



*(As of 1 July 2022, the Rotary Club of Onehunga – One Tree Hill was renamed the Rotary Club of Maungakiekie)*

## Newsletter to keep the Wheel Turning



**President:** Quentin Jay

**Secretary:** Iain McCrae (Hm) 09 625 8035, (Mb) 021 963 899, email: [diainz.mc@gmail.com](mailto:diainz.mc@gmail.com)

**Club Meeting location:** Royal Oak Bowls, 146 Selwyn Street, Onehunga, Auckland

**Time:** Monday evening 5:30pm for 6 p.m. start to 7:30pm, includes \$20 dinner

**Mail:** PO Box 29086 Greenwoods Corner, Epsom

**Web:** <https://www.rotarymaungakiekie.org.nz/>



## NL 111, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022

**Present:** 28

**Apologies:** Phil Aish, Lloyd Albiston, Noel Cary, Gwynyth Carr, Robin Hulford, John Mamea-Wilson, Ant Martin, Neil Reid, Deidre Shea

**Sergeant's Fines:** \$99.50 + \$52.70 in coins – a good effort

## PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Neil & Trish Reid

Quentin announced the resignation of **Neil Reid (Reido)** from the club for personal reasons, who along with Trish has been brilliant exemplars of everything that epitomises what it is to be a Rotarian. Past District Governor, past President of the One Tree Hill Onehunga and Henderson Rotary Clubs, originator of Satellites clubs, driving membership and lead in numerous projects in the Pacific and the local communities just to name a few - many have gained from their presence. The Board has agreed to give Neil & Trish Honorary status as we wish them both all the very best.

Cat Levine was interviewed on the **1ZB Country Show** about the project she is leading.

Quentin reported on the **Westhaven Movie event** at JC Ryders Cinema, Avondale which is a great place for events and watch the very funny "What we did on Our Holiday" movie.

### Ellerslie Spring Clean is on again (Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Oct)



**ELLERSLIE'S SPRING CLEAN**

**Rescheduled for:** Saturday 15 October, 2:30pm-4pm  
**Where:** Ellerslie Domain (186 Main Highway), meeting by the playground  
**What:** A community clean up of the Domain and surrounding streets, hosted by local MP Priyanca Radhakrishnan. We'll provide everything you need, including afternoon tea at the end.


Scan here to RSVP!

**Priyanca Radhakrishnan**  
MP for Maungakiekie  
PriyancaMP@parliament.govt.nz | (09) 622 2660

Labour

Authorised by Priyanca Radhakrishnan, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

The poster features a photograph of three people in high-visibility vests holding large clear plastic bags filled with trash. The background shows a park-like setting with trees and a clear sky.

For more info go to  and search "Ellerslie's Spring Clean"

## Rotary Maungakiekie donates to local schools



We congratulate Royal Oak Primary and Intermediate Schools on taking away two of the four TOM 2022 National awards which took place in Wellington on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

### Between them they won:

Royal Oak Primary – “The Arts” (Primary Winner)

Royal Oak Intermediate – “STEM” (Primary Winner)



### More info:

What is TOM?: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tournament\\_of\\_Minds](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tournament_of_Minds))

NZ results: <https://tom.edu.au/branch/nz/>)

FB – NZ site: <https://www.facebook.com/tournamentofmindsnz>)

Our club assisted both schools with their entry fees, travel and accommodation for the NZ Final in Wellington and the International Final in Canberra:

Royal Oak Primary (Wellington trip): \$2,100.

Royal Oak Intermediate (Canberra trip): \$2,000.

Seven students are off to compete in the **International Finals, Tournament of Minds (TOM), Canberra, 14-17<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022.**

We wish them all the best.

## MND funding



The club has been approached by Motor Neuron Disease New Zealand (MND) for support.




This will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

## Motuihe Island - Volunteer Day (Sun 16<sup>th</sup> Oct)

The island is a recreational reserve controlled by the Dept. of Conservation and administered by the Motuihe Trust.

Go out with the Westhaven Rotary members to help with planting, weeding and the nursery day 16<sup>th</sup> Oct.

A great day out for \$35. Contact Quentin who is looking for numbers who will be attending.



Rotary Westhaven invite you to join us!

