



friendship force

CENTRAL VIRGINIA

Changing the Way You See the World

The Ambassador

President's Message

Dave Burns

Hi everybody! Can't believe it wasn't that long ago we were all complaining about snow and ice and now July 4th is right around the corner. On top of that I am now halfway through my serving FFCV as President, where did the time go? A lot has happened during these past six months and even more to come in the rest of the year. In any case, I hope all of you are enjoying the summer and spending plenty of time with family and friends.



First off, I would like to say a sincere thank you to Bob and Dee Schwagerl for putting together a really great inbound exchange with our new friends from Blue Mountain, Australia. Just about everything went off as planned and all the ambassadors I talked to were very happy to have been hosted by FFCV. In fact---and Bob you can correct me on this if I got it wrong---but I understand the Blue Mountain Exchange Director (ED) stated the exchange was the best one she had ever been on. And then to top it off, Margaret Dryer and others put on a really excellent farewell party. If you were not able to attend you really missed a good time. In addition to Bob, Dee, and Margaret a lot others were instrumental in making sure this was a successful exchange and I thank all who home and day hosted, held small dinner parties, and otherwise assisted Bob, Dee and Margaret. Great job FFCV!

Another significant event to have recently occurred is that Friendship Force International (FFI) last month offered us, and we have accepted, an international inbound exchange from Guzelbahce, Turkey with that club arriving here in June, 2015. Guzelbahce is close to Izmir on the Mediterranean and from what I'm told a beautiful, historic, and westernized part of Turkey. The club there is quite small and according to FFI they typically travel with around 12 ambassadors. I should add the

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Mark These Dates!

BOD Meeting	July 8
Picnic	July 19
FF World Conference and NZ/Australian Outbound	Oct. 14-31
Christmas Party	Dec. 13

Guzelbahce club has not yet confirmed our invitation, but FFI feels it should be a done deal. More to follow when I hear from FFI or the Guzelbahce club itself.

Also, we are happy to announce that we have formally agreed to host 17 ambassadors from the Huntsville, Alabama club in August. Monica Notaro volunteered to be the ED for this visit and more details on the visit are included later in this Ambassador. I would like to point out this is not a full-blown exchange and we will only be hosting the club for five nights and four days as they will be moving on to Richmond to spend three or four days. Monica tells me that home hosting is all arranged but we should have a couple in reserve "just in case". These exchanges are the root of our purpose so please plan to participate in one form or another. Contact Monica to see how you can help and plan to attend the welcome and farewell events.

I also want to point out something new we came up with in regards to the overall club membership. Thanks to Al Colville we are now using the "Doodle" scheduler to poll the club membership on attendance and opinions on club social events, functions, future exchanges, and other matters. We believe this is the best way to communicate with the membership and it certainly beats sending myriads of emails and making phone calls. That said, it is clear not everybody in the club is using the system. When you receive a Doodle from us please take a minute or two to fill in your name and click on a response. The system also allows you to make comments if you desire. Filling in your name and a response lets us know you are aware of the Doodle poll. If you have not received any Doodles from us please let me, Al, or other BOD members know.

Finally, I do not want to steal the thunder from your committee chairs on their following articles, but would like to say that we are really looking forward to a strong showing for our annual FFCV picnic on July 19th at the Colville's house at Lake Monticello. This is a great chance for everybody to bring guests who may be interested in FFCV and a way for us to increase our membership. See you there!



IT'S PICNIC TIME

**SATURDAY, JULY 19TH at THE COLVILLE'S
25 WHIPPOORWILL LANE, LAKE MONTICELLO.**

**3:00 PM BOAT RIDES, YARD GAMES, OR CATCH UP WITH YOUR FRIENDS.
FOOD AROUND 5:00. STAY TILL ?**

**BRING PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBERS
SO THEY CAN MEET US AND LEARN ABOUT WHAT WE DO**

**IF YOU NEED DIRECTIONS OR ACCESS TO LAKE MONTICELLO, CONTACT
THE COLVILLE'S (434-589-2844, ALCOLVILLE@COMCAST.NET)**

**MENU - PORK BBQ, BAKED BEANS, SLAW, CHIPS AND SOFT DRINKS.
BYO ADULT BEVERAGE.**

SIGN UP FOR A DESERT ON THE DOODLE POLL!



