



# Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light



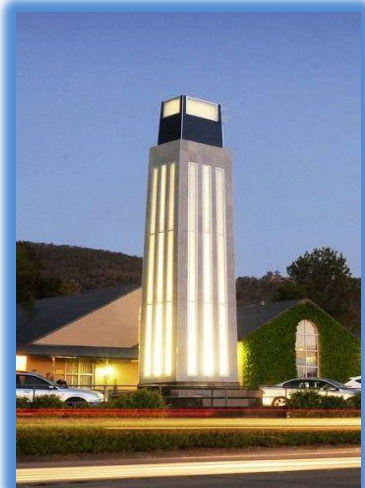
**2020 - 2021**

District Governor - [Debbie Loveday](#)

President: [Deb Barnes](#)

Secretary: [Sue O'Connor](#)

Treasurer: [Michael Smith](#)



MEETING 1522

ISSUE 14

WEDNESDAY 30 September 2020



*Galah preparing to land - David Hinwood*

# IMPORTANT DIARY DATES FOR 2020 - 2021

**Friday, 16.10.2020 – Our Club will be holding a Fundraiser Golf Day in Tamworth** please note in your diaries **NOW** – donations towards prizes for the day would be welcomed!

**Wed, 2 December 2020 – AGM** – start thinking whether you wish to stand for a position and have a chat with President Elect Marina Hearne!

**MAY 2021 RYLA CAMP AT KEEPIT DAM** - start looking for applicants NOW please!!

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## MYSTERY MINUTE – Peter Ryan

We often hear about the “Flight from Hell” but never expect it to happen to you. Booked on the 6:30AM flight from Tamworth to Sydney – plane delayed had to fly to Armidale to pick up passengers then even more unexpectedly fly to Lismore finally arriving in Sydney at 11:00AM still had to get to meeting. Meeting began at 9:30AM till 1:30PM – picked up bag and raced off to the meeting – had to stay overnight – Mardi Gras was on that night – you guessed it – picked up the wrong bag with Mardi Gras gear inside! Flew home next day and in due course my correct bag also finally landed back in Tamworth.

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*PDG Brian Beesley (short one) presenting Grant Bowden (Member of the Bowden Brothers Band based in Gloucester) – except Grant lives and works in Tamworth – the rest of the Group received their “Pins” in Gloucester.*

*Grant received the “Pin” from Australian Rotary Health for the work he and his family have done raising funds for Aboriginal Scholarships to gain additional training in various medical fields.*



*Left to right - Grant being congratulated by*

*Louise Matthews, PDG Brian Beesley, Melanie Bowden, Grant Bowden and PP Michael Smith*

## Quote of the Week



Dear Members and Friends

It was wonderful to finally have Bill Gleeson talk to us last week. His entertaining stories about his career with Qantas and his predictions for the airline's future are encouraging.

Thanks to PDG Brian Beasley for dropping into our meeting. He presented a pin to Grant Bowden, a member of the Bowden Brothers band, for the work they have done and funds they have raised for the Australian Rotary Health. This month's Rotary Down Under has several articles on important projects by Australian Rotary Health and indigenous health. Hopefully, we can raise some funds to assist. (If anyone has a September Rotary Down Under, they don't want could I please have it!).

Thanks to our amazing teams who have **"Quit Talking and Begin Doing"** with our progress toward our fund-raising events of the Golf Day on Friday. 16 October, the Santa Crawl, Pedal the Peel and Waste Expo. I hope our hard work pays off and all these projects can happen.

Thanks to all the members who decided not to cook on Friday night and came along to dinner and the raffles at the PO Hotel, the food was good, and we even had a few raffle winners.

I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday

Thanks

**DEB BARNES**

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### DISTRICT 9650 MEMBERSHIP

**As at 1 July 2020**

2016	1520
2017	1468
2018	1480
2019	1428
2020	1327

### Membership of Clubs in the District

00 – 10	Members	07
11 – 25	Members	28
26 – 50	Members	13
51 – 100	Members	06
101 +	Members	Nil

Tamworth First Light has 51 Members with average age of 64

**Thank you Phil Lyon for the update**





# The Rotary Open of Tamworth 2020



**“The Rotary Open of Tamworth”** is on again by popular demand and being organised by Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light.

- ☐ **Be in the running to win the “STUNNING Gold & Blue Jacket”**
- ☐ Friday 16th October 2020 – 1 tee starting from 10:30am
- ☐ Tamworth Golf Club
- ☐ Includes a Barbeque lunch on the way around
- ☐ \$40 per person
- ☐ Individual Stableford in conjunction with 2 person Irish 4 ball
- ☐ Book and pay at the Pro Shop with Brock Sampson, individually or as a team of 2 or 4 phone 6765 9980
- ☐ Sponsor a hole for \$100 or you may like to donate a prize
- ☐ Lots of prizes and fun, BBQ lunch included
- ☐ Presentation and drinks to follow the golf
- ☐ **PROCEEDS donated to LOCAL TAMWORTH CHARITIES**

**Further information:**

**Michael Smith – 0408 230 211**

**Dennis Maunder – 0428 456 017**

**Deb Barnes – 0411 770 552**

**David Hinwood – 0418 667 768**



## OUR GUEST SPEAKER WAS BILL GLEESON, OAM

Introduced by Phil Lyon

*Bills' long involvement in Tamworth and music began in 1959 and his deep association with Tamworth Musical Society, Tamworth Dramatic Society and indeed the world of music and theatre extends from Sydney to London and back home to Tamworth.*

***"The Boy from Attunga!"*** A musical production last year celebrated Bill's 60-year involvement on the Tamworth stage as actor, singer, director, musical director, playwright, author, composer, and mentor, his careers with Qantas as Steward and ABC New England North West as announcer, and the many people that influenced his life both on and off the stage.

