



Rotary
Club of Maungakiekie



(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: diaz.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/>



IMAGINE
ROTARY



NL 121, 23rd January 2023

Present: 28

Apologies: Peter Mayow, Rhett Stephens, Quentin Jay, Bill Grayson, Ant Martin, Derek Atkinson, Cat Levine

Sergeant's fines: \$101.40

Intro

It was an excellent turn out for the first meeting of 2023 which got under way a little after 6pm after everyone hurriedly caught up with each other if they hadn't already done so at last week's BBQ. It was also great to see Bill Appleton recently returned to our shores after his time in the UK with family.

ACTING PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A smartly dressed **Barry Stafford** kicked off the first meeting for 2023 in lieu of **President Quentin** who will be regularly rock 'n rolling (commuting that is) between Auckland and Greymouth for work.

Barry first commended **Craig and Judith Jones** for their wonderfully relaxing BBQ at their modest 'batch' at Baddeleys Beach.



These photos don't do the event any justice as the photographer so chilled, he forgot to take any photos until the last moment.

It was an excellent time with great food, warm weather with a cool breeze at a superb location with Craig and Judith who were such gracious hosts. Tempting as it was, there were no takers for a dip in the pool. Some of the troops who weren't mingling spent time wandering around the grounds and inside looking for the 'bathroom' (yeah right).



Barry presented Deidre Shea a gift from the club who later this week will be retiring after 30-years at Onehunga High School, 15-years as principal.

On Friday Deidre will be handing over to Ms Shameen Hayat who in earlier years spent time at OHS as a Teacher Trainee.

Barry highlighted how very fortunate the club was to have Deidre as a member and for the club to have been invited to her school bi-annually. Club member **Ernie Meyer's** was also recognised for his ongoing involvement with the school providing Operational Support for the Building and Construction Dept., whose students assist with the build of a 4-bedroom house, every year, for Habitat for Humanity.

It was noted Deidre also helped Bill Greyson in getting students into **The Rotary National Science & Technology Forum** held in Auckland this month (7-21 January 2023).



Members joined Barry wishing Deidre all the best with a resounding round of applause.

Deidre responded thanking the club in return, saying “the difference the club has made to the school is awe inspiring”. She loved her job and will be moving into some part-time rolls both here and in government.

Principal Hayat will be joining the club soon as she has settled in, which we all look forward to.

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

60
SECONDS

Barry announced that the Rotary sponsored **THE SHADES Gratitude Tour** is making a welcome return next month after its NZ tour was rudely interrupted by the COVID-19 Delta outbreak in Auckland on 18 August 2021.



The remaining Auckland leg will be now staged on **16th & 17th Feb 2023, in the Rangatira Theatre, at Q Theatre's 500-seater auditorium located at 305 Queen St., Auckland.**

The vocal quartet have recently returned from New York promoting their new album.

Club members were pleasantly surprised at last month's Christmas party when SHADES popped in and sung a set of Christmas carols (more about that and pics below).

The club has 50-complimentary tickets that will be 'sold' to members for a modest \$20.

Box Office tickets can be purchased for \$29-\$49 online at:
<https://www.qtheatre.co.nz/shows/shades-gratitude-tour>



Tell your friends, make it a dinner night out!

Noel is looking for names to rattle the buckets outside Foodtown Onehunga for the upcoming **Heart Foundation: Big Heart Appeal on Friday 24th & Saturday 25th Feb.**

For those not familiar, it involves a 2-hrs shift outside the supermarket accepting donations mainly by cash or the occasional EFTPOS card (simple instructions provided).

This will take place hopefully under an umbrella where this time, hopefully, it will be used to keep the sun off and not the rain! We had a lot of fun and there was a great public response last year for the Cancer Society Daffodil Day we helped with.

Please register your interest by email to **Peter Mayow** at **mayows@gmail.com** including day and time of choice. Many thanks.



