



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

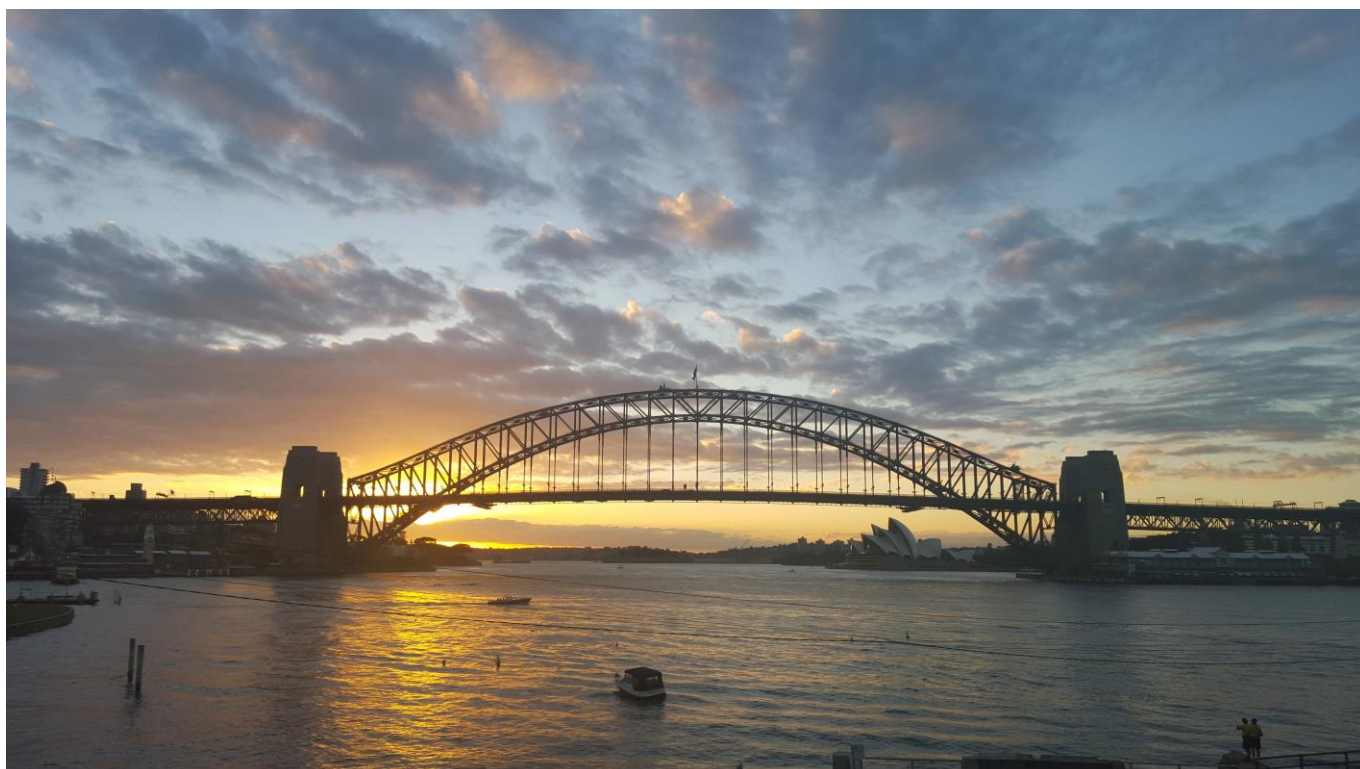


Photo courtesy of: Dimity Betts (taken from McMahon's Point)

To submit your favourite 'first light' photo, please send to dimity.betts@nswcc.org.au



NOTES & DIARY DATES 2016



District conference- 24th-26th March 2017 at Laurieton

Social nights- This will be a regular occurrence on the 3rd Friday of the month, join us for drinks and dinner at the Post Office Hotel.

The Coastal Golf trip is on from 3-5 March, we welcome all male golfers to join us for a weekend of golf & fun. Depart Tamworth Friday morning, return Sunday night.

