

Tamworth First Light

The Bulletin

Issue 38 | 19 March 2025 | Meeting 1742

This Week

- Conference weekend!



Rotary Year 2024 - 2025

RI President: Stephanie Urchick

District Governor: Bruce George

President: Sue O'Connor

Secretary: Courtney Priestley

Treasurer: Dennis Maunder

Sue's Spark of Rotary Inspiration

Quote of the Week: You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step. Martin Luther King Jnr.

Joke of the Week: Joker Card, thanks Brett and John.

Notices:

- The 3 Rotary events that I've attended since our last meeting have reinforced for me the amazing power of Rotary and what we do:
- The RYAG Sheep Dinner was held in Walcha last Friday, where Liz, Jane and I met up with our guest speakers Alyssa and Darcy. It was an enjoyable night put on by Walcha Rotary Club with such a strong vibe of what a great week the participants had experienced. The feature was the wool fashion parade, sponsored by the Uralla Wool Room, with all the participants as models.
- The Sunshine Interact Club Charter Event on Saturday evening was really special. The Interactors are an amazing group of young people, demonstrating such a strong future for Rotary in Tamworth. It was attended by DG Bruce George and mayor Russell Webb. Well done to their advisers Marina, Peter Ryan and to our members that attended.
- The combined Rotary fundraising event for the School of St Jude in Tanzania on Tuesday evening was very successful. The founder Gemma Sisia was fascinating to listen to, plus her 2 ex-students John and Winnie. Thank you to our many members who came along and the Interactors who waited on the food and drinks.

What started as a small school now has 3 large schools with 1800 students from impoverished backgrounds on full scholarships, 350 local staff and a tertiary program with over 300 graduates so far. Most of the high school graduates teach hundreds of students each for a year in government schools on a voluntary basis, so the impact of their St Jude education is exponential.

Our Rotary area donated \$6500 (\$2000 from our club), which was matched dollar for dollar from the area account. Along with other donations, I'd guess the total amount raised was around \$20,000.

There are many children still needing sponsors to attend St Jude, so I'd like the board to consider the sponsorship programs and see if we could maybe help sponsor a child.

- This weekend is District Conference in Narrabri.
- Next week is the Science & Engineering Challenge, with the setup on Monday afternoon, then 4 days of the challenge. It's not too late to volunteer and we need lots of helpers, especially on Tuesday and Wednesday, so please let Courtney or Glenn know if you can help. The dinner on Wednesday night is at Gregorys on Goonoo Goonoo at 7.00pm and is in lieu of our morning meeting. It's a good fun night. Please RSVP to Jo Lewis on 0478 037150 by Friday.

- The following week is our vocational visit to the Global Gateway Park Intermodal Facility. Thank you to Helen for organising this visit and to Brian for catering.
- Peter Ryan spoke about our next tree planting on Sunday 30th March and also about the progress of the new Aquatic Centre.
- Guess Who's Coming to Dinner: Saturday 5th April, 6.00pm. Please RSVP to Mitch if you'd like to be a host or a guest.
- Community Garden planting and vege swap: Saturday 5th April, 8.30am.

Guest Speakers: The McCarthy Catholic College students that we sponsored to RYAG Sheep, Alyssa Sleiman and Darcy Moore, spoke about their experiences at the camp and answered lots of questions from our members. Well done Alyssa and Darcy, we're glad that you got so much from RYAG and you were a credit to your school and families.

