

From the desk



Rotary  Club of Tamworth  
First Light **Bulletin**



Rotary   Be a gift  
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# DATES TO REMEMBER **IN YOUR DIARIES**



**2015**

**Friday, 18 December – Santa Crawl – further information speak with Chris Watson – 02 6761 3944 or 0404 170 276**

**2016**

- **Wednesday, 13 January 2016 – Breakfast will be at “Hopscotch”, Kable Avenue Please contact Val Hellmann, 02 6766 3462 By Monday, 11 January to confirm attendance for catering purposes**
- **Academy of Country Music Senior Graduation Concert – Blazes, West Leagues Club – on Thursday, 14 January - time 8:00PM – Cost of tickets \$20 – Our Club has 150 tickets to sell**
- **Wednesday, 20 January – Breakfast will be at Marsupial Park – again please contact Val Hellmann, 02 6766 3462 By Monday, 18 January to confirm attendance for catering purposes**
- **GOLFERS - The 2016 Coastal Golf Trip to Tallwoods and Tuncurry is weekend 4-6 March 2016**
- **March – Tuesday 22, Wednesday 23, Thursday 24 – Science & Engineering Challenge**

**Sat 2nd April – Sat 9th April 2016 - Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) – please consider and assess which member of your staff could benefit from such an opportunity. Contact Louise Matthews – 02 6765 7181 or 0420 743 083 for further information**

**Weekend 15 – 17 April – District Conference – Taree**

**May 2016 – Careers Expo – further details to follow...**

**Saturday, 18 June First Light Changeover – Wests Diggers**

**Saturday, 25 June - District Changeover**

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***MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE***



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# Wednesday, 16 December 2015

## Meeting # 1290

### Quote of the Week

*"Peace is the only battle worth waging"*

*Albert Camus*

### From The Desk

Our guest speakers, Kylie and Vicki shared some thought provoking statistics and information about domestic violence in Australia and our very own doorstep. We were challenged to take a stand and speak out against this social disease in our society. It was also great to see how much is being done by various organisations to create positive change. In particular, steps being taken to setting up a one-stop-shop for victims of domestic violence. The statement that "Violence is helped by silence" resonated with me.

Congratulations to Barry Biffin who is currently representing Australia in the UAE for Tent Pegging.

We have a number of things happening in the lead up to and after Christmas that need to be brought to all members' attention. Please take note of these and support these events as much as possible:

- This Friday 11 November – social drinks at the Post Office Hotel – 6pm onwards. It's one way for our club to show Andrew and his team support for going the extra mile to assist with our club raising money at the Pub Raffle on Fridays.
- **NEXT WEEK Wednesday – please bring unwrapped presents for the Salvation Army. Something a little special if possible to help make someone's Christmas special. No perishables please.**
- Wednesday, 13 January – we will be having our meeting at Hopscotch instead of Wests. Please can you let Val Hellmann know if you will be there. This will assist with catering.
- 20 January – we will be having our meeting at the Marsupial Park, same drill as above, let Val Hellmann know if you will be at this meeting for catering purposes.
- Anyone interested in Driver Mentoring, please see Christine Shewry.
- Our Club has offered to sell 150 tickets for the prestigious Academy of Country Music Senior Graduation event on the 14<sup>th</sup> January. The event will be held at Blazes West Leagues Club from 8pm and tickets will be available for \$20.
- The Tamworth Rotary Club are calling for volunteers to assist with their food stall during the Country Music Festival. From 15 – 24 January between the hours of 10am to 8pm.

Have a great week.

**Graeme Kruger**

# NOTES....

- **The Academy of Country Music's Senior Graduation Concert – see details under “DIARY DATES” above or Graeme’s “From the Desk”**
- **Shelterbox.** – The Combined Rotary Clubs of Tamworth have purchased a Shelterbox so that we can all utilise it for all future promotions – maybe its first outing could be at the above concert??
- **Brian and Di Yeo need our help** – for the keen gardeners – mowing lawns, doing edges and weeding – possibly a roster to suit those who are able to help a long standing Rotarian and good Club member. **Please speak to Brett White – 02 6766 5552 or 0427 659 606** to see how we can possibly help in other areas as well.
- **Driver Mentoring will begin again in the New Year** – if able to assist, please speak to Christine Shewry – 0408 863 420 or email [christine.shewry@joblinkplus.com.au](mailto:christine.shewry@joblinkplus.com.au)



Community Christmas  
Celebration



*It's that time of the year when the marketplace becomes saturated with images and messages of togetherness and prosperity, presents and abundance... but we know it's not like this for everyone.*

***This Christmas, Joblink Plus in association with Teamo Café and The Youthie will offer a place to be, good food to eat and people to be with to those in the Tamworth community who would otherwise miss out at Christmas time.***

***Community Christmas Celebration – feed your community, feed your soul and celebrate together.*** to be held at the **The Youthie on Christmas Day**. We'll offer a sit down meal as well as outdoor games and food for those who just want to drop by. Everything on offer will be at absolutely no cost to our guests on the day. Plus - Santa will be there too (we need a Santa if that's your interest!)

