



# Rotary

## CLUB OF TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT BULLETIN

**2016-2017**

**District Governor: Ian Jackson**

**President: Terry Robinson** 0427 661 066

**Secretary: Helen Tickle** 0417 684 583

**Treasurer: PDG Jane Bradford** 0429 666 100



Photo courtesy of: Deb Barnes (good to see our gofers starting their days right with a walk on the beach!)

To submit your favourite 'first light' photo, please send to [dimity.betts@nswcc.org.au](mailto:dimity.betts@nswcc.org.au)



## NOTES & DIARY DATES 2016



**District conference-** 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at Laurieton

**Social nights-** our first social night will be held from 6pm on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> August at the Post Office hotel. This will be a regular occurrence on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month.

**Westpac Ball-** Westpac has called on us to help with bump in, on the day and bump out setup for Rio! Ball at William Cowper. It will be held on Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Opera by the Lake-** a project of Rotary Clubs of Great Lakes, will be held in March 2017. Please forward expressions of interest to run a bus over to attend to Dimity Betts. See flyer below. TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE!

### Participants needed for Australian Breakthrough Cancer (ABC) study

The ABC Study needs 50,000 Australians to help us to investigate how our genes, lifestyle and environment affect the development and treatment of cancer and other diseases. We will build a large set of health related information essential for making breakthroughs in disease prevention and treatment.

Any Australian resident, aged 40 – 74 years, who has never been diagnosed with cancer is eligible to participate. Those who have had only non- melanoma skin cancer can also participate.

The study has been designed so that you can take part at your convenience. Questionnaires are completed online. As we will need a sample of your saliva for genetic analyses, a saliva collection kit will be mailed to you, which you return to us by free post.

To register your interest: contact us on 1800 688 419 or [info@abcstudy.com.au](mailto:info@abcstudy.com.au)

## YOUR 16/17 BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### Board:

**President** Terry Robinson

**PE** Michael Smith

**Secretary** Helen Tickle

**Treasurer** Jane Bradford

**Club Admin** Peter Ryan

**Service** Brett White

**Foundation** Steve Massey

**Public Relations** Deb Barnes

**Membership** Brodie Shields

### Committee Chairs:

**Sergeant** Lesley Hood

**Bulletin** Dimity Betts

**Programs** John Fogarty

**Welfare** Paul Stevenson

**Youth** Andrew Beer

**Community Service** Jim

Raymond

**Web & IT** Bruce Hemmett

**Catering** Brian Logan

**RYLA** Louise Matthews

**RYAG Equine** Barry Biffin

**Vocational** Marina Lawrence

**Science & Engineering** Steve

Hawkins

**PNG Project/International** Di

Ford

**Careers Expo** Brett

White/Marina Lawrence

**Minister for Woman's Affairs**

Brett White



**Wednesday, 17th August 2016**

**Meeting # 1323**

**Quote of the week:** "Life is like a camera, focus on what is important, capture the good times, develop from the negatives and if things do not work out, take another shot."

### **ROBBOS RAMBLINGS**

Greg Rowlands from Tamworth Taxis delivered an excellent presentation on the changes which the taxi industry is going through, caused by way of deregulation and competition.

The loss of value of their taxi plates and limited compensation available was discussed. It appears however that as a result of the deregulation, the local taxi industry is focussing on its "service" which is a 24-hour, seven day a week service and making the taxi service more affordable for those less able to pay.

Due to the relatively small average taxi fare and the fact that the ride service industry is not a 24-hour, seven day a week service, Greg does not think that businesses like Uber will have much success in regional areas.

Next week, we have a completely different presentation from what our club has ever had before. Kylie Steel will be presenting on fitness modelling and will have plenty of colour, glossy photographs for us to view. Some may be revealing so make sure you do not miss the next meeting.

### **Help needed**

Darrel and Debra Bath are putting together a fundraising ball for Motor Neurone Disease on 19 September. Darrel was a former member of our club and is suffering from motor neurone disease.

The club will be helping out setting up for the ball in the afternoon of 19 September and thereafter we will need 12 members with Responsible Service of Alcohol Certificates to serve at the bar during the evening. Please see Brett White and indicate your availability. The ball will be held at the Tamworth Town Hall.

This is a project where we will be charging our services; however, more than likely will be donating the money back to MND.

The Rio Westpac Rescue Helicopter Ball is being held on 24 September and again help is needed. The event is being held at the Calrossy School Hall. Please see Jim Raymond to indicate your willingness to assist.

Invoices for our Club Subs have issued and it would be appreciated if you could pay by electronic funds transfer as soon as possible.

With the transfer of Graeme Kruger to Leeton, the publicity director's role became vacant. Deb Barnes has enthusiastically accepted the role as publicity director for our club. Congratulations Deb,

Do not forget Friday evening, 19 August at 6:00 pm we will be holding social drinks for members, partners and their friends followed by dinner for anyone who wishes to stay on.

