



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/>

Newsletter 144, 4th September 2023

Present: 26 + visiting Rotarian George Varghese

Apologies: George Arulanantham, David Eastwood, Shameen Haayat, Rod Kestle, Cat Levine, Rob Lyons, Iain McCrae, Ant Martin, Sharlene Wagner.

Sergeant's fines: \$118.40

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

President Jeanette welcomed everyone along with visiting guest Rotarian George Varghese from the Rotary Club of Trivandrum Suburban, Kerala, India District 3211.

On the 24th September 11am-1pm there will be the **Onehunga Big Cleanup** organised by Priyanca Radhakrishnan, MP for Maungakiekie.

Big thank you and well-done Sergeant Noel who at very short notice provided us with 26x takeaway roast dinners and cheesecake due to catering availability. Noel will be away for the next two weeks.

Beverley Mosely is Convener, Scottish Interest Group, NZ Society of Genealogists. The group is running a research day and are inviting anyone who is interested in genealogy and seeking something specific about their family background to come along.

**1-MINUTE
SPOT**

What: Genealogy Research

When: 11am – 4pm, Sunday 24th September

Where: Level 2, Central City Library, 44-46 Lorne St, Auckland Central

Go along with something specific about a family record you want to research. You will be assisted by a member who will be able to do deep dive into historical records not accessible to the public. This is more than just researching births, deaths, marriage records but, for example, searching international shipping liner passenger list and travel documents.

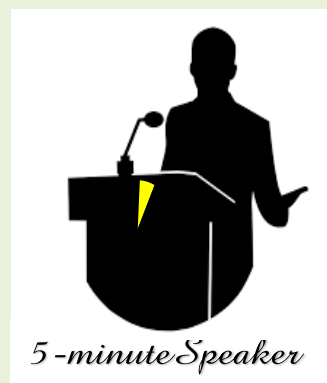
For more information about the day, please contact Trevor on:

Tel: 09 636 9395

email: mosleys@outlook.co.nz.



ROBYN HULLFORD
The Confrontation



Robyn, an ex-naval officer shared stories about past conflicts NZ was involved in and he a part of.

The Indonesian / Malaysian confrontation occurred after Malaysia gained Independence in 1957 when later in September 1963 Federated Malaya united with North Borneo and Singapore to become Malaysia. Indonesia attempted to wrest control of North Borneo territories in what was known as the “Confrontations”. Around 1963/64 Indonesia was best with internal problems and as a distraction sent a small contingent of troops in sampans set with explosives across the Singapore Strait into Southern Malay.

In 1965 NZ began supporting Malaysia in the ‘Confrontations’ with the Navy sending crews for two coastal minesweepers - the HMNZS Stanton and HMNZS Hickleton. The minesweepers were designed for the frigid conditions of the North Sea rather than the humid conditions of the tropics and severely lacked the onboard facilities for showers.

Robyn was just three weeks married and was sent as a navigator on the Stanton. It was a four-day flight in an Air Force DC10 and after arrival set about along with Malaysian Navy seeking marauding sampans around the Singapore Harbour. One night out on patrol under blackout conditions the Singapore Strait was quite busy with about 12-ships travelling in both directions. Around 11pm they saw an explosion in the distance and made a note of the location. Next morning, they were sent to see what it was, and they came across half a sampan with a brand-new outboard motor tacked on the end with the maker’s label still attached to it - they assumed they blew it up themselves.

Another occasion a British destroyer came along side another sampan and tried to get the crew off, but the crew blew the sampan up. Another occasion they took some SAS troops to the far Northeastern part of Borneo on the boarder to a place called Tawau to check out an Indonesian encampment. The troops were extracted after three days following a gun incident there.

After that they left for Singapore then back to NZ

(For more stories: <https://navymuseum.co.nz/explore/by-collections/ships/hickleton-and-stanton/> , <https://navymuseum.co.nz/explore/by-themes/post-war-1970/hickleton-confrontation/>)



HMNZS Hickleton



HMNZS Stanton



guest
speaker

MARIA PRESCOTT (Tumuaki/Principal, Marcellin College)
TETRINA TUILETUFUGA (Head Girl)

Bill introduced tonight's guests Maria Prescott and Tetrina Tuiletufuga. It was good to once again to make a connection with a school the club has associated with for many years. Notable former students include Monty Betham (Rugby, Boxing), Chris Lewis (Tennis), Joseph Parker (Boxing) and Dr Neru Leavasa (Sport doctor and currently MP for Takanini).

Maria returned to her school as Deputy Principal in March 2020, which also coincided with the start of COVID-19, then in October 2022 became School Principal and the school's second Tongan Principal.

Maria's parents emigrated from Tonga in the 1970's. Her father worked in education and is the middle of three sisters, the older a nurse and younger a Priest.

Maria's path into education was due to having good teachers who "Created hope in the world" which, she mentioned, is also Rotary's moto for the current year – and so she wanted to give kids "hope".