*A life member and patron of both Tamworth Musical Society and Tamworth Dramatic Society, and the recipient of an O.A.M."*

### **Bills' address related to his time with Qantas and how he views the future of that company.**

There is a general fear that, due to the repercussions of the Pandemic, Qantas may fold. Considering that it is 100 years old next month I think it will continue but in a different form.

In 1973 Qantas introduced the 747 aircraft and that changed air flights dramatically.

I joined Qantas in 1974 when flights from Sydney to London return took 6 crews of 17 to rotate during flights. The trip took 21 days of which only 6 days were worked. We stayed at the Mayfield hotel in London and during the stop-over on one trip I saw six theatre shows. Qantas held 51 rooms with some 1,200 staff transferring through.

Qantas name stands for Queensland and Northern Territory Aerial Services which was one question during the employment interview and I was the only one who knew it and Qantas celebrates 100 years in October 2020.

The 747 aircraft was an extraordinary aircraft and on one trip the pilot flew low over Tamworth Airport with the wheels down. That was a real experience in such a large aircraft. Sadly the 747 has just been pensioned off after 43 years of reliable service. It stood three storeys high – three levels – First Class – second level Economy Class (286 passengers) with a few Business Class – was 284 feet long flew at 550mph and cruised at 30,000 feet. Bottom level was galley (food preparation) and luggage

When apartheid was happening in South Africa Qantas flew to Nairobi and Honiara. Passengers then flew down to Cape Town and back to return to Australia. On one trip I met John Denver who delighted a young passenger/fan by taking the time to talk to him one on one.

Australia must retain at least one international airline and Federal Government will ensure that Qantas will not go under but will never be as big again. The introduction of the Dreamliner aircraft for international flights will see them continue. Domestically Qantas will use other airlines for a lot of services and will not be big in this area again. However worth looking at Regional Tourism via aviation such as Tamworth, Alice Springs, Darwin and home rather than just flying one stop and back again.



My first job when I joined Qantas was flying to Norfolk Island on a DC4 aircraft which was a real experience. – a flight could take 12 hours depending on weather and wind which could change at any time but an extremely reliable aircraft. On joining the company, you were required to join the Union – no discussion. One of my other experiences was flying Sydney to Wellington NZ due to that airport having a short runway requiring a modified 747 aircraft.

Longreach, Queensland will have major celebrations for 100 years – Qantas with the flying kangaroo will be around for many years to come!

Thank you for listening.

- Q. A question was asked about Qantas moving their Head Office from Sydney.  
A. Bill's response was that it will never move due to the amount of infrastructure that already exists where it is.

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*Bill Gleeson OAM being thanked by Naomi Blakey*

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Decided to go for a walk on the beach and got freaked out when I thought I ran into a KKK meeting...turns out they're just closed beach umbrellas

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*Thank you John Rouvray*

GANG VIOLENCE HAS TO STOP 🙏🙏



## 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

### Tamworth—First Light

Meets Wednesday morning,  
6:30 for 7:00 am at  
The Events Centre  
Hotel Mercure  
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

### 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?

### Other Clubs meet

**Monday PM – Tamworth West**  
**Tuesday PM - Tamworth**  
**Wednesday PM - Calala**  
**Friday AM – Sunrise**

Club Officers and contact details

**President—Deb Barnes**

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

**Secretary—Sue O'Connor**

[secretary@tamworthfirstlight.org.au](mailto:secretary@tamworthfirstlight.org.au)

**Treasurer – Michael Smith**





## WEEKLY ROSTER FOR BOTH CLUB AND POST OFFICE RAFFLES

	30 September 2020	7 October 2020	14 October 2020
Topic	Louise Matthews & RYLarians Hotel Mercure	Mitch Gillogly Development in Tamworth Hotel Mercure	Namoi Blakey RYGA Hotel Mercure
Sergeants	Mandy Fisher Steve Martin	Mandy Fisher Steve Martin	Mandy Fisher Steve Martin
Corporals	Phil Penman John Rouvray	Dennis Johnson Brodie Shields	James Treloar Richard Hardwick
Meeter & Greeter	Peter Ryan	Val Hellmann	Phil Knight
Door Team	Richard Walker Laurence Heame	Chris Watson Paul Stevenson	Brian Thompson Peter Leonard
President Assist	Mitch Soree	Bruce Hemmett	Michael O'Connor
Visitor Assist	Ron Allen	Peter Bell	Steve Hawkins
Welcome	Brett White	John Treloar	Ian Howle
Bulletin Notes	Barry Biffin	Marina Heame	Louise Matthews
Introduction	Barry Biffin	Marina Heame	Louise Matthews
Vote of Thanks	Terry Robinson	David Hinwood	Graham Dooley

### POST OFFICE RAFFLE – FRIDAYS - 6:00 – 7:00PM

2 October 2020	9 October 2020	16 October 2020	23 October 2020
John Rouvray Richard Walker	Richard Walker Phil Knight	Phil Knight Brian Thompson	Brian Thompson Brian Logan

### BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND INDUCTIONS

Members Birthdays	Richard Walker (02/10); John Treloar (06/10)
Partners Birthdays	NIL
Anniversaries	Judy & Barry Biffin (41yrs 06.10.1979);
Club Induction	NIL

Attendance	80%
Make-ups	
Visiting Rotarians	PDG Brian Beesley (Gloucester),
Visitors	Bev Fletcher, Grant & Melanie Bowden, Bill Gleeson (Guest Speaker)
Heads & Tails	John Treloar
Raffle	Skinner