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MEETING STATISTICS Attendance: 63.8%

Guests: Joe Thilakan, Anette (club)

Apologies: Jeannette, Geoff, Helen, John B, Dave B, Ash, Brenda, Peter, Jan, Allan and Joe

Leave: Brad

We also missed: Claire, Tony

Next meeting: Peter Davis – aerial fire-fighting



Rotary Club of Cooma Inc

January Theme: Peace & Conflict
Prevention / Resolution

Meeting - 22 February 2017

Guest Speaker – Joe Thilakan, Red Cross





John Ch spoke about the need for a member to be responsible for the publicity for the club.

REMINDER:

Half-yearly subs are due now.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

3-12 March: Senior Citizens Week Festival

25 March: Relay for Life

26 March: Clean up of the path into Lambie

Gorge

Don't forget donations of bottles of WINE for the wine auction at the Sir William Hudson Memorial Centre Fete.

A reminder that the <u>Rotary Youth Volunteer</u> <u>Information and Declaration Form (Form 3)</u> has to be completed. Please see email for a copy.



FEBRUARY DATES

Birthday: Elaine M 25/2

Anniversaries: Judy and Des 5/2, Claire and

Hans 7/2, Kathy and David 27/2

Date joined Rotary: Meg and Tom 25/2/15



THOUGHT OF THE WEEK: (Des)
When you laugh, the whole world laughs with you. When you snore, you sleep by yourself.



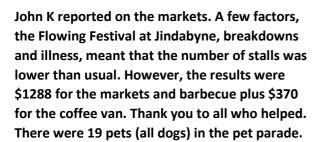
Neil reported on the Yamaga Committee meeting. This year the members of the committee are looking for humanitarian, agricultural or environmental projects that the fund can support.



Alyson mentioned the pickup and delivery of the weekly bulletin. Alyson, Elaine S and Sue have all been involved in this and now would like to hand over the duty. Monaro Freight employees have been nominated. Thanks, Marco.













Anette reported on her surf camp.















GUEST SPEAKER – Joe Thilakan, Migration Support Program (MSP) Officer, Red Cross

The MSP is concerned with people seeking asylum and refuge and has two areas of support: case workers and community education, Joe's area.

Joe found our motto 'Service above self' and our Four Way Test resonating well with the guiding principles of the Red Cross. The organisation, founded by Henry Dunant, in the nineteenth century, has a mandate to alleviate human suffering and was born out of a percceived need

to assist people harmed by war, no matter what side they were on.

Joe spoke of the basic rights that are enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and explained the difference between a refugee and an asylum seeker. Asylum seekers are outside of their own country and there is a fear of persecution if they try to return. The danger can be because of race, nationality, religion, political beliefs, or because they are part of a persecuted social group.

One of the many problems that refugees have is the lack of travel documents such as passports and visas when they try to enter another country.



The organisation wants to support the health of those who are in detention centres as well as those asylum seekers who are released into the community; the organisation also works to reunite family members who have been separated through war.

