



Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light

Annual Changeover Report

*President Brian Logan to
President Sue O'Connor*

MEETING 1706 – SATURDAY, 15 JUNE 2024

2023/ 2024

International President: Gordan McNally

District Governor: Alyn Miranda

President: Brian Logan

Secretary: Elizabeth Gill

Treasurer: Dennis Maunder

President's Annual Report 2023 – 2024

As my term as Club President comes to a close, I would like to summarise the year that was.

Our June/July meetings started with a change to the Tamworth City Bowling Club (TCBC).

Our first away meeting for our Rotary year was at the new Fire Station. A very good turn out by our members and the visit was extremely informative.

Mitch Soree's meeting 'Fine by Chip' idea gathered acceptance.

Our inbound international student from Poland arrived.

August saw Email updates on Regionalisation progress coming through for members to keep up to date.

Rotary collaborating with Kiwanis International, Lions International and Optimists International to celebrate 'Community Week'.

September Our Board set this year's cost at \$300.00 and could be paid in two instalments of \$150.00. This consideration was given due to the current global financial situation and the financial impact on our younger and/or retired members. We sponsored 2 students in the year's National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) Rotary Citation – A congratulations e-mail from PDG Neville Parsons to our PP Richard Hardwick and team on achieving a Rotary Citation for their efforts in delivering club goals and objectives during the 2022 – 2023 year.

Community Gardens and Community week was held Sunday 17th September in Victoria Park.

October A 'New Residents' event Sunday 15th Oct from 1pm – 5pm at Viaduct Park. The club has been advised that the cost of Breakfast will rise by \$2.00 from next week. This was discussed and passed at our September board meeting.

Hugh Raadgever gave us a heads-up on a coffee cup project that may have some merit. This comes from a Rotary club in Gunnedah. Hugh will get back to us on costs/numbers, availability etc.

November The clubs exchange student Maciej Wolanski enthralled us with his presentation of Poland, his family, upbringing, adventures, hobbies and being a Rotary exchange student.

December Hugh Raadgever organised Rotary Labelled coffee cups for our club to give as guest gifts for members to purchase.

Club members helped with the community garden fundraising BBQ.

Our club received a plaque from the Dolly Pardon Imagination Library for last year's donation.

The club assisted the NSW Police / Rotary collaboration 16 days of Activism by way of holding a BBQ in Bicentennial Park alongside other prominent social organisations. The club held its annual Christmas Party.

Our club took on a new challenge with holding the year's Santa Crawl. A great success with \$11,400 raised for Youth Insearch.

January/February Youth Exchange Programs have had our support with the club hosting international students for the Country Music Festival as well as committing to the marshalling of the festival's parade.

On a sad note, I reflect on the passing of Paul Harris recipient Pauline Davison, the guiding light behind our late member Dick Davison of the famous 'Condicki' Tours as well as Paul Harris recipient and member Dr Rob Sharp, an Orthopaedic Surgeon who gave hope to so many needing medical services in Papua New Guinea.

The Rotary Film Evening fundraiser for Polio Eradication on the 23rd February raised about \$250.00 for Polio by our club members.

The 'Clean up Australia' campaign driven by Naomi Blakey went well.

March The month of the Science and Engineers Challenge. This was a very successful event.

April The club inducted two new members. Jo Lewis and Vangel Christov were welcomed into the club.

Donations sought for Quirindi's 'Paver fundraiser'. Tamworth First Light responded with a \$200.00 donation for a double paver featuring our name.

May We held the Careers Expo and what a great success it was.

