







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 \$25 dinner

Mail: PO Box 29086 Greenwoods Corner, Epsom Web: https://www.rotarymaungakiekie.org.nz/



Newsletter 150, 30th October 2023

Present: 25

Apologies: George Arulanantham, Noel Carey, Bruce Clegg, David Eastwood, Shameen Hayat, Robin Hulford, Craig Jones, Rod Kestle,

Cat Levine, Rob Lyons, Ant Martin, Derek Neutze, Colin Tea.

Sergeant's fines: \$59.50

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Jeanette announced the next Board meeting will discuss our joining a Rotary Community Group. This is part of the Zone 8 Regionalisation Pilot Project where clubs work together to increase their impact, boost their membership and build their public profile.

Bruce updated us the welfare of some of our members. George is undergoing stem cell replacement. Noel had a cuppa with Derek who loved the meeting, Criag's op has slowed him down (albeit briefly knowing Craig). Jenny is recovering from a bad bout of COVID, Rod is on his fourth



round of chemo but didn't stop him having a dozen rugby fans around to watch Argentina vs England match. Rob is making good progress and is about to start a twelve week round of chemo.

Peter's getting ready for upcoming projects including:

- **Christmas Puddings:** cost \$17 each and sold for \$25. Give your orders to Peter. If members can fund 30x puddings then we could sell them at our Book Fair 24-25th Nov after which Peter would replenish members original order.
- Onehunga Christmas Parade is on Saturday 2nd Dec starting 11am. We need eight members to act as martials (four groups of two). We also need a couple of members to lead Phil's Humvee in their Rotary Club shirts. Names to Peter please.
- **Big Heart Appeal:** 23&24th Feb 2024, looking for collectors please.
- Child Cancer Appeal: 9th March 2024.



Bruce and 6-7 Rotarians helped out at the **Onehunga Primary School's** Annual Marathon Fun Run, on Friday 27th October.

The fun run is a fund-raising event for the school. The children each run their own marathon over Term 3 – completing a little bit each week. Children get others to sponsor them to run.

Despite the rain, pupils and Rotarian's turned up. The crew was busy in the morning helping organise then in the afternoon running the BBQ. Our 'chef's' cooked their way through several hundred sausages, which disappeared as they



came of the rack. Thank you Team!

Members regularly spend a few hours a week assisting with remedial reading at the **Pacific Advance Secondary School (PASS)**. Co-principal Parehuia Enari graciously offered dozen Yr10 students to help with the distribution of our **Book Fair flyers**. Thanks to **Bill**, **Barry**, **Shirly and Bev** who ferried the students around the suburbs.

Book Fair, book sorting, begins 13th Nov at the Onehunga Community House, leaving two weeks before the big fundraising event on the 25-26th Nov.

Gary updated us with candidate selection for the 34th Rotary National Science & Technology Forum starting on 6th Jan 2024. All three female students our club put forward were selected. One had to pull out after being accepted on another course at the Otago University. Murray Alison who runs the selection has others on the waiting list, however it was noted the high calibre of students we offered.



Barry reminded us that **Past DG Lindsay Ford** and well respect Rotary Zone 8 fundraiser will be Guest speaker next week. Lindsay was also key in promoting funding of Cat's Northland children's mental health Te Tai Tokerau Tamariki project.

The singing of the National Anthem and results of the members votes will be discussed at the next Board Meeting.



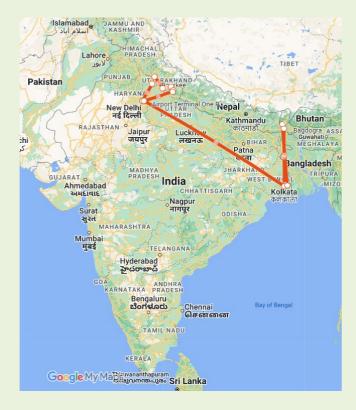
IAIN McCREA, 2019 Reconnection with India



lain was born in India and was the purpose of his and Diane's visit there in 2019. The goal was to visit places in terms of the family history there, combined with a general organised tour.

lain's father was a doctor. During WWII he was called up to serve with the Royal Army Medical Corps in Burma. At that time he hadn't yet met lain's mother who was a nurse with the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, a branch of the British Army Medical Services, also serving in India. They met in October 1942 and were married in January 1943.

lain and Diane's trip to India began in New Delhi which is located in upper central India. They hired a driver for two weeks to take them around on their first leg of their journey. In New Delhi they visited was the Baha'i House of Worship in New Delhi – a magnificent temple. This is a place where anyone can go to say a word of prayer or speak, whatever your denomination.











From there they set off to Dehradun (or Dehra Doon), close to India's central, northern borders, 200km north of New Delhi. Along the way there they stopped off at Roorkee at one of the Military Hospitals lain's father was based at.

