The Rotary Club of
TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT
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www.tamworthfirstlight.org.au 21 October 2009 – Meeting #982

Brett's Banter –

Quote of the week

"Men want the same thing from their underwear as they want from women, a little bit of support and a little bit of freedom"

Jerry Seinfeld

A thought provoking talk from Therese Cook this meeting about the trauma of injuries sustained from a major motor vehicle accident and loss of her only child. Her husband Kevin was also with her for her talk and was also severely injured from the accident. His twin daughters from his first relationship became their carers at the age of 14. It is probably every parent's worst fear of losing a child, no matter the age and I admire Therese's strength to rebuild her life and encourage and inspire others.

Julian Smith contacted me to advice of his mothers passing at the age of 93.5 years. No longer will we received the regular updates from Julian which has been part of our club for many years. Our thoughts are with Julian and his family at this time.

Congratulations to our Club's nominee Kristy Reading, who has been successful in becoming one of the GSE team to visit District 5440 from 3 May 2010. The district being visited encompasses Wyoming and northern Colorado in the centre of the United States. We are very proud of her accomplishment and thanks to those who have assisted Kristy with mentoring, education and transport to interviews.

The 'Guess who's coming to dinner' was again successful and from all reports, a great night was had from all involved. I had an exceptional dinner experience at Helen Tickles in a group of 10 with virtually a five course dinner. Laurie Hearne is an expert mash potato chef, but not sure about the mascarpone cheese. Thanks Peter Ryan for the organisation.

Phil Lyon and I decided that the best way of starting off our respective birthdays was to have breakfast with our Rotarian friends.

Have a good one.
Brett

AND FOR THE NEWS

REMINDER NEXT WEEK'S MEETING (WEDNESDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2009) IS AT THE SES BUILDING 19 - 23 LOCKHEED STREET TAMINDA

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Rotary Club of Tamworth Sunrise
Charter dinner on
Saturday, 24 October 2009 at 6:30 pm
Ballroom at West Diggers
Cost is $60 per person
PLEASE RSVP NOW

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Our Guest Speaker for the last Wednesday in October is
Dr Rob Sharp – he will be speaking about
New England Orthopaedic Outreach.

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23 – 25 October – the Golf Club weekend should be successful – full house – have a great weekend and hope the weather is kind and the swing relaxed and easy and you will all be winners....

27 October 2009 – Big Business Thinking lecture – Capital Theatre 6:30 pm – Adults $60, Concession $50. Leaflets left on the tables last Wednesday morning – arranged by the Tamworth Development Corporation.

Good News - Chris Morris – for those of you who know Chris – he had a lung transplant and is progressing very well.

Sad news – Julian Smith's mother lost her fight and died at the age of 93.5 years.... Our sympathy goes out to Julian and his family at this time.

POLIO PLUS FUND RAISER –

Wednesday, 11 November at 6:30 pm at the Capital Cinema – Tickets $15.00 (purchase from Jane Bradford (6766 6100) or AG Phillip Crossing only – must be paid for by Friday, 6 November.

Only 140 tickets to sell and some 50 already sold....

The movie is AMELIA
starring Hilary Swank and Richard Gere

the legend, the love, the mystery...
Please book soon and support Rotary in its final push to eliminate Polio from the world – so very close now.....

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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)**

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**
27 October	"Bringing Big Business Thinking" to the Capital Theatre – 6.30 pm
7 – 11 November	Blue Angel Quilt & Collectable Exhibition – details to follow
11 November	**Amelia – Movie – PolioPlus Fund Raiser**
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**

From: alanstclair [mailto:alanstclair@bigpond.com]
Sent: Monday, 12 October 2009 5:10 PM
To: brett.white@freemans.com.au
Cc: Terry Robinson; Phil Crossing
Subject: FW: Rotary GSE Selection Kristy Reading

Hi Brett,

It gives me great pleasure to advise that your applicant Kristy Reading has been selected with four other team members to represent our District for the GSE exchange with D 5440 in the United States. The tour commences on 3 May 2010. See letter attached which has been forwarded to Kristy in confirmation.

Thank you very much for identifying Kristy as an applicant and we all look forward to her having a wonderful exchange. We consider that the team we have selected this year will be very capable and wonderful ambassadors.

Warm regards
Alan St Clair
GSE Chair
alanstclair@bigpond.com
6775 0165 0410437915

To: 'Kristy Reading'
Cc: Wendy Mulligan
Subject: RE: Rotary GSE Selection Kristy Reading

Hi Kristy,

Well, the pre work has been worth it and you are now selected to undertake the exchange to D 5440. Congratulations.

