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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, 23 May 2016

### *President's Pen*

The Secondary School Speech Contest was a great evening. I was sitting with some students from John Paul College and enjoyed chatting with them and the members from the Rotary Club of Rotorua Lakes who were at the table.

It is great to see the talent that comes from these young adults as well as the creativity that was expressed in the speeches. The topic that Past-President Russell Dale had set required some considerable thought as well. During the time that the adjudicator, Claire Marsh, was writing up her notes, a student from John Paul College came and asked me about the programmes that Rotary International has for youth. He was only aware of our Club's Head Prefects' Lunch and this Speech Contest. He was very interested in all that we do and I suspect that he could be a good candidate for Rotoract and Rotary in the future.

Special thanks to Ann Nicholas for organising and running the night. I am aware that it was a huge job, but you did really well, Ann, and are deserving of a fine. Be prepared to pay in a fortnight!

I think that there is a reasonably high percentage of our Club members who were involved in Jaycees or other clubs when they were younger and before they joined Rotary. I was a Jaycee myself and benefitted hugely from that experience. It seems to me that involvement in a service club at a younger age (I was 18 when I joined Jaycees) lays a foundation for involvement in later years.

That got me to thinking about how well we do or do not support Interact and Rotaract Clubs. I suspect that there is a mentoring role that we could have with members of those Clubs. Being in frequent contact with them would enable us to get a sense of what is and what is not relevant to them. That in turn may give us some direction as to how to make our Club more appealing and interesting to younger members.

Thanks to all who helped in planting the 10,000 tulips bulbs for the Rotorua Tulip Fest and to those who will be helping with Circus Quirkus tonight (Monday, 23 May 2016; time to be confirmed).

**President Ray**

# Notices and Reminders

## Ideas for District grant

Allen Foote would like the Club to make an application for a Rotary Foundation District Grant. Last year this grant was used to provide a defibrillator for Reporoa. Any ideas for a project for this year to Allen, please. Some initial ideas from Club members: support for Big Brothers Big Sisters, and a contribution to buying a small bus for Waikite Valley School. Comments on these?

## Rotary Charity Lunch

Russell Burton has been elected as a Trustee of the Trust that will organise the second Rotorua Rotary Charity Lunch to be held on 11 November 2016. The first event raised about \$100,000 for charity last year, when our Club was not a participant. Russell will be looking for support from the members of our Club, and we will be able to nominate charities to receive gifts from this event.

## 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 5.30 pm on Friday afternoon.

## Happy birthday!

Tom Davies (24 May)  
Tony Baker (26 May)  
Mal Feetham (26 May)



### SOME INTERESTING WEB PAGES

[Tulip bulb planting](#)  
[School Speech Contest](#)

## From the previous meeting

### Quote from Margriet Theron

A good speech should be like a woman's skirt; long enough to cover the subject and short enough to create interest. – Winston S Churchill.

### Speakers: Secondary Schools Speech Contest participants

The Club's Secondary School Speech Contest has been run since the 1960s. This year we held a joint meeting with the Rotary Club of Rotorua Lakes at the Distinction Hotel. The topic, chosen by Immediate Past President Russell Dale was: "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. The evening was very ably organised by Ann Nicholas.

**Aneesha Dahya from John Paul College** acted the role of Trixi, ordering her coffee with great precision. Welcome to the future, where people are rude, lazy and demanding and where cell phones have been added to food, water, clothing and warmth as a life-essential. Technology has changed our world and us. Many teenagers have lost the ability to sound strong and confident when speaking. Speech should be promoted as a life skill. Communication should be a personal, humane concept. Trixi's innocence has been taken away by a telephone screen. She should be reminded that sunlight is better than the heat of laptop. Do not be like Trixi!

**Daniel Poskitt from Western Heights High School.** The electronic alarm clock, the high technology car and the laptop are all part of today's life. After rupturing his lung he would not have survived without medical technology. Is technology good or bad? It is neither; it depends on the way it is used. Cell phones are handy but they can be used to bully and to organise terrorist attacks. Social networks keep us connected but we cannot see facial reactions. We have become a disposable society. An example of a negative impact is parents glued to their phones, or passing their phones to their kids to entertain themselves during dinner. Technology can be convenient, lifesaving and open to abuse. We need to change the way we use technology. Nothing beats face-to-face communication

**Chantelle Cobby of Rotorua Girls' High School** had searched the internet for a definition of technology and came up with: "It is anything that was not there when you were born". It is a string of inventions, from paper to ball point pens to today's technology. It has far more positive than negative impacts. Apps add another dimension to learning, enabling world-wide communication. Using devices for recreation can interrupt learning. It is good to have some technology-free times at school. Cyber bullying can be used as an anonymous weapon and require strict policies to control it. Her advice: stay connected to the real world; keep inventing yourself.

**Sam Boccock from Rotorua Boys' High School** did a role play with Sam, his mobile phone. He talks to Sam more than he talks to his mother. Sam dominates his life and this relationship reduces his identity. The news has become more about the new iPhone than about us. But technology is valuable during emergencies. He tries to fight the dominance of the mobile phone; human brains need face-to-face interaction or it can take us into a secluded place, away from reality, seeding anti-social behaviour. The iPhone can get you a pizza quickly; it can connect long-lost couples. We need more emphasis on the positive aspects of technology; we need to cut down phone time; or we will end up with smart phones and dumb people.

**Maggie Donovan Cotter from Rotorua Lakes High School** warned about staring into the screen of a phone, ignoring what is going on around us. New technology can control us, leading to isolation, bullying and illnesses. The use of robots can lead to higher unemployment and low socio-economic living. The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement promotes genetically modified crops, placing our clean green image under threat. The impacts of technology should be minimised; devices should be turned off when you go to bed. Adult colouring books are an attempt to get away from technology. Mass protests against genetically modified crops are needed to protect society. We need to steer towards a more balanced way of living.

And the winner was ... **Sam Boccock from Rotorua Boys' High School!**

## 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](mailto:rpryce@tomwake.co.nz)

Club speakers to advise Margriet on [theronm@yahoo.com](mailto:theronm@yahoo.com) if they require the data projector.

	<b>23 May 2016 12.20pm at Lumbercube, Vaughans Rd</b>	<b>30 May 2016 at 12.30 pm at the Sudima Hotel</b>
Guest Speaker	Elizabeth Jackson, Lumbercube Commercial Manager	Ngairie Jackson Polio
Introduction	Bruce Scott	Doug Clemens
Vote of thanks	John Powell	Richard Pryce
President's table	-	Carmen Schoberl
Club speaker	Please meet at Lumbercube, Gate 5, Vaughans Road at 12.20pm. Lumbercube will supply hi-vis jackets, safety glasses and hard-hats. Please wear closed-toe, sensible shoes.	Roger Willard
Fellowship/badges		Allen Foote
Quote of the week		Bob Allison
Fining officer		Katrina Allison
Committee report		Russell Burton

**BULLETIN DEADLINE:** Noon on Wednesdays  
Phone 347 7211 or 021 172 9697  
[theronm@yahoo.com](mailto:theronm@yahoo.com)

