



COMING MEETINGS

14 November
District Governor Margaret Hassall

21 November
Annual General Meeting

28 November
TBA

Please advise Katrin on 0415 862 840 or katjehac@gmail.com of apologies for the coming meeting, also if you are bringing a guest. Failure to advise of absence will incur a dinner cost.

Meeting statistics:

Attendance:

Visiting Rotarians:

Guests:

Apologies:

Leave:

SIGNIFICANT DATES

Birthdays: Rosie (John K) 12/11, Maree (Kevin) 28/11

Date joined Rotary: Allan S 27/11

Announcements

Community Service Meeting 5pm 14 November
 Tug-o-War against the Lions club at November market

Rotary Club of Cooma Inc

Theme:

Rotary Foundation Month

7 November 2018

Combined Services Meeting

If you are rostered on for any activities and you cannot fulfil the duties, please organise a substitute or contact Ashley Constance for meeting duties or Carlo Botto for market duties.

ROSTER NOVEMBER 2018

Attendance		Mark J.N, Sandra
Property		Dave Holgate, Sue
Fellowship		Ash, Tony
Thought	14th	John Clarke
	21st	Geoff
	28th	Richard Hopkins
3 Minuter	14th	Sandra
	21st	Tony
	28th	Peter
Intro	14th	John King
	21st	A. G. M
	28th	Ash
Thanks	14th	Glenys
	21st	A. G.M
	28th	Tony
Markets	18th	November
		Carlo, Sue, Alyson, Ash, John Clarke, Jeannette, Tony, Elaine Mooney
		Coffee Van Mark J.N, Brian / John Chapman





Guest Speaker – Major General Michael Jeffery, AC, AO (Mil) CVO, MC (Retd)

Major General the Honourable Michael Jeffery, AC, AO(Mil), CVO, MC was born in Wiluna, Western Australia in 1937 and educated at Kent Street High School and the Royal Military College, Duntroon.

He graduated into Infantry and served operationally in Malaya, Borneo, Papua New Guinea and Vietnam, where he was awarded the Military Cross and the South Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry. After command of all combat elements of the Army from platoon to division – including the Special Air Service Regiment – he retired in 1993 to assume the appointment of Governor of Western Australia, which he held for almost seven years.

On his retirement as Governor in 2000 he established in Perth, a not for profit strategic research institute – Future Directions International (FDI) – whose objective is to examine longer term issues facing Australia.

On 11 August 2003, he was sworn in as the twenty-fourth Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, serving in that capacity until 5 September 2008, where his key interests were in youth, education, the family and food security.

He is currently the Chairman of Soils for Life, Future Directions International, the Australian Trachoma Alliance and the Constitution Education Fund Australia. He is patron of 16 other not-for-profit organisations. In 2013, he was appointed the National Advocate for Soil Health by Prime Minister Gillard and this role has been continued by Prime Ministers' Abbott and Turnbull.

Major General Jeffery is a Companion of the Order of Logohu (PNG), a Knight of St John, a Citizen of Western Australia, a Paul Harris Fellow and an

honorary life member of the Returned and Services League.

He and his wife Marlena have four children and ten grandchildren. General Jeffery enjoys golf, cricket, fishing, reading and music.



As part of his busy retirement, Major Jeffery is involved in two projects relating to eye disease in rural and remote Aboriginal communities, Trachoma and Diabetic Retinopathy. To attempt to reduce the rates of Trachoma Aboriginal communities have taken ownership of the disease. They have developed solutions to decrease the spread of the disease and these ideas are given support to implement them. This includes teaching children to wash their faces and hands daily, a simple but effective solution.

In Queensland, there is a mobile van, which travels to 15 remote communities and in the last three years has treated upward of 5500 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for Diabetic Retinopathy. This service is provided for half the cost of conventional services being provided by the government.

Another passion of Major Jeffery is Soil Health. He is concerned about how we are going to feed a world population, which will increase, from 7 billion people currently to approximately 10 billion people by 2050.

As an Advocate for Soil Health, it is an opportunity to provide leadership and national strategic direction to the good work being done by soil scientists and landscape managers across Australia.

To feed the people we must save our soil and we must save our soil to save the planet. "The history of every nation is eventually written in the way in which it cares for its soil", "the nation that destroys its soil, destroys itself". "Fights over

water and food are going to be the most significant direct impacts of climate change in the next five to ten years”, “Food security is under threat around the world...with food insecurity, we must add economic insecurity as scarcities of staple crops cause price surges”.



In the global context arable land is being lost, soil carbon levels degraded, aquifer water depleted or greatly reduced, ground water depleted, rivers are heavily polluted.

In Australia around 60% of landscape has degraded meaning a loss of nutrients. Only 4 of 39 soil types have adequate soil carbon to hold water, soil erosion exceeds soil formation, there is more urbane growth and larger cities and erratic rainfall, floods, extreme temperatures, droughts and wildfires.

Soil can hold more carbon than the atmosphere and vegetation combines, it enables water filtration and retention. One gram of soil carbon can hold up to eight grams of water and sadly Australian farming soils’ carbon content is 1.5% or less and it should be 3 to 5%.

He is looking forward to exploring new opportunities for improvements in soil health, not just for the benefit of those who manage the land, but for all Australians.”



One way he feels this can be done is by having vegetable gardens in all schools, from Kindergarten to High School and have the study of natural food production part of the curriculum of all Australian schools. This will then emphasise the importance of soil, water and plants and supporting farmers. It will also provide opportunity for students to go on and study agricultural science and hopefully keep these graduates in Australia.



Attending Service Organisations

Rotary Club of Cooma – John King



Lions Club of Cooma – Dave Bryson



Country Women's Association – Margaret Peterson



Exchange students and teachers from Yamaga



Day View Club – Julie



Men's Probus – Simon Allan



Also in attendance were:

- Peter Bascomb, Acting General Manager, Snowy Monaro Regional Council
- Sandra Mortimer from the Salvation Army
- Leo representatives from Monaro High School

Women's Probus – Margaret Wainwright

