



**COMING MEETINGS**

**3 December – This is a Tuesday Christmas Party with Bombala Rotary club at Nimmitabel**

11 December – To be advised

18 December - To be advised

25 December – No Meeting

1 January 2020 – No Meeting

**Rotary Club of Cooma**

**Theme:**  
**Rotary Foundation Month**

**27 November – Damien Kenneally, retired SMEC Director**

**Meeting statistics:**  
**Attendance:**  
**Guests:**  
 Johanna, Damien Kenneally (Club), Helen (Geoff), Roger (Jan), Elizabeth Laught (Dugald)

**Apologies:**

**Leave:**  
 Neil, Dave B, Brad, Peter, Alan, Darrell, Sue, Claire N

**Rosters for December 2019**

<b>Attendance</b>	Neil / Tony B	
<b>Property</b>	Jeannette / John Cl	
<b>Fellowship</b>	Katrin / John K	
<b>Thought</b>	<b>3 Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Party</b>
	11-Dec	Richard H
	18-Dec	Terry M
	<b>25 Dec</b>	<b>No Meeting</b>
<b>3 Minuter</b>	<b>3 Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Party</b>
	11-Dec	Elaine M
	18-Dec	Dave H
	<b>25 Dec</b>	<b>No Meeting</b>
<b>Intro</b>	<b>3 Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Party</b>
	11-Dec	Richard B
	18-Dec	Jeannette
	<b>25 Dec</b>	<b>No Meeting</b>
<b>Thanks</b>	<b>3 Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Party</b>
	11-Dec	John Ch
	18-Dec	Brenda
	<b>25 Dec</b>	<b>No Meeting</b>
<b>Markets</b>	Johanna, Robyn, Ashley, Brenda, Peter D, Richard H	
<b>Towing</b>	Mark JN, Ashley, John K	
<b>Coffee Van</b>	Mark JN	

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

**Significant Dates: November Birthdays:**  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Katrin, 8<sup>th</sup> Johanna, Ashley, 28<sup>th</sup> Peter D,  
**Date Joined Rotary:**

## Ashley

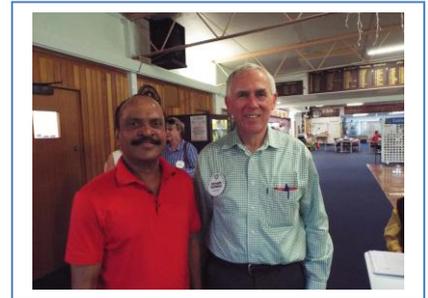
Next week's meeting is on Tuesday, 3rd December. It is our annual Christmas meeting with the Bombala Rotary Club held at the Nimmitabel Country Club. Time is 6.30 for 7pm and the cost is \$30/head.

The club received a thank you card from the staff and residents at the Sir William Hudson Centre for the donation of bread, which was leftover from the Motorfest event.

## Mark JN

Last weekend a productive training weekend was held at the Greenhills Centre in Canberra for the inbound and outbound exchange students.

Kia Chatterton, out Interact president, is to attend Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) event this weekend in Wagga Wagga.



## Richard H

Kiara Welling, the current trainee at PD Murphy's café is to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) event at the Greenhills Centre, in January 2020.

## Glenys

This coming Wednesday, 4th December, there will be a Community Services Committee meeting at the Bowling club at 5pm. It would be good if all committee members can attend and any other interested parties are welcome.

## Johanna

The last few weeks have been quite busy for Johanna. She moved to her new host family, Sue and Steve Wallace. She entered a horse competition featuring dressage and other skills, doing so well that she won the competition. She attended the Greenhills weekend and caught up with the other inbound exchange students. Next weekend there is a trip to the coast with friends.



## Thought of the Week – Mark C

Donald Trump is absolute proof you should apply for a job even if you have no experience.

