The Rotary Club of
TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT
bulletin bulletin bulletin bulletin

www.tamworthfirstlight.org.au **14 October 2009 – Meeting #981**

Brett's Banter -

Quote of the week

"You know the world is going crazy when the best rapper is a white guy, the best golfer is a black guy, the tallest guy in the NBA is Chinese, the Swiss hold the America's Cup, France is accusing the U.S. of arrogance, Germany doesn't want to go to war and the three most powerful men in America are named 'Bush', 'Dick' and 'Colon'." Chris Rock

It was good to have the Club Assembly the morning after the Board meeting as all matters were still fresh in the mind of the Executive and Directors. There is certainly a lot of social, service, youth, international and vocational activities underway and planned for the rest of the year and into 2010.

A reminder about introducing Felix to our club via family activities that may be appropriate for him to be involved. This can be a day trip or weekend away or just with your family at home for a few hours. Annette is waiting to confirm the two host families for next year and hopefully after raising this matter on a number of occasions and with a Club of 70 members, there will be no problems. We may have to review our involvement in this program for future years.
Oxley High School is looking for funding assistance for senior school student diaries at a cost of $10.00 each. The diaries support sound study habits and career planning. Financial support will be recognised in the school publications, so please consider and let me know if you require further details.

The 'guess who's coming to dinner' would have occurred last weekend and the numbers were high and is indicative of desire of members for more night time social interaction. The Club Service committee is planning more events and weekend functions, so watch this space.

The next event is the family tennis afternoon at Moore Creek courts on 15 November and looks like there will be a good turnout. Trophy being proposed and maybe will be considered as an annual event.

Smile and say hello to a stranger today, it is not that risky.
Brett

AND FOR THE NEWS

Rotary Club of Tamworth Sunrise *– charter dinner to be on* ***Saturday, 24 October 2009 at 6:30 pm*** *– Ballroom & West Diggers - Cost is $60 per person. Brian Yeo strongly recommended Club support for the charter dinner – this would possibly be the only Charter that most of us are likely to see, certainly in Tamworth.....*

NEW LAPTOP FOR THE CLUB – Looks great!!! – thank you to Bruce Hemmett, Maureen Thornton and Jeannette Mouatt for all their hard work.

Phil Penman needs three more participants for the GOLF WEEKEND – 45 booked - 3 spots left – please speak to Phil Penman as a matter of urgency – Last chance this Wednesday's meeting.....

Oxley High School is seeking sponsorship from business houses for Years 11 & 12 diaries covering goal setting, motivation etc – please speak to Brett White as soon as possible....

Another wedding – Graham Nuttall and Tracey Stubbings *are tying the knot this weekend, last weekend or maybe next weekend – whichever weekend we all wish them well....*

Interclub Debate on Thursday, 19 November – we have a great debating team in Simon Chamberlain, Phil Penman and Chris Sheppeard – we will be there in numbers to support you – so please diarise now.....

Science & Engineering Challenge – the dates are 15 – 17 March 2010 – always worth a visit and being involved **(will be celebrating 10 years)**

Felix Frankenberg *– a reminder to members to invite Felix along to social gatherings or short breaks – he fits in easily, is keen to be involved and he joins us in January so it would be good if he knew and felt comfortable with some of us prior to the end of the year....*

We also need two host families for Felix – it is a wonderful experience getting to know these young people – if you feel you are a little too old – of course not, just treat him as you treat your grandchildren – spoil him well and send him home for his family to re-train – take a chance – it could easily be the best choice you have made in years so ***please consider!!!!!***

Blue Angel Quilt & Collectable Exhibition will be held on 7 – 8 November 2009.

