



*Rotary Club of
Tamworth First Light
Changeover
from
President Barry Biffin
to
President
(Deb)orah Barnes*



**MEETING 1511 SATURDAY 18 JULY 2020
CHANGEOVER – ANNUAL REPORT**

2019 – 2020

**District Governor Phil Hafey
President Barry Biffin
Secretary Elizabeth (Liz) Gill
Treasurer Deborah Barnes**



2020 - 2021

**Debbie Loveday
(Deb)orah Barnes
Sue O'Connor
Michael Smith**



ROTARY CLUB OF TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR THE 2019 – 2020 YEAR

Hasn't this been fun!

Talk about the Trifecta Drought, Bushfires and Covid-19. Thank God I am not a politician. However, in saying that I would like to congratulate our Nation's leaders in how they have led our country through these difficult and ongoing uncertain times.

Hopefully we can now achieve the fourth level with a good flood to fill our dams.

You may not be aware that our Club has achieved many records this year, including:

- Most cancelled events
- Least amount of weekly meetings
- Most Zoom meetings
- Lowest amount of funds raised and activities
- Zero new member inductions

However, two achievements of note were:

Santa Pub Crawl - this was prior to Covid-19 and as a Club we raised in excess of \$20,000 for Ronald McDonald house.

Exchange Student - A wonderful experience was having Janni visit from Finland.

I must admit that when asked if we could host an exchange student, I was very apprehensive about doing so. However now in hindsight what a great experience and this was due to the support from Marina, David, Liz, Steve and Sue (and all who came in contact with her). Also, to Janni herself, she should be extremely proud of herself in the way she conducted herself and how she represented her Country, Family and the Ideals of Rotary.

Thank-you to the board members and all members for their support over the last twelve months.

I would like to especially thank the following people for their efforts in keeping our Club together under difficult conditions:

- Val Hellmann – keeping us supplied with interesting and excellent presentations
- Jane Bradford – with her efforts in keeping the Bulletin informative and interesting
- Richard Hardwick- organising the Zoom Meetings.
- Andrew Cootes – For the breakfasts and ongoing support with the Post Office Raffles.

However, even with the difficult times we managed to donate funds to the following:

Rotary Foundation, Lifeline, Westpac Rescue Helicopter, Dolly Parton Books, Youth Insearch, and RYLA.

I have some awards and a thank you or two planned for the Changeover Dinner so let your curiosity grow and grow till the appropriate time arrives!

Thank-you for all the support over the last twelve months and I take this opportunity to wish Deb Good luck and Best Wishes for a better year ahead.

Yours in Rotary Service

BARRY BIFFIN
PRESIDENT 2019 – 2020
30 June 2020



ROTARY CLUB OF TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT TREASURER'S REPORT 2019-2020

Following is a summary of the financial activity of the Club during the past year.

Balance of accounts:

As at 26th June 2020 the balance of all accounts was as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. S1 Admin account 30/6/20 - | \$ 35,363.21 |
| - Funds Held | |
| - Careers Expo | \$ 8,408.70 |
| - Drought Donation | \$ 2,442.30 |
| - Science & Engineering | \$ 2,000.00 |
| - Waste Warriors | \$ 13,499.40 |
| - Accounts Payable | \$ 5,998.00 |
| (Admin Balance \$ 2,684.81) | |
| 2. S3 Blue Angel A/C | \$ 4,128.94 |
| 3. Rotary I13 | \$ 32,890.33 |

Year in Summary:

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Breakfast Profit | \$ 4,100.32 |
| Fines income | \$ 2,047.45 |
| Pub Raffles income | \$ 3,469.10 |
| Santa Crawl RMH income | \$ 2,228.78 |
| Donations paid | \$ 33,874.00 |
| - Youth: NYSF, CP, RYAG & RYLA | \$ 5,995.00 |
| - Ronald McD House Santa. Crawl | \$ 20,059.00 |
| - End Polio | \$ 1,060.00 |
| - Salvation Army | \$ 760.00 |
| - DG Project | \$ 1,000.00 |
| - WestPac Helicopter | \$ 2,000.00 |
| - Dolly Parton Imagination Lib | \$ 1,000.00 |
| - Youth Insearch | \$ 1,000.00 |
| - Club Person | \$ 1,000.00 |

