



Rotary Club of Maungakiekie  
Bulletin / Newsletter NL 243  
2nd of February 2026



President: Paul Jenner  
Email: [michaelpauljenner@gmail.com](mailto:michaelpauljenner@gmail.com).  
[rich.ryan4475@gmail.com](mailto:rich.ryan4475@gmail.com)

Secretary: Richard Ryan  
Email:



**Monday 2nd of February 2026**

**Apologies:** Paul Jenner(LOA), Mavis Moodie, Rob Lyons, Trevor Mosley, Rhett Stephen, Jeanette Thorn. George Varghese.

**Sergeant Noel**

Tonight's meeting has turned into a Twilight meeting as there has been a local power cut. Fortunately, Daylight Saving has provided some relief.

Sergeant Noel ran a successful fine session, personal tribulations and special celebrations highlighted.

**Peter Mayow** will still have a few time slots to fill for the upcoming street appeals. Please contact him directly if you can help.

Big Heart appeal is scheduled for the 27<sup>th</sup> of February.

Child Cancer Appeal  
Friday 13th March and Sat 14th March

Peter also advised on the progress of planning for the Anzac Day memorial Service. He would like 2 or 3 members to volunteer to assist with the structure of the service this year. Maybe there are some members who would really like to be involved. Last year there was time taken for the presentation of a poem and the reliance on the previous structure.

This year we should also have something that adds body to the service programme, not necessarily a poem reading. We might find some time in a meeting in the not too distant, future to perhaps, readdress the three or four comments that came out of our briefing after last year's event to see which of those we want to develop further and put into play. Contact Peter to become involved.

**Tony Rayner** spoke about this years 'Tractor Trek'. Last year it was in Northland, this year it is in Hawkes Bay, and it's going to take place at the end of February and in the first week of March.

From our club, there'll be Phil, myself, and Heather, my wife, going on the trek again this year.

And we had a hoot last time, so we thought we must do it again this this year.

And there's about twelve tractors on this trek, maybe a bit more.

So that's really good.



# February

PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT  
PREVENTION MONTH

*"It isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it.  
And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it."  
Eleanor Roosevelt*

We will be visiting 20 schools, and these are primary schools, and they've been specially chosen by Cat, and they're the lower decile schools where she will deliver her message of, from Think and Be Me, about emotional regulation for children. So how to deal with your feelings, anger, worry, and all those sort of things. So, she has a particular method that she delivers to the children and also the teachers.

So that will be delivered to those children, and then we turn up at each school. When you're a child and you're a primary school kid, a tractor is fun to be on. So, it's always a hit, and everybody enjoys it.

**Guest Speaker:** No Guest Speaker

Acting President Barry Introduced and inducted our three new members with an overview of the organisation of Rotary, detailing Local, Regional, and international components. Barry mentioned the changing times and the pressure this has on Rotary's structure. The new members were presented with an induction pack each containing information for further consideration.



**5-minute speakers:** new members, Heather, Rodney, and Bruce to each introduce themselves to the Club.

## Member Highlights

### Heather's Journey

**Initial Engagement:** Heather expresses gratitude for the club's warm welcome, recalling her initial trepidation upon joining.

**Career Background:** Originating from a farming family in Tauranga, she initially trained in nursing but transitioned to a 14-year career as a pharmacy technician.

**Personal Challenges:** After facing significant personal setbacks Heather relocated back to Tauranga. She pursued higher education, earning a teaching degree from Waikato University.

**Teaching Experience:** With a 35-year career at Macaulay High School, she inspired many students from socio-economic challenges, emphasizing their potential despite societal perceptions.

**Community Engagement:** Heather has maintained connections with former students, many of whom have achieved great professional success.

**Interests and Hobbies:** In her retirement, she enjoys traveling in Europe and organizing reunions for her nursing school alumni, referred to as the "group of noble dames."

### Rodney's Experiences

**Diverse Background:** Rodney was born in Alexandria, Egypt, and moved to London, where he began his hairdressing career at a young age.

**Career and Contributions:** He built a successful business in hairdressing in New Zealand, employing up to 250 staff at one point, before transitioning to a more supportive role as his daughter took over the family business.

**Personal Life:** Rodney is set to assist his sister in Switzerland due to her health issues, but he remains actively involved in the Rotary community.

### Bruce's Transition

**History and Career:** Bruce shares his journey as an English teacher in China for 18 years, returning to New Zealand recently and adjusting to technological changes and cultural shifts.

**Community Involvement:** Upon returning, Bruce enthusiastically joined various groups, including Tai Chi, the Astronomy Society, and community service initiatives, showcasing a commitment to reintegrate and give back.

Other Engagements: He also participates in local clubs, such as the Auckland Vintage Car Club, Motat, Auckland Zoo, and the Onehunga Community Patrol, enriching his post-return life with meaningful activities.

### Community Perspective

The narratives of Heather, Rodney, and Bruce provide insights into the diverse backgrounds and experiences of community members, each enriching the Rotary club's culture and impact through personal stories of perseverance, community service, and dedication. They reflect broader themes of resilience, personal growth, and the importance of community support, emphasizing how the Rotary club serves as a platform for members to contribute positively to society while fostering connections and friendships.

Overall, these individual stories illustrate the rich tapestry of backgrounds that members bring to the Rotary, highlighting their commitment to service and community enhancement.

### **Thought for the Week Brian Williams**

*We make choices every day, some of them good, some of them bad. And if we are strong enough, we live with the consequences.*

**1 Minute: Gwynyth Carr** BBQ at Mavis Moodie's place on **15 February**. Gwynyth would like confirmation of your attendance for catering purposes.

### ***Duties: February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026***

**Sergeant** Noel Carey

Attendance: Trevor Mosley

Hospitality: Bruce Murdoch

Meals:– Jeanette Thorn – Brian Williams

5 Minute Speaker:TBA

Guest Speaker: Vicki Tyler

Subject: Leadership Skills

Host: Iain McCrae

Thanks: Tony Rayner

Thought For the Week: Rhett Stephens

*Apologies to Noel by 5pm Friday 30th January*

**Remember 'The Joy of Walking' project is live, online.**

The "Joy of Walking" is a 12-month community program by the Rotary Club of Maungakiekie, offering monthly self-guided walks in the Onehunga, One Tree Hill, and Epsom areas to encourage physical activity and community connection.

<https://joyofwalking.nz/>



*Smile!*

**It makes people wonder what you have been up to!**

*A man is cupping his hand to scoop water from a Highland burn.*

*The Scottish Game keeper shouts, 'Dinnae drink thon water min, its foo o' coo's shyte n pish.'*

*Man replies, 'My good fellow, I'm English ..... kindly repeat that and speak the Queen's English not some Celtic balderdash.'*

*Gamekeeper replies, 'I said use both hands - you get more that way.'*



Rotary Maungakiekie  
Bulletin Editor: Bill Appleton.

bill.appleton.ri@gmail.com

**End note. Māori Proverb**

["Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, he toa takitini,"](#)

which means "My strength is not as an individual, but as a collective," emphasizing collective power.