

# The Rotary Club of TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT bulletin bulletin bulletin bulletin



[www.tamworthfirstlight.org.au](http://www.tamworthfirstlight.org.au)

15 July 2009 – Meeting #961



## *Brett's Banter*

### Quote of the Week

*"The man who smiles when things go wrong  
has thought of someone to blame it on"*

– Robert Bloch

Annette Arthur gave us an insight into her career and her current role as the CEO of Tamara Private Hospital. It is difficult to keep to the two minutes especially when someone has a complex and demanding vocation.

Ray Tait was our guest speaker and spoke to us about his roles as a Paramedic and as a Councillor with TRC. Both roles are demanding and rewarding. Ray was keen to discuss the crime prevention area and the returning of the streets to all people and not just the misfits and layabouts.

Maybe the magistrates should consider community service involving the starling mess. That way they can still be located in Peel Street, but at the same time, useful.

Great to have the baritone of the Club, John Toulmin back to lead us in the National Anthem. Good to see he missed us as well.

Thanks to the 'fill-ins' replacing members who failed to show or nominate someone else for their assigned roles. It does cause problems when you are on the roster and you don't alert me or find a replacement. Please check the bulletin to see if you have been 'named'.

I will be away next week working at my Ballina office due to the ill health of the local manager's wife who is not expected to survive this weekend. I have asked David to cover for me.

Go the Blues.

Brett

## AND FOR THE NEWS

**GOLD COAST GOLF TRIP** – David Hinwood confirmed 48 attendees – **22 are female!** Now seeking prizes etc – please speak to Dennis Maunder as per appropriate gifts and / or leave your gifts with him

**Please diarise** the next golfing weekend is 23 – 25 October 2009

**“LOST” LIKE THE TENT** - Our thanks to Ron Allen and Louise Matthews for re-sorting the Rotary cupboard – **HOWEVER** the **BACKPACK** with all the Rotary aprons in is **MISSING**.... Could this **PLEASE** be returned to the Rotary cupboard and let either Ron or Louise know that it has been returned..... Thank you

**YOUTH EXCHANGE PARENTS** – **Brian Yeo** thanked both the Logan’s and the Whites for their hosting of Renat whilst here in Australia – it is a huge job and there are additional costs to the host families which Club members would not be particularly aware of. Also thank you to David Hinwood as Renat’s counsellor.

Brian also made the valid point that all members need to be involved with our Youth Exchange students to take some of the workload away from the host families and get to know the student socially as well. Also it is an ideal opportunity to learn about another country and helps the student gain a better understanding of our language by listening to the different speech patterns within our membership and, of course at the school they attend.

**CLUB ARCHIVES** – a reminder to members who have Club memorabilia stored at their homes to please speak with either Terry Burgess or Phil Heffernan about the size or quantity of items held. Phil Heffernan needs to know the amount of archival material to be stored at our “shed” to arrange relevant shelving. He would like to know as soon as possible as he would prefer to complete the job in the cooler weather not in the full heat of summer. **Note** – there are two large plastic containers at the District Archives in Brian Cox’s building which will need to be moved (see Jane Bradford )

**ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIR** Dick Davison noted that the Club had purchased one in 1991 and it had been well utilised over the years. Recommended that the Club consider a similar purchase during the coming year – for the Board to consider.

**RC of TAMWORTH SUNRISE** – nearly at target of 30 members – a reminder to this Club that three members need to be in attendance each week and recommending that different members attend – please let Vicki Cooper or Chris Sheppard know if available. A reminder – meet at Sanctuary Inn on Friday mornings at 6:45 am

\*\*\*\*\*

As it is tax time the following seems fitting

Q. What is the definition of an Accountant?

A. Someone who solves a problem you didn’t know you had in a way you don’t understand.

\*\*\*\*\*

## GUEST SPEAKER – RAY TAIT

**Ray Tait** thanked the Club for his Paul Harris Award – he was humbled and appreciative.

Ray has been in the Ambulance Service of NSW for 37 years as an on-road Paramedic, over recent years has been on the Helicopters and is responsible for the Rescue Unit.