While completing a Science and Biology degree her heart was leaning toward wanting to work with kids rather than in a lab, and so undertook a degree in Education.

Maria went on to say Rotary's values align very well with the school's Catholic values. In addition, the school's two-year strategic plan is to re-connect with its community and so the timing of their visit tonight fits very well. Maria said she wants to see more of us and is already in discussions with President Jeannette.

Head Girl, Tetrina Tuiletufuga next spoke of her Leadership Journey. Tetrina said this was a big challenge for her as she felt in herself introverted, nervous and shy. However, by undertaking leadership roles and along with the support from her teachers she found she grew as a person and for it to be a wonderful journey as it provided an opportunity to meet others.

This year Tetrina represented the school and recited a scripture reading at the Mt Roskill War Memorial Hall ANZAC Day Service, which she found very special. Being Head Girl has many commitments which has made her a busy person especially on top of her school studies, and so is grateful for the support she is receiving.

Principal Prescott finished off by saying Tongans are very patriarchal. When introducing themselves and where they are from, they connect to their father's side and the village he was from. Maria is also very much connected to her mother's and also the church in Tonga.

Marcellin, a Marist founded college, is a Secondary, co-ed school (Yrs 7-15) and currently un-zoned.

Current role is 648. The role has increased in the last 3-years but prior to that was a bit stagnated due to COVID and families moving out of the area.

Demographics:

- 60% Tongan/Samoan (45% growth in last 5yrs)
- 19% Filipino (static)
- 10% Māori (13% growth)
- 6% Fiji, Cook Islands
- 3% European/Pakeha (static)
- 0% International

(Ref: <https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-school/school/population/year?district=7613®ion=2&school=63>)

The school is not zoned and has students attending from a wide catchment, including Avondale (west), Mt Wellington (east), Manurewa (south).

The school would welcome any assistance with remedial reading and Maria acknowledged Rotary's support in with MUNA and the Technology and Science Forum and is look at bringing that back in. Literacy and numeracy is a challenge and is very concerning particularly with the new NCEA changes which require students to possess foundational knowledge before gaining those qualifications. Maria is working closely with the Onehunga High School (OHS) on this.

Maria also liked the OHS/Rotary dinner photos and will take that idea back to her school as they are beginning a Hospitality programme and would love to host our club for dinner one night.

Trevor thanked Maria for coming and telling us about what led her into teaching, as we need more Principals like her enthuse our students and to lift the standard of education throughout our colleges. To Tatrina, how she impressed us and that despite her initial reticence she has shown to us that she is the sort of person the community needs as a leader.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK (Barry)

“There is nothing in the world so irresistibly contagious as laughter and good humour”.

(Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol)

Coming up...



**ONEHUNGA'S
BIG
CLEAN UP**

CANCELLED - RAIN

Sunday 24 September, 11am–1pm

Join Priyanca Radhakrishnan,
MP for Maungakiekie, and others, and get
Onehunga Bay Reserve looking beautiful!

11am–1pm, 24Sept. Text: 021-825-345
(for catering purposes, as a light lunch
will be provided) if you're keen to join.



ROTARY CLUB OF
MAUNGAKIEKIE

**BOOK
FAIR!**

2023

ALL PROCEEDS TO CHARITY


FREE ENTRY*

*Earlybird entry
7-9am Saturday 25th November
\$20 per person

**SATURDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER (9-5^{PM})
SUNDAY, 26TH NOVEMBER (9-2^{PM})**

ONEHUNGA COMMUNITY HOUSE
83 Selwyn Street, Onehunga

ROTARYMAUNGAKIEKIE.ORG.NZ Please turn over.



Rotary
Club of Maungakiekie

PROUDLY PRESENTS

**THE 2023
MCKEEVER
HASKELL
WALL
STUDENT AWARDS**

Mon 4th DECEMBER

DUTIES

Unable to attend > apologies to Noel: noelcarey@hotmail.com

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

Meeting: 6pm Mon. 11th Sept 2023

President: Jeanette Thorne

Sergeant: Noel Carey

Attendance: Gwynyth Carr

Hospitality: Paul Jenner

Equipment: Derek Neutze

Scribe/Laptop: Lloyd Albiston

Host:

5-Min Speaker: Paul Jenner

Guest Speaker: Lara Fagan, Editor,
Onehunga Community News & Clive
(Husband)

Thanks: Bill Grayson

Thought: Ernie Meyer

Meeting: 6pm Mon. 18th Sept 2023

Special Rotary Guest: DG Neal Murray

President: Jeanette Thorne

Sergeant: Lloyd Albiston

Attendance: David Eastwood

Hospitality: Bruce Murdoch

Equipment: Bill Grayson

Scribe: Barry Stafford

Photos: Rhett Stephens

Laptop: Bill Appleton

Host: Gary Hays

5-Min Speaker: (none tonight)

Guest Speaker: Epsom Normal School.
Dillon Rungan Dep Principal and Speech
finalists.

Thanks: Craig Jones

Thought: Colin Tea

toUch of HumoUr

