




Rotary 
Club of Tamworth First Light
MEETING 1678, ISSUE 23
WEDNESDAY 22nd November 2023



Rotary Year 2023 - 2024

District Governor	Alyn Miranda
President:	Brian Logan
Secretary:	Liz Gill
Treasurer:	Dennis Maunder

The Life of Brian

Quote of the week

If you look at what you have in life, you'll always have more. If you look at what you don't have in life, you'll never have enough. -Oprah Winfrey

Joke of the week

I went on a date with a woman last night.

"Do you have any kids?" she asked.

"Yes," I replied. "I have one child that's just under two."

Then she said, "I might be blonde, but I know how many one is."

Guest speaker

Jess Barber and Brianna McFadyen gave us a talk on the 'White Elephant Ball' and their involvement as members of that committee. This is another well deserving and dedicated organisation bringing mental health issues among our younger community members to the fore.

Notices:

Marina Hearne reminded us to respond to our club Xmas luncheon invitation if you are attending.

Charlotte Moore gave us a heads up on the Santa Crawl 22 Dec 2023 event. Please consider your availability to assist where possible.

Please consider purchasing a Rotary coffee mug to benefit our 'saving the environment' campaign. Cost just \$10.00

ROTARY NEWS

RCTFL member Helen Tickle attended the Tidy Towns Awards Function at Scone last Saturday evening 04.11.2023, representing the Tamworth Urban Tree Advisory Group.

The Tamworth Urban Tree Advisory Group was recognised for their work 'greening and cooling the Tamworth Region'.

This followed a presentation that Helen and Rob Chandler made on the Saturday morning.

This award proves that the efforts we make to green our communities (though our separate yet similar Rotary projects), are indeed valued by our communities.

Congratulations to Helen and the Tamworth Urban Street Tree Advisory Committee, and by extension, all our Rotarians involved in similar projects in our community.



MACIEJ'S MEANDERINGS

Maciej has had another amazing week. Marina writes:

“Wednesday afternoon we made the trek to Brisbane arriving very late in the evening. Thursday we ventured into Brisvegas city, stopped off at some shops (uniqlo exceptionally popular according to Maciek). Wandered the Botanical Gardens and Southbank, dinner at West End.

Friday was exciting, early start to drive to Australia Zoo. Shroud of secrecy about a 'show'. The show was actually a koala encounter for Maciej, who ended up being able to spend a decent amount of time holding the koala as he was the only one!! Amazing experience, the koala did think he was a fantastic tree and wanted to climb up onto his head. Robert Irwin graced us with his presence for the crocoseum which was pretty cool.

Saturday we went Tambourine Mountain area. Did the sky walk, stopped at Rotary lookout, found a cool band playing, did lots of rainforest walking. Saturday evening we went up to Mt Cootha lookout which has one of the best night city views (highly recommended).

Sunday was the trek home. Bushfire spots have already started to grow some grass back after last weeks rain but rail bridges are completely burnt out.”

For those interested, Maciej did not leave his hat behind this time!. And through pure good luck, the drop bears were in hibernation on the day of his visit – things could have been so much worse! (Ed)





THE SWINGER'S CLUB

Bev and the golf club swingers have been on the green again, many a story to tell. Bev writes:

Well, not a lot been happening out there in golf land

Peter, Diane and I are still out and about, The best news this week is that Vicki fronted for a casual 9 holes on Sunday to prove that she still has her golfing skills intact, along with a new bag and full set of new clubs! Welcome back Vicki!

At the moment we are competing in the annual Twilight comps, made up of different teams. The idea is that whilst one might be taking part in a tournament you can tag your Twilight team name to that game as well, resulting with your score being added to your twilight team as a bonus!

So in saying all of that the team that Pete and I are with are coming second and Vicki thinks the team that she will be contributing to are coming second at the other end of the board! Its going to be all up to you now Vicki!



Still looking for Brian Thompson on the course! - I will find you Brian!!

As luck would have it, I spotted Bruce Hemmett overseeing the putting on the third green, looking very Official Bruce!

Word had got out amongst the golf course Fauna that Pete Bell was playing that day. The good news is that they all play at the same pace!

That's about it from the Swingers, we'll be out and about in the coming days. Who knows who (or what) else we'll come across. -Bev



DISTRICT 9660 VIRTUAL WALKABOUT- A WORD FROM BRUCE HEMMETT



Rotary District 9660 is conducting a Virtual Walkabout and Raffle to raise awareness of and funds to support the Rotary International End Polio Now Campaign.

Tickets are available at \$5 each with a first prize of \$2000 for the winning ticket. Each \$5 ticket sold will represent 5km virtually walked and will be added to the Walkabout Tally. The Walkabout Tally will be adjusted regularly and plotted on an accompanying map. The updates including the Map and total raised will be shared on the District 9660 Facebook page and in the District newsletter.

