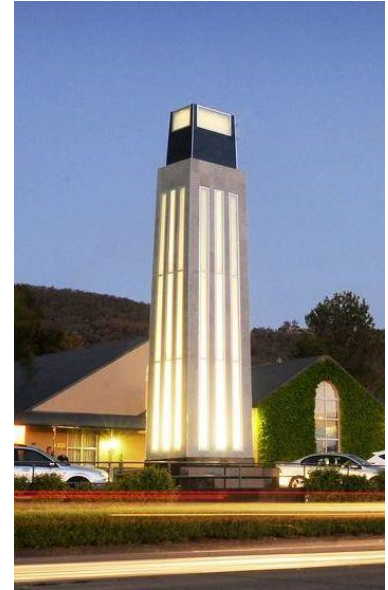




Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light

2017 2018

District Governor:	Bob Ryan	0409 457 705
President:	Michael Smith	0408 230 211
Secretary:	Michael O'Connor	0437 593 479
Treasurer:	Deb Barnes	0411 770 552



MARCH IS



WATER AND SANITATION MONTH

"Clean water, the essence of life and a birthright for everyone, must become available to all people now."

Jean-Michel Cousteau



www.rotary.org

Meeting 1395

Wednesday 7 March 2018

Quote; When I was 5 years old my mother told me that happiness was the key to life. When I went to school, they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up, I said happy. They told me I didn't understand the assignment, I told them they didn't understand life.



An action packed meeting this week, that went a little overtime but hard to stop a good thing.

Mitch Soree gave us an entertaining perspective into his life so far. Seems Mitch loves to study or is a gluten for punishment or both. Loves to dress up, Brett White has a closet full of dress ups if you ever run out Mitch!! He loves cars, camping, his dog and

Erin. Seems life is pretty sweet so far, he doesn't have kids yet and isn't actually married yet!!

We have a big project hitting the streets on Monday and Tuesday, well Peel Street to be exact. **The MHERV van hits town.** The MHERV van will be accompanied by a registered nurse who is available to assess men, and I believe women, who are too shy, busy, whatever, to go to a doctor. The idea is for the RN to determine those persons who may have problems with their health and get them to seek assistance before it's too late. The van will be **outside the council chambers in Peel St on Monday and Tuesday**

Thanks to Phil Penman, Dimity Betts, Helen Tickle and others for their work in organising the event, especially Phil and his wife Robyn who are hosting the RN for three nights.

Louise brought along another two more RYLA candidates this week.

These two were a little more confident and the experience will see their employers reap the benefits of RYLA Well done Louise

Our golden girl Ashleigh Dallas sang her latest song for us also A song for her poor, forgotten, neglected husband !! She brought along her golden guitar, her second, well done Ashleigh I must put Ashleigh in touch with a client of mine who rang this week to say they couldn't pay their account because the Tractor had blown up, the ute had carked it, the dog had died, the drought has hit hard, etc etc....all the makings of a country music classic!!

Have a great week

Kind Regards
Michael Smith

WHAT'S ON

March	5&6 MHERV 7 Judy Biffin- international Tent Pegging – Tamworth to Khasab on horse back 9 Post Office Hotel Jim and Carmel farewell 8 to 11 District Conference 14 Peter Leonard profile 17-24 RYLA at Yarrahapinni 20-23 Science and Engineering
APRIL	6-22 NZ tour 9 Pedal the Peel
MAY	26 District Assembly at Gunnedah
JUNE	16 Change over Dinner

Of course I don't look
as busy as the men do...



I did it right the first time!

Is this Louise?
Is this Marina?
Is this Elizabeth?
Or
Is this Robyn?

Peter Ryan has his swimming team washing cars at Inland 9 to 2 pm.

“Success is walking from failure with no loss of enthusiasm.” Winston Churchill

RAIN FROM NOWHERE

by Murray Hartin

His cattle didn't get a bid, they were fairly bloody poor,
What was he going to do? He couldn't feed them anymore,
The dams were all but dry, hay was thirteen bucks a bale,
Last month's talk of rain was just a fairytale,
His credit had run out, no chance to pay what's owed,
Bad thoughts ran through his head as he drove down Gully Road.