Craig Jones distributed copies this flyer around the tables promoting **David Seymour's, State of the Nation – Charity Dinner on the 23rd February** at the Sorrento in the Park at \$150/head.

David was an honorary member of the Epsom club from 2014 and continues as honorary member with us at Rotary Maungakiekie. The Charity Dinner fund-raising event is sure to be educational, informative as well as entertaining.



A quick Google search (search words: Rotary, Beehive, NZ) revealed a surprising number of NZ politicians who have spoken at Rotary Clubs:

Rob Muldoon: Rotary Club (RC) of Orewa (1980, 1981, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1988)

Don Brash: RC Orewa (2004), RC Auckland (2011)

Bill English: RC Port Nicholson (1999); RC Wellington (2013); RC Auckland (2017)

Judith Collins: RC Auckland (2010)

Helen Clark: RC Port Nicholson (2000), RC Auckland (2001)

David Seymour: RC Milford (2022)

Wyatt Creach: RC Harbour City (1997)

Fran O'Sullivan: RC New Market (2020)

Nick Smith: RC Nelson (1997)

John Ansell: RC Remuera - cancelled by the club (2012)

John Key, Steven Joyce et al Battle of the Suits Debate: RC Downtown (2019, 2021)

Jim Anderton: RC Nelson (2000)

Jim Bolger: RC Wellington South (1997)

Rodney Hyde: RC Taradale (2010)

Doug Graham: RC Pakuranga (1999)

John Luxton: RC Matamata (1997)

Michael Cullen: RC Ahurriri (2001), RC Waipukurau (2004), RC Greymouth (2004)

Ruth Dyson: RC Christchurch South (2008)

Lianne Dalziel: RC Hutt (2002)

Winston Peters: RC Henderson (2019)

Phil Aish called for help tomorrow 24th Jan to assist with a final tidy-up at Cat's old house as she is bevering away on the Waikato Tractor Trek.

(Ed: A good number did turn up with rakes and tools then finished off with a coffee and bun at the local Hollywood Bakery).

Tony Rayner asked members to think about presenting a **5-minute talk** on any subject of their choosing. Could you please email Tony at: tonyrayner2@gmail.com when they would be ready to speak. Bede's uncanny internal clock will ensure the 5-minute rule isn't broken!

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The club's end of year Christmas party at the Sorrento in the Park on the 19th Dec was a great success at a venue whose west facing windows allowed members to be bathed in the setting sun.



Wine was provided along with a delicious meal of roast veges, chicken and ham, followed up with lashings of Christmas pud and other sweet stuff.

Lloyd, as always, did a great job MCing the evening kicked off with a **Santa's Special Gift** poem which pertained to a special 'gift' reindeers leave behind to those who don't behave.



We were pleasantly surprised and felt very honoured to be visited by three of **THE SHADES** tour group who came with a guitar to sing a set of six Christmas Carols. Their powerful vocals and pitch perfect harmonies carried easily throughout the venue and was a prelude of what to expect at their upcoming concert on **16th and 17th Feb at the Q-Theatre.**



Barry thanked the group for taking their valuable time out to visit us and wished them success for Auckland tour and the upcoming year.

Up next was the **70s Club Christmas draw** with the first three prizes going to the lucky **Trevor, Tony and Cat**.

Prizes for **best Christmassy dressed couples** went to **Barry & Beverly, Brian & Sharyn and Paul & Leanne**.



At a poke at political correctness, **Gay** delivered a poem called *A Politically Correct Christmas Poem* (Harvey Ehrlich © 1992), about Santa lamenting the amount of political correctness he faced in his work. It's worth a re-visit, here:

https://www.mit.edu/people/dmredish/wwwMLRF/links/Humor/PC_Christmas.html

Rod put together an ad hoc human orchestra of eight volunteers who were given whistles and seated in order of ascending pitch. He then, what can be loosely described as, "conducted" i.e. pointed at them when to blow, and the rest of us had to guess the tune. Some songs were guessed after 3-peeps, others were a total mystery and were probably never a Christmas hit anyway. Three Blind Mice seemed to have featured a lot.