# Motuihe Island Volunteer Day

Sunday 16 October

Planting, weeding and nursery work


\$35 (for Boat)

To register:  
Email Fiona at [info@motuihe.org.nz](mailto:info@motuihe.org.nz) and say you are with Rotary Westhaven

Bring:  
Water, lunch and snacks, clean sturdy shoes, rain jacket, hat and suncream.  
All bags must be zipped or sealed.

Departure: 09:00am Z Pier, Westhaven  
Return: 15:30pm depart Motuihe


[www.motuihe.org.nz](http://www.motuihe.org.nz)



## 2022 Book Fair

Volunteers required:  
Sorting: 21-25 Nov  
Sales: 26 & 27 Nov

Selected books left over will go to the Pacific.



ROTARY CLUB OF MAUNGAKIEKIE

# BOOK FAIR!

2022

ALL PROCEEDS TO CHARITY

FREE ENTRY\*

\*Earlybird entry  
7-9am Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November  
\$20 per person

**SATURDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER (9-5<sup>PM</sup>)**  
**SUNDAY, 27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER (9-2<sup>PM</sup>)**

**ONEHUNGA COMMUNITY HOUSE**  
83 Selwyn Street, Onehunga

[ROTARYMAUNGAKIEKIE.ORG.NZ](http://ROTARYMAUNGAKIEKIE.ORG.NZ) Please turn over..

## CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Membership

Quentin has approached three individuals about joining our club and all said yes. We needed a few more invitees to justify the Membership Interest meeting which has been postponed to a later date. We look forward meeting the Quentin's invitees in upcoming meetings.

[Breaking news this week] Jeanette Thorne has agreed to chair the Membership Committee. Jeannette comes with significant experience in running membership for other organisations and we look forward to her continuing Neil's great work.

### Trevor's back

It was very good to see Trevor Mosley amongst us again who said it was "nice to be back" after his period of absence.

### Banana boxes for books

Bruce needs dozens of banana boxes to display the books in. Please source what you can from local Supermarkets and fruit shops.

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## 5-MIN SPOT

### Derek Atkinson spoke about getting COVID in Hospital.

While in hospital for treatment recently, Derek became quite compromised when he contracted COVID-19 while there.

Derek was in the high secured Cancer & Haematology (Blood) ward which was one of the most locked down wards in the hospital. He shared the ward with three others where one night he felt cold like symptoms. The nurse performed a RAT test and all were surprised to see a positive result.

This apparently was their first breakthrough in years. This meant Derek had to be immediately isolated from the others who were moved out after some protest.

Derek's condition deteriorated and became very sick and was moved into his own room in the Oncology Ward. All the nurses wore full PPE gear and left his meals outside his door to fetch (similar to Hotel isolation for travellers returning from overseas).

Locked away spent most of the time watching the Queen's funeral on TV making where he felt quite alone. The nurses however were excellent and provided Derek a newspaper and coffee every morning.

After his treatment Derek was returned to the Murray Halberg Retirement Village where he had to hand over his clothes for a thorough washing and whisked upstairs to his apartment for a further 5-days of isolation.

The two bouts of isolation and being alone for so long left him with an ongoing issue - however it's only recently he feels he's back on the road to recovery.



## guest speaker

### Trish Gribben: Rose Charities NZ

Trish described how Rose Charities was formed, and a project that began from scratch and ended up delivering a five-storey eye clinic in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. She ended with a good guideline for anyone wanting to undertake an international project.

Trish Gribben - Rose Charities NZ

Trish started as a journalist for the Auckland Star, many years ago, and was responsible for reporting on Onehunga affairs. Trish's father Ernie Thomas was a Rotarian—District Governor-- whose brother, Harold Thomas, was President of Rotary International from 1959-1960.

Rose Charities operates in 15 countries and the NZ chapter was set up in 2000 in Christchurch. Rose Charities is a not-for-profit, secular, non-political organisation. Its focus is on aid and assistance both internationally and locally where community-based projects can be supported. The NZ chapter wound up in 2021 after declaring its chief project, the Eye Clinic in Cambodia, a success. Trish is past Rose NZ Chairperson, a role she held for 10 yrs.

The founder of Rose Charities is Canadian/Kiwi physician Dr William Grut who lives in Vancouver. He worked as a medic in the 1990's in Cambodia after the 1975-1978 Pol Pot/Khmer Rouge regime and the 1990s Russian-backed Vietnam invasion of Cambodia.

