

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



[www.tamworthfirstlight.org.au](http://www.tamworthfirstlight.org.au) 2 December 2009 – Meeting #988



## *Brett's Banter -*

### Quote of the week

**"Why does Sea World have a seafood restaurant?? I'm halfway through my fish burger and I realize, Oh man....I could be eating a slow learner."**

*quote by, Lyndon B. Johnson*

With the focus of this year on International and in particular, Polio Plus, it was appropriate to have PDG John Barwick present information on the Rotary Foundation. We are always honoured to have John visit with us due to his role as one of the founding fathers of our Club. Many newer members would not be aware of the work of the Foundation, which is the largest charitable group in the world.

The Club Christmas party is upon us and it should be a great night full of fun, frivolity, fanatics, food and falcohol. Wait for the photos.

Christmas meeting 16 December is when we ask members to bring a gift (wrapped with age and sex for recipient tagged) or non-perishable food items.

I am booking accommodation for those attending the District Conference at Port Macquarie on 12 to 14 March 2010 and so far there is myself, Terry Robo, Phil Lyon, Annette Arthur, Jane Bradford, Vicki Cooper and Louise Matthews. If anyone else would like to join us, please call me asap. Suggest will be an advantage for any members considering a board position for 2010 – 2011.

Pat a dog today.  
Brett

## AND FOR THE NEWS

**CHRISTMAS HAMPER FOR THE SALVATION ARMY** – Please could members donate non-perishable goods OR wrapped children's presents marked for girl or boy for the Salvation Army's Christmas Hampers – to be handed to Captain Stuart Glover on Wednesday, 16 December 2009 - **donations accepted from this week – Thank you**

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

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### CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

There will be **no meetings** on the following dates:

Wednesday, 30 December 2009

Wednesday, 6 January 2010

Our first meeting back on **Wednesday, 13 January** will be the Official Opening of the **ANZAC PARK NEW BBQ** at the usual time 6:30 for 7:00 AM

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## CALENDAR 2009/2010 EVENTS

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### **13 January Official Opening of ANZAC Park BBQ**

**26 January** Combined Rotary Clubs involved all day Bicentennial Park

**03 February** Vocational Visit to Oncology Unit

**08 February** GSE visit to Tamworth

**22 – 28 February** Australia-wide Campaign for PolioPlus

**06 March** **1,000<sup>th</sup> First Light Meeting CELEBRATIONS**

**12 – 14 March** District 9650 Conference, Port Macquarie – Book accommodation early

**15 – 17 March** Science & Engineering Challenge

**1 / 2 May** NSW Cancer Council – Relay for Life

**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

# D9800 BUSHFIRE RECOVERY PROGRAM - PROGRESS REPORT NO.4 – NOVEMBER 2009

## THE GENERAL SITUATION

Fire affected communities are recovering slowly but steadily, as they are not all the same in character their rate of recovery and support needs vary from place to place. However, with the general post-fire cleanup program completed, there has been a steady increase in re-building activity that heralds a change for the better in the psychological outlook of residents and their communities.

We all know that “Rome wasn’t built in a day”: in the case of the Bushfire Recovery much has been achieved but much work remains to be done. This is an “endurance event” not a “sprint” and as the public memory of the fire recedes and government agencies and other providers progressively withdraw services and support, the affected communities will come under increasing pressure to generate their own recovery. There is a need for on-going support to be provided to the survivors and their communities; this will be influential on their psychological recovery from the traumatic experience of the February 2009 disaster. Rotary is “doing its bit” in that regard and more: we need to ensure that the effort continues through constructive involvement with the communities and other agencies that are likeminded to Rotary. Various small to medium sized projects have been supported, some have been initiated by Rotary Clubs and others by proposals submitted by private individuals and groups. It is not necessary to comment on all of these projects; however, it will be of interest to make brief reference to a few:

- Kinglake Ranges Network Inc received funding to enable purchase of 10 marquees to be used in re-establishing the Kinglake Farmers and Artisans Market
- Bendigo Community Corrective Services received funding to enable purchase of fencing equipment to be used by teams of offenders who are being employed on fence reconstruction tasks as part of a TAFE Course
- Several D9800 Clubs had small “matching grants” approved for recovery project that they proposed
- A financial contribution was made to enable the hire of a skid steer loader for use on farm fence construction work in Gippsland. That exercise involved cooperation with D9820 and D9830
- Funds were provided to D9820 to enable construction of a cubby house at Labertouche Primary School. Two cubby houses were sourced for D9820 from the *Floriana* Exhibition in Canberra with the kind assistance of Rotarians involved there
- Small grants were provided by D9800 and D9810 to a Fire Guard Group from North Warrandyte to support development of a fire alert communication system called *Firelinx*. It is pleasing to report that Firelinx Community Project Inc was awarded a High Commendation for the *Firelinx rapid bushfire alert system* at the 2009 Australian Safer Communities Awards ceremony held on 9 November.

### In Conclusion

Nine months have passed since “Black Saturday” and much progress towards recovery has been made in that time. A great deal of work still remains to be done and it is expected that physical recovery progress will continue for at least a further two years; however, Rotary involvement may be largely concluded within eighteen months. It is intended that at the conclusion of each project a post audit will be undertaken to confirm execution and, where possible, to assess the value of the financial commitment to the Recovery Program. On-going direct support provided by Rotarians and their clubs will still be highly desirable for some time to come. Continued demonstration of interest in the circumstances faced by survivors and their communities will be valuable. Like the forests, the fire affected communities are regenerating; however, they still need much encouragement and more assistance.

### Mev Connell PSM Chairman – RI D9800 Bushfire Recovery Committee

Donations from Clubs can still be directed to the bushfire appeal through Rotary District 9800.

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## 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.... This week is **Pat Varley's** turn and not surprisingly this shows her love of animals and the benefits they can bring to both children and adults.... Next week we will be hearing from John Glynn – what are the chances that it will be on aviation????*



*“In our high speed, anonymous world of complicated lives,  
true love has never been harder to find.  
Is it any wonder that we find comfort and solace in  
hairy, furry and scaly companions?”*

*Far from the sleazy bar scene, blind dates and  
websites dedicated to finding your soul mate,  
pets offer a relationship guaranteed free from lies  
and infidelity, where silence feels comfortable.  
Here is a chance to find true love!”*

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# Official lighting of the Community Christmas Tree



*Meet Hi5's Sun Park*

Thursday 3rd  
December at 7pm  
on the forecourt of  
Tamworth Regional  
Council  
437 Peel Street

Enjoy a  
community BBQ,  
free rides and  
giveaways for  
the kids!

## Sing along with

Nicole Geddes, Jarod Scott  
and James Craswell

Tamworth & District  
Highland Society Pipe Band

Tamworth RSL Brass Band



*Bring your Mum, bring your  
Dad.....bring the whole family!*

Proudly supported by



The Northern Daily  
**LEADER**



NB: Peel Street closed between White & Fitzroy Streets from 5pm to 10pm for the event

# GUEST SPEAKER

## ROTARY FOUNDATION – OUR CHARITY OF CHOICE

PDG John Barwick was pleased to be with us today to speak about the **Rotary Foundation**. **The Rotary Foundation** is governed by a 13 member Board of Trustees appointed by the President of Rotary International and quite a number of Australians have been trustees of the Foundation, some even serving as Chairman.

Rotary International is the service organisation to which we, as Rotarians, belong and administers the business of Rotary. The Rotary Foundation is the charity arm of Rotary and has its own logo and promotes Rotary's goal of peace, goodwill and understanding by supporting those less fortunate than us by improving healthy, supporting literacy programs and the alleviation of poverty.

A simple explanation is to look at your Rotary Club – the Club has two accounts – one account administers the needs of its members (that is Rotary International), the other holds funds raised through the year and returned to community, region, State, Australia or overseas projects (that is the Rotary Foundation) funding humanitarian projects and disaster around the globe.

The Rotary Foundation is now the largest privately funded humanitarian aid organisation in the world – surpassing Oxfam, Care Australia and World Vision. The major difference between the Foundation and other charitable organisations is that the operational expenses of our Foundation never exceed the investment earnings of the fund whereas other organisations do have huge overheads so only a small percentage of their donations ever reach the end recipients. The Rotary Foundation gives the best percentage for your and my charitable funds – 100% delivered to exactly where it is needed most. No fleets of vehicles, telephone and accommodation accounts, no area managers and no field staff to pay.

