



Rotary Club of Rotorua

PAST-PRESIDENT'S PEN

Monday 26 March 2018

As we note every year, one of the highlights of our annual Rotary calendar is the meeting in the first school term of the year when we invite the student leaders from the seven High Schools in the Rotorua District to come and tell us about their leadership objectives and their further study and career aspirations.

It is a recognition of her organisational skills and commitment to Rotary that Ann Nicholas managed to get representatives from all seven schools at our Rotary meeting last Monday. Thank you, Ann. Your dedication has been noticed.

After the success of the Rotorua Multicultural Council in 2017 when we won the Westpac Rotorua Business Excellence Community Organisation Award I was very aware that we would have to keep on performing at a high level to maintain the momentum. So far, so good, in 2018. We have supported the Japanese community to run a Summer Festival on the Lakefront early in the New Year. We have had our first Multicultural Lunch, this one with a Fijian theme, in a new venue: the refurbished Rotorua Library. We collaborated with Bethlehem College Chapman to organise a Multicultural Celebration where each of the nine ethnicities represented in the school had to opportunity to showcase their food, art and music. We have planned a morning tea at Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology in collaboration with Student Pulse, the students' association, where there will be a presentation about the Student Buddy programme where existing international students mentor newly arrived students, usually from their home country. On her invitation, we have organised a morning tea at Teal Kitchen with Melissa Lee, National Party spokesperson for Ethnic Communities and New Zealand's first Korean Member of Parliament. And we have run our first Movie Meet-up where we socialise at the Basement Cinema before watching a movie.

Last year we co-opted Mairaatea Mohi from Rotorua Girls' High School, onto the Executive Committee of the Rotorua Multicultural Council. This year her place has been taken by Beatriz Bae from the Philippines. After the Club's meeting on Monday, I invited Jason Lee from Korea, Head Boy at Western Heights High School, to join the Committee, and he was very quick to accept. I will soon have enough material for a 3-minute "What's new in my life" talk!

Past-President Margriet Theron

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

Circus Quirkus will be held at 6 pm on 24 May 2018 at Rotorua Girls' High School. This is a major fund raiser for the Club and is a great project to be involved with. Ray Bloomfield volunteered to arrange volunteers for the night and liaise with Martin leading up to the event.

Gardening at Janice Scott's on 7 and 8 April 2018. Volunteer gardeners required, please.

Polio Swim on 25 March 2018. Katrina is seeking sponsorship from members.

FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Guest Speakers: Student Leaders from the seven High Schools in the Rotorua District

School for Young Parents

Kharma Verity loved Primary School; she was a top student and liked to impress her teachers. After moving to Rotorua she started skipping school and drinking; she helped her class to get rid of three teachers. She was pregnant at 13. The arrival of her daughter saved her life. She went to the School for Young Parents and gained NCEA 1, 2 and 3 credits as well as a Certificate in Food Handling from Toi Ohomai. This year she is working towards University Entrance so that she can go to University, become a teacher, and come back to the School for Young Parents.

Betty Epiha is 34 weeks pregnant. She grew up in the far North, surrounded by gangs. Sport became her way of getting out. Her parents split up, she moved to Hamilton, and became a High School drop-out. She came to Rotorua, got pregnant at 16 and had no support from the baby's father who was in prison. At the School for Young Parents she got her life back on track, and gained confidence and qualifications. She wants to go to Waikato University to become a Physical Education teacher. She has a supportive partner and a daughter who motivates her.

Reporoa College

Keagan Wharemate, Head Boy, had little interest in school when he was young, but sport helped him to succeed. He has set a goal of getting more discipline into Reporoa College. His sister, who had been Head Girl, encouraged him to make the most of every opportunity.

Waitahi McGee, Head Girl, thanked her teachers for motivating her to take on leadership opportunities. She wants the school to be a safe place for students to have a go. Her ambition is to become a musician and a playwright.

Rotorua Lakes High School

Kairangi Cox, Head Girl, has a long-standing interest in conservation. She has chosen her final year school subjects to enable her to complete a degree in Environmental Science and Environmental Law.