***Would you like to help us make a difference?*** We need community leaders like you to donate time, energy, and experience in a variety of areas. We also need your help to get the word out! Your business can make a donation or offer goods and services in kind. We will be offering transport to the venue on the day, and utilising our community service providers to issue personal invitations to the sit down meal to Tamworth families and individuals who need a hand to make Christmas special.

***Please call us today at 6764 6666 to find out more about how you can help, and visit the Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/tamworthcommunitychristmas](http://www.facebook.com/tamworthcommunitychristmas)) to register. All business donations will receive free promotions from Joblink Plus online and in local media outlets.***

***Thank you, and we look forward to hearing from YOU!!***



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## ROTARY has a challenge for December – Disease prevention and treatment month



An Australian Rotary Club Project, with international associates in Rotary Clubs in Malaysia, New Zealand, UK & Ireland, and the USA.

### DISASTER AID WINS ROTARY AWARD IN SOUTH AMERICA

Rotary Districts in that country recently combined for their **2015 Golden Wheels Awards**. and DAI Chairman, **David Langworthy** was excited to hear from friends at the RCs de Plaza Matriz and Montevideo (Uruguay) that the RC Endeavour Hills was announced, "the winner of the International Category for its Disaster Aid International Rotary club project".

**Maria Rezk**, President of the Plaza Matriz club told David, "the ceremony was well attended, including the RI Regional Public Image Coordinator", adding, "our club is really proud. We even got the Ministry of Public Health to declare it an event of national interest!"

### WORK CONTINUES IN PHILIPPINES AND VANUATU

In September, DAA sent the second of three large infrastructure placements to the **Philippines**. Ten **Sky Hydrants** (Australian water filtration system) were sent and received by our partner, the Balay Mindanaw Foundation.

An Australian DART (Disaster Aid Response Team member) re-visited **Vanuatu** in October following a deployment post-Cyclone Pam in March. Although there has been significant aid provided, small village communities are still affected with tarps still on some rooves.

The mobile sawmill (restored from funds donated to DAA), has enabled stronger buildings to be constructed. A central building used as a classroom (kindergarten to year 3) also doubles as a community meeting room. The people of Vanuatu are currently experiencing a drought and were delighted to see a returning Disaster Aid International DART from Australia.

**NEW AID PRODUCTS** We now use two new products **Sawyer Filters** for small family groupings, easily assembled to a small container (pictured). These were used in Nepal and are about to be sent to Vanuatu. That was from a Rotary Foundation Grant to **RC Wynyard**, Tasmania (D9830). and **Greenco Pak Flat** water tanks (<https://greencowater.com/>) recently deployed to Vanuatu by DAA complement the SkyHydrant™ systems.

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Domestic Violence Committee Members

Kylie Boyraz and Vicki Brean

## EDUCATION

An Elementary School Teacher had twenty-six students in her class. She presented each with the first half of a well-known proverb and asked them to come up with the remainder of the proverb. Their insight may surprise you. While reading, **keep in mind that these are first-graders, 6-year-olds**, because the last one is a classic.

1. Don't change horses - *until they stop running.*
2. Strike while the - *bug is close.*
3. It's always darkest before - *Daylight Saving Time.*
4. Never underestimate the power of - *termites.*
5. You can lead a horse to water but - *how?*
6. Don't bite the hand that -*looks dirty.*
7. No news is - *impossible.*
8. A miss is as good as a - *Mr.*
9. You can't teach an old dog - *new-math.*
10. If you lie down with dogs, you'll - *stink in the morning.*
11. Love all, trust - *me.*
12. The pen is mightier than the - *pigs.*
13. An idle mind is - *the best way to relax.*
14. Where there's smoke there's - *pollution.*
15. Happy the bride who - *gets all the presents.*
16. A penny saved is - *not much.*
17. Two's company, three's - *he Musketeers.*
18. Don't put off till tomorrow what - *you put on to go to bed.*
19. Laugh and the whole world laughs with you, cry and - *you have to blow your nose.*
20. There are none so blind as - *Stevie Wonder.*
21. Children should be seen and not - *spanked or grounded.*
22. If at first you don't succeed - *get new batteries.*
23. You get out of something only what you - *see in the picture on the box.*
24. When the blind lead the blind - *get out of the way.*
25. A bird in the hand - *is going to poop on you.*

