

#### 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025

This week's meeting was a joint meeting with Remuera Rotary at Carlton Bowling Club

Apologies from: Lloyd Albiston, George Arulanantham, Alan Bannin, Gwynyth Carr, Shameen Hayat, Rod Kestle, Ernie Meyer, Trevor Mosley, Rhett Stephens, Brian

Williams, Bob Campbell

Visitors: Leanne Jenner, Geoff Pownall

Remuera Rotary President Iain Valentine welcomed members of Maungakiekie Club and outlined the meeting format.

Maungakiekie President Craig Jones: "Lovely to be here. Thank you, Remuera, for having us. Thank you, Iain.

We're looking forward to hosting you at our club next Monday, and we've got Greg Fleming coming along to talk to us. So, bring your questions.

Please be prompt, though. It starts bang on 6 o'clock.

He must catch a plane at 7. So, we're going to have to push it. Thanks very much, Iain. "

### 1 minute spot: Geoff Pownall.

"I'm just here representing ROMAC. And for the guests that are here tonight, ROMAC is a Rotary project across Australia and New Zealand called Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children that brings children to New Zealand and Australia from the islands for lifesaving and dignity-restoring services. I particularly want to acknowledge both clubs tonight because Remuera has supported ROMAC a lot in the past and did host a child that went home in January.

We now have Daisy, which Maungakiekie club is hosting. And thank you very much for... Hands up, Bill Grayson, for initiating this, and Tony Rayner, who is doing the hosting at the moment. ROMAC is a bit like Rotary generally.

We struggle to find... Well, we don't always struggle, but Rotary tends to struggle to find Executives and we have a situation where our Chair is finishing his time because, you know, you do it for so many years, and so we are desperately looking for nominations for someone who might like to stand up and Chair ROMAC, and for a secretary. Sharon has been our secretary for ten years now and is not wanting to continue doing that role, because she's more wanting to get involved with the actual children a bit more.

It's not just asking the new people here tonight, do you want the job, but more around thinking of people who you might think might be interested and suitable.

And that can be anyone from your clubs. I think your Presidents have already had a notice to submit, and I'm just going around a few clubs as I can.

The last thing is May. The month of May is a celebration of ROMAC, and right across Australia and New Zealand we're having a thing called Lei Day for May.

And Lei is to do with the Lei from the islands, and because that's where the children come from, and we're encouraging all Rotary clubs to, at one of their meetings, come along wearing a Lei and being willing to put in a, preferably a small-note donation for ROMAC, and maybe the clubs could match that and you can make it a big thing for May. So ROMAC, you'll hear more about that, I think it may already be in the district newsletter. So, keep that in mind as an activity for your club. Thank you very much."

#### **Guest Speaker**: Alyssandra Skerritt

Introduction:

Alyssandra and her husband Warren and their two daughters live in Queenstown. Alyssandra is an award-winning stationer, earning impressive 21 golds and 11 highly commended awards since 2014 in the prestigious Pride and Print Awards. She has owned 'Alessandra - Striking Stationary' since 1996, crafting excellence in print and design.

A dedicated member of the Rotary Inner Wheel since 1999, Alessandra currently serves on the International Board of Directors, passionately working to inspire and empower women worldwide. Her address tonight is the bloom effect from planting a seed.

Alyssandra thanked Iain for the invitation to speak to the Club and hosting her visit.

Alyssandra has published a book titled 'Bloom – My Book and Planner'. The 'bloom effect' means how a seed creates life-changing miracles.

Alyssandra shared reflections on her life and referenced the positive effects of Gratitude, Dreams, Intentions, Imagination, and self-imposed Limitations. She shared some of the pathways that progress self-development personal growth.

Alyssandra concluded her address with a direct personal note.

'Because no one does leadership better than Rotary. And young people in business are looking for leadership. They're looking for people to help.

And you all know how to do it. I see on our Rotary calendar that on March this month that you've got your team leadership meeting.

Prospecting for new members gives those individuals in our communities the unique opportunity to discover and experience what Rotary offers and gives without the advertising and administrative expenses. Making your donation more visible and valuable than you realize.

The bottom line is that your donations make a direct difference to a cost. The work you do is significant in your community.

You bestow so much charitable time, donations, money, and compassion that give people hope.

Working throughout New Zealand, through every club, new ideas, focusing on different charities, and looking from month to month to make sure that when you're working together with charities, that you're working in their timetable, not your own, so you can stand right beside them, making sure that you get the best advertising and promotion alongside them.

Your imagination is the most important thing. Did you realize that your imagination is the only thing that you do that lights the entire brain up? It is one of the best exercises that you can do.

When your children and grandchildren are playing, don't forget to have a bit of imagination.

Because that is how you figure out your dreams and make them real. Imagination is brain exercise. And that means that it helps keep dementia at bay.

It absolutely sharpens that memory. And it helps you achieve your goals with clarity.

Thank you so much."

## Thought for the week.

"When you have a dream, you've got to grab it and never let go." —

**Duties 24<sup>th</sup>** Guest Speaker: Greg Fleming MP for Maungakiekie

Scribe - Bill A
Attendance - Gary Hays
Hospitality - Robin Hulford
Meals - Iain McCrae - Peter Mayow
Host - Craig Jones
Thanks - Rob Lyons
Thought for the week - Ant Martin
Apologies to Noel before 5pm Friday

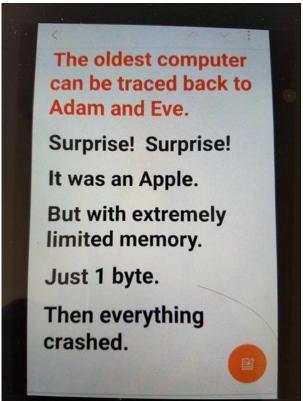
**Duties 31**st Guest speaker: Richard Griessman. Visit to Cuba.

Scribe – Bill A
Sergeant – Noel Carey
Attendance -Rob Lyons
Hospitality – Iain McCrae
Meals – Bruce Murdoch, Derek Neutze
Host – Peter Mayow
Thanks – Ernie Meyer
Thought For the Week - Trevor Mosley
Apologies to Noel before 5pm Friday



# Presumably good at helping people stay alive.





Paddy took 2 stuffed dogs to the Antiques Roadshow....

"Ooh!" Said the presenter, "This is a very rare breed, do you have any idea what they would fetch if they were in good condition?"

"Sticks." replied Paddy.

It was St Patricks Day on Monday!



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