



# Rotary Club of Rotorua

## PRESIDENT'S PEN

Monday 13 November 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.

Today's theme was building up to the celebration of our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary. For a club to survive and still be going strong after 90 years is no small feat. I appreciate the book that Tony lent me which celebrated the clubs 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary and which made for interesting reading. I recommend that we all look at it. As I noted we stand on the shoulders of giants who saw the possibilities and made it happen. Many of the projects they undertook are very special indeed.

The year 1927 was an auspicious year. Bill Bryson (for those who follow his works) wrote a book specifically about this year. Called *One Summer America 1927*, it is very entertaining and educational at the same time. It marks the point at which post war America took up the reins of being the dominant economy on the planet. While Europe was still managing rations and trying to rebuild itself America became the powerhouse economy and the centre of arts, finance, military and everything else you could imagine. For example Babe Ruth became the highest paid sportsman of all time. I touched on some of the other key events, Lindbergh flying the Atlantic, the Model A Ford rolling off the production line, the first talking film taking entertainment by storm.

Mind you there was some pretty weird stuff going on as well. Flag pole sitting became an obsession, Charles Ponzi invented his famous Ponzi scheme and President Coolidge who averaged a typical 4 hour day took some time out of his busy schedule and took a 3 month holiday where he could wander around his ranch wearing his cowboy outfit.

However in little old Rotorua some 25 people (out of a population of 7,800) set up the Rotary Club of Rotorua determined to build fellowship and contribute to the growing community. It is their legacy we enjoy and will celebrate on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December next. Please put it into your diary; a formal invitation will be coming soon.

We have some special speakers lined up for the night, some fun events and some surprises. Bring along your Box Brownie camera and relive some special memories.

Yours in Rotary,

**President Russell**

## NOTICES AND REMINDERS

### Fun'raiser Lunch, 17 November

President Russell reminded members of this upcoming event and distributed tickets to those already paid up.

### Christmas Function, 11 December

Members were also reminded that the Christmas Function will be a special celebration of the club's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary with speakers John Heaton and Bill Boyd.

## FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

### "Verse" of the Week, Murray Patchell

In light of Guy Fawkes Night over the weekend, Murray recounted the event and its significance, plus recited a couple of related verses.

### Guest Speaker, Lily Joy Al Omari

Lily Joy shared her experiences from living for 24 years in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, working as a nurse. She spoke of the interesting culture centred around conservative Islamic values and the huge wealth derived from the Saudi oil industry.

This results in many social mores and customs somewhat alien to the Western mind, such as women subjugation, polygamy and tax-free living. However Lily Joy chose to settle in NZ as she saw it as a perfect place to raise her children.

### Club Speaker, Russell Dale

Russell reviewed some of the work he is involved with at Forest Growers Research, particularly Steepland Harvesting. This programme has been running for 7 years with over \$7M invested (50/50 government/industry funding) and has developed a range of innovative technologies. These have increased productivity by 30% with over half of tree felling now mechanised. This has reduced serious harm injuries in the field to 1/6<sup>th</sup> of what they were previously. Russell predicted that soon felling operations could be managed remotely from offsite, including from the comfort of home and hearth!

## BIRTHDAY BEST WISHES

No birthdays this week.

## Up and Coming

Club meeting	13 November 2017	20 November 2017
Guest speaker	Stuart Burns, Growing Old Disgracefully with the Ulysses Club	Mike Bannister, A Wee Dram
Introduction	Barry Lane	Robyn Murphy
Vote of thanks	Ann Nicholas	Murray Patchell
Club speaker	Richard Pryce	John Powell
Fellowship badges	Katrina Allison	Garth Wilson
Quote of the week	Tony Baker	Ray Bloomfield
Fining officer	Ray Bloomfield	Doug Clemens
Room set-up (PowerPoint)	Robin Findon (Yes)	Allen Foote (Yes)

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

Month	Date	Activity	Location/Comment	Contact
November	13	Stuart Burns	RGC	Garth Wilson
	17	Fun'raiser lunch	Energy Events Centre	Katrina Allison
	20	Mike Bannister	A Wee Dram	Garth Wilson
	27			
December	4			
	11	Christmas Function	RGC	Katrina and Robyn
	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			
	10/11	Hawkes Bay Cycling	Hawkes Bay	Russell Dale
	12			
	19			
	26			
March	5			
	12	School Leaders		
	19			
	24-25	Swim The Lake		Katrina Allison / Barry Lane
	26			
April	2	Easter – no meeting		
	9			
	16			
	23			
	30			
May	7			
	14			
	21			
	28			
June	4	Queens Birthday – no meeting		
	11			
	18			
	25	Change over - evening		