Deb Barnes
Treasurer
30 June 2020

ROTARY CLUB OF TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT ANNUAL REPORT - ADMINISTRATION TEAM 2019-2020



SERGEANTS

Sharing role worked well between Mandy Fisher and Steve Martin and allowed for each to meet their work commitments and keep a consistent line for the role of Sergeant at the weekly face to face meetings. As with all roles, the Zoom meetings presented challenges but there were some fines and Heads and Tails continued.

BULLETIN EDITOR

Jane Bradford continued her sterling role as Bulletin editor and kept it all going very well during the interruption to regular meeting occasioned by the COVID challenge. The Bulletin included articles the editor felt relevant to the issues we are facing today as a society at large as well as Rotarians.

PROGRAM

Val Hellmann arranged a stimulating variety of speakers for the face to face and even the Zoom meetings. The range of presenters included Rotarians from other clubs as well as from First Light. She also arranged for local people with a wide range of interests as well as Tamworth's State and Federal political representatives.

VOCATIONAL VISITS

Dimity Betts organised a number of interesting vocational visits whilst they were still possible and before she went on maternity leave.

WELFARE

Lesley Hood and Sue O'Connor kept abreast of the welfare needs of members and notified the Board and the membership as appropriate. Lesley took leave from the position during the year for medical reasons. All members also kept an eye out for the wellbeing of other members during lock down.

WEB AND IT

Bruce Hemmett and Peter Ryan worked on the website and gave some informative presentations to the members on technology and its role in both Rotary and beyond.

CATERING

Brian Logan catered at a number of events before the lockdown with his usual flair and efficiency.

Mandy Fisher
Club Administration Director 2019 - 2020
30 June 2020



ROTARY CLUB OF TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT COMMUNITY SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2019 - 2020

The Community Events for year of 2019 – 2020 went through three phases.

1. The Up and Away and Happening Phase, in the last five months of the 2019, year followed by
2. The Rethink and Postpone Phase, in the first 3 months of 2020, to
3. The Cancel and Re- appraise Phase in the last four months.

MEN'S HEALTH - THE EDUCATION RURAL VAN

We held two very successful Two-Day Events for the MHERVan at Bunnings car park in August and February with a total of 107 patients coming through the Van. Nurse Rob Woolley had his 7000-patient come through the Van in February; the patient was awarded with a bottle of wine.

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE FUND RAISER

The Xmas Pub Crawl, what a great fundraising Event, held on the 20 December 2019, with five of our local Publican's involved, mixing with the younger generation and appreciating the generosity of the participants. A sum of \$22,000 was raised. Let's hope we can run the Event again and many thanks to Phil Knight for organising.

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Early this year, this Event came under a lot of discussion from the Committee due to the extra over the top Newcastle University Charges to run the Event, something like \$2,8000, this meant our Club had to raise the extra funds, either from the schools or Sponsorship.

The Event was Cancelled, with some of the Committee members to meet with University of Newcastle hoping for a better outcome for 2021.

PEDAL the PEEL

In February 2020 this Event was cancelled due to the extra work load required to run the Event and since has gone through a Re-Think Phase. Discussions have proceeded with ideas of running a 12-hour Cycling Event at the new Velodrome Course. Hopefully this Event can take place in the near future.

NORTH WEST REGIONAL CAREERS EXPO

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic this Expo was postponed to the 19 May 2021. Let's hope this Expo can go ahead next year.

REGIONAL WASTE WARRIORS EXPO:

This Expo was coming together with good support from our Sponsors, \$10,000 from NIRW (in the bank), TRC and NICU, we have this Sponsorship until June 2021. Unfortunately, this Expo had to be cancelled due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, we are hoping we can hold the Event within the first 6 months of 2021.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA

Held on Sunday, 1 March 2020, a successful Morning was put in cleaning up on the Peel River behind Hungary Jacks. We were very thankful for the help from the students from McCarthy College.

