



Rotary Club of Rotorua

PRESIDENT'S PEN

Monday 10 July 2017

World President

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D9930 Governor

Leonie Tisch

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Russell Burton

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Robyn Murphy

Membership

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Projects

Ann Nicholas

Officers

Welfare

Ray Bloomfield

Sergeant

Barry Lane

Webmaster / Archivist /

Historian

Tony Baker

Bulletin Editors

Bob/Katrina Allison

Club Meetings

Mondays at 12.30 pm
(except public holidays)

Rotorua Golf Club,
399 Fenton Street,
Rotorua.

It was purely coincidence that following my forestry theme at changeover, the very first speakers in the new Presidency were Russell Dale and Tim Rigter. Russell commenting on the major challenge facing forest growers with the banning of the chemical (methyl bromide) needed to sterilize logs before they are exported. Tim describing the rebuild of the Red Stag mill. The Red Stag Mill is now the largest and most modern mill in the Southern Hemisphere. With about 400 people directly employed by the mill this also makes them one of the largest employers in Rotorua (behind the District Health Board and the Council). Scion is at number four with about 325 employees. As Bruce noted in his speech of thanks; forestry is a significant part of the Rotorua economy although tourism is more visible. A few months ago the forest industry associations (yes there is more than one of them) chose Rotorua to launch their new strategy. Of interest each person employed in forestry and wood processing represents about \$220,000 of revenue – the comparable figure for tourism is about \$70,000.

The Government has at last recognized that there is life beyond Wellington and that the engine room of the economy is in the regions. The Bay of Plenty is just such a region. We have about 300,000 people, 118,000 jobs, and at \$11.5 billion contribution to GDP representing 6% of New Zealand's gross domestic product. The population in the Bay of Plenty is growing at a rate faster than the national average, as is our economic performance. Of course there is no guarantee that it will continue like this. We do have some advantages: the largest export port in New Zealand, we are rich in natural resources including geothermal, some strong brands such as ZESPRI and of course we are a major timber growing and processing area. We now have a very large Polytechnic in Toi Ohomai; substantially bigger than some Universities in New Zealand. To sustain this growth requires better use of our resources and growing value over and above commodities. For example more investment into wood processing, aquaculture and utilisation of clean energy and to grow our high-tech companies. To facilitate these changes a pan Bay of Plenty strategy (Bay of Connections) was launched in 2011. With seven Local Territorial Authorities across the Bay of Plenty and numerous economic development agencies, connecting the bits together was critical to achieving the strategy for growth. I am sure it was entirely intentional that within the strategy they quote Helen Keller, "alone we can do so little; together we can do so much". More poignant and equally relevant to ourselves they also quote Benjamin Disraeli, "We are not creatures of circumstance; we are creators of circumstances".

On that note see you all at Teal kitchen on Monday night.

President Russell

NOTICES AND REMINDERS

Dinner with the Rotorua Multicultural Council

On Monday, 10 July 2017 at 5.30 for 6 pm our Club will join with the Rotorua Multicultural Council for a dinner at Teal Kitchen, 1213 Hinemoa Street. Ten migrants from ten countries will talk for two to three minutes each about their journey to Rotorua and the contribution that they are now making to our community. The confirmed speakers include Toni Li from China, a forest economist with PF Olsen; Lily Joy Al Omari who was a nurse manager in Saudi Arabia and is now the owner of Teal Kitchen; Elena Mezentseva from Russia who was an English language teacher in Moscow; Juan Nieuwoudt from South Africa who is a mechanical engineer at Red Stag; Carla Garcia from Argentina who is co-owner of a sports management business; Faustinah Ndlovu who raises funds for school libraries in Zimbabwe; Waitso Wu, the Executive Officer of the Rotorua Multicultural Council; Alexis LewGor, the President of the NZ Federation of Multicultural Councils; and Mohabat Khan Malak from Uganda and Afghanistan who co-owns the first halal butchery in Rotorua. The cost of the dinner is \$30 per person; spouses and partners are very welcome. Martin Kinder will take the bookings and payments.

Rotorua Charities Fundraiser

Formerly known as the Long Lunch. This is timed for November 17th next. The guest speaker is Eric Rush. We already have myself, Robyn Murphy, Richard Pryce, Martin Kinder and Ray Bloomfield actively

involved. We will get Don Gollan the event organizer to come back to the club and provide an update. Two matters we need to consider. 1. What type of item or similar can we come up with to contribute to the auction as a club and 2. We need to look at purchasing some tables quite soon.

FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Quote from Richard Pryce

“Know what you own and why you own it”

Club speaker: Russell Dale

Russell recounted the current issues with his role as Research Manager for the Forest Owners Association. The research programme has grown recently with over \$15M in combined investment. Many new innovations have been developed for the forest growing sector.

Guest speaker: Tim Rigter

Tim is General Manager at the Red Stag sawmill and showed a short video of the recent developments at the Waipa site. Since the Verry family purchased the mill in 2003, there has been over \$100 million investment in new wood processing capability. The Waipa site is the largest sawmill in New Zealand producing 550,000m³ per year of structural timber products. Future planned investment will see that rise to over 700,000m³ per year with an eventual target of 1Mm³ per year.

BIRTHDAY BEST WISHES

Bruce Scott - Thursday 13 July

Up and Coming

Club meeting	10 July at Teal Kitchen 5:30 for 6pm	17 July 2017
Guest Speaker	With the Multicultural Society 5:30 for 6pm at Teal Kitchen, 1213 Hinemoa St Cost \$30 per person Bring a friend Please advise Martin of your booking –and payment mkinder@deloitte.co.nz 343 1056 (W)	Melanie Groves, Keep Rotorua Beautiful
Introduction		Bob Allison
Vote of thanks		Ray Bloomfield
Club speaker		Tom Davies
Fellowship badges		Tony Hill
Quote of the week		Robyn Murphy
Fining officer		Bruce Scott
Room set-up		Garth Wilson

Looking forward: long term view of our agenda for the year.

Date	Activity	Location	Contact
22 July 22	Guess who's coming to dinner	TBA	Richard Pryce
23 July	Cycling Taupo	Taupo	Russell Dale
24 July	Club day	RGC	Russell Burton
28 August	Leonie Tisch, DG	RGC	Russell Burton
August	Youth speakers	TBA	Ann Nicholas
14 October	Guess who's coming to dinner	TBA	Richard Pryce
17 November	Charity fundraiser lunch	Energy Events Centre	Russell Burton
27 November	Club AGM	RGC	Russell Burton
December	Christmas function	TBA	TBA