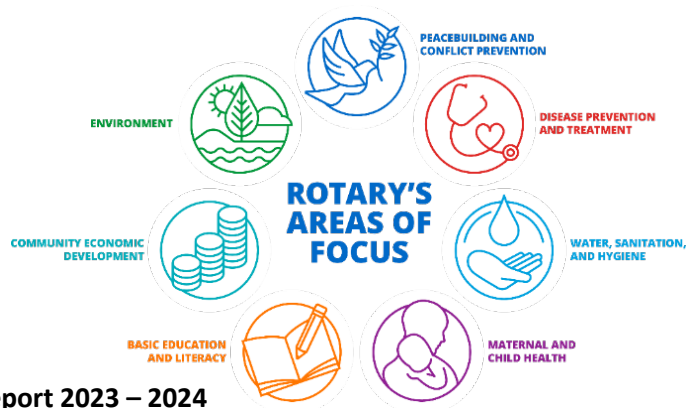
June As the Rotary year draws to a close, we have been involved in what can only be described as a wonderful and fascinating year. Overall, our club has been involved in

a variety of programs including the environment (tree planting and community garden), Mental Health, Science and Engineering, Youth Science Forum, Public Speaking, Youth Exchange Program, End Polio, Community Park Improvement construction, RYAG, RYPEN AND RYLA, and the Careers Expo. We have heard from numerous guest speakers.

We have raised money through our fundraising work such as golf charity days, Santa Crawl and hotel raffles. We have supported Mental Health, The Salvation Army, Drought appeal, Polio and, Youth and School programs.

This club and its members should be very proud of what it has achieved.

Brian Logan
President 2023/ 2024



Treasurers Annual Report 2023 – 2024

Again, our club has been involved in successful fundraising and service activities during 2023/2024. Careers Expo surplus \$10,989, Santa Crawl surplus \$13,428, Nelson Bay golf trip surplus \$10,307, Pub Raffles year-to-date surplus \$6,607 and Science and Engineering surplus was \$2,989.

Apart from these very sound financial results, the club has donated numerous service hours by members to the Santa Crawl, Science and Engineering Challenge, Careers Expo, Tree maintenance and the garden project

We also assisted the Dreamtime Touch Football team collect sponsorship money and pay expenses.

This report is prepared on 4 June 2024, so we have yet to make our annual donations, expected to be around \$20,000.

Again, thank you to Michael Smith and Deb Barnes for the ongoing support with financial matters.

Dennis Maunder
Treasurer 2023 - 2024

Club Administration Annual Report 2023 – 2024

Bulletin Editor/Sergeant: we have enjoyed a year of bulletins edited by Mitch. He has introduced a few changes to the rostered jobs each week;

We have one corporal,

The visitor assist and guest introduction roles have been consolidated,

The welcome address has been removed,

The vote of thanks and bulletin notes roles have been consolidated.

Dimity has kindly taken over bulletin editing for the last few months while Mitch was away.

Mitch has been our primary sergeant for the year. He has introduced the token system to bring back the clinking of coins at each meeting. He has had back up sergeants; Glenn Mcintosh, Steve Hawkins, Brett White, Steve Martin, Michael Smith and Brian Thompson taking over when Mitch has been away. We appreciate all the efforts of Mitch, Dimity and all of our sergeants in keeping us up to date and on our toes.

Venue: the bowling club was kind enough to take us on this year. Thank you to everyone who responds to the RSVP emails sent out each week. These are used to keep Shaun up to date on numbers each week. We have had some big fluctuations in numbers week to week anywhere from 22 to 39!

Program: Thank you to Charlotte and Luke for organising a great year of speakers. It's certainly not an easy job. Thank you also to Peter Johnson who took over for Charlotte and Luke when they were away.

Vocational Visits: We have had some very interesting visits this year; The new South Tamworth fire station, the community garden, Anzac Park, the TRECC - with a walk through the Careers Expo set up.

Social activities: our social evenings at the PO raffles are still held the third Friday of every month. We also enjoyed celebrating Marina and Maciej's birthday in April, we enjoyed a great Christmas lunch together, had a day out at the community gardens, celebrated the science and engineering challenge, an evening at the movies for Polio week and we even had a dog walking fundraiser in November.

Welfare: Thank you to Helen who was our welfare officer again this year. Also Thank you to all of the members who go out of their way to help others when they are in need.

Web and IT: Bruce has been successfully running this all year. There is not much to report on this front. A few members have had issues where they had stopped receiving communication from DACDB but this was easily rectified.

Administration Director 2023 – 2024
Courtney Priestley



Community Service Annual Report 2023 – 2024

In 2023/2024 the Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light continued its tradition of a high level of activity

in the community services portfolio. The club's members successfully delivered six community service initiatives which the club delivered last year, and recommenced delivering a seventh community event.