CALENDAR 2009/2010 Events

21 October Meeting at the SES – Presentation to be made
23 – 25 October Nelsons Bay – Golfing Weekend
24 October Rotary Club of Tamworth Sunrise Charter Dinner

7 – 11 November	Blue Angel Quilt & Collectable Exhibition – details to follow
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
06 March	**1,000th First Light Meeting CELEBRATIONS**
12 – 14 March	District 9650 Conference, Port Macquarie – Book accommodation early
15 – 17 March	Science & Engineering Challenge
19 May	**Career's Expo - TRECC**
19 June	**Tamworth First Light Changeover & Charter CELEBRATIONS**
29 June	**Tamworth Club's Changeover and Anniversary - 20 Years**
30 June	**District Changeover**

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CLUB ASSEMBLY

Community Service Report – Brian Logan

Rugby Bar and Gate attendance – very successful – appear to have raised about $3,500 towards community projects – all who assisted through the season were thanked

Peddle the Peel – again very successful inaugural fundraiser – about a $3,500 profit to go to the SES on our Vocational Meeting on 21 October

BBQ's in Anzac Park – various hiccups will now be completed by a team from JobLink Plus – plans have been given to the construction team and should be completed before the end of this year.

Country Music Celebrity Cricket should go ahead this year – couple of little problems being sorted – will keep you informed. However we do have a signed guitar and two cricket bats to auction....

Vocational Service – John Worldon is overseas at present enjoying Italian food and wine – however Vocational and Youth will create a joint committee for the organisation of RYAG Equine in March 2010.

Treasurer – **Michael Smith** confirmed that the Club is in safe hands and we do have funds in the Bank....

Club Service – Louise Matthews

"What Rotarians of this Club are really thinking" – 35 responded to the survey as follows

- Everyone feels welcome
- Club involvement in activities is favourable
- Participation by members is excellent
- Member involvement in activities is good – however a third would like to become more involved in fundraising – **please speak to Louise with your ideas – new concepts are always welcome**
- Level of participation in Club activities – 16 very satisfied, 18 satisfied
- Costs associated with membership, majority found all costs reasonable
- Aspects of weekly meetings were favourable
- Location and time considered convenient
- Very few changes suggested – an increase in variety of program topics – **Jim Raymond** would love to have names and contacts to arrange guest speakers, more family involvement – **Tennis Day coming up but please put other ideas forward to Louise –** more leadership opportunities – again speak to any member of the Board or approach Brett expressing your interest in whatever area
- Fellowship activities – majority felt just the right amount
- Bulletin – overall informative – please provide the Bulletin Editor with items you would like to see in the Bulletin
- Response of spouse – overall positive – more interaction with partners could be considered
- Any ideas or suggestions please speak to Louise or any other Director if it is in their field

Christmas Party – a reminder that it will be on 28 November at the Rugby Club – we will be calling for numbers from next week....

Celebrating our 1,000th meeting – committee is progressing well – date is Saturday, 6 March 2010

District Conference on 12 – 14 March – all of us should consider going – wonderful way to really discover what Rotary does outside our own District apart from the fun of socialising and learning about other Clubs within the District.... Take a break – schools are back so have time for yourselves for a change....

Youth Service – Annette Arthur

RYAG Beef will be held at Coonabarabran in November – information has been sent to our school

RYAG Equine, as mentioned earlier will be held in March 2010 at AELEC – just waiting for Mike Rowland to confirm dates available and will aim to have something else on at the same time. Accommodation could be in the stables – certainly adequate with the ablutions block nearby.

Russell Hooper (NYSF) is very excited at being one of the first students to Perth and the Club has made a donation of $1,000 towards his travel costs

International – Vicki Cooper

Dr Rob Sharpe will be supported by Tamworth First Light in conjunction with RAWCS on behalf of the District. We are also looking at other projects that might involve a team from this Club going across for a week to repair hospital buildings, painting or whatever will be required.... Dr Sharpe goes to Papua New Guinea about every three months and pays for his nurses and anaesthetist to travel as well – away usually a week to ten days.

Child sponsorship – still being assessed as it is a huge commitment by the Club and looking at possibly in the region where Dr Sharpe operates.

Fijian Orphanage Support – Eleanor Dezius has written seeking financial support – we will meet with her and assess what is required and will aim to support her cause.

Rotary Friendship Exchange – understand the latest newsletter has been sent to all members – easy to find overseas countries but difficult in many cases for them to reciprocate by coming here.

