



Rotary Club of Rotorua

PRESIDENT'S PEN

Monday 20 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.

I got on a bit of a roll last week focusing on 1927. Anticipating initially that I could get to Rotary today I did some research on what today in history had provided. So, not to waste all that research. In 1789 Benjamin Franklin first printed his statement: "the only certainty in life is death and taxes". Some 220 years on it is as true as ever. There were some interesting firsts on this day as well such as in 1907 the first ever helicopter flight, in 1971 Mariner 9 did the first ever orbit of another planet (Mars) and nine years later Voyager 1 took the first close up photographs of Saturn.

There were some sadder memories as well: The Aramoana Massacre, The terror attacks in Paris that saw 129 people killed and of course the anniversary of the earthquakes in Kaikoura.

It is interesting to go through those 'today in history' websites and see how as time moves on 'firsts' of a technology kind accelerate. At a recent conference the inevitable futurist presentation gave us a view of what technology is achieving and an insight into where this may lead. Amazon using robots to run the warehouse - no humans allowed they just slow things up. A very life-like robot striding across rough ground and undertaking complex tasks.

I can never determine if I should be excited or afraid. With computer power expected to exceed human brain power in the next ten years where does this all lead. I have some sympathy with Luddites who at the turn of the 19th century destroyed machines not because they felt they would lose their jobs to machines but because less skilled people would be able to take over their jobs. And what has this to do with Rotary? Working in the community, supporting people who are challenged in the ordinary things in life, caring about humanity, valuing fellowship.

I will see many of you at the Fun'raiser on Friday as we as combined Rotorua Rotary Clubs make our big statement to support important community activities. Lets keep our focus on supporting our communities. Technology will not be stepping into this role any time soon.

Yours in Rotary,

Russell

NOTICES AND REMINDERS

Fun'raiser Lunch, 17 November

Ann Nicolas reminded members of this upcoming event. For those who have not picked up their tickets please contact Russell Burton.

Christmas Function, 11 December

Members were also reminded that the Christmas Function will be a special celebration of the club's 90th anniversary with speakers John Heaton and Bill Boyd. Please email Martin Kinder to reserve a seat.

Police Person of the Year

Ann Nicholas asked for a club member to volunteer as a liaison person as this was the position Bruce Scott fulfilled. Nominations close the 30th November. Please approach Russell or Ann.

FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Quote of the Week, Tony Baker

Two Rotary Quotes

"The Rotary ideal is that within us that makes us know that when we are surviving others we are building ourselves." Harry H. Rogers.

"The way to war is a well-paved highway and the way to peace is still a wilderness." Paul Harris

Guest Speaker, Stuart Burns

Stuart has been a member of the Ulysses Club for 20 years. Our fellow Rotarian Tony, has been a club member for 25 years.

Up and Coming

Club meeting	20 November 2017	27 November 2017
Guest speaker	Mike Bannister, A Wee Dram	TBA
Introduction	Robyn Murphy	Denis Marriner
Vote of thanks	Murray Patchell	John Powell

The Ulysses club was formed in 1983 in Australia as a motorbike club for older members. It is a club focussed on social riding. The club's goal is to "have a great ride and a hell of a good time." The ethos of the club is to "Grow Old Disgracefully." Currently there are 2,500 members and 29 branches. Each branch has a coordinator and a committee. First formed in Australia, the club has moved internationally and Ulysses riders can be found throughout Europe, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Club members enjoy day rides as well as weekend rides, rallies, motorcycle safety support and charity fundraising. Like Rotary there are some future challenges with declining membership. Currently Ulysses is looking at dropping the age of membership from 40 to 35.

Club Speaker, Richard Pryce

Richard would like club members to believe that "he's been shy but not retiring." Next year Richard will fully retire on the 31/10/2018. He then expects his golf handicap to reduce and his travel time to increase with a trip supported Mary to the British Open in Carnoustie. He was advised not to join Ulysses.

Richard also spoke about going to a book launch in Auckland this week. One of his Great Uncles wrote a series of letters to his mother and sister during World War One. Called "Jack's Journey" it sounds as if it will be a very interesting read.

BIRTHDAY BEST WISHES

Rona Heaton 18 November

Club speaker	John Powell	Peter Spurdle
Fellowship badges	Garth Wilson	Tony Baker
Quote of the week	Ray Bloomfield	Doug Clemens
Fining officer	Doug Clemens	Fergus Cumming
Room set-up (PowerPoint)	Allen Foote (Yes)	John Heaton (Yes)

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

Month	Date	Activity	Location/Comment	Contact
November	17	Fun'raiser lunch	Energy Events Centre	Katrina Allison
	20	Mike Bannister	A Wee Dram	Garth Wilson
	27	TBA		
	4			
December	11	Christmas Function	RGC	Katrina and Robyn
	18	No meeting		
	25	Christmas Day – no meeting		
	1	New Years Day – no meeting		
January	8	No meeting		
	15	Harold Holmes Scholarship		
	22			
	29	Auckland Anniversary – no meeting		
	5			
February	10/11	Hawkes Bay Cycling	Hawkes Bay	Russell Dale
	12			
	19			
	26			
	5			
March	12	School Leaders		
	19			
	24-25	Swim The Lake		Katrina Allison / Barry Lane
	26			
	2	Easter – no meeting		
April	9			
	16			
	23			
	30			
	7			
May	14			
	21			

	28			
	4	Queens Birthday – no meeting		
June	11			
	18			
	25	Change over - evening		

75 YEARS of ROTARY in ROTORUA

Copies of this book on the history of the Rotorua Rotary clubs (1927 – 2002) should be in every Rotarians library.

A new run of limited copies are now available at \$30 each.

“History not only furnishes us with a key to the present by showing how our situation came about, but at the same time, supplies a basis for comparison between our days, and those of old”.

Booklet compiled by P.P. Gary Spence

Orders to: tbaker@nowmail.co.nz