Dehradun (Dehra: temple / dun: a tract of country lying at the foot of hills) is the capital of the Indian state of Uttarakhand. The city lays 450m above sea level, rising to 3,700m in the northern district amongst the foothills of the Himalayas. During the war it was a place the British families went to escape

the hotter temperatures of Calcutta and Bombay. Since then city has grown ten-fold from around 100,000 to 1,000,000.

lain was born in Dehradun Military Hospital in September 1945 in the hospital his father was based at just as the war was ending and so spent only six weeks in India. Unfortunately the original hospital had just been demolished three months earlier, with only piles of bricks remaining. Next to it however was its new replacement.





One of the places visited was the Forest Research Institute, recognised worldwide as one of the best forest research institutes in the world.

From there they went down to Jim Corbert National Park named after the Indian-born British hunter, tracker famous for hunting man-eating tigers (estimated to have killed up to 1,200 villagers). Later, Corbet became more of a naturalist preserving wild animals at the park.

Then across the hills to Ranikhet, one the most beautiful places they visited with views of the Himalayas and basically run by the military. It once had seven Christian churches, but since independence from the UK in 1947, now only has one.

Ranikhet was also where lain's older sister was born in 1943. They managed a guided tour of the hospital where they were given a warm welcome and tour of the facility which hadn't changed since 1943. With the aid of their driver they found their old house, now occupied by the son of the owner who knew lain's parents. Back then, coincidentally, nearby lived Joanna Lumley's sister who used to play with lain's sister.

Just south of Ranikhet is Bhimtal, a beautiful tourist town situated beside its major attraction, Bhimtal Lake. In ancient times Bhimtal lay on the Silk Route.

Their driver next took lain and Diane forty mins south to Kathgodam where they caught a train in a very comfortable normal class seat that took them back to New Delhi where they joined the main tour of Central India and Assam which ended in Calcutta (Kolkata)

In Kolkata, the two found the Sikhs to be a very caring culture. Sikh's account for just 2% of the population and are the fourth largest religious group. They run temples and food places where volunteers cook for the homeless who turn up in the hundreds. Part of the funding comes from donors who are invited to sit on the floor and eat with the public.

The final leg was north again up to Darjeeling District in the Himalayan foothills. A long way, but that was where lain's parent had their honeymoon, at the Windermere Hotel. At that time Darjeeling was a summer resort for the British Raj elite. Iain and Diane stayed at the same hotel and on the first night experienced some confusion over ordering either a 5-course Indian or English meal, and ended ordering both!

The district is not only famous for its Darjeeling tea but also for the famous Tiger Hill. There tourists go to experience spectacular the sunrises that hit Mt Everest some 172kms away. Nearby, the Kiwis enjoyed visiting the Himalayan Mountain Institute, one of the premier Mountaineering Institutes in the world with an international reputation of having trained thousands around the globe in mountaineering and allied adventure activities.

Finally returning once again to Kolkata to visit Mother Teresa's house, experience the Diwali Festival, Eden Gardens Cricket Ground and of course for Scotsman Iain, a visit to St Andrews Church essentially a Scottish Church right at the heart of the city.

Listening to lain describe their trip to India was enlightening, not only to those only partially familiar of India's geography and colonial history but also for providing a personal glimpse of the great country as an alternate travel destination – even if you weren't born there.





THORNTON & CAMPBELL WILLIAMS The Outward Bound Experience

Campbell Williams (centre) introduced himself and dad **Thornton** (right), who were watched by proud member, dad and grandad Brian Williams (left) as they described their father/son experience at Outward Bound's "Active Leaps & Bounds" course at Anakiwa.

Both father and son did an excellent job taking turns presenting their 8-day adventure to members through with a well presented slide presentation.

Outward Bound was founded in Wales, United Kingdom, in 1941 during WWII, by Kurt Hahn and Lawrence Holt.

In 1920 Germany, at the age of 34yrs, Hahn set out to train young people to gain moral independence with an ability to choose between "right and wrong," and to improve their physical health. In 1932, Hahn, a German Jew, publicly spoke out against Hitler and the Nazi regime and in 1933 after briefly being imprisoned he was ousted from his homeland and so moved to the UK.

In 1941, during WWII, Holt was chairman of the Blue Funnel Line. Holt had been very worried by the inability of young seamen to survive in lifeboats once their ships had been sunk by German U-Boats, and noted that older seamen with more life experience, held on. Holt felt Hahn's training methods could help young men better prepare themselves for such an ordeal. Thus, began Outward Bound which has since grown and is now established in more than 30 countries.