All Come All Ye Faithful was finally coaxed out of the 'orchestra'. Lloyd, at the end of the row had the highest pitched whistle and complained bitterly that he only got to blow his whistle once.

Quentin signed off the night thanking the organisers and caterers and introduced what's coming up in 2023.





guest speaker

Dany Miller-Kareko Onehunga/ Oranga Hub Manager



George introduced **Dany** with an impressive bio and an impressive list of public facilities she locally manages.

Dany opened greeting the members in te reo. She was raised in Taranaki, is from Ngāpuhi descent Northland and grew up in Onehunga. Six-months ago Dany became the new manager of the Onehunga library, Onehunga Community Centre and the Oranga Community Centre all of which were merged to become a more seamless service.

The photo above pretty much reflects Dany's openness, friendliness and confidence when she came to describe what she does and has planned. She leads a team of 18-staff who regularly rotate around the three organisations to become more familiar with the combined operations the community they serve.

In that sense the library has become more of a community hub bringing along some surprising initiatives. For example, a mobile phone App (members should explore) called **Libby** which enables library card holders to access ebooks and audiobooks for free. *(Ed: I tested Libby on my mobile so you don't have to, and now I'm reading last month's New Scientist for free!).*

Surprisingly, 17% of families don't have connection to or can ill afford normal broadband rates. The library offers an initiative called **Skinny Jump** which is a subsidised, Spark owned, not for profit broadband service, costing \$5 for 35GB data/month which is quite reasonable for families on a tight budget. *(Ed: A quick calc assuming the average Kiwi household uses 330GB at \$82/month - Skinny Jump works out to be about 57% the normal rate).*

In addition to programmes for young mums, hobbies and fitness classes, the Centre also provides morning tea for free. There is also have space to hire out for local Interest Groups. The library also celebrates Māori and Chinese New Year.

As described earlier, Dany comes across as being very open minded she says she likes to better understand views and needs of the locals and "will try anything once". In case you are looking for it Dany says the CAB is now situated next the

Onehunga Library/Community Hub on the corner of Church St and Lower Municipal Pl.

Dany works with volunteers who are funded by the City Council and Local Board and is currently looking for more volunteers to deliver books to those less mobile. In short, “the fading library service had to be more than just ‘loaning books’ but to engage more socially”.

To a question regarding cooking facilities, yes the Hub has a full working kitchen and a recording studio!

Welcome to the Library of 2023 and thank you Dany!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Nothing is so admirable in politics as a short memory.

John (Ken) Galbraith (Canadian-American Economist, b.1908 d.2006)



2023 Feelings For Life Tractor Trek - UPDATE



WANTED: Tractor Driver

A driver has become available to a Rotarian who can/could drive a tractor. The tractor is owned by club member Phil Aish. The trek starts 10 am, Sunday 12th February at Naikē (Highway 22) and heads south to Cambridge. The Trek finishes in Matamata on Sunday 26th February. Anyone interested please contact Phil Aish on Mb: 0274-449-655 a.s.a.p.

WANTED – Rotary Caps

The Trek needs to borrow Rotary caps for the Tractor drivers. Although the trek is run Rotary the only three drivers are Rotarians: Phil, Cat and Rod. To ensure good promotion we need to borrow 15 Rotarians caps. There will be media coverage so a cap with the Rotary Wheel on each tractor will ensure Rotary is well represented.

Please contact Rod who we will arrange a pick-up and ensure your name is marked inside your cap.

MEDIA RELEASE January 24, 2023

More than a dozen tractors are leaving the farm and heading out on the roads in the Waikato for a two-week trek supporting a children's mental health programme.

It is the second time the Feelings for Life Tractor Trek has been to the Waikato, and it was also previously run successfully last year between New Plymouth and Napier.