"Geez, great grandad bought the place back in 1898,
"Now I'm such a useless bastard, I'll have to shut the gate.
"Can't support my wife and kids, not like dad and those before,
"Crikey, Grandma kept it going while Pop fought in the war."
With depression now his master, he abandoned what was right,
There's no place in life for failures, he'd end it all tonight.

There were still some things to do, he'd have to shoot the cattle first,
Of all the jobs he'd ever done, that would be the worst.
He'd have a shower, watch the news, then they'd all sit down for tea
Read his kids a bedtime story, watch some more TV,
Kiss his wife goodnight, say he was off to shoot some roos
Then in a paddock far away he'd blow away the blues.

But he drove in the gate and stopped – as he always had
To check the roadside mailbox – and found a letter from his Dad.
Now his dad was not a writer, Mum did all the cards and mail
But he knew the writing from the notebooks that he'd kept from cattle sales,
He sensed the nature of its contents, felt moisture in his eyes,
Just the fact his dad had written was enough to make him cry.

"Son, I know it's bloody tough, it's a cruel and twisted game,
"This life upon the land when you're screaming out for rain,
"There's no candle in the darkness, not a single speck of light
"But don't let the demon get you, you have to do what's right,
"I don't know what's in your head but push the bad thoughts well away
"See, you'll always have your family at the back end of the day

Australian storyteller Murray Hartin woke up one morning with a few lines in his head and three hours later he had penned Rain From Nowhere. The poem deals with the issue of rural depression. It's a tough subject. Too many people are dying in the bush – parents, partners, good mates. Good people who decide it's too tough to go on.

"You have to talk to someone, and yes I know I rarely did
"But you have to think about Fiona and think about the kids.
"I'm worried about you son, you haven't rung for quite a while,
"I know the road you're on 'cause I've walked every bloody mile.
"The date? December 7 back in 1983,
"Behind the shed I had the shotgun rested in the brigalow tree.

"See, I'd borrowed way too much to buy the Johnson place
"Then it didn't rain for years and we got bombed by interest rates,
"The bank was at the door, I didn't think I had a choice,
"I began to squeeze the trigger – that's when I heard your voice.
"You said 'Where are you Daddy? It's time to play our game'
"I've got Squatter all set up, we might get General Rain.'

"It really was that close, you're the one that stopped me son,
"And you're the one that taught me there's no answer in a gun.
"Just remember people love you, good friends won't let you down.
"Look, you might have to swallow pride and take that job in town,
"Just 'til things come good, son, you've always got a choice
"And when you get this letter ring me, 'cause I'd love to hear your voice.

"Well he cried and laughed and shook his head then put the truck in gear,
Shut his eyes and hugged his dad in a vision that was clear,
Dropped the cattle at the yards, put the truck away
Filled the troughs the best he could and fed his last ten bales of hay.
Then he strode towards the homestead, shoulders back and head held high,
He still knew the road was tough but there was purpose in his eye.

He called his wife and children, who'd lived through all his pain,
Hugs said more than words – he'd come back to them again,
They talked of silver linings, how good times always follow bad,
Then he walked towards the phone, picked it up and rang his Dad.
And while the kids set up the Squatter, he hugged his wife again,
Then they heard the roll of thunder and they smelt the smell of rain.

Rain From Nowhere touches the heart and sends a positive message. It takes a long hard look at communication between sons and fathers and reminds us all, no matter how rough the situation, there is always love and there is always hope. And if you do happen to be feeling a bit low, or just want to talk to someone, you can. Don't hesitate to pick up the phone and call Lifeline on 13 11 14.

I am pleased to invite you to the Sydney Town Hall on 17 March for the [Presidential Peacebuilding Conference](#) where we will explore economic and community development in relation to peacebuilding on a local, national, and international scale.

