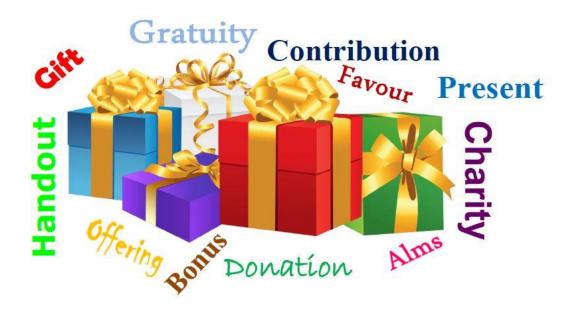




Bulletin





DATES TO REMEMBER IN YOUR DIARIES



2016

- ➤ Wednesday, 20 January Breakfast will be at Marsupial Park again please contact Val Hellmann gimrack1@bigpond.com or 02 6766 3462 by Monday, 18 January to confirm attendance for catering purposes Guest Speaker Charles Impey, Adventure Playground in Marsupial Park
- ➤ Saturday, 23 January CAVALCADE volunteers needed Please contact Ron Allen 02 6761 5115 or 0419 287 064 to meet at Viatek Office by 7:30am
- ➤ Weekend 4 6 March 2016 GOLFERS The 2016 Coastal Golf Trip to Tallwoods and Tuncurry is ON!!
- ➤ 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
- ➤ Sun 10 Wed13 April German Group Study Exchange arrives in Tamworth home hosting for three nights plus volunteers to assist with each day's activities.

Weekend 15 - 17 April - District Conference - Taree

Wednesday, 18 May 2016 - Careers Expo - further details to follow...

Saturday, **18 June** First Light Changeover – Wests Diggers **Saturday**, **25 June** - District Changeover – Taree



Wednesday, 20 January 2016 Meeting # 1293

Quote of the Week

"If your homework brings you down then you can throw it on the fire and take the car downtown" David Bowie

From The Desk

Welcome back to everyone and I trust that you had a great Christmas and New Year.

DJ and his team treated us to a wonderful breakfast at Hopscotch.

Our guest speaker Grant Reeckmann gave us a great overview of the Tamworth Regional Playground. It is certainly a wonderful asset for the wider community of Tamworth Region. The support from the business community and Tamworth Lions needs to be commended.

Jackie and I had the joy of taking Reiko (our YEP) on holiday to the Sunshine Coast (Coolum) where she played beach cricket, stand up paddled and just had a typical Aussie summer holiday.



Reiko has also had two opportunities to join me on the journey to Leeton. While there last week she met up with a wonderful Japanese lady who has lived in Australia for 63 years and her name is also Reiko. Their names are spelt a little differently in Japan, the younger one's spelling is on the right.





Please don't forget to give your names to Val Hellmann for our meeting at The Marsupial Park.

Tamworth is also a buzz with activity for the country music festival. For those who attended the Academy Graduation event at Wests - you would have been as pleasantly surprised as I was. Thanks to our AG Phil Lyon for his efforts to organise this.

Have a great week.

Yours in Rotary

Graeme Kruger

NOTES....

- > 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 christine.shewry@joblinkplus.com.au or Paul Stevenson on 0458 835 000 or stevose@bigpond.com
- ➤ Max Cathcart is in hospital, has been quite unwell however is now able to see visitors please help his recovery by considering a visit to see him and the new hospital wards.....

There is lots of debate going on about the future when ALL cars are self-driving. This scenario is a corker.

"Good afternoon, officer."

"Do you know why I pulled you over?"

"... Was my car speeding?"

"What do you think the speed limit is here, sir?"

"I honestly have no idea. I was taking a nap. I'm not even sure where I am."

"Oh. Uh, well, where were you trying to go?"

"Somewhere in California, I think."

"You think?"

"Yeah, see, my car decided that it needed a bi-yearly tune-up, but it wouldn't settle for just any mechanic. It booked an appointment at a place in Palo Alto or something, then completely neglected to inform me until I was already on my way to work... or so I thought."

