



Rotary Club of Cooma Inc

Rotary Theme for the Month:

Vocational Service

Meeting – 15 October 2014

Rowley Tompsett – District Governor

John K needs about 10 or 12 volunteers to help with the Special Market which is being run in conjunction with the Busking Festival on 1 November.



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Peter – The District Conference is being held on 14 – 16 November in Canberra. There is an early-bird discount. This event is free for exchange students and Rotarians who have joined since 1 November 2013.

RYLA applications for 2015 are available.

24 October is World Polio Day

1st November Jerrabomberra Rotary club are hosting a fun run.

Peter thanked Geoff for delivering a very heart felt eulogy (mentioning Rotary a number of times) at Patrick's funeral.

The Renew Cooma organisation is holding a dinner at the Ex-services club on 28 October.

Tickets are \$35/person and are available from Mack's Auto Cnr Sharp & Bombala Street.

Elaine - Claire has organised a Mental Health Forum with 3 guest speakers at the Cooma Library on Friday 24th October at 1pm.

The Board has approved the funds to purchase an outdoor setting to be used by the new Dialysis Unit at Cooma Hospital.

Patrick's family joined us for this meeting and announced that it was their wish for the Club to move ahead with the fundraising event that Patrick was organising in Canberra. This event will now take place early next year. For details on the building project in Bhutan contact the Rotary Club of Ashmore (Qld) or Ms Sasha Wakefield (0428 384 542).





OCTOBER DATES

Birthdays: Richard – 10th, Wolfgang – 25th, Hass – 28th, Marilyn (Darrell) – 17th, Kathy (David) – 22th, Joo Siew (Patrick) – 29th

Anniversary: Marco & Marjorie – 18th, Wolfgang & Christina – 20th

Date Joined Rotary: David B, 17th – 13 years
Claire N, 31st – 13 years



MEETING STATISTICS:

Attendance: 87.5%

Guests: Rowley & Denise Tompsett, Neil & Kathryn Russell (Southport), Steffan & Maria (Geoff B), Roy, Damian & Cindy Kwan & Vera

Apologies: David B, Joe V.

We also missed:

Next Week: Membership Evening – How you can make a difference.



OCTOBER ROSTER

Attendance	Mark C
	Wolfgang
Property	Neil
	Alyson
Fellowship	Margaret E
	Claire
Markets	John K - Co-ord
16 November	Alyson - PA
3 Minute Talk	
22 October	MEMBERSHIP
29 October	Darrell
Sergeant/Thought	
22 October	MEMBERSHIP
29 October	David H
Introduction	
22 October	MEMBERSHIP
29 October	Ken
Thank You	
22 October	MEMBERSHIP
29 October	John C



Our guest speakers this week were District Governor Rowley Tompsett and his wife Denise.

It is traditional for the spouse/partner of the District Governor to have the opportunity to support a special project. This year Denise has chosen to support a project that she saw when she and Rowley were in Timor Leste as guests of the Rotary Club of Dili.

The project is to support mothers and babies who are malnourished. This is a common situation in this country due to the civil unrest that has occurred over the last 25 years. These young mothers have lost the skills of their ancestors and believe that a tummy full of white rice should sustain the body. The facility that takes in these young women and their babies teaches how to gather seed and to sow and reap a multitude of crops to feed the village. The best advertisement for this way of life is that the mothers return to the villages with healthy thriving babies.



Another problem in the villages is domestic violence; this is because there are very few older men living to teach the young men how to act as husbands and fathers. The average age of the population is below 30. Again this is due to the ongoing conflict. This fact is relevant to the mothers and babies program because when the women return home with their learning, they now have education and education equals status, particularly in a world where the majority of people have no learning at all.



The way which Denise is proposing to raise funds for this cause is to have a raffle. She already has over \$5,000 worth of prizes which have been donated. This means that any money from ticket sales goes directly to support the project. What she hopes is that every club in the district will assist in the selling of the tickets in their communities.



This is a small way we can help a country move forward into a better future.



Rowley started his work life at a country high school as a science teacher. First day in he went to the Principals office and was handed his time-table on which he noticed classes for science and maths. He promptly said to the Principal that he didn't teach maths, he just didn't grasp the concepts of math things; like $1 + 1 = 2$. This was proven some years later after having been in Rotary for a period of time. He noticed that if you have 1 + 1 Rotary clubs working well then the sum of their efforts equalled much more than 2.

The future of Rotary is not about working alone but working with other clubs and organisations to create great things. Polio Plus is a great example of this. 1 man's vision has led to great things by 34,000 Rotary clubs, the World Health Organisation, UNICEF, the US Centre for Disease Control and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation all getting together to achieve the same goal – the eradication of Polio. This shows the power of 1 + 1 can equal whatever you want it to be.



Another group to engage is young people, some are already known to us, like the Interactors, the Rotoractors and Exchange students but there are others out there who if you push the right buttons will want to be involved, they just need to know what is happening. Acknowledge and engage them, they may not become Rotarians in the future but you can still use their energy and enthusiasm.

The theme of this year's District Conference is "Our Youth – Our Future". We are combining with District 9675 and it will be a great opportunity to share and gain knowledge.

Question "is Rotary still inspiring you like it did when you first joined, if not – why not!" Every club needs to look at themselves to see if they are inspiring and inviting enough to attract new people to join.

The Rotary Foundation inspires Rowley to be involved. The RF is the powerhouse that enables the organisation to do things on the world stage. The foundation has inspired the raising of \$1.3b to eradicate polio; this has meant 250 million children have been inoculated. The Foundation also enables the education programs, the global scholarships, the peace fellow, the water & sanitation programs and the child & maternal health programs. We have an obligation to support the Foundation, firstly at the individual level and secondly at the club level. Support from the clubs is what generates support of other philanthropic organisations and individuals.



Rotary has developed a new initiative to help current Rotarians learn more about Rotary. It is a 3 day program which is held 1 day a month over a 3 month period. It is an opportunity for us to learn about how to play the game of Rotary. You get together with a group of people and share experience, knowledge and understanding. It is an opportunity to learn what other clubs are doing and you get to have a good time while you are doing it.

This is an opportunity that can make you a better Rotarian moving forward into the future. Take the chance to learn and share with likeminded people.

Our new International President when searching for a theme for his year turned to his heritage and the teachings of Confucius. One thing of note that Confucius said was "it is better to light a single candle than sit and curse the darkness".

From this thought President Garry has presented a challenge to all Rotarians, that is for us to light 1.2 million candles to alleviate the darkness of a world in need.

Light these candles and light up Rotary.



Remember:

John K needs about 10 to 12 people to assist with the 1 November market as part of the busking festival