Pedal the Peel-2nd April. How can you help:

- (a) Assist in distributing posters and brochures. See Richard Walker and Liz Gill;
- (b) Sell raffle tickets. We have a Merida road bike with a retail price of \$1,499.00 as the first price. See Lesley Hood to obtain your raffle tickets;
- (c) Be available on Sunday, 2 April to assist with setting up, marshalling the cyclist, becoming a Route Marshall, cooking the barbeque, driving a support vehicle etcetera. See Brett White or Jim Raymond

Pin of the week



Wednesday, 1st March 2017

Meeting # 1347

Quote of the week: *"If you think the things I say out loud are inappropriate you should hear the stuff I keep to myself!!"*

ROBBO'S RAMBLINGS

We had another great meeting this week with a tremendous guest speaker organised by our fabulous program director.

Shalini Pratap spoke to us about her journey from Fiji to Tamworth.

As described by Lawrence Hearn, it was a "great good news story".

Shalini and her husband initially moved from a small village in Fiji to Alice Springs. They had no idea that Alice Springs was located in the centre of Australia. They were totally unprepared, were taken advantage of by an employer and had no health insurance which caused significant financial issues when their first baby arrived. After some hardship, they moved to Tamworth and the community embraced them and in her words their life changed for the better at that time.

We know that Tamworth as a community, is in unique in many ways and this is yet another reason why Tamworth is a growth centre.

Shalini thanked Eddie Whitham for his continuing and ongoing assistance and has now become part of growing and assisting the group known as Multicultural Tamworth.

She is involved in organising the vibrant and colourful Indian festival and helping new migrants assimilate within the Tamworth region.

Significantly, Shalini pointed out that we or our families were all immigrants and whilst she and her husband may be immigrants, her children are 100% Australian.

Hidden Figures was screened on Wednesday evening and was a great success. We had two cinemas booked out. \$5.00 from each ticket sold will go to the eradication of polio. A

very big thank you to Jane Bradford who almost single-handedly organised that fund raising event. It was a great movie and if you haven't seen it, I recommend it.

I am making a last call for registrations to the District Convention in Laurieton between 24 March and 26 March. We currently have seven members registered and I would love to be able to say we have 10 members registered.

Our next major fundraising event is the Pedal the Peel - Cycling Challenge to be held on Sunday, 2 April at Moore Creek Tennis Club.

Our primary focus at this point is advertising the event to cyclists and encouraging cyclist of all abilities to become involved. There are four courses ranging from a 16 kilometre and 24 kilometre flat course and a 55km and 115 kilometre long course for experienced riders.

How can you help:

- (d) Assist in distributing posters and brochures. See Richard Walker and Liz Gill;
- (e) Sell raffle tickets. We have a Merida road bike with a retail price of \$1,499.00 as the first price. See Lesley Hood to obtain your raffle tickets;
- (f) Be available on Sunday, 2 April to assist with setting up, marshalling the cyclist, becoming a Route Marshall, cooking the barbeque, driving a support vehicle etcetera.

This event is a huge logistical event involving large numbers of people and I really need support from all of the club and their partners. Please see Jim Raymond and Brett White to put your name down as volunteer. The only excuse for not being a volunteer is that you are riding the course. I know Deb Barnes will be riding and she is looking for some riding partners.....maybe Phil Penman, Mick Smith ??

Do not forget that our meeting on 8 March is a joint meeting with Sunrise Rotary Club at Diggers.

Our meeting on 15 March is at the Tamworth Regional Entertainment Centre for the Science and Engineering Challenge.

Have a great week! Cheers

Robbo



GUEST SPEAKER

Shalini Pratap- My journey to Tamworth

Introduction and notes by: Val Hellmann

Thanked by: Lawrence Hearne

At our last meeting we were introduced to a beautiful, fun loving, enthusiastic, energetic and delightful new Australian.

Shalini arrived in Australia with her husband in 1999. They had come on a visa for 4 years and went immediately to Alice Springs, where there was a river but no water. In Fiji she lived on the sea shore, and was educated in a predominately Indian school where there were no visible racial problems. Alice Springs was interesting. The people were very welcoming, helpful and generous but the employment was harsh. Shalini discovered that she was about to become a mum and with no health insurance it was a very expensive surprise.

With the help of the Department of Immigration, who was very efficient, a new employer was found and a sponsorship was found in Tamworth. Now it was necessary for Shalini's husband to gain Australian qualifications, so now he is an electrician and owns AIR FREEZE REFRIGERATION. Shalini is qualified in IT and "does the books, accounts and business side of the company". This business is now sponsoring others with 457 visas.