So \$10 in tickets gives you 10kms walked towards our goal of walking around District 9660 and two tickets in the raffle!

Each \$1 raised will be doubled by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation so you will be making a significant difference in the lives of those still in countries where the disease continues.

<https://rafflelink.com.au/end-polio-now>

Helen Tickle received on the behalf of the Tamworth Urban Tree Advisory Group at the Tidy Towns Awards Functon at Scone last Saturday evening.

Helen and Rob Chandler had a presentation that Saturday morning.



Rotary 
District 9660

**CLUBS &
DISTRICT
PROJECT
SHOWCASE**



AGM
9AM
SATURDAY
25TH

Ticket
\$125

What project will you Showcase?

25/26 NOVEMBER 2023
DUBBO RSL

Bookings for display tables
email: phil.gorton@gmail.com





YOU ARE INVITED TO
The Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light

Christmas PARTY

**THEME: SILLY SEASON
WEAR YOUR BEST SILLY SOCKS & SHIRTS**

DECEMBER

SUNDAY

10

AT 11:30 AM

CARMENS ITALIAN RESTAURANT
SPAINS LANE, KINGSWOOD

RSVP: 26 NOV
TO MARINA 0403 759 148



SANTA CRAWL IS BACK ON DECEMBER 22ND 2023!



Tickets are live and social media promotion is underway. We have 4 venues participating in this year's Santa Crawl with a rotation of groups (more details to follow on the logistics of this if you are volunteering on the night). Your committee has been hard at work communicating with venues, attending liquor accord meetings and having regular committee meetings to pull this event together. We thought the valued supporters within the club deserved a small update on our progress.

Please, please, please share this event on your Facebook pages and encourage your friends and family to purchase a ticket at <https://events.humanitix.com/santa-crawl-2023-tamworth>

Thanks for your support in promoting our event and sharing the ticket link!

Tickets are live, don't forget to encourage your friends and family to purchase one!
<https://events.humanitix.com/santa-crawl-2023-tamworth>

Yours in Rotary,
Charlotte
Santa Crawl Chair



TAMWORTH COMMUNITY GARDEN FUNDRAISING SAUSAGE SIZZLE- VOLUNTEERS WANTED

What Tamworth Community Garden Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser
Where Bunnings Warehouse Tamworth – Sausage shack
When Sunday the 3rd of December 8.30am till 4.30pm (multiple shifts to choose from)

Details: If your free on the above Sunday and can give 2 hours of your time, the Community Garden team would love to have you join them to raise funds for the Garden.

Below is the drafted roster with plenty of spaces to fill - if your free please contact Naomi on 0424973714 or naomi.blakey@gmail.com to express your interest for a shift or two!

And yes for anyone interested Bunnings do stipulate that the onion must be served underneath the sausage.

Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser for Tamworth Community Garden – Sunday 3rd December 8.30am till 4.30pm

<u>Time Slot</u>	<u>Volunteer roster</u>
8.30am till 10.30am	Brett White
10.30am till 12.30pm	Alice Elsley
12.30pm till 2.30pm	Peter Johnston
2.30pm till 4.30pm	Sue O'Connor

Thanks,
Naomi



GUEST SPEAKER – THE WHITE ELEPHANT BALL

BATYR AUSTRALIA- HELPING TO CREATE A WORLD WHERE ALL YOUNG PEOPLE LEAD MENTALLY HEALTHY AND FULFILLING LIVES.

Sue O'Connor writes about our guest speaker's presentation.

Jess Barber is an exercise physiologist at 360 Fitness Club who grew up in Quirindi. Breanna McFadyen is a PDH and dance teacher at Oxley HS who recently choreographed the dance groups for Capers. She grew up in Armidale. These ladies are involved in organising the White Elephant Ball in Tamworth each year as a fundraiser for Batyr.

Local Tamworth lady, Katrina Campbell, sadly lost her husband Scotty when he took his own life in 2013. Determined to break the stigma around mental health and suicide in the bush, she decided to help raise funds for Batyr by forming a committee to run the inaugural White Elephant Ball in 2014. With the \$90,000 raised, a rural Batyr co-ordinator was able to be funded.



Batyr is an organisation that supports university and school students by running programs that reduce the stigma associated with mental ill health and increase the support seeking rate of young people. Batyr was founded by Sebastian Robertson in 2010 after he had battled with mental illness while he was at university. Suicide is the leading cause of death in young people aged between 15 and 44 in Australia and Batyr aims to address this issue.

Mental health is a serious issue in regional areas such as Tamworth, and across Australia. Of every 30 students in Australia, 7 will be dealing with a mental health issue, yet only 2 will reach out for support, leaving 5 suffering in silence.

