



Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light



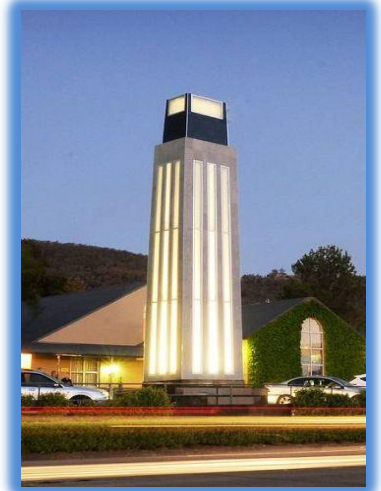
2019-2020

District Governor [Phil Hafey](#)

President: [Barry Biffin](#)

Secretary: [Liz Gill](#)

Treasurer: [Deb Barnes](#)



MEETING 1487

WEDNESDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2020



Major Mitchell Cockatoos - glorious colours - thank you David Hinwood

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES 2020

Sat 15 February Newcastle Military Band (Venue to be confirmed)

26 – 27 February MVHERV - Bunnings

Sunday, 1 March Clean up Australia Day on the Sunday – Rotary to meet behind Hungry Jacks – Volunteer Sheet will go around closer to the time – Contact is Richard Walker – 0427 466 799

20 – 22 March D9650 Annual Conference at South West Rocks – book early!

Pedal the Peel Cycling Challenge – POSTPONED

02 – 09 May DISTRICT 9650 RYLA – Lake Keepit Sport & Recreation Centre
RYLA Dinner Wednesday, 6 May

Wednesday, 20 May - Northwest Regional Careers Expo at TRECC

12 – 13 June (Friday / Saturday) Regional Waste Warriors Expo

Saturday, 20 June – Club Changeover

Saturday, 26 June -D9650 Changeover - Laurieton

Uncle Paul pays dearly!

Ring ring – ring ring

“Hello”

“Hi honey, this is Daddy – Is mummy near the phone?”

“No daddy, she’s upstairs with Uncle Paul.”

After a brief pause

Daddy says “But honey you haven’t got an Uncle Paul!”

“Oh Yes I do and he’s upstairs in the room with mummy right now!”

Brief pause – “OK! This is what I want you to do – run upstairs and knock on the door and say daddy’s car has just driven into the driveway.”

“OK daddy – just a minute.” A few minutes later the child comes back and reports

“I did it daddy.”

“What happened honey?”

“Well mummy jumped out of bed naked and ran around the room, tripped on the rug and hit her head on the dresser and now she’s not moving at all.”

“Oh! My God! What about Uncle Paul?”

“He also jumped out of bed stark naked and jumped out the back window into the swimming pool. I guess he didn’t realise that you emptied the pool last week to clean it. He hit the bottom of the pool and is not moving – I think he is dead.”

Long pause

Then daddy says “Swimming pool? Is this 8264 6436?”



Quote of the Week

*From the earliest times the old have rubbed it into
the young that they are wiser than they,
and before the young had discovered what
nonsense this was they were old too,
and it profited them to carry on the imposture.*

Somerset Maugham

One very rewarding meeting, handing over money from our members efforts.

Thank-you Steve for hosting us with a breakfast that was up there with Brian Logan's great efforts. I am sure that it was presented with a heavy heart on Steve Martin's part, with the loss of his father.

Phil Knight and his team excelled with this year's Santa pub crawl.

Do we have any volunteers to put together a 30th birthday party for our club? Please speak to Barry – We are already into February....

Back to the Mercure this week after what I believe was a month packed with variety and excellent fellowship.

We are also having difficulties with another of our events; I believe that this is a sign of our difficult times that we are currently experiencing with droughts, fires etc and I am sure that with rain and more rain and more rain and more rain some of these difficulties will be over-com.

See you all this week back at home-base at the Hotel Mercure.

BARRY BIFFIN

After Brexit this seems appropriate

Three guys, one Irish, one English, One Scottish, are out walking along the beach together one day. They came across a lantern and a genie pops out of it.

"I will grant you each one wish, that's three wishes in total" – the genie said.

The Scottish guy says "I am a fisherman, dad's a fisherman and my grandfather is a fisherman and my son will become one too. I want all the oceans full of fish for all eternity."

The genie blinked and it was done.

The Englishman was amazed and said "I would like a wall around England, protecting her so no one will get in for all eternity."

The genie blinked and it was done.

The Irishman was curious "Tell me about this wall?" The genie explains that it is 150 feet high – 50 feet thick protecting England.

The Irishman says "Fill it up with water thank you."

The genie blinked and it was done....



'ROTARIANS' RESPONSE TO BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY'

Article by PP Ross Wade and Rotarian Issa Shalhoub, RC of Milton-Ulladulla, D9710

During the months of August to October, the citizens of Ulladulla looked on with concern as reports came in about the serious fires affecting Queensland and Northern New South Wales. However, their own complacency was shaken during the last weekend in November when a serious bushfire outbreak rapidly spread around the neighbouring district of Batemans Bay, 66 kms south of Ulladulla.

For a whole week, local firefighters worked around the clock, so too did the local support staff to provide backup food and basic provisions to the firefighters. However, by the afternoon of Friday 29 November the authorities realised that even more support was required. An urgent call was sent out to the Rotary Club of Milton-Ulladulla to see if Rotarians and provisions could be quickly organised to provide breakfasts and dinners for 50 to 100 firefighters over the coming few days.

Immediately Rotarians rose to the occasion: food was organised, barbecues were found and borrowed, the call went out by email for at least seven Rotarians to be support staff for mornings and nights and weary firefighters were offered breakfast and dinner.

