austria Christmas celebrations take place on the 24th December. She went to church with her host family and then they came home to the family celebrations during which they sang songs and lit candles to remember people who were not with them at that time. Also part of Christmas is a Christmas wreath which has candles on it and the Scout group lit a candle at the Scout house which was then offered to all other houses in the town to light their candle. She felt it was significant and important that all the town was connected by one candle. The candle is the representation of the star of Bethlehem which the Wise Men followed to find the baby Jesus. A strange part of Christmas was a visit from the Krampus, a devil like creature, who is the opposite of Father Christmas and his job is to whip all the naughty people in the town with whips made from cow's tails. (It is quite a painful experience).

Her Rotary club was quite different to Cooma in that she did not attend very many meetings, the first was just after she arrived, the second was to do a presentation and the third was for when the President changed. She felt that support was lacking in comparison to Cooma Rotary but didn't consider it a bad thing just different. She doesn't know if they even realise that she has left the country yet. In comparison her District Rotary was really good and provided many opportunities for trips, conferences and even a language camp with other students which was really helpful.

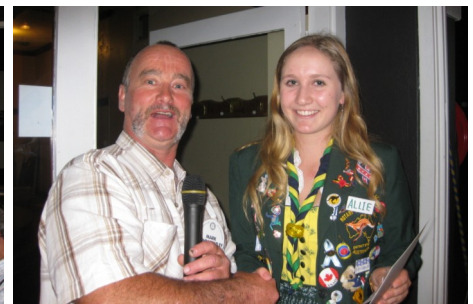
One thing they did regularly was going hiking, you would wake up in the morning and decide to go for a hike, it's not one of her favourite activities as on a Rotary organised hike she tore a tendon in her ankle. But a stand out experience was a ski trip in which she was placed in the advanced group. She got to visit Berlin where she saw what was left of the Berlin Wall and also Check Point Charlie. The most unusual thing about the trip was only having one host family and she was made to feel part of the family. She finished by thanking Cooma Rotary for making the whole trip possible.



David B & Allie



Allie dressed in a dirndl



Mark J-N & Allie

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PEACE THROUGH SERVICE

3 MINUTER

Our 3 Minuter this week was from John K he spoke about the assistance to be provided by Rotary volunteers as part of the upcoming Blaze Aid outreach following the recent bushfires.

Rotary is one of the four service groups that is contributing towards feeding the Blaze Aid volunteers. He attended a meeting on Wednesday morning with the people from Blaze Aid and the other three organisations. The facilities have already been set up at the Nimmitabel showground and people will be eating at the country club. They expect there will be an average of 40 people to be fed on any given day but this could go on for 2 or more months. Help is required for evening meals and ingredient for lunches which the volunteers will make themselves. It was decided that each group would do a week and that we would try to do as much about menus and so forth before heading out to Nimmitabel. Our week starts on a Saturday night which will be a BBQ to which not only the Blaze Aid volunteers will be attending but the families that are receiving assistance.

Registration of working volunteers is essential due to insurance and this will also allow for us to be informed of how many people will need to be catered for. The groups involved are the Lions Club, a group from Nimmitabel, the CWA and ourselves. Our first week will be from 2nd to the 8th February and they would like meals to start about 6.30 pm. The facilities are good and we will not be required to supply plates or cutlery etc.

Paul and Val, the Blaze Aid organisers, have been there and done this all before at various places around Australia. They know what they are doing and they get it done. The volunteers involved are from all across the country and are often farmers who have been burnt out themselves and they get involved to give something back after having received assistance. Elaine S and Jim H also attended the meeting and Elaine is organising our volunteer list. As far as food is concerned Council has set up a credit with Woolworths and are arranging to do the same with Coles and authorised persons will be able to get what ever is necessary to make this happen.

Paul and Val can be contacted on 0417 963 691 for registration on the night before you want to assist in relation to going out and working on the damaged properties. You need to arrive at Nimmitabel about 7am to start work and Blaze Aid supply all tools but you can take your own if you wish.

Please remember to contact Elaine if you can assist with making food or helping out at Nimmitabel. Remember this will be an ongoing commitment so if you can't help this time around you may be able to next time it is our turn.

Photo Gallery



John C & Elaine S

Cooma's Young Rotarians
Allie A, Tamara J-N, Lea, Wari R,
Cameron & Megan AKatrin H, Brenda C-B
& Irene SCooma Car Club Australia Day
Breakfast Team

'Princess' Steve S

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:

The government who robs Peter to pay Paul can always count on the support of Paul.

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PEACE THROUGH SERVICE

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

**ROTARY'S THEME OF THE MONTH
Rotary Awareness Month**

THIS WEEK'S NEWS

Hass advised there will be a meeting on Wednesday at Dodds at 5.30pm of all interested people to consider some ideas that have been suggested for our 60th birthday. As many ideas as possible will be presented.

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.

IMPORTANT: If you notice any incorrect details relating to yourself please go on to Club Runner and make the necessary corrections. Personal details are not able to be updated by anyone but yourself. Thank you for making sure everything is up-to-date and correct.

At this months market there were 42 stalls which raised a total of \$996.00 and the catering van raised \$1,365 giving a total of \$2,361.00. The coffee van raised a total of approximately \$500.00.

For those listed to collect the caravan or chuck wagon from the shed on market days please note the change of time from 8am to 7am to ensure all is in readiness for the day.

The pallets sent last October arrived in Port Moresby, they are still on the wharfs unfortunately. We received a bill for customs clearance and storage totalling approximately \$10,000. We are not paying this and negotiations are ongoing they were told to reassess their position or the pallets would be dumped and no-one would get any money. Chris received a reprised account to the value of about \$4,000. Further negations will be taking place in the near future.

Chris A was wondering if anyone can remember (month and year) when petrol was last sold at the Ampol petrol station on Mittagang Road, Cooma Nth.

President Richard advised of an upcoming joint meeting with Bombala to be held at Nimmitabel, this will be Tuesday 12th February. Ross Thompson a local bush poet will be the guest speaker. Time is 6.30 for a 7.00 start.

This Weeks Attendance: 26 out of 43 plus 3 make-ups– 67.4%

Visiting Rotarians: None

Guests: Lea & Allie Adams (Club) Irene (Steve S), Wari Ronagi, Kim, Cameron & Megan (Chris A), Jan & Tamara (Mark J-N)

Apologies: Geoff B

Leave:

We Also Missed:

Make-ups:

**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	February	March
Attendance	John V Dugald	Chris John K
Property	Brian Elaine S	John C Geoff
Fellowship	Margaret E Clair N	Margaret E Clair N
Markets	David H - Co-ord Alyson H-J - PA Jim H - MR Dave L - V Geoff Ashley Brenda Peter D	David H - Co-ord Alyson H-J - PA Peter A - MR David B - V Hass Les Elaine S 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 7am. 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
Guest Speaker : Tom Shirvington, Brad Constance & John Sutcliffe RYLA Intro - Katrin H Thanks - Margaret (Hass) H	30 Jan - Les S	30 Jan - Claire N

MEMBER HAPPENINGS

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

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