



Rotary Club of Maungakiekie
Bulletin / Newsletter NL 244
9th of February 2026



President: Paul Jenner
Email: michaelpauljenner@gmail.com.

Secretary: Richard Ryan
Email: rich.ryan4475@gmail.com



Monday 9th of February 2026

Apologies: Paul Jenner(LOA), Mavis Moodie, Rob Lyons, Jeanette Thorn, George Varghese. Tony Bradley, Gwynyth Carr, Rod Kessel, Derek Neutze, Heather Lather and Gary Hayes.

I'll do a one-minute spot on behalf of Peter. Peter is looking for two more slots for the Big Heart Appeal. So that's Friday the 27th of this month. And it's the slot from 2 to 4pm

Acting President Barry

Good afternoon, everyone. A special welcome to Vicky, good to see you Vicky. Looking forward to hearing from you. And also, we've got Myra and Max. Where are we now? What's the date today, the 9th? We've got a speaker on the 16th. And on the **23rd**, we decided at the board meeting today that we will have a working meeting, a business meeting, to discuss a couple of things. One is the ANZAC Day arrangements, which are not that far away from now. And we need to make sure that we're on top of that.

And the other thing is that we need to think about the upcoming Rotary year. Our year ends on the 30th of June. And each year, we are required to look at the appointment of officers for the club.

And I want you to think carefully, all of you, each of you, about whether you can put yourself forward for the year starting on the 1st of July as a member of the board or an officer in the club. Currently, we do not have a president-elect for the coming year. That doesn't mean to say that we can't proceed.

We may have to think about looking at that year with a joint appointment of a couple of people to be president. if you can't manage the 12 months. But please, when we get to it in a fortnight's time, can you make sure that you've actually thought about what you might be able to do for the board in the coming year. Contact any board member for information. That is all from me tonight. Thank you.

Sergeant Noel conducted another successful fine session with comments and stories from the floor.



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*

Guest Speaker: Vicki Tyler. Introduced by Iain McCrae

Good evening, it's a pleasure to introduce Vicky Tyler, whom I have known for over 40 years. Vicky was a student at Onehunga High School and comes from a family that we were close with, often gathering socially. Vicky is a TEDx speaker and former president of Flight Centre USA, renowned for her creation of the "sleepwalking effect" – a behavioural autopilot that prevents leaders and organizations from questioning the norm. Remarkably, Vicky has overcome significant personal adversity, having broken her spine twice, once after sleepwalking out of a second-story window. The doctors gave her just a 0.45% chance of walking again, but here she is today, making a global impact in leadership combining neuroscience and behavioural psychology.



Vicky's connection to Rotary runs deep, as her father was a Rotarian at the Onehunga Club. Over the years, she has engaged in various Rotary-supported projects while living in California. Let's give a warm welcome to Vicky.

Vicky began her talk by expressing gratitude for the opportunity to speak and emphasized the importance of impact over applause, a lesson she learned from her father. She highlighted that Rotary's philosophy of making a difference greatly resonated with her, signifying that the contributions of Rotarians have a profound impact on the community, often beyond what is immediately visible. According to research, each act of kindness or generosity has a threefold effect, emphasizing the ripple effect of good deeds.

Vicky presented a striking statistic, noting that 89% of social organizations in New Zealand depend on volunteers, while the volunteer workforce is steadily shrinking. Concurrently, there's a growing disconnection among global workforces from their purpose; a Gallup report revealed that 79% of employees worldwide are disengaged, with New Zealand being slightly better at 77%. This implies that many individuals in various environments, workplaces, or gatherings do not feel acknowledged or valued.

She introduced the concept of the "sleepwalking effect," which is driven by a behavioural autopilot whereby people adopt norms in new contexts without questioning them. This phenomenon can limit the potential for real engagement and innovation. In situations such as meetings or even new experiences, individuals might unconsciously conform to the behaviour of others rather than contributing their unique thoughts.

To illustrate this, Vicky referenced her experience back in New Zealand, where she noticed an alarming prevalence of orange cones indicative of roadworks. These cones symbolize a pattern of unquestioned norms, which she believes represents a concerning trend in how issues are handled – more focused on routine than