



Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light



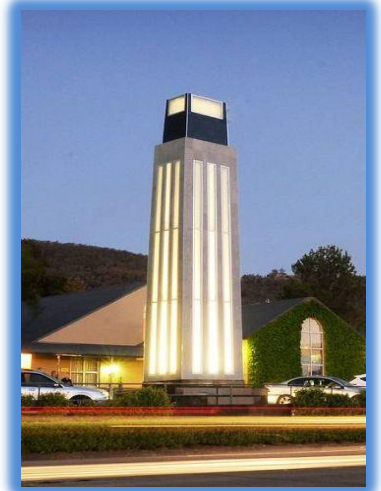
2019-2020

District Governor [Phil Hafey](#)

President: [Barry Biffin](#)

Secretary: [Liz Gill](#)

Treasurer: [Deb Barnes](#)



ZOOM-MEETING 1502

WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY 2020



*Cockatoos enjoying late afternoon sunshine on the golf course
outside Liz Gill's home - Thanks Liz for the photo*

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES 2020

This Wednesday, 20 May – **OUR FIFTH ZOOM MEETING** – details on Page 4

Saturday 18 July as Changeover Date – further information to follow

Saturday, 26 June -D9650 Changeover – Laurieton – POSSIBLE?

15 – 22 August DISTRICT 9650 RYLA – KEEPIT DAM

	BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND INDUCTIONS
Members Birthdays	NIL
Partners Birthdays	Julie Hemmett (22/05);
Anniversaries	Val and Tom Hellmann (52yrs 22/05/1968);
Club Induction	Barry Biffin (23yrs 21/05/1997); Steve Martin (1yr 22/05/2019);

ATTENDANCE 72% - Visitor & Guest Speaker – Bob Wearne – Thank you Brodie Shields
Heads & Tails Liz Gill
Raffle (Breakfast) Naomi Blakey

Winners from last Wednesday's Fine Session – Mandy Fisher – Sergeant.
Deb Barnes and Jane Bradford share the “Best fine”
Liz Gill provided the best fines plus won Heads & Tails!!

UPDATES – How members are filling in time whilst self-isolating plus....

- **Masks** – Peter Bell – demonstrated **Inspiration** masks for members – **don't forget the offer for masks from Inspirations – we may still be required to wear masks when we can leave “self-isolation” possibly closer than anticipated!**

Prayer for Grandpa

This is just too beautiful not to share.



Dear God, please send clothes for all those poor ladies on grandpa's computer. Amen

Quote

I'm proud to be a politician. A politician is a man who understands government, and it takes a politician to run a government. A statesman is a politician who has been dead for ten or fifteen years.

Harry S Truman

Quote of the Week

*If A is success in life, then A is equal to X plus Y plus Z.
Work is X; Y is play; and Z - keeping your mouth shut.
Albert Einstein*

Hello Members and Friends

Looking forward to our **ZOOM** into Wednesday morning at 6:30AM and having a chat....

CHANGE OVER 2019 – 2020 Barry Biffin to 2020 – 2021 – Deb Barnes

Claiming the date for Saturday, 18 July 2020

Not sure what form or numbers that we can have but the plan will be one of the following (depending on the prevailing restrictions):

1. Deb and I will -have a coffee or cool beverage and I will give here the keys!
2. If we are restricted to 20, we are suggesting the two boards meet and will change over, with a meal and more cool beverages.
3. If no restriction on numbers we will have a full member and guest list and of course a few cool beverages....

The venue and other details will be confirmed closer to the date and depending on limitations.

Just please save the date.

Thank-you Bob Wearne for your talk today and for your efforts fencing for our Bushfire victims.

Also thank-you members for making our Zoom Meetings enjoyable, under somewhat difficult circumstances. It is great to catch-up even though it is only on a screen.

Great work Richard Hardwick – that “Mute” button gives you an amazing amount of control.... Jane is also doing a great job on the Bulletin keeping us all informed and amused, please keep the material flowing in for her!!