"I see. Listen, sir, you weren't speeding, but you did merge across three lanes of traffic a while back."

"How long ago is 'a while"?"

"Three, maybe four hours."

"What?! You kept following me the whole time?!"

"To be frank, sir, I didn't have much choice in the matter. Apparently my car just decided to hunt yours down."

"That's what I get for choosing a black paint job!"



lan & Marilyn Curtis bringing us up to date with their movements since leaving Tamworth.....



Ho Ho Ho Merry Christmas and Wishes for a Great New Year for 2016 What have the Curtis's been up to in 2015? Well what a year!!

Well we have settled back into South Australia and now call Gawler home well our home base anyway as a few days a week we do live at our Barn House at Port Wakefield where we are partners in a Poultry Business called Joleta SA. We are very lucky to have a silent partner who is understanding. We were nominated at a regional awards night held at Wallaroo (costal town on the York Peninsular) for our achievements in business over the last 12 month and the contribution to training and staff retention, we were very excited to achieve runner up, a huge achievement for only 12 month in the new business. We have 4 poultry farms with 8 sheds on each farm making a total of 2 million chickens overall at any one time and we have 6 company homes and two more to be built in the new year this keeps Marilyn busy. We have 20 staff and the business keeps Ian extremely busy and Marilyn of course is the back up.

Our barn as we call it is all solar with back up battery storage ,no mains power, it's on its own piece of land overlooking all the farms and a comfortable place to crash when the work load requires a few nights stay over. Pt Wakefield is 50mins from Gawler and is one hour from Adelaide. Thank goodness the drive is a country drive and on good roads.

January we had a 9yr Indo Fijian boy Rishaad for this month, he tired us out we learnt how to make paper planes and ride the BMX track on our bikes and hit the movies and the beach. We are actively involved when time allows with the SA Fijian community loading containers for the Islands and Fiji, they as always have a great social calendar and loads of food, as per the Fijian culture!, that's our little bit of Fiji having a lot of connections and friend in the Pacific Islands.

Ian went to Siem Reap in Cambodia with the Graeme Bank to offer support as a volunteer with a Social sustainable Poultry Project to get women out of working on the Siem Reap Rubbish dump and offer them an opportunity to earn a stable income employed on a NGO Poultry Project, they are also taught English to prepare them for future employment within the community. Marilyn needed to stay grounded!!

Ian is also in the Gawler Business Network which he attends once a week for breakfast and the Yorke Peninsula Business Network. Ian had an ear operation in May not to hear better but kept to him well.

We are both in the Rotary Club of Gawler Light. We took out the Melbourne Cup sweeps 1st and 2nd and then took out Christmas gifts of best dressed and door prize so the club is watching us! We have cooked BBQs for Sampson Flat Fires and Marilyn cooked a main meal for Blazeaid volunteers helping those who were in the Pinery Fires, we are in a very busy club. Unfortunately due to the heat we had to cancel the Rotary Christmas Carol event as temperatures reached 44 degrees too hot for Santa as Marilyn handles the Santa tent and arranges 800gifts to be wrapped by CWA volunteers they will have to wait to be given out next year.

Marilyn is President of Country Women's Association Gawler and has been kept very busy, the club has 50 members been involved in community events and she nominated her friend and State President for SA Women's Honour Roll went to Government House where her friend received the award. On the Marketing Committee for SACWA we had the launch of the new Calendar of Cakes cookbook by Annabel Crab. Worked at the Royal Adelaide show for 3 days. Been to conferences and the Gawler Club had their 75th Birthday celebrations. Yes Marilyn still has her picture in the papers!!

Well Wirey (Ian) and Wheelbrace (Marilyn) are Hashers with the Munno Para Club having a couple of runs from the Curtis's place during the year and finishing the year with a Hash walk and run around the hotels of Gawler drinking and singing Christmas Carols. After our singing get kicked out to the next hotel!!

