



Rotary Club of Cooma Inc

Rotary Theme for the Month:

Membership and Extensions

Meeting – 11 March 2015

Guest Speaker – Rodney Clancy



Our guest speaker this week was Rodney Clancy – President of the Cooma Monaro Railway (CMR).

The Cooma Monaro Railway has been operating since 1992, have been running trains since 1998 and they are heritage listed. They are a not for profit organisation which currently has approximately 140 members. Membership is open to any age, interest and ability. They run a couple of rail motors which are over 90 years old and have the only operational rail motor with spokes in NSW. Somewhere between 7,500 and 10,000 people visit every year.

They operate all year round, used to have weekend trips and week day charters. There are open days and special events at Easter along with other special events including Art and Craft shows.

CMR provide training and educational programs for members and other interested persons, including facets of engineering. There are maintenance days involving working on restoration projects and rail maintenance.



They have the ideal that heritage keeps things operating the way they used too but new rules and standards have been applied to which CMR and the other 37 heritage listed railways have to comply. These rules mean that CMR have to run to the level of a commercial railway organisation. These rules includes paperwork, safety, infrastructure and standards. These must be to the level of a Sydney run train organisations. These rules incur costs, for example to replace the 32,000 sleepers is quite significant as sleepers alone cost \$80+ each plus fixings. There is also a major cost in replacing the culvert which was

destroyed last year. And further costs involved in maintaining the 125 year old bridges.

They also had to rewrite their Safety Management System and redo all the risk assessment documentation.

The positive in this is that CMR have the support of the National Rail Safety Regulation Authority due to Cooma's compliance with these requests.



How is CMR looking to exist into the future? They would like to acquire new rolling stock for display. They would like to operate 7 days/week operating as a Tourist information centre for bus groups and caravaners. They hope to provide a place for a new Cooma museum, art gallery and cultural centre. Along with the possibility of a Farmers Market.

Projects that they need help with include the purchase of materials, advertising, education programs and locomotives for hauling material.

The Community can help by sponsoring a sleeper, organising an event with the CMR being the beneficiary, volunteering to help or becoming an active member.

Helping CMR helps other business in the Community so it is worth helping CMR in any way you can.



Dates for March

Birthdays

Brad 11th, Margaret E 13th, Megan 15th, David H 18th

Jacqui (Neil M) 17th

Anniversaries

Tom & Cath B 24th, Richard & Lainie 30th

Date Joined Rotary

Ken 10th (55yrs), Brenda 25th (6 years)

Upcoming Meetings

18th – St Patrick's Day Dinner
With Tuggeranong at Michelago
25th – ANU Medical Students

Thought of the Week – Marco

Life is like a dog sled team – if you are not the lead dog the scenery never changes.

Tomorrow is the day on which lazy people have the most to do.





If you are not able to attend or have guests please contact Les by Monday afternoon at the latest.



March Roster

Attendance -	Richard L Richard H
Property -	David H Ken
Fellowship/Meals -	Danielle Neil B Brian Wolfgang Ken
Markets 15 th -	John K - Co-ord John C – food Alyson – PA Marco – BBQ Elaine S Claire Andrew Tom S Richard H

3 Minuter -	18 th - John C 25 th - Dugald
Intro -	18 th - Anne 25 th - Neil M
Thanks -	18th - Jim 25th - Andrew
Sgt/Thought -	18th - Darrell 25th - David H

Meeting Stats

Attendance – 74%

Visiting Rotarians – Neil Russel (Southport),
Guests – Kathryn Russell, Rodney Clancy, Matt Burke, James Sullivan, Joe V,

Apologies – John B, Peter D, Andrew E, Graham F, Tom K, Megan T

Leave – Brenda, Margaret H, Elaine M

Also Missed –



Announcements

A card was received from Brenda thanking all Rotarians for their thoughts at this time.

Alyson is looking for volunteers to provide donations for the wine auction which is to be held at the Sir William Hudson Fete in March.

Mark J-N provided information on the purchase of a new vehicle that will be turned into the new Rotary Coffee van.

He also shared information on an upcoming information night for a Community Interact Club. A meeting is to be held at PD Murphy's Café on Tuesday 17th March for interested young people and their parents. Any interested Rotarians are also welcome to attend.

Katrin mentioned the Pride of Workmanship Awards are coming up and if you know of any potential nominees the forms are available from the Cooma Visitors centre.

Special notice: the meeting on the 18th March is a St Patrick's Day Dinner with Tuggeranong at Michelago. Leaving the Park at 6.15 to travel to Michelago Hall. Meeting starts at 6.30 for 7.00pm, cost \$25/head. **If you have darts please bring them for the Dart Challenge, which will be taking place on the night.**



The **3 Minuter** this week was provided by John Chapman. He spoke about what you can find in the night sky. He showed a picture recently taken by the Hubble Space Telescope, it is like looking through an eight foot straw and what you can see is 10,000 galaxies and a couple of billion stars. Are we really alone?

If you go out tonight you will see the moon, Venus and Mars and if you are up really early in the morning you will see Saturn, if you have a set of good binoculars you will be able to see the rings.

You can impress family and friends with your knowledge of the stars. You find a

constellation you know the name of point out the brightest star and say there is Alpha (insert name of constellation, the second brightest star is beta and so on through the Greek alphabet).

