



Rotary E-Club of D9700

Serving Humanity

[rotaryclubofd9700.org.au](http://rotaryclubofd9700.org.au)

**President: John Roberson**

[johnroberson@bigpond.com](mailto:johnroberson@bigpond.com)



**Next E-Club Meeting**

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018

7.30pm (**Sydney Time**)

**Trivia Question:** Which country is located in all four hemispheres?

**Answer:** Bottom of newsletter

Hi all, here is a synopsis of last night's meeting.

**Attendance:** John, Marilyn, Ruth, Monica, Donna, Cameron. Gary Roberts attended for a short time.

**Guest:** Tebao Awerika, from Kiribati

**Apology:** Debbie Schache. Sharon made contact after meeting, again was still at work.

John welcomed everyone and handed over the meeting to Ruth re her involvement with her projects in Wagga Wagga.

Ruth's history and involvement in Rotary and Community service listed below.

- Attended RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) in 1970
- Chartered a Griffith Rotaract (Rotary Club for young adults) in 1971. Started with 30 member grew to 70 members
- Ruth's husband Bruce joined Rotary in 1980. Bruce was D9700 District Governor 2004-5. His father D9700 District Governor 1973-74.
- Chartered a breakfast club - Griffith Avanti
- Chairman of D9700 District Conference in 2009 – Griffith
- Moved to Wagga Wagga, joined Wagga Wagga Rotary Club
- Worked with Dr Alok Sharma with Darkness to Light project. (Travelling to India to assist Dr Sharma with eye surgery)
- Established Darkness to Light – Riverina. Working with Vision impaired in Wagga Wagga
- Oz Harvest in Wagga Wagga, Ruth and Bruce both involved. (collect food from Woolworths, Coles etc and distributes to the needy in Wagga Wagga)
- Assists at Ronald McDonald House. (stays overnight assisting patients and families at Wagga Base Hospital)



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- Assists at Language Café at Wagga Regional Library (working with refugees with language and other needs)
- Assist at Kurrajong Waratah (organisation in Wagga Wagga assisting those with special needs)  
Participates in Quality Assurance Interviews to assess needs are being delivered to the clients.
- Assists with "Girls at the Centre"  
This program, "Girls at the Centre" was established by The Smith Family to assist the Indigenous students to develop good behaviour and good attendance at school.  
The Centre is based at Mt Austin High School, Wagga Wagga.  
Mt Austin has a high indigenous population.  
Ruth assists with breakfast on Wednesday to ensure one good breakfast a week. It is a privilege to attend. After school activities are held to keep the girls engaged and helps them stay at school.

Smith Family provide "Life Coaches" who Ruth comments are excellent role models. After 12 months of good behaviour and good attendance the girls are rewarded with excursions and special functions.

One of the attendees of this program is now School Captain and has excelled in sport and has great ambitions for further progress.

This is where my notes finish, I think my hand got tired and gave up!  
I have known Ruth for many years and I knew she was busy little "pocket rocket" but this presentation has just blown me away.

Well done Ruth, your energy and commitment to community service is exemplary and you are a wonderful addition to our club.  
I'll just go and get a Red Bull, I'm exhausted.



The meeting continued with reports etc from executives, all going along nicely.

Ruth and I have the D9700 Conference- Leeton almost organised and DG George has given us a short time to make a presentation on our club.

Name badges etc plus membership information will be distributed shortly, still waiting on some items. I will send it all in one package to save on postage.



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John then focused on our guest Tebao Awerika who joined us from Kiribati, Tebao coped very well with us and we all enjoyed his input to the evening.

Tebao has applied for membership and this will be handled in the appropriate way and finalised as soon as possible.

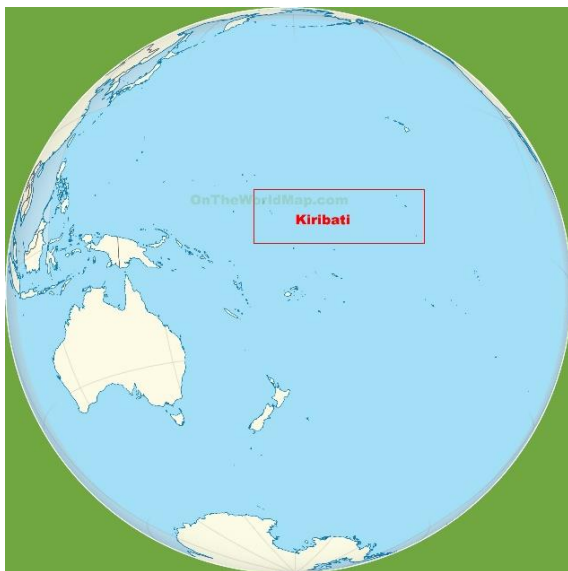
Tebao (pronounced Te-bo) grew up in Kiribati (pronounced E-Kiribas). He lived in USA for 14 years and during that time became aware of Rotary International. There are no Rotary Clubs in Kiribati.

Tebao has worked in Government Administration and on returning to Kiribati, also worked for Kiribati Fishing Ltd. He is now a Member of Parliament in Kiribati.

It was a pleasure having Tebao join us and I know we can all learn from him.

Here are some facts on Kiribati.

- Kiribati's **capital city**, Tarawa, itself is an island. The capital lies halfway between Hawaii and Australia.
- The port area of Kiribati's capital atoll Tarawa is Betio, pronounced "Beso".





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**Kiribati President:**

**Taneti Mamau**

**Kiribati Vice President:**

**Kourabi Nenem**

- Kiribati **became a full member of the United Nations** in 1999. The country is also a member of the IMF, the World Bank and the Commonwealth of Nations.
- The **Australian dollar is the national currency** of Kiribati.
- The **33 islands in Kiribati are spread over a whopping area of 3.5 million kilometres of ocean**. And surprisingly, the population of the entire nation is under 120,000.
- The islands were named the Gilbert Islands after the British explorer Thomas Gilbert who discovered the island in 1788. **The name “Kiribati” is the local pronunciation of “Gilberts”.**
- **The New Year arrives first in Kiribati and then in any other country in the world. This is because Kiribati is furthest ahead of Greenwich meantime at GMT+14**



**Mmmmm ..... New Years in Kiribati?**



Taboa, let me know how Mr Google did with the facts of Kiribati.

That's all folks.

Marilyn

PS: So good to have you home President John.

**Answer:** Kiribati consists of 33 atolls and one solitary island (Banaba), extending into the **eastern** and western hemispheres, as well as the **northern** and southern hemispheres. It is the only country that is situated within all four hemispheres.



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