

The Rotary Club of TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT bulletin bulletin bulletin bulletin



www.tamworthfirstlight.org.au 9 September 2009 – Meeting #976



Brett's Banter

Quote of the Week

**“I used to eat a lot of natural food
until I realised that most people
die of natural causes”**

It was a pleasure to catch up with Russell Hooper at breakfast and to hear him give his talk about NYSF and his recent trip to the US Space Centre in Texas. It is always interesting to note the dramatic change from boyhood to young men, which I have witnessed (like many of you), with my sons and their friends. Russell is no exception, having witnessed his growth (especially in height) from under 13 to 15 years with hockey. I always knew he was determined and focused and I know he will do well in his future career and life choices.

The Board decided to contribute \$1,000.00 to the cost of Russell attending the National Youth Science Forum in Perth, which is just over half the cost.

I mentioned that Pat Trollor is having an operation in Sydney and John is concerned about outcomes. Heffo will keep me and therefore the Club informed of her progress.

Campbell McIntosh's mum is in Nioka at TBH, and is why he has been absent from our meetings. I know our thoughts are with the Trollor and McIntosh families as they face the strain and emotions with their loved ones.

OK everyone, dust off the push bikes, inflate the tyres, crack open the bike shorts and get mounted for the **Great Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light Pedal the Peel Bikeathon**. Training wheels and tow ropes optional with an easy 16 km ride for the novices from Dungowan Pub to the Nemingha Pub... obviously need to drink water during the ride, but the start and finish are looking good. No big hills and take it easy for a leisurely ride in the country taking in all those spring pollens and dust... a Rhinocourt moment I think. I actually think most of our members will look just dandy in bike shorts or any shorts (with the car chamois inserted strategically). The challenge is there.

Have a great one,
Brett

AND FOR THE NEWS

PEDAL THE PEEL — every member needs to be involved on Sunday, 20 September with a **7:00 am start** – Roster being sent round weekly – understand we have at least one team entered, possibly an all female team will be entered.... both from First Light – please speak with Terry Robinson – should be a day of fun and laughter and for others hard work, chatter and fun.....

Norm Dezius is still quite unwell - **Members, please find time to call in and / or make a phone call – Norm’s number is 6760 8106.**

Child Protection Forms – please check with Terry Robinson to ensure that every member has signed this form.....

Couple of changes here - 1,000TH MEETING will be Wednesday, 10 March 2010 and our charter was on 28 May 2010 so we have two excuses for – Brett White’s “**CELEBRATIONS**” - Don’t forget to put your ideas forward – leave your ideas with the door team as you pay each week – *surely there will be a prize for the most original suggestion.....*

Sadly we learnt this morning (Friday) that Laurie Hearne’s father died yesterday afternoon – our thoughts will be with Laurie and family particularly as Laurie’s mother died only last June – a rough time for Laurie and family.

A teacher asked her 6th grade class how many of them were Rudd fans.

Not really knowing what a Rudd fan is, but wanting to be liked by the teacher, all the kids raised their hands except for Billy in the front row.

The teacher asked Billy why he has decided to be different.
'Because I'm not a Rudd fan.'

The teacher asked, 'Why aren't you a Rudd fan?'

'Because I'm a Liberal.'

The teacher asked him why he is a Liberal.

Billy proudly answered, 'Well, my Mum's a Liberal and my Dad's a Liberal, so I'm a Liberal.'

Annoyed by this answer, the teacher asked, 'If your mum was a moron and your dad was an idiot, what would that make you?'

With a big smile, Billy replied, 'That would make me a Rudd fan.'

CALENDAR 2009/2010 Events

20 September Pedal the Peel Charity Bike Ride

10 October	Guess Who is Coming for Dinner
23 – 25 October	Nelsons Bay – Golfing Weekend
24 October	RI Club of Tamworth Sunrise Charter Dinner – <i>Please diarise now</i>
15 November	Family Tennis Afternoon (Self Catering) 1.00 – 5.00 pm (Moore Creek)
19 November	Inter-Club Great Debate – Tamworth Tennis Club, Treloar Park
28 November	Christmas Party – Rugby Club – diarise now
26 January	Combined Rotary Clubs involved all day Bicentennial Park
22 – 28 February	Australia-wide Campaign for PolioPlus
10 March	1,000 th First Light Meeting
12 – 14 March	District 9650 Conference, Port Macquarie – Book accommodation early
28 April	Career's Expo - TRECC
01 May	First Light will celebrate turning 20.....
19 June	Tamworth First Light Changeover – note in diaries now
29 June	Tamworth Club's Changeover
30 June	District Changeover

VOCATIONAL SERVICE

Barry Murphy is the problem solver at Challenge Disability Services (CDS) – he is the CEO, Manager and Company Secretary – he has 360 staff with a Senior Team of six. who ensure that everyone else does all the work and within time frames as required. Included in his staff are 110 people with a disability who work in various services across the organisation such as recycling, contract services and a commercial laundry. CDS has grown to provide over 600 client services across the Hunter & North West regions of NSW ranging from Cobar to Gosford.