The first day, Saturday, went as planned with firefighters working around the clock 15km into the bush beyond Termeil 20kms south of Ulladulla. However, the temperatures were rising and the conditions were deteriorating by the hour. On Sunday the fight was on to protect nearby communities of Bawley Point and Kioloa, 27kms south of Ulladulla.

Monday came and the conditions were even more drastic. The fires had broken containment lines, reached and crossed the highway in a number of places and the race was on to protect houses. 200 firefighters were fed that morning.

In the afternoon conditions deteriorated and the firefighters' staging post had been forced to pull back to Burrill Lake on the outskirts of Ulladulla, Rotarians bravely soldiered on to provide hot dinner to the firefighters that night.

However now the time had come to renegotiate our direct role with the local branch of the State Emergency Services (SES) who had more facilities and planning behind them to cater for the urgency in the longer term. We and community members supported the SES for a month by serving meals etc. to the emergency services personnel until the support was taken off our hands as the staging post was moved further North in early January.

With the fires gaining the upper hand on New Year's Eve and destroying numerous houses, an evacuation centre was established at the Ulladulla Civic Centre and Rotarians offered assistance and support to evacuees, served meals, provided beds and gave them hugs when they needed one.

Once the fires were under control donations poured in from all over the East Coast and were delivered to the Milton Showgrounds where two basketball stadiums were filled. To unload the trucks forklifts and man power were organised once again by emails to sort and distribute the goods to the bushfire affected residents.

Restaurants, coffee shops and accommodation houses along the South Coast are suffering as all tourists were asked to leave in January, our Club has decided to change our meeting venue once a month to support restaurants by having dinner or breakfast with our partners.

Rotarians will continue to rally and support the affected people; we will now be involved with the disaster recovery and will continue to put 'Service Above Self'. The South Coast is safe, open for business and we are looking forward to hosting the 2020 District 9710 Conference in March.

Article from Rotary on the Move – Feb 2020 – an appropriate Report covering all bushfires



VOCATIONAL VISIT – RONALD McDONALD HOUSE - TAMWORTH

Our thanks to **Steve Martin** and his wonderful team of volunteers for an excellent breakfast – appreciated by everyone, possibly more so for Brian Logan who was able to relax and enjoy breakfast rather than organising it as usually happens! We were spoilt with tables and chairs and table cloths – made us rather reluctant to leave. Thank you for showing us around the facilities and we hope the two occupied rooms were not too disturbed by our being there. The funds raised for operating Ronald McDonald House proved just as interesting - the support from Tamworth specifically and the entire region was very impressive – whether it be in cash or kind – small or large donations – the support for families under pressure was amazing and it operates for 365 days a year. Government assistance – basically NIL.

Some limited facts:

The house was built in one weekend (concrete slab laid the weekend before) – started Friday and at lock-up on Sunday evening – furniture arrived the following week so officially opened in three weeks from laying of the concrete slab to completion.

Ronald McDonald head office provides about 20% of the funds – rest is covered by franchisees and the general public and quietly via various size businesses throughout the region.

This year's Santa Crawl raised a cheque for \$20,059.00 which will go to renovating the four bathrooms.

Steve Martin thanked Phil Knight for his hard work plus all Club volunteers and sponsors including West Diggers, Allsopp Signs etc.

Introduced by Richard Walker - Thanked by John Worldon



Tables and chairs and table-cloths enticed a crowd of Rotarians to breakfast



Steve Martin bringing us up-to-date with how funds (cash and kind) are raised for Ronald McDonald House





Phil Knight, Chair of the Santa Crawl Committee presented a small cheque for \$20,059.00 to Steve Martin.

Steve Martin confirmed that this contribution would be used towards refurbishing the four bathrooms up to today's standards

**My bed is a
magical place
where I suddenly
remember
everything
I forgot to do.**

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
Mercure Function Room
Kent Street
South Tamworth

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—Barry Biffin](#)

[Secretary—Liz Gill](#)

[Treasurer – Deb Barnes](#)



WEEKLY ROSTER FOR BOTH CLUB AND POST OFFICE RAFFLES

	5 February 2020	12 February 2020	19 February 2020
Topic	Ian Howle Family Pharmacy Hotel Mercure	John Hay Resuscitation	Alison Groth Nazareth Care
Sergeants	Mandy Fisher Steve Martin	Mandy Fisher Steve Martin	Mandy Fisher Steve Martin
Corporals	Ron Allen Richard Hardwick	Paul Stevenson Bruce Hemmett	Phil Lyon Dennis Johnson
Meeter & Greeter	Steve Massey	Peter Leonard	Phil Knight
Door Team	Brian Logan Brodie Shields	Rob Sharp Michael O'Connor	Naomi Blakey Brett White
President Assist	Mitch Soree	Anne Jacob	Louise Matthews
Visitor Assist	Peter Hyde	Glenn McIntosh	Val Hellmann
Welcome	Maureen Thornton	Brian Thompson	Marina Hearne
Bulletin Notes	John Treloar	David Hinwood	Phil Penman
Introduction	John Treloar	David Hinwood	Phil Penman
Vote of Thanks	Graham Dooley	James Treloar	Peter Ryan

POST OFFICE RAFFLE – FRIDAYS - 6:30 – 7:30PM

7 February 2020	14 February 2020	21 February 2020	28 February 2020
Phil Penman David Hinwood	David Hinwood Paul Stevenson	Paul Stevenson Terry Robinson	Terry Robinson Brett White

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND INDUCTIONS

Members Birthdays	
Partners Birthdays	Helen Hinwood (11/02)
Anniversaries	
Club Induction	

Attendance	79%
Make-Ups	
Visiting Rotarians	Janni Sievanen YEP;
Visitors	NIL
Heads & Tails	NIL
Raffle	NIL