Outbound: New Zealand/Australia

Dave Burns

The exchanges to New Plymouth, New Zealand and Tamworth, Australia in October in conjunction with the FFI World Conference in Auckland are still in the planning stages. EDs in both locations are still working on itineraries for the weeks we'll be with them and hopefully we will have them in the coming weeks. As for transportation, hotels, tours, and other logistical support I have received quotes from one travel agency and likely will have the same from a second agency by the time you read this. Our plan is to travel from Auckland to New Plymouth by bus on Oct 17th, staying with our hosts until the 24th, flying then from New Plymouth to Tamworth via Auckland and Sydney, and departing Tamworth on the 31st. Some of us plan on spending a few days in Sydney before heading home. There also are potential layovers in the South Island of New Zealand and/or Fiji either prior to or after the exchanges for those interested. Registration for the World Conference is still open and can be found here: <http://www.cvent.com/events/friendship-force-world-conference-2014/event-summary-b33559b2107847c69cfe2e3656806eec.aspx> At present, Al and Peggy Colville and Linda and I plan on representing FFCV.

Inbound, Alabama

Monica Notaro

The details of the inbound from Huntsville are all coming together. While this won't be a full-blown exchange like we usually have for our international ambassadors, we will be having a welcome and farewell reception and some opportunities for the ambassadors to visit the attractions in our area. When all of the details have been finalized, we will alert everyone so you can participate in the festivities.

We are expecting 16 ambassadors and as of now, all home hosting has been arranged. While some are arriving by plane, many are driving. Arrival is scheduled for Saturday, August 16th and departure for Thursday, August 21st.

The Huntsville Club is eager to visit us in beautiful, Central VA and learn about our history. They would like to reciprocate and host a group from our club in the future.

Watch for emails with further information on how you can be involved and meet our visitors for one or more activities.

Monica Notaro
608-358-0352
salandmonie@yahoo.com

Here is some information about Huntsville:

The city has about 225,000 people, and the metropolitan area population is about 500,000. It is now the center for Research and Development of Army Aviation, Missile Defense, Offense, Army Material

Command and Space Systems. It is one of three centers for Biotechnology in the USA. According to Forbes Annual Surveys, Huntsville is in the top ten of places to retire in our country.

2014 Membership Dues

Dave Burns

If you haven't yet renewed your membership in FFCV for 2014, please do that now. We have a great year ahead of us with opportunities to participate in both inbound and outbound exchanges along with social programs that will be both fun and interesting.

Dues for 2014 are \$32 for a single and \$60 for a couple. Those joining mid-year will have their dues prorated. It will help us if you complete a membership renewal form so we can verify all the important information (phone, email, address, etc.) on our records. Click [here](#) to get to the application or pick one up at our next meeting. Send the application and dues to our Treasurer, David Lea, 139 Stribling Ave., Charlottesville, VA 22903 or bring it to the luncheon.

Don't miss out on the fun! Renew your membership now!

Social and Program Committees

Peggy Colville and Al Colville

We had 9 members attend "Pinching Petunias" at the Carysbrook Theatre on June 14th and I just want to thank Debbie Winslow for bring this to our attention and putting it on our FFCV calendar. It was very funny, we all need more laughter in this crazy world and that evening was full of that. Wish more of you could have come. A Great Play.

Moving On - Upcoming events – July 19th we will be holding our Annual Picnic – Location will be 25 Whippoorwill Lane, Lake Monticello home of Al and Peggy Colville. Please mark your calendars for we hope all will be able to attend. We will be sending out an email poll around the first of July asking who will be attending and what dessert you would like to bring. The menu will consist of Pork BBQ with Cold Slaw, all prepared by Walter O'Connell and Baked Beans prepared by Peggy Colville. The Club will purchase Chips and Soft drinks. In the poll, we will be asking what dessert you would like to bring so I can monitor it somewhat. We hope to have boat rides for all who wish to go and if I can get some help from you members, we can also have some yard games. Of course, we can always just relax and enjoy good old fashion conversation.