Our son Darren got married at Rawnsley Station in the Flinders Ranges not far from Wilpena Pound 4 hours' drive north of Adelaide. Well we took everything except the kitchen sink!! What a magnificent view for wedding photos, how lucky to now have a lovely daughter in law Jessica and her parents from Melbourne are our splitting image, they have lived in the same countries as us, married same number of years and her mum is blonde! The wedding was outside the homestead the bride wore a short dress to avoid prickles and the reception was at the wool shed beaut meal.



Our accommodation was an eco –house fantastic 5 star, you could lay back in bed and look at the stars and guess what no phone or internet connection. Ian thought he had a new life!!

We helped Darren set up for his fringe event this year at the Botanical gardens where he lit up with lights for the first time the Conservatorium and set up plants with electrodes on speaker boxes so the public could interact with them through music (did you know plants could talk) this was a bit hit.

We have our son Brett home with us as still getting over the car accident he was a victim, his life took a dive with having an operation on his leg to have a bone taken off and still having neck problems ont only from the accident but the insurance company has also been a pain in the neck!!

We took Brett to Canberra where his Fijian mate David became an Australian Citizen what an exciting time and spent time with his family and wife Ellie.

Marilyn sent a shipment to Papua New Guinea to the Cancer Foundation to help them raise funds.

Her mum keeps her busy visiting her and caring for her during the week.

We spent time with family and attended a big family reunion on Ian's grandmothers side Kubiac (Cobiac), spent time with family, brothers and sisters. Weekly visits to Marilyn's mum and uncle.

We sponsored a Terrific Kid Award at Trinity South School through Kiwanis Club which Marilyn originally launched 13 years ago into 10 schools in Gawler area, both of us presented at Trinity College Presentation day shaking the hands of about 15 kids who received the award at this school which we enjoyed.

We attended the launch of Darren's and Jessica's Fringe event for 2016 which will take place in the underground tunnels under Victoria Square in Adelaide and also at the Planetarium go to >>>>>>> To find out more.

Christmas day this year will be at home with the sons and the new daughter in law and mum 87 and uncle 96 we are his only family in the state. The New Year Eve and a couple of days will be spent at a motel next to the beach and in late January a week on the Gold Coast to start the year off.

Even though we have returned to Adelaide we miss all our friends around Australia and worldwide, but we have the lovely memories of everyone we have come in touch with.

We wish everyone a Happy Christmas and Great New Year for 2016

We pray the world will become a better place for us and future generations and we all find the true meaning of why we on this earth and we all share the love, peace and the friendship of family members and of those we call friends.

Love Ian and Marilyn Curtis

0449820035 mcurt52@gmail .com

0428523664

icurt54@gmail.com

0885225973

Box 752

Gawler SA 5118

HOW TO TELL THE SEX OF A BIRD This Is AMAZING!!!

I never fully understood how to tell the difference between male and female birds. I always thought it had to be determined surgically.

Until now.

Below are two birds. Study them closely. See if you can determine which of the two is the female. It CAN be done! Even by one with limited bird watching skills!







Members listening intently as Grant outlines the format followed to create this Playground









Guest Speaker - Grant Reeckman - Tamworth Regional Playground

Introduction by Jim Raymond – Thanked by Terry Robinson

Grant opened by saying he has been involved from the beginning - basically the project evolved over four stages due to new / latest ideas, technology and value added sponsorships – following notes from the official opening:

Background:

- Tamworth Regional Playground has set a new standard in regional NSW for community parks
- Equipment and activity areas which cater for all ages and all abilities and incorporates state-of-the art technology
- More than 5,000 hours of work has gone into the development and construction of the playground
- The Skywalk is a 9.1M high structure with three giant slides and four towers is the major piece of play equipment and is the biggest in the southern hemisphere
- It has a rope-like "Octa Net" climbing structure and extends up to 9.1 metres high, has a footprint of 38 metres x 23 metres and its slides measure 13 metres long
- Tamworth is the first location in NSW outside Sydney to have a park with the German-engineered equipment
- The playground includes a bike track, junior and senior fitness circuits, embankment slides, dual flying fox, sandpit, rhythm wall, Touchwood Totems, spinner and climbing equipment
- For children with access challenges there is the wheelchair accessible carousel and mammoth swing there are
 two parking bays for people with a disability in the new off-street carpark at the Roderick Street end of Kable
 Avenue
- A natural looking stream meandering down the embankment with multiple waterfalls and a three-metre sway bridge across it is a stand-out landscape feature. The 40 metre long stream, created by Waterscapes Australia and Council staff using 60 tonnes of basalt boulders and 12 cubic metres of river pebbles, starts with a series of five waterfalls and flows to three pooling areas
- A 6,000 litre reservoir is beneath a seemingly dried out creek bed at the bottom of the embankment from which the water is circulated
- About 6,000 square metres of turf has been laid and 150 trees, 200 shrubs and 900 native grasses planted
- The multi-million dollar playground was built using grant funds, developer contributions, income from the sale of a Council site and substantial contributions from businesses donating their expertise, services, products and equipment
- The playground was funded by:
 - \$1.1M NSW Government Clubs Grant along with the same amount from Council
 - Council has committed \$340,000 in Section 94 funds to the project (\$200,000 for the playground and \$140,000 for the Family Social Function Area) plus \$910,000 from the sale of Prince of Wales Park
 - No revenue generated through rates has been used on this project
- It is the only playground in the Tamworth region with an on-site café / restaurant
- A retaining wall at the back of the building creates an amphitheatre effect ideal for small gatherings with timber seats and benches
- Public amenities are included in the building an additional amenity
- An outdoor water feature where children can play, adjacent to the café / restaurant is bordered with synthetic grass and a boardwalk-type cement finish
- There is a play town with 'roads', a cubby house and petrol station for younger children
- There are free picnic and barbecue, bike racks, various types of seating and three water stations with bubblers and bottle refill points.
- The playground uses the latest technology for its lighting, parking, closed circuit television system with seven cameras and a free wireless internet service available during daylight hours.



As mentioned earlier, Grant involved throughout the whole process from Investigation, Planning, Design, Costing, Grant Applications, Procurement and Project Management.

- The Playground is part of the Bicentennial Park Master Plan evolved a decade ago
- Site not good too narrow but had topography diversity
- Not enough funds available
- Spoke to other Inland Councils re benefits
- Started work on the playground in 2012 and prepared first brief in 2013
- Applied for a Regional Development Application Fund grant and unsuccessful rigorous criteria
- Started to develop concept plans into construction plans
- ➤ Applied for a OLGR grant and beat 180 other organisations, including Councils again a very rigorous criteria and received a \$1.1M grant matched by Council
- > Preliminary work began in October 2014 with removal of trees, paths and relocation of sewer line
- Coastal Councils felt some sort of café was an essential for any playground
- Looked at options for café to incorporate public toilets etc
- Construction began in earnest in February 2015 with site services and waterfall
- > Created individual work packages so not dependent on one particular company so a saving on overheads
- Play equipment was individually sourced
- Sponsorship added huge value such as the Sky Walk and Contractor donations
- The following items were added into the Project and paid for through project savings, sponsorship from local business houses and Telstra Smart City project
 - Cafe / Restaurant incorporating public toilets
 - Splash Pad and Waterfall
 - Sky Walk
 - Wheel-chair carousel
 - Shade structures and more seating
 - Car park
 - Telstra Smart Lighting
 - Telstra parking sensors and signage
 - Telstra Smart Bins (still have to learn how to use the software but getting there tells how full the bins are)
 - Wi-Fi and CCTV

Risks

- Signage as remote supervision
- Fencing or not to fence
- Water
- > Traffic

Where too Now?

- Create a 355 Committee to watch over the Playground
- Maintain Asset
- Frant ended by thanking Singles Builders and DJ & Jay only response to the Tender document without their support the café / restaurant would not have happened. He also thanked Davidson Bros and the Work for the Dole Teams who proved invaluable on site
- Q Total cost of the Regional Playground to date?
- A The Playground is valued at over \$5M with all the sponsorship, donations and grants received a little under \$3.5M there will be, of course, continuing costs such as maintenance





Grant Reeckmann – What will he do with himself now the Playground is almost completed!