Rotary District 9675 has planned an outstanding program featuring Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus, noted Australian foreign correspondent Hugh Riminton, Founder and Executive Chairman of the Institute for Economics and Peace Steve Killelea, Vice Chair of the Rotarian Action Group Against Slavery Dave McCleary and UNICEF CEO Tony Stuart. Joining them will be a host of other internationally recognised thought leaders from across the business and philanthropic communities.

We discuss important topics including the cost of conflict, the power of education, facilitating peaceful outcomes, as well as pressing issues such as cyberbullying and modern slavery affecting the harmony of our global community.

We'll explore the real causes of economic instability, the intersection of sound community development and reconciliation, and opportunities to create peace through collaborative service projects globally and locally. You will leave the conference motivated to expand existing efforts in peacebuilding or initiate new ones.

I look forward to joining you in Sydney as we come together to Make a Difference by discussing challenges and identifying opportunities to address some of the most pressing concerns of modern times.

If you have not already registered, you may do so online <http://rippc2018.com.au/registration>. Consider bringing along a friend, school student or young person to learn and be inspired as we come together to explore how all of us can thoughtfully and practically build peace in our world

Sincerely,
Ian Riseley
President, Rotary International

Hi All,

Further to my previous email and encouraged by some members, I have spoken with the Glasshouse Restaurant and they have indicated with our current numbers of around 16, we can choose to order off the main menu rather than having the tasting menu.

The main reason for the tasting menu is to avoid any delays in being served but I have assured the restaurant that our members will find plenty to do while they wait!! Obviously, the cost per head will now be dependent on individual orders plus beverages. Currently I have the following members who have replied to my email to indicate they will be attending:

Raymond 2; Hyde 2; Hearne 2; Allen 2; Robinson 2; Michael Smith 1; Bradford 1; Walker 1; Worldon 1; Tickle 1

If there are any changes to these numbers, or for those who have not replied, could you confirm with me ASAP (or Wednesday) so I can give the restaurant the final numbers on Thursday.

Cheers,

Philip Penman

•

1 of 24

Health Educational Rural Van (MHERV)

When: Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th March 2018

Time: 10 - 4.00pm

Where: In Peel Street, directly outside Ray Walsh House (Council Chambers)

Volunteers:

Monday: 10-12 Phil Penman Glen McIntosh

12-2 Steve Hawkins Dennis Johnson

2 - 4 Ron Allen Rob Clifton

Tuesday: 10-12 John Treloar Jim Raymond

12 - 2 Tom Hellmann Richard Walker

2 - 4 Brian Thompson Phil Lyon

Many thanks to those who "volunteered".

If you are unable to make it, please ring Phil Penman 0407662438

mherv

men's health education rural van
saving men's lives in rural australia



a rotary project
District 9678

Is coming to town!



Everyone knows that Tamworth was the first city to light up with electricity. There have been many 'light-bulb moments' since then! Most rural blokes haven't seen the inside of a doctor's rooms for years. They are the ones who drop dead in the paddock because nobody saw it coming! Have your own 'light-bulb' moment' ...



Get checked ... see mherv!

mherv

men's health education rural van
saving men's lives in rural australia



a rotary project
District 9678

Free health checks at the Men's Health Education Rural Van include:

- Blood pressure just to check the heart isn't too stressed.
- Blood sugar levels ... just a pin-prick in the finger, to make sure there's no type two diabetes ... which is manageable even if there is.
- Cholesterol ... just another pin-prick to see if levels are high and need attention.

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Rotary



ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE

ASHLEIGH DALLAS

Our very own Ashleigh Dallas attended today's Rotary meeting to give an update on her career. Ash recently won a Golden Guitar award in the new category known as "Traditional Country Album of the Year" at the Country Music Awards. Her father also won a Golden Guitar as he was the producer of the album.

Ash was nominated in the category of "Female Artist of the Year" but was unsuccessful. She noted that her family were the first to have 3 generations of Golden Guitar winners Her grandfather has won 4 her father now has one and she has 2.

It capped off a brilliant Music Festival as she was a Senior Group Leader at the Country Music Academy which was held 2 weeks prior to the event.

