

# From the desk



Rotary  Club of Tamworth  
First Light **Bulletin**



# PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL BOARD REPORT - JULY 2015 TO JUNE 2016

The vision that I shared with the Club at the beginning of my term was:

- More new members with the right fit
- Improving on what we already do
- Better integration with youth
- Staying relevant in our community
- Celebrate what we do well
- Local focus with global thinking
- International project

On top of this I wanted to have great meetings with an emphasis on fun.

From a personal perspective, my whole life with all my best intended plans changed soon after I put on the Club President's Chains. My dear wife accepted a new challenge in Leeton as the General Manager of the Local Council and the term Fly In Fly Out (FIFO) took on a whole new meaning for me. It forced me to make a few changes and I have ended up travelling 1000s of kilometres. I have lived a dual life while still serving my Rotary Club to the best of my ability. It did mean that I was not physically able to give my fullest attention because family comes first and I also have work commitments that I needed to balance. Yes, I did contemplate handing the chains back, but I am glad that I did not.

So, what does our report card look like and how have we embraced the Rotary International vision of being a Gift to the World in line with my vision?

I can honestly say that I am pleased with the year and it's only because we have a group of outstanding human beings in our Club who all play a part to a greater or lesser degree. It's the sum of these parts that have made this year a great year and more of a pleasure to serve.

Here are some of the highlights and achievements from the last twelve (12) months that line up with the vision.

- We have added eight (8) great new members to the Club plus one transfer
- Our contribution to Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) was strengthened through the continued efforts of Louise Matthews and contributions from Christine Shewry and Dwone Jones (DJ). Also the Club sponsoring of two (2) attendees on the program.
- We have increased our contribution to the worthwhile Youth Insearch program by donating a total of **\$13,000**
- We have had a record year of supporting local and international needs – gifting a total of **\$96,599.00** plus a further **\$9,689.66** that was raised at the Santa Pub Crawl that went direct to Ronald Macdonald House – making our annual **Total \$106,288.66**
- We have successfully supported and contributed to the purchase of an X-Ray machine for the Kokopo Hospital in Papua New Guinea
- Our weekly program for the year was well balanced between fun and useful information about what is going on in our community.
- We have had great communication with members via an excellent Bulletin
- We have hosted a Youth Exchange Program student from Japan - Reiko Izumi

- We moved to a new meeting venue at West Diggers, which has been a great improvement
- We had a thorough and inclusive review of our Club Foundation considering all the feedback and opinions presented with the decision being to maintain the status quo. We are very close to the intended target figure of \$100,000.
- The golf committee have again made a significant contribution to the Club contributing **\$25,000** to the club
- Pedal The Peel Cycle challenge raised **\$20,000** with \$16,000 being donated to local charities
- We had a very successful Careers Expo in partnership with Joblink Plus with over 100 stall holders and 2000 attendees
- The Science and Engineering project delivered great results for the schools that were involved
- Our regular Club projects and fundraising initiatives continue to be well supported by members:
  - Pub raffle at Post Office Hotel
  - Rugby bar and canteen
  - Santa Pub Crawl
  - Country Music Cavalcade
  - Graffiti Removal
  - RYAG Equine
- We have increased our publicity reach through our Club Facebook page with regular and meaningful articles getting reaches of over 1500 in some cases. While often a hit and miss, we have also had a few great articles in the local paper.
- Social activities remain a challenge to organise with the busy schedules that we all have, but we have still managed to fit in a few.
- We nominated and sponsored a GSE participant (Katie Penman) to visit Germany this year

We still have room for improvement – here are areas that I believe we need to consider going forward. It will be up to the incoming President Terry Robinson, his new board and all members to consider:

- Improve meaningful engagement of all members in Club projects and programs
- Finalising the Rotary Lodge upgrade at Tamworth Hospital (Combined Clubs initiative)
- Growing the Pedal The Peel Cycle Challenge – I know that this is on the cards
- Better support and Club attendance at District Conference
- Completion of our International Project in Papua New Guinea and considering another international project – we are a very privileged community and country and some third world countries have had an increase in poverty and we still see countries at war
- Reinvigorate the Science and Engineering program and find a better way to fund it. I would also like to see more member involvement with this great program.
- Improved commitment to weekly meetings and duties.
- Better engagement with our allocated local school, with one aim to sponsor a participant in the Rotary public speaking competition and MUNA.