August – Don't forget the Mystery Dinner – TBA – that should be fun. We will be sending out another email poll on this activity towards to the end of July. We will need to know who would like to host a dinner party with your guests bringing side dishes and dessert. I am thinking we will need at least 10 host homes. I will be explaining more on this event at the Picnic in July. Come find out what this new and popular event entails.

That's about all for now, we don't want to get too far ahead of ourselves. Hope to see on the 19th.

October 4th – Wine Tasting trip.

November – Membership meeting plans have not been finalized at this time.

December 13th – will be our Annual Christmas Dinner – location to be announced.

Fund Raising

Dale Walden, Chair

We had a full complement of volunteers for Friday, July 4, for Fridays After Five. For the " Sarah McLachlan Concert" on July 27, we have Dave and Linda, Al and Peggy, Linda Gehle, Walt, Moni, Dale. WE NEED TWO MORE VOLUNTEERS!! This is a longer venue than Fridays After Five.....I think that we may have the draft beer concession. This is always a fun concession to work... just ask those who have done it in the past. If you can help, please call ((434) 975-3591) or Email me at dalewalden@comcast.net!

JAG School

Linda Burns, Chair

The JAG school graduation for our 10 month students was held on May 22nd. It was attended by Rob Beck, Dale Walden, Dave & I. The graduation ceremonies are always an uplifting experience, but at this graduation we were so pleased to see one of our students receive two major awards. Major Josef Daskal received the "Major General Lawrence H. Williams Award" for Highest Standing in Administration and Civil Law and "The Judge Advocate General's School Award" for Best Research Paper by an International Student. And he did this while becoming a first time father while attending the course. Congratulations to Major Daskal!

Now for our upcoming students. The next students will be coming in on the 14th of July. We have two students for the 3-month course and 4 students for the 10-month course. The countries they represent are:

- 3 month - Mongolia & Turkey
- 10 month - Ghana, Korea, Armenia & Turkey

Please let me know if you are interested in being a sponsor. Sponsoring a student does not mean you have them live in your house; it simply means spending a bit of time with them and their families a few times during their stay in Charlottesville. This might entail bringing them to your house for a meal, going out to a restaurant, or showing them something in the local area they do not get to experience through the JAG school program; i.e. a trip to Carter Mountain or Crabtree Falls. The main thing is to get to know them and understand their culture, background, and thoughts on whatever subjects you think are appropriate. The time you spend with these students will never be forgotten. It is a lifetime experience.

If you have questions, or want to request to be a sponsor, please give me a call or send me an email: Linda Burns - toeheadva@yahoo.com or (434)-589-8724.

Outreach Committee

Nancy Moore, Chair

Several of our members have had medical challenges during the past few months. As suggested at the most recent Board Meeting, phone calls are now being made to ill members. Cards continue to be sent on behalf of the membership. In several cases, an email has been sent when the ill party was not available.

Thanks to those of you who have alerted us to members who may need our support and assistance.

Please contact me if you become aware that one of our members needs our help –
Phone: 434-978-7966; email nancymoore85@yahoo.com


Do You Want to Go On an Outbound Exchange?

Many members aren't able to participate on our club's outbound exchange but would still like to enjoy this great benefit of membership. It is easy to do. Most exchanges sponsored by other clubs have space available for members of other clubs to join them. Several members of our club have done this and can report excellent experiences. If you are interested, here is what you do:

1. Select an exchange from the many that are available and posted, even those originating in another country. Click [here](#) to get to a page where you can explore many of the exchanges available to you.
2. Contact the Exchange Director to check for space available and whether they are interested in your joining the exchange
3. Complete the Ambassador Application and send it with a deposit to the ED. If the ED is doing their job, they will also request a recommendation from our club president. Click [here](#) and select Exchange Documents to access the Ambassador Application and other documents.


Member News

Anniversaries	
Ernest and Jean Busboso	7/16
LeRoy and Helen Ida Moyer	8/3
Robert and Elizabeth Beck	8/31



A graphic for a happy anniversary featuring two champagne glasses clinking, a purple ribbon, and the text "Happy Anniversary" in blue and yellow. There are also three pink hearts at the bottom.