Shelterboxes have been sent to Sumatra, Samoa and Manilla – now needing to replenish supplies so the Board approved the purchase of a Shelterbox for $1,200 which will be ordered straight away. One of the good things to come from purchasing a Shelterbox is that we will be told where our "box" goes as it is numbered and we will have the good feeling of knowing that it is providing shelter, warmth, security as well as cooking utensils, sleeping bags and tablets to provide clean drinking water etc in an emergency situation.

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Kristy Reading thanked Louise Matthews for giving up her Sunday a fortnight ago to travel with Kristy to Guyra for her first GSE interview. It was a very hard two and a half hours – challenging and rewarding and so exciting to know that she has moved forward to the second interview which is this Sunday. She thanked Vicki Cooper, previous GSE members she had met, Jane Bradford and again Louise Matthews for her support and all for their positive outlook for her. Finally Kristy thanked the Club members for supporting her this far and hoped she would have good news after this weekend. If successful – the real work begins....

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Our GSE nominee Kristy Reading and Vicki Cooper

AN UNEXPECTED COMPLIMENT FROM A RECENT GUEST SPEAKER

Now and then I get to go along to the regular meetings of groups and associations and give a talk about what I do and the work I am involved in. This has given me a great appreciation of Rotary, Lions, Probus, VIEW and all other community groups that band together for the greater good.

Just the other day I went to one. Different to any others, it was an early morning meeting. This worried me straight off. First of all, I had to try to be alive and awake at the crack of dawn and put an understandable sentence together. Secondly, I could not rely (or hoped I couldn't) on the fact the members of the meeting group may have had a few ales (like the evening meetings) prior to my discussion, therefore giving them an element of forgiveness if I rambled or became boring.

So, I rocked up, trying to look like I wasn't still half asleep. Well what I shock I was in for, these early risers ignored the sunrise start and were jovial, laughing, cracking jokes and all only off a cup of coffee or two (imagine if grog was involved how festive it would have been). I observed their proceedings as they reported on fundraising activities conducted, monies raised, celebrations and commiserations of club members shared between them all, and felt completely at ease amongst this group of like-minded and dedicated **(you have to be to get up at that hour)** individuals.

Whilst it seemed more like a social gathering between friends, they mean business. They raise money, donate to charities, do community deeds, present events and develop local initiatives - I wondered how any of them had time to do a job around all the voluntary work they did. I did my chat and left inspired by them.

I was supposed to be there to educate and inform them, they did that to me. No financial rewards for them, in fact they pay to attend the meetings and in keeping with good humour are fined throughout the meeting for acts or lack of activity leading up to the meeting... and they all paid up.

I've witnessed a lot of the good deeds, generosity and passion these club and their members provide to a community, they truly are treasured assets that often go without thanks or praise.

Therefore today, I dedicate this blog to all the active members of Rotary, Lions, Probus, VIEW, The Scouts, Cubs and anyone else out there working silently (but with fun) for the benefit of their community - I do salute each and everyone. Next time you see them hard at work, give them a shout of thanks, they deserve it.

