

Tuesday 11 July 2023

Change Over 2023-2024



It was a night of two Presidents, one reflecting on and celebrating the conclusion of a successful Rotary year and one looking forward to achieving much for Rotary in the coming year. Billed as a “low key affair” it was anything but with many staying on to dance the night away.

There were many guests and partners with Denise noting Joy Creet (President Inner Wheel), her son Theo, Liz Koh (Area Governor) and absent Philip Mottram (mentor).

President's Award Leigh Corner



President Denise commented that one of the pleasures of being President was being able to recognise the work of club members who often do much which is largely unseen.

In making the President's Award to Leigh Comer Denise stated that it recognised Leigh's quiet but unswerving contribution to the duty roster, possibly the least thankful task and always

something of a nightmare juggling the many priorities and noting she suspected Leigh's scientific and research methodologies were applied more than once to resolve any roster deliberations. Denise also commented “I'm very mindful at times, life isn't always easy and at Matariki, Leigh we remember Laurie, her loss you've described as leaving a great hole in your life”. We hope as your Rotary whānau, we can and are able to uplift in those difficult moments. Leigh also works on the firewood project delivering to those in need and augmenting the Clubs charitable funds. Always a cheerful presence, a man of few words but when Leigh speaks, you want to lean in and listen.

It is my privilege to award you the 2022-2023 Presidents Award.

Items Of Special Interest

> Inner Wheel are holding a fundraising event for the Women's Refuge in Porirua on 10 August 2023 at the Light House Pauatahanui. See the flyer for details.

Speaker Programme

> 25 July Dr Nicole Miller will invite us to take a look under the waves of Wellington – exploring the success and challenges of marine conservation.

> 1 August Gemma Gould will speak about hearing health.

Social Programme

> Fishing trip 27 July 2023

> 30 July Drinks and Nibbles.
Venue to be advised

Committee Night

18 July will be the first committee night of the 2023-24 Rotary year.



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Paul Harris Fellow Sapphire Pin Bruce Couch



A Paul Harris Fellow is named for the founder of Rotary who with three business associates had the first Rotary meeting in Chicago in 1905. The Paul Harris Fellows was established in his honour in 1957 to express appreciation for the contribution to the humanitarian and educational programmes of The Rotary Foundation.

Rotarians designate a Paul Harris Fellow to recognise a person whose life demonstrates a shared purpose with the objectives and mission of The Rotary Foundation to build world understanding and peace. Thus, this is a recognition made on behalf of all members of the Club and is not lightly made.

Bruce Couch joined Rotary in June 1988, having been a member of Tawa Rotary and President. He was President of Plimmerton in 2008-2009 and recipient of the President's

award 2016. In November 2009 he was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow. Bruce has been Treasurer for a very long time and always participates in the various Club projects with enthusiasm and vigour. President Denise recognised Bruce's ongoing service to RCoP and said as President "I have found you approachable, your can-do attitude invaluable and your advice is always strongly appreciated. Equally your ability to provide a solution to every problem that might arise is priceless."

I am proud to award you a Paul Harris Fellow Sapphire Pin.



President Denise's Reflections on a Very Successful Year

My goals were to set strategic framework next five years, forge enduring connections with mana whenua Ngāti Toa Rangatira and support Talanoa initiatives – citizens referendum, explore how we can connect with the next generation of Rotarians (how do we attract?) and how to recognise 50 years.

Remembering the past - Tony England (former member, past president) in 2003 at a club barbeque evening told Dexter I would be a future club president.

Inducted in Brian Greaves president year, I was repaying the investment of RCoP

to sponsor my GSE to Denmark, wondering if I was worthy enough to be a Rotarian.

This past year has been the second term as a President, in 2015/16 I was President of Sommerville Rotary. My highest gratitude goes to all those members who week after week keep turning up, continue service above self to club and community. While largely unseen I am I appreciative. For innovations to meetings content, speakers, viewpoints, person behind the badge, social activities, setting up/dismantling our meeting resources, my board (ka mau te wehi – awesome, fabulous, thank you), our weekly archive of what's on, what's been and what's going to happen, our almoner(s) there for us all.

My wrap up is to thank you all for the honour and opportunity to be President. I hoped I have continued to deepen appreciation of diversity in all its forms and positivity for the future, recognising there will be change and to embrace it.