Birthdays	
Ernest Busboso	7/6
LeRoy Moyer	7/7
Margaret Dryer	7/8
DeeSchwagerl	7/29
Linda Gehle	8/27



A graphic for a happy birthday featuring a pink background with the text "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" in large, blue, bubbly letters. The graphic is surrounded by colorful roses in red, yellow, and purple.

Do you need a name tag or business cards?

Drop an email to Walt
(walt.oconnell@gmail.com)
and let him know what you need.

Going to Volunteer at our Fundraising Events?

Get your uniform - White Woman's Short Sleeve FFCV shirt - brand new size Medium (more like a size 12 dress top) Bargain priced at \$15. Write mollyanthony087@gmail.com for pick-up

The minutes of the BOD meetings and copies of the Ambassador Newsletter are available on our Web site, www.ffc.avenue.org

2014 Calendar Meetings and Events

July	8	BOD Meeting 3:00 pm (Colville's)
	19	Bi-Monthly General Membership Meeting and Picnic (Colville's)
	TBD	JAG School Graduate Course Students Arrive, Meet and Greet
August	12	BOD Meeting 3:00 pm (TBD)
	TBD	Mystery Dinner
September	6	Newsletter Input to Walt
	9	BOD Meeting 3:00 pm (TBD)
	13	Bi-Monthly General Membership Meeting with Safety and Security Program
October	4	Wine Tasting
	14	BOD Meeting 3:00 pm (TBD)
	14-16	Friendship Force International Conference, Auckland, NZ
	17-31	Outbound New Plymouth, NZ and Tamworth, Australia
November	1	2015 Newsletter Inputs/2015 BOD Slate sent to Walt
	11	BOD Meeting 3:00 pm (TBD)
	18	Annual General Membership Meeting/Election of BOD
December	9	BOD Meeting 3:00 pm (TBD)
	13	FFCV Christmas Party

Show Your Club Logo with Custom Merchandise



You now have the ability to purchase quality merchandise with our club logo *embroidered* on it from Queensboro. Some of us have purchased this merchandise in the past and have found it to be very good quality.

We have our own “store front” that uses our approved logo and ordering products through it is quite easy. Go to <http://ffcv.gbstores.com> and to see the selection of products. To make a purchase, set up an account and then select from the products available, specifying your size and color preference.



A flat fee of \$6.50 per order applies regardless of the order size so team up with a friend and consolidate your orders.

Queensboro offers many more products than we have placed in our store front. If you are looking for something in particular you can view their entire site at <http://www.queensboro.com>. You can order directly from that site but you won't have access to our logo. If you see an item you would like with the logo, let Walt know (walt.oconnell@gmail.com, 434-591-0532) and he will add it to the store front.

BOD Meeting Summaries

Margaret Dryer

The FFCV board meeting was held on May 20, 2014 at the Schwagerl's residence. President Dave Burns called the meeting to order and thanked exchange director Bob Schwagerl for a great exchange and he also thanked everyone for a wonderful and successful farewell party. The club has a balance of \$5161.03 in the bank. A list of paid members was distributed. It was suggested that we contact those who have not paid their due as yet. Social Committee chair Peggy Colville reported that the next outing will be June 14th at the Carysbrook Performing Arts Center in Fork Union. Contact Deborah Winslow for more information. The FFCV Picnic on July 19 will be held at the Colville residence. The board agrees that we need to do something more formalized to increase membership, and the best way at present is have members invite friends and potential members to FFCV functions. We have, however, had possible future members present at a number of our functions and we have seen the return of some former members. Communications chair Walt O'Connell reminded the board that the deadline for the next Ambassador is June 30th. Fundraising Committee chair Dale Walden reported that we have 8 persons for the May 30th event at Fridays After Five and we will need 4 persons for July 4th event. The Sarah Mc Lachlan concert on July 27th will need 10 persons. The JAG School students will be graduating on May 2nd and all of the sponsors have been invited. Exchange Director Bob Schwagerl reported in detail that the inbound Blue Mountain, Australia exchange was a success and he presented the financial report for the exchange. The success of the Farewell Dinner was largely due to how much the membership assisted in bringing dishes and assisting Margaret in setting up and participating in the event. There is a possible inbound exchange from Huntsville, Alabama. There will be more information in the Ambassador. The International Conference in Auckland, New Zealand and the outbound to New Zealand and Australia are well under- way, more will be in the newsletter. The board voted that \$250 of the \$500 we have budgeted for a community service project be donated to Literacy Volunteers. A Multi-Club Civil War Themed Exchange is possible for 2016 more will appear as this goes forward.

