

COMING MEETINGS

16 October – Vicki Schoo – Aged Care

23 October – To be confirmed

30 October – District Governor Peter Ford

6 November – **Combined Services Meeting**

Rotary Club of Cooma

Theme:

Economic and Community Development Month

Ned Doubleday – Stock Squad

Meeting statistics:

Attendance:

Visiting Rotarians:

Guests:
 Johanna, Ned Doubleday (Club), Nima (Neil),
 Georgie (Ash), Helen (Geoff), Roger (Jan)

Apologies:

Leave:

We also missed:

Rosters for October 2019

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

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

Significant Dates: October

Birthdays:
 25th Wolfgang, 28th Hass

Date Joined Rotary:
 15th John Ch, 17th David B, 31st Claire



Johanna

Over the school holidays, I got to see a bit of New South Wales with Ash, Brenda and Georgie. First, we went to Bathurst and saw the car museum and the racetrack. We also saw a memorial to Ash's grandfather. Then we went to the Blue Mountains where the blue mist really impressed me. We went to Scenic World and went walking where Georgie and I saw some amazing scenery. Finally, we went to Sydney for 3 nights. The property we stayed at had harbour views. We went to Taronga Park Zoo, the opera house, the harbour bridge and took a jet boat ride.

Katrin

Snowy Hydro is celebrating 70 years this year and they are holding an event on 19th October from 11am – 3pm at the Snowy Hydro Visitors Centre.

General

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.



3 Minuter – John K

In 1968, it was nearly as dry as it is now, the saving grace being we had a little bit of grass but there was no water. This meant I left home for about 3 months with 2500 sheep. We went down to Bendoc on the Victorian border at the end of January and it was stinking hot. It was necessary to keep moving the sheep so they would be able to get food and water. We had a couple of days where there was nothing for the sheep to drink and I remembered there was a bit of a waterhole on the Bendoc River. The plan was to take half the sheep down to the waterhole for a drink and then do the other half. But as luck would have it, the wind changed and all the sheep could smell the water so they all ran to it, climbing over each other just to get a drink. My sidekick and I were trying to keep the sheep from downing each other. At one point I suddenly realised we were not alone and that there were half a dozen total strangers helping us manage the sheep but this is the Australian way, you just muck in and help out where it is needed. As thanks, I provided those helpers with a couple of slabs of beer.



Guest Speaker – Ned Doubleday

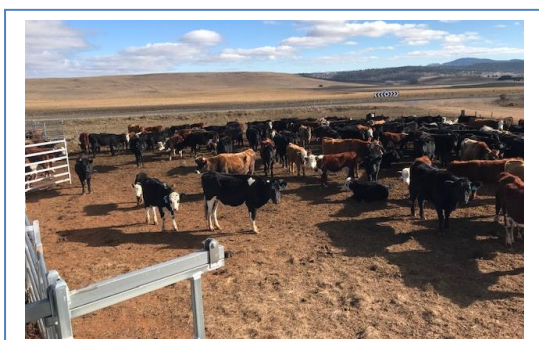
There have been dedicated stock investigators since 1947, they were originally attached to the Flemington Sales Yards in Sydney. Their job was to keep a check on stock coming in for sale against those that had been reported as stolen.

The team branched out from Sydney and by the 1970s there were dedicated stock squad offices in most rural police stations around the State. As well as being police detectives the members had to be good horseman and have experience with stock.



In the 1990s the stock squad was disbanded as it was felt there was no longer a need for it. In 2002 it was determined that the need was still valid and officers with stock experience were placed in police stations in rural areas. Apparently, this came about after a farmer came into a station to report the theft of some of his Herefords and the police officer taking the report asked, "What are Herefords?"

The reaction was not necessarily the fault of the officer as most police recruits came from Sydney and have no rural experience. The need to have rural people was recognised and the rural investigation squad was recreated. Originally there were about 33 rural crime investigators, which about a year and a half ago increased to 38 officers with three detective sergeants overseeing the unit. All these officer have normal policing experience to go with their rural experience.



Ned is a team of two, with Archie French and they oversee an area from Delegate up to Braidwood. As they both have horses and dogs, they help out with mustering but their main role is to investigate any incidents which impact on rural industries like stock theft, wool fraud, biodiversity and animal welfare. It is a varied role with being in the office one day with standard policing tasks and then off to the mountains for a week, the next dealing with illegal hunting, trespassing, cut fences or letting dogs harm stock.

They don't have a lot of evidence to work with and there are not many witnesses but they do have a broad timeframe in which to investigate reports and they do rely on the assistance of the community. A recent example of this was being able to charge a person with wool theft because a local wool broker recognised the wool.



To help keep stock and property safe Ned recommended improving security with the use of signs, cameras and livestock identification, using earmarks and not just tags. They are also starting to be able to use DNA testing to identify parental lines of stock.

Ned says he has a great job, which he loves.