




Rotary 
Club of Tamworth First Light
MEETING 1687, ISSUE 32
WEDNESDAY 7th February 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

The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity. - Amelia Earhart

Joke of the week

A pair of cows were talking in the field. One says, "Have you heard about the mad cow disease that's going around?" "Yeah" the other cow says. "Makes me glad I'm a penguin."

I was at the doctors the other day. He said I have very good news for you. Whatever it is you have, its going to be named after you.

Guest speaker

Diane Petterson's Personal Profile certainly gave us a lot to talk about. Diane showed us the deep caring and wonderfully funny sides of her life. Diane's career in education and her personal beliefs in humanity are a cornerstone of her as a person and it is great to have her as a member of the club.

Notices:

- Glenn McIntosh gave an update on the upcoming Science and Engineers Challenge meeting.
 - SEC committee meeting is Wed 07.02.2024 530PM at the Tamworth City Bowling Club
- The country Music Festival was a busy time for the club. A big thank you to all those members that supported the club in the festival parade marshalling, the Astrology Centre BBQ and, hosting the international students.

VALE- OUR OWN, DR ROBERT SHARP

10/5/68 – 18/1/24

Rob wasn't born in Papua New Guinea, but spent his early formative years in Rabaul before secondary schooling and tertiary education in Sydney. He joined RCTFL in 2010. From 2011 until last year the NE Orthopaedic Outreach to PNG programme was sponsored and supported by our Club. Rob donated over \$30,000 in total over those years with the aim of helping the people of Kokopo and Rabaul.

From 2010 until Covid hit in 2020, Rob visited Kokopo, usually twice a year, and performed operations at St Mary's Vanupope Hospital. He always brought over and paid for two nurses and an anaesthetist. I witnessed firsthand his exceptional operating skills when I was fortunate enough to observe a hip replacement in 2015. I accompanied Rob on two of his trips – the first to work, and the second to sign off on our Club's successful District Grant, and to develop plans to renovate the theatre building.

Rob was very accommodating to each hare-brained idea I had for the hospital. He and his nurses would workshop every one of my ideas over dinner and a glass of wine before we brought them back to Australia, and Julian Smith was tasked with turning those ideas into architect's plans. Initial costing was \$60,000 – 30 from Rob's donations and 30 from a RI matching Global Grant. Despite multiple attempts, the grant proved to be unsuccessful. However the plans are still in the pipeline. The Hospital is awaiting funding from the PNG Government.

Rob constantly donated equipment to the Hospital, often sent in containers used by local business woman Dame Sandra Lau. He somehow procured the massive autoclave from HMAS Kanimbla., and had it sent to Kokopo. The only trouble was that when it was operated, it caused a total brown out to the entire Hospital - 3 phase power was on Rob's wish list. Digital X-ray's were also on the list. Every time he went over, he donated X-ray chemicals, only to find the next time he went over, the same bottles were being used, resulting in poor quality, almost undiagnostic X-rays. Dame Sandra and John Lau would host lavish dinner parties for Rob. Masses of food arranged around a suckling pig as the centre piece, speeches, Penfolds 389 was the red wine of choice - I remember.

Rob, with his big booming voice, was always front and centre. A gifted surgeon, he was always extremely generous with his time and money. The operating theatres at St Mary's Hospital, as of a few days ago, have now been renamed the " Dr Rob Sharp Memorial Operating Wing ". Rob's legacy will live on in PNG forever. A life cut too short, but extraordinarily well lived.

REST IN PEACE

-Steve Massey



SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHALLENGE

The science and engineering challenge is coming up again, and the committee will be commencing work on this valuable event.

First SEC committee meeting is Wed 07.02.2024 530PM at the Tamworth City Bowling Club

Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available! Save the date for Setup on 18.03.2024 and event dates 19-22 March.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Clean up Australia day is on Sunday March 3rd. RCTFL will be doing our annual clean along the Paradise Park area behind Hungry Jacks and will meet in the carpark for a 0830hrs commencement time.

See you there!



RYLA

rotary
youth
leadership
awards

Rotary
District 9660



SAT 1st - SAT 8th JUNE 2024
YARRA ADVENTURE PARK, STUARTS POINT NSW



DISCOVER

WAYS TO BECOME A BETTER
ROLE MODEL AND FACE
IMPORTANT PERSONAL, WORK
AND SOCIAL ISSUES



EXCHANGE

IDEAS AND OPINIONS WITH
TALENTED, ENERGETIC PEOPLE
IN A SUPPORTIVE ATMOSPHERE
FREE FROM DISTRACTION



DEVELOP

CLOSE RAPPORT WITH YOUR
ROTARY CLUB, ORGANISATIONS
AND DECISION MAKERS IN
YOUR COMMUNITY

RYLA IS A POWERFUL AND VALUABLE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE AND DEVELOP SKILLS THAT PARTICIPANTS CAN POSITIVELY CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR COMMUNITIES.

