



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 Michael O'Connor (East Tamworth)

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



Rotary



ROTARY
SERVING
HUMANITY

NOTES & DIARY DATES 2016

Changeover dinner-Saturday night 17th June @ Diggers

16th June 2017 Sunrise Rotary changeover
17th June 2017 First Light Rotary changeover
19th June 2017 West Tamworth Rotary changeover
19th June 2017 9650 Rotary eClub changeover
26th June 2017 Quirindi Rotary changeover
26th June 2017 Manilla Changeover
27th June 2017 Tamworth Rotary changeover
28th June 2017 Calala Rotary changeover
1st July 2017 District 9650 changeover Laurieton

Cancer Council Dance for Cancer- Dimity is looking for volunteers to help with set up on Saturday 24th June as well as the bar and food service for the event.

Gold Coast golf trip- 6-11th August. See Dennis Maunder, Maureen Thornton, Deb Barnes or John Treloar to express interest. There is a meeting 6th June in John Treloar's office at 6pm. The committee is also looking for good to raffle and for prizes.

Musical Gala Event -This will be a combined Rotary event to be held on August 5.

Working with Children check-this is a legal requirement for all club members. If you haven't given your number and expiry to Maureen Thornton, please do so asap.

60 seconds- Steve Hawkins spoke about the Perkins Braille Machine, which his visually impaired son has used. The machine was originally produced in 1951 and has a key corresponding to each of the six dots of the braille code.



Wednesday, 31st MAY, 2017

Meeting # 1360

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We heard the amazing story of the charge of Beersheba which occurred on 31 October 1917. This year is their 100th anniversary. Brian Sullivan introduced a uniquely Tamworth flavour to the charge by introducing us to Harry George Cheville and Major Eric Hyman.

Eric Hyman and his family owned a substantial track of land in South Tamworth and the names of his children can be seen in many street names in South Tamworth.

More about Beersheba. The allies were hoping that a major victory against the Turkish Empire in Palestine would break the stalemate and turn the tide of war in their favour. Success in Palestine depended upon the capture of Beersheba. Beersheba was a critical target and heavily defended.

The element of surprise was in favour of the Australian Light Horse Brigade. Whilst the Turks expected an attack they did not expect an attack from the direction that the Light Horse chose. The Turks assumed that nobody in their right minds would foolishly ride through the searing hot desert of Palestine and attack Beersheba from the desert side.

Notwithstanding the element of surprise, the Turkish defences were formidable with machine guns and light artillery protecting the fortress.

The general tactic for the Light Horse was to ride to the scene, get off your horse and fight as regular infantry. So when the Turkish and German commanders at Beersheba saw the Aussies amassing in the desert their orders were simply – wait for them to get off their horses and blow them apart.

800 Australian cavalrymen galloped forward on what could only be described as a potentially suicide mission.

The Aussie Light Horse however did not dismount, they rode directly at the Turks until it was all too late. The Aussies charged through blistering heavy weapons fire, their goal being to reach the enemy trench lines to then enable them to swing their bayonets.

The men of the Light Horse rode all the way and leaped over a row of barb wire, crossed two rows of enemy trenches which were four feet wide by ten foot deep. The Aussies



dismounted and after a bloody fight, Beersheba was in the hands of the Australian Light Horse.

Of the 800 cavalymen, Australia suffered just 31 troopers killed and 36 wounded. They captured 750 Turks and more importantly seized 17 water wells. A remarkable story which I thought was worthwhile recounting.

Great news for our Rotary family with the announcement that Dimity Betts has fallen pregnant and we are now charged with the responsibility of bringing in to the world a new young Rotarian.

Dimity is also looking for additional volunteers to assist with the Dance for Cancer Ball to be held on 24 June. Please indicate if you can assist.

Our changeover dinner is on 17 June and I would love to see you and your partner there. The Gold Coast golf trip is on between 6th and 11th August and applications close at the end of June.

Maureen Thornton reminded us to check our child protection expiry dates and also to advise her what the expiry date is. It is a legal requirement that everybody have a working with children check and that the registration be in date.

The other big news is that the Districts Global Grant application for the provision of potable cool water in 80 State schools in the Punjabi State, in India has been approved. With the funds donated by clubs within our District, a district grant from within District 9650 as well as a district grant from the Indian clubs together with the Global grant, we now have \$125,925.00 Australian which is enough to carry out the project. If you ever needed proof that donating to our Rotary Foundation was worthwhile, this is a clear example.

I've indicated to Ken Hall, the coordinator for this project, that we have members within our club who would be keen to take part in a work party to assist with this project. I will keep you informed on this exciting development.

At our next meeting, member Glenn McIntosh will provide a personal profile with a pictorial which will be very interesting.

Enjoy your week!

Cheers

Robbo



GUEST SPEAKER

Brian Sullivan. 100 years of Beersheba.