Tangaroa Yorke, Head Boy, was a scared young boy in Year 9, just doing his school work but not going on trips. The Year 10 trip to Wellington with visits to the Reserve Bank, Te Papa and Government House changed his life. He was given the first 50c coin of a new issue. In Year 11 he completed the challenging Cactus course. A Hawaiki Rising voyage, navigating by the stars and developing leadership skills, brought him to where he is today.

Western Heights High School

Alice Croucher, Head Girl, had come from Kaharoa School but immediately felt at home at the much larger but very inclusive High School where a huge range of activities is offered at every level. She helped to develop the dance teams which have won national competitions. Classes are very competitive but the students are given tools for self-development.

Jason Lee, Head Boy, grew up in Korea with its very competitive education systems. He also found Western Heights very inclusive. He is encouraging students to strive for higher academic achievement.

He plans to study Mathematics and Science at Otago or Auckland University.

John Paul College

Julia Florence, Head Girl, has special responsibilities for goal setting in sport and culture. She is encouraging each student to participate in sport and is building up the kapa haka group. Learning Te Reo Maori is a new focus at the school. She plays rugby and water polo and is planning a career in Engineering.

Madeleine Aislabie, Deputy Head Girl, has special interests in dance and other performing arts and wants to study Physiotherapy at AUT. She has set a goal of 100% pass rate in NCEA 1, 2 and 3 for the school and is encouraging students to take more scholarship subjects. She also provides leadership in the school's charitable work, from supporting a twin school in Papua New Guinea, to donating blood, to visiting homes for the elderly.

Rotorua Boys' High School

Hohaia Macfarlane, Head Prefect and grandson of much-loved late member of our Club, Don Macfarlane, had lost his voice after intensive kapa haka training. A class mate had suggested in Year 9 that Hohaia would become Head Prefect, but he had not believed it.

He is planning a career in the Police and Army Reserve. He acknowledged the contributions to school leadership of the two Deputy Head Prefects, Joape Nagera and Manny Crawford.

Rotorua Girls' High School

Te Riri Williams, Head Girl, had set a personal goal of doing more public speaking this year. She started High School as low achiever but she was strongly supported by the teaching staff and her whanau. She is planning to teach small groups of students the art of raranga, a weaving technique. For her, self-belief is a catalyst to self-improvement.

Te Ao Leach, Deputy Head Girl, has an aspiration to make a difference in the community. Academically she is striving for Scholarship. She hopes to set an example for others and believes that everybody has leadership potential. She plans to do Law and Business at University.

BIRTHDAY BEST WISHES

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Teresa McDowell | Monday 26 March |
| Barry Lane | Tuesday 27 March |
| Linda Neilson | Sunday 1 April |
| Melanie Davies | Friday 6 April |
| Pam Dale | Sunday 8 April |

Up and Coming

| Club meeting | 26 March 2018 | 2 April 2018 |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Guest speaker | Brian Richardson, Rocks and Rope | No meeting – Easter Monday |
| Introduction | Peter Spurdle | |
| Vote of thanks | Margriet Theron | |
| Club speaker | Ray Bloomfield | |
| Fellowship badges | Barry Lane | |
| Quote of the week | Robyn Murphy | |
| Fining officer | Denis Marriner | |
| Room set-up (PowerPoint) | Margriet Theron | |

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

| Month | Date | Activity | Location/Comment | Contact |
|-------|------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| March | 26 | Brian Richardson | RGC | Garth Wilson |
| April | 2 | Easter – no meeting | | |
| | 9 | Club Forum | | |
| | 16 | Johannes Tietze | “TxT my Lunch | |
| | 23 | Fletcher Tabuteau | “Kiwi Fund Bill” | |
| | 30 | | | |
| May | 7 | | | |
| | 14 | | | |
| | 21 | | | |
| | 24 | Circus Quirkus | RGHS Hall | Ann Nicholas |
| | 28 | | | |
| June | 4 | Queen’s Birthday – no meeting | | |
| | 11 | | | |
| | 18 | | | |
| | 25 | Change over - evening | | |