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Vice-President  
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Ray Bloomfield  
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Russell Burton  
Community  
Richard Pryce  
International  
Roger Willard  
Youth  
Ann Nicholas  
Vocational  
Martyn Craven  
Membership  
Paul Wilson  
Welfare  
Garth Wilson  
Bulletin  
Margriet Theron  
Programme  
Russell Dale  
Sergeant  
Peter Spurdle  
Webmaster  
Tony Baker  
Archivist  
Tony Baker

**Club meetings**

Mondays at 12.30  
pm (except public  
holidays)  
Rotorua Golf Club,  
399 Fenton Street,  
Rotorua.  
Phone 07 348 1174  
to apologise if  
unable to attend.



## *Rotary Club of Rotorua*

Monday, 1 May April 2017

### *President's Pen*

So another ANZAC day has passed with a large crowd attending the dawn parade at Ohinemutu. Occasionally, in my chaplaincy visiting in hospital, I meet up with an old soldier still suffering much later from what is known as PTSS or Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome. I notice it particularly in the Vietnam Vets where agent orange has had its devastating effects.

It isn't easy to overcome the traumas of war. Often it is not helped by the reminders of those wartime experiences. I know of one person who only has to open his wardrobe and spot his uniform and he becomes overwhelmed again by the traumatic memories that flood his mind.

I paraphrased a quotation at our last meeting that highlights one answer to the problem of stress and trauma and that is to overcome the negatives by focusing on the positives. I always find that, if I am feeling a bit down, a bit negative, a bit discouraged, I find relief by going out and helping someone else who needs me. As I do this my own attitudes change.

It's a philosophy that I always follow and encourage those who are fogged out by their own negative thoughts. We can't change the past, but we can change the present by looking for the uplifting, encouraging things that are all around us.

As the media report so much, we are surrounded by negatives. It might be the crime scene, drug dealers, the traumas of accident and disaster. It could be the illnesses that plague our society, or the fear of terrorism.

We have the privilege as Rotarians to be part of the answer for some of these things, or at least the agents to bring positive ideals to our community. Our involvement with Kiwi Can is designed to bring a better focus for children. Its fruitage is to lessen truancy, bullying, vandalism amongst the children who are involved in it.

The Graeme Dingle Foundation has a number of positive projects it runs as well as Kiwi Can. Stars, Career Navigator, Project K, and MYND all are very powerful in redirecting the minds of our youth as they steer their way to a successful future. There are plans to bring Graeme Dingle to Rotorua as a speaker sometime soon.

That's what gets us involved. It's great to have someone like Rangipurei Manley coming to speak to us last week. She is a young person with whom we can trust our future. Our Rotary challenge is to be part of that vital reconstruction work amongst tomorrow's leaders. We have some great projects that help us do that. Let's do it!

*President Allen*

# Notices and Reminders

## Circus Quirkus

Circus Quirkus for 2017 is underway culminating in the Circus Show on **Friday 26 May 2017 at 6 pm**. The Club's Charitable Trust has a contract with International Entertainment Ltd who provides a top quality circus style show to entertain under-privileged children in our community. A professional fundraiser contacts local businesses for donations of \$50 which secures a seat for a child. The children are advised who sponsors their seat and they are encouraged to make contact with the sponsor after the show. This is the main fundraiser for the Charitable Trust producing around \$6,000 per year to fund various local projects. Please support Circus Quirkus when approached to provide sponsorship. Volunteers are required to act as ushers on show night. Please put your hand up to help out and enjoy the show!

## Lions rugby game

When the Lions play at the International Stadium later this year there will be a fundraising dinner for Big Brothers Big Sisters at the home of Peter and Robyn Spurdle, overlooking the stadium. The donation of \$130 per person will cover a three-course meal. Guests will be asked to bring their own drinks.

## From the previous meeting

### Quote of the week from President Allen

True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice. – Martin Luther King.

### Guest speaker Rangipurei Manley

Rangipurei Manley from Rotorua Girls' High School recently won the Rotorua/Taupo heat of the Race Unity Speech Award. She will represent our region in May 2017 at the finals in Auckland. Margriet Theron was the Chief Judge for the Rotorua/Taupo/Tauranga heats, representing Speech NZ and the NZ Federation of Multicultural Councils which both support these Awards. The other judges were Alexis LewGor, President of the NZ Federation of Multicultural Councils, and Rotorua Area Commander of Police, Anaru Pewhairangi. Margriet introduced Rangipurei by providing a background on the Race Unity Speech Awards. In 1997, the media covered a series of racially-motivated incidents: an attack on a Somali man in Christchurch; the verbal assault of a Māori woman in Wellington; and the emergence of a Neo-Nazi group in Auckland. Hedi Moani, an Aucklander of the Bahá'í Faith, was deeply concerned about these incidents. An Iranian by birth, Hedi had lived in New Zealand for some 16 years at that time. He suggested an anti-racism march up Queen Street in Auckland but it was decided to hold a *Unity in Diversity Rally* in Aotea Square instead. This led to the establishment of Race Unity Day in 1999. Sadly, Hedi was killed in October 1998. In his honour, the Race Unity Speech Awards were organised. In their speeches the Year 11, 12 or 13 students have to address these questions: "What does it mean to be a New Zealander? What kind of country do we want Aotearoa to be? How can we start meaningful conversations about the realities of racism and how we treat each other? What practical steps can we take – as individuals and as a community – to stand up to racism and promote unity?" Rangipurei's impassioned speech captured the attention of the members of Club. As she will still be delivering her speech at the Awards final, we will not publish the content of her speech here. We wish her well for the finals in Auckland.



# Duty Roster

If you cannot do your duty, please arrange a replacement and advise  
Acting Sergeant Barry Lane on 021 741264 or [b.lane@ilescasey.co.nz](mailto:b.lane@ilescasey.co.nz)

Club speakers to advise Margriet on [theronm@yahoo.com](mailto:theronm@yahoo.com) if they require the laptop for data projection.

If you are unable to attend and to avoid paying for your meal, please send apologies to  
Martin Kinder by the Friday before the meeting on [mkinder@deloitte.co.nz](mailto:mkinder@deloitte.co.nz)

	<b>1 May 2017 at 12.15 pm at the Rotorua Golf Club</b>	<b>8 May 2017 at 12.15 pm at the Rotorua Golf Club</b>
Guest Speaker	Grant Pearce, Christchurch Port Hill fires	Don Gollan, Rotorua Rotary Charity Lunch
Introduction	Roger Willard	Paul Wilson
Vote of thanks	Russell Dale	Tom Davies
President's table	Russell Dale	Tom Davies
Club speaker	Paul Wilson	Bob Allison
Fellowship/badges	Ray Bloomfield	Russell Burton
Quote of the week	Noel Lamberton	Barry Lane
Fining officer	Tom Davies	Robin Findon
Room set-up	Richard Pryce	Bruce Rykers

**BULLETIN DEADLINE:** Noon on Wednesdays  
Phone 347 7211 or 021 172 9697  
[theronm@yahoo.com](mailto:theronm@yahoo.com)