In Australia we have a shameful record for disaster relief – the funds raised by Australians for the Nyngan flood disaster still has not been fully distributed and now the “experts” do not know what to do with “our” money. Cyclone Tracey provides a similar story so one wonders what will happen to all the funds raised for the victims of the Victorian Bushfires does it go back to the State or Federal Government after a period of years? Our Foundation supplies an audited financial statement every year showing exactly where our funds were expended.

The Rotary Foundation receives its funds from donations from Rotarians, Clubs, private individuals and corporations. Donations to the Foundation are tax deductible in Australia. The giving of a Paul Harris Fellow recognition is a major source of funds for the Foundation. Other ways Clubs and Rotarians can participate are:

- Become a Sustaining Member – an initial gift of US\$100 and makes the commitment to do so annually until US\$1,000 is reached
- Becoming a Benefactor – a Rotarian makes provision and names the Foundation as a beneficiary in their will or makes a donation of US\$1,000 or more to the Foundation
- Bequest – cash or property is left to the Foundation in a will. This is one of the major means of support for the Foundation.
- The Rotary Foundation was proposed by Arch Klumph, the sixth President of Rotary International in 1917 and it was named an endowment fund for Rotary. In 1928 the Fund was renamed the Rotary Foundation with total funds of US\$5,000. The great depression and World War II impeded significant growth. Only after Paul Harris' death in 1947 did contributions begin pouring into the fund and currently US\$112M is contributed annually and a similar amount is spent in aid programs. The Foundation Fund currently stands at US\$1.8 billion.

- The donation from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation of US\$100M indicates the standing in which Rotary is held –The second donation of US\$250M is even more astounding with a challenge that Rotary has to match this to eliminate Polio from the world. With the PolioPlus campaign over 500,000 children will not contract this debilitating disease each year and the cost for this program is merely \$0.60 per child. As we all know – only four countries still have polio – Nigeria, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan.
- The Rotary Foundation had committed US\$650M till June 2007 for polio eradication with an additional US\$25M being spent each year since. The United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) stated in their Annual Report that the Rotary Foundation was the only organisation with the will, the manpower, the determination and the funds to carry out PolioPlus. We will rid the world of Polio.

Billions of children (30M in India in one day) have been vaccinated by hundreds of thousands of Rotary volunteers who provided the manpower on the ground, the coolrooms, the refrigerated transport and the guts and determination to succeed. Rotary negotiators halted hostilities in warring localities so as the children could be vaccinated. Again it is stressed that the major difference is that Rotary programs are carried out by volunteers **not paid personnel** as with other mentioned organisations. What this means is – do you want only \$0.30 of your \$1.00 actually reaches the needy or would you prefer to know that with the Rotary Foundation every dollar donated reaches where it is needed most. **Something for us all to think about.**

The Foundation has funded relief efforts in the Asian tsunami, hurricanes in Mexico and Guatemala, earthquakes in India and Pakistan and most recently in the Samoan and Sumatra earthquakes. The Foundation recently called for volunteer dentists – Dr Alec Noble from the Tamworth Club went to the Philippines on a number of occasions, Mexico and Guatemala. In Australia the Foundation has supported the Fred Hollows Foundation and Aboriginal health.

Other Foundation involvement is with the Ambassadorial Scholarships, some 400 students study abroad each year with grants US\$15M. The Group Study Exchange (GSE) is very popular – usually teams of four non-Rotarians led by a Rotarian – US\$M spent each year. We also have matching grants. All funds raised for the Rotary Foundation stay in Australia plus a sizable bonus for us, as Clubs and Districts to spend as each sees fit.

Thank you again for inviting me and hope you have a clearer insight into our Rotary Foundation – our charity of choice.

**Introduction** – Anne Jacob with a reminder that John Barwick was one of the founding fathers for our Club some twenty years ago.... **Thanked** by Peter Hinchcliffe.



