



## Newsletter to Keep the Wheel Turning



**President:** Jeanette Thorne

**Secretary:** Richard Ryan

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

**Time:** Monday evening 5:30pm for 6 p.m. start to 7:30pm, includes \$21 dinner

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

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

**Rotary** 

**JULY IS  
LEADERSHIP MONTH**

"IF YOUR ACTIONS INSPIRE OTHERS TO DREAM MORE, LEARN MORE, DO MORE AND  
BECOME MORE, YOU ARE A LEADER."  
- JOHN QUINCY ADAMS



## Newsletter 138, 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023

**Present:** 21 & welcome Asst District Governor Judy Lawley

**Apologies:** George Arulanantham, Gwynyth Carr, Bruce Clegg, David Eastwood, Shameen Hayat, Craig Jones, Rod Kestle, Cat Levine, Rob Lyons, Ant Martin, Ernie Meyer, Tony Rayner, Richard Ryan, Rhett Stevens, Sharlene Wagner, Bryan Williams.

**Sergeant's fines:** \$89.90

## PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

**President Jeanette** warmly welcomed everyone to the meeting extending a special welcome to Maria Meredith our Guest Speaker.

Jeanette reminded everyone of the **Senior Citizens Health and Retirement Living Course on Thursday 20 July at the Onehunga Community House (83 Selwyn Street, Onehunga) at 11.30 am to 1.00 pm** sponsored by our Club to which all members are invited.

Guest Speakers will include Dr Richard Busfield and the Pres. herself. The course is for senior citizens and retirees, their families and caregivers who will have an opportunity to ask questions from a panel regarding related health (physical/mental) issues. Please email Jeanette if you intend to come for, catering purposes.

As a result of the above Course and following a show of hands it has been decided there will be **NO MEETING NEXT WEEK (MONDAY 24th JULY)**

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**Phil Aish** gave us an update on daughter **Cat Levine** who is now out of hospital and relatively mobile. He described her spirit as strong and upbeat.

**Cat** asked Phil to extend her thanks to everyone who has assisted her and/or given her messages of support during her hospitalisation and recovery with a special thank you to **Barry Stafford**.

**1-MINUTE SPOT**

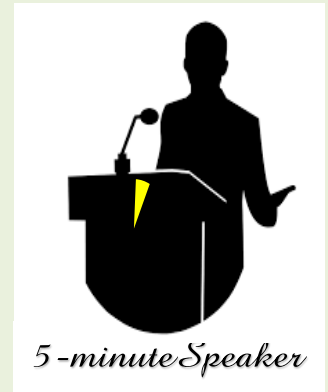
**Phil** went on to say his excavators (3) were still in demand in the Esk Valley, Hawkes Bay, but he was at a crossroad as to whether he/we should continue the support due to the cost of maintaining the machinery. He posed this question to members?

**Peter Mayow** reminded everyone of the upcoming **Cancer Society Daffodil Day Collection on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 26 August**. He is still looking for volunteer collectors who would be rostered on one or more 2 hour shifts. Peter described this as a key community action by our Club which was a supportive way for us to help a worthy charity and also get to know our community. Please communicate with Peter if you can assist.

**70's Club, Lloyd Albiston** will be shortly recommencing the successful 70's Club fundraiser for the new Rotary year and circulating a numbers spreadsheet. If you have a favourite number/s between 1 and 77 please let Lloyd know so he can 'lock you in'.



**RICHARD RYAN**  
**Think Big projects**



Richard spoke about the time he lived in New Plymouth in the 1980's when the National Government of the day embarked on a number of 'Think Big' projects around the country. He said the projects came about as a result of a period of economic downturn in the 1970's and the ensuing rampant inflation. Bill Birch the current Minister of Finance wanted to kick-start the economy and was instrumental in driving it. One of the key projects was designed to take advantage of oil reserves that had been discovered in Taranaki as well as create more job opportunities.

Richard said whilst he was not directly involved in the Oil Projects the ongoing developments made Taranaki a very interesting place to live in the 1970/80's. Projects included a Methanol plant at Waitara which he said was the first gasoline plant of its type in the world. Unfortunately, it only lasted 10 years and became uneconomical despite the petro-chemical royalties the government received.

A Urea plant was established at Kapuni which initially was thought would be more export-orientated, but turned out to provide NZ 50% of its needs of which demand continues to grow.

Other 'Think Big' projects included the NZ Steel refinery at Glenbrook which used locally sourced iron sand in the manufacture of quality steel.

Richard felt the 'Think Big' projects were generally successful, but they entailed government borrowing heavily to fund them. Off-set against this was the positive impact on the NZ economy and the creation of many jobs. The 'plug was eventually pulled' on 'Think Big' with many industries sold at fire-sale prices, in Richard's opinion.

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guest  
speaker








**MARIA MEREDITH**

**Chair, Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board**

*(Guest Speaker Maria Meredith was introduced by Iain McCrae)*

Born and bred in Auckland, Maria is married with 4 children and lives in Glen Innes. She has worked in telecommunications, banking and education. She spent 25 years at Auckland University supporting adult students and in 2018 was elected through a by-election to the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board (M-T). She was appointed Local Board Chair in 2021, a position she will retain until the next local body elections in 2025.

Maria said the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board consists of seven elected members with 3 representing Maungakiekie and 4 representing Tamaki. She described the Ward as having a population of 76,284 and growing.