David Woodward’s blog

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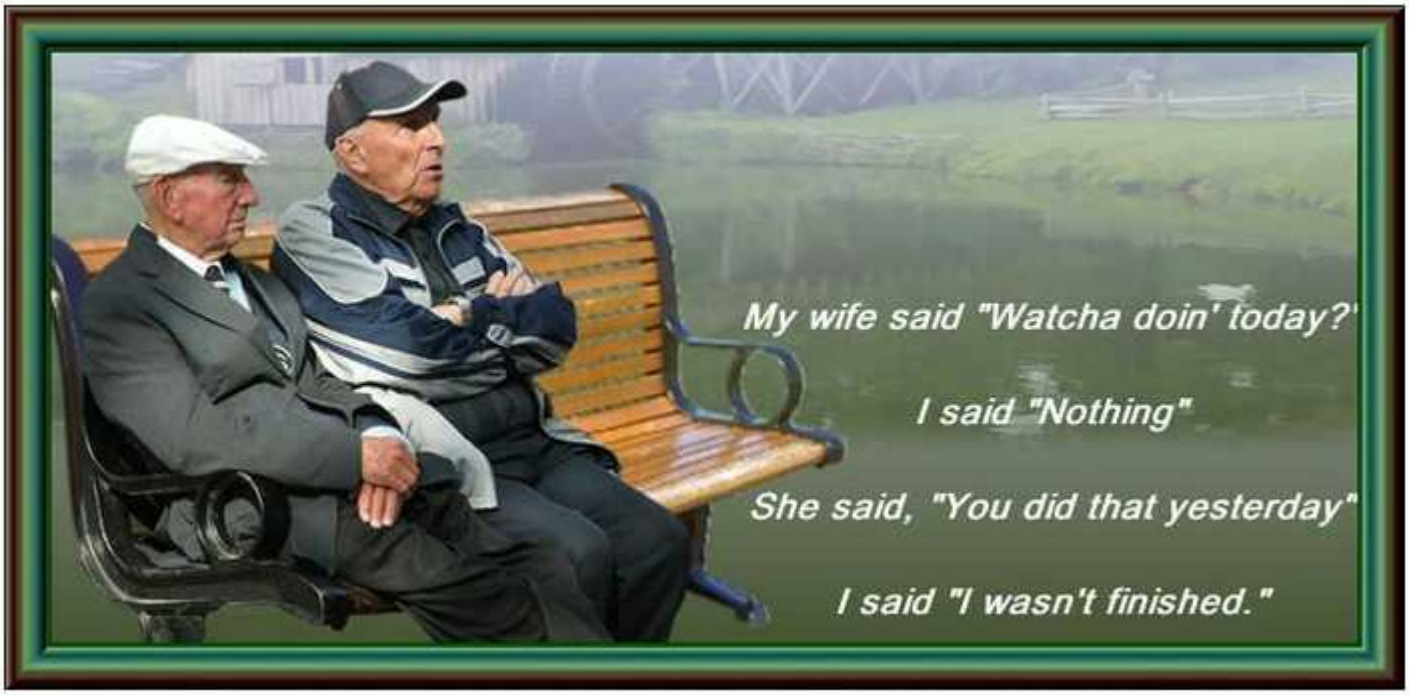
AGING HUMOUR....



ARTIST'S CORNER

The idea for this section was to find out about "hidden" talents within our Club's membership and we have had some wonderful insights to date – **Thank you Ian Howle and** David Hinwood's response is ahead of schedule....

Subject: Letter to the Treasurer

Dear Mr Swan

Please find below my suggestions for fixing Australia's economy.

Instead of giving billions of dollars to banks that will squander the money on lavish parties and unearned bonuses, use the following plan.

You can call it the Patriotic Retirement Plan:

There are about 10 million people over 50 in the work force.

Pay them $1 million each severance for early retirement with the following stipulations:

1) They MUST retire. Ten million job openings - Unemployment fixed
2) They MUST buy a new Australian car. Ten million cars ordered - Car Industry fixed
3) They MUST either buy a house or pay off their mortgage - Housing Crisis fixed
4) They MUST send their kids to school/TAFE/university - Crime rate fixed
5) They MUST buy $100 WORTH of alcohol/tobacco a week .....and there's your money back in duty/tax etc

It can't get any easier than that!

PS If more money is needed, have all members of parliament pay back their falsely claimed expenses and second home allowances

If you think this would work, please forward to everyone you know. If Not, please disregard.

Yours sincerely,
The Whole Country

LATE BUT IMPORTANT NEWS...

Louise Matthews just received a phone call from Julian Smith.
Julian's mother has pneumonia and has been admitted to hospital. She's fighting it, but at 93 Julian said he's expecting a phone call at any moment – please keep Julian in your thoughts and prayers at this time.