Peter Hinchcliffe thanked PDG John Barwick for his talk on the Rotary Foundation

# WHY AM I A ROTARIAN?

**Doris A. Lockey**

**August 2009**

## **THE STORY OF A ROTARIAN VOLUNTEER**

I rolled out of bed at my usual workday time of 5:00 am on the morning of July 4th, 2006. I immediately asked myself, "Self why did you volunteer?"

I had volunteered to help The Rotary Club of Lake Conroe (not my club, but a close neighbor) with a rest stop for the "Burn Your Buns" bike ride benefiting Bridgewood Farms, a local facility for the mentally challenged.

I did gather myself together, drink some coffee and headed on over to the home of Rotarians Michael and Kris McBride (an RGHF member). Their ranch was the location of one of the rest stops for the bike riders. My self talk on the way home that day was totally different from the first thoughts of the day as I reflected back on the morning.

"Service Above Self" is not just our motto. Rotarians live and breathe the motto in everything we do. Bridgewood Farms benefited with the dollars raised from the fundraiser, but the Rotarians, friends and family on hand to work the rest stop were the real winners. The fellowship shared was priceless.

I would possibly have never met Kris McBride, who many think is my sister, had it not been for Rotary and another "volunteer day". When Kris agreed to write the weekly Rotary column in The Courier (our local daily newspaper) she asked for a volunteer from each of the Montgomery County Rotary Clubs to gather news of their club for her. I was the Rotarian to represent The Rotary Club of Conroe. The rest is history and she is truly the sister I never had.

**THIS is why I am a Rotarian.**

**Doris A. Lockey**

**Past President 2006/2007, The Rotary Club of Conroe, Texas, USA, District 5910**

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A turkey was chatting with a bull "I would love to be able to get to the top of that tree" sighed the turkey "but I haven't got the energy."

"Why don't you nibble on some of my droppings - they are packed full of nutrients." Said the Bull

The turkey pecked at a lump of dung and found it gave him the strength to reach the lower branches. The next day he ate some more and managed to get higher in the tree. The following day he reached the top of the tree - was promptly shot by a farmer.

**Moral of the story:**

Bullshit may get you to the top of the tree but it won't keep you there.....

**TIM COATES** has entered the epic bike ride from Lyndoch in the Barossa Valley back to Tamworth to celebrate the **TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY** of the Westpac Helicopter being in Tamworth and is seeking sponsorship from members.... The following is a compilation of information relating to this ride and Tim Coates is only too willing to answer any questions in his support for sponsorship.....

**Barry Walton....**

"As you are aware we (Westpac Helicopter Fundraising) are planning a 10 year anniversary ride in 2010 from Lyndoch in the Barossa Valley back to Tamworth over a three week period to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the helicopter being based in Tamworth.

The ride is also being used to promote Tamworth as a tourist destination as well as the Tamworth Country Music Festival to be held in 2011. We anticipate having a dedicated group of 20 riders & 6 Support Crew for the full ride and no doubt will be joined from time to time by others.

This ride will be conducted on Mountain Bikes not road bikes and we will attempt to find as much back road to the towns that we are heading to as possible. Over the next few months I will be attempting to put together for you a proposal package to gain support from companies that you may not have asked before as it is a fundraising and awareness ride to celebrate 10 years of service to the community.

So far I have had discussions with Tourism Tamworth, CMAA, Tamworth Business Chamber, West Leagues and correspondence with Australia Post. We are currently working on Westpac regarding a bus for back up with our usual support vehicles; we also have a couple of prospective National Companies in the wind... We will be fundraising or collecting donations along the way, also Toohey's are on Board in addition I am in the process of contacting the AHA association (AHA Tamworth have donated \$2500) in the various states as well as the Registered Clubs. **When you look at it - it is only 4 months away.**

Also we have picked up Travel World as an incentive sponsor for the highest fundraiser for this ride. They are looking at a 5-7night package holiday either to Tasmania, New Zealand or on a Cruise, further details will be known later so it is not a bad incentive if you can achieve a few good sponsors and top the list with the most amount of Money.