Ash in conclusion sang a new song for us which has not yet been released. She thanked us for our support which has seen her career go from strength to strength.



Julian Smith

ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD (RYLA)

Exactly THREE weeks until RYLA goes into camp.

We urge you to finalise your applications and forward ASAP.

The cut off date is this Wednesday, 28 February 2018, however, if your applications can be forwarded sooner it assists with the planning and admin and would be greatly appreciated.

Application forms and brochures are on the D9650 web page -
www.rotary9650.org.au/Ryla

Please don't hesitate to contact any committee members if you have any queries.

Remember – RYLA is the future of Rotary.

Yours in Rotary,

Louise Matthews

1. Mitchell Soree Personal Profile

Mitch entertained and informed us of his Dutch ancestry and Newcastle childhood, where as one of three children, he was seen as mischievous normal adventurous and inquisitive. He has studied Biomedical Science – human bioscience, anatomy and physiology; chemistry pharmacology human molecular science; research design and methodology and molecular biochemistry. Then to balance his portfolio he studied a Masters of Business Administration. “Science is oftentimes governed by commercial interests- Grants, research directions, and the ability for discoveries to be commercialised, affect what is researched and with what vigour.”

To fund all this Mitch worked with the Beach Hotel in Mereweather and gained experience and trained as a manager. He developed a severe interest in cars and their workings.

Erin came into his life in 2007. They moved to Tamworth in 2011. Erin is working at Tamworth Community Health as a SpeechPathologist.



Mitch now works with BOC as the Gas and Gear Manager (retail sales of gas and industrial equipment.) He is the Branch/Area Manager of retail, operations management, sales and commercial strategy for the Linde group a global gases and Engineering company (largest IG supplier by revenue and market share.) Mitch manages 3000 accounts.

Mitch is an academic, loves travelling and discovering outback Australia,(where having fun is essential) is working on home renovations but mostly is a man who “must know how it works.” Mitch was introduced by Julian Smith and thanked by James Treloar.

Tamworth Rugby Union Sporting Club-request to operate bar and gate 2018 season.

I have been approached by the President of the Tamworth Rugby Union Sporting Club, Mitch Hanlon, who is known to a number of our members, with an offer for our club to again run the bar and gate at home matches. The canteen will be operated by Rugby Club members.

The Rugby Club has had a complete restructure, new Executive, new Committee, new name and a new direction.

What is required:

- Two members to man the gate from 11.00am to 3.00pm (two X two-hour shifts). The Rugby Club plans to have a portable EFPOS machine for Tap payments and a list of paid members, sponsor’s etc to eliminate previous issues experienced at the gate.

- Three X two-hour shifts, two members minimum per shift with RSA required to man the bar between 12.00noon and 6.00pm. (two x three-hour shifts would also work).
- One to two to man top bar-times will be probably 12.00noon to 5.00pm, will depend on Corporate box bookings. Say 2 shifts X 2.5 hours.

The bar shifts are bar work only, no cellar work involved. The shifts conclude at 6.00pm when the bar is handed over to Rugby Club members.

Remuneration to the club will be \$500.00 per game. Cash will be taken from till by Rotary Club member and a receipt issued to Rugby Club. This will eliminate creating invoices and previous issues with payment.

The draw will commence on Saturday 7 April 2018 and probably conclude on Saturday 4 August 2018. Eight (8) home games will be played and the semi-finals commencing on the weekend after 4 August 2018. The draw has been now finalized and the home games (except and semi-finals, finals) are as follows:

- Round 1-7 April-St Alberts College
- Round 3-21 April-Robb College
- Round 6-19MAY18-Barbarians
- Round 7-26MAY18-Armidale City
- Round 9-16 June-St Alberts College
- Round 11-7 July-Glen Inness/Tenterfield
- Round 12-14July-Robb College
- Round 14-28July-Glen Innes/Tenterfield

The minimum revenue we will receive for the season will be \$4,000.00.