We already have a number of members registered for the District Convention in Laurieton on 24 March to 26 March. The Board at its last meeting decided that the club would subsidise any members' registration fee to the District Convention by 50% as an incentive to encourage members.



I genuinely believe that if you attend a District Convention you will be enthused and reinvigorated about what Rotary can actually achieve in our community and in world communities.

Next week, our merry band of golfers will return and we look forward to hearing of their efforts and exaggerated stories.

Have a great week and I will see you on Wednesday.

Cheers

Robbo

## GUEST SPEAKER

### Greg Roland – Tamworth Taxis

**Introduction:** Laurence Hearne

**Vote of thanks:** Michael Smith

**Notes:** Elizabeth Gill/Jane Bradford

Greg opened with some of the slightly stranger taxi tales relating to Tamworth....

A passenger got into one of the Tamworth taxis and asked how much to drive her to Melbourne – the driver came up with \$2,000 as a quick suggestion and was surprised to have the amount accepted and drove the passenger to Melbourne and was paid and drove himself back to Tamworth

A few days later the driver received another call and drove all the way back to Melbourne and brought the lady home again for a further \$2,000.

While the taxi industry was regulated by Government it produced

- An industry vehicle standard
- Consistent Plate values
- Price certainty with fare charging
- Industry viability
- Plus the ability to monitor and provide discipline to service standards.

Communication has moved from 2 way radio as well as telephone/manual dispatch to computer and GPS dispatch.

There are approximately 6200 taxis in the Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong areas and 950 in the rest of the state. Pre 2015 in the city, ownership and staffing changes within the taxi industry was happening. This was created by migrants and so serviceability became an issue – not only in NSW but Australia wide. Taxis were 'cherry-picking' fares and refusing to take fares to what they considered to be uneconomical distances.

The emergence of Ride Sharing Apps (UBER) appeared in the city.

In 2015 the NSW Government ordered a review of the entire industry. Professor Tom Perry did a 3 month roadshow review and reported back to the NSW Government and in December 2015 the Government deregulated the taxi industry. After much discussion the government has come up with a formula: last three taxis - \$20,000 compensation (would cover about 5% of the taxis in Tamworth as an example) so basically



compensating the metropolitan drivers. However a taxi licence worth \$500,000 is now worth about \$250,000 – so compensated for “hardship”.

Taxi plates were now devalued and compensation was \$20000 per plate – about 1/5 the value of a taxi plate. There have been two compensation packages released – a transitional assistance package and a hardship allowance. Between August 2016 and January 2017 the Government is to formulate how to levy the industry to pay for the packages.

The emerging issues from this is network disunity. We now have to set up our own body of regulation and the Government will be the watchdog. There are less checks on attitudes and egos.

Regional taxis are more self regulated and self governed. We do not believe that UBER in Tamworth is a big issue. Why – because the majority of our work is account work (DVA, Dept Education, Disability, apprentices, etc) and less hail/rank work (the opposite to cities). We offer reliability with our service. It is mandatory to have security cameras in all our cars and outside. Even sitting in the rank our cameras are operating.

Greg ended by confirming that London cab drivers are the best in the world.

## AUGUST IS MEMBERSHIP AND EXTENSION MONTH

### “HOW DISTRICT 9920 INCREASED MEMBERSHIP BY 4.6 PER CENT IN 10 MONTHS”

**Article from ‘Rotary Down Under’ July 16, by Past District 9920 Governor Jennie Herring.**

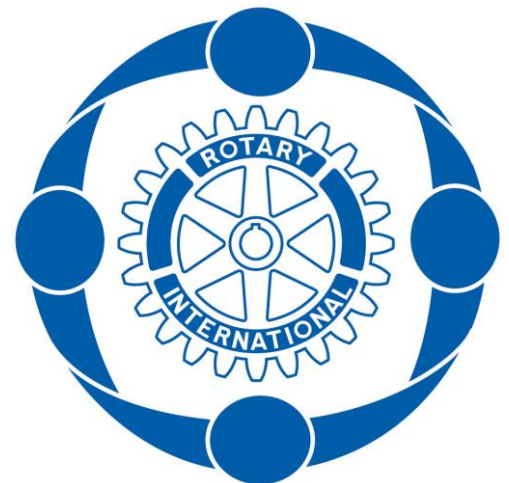
In late August, 2015, I had been district governor for just under two months when the district membership figures, as at July 1, 2015, were advised - my district, District 9920, had lost 122 members since July 1, 2014. I was, to put it plainly, gutted. Most districts dropped by 1.7 per cent to 1.9 per cent, while we were at 7.9 percent. I found out later that this was the biggest drop in the whole of Australasia.

Once I came out of a state of shock, I had to think about how to turn this around, or we would soon be on a downward spiral that would be hard to reverse.

