



Rotary Club of Maungakiekie Bulletin / Newsletter NL 262 13th of July 2026

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CREATE LASTING IMPACT



Monday 13th of July 2026

Apologies: Gwynyth Carr,
George Arulanatham, Paul Jenner, Rod Kestle,
Mavis Moodie, George Varghese,
Craig Jones LOA.



July

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH
MONTH

"Improved maternal health benefits the whole of society"
Isabella Lovin

Sergeant: Acting Sergeant Bill Grayson

During a recent board meeting, significant changes and improvements were discussed, with an update concerning the Onehunga Community House. Tina Bicknell has been appointed as the new coordinator, replacing long-time staff members Bridget and Tony.

Tina has inquired about the date for the 2027 book fair, indicating a desire to continue hosting it at the community house, which has historically yielded positive results. Bill expressed satisfaction with their participation over the past years and encouraged others to engage more actively in its management to help sustain its growth. Last year, the book fair generated over \$20,000, a significant amount the group aims to match in the future.

Bill then mentioned a tradition, started by the late Bede Brittenden, ex Rugby referee, to run a sweepstake related to an upcoming All Blacks rugby match against Ireland, referencing a tradition previous members enjoyed. A sweepstake sheet was circulated, allowing participants to wager \$5 on predicted scores, with funds collected by Bruce. The winner will be announced the following week.

The speaker also introduced a more personal note, sharing a sad dollar related to the recent passing of their dog due to carcinoma. In a silver lining, they are preparing to welcome a new puppy, Afi—a unique breed mixed with a Labrador and a greyhound. The choice of name, Afi, resonates with Polynesian culture, symbolizing warmth and familial inclusion, mirroring Bills past experience with another dog named Ahi.
(If Bill arrives at one meeting without shoes, we will all know why.)

A call was made by Rob Lyons , with an invitation to take home excess limes he has brought in from an overproducing tree at home.

Guest speaker. New President Tony Rayner: *(Summary)*

Today marked our first board meeting where we made important decisions for the year. My focus this year is on creating a lasting impact, starting with increasing membership. We will collaborate with the district and regionalisation committees to drive membership growth, with Barry representing us at an upcoming meeting for ideas on this.

The financial report was presented, and the board agreed to increase this year's subscription fee by \$20 with invoicing planned for two payments one now and another in January. Unfortunately, we received two resignations this week: long-standing member Alan Bannin, who will be missed, and Bruce Verall, who left due to work commitments. We wish them well.

Regarding upcoming projects, we have Daffodil Day approaching, and Peter needs additional volunteers for shifts on Saturday, August 29th, from 12-2 PM and 2-4 PM.

We also discussed collaboration with Remuera, led by their president Lee Marshall. They expressed interest in meeting more frequently, with invitations to join them on August 10th with ACT candidate James Christmas and on September 7th with National candidate Mahesh Muralidhar. These engagements could enhance our visibility and numbers.

Remuera is part of District 9920, but future regionalisation suggests that we might merge into two districts across New Zealand. We are currently in Regional Group 6 with clubs from 9920, along with others from 9910, creating opportunities for collaboration despite traditional district lines. Overall, it's a year filled with potential growth and impactful partnerships on the horizon.

The meeting emphasized the need to focus on membership, particularly targeting both young people and retirees acknowledging the need for purpose and engagement. An intriguing aspect discussed was the existence of Interact groups for young people aged 12 to 18, composed mainly of high school students. Traditionally, Rotaract served those between 18 and 35, with Rotary membership starting at 35, but these restrictions have evolved. A recent forum at Maclean's College attracted 100 students from 15 schools, showcasing robust youth engagement, particularly with the strong Interact group of 200 members at Maclean's.

Plans are underway to engage Onehunga High School to propose starting an Interact club, potentially including various community service activities. Research will guide the approach, and interest from the school will determine feasibility. Several upcoming programs, like the Summer Science Forum and Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA), exemplify collaborative projects that foster youth development and community interaction.

Tony also highlighted the importance of teaching young people valuable ethics, showcasing the four-way test that distinguishes Rotary from other organizations. Concerns about workforce shortages, as mentioned in Christchurch, highlight that Rotary's network could provide reliable individuals to fill gaps.