FFCV Board Meeting Tuesday June 10, 2014 Burns Residence – 5 Austin Drive, Lake Monticello

Attendance: President Dave Burns, President Elect Al Colville and Secretary Margaret Dryer. Committee Chairs: Peggy Colville, Walt O'Connell and Rob Beck. Not Present: Treasurer David Lee and Vice President Dale Walden.

Call to Order: A quorum being present the meeting was called to order at 4:10pm by President Dave Burns.

Treasurer Report: In the absence of the Treasurer, the President gave the report. There is \$3,724.39 in the bank. This does not include the inbound account. Reimbursements have not been paid for the Regional Conference as yet.

Secretary Report: The minutes from the May 20, 2014 were adopted as presented.

Committee Reports:

Social/ Programs Committee: Chair Peggy Colville reported that the outing on Jun14th at the Carysbrook Performing Arts Center in Fork Union has about 10 participants. The Chair person for the outing is Deborah Winslow, please contact her. The FFCV Picnic on July 19th will be held at the Colville residence at Lake Monticello at 3:00pm. Please let Peggy Colville know if you intend to attend and what you will bring as a covered dish. If you bring a guest to the picnic also let her know. The committee is planning a Mystery Dinner for August the date will be announced at the picnic.

Membership Committee: Chair Rob Beck was shown a draft copy of the Brochure we will be using to generate members. When they are all assembled they will go to Rob and he will distribute them to those who need them. The members are all asked to bring a guest to the picnic as a way to introduce possible new members to the Club.

Membership Outreach Committee (Sunshine): President Burns reported that the committee is ongoing. Some members were sent cards and/or contacted. Let Nancy Moore know of anyone who is in need.

Communications Committee: Chair Walt O'Connell reminded the Board and Committees that the deadline for the next Ambassador is June 30th. We are now set up on both "Facebook" and "Twitter."

Fundraising Committee: President Burns reported for Chair Dale Walden that the July 4th event at Friday's After Five we will need 4 persons. There is the Sarah Mc Lachlan concert on July 27th that we need 10 people for.

JAG School: President Burns reported for Chair Linda Burns that there will be two short term students and five long term students arriving on July 14th. We do not know if there will be families with them at this time. Larry Moore has asked to address the Club on the JAG program.

Unfinished Business:

Inbound Huntsville, Alabama 2015: President Burns reported that Exchange Director Monica Notaro was in negotiations options with the Huntsville Club. A request for home hosts was made and there were few responses thus far.

Outbound New Zealand & Australia Exchange Director Dave Burns reports that there are 16 persons interest in the exchange. He is planning a meeting soon with the ambassadors.

FFCV Brochure: President Burns reported for Chair Dale Walden that Walt has developed the labels to modify the FFI brochures with our information. When completed they will go to Membership Chair Rob Beck.

Multi-Club Civil War Themed Exchange 2015: President Burns reports that we have not heard anything from FFI on this exchange and we will wait for further information.

Procedures Manual: Chair Margaret Dryer requests that all BOD and Committee Chairs let her know of any changes they would like to see in the Procedures Manual relating to their position and committees. BOD members and committee chairs are encouraged to send their comments to Margaret Dryer, Walt O'Connell and Bob Schwagerl as soon as possible.

New Business:

FF Cedar Rapids, Iowa: The Club has invited FFCV to and exchange in June or October. Dave Burns will bring it to the membership to see if there is any interest in the exchange.

Announcements: The next Board Meeting will be July 8, 2014 from 3:00pm to 5:00 pm at the Colville residence at Lake Monticello.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Secretary,
Margaret Dryer

New Plymouth, New Zealand

New Plymouth is the major city of the [Taranaki Region](#) on the west coast of the [North Island](#) of [New Zealand](#). It is named after [Plymouth](#), [Devon](#), England, from where the first [English](#) settlers migrated.