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For almost 100 years, Kodak led the photograph business with innovation until 2012 when it filed for bankruptcy. Kodak's management never fully grasped how the world around then was changing. Obsolete assumptions about who, why and when. Users embraced digital over an inclination to get a set of hard prints. Digital devices became available in electronic retail outlets next to other gadgets, Kodak's brand came to be associated with traditional photography and distribution networks rather than digital.

Digital disrupted Kodak's neat equilibrium from women as the main customers (marketing designed on women taking the photo, the family archivist).

This brings me to concluding with a Bill Gates quote "Success today requires the agility and drive to constantly rethink, reinvigorate, react and reinvent".

I look forward to May 2048 RCoP 75th celebrations, learning how successive years have applied the agility and drive enabling it to reflect, celebrate and look to the future.

Presidents Tania's Vision for 2023-2024



We may not be a wealthy cheque-book club, but when I look at the work we do, on the smell of an oily rag, I feel really proud. I'm confident that the acknowledgement and support we provide – whether it's via the:

- pre-school clothing initiative, the
- primary school leadership awards, the
- community vegetable garden, or
- the other initiatives we're involved in

make a real difference in our communities – to families, whanau and individuals, one small way at a time.

Gordon McNally wants members to promote peace in troubled nations and help those affected by conflict. He also wants a focus on mental health – which he considers is in crisis and has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. He has challenged us to work to improve mental health services in the next year and beyond, and that's something I'd like each of our committees this year to do. I'm particularly interested in seeing what the community and youth committees can achieve this year in that respect.

In addition to believing that respect should be earned, I'm also a believer in 'learning forward by taking stock of the present and looking backwards' – a notion that is especially significant during Matariki.

In addition to my earlier acknowledgement of Denise, I'd like to acknowledge each President I have served under since I joined the club approximately 6 years ago:

Jenny Lucas, Donna Reed, Euon Murrell, Bill McAuley, and Kay Phillips – thank you. We will be drawing on your legacies and continuing to build on them.

I'd also like to acknowledge the rest of the club – particularly the old guard who aren't as active now but have other things to contribute. We have some big challenges at hand regarding the future of the club and whether, for example, we add a satellite club. The Board and the club will have to work through this during the course of this year.

While I admit I have an initial preference regarding a 'yes' or 'no' to a satellite club, I'm an analyst by trade,



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I'm keen to attract more people (and younger people) to the club though – potentially even via Rotaract. As part of the broader challenge with membership, I'd like us to consider the merits of, for example: changing our club constitution and bylaws to accommodate charging one club sub fee for married couples.

continuing dinner meetings but considering possibly having the meal before the meeting so people don't have to pay for a meal if they do not wish to.

Continuation of 50th celebrations

Able led by Denise during the 2nd half of last year, we still have another six months to go with our 50-year anniversary celebrations, and there are four more key initiatives still to come:

- * the online auction fundraiser of Ben Stokes' Ashes Series shirt. Denise sourced that for our club and it an amazing fundraising opportunity! Denise will continue to lead that initiative and the auction will be scheduled once a suitable community initiative is identified.

- * Bruce Phillips has done a great job of leading work to date to find that significant community initiative. Bruce will now be leading the International Committee which will be a busy space (more about that soon), but I'm keen for him to continue to be engaged with this initiative alongside Dexter as chair of the community committee.

- * on Saturday 19 August we'll be having the tree planting, seat and plaque unveiling with the Mayor at Plimmerton Domain. We'll then be moving on to the Rotary Forest of Peace and Remembrance planting day further around in the Domain. Given the significance of that event it'd be great to see as many people as possible down there supporting the club.

- * we're also going to be creating Community Service Certificates for people and/or groups in the wider Porirua area. These are an opportunity for our club to acknowledge people who wouldn't usually cross the path of Rotary, and to recognise the service they do for others. However, our thinking at the moment is that we have a larger, dedicated, event and acknowledge several people and organisations in March 2024. Our hope is that Colin and future Presidents will continue this initiative into their years.

Community Committee

The Community Committee includes portfolio responsibility for environment and is our largest committee and has done some great work over the years and has great connections. I'm keen for some of the initiatives we have underway to become better connected.

