



Rotary Club of Rotorua

PRESIDENT'S PEN

Monday 14 August 2017

World President

Ian Riseley

D9930 Governor

Leonie Tisch

President

Russell Burton

Immediate Past President

Allen Foote

Directors

Administration

Martin Kinder

Secretary

Robyn Murphy

Membership

Richard Pryce

Projects

Ann Nicholas

Officers

Welfare

Ray Bloomfield

Sergeant

Barry Lane

Webmaster / Archivist /

Historian

Tony Baker

Bulletin Editors

Bob/Katrina Allison

Programme Coordinator

Garth Wilson

Club Meetings

Mondays at 12.30 pm
(except public holidays)

Rotorua Golf Club,
399 Fenton Street,
Rotorua.

Harold Wilson said "a week in politics is a long time". In our modern times a day in politics is a long time. As we were sleep walking our way to the election it suddenly got interesting. In the space of 12 hours the whole election got turned on its head. I was in Wellington when all this happened. Although we probably feel we were doing nothing else but live and breathe this in Rotorua. We in the provinces are well insulated from the full effects. I had the best part of two days working with policy analysts. When working with Government officials it seems that a compulsory first hour per meeting is figuring out who is calling the shots, predicting who will be calling the shots and making sure you are their buddy.

So two days spent discussing the 'Jacinda' effect and the 'Metiria suicide' effect. And which part of this makes the ship go faster?

It never ceases to amaze me that a country with about 4.5 million people we need several thousand policy analysts. Our strategic strength is our smallness but somehow we manage to make this into a weakness. Our bureaucrats are mostly career bureaucrats. I worked in the USA for a while and it was interesting to see how many of the policy writers were industry people seconded into Government roles. I don't know what the right answer is but I cannot feel that some time in the real world would be beneficial to those who write the processes that we all must live with.

I also struggle with those who are career politicians from birth but maybe I am old fashioned and hanker for the days of those who went into politics and did not need the salary that came with it.

Regardless it has now got interesting at least and politics is back into the entertainment columns and political reporters have something to keep themselves occupied. As usual second guessing the future and then rationalizing why they got it wrong becomes the activity of choice. It seems to me that politics is too much part of the conversation these days. President Trump and his twitters. President Putin bearing all in some Siberian resort, a pig being the leading Mayoralty candidate in the town of Flint Michigan (true) makes New Zealand look pretty boring by comparison.

So we now have made Winston either a king maker or a queen maker. I suppose this is a balanced gender view of the world. In the words of Groucho Marx "integrity is what it is all about, as long as you can fake that you have it made". And on that happy note let's enjoy the fun part of politics taking it seriously could be damaging to our health.

President Russell

NOTICES AND REMINDER

Fun'raiser Lunch, Friday 17 November

Kartrina Allison has been nominated by the Directors to become the club's trustee on the organising trust committee.

Gardening project, Saturday 19 August

Robyn Murphy is organising another gardening exercise for a needy family in Ngongotaha. Details to follow.

High Schools Speech Contest, Monday 14 August

Our annual High Schools Speech Contest will be held on Monday 14 August 5.30pm for 6pm start at the Distinction Hotel Convention Centre, Fenton Street carpark. Please let Martin Kinder and Ann Nicholas know by 9 August if you plan to attend.

2017 NZ General Election Outcome Possibilities, Monday 21 August

Dennis Neilson has invited members to attend a reception affiliated with his DANA Forestry Conference. Speakers David Farrar (Editor Kiwiblog) and Mathew Hooton (Director of Exceltium) will give their perspectives on the upcoming election from Wellington and Auckland perspectives. The venue is the Novotel; 5:30 for 6:00pm start. If interested contact Julie Bell at admin@dana.co.nz or call 349 2764 [Ext 2].

Dictionaries in Schools

We are hoping to present dictionaries to Year 4 students at Rotorua Primary School and Seventh Day Adventist School in the fourth term. A coordinator is needed for this project – if you are interested, please contact Ann Nicholas.

Programme Coordinator

Garth Wilson will be organising the programme for this year and he urged members to let him know if they have any potential speakers.

FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Quote from Barry Lane

When science finally locates the centre of the universe, some people will be surprised to learn that they are not in it."
Bernard Bailey

"I've never developed indigestion from eating my own words". Winston Churchill

Club Speaker

Allen Foote notified the club that his church group will be sponsoring two marquees at the Sunday Market on 8 October promoting Awareness of Health. One will measure your blood pressure, weight, and other health indicators in order to calculate a "health age". The other will offer information on exercise, healthy cooking and other strategies to improve health.

Guest Speaker

Juan Restrepo, manager of Oral Health Services at Lakes DHB, presented information on a Rotary-sponsored project in Vanuatu to improve the oral health in isolated communities and train local providers. He also discussed his personal background as well as some of the challenges for his birth country, Colombia.

BIRTHDAY BEST WISHES

Mary Pryce, 8 August

GET WELL BEST WISHES

Bruce Rykers is still unwell and is back from Waikato Hospital.

Tony Hill is also unwell and is currently in Waikato Hospital.

Up and Coming

Club meeting	14 August 2017	21 August 2017
Guest Speaker	High Schools Speech Contest	Hazel Warnes, Principal Chapman College
Introduction	5:30 for 6:00pm	Doug Clemens
Vote of thanks	Distinction Hotel Convention Centre	Russell Dale
Club speaker		John Heaton
Fellowship badges		Denis Marriner
Quote of the week		John Powell
Fining officer		Richard Pryce
Room set-up		Roger Willard

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

Month	Date	Activity	Location/Comment	Contact
August	14	Speech Contest	Distinction Hotel 5:30 for 6pm	Ann Nicholas
	21	Hazel Warnes Principal Chapman College	RGC	Russell Burton
	21	Lincoln College Students		Martin Kinder
	21	Rotary National Science and Technology Forum	Applications close with Club	Fergus Cumming
	28	Leonie Tisch District Governor	RGC	Russell Burton
	31	Police Person of the Year	Process begins in August	Bruce Scott
September	4			
	8	Rotary National Science and Technology Forum	Nominations due with Forum Convenor	Fergus Cumming
	11	Marion Sangland/ Lou Sherman Curious Minds	RGC	Russell Burton
	17	Directors meeting	Russell Residence	Robyn Murphy
	18	TBC		
	25			
October	9			
	11			
	14	Guess who is coming to dinner	TBA	Richard Pryce
	17	Quiz night	TBC	Martin Kinder
	23	Labour day – no meeting		
November	3-5	RYPEN		
	6			
	13			
	17	Fun'raiser lunch	Energy Events Centre	Katrina Allison

	20			
	27	Club AGM	RGC	Russell Burton
December	4			
	11	Christmas Function	TBA	Katrina Allison and Robyn Murphy
	18	No meeting		
	25	Christmas Day – no meeting		
January	1	New Years Day – no meeting		
	8	No meeting		
	15	Harold Holmes Scholarship		
	22			
	29	Auckland Anniversary – no meeting		
February	5			
	12			
	19			
	23/24	Hawkes Bay Cycling	Hawkes Bay	Russell Dale
	26			
March	5			
	12	School Leaders		
	19			
	24- 25	Swim The Lake		Katrina Allison / Barry Lane
	26			
April	2	Easter – no meeting		
	9			
	23			
	30			
May	7			
	14			
	21			
	28			
June	4	Queens Birthday – no meeting		
	11			
	18			
	25	Change over - evening		