



# The ROTARY CLUB of COROWA



22/08/2018: Issue 80. Number 7.

*Service Above Self*

79 Years of Service

## Neil Davis – “The Second Coming”



BE THE INSPIRATION

Program and Roster:

**Corowa RSL Club**

**Wednesday  
29<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

**BELINDA  
KUSCHERT**

**Chairman  
Paul Mow**

**Treasurer  
John L**

**Rotary Grace  
Gail L**

**Loyal Toast  
Ayon G**

**International Toast  
Neil D**

**Rotary Information  
Graeme C**

**Sergeant's Help  
Ian B**

This week's speaker was one of Corowa's longest serving Rotarians (32 years), Neil Davis, who spoke on his life. It was good for all the members of the club to hear about his life and his rich and interesting history in Rotary.

Neil was born in 1944 in Corowa Hospital. His family are from Celtic heritage (Irish and Scottish) and he grew up on a farm in Rennie. He attended primary school in Corowa and was bussed in daily. He attended high school in Sydney at Scots College in Bellevue Hill, this is where he learnt to play the bagpipes and loved every minute of school life. After he completed his leaving certificate he came back to the farm and helped his father breed short horn cattle. Neil and his father regularly showed their cattle at the Royal Easter Show in Sydney and the Melbourne Show, where they won lots of awards for quality cattle. During one of his visits to the Royal Easter Show in 1964, Neil met and fell in love with his first wife Lynn. They married in 1967 and had two lovely daughters, Kristy and Fiona. As much as Neil's life seemed 'perfect' at this time, he was caught up in the cattle crash of 1974, the crippling interest rates of 20% in the 1970/80's and the drought of 1982. These all lead to his decision to lease the farm and step back a bit from farming.

Neil was also in Apex for 18 years and has a life membership. He later got involved in Rotary Youth Exchange through his daughter Kristy's exchange to South Africa in 1985-86. He was then asked to join Rotary in 1986. His other daughter, Fiona, then undertook an exchange to England in 1987-88 and after his presidency in 1991-92 he joined the District Youth Exchange Committee for 12 years 1995-2007. Neil received a Paul Harris Fellow in November 1996 and was Assistant Governor in 1997-98. Unfortunately, during this time, his first wife Lynn became sick and passed away in 1997. Neil spoke of the strength and support of Rotary at this time, not just to himself but his family as well. He praised Rotary in helping him through his grief and talked about the friendships in Rotary that have stayed with him even now.



In 1999 his continued support of Youth Exchange saw him escort the students on the Rock to Reef trip around Australia. It was also during this time Neil found love again when he saw the lovely Wendy and they married and blended families in 1999. Neil and Wendy also travelled to India to help with the Polio Plus program in 2000. In 2003 Neil made the hard decision to sell his farm and move into town. Whilst one chapter of his life ended, he continued to be involved with Rotary and he and Wendy began to travel around the world, LOTS! Neil's passionate advocacy for Youth Exchange has seen him host 9 students from all around the world. With Lynn - Cindy Bergenson -USA, Yoshie - Japan, Mercy Molino - Mexico, John Oliver - USA, Cindy La Schet - Belgium, Bjorn Defenberg - Sweden. With Wendy - Nora Schworzer - Switzerland, Rafael Possobon - Brazil and Maria Stock - Germany





Some photos of Neil's life... Thanks for the talk Neil... it was great to hear about all your adventures and thank you for your service to Rotary and our Club!!



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**Rotary Grace:**

Oh Lord, the giver of all good,  
We thank you for our daily food.  
May Rotary friends and Rotary ways,  
Help us to serve you all our days.  
Amen.

For Good Food,  
For Good Fellowship  
And the opportunity for Serve service in Rotary,  
We Give Thanks.  
Amen.

Today we are thankful for all we've received.  
However we live, we firmly believe  
All is a blessing that we must pass on  
No matter our status or where we have gone.  
Kindness and generosity are what we impart  
Showing the world what's in Rotary's heart.

**Rotary 4 way Test:**

- 1: Is it the TRUTH?
- 2: Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3: Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4: Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

# Announcements

**1: International Toast:** Tonight's toast was to The Rotary Club of Mataram, Lombok. The club was formed in 1987. They have 10 members and have installed over 650 water filters in villages over Lombok. They also have been a conduit for the money given by Rotary for the various Earthquakes.

**2: Clean up the Road:** Pres Bill wants to set a date for the Clean Up of our sponsored road. Maybe with a dinner after. TBC. He also spoke of a function at the wetlands sometime in conjunction with its opening. Date TBC.