His most important work is ensuring that the Board is kept up to date. Therefore, his senior team attend Board meetings so that the Directors are always aware of changes, events, functions, expenditure etc that relate to the organisation. He has an excellent Board with vastly different expertise who will offer advice or suggestions and delegate authority to him to implement. Another recent addition/role is approving any spending from \$500 upwards for capital purchases, repairs and for any travel such as Conferences, Workshops and Seminars.

Barry enjoys going to work – he never knows from day to day what interesting, frustrating or exciting problem solving will be achieved by him that day....

ARTIST'S CORNER

“THE HILL”, “THE B.I.C.”, “PEOPLE FROM AWAY” AND “WORKING MARRIED WOMEN”

Besides “Uncle Dick”, not many of you are old enough to understand this topic, which is probably a good thing!

Background

1. Our family moved to Broken Hill from Sydney in 1952. My family (Di, Michael, Catherine and Pete) moved to Tamworth in 1991 ie; I lived, worked and played in “The Hill” for 39 wonderful years.
2. Population (1952) 30,000+, 4th largest City in NSW after Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong.
3. Isolation
 Sydney – 720 miles
 Melbourne – 550 miles
 Adelaide – 320 miles
Dirt Roads
 - to Nyngan }
 - to Wentworth } (ie; at least 200 miles any direction)
 - to Burra }
4. Time Zone
 South Australian time.
5. 1950's
 Mine employees and staff had the highest average take home pay in Australia.
6. “The Lead Bonus”
 Paid to all mine staff and employees often exceeded the weekly salary/wage ie; the “bonus” doubled the take home wage/salary.
Lead Bonus – calculated on the average previous week’s lead price on the London Metal Market.
The B.I.C. (Barrier Industrial Council)
 Made up of delegates from all the individual Broken Hill Unions depending on their number of members (eg; WIU of A, Clerk’s Union, Shop Assistant Unions etc).
The B.I.C – was the single negotiating voice for unionists in 3 yearly agreements with the mining companies and town employers (Chamber of Commerce).
7. “A Grouper”- someone born in the Broken Hill Hospital
A “B Grouper” – someone born outside the Hill ie; someone “from away”. (Di and I are “B Groupers”, our kids are “A Groupers”).
The B.I.C. and working (married) Women
 Recently, I saw something about a local town (I think Inverell) encouraging locals to shop in their town for job security, particularly for the young.
Flash Back 55 Years
 Broken Hill early 1950’s and the B.I.C. looked at ways to give school leavers jobs in “the Hill” and stop the drain out of town looking for work (particularly to Adelaide).
 With a very high average take home pay across “the line of load, the B.I.C, decided that the young and single local kids should be given the opportunity to be considered for a job, ahead of an equally qualified married woman whose husband had a job and therefore a good family income from the mines.
 Employers, with job vacancies and wanting to employ a married woman whose husband was employed in the mines had to interview single applicants put forward by the B.I.C, and show that the single applicants were not “suitably qualified” to meet the jobs requirements!

Woolworths refused to follow the B.I.C. directive, resulting in Woolworths being “black banned” by the B.I.C.

“Black Banned”

If a business was declared black, no unionist or his family members could go there (ie; shop at Woolies).

How did you enforce a black ban? – easy, put union delegates at the front door and take down the names of unionists shopping there.

Badge Day – once every 3 months (quarter) every unionist in Broken Hill had to pay their union quarterly fees for which they were given the appropriate badge. The badge was an outward physical sign of financial membership of the appropriate union and had to be worn on “badge day”. No unionist could work with a fellow unionist on badge day if they didn’t have their badge on. If you forgot your badge, you went home and got it, or you didn’t go to work on “badge day” (and lost a day’s pay).

Woolworths – took the B.I.C. to Court and won the case – but “lost the war”.

How Come the Strength of the B.I.C.!! – mainly due to the shocking underground working conditions imposed by absentee mine owners.

- Children (boys) as young as 14 “hand trucking” underground (pushing/pulling ore trucks on railway lines).
- No adequate ventilation systems – many dying of silicosis.
- Bodies delivered in hessian bags to widows/mothers front doors!
- No Safety Officers/safety rules/safety equipment.
- Inadequate mines inspection by Department of Mines.

At school as kids, we all knew someone whose father, brother or uncle had been killed on the mines!

The B.I.C. forced the mining companies to upgrade conditions across the line of load to the point of leading the world

A Worker’s Compensation Act specific to Broken Hill mines was passed by the New South Wales Government.

Royalties paid to the NSW Government by the Broken Hill Mining Companies were a major contributor to the NSW Budget for many years - that’s why Broken Hill is in NSW not South Australia.

BRIAN YEO/BOY FROM “THE HILL”

PROGRAMS OF ROTARY – AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND THE PACIFIC NATIONS – (New Section)

REACHING OVERSEAS with MEDICAL AID for CHILDREN (ROMAC)

ROMAC had its beginning in Bendigo, Victoria – D9800 in 1985. Since then the growth of the program has been very progressive culminating in all 23 Districts of Australia formally adopting it at the Melbourne Institute.