Terry Robinson thanked Jay & DJ for our delicious and different breakfast this morning



DJ wanted to publicly thank Grant Reeckmann easy to work with – very dedicated to the project and really wanted something unique to Tamworth and he has succeeded



Grant Reeckmann being thanked by Terry Robinson



Message from Maurie Stack regarding the District Celebration

For us in 2016, the major focus is on putting together a truly memorable district celebration in the Manning Valley over the weekend of 15/17 April 2016 to our theme Peace, Music and Laughter.

Our committee headed by Adam Sharpe have great guest speakers including a prominent industrialist from India representing RI Pres Ravi Ravindran.

The business sessions will be in the magnificent Manning Entertainment Centre. No one will be on our stage unless they are inspirational or entertaining.

The entertainment will be superb under a huge marquee on the banks of the Manning River. The Welcome Dinner on the Friday night will be an opportunity to catch up with old friends from across the district and to make new ones.

It will be a largely seafood night and the entertainment will include a presentation by the GSE team from District 1890 northern Germany.

Our gala dinner on the banks of the Manning on the Saturday night will feature a surprise artist not to be missed followed by dancing under the stars to the Sally Whitten Big Band. On both nights there will be seating for all and fabulous food.

The traditional Sunday morning breakfast will be a Rotary Foundation breakfast and everyone is invited to attend – Paul Harris Fellows wearing their medals.

The Ecumenical Service will feature Jonathon Welch the founder of the Choir of Hard Knocks. His 100 person choir – rehearsing throughout Saturday - will close our conference at 11.30am on the Sunday.

But the Conference will be a flop without your support. Our target is 500 which is about a 20% increase on 2015. We need you to support us by example by registering now and doing everything you can to lift the number of attendees from your club.

This celebration will be a wonderful opportunity to rekindle the enthusiasm of existing members and to demonstrate to newer members that they are part of an organisation much bigger than their club.

Remember that this celebration is during the school holidays so early registration and booking accommodation is important.

We will be featuring the best our District has to offer. We will be offering 5 to 10 three minute spots for clubs to talk about their most innovative club program. If you think that is your club, we want to hear from you by mid-February. Judge's decision will be final on the selection!

Email Conference Secretary, David Fisher -dhjrfi sher@gmail.com.

Cost is an important consideration for many Rotarians. By obtaining extensive sponsorship, we have been able to hold the basic cost to \$200 per person, which represents just two thirds of the actual costs of this magnificent event. To put it another way, each couple attending will be subsidised to the tune of \$200.

Booking is available through the homepage of the District Website – just Google Rotary District 9650.



We will shortly be sending a personal invitation for you and your partner to join Deidre and me for drinks on the Manning, before the Welcome Dinner on the Friday night, as a small thank you for your support this year.

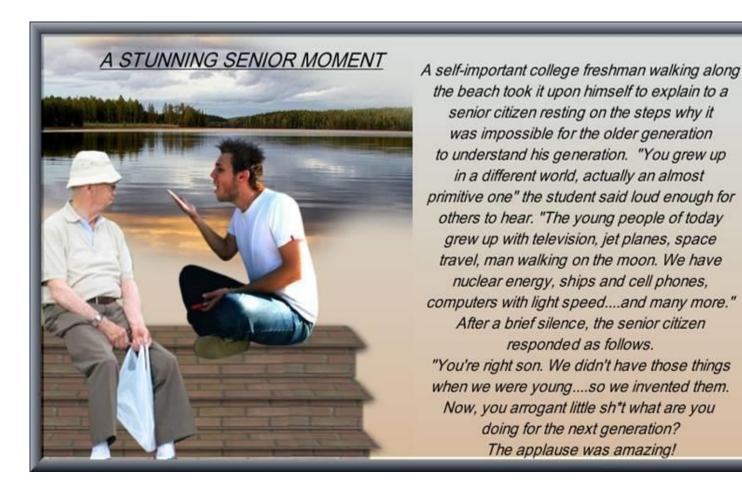
When he returns from San Diego, DGE Ian Jackson will be extending a similar invitation to his Presidents-Elect.