I would not have been able to have done this job without the support of my fellow board members, Committee Chairs and quiet performing members in our Club. Your contribution and support did not go by unnoticed. A special thanks to the following people:

- Office Bearers Brodie Shields and Michael Smith – You have been a great secretary and treasurer
- The whole Board – a big shout out for your support and effort
- Jane Bradford for doing more than an excellent Bulletin
- Val Hellmann and Helen Tickle for tackling the big board portfolios and doing them so well
- Ian Howle for a great program and also how you got it done
- Brian Logan for just making things happen in the morning when we are not at our regular meeting venue
- Club members who make all our projects and programs happen
- Louise Matthews for your ongoing efforts with RYLA and other Club stuff
- To all the members and family members who assisted with hosting Reiko Izumi this year
- To the following Past Presidents who willingly filled in for me when I was away for work or travel - John Treloar, Phil Penman, David Hinwood, Louise Matthews, and Jim Raymond.
- To the whole Golf Committee for your efforts in keeping this project going and for the generous contribution to the Club this year.
- Thank you to the Club Foundation review panel Phil Heffernan, David Hinwood, Brian Thompson, Dennis Maunder and Michael Smith.
- To Paul Stevenson for picking up the responsibility of being Reiko’s councillor and other stuff you do
- To Rob Sharp for the generous donations to the international project in PNG.

Below is a complete list of donations and support that we have provided during the year.

Nazareth House	\$ 1,000	
Shelter Box - Combined Rotary Clubs	\$ 200	
Shelter Box	\$ 200	
Moore Creek Tennis Club	\$ 300	
Can Assist Tamworth Branch	\$ 8,000	(Pedal The Peel)
Youth Insearch	\$ 8,000	(Pedal The Peel)
Youth Insearch	\$ 5,000	(Golf Committee)
Salvation Army	\$ 1,000	
Salvation Army	\$ 1,000	(Golf Committee)
One of a kind	\$ 800	
U3A	\$ 500	
Black Dog Institute	\$ 500	
Black Dog Institute	\$ 1,000	
Alzheimer’s Australia	\$ 500	
Prostate Cancer Research	\$ 500	
White Ribbon Local Initiative	\$ 500	
Ronald McDonald House	\$ 6,139	(Santa Crawl – actual amount\$17,587.40)
St Vincent DePaul	\$ 500	
St Vincent De Paul	\$ 500	

Friends of the Marsupial Park	\$ 500	
Kokopo Hospital (X-Ray Machine)	\$38,000	(\$5,000 Golf Committee)
Days for Girls	\$ 500	
Polio Plus	\$ 1,000	
Blue Angel Foundation	\$ 1,000	
Billabong House	\$ 500	
Riding for the Disabled	\$ 1,000	
District Scouts	\$ 1,000	
District Girl Guides	\$ 1,000	
North West Arthritis Foundation	\$ 1,000	
Motor Neurone Foundation	\$ 1,500	(Golf Committee)
2015/16 Club Member Charity	\$ 1,000	(Steve Massey)
Rotary Foundation	\$ 4,500	(Fine money estimate)
First Light Foundation	\$ 5,000	
GSE German Team Donation	\$ 200	
GSE Sponsor (Katie Penman)	\$ 960	
RYLA Candidate Sponsorship X2	\$ 1,800	

Sub Total \$96,599.00

Plus the Santa Pub Crawl \$ 9,689.66 (direct to Ronald Macdonald House)

**Total \$106,288.66**

I would like to wish Incoming President Terry Robinson all the best and look forward to having a great night at our Changeover.

Thank you to everyone for your support during the year.

Yours in Rotary

**Graeme Kruger**  
**Club President 2015/16**



# CLUB DONATIONS AND SPONSORSHIPS FOR 2015/16 YEAR

Prepared by Michael Smith – Treasurer

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# ROTARY CLUB OF TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT ANNUAL REPORT - SERVICE PROJECTS PORTFOLIO

Our Club has been involved in many projects over the past twelve months. I would like to thank our members who were involved in Chairing and organising the various Committees. Thank you also to the many members who have actively participated on the committees and in our activities.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Activities have included:

- Magpies Rugby Union home games. Staffing the Bar, Gate and Canteen
- Post Office Hotel weekly meat raffles
- Dungowan Rodeo Bar
- Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service Fundraiser at the Lookout
- Graffiti Removal Day
- Annual Bowel Scan
- Marshalling Country Music Cavalcade
- Adventure Playground, Marsupial Park. Many of our members and partners participated in the six day community build
- Ronald McDonald House Santa Crawl

## VOCATIONAL

### Vocational Visits

We had three vocational visits:

- Hopscotch Restaurant (located in the Regional Playground)
- Adventure Playground and
- Northwest Frames and Trusses {Taminda}.