The rider and support crew fee at one price of \$1700. This will cover accommodation, clothing, breakfast and lunches, your evening meals and drinks are at your expense

The ride party leave Tamworth on March 3<sup>rd</sup> for Lyndoch in South Australia and the return ride commences on the 5<sup>th</sup>. We have a welcome home afternoon tea at the Westpac Bank around 2pm and end of ride dinner at the Calala Inn Friday night from 5.30pm (March 26<sup>th</sup>) with the riders from Newcastle's 8 day ride who will join us at Quirindi on the Thursday Night 25<sup>th</sup> March

We are in the process of developing a Barossa Bike Ride Blog which will enable everyone to access information about the ride, progress and planning. The link for the blog is <http://barossacharitybikeride.blogspot.com/>.

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## "BLONDE MEN"

Men you've got to love this!!

**These men are installing and setting solid steel pillars in concrete to stop vehicles from parking on the pavement outside a bar.**

**They are cleaning up at the end of the day.**

**How long do you think it will be before they realize where their vehicle is parked?**



A Doctor was addressing a large audience in Tampa . 'The material we put into our stomachs is enough to have killed most of us sitting here, years ago.

Red meat is awful. Soft drinks corrode your stomach lining. Chinese food is loaded with MSG. High fat diets can be disastrous, and none of us realises the long-term harm caused by the germs in our drinking water.

However, there is one thing that is the most dangerous of all and we all have eaten, or will eat it. Can anyone here tell me what food it is that causes the most grief and suffering for years after eating it?'

After several seconds of quiet, a 75-year-old man in the front row raised his hand, and softly said, 'Wedding Cake.'

# Club Website

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|--|--|
| 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:trobenson@eversol.com.au">trobenson@eversol.com.au</a>               |
| Bulletin Editor – <b>Jane Bradford</b> | <a href="mailto:michael@mmsmail.com.au">michael@mmsmail.com.au</a>                   |
| <b>Board of Directors</b>              | <a href="mailto:jbmail@monelu.com">jbmail@monelu.com</a>                             |
|  | <a href="mailto:board@tamworthfirstlight.org.au">board@tamworthfirstlight.org.au</a> |

## 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



|                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Birthdays</b>          | 03.12 – Anne Jacob     |
| <b>Partners Birthdays</b> | 04.12 – Hellen Allen   |
|                           | 08.12 – Carolyn Murphy |



|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>Anniversaries</b> | 05.12 – Helen and David Hinwood – 34 yrs |
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|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Inductions</b> | 04.12 – Ross Lobsey – 18 years |
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|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Vocational Profile</b> | Nil – Annual General Meeting |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|

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| <b>Attendance</b> | 85% |
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| <b>Make Ups</b> | Chris Sheppeard & Paul Stevenson at Tamworth Sunrise plus 14 members attended the Great Debate at Tamworth North |
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| <b>Visitors Rotarians</b> | PDG John Barwick – Tamworth West |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|

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| <b>Visitors</b> | Nil |
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| <b>Heads &amp; Tails</b> | Skinner |
|--------------------------|---------|

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| <b>Raffle</b> | Skinner |
|---------------|---------|

# 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](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)

|                  | 2 December 2009                     | 9 December 2009                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Guest Speaker    | <b>Annual General Meeting</b>       | Tony Windsor – Alternate Energy |
| Meeter & Greeter | <b>Les Jacob</b>                    | David Baddams                   |
| Door Team        | <b>Rob Clifton &amp; Tim Coates</b> | Andrew Hawkins & Dennis Johnson |
| Welcome          | <b>Steve Massey</b>                 | DJ Jones                        |
| President Assist | <b>Narelle Langfield</b>            | Brodie Shields                  |
| Visitor Assist   |                                     | Meg Larkin                      |
| Corporal Assist  |                                     | Ross Lobsey                     |
| Introduction     |                                     | Helen Tickle                    |
| Vote of Thanks   |                                     | Stephen Mitchell                |

## CORPORALS FOR COMING MONTHS

**December**      **Bill Moss and David Baddams**  
**January**        Narelle Langfield and Ross Lobsey  
**February**       Stephen Mitchell and Brodie Shields  
**March**            Brian Yeo and John Fogarty

**!!! MEN STRIKE BACK !!!**  
 How do you know when a woman is  
 about to say something smart?  
**When she starts a sentence with**  
**“A man once told me....**