



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

Rotary



Club of Tamworth First Light

MEETING 1688, ISSUE 33

WEDNESDAY 14th 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 simplest toy, one which even the youngest child can operate, is called a grandparent.”

Joke of the week

I just got lost in thought. It was unfamiliar territory.

A dung Beetle walked into a bar and asked “Is this stool taken?”

Guest speaker

Once again, our international student, Maciej, gave us a great update on his stay in Tamworth. He certainly does give being in Australia his best.

Notices:

- Louise Matthews gave us an update on the memorial service for Pauline Davison to be held 12 Noon, 16TH February 2024 at Blazers, West Tamworth Leagues Club.
- The Rotary Film Evening fundraiser for Polio Eradication is proposed for 23rd February.

VALE- PAULINE DAVISON

For all First Light Members- a word from Louise Matthews

As most of you would be aware Pauline Davison passed away on 31st December 2023, aged 85 years.

Pauline had moved to Narrabri after her Husband Dick Davison passed in November 2021. Dick was our RCTFL president in 1993-94, and Sergeant in our charter year, 1990-91, under charter President Brian Thompson.

Dick and Pauline's eldest son, Steve, called me in regard to Pauline's memorial service & wanted the details passed on to Rotary.

12 Noon, Friday 16th February 2024

Blazes, West Tamworth Leagues Club

Followed by a light meal with family & friends.

In lieu of flowers the family welcomes donations to Polished Silver, Narrabri (a community group Pauline loved attending).

Pauline was the other half of Condicki Tours. She was very instrumental in the success of those tours spanning 18 years.

There was 27 'Condicki' tours in total raising in excess of \$50K for our Club.

Dick referred to her affectionately as the "Child Bride". Pauline was loved by all who had the pleasure of being in her company.

-Louise

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:



RYPEN UPDATE

RYPEN in on in 2024!! at the Francis Retreat at Bonny Hills!!

We have had the past two years on the western side of the divide and your RYPEN committee has been looking for a suitable venue on the coast. That task wasn't easy but we have booked this venue for 2024.



So now we are asking all the Rotary clubs from south of Newcastle to Woolgoolga to make this work so that the young people on the coast can access this amazing program of enrichment. The past years have been enormously successful but we are keen to share it around the district so that everyone gets equal access to the program. Our supporters in the west are very welcome to spend a weekend at the coast as well!

On the website is all the information with links to the application form, the Rotary endorsement form which needs to be completed by all those generous Rotary clubs who will sponsor students, a poster and even a promotional video. The application form is on the website at the link below

<https://www.rotary9660.org.au/index.php?storyid=171742>

[Application Form 2024](#)

[Rotary Endorsement Form](#)

If you have any queries or would like a guest speaker at one of your meetings to promote this program, please contact me and I will organise.

This program is now tried and true. The students involved have come back for a second go! Students are using it in the CVs for proof of leadership training! Rotary is well recognised for its success in training young people to develop their leadership skills.

Our staff leaders will be our RYLarians, giving them another experience in developing their leadership skills. Their experience and skills will move to another level.

Rally the troops and encourage your student from Year 7 to Year 11 to attend and make another Rotary program the success it deserves!

DATES: 14-16 June 2024

VENUE: The Francis Retreat

2 Thomson Place, Bonny Hills NSW 2445

COST OF THE PROGRAM—\$350.00 per participant



Hold your phone to the QR code and it will take you to the website information.

I have attached all the documents to assist your promotion of the event to this email. They are also available on the website. The website link is in this email.

Yours in Rotary Service

Diane Carolyn Hall

LETTER OF THANKS FROM YOUTH INSEARCH



Dear Members of Rotary of Tamworth - First Light,

I trust this letter finds you well. I am writing to express our deepest gratitude on behalf of Youth Insearch for your exceptional generosity in selecting us as the beneficiary for the 2023 Santa Crawl and the incredibly generous gift from the funds raised.