For example, several of our members are also members of the Menz Shed and we were a key part of its

I'm keen for us to create bird houses and mini book libraries at the Menz Shed and to have them appropriately distributed along Te Ara Piko and the Rotary Garden of Peace and Remembrance – which as you know, are other key initiatives our club has been a driving force for.

I love the idea of Kindy and school outings to the walkway as action learning opportunities for kids to connect with nature, and there's a possibility of having local media invited to raise our profile and showcase some of our work. I'm also looking to the Community Committee to continue to build on our early relationship with Helmut and Ngati Toa Rangatira.



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International Committee

While our primary focus as a club for the coming year is local, a key [pillar] of Rotary is building knowledge, understanding and connection. As part of the International portfolio, I'd like us to do that by proactively acknowledging language weeks and sharing information about those nations - including trade and tourism information (perhaps through short regular quizzes or similar).

I'd also like us to take a strategic approach to the international portfolio beyond just the Rotary world – for example, in terms of Sister Clubs, I'd like us to look to build on Porirua City's Sister City relationships and delegations. These are business and culturally focused community leadership groups and - by the nature of their formality – are enduring over the long-term regardless of community leaders (including in Rotary) coming and going. Our challenge, as always, will be for our international initiatives to have funding sources but I'm confident that we have the creativity to pull off some great stuff on the smell of an oily rag and by partnering with others.

Speakers Programme

I'd like to make special mention of the Speakers programme because I think it's going to play an important role during the next year.

Joe Perera is going absolute gangbusters with organising our speakers and has speakers booked for several months in advance already!

This is a key role. Promoting good quality speakers throughout our community will build the profile of our club and will hopefully also attract people to come along to listen to the speaker. In turn this will give us a chance to connect with those people and provide the opportunity to showcase our club.

Because of the potential of this, I'm very keen for Joe, the incoming president after Colin who this year will be the lead for the membership committee, myself, and the communications and IT team to work very closely on this. My intention is that we attract high quality speakers, including remotely from overseas and we'll need the technology infrastructure to support that.

Communications Committee

The communications committee does a great job but I'm concerned about the workload associated with the weekly update in its usual format and am interested in how the current experiment with PDFs goes.

I'm also keen to grow our community engagement via social media and, in particular, our promotion of speakers and events.

Club Service Committee

The club service committee is the backbone of our club, and they do a fantastic job. In addition to the usual secretariat, treasurer, venue and technology portfolios, it will also hold the social portfolio this year.

Some administrative and schedule changes

I'd like to make some tweaks to some of our administrative and roster tasks.

>You'll see that I've reinstated having a separate person thanking the speaker rather than having the speaker host do this – that feels better to me in terms of manaaki and demonstrates to the speaker that others in the club are interested and have listened, and that it's not just a roster task for the host.



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>As I'm keen to increase the number of people attending meetings and enjoying the opportunity to connect and to hear our wonderful speakers, you'll see that Committee nights have, with only a couple of exceptions to accommodate speaker availability, been changed to the 3rd Thursday of the month. This is to match the Inner Wheel meeting schedule – the Plimmerton Inner Wheel club is going from strength to strength and has a growing membership – they are keen to attend more of our meetings and we'd love to have them.

>Rather than have sergeants' sessions, I'm keen for us to periodically have a quiz fundraiser, with people who get a question wrong being required to throw a coin in the pot.

>In terms of our gifts for speakers – I'm keen to continue to support our environment portfolio and wonder if we can broker a deal with the council or whomever we get trees for planting from, to enable us to offer speakers either the gift of a native tree, or the current movie voucher. If they chose the tree, the speaker would have the option of keeping it themselves or they could ask us to plant it on their behalf in the Rotary Forrest of Peace and Remembrance during our regular planting sessions.