**And the WINNER and last one!**

26. Better late than - *pregnant.*

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** update by two Committee members – Kylie Boyraz & Vicki Brean

**Introduced** – Paul Stevenson - **Thanked** - Graham Dooley

**Domestic Violence week is 25.11.2015 to 10.12.2015** “Orange the World” is the theme and this is also supported and lead by United Nations

**Kylie** opened by thanking **our cyclists** and members who wear their special “No to Domestic Violence” tops when riding on Friday and Saturdays to show their support. This Committee is looking at the following

- Create a memorial site for remembrance in the Botanic Gardens
- Tamworth High School’s White Ribbon Day and an annual Rugby match advertising “No to Domestic Violence”
- Support offered by North Tamworth Rugby Club
- Creating a radio segment to talk about where to find help
- “Love Bites” created to support teenagers
- Police receive 300 domestic violence calls a week – this is the major part of police work each day
- Looking at a similar idea to Blacktown – have a purple sign under the street names to promote No to Domestic Violence
- Domestic Violence costs Australia some \$21.7B annually.
- We need to follow Sweden’s program – No 1 country for Gender Equality
- Need to remember that victims do not ask to be raped or beaten or humiliated
- Parents set the standards that their children follow – important that families work together to create a safe home environment – also liaise with sporting bodies, in the workplace, at schools that domestic violence is not acceptable in any form
- We can all name members of our cricket team, rugby or league players – how many can name the top women cricketers considering that the Australian team in NO 1 in the World at the present time? This applies to other sports such as basketball as well.
- Paul Stevenson has agreed to be the co-ordinator of this initiative.

Lots of relevant information provided.

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Q. This increase in domestic violence caused by cultural barriers – only happens in other countries?

A. No – it is the same everywhere – often increased because of arranged marriages (example 11 year old girl made to marry a 70 year old man). Tamworth has a good multi-cultural image – some of the major issues we have is that the women do not come forward to report domestic violence, we are aware of certain situations but are not able to act unless the woman comes forward.

Q. 300 referrals in just Tamworth – really?

A. 3,600 referrals in Tamworth per annum. The police are fully aware that the majority of the calls are repeat calls but still have to respond. Over 100,000 DVO’s sought each year. More often than not – the woman does not turn up in court so the DVO lapses.

Q. Does domestic violence only occur in certain cultural backgrounds and do you think the program “RUOK?” works?

A. Domestic Violence can occur in any level of society from the wealthiest to the poorest – it has no relevance to cultural or religious backgrounds. By asking the question “RUOK?” at least lets the person know of your concern or awareness without you actually interfering in their lives. We try to stay in touch – if you are concerned – don’t give up. Cruelty to children and animals often how domestic violence starts or is the threat over the woman’s head so pain is inflicted on her to protect the children / animals in an unpleasant situation. Often the woman is so traumatised, she is unable to think her way through to an exit from her current situation. We need to be there to help, to be available to solve a situation.



**Kylie Boyraz & Vicki Brean – Members of the Domestic Violence Committee**



**Thanked by Graham Dooley**



## A heart-warming story for Christmas

This story was written by a doctor who worked in South Africa

One night I had worked hard to help a mother in the labour ward but in spite of all we could do, she died, leaving us with a tiny, premature baby and a crying two-year-old daughter. We would have difficulty keeping the baby alive, as we had no incubator (we had no electricity to run an incubator).

We also had no special feeding facilities and although we lived on the equator, nights were often chilly with treacherous drafts. One student midwife went for the box we had for such babies and the cotton wool that the baby would be wrapped in.

Another went to stoke the fire and fill a hot water bottle - she came back shortly in distress to tell me that in filling the bottle, it had burst (rubber perishes easily in tropical climates). "It was our last hot water bottle!" she exclaimed. "All right", I said "put the baby as near the fire as you safely can and sleep between the baby and the door to keep it free from drafts. Your job is to keep the baby warm."

The following noon, as I did most days, I went to have prayers with any of the orphanage children who chose to gather with me. I gave the youngsters various suggestions of things to pray about and told them about the tiny baby. I explained our problem about keeping the baby warm enough, mentioning the hot water bottle and that the baby could so easily die if it got chills. I also told them of the two-year-old sister crying because her mother had died.