The attached letter formally confirms your selection for this wonderful opportunity.

Wendy will now be your main contact point, however I will be in touch from time to time to ensure that the transport and other arrangements are in order.

Don't forget your medical certificate which I now want. Also if you do not have a passport now is the time to organise one. Don't wait!

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any issues at all re this exchange.

Kindest regards
Alan St Clai r
Rotary District 9650 GSE Chair
alanstclair@bigpond.com
6775 0165 0410437915

Our GSE member Kristy Reading and Vicki Cooper

Congratulations!!!! Great Achievement!!!

GUEST SPEAKER

Therese Cook spoke about the trauma and tragedy suffered as a result of a motor vehicle accident and is signing her book "My Heart is Breaking but My Spirit is Strong" at Angus & Robertson's in Tamworth today.

She and her husband and her 11 year old daughter were on their way to Tamworth. There was no coffee at Murrurundi so pressed on towards Tamworth . The other driver had driven from Cairns and was to have stopped in Tamworth but decided to press on and fell asleep. He and his wife were killed on impact and Therese and her husband were badly injured and lost their 11 year old daughter also on impact.

Therese spoke about the months of pain and slowness of recovery, having to be in a wheel chair, slowly recovering from depression and melancholy and the fact that her two stepdaughters aged 14 became their carers and how it matured them as well.

The Westpac Rescue Helicopter receives $1 from every book sold so we hope she has a very successful day in Tamworth and will also be riding in the Charity Ride from Wallabadah this weekend.

She now operates her own business and runs and organises leadership programs for senior management and finished with "It is not what happens but what you do that matters most"

Q You mentioned that you speak to Traffic Offenders Groups – would it not be better to speak to pre-licence holders?
A Yes, currently talking with Authorities to have this implemented as part of obtaining a licence

Q Saturday and Riding?
A Yes, I now own a horse called Emily and she is 15.3 hands, a beautiful bay mare and she will be at NELE at AELEC this weekend as well as participating in the Charity ride

Q You mentioned painting the poodle pink – what colour is it now?
A White

Q Eight months to go out to the letterbox – was it more physical or mental?
A Mostly mental – however good things did come out of this – one of her step daughters is studying for a Policing degree and the other is nursing at Sutherland Hospital

Q Rescue Helicopter and the Ambulance Service – the latter prefers the centralising and tasking of the Helicopters in Sydney. Would it not be better for the Helicopter to arrive sooner and would you consider lobbying for this?
A Would like to hear more

Q How did you get over the feeling of "Why Me"?
A Huge barrier to overcome – lots of counselling and finally a stronger person told her to get over herself and move on. I actually took note and grew from there.

Introduced by Narelle Langfield and thanked by Dennis Johnson

Dennis Johnson thanks guest speaker Therese Cook

Rotary International District 9650

Jo Wilkin

Governor 2010-2011

Expression of Interest for District Role 2010-2011

This is an exciting time to be involved in Rotary International! Our membership numbers are gradually climbing once again, and we have nearly completed one of the greatest health programs in history - the eradication of polio. Our International President Elect, Ray Klinginsmith from Kirkville, USA, is forward looking and eager to consider how we can do things in ways that achieve even better outcomes.

Moreover, there is clearly more need than ever before for the work we do here and around the world. The financial crisis, natural disasters, poverty, illiteracy, disease and lack of clean water all continue to create a world where inequity and injustice cannot be ignored.

If you would like to be a part of the District 9650 Team for 2010-2011, would you please indicate below what particular areas of interest, expertise or experience you may have. The District Directory is a good place to start - look through it and see in what area you might be able to contribute to our program of 'doing good in the world', as we, through our Foundation and through our club and district projects, aim to do.

Could you indicate any specific committee or position you would be prepared to undertake during 2010-2011, and return the information to me by Sunday 15 November - we are required now to submit to RI the names of all district committee members before the end of the year.

Name: _____

Rotary Club: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Position or committee preferences:

.....

Relevant experience in or out of Rotary:

.....

Would you please email this information to me at jo.wilkin@gmail.com, or post to
DGE Jo Wilkin, 'Ulalah', 464 Maranoa Road, Coonabarabran, NSW 2357

Yours in Rotary service,
Jo Wilkin
District Governor 2010-2011

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 David Hinwood and a gentle reminder to Narelle Langfield for an item for next week please**....

Stella Awards!