Tamworth very lucky for a rural area – has an excellent Emergency Department with doctors and nurses of the highest standard – however being a rural area we have to fight for everything we have – not like the metropolitan areas. It is very hard to keep the best people here – distance being the tyranny for us. Thanks to the Westpac Helicopter we are able to arrange hospital transfers and cover a huge area. If we feel that our ambulance charges are excessive – consider Canada - \$383 to walk through the door without any treatment.

Ambulance Service introducing Extended Care – means that children can be sutured at home – saves time and is more cost effective. A heroin overdose to hospital cost is \$500 plus to go to hospital – do on-site cost is \$48. By doing this it also frees up the Emergency Department for real emergencies and means that real trauma is helped faster.

As a Councillor he is on the Crime Prevention Committee – a specific interest to him. Graffiti and vandalism proving major issues at present - Council has just approved \$100,000 for Peel Street cameras – one camera has already proved to be very successful. We should all be able to walk freely anywhere in Tamworth.

**Note** – Aeroguard removes graffiti of colourbond fences – one has to wonder what it does to your skin!

The Committee has had a meeting with a Graffiti artist – offer to provide a wall and trial this for up to two years. Also suggest that the best artists are exhibited at either the Art Gallery or Ray Walsh House. The “artist” to speak with others, all to be prepared to report the “taggers” - a further meeting to be held in early September. The Council’s Youth Officer to liaise with these youngsters.

Q Taggers – are they easy to identify?

A Yes but the Police have to actually catch them at work – difficult.

Q Cameras in Peel Street – who will monitor them?

A Biggest cost – Police will be able to dial in and move cameras where they need to. Hoodies cannot be caught unless they actually look at the camera.

Q Where do these taggers get the cans of paint when they are supposed to be locked away?

A Usually they make their own

Q Would a competition for graffiti art be a way of controlling?

A Yes – this is one of the points being discussed – should know more at September meeting

Q Child had asthma attack – we drove child to hospital – should we have rung the Ambulance Service first?

A Always ring Ambulance first – Officers are not supposed to run – move methodically to maintain their cool

Q Graffiti artist – Exhibition winner go to TAFE for twelve months as a prize or similar?

A Possible sponsorship being considered – aiming to bring “taggers” across to “artists”.

Q Speed of delivery – why do all helicopter calls go via Sydney?

A Absolutely essential that the call centre remains in Sydney – some 11 ambulances in Rural NSW – cannot afford for them to overlap – need to be very frugal with their usage. The metropolitan area has 3 helicopters doing only short hops. A rural helicopter can be away all day but can take the patient to the most appropriate hospital whether it be rural or metropolitan.

Ray Tait was introduced by Jane Bradford and Max Cathcart thanked

\*\*\*\*\*

## ARTIST'S CORNER

We would like every member to supply “something” for this corner whether it be poetry, photography, short article, photograph of your art work ..... left to your imagination

*A special thank you to **Phil Lyons** for the superb photographs for this section - this week we have a short article plus photographs - next week .... (Graham Nuttall) - just a gentle reminder....*

### **Adventures with Dave B!**

Whilst I love talking about the past, I thought you may appreciate a little glimpse into the future.

The white Kookaburra looked really cool last week and, surprisingly, it made me think about flying. Do you all realise how much I enjoy flying? I suppose you do, but what you probably do not realise is how much I miss the sheer joy and freedom I associate with blasting off in a high performance jet to take on the world at 600 knots.

With my 600 knot days clearly behind me, Jo and I are lucky enough to have found Tamworth, and we are happy to be able to see some of the best flying conditions in the world every day. What I do not have here in “pilot’s paradise” is something to readily go flying in that will emulate those halcyon earlier days when I used to slip the surly bonds of earth.

Very soon, that situation will be remedied

Let me introduce you to my (and Jo’s) next adventure rather than recounting one of the old ones! In my view, there is nothing quite as artistic and beautiful as the smooth lines of a fine flying machine.

Not quite finished yet, but She is Russian. She is beautiful! She is shiny silver and red. She has a 400 horsepower 9 cylinder radial engine and a 3 bladed composite propeller. She can take as much as 9 positive gravities and push to minus 5 gravities. She is happy and compliant enough to do pretty much anything possible...in an aviation sense. That means She is very manoeuvrable! I reckon She will even hover in the vertical!