	<b>Maria Meredith</b> Chairperson m. 021 195 9875 <a href="mailto:maria.meredith@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz">maria.meredith@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz</a>		<b>Debbie Burrows</b> Deputy Chairperson m. 021 534 930 <a href="mailto:Debbie.Burrows@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz">Debbie.Burrows@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz</a>
	<b>Chris Makoare</b> m. 021 0206 2990 <a href="mailto:Chris.Makoare@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz">Chris.Makoare@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz</a>		<b>Don Allan</b> m. 021 489 030 <a href="mailto:Don.Allan@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz">Don.Allan@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz</a>
	<b>Nerissa Henry</b> m. 021 198 1468 <a href="mailto:Nerissa.Henry@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz">Nerissa.Henry@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz</a>		<b>Peter McGlashan</b> m. <a href="mailto:Peter.McGlashan@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz">Peter.McGlashan@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz</a>
	<b>Tony Woodcock</b> m. 021 197 3146 <a href="mailto:Tony.Woodcock@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz">Tony.Woodcock@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz</a>		

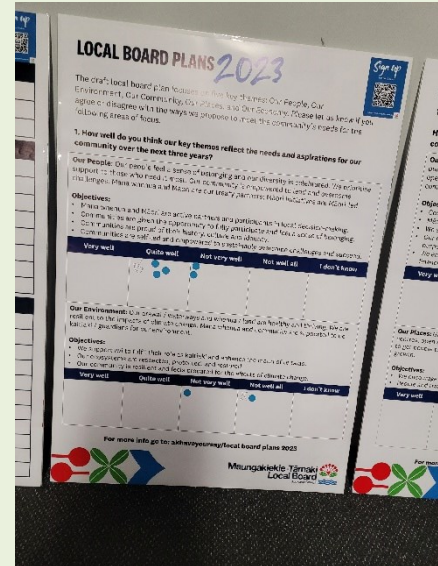
The area demographics show the population as being a mixture of European, Asian, Pasifika, Māori, Melanesian and various other ethnicities. It is not an overly affluent area with research showing only that 33% of the population have more than enough income to live comfortably. About 5% are unemployed.

Maria said the major focus of her Board was local issues and that the Auckland Council requires every Local Board to have a Plan ([2020 Plan](#)) which is reviewed/accepted/renewed every 3 years before being adopted. The data forming the Plan is sourced from over 3,500 pieces of information. The [2023 Plan](#) for the next 3 years has been drafted and the Board is currently looking for [feedback](#) and



acceptance by residents by Oct/Nov 2023 before being formally adopted.

Maria presented us with a physical presentation of key aspects of her Local Board draft Plan and asked members to give feedback on several key points e.g. “How well do you think our key themes reflect the needs and aspirations of our community over the next three years?”



(Many Club members gave feedback during the evening by placing blue stickers against feedback statements listed on the presentation boards).

As far as funding Local Plans the Auckland Council is required to approve a 10-year budget which once adopted then flows into local Ward budgets.

This year the Auckland Council asked all Local Boards to reduce their costs by a whopping 50%, which caused considerable angst. Maria said this was subsequently amended with \$500,000 reinstated back to the Local Board (phew). Priorities for the M-T Board revolved around people, the environment, community places and the economy. Due to recent funding cuts and tougher economic times, Local Boards need to exercise extra careful financial management and delivery.

Maria said her Board was also looking at what surplus and/or under-utilised assets they own, with a view to selling and realising funds for more efficient use. She finished by asking members to provide on-line feedback on the draft Plan by logging into <https://akhaveyoursay.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/>

During question time several members spoke on a variety of issues e.g. property and berm maintenance, adopting best practises from overseas, climate change and Rates appropriation. Maria encouraged members to contact her in writing with issues in their particular area. Email: [maria.meredith@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:maria.meredith@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

Maria was thanked by Duncan MacDonald for her commitment to time and care in our community and for the essential job she and her Board were doing.

# COMING UP



**Peter Mayow** has asked members to pencil **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> of August** into their calendars.

**We need 12 or more collectors** who will be stationed at a stand outside the Onehunga Countdown. Volunteers would be rostered on one or more 2hr shifts.

This is a most enjoyable and fun experience especially when meeting the very friendly and supportive Onehunga community.

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## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK (Robin Hulford)

**Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value.**  
- Albert Einstein

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## DUTIES

**Unable to attend > apologies to Noel: [noelcarey@hotmail.com](mailto:noelcarey@hotmail.com)**

**Unable for a duty > arrange own replacement & text Noel: Mb 0274 509 845**

**NO MEETING NEXT WEEK (MONDAY 24th JULY)**

**Mon. 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023**

### **Onehunga High School DINNER**

**24 Pleasant St, Onehunga  
Doors open 5:30pm for 6pm**

**President:** Jeanette Thorne  
**Sergeant:** Noel Cary  
**Attendance:** Paul Jenner  
**Hosts:** Ernie Meyer/ David Eastwood  
**Thanks:** Barry Stafford

**Please RSVP Noel by Thur 27<sup>th</sup> at:**  
[noelcarey@hotmail.com](mailto:noelcarey@hotmail.com)

**Meeting: 6pm Mon. 7<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

**President:** Jeanette Thorne  
**Sergeant:** Noel Cary  
**Attendance:** Brian Williams  
**Hospitality:** Peter Mayow  
**Equipment:** Rob Lyons  
**Laptop:** Bill Appleton  
**Scribe/Photos:** Lloyd Albiston  
**Host:** Alan Bannin  
**5-min speaker:** Lloyd Albiston  
**Guest speaker:** Maria Prescott  
(Principal) & Head Prefects, Marcellin College  
**Thanks:** Phil Aish  
**Thought:** Gary Hays

# toUch of HumoUr



That's one ineffective