I'd like the club to join me in acknowledging the following people who are leading some of the key club roles:

- Communications – Phillip Reidy
- International – Bruce Phillips
- Club Service (which includes the social portfolio) – Colin Whyte
- Youth – Denise Trill
- Treasurer – Bruce Couch
- Community (which also includes the environment portfolio) – Dexter Trill
- Secretary - Nick Walmsley
- Venue support - Phil Whearty
- Social - Graeme Blick, Alan Nichols, and Bryan Waddell
- Almoners – Rhondda Sweetman and John Barber
- Environment - Bill McAuley
- Roster – Graham Wallace
- Technology – Peter Sinke (and Dieter)
- Speaker write-up – Mike Doig
- Speaker finder – Joe Perera

Closing

Some of the things I love about our club are the lovely people; the warmth and good humour; our collectively huge knowledge and experience (both within and external to, the Rotary world). One of my favourite social activities over the last few years has been the Guess Who's Coming to Dinner evenings – these have been the best way to get to know you all and I'd love it if these could continue.

I'd like to end with another quote from Gordon Mcllany. He wants Rotary to be known as an organisation that takes care of its members as well as the people it serves and says:

Any mental health professional will tell you that by helping others, we essentially help ourselves."

Nga mihi



New Member of Plimmerton Rotary Brett Jones



Brett was born in Auckland and grew up in Orewa. The youngest of 4, he went to Orewa District High and then Westlake Boys High School. On leaving school he worked for AMP for a year and then joined the Police.

He married Judi in 1976.

He worked in Auckland for 10 years a wide range of roles. Search and rescue was a particular interest of his and he was a member of the recovery team on Erebus.

Brett and Judi moved to Taihape where he was Sergeant and Senior Sergeant for several years and had a wide range of Police duties. Then he went to the Police college to teach recruits.

He ended up running part of the Police Advanced Specialist Courses school which provided leadership and management training for Non-commissioned Officers and Inspectors.

Brett completed a degree in Adult Education in the Police and achieved a fellowship in the Arbitrators Institute in Mediation.

Brett resigned from the Police and undertook a master's degree in Dispute Resolution and Organisational Development. And then set up a Private Training Enterprise under NZQA and developed a training business.

In parallel to this Brett has had an interest in real estate and built a modest real estate portfolio. After selling the PTE he has focused on this.

Brett and Judi moved to Melbourne 2015 to pursue her career.

Brett has been a member of Rotary Taihape and Melbourne.

He has an interest in sailing and a boat in the Marina and his interest in Art has led him to complete a couple of years of a fine arts degree after he sold his business.

Brett and Judi have 2 adult daughters.

Welcome to the club Brett – we're really delighted to have you.

Want Freedom from Clutter?

De-clutter Delight Have the Answer



Contact Mike Scott or Phillip Reidy who will arrange to collect your items of clutter and move them to a place of new love. Proceeds to RCOP Charitable Trust.

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Technical Support



Peter Sinke is going to be away for two weeks, and his trained assistant is on Leave of Absence so if you could fill in, please talk to Peter. There is a real need to have some back up for Peter as he cannot be expected to be one of the few members to have a 100% attendance record. Comprehensive training will be provided and it is a remuneration free opportunity.



Fishing Trip Update

Ron Lucas has made a booking for a fishing trip with Wellington Fishing Charters. The date is 27 July 2023 with sailing at 7.00am and shore return 5.00pm. The cost is expected to be \$200 based on 13 being on the trip. If you are interested, please let Ron know promptly so he can confirm the booking. Contact Ron here ron.lucas09@gmail.com



Chatter Box

This is a new feature where items of interest as they relate to members might be put. If you have something you would like to include let me know.

A fact that may have escaped many is David and Velma Knights move to Waikanae. They have been there some 5 weeks and David is still discovering a wardrobe of envy to many as he continues to unpack boxes. With the Club's new focus on "international" the Knight's move is of significance as it places them the furthest away from Plimmerton as any member and has a near intercontinental carbon footprint.

Speaking of new directions for the Club the possibility of a "winter satellite" club at Maroochydore should be investigated.

Donna Reed was spotted along with ex Club member Adrienne Murray attending a superb puppet show at Circa. One wonders what they were doing at a show for children with not a child in tow.

There is an un-substantiated rumour that, having a gap in her busy travel schedule Wendy Betteridge is negotiating to establish a London Primary School Leadership Award. This might mesh nicely with our sister city interests.

Who caught past President Denise's comment that she was proud of the growth in Club membership under her watch. The kicker was it was all in the honorary category.

Alan and Alison Lough are on the move to enjoy the next stage of their lives at the Charles Flemming Retirement Village in Waikanae. We will update the membership list in due course.



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