Introduction and notes: Richard Hardwick

Thanks: Barry Biffin

Brian is a retired school teacher who has lived in the Tamworth area for 36 years. Brian is married with 4 children and 8 grandchildren. He is the secretary of the local Parkinson's group and finds that doing research and public speaking assists in keeping the mind active and helps with dealing with Parkinson's disease.

Brian considers himself as an amateur historian and took an interest in a couple of parks that Lions have control of in Tamworth these being Hyman and Chauvel Parks in South Tamworth. From research Brian found out the significance of the men behind the names and their links to the last successful cavalry charge at Beersheba on 31 Oct 1917.



Henry Chauvel - 16 April 1865 - 4 March 1945

Harry Chauvel was born in Tabulam, New South Wales, on 16 April 1865. He began his education at Sydney Grammar School before moving to Toowoomba in Queensland and attending Toowoomba Grammar. Chauvel's father was a major in the militia and had raised his own unit, the Upper Clarence Light Horse, into which Harry was commissioned at the age of 21.

Chauvel served on Gallipoli as commander of the 1st Light Horse Brigade. Arriving on 12 May, he took command of a sector that included Quinn's Post, Courtney's Post, and Steele's Post, each the scene of heavy fighting. Illness forced his evacuation and he spent June and July in hospital, returning to take command of the New Zealand and Australian Division in September 1915. In November he was given command of the 1st Australian Division and was promoted to major general.

Given his choice of commands in Egypt after the evacuation, Chauvel took charge of the Australian and New Zealand Mounted Division; in June 1916, he became the General Officer Commanding, AIF in Egypt. Chauvel won the first decisive British victory of the war when he defeated the Turks at Romani, stopping their second attempt to reach the Suez.

In August 1917 Chauvel became the first Australian to permanently command a corps: the Desert Mounted Corps, comprising British, Australian, and New Zealand units. His appointment followed two failed attempts to take Gaza. The third attempt involved a flanking manoeuvre necessitating the capture of Beersheba, duly achieved through the famous mounted charge by the 4th Light Horse Brigade. Success there opened the way for the eventual advance through Palestine that ended with the Turkish surrender in October 1918. Chauvel has been described as a commander that understood the capabilities of his mounted troops; used them wisely, taking calculated risks and withdrawing when necessary; and kept losses to a minimum.

During the Second World War, Chauvel took up the post of Inspector General of the Volunteer Defence Corps; he held this post until his death on 4 March 1945.



Eric Hyman

Eric Hyman was born in Tamworth as eldest of 9 siblings. Embarked with the original ANZAC fleet from Fremantle in November 1914 for Egypt and then onto Gallipoli.

From Gallipoli he returned to Egypt then on to the conflict in Palestine. Now Major Hyman Officer Commanding of A SQN 12th LHR was the lead squadron into the battle at Beersheba and at one stage dismounted with 13 other troopers and stormed a sizeable redoubt (high feature) resulting in the capturing of the redoubt and taking numerous prisoners. This action led to Major Hyman being mentioned for a Victoria Cross but was later awarded the lesser honour of Distinguished Service Order (DSO).

Attack on Beersheba

Beersheba, a heavily fortified town 43 km from the Turkish bastion of Gaza, was the scene of an historic charge by the 4th Light Horse Brigade on 31 October 1917. Beersheba anchored the right end of a defensive line that stretched all the way from Gaza on the Mediterranean coast. After two failed attempts to attack Gaza frontally it was decided to outflank it by turning the Turkish line around Beersheba. The attack was launched at dawn on 31 October but by late afternoon the British 20 Corps had made little headway toward the town and its vital wells. Lieutenant General Harry Chauvel, commanding the Desert Mounted Corps, thus ordered the 4th Light Horse Brigade forward to attempt to secure the position. Brigadier William Grant responded by ordering light horsemen of the 4th and

12th Regiments to charge at the unwired Turkish trenches. Employing their bayonets as "swords" the momentum of the surprise attack carried them through the Turkish defences. The water supplies were saved and over 1,000 Turkish prisoners were taken. The fall of Beersheba thus opened the way for a general outflanking of the Gaza-Beersheba Line. After severe fighting Turkish forces abandoned Gaza on 6 November and began their withdrawal into Palestine.

MAY IS YOUTH SERVICE MONTH

Rotary Clubs across Australia sponsor young people in the development of skills in the areas of communication, leadership, road safety / driver awareness, resilience and self-esteem and in furthering their career aspirations in the areas of mathematics and science.

