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Kevin O'Connor
Webmaster:
Tony Baker

Meetings on
Mondays at 12.30 pm
(except public
holidays)
Sudima Hotel
1000 Eruera Street
Phone 07 348 1174
to apologise if unable
to attend.

Rotary Club of Rotorua

Monday 16 March 2015

President's Pen



March is a very busy month for our Club with Swim the Lake this coming Sunday, the Waiariki hospitality and forestry awards next Monday, and the social bike ride through the Karangahake Gorge and barbecue on Sunday, 22 March. On 23 March we have the evening Town Meets Country function at Reporoa and the second of our sector keynote speaker evenings on 30 March when Peter Clark comes to speak about the state of the forestry sector. Speakers from other sectors are in the pipeline for later in the year. On 4 May we have the secondary schools speech competition.

Your Directors and many others in the Club are working hard to ensure that we have an interesting and varied programme that provides friendship for Club members and contributes to our community and Rotary International. Please do your best to support these activities.

President Elect Ray Bloomfield is well into preparing for his presidential term and attended the incoming presidents' training in Auckland last weekend. I know Ray is brimming with ideas.

In early April I will be in Japan. On 13 April, with the help of daughter Nicola, I have arranged to visit the Rotary Club of Kawasaki Takatsu South near Tokyo to follow up on the idea of establishing a relationship with a Club in the Northern Pacific.

On the possibility of a merger with the Rotorua Lakes Club: Ray Bloomfield, Martin Kinder and I had a further meeting with Lakes to discuss the invitation extended to their members to join our Club. Where this goes is now in the hands of the members of Lakes who need to decide how they wish to progress.



Regards

President Russell

March is Rotary Literacy Month

Notices and reminders

District 9930 conference

This year's District 9930 conference is being held in Rotorua from 8 to 10 May 2015. Six delegates from our Club have registered. You can register online at <http://www.9930conference.org/>. The registration fee is \$230 and the speakers will include:

- Jamie Fitzgerald, modern-day pioneer and one of the adventurers in the TV One series, First Crossings.
- Billy Black, professional sheep shearer and developer of NZ's only U-drive jet boat course.
- Alfred Ngaro, a founding member of "Inspiring Communities Exchange Network", which focused on Community-Led-Development.
- Rotary Unplugged, a mix of local Rotorua speakers, recognised at national and international level.

Contact Janine Branson on 021 505081 for more information.

Biking the Karangahake Gorge

On Sunday, 22 March 2015, members of the Club are invited to go on a leisurely bike ride along the Goldfields Cycle Way from Waihi to Paeroa, about 40 km return. It is a very easy, scenic, historic and, importantly, flat ride along a well-formed trail through the Karangahake Gorge. The plan is to meet at the Waihi Railway Station in Waihi at 10 am, ride through to Paeroa for lunch, and then return to Waihi by 3 pm followed by a barbecue at Peter and Robyn Spurdle's place at Waihi Beach. As well as cycling gear, please remember to bring a torch or bike light as the trail goes through is an old railway tunnel. The price is \$10 per person to cover the cost of the barbecue. Please let Peter know on peter@spurdleass.co.nz or 07 3495000 or 0277787353 by Wednesday, 18 March, if you wish to take part.

Upcoming Club activities

- Rural visit: the Club is having an evening meeting in Reporoa on 23 March. Meet in the carpark of the Rotorua Golf Club at 5.45 pm to carpool. Price for the meal: \$20.
- The Rotary Secondary School Speech Competition will be held on 4 May 2015. This year's topic is "Gallipoli and the ANZAC Legend: What does this mean to New Zealanders?"

Birthday wishes

Happy Birthday to:

- Paul Wilson (22 March)



From the previous meeting

Quotes from Robin Findon

In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on. – Robert Frost.

Nothing improves the memory more than trying to forget. – Anonymous.

Guest speaker: Francis Pauwels, CEO of Grow Rotorua

Grow Rotorua is owned by the Rotorua District Council. Some of its key deliverables are to develop investment propositions for prospective investors in Rotorua; helping to remove barriers to wealth creation; helping the education sector to understand Rotorua's skills requirements; and assisting Te Arawa investment in the region. Success is measured in new jobs, a higher skilled workforce, reduced unemployment, increased household income, and new businesses. Grow Rotorua has leveraged income for other parties of \$3 million and earned another \$350,000. Spa and wellness developments are seen as a major game changer for Rotorua. These will require \$50-\$80 million of investment and create 320+ new

jobs. Biking has the potential to grow from the current \$15 million contribution to the local economy to \$45 million over the next five to ten years. NZ Tourism in spending \$30 million to promote golf tourism; Arikapakapa has been included in the NZ Golf Trail. Development of the wood products industry requires central Government support. Business cases have been developed for manuka, goat farming, and the export of fresh bottled milk. Rotorua has 1,500 international students per year at present, contributing \$40 million to our GDP; the targets are 3,000 and \$100 million by 2019. Getting airline jet services to Christchurch and Queenstown departing from the Rotorua Airport in another priority.

Club speaker Martyn Craven

Years ago, Martyn's wife Sandra took a young boy under her wings but then lost touch with him. In January 2015 they heard that he was at Waikeria Prison awaiting sentencing. He was bailed with them; this involved police officers coming to check at their home from time to time to ensure that he was actually there. They got him a good lawyer and spoke to the judge, explaining why prison would not be the appropriate option for him. He was given six months of home detention, living with them, and community service which he quickly completed. He now drives a truck, delivering food, working as much as 83 hours a week, and helps with jobs such as painting around the house.

Kevin O'Connor is leaving Rotorua (for now)

Kevin will be taking Leave of Absence from the Club to more to Kawerau to be closer to members of his family. We will miss his good company and the public relations work he has done for the Club, and hope to see him back.

Duty roster

If you cannot do your rostered duty, please arrange a replacement and advise

Sergeant Denis Marriner on 027 478 3106 or denis@dawson.co.nz

Club speakers to advise Margriet on theronm@yahoo.com if they require the data projector.

	16 March 2015 at 12.15 pm	23 March 2015 at 5.45 pm from Rotorua Golf Club
Guest Speaker	Waiariki hospitality and forestry awards	Reporoa urban visit
Introduction	Peter Spurdle	Perry Stevens
Vote of thanks	Dennis Neilson	Ann Nicholas
President's table	Doug Clemens	Martyn Craven
Club speaker	Fergus Cumming	No Club Speaker
Fellowship and badges	Bryce Dunn	Peter Faulkner
Quote of the week	Allen Foote	John Heaton
Fining officer	Tony Hill	Kierin Irvine
Committee report	Kevin O'Connor, Publicity	No Committee report

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Noon on Wednesdays

Phone 347 7211 or 021 172 9697; email: theronm@yahoo.com

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