

Outgoing President's Report 28 June, 2016

This past year has been a very enjoyable one for me as President. I have been ably supported by the directors and I want to acknowledge two people who have done excellent work during the year. Denis Mariner in organising the programme and Margriet Theron in her role Bulletin Editor. Both of those roles are essential if the club is to run well. Thank you for your hard work.

I want to acknowledge the death of Don Macfarlane. Don was a committed Rotarian with a particular interest in Youth.

We have had two resignations during the year, Ian Smith who has become an Honorary Member, and Jim Hampson who resigned because of health reasons. We welcomed into the Club Noel Lamberton and Richard Fullard.

The Vocational Committee was busy.

The club hosted six couples between the 12th and 15th March from **Canadian District 7820 – Nova Scotia – Friendship Exchange visit**. The visit was successful and enjoyable with special thanks to Peter and Robyn Spurdle for hosting their farewell dinner.

Our **RYLA 2016** nominee **Mary-Beth ACRES** was accepted for the RYLA camp, 17th – 22nd April at Lake Karapiro. She joined us for lunch prior to the camp – but is yet to address the club on the benefits of her experience at RYLA.

.After advertising support from the “Daily Post” and canvassing for nominations for the Rotorua Police **2015 Police Person of the Year**, Detective Sergeant George Staunton was selected.

Thanks to Kierin Irvine and Peter Spurdle, we had a very successful meeting for the **Rural/ Urban visit** at the Waikite Valley Primary School on Monday evening, 2nd May, and raised \$1200 for the school.

The club visited Lumbercube Mill on Monday 23rd May. This was a well attended meeting where members were able to view first- hand the processing of timber in what has become a somewhat controversial mill.

This year we had a single awardee for Forest Management in Byron Dewar and a first equal in Hospitality Management with Sara Falconer and Alex McKillop for the **2015 Waiariki Institute of Technology Awards**

We enjoyed having our Christmas meeting with wives and partners at a local restaurant/bar

The new configuration of the meeting room seems to have become accepted. Two new stands have been provided to hold Club memorabilia.

Speakers have been interesting and challenging, thanks to Denis Marriner's good work.

Throughout the year, Garth Wilson kept his eye on welfare needs. There have been a few special events that have been drawn to our attention, especially the passing of Don McFarlane. President elect Allen and I have kept our eyes on any hospital admissions involving Rotarians and their families.

We are thankful to Tony Baker for his ongoing work as webmaster and archivist. A request has come for our Club to adopt a new website system being introduced elsewhere in Rotary. At present we are staying with the current system.

Club publicity has been meagre over the year with only a few items in the news. This is one area under review for the new year with opportunities being offered through the Daily Post. Richard Fullard, because of his media background, has been asked to assist with publicity in the new Rotary year.

As well, all five incoming Rotary Club Presidents are committed, as one of their major combined goals, to focus on publicity. We hope to see publicity increase markedly, especially for Rotary generally, in the district.

All members of the Club Service committee have been busy with their allotted duties and have performed the necessary background services required by the Club, with real commitment.

The Committee has been busy with some successful projects:

- Swim the Lake – well managed by Katrina Allison with substantial support from Barry Lane and Russell Dale
- Cirkus Quirkus - well managed by others with support from our club
- Daffodil Day – an excellent community event across all Roatray Clubs in Rotorua
- Bike Ohakuni – well managed by Russell Dale with about 20 people involved.
- Rotorua Luncheon Charity Charitable Trust – with Russell Burton now a Trustee.
- Some minor fund raising events.

We have started a process looking at the future of the club, where we want to be and how we want the club to be and how to attract new, younger members. All members have an opportunity to contribute to this process. It is an ongoing project, and we will no doubt continue to be kept up to date as progress is made,

Youth Committee has a number of projects that take place every year. Some of these relate to the two Rotorua high schools we have a close relationship with, being **Rotorua Girls High School and Reporoa College**.

The Club was involved with the following projects:

Science Summer Schools

Rotary supports high school students to attend either the Hill Laboratory Waikato Science & Engineering Summer School or Rotary International Science & Technology Forum in Auckland. We seek nominations in the period July to September, usually for Year 12 students, from our two schools. This year Quinn McKay, Reporoa College, attended the National Science and Technology Forum in Auckland. He addressed the Club on 21 March about the experience which he described as life changing and the best two weeks of his life.

Rotary Youth Programme of Enrichment (RYPEN)

RYPEN was held from 6-8 November at Ngamuwahine. It is a project carried out by all the Rotorua Rotary Clubs in partnership with the Territorials. Rotorua high schools nominate Year 10 students to attend the weekend, which involves team building and individual self confidence activities. The weekend was attended by Garth and Jan Wilson, with Don Macfarlane attending part of a day.

High School Leaders' Lunch

The annual high schools' leaders lunch was held on 7 March at our lunchtime meeting. The lunch was attended by representatives of all seven Rotorua high schools and their supporters. All students spoke about their objectives for the year and in the future.

High School Speech Contest

The contest was held on 16 May 2016 as a joint meeting with Rotorua Lakes Rotary Club at the Distinction Hotel. The topic this year was chosen by Immediate Past President Russell Dale: "How do we minimise the impact of new technologies on society." The adjudicator was Claire Marsh, a Trustee of Speech NZ, and the timekeeper was one of her Diploma in Speech and Drama students, Niall Baker. Contestants from all schools participated except Reporoa and Young Parents. It was won this year by Sam Bocock of Rotorua Boys High School.

Rotary International Youth Exchange

The IYE programme is a Rotary programme to promote international understanding. We host an IYE student every second year, provided that we have commitment from 4 families to host. This year our club has hosted

Carmen Schoberl who arrived on 1 August 2015. Carmen has attended club meetings and taken part in many of the activities outside Club meetings. She has been hosted by two Rotary families and two non-Rotary families, while attending Rotorua Girls High School. She will soon leave us to return home.

Driver Directions / Youth Expo

Driver Directions is a project supported by the Rotorua Rotary Clubs to promote safer driving practices in young drivers. It is held at the Taupo Motorsport Park for 2 days in July, September, December and April school holidays. Tony Baker has coordinated this ably with assistance from Club volunteers. He has also coordinated the Club volunteers and input to the Youth Expo which is held over 5 days in the Howard Morrison Arts Centre in March each year.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as President for this past year, and I look forward to the coming Rotary year.

Ray Bloomfield
Imm. Past President
28 June, 2016