The projects, events and activities delivered within the community service portfolio reflected the club's focus on, and support of youth, education, and environmental issues in the local Tamworth community.

All of the community service initiatives and commitments delivered were overseen by well-structured and well-led sub-committees of club members and other community volunteers.

Three club activities required continuous effort throughout the year by club volunteers. These were:

1. The coordination of the Tree Planting / Tree Maintenance Teams,
2. The development of the Tamworth Community Gardens, and,
3. The administrative support of the Dreamtime Touch Football Team.

Three community events of significance were delivered as committed projects of the club. These were:

1. The North West Regional Careers Expo,
2. The Science & Engineering Challenge, and,
3. The Cleanup Australia Day (Peel River) event.

The club also recommenced delivery of a much-missed community seasonal event: The Santa Crawl.

The club received information and advice on conducting an Art Union Raffle, but the decision was taken by the board not to pursue this community fundraising opportunity at this time.

The attached table provides an overview of all the 2023 / 2024 activity in the community portfolio. Comments are provided against each project considered or delivered in 2023 / 2024 to provide the board and club members an overview of the

events leadership, organisational structure and the dates on which community service projects, events and activities were delivered.

I am proud of the Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light's contribution to the community in 2023/2024.

Peter Johnston
Community Services Director 2023 - 2024



Public Relations Annual Report 2021 – 2022

Facebook page:

- 765 likes and 881 followers – we gained 33 likes and 41 followers since August 2023;
- Followers stats – 55.7% women and 44.3% men predominantly in the 35-54 age bracket;
- Most popular Facebook post in the last 28 days is RYLARIANS of 2024.

PR - Year in Review:

- Completion of tree planting project;
- Santa Crawl;
- Clean up Aus Day;
- Science & Engineering Challenge;
- Careers Expo;
- Guest speakers.

Alice Elsley
Public Relations Director 2023-24

Membership Annual Report 2023 – 2024

Current Membership

Currently, the club has 49 members.

Resignations

The end of June 2023 saw six of our members resign. Followed by one resignation in August 2023. Leading into the new year, in January 2024 we had one more resignation and sadly the passing of another valued member.

New Membership

On a brighter note, I am more than happy to report that our Club has welcomed three new members. It is my endeavour to increase the membership moving forward. I am very happy to report that a recent email has provided that very inspiration, "Make your club Irresistible" sent by "Zone 8 Membership Team" of which I hope, with a committee on board that we can work closely with, to bring the inspirations to achieve the boost in numbers that we need.

Average Age

At the start of the reporting period, the average age of our members was 59.2 years. At the end of the reporting period, we see the average sitting at 60.6 years with the 85% rule sitting at 15%.

Average Attendance

In July we see the % was at 61% and at present the figure is 56.2%.

Diversity and Equity

I would like to point out here that we have a very active club, providing the community with successful projects such as Santa Crawl, The Community Garden, Tree planting and care of, as well as golf trips away. I hope that somehow, we can effectively draw people to consider "Tamworth First Light" as a club that they too would like to belong to and be part of growing our youth and the community together.

Bev Fletcher

Membership Director 2023 - 2024

Rotary Foundation Annual Report 2023 – 2024

We celebrated World Rotary Day on 23rd February with 20 members booking to the movie One Life at the Forum 6 Cinema. This was Rotary's 119th Birthday. Funds raised resulted in \$250 being donated to the Polio Plus cause. The District fundraising was an End Polio Virtual Walk. The walk started on 1st October 2023 in Newcastle. After 10 weeks it had covered all 8 district areas and ended in Mudgee covering some 3120 km We thank those members who supported the movie night and the End Polio Virtual Walk.

Bruce Hemmett
Foundation Director 2023 – 2024



Rotary Foundation Annual Report 2023 – 2024

I would like to thank all members for making my task easier these last many months. Up until only a few weeks ago, I have been able to report 100% of members with a Working With Children Check are current and verified with the Office of the Children's Guardian. Currently, we have 2 members who have not yet provided their WWC information and another member whose WWC has just expired. I am sure these members will be current shortly.