### Careers Expo, Wednesday, 18 May 2016

In conjunction with JobLink Plus we assisted in the organisation of the annual Careers Expo at TRECC. The Expo was attended by over 2000 students from around the New England and North West and attracted 100 exhibitors. Lunch and morning tea was provided for the exhibitors by SEE Change (work experience students). The event was run at break even with donations from Tamworth Regional Council and the NSW Business Chamber. An Exhibitors Registration Fee was introduced this year. Work for the Dole crews set up and pulled down the exhibition stands.

## RYLA

This year there were 41 RYLA participants, five Leaders and four Rotarians.

The RYLarians have all returned to work or study and many have given their "After RYLA" presentations to their sponsor Clubs. Seven RYLarians presented to Tamworth First Light on Wednesday, 11 May. Two sponsored by Tamworth First Light and five sponsored by their employers and signed off by our Club.

For some of these young leaders of the future there have already been some significant changes in their lives, both personally and professionally. In every case that has been reported to me they have said that RYLA gave them the encouragement and determination to make some of these decisions.

The D9650 RYLA Committee has had a month off and we will start on RYLA 2017 in the coming week. We will be calling for applications for Leaders for RYLA 2017 and revising the program and securing presenters and motivational speakers.

For those who attended D9650 Conference in Taree you would have witnessed a presentation by two of this year's RYLarians. The host for the Youth segment, Adam Scarff attended RYLA in 2012 and was a Leader in 2013. Adam was also a Charter member of the newest Rotary Club in D9650, Old Bar. Adam and another 2016 RYLarian from Armidale, Kristyn Currie, will represent D9650 at the International Youth Summit in Seoul, prior to the Rotary International Conference. Kristyn is a member of the RC of Armidale.

### **RYAG Equine**

The Event will be held on the weekend of 24 – 26 June.

Participants will have the opportunity to experience and learn about the Equine Industry and associated career paths. At the time of writing, registrations are being received from across our Rotary District.

### **SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHALLENGE**

In conjunction with the University of Newcastle, a successful three day event was held in March at TRECC. Approximately 800 students from across the region participated. Students appreciated the opportunity to have some hands on activities and to learn more about career paths within the sector.

### **PEDAL THE PEEL CYCLING CHALLENGE**

Held on Sunday, 11 October 2015, Moore Creek Tennis Club.

The event was again sponsored by platinum sponsors, Everingham Solomons Solicitors, National Australia Bank and Forsyths Chartered Accountants.

Approximately 200 cyclists participated.

The challenge is tailored to suit cyclist of any fitness level with four courses to choose from being a 15 Kilometre course, 25 kilometre short course, 55 kilometre medium course and 115 kilometres long course.

Two local charities benefited from the event with an \$8,000.00 donation being presented to each of:

- The Tamworth Branch of Can Assist; and
- The Tamworth Branch of Youth Insearch.

The next Pedal the Peel Cycling Event is to be held on Sunday, 2 April 2017.

**Director – Helen Tickle**



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**THE ROTARY CLUB OF TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT  
ANNUAL REPORT FOR ROTARY YEAR 2015 - 2016  
PUBLIC RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

It has been an honour and privilege to be part of President Graeme' team this year.

I have carried on the great work that Graham Dooley established with the Club's Facebook presence and sought to expand the Club contacts by encouraging more members and their family and friends to like or comment on each week's Club report. This has successfully expanded our Club's profile.

We have now achieved a base 'reach' of 940 people up 3,141% and 116 people engaged. We average 150 to 200 likes per week due to the expanded contacts. Links to other pages including Pedal the Peel has been part of the success.

You cannot under estimate the expansion of the Club's Facebook presence due to the calibre of guest speakers. Recently we went from a weekly average of 300 people reach to 928 when we were visited by Sophie and Jody from Oncology Massage Therapy. When Lucy Haslam spoke to our Club, the report of that meeting reached 1,567 people. The largest coverage of reach was 1,935 people when we promoted last year's Santa Crawl.

Pedal the Peel Facebook page reached a high of 566 likes and prior to the event reached 910 people.

Pedal the Peel was well promoted with Graeme Kruger negotiating a substantial free advertising package with the Northern Daily Leader. I arranged for pre and post event interviews with FM 88.9 and NBN Television attended on the day of the event.

The Club received coverage in the Tamworth Times relating to last year's Changeover and we enjoyed front page coverage for our ongoing Golf trips and the \$415,655.00 raised over 25 years.

This year we decided on the updated design and fabric for our new Club shirts and 45 have been purchased by members to date. This is part of our ongoing public awareness of our member base whether we are working at the Tamworth Rugby, selling raffle tickets at the Post Office Hotel or just identifying ourselves to the community at other service projects such as Pedal the Peel.

