



## Rotary Club of Maungakiekie Bulletin / Newsletter NL 213

28<sup>th</sup> May 2025

This week's meeting was Chaired by Craig Jones

**Apologies** from: Phil Aish, Gwynyth Carr, Robin Hulford, Rhett Stephens, George Varghese, Tony Bradley, Noel Carey, Cat Levine, Sharmeen Hyatt.

**Visitors.** Balaji Vinayagame. – Guest of Tony Rayner

**I minute spots** from: Paul Jenner reminded members that a President elect is required for the 2026/27 Rotary year. Nominations to Paul are urgently required.

**Sergeants session: \$111.90.**

**Guest Speaker:** Review of Anzac Day Memorial Service at Epsom

Chaired by Barry Stafford and Peter Mayow. (With video extracts).

The recent Anzac Day service held at the Epsom Memorial Archway successfully honoured the sacrifices of those who served in wartime, as reflected in the heartfelt appreciation expressed by Louis and Mavis Fenlon.

In a letter of thanks, they praised the Rotary organizers, Barry and Peter, for maintaining the dignity and traditional style of the service. Despite their absence due to health issues, they were encouraged by the positive feedback from attendees, highlighting the emotional impact of the flowers gifted to them, which provided comfort during a challenging time.

The service itself was marked by meaningful contributions from various speakers, including the daughters of Mavis Fenlon, who emphasized the historical significance of the Anzac sacrifices. They shared poignant reflections on the dire conditions faced by soldiers and illustrated the importance of the annual remembrance, rooted in their family's legacy.

The ceremony incorporated a moment of unity as attendees sang together and reflected on the broader implications of community, particularly in the context of the sacrifices made during significant battles like Gallipoli and Passchendaele. The speakers emphasized that remembering these events is not only about honouring the past but also understanding the communal ties that connect us today.

Importantly, the service served as a reminder of the ongoing need for community engagement and connection. The speakers called upon attendees to reflect on the value of community spirit, particularly in a modern world where individualism often overshadows collective well-being. This perspective invited deeper contemplation about the impact of lost lives on communities and encouraged a re-evaluation of how we engage with our neighbours and contribute to our shared environments. The sense of belonging and mutual support emphasized during the service resonated strongly, urging attendees to actively participate in nurturing their communities.

Further discussion at tonight's meeting revealed a desire for continued improvement and innovation in future commemorations. Suggestions included increasing community involvement, such as introducing the laying of poppies during the service, which could enhance personal connections to the event. The importance of integrating special stories or anecdotes that illustrate personal experiences related to the war was also highlighted, suggesting that these elements could enrich the services emotional depth and engage attendees more profoundly.

In conclusion, the Epsom Anzac Day service not only commemorated the sacrifices of the past but also ignited discussions around the importance of community, connection, and remembrance. The heartfelt reflections shared during the service and the subsequent discussions underscored the significance of nurturing a sense of belonging and support within our communities. As we remember those who fought for our freedoms, it becomes crucial to honour their legacy by fostering a spirit of togetherness and active participation in the communal fabric of our lives.



**Thought for the week.** Barry Stafford

***"We will Remember Them."***

**Duties 5<sup>th</sup> May**      Guest speaker:  
President – Craig Jones  
Scribe – Bill A  
Attendance – Bruce Murdoch  
Hospitality – Derek Neutze  
Meals – Brian Williams – Phil Aish  
Host – Tony Rayner  
Thanks – Barry Stafford  
Thought For the Week – Rhett Stephens

*Apologies to Noel before 5pm Friday*

**Duties 12<sup>th</sup> May**      Guest Speaker:  
Scribe - Bill A  
Attendance – Derek Neutze  
Hospitality – Tony Rayner  
Meals – Phil Aish = Lloyd Albiston  
Host – Barry Stafford  
Thanks – Rhett Stephens  
Thought for the week – Brian Williams

*Apologies to Noel before 5pm Friday*

Future Programme:

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May. John Steele Subject: Dr Arthur Guyon Purchas.  
Vicar of St Peters Church Onehunga 1817 to 1875

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May. Invite to Dinner at Onehunga High School.

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May. David Seymour 'State of the Nation Address' Dinner.  
Sorrento in the Park. *(See Link above for tickets.)*

Tickets available from: CTRL + click on link below.

[Maungakiekie Rotary – State of the Nation Fundraiser](#)



Smile, it makes people wonder what you have been up to!

"Wisdom doesn't necessarily come with age. Sometimes age just shows up all by itself." - Tom Wilson



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End note:

*When chickens communicate, do they use foul language?*