Be kind to me and I may even let you “have a go”. In the event, expect to see your whole life flash before your eyes!

To the “boat owners” and others in our club, “Boats shmoats! The competition is to see who can get the most toys!

**Ladies...it’s a bloke thing.**





### **My 1 day of employment (Maxine)**

So after landing my new job as a Bunnings greeter, a good find for many retirees, I lasted less than a day.....

About two hours into my first day on the job a very loud, unattractive, mean-acting woman walked into the store with her two kids, yelling obscenities at them all the way through the entrance. As I had been instructed, I said pleasantly, 'Good morning and welcome to Bunnings. Nice children you have there. Are they twins?'

The ugly woman stopped yelling long enough to say, 'Hell no, they ain't twins. The oldest one's 9, and the other one's 7. Why the hell would you think they're twins? Are you blind, or just stupid?'

So I replied, 'I'm neither blind nor stupid, Ma'am, I just couldn't believe someone slept with you twice. Have a good day and thank you for shopping at Bunnings.'

My supervisor said I probably wasn't cut out for this line of work.

**Courtesy – Terry Robinson**

## **Club Website**

President – <b>Brett White</b>	<a href="http://www.tamworthfirstlight.org.au">www.tamworthfirstlight.org.au</a>
Secretary – <b>Terry Robinson</b>	<a href="mailto:brett.white@freemans.com.au">brett.white@freemans.com.au</a>
Treasurer – <b>Michael Smith</b>	<a href="mailto:trobinson@eversol.com.au">trobinson@eversol.com.au</a>
Bulletin Editor – <b>Jane Bradford</b>	<a href="mailto:michael@mmsmail.com.au">michael@mmsmail.com.au</a>
Board of Directors	<a href="mailto:jbmail@monelu.com">jbmail@monelu.com</a>
	<a href="mailto:board@tamworthfirstlight.org.au">board@tamworthfirstlight.org.au</a>

## **CALENDAR 2009/2010 Events**

- 29 July – Club Assembly**
- 2 – 7 August** Gold Coast Golf Trip
- 20 September** Pedal the Peel Charity Bike Ride
- 23 – 25 October** – Nelsons Bay – Golfing Weekend
- 22 – 28 February** – Australia-wide Campaign for PolioPlus
- 12 – 14 March** District 9650 Conference, Port Macquarie – Book accommodation early
- 19 June – Tamworth First Light Changeover – note in your diaries now**

## **ANNUAL SUBS 2009 – 2010**

Remain the same at \$270.00 – Pay direct to Northern Inland Credit Union  
BSB 802-298

Member no: 64148

**Please note name and amount paid to Bank**

# Birthdays, Anniversaries & Inductions



**Birthdays** 15.07 Michael Smith

**Partners Birthdays**

15.07 – Kerry partner of Dennis Johnson  
15.07 – Sue partner of Terry Robinson



**Anniversaries**

21.7 – Steve and Sarah Massey

**Inductions**

Nil



**Vocational Profile**

Peter Bell

## Meeting Statistics

<b>Attendance</b>	77%
<b>Make Ups</b>	Nil
<b>Visitors Rotarians</b>	Nil
<b>Visitors</b>	Nil
<b>Heads &amp; Tails</b>	John Toulmin
<b>Raffle</b>	Julian Smith

### VOCATIONAL SPEAKER – Annette Arthur – Health Administration

Annette has both a nursing and clinical background – has basically worked in all Wards, held position of Unit Manager, Deputy Director then Director of Nursing and finally CEO here in Tamworth. She has a broad working knowledge covering all aspects of her work. Every day is different – so much so that a To Do list is a waste of effort.

Annette ensures that she meets every patient, their families and her staff on a daily basis. Being a CEO in a relatively small hospital she knows everyone on the team not just “management”. Annette spends time in the Palliative Care area with both patients and families. Loves going to the Maternity Ward to meet the new babies and their families and knows everything that has happened overnight.

Main complaint received from patients is the food - they have nothing better to think about each day and not always exciting meals.

Annette also ensures time with the doctors and anaesthetists plus checking the Assets Register to be able to replace equipment at the appropriate time. Annette was please to note that there had been no major incidents in the hospital during her time

Every February the Strategic Plan has to be re-assessed and all staff are involved. This also involves the annual budget and it is pleasing to note that Tamara is travelling well.