I consider we received substantial media coverage and community awareness of our great Club this last year and I know the incoming Director, Graeme Kruger will continue to promote our activities and look for new opportunities to showcase Rotary and our great Club.

**Director – Brett White**



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# ROTARY CLUB OF TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT – ANNUAL REPORT –

## CLUB ADMINISTRATION PORTFOLIO

Our aim for the year was to establish a safe, comfortable and welcoming venue where members and guests could enjoy friendship, be informed, grow in Rotary ways and support others. We have tried to include families where possible. We are working to become a “Club of Service” where all members and their work is respected and valued and we all aim to create peace and goodwill.

Our move to West Diggers has been successful for all these purposes and the menu is varied and the staff are obliging and very willing to assist.

**Program Director** - Ian Howle has worked in this position giving us an entertaining variety of community and visiting speakers who have made us aware of the business and social activities in Tamworth. Thanks Ian.

**Bulletin** - This has been expertly published by Jane Bradford who has produced photos and articles and updates for all, especially members who cannot attend regularly. Thanks Jane.

**Catering** - Brian Logan has again been responsible to feed the troops with exciting fresh and hot foods when we are away from our usual venue.

**Guess who’s coming to dinner** - again wonderfully organised by Peter Ryan.

**Sergeant** - Simon Chamberlain has kept us under control with humour and secrets revealed plus in recent times we have had a succession of rotating Sergeants with Tim Coates prepared to step in at short notice. Thanks to Simon and Tim and all who stepped up when required.

**Welfare Officer**- Maureen Thornton has been visiting and posting cards to our unwell members. Thanks Maureen.

**Web**- Bruce Hemmett has maintained our web page with his usual efficiency. Thanks Bruce.

**Historian** –Terry Burgess has maintained the Historical records. Thanks Terry.

**Attendance** – Brodie Shields has managed this exceptionally well with his secretarial duties as well - it is totally up-to date – Thanks Brodie

**Events during the Year** - Golf trips and Rugby Union catering and Friday night Post Office raffles continue successfully. The sad death of Diana Boag earlier this year, - **August**- moved to West Diggers; **October**- Rotary Hat Day; Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service Altitude 40; Rotary Muster; Pedal the Peel; **November**- White Ribbon Day, Futures Dinner(Christmas Party) **December**- Club AGM, \_\_Santa\_Breakfast; gift for Salvation Army; Santa crawl **January**- Breakfast at Anzac Park, breakfast at the Marsupial Park, Breakfast at Hopscotch; assisting with Cavalcade; **March**- Science and Engineering; visit to North West Frames, catering at Bicentenary Park. **April**- Ode of Remembrance **May** – Bowel scan, Coach visit to East View Estate Kentucky ; Careers Expo, Guess who’s coming to Dinner; **June**- Changeover Dinner

Thank you to everyone for your help, suggestions and advice. It has been fun to meet you all and work with you. Sometimes it has been a head ache but never a heart ache.

**Director - Valerie Hellmann**

## ROTARY CLUB OF TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT – ANNUAL REPORT – MEMBERSHIP PORTFOLIO

It gives me great pleasure to report on our membership for this past year.

Rotary is an international membership organisation made up of people who share a passion for and commitment to enhancing communities and improving lives across the globe. Rotary members join clubs by invitation. With 35,000 clubs around the world, and others that meet online, Rotary makes it easy to get involved and start making a difference today.

Rotary brings together people like you – leaders from all cultures and occupations who want to use their distinct expertise for good. People whose sense of responsibility inspires them to give back to their communities. People who step forward to tackle the toughest challenges – and persevere to create lasting change in communities around the world.

It is with these ideals I set about tackling the portfolio of Membership for our Club, along with our members help, I believe we have achieved with people of the highest quality joining our ranks this year. People with passion and commitment to enhance our Tamworth community.

I wish to thank all members who helped me this year – it was most appreciated and welcome the new members listed below as they continue their journey as a Rotarian.

Andrew Beer	14/10/2015
Christine Shewry	14/10/2015
Joe Townsend	21/10/2015
Dimity Betts	25/11/2015
Marina Lawrence	02/03/2016
Simone Church	06/04/2016
Dean Clutterbuck	25/05/2016
Michelle Shanahan	18/06/2016

Liz Gill – transfer from Walcha - 25/05/2016.

**Director – Laurence Hearne**

## 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](mailto:president@tamworthfirstlight.org.au)

#### Secretary—Brodie Shields

[secretary@tamworthfirstlight.org.au](mailto: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, 7:00am