The major change this year is that Tamworth will be playing in the New England Zone and not the Central North Zone. The NE Zone will consist of Armidale City, Robb College, St Alberts College, The Barbarians Club, Tamworth and there may be a Glen Innes/Tenterfield combined Club. A Women's competition will also commence this year.

The following questions need to be decided. Firstly, do we want to reconnect with the Rugby Club? If no, no issues, the Rugby Club will pay staff for the day. If yes, then how many members with current RSI's do we have left? I estimate that we will need a minimum of 10 to cover shifts (a shift is minimum 2 members X 3 shifts-total 6 members. Some members will be unavailable some days), 12 would be ideal. If we do not have the numbers would there be a sufficient number of club members willing to complete an RSA at their own expense or complete a refresher, again at their own expense if their RSA is about to expire?

No RSA is required to man the gate.

Our Club will need to appoint a coordinator to complete rosters and liaise with the Clubs Bar Manager.

Could you all have a think about this issue. I will ask for your opinion and a show of hands this Wednesday morning.

It is an opportunity to raise a relatively easy \$4,000.00 and in the past the afternoon has been great fellowship. However, the key is the number of members with a current RSA qualification.

As an alternative, our members with a RSA may wish to work a shift as an individual and their efforts be paid to the Rotary Club at say \$15.00 an hour. The Rugby Club Bar Manager would use our members for a two or three-hour shift with other non-Rotary bar staff.

Michael O'Connor

Secretary

	Wednesday 7 March West Diggers 6.30 for 7am	Wednesday 14 March West Diggers 6.30 for 7am	Wednesday 21 March West Diggers 6.30 for 7am
Topic	Judy Biffin International Ten Pegging. Tamworth to Khasab on horseback	Peter Leonard profile	
Door Team	Elizabeth Gill Laurence Hearne	Dwone Jones Jim Raymond	Terry Robinson Helen Tickle
Meeter & Greeter	Peter Bell	Peter Ryan	Chris Watson
Welcome		Michelle Shanahan	Valerie Hellmann
President Assist	Peter Hyde	Richard Walker	Brian Thompson
Visitor Assist	Graham Dooley	John Treloar	Peter Pulley
Corporal Assist	Peter Leonard	David Hinwood	Phil Lyons
Bulletin Notes	Phillip Heffernan	Andrew Maughan	Jane Bradford
Introduction	Phillip Heffernan	Andrew Maughan	Jane Bradford
Vote of Thanks	Lesley Hood	Brian Logan	Mitchel Soree
60 seconds	John Treloar		
PO Raffle	9 March	16 March	23 March
NOW @6.30	Graham Dooley Phil Heffernan	Phil Heffernan Paul Stevenson	Paul Stevenson Jane Bradford
30 March	6 April	13 April	
Jane Bradford Steve Hawkins	Steve Hawkins Tom Hellmann	Tom Hellmann Sue O'Connor	Sue O'Connor Marina Lawrence
Corporals for March		Corporals for April	
Phil Penman & Steve Massey		Bruce Hemmett & Maureen Thornton	
Birthdays, Anniversaries and Inductions			
Members Birthdays	Max Cathcart 15/3 (81years); Michael O'Connor 17/3		
Partners Birthdays	Deb Brooks (partner of Brian Logan) 20/3		
Anniversaries	Michael & Brenda Smith 3/11 (12years);		
Club Induction	Maureen Thornton 8/3 (18years)		
Attendance			
Attendance	79%		
Make-Ups			
Make-Ups	nil		
Visiting Rotarians			
Visiting Rotarians	nil		
Visitors			
Visitors	Stacie Welk RYLA; Michael Swain RYLA; Naomi Blakely; Paul Crosby; John Rouvray: Lyn & Ash Dallas		
Heads & Tails			
Heads & Tails	Ron Allen		
Raffle			
Raffle	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
 Wests Diggers
 Kable Avenue
 TAMWORTH NSW 2340
 Phone: 02 6766 4661

Club Officers and contact details

President—Michael Smith

president@tamworthfirstlight.org.au

Secretary—Michael O'Connor

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