New Plymouth District has a reputation as an events centre, with major festivals (the annual TSB Bank Festival of Lights, Taranaki Powerco Garden Spectacular, WOMAD and the biennial Taranaki Arts Festival), sports fixtures (including international rugby, surfing, cricket and tennis matches, and the annual ITU World Cup Triathlon) and concerts (from Sir Elton John, Jack Johnson, R.E.M, John Farnham and Fleetwood Mac).



With its rich volcanic soil, the city is well known for its gardens. Chief among them are the 52 ha Pukekura Park in the centre of the city (named a Garden of National Significance), and Pukeiti, a rhododendron garden of international significance high on the Pouakai Range.

Pukekura Park is also the home of the TSB Bank Festival of Lights, which runs for free every year from mid-December to early February. It has daytime and night time programmes of events for people of all ages, and the festival itself transforms the park into an illuminated wonderland every evening.

Next to the foreshore in the central city is Puke Ariki – the world’s first purpose-built, fully integrated museum, library and information centre which tells the stories of Taranaki in a variety of interactive media.

Nearby is the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, a contemporary art museum and the home of the collection of film maker and kinetic artist Len Lye. Plans are in place to house Lye's collection in a purpose-built centre next to the gallery, making New Plymouth the world centre for Len Lye.

The Coastal Walkway is an 11 km path that forms an expansive sea-edge promenade stretching almost the entire length of the city, from the Bell Block mouth in the east to Port Taranaki in the west. The pathway includes the iconic Te Rewa Rewa Bridge and is ideal for walking, running, cycling or skating, or simply enjoying the view of the dramatic west coast.[18] It has won numerous awards, including the Cycle Friendly Award in 2008 for the best New Zealand cycle facility.

Right next to the Coastal Walkway is the Todd



Energy Aquatic Centre, with indoor and outdoor pools, a diving pool, wave machine, hydrosides, spa, sauna and gym.

Mount Taranaki/Egmont provides recreation opportunities, from skiing and snowboarding to rock climbing and alpine walks. The North Egmont Visitors Centre is 20 minutes' drive from central New Plymouth.

Taranaki is known as big wave territory with some of the country's best surfing spots found off this coastline.

The region has 20 golf courses, ranging from nine-hole country courses where you have to move the sheep, through to Ngamotu Links—consistently rated one of the best golf courses in New Zealand. All 20 golf courses are within an hour's drive of each other.

New Plymouth won the Top Town award from North and South Magazine in 2008 (judged "the best place in New Zealand to live, love, work and raise a family").

Tamworth, Australia

Tamworth is a city in the New England region of New South Wales, Australia. Straddling the Peel River, Tamworth is the major regional centre for the New England region and is in the local government area of Tamworth Regional Council. The city is located midway between Brisbane and Sydney, the two largest cities on the Australian east coast.

Australia's country music capital, Tamworth is best known for its annual country music festival in January. The town is also home to several good museums and galleries as well as many buildings dating back to the 1860s and '70s.

Around Tamworth are several quaint country towns well worth a visit. To the north, in the heart of the

Nandewar Ranges on Fossickers Way, Barraba is popular with birdwatchers. The small town of Nundle has evolved from its gold-mining town heritage into a destination offering smart accommodation and dining.



At Quirindi, you can admire the spectacular sunflower fields from December to March; see koalas in the wild around the town of Gunnedah or at Waterways Wildlife Park.

Tamworth is known as the country music capital of Australia. It hosts one of the world's biggest music events, the annual 10-day Tamworth Country Music Festival.

In town, you'll see the Hands of Fame Park, which contains the handprints of more than 300 country music stars, and the mighty 12-metre-high Golden Guitar. Check out the memorabilia at the Big Golden Guitar Tourist Centre.

Tamworth is also a year-round sporting and entertainment hub with state-of-the-art venues and a busy events calendar. Don't miss the National Professional Rodeo in January and Hats Off to Country Festival in July.

This part of Country NSW has a strong agricultural focus with sheep, beef, poultry, grains and dairy are all farmed here, as well as newer agricultural ventures, such as vineyards, olive groves, nuts, fish farming, honey, hydroponics and delicious berries. The top-quality food and wine means that many local Tamworth restaurants serve up noteworthy goodies.