The Cambodian who became medical director of the Rose Eye Clinic in Phnom Penh was a 12-year-old boy, held in a camp for 6 years during the Pol Pot regime. Hang Vra was always very keen to learn as much as he could. He would run 12-miles home to see his mother while the guards were asleep. In 1998 when the Russians came, they picked out Vra as a very bright boy and he was sent to Moscow to study. He started out doing philosophy then moved to medicine. Vra spent a holiday time in Ukraine and

while there met his future wife Natalia - a nurse who later became an ophthalmologist and Cambodian citizen.

Dr Hang Vra and Dr Natalia Vra now lead the eye clinic in Phnom Phen, founded by Dr William Grut in early 2000.

(Trish added a sobering thought that today in Remuera there are 23 eye specialist clinics, while back in Cambodia at the end of the war there were just 14 doctors left alive for the whole country).

Over the preceding years their small eye clinic gradually built up assisted with funding from the Rose Charities New Zealand and Canada. All wasn't plain sailing as the clinic was looted and everything was taken in the first two years. Dr Grut and the team almost gave up but they adopted the Buddhist attitude of patience and along came Rose Charities NZ to help out financially.

In 2004, Trish became involved and now a 5-storey building has been built, with eye clinics in the lower three levels and a home for Dr Vra and his family on top.



The clinic is now self-funding, with wealthy patients subsidising the very poor patients.

A major supporter/donor of Rose Charities NZ been the PIF Foundation (***pay-it-forward***: when someone does something for you, instead of paying that person back directly, you pass it on to another person instead) and Rotary, through the Harold Thomas Trust (for a project to provide Ear Nose and Throat treatment for children in Samoa.)

Rose Charities NZ has donated \$300,000 worth of medical equipment to Cambodia. Many sponsors paid for flights and “good kiwi blokes” helped in the clinic. Mike Webber an optometrist from Whanganui and a Rose Trustee, has made 14 trips to Phnom Phen to support the clinic.

The Clinic's “wish list” is very modest, such as: a broom cupboard, a swing door to a room, a 2<sup>nd</sup> hand washing machine, funds to prop up a ceiling –

nothing flash.

Finally, Rose Charities adopted the **GLOPF** approach to international projects:

- G** **Ground level need** (has to be local community want – not what we think they want)
- L** **Local leadership** (to ensure good comms with overseas support & drive local activity)
- O** **Ownership by locals** (four locals eventually became optometrists)
- P** **Partnership** (involve other international charity/s (they have Harold Thomas Rotary Trust)
- F** **Finance** (FIRST find local people on the ground, THEN you get the money)

From Q&A's that followed, Trish says there is a good working relationship between Rose Charities Eye Clinic and Fred Hollows Foundation.

Duncan MacDonald thanked Trish and as a former CEO he understands what it means to keep going in tough situations – as President Obama once said, “Yes we can” (to inspire and motivate citizens towards progress and prosperity).

**More information:**

YouTube vid: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPVwGHkpPGw&t=37s>)

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**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK** - provided by Cat Levine –

***People may forget what you say – but not how you make them feel***

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## DUTIES

**Unable to attend?** Apologies to Noel Carey: [noelcarey@hotmail.com](mailto:noelcarey@hotmail.com)

**Unable for a duty?** Arrange your own replacement & text Noel Mb: [0274 509 845](tel:0274509845)

**Meeting: Mon, 10<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022**

**Sergeant:** Noel Carey

**Attendance:** Ernie Meyer

**Hospitality:** John-Paul Goulding

**Equipment:** Bill Appleton

**Scribe:** Tony Rayner

**Host & Thanks:** Paul Jenner

**Speaker: Ana Ika (Social Policy Analyst, Salvation Army): State of the Nation - Measuring the Social Progress of Aotearoa**

**5-Min Talk:** tba

**Thought:** Derek Neutze

**Meeting: Mon, 17<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022**

**Sergeant:** Noel Carey

**Attendance:** Gwynyth Carr

**Hospitality:** Phil Aish

**Equipment:** Bill Appleton

**Scribe:** Barry Stafford

**Host & Thanks:** Barry Stafford

**Speaker: Jim Jackson & Stephen Lasham: Manukau Harbour**

**5-Min Talk:** tbc

**Thought:** Rob Lyons

## Snaps from the night



toUch of huMoUr!

