



Rotary Club of Maungakiekie Bulletin / Newsletter NL 214

5th May 2025

This week's meeting was Chaired by Craig Jones

Apologies from:

Cat Levine, Sharmeen Hyatt, Paul Jenner, Trevor Mosley, Jeanette Thorn, George Varghese.

President Gary. Not much to talk about tonight but I really want to extend the vote of thanks to Tony for looking out for our Romac little girl and her mother. Also, Bill G and Shirley. That's fantastic.

I note that we've got a thank you letter from the CAB, the local CAB. We've provided them with a photocopier,

I minute spots from: **Noel Carey**, Noel announced that the 'Kids to Camp Project' is set for 6th to the 10th of July and he will be calling for transport assistance for 4 campers

Tony Rayner: Romac.



Just briefly, Lafitu and baby Daisy left New Zealand on Saturday. Peter Garnett came down, so it was him, me, and Heather to see them off at five in the morning. And it was a bit sad to see them all go.

It has been a special time. We've put some photos together and I'll do a little article for Romac. I would definitely do it again. So, you know, it'd be great. Hopefully, our club will support that happening.

But the throughput of ROMAC has dropped dramatically since the good days where they used to have 20 a year come through. They did two years at, 20, ROMAC visits. This year it's six. So, it's the bottleneck is the surgery time, not ROMAC. So, it just goes to show how, much our hospital systems under strain.

The baby's put-on weight, put on at least a kilo since the operation. Got fed copious amounts of Wattie's baby food.

We bought so many sachets, I thought the baby's going to explode, honestly. We bought packs of six. Two packs of six a week. It just vanished. I'm sure Lafitu was eating some herself.

I don't know. But, yeah, it was very good and, thanks to the support. Shirley as well, she came out and helped a number of times taking Lafitu shopping, and to get some food.

Peter Garnett had a great idea. He said, the plane is chock full with Solomon Islanders and Vanuatu people going back from the fruit picking activities in New Zealand.

So it's a full flight, And he called over a couple of guys who are Solomon Islanders and says, would you mind taking this young lady and her baby through customs and passports, which I thought was great because, you know, she would have been on her own. So I think it was a good idea. Now they're safely home. Prisco, her partner said, they arrived safely. Thank you.

Barry Stafford: Barry Promoted the Fundraising Dinner with MP David Seymour as Guest Speaker and mentioned the need to get registered with ticket sales sooner rather than later. The last time there was a last-minute rush of sales and this is not conducive to the mental wellbeing of the organisers. Please help and promote this event to as many people that you can. THANK YOU.

We've talked about the joy of walking. So that's good news and came across a website where it's all been done before by a remarkable woman who is currently in Europe.

But I wrote to her and said, this is our idea. We found your website that looks fantastic. Can you help us?

She came back to me straight away and said, love to have a chat to you. I'm back on the tenth of this month. So being a believer in not reinventing the wheel, I'm really hopeful that we may have found someone who could help us get this thing up and off.

Sergeants' session: \$

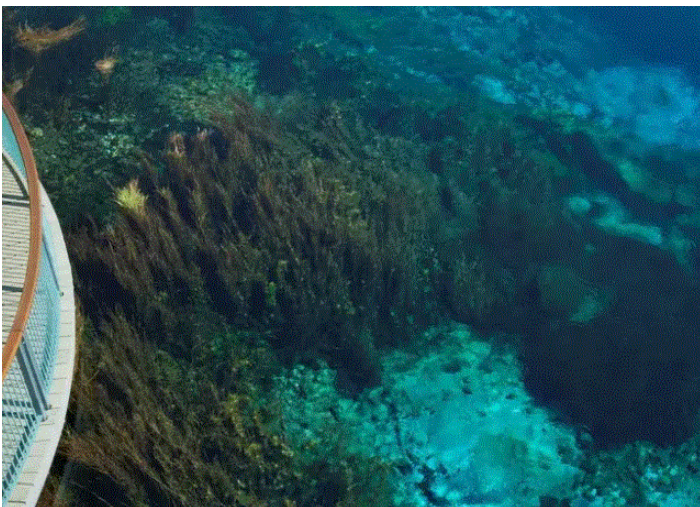
Guest Speaker: Gary Hays

The narrative follows Gary and Maureen's travel experiences in New Zealand, detailing their journey along the West Coast and into the Nelson and Golden Bay areas. After deciding to explore New Zealand instead of flying abroad, they planned a route that included scenic drives and train rides. The couple travelled to Christchurch, where they faced bad weather initially but found enjoyment in the city's historic tram and the picturesque Transalpine train journey to Greymouth. This train trip offered stunning landscapes and was a highlight of their trip, despite concerns about potential disruptions due to severe weather.



Upon reaching Greymouth, they explored Hokitika, a town with a rich gold mining history, and visited Shantytown, a recreated historical village. They experienced local culture through the remnants of past industries, including gold mining and timber.

Gary and Maureen continued their adventure to the stunning Punakaiki Blowholes and Pancake rocks as well as Motueka, observing the abundance of hops and fruit farms, which highlighted New Zealand's agricultural landscape.



They also visited Takaka, known for its unique lifestyle and natural attractions, including Pupu Lake, celebrated as one of the purest freshwater lakes in the world.

Concluding their journey, Gary reflected on their experiences, including visits to Farewell Spit and a peanut butter factory in Nelson, which showcased local entrepreneurship.



They enjoyed the beauty of Nelson, appreciating its friendly atmosphere and appealing climate. Overall, the trip provided a rich blend of history, culture, and breath-taking scenery, affirming their love for travel and the unique offerings of New Zealand.

Thought for the week. Rhett Stephens.

'Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you need to keep moving!'

Duties 12th May

Guest Speaker: George Arulanatham.

"My Journey with Multiple Myeloma."

Scribe - Bill A

Attendance – Derek Neutze

Hospitality – Tony Rayner

Meals –Lloyd Albiston -Alan Bannin

Host – Barry Stafford

Thanks – Rhett Stephens

Thought for the week – Brian Williams

Apologies to Noel before 5pm Friday

Duties 19th May

Guest speaker: John Steele Subject: *Dr Arthur Guyon Purchas.*

Vicar of St Peters Church Onehunga 1817 to 1875

President – Craig Jones

Scribe – Bill A

Attendance – Barry Stafford

Hospitality – Rhett Stephens

Meals – Alan Bannin – Gwynyth Carr

Host – Brian Williams

Thanks – Phil Aish

Thought For the Week – Lloyd Albiston

Apologies to Noel before 5pm Friday

Future Programme:

Monday 26th May. Invite to Dinner at Onehunga High School.

Wednesday 28th May. **MP David Seymour 'State of the Nation Address '**
Fund Raising Dinner. Sorrento in the Park.

(See Link below 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!



\$45 billion found in a Nigerian man's flat. He'd spent ten years trying to get rid of it but no one answered his emails.



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End note: What World city with a population of greater than 1 million people is the furthest in the world from the next nearest city with a population over 1 million?

Ans. Next week.