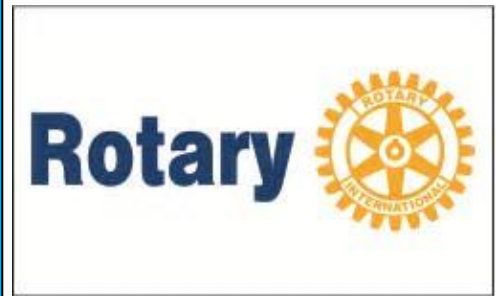


Cooma Rotary Club Inc

Theme: Rotary Foundation Month

11 November 2020

David Byrne – Monaro Rail Trail



BIRTHDAYS in November – Katrin, Graham, Peter D Best wishes!

This week's points of interest

Change of Directors

Following the passing of John Clarke a couple of portfolios were left Directorless. To fill these gaps Ash will take on Foundation, Neil Brown will take on Membership.

Also due to Hass's ill health Katrin and Sally will be undertaking the role of co-secretary and the Bulletin has returned to the care of Janine John-Natley.



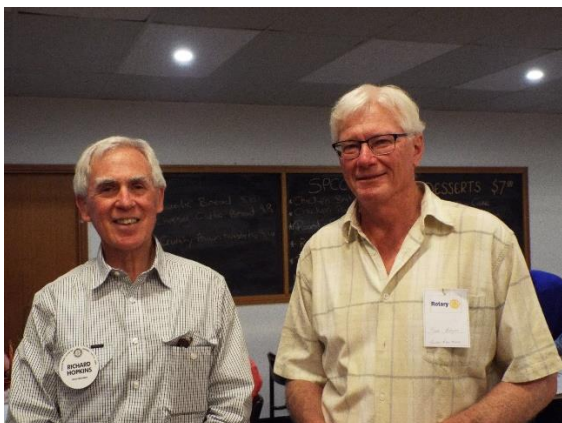


Guest Speaker – David Byrne and Mary Walters – Monaro Rail Trail



The rail trail journey started about 5 years ago with Mary and her team. The Snowy Monaro council embraced their vision and commissioned a feasibility study. The study found the project was feasible but costly.

The vision is to create a 213km recreation trail along the disused rail corridor from Queanbeyan to Bombala. It is the hope to bring benefit to local communities by attracting cyclists, runners, walkers, mobility scooter users and others for safe off-road commuting, recreation, charity rides or school excursions.



There are many benefits of rail trails including:

- Economic growth & diversity.
- Healthy communities – physical & mental.
- Heritage preservation.
- Environmental enhancement.
- Business & employment growth opportunities.

It is envisioned that each year 69,000 users might complete the ride bringing new tourism to new areas and at new times of the year. These visitors could spend up to \$25M each year and this money would be spread amongst the six communities along the corridor.



The aim is to not only create a rail trail but to have the rail trail link to other villages and towns with precinct bike trails, mountain bike trails, gravel grinder trails, tourist rail attractions and experiences, the Bundian Way and Canberra Cycleways.

The current idea is to develop the trail in three stages, **Stage 1:** Queanbeyan to Michelago 49km plus 10km sections at Bredbo, Cooma, Nimmitabel and 20km at Bombala. **Stage 2:** complete Michelago to Cooma and add another 20km north of Bombala. **Stage 3:** Complete Cooma to Nimmitabel & Nimmitabel to Bombala.

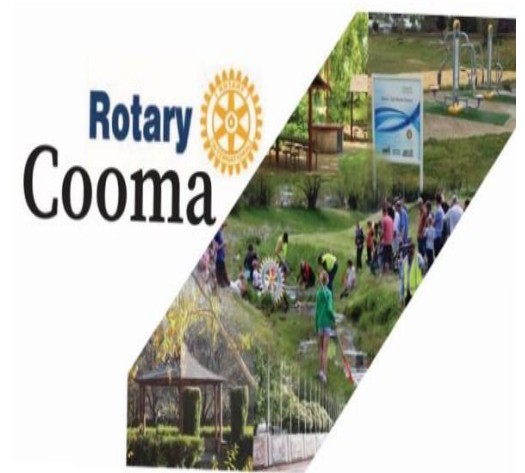
It has been estimated the cost of construction could be up to \$62.8M with funding through the State and Federal government. The maintenance of the completed trail has been estimated at \$400K per annum. Potential revenue of \$250K from the sale of some steel rails and \$1million into Maintenance Fund through rail trail passports, business sponsorship, grants for tourism, donations and bequests, and heritage and business development will ensure proper maintenance of the trail.



The next steps are to secure planning and design funding, prepare a Trail Development Plan with Heritage Railway groups, develop a Business Plan, continue community consultation. Spread the word to get community letters of support and finally to let others know about the rail trail as they may want to help Monaro Rail Trail Inc. to deliver the rail experience

Australia's Greatest Rail Trail – it's up to us!

ROSTERS	25 Nov
MEET & GREET	Neil Brown
FINES/DID YOU KNOW?	Judy Williams
RAFFLE	Des Trute
JIGGLE THE JOKER	Peter Davis
KEEPER OF THE PROPERTY	Dave Holgate
KEEPER OF THE BANNERS	Jan Payne
KEEPER OF THE BOOKS	Does anyone know where they are?
TOLL COLLECTOR	Liz Martyn
SERVICE	Elain Schofield Charlee Hommen
VOTE OF THANKS	N/A
PASTORAL CARE	Dugald



PLEASE ADVISE LIZ IF YOU ARE APOLOGISING FOR NON-ATTENDANCE BY MONDAY EVENING BEFORE THE COMING MEETING: 0401 174 666 or lizmartyn@bigpond.com

Someone has to pay for the meals ordered!!!

Coming Meetings:

11 November – Annual General Meeting



Cooma Rotary Inc

B
e
p
r
of IT