



**COMING MEETINGS**

2 October – Tony Barford

9 October – Ned Doubleday – Stock Squad

16 October – Vicki Schoo – Aged Care

23 October – Vocation (Richard H)

30 October – District Governor Peter Ford

6 November – Combined Services Meeting

**Rotary Club of Cooma**

**Theme:**

**Economic and Community Development Month**

**Katrin & Kevin – Trip to Lake Eyre/Kati Thanda**

**Meeting statistics:**

**Attendance:**

**Visiting Rotarians:**  
Babu

**Guests:**  
Johanna (Club), Nima (Neil), Jo (Alan D), Helen (Geoff)

**Apologies:**  
John Ch, Brad, Peter D, Margaret, Sandra, Sue, Liz, Nadine, Mark C, Sally

**Leave:**  
David B

**We also missed:**

*For apologies or guests for upcoming meeting please advise Margaret H ([hassall.m@bigpond.net.au](mailto:hassall.m@bigpond.net.au), Ph 0413 309 596, 6452 2322). Failure to advise of absence will incur a dinner cost.*

**Significant Dates: September**

**Birthdays:**  
25<sup>th</sup> Wolfgang, 28<sup>th</sup> Margaret H

**Date Joined Rotary:**  
15<sup>th</sup> John Ch, 17<sup>th</sup> David B, 31<sup>st</sup> Claire

**Rosters for October 2019**

<b>Attendance</b>	Mark JN / Nadine
<b>Property</b>	Wolfgang / Dugald
<b>Fellowship</b>	Glenys / Elaine M
<b>Thought</b>	2 Oct Nadine 9 Oct David H 16 Oct Margaret H 23 Oct Katrin 30 Oct Richard H
<b>3 Minuter</b>	2 Oct Mark JN 9 Oct John K 16 Oct Wolfgang 23 Oct Terry 30 Oct Peter D
<b>Intro</b>	2 Oct Dugald 9 Oct Elaine M 16 Oct Marco 23 Oct Elaine S 30 Oct Sue
<b>Thanks</b>	2-Oct Liz 9-Oct Tony B 16-Oct Sandra 23-Oct Geoff 30-Oct Neil
<b>Markets</b>	Marco, John Cl, Jeannette, Claire N, Robyn, Kevin
<b>Towing</b>	John C, Terry M, Mark J-N
<b>Coffee Van</b>	Mark JN, Brian,



### **Ashley**

Welcome to Babu as a member of the Cooma Rotary club.

From tonight, there is a change in who to contact for apologies and guests for meeting. Instead of contacting Darrell you will now need to contact **Margaret H** ([hassall.m@bigpond.net.au](mailto:hassall.m@bigpond.net.au), Ph 0413 309 596, 6452 2322

We acknowledge Glenys and her team for all the effort put in to ensure a great movie night.

The Cooma VIEW Clubs are hosting the Combined Services Dinner on 6 November at the Ex-Services Club, 6.30 for 7pm. Cost \$30. Guest speaker is Geoff Stokes, head coach of the Australian Invictus Games team.

### **John K**

The matting has arrived to be installed at the cricket nets at Nijong Oval; the last job to complete the task is to attach the safety netting to the sides.

We have a list of people to assist with catering in case of a bush fire event This means we are already prepared considering the outlook for bush fire events.

### **Tony B**

The Salvation Army are holding a food handing and support course on 26<sup>th</sup> October, club members are welcome to attend and gain a food handling qualification.

### **Glenys**

Attended a meeting at the Cooma Cemetery, with trust members and council. There was a positive reaction to the concept idea but a couple of tweaks were necessary, particularly in relation to the location of the gazebo. The project will now be put to council for their approval.



### **Mark JN**

This week, seventeen members of the Interact club visited the Cooma University Centre. They were quite interested in what the CUC has to offer and considered it a very successful visit.