We were overjoyed to receive the donation of \$11,400 that came from the Santa Crawl event. This substantial gift will undoubtedly make a significant impact on our programs, benefiting both our dedicated leaders in their training and the young people at-risk who desperately need our support and services within the Tamworth region.

Your ongoing support is a beacon of hope for us, and we are genuinely grateful for the trust you place in Youth Insearch. The funds provided will directly contribute to our mission of leading Australia's at-risk youth from trauma to triumph. It is heart-warming to know that your commitment to the community aligns with our vision, and your generous contribution will enable us to continue making a positive difference in the lives of those who need it most.

The dedication and generosity shown by Rotary of Tamworth - First Light inspires us and reinforces the importance of community collaboration in fostering lasting change. Your support goes beyond financial aid; it reflects a shared commitment to the well-being of our youth and the belief that every young person deserves a chance at a brighter future.

Once again, thank you for choosing Youth Insearch as a beneficiary of the 2023 Santa Crawl and for the incredibly generous donation. We are truly honored to have your ongoing support, and we look forward to continuing our collaborative efforts to make a meaningful impact in the lives of young individuals in the Tamworth region.

With sincere appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L Tibbey".

Leann Tibbey
General Manager, Fundraising & Marketing
02 8855 9706 | 0499 502 215
Youth Insearch Foundation

Youth Insearch Foundation (Aust.) Inc.
PO Box 422, Blacktown NSW 2148 | Level 3, 2 Warrick Lane, Blacktown NSW 2148 | ABN: 31 886 363 881
(02) 8855 9700 | admin@youthinsearch.org.au | youthinsearch.org.au

Big congratulations to the Santa Crawl committee and volunteers for making this event possible.



GUEST SPEAKER – OUR OWN – MACIEJ ‘MAGIC’ WOLANSKI

Everyone’s favourite Exchange student from Poland gave us an ‘amazing’ talk this week on his first 6 months in Australia.

Your editor thought that the travel schedule of the rich and famous, or a rockstar like Taylor Swift was pretty hectic... but it appears the life of an exchange student is not too dissimilar!

Maciej, or ‘Magic’ as we have named him, has seen so much of Australia so far, and is looking forward to more adventures to come over the remaining months of his exchange.

Early on, a trip to Brisbane for some sightseeing saw a visit to the Australia Zoo, where he was able to hold a koala, feed a kangaroo, and watched a demonstration of Robert Irwin feeding a crocodile. It was also combined with a visit with his host family visiting their friend, Blake.

His Australian school experience sees him attend Calrossy, where he proudly wears his “Polish Boy” emblazoned jersey, as is the trend with year 11 and 12 students in these modern times. Bussin’ drip, no cap!

Other school experiences include involvement with the school choir, and concerts, where his guitar playing sees him centre-stage. John Fogarty has nothing on Magic’s version of ‘Heard it through the grapevine’, while Video footage emerged of a superbly choreographed dance, alongside a top-class vocal rendition of the Neo-classical Mexican folk classic “Tequila” was what could only be described as a ‘show-stopper’. What amazing talent.

It doesn’t stop there though- the skill and prowess of our Magic is without bounds (as he will surely tell you, if you listen long enough) – other A-grade experiences include:

- **Water skiing at Lake Keepit** – allegedly “just like snow skiing” – despite the 1 ski, flat surface, and water being in it’s liquid state.
- **Surfing at Port Stephens** – As an avid windsurfer, surfing without the wind was a Breeze for Magic. So much so that his group lessons morphed into a series of private lessons, as he was so far advanced.
- **Golfing** – The tendrils of our club’s golfers have worked their way around Magic, with a brief foray into golf. He developed a superb swing, and decided to give it away before he embarrassed some of our members who have been trying to play for years...
- **Ice Skating at the Big Banana, Coffs Harbour**- Magic was amazed to find out that one can go ice skating in tropical NSW, going so far as to say “It’s Bananas!”. Being able to scoot around the ice rink in shorts and a T-shirt, while working up a sweat in our Australian temps, was a new experience, but nevertheless, one he also excelled at.

Other notable experiences included a trip to Gunnedah to meet outbound YEP students, where he was sympathetic to the feelings and emotions that they were going through, just like he did just months prior. One particular fear was leaving Poland to come to Australia amongst all the snakes, spiders, and other creepy-crawlies we have here. He met with Emily, and Australian who is going to Poland on exchange- Magic’s family will be hosting her there later in the year- how cool is that?!

Work experience on the farm – Magic spent some time farming, helping RCTFL member James “Rolling grass” – Turf that is – a great exposure to the agricultural interests of the Tamworth region.

Over Christmas Magic experienced the differences between a Northern and Southern hemisphere Christmas. This was in part spent in Terrigal at a beachside apartment, with activities like swimming, and body surfing.

The ‘party’ continued into NYE, with a trip to Sydney to watch the fireworks over the harbour. I also believe a tennis match was watched at the same time.

Tamworth country music festival was a highlight for Magic, and his YEP cohort, with plenty of time spent at the pub, roaming the streets, and watching gigs- all within the confines of the YEP rulebook, of course. Magic was also able to volunteer at the lego masters event, as well as helping to raise some money for the Cancer Council at the ABCRA rodeo at the AELEC.

Magic has offered us all a huge thanks for making his exchange so memorable so far. He has really enjoyed his experiences, and his exposure to our country, Australia. Magic was thanked for his presentation, in Polish, by Brett White. Words by your editor.





FUNNY CORNER- VALENTINES DAY EDITION

 **Dad Jokes** 
@Dadsaysjokes

When your girlfriend comes home in a white suit, covered in bee stings and smelling like honey.

You know she's a keeper.



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
▪ RYPEN 2024	▪ 14-16 June
▪ 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 – Richard Hardwick
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.	

	14 th Feb	21 st Feb	28 th Feb	6 th March
Topic	Roxy's Functional Fitness for the young at heart	Red Cross Lifeblood	TBA	TBA
Location	Tamworth City Bowling Club	Tamworth City Bowling Club	Tamworth City Bowling Club	Tamworth City Bowling Club
Guest speaker	Roxanne Cooley	Scott Morrison	TBA	TBA
Sergeant	Mitch Soree	Mitch Soree	Mitch Soree	Mitch Soree
Corporals	John Rouvray Sue O'Connor	Alice Elsley Richard Hardwick	Laurence Heame Peter Johnston	Peter Leonard Steve Martin
Meeter & Greeter	Peter Ryan	Barry Biffin	Steve Martin	Bev Fletcher
Door Team	Brian Thompson James Treloar	Peter Leonard Steve Martin	Louise Matthews Glenn McIntosh	Sue O'Connor Diane Petterson
President Assist	Terry Robinson	Peter Bell	Sue O'Connor	Marina Heame
Visitor Assist	Louise Matthews	Naomi Blakey	Diane Petterson	Deb Barnes
Welcome	Deb Barnes	Stephen Hawkins	Terry Robinson	Bruce Hemmett
Bulletin Notes & Introduction	Peter Johnston	Courtney Priestly	*Hugh Raadgever	Peter Ryan
Vote of Thanks	Steve Martin	Hannah Woods	Brodie Shields	Richard Hardwick

*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				
16 th Feb	23 rd Feb	1 st March	8 th March	15 th March
Peter Bell Peter Leonard	Peter Leonard Alice Elsley	Alice Elsley Hannah Woods	Hannah Woods Richard Walker	Richard Walker Bruce Hemmett

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND INDUCTIONS	
Members Birthdays	Nil
Partners Birthdays	Nil
Anniversaries	Brett and Trudy White – 40yrs
Club Induction	Aurelie Quade 1yr

Attendance	71%	Lolly Jar Raffle	Skinner
Make-Ups	Nil	Heads and Tails	Naomi Blakey
Visiting Rotarians	Nil		
Visitors	Magic, Flynn Erich		