With the funds raised, Batyr has implemented 120 programs, known as "batyr@school", in schools across the New England and North West regions. These programs aim to normalise conversations about mental health, arming students with the skills to cope with their fluctuating emotions, especially how to reach out to others and who to reach out to. 80% of students reported the benefits of hearing others share their experiences.

In its 9th year, this year's very successful ball was held on 14th October in the Town Hall and had 410 guests. With



the support of many local businesses, over \$83,000 was raised to continue to support the vital work of Batyr. The White Lunch, a curtainraiser for the ball, was held earlier in the year.

Thank you to Jess and Bree for a very engaging presentation. The high level of interest was reflected in Question Time where there was discussion about the mental health issues in young people that relate to media, especially social media, and also to issues with body image.

Thank you to Jess and Bree for all that you do for this important cause.

Rotary Events Calendar	Date
▪ Photo shoot with our Tree planting project	▪ TBA – See Alice or Peter R
▪ Sergeant's Dinner	▪ Coming SOON!!!
▪ RI Convention Singapore	▪ 25-29 May 2024
▪ District 9660 Conference	▪ 15-17 March 2024
▪ RC Tamworth First Light Changeover Dinner	▪ Sat 15.06.2024

Social Calendar	Date
• Post Office Raffles Social Night	• 3 rd Friday of the Month (17.11.2023)
• RCTFL Christmas lunch party	• Sunday 10/12/22, 11:30am

Useful links (click to open!)	
•  Tamworth First Light Website	•  RCTFL Facebook page
•  District 9660 Website	•  Rotary District 9660 Members Page
•  Rotary International Website	•  Rotary District 9660 Public Facebook
•  DACDB Member and Club Portal	

Board Members 2023-24	
President – Brian Logan	Secretary – Liz Gill
Treasurer – Dennis Maunder	Executive Secretary – Brodie Shields
Club Admin – Courtney Priestley	Membership – Bev Fletcher
Public Relations – Alice Elsley	Community Service – Peter Johnston
Youth – Hannah Woods	Rotary Foundation – Bruce Hemmett
Youth Protection – Bruce Hemmett	President Elect – Sue O'Connor
Board Meeting 2nd Tuesday of the Month- Tuesday 14.11.2023, 5.30pm, Wests.	

	22 nd November	29 th November	6 th December	13 th December
Topic	*TFSS Core & Cluster Refuge	Exchange Student Presentation	Club AGM	Salvation Army (Xmas Drive)
Location	Tamworth City Bowling Club	Tamworth City Bowling Club	Tamworth City Bowling Club	Tamworth City Bowling Club
Guest speaker	Belinda Kotris	Vitor and Diego	N/A	Major Tony DeTommaso
Sergeant	Mitch Soree	Mitch Soree	Mitch Soree	Mitch Soree
Corporals	Brian Thompson James Treloar	John Rouvray Helen Tickle	Alice Elsley Marina Heame	Stephen Hawkins John Treloar
Meeter & Greeter	*Paul Stevenson	John Treloar	Naomi Blakey	Vicki Cooper
Door Team	Helen Tickle Brett White	Dimity Betts Naomi Blakey	Peter Leonard Graham Dooley	Terry Robinson James Treloar
President Assist	Bev Fletcher	Vicki Cooper	Steve Martin	Bruce Hemmett
Visitor Assist	Alice Elsley	Stephen Hawkins	Sue O'Connor	Peter Johnston
Welcome	John Rouvray	*Steve Martin	Brett White	Dimity Betts
Bulletin Notes & Introduction	Stephen Hawkins	Terry Robinson	Helen Tickle	Brodie Shields
Vote of Thanks	Richard Walker	Peter Ryan	John Rouvray	Helen Tickle

*Denotes a change. Roster roles are randomly assigned. If you cannot commit to a rostered duty for your club, please speak to your fellow Rotarians to arrange a replacement and let Mitch know. Look for the easter eggs in this bulletin, and tell me what you find.

POST OFFICE RAFFLE – FRIDAYS - 6:00 – 7:00PM				
24 th November	1 st December	8 th December	15 th December	22 nd December
Michael Smith John Treloar	John Treloar Barry Biffin	Barry Biffin Vicki Cooper	Vicki Cooper Stephen Hawkins	Stephen Hawkins Laurence Hearne

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND INDUCTIONS	
Members Birthdays	NIL
Partners Birthdays	NIL
Anniversaries	NIL
Club Induction	Dimity Betts 8yrs

Attendance	73%	Lolly Jar Raffle	Glenn McIntosh
Make-Ups	Nil	Heads and Tails	Luke Massey
Visiting Rotarians	Nil		
Visitors	Maciej "Magic Mike" Wolanski (Youth Exchange Student),		