Youth Service recognizes the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities, service projects and exchange programs and aims to provide innovative and practical opportunities to assist and motivate young people in our communities to acquire learning and life skills. Youth Service is an investment in the future. A commitment to Youth Service within and through our clubs is a commitment to the next generation of potential Rotarians and the ongoing future and health of our clubs. Our club is involved in many youth service projects, including:

- RYLA
- MUNA
- Rotary youth exchange
- Science and Engineering Challenge
- Careers expo

William Golding

British Novelist, Playwright and Poet

1911-1933

"I think women are foolish to pretend they are equal to men.
They are far superior and always have been.
Whatever you give a woman, she will make greater.
If you give her a sperm, she will give you a baby.
If you give her a house, she will give you a home.
If you give her groceries, she will give you a meal.
If you give her a smile, she will give you her heart.
She multiplies and enlarges what is given to her.
So, if you give her any crap, be ready to receive a ton of"



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AUGUST
SATURDAY
2:00PM & 7:30PM
CAPITOL THEATRE TAMWORTH



A Musical Theatre Gala Concert fundraising for Mental Health Research

The stars of *Les Miserables* Australia come to Tamworth to present *Epiphanies* - a celebration of our struggles and hopes through some of the great melodies of musical theatre!

Presented by local singer turned professional music theatre actor Rob McDougall (*Bishop of Digne/Cover Javert, Les Miserables; Mephisto, Faust*), *Epiphanies* will present some of the greatest pieces of music from the great shows of the 20th and 21st centuries, backed by a stunning 18 piece orchestra.

Kerrie Anne Greenland (*Helpmann Awarded Eponine, Les Miserables; Violet, Sideshow*) and Daniel Belle (*The Ten Tenors; Cover Valjean, Les Miserables*) perform a dazzling array of pieces from the most beloved musicals, including *Phantom of the Opera, Carousel, Wicked, The Secret Garden, Sweeney Todd, Sunset Boulevard* and *The Sound of Music*.

Special guest artists - Brooke Gillet, Gabriella McDonald, Peter Ross and Anne Walsh.

2 hours 40 mins | Includes Interval



PROUD PARTNERS

Your local club
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Rotary



ROTARY
SERVING
HUMANITY



STARS OF TAMWORTH

DANCE FOR CANCER

TAMWORTH TOWN HALL FITZROY ST
SATURDAY 24TH JUNE 2017

6.00PM ARRIVAL FOR 6.30 START

\$95.00 A TICKET OR \$850.00 FOR A TABLE OF TEN

THREE COURSE MEAL AND
WELCOME DRINK ON ARRIVAL

BOOKING DETAILS

PHONE: 02 6766 2028

ONLINE: WWW.TAMWORTHTOWNHALL.COM.AU
IN PERSON: CAPITOL THEATRE TAMWORTH
GOLDEN GUITAR

COCKTAIL/
BLACK TIE



The Northern Daily
LEADER
Join us into the future



Meeting Roster	Wednesday 31st May	Wednesday 7th June	Wednesday 14 th June
Venue	West Diggers 6.30am	West diggers 6.30 am	No meeting
Topic	Glenn McIntosh Personal Profile	Kevin Anderson MP Macquarie St Update	Change over
Door Team	Rob Sharp James Treloar	Dean Clutterbuck Glenn McIntosh	
Meeter & Greeter	Deb Barnes	John Fogarty	
Welcome	Dennis Johnson	Louise Matthews	
President Assist	Leslie Jacob	Peter Pulley	
Visitor Assist	Brian Logan	Michelle Shanahan	
Corporal Assist	Dennis Maunder	Joe Townsend	
Bulletin Notes	Ron Allen	Peter Bell	
Introduction	Ron Allen	Peter Bell	
Vote of Thanks	Simone Church	Jim Raymond	

Post Office Raffle Roster

2 June	9 June	16 June	23 June
Simone Church Bary Biffin	Bary Biffin Graham Dooley	Rob Clifton Liz Gill	Liz Gill Laurence Heame
30 June	7 July	14 July	21 July
Laurence Heme Phil Heffeman	Phil Heffeman Bruce Hemmett	Bruce Hemmett Lesley Hood	Lesley Hood Val Hellmann
Corporals for May		Corporals for June	
James Treloar & Richard Walker		Graham Dooley & Stephen Hawkins	

Birthdays, Anniversaries and Inductions

Members Birthdays	Glenn McIntosh (5/6)
Partners Birthdays	nil
Anniversaries	nil
Club Induction	Terry Burgess, Dick Davison, Phil Heffeman, Ian Howle, Dennis Johnson, Michael O'Connor, Brian Thompson, John Treloar (27) Brodie Shields (21)

Attendance	55%
Make-Ups	nil
Visiting Rotarians	Nil
Visitors	Bianca Freestone, Andrew Maughan
Heads & Tails	Bruce Hemmett

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—Terry Robinson

president@tamworthfirstlight.org.au

Secretary—Helen Tickle

secretary@tamworthfirstlight.org.au

Other Clubs meet:

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