



Rotary Club of Rotorua

PRESIDENT'S PEN

Monday 5 March 2018

We live in interesting times.

Dennis' presentation today hit some sensitive points for all of us. When it comes to our homes and the integrity of these we are all emotionally captured. Financially it can be pretty painful as well.

The Government has set itself a target to build 100,000 homes this year. Preferably out of wood as that locks up carbon and helps contribute to the mitigation of climate change. They have also been supportive of the tall timber buildings initiative. So where will this all lead? As someone who is passionate about wood I see a wealth of opportunities. Sadly our real world is full of vested interests and these typically run counter to common sense or best benefit to New Zealand.

Radiata pine our most important commercial tree species does require some form of treatment to be able to meet durability requirements. It is also the most modifiable timber species on the planet enabling it to be treated by non-toxic means. It all comes at cost of course. What is often forgotten is that every material we use and expect to last for a long time does require some form of treatment. Steel for example must be galvanized. Galvanising is not a non-toxic process. Perhaps stone is the answer but then there is a cost associated with that. No such thing as a free lunch.

What I really took from today was a desire to see some challenging presentations made and Dennis set a great example of that. Let's see if we can continue this trend. It comes back to the article from Anand Satyanand about Rotary not being afraid to stand up and being counted. I am not sure where that fits with being apolitical. Maybe apolitical does not mean being dissociated with the world in which we live.

Yours in Rotary,

President Russell

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.

NOTICES AND REMINDERS

Gardening

Robyn Murphy announced that the mid-week gardening work at the hospital's Rehab ward will kick off on Thursday 8 March.

Club Champions Needed

Ann Nicholas is looking for project champions to coordinate the following events:

- **Rotorua School Leaders Lunch** This lunch will be held at our meeting on 19th March. We need a willing volunteer to liaise with the schools about numbers and names attending.
- **Circus Quirkus** Circus Quirkus will be held at 6pm on 24th May at the Rotorua Girls High School hall. This is a major fund raiser for the club and is a great project to be involved with. A coordinator is required to arrange volunteers for the night and liaise with Martin leading up to the event.
- **Dictionaries in Schools** We donate Usborne Illustrated Dictionaries to Year 4 students in Rotorua Primary School and the Seventh Day Adventist School. We need someone who can contact the schools to find out how many are required, order them and then arrange a time for the President (or deputy) to present them.

Other Items

Members also made the following announcements:

- Mark Gould reported back on attendance at the Rotary Foundation Conference.
- Tony Baker called for volunteers for the upcoming Road Safety Youth Expo.

- President Russell will undertake to invite other local politicians to speak to the club such as Tamati Coffee and Fletcher Tabuteau.

FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Guest Speaker, Dennis Neilson

Dennis gave an interesting talk on what he titled "Inside Story on NZ's Looming Leaky Homes Catastrophe." He was supported by his collaborator David Buckleigh and set out how industry, Government and local councils have conspired to minimise the public perception of the leaky home crisis and their collective complicity in its occurrence. Apparently it all started when two of the major timber suppliers wanting to save costs by getting builders to use untreated material for interior framing in new homes and apartments. As we now know, this has led to rotting timber with all of the attendant health and financial consequences. Dennis now says that Government is being urged to change the building code to again allow the use of untreated framing timber.

Club Speaker, Bob Allison

Bob reported on his new support role for Katrina's ACC contract to provide sensitive claim services for eastern BoP.

Quote of the Week, Allen Foote

From Billy Graham: "Tears shed for self are tears of weakness but tears shed for others are a sign of strength."

"We are not cisterns made for hoarding, we are channels made for sharing."

BIRTHDAY BEST WISHES

No birthdays.

Up and Coming

Club meeting	5 March	12 March
Guest speaker	Mark Gibb, Applications of Drone Technology	TBA
Introduction	Richard Pryce	John Powell
Vote of thanks	Roger Willard	Garth Wilson
Club speaker	Katrina Allison	Tony Baker
Fellowship badges	Robin Findon	Allen Foote
Quote of the week	Kierin Irvine	Martin Kinder
Fining officer	Barry Lane	Robyn Murphy
Room set-up (PowerPoint)	John Powell	Richard Pryce

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

Month	Date	Activity	Location/Comment	Contact
March	5	Mark Gibb	RGC	Garth Wilson
	11	Swim the Lake		Katrina Allison / Barry Lane
	12			
	19	School Leaders	RGC	Ann Nicholas
	26	Brian Richardson	RGC	Garth Wilson
April	2	Easter – no meeting		
	9			
	16			
	23			
	30			
May	7			
	14			
	21			
	24	Circus Quirkus	RGHS Hall	Ann Nicholas
	28			
June	4	Queens Birthday – no meeting		
	11			
	18			
	25	Change over - evening		