The trek, which is strongly supported by Rotary clubs from around the Waikato region, is the brainchild of Phil Aish, an ex-farmer himself, and following its success in 2022 it is hoped that the rural heartland of New Zealand will get in behind and support it.

Phil's daughter, Cat Levine, is a Mental Wellbeing Educator who has developed a program called Think and Be Me, tackling the issue of mental health with children through the use of teacher training, education, awareness, resources and presentations.

Cat will visit primary schools in Cambridge, Te Awamutu, Putaruru, Te Kuiti, Otorohanga, Waitomo, Matamata and Hinuera giving free presentations to the students from February 13 until February 25.

As part of these school visits, Cat teaches the children how to manage and regulate their feelings which is followed by a fun, interactive hands-on chance for the children to get up close and personal with the tractors participating in the Trek.

The trek, which sees the tractors travelling on rural roads as well as visiting schools, is raising funds to help Cat produce free mental health resources and

training to schools in the Waikato, in order to help children build positive mental health, for life.

“Approximately 50 per cent of mental health conditions start before a person turns 12 years old and one in four New Zealand children will experience a mental health issue before the age of 18,” Cat says.

Cat has just released a free new video series that are child-friendly and engaging and designed to improve the mental wellbeing outcomes of children, which has been received well. The Think and Be Me programme, funded by Feelings for Life, helps young people to understand, improve, maintain and grow their mental health and wellbeing through awareness and education, she says.

Rotary District Governor Kevin Forgeson says the Trek is a wonderful idea, which Rotarians were very pleased to support.

“Rotary is all about giving back to our communities and what better way to do that than help young people develop life skills that will be beneficial for generations to come. We are very proud to be able to support Cat in this programme.”

OFFICIAL LAUNCH MONDAY 13th FEBRUARY

The trek will be officially launched from Cambridge Middle School from 8.30am on Monday 13th February. There will be opportunities for media to interview Cat, participants and Rotary representatives at this event.

SCHOOL VISITS

Mon 13th Feb: Cambridge Primary School 10.30am

Tue 14th Feb: Te Awamutu Primary School 10.30am

Wed 15th Feb: Putaruru Primary School 10.30am and Lichfield School 1.30pm

Thu 16th Feb: Roto-o-rangi School (Cambridge) 10.30am

Fri 17th February – Te Kuiti Primary School 1.30pm

Mon 20th Feb: Otorohanga South School 10.30am

Tue 21st Feb: Waitomo Caves School 10.30am

Thu: 23rd Feb: Matamata Primary School 10.30am

Fri 24th Feb: Hinuera School 10.30am

Sat 25th Feb: Community Event Matamata (to be confirmed)

Times may vary slightly between schools so if you wish to attend one of the school visits we suggest you get in touch with that school and confirm timings and that they are happy for you to attend.

If you have any further questions, or need more information, please contact David Hulme, Rotary District 9930 Assistant Governor on (021) 328 746 or Feelings For Life Think and Be Me Project Manager Dawn Simmons (021) 0666 253.

DUTIES

Unable to attend? Apologies to Noel Carey: noelcarey@hotmail.com

Unable for a duty? Arrange your own replacement & text Noel Mb: **0274 509 845**

Meeting: 6pm, Mon, 13th Feb 2023

Sergeant: Noel Carey

Attendance: Sharlene Wagner

Hospitality: Bede Brittenden

Equipment/Photos: Llyod Albiston

Scribe: Barry Stafford

Host: Gwynyth Carr

Guest speaker:

Thanks: Bruce Clegg

Thought: Bill Grayson

Meeting: 6pm, Mon. 20th Feb 2023

Sergeant: Noel Carey

Attendance: Brian Williams

Hospitality: Robin Hulford

Equipment/Photos: Bill Appleton

Scribe: Barry Stafford

Host: Craig Jones

Guest speaker:

Thanks: Jeanette Thorne

Thought: Paul Jenner

toUch of huMoUr - Just Remembering!

