



Engage Rotary - Change Lives

Guest Speaker - Oliver Cay - Farming on the Monaro

Intro: Geoff B

Thanks: John C

Oliver spoke on opportunities for Monaro agriculture. His focus is as chairman of the Monaro Farming Systems (MFS) he said he would focus on the strengths but he is mindful of the weaknesses and threats. MFS has 49 business members on the Monaro, which equates to over 80 individuals. They cover approximately 25% of the privately held land on the Monaro which equals about 75,000ha and are responsible for about 40% of production. This land includes approximately 20% of native pasture and 24% of improved pasture within the Bombala, Cooma-Monaro and Snowy River Shires.

The group was established in August 2007 primarily as a knowledge and information based organisation, to help farm business to be more profitable and resilient in the long term. Since establishment MFS has attracted of \$450,000 in grants. This has enabled them to focus on local, relevant issues that impact on the triple bottom line of business, these being profitability, human resources and environmental sustainability.

There are a number of resources who can provide assistance to farmers. These include industry bodies like Australian Wool Innovation Ltd, Meat & Livestock Australia and Grains Research & Development Corporation. All levels of government also can provide assistance via legislation, they can manipulate supply and demand of product, they can also start or finish industries through things like animal welfare. They can also influence thoughts surrounding climate change, red/green tape compliance, environmental policy and resource redistribution.

It is interesting to note that farm produce contributes 3% of Australia's GDP and the whole sector contributes 12%. Researchers at places like Sydney University, CSIRO and the Department of Primary Industry can provide unique assistance as we are climatically & geographically different to anywhere else in the world so we need our research done locally. Conservatively every dollar spent on research & development returns \$7.00.

In the future climate will have an impact on farming, both in the form of opportunity and threat and will create global shifts in supply and demand.

The most important part of farming is human resources. Humans are the worlds most influential living creatures because of our social structure. The challenge is to get this structure working for us. There needs to be a focus on individual self-worth along with physical and mental health. There needs to be greater understanding and appreciation of how farms supply our food. Our schools need to have education surrounding the how's and why's of all facets of farm industry. It is necessary to find a way to include main farm workers into the community and finally the remuneration received should be equal to the time and effort required to produce the product.



Oliver & John C



Oliver



Pres Hass & Oliver

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Rotary Theme of the Month - New Generations

This Week's News

This year the District Conference is being held in Merimbula/Pambula from Friday 11th to Sunday 13th October - all are welcome to attend Pres Hass has a variety of information if you are interested in attending or further information is at www.rotaryd9710.org.au - you will have a Whale of a Time.

This is the official notice of change of venue. Our next and future meetings will be held at the Cooma Bowling Club in Mawson Lane. Same time and same price.

Peter D has suggested we attend a working bee at the Monaro Early Intervention Service. They have outgrown their current premises and have purchased the house next door which needs some work like removing wall paper, pulling up carpet and general painting. The date arranged is Saturday 19th October, 8.30am meeting at 6 Hill St, Cooma.

Margaret E has put out the call again for books in Serbian, Italian, Spanish, Greek, French, Chinese or Mandarin to be donated to the Cooma Correction Centre for use by residents.

The September market attracted 26 stalls, with 5 freebees and there was a nett profit of \$1,570.00.

Ashley reported the RYPEN students enjoyed the weekend and are looking forward to coming to speak about it. Many thanks to Brenda for getting them there and to Katrin for getting them home.

Pres Hass received a letter from the Council regarding dog's in the Park during the Markets. John K, following a conversation with the local Ranger, suggested a reply to the council along the lines of allowing well-behaved, under control dogs on leads to be allowed.

Photo Gallery



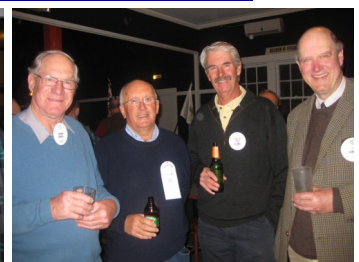
Dave H & Vivianne



Patrick & Neil B



Ashley, Brenda & Mark J-N



John K, John Mooney, Tony & Richard



Peter D & John Mooney



Mark C, Rebecca & David B



John C, Oliver Cay, Graham & Monika



Elaine M & John Mooney

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK: Pres Hass on behalf of Les S

**Before you criticise someone you should walk a mile in their shoes,
that way when you criticise them you will be a mile away and have their shoes.**

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**WE MEET WEDNESDAYS 6.00PM FOR 6.30PM
AT THE COOMA BOWLING CLUB, MAWSON LANE, COOMA**

3 Minuter

The 3 Minuter this week came from Marco. He decided to share some of the fun he has had in the last month concerned with the Boco Rock Wind Farm starting construction. They sent out a flyer asking for interested parties to tend for the delivery of concrete. He thought - yeah, why not. So he started looking at some other things, he had work done about 3 years ago, and said to himself - self, well the mix design will fit all their requirements so that's not a problem but then he started on the rest of the job.

As one of our politicians said "the devil is in the detail". Now the detail on this job includes the fact they are going to look after the environment. This means all machinery that comes in from elsewhere has to be washed down to ensure no cross-contamination, 4.5kg or greater fire extinguishers in all vehicles. The detail went down to the micro-level like how are you going to dispose of rubbish, what sort of toilet will be placed on-site and how often will it be emptied. These are things that he had never come across before and he had tendered for some large and interesting jobs in the past. The required level of detail took him one step back and made him has a really big hard think about tendering for the job.

He did put the tender in and is now just waiting to see how his bid stacked up against the others. It's going to be interesting, mainly on his part because he has never done a job of this size before. If he wins, his biggest problem is where will a fellow find 20 concrete agitators as they are not the type of thing you just have lying around in the back shed. He even thought about setting up a concrete plant but pumping concrete 30km's would set new records. He finished by saying the place will be quite well built and Boco Rock will look after the environment.



This Weeks Attendance: 77%

Visiting Rotarians: None

Guests: Rebecca , Oliver Cay (Club), John Mooney (Neil B), Vivianne (Rob Simm)

Apologies: Kevin D, Darrell G, Claire N, Jim H, John M, Ken P.

Leave: Peter A, John V, Dave L. **We Also Missed:** Les S, Joe V **Make-ups:** None

**The Rotary Club of Cooma
The Secretary
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ROSTERS	September	October
Attendance	Dugald M Kevin D	Elaine M Claire N
Property	Peter D Graham F	Marco Elaine S
Fellowship	Margaret E Claire N	Rob S Tony S
Markets	John K- Co-ord Alyson H-J - PA Dave H - Res Neil B Joe V Les S Tony S Robb S	John K - Co-ord Alyson H-J - PA Tom B Geoff B David B John C Ashley C

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 John King 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 Mark John-Natley before the event. Others nominated should be at the park by 8.30am.

Upcoming Program	Three Minuter	Thought of the Week
Guest Speaker: Maureen Manning - District Governor	25 Sept - N/A	25 Sept - Des T
Intro: Pres Margaret H	02 Oct - Joe V	02 Oct - Darrell G
Thanks: Peter D	09 Oct - Peter D	09 Oct - Katrin H

Upcoming Guest Speakers -

- **02 Oct - Allan Spencer - National Busking Competition**
- **09 Oct - Adrian Oakey - Trial & Tribulations of Wind Farming**

MEMBER HAPPENINGS

BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	JOINING DATE
Alan D - 5 Sept Claire N - 19 Sept Darrell G - 25 Sept Helen spouse of Graham - 2 Sept	John & Rosie K - 12 Sept Alan & Catherine D - 26 Sept	Katrin H - 13 Sept

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