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Margriet Theron
Programme
Denis Marriner
Sergeant
Richard Pryce
Webmaster
Tony Baker
Archivist
Tony Baker
CLUB MEETINGS
Mondays at 12.30
pm (except public
holidays)
Sudima Hotel
1000 Eruera Street,
Rotorua. Phone 07
348 1174 to
apologise if unable
to attend.



Rotary Club of Rotorua

Monday, 15 February 2016

Past-President's Pen

We were privileged at our last meeting to hear of the work Margriet Theron is doing to teach immigrants English to improve their opportunities for a better life in their adopted country. The focus on helping them deal with a real life challenge is innovative and must be very rewarding for Margriet and her students when they succeed.

The Rotorua community is very fortunate indeed to have skilled people like Margriet who are prepared to make this contribution to help people who are prepared to help themselves to better their lives. I am a regular user of taxis in Wellington and often ask the drivers where they have come from and what they were doing before they came to NZ. Almost invariably they are highly skilled and working well below their potential.

The current District Governor's theme is health so after the usual Christmas excesses I am organising another biking expedition for Rotarians and any friends who are keen to join us. The plan is to spend the weekend of 5 and 6 March 2016 cycling around Ohakune – the Old Coach Road and Rangataua Forest tracks have been recommended by our Club's expert on the Ohakune area, Ian McDowell. We will also use it as a fundraising opportunity. Russell Burton's Community Committee will be asked to allocate the funds raised to a worthy local cause. More details on the weekend will follow shortly.

With the warm summer weather being enjoyed across the country, media focus has been on the tragic number of drownings at our beaches, rivers and lakes over the holiday period. Complacency is often the cause of water tragedies so make sure when around water that you, your family and friends treat water with respect and stay safe. Safety will be top priority as our Club organises the Swim the Lake event at Lake Okataina on 13 March.

Regards

Past-President Russell Dale

Notices and Reminders

Canadian Rotary Friendship Exchange hosting

Our Club has agreed to host a group of Rotarians from District 7820 Nova Scotia, Canada, who will be on a Friendship Exchange visit to Rotorua, arriving on Saturday, 12 March and departing on Tuesday, 15 March 2016. Accommodation is required for three nights for the party of 12. There will be four couples and four single people. A local programme is yet to be drawn up, but bed and breakfast for the three nights is essentially what is requested. This is a great opportunity to meet up with like-minded people from another part of the world. Offers of assistance to Bruce Scott who is coordinating the visit to Rotorua, please.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

Perry Stevens and Bruce Scott are handling the applications for RYLA this year. This is a programme aimed at growing the leadership skills of emerging leaders through providing an intensive development programme. Participants aged between 20 and 26 years take part in a range of experiences including seminars and group activities designed to develop both self leadership and leadership of others. It will be held at Epworth Lodge on Lake Karapiro between 17 and 22 April 2016. Nominations close on 28 February. The cost per participant (carried by the Club) is \$750. More information and the nomination form can be found here: <http://rotary9930.org/Page/youth-ryla>. Please look around your places of work and the organisations where you do charity work and talk to friends and family to help the Club find worthy young people to nominate for this life-changing programme.

Bruce has interviewed Mary-Beth Acres and he has nominated her to attend RYLA. Mary-Beth came to Rotorua as a young girl from South Africa when her Dad, Gordon Acres, was appointed to teach Forest Harvesting Management at Waiariki Institute of Technology. She is currently the Manager of the Rotorua Arts Village. Congratulations, Mary-Beth!

Open Water Swim: 13 March 2016 at Lake Okataina

Katrina Allison reminds the Club of the Open Water Swim and asks members to promote the event. The event will be held on 13 March 2016 on Lake Okataina. The water is crystal clear, the scenery is beautiful and the family friendly atmosphere makes for a special day. Choose between the 400m, 800m, 1,500m, 3,000m and 6,000m distance. All proceeds from this event will go towards the Big Brothers Big Sisters organisation. For more information, see: lake-okataina-swim-2016.lilregie.com or contact Katrina on rotoruaopenwater@gmail.com or 027 603 9784.