The objective of RYLA is to empower participants with self-awareness, confidence and leadership skills to assist them in becoming more effective leaders. Many former RYLA Awardees have benefited in ways far beyond the course objective. Past RYLArians are part of the Leadership team and many go on to become more involved in community activities.

The program provides skills in many areas including understanding human behaviour, social interaction skills, committee functions, human values, leadership, presentation skills & public speaking, lifestyle issues, communication and organisation.

Participants must be 19 - 27 years of age and ideally involved in some form of leadership within their communities, or have shown leadership potential in the workplace. Other relevant information is in the application form found on the website. Potential candidates will be formally interviewed as part of the selection process and must undergo a formal screening process, which will include reference checks.

QUERIES & APPLICATIONS:

Louise Matthews 0420 743 083 | lmjew@bigpond.com
(applications close **Monday 29th April 2024**)

Program cost: \$1450 (all inclusive) | Formal dinner Wed 5th June, Macksville

APPLICATIONS:



GUEST SPEAKER – PERSONAL PROFILE DIANE PETTERSON

This week we heard from our newest member, Diane Petterson, on her life and philosophy.

Diane was born in Wollongong and later moved to Gundagai until age 5 where a relocation to Kempsey. Despite some idyllic natural surroundings, Diane was (at that stage) unaware of the poverty, struggles, and difficulties faced by the marginalised indigenous Australians living in the area. She shared some confronting stories of the discrimination and hardships faced by them, only realised in retrospect as she looked back at her time in Kempsey.

Throughout school, Diane excelled academically, and attended the University of New England in Armidale in 1973-77, studying a science and dip-ed degree on a teacher's scholarship. With a keen interest in chemistry and math, she was awarded a Union Carbide chemistry prize in 1976.

Employment as a freshly minted teacher commenced Crookwell, before marriage and a new move to Mudgee.

Diane settled in Tamworth in 1983, where she remained at Peel high until 2010. Throughout her time, Diane enjoyed advocating on behalf of the Marginalized and difficult students, ensuring that their quality of education was as best as could be. Following on from her experience growing up, Diane has been a strong advocate for equitable education throughout her career.

A cause close to Diane's heart is her involvement in the suicide prevention society, having sadly lost her son in 2001. Her involvement with this cause has resulted in significant fundraising towards the cause, as well as a journey of healing in a trek along the Larapinta trail in NT Australia.

Other charitable interests have included a trip to Africa (Masai and Nairobi), where lessons were given to the locals (alongside a safari of gin taasting too, we were told).

Currently, Diane enjoys a semi-retired lifestyle with some casual teaching disrupting her days on the golf course.

Thank you Diane for sharing your story with us.

Diane was thanked by Hugh Raadgever.

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in



FUNNY CORNER-

How I feel talking about the 80's to anyone under 30



Her: I'm really into older guys

Me: [trying to impress her] I know how to use a fax machine



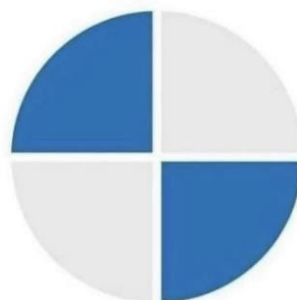
Me: I've been tired for 5 years.

My kid: That's how old I am

Me: Oh, weird.



Why your car doesn't run right



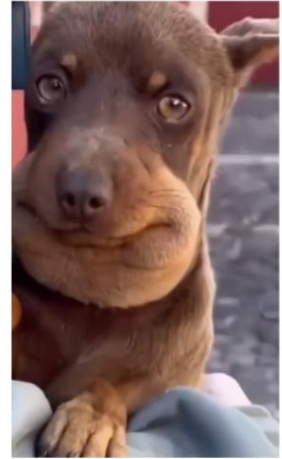
bad engineering

bad maintenance

Inflation has gotten so bad it now takes two Karens to speak to the manager



he tried to eat a bee... 🥺🥺



I found a plumber that works around the clock



Me: How do I unsubscribe to your emails so I don't receive them anymore?

My boss: What?



When you both know it'll end in disaster but you don't care



A short story about decisions 😊



Any day can be Taco Tuesday if you have tortillas and never learned how to read a calendar.

TSA: Sorry sir, no food past this point

ME:



Chuck Jones' rules for writing the Road Runner & Wile E. Coyote cartoons. Brilliant.

RULE 1.

THE ROAD RUNNER CANNOT HARM THE COYOTE EXCEPT BY GOING "BEEP-BEEP!"

RULE 2.

NO OUTSIDE FORCE CAN HARM THE COYOTE - ONLY HIS OWN INEPTITUDE OR THE FAILURE OF THE ACME PRODUCTS.

RULE 3.

THE COYOTE COULD STOP ANYTIME - IF HE WERE NOT A FANATIC. (REPEAT: "A FANATIC IS ONE WHO REDOUBLES HIS EFFORT WHEN HE HAS FORGOTTEN HIS AIM." -GEORGE SANTAYANA)

RULE 4.

NO DIALOGUE EVER, EXCEPT "BEEP-BEEP!"

RULE 5.

THE ROAD RUNNER MUST STAY ON THE ROAD - OTHERWISE, LOGICALLY, HE WOULD NOT BE CALLED ROAD RUNNER.

RULE 6.

ALL ACTION MUST BE CONFINED TO THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE TWO CHARACTERS - THE SOUTHWEST AMERICAN DESERT.

RULE 7.

ALL MATERIALS, TOOLS, WEAPONS, OR MECHANICAL CONVENIENCES MUST BE OBTAINED FROM THE ACME CORPORATION.

RULE 8.

WHENEVER POSSIBLE, MAKE GRAVITY THE COYOTE'S GREATEST ENEMY.

RULE 9.

THE COYOTE IS ALWAYS MORE HUMILIATED THAN HARMED BY HIS FAILURES.

Rotary Events Calendar	Date
▪ Sergeant's Dinner	▪ Coming SOON!!!
▪ Clean Up Australia Day	▪ March 3 rd 2024, 0830hrs
▪ District 9660 Conference	▪ 15-17 March 2024
▪ Science and Engineering Challenge	▪ March 18-22
▪ RI Convention Singapore	▪ 25-29 May 2024
▪ RYLA 2024	▪ 1-8 June 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 (19.01.2024)
• RCTFL Christmas lunch party	• Sunday 10/12/22, 11:30am - TCBC

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 13.02.2024, 5.30pm, Wests.	

	7 th Feb	14 th Feb	21 st Feb	28 th Feb
Topic	Exchange Student Presentation	Roxy's Functional Fitness for the young at heart	Red Cross Lifeblood	TBA
Location	Tamworth City Bowling Club	Tamworth City Bowling Club	Tamworth City Bowling Club	Tamworth City Bowling Club
Guest speaker	Maciej	Roxanne Cooley	Scott Morrison	TBA
Sergeant	Mitch Soree	Mitch Soree	Mitch Soree	Mitch Soree
Corporals	Peter Bell Barry Biffin	John Rouvray Sue O'Connor	Alice Elsley Richard Hardwick	Laurence Hearne Peter Johnston
Meeter & Greeter	*John Rouvray	Peter Ryan	Barry Biffin	Steve Martin
Door Team	Bruce Hemmett Peter Johnston	Brian Thompson James Treloar	Peter Leonard Steve Martin	Louise Matthews Glenn McIntosh
President Assist	Peter Leonard	Terry Robinson	Peter Bell	Sue O'Connor
Visitor Assist	Laurence Hearne	Louise Matthews	Naomi Blakey	Diane Petterson
Welcome	Brian Thompson	Deb Barnes	Stephen Hawkins	Terry Robinson
Bulletin Notes & Introduction	Richard Walker	Peter Johnston	Courtney Priestly	Peter Ryan
Vote of Thanks	Brett White	Steve Martin	Hannah Woods	Brodie Shields

*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				
9 th Feb	16 th Feb	23 rd Feb	1 st March	8 th March
*Bev Fletcher Peter Bell	Peter Bell Peter Leonard	Peter Leonard Alice Elsley	Alice Elsley Hannah Woods	Hannah Woods Richard Walker

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND INDUCTIONS	
Members Birthdays	Luke Massey 7/2
Partners Birthdays	Robert Betts 13/2, Helen Hinwood 11/2
Anniversaries	Nil
Club Induction	Charlotte Moore 1yr

Attendance	76%	Lolly Jar Raffle	Skinner
Make-Ups	Nil	Heads and Tails	Peter Bell
Visiting Rotarians	Nil		
Visitors	Magic, Flynn Erich		