Let us hope the Government Social Distancing Regulations are greatly reduced soon, so our Community Events can go ahead in the coming year. If anyone has any other suggestions for Community Events that our Club could support with Social Distancing regulations in place, please discuss it at our Board Meeting.

RICHARD WALKER

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR 2019 - 2020

30 June 2020

ROTARY CLUB OF TAAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT YOUTH ANNUAL REPORT 2019 - 2020

McCarthy Catholic College was our prescribed school for another year with the primary contact being Assistant Principal Mick Larkin.



The youth events that took place, with First Light's support this year were:

CONOCO PHILIPS SCIENCE EXPERIENCE at Macquarie University, attended by Joe Melville (McCarthy) from Monday, 20 including Wednesday, 22 January 2020

The Club sponsored the full amount for his attendance and Joe came and spoke to our Club both before (in person) and afterwards (via Zoom)

THE NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM at Australian National University in Canberra, attended by Emily Madirazza (Calrossy) for a week in January 2020. Unfortunately, due to the bushfires, the Event was cancelled at end of first week. Our Club sponsored half of the cost with no refund for the cancellation.

Emily attended our Club before and afterwards to tell us about her experience and also helped at the **Waste No More** opening BBQ

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY - we had a large group of McCarthy students attend our Clean Up Australia Day event. Richard Walker presented their certificates to them during a school assembly. These students expressed an interest in both our Club, Rotary and Waste Warriors. Prior to COVID we were in discussion about holding a meeting at the school

RYAG SHEEP AT WALCHA, attended by Cameron Smith and Parker Constable (McCarthy) from Tuesday, 3 till and including Saturday, 7 March 2020. As a Club we sponsored half of the fee for each boy. Liz, Jane and myself represented the Club and the farewell dinner on the Friday night. The boys are working on their final presentation to the Club and came to see us before they went.

NAOMI BLAKEY
YOUTH DIRECTOR 2019 - 2020
30 June 2020

ROTARY CLUB OF TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2019 - 2020

The global grant was submitted; however, we were advised more information was required and to re-submit the application. Steve Massey provided all necessary documents and re-submitted the application in March / April 2020.

Currently we are waiting on the final two Papua New Guinea (PNG) authorisation signatures to complete the submission.

Fortunately, Wendy M Scholz, AG Rotary PNG Highlands / Momase, Goroka made contact with our Club through Facebook and is helping to assist in gaining the signatures.



MARINA HEARNE
FOUNDATION DIRECTOR 2019 - 2020
30 June 2020



ROTARY CLUB OF TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT PUBLIC RELATIONS ANNUAL REPORT 2019 - 2020

General

All in all, it has been a rewarding year in the Public Relations (PR) role – enjoyed marketing of our Club to the broader community, and sharing the message of Rotary more broadly.

The year commenced with a total re-vamp of our Facebook page, updating our key information with things such as new venue (Mercure) and updating the Rotary **Mission Statement**

“Rotary is made up of people around the world working together to clean the environment, end polio, improve our communities, and accomplish many extraordinary things every single day. Rotarians are people of action.”

The main communication channel used was Facebook, namely the Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light page, which has grown over the past year. Engagement is good (not great), and Club specific content continues to be a challenge to procure.

Other channels- Print media, Radio, and other social media platforms have either a high entry cost for minimal (perceived) return, or are not aligned with our demographic.

Our Club was represented with PR content covering these key topics:

- Changeover dinner and Paul Harris Fellow Awards
- Recaps / 'did you know' posts covering the weekly guest speakers' topic
- Coverage of Janni's Exchange student experience
- Promoting the movie night- Danger Close Long tan
- Drover's run feat. Biffo the Great
- MHERV
- Various membership drives / about Rotary / “consider coming along to a meeting”
- RYLA
- Lift the lid for Mental Health
- Santa Crawl
- PO Hotel plugs for the meat raffles / reopening after Covid-19

Facebook metrics

Page Views

“Page views” is the metric indicating how many users- logged into Facebook or otherwise- have viewed our page. Data indicates page views increased approx 50% on the period in the previous year. Admittedly, our numbers are small.