In the wider Tamworth area, you'll find an abundance of great nature experiences, such as national parks, State parks, boating, fishing, water sports, horse riding, bird watching and fossicking.

Australian Country Music Hall of Fame – Tamworth: The Australian Country Music Hall of Fame features an unmatched collection of memorabilia from Australian Country music artists. Displaying clothing, musical instruments and other collectibles from the earliest pioneers of Australian country music (Smoky Dawson, Buddy Williams, Slim Dusty, Tex Morton and more) right through to current artists (Beccy Cole, Troy Cassar-Daley and more). There is also historic material on DVD that you are able to watch.

Big Golden Guitar Tourist Centre: Australia's Big Golden Guitar Tourist Centre, situated on the New England Highway in Tamworth, New South Wales, is open seven days a week. The Centre caters for all visitors with one of the city's most interesting and unique attractions being the 'The Gallery of Stars' Wax Museum. Visitors can relax with food and refreshments in the Golden Guitar Coffee Shop, browse through hundreds of Australian country music CDs, videos and cassettes, Tamworth Country Music Capital souvenirs and gift items. It is the perfect place to stop as you arrive in Tamworth, a place to refresh and relax. If you are just passing through, you will have pleasant and interesting break. If you are staying a while, they can provide you with all the information you need about Tamworth and district amenities, facilities and attractions.



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Calala Cottage Museum: Calala Cottage is a historic cottage built in 1875 by Phillip Gidley King, Superintendent of Peel River Land and Minerals Co. as part of the Australian Agricultural Company Co and now exhibiting Tamworth and Region's history.

Also includes the oldest standing building in Tamworth, an original slab hut, used by the AA Company shepherds, a one-teacher schoolhouse, blacksmith's shop and various displays.

Capitol Theatre Tamworth: The Capitol Theatre Tamworth is a 402 seat purpose built proscenium arch theatre which is located in the newly built Centrepont Shopping Complex. Theatre and Production Consultant, Richard Stuart was engaged to plan and oversee the fit-out of the theatre. With a hydraulic orchestra pit lift, automated winch flying system and well equipped sound and lighting rigs the Capitol Theatre is a great new performing arts venue. The Capitol Theatre Tamworth

is a regular stop on the national touring circuit and a well occupied theatre for local and regional events and productions.

Manilla Heritage Museum: The Manilla Heritage Museum in Royce Cottage is located at the Manilla Visitor Information Centre preserving the Manilla community collection of antiques, family history, and also has interesting and intriguing historical displays.

The museum is the only Australian site apart from the National Museum of Australia documenting the ground breaking platypus research Harry Burrell did in Manilla in the 1920's.

Nowendoc National Park: Beautiful Nowendoc National Park sits in rugged escarpment terrain in the NSW Northern Tablelands, 70km south of Walcha. Boasting spectacular diverse scenery, including moist eucalypt forest with rainforest hugging the creek lines, the park offers ample opportunity for quiet recreation. Experience bushwalking amongst wildflowers and visit nearby canyons and waterfalls. Enjoy birdwatching and have a picnic or take a dip. The park's creeks run throughout the year, though winter swimming is only for the brave. Accessible only by 4WD, Nowendoc National Park protects a range of threatened plants and animals and is also known for its pastoral and Aboriginal heritage. Campers seeking solitude will love the tranquil surroundings of Jacky Barkers campground, where you'll find picnic tables and other facilities.

Tamworth Regional Gallery: Tamworth Regional Gallery was established in 1919 and is one of the oldest galleries in NSW. The Gallery moved to its new purpose built facility in 2004 that houses two gallery spaces, and a gallery shop. The Gallery has regular changing exhibitions of national and local significance.

Walk A Country Mile Museum: The award winning Walk a Country Mile interpretive museum is located in the Tamworth Visitor Information Centre and narrates the story, music and artists that have shaped Australian Country Music. The interactive displays provide a unique understanding of Australian heritage, with documentation of historic events through the lyrics of country music. In one great location you will discover Australian country music's rich history, culture and folklore.