



Rotary Club of Rotorua

Monday, 7 December 2015



President's Pen

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Tony Baker

It was a privilege to be able to present the Police Person of the Year Award on Wednesday. This Award was the initiative of one of our former members, Neil Fitzsimmons, who was also a former Police Officer. The idea came about after the negativity about events in the Police in the 1960s and in Neil's mind was to recognise those who gave outstanding service to our community.

I have been thinking about this, and know that the Police have their own internal ways of recognising their officers, but to be recognised by the community is something else all together.

I mentioned to Todd Mountford on Monday that it was an honour to be made a Paul Harris Fellow, but in my opinion, the greatest thing about it is that a recipient has been deemed worthy of receiving that award by their peers. I am a "glass half full" sort of person, and I believe that people want to make a difference, no matter how large or small. It may be by being involved in a great project or simply calling a lonely person to brighten their day, but we want to make a difference. The Police do that every day, and speaking personally, I don't think that I could be involved in dealing with a lot of the people that they have to deal with, and take the abuse that they have to take.

This award is something that our Club gives and it makes a difference to the recipient. The community is recognising them, not just their colleagues or the Department.

This also gives them the opportunity to donate \$250 to a charity of their choice. So it is a win for everyone.

The recipient will be speaking to our Club next year.

President Ray

Notices and Reminders

Christmas function

The Christmas dinner will be held on 14 December 2015 at the Wairere Cafe at Rainbow Springs. Start time: 6:00 pm. Cost: \$55:00 per person. Bring your own beverage. Katrina needs firm numbers otherwise the Club will be charged. If you are changing your mind please let her know as soon as possible. So far we have very good numbers attending.

75 Years of Rotary in Rotorua

The book *75 Years of Rotary in Rotorua* written by PastPresident Gary Spence of the Rotary Club of Rotorua is now available in the archives pages of the Club's website. Click here:

<http://www.rotaryrotorua.org.nz/data/rotary-75year-book.pdf>

Civic bonding

An informal get-together of members of the Club for a drink and a chat at 5.30 pm; this Friday at the CT Club in Moncur Drive.

Driver Directions

Two helpers required for next Tuesday's Driver Directions Course at Taupo please. Transport and lunch provided. Leave Rotorua 7:30 am, return to Rotorua by 4:30 pm. Contact Tony Baker.

Birthday wishes

Happy Birthday to:

- Sandra Roersma(13 December)



From the previous meeting

Quotes from Kierin Irvine

If you are caught on a golf course in a storm and afraid of lightening – grab a No 1 iron. Not even God can hit a No 1 iron! - Lee Trevino.

They call it golf because all the other four letter words were taken. - Raymond Floyd.

If you drink, don't drive. Don't even putt. - Dean Martin.

Guest speakers: IPP Russell Dale and PP Todd Mountford

On behalf of the Club, IPP Russell Dale presented a Paul Harris Fellowship Award to PP Todd Mountford. Todd's wife Sacha and daughter Anais and his parents Leon and Elaine Mountford were there in support, together with six other Rotorua West Club members and two non-Rotarians who were part of the last volunteer visit to Koroi-pita.

The tradition is to make the award of a Paul Harris Fellowship a surprise to the recipient, but due to some administrative hiccups at the start of the Rotary year, Russell had been forced to 'spill the beans' to Todd in July.

Todd was born in South Auckland and went to primary school at Hunua before family moves to Maramaru and Hamilton resulted in him attending Hamilton Boys' High School. After leaving school Todd joined AMP and was transferred to Rotorua in 1996. Following the restructure of AMP, Todd became a part-owner of Pinnacle Financial Services in 2003.

Todd has been an active member of the Rotorua West Club since 2007. He is Immediate Past President and Incoming Assistant Governor for Rotorua, taking over from AG Richard Evans in 2016. Todd leads the RYPEN organising committee. Todd has also been on the St John Ambulance local executive since 2008

and is currently treasurer. He is a life member of the Rotorua Motorcycle Club – dirt bikes not Harleys or Gold Wings! He is a Championship Steward for NZ Motorcycle and is one of 15 grade 4 stewards in NZ authorised to run motorcycle events. Todd’s commitment to serving Rotary and the community is exemplary.

The real reason for making this award to Todd is the commitment he has made to the Koriopita Model Village in Lautoka Fiji and the help he has provided to our Club members who have volunteered to help with this project. Those of us who have volunteered for a tour of duty would all agree it is an experience of a lifetime. To go and rescue a family living in the bush under plastic sheets and corrugated iron and move them to a cyclone-proof house in a secure village environment is an experience few people will have in life.

Todd has struck up a special friendship and relationship with Peter Drysdale who has made Koriopita Village a life mission. Todd is one of Peter’s trusted lieutenants and is the only site supervisor that Peter has trusted on his own for an extended period. Peter has huge respect for the way Todd has endeared himself to the local Fijian people. He can deal with the local suppliers, contractors and villagers. He is firm and calm and knows how to look after himself in this environment.

Peter Drysdale sent Russell an email which he asked Russell to read:

Bula Russell and Team Rotorua,

I am delighted with the news of the PHF for Todd. Let’s look at the record here:

2009: First tour with Rotary Club of Rotorua West. 2011: Second tour with RC Rotorua West. 2013: Three trips including a 13 week stay at the exalted position of Site Support Volunteer. We do not call them manager because the Aussies and Kiwis are so bolshy! 2013: Two trips, one with the Rotary Club of Rotorua. 2014: One trip with RC Rotorua. By this time I wondered if he was a fugitive from the law or homeless? This is hot, frantic work; the logistics of a team alone are intense. These are long tours of duty.

2016: Planning two trips. This is commitment - honour him with that PHF please. He can show this to the people here who will be proud too. There is much to be proud about. Cheers, Peter Drysdale

In accepting the Award, Todd spoke against a background a slide show of visits to Koriopita, thanking the Club for the honour of the Award.

Duty roster

If you cannot do your rostered duty, please arrange a replacement and advise
Sergeant Richard Pryce on 027 2765478 or rpryce@tomwake.co.nz

Club speakers to advise Margriet on theronm@yahoo.com if they require the data projector.

	12.30 pm, 7 December 2015 at the Sudima Hotel	
Guest Speaker	Gray Mathias, the Club’s first (1966) IYE student	14 December 2015 at 6 pm at Wairere Café, Rainbow Springs
Introduction	Noel Lamberton	
Vote of thanks	Bryce Dunn	
President’s table	Bryce Dunn	
Club speaker	Murray Patchell	
Fellowship/badges	Bruce Scott	
Quote of the week	Martin Kinder	
Fining officer	Roger Willard	
Committee report	Tony Baker	Paul Wilson

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Noon on Wednesdays
Phone 347 7211 or 021 172 9697; email: theronm@yahoo.com