

# Rotary Club of Cooma Inc

## Meeting – 21 May 2014

Craig Chilcott - Monbeef



Craig was born in New Zealand and came to Cooma to work at Monbeef about 17 years ago.

The new Monbeef plant is built pretty much over the old plant. This isn't the only change that occurred. In the early days of Monbeef most of the meat was going to the USA to be used as hamburger meat. This meant the business was tied very closely to the US economy. The new era of Monbeef has seen different markets open which has created an economic stability for the company. Only about 2% for Monbeef product is sold in Australia therefore to ensure the longevity of the company they took a great local product and looked for ways to diversify. To be able to offset production and labour costs they needed to consider ways to create 100% recovery.

So one major change came about when live exports were banned, this provided an opportunity for the business to become full halal. This meant meat could then be sold pre-packed into the Indonesian and Malaysian markets, these countries provide huge food market prospects. This new market underpins growth on the local farming economy. Another aspect that creates growth is finding the countries which will take the more unusual parts of the animal like the tongue or tripe. Older animals are sold in Indonesia and a new option is cooking and selling beef feet, they are cut into osso bucco type pieces and this is considered a delicacy. Even the stomach waste is taken by the local council and is added to the green waste which then becomes fertiliser. These new opportunities have provided a major learning curve for Craig.

The company has an annual turnover of about \$6,000,000 and a livestock bill of approximately \$100,000 to \$400,000 per week. The product purchased comes from no further than 400km's due to freight cost restrictions. They employ 84 staff at the moment who process in the vicinity of 200 cows and 60 bulls a day. Output is considered in weight rather than numbers as bulls weigh more than cows. The processing time from live cow to full packed product is about 45 minutes, this reduces the chance of bacterial contamination, it is a very clean system. Hides go to a consolidated plant for treating but most tanning is done overseas.

His final words of wisdom were relevant to us all, he said that whatever we do today must be done better tomorrow to ensure we continue to exist.



## **Rotary Theme of the Month:** **International Convention Month**

Neil B presented the 3 Minuter this week. He was in Europe last year and during the trip he went to Austria and visited a town called Hallstatt. Hallstatt is famous for its salt mines. The Austrians have been mining salt from the mines for at least 3000 years. Back in the early days it was only possible to reach Hallstatt by boat or via narrow trails. Mine access was up and down trails. However today you can get to the mines using cable cars. Up near the mines there used to be a large village and herds of pigs were driving up there to be slaughtered and then cured in the salt to provide food during the harsh winters. While Neil was there some archaeologists were working in a roped off area, but somebody chose to ignore the ropes and went wandering in. An archaeologist came rushing over speaking rapidly in Austrian, luckily they had someone with them who understood what was being said and explained these were some Australian tourists and they tend to wander anywhere. They were then invited in to a tented area so see what was currently being Excavated. Over 6000 graves had been discovered and the team were working on a couple of them, painstakingly working around bones and jewellery. They are still mining salt today but using the modern method of liquefaction rather than digging it out by hand.

### **Announcements**

John K shared that the May market had 58 stall holders which resulted in a nett profit of \$2,269.00. He also said that the promotion the market has recently received has had positive results both in attendance and stallholders.

Des T said that the Bega Rotary Club Youth Drive Awareness Scheme held recently had 78 young people from Monaro High School attend and participate. It is an extremely worthwhile presentation which makes young people more aware of the dangers and responsibilities that go with getting your licence and driving a car.

John C confirmed the visit of Sandra Mahbery of ROMAC, along with a family from Vanuatu, to the Snowy Mountains Christian School on Wednesday 28 May. The event will be starting about 10.30am.

The Interact Organiser is Ruth Salszki and the new Principle is Mark Ogilvie. All are welcome to attend.

See the last page for information of an upcoming fundraiser - information shared by Claire N.