**3: General Announcements:** Karinya Fete – 21<sup>st</sup> October – We are providing the BBQ.

**4: Numbers and Guests:** Tonight the meeting was attended by 17 Rotarians and 2 guests from Miki City, Yuki and Kyoki. Apologies from Wally, Paul Mow, Deborah, Paul Mie, Meredith, (HM's) Janet & Robert, our exchange student Benoit and Arthur.

**5: Upcoming Events:**

**Wednesday:**

**29/ 8 - Belinda Kuschert -**

**5/9 - Dylan Forge –  
12/9 -**

**Markets – September**

**Mental Health Week – October**



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on mental illness

Lift the Lid  
on mental illness

DELIVERING BETTER MENTAL HEALTH  
100% OF YOUR DONATION  
GOES TO RESEARCH

Thanks



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Districts of Australia

Australian  
Rotary Health



donate online | [australianrotaryhealth.org.au](http://australianrotaryhealth.org.au)

# From the President...

My thanks to our Bulletin Editor Stephen and his assistant Meredith, for a detailed and accurate report of Wednesday Assembly Meeting.

As a volunteer service organization it is good for the Rotary Club of Corowa to be involved with other groups in service projects. Co-operation gives to Corowa Rotary increased community awareness and greater creditability and strength within our Community. The proposal from the Business Chamber to involve Rotary and Lions in the sound system for Sanger St. and our willingness to contribute is a good example of this.

The Wetlands Project with which we have been the lead organization also demonstrates the value of being assisted and supported by others. Rotarian Meredith Miegel has spoken to me about Corowa Rotary hosting a function to open the Wetlands and to say thank you to the many who have assisted us with the development of this special area. I had intended to raise this at the Assembly, I forgot my apology Meredith. We do need to have a celebration and in doing so create the opportunity to say thank you to our extensive list of helpers and assistants in the Wetlands. The help from Daren Harvie of Federation Council, John Babbs, Junior Landcare Officer Sally Hughes, both Corowa Primary School and High School teachers and students, officers of the Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group and the Men's Shed, have all been some of a significant list of assistants with whom we have worked to the benefit of our Community. I will speak about this opportunity to celebrate a great project, which Meredith has led, and to say thank you to our many helpers at our next meeting.



**BE THE  
INSPIRATION**

**Rotary**



What has Ben been  
up too??

Benoit has had an eventful 2 weeks. He has attended his first Dookie weekend and has met all the other Inbound exchange students. Ben has been to CHS Variety Night, he will be starting soccer again soon and is going to attend a training session for AFL in Corowa.

He went to Mansfield Zoo and fed a lot of kangaroos and he tried his first Chicken Parma. (Which he likes!) He found some French food in Australia, "choucroute".

Ben has been busy... stay tuned for more adventures in a fortnight...



**Reminder to pay your Annual Subs:**

**\$240 per person**

These can be paid on line with:

Reference: Subs and your surname

Account Name: Rotary Club of Corowa

BSB: 082 559 - Account No: 692 592 173



**Rotary Club of Corowa:**

**Website:**

<http://www.corowarotary.org.au>

We are also on FACEBOOK!

<https://www.facebook.com/corowarotary/>



**WINE PACKS**

Port ~ Muscat ~ Topaque

**\$60**

Order form on the Website:  
[www.corowarotary.org.au](http://www.corowarotary.org.au)



**Raffle:**

Presidents Muscat: Rotarian David P



Cut the Cards: Rotarian Gary P



Meeting Date	WED Sept 5th	WED Sept 12th	WED Sept 19th
Venue	Corowa RSL	Corowa RSL	Corowa RSL
Program	Dylan Forge	Jeff Nixon	TBC
Chairman	Jeff N	Norm O'F	Gary P
Treasurer	Paul Mow	Jeff N ?	Norm O'F
Rotary Grace	John L	Paul Mow	Jeff N
Loyal Toast	Gail L	John L	Paul Mow
International Toast	Ayon G	Gail L	John L
Rotary Information	Neil D	Ayon G	Gail L
Sergeants Help	Graeme C	Neil D	Ayon G