The club has agreed to sponsor a Monaro High student to attend the Honeywell Engineering Summer School. This is a five day intensive event is held in Sydney for high school students.

### **Darrell**

There are still some fees outstanding, please pay them as soon as possible.

### **Terry**

There were 27 stalls at this month's market, including 1 charity. The food van raised \$990, the coffee van \$172, stalls \$600 and the wishing well \$32.15.

## Thought of the Week – Mark JN

Big trees are just nuts that stood their ground.



## Guest Speaker – Katrin and Kevin

On 18<sup>th</sup> June, a group of Cooma and Bombala residents set off on a Snowliner Coach to the Canberra airport in the fog. We flew to Melbourne and then Adelaide. We arrived at the Rockford Hotel in time to settle in, have a drink and dinner and get organised for the proper start of our holiday.

Our group expanded to 20, plus driver and guide, Paul Pincini from Platinum Journeys. We headed north through Adelaide along where the overpasses were all named after wars that Australia had taken part in. Once we had left the city, we drove through grazing paddocks, vineyards, including the Shut the Gate Winery which is the same business as the one in Berridale. We saw olive groves and some lovely old houses. Morning tea was in Clare, which must have been a prosperous town judging by some of the beautiful old buildings.



Some of us had a quick walk after breakfast before we explored the Flinders Ranges which surround Wilpena Pound. Our local tour guide, Michelle, grew up on Willow Springs Station, a typical 70,000 acre sheep station.

You could be forgiven for thinking they farm kangaroos but it really is sheep and cattle. There were many kangaroos, reds, euros and western greys. We passed an old queuing yard and discovered that shoeing bullocks is called queing. The yards are made out of northern Cyprus pines which are plentiful, termite proof and last forever.



Just outside Marree we stopped to check out the start of the famous Birdsville Track and then had a chance to explore the town a little. For much of our time in this area we were driving on Anna Creek Station which is the biggest cattle station in the world. It measures almost 24,000 square kilometres and in a good year has as many as 17,000 head of cattle.



We passed a paddock filled with sculptures, the Mutonia Sculpture Park. A former mechanic, Robin Cooke created these works of art and erected them in the middle of nowhere for our entertainment.

Soon we stopped at a viewing area which gave us our first glimpse of the Lake Eyre South. It had a number of interesting information boards. Lake Eyre's catchment covers one seventh of Australia.

As we approached our destination the soil became very sandy, red and interspersed with a few clay pans. Finally we arrived at William Creek with its charismatic pub and its variety of accommodation. William Creek normally has a population of about 6 but at that time it was up to 70 odd with 30 of them pilots!



This was the Big Day with our flight over Kati Thanda / Lake Eyre. The group was divided into three different sized aircraft and Kevin and I were in a little four seater Cessna with our pilot Viv. It was great because having the back seat to myself meant I could take photos out of both sides of the plane.

We flew across the red landscape surrounding the lake and the old Ghan railway line moved when the new one was built as this one flooded a bit too often. Kati Thanda is the largest natural lake in Australia and the largest salt lake in the world. It is 160 kilometres long and 80 kilometres wide covering 9690 square kilometres which is 60 times the size of Sydney Harbour. When we were there in June it was 65% full and water was still flowing in from far away Queensland. The Georgina and Diamantina River System represents 65% of the catchment and the Cooper River System provides another 17%. Before any water reaches Lake Eyre, the Goyder Lakes in the north need to be filled. From the Murchison Inlet the lake is slowly filled. River flows are variable and unpredictable. The salt crust is from 2 centimetres to 2 metres deep and is thinner in the north because of the flooding pattern. At Belt Bay the lake is 15 metres below sea level. At the end of the flight we had an excellent view of William Creek with the pub and the accommodation areas.

A quote from artist John Olsen sums up my feelings about the experience of flying over Lake Eyre. He said, "Unless you see this, you don't really know Australia. With all these beautiful colours, the scale of it, just majestic, it's a must see."