The annual Working With Children club training was conducted last October and the new year club training will be scheduled this coming October.

The importance of clubs complying with the Working With Children Check and training has been escalated in importance by State regulations has been recognised by Australian Rotarians.

Bruce Hemmett
Youth Protection Director 2023 – 2024

Youth Annual Report 2023 – 2024

NYSF:

This year we sponsored two participants to attend NYSF, Thomas and Olivia. From all reports, they both had a phenomenal time and valued the program. Our club was able to hear from Thomas on his return from the program.

With a change to the process for applications for the coming year, talks are happening to organise students to attend for January 2025.

RYLA:

RYLA had another very successful year, under the leadership of Mumma Louise. Our club was able to send 9 participants away to RYLA, with one being our Terry Burgess scholarship recipient. All other participants were sponsored by their workplace or club members. A thank you to TFSS, Challenge Community Services, Peter Ryan and Tamworth Regional Council for sponsoring those attending. We will soon hear from the participants as they return to speak to the club following changeover.

YEP:

This year we have been lucky enough to have Maciek with our club on youth exchange. Maciek had been a vibrant part of the club, and all members have been excited to see everything he has been up to on his travels around Australia. A thank you to Marina for all her incredible work with youth exchange and we look forward to the next round of students coming to stay with us!

Interact:

With the help of Marina, and exchange student Vitor, our club is now supporting an interact club in Tamworth - the Interact Club of Tamworth Sunshine. Again, a very big thank you to Marina for her support and organisation with this.

RYPEN:

Unfortunately, with this years camp on the coast, we were unable to arrange any participants to attend RYPEN. We are hopeful that next year we may be able to have some students attend.

RyMarine

Applications are currently open for RyMarine, with the closing date on August. This program will take place in October. We currently don't have any participants, if anyone knows someone interested please let us know.

Hannah Woods

Youth Director 2023 - 2024

Guest Speakers 2023- 2024

21 Jun 23	Club Member Personal Profile	Aurelie Quade
28 Jun 23	SITE VISIT - Fire Station (Sth Tamw)	Tom Cooper
05 Jul 23	Personal profile - HNEH	Peter Johnston
12 Jul 23	360 Health Clinic	Lucy Day
19 Jul 23	RCTFL - Exch Student 1994/1995 from West Virginia	Lynna Palmer
26 Jul 23	State Member for Tamworth	Kevin Anderson MP
02 Aug 23	RCTFL - Club Assembly	No Speaker
09 Aug 23	Public Speaking Competition	Dimity Betts
16 Aug 23	TOIM - Cybersecurity, data & privacy	Mark Booth/Tom Gayford
23 Aug 23	Australian Women's Youth Futsal	Lily Parsons
30 Aug 23	Youth Insearch	Leigh Foord
06 Sep 23	National Landcare Week	Ninna Douglass
13 Sep 23	SITE VISIT - Comm Gardens	Naomi Blakey
20 Sep 23	Technical Director, NIAS Soccer	Martin Rae
27 Sep 23	NIAS Soccer Program PART 2	Martin Rae
04 Oct 23	Tamworth Dramatic Society	Ellie Sampson
11 Oct 23	Westpac Rescue Helicopter	Dan Gillett
18 Oct 23	Tamworth Conservatorium of Music	Noelene Bosworth
25 Oct 23	Training	Brian Logan
01 Nov 23	Exchange Student Presentation	Maciej Wolanski
08 Nov 23	DPIL/Ault Literacy Tutoring Program	Kelly Makepeace & Lisa Rennie
15 Nov 23	White Elephant Ball Committee	Jess Barber
22 Nov 23	TFSS Core & Cluster Refuge	Belinda Kotris
29 Nov 23	Exchange Student Presentation	Vitor and Diego
06 Dec 23	RCTFL - AGM	No Speaker
13 Dec 23	Salvation Army (Salvo's Xmas Drive)	Major Tony DeTommaso
20 Dec 23	Santa / Last Meeting of the Year	
10 Jan 24	New Year ANZAC Park - Breakfast	No Speaker
17 Jan 24	Dreamtime Touch	Jermain Walford
24 Jan 24	Youth Insearch & Santa Crawl	Rachel Quinlan, Mal MacPherson, Leigh Foord
31 Jan 24	Personal profile	Diane Petterson
07 Feb 24	Exchange Student Presentation	Maciej Wolanski
14 Feb 24	Roxy's Functional Fitness for the young at heart	Roxanne Cooley
21 Feb 24	Red Cross Lifeblood	Scott Morrison