The family has endeavoured to retain some Indian culture with food, the Hindi language and family events. Divali, the Indian Festival of Light, was developed by Shalini. The baby is now 16 and very Australian/Western in her outlook. She hopes to study at University next year.

The family gives a lot of credit to Eddy Whitam, who has supported so many new migrants in his community work. It is said don't Google, just "Eddy-it". He is the Tamworth Multi Culture which is a self-funded group of locals who assist with home visits, English lessons, going for a drive and friendship.

A lovely long lunch at Glasshouse Restaurant, Goonoo Goonoo Station







Presidential message



John F. Germ
President 2016-17

February 2017

On 23 February, we will mark 112 years since the founding of Rotary. It is incredible to think about how much has changed, in our world and in our organization, since the first Rotary club met in Chicago with Paul Harris as a founding member.

Some things are easy to compare between now and 1905. There have been changes in technology, medicine, and society. When we look at a map of the world in 1905 and a map of the world today, we can see what's different. What we can't do is compare what is with what might have been. There is no way to compare our world as it exists now with the world as it would have been without Rotary.

Rotary has risen to so many challenges in its 112 years. We've answered conflict with peace, and poverty with education. We've responded to a lack of basic health care with projects large and small, from equipping clinics in tiny villages to eradicating polio across the globe.

We will never know how different the world would have been if Rotary had never been founded; if any one Rotary club had never been chartered; or if any single Rotarian had declined the invitation to join a Rotary club.

But I will say, with absolute faith and complete confidence, that the world is a far, far better place now than it would have been without Rotary and that Rotary itself is stronger because of every one of you.

The world needs Rotary more than ever. It needs our courage, our optimism, and our idealism. It needs the voice of tolerance, cooperation, and hope that we can offer. It needs the example of an organization that has proven that the citizens of all countries can work together successfully, gladly, and in friendship.

None of us ever knows the full impact of our actions. None of us knows the effects that will ripple out from the things we do and say, the decisions we make, the opportunities we seize, and those we let pass. But I think we all know that when we choose to do good, good will follow; and that when we choose Service Above Self as our life's path, the direction it will take us will be a good one.

No one can see the future. No one knows what changes lie ahead. But I have faith in Rotary, and in Rotarians, that with every passing year, you will make our world a better place through *Rotary Serving Humanity*.

Meeting Roster	Wednesday 1 st March	Wednesday 8 th March	
Venue	West Diggers 6:30am	West Diggers 6:30am	
Topic	Simone Church-personal profile	Joint meeting with Sunrise club	
Door Team	Richard Hardwick Barry Biffin	Joe Townsend Glenn McIntosh	
Meeter & Greeter	Marina Lawrence	Jim Raymond	
Welcome	Brian Logan	Louise Matthews	
President Assist	Denis Maunder	Peter Bell	
Visitor Assist	Peter Pulley	Simone Church	
Corporal Assist	Julian Smith	Michelle Shanahan	
Bulletin Notes	John Treloar	Tim Coates	
Introduction	John Treloar	Tim Coates	
Vote of Thanks	Graham Nuttall	John Worldon	
Post Office Raffle Roster			
3 March	10 March	17 March	24 March
Brodie Shields Paul Stevenson	Paul Stevenson Christine Shewry	Brian Thompson Maureen Thornton	Maureen Thornton Christine Shewry
31 March	7 April	14 April	21 April
Brian Thompson Brodie Shields	Helen Tickle James Treloar	Good Friday	James Treloar John Treloar
Corporals for March		Corporals for April	
Jim Raymond & Peter Ryan		Phil Penman & Natalie Conn	
Birthdays, Anniversaries and Inductions			
Members Birthdays	Brian Thompson (4/3)		
Partners Birthdays	NIL		
Anniversaries	Michael & Gloria O'Connor (4/3-40 years), Graham & Marion Dooley (5/3-34 years)		
Club Induction	Narelle Langfield (5/3-14 years), Marina Lawrence (2/3-1 year)		
Attendance	70%		
Make-Ups	Dimity Betts (North Sydney Sunrise)		
Visiting Rotarians	NIL		
Visitors	Eddie Whitham, Shalin Pratap		
Heads & Tails			
Raffle			

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:

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