During prayer time, one ten-year old girl, Ruth prayed with the usual blunt conciseness of our African children. "Please God" she prayed "Send us a hot water bottle today, it'll be no good tomorrow as the baby will be dead so please send it this afternoon."

While I gasped inwardly at the audacity of the prayer, she added "And while You are about it, would You please send a dolly for the little girl so she'll know You really love her?" As often with the children's prayers, I was put on the spot - Could I honestly say "Amen"? I just did not believe that God could do this. Yes - I know that He can do everything; the Bible says so. But there are limits, aren't there? The only way God could answer this particular prayer would be by sending me a parcel from the homeland. I had been in Africa for almost four years at that time and I had never, ever received a parcel from home. Anyway, if anyone did send me a parcel, who would put in a hot water bottle? I live on the equator!

Half-way through the afternoon, while I was teaching in the nurses' training school, a message was sent that there was a car at my front door. By the time I reached home, the car had gone, but there on the verandah was a large 22lb parcel. I felt I could not open the parcel alone, so I sent for the orphanage children. Together we pulled off the string, carefully undoing each knot. We folded the paper, taking care not to tear it unduly. Excitement was mounting - some 30 / 40 pairs of eyes were focused on the large cardboard box. From the top I lifted out brightly-coloured knitted jerseys. Eyes sparkled as I gave them out. Then there were the knitted bandages for the leprosy patients and the children looked a little bored. Then came a box of mixed raisins and sultanas - that would make a batch of buns for the weekend.

Then as I put my hand in again, I felt - could it really be? I grasped it and pulled it out - Yes! A new rubber hot water bottle. I cried - I had not asked God to send it - I had not truly believed that he could. Ruth sitting in the front row of the children rushed forward, crying out "If God has sent the bottle, He must have sent the dolly too!!"

Rummaging down to the bottom of the box, she pulled out the small, beautifully dressed dolly. Her eyes shone! She had never doubted! Looking up at me, she asked "Can I go over with you and give this dolly to that little girl so she'll know that Jesus really loves her?"

"Of course" I replied. That parcel had been on the way for five whole months, packed by my former Sunday school class, whose leader had heard and obeyed God's prompting to send a hot water bottle, even to the equator. One of the girls had put in a dolly for an African child - five months before, in answer to the believing prayer of a ten year old to bring it "that afternoon".

"Before they call, I will answer." (Isaiah 65:24). When you receive this, say the prayer - no strings attached. Prayer is one of the best free gifts we receive. There is no cost but a lot of rewards.....

“Heavenly Father, I ask you to bless my friends. I ask You to minister to their spirit. Where there is pain, give them Your peace and mercy. Where there is self-doubting, release a renewed confidence to work through them. Where there is tiredness or exhaustion, give them understanding, guidance and strength. Where there is fear reveal Your love and release to them Your courage. Bless their finances, give them greater vision and raise up leaders and friends to support and encourage them in Jesus’ name. Amen”

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### **Some items left over from Wednesday, 2 December 2015:**

**2013/2014 Treasurer** – Phil Penman confirmed that the Club’s accounts had been moved to MYOB software which had proved quite painless and with Dennis Maunder keeping track of progress, it had been an easy transition. Phil thanked Dennis Maunder and his special off-sider – Bec for their assistance.

**2014/2015 Treasurer** – Michael Smith confirmed an amount of \$73,000 across all Club accounts – Revenue raised \$65,000 – Pedal the Peel \$3,700, Pub Raffles - \$2,400 and Fine sessions \$1,900. Only small negative – breakfast expenses are a little too high.

**Club Foundation** – Phil Heffernan confirmed that the Committee had assessed and checked against original concept back in 2003 – it was set up along the lines of the International Foundation. The next Board meeting will assess and possibly implement a few small changes. Once the fund reaches \$100,000 then the interest will go into general revenue for appropriate use. However the fund will continue to grow annually and the interest rates will rise and fall but this will generate a perpetual income. Centurion program, Phil Heffernan has relevant forms for anyone interested in taking this up - \$100 per annum towards a Paul Harris Award.

