



Rotary Club of Rotorua

PRESIDENT'S PEN

Monday 16 April 2018

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

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.

Dear Rotarians,

What a tremendous turn out on Saturday last to do a make-over on the garden of Janice Scott. Although I don't see permanent garden maintenance as our core business these one-offs for a special purpose are great to demonstrate our commitment to the community. In this case to support Janice, acknowledge Bruce Scott and to reinforce our theme of fellowship.

It was some very serious garden maintenance and resulted in several trees and plants moving on to that great garden in the sky. I am afraid it has seriously set back Forestry Minister Jones target of planting a billion trees and mitigating climate change through forestry. Our GP showed he is a master hand at tree felling including some precision positioning of some stems.

Janice looked after us well and it was a great teamwork. Thanks again to all those who turned up. To Robyn for setting the stage for this and to Ian for co-ordinating the team.

Thanks also for the forum today as we need to plan the shape of our group moving forward. The Directors will take the sentiments expressed at the meeting today and table a forward path. What I heard was a desire to sustain the emphasis on fellowship, to keep the regular meetings, to not be too hide bound over some of the wider rotary considerations, to share some of the responsibilities of the President. Also to continue to seek how we can work more effectively with the other clubs in Rotorua and to rationalize much of the workload and be more effective at delivering on initiatives.

Yours in Rotary,
President Russell

Club Speaker, Doug Clemens

Doug reminisced about his long-standing involvement in the Rotorua Museum. To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Club, the members had raised \$25,000 for the redevelopment of the foyer of the Museum. He was involved in setting up the Rotorua Museum Trust which raised the \$22 million required to complete the north and south wings based on plans from the early 1900s which had been kept in the archives in Wellington. Damage caused by the Kaikoura earthquake resulted in the Museum being closed in the interest of public safety. Renovation, strengthening and repair costs have been estimated at \$13 million to \$45 million. In making a submission to the Rotorua Lakes Council Long Term Plan 2018-2028, Doug had given the highest priority to the restoration of the Museum; he encouraged members to do the same. Mark Gould commented that the Rotorua Lakes Council was working with Auckland heritage architects on a plan which would include metal reinforcement in the walls and replacing the heavy roof tiles with look-alike light-weight aluminium tiles.

Notices

- President Russell thanked Robyn Murphy for helping to organise the great gardening effort of 15 members of the Club to tidy up Janice Scott's garden. Three trailer loads of weeds and prunings were taken to the landfill. A spade with a blue handle, gardening gloves and a pair of secateurs had been left behind and are waiting to be claimed by their owners.
- President Russell wished Robyn well; she recently underwent a major operation.
- Richard Pryce announced that Guess Who is Coming to Dinner would be held on 5 May 2018.
- The Club's Golf Club Tournament would be held on 10 June 2018 with only members of the Club participating.
- Mark Gould announced that the road safety programmes for learner drivers would take place in July, October and December. Garth Wilson had kindly volunteered to take the place of Tony Baker on the Driver Directions programme.

Birthdays

Maree Kinder, 13 April

Quotes from Denis Marriner

- If Plan A fails, remember that you have 25 letters left – Anonymous
- Success is the ability to go from one failure to another with no loss of enthusiasm. - Winston Churchill

Up and Coming Duties

If you are unable to fulfil your rostered duty, please contact the Sergeant - 021 741 264

Club Meeting	16 April 2018	23 April 2018
Guest Speaker	Johannes Tietze	Fletcher Tabuteau
Introduction	Peter Spurdle	Margriet Theron
Vote of Thanks	Ray Bloomfield	Russell Dale
Club Speaker	Fergus Cumming	Bryce Dunn
Fellowship & Badges	Ann Nicholas	Allen Foote
Quote of the Week	Murray Patchell	Doug Clemens
Fining Officer	Ian Pound	Tom Davies
Room Set-up	Garth Wilson	John Heaton
Power Point	Yes	

Club Forum: the future of the Club

President Russell read a message from Garth Wilson who supported a move towards having fewer Rotorua Clubs in Rotorua. He enjoys the lunchtime meetings and combined Club projects. He would be willing to accept other meeting arrangements in the best interest of Rotary.