Outward Bound New Zealand was founded in 1962 by Christchurch lawyer Hamish Thomas who located the course in **Anakiwa** in the Marlborough Sounds to where over 70,000 young and old have attended.

Outward Bound offer twelve different courses. While the **Classic** 21-day course is tailored for 18-26yr olds, Thorton and Campbell undertook the **Leaps & Bounds** 8-day course for parents and their teenage children a(13 – 15yrs). Campbell was just 13yrs and 1-day old when he attended!. The course is designed for participants to learn about themselves and their family member in a challenging but supportive environment. This was Thornton's second trip having first attended with his eldest son and did it with the goal to build a stronger relationship with his boys while presenting them with a **right of passage** as they progressed on to High School.

The course started in Picton where they meet their "Blake Watch" house buddies and their mums and dads for the 8-day course. They quickly set sail to their first destination, a feat most had never attempted before. Next and maybe not a first for kids but a unique experience for parents, was **face-painting** where they painted each other in the animal character each thought they most represented only to be told to



go straight to dinner with 120 others - still in make-up.



Challenges included the **high-ropes** course which was like no other resulting in an awesome **zipline** through the trees. Then there was learning how to spill over in a **kayak** then flip back up out of the cold Queen Charlotte Sounds. Another adrenalin rush was to learning to scramble across a moving **high-wall** suspended 30m above the ground.

Anakiwa is famous for its water activities that included **Waka ama**, which unlocked further understanding of Māori and Pacific culture to students and is part of Outward Bound's drive to further integrate **Maoritanga** into its courses. Campbell favourite activity was **whitewater kayaking** where initially he was very scared, and didn't understand what he had to do. So he had to listen very carefully to the instructions and trust the instructors and his dad. In the end he



overcame his fears, succeeding and said he was the only person not to fall out (unlike his dad). Lesson learnt - stay calm and work hard.



The **Solo** involved getting left out in the bush, isolated with minimal food and shelter for 3-days and 2-nights. It was raining and cold and the exercise started just after dinner, just before nightfall, which didn't help pitching the shelter and took some time. Mobile phones, watches and books were banned except for a journal and pen which was provided for each to write a letter to themselves about their thoughts, which would

be posted back to them 6-months after the course.

Back at the camp **PT** would start at 6:20am beginning with 40-mins exercise ending with a cold swim in the Sounds. How cold? On the last day there was frost on the wharf! This coldness was is followed by a cold shower to get the salt water off. The only hot shower was a 3-min one each evening.

Courses are not cheap (Leaps and Bounds: \$6,195) and Campbell put it to members to

consider sponsoring a person or team as it had made a huge impact on him and the boys and will never be forgotten.



COMING UP

Sat/Sun 25-26th November





BOOK FAIR deadlines:

05 Nov: Complete Flyer delivery.

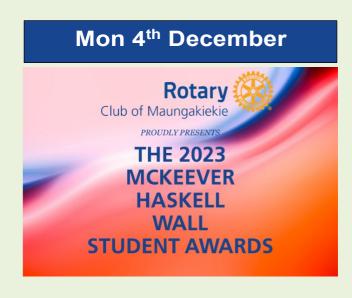
13 Nov: Drop-off locations open (Horse Float, College Rifles Car Park, Haast St,

Remuera & Onehunga Community House, 83 Selwyn St., Onehunga)

Book Sorting: Onehunga Community House

25-26 Nov: BOOK FAIR





Email Peter with orders asap:



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK (provided by Alan Bannin)

The best way to succeed in politics is to find a crowd that is going somewhere and then get in front of them.

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. 6th Nov 2023

President: Jeanette Thorne Vice President: Barry Stafford

Sergeant: Lloyd Albiston Attendance: Peter Mayow Hospitality: Bruce Clegg

Equipment & Scribe: Bill Appleton

Meals1: Brian Williams Meals2: Ernie Meyer Host: Bruce Murdoch

Guest Speaker: PDG Lindsay & Alison,

Keith & Margaret Day Thanks: Barry Stafford 13th Nov 2023

Dinner (no meeting)

5:00PM BBQ

Building School, Onehunga High

School

Meeting: 6pm Mon. 20th Nov 2023

President: Jeanette Thorne Vice President: Barry Stafford

Sergeant: Noel Carey
Attendance: Peter Mayow
Hospitality: Bill Grayson

Equipment & Scribe: Lloyd Albiston

Meals1: Brian Williams

Meals2: Phil Aish 5-Min Speaker: tbc

Host: Barry Stafford (if req.)

Guest Speaker: Bill Appleton: Rotary

Foundation Month
Thanks: Barry Stafford
Thought: Gary Hays

"Wake up. The cat's got your teeth."

toUch oF HumoUr



When you find a lit series that already has 5-7 seasons, 25 episodes per season and 45 minutes per episode