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THE PHILOSOPHY OF AMBIGUITY

FOR THOSE WHO LOVE THE PHILOSOPHY OF AMBIGUITY, AS WELL AS THE IDIOSYNCRASIES OF ENGLISH: - This is Part II

11. WHERE DO FOREST RANGERS GO TO "GET AWAY FROM IT ALL?"

12. WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU SEE AN ENDANGERED ANIMAL EATING AN ENDANGERED PLANT?

13. IF A PARSLEY FARMER IS SUED, CAN THEY GARNISH HIS WAGES?

14. WOULD A FLY WITHOUT WINGS BE CALLED A WALK?

15. WHY DO THEY LOCK PETROL STATION BATHROOMS? ARE THEY AFRAID SOMEONE WILL CLEAN THEM?

16. IF A TURTLE DOESN'T HAVE A SHELL, IS HE HOMELESS OR NAKED?

17. CAN VEGETARIANS EAT ANIMAL CRACKERS?

18. IF THE POLICE ARREST A MIME, DO THEY TELL HIM HE HAS THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT?

19. WHY DO THEY PUT BRAILLE ON THE DRIVE-THROUGH BANK MACHINES?

20. HOW DO THEY GET DEER TO CROSS THE ROAD ONLY AT THOSE YELLOW ROAD SIGNS?

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Three Minute Management Course Training – Lesson 1
A sales rep, an administration clerk and their manager are walking to lunch when they find an antique oil lamp. They rub it and a Genie pops out. The Genie says "I'll give each of you just one wish."

"Me first!, me first!" says the admin clerk – "I want to be in the Bahamas, driving a speedboat, without a care in the world!" Poof - she's gone...

"Me next!, Me next!" says the sales rep – "I want to be in Hawaii relaxing on the beach with my personal masseuse, an endless supply of Pina Coladas and the love of my life." Poof – he's gone

"OK – you're up" says the Genie to the Manager who says "I want those two back in the office after lunch."

***Moral of the story** – Always let your boss have the first say*

Club Website

www.tamworthfirstlight.org.au

President – **Brett White** brett.white@freemans.com.au

Secretary – **Terry Robinson** trobinson@eversol.com.au

Treasurer – **Michael Smith** michael@mmsmail.com.au

Bulletin Editor – **Jane Bradford** jbmail@monelu.com

Board of Directors board@tamworthfirstlight.org.au

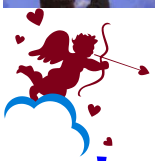
BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009 - 2010

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

Birthdays, Anniversaries & Inductions

Birthdays

14.10 – Phil Lyon
14.10 – Barry Murphy
10.14 – Brett White



Partners Birthdays

15.10 – Pauline Davison

Anniversaries

Nil

Inductions

15.10 – Brian Yeo (15 years)

Vocational Profile

14.10 – Barry Biffen

Attendance	68%
Make Ups	Paul Stevenson – Tamworth-on-Peel
Visitors Rotarians	None
Visitors	Kristy Reading – GSE applicant
Heads & Tails	Annette Arthur
Raffle	Skinner

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 ensue 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
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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**

	14 October 2009	21 October 2009
Guest Speaker	Therese Cook	SES Presentation – Greg Birtles
Meeter & Greeter	Dick Davison	
Door Team	Helen Tickle & Steve Massey	Stephen Mitchell & John Fogarty
Welcome	Campbell McIntosh	
President Assist	Brian Thompson	
Visitor Assist	Peter Hinchcliffe	
Corporal Assist	Peter Hyde	
Introduction	Narelle Langfield	
Vote of Thanks	Dennis Johnson	

CORPORALS FOR COMING MONTHS

October	**Phil Heffernan and Graham Dooley**
November	Laurence Hearne and Barry Biffin
December	Bill Moss and David Baddams
January	Narelle Langfield and Ross Lobsey
February	Stephen Mitchell and Brodie Shields
March	Brian Yeo and John Fogarty

UNCLEAR THINKING AND WRITING
(USA WELFARE DEPARTMENT)

I am forwarding my marriage certificate and
Three children, one of which is a mistake,
As you can see.