MITCH SOREE

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR 2019 - 2020

30 JUNE 2020

ROTARY CLUB OF TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2019 - 2020



CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

Membership numbers have dipped during the last twelve months with the following changes:

Start of period – 59 members

End of period – 52 members

This has been a 12% reduction in membership over the last twelve months.

NEW MEMBERSHIP

No new members inducted over the last twelve months into the club. We had 4 potential members but these did not eventuate due to personal circumstances of the prospective members.

STATISTICS:

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE:

Overall, for the year was 77% - based on the unprecedented times that we have been faced with over the last six months maintaining membership engagement has been a challenge. Using new and innovative ideas such as Zoom meetings has continued to maintain contact for members within our Club environment. As we move towards a relaxation of the restrictions meeting attendance is again on the rise.

AVERAGE AGE OF MEMBERS:

The average age of our club membership at the start of the reporting period was 63.9 years old and at the end of the year this changed to 64.4.

Average Service of members:

The average years of service for our club at the start of the years was 15.7 years and at the end of the year this changed to 16.4.

RICHARD HARDWICK
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR 2019-2020
30 June 2020



ROTARY CLUB of TAMWORTH - FIRST LIGHT CLUB HISTORY YEAR 2019-2020



PREFACE

2020 was an extraordinary year, not only for our Club; Rotary International; the wider community, but for the entire world. The Covid-19 virus hit with a vengeance in early 2020. It was highly contagious and there was no cure, which caused governments around the world to shut down just about everything in an effort to reduce the spread. Sporting events were cancelled, schools closed, severe travel restrictions imposed, state borders closed, and the community was ordered to stay in their homes and keep a minimum distance of 1.5M from each other if it was necessary to venture out.

All of our events for 2020 were either postponed or cancelled. Our District Conference and our own Changeover dinner were cancelled, just the same as every other Rotary Club and District in the world.

With our own meeting venue closed, and with social distancing rules in place, there was no option but to cancel meetings. However, the Board continued to meet via tele-conferencing which proved so successful, that the Club decided to continue our regular meetings using the same technology. In this way we were able to catch up with one another, listen to guest speakers, conduct a fine session and even managed to run President Barry's wacky National Anthems.

In mid-June restrictions were relaxed enough that we were able to meet face-to-face for breakfast at the Post Office Hotel.

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|------------------------|--------------------------|
| WORLD PRESIDENT | DISTRICT GOVERNOR |
| Mark Maloney | Phil Hafey |

CLUB OFFICERS

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| President | Barry Biffin | Secretary | Liz Gill |
| President Elect | Deb Barnes | Treasurer | Deb Barnes |

Director - CLUB ADMINISTRATION – Mandy Fisher

| | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Attendance | Brodie Shields | Sergeant at Arms | Steve Martin, Mandy Fisher |
| Program | Val Hellmann | Bulletin | PDG Jane Bradford OAM |
| History | Brodie Shields | Welfare Officer | Lesley Hood, Sue O'Connor |
| Catering | Brian Logan | Webmaster | Bruce Hemmett |
| Public Officer | Michael O'Connor | Executive Secretary | Brodie Shields |

Director - MEMBERSHIP – Richard Hardwick

Director - PUBLIC RELATIONS – Mitch Soree

Director – YOUTH SERVICES - Naomi Blakey

Director - SERVICE PROJECTS – Richard Walker

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Careers Expo | Marina Hearne |
| Golf Committee: | John Treloar |
| RYLA : | Louise Mathews |
| Pedal the Peel: | Terry Robinson |
| RYAG Equine: | Barry Biffin |
| Science & Engineering: | Glenn McIntosh |

Director - ROTARY FOUNDATION – Marina Hearne

NE ORTHO OUTREACH:

MEMBERSHIP

Arrivals

Departures

| | | | |
|--|--|----------------|-----------|
| | | Dwone Jones | 15 Aug 19 |
| | | Paul Crosby | 30 Aug 19 |
| | | Helen Tickle | 30 Sep 19 |
| | | Andrew Maughan | 2 Dec 19 |
| | | Chris Watson | 2 Dec 19 |

PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS

STEVE BURROWS MEMORIAL - Club Person of the Year Award

PERSONAL PROFILES

| | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|
| 10 Jul 19 | Brian Thompson | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

VOCATIONAL VISITS

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 23 Oct 19 | Bumbira Arts and Culture |
| 4 Dec 19 | Capt Dean Clutterbuck – Salvation Army |
| 29 Jan 20 | Ronald McDonald House |

YOUTH

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SOCIAL, SPORTING & FELLOWSHIP

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|--|
| |
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GUEST SPEAKERS

| Date | Speaker | Topic |
|-----------|--|---|
| 03 Jul 19 | Barry Biffin | Drovers Run |
| 17 Jul 19 | Paul Stevenson | New Road Rules |
| 24 Jul 19 | Robert Chandler | Plant a tree in Tamworth |
| 31 Jul 19 | Steve Martin | Royal Flying Doctor Service |
| 07 Aug 19 | Peter Ryan | Technology |
| 14 Aug 19 | PDG Jane Bradford | OAM presentation |
| 21 Aug 19 | Mal McPherson | Youth Insearch |
| 28 Aug 19 | RYLA & Janni Seivanen (YEP) | |
| 04 Sep 19 | Bruce Hemmett | History of Decorama |
| 11 Sep 19 | DG Phil Hafey & Bronwyn | DG Visit |
| 18 Sep 19 | Anne Sanders | Outback nursing in WA |
| 25 Sep 19 | Dr Tracy Schumacher & Dimity Betts | Local Medical Research |
| 02 Oct 19 | Brett White & Phil Lyon | Rotary Insurance & Future of Rotary |
| 09 Oct 19 | Bruce Logan | TRC Water |
| 16 Oct 19 | Michael O'Connor | Outback Adventures |
| 30 Oct 19 | Kelly Squires | From Wine to Waistlines |
| 06 Nov 19 | Steve Cunneen | Elizabeth McArthur |
| 20 Nov 19 | Dr Ronita Majumdar | Anaesthesia Day |
| 27 Nov 19 | Syd Howard | Cars, Farming and Fireworks |
| 18 Dec 19 | Ashley Dallas | XMAS meeting |
| 15 Jan 20 | Mick Souter | Light Horse Plus |
| 05 Feb 20 | Ian Howle | Family Pharmacy |
| 12 Feb 20 | John Hay | Resuscitation |
| 19 Feb 20 | Alison Groth | Nazareth Care |
| 26 Feb 20 | Rob Wooley | MVHERV |
| 04 Mar 20 | Bob Kirschner | Toastmasters |
| 11 Mar 20 | RH Barnaby Joyce | State of the Nation |
| 22 Apr 20 | ZOOM Joe Melville Michael O'Connor & Richard Hardwick | Conoco Philips Science Experience Annual ANZAC Meeting |
| 29 Apr 20 | ZOOM - Terry Robinson | Wills |
| 17 May 20 | ZOOM - Sam Peacocke (RC Dubbo South) | Personal Profile |
| 20 May 20 | ZOOM - Bob Wearne | Blaze Aid |
| 27 May 20 | ZOOM - Mark Sleiman | Project You |
| 03 Jun 20 | ZOOM - Steve Martin | Update on Ronald McDonald House |
| 10 Jun 20 | PO Hotel - Chris Watson | Future of Tourism |
| 17 Jun 20 | PO Hotel - James Treloar | West's and Treloar Park |
| 24 Jun 20 | PO Hotel – Allyn Purkiss | Bush Fires and Prevention |

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
The Events Centre
Hotel Mercure
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

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

president@tamworthfirstlight.org.au

Secretary—Liz Gill

secretary@tamworthfirstlight.org.au

Treasurer – Deb Barnes