Time once again to review the winners of the Annual "Stella Awards." The Stella Awards are named after 81 year-old Stella Liebeck who spilled hot coffee on herself and successfully sued McDonald's (in NM). That case inspired the Stella Awards for the most frivolous, ridiculous, successful lawsuits in the United States

Here are this year's winners:

5th Place (tie):
Kathleen Robertson of Austin, Texas, was awarded $80,000. by a jury of her peers after breaking her ankle tripping over a toddler who was running inside a furniture store. The owners of the store were understandably surprised at the verdict, considering the misbehaving little toddler was Ms. Robertson's son.

5th Place (tie):
19-year-old Carl Truman of Los Angeles won $74,000 and medical expenses when his neighbor ran over his hand with a Honda Accord. Mr. Truman apparently didn't notice there was someone at the wheel of the car when he was trying to steal his neighbor's hubcaps.

5th Place (tie):
Terrence Dickson of Bristol, Pennsylvania, was leaving a house he had just finished robbing by way of the garage. He was not able to get the garage door to go up since the automatic door opener was malfunctioning. He couldn't re-enter the house because the door connecting the house and garage locked when he pulled it shut. The family was on vacation, and Mr. Dickson found himself locked in the garage for eight days. He subsisted on a case of Pepsi he found, and a large bag of dry dog food. He sued the homeowner's insurance claiming the situation caused him undue mental anguish. The jury agreed, to the tune of $500,000. In my opinion this is so outrageous that it should have been 2nd Place
!

4th Place:
Jerry Williams of Little Rock, Arkansas, was awarded $14,500. and medical expenses after being bitten on the buttocks by his next door neighbor's beagle. The beagle was on a chain in its owner's fenced yard. The award was less than sought because the jury felt the dog might have been just a little provoked at the time by Mr. Williams who had climbed over the fence into the yard and was shooting it repeatedly with a pellet gun.

3rd Place:
A Philadelphia restaurant was ordered to pay Amber Carson of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, $113,500. after she slipped on a soft drink and broke her coccyx (tailbone). The beverage was on the floor because Ms. Carson had thrown it at her boyfriend 30 seconds earlier during an argument.

Second Place:
Kara Walton of Claymont, Delaware, successfully sued the owner of a night club in a neighboring city when she fell from the bathroom window to the floor and knocked out her two front teeth. This occurred while Ms. Walton was trying to sneak through the window in the ladies room to avoid paying the $3.50 cover charge . She was awarded $12,000 and dental expenses

First Place
This year's runaway winner was Mrs. Merv Grazinski of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Mrs. Grazinski purchased a brand new 32-foot Winnebago motor home. On her first trip home, (from an OU football game), having driven onto the freeway, she set the cruise control at 70 mph and calmly left the driver's seat to go into the back & make herself a sandwich. Not surprisingly, the RV left the freeway, crashed and overturned. Mrs.Grazinski sued Winnebago for not advising her in the owner's manual that she couldn't actually do this. The jury awarded her $1,750,000. plus a new motor home. The company actually changed their manuals on the basis of this suit, just in case there were any other complete morons around.

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Les Jacob – North Fife, Scotland – District Governor's visit – same all over the world...

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

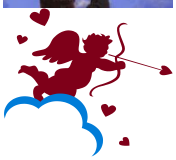
BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009 - 2010

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

Birthdays, Anniversaries & Inductions

Birthdays 22.10 – Ron Allen

Partners Birthdays 22.10 – Jane Chamberlain



Anniversaries
23.10 – Norm & Jeannette Dezius (38 yrs)
25.10 – Greg & Lynne Birtles (23 years)
26.10 – Max & Donna May (28 years)

Inductions
21.10 – Anne Jacob (11 years)
25.10 – Peter Bell (3 years)

Vocational Profile 28.10 – Barry Biffen

Attendance	81%
Make Ups	A number at Tamworth Sunrise
Visitors Rotarians	None
Visitors	Kevin Cook & Kristy Reading
Heads & Tails	John Fogarty
Raffle	Phil Penman

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
-
- 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**

	21 October 2009	28 October 2009
Guest Speaker	**SES Presentation – Greg Birtles**	Dr Rob Sharp
Meeter & Greeter		DJ Jones
Door Team	**Stephen Mitchell & John Fogarty**	Brodie Shields & Barry Murphy
Welcome		David Baddams
President Assist		Brian Yeo
Visitor Assist		Ross Lobsey
Corporal Assist		Phil Lyon
Introduction		Annette Arthur
Vote of Thanks		Meg Larkin

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)

Unless I get my husband's money pretty soon,
I will be forced to lead an immortal life.