Bob Allison will be helping Katrina with an application to Rotorua Trust to help pay the various fees for the event so that all the money raised can go to Big Brothers Big Sisters.

End Polio Now Swimathon Fundraiser

This fundraiser for the Rotary project to End Polio Now is being run by the Rotary Club of Rotorua Sunrise on Saturday, 20 February 2016. Katrina Allison will be taking part and 17 generous members of our Club have already sponsored her between 20c and 50c per lap. She plans to swim 100 laps of the pool at the Aquatic Centre. Margriet has the list of sponsors; please email her at theronm@yahoo.com if the list did not reach you at our last meeting and you would like to support this very worthy cause. Margriet will also bring the list to our next meeting on 15 February 2016. This event has raised \$9,000 over the past four years.

Rotary District 9930 2016 Conference

Bruce Scott reminded the Club of the District Conference being held from 6 to 8 May 2016 in Napier. Registrations before the end of February provide a discount of \$55 per person.

Civic Bonding

You are invited to share a drink and a chat with other members of the Club and their spouses at the CT Club in Moncur Drive at 5 pm on Friday afternoon.

Happy birthday

- Ian Pound (15 February)



From the previous meeting

Quotes of the week from Barry Lane

When I die, I want to go peacefully like my grandfather did – in his sleep. Not yelling and screaming like the passengers in his car. – Bob Monkhouse.

I changed my password everywhere to “incorrect”. That way, when I forget it, it always reminds me: “Your password is incorrect.”

Guest Speaker: Margriet Theron on Professional Speaking for Migrants

The Professional Speaking for Migrants courses, which have been offered by the Rotorua Multicultural Council for the past five years, bring together two of Margriet’s passions: her interest in helping migrants to settle in Rotorua and the work she does as a Trustee of Speech NZ, the speech, drama and communication examination board based in Wellington. She realised that the Speech NZ Professional Speaking syllabus, developed to serve the needs of mid-career NZ professionals who need to develop their public speaking, interviewing, and discussion skills, would fit the needs of migrants for whom English is not their first language. She had worked with too many highly-skilled migrants whose lack of clarity and confidence in English were holding them back from progressing in their careers. About 12 Rotorua migrants gain the Speech NZ Certificate in Professional Speaking each year, having presented a 7-minute talk about their careers or community interest and a 3-minute talk to introduce or thank a guest speaker; and participated in a job-related role play during the examination which is conducted in front of an audience. Margriet has given workshops to organisations working with migrants and to speech teachers, thereby spreading the courses to Whangarei, Auckland, New Plymouth, Hutt Valley, Nelson and Invercargill.

Club Speaker: Fergus Cumming on the Tyburn Monastery

The Tyburn Monastery is at the end of God’s Road in Ngakuru. It is a retreat within the Waikato-Bay of Plenty diocese of the Catholic Church. Very few locals seem to be aware of this 16 hectare property run by the Benedictine Sisters as a cloistered community, even though it is only a 40 minute drive from Rotorua. People from any faith, and non-believers, are welcome to stay in the 24 guest rooms at the Monastery to enjoy the peace and quiet which it provides. At any time there is at least one nun in contemplation in the chapel.



Duty roster

If you cannot do your 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.



	15 February 2016 at 12.30 pm at the Sudima Hotel	22 February 2016 at 12.30 pm at the Sudima Hotel
Guest Speaker	John McRae, update on the Rotorua Chamber of Commerce	Joanne McCracken, a trip to Lebanon
Introduction	Bruce Scott	Peter Spurdle
Vote of thanks	Martyn Craven	Fergus Cumming
President’s table	Barry Lane	Ian McDowell
Club speaker	Peter Spurdle	Perry Stevens
Fellowship/badges	Perry Stevens	Roger Willard
Quote of the week	Ian McDowell	Dennis Neilson
Fining officer	Russell Burton	Noel Lamberton
Committee report	Ann Nicholas	Bruce Scott

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Noon on Wednesdays

Phone 347 7211 or 021 172 9697; email: theronm@yahoo.com