28 Feb 24	Club Trivia	
06 Mar 24	NYSF Recap	Tom Melville
13 Mar 24	Life in France	Automne Quade
20 Mar 24	Science & Engineering Dinner	No Speaker
27 Mar 24	Arts National in Tamworth	Peter Johnston
03 Apr 24	RCTFL - Club Assembly	No Speaker
10 Apr 24	Tamworth Miniature Railway Inc.	Jim Booth
17 Apr 24	History of Tamworth Hockey Association	Chas McKenzie
24 Apr 24	Connecting with Bricks Inc	Tania and Kobi Longworth
01 May 24	Quirindi Silo Art	Rob Lewis
08 May 24	Interact Rotary – Tamworth	Vitor Joventino Santos
15 May 24	RCTFL - North West Careers Expo	Joblink Plus (Sponsor)
22 May 24	RYLA - Introducing RYLA Attendees	Louise Matthews
29 May 24	Personal Profile	John Rouvray
05 Jun 24	Tamworth Regional Concillor	Marc Sutherland



Donations 2023 - 2024

Youth Insearch	\$13,428
Rotary Foundation	\$2,000
End Polio (incl \$250 from Film Night)	\$1,250
Dolly Parton Imagination Library	\$2,000
Westpac Rescue Helicopter	\$1,500
Billabong Clubhouse	\$1,000
Salvation Army	\$1,000
Little Wings	\$1,000
Black Dog Institute	\$1,000
Multicultural Tamworth	\$1,500
Women's Refuge	\$2,000
District Initiative: Hillvue P.S.	\$1,500
Breakfast/lunch program	
Challenge Art Competition	\$200
Quirindi Silo Art	\$200



2022 – 2023 Awards

Paul Harris Fellow Award

Louise Matthews

Marina Hearne

Steve Burrows Award

Peter Johnston

Certificate of Appreciation

Courtney Priestley

Malcolm Turnbull

Honorary Membership

Phil Lyon

Ian Howle



Past Presidents

Brian Thompson	1990 - 1991
Patrick Maher	1991 - 1992
Wayne Wood	1992 - 1993
Dick Davison	1993 - 1994
Ron Allen	1994 - 1995
John Miller	1995 - 1996
Doug McCallum	1996 - 1997
Michael O'Connor	1997 - 1998
Phil Lyon	1998 - 1999
Allan Forrest	1999 - 2000
Bill Moss	2000 - 2001
Les Jacob	2001 - 2002
John Trollor	2002 - 2003
Phil Heffernan	2003 - 2004
Brodie Shields	2004 - 2005
Vicki Cooper	2005 - 2006
Norm Dezius	2006 - 2007
John Treloar	2007 - 2008
Chris Sheppeard	2008 - 2009
Brett White	2009 - 2010
David Hinwood	2010 - 2011
Louise Mathews	2011 - 2012



Phil Penman	2012 - 2013
Jim Raymond	2013 - 2014
Di Ford	2014 - 2015
Graeme Kruger	2015 - 2016
Terry Robinson	2016 - 2017
Michael Smith	2017 - 2018
John Worldon	2018 - 2019
Barry Biffin	2019 - 2020
Deb Barnes	2020 - 2021
Marina Hearne	2021 - 2022
Richard Hardwick	2022 - 2023
Brian Logan	2023 - 2024

We thank our Past Presidents of Tamworth First Light for their leadership and extraordinary commitment to our club, many of which remain as current members.





2024/ 2025

International President: Stephanie Urchick

District Governor: Bruce George

President: Sue O'Connor

Secretary: Courtney Priestley

Treasurer: Dennis Maunder