In addition to youth engagement, there is an ongoing effort to create shelter bags for the homeless, designed to be durable and waterproof, with the aim of using local organizations to assist in distributing them. Rotary clubs plan to raise funds for these bags, partnering with groups like the Auckland City Mission and the Salvation Army to deliver them to those in need.

The overall strategy for this year is to maintain flexibility and adaptability, possibly considering merging with other clubs while continuing with established traditions, such as the sergeant sessions. Regular updates and discussions will refine these initiatives, further engaging both young and older demographics for stronger community involvement. The plan also includes ongoing communication about progress and ideas to enhance membership and service efforts.

Thanks, from Trevor Mosley:

Thanks very much, Tony, for putting the work in that you have put in and for the work which you are planning to do with the board. We look forward to having a good year with you and once again, thank you for standing and taking on something which some people feel a bit afraid to do. I think it's an honour to do it, and I'm sure you're looking at it from that point of view as well.

Thought for the week. Bruce Murdoch had looked through the list for the sweepstakes for next Saturday night's All Blacks game with Ireland, and noted everybody is backing the All Blacks

So, his thought for the week:

"Kiwis are optimists."

July Programme:

20th July Rob Woodley GM, Blues Charitable Trust: 2026 Update

Duties: 13th July 2026

President Tony Rayner

Sergeant: Bill Grayson

Attendance: Ernie Meyer

Hospitality: Mavis Moodie

Meals: Barry Stafford- Rhett Stephens

5 Minute Speaker: TBA

Host: Trevor Mosley

Guest Speaker: Rob Woodley

Subject: Blues Charitable Trust Update

Thanks: Bruce Murdoch

Thought for the week: Derek Neutze

Make the Rotary Foundation your Charity of Choice!



MAKING A DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY

Every minute of every day,
The Rotary Foundation:

-  Feeds someone
-  Houses someone
-  Vaccinates someone
-  Educates someone
-  Performs surgery on someone
-  Comforts someone
-  Provides clean water to someone

"Whatever Rotary may mean to
us, to the world it will be known
by the results it achieves."

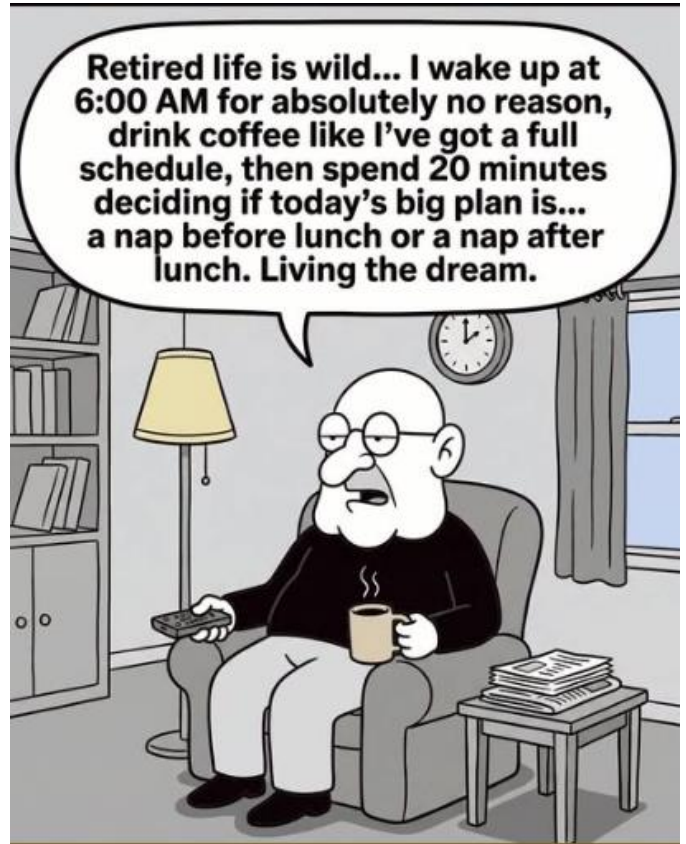


Paul Harris
Rotary founder



Smile!

It makes people wonder what you have been up to!



**I never thought I'd be
the kind of person who'd
wake up early in the
morning to exercise...
And I was right.**



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End note

One eye said to the other, there's something between us that smells.

(Courtesy of Robin Hulford)