See you all next week when we do it all again with a different guest speaker....

BARRY BIFFIN

Joke

A blonde pushes her BMW into a gas station. She tells the mechanic it died.

After he works on it for a few minutes, it is idling smoothly.

She says, “What's the story?”

He replies, “Just crap in the carburettor.”

She asks, “How often do I have to do that?”



ATTENTION MEMBERS, FELLOW ROTARIANS AND FRIENDS

We will be holding our **ZOOM** meeting this Wednesday (20 May 2020 at 6:30AM) for all members and friends or any Rotarians interested in participating to join in. Remember the meeting room is open from 06.30am for mingling.

Please note

Zoom is currently rolling out an update to its program and this may mean you receive a message to update the Zoom application. **Please take the opportunity to update the system when it requests you to before 30 May 2020.** After 30 May 2020 the update will be required before you start any meetings.

To enter the meeting please use the link below:

Richard Hardwick is inviting you to this scheduled ZOOM meeting.

Topic: RCTFL - Rotary Weekly Meeting – Guest Speaker is Mark Sleiman – Topic is “PROJECT YOU”

Time: May 20, 2020 at 06:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/71646393419?pwd=d29TcUtxUDducnhhbkNwYlNNnNBZz09>

By clicking on the above link, it will take you straight into the meeting room – Richard has password protected the meeting and this is embedded in the link already.

If there are members who are unsure and would like support with using Zoom, contact Richard via his email – he will be happy to assist but please give him notice...

Richard's email is Richard.Hardwick@challengecommunity.org.au

AUSTRALIA AND AUSTRALIANS – AN INTERESTING STORY – PART 3

Sometime around 60,000 years ago some people arrived in boats from the north. They ate all the available food and a lot of them died. The ones who survived learned respect for the balance of nature, man's proper place in the scheme of things and spiders. They settled in and spent a lot of the intervening time making up strange stories.

The around 200 years ago, Europeans arrived in boats from the north. More accurately, European convicts were sent, with a few deranged people in charge. They tried to plan their crops in Autumn (failing to take account of the reversal of seasons), ate all their food and a lot of them died.

About then the sheep arrived and have been treasured ever since. It is interesting to note here that Europeans always consider themselves vastly superior to any other race they encounter, since they can lie, cheat, steal and litigate (marks of a civilized culture – they say), whereas all the Aborigines can do is happily survive being left in the middle of a vast red-hot desert, equipped with a stick.

Eventually, the new lot of people stopped being Europeans on “extended holiday” and became Australians. The changes are subtle but deep, caused by the mind-stretching expanses of nothingness and eerie quiet, where a person can sit perfectly still and look deep inside themselves to the core of their essence, their reasons for being and the necessity of checking inside their boots every morning for fatal surprises. They also picked up the most finely tuned sense of irony in the world and the Aboriginal gift for making up stories. Be warned

But you can't wait for Part IV...



Val Hellmann will kindly introduce our guest speakers whilst our Zoom Meetings continue as she has the pleasure of finding them, liaising with them - assists with making them feel comfortable with Zoom by attending one or two of our Zoom meetings – very successfully to date.

Our guest speaker today is BOB WEARNE who travelled down to Victoria after the massive bushfires earlier this year and volunteered for a group called **BLAZE AID**. He took his caravan down, as did most of the grey nomads so all are independent but on site with relevant facilities available as required.

Blaze Aid is a Victorian organisation who help farmers repair fences or whatever after major disasters – fires / floods. The organisation started in 2009 after the disastrous Victorian bushfires. He was assigned to south of **Cobargo, NSW** where over 20,000 kilometres of fencing was burnt out and they worked in teams of three.

Their assignment with other teams was to save whatever could be reused – all wiring has to be collected and discarded – too damaged to be able to re-use – this also applied to lots of wooden posts. However, the teams had to split the wood with a 12lb sledgehammer and a wedge at the top of the post. Another team would remove the wire – managed four kilometres in first week and felt shattered then erected a kilometre of fencing on the Saturday! New fencing was basically wooden and steel posts. The farmers also work with us – in this case the family lost their homes, sheds etc in the wee small hours of the morning with very little warning – how terrifying that would have been.