## 3 Minuter – Kevin

He started with a question – Have you ever had a cognoscopy? Kevin is currently reading a book called “The End of Alzheimer's” by Dr Dale Bredesen. He had developed a cognoscope which looks at what could be risk factors related to developing dementia. The book details 36 factors related to developing Alzheimer's. The doctor describes these factors as holes in the roof of a house and currently specialists in the field are only looking at one hole. Dr Bredesen is looking at the factors which have an influence in the body and how they impact on the brain. Some factors he considers is a lack of nutrients, particularly zinc and copper, also toxins which are either already

in the body or enter the body from the environment. One of the protocols he has developed is once you have eaten your evening meal, do not eat anything else until breakfast and to complement this idea is that you should not eat anything 3 hours before bedtime.

Dr Bredesen has claimed to have cured more than 300 cases of Alzheimer's. Kevin recently spoke to the head of Neurology at the Royal Prince Alfred hospital in Sydney and she totally dismissed Dr Bredesen's theories. To form your own opinion, you should read the book.



### **Guest Speaker – Damien Kenneally**

Damien never thought about having a career as a hydraulics engineer. He always thinks of his career as accidental because he always did a bit of this and a bit of that, but it did eventually lead to a career.

He went to school in Melbourne in the late 1950's and at that time there was a focus on science. He thought he wanted to be an architect, the reason being is the family lived 500 metres away from the Essendon football ground and the captain of the club at that time was an architect. When he was in Year 12 a teacher said you don't want to be an architect, they only make pretty drawings, be an engineer instead then you get to decide what to build. His next step was to attend university where he started studying both science and engineering but at the end of his 1<sup>st</sup> year decided engineering was the path for him. This was due to the camaraderie and team environment of the engineering students.

When he finished his degree, he got a job with the Commonwealth Department of Works who were responsible for Canberra, Tullamarine Airport and projects in Papua New Guinea. He was not really happy with his job and happened to be back at his old university and ran into one of his previous lecturers. They got chatting and the lecturer suggested he apply for a grant as he should be eligible with the grades he achieved. So he applied for the grant, got it and started studying hydraulics. This is the part of engineering which deals with pipelines, flow, coastal and river engineering and hydrology.

After 18 months he finished the course and secured a job with Guttridge, Haskins and Davey, now known worldwide as GHD. The company worked on water supply and sewerage design and it is where Damien got his first experience of building a dam. It was a small dam for Ballarat water supply. He did the intake tower conduit and pump station.

Following moving on from GHD, his next job involved designing buildings, a concentrator and screening plant for Mt Isa Copper. Then came a job in Bougainville as a structural designer, an interesting experience. The top layer covering the copper was gold and as copper was worth more than gold the Bougainville Copper company wanted to get to the copper as quickly as possible.

When he finished up this job he went back to Melbourne, got a job in America. He eventually came back to Australia and saw a job advertised with Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation, SMEC. The company undertook a lot of government aid jobs overseas. He and his team mates also got to design and build the three tallest dams in Australia. The Dartmouth dam at 182 metres, the Thompson dam at 162 metres and Talbingo dam which is 160 metres.



Dartmouth Dam



Thompson Dam



Talbingo Dam

Damien has also spent time working in Malaysia, the tropics presenting particular challenges like monsoons and floods. He stayed in an on-site camp with the drillers and geologists. The wildlife was amazing and included elephants and tigers. The job took about 10 years to complete, although he was not there the whole time.

He also worked in Thailand, for the Asian Engineering company as a consultant for SMEC. While they were there some locals suggested they leave the areas as there was going to be trouble. They were not sure what type but chose to take the advice and left. The next day it was reported there was a gun fight exactly where they had been. The team did go back to finish the job. His next location of interest was in India. There was a lot of work to be done on providing clean water supplies.

In 2011 SMEC was the number one consultant for building dams in the world.

Damien was employed as General Manager from 1992 until 1999, then moving to a role as General Manager, Project Development Hydro Power. His replacement in the GM role did not work out so he returned to that position until he reached the age of 60, when apparently, the retirement age for a GM.

In 2001 there was not much hydro work in Australia, so offices were set up in Kuala Lumpur and India. They undertook many 100-megawatt projects.

He had a wonderful time, working with great people on amazing projects. His career exceeded all expectations.

