



ROTARY

Rotary Club of Cooma Inc

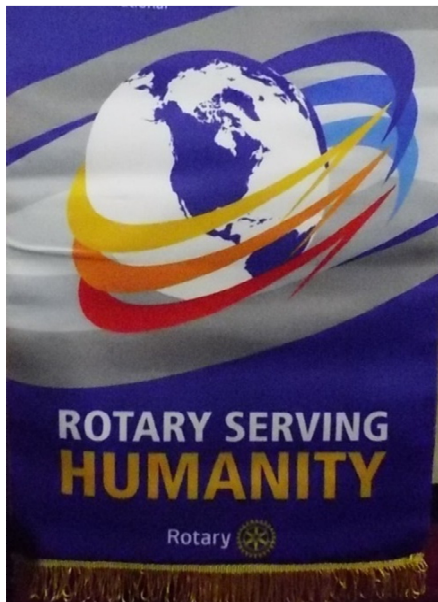
Rotary Theme: Foundation

Meeting – 30 November, 2016

Guest Speaker – Peter Davis

Web address: www.clubrunner.ca/Cooma

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MEETING STATISTICS

Attendance: 75.6%

Guest: Ruth Petersen (Helen and Geoff),
Daud Mohamed, Kelsei Schubert, Nick
Chapman (Club)

Apologies: Neil, John B, Dave B, John Ch,
Jan, Sue, Danielle, Joe

Leave: Brad



NEXT MEETING: Combined Christmas Dinner
with Bombala RC, catering by Lions
Cost \$25, 6.30 for 7pm

Recess: 21, 28 December and 4 January;
bowls night with Lions is on 18 January.

DECEMBER

Attendance:	Richard H, Hass
Fellowship:	Jan, Darrell
Property:	Mark JN, Danielle
3 minuter:	6/12 Christmas Dinner 14/12 Neil
Intro:	6/12 Christmas Dinner 14/12 Graham
Thanks:	6/12 Christmas Dinner 14/12 Brenda
Thought:	6/12 Christmas Dinner 14/12 Katrin
Markets:	John K, Alyson, Peter (van), Carlo, Dave B, Jan, Sue, Erica, Neil
Coffee van:	Mark JN, Meg

A reminder from John K: if you are rostered on to
work at any function, please attend, or else
arrange a substitute. THIS ALSO APPLIES TO
DUTIES AT CLUB MEETINGS. **PLEASE CHECK THE
ROSTER EACH WEEK.**



EARLY WARNING: The District Conference will be held in Cooma in October 2018. There will be many jobs to do and many people will be called on to help.

We have been asked to cater for the Council annual picnic/presentation on 16 Dec at lunch time: steak sandwiches and drinks.



Meg: A house is being set up in Bombala to provide respite as well as to teach living skills to people with disabilities. Any donations of tools (including gardening tools and power tools) and cooking equipment such as pots, pans, and baking utensils would be gratefully accepted. If you have any materials to donate could you please contact Meg on meganrachaeltrotter@gmail.com



Carlo: Work on the DA for the markets is proceeding. Our previous DA lapsed some years ago. The final DA will be presented to the Board soon.

Allan S: The Australian National Busking Championships are fully supported by the Council Administrator, Dean Lynch. Narooma NBC and Stanthorpe NBC have facebook pages, Stanthorpe setting up a website. Ballarat is also on board.

The new AG as from July 1 will be Gail Freeman; she is hoping to attend the Christmas party.



Daud Mohammed, one of our candidates for RYLA, works for the Disability Trust/Workability plus Challenge. Daud has come from Somalia.



Kelsei Schubert, director of Cooma Public P&C OOSH, has lived in Cooma all her life.

John K: The dog show was a great disappointment as the attendance was lower than expected. There were 13 Rotarians on duty, several of them doing more than one shift. Service hours: 71.5. Although Tuggeranong was going to come to help, John put them off because of the slow trade. Profit for the three days: \$620.





Dugald: Discussions including Darrell, Allan, Graham and Dugald have occurred regarding the finances of the Busking.

Membership: there are three prospective members who will receive information about Rotary and this club. Names will be circulated shortly. There was a discussion about the conduct of the club.

Mark JN: He spent last weekend with the outbound Youth Exchangees who leave Australia on 14 January. Tala Ferguson from Cooma is going to Germany and already speaks German well.



Mark with the Tug-o-War trophy

Mark has received a letter from the Fellowship of caravanners. Forty people in 20 caravans will be touring the area and in Cooma on 26/27 March. They would like to catch up, even a coffee, a drink or a meal with other Rotarians.



THOUGHT OF THE WEEK: Des

If money doesn't make you happy, transfer it to my account.



GUEST SPEAKER: Peter Davis

Peter spoke about his vocation as a grazier, the skills needed and getting into the business of grazing.

While he has been a grazier for 40 years he has had many occupations including service station attendant, rouseabout, wool presser, plant operator, fencer, steel rigger, mechanical and civil engineering design draftsman, survey chainman and draftsman, trek leader on the Kokoda Track, expedition leader for the Australian Army History Unit, real estate trader, share trader, property developer, project manager, helicopter crewman, explorer, and construction worker. He has a Certificate in Farm Management, Diploma of Mechanical Engineering, three pilot licences, M. Phil. in History and is currently studying for a PhD in military history. He has been a volunteer with the RFS for 40 years, and is now a crew leader, instructor, and Air Attack Supervisor.



Peter spoke about the number of farms being reduced Australia-wide, but the average size of the farms has increased. In the 30 years to 2011, the number of farmers declined by 40%, one of the problems being the lack of young people to carry on the family farm.

Peter and Narelle run a farm of 4750 acres or 19.2 kms², with 29km of electric fencing, 27 km of underground pipes, 5 water supply schemes, 46 paddocks, 3 sets of sheep yards, 1 set of cattle yards plus a vast arrange of tools and equipment including a plane.

To be a grazier, the following are needed: suitable land, capital, work ethic, business skills, stockmanship, and understanding of many sciences, a 'can do' attitude, communication skills, ability to learn, tenacity, sales skills, faith in yourself, flexibility, and some luck.

A typical well-run property might have a return on equity of 2% - so it's not for the faint-hearted. Farmers' typical incomes are low compared to other forms of employment. Often profits are ploughed (pun excused, Peter) back into the business and so are difficult to measure.



Anna, our Hungarian exchange student, helping with drenching and moving the sheep.



Constant challenges: fire and drought