The purpose of ROMAC is to assist children of 15 years or under to receive corrective medical surgery that is not otherwise available in their own country. The aid is available predominantly but not exclusively to overseas countries in which a Rotary presence exists.

Skilled Rotarians provide many hours of their time working closely with some of Australia’s most eminent surgeons and hospitals to solve the medical problems, the treatment of which

is not available in their home areas. Government departments are also enlisted to assist patients and their carers where necessary.

Where possible cultural support is sought from nationals living in Australia along with home care from Australian families willing to host patients during treatment.

By the end of 2002 / 2003 Rotary year 150 children from 13 countries had returned home to resume a greatly enhanced lifestyle.

Negotiations are currently underway to extend the program to New Zealand, The Philippines and Malaysia.

GUEST SPEAKER –

Russell Hooper – National Youth Science Forum (NYSF)

Russell Hooper is a young man going places – he is enthusiastic and keen. He had not appreciated that Rotarians could be so scary till he went for his interview to attend the NYSF at Walcha. However after each group of interviews he began to relax and realise that the Panel was as keen for him to succeed as he was. He is excited about being in the first intake to Perth and is looking forward to the overall experience. He appreciated last weekend at Walcha which was for orientation and thanked the RC of Tamworth First Light for supporting him and providing him with this opportunity.

Q Tell us about your trip to the United States and space?

A He and another friend from school applied when the Space Astronaut was out here and 20 Australian students were chosen – he was one of them. Long flight to the States, tornado had just gone through Houston – the damage was amazing. The building for the space craft was so tall that the water inside evaporated from the ground up and fell as rain inside the building. Each night the students were given a topic which they had to prepare as a 10 minute speech next day – difficult but it trained him to become focussed on a specific subject.

Q When do we go to Mars?

A Not sure actually when but will be to the moon first then from the moon to Mars. Currently building a special vehicle to drive on Mars.

Q Did man really go to the moon?

A Yes, definitely. The flag placed on the moon actually had wire across the flag to give the appearance of moving and the footsteps on the moon will remain there forever. There is no perspective on the moon so almost impossible to gauge distance.

Q Your plans for the future?

A Still not absolutely sure and hoping that the NYSF will help make that decision.

Introduced by Dennis Johnson - Thanked by Dick Davison

Club Website

President – **Brett White** www.tamworthfirstlight.org.au
 Secretary – **Terry Robinson** brett.white@freemans.com.au
 Treasurer – **Michael Smith** trobinson@eversol.com.au
 Bulletin Editor – **Jane Bradford** michael@mmsmail.com.au
Board of Directors jbmail@monelu.com
board@tamworthfirstlight.org.au

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009 - 2010

Club Service – Louise Matthews
Community Service – Brian Logan
International Service – Vicki Cooper
Vocational Service – John Worldon
Youth Centre – Annette Arthur

Birthdays, Anniversaries & Inductions



Birthdays	14.09 – Jane Bradford
Partners Birthdays	10.09 – Donna partner of Max May 13.09 – Marion partner of Graham Dooley
Anniversaries	14.09 .57 – Dick & Pauline Davison (52 years) 12.09 – Dennis Maunder (19 years)
Inductions	12.09 - Max May (2 years) 13.09 - Steve Massey (3 years) 13.09 - Phil Penman (3 years)
Vocational Profile	Phil Penman – 9 September Rob Clifton – 16 September

Attendance	85%
Make Ups	Dick Davison – Tamworth West
Visitors Rotarians	Nil
Visitors	Warwick Hooper
Heads & Tails	Phil Penman
Raffle	Ross Lobsey

MEETING ROSTER

- When rostered on and you can't make it – **PLEASE** find another member to fill in for you
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- 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**
- **Leave of Absence** - If members are going to be away for an extended period (holidays etc) please remember that a notification (letter) be sent to the Club Secretary noting date of departure and date of return and requesting "Leave of Absence" from the Club.
- **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
- **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

	9 September 2009	16 September 2009
Guest Speaker	Peter Ross – Capital Theatre	Paul Ying – Tidy Towns
Meeter & Greeter	Peter Hinchcliffe	John Fogarty
Door Team	Meg Larkin & Peter Hyde	Phil Lyon & Jeanette Mouatt
Welcome	Narelle Langfield	Dennis Maunder
President Assist	Ross Lobsey	Barry Murphy
Visitor Assist	Steve Massey	Graham Nuttall
Corporal Assist	Stephen Mitchell	Peter Ryan
Introduction	Brodie Shields	Terry Burgess
Vote of Thanks	Brian Yeo	Rob Clifton

CORPORALS FOR COMING MONTHS

- September** John Glynn and Peter Hyde
October Phil Heffernan and Graham Dooley
November Laurence Hearne and Barry Biffin
December Bill Moss and David Baddams

When Insults Had Class

“He is a self-made man and worships his creator.”

John Bright