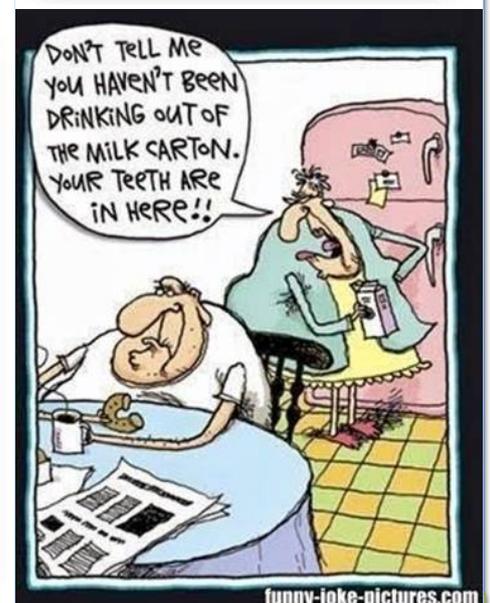
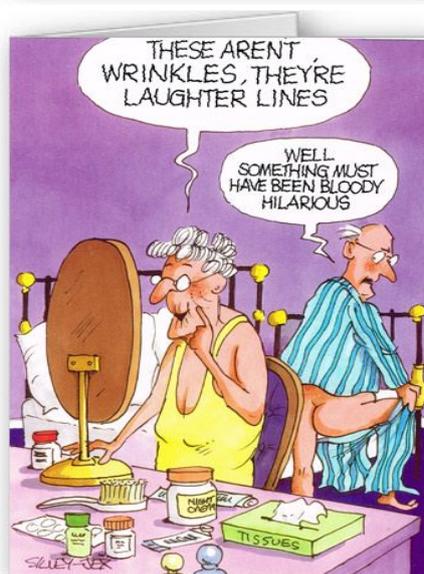
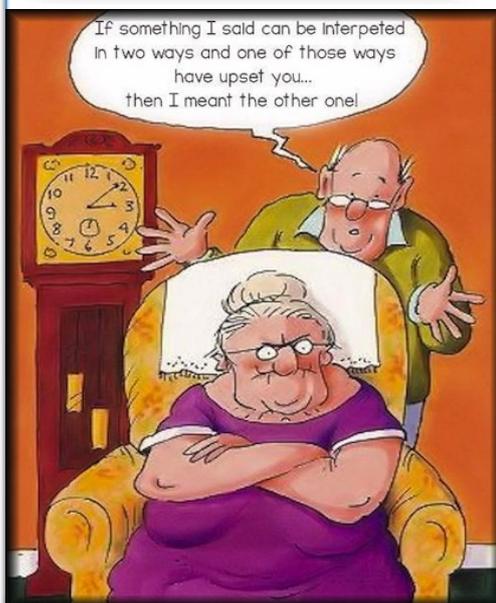
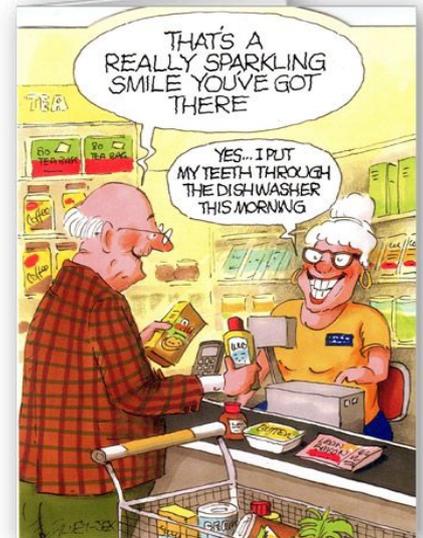


## Wetlands Update!

Graffiti at the bird hide. The police think the culprit has just been sentenced to several months in jail on other matters but we will need to organise a clean up. Rot Meredith is speaking to Council re how we go about that. eg. if they supply chemicals & us man power etc. Also the boardwalk is ready to be installed - should happen this week!



and on the lighter side: HAHAAHAHAHAHA.....



funny-joke-pictures.com

Please remember to notify **Neil Davis** if you **CAN NOT** attend our weekly meetings or if you wish to bring any guests. If you are arranging a guest speaker, please advise Neil of the number of people attending and if they need the screen and projector.

**Neil can be contacted by:**

Phone or text on **0499 878 529** or email [davis98@bigpond.net.au](mailto:davis98@bigpond.net.au)

**The Rotary Club Of Corowa meets every WEDNESDAY at the Corowa RSL Club: 6:30pm for a 7:00pm start**



President 2018-2019: Rotarian Bill Bott  
Secretary: Rotarian Eric Sadlowski  
Treasurer: Rotarian David Potts  
Vice President: Rotarian Gary Poidevin  
President Elect 2019-20: Rotarian Paul Miegel  
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Happy (Belated) 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Rot. Graham Brown  
and Happy 48<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary to  
Rotarians Margaret and Graham Brown.