At a national membership seminar in 2014, we were told the fastest way to grow membership was to form new clubs. I discovered passionate Rotarians who could help foster new clubs, including Shefali Mehta, who focused on Papatoetoe and targeting the large Indian community in the area. On October 6, 2015, this club was chartered with 27 members. Over 100 Rotarians attended the chartering celebration.

This sent a buzz around the district and, following the chartering of the Rotary Club of Papatoetoe Central another passionate Rotarian, Avaluia Tavui, approached me and said she would like to set up a multi-cultural Polynesian club in Manukau, which subsequently chartered as the Rotary Club of Manukau Oceania in June. We also have two new clubs in process that will charter in the near future. Meanwhile, in the background, clubs were answering the call all working hard to increase their membership, with one existing club in Auckland inducting 22 new members, and many younger members are joining Rotary across the district.

The district also ensured training included clubs in the Islands. On one of these training visits it was established that the Rotary Club of Rarotonga, Cook Islands, did not know what Paul Harris Fellowship (PHF) credits meant. A quick check revealed they had 22,000 points entitling them to award 22 Paul Harris Fellowships. I suggested they hold a PHF dinner and give awards to deserving members of the community and corporate companies who had assisted them over the years.





The club of 12 members organised the dinner, with 100 people present, including the New Zealand High Commissioner, the Queen's Representative and members of Parliament, not to mention another current district governor and The Rotary Foundation chair. They gave away 11 individual PHFs, 10 Corporate PHFs and 10 certificates of appreciation. They have gone from 12 members to 18, a fantastic effort that has been achieved by getting their name out in the community.

On a district governor visit to Nuku'alofa, Tonga, the club president surprised me with seven new members to induct. In the two days that I was in Tonga I visited projects, gave my presentation, where I inducted five of the new members and presented a six-hour training session after which I inducted the other two. On arrival in Tonga this club had 11 members; by the time I left they had 18.

Another important area of focus was ensuring we didn't lose members; retention is an important ingredient to keeping membership numbers on the upward trend. Clubs will always have a natural attrition, but there is no reason to lose a member simply because they got bored and were not given a job to do in Rotary.

My personal theme for the 2015-16 year for District 9920 was Share Your Passions - Inspire All. I believe that if you are passionate about something and share that passion, other people will become engaged also. At all times during my year I kept members informed of our increasing numbers, keeping membership in everyone's mind. I am delighted that our April figures showed that out of 53 clubs, 39 (73 per cent) showed a net increase in membership, yet another great result.



Meeting Roster	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> August	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> August	
Venue	Diggers 6:30am	Diggers 6:30am	
Topic	Kylie Steel-Fitness modelling	Allan Orchard-Legacy	
Door Team	Phil Heffernan David Hinwood	Peter Bell Barry Biffin	
Meeter & Greeter	Leslie Jacob	Graham Dooley	
Welcome	Richard Hardwick	Christine Shewry	
President Assist	Dennis Johnson	Louise Matthews	
Visitor Assist	Marina Lawrence	Maureen Thornton	
Corporal Assist	Chris Watson	John Toulmin	
Bulletin Notes	Brian Logan	Jim Raymond	
Introduction	Ronald Allen	John Fogarty	
Vote of Thanks	David Baddams	Tim Coates	
Post Office Raffle Roster			
19 August	26 August	2 September	9 September
Rob Clifton David Baddams	David Baddams Barry Biffin	Barry Biffin Dimity Betts	Simone Church Graham Dooley
16 September	23 September	30 September	7 October
Rob Clifton Simone Church	Graham Dooley Laurence Hearne	Laurence Hearne Phil Heffernan	Phil Heffernan Val Hellmann
Corporals for August		Corporals for September	
Deb Barnes & Max Cathcart		Richard Walker & Andrew Beer	
Birthdays, Anniversaries and Inductions			
Members Birthdays	Peter Hyde (25/8)		
Partners Birthdays	NIL		
Anniversaries	NIL		
Club Induction	Max Cathcart (13 years-27/8), Michael Smith (10 years-30/8)		
Attendance	54%		
Make-Ups	NIL		
Visiting Rotarians	NIL		
Visitors	Greg Rowland		
Heads & Tails	Brett White		
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  
 Wests Diggers  
 Kable Avenue  
 TAMWORTH NSW 2340  
 Phone: 6766 4661

Club Officers and contact details

#### President—Terry Robinson

president@tamworthfirstlight.org.au

#### Secretary—Helen Tickle

secretary@tamworthfirstlight.org.au

### Other Clubs meet:

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Monday</b>    | Tamworth West, West Tamworth Bowling Club, 6:30pm      |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | Tamworth Rotary Club, Service Club, 6:15pm             |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Tamworth on Peel – (Calala Rotary), Calala Inn, 6:30pm |
| <b>Friday</b>    | Tamworth Sunrise, Sanctuary Inn, 7:00am                |