As mentioned above Jonathon Welch is conducting a Singing for Everyone choir workshop for all conference partners (and the general public) during the Saturday of the conference. He will take a maximum of 100 and the last time he did this in Taree three years ago it was booked out. Tickets will not go on sale to the general public until 1 February, which means that the partners of your club members have the exclusive opportunity to book during January.

They can do so via the conference website or by googling:http://sa2.seatadvisor.com/sabo/servlets/TicketRequest?&presenter=AUGTCC&event=jwelch16

We hope that you will enjoy the balance of your term of office and feel satisfied at the end of a job well done – with a suspicion that perhaps you are indeed a "Gift to the World." I think you all are.

Maurie Stack
Governor
Rotary International District 9650
0427 668 821
maurie@stacklaw.com.au
www.rotary9650.org.au





Apologies for the short notice – not too late to purchase tickets – quite a big article in Saturday's The Leader if you would like further information – All funds raised will go to The Homeless of Tamworth – Tickets only \$9.00 each





Out of the mouths of babes.....

TEACHER: How old is your father?

KID: He is 6 years.

TEACHER: What? How is this possible? KID: He became a father only when I was born.

Logic!!

Children Are Quick and Always Speak Their Minds

TEACHER: Maria, go to the map and find North America.

MARIA Here it is.

TEACHER Correct. - Now class, who discovered America?

CLASS: Maria.

TEACHER: Glenn, how do you spell 'crocodile?'

GLENN: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L' TEACHER No, that's wrong

GLENN: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

(I Love this child)

TEACHER Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

DONALD: HIJKLMNO.

TEACHER: What are you talking about? DONALD: Yesterday you said it's H to O

TEACHER: Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's... Did you copy his?

CLYDE: No sir, It's the same dog

(I want to adopt this kid!!!)

TEACHER: Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?

HAROLD: A teacher



Meeting Roster	Wed	lnesday, 20 January 2016		Wednesday, 27 January		
Venue	Marsupial Park			Diggers (Homebase again)		
Topic	Char	les Impey – Adventure Pla	yground	"ICE"		
Door Team		r Bell n Smith		James Treloar Chris Watson		
Meeter & Greeter				Phil Heffernan		
Welcome				Diane Ford		
President Assist				Dennis Maunder		
Visitor Assist				Brian Logan		
Corporal Assist				Steve Hawkins		
Introduction				Laurence Hearne		
Vote of Thanks				Bruce Hemmet	t	
		Post Office	Raffle Roste	er		
29 January 2016	6	5 February	12	February	19 February	
Peter Pulley Phil Heffernan		Phil Heffernan Graham Dooley	Graham E Paul Steve		Paul Stevenson Dave Baddams	
26 February		4 March	1	1 March	18 March	
Dave Baddams James Treloar		James Treloar Peter Ryan	Peter Rya Maureen	n Thornton	Maureen Thornton Brett White	
Corporals for December & January		Corporals for February				
John Toulmin			John Fogarty & Ian Howle			
Birt	thdays	, Anniversaries and Induc	tions till we r	eturn on 13 Janu	ary 2016	
Members Birthdays	N/A					
Partners Birthdays	Simon Ford (21/01); Gemma Watson (26/01)					
Anniversaries	lan & Leigh Howle (22/01) 45 years					
Club Induction	N/A	N/A				
	-	Stats for	last meeting			
Attendance						
Make-Ups	AG Phil Lyon					
Visiting Rotarians	Sam Peacocke – South Dubbo					
Violating i totalianio						
	Emily	Roy, Mark ??, Grant Reeckma	ann			
Visitors Heads & Tails	Emily N/A	Roy, Mark ??, Grant Reeckma	ann			



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

Wests 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