## **PRESIDENT ASSIST**

To ensure members who are rostered for the duties of, Meeter and Greeter, Door, Visitor Assist, Welcome to our Members & Guests, Introduction of the Guest Speaker(s) and Vote of Thanks are present and if they are not to find a replacement and ensure those people's names are updated on the President's Running Sheet. Select the Table Order (after the head table).

**Need to be in attendance by 6.30 am**

## **DOOR TEAM**

To record the attendance of our members and guests, collect meeting dues, and if possible balance the cash float i.e. monies paid = money received.

**Need to be in attendance at 6.30 am**

## **MEETER & GREETER**

To meet & greet our members & welcome guests to our Club at the top of the stairs and to hand name badges to members. Also ensure any guests of members or visiting Rotarians are introduced to the Visitor Assist to ensure they are made feel welcome.

**Need to be in attendance at 6.30 am**

## **VISITOR ASSIST**

To ensure any visitors to the Club are felt welcome by introducing yourself to them and other members and guests of our Club. To also include them in fellowship before and if necessary make sure they are included with several members for breakfast and are not left on their own.

**Need to be in attendance from 6.30 am**

## **WELCOME**

To publicly welcome our Members & Guests (following the introduction) to our meeting when called upon by the President or his/her substitute.

**Need to be in attendance by 6.50 am (or earlier)**

## **INTRODUCTION**

To make yourself known to our Guest Speaker/s, assist them to the head table and sit with them. During breakfast find out some information about the guest speaker which will assist you in your introduction.

## **VOTE OF THANKS**

To move a vote of thanks to our guest speaker, and present a little thank you gift (ensure you have it before the meeting commences and take notes during their presentation to ensure your thank you is informed).

## **CORPORALS**

To assist the Sergeant by putting out all Club Property and putting away at the conclusion of the meeting. Need to be in attendance by 6:30 am.

## **CORPORAL ASSIST**

To assist the Sergeant, by putting away all Club Property at the conclusion of the meeting if the Corporals are unable to do so.

# MEETING ROSTER

- When rostered on and you can't make it – **PLEASE** find another member to fill in for you
- Make sure that you let both the President and President Assist know before the start of the meeting
- If the above not organised the **Sergeant will love you**
- The starting time for the **DOOR team and MEETER & GREETER IS 6:30 AM**
- **If you know you are going to be away for an extended period (holidays etc) – PLEASE** advice **Bruce Hemmett** by email at [bruce.013@decorama.com.au](mailto:bruce.013@decorama.com.au)
- **Please give at least TWO week's notice so the roster can be amended**
- **PLEASE** advice **Terry Burgess** – Attendance Officer by email at [ssegrub@westnet.com.au](mailto:ssegrub@westnet.com.au)

	15 July 2009	22 July 2009
Guest Speaker	<b>Joan Douglas – Camerata</b>	DG Neville Parsons & Patti
Meeter & Greeter	<b>Bill Moss</b>	Barry Biffen
Door Team	<b>Michael O'Connor &amp; David Baddams</b>	Dennis Johnson & DJ Jones
Welcome	<b>Annette Arthur</b>	Dick Davison
President Assist	<b>Graham Dooley</b>	Stephen Mitchell
Visitor Assist	<b>Laurence Hearne</b>	Bruce Hemmett
Corporal Assist	<b>Phil Heffernan</b>	Patrick O'Connor
Introduction	<b>Ian Howle</b>	Peter Hinchcliffe
Vote of Thanks	<b>Neil Lyon</b>	Brodie Shields

## CORPORALS FOR COMING MONTHS

<b>July</b>	Peter Bell and Paul Stevenson
<b>August</b>	Maureen Thornton and Mark O'Connor
<b>September</b>	John Glynn and Jim Raymond
<b>October</b>	Annette Arthur and Graham Dooley
<b>November</b>	Laurence Hearne and Barry Biffen
<b>December</b>	Bill Moss and David Baddams

### When Insults Had Class

*Some cause happiness wherever they go;  
others -whenever they go”*

*Oscar Wilde*