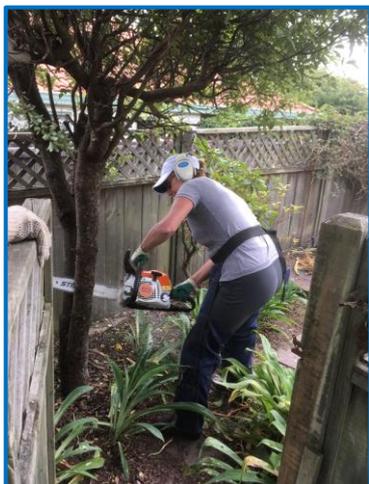
President Russell had caught up with Tony Baker after his recent resignation. He was pleased to report that Tony would still be part of the Club, although in a new role. He expressed his appreciation for Tony's willingness to put the Bulletin together over the next six weeks while Bob and Katrina Allison would be away.

There had been a number of excellent examples of fellowship during the current Rotary year: the enthusiastic team work in Janice's garden; Guess Who is Coming to Dinner; outstanding lunchtime speakers; and cooperation on projects with other Clubs. The challenges have included the increasing average age of members; reducing number of members; and the inability to do succession planning for the role of President and Vice-President. He has found it frustrating and time consuming to deal with 30 to 40 emails per week from District and Rotary International on topics of little relevance to the Club.

Comments from members included:

- The task of President has become too onerous. Do we really need a President's Pen in the Bulletin every week?
- As members retire their lifestyle and diaries become more fluid, making 100% attendance at Rotary less likely and creating a reluctance to take on governance roles.
- We should be open to the idea of amalgamating with other Rotary Clubs in Rotorua.
- A band-aid solution for a year or two could be to let all emails be addressed to one generic email address which would be received by the Secretary who would then allocate selected emails to a small number of Past-Presidents.
- What is more important to members? The weekly lunches with fellowship and guest speakers, or being part of Rotary International where few projects seem to be of interest or relevance to our members?
- There are no more membership classifications and the need for weekly meetings has gone. Having fewer meetings is working for some Clubs in New Zealand and participating in projects and activities is regarded as being an active Rotarian.
- In the USA some affluent business people pay large amounts as guilt money to retain Rotary membership without participating in Club activities.
- The current demographic of the Club is not encouraging younger members to join.
- Members are part of the Rotary Club of Rotorua for the fellowship but they are less interested in the Rotary International machinery and structures.
- For some members the Rotary name is still important. Could we bring younger family members and friends along to meetings to show them why we are enjoying membership?
- Participating in District projects can be time consuming, and projects such as International Youth Exchange are not of interest of our members.
- Monday, at the start of the working week, might not be the best day for a long lunch for business people.
- The promotion of Club membership should target people in their sixties who might have more free time than younger, mid-career people.
- The President's role could possibly be split between running the meetings and Chairing the Board.
- If each member could provide the names of two friends likely to be interested in membership, the President could write to them, explaining the benefits of membership.

President Russell thanked the members for their input which would be considered by the Directors.



Katrina, a dab hand with a chainsaw, and two other community gardening projects that Robyn organised.

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

Month	Date	Activity	Location/Comment	Contact
April	2	Easter – no meeting		
	7/8	Gardening at Janice Scott’s	16 Kahurangi Drive	Ian Pound
	9	Club Forum	“Club future”	
	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			
	11			
	18			
	25	Change over - evening		

Driver Directions

After 6 years of Rotary being in partnership with Rotorua Lakes Council and Taupo District Council, the two afore mentioned organisations (Rotary and RLC) have decided to bring Driver Directions from Taupo to Rotorua.

The Rotorua venue for Driver Directions will be at the Rotorua KartSport Raceway, Amoore Road, Mamaku.

P.P. Garth Wilson and Ray Oakley (Rotary Club of Rotorua West) will be representing Rotary on the Rotorua Driver Directions Committee.

Dates for this years Driver Directions programme are scheduled for:

Tuesday 10th & Wednesday 11th July 2018.

Tuesday 2nd & Wednesday 3rd October 2018.

Tuesday 4th & Wednesday 5th December 2018.

Helpers from our Club will be needed on these dates – please make yourself available.