**This Weeks Attendance: 76%**

**Visiting Rotarians:**

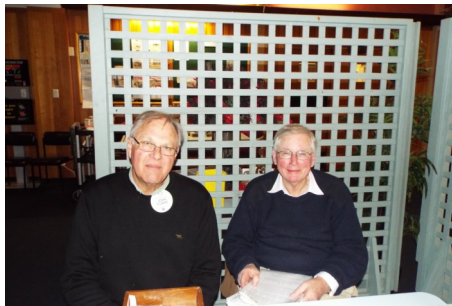
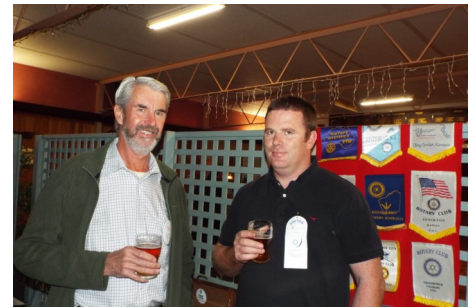
**Guests:** Craig Chilcott, Rebecca (Club), Ryan Constance (Ashley C)

**Apologies:** Tom B, David B, Brenda C-B

**Leave:** Peter D, John V, Alyson HJ, Graham F    **Make-ups:**    **We Also Missed:**

## Projects being supported by Cooma Rotary include:

- End Polio Now
- ROMAC
- Shelter Box
- Monaro Early Intervention Service (MEIS)
- New public seating in Cooma
- More trees at Rotary Oval
- Outdoor workout equipment
- Rotary Youth Exchange Program



Thought of the Week - Margaret E

Love can endure heartaches, misfortune or tragedy, it is the eternal companion.



May Rosters	
<b>Attendance</b>	Dugald M
	Ken D
<b>Property</b>	Des T
	Claire N
<b>Fellowship</b>	Margaret E
	Claire N
<b>Market</b>	John K - Co-ord
	David B - BBQ
	Jim H
	Dave H
	Patrick K
	Margaret E
	Tracey A
	Joe V
<b>3 Minute Talk</b>	
<b>28 May</b>	Joe V
<b>4 June</b>	Katrin H
<b>11 June</b>	Jim H
<b>18 June</b>	David H
<b>Thought of the week</b>	
<b>28 May</b>	Graham F
<b>4 June</b>	Darrel G
<b>11 June</b>	Katrin H
<b>18 June</b>	Margaret H
<b>Introduction</b>	
<b>28 May</b>	Rob S
<b>4 June</b>	Tony S
<b>11 June</b>	Geoff B
<b>18 June</b>	Des T
<b>Thank you</b>	
<b>28 May</b>	Wolfgang
<b>4 June</b>	Richard L
<b>11 June</b>	Dugald M
<b>18 June</b>	Claire N

Upcoming Speakers
<b>28 May</b> - Jarrod Sopniewski ANZAC scholarship to Korea
<b>4 June</b> - Simon White Hillross Financial Adviser
<b>11 June</b> - Margaret Hassall & Daryl Gaukroger Inside the Convention
<b>18 June</b> - Frances Robertson Young People in Community Service

## MEMBER HAPPENINGS May

### BIRTHDAYS

John K - 7 May

Alyson HJ - 19 May

Hans N spouse of Claire 1 May

### JOINING DATE

Peter A - 12 May

Margaret E - 24 May

Les S - 26 May

### ANNIVERSARIES

John & Sonja V - 12 May

Patrick & Joo Siew K - 15 May

The contact for making apologies and for notifications of guests for dinner meetings is  
Les Sutcliffe on 6452 7442 during business hours or e-mail [leecooma@bigpond.com](mailto:leecooma@bigpond.com)

**CALLING ALL JOHNNY CASH FANS**

**SATURDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY AT 6.30PM FOR 7PM**

**NIMMITABEL HALL**

**A FUNDRAISER**

**For GELDMACHER HOUSE MUSEUM**  
**RESTORATION PROECT**

**A TRIBUTE TO THE MAN IN BLACK**

**(listen to some old favorites)**

**Live entertainment**

**Bookings on 64546366**

**Byo but snacks provided**

**\$20A, \$10 for under 15 years of age**

**Join in the great entertainment**

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