Raining one day so took an elderly couple for a drive around the area – both in very late 80's – however were shocked by what they were seeing – never seen the country destroyed like this – were incredibly grateful to us for giving up our time and admitted they were seeing areas they had not seen for 30 years or more.

The second farmer we helped was so grateful and thanked all of us – quite overwhelmed by the fact that we were volunteers trying to give them a start and the courage to continue. He admitted that we and Blaze Aid finally gave him the strength and courage to start again – prior to our arrival he just felt “lost” could not make a decision and days just passed him by – now he had a goal and was forming a plan to fight again.

Bob concluded by saying Blaze Aid, as an organisation, was extremely well managed and organised and basically only came home because of the Corona Virus.

Q Accommodation? No took our caravan as did mostly grey nomads plus other younger versions of grey nomads

Q Backpackers? Federal Government would extend their Visitor Visas if they were prepared to assist with the fencing etc.

Q Blaze Aid still operating? Yes - on Kangaroo Island, South Australia and in three other places in Victoria and New South Wales.

Q Where do the fence posts come from? Blaze Aid will often pay if the farmer can't and the farmer re-pays when insurance claim is settled

Q What funding does Blaze Air receive? Nil from Government – not involved on that side of the organising – certainly donations welcomed.

Q As fences re-built all new posts? No, a mixture of old and new and steel posts with steel posts being the corner posts in paddocks – however old wiring and unusable posts would be rolled into “balls” waiting to be collected and removed to a particular dumping area.

Q Training required? On the job – found muscles he had forgotten he even knew he had!

Thanked by John Rouvray for being prepared to volunteer and give up his time to assist farmers in desperate need – sometimes just to hear a kind word.



Poetry

Im normally a social girl I love to meet my mates
But lately with the virus here We can't go out the gates.
You see, we are the 'oldies' now We need to stay inside
If they haven't seen us for a while They'll think we've upped and died.
They'll never know the things we did Before we got this old
There wasn't any Facebook So not everything was told.
We may seem sweet old ladies Who would never be uncouth
But we grew up in the 60s - If you only knew the truth!
There was sex and drugs and rock 'n roll The pill and miniskirts
We smoked, we drank, we partied And were quite outrageous flirts.
Then we settled down, got married And turned into someone's mum,
Somebody's wife, then nana, Who on earth did we become?
We didn't mind the change of pace Because our lives were full
But to bury us before we're dead Is like a red rag to a bull!
So here you find me stuck inside For 4 weeks, maybe more
I finally found myself again Then I had to close the door!
It didnt really bother me I'd while away the hour
I'd bake for all the family But I've got no flaming flour!
Now Netflix is just wonderful I like a gutsy thriller
I'm swooning over Idris Or some random sexy killer.
At least I've got a stash of booze For when I'm being idle
There's wine and whiskey, even gin If I'm feeling suicidal!
So let's all drink to lockdown To recovery and health
And hope this awful virus Doesn't decimate our wealth.
We'll all get through the crisis And be back to join our mates
Just hoping I'm not far too wide To fit through the flaming gates
by Pam Ayres – Thank you Brian Thompson



**“....MY TEST WAS NEGATIVE. IN
FACT IT WAS SOOO NEGATIVE, THAT
THE DOCTORS SAID THEY NEVER
SAW A NEGATIVE NUMBER SO LOW!
IT WAS PERFECT; PERFECTLY
NEGATIVE. ACTUALLY, IT WAS
HUGELY PERFECTLY NEGATIVE.
AND TREMENDOUS TOO!
MY DOCTOR SAID IT WAS THE BEST
AND GREATEST SCORE OF ANYONE.
WHO HAS EVER TAKEN THE TEST...”**