



## Peace Through Service

**Guest Speakers: Ross Thompson - Bush Poet**

**Intro: Neil B**

**Thanks: Elaine S**

Our guest speaker this week was Ross Thompson a renowned Bush poet and he says that his work is done to provide Entertainment. This is an example of some of his work.

### Worse than Bad

Well I've done my share of shearing and I've been fencing on the plains and I've worked out in the blazing heat and in the pouring rain.

I've swung the old axe ringing and I've bashed down heaps of scrub. Oh yeah I've been drunk a time or two at the local pub.

But of all the jobs that I have done and the times that I have cursed I'd like to tell you'se about a job I've done I'd rate to be by far the worse.

Now I know you mightn't believe me, and you'd say yeah that's just one of Thomo's yarns but I went picking strawberries on a berry farm.

Ya see there was this berry farmer just up the hill, and his Missus had to go away to someone's taken ill, well being the neighbour that I am well what else could I say she'll be right mate I go up and help you pick em while your Missus is away.

So up I goes early in the morning to make a start, he comes out he's got a cup of coffee in his hand but he strapped me in this silly little cart, well off I go's with this funny kind of straddle. Tell ya what I ain't gone very far when I realised by gee this berry pickin's going to be battle.

Cos being a shearer for years and years ya know some how I just didn't seem to have the touch and the morning dew on the bushes had me wet right up the crutch.

It wasn't long and me fingers and me nails begin to throb and I get's thinking Thomo how on earth did you get lumbered with this job.

Cos me back she's aching bad holy hell as heaven only knows and as I stood up to straighten up all I could see was rows and rows to go.

And then the morning sun came up as warm and oh she really shining and the glare on the black plastic round the plants tell I ya what, it was almost blinding.

And it's about this time I'm thinking oh gee I'd like to take a break when down through the bushes past me comes this thumpin great black snake.

Well I must admit at first it give me quite a start I jumped up and took off forgetting I am harnessed in this silly little cart. Well over she went sent all me berries flying I ask you have you ever seen a grown man crying.

There they were on the ground all these berries I'd been specially choosen and I remembered his last words he says now you be careful you don't bruise em.

But you know me well I'm not a man to shirk, I straightens up me little cart and gets right back to work and then a little breeze sprang up.

Whilst underneath these bushes where I'm picken some torn back plastic shinin there and then it started flicken. Well there I was paralysed and it even gave me palpitations of the heart. This berry picken, I can tell you this by heck is the only job I've ever done that's made me a nervous wreck.

So ya see there was little doubt that I was yearnin for his Missus to be returnin and when she come home I told her that I had missed her while she had been away and ya know from the look on her Hubby's face I think he thought that I had strayed.

So I heads off down the track, oh the aching of me back and the skin all round me nails still feeling numb. By hell I wished I said I missed her 'fore she'd gone.

Ross Thompson

PEACE THROUGH SERVICE

Photo Gallery



A Couple of Nights in the Blazeaid Kitchen



Elaine S & Ross Thompson



Neil B



Steve S



Marco R



Pres Fiona & Pres Richard



Jim Longden, John K & Neil B



Glen Warren & Peter D



Mark J-N, Pam Wood-Davies & Philip Steel



Paul & Val Forgeard - Blazeaid



Pres Richard & Paul



John Feilen & Tony S



Glen Warren, Isabel Harrington & Peter D



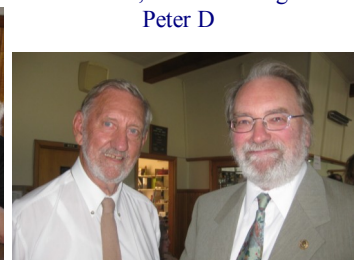
Pat Zimmer, Christine & Jak Cuttle



Philip Steel, Glen Warren & Jayne Steel



Ruth Allen-Meyer, Pam Wood-Davies & Lesley Smith



Geoff B & Claus Zimmer

**THOUGHT OF THE WEEK: A Quote from Winston Churchill**

Success is not final, failure is not fatal, it is the courage to continue that counts.

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

**PEACE THROUGH SERVICE**

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

**ROTARY'S THEME OF THE MONTH**  
**World Understanding**

**THIS WEEK'S NEWS**

The joint meeting with Bombala held at the Nimmitabel Country Club, on Tuesday was a great night and enjoyed by all who attended.

The music on the night was provided by the Bombala Rotary Choir. They have been in operation for the last 10 years. They have produced a couple of CD's that are available for purchase from Bombala Rotary.

The Bombala Club made a donation of \$660 to the Blazeaid appeal and the proceeds from the raffle and fines session contributed another \$143.70.

Paul Forgeard from Blazeaid advised there have so far been 68 volunteers who have worked from 7.30am to 4pm daily. This has resulted in a collective total of 262 days work on 9 farms resulting in 17km's of fencing.

The 5 cent challenge is still on and going well, currently we have raised 138.40. Please continue to be generous as we are very close to being able to purchase the footrests.

**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.

**This Weeks Attendance:** 23 out of 39 – 59%

**Visiting Rotarians:** None

**Guests:** Lea, Paul & Val Forgeard & Ross Thompson (Club), Irene (Steve S), Maree (Kevin D), Lanie (Richard L), Tamara (Mark J-N), Georgie (Ashley C), Rosemary (John K)

**Apologies:** Peter A, John C, Jim H, Katrin H, Lou M, Claire N, Les S, Matt T, John V

**Leave:** Graham F    **We Also Missed:** Joe V, Mark C, David B, Chris A    **Make-ups:** None

**The Rotary Club of Cooma**  
**The Secretary**  
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**Phone: 042 138 150**  
**E-Mail: [coomarotary@home.netspeed.com.au](mailto:coomarotary@home.netspeed.com.au)**

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## PEACE THROUGH SERVICE

<b>ROSTERS</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>March</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	John V Dugald	Chris John K
<b>Property</b>	Brian Elaine S	John C Geoff
<b>Fellowship</b>	Margaret E Clair N	Margaret E Clair N
<b>Markets</b>	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.

<b>Next Weeks Program</b>	<b>Three Minuter</b>	<b>Thought of the Week</b>
<b>Guest Speaker : Peter Hendy - Eden-Monaro Liberal Candidate</b>	<b>20 February - Patrick K</b>	<b>20 February - Steve S</b>
<b>Intro - Kevin D Thanks - Tony S</b>	<b>27 February - Lou M</b>	<b>27 February - Geoff B</b>

## MEMBER HAPPENINGS

<b>BIRTHDAYS</b>	<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b>	<b>YEARS OF SERVICE</b>
Elaine M - 25 February  Irene Shirvington wife of Steve - 23 February	Jim & Mary Hatfield - 5 February  Des & Judy Trute - 5 February  Claire & Hans Neumeyer - 7 February  David & Kathy Byrne - 27 February	<b>There are no listed Years of Service for this month.</b>

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