**Club Administration** – Val Hellmann – our move to Diggers has proved quite successful and our Christmas dinner at Futures went exceptionally well – particularly having our new member, Dimity and her fiancé and father attending as well. We have an excellent group of younger members but we also need our retirees who so kindly assist during working days when others have to work! Our membership director, Laurie is doing a great job. **Welfare** – we need to let Maureen Thornton know if a member is ill so that she is able to respond. We know that the Yeo’s are in our thoughts and a working bee will be formed to help them in any way we can. One of the nicest things about this Club is that we have fun, provide a friendly atmosphere for visitors and speakers, helps our personal development and overall we are lucky to have peace in Tamworth.

**Service Projects** – Helen Tickle – two vocational visits being arranged – Hopscotch in January and Taminda a little further on. **Careers Expo Committee** is working very well as a team and a date to be confirmed in May. Need suggestions for exhibitors – aiming for the Careers Expo to be self-funding this year – looking at a \$70 registration fee. Have just received a cheque for \$2,000 from Tamworth Regional Council – a donation towards last May’s Career Expo presented to Christine Shewry, CEO Joblink Plus. **RYAG Equine** will be held in 2016 – Barry Biffen has guaranteed that it will happen. **RYLA** – please contact Louise with your prospective entrants aged 18 – 25 year olds – a career changing experience.

**President Elect Terry Robinson** spoke briefly about his aims and goals for the Club in 2016 / 2017. Knows that he has an excellent Committee and with the support of members it will be a great year. His aim is to keep the Club dynamic, vibrant, youthful and relevant to today’s world and to be fun and rewarding to members. We will aim for interesting social events to involve partners – a Club that functions socially also functions to serve the community well. Rotary is a voluntary service Club and members can gain confidence and skills through friendship, communication, organising events with a good backup team, unique opportunities to step out of one’s comfort zone, great speakers generate new ideas and skills and at the same time we have fun and fellowship. “You will get far more out of Rotary personally than you give.” I look forward to following President Graeme’s example of good leadership and direction and continue to grow with Rotary.

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Meeting Roster	Wednesday, 16 December 2015	Wednesday, 13 January 2016	
Guest Speaker	Santa & Ashley Dallas	Hopscotch, Kable Avenue	
Topic			
Door Team	Peter Pulley Dimity Chaseling	Phil Penman Peter Ryan	
Meeter & Greeter	Andrew Beer	Steve Massey	
Welcome	Rob Clifton	Richard Walker	
President Assist	Tim Coates	Louise Matthews	
Visitor Assist	Dennis Johnson	Michael O'Connor	
Corporal Assist	Sue O'Connor	Peter Hyde	
Introduction	David Baddams	Jim Raymond	
Vote of Thanks	John Glynn	Terry Robinson	
Post Office Raffle Roster			
29 January 2016	5 February	12 February	19 February
Peter Pulley Phil Heffernan			
26 February	4 March	11 March	18 March
Corporals for December & January		Corporals for February	
John Toulmin		John Fogarty & Ian Howle	
Birthdays, Anniversaries and Inductions till we return on 13 January 2016			
Members Birthdays	John Glynn (27/12): Graham Dooley (07/01)		
Partners Birthdays	Elizabeth Hearne (29/12)		
Anniversaries	Brodie & Pam Shields (24/12) 44 years: Graeme & Jackie Kruger (10/01) 29 years: Stephen & Jill Hawkins (11/01) 41 years::		
Club Induction	Nil		
Stats for last meeting			
Attendance	67%		
Make-Ups	AG Phil Lyon		
Visiting Rotarians	Nil		
Visitors	Hellen Allen, Marina Lawrence, Vickie Breen & Kylie Boyraz & Reiko Izumi (YEP)		
Heads & Tails	Skinner		
Raffle	Skinner		

## The Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- **FIRST.** The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- **SECOND.** High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- **THIRD.** The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- **FOURTH.** The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

### Rotary Grace

O Lord and giver of all good  
We thank Thee for our daily food  
May Rotary Friends and Rotary ways  
Help us to serve Thee all our days

### The Four-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

### Tamworth—First Light

Meets Wednesday morning,  
6:30 for 7:00 am at

### West's Diggers

**Kable Avenue**

**TAMWORTH NSW 2340**

Phone: 6766 4661

### Club Officers and contact details

#### President—Graeme Kruger

president@tamworthfirstlight.org.au

#### Secretary—Brodie Shields

secretary@tamworthfirstlight.org.au

### Other Clubs meet:

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Friday

Tamworth West, West Tamworth Bowling Club, 6:30pm

Tamworth Rotary Club, Service Club, 6:15pm

Tamworth on Peel – (Calala Rotary), Calala Inn, 6:30pm

Tamworth Sunrise, Sanctuary Inn, 7:am