Sue Oconnoe
President 2024/ 2025

Vocational Visit - 26 March

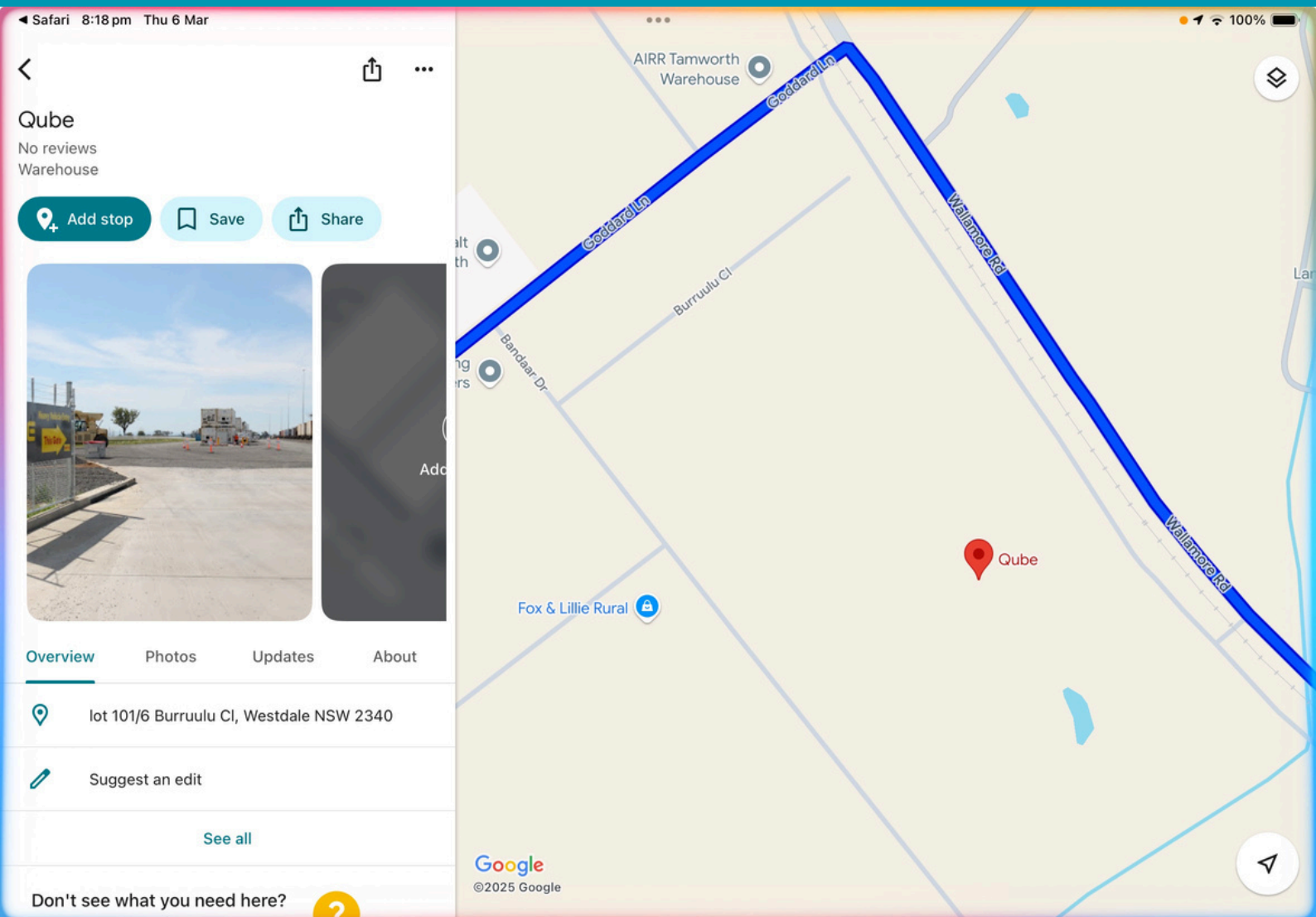
Location Info

Qube Logistics:

Buuruulu Close Westdale

Follow Wallamore Road to the end of rail line.

Turn left into Goddard Lane, then left again into Buuruulu Close.



Interact Charter Night!







Save the Date

Saturday the 5th of April
8.30am

**Join the Tamworth Community Garden as
we plant our next seasons crops.**

**As part of this official Taste Tamworth
Festival event we will also be hosting a fruit
and vegetable swap.**

**Bring along any excess produce and swap
it with someone else's produce.**

All welcome.

**Thanks,
Naomi**



Fantastic Night!
Huge amount
raised between
the TMW RC's



Tamworth First Light Rotary

Tree Planting Day



When: Sunday 30th March 2025
9.00 am – 12.00 pm

Where: Illoura Park – Illoura Street
South Tamworth

What to bring: Gloves, Sunscreen, Hat, Spade & Water

RSVP: Peter Ryan – 0409458065
pryan@inlandtechnology.com.au





SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Sponsor's Dinner

Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship

WEDNESDAY 19 MARCH 2025

7:00PM

Gregory's on Goonoo Goonoo,
191 Goonoo Goonoo Rd, Tamworth

\$50 pp

RSVP: 14th March 2025

Call Jo Lewis 0478 037 150

Scan the QR code



Date: 19th March 2025

(instead of our breakfast meeting)

Start time: 7 pm

Location: Gregory's on Goonoo Goonoo
South Tamworth NSW 2340

Details: Join us at Gregory's on Goonoo Goonoo
for an evening of fun and fellowship.

Cost: \$50 pp.

RSVP via the ticket link below – payment at the
door on the night.

Get tickets:

<https://forms.gle/3rY4sG3hh2oTU67y7>

Guess who's Coming to dinner – 2025



Saturday April 5, 2025 at 6.00PM

RSVP by 29th March

“A night of unexpected food, friends and festivities”

RSVP: mitchell.soree@gmail.com or text 0401719332 by 29th April.
If there are any dietary needs, please advise.

RYAG Sheep Students

2025 RYAG Sheep – Alyssa Sleiman and Darcy Moore from McCarthy College

Day 1: Registration and introduction to RYAG sheep. We were accommodated in the shearing quarters on the property Europambela. We were allocated 3 to a room – each room with a double bunk and a single bed. We provided our own swags. There were 30 other students from various parts of NSW – from as far south as Forbes and north to Alstonville. We had 2 camp mentors – both ex participants of RYAG Sheep. We were divided into three teams of 10. As we were all strangers to each other, we integrated with ice breaker activities run by the camp mentors.

Day 2: We were taken to the property Nerstane at Woolbrook for the day. Each team was taken to an activity, and we rotated through the day. We saw their AI (artificial insemination) program happening; were shown how to handle stock without creating any stress on the animal; saw their on farm technology program including electronic tagging, data collection for pedigree recording and were shown visual sheep classing, ram selection and judging activities. We had to participate in many of these activities. The day at Nerstane finished with a sheep counting competition. After dinner we had a talk on Farm Plan and Management Practices. Betts Transport also came and talked about stock freighting and monitoring transport systems and the issues involved.



Day 3: A wet day spent on the property Europambela. We had an agronomist talk about pastures and Lou Hogan from CRC (at University of New England) talk about how to assess the ground cover for nutrition of sheep and cattle and were shown how to identify different grasses. This was done in the paddock as well as in the shed. We were shown a drone operating spraying pastures (it was the size of a ride on lawn mower). We had a talk from Sheep Genetics about the identification of each sheep with their breeding values and understanding how to interpret the information – another hands-on activity. We were shown and participated in Faecal Egg Counting (parasite monitoring), carcass fat and muscle scanning as well as working a new electronic race and sheep handling machine that records all information on that animal as the sheep passes through the race. Tony Overton (manager of Europambela) showed us how to train a dog (he breeds, trains and competes with his dogs). After dinner Liz Foster (Wool Fashion Awards) came with Beau to dress us with clothing from the Wool Shop in Uralla, for the Fashion Parade to be held after the Gala Dinner tomorrow night.

Day 4: A wet and cold day spent at the Walcha Showgrounds where we were divided into our teams and rotated the activities of live sheep appraisal (condition scoring, mouthing, marketing strategies); sheep shearing demonstration, fleece throwing and skirting, fleece judging, laser in shed wool testing, and a memorable trip to the butcher for the cutting up of a sheep and the explanation of the various pieces of meat and best ways to cook them. Later in the day we had a talk about wool marketing from AWI and the traineeships offered by Fox & Lillie, a wool store operation. The day ended with a delicious GALA Dinner at the Walcha Golf Club where we all received certificates and then participated in the dreaded Fashion Parade in front of our families, Rotarians and friends.

Day 5: Review of program material and hand in workshop and program evaluations. After packing and room cleanup, we were collected by our parents for the trip home. We were given excellent meals, morning and afternoon teas and supper before bed. The camp was a wonderful experience and we both enjoyed every part of it. Thank you to our parents, our school Ag teacher and to the Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light for giving us the opportunity to go.

Scribe – Elizabeth Gill



Important Info

[Tamworth First Light Webpage](#)

[District 9660 Webpage](#)

[Rotary International Link](#)

[DACdb Link](#)



Calendar

FIRST LIGHT

Social Night

Join us
every 3rd
Friday of
the month
at The PO
Hotel

27 FEB - TRIVIA WITH INTERACT TMW SUNSHINE

8 MARCH - INTERACT CHARTER DINNER

14 - 16 MARCH - DISTRICT CONFERENCE

17 - 21 MARCH - S&E CHALLENGE

5 APRIL - COMMUNITY GARDEN

13 & 14 MAY - NWRCE

14 JUNE - RCTFL CHANGEOVER

ASSISTANCE REQUIRED:

2ND MARCH - CLEAN UP AUS DAY

17 - 21 MARCH SCIENCE & ENGINEERING CHALLENGE

Roster

Date	19 Mar	26 Mar	2 Apr
Topic	S&E Challenge Dinner	Intermodel Freight Facility	Club Assembly
Location	<u>Gregory's</u>	VOCATIONAL	VOCATIONAL
Guest Speaker	S&E Committee	Dan Coulton Graeme McKenzie	The Board
Sergeant	-	-	Glenn McIntosh
Corporal	-	-	Peter Ryan
Meeter & Greeter	-	-	Alice Elsley
Door Team	-	Peter Leonard Mal Turnbull	Naomi Blakey James Treloar
President Assist	-	-	Hannah Woods
Guest Speaker Intro & Visitor Assist	-	Sue O'Connor	Sue O'Connor
Bulletin Notes Vote of Thanks	-	Richard Hardwick	-

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

21 Mar	28 Mar	4 Apr	11 Apr
Vicki Cooper Alice Elsley	Alice Elsley Deb Barnes	Deb Barnes Diane Petterson	Diane Petterson Liz Gill

Any changes to the roster, please let the President Assist know the morning of the meeting that you are replacing someone.

Reminder that it is up to members to find your replacement if you are unavailable.

Email Leave of Absence to Secretary, Courtney

Birthday, Anniversaries, and Inductions

Members Birthdays	Louise Matthews 24/3 & Peter Ryan 26/3
Partners Birthdays	Deb Logan 20/3
Club Inductions	Naomi Blakey 14/3 (7yrs)
Anniversaries	Simon & Cheyrl-Ann Guest 23/3 (unknown yrs)

Attendance	70%
Visiting Rotarians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jane Bradford (Honorary)
Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ela Fiserova (YEP RC First Light), Malin Breivik (YEP Student RC Tamworth), Jamie Hunt, Ruth Martin, Time Moore, Ruby Moore (RYAG family)
Heads and Tails	Alyssa Sleiman
Chook Raffle	<p>Skinner</p> <p>(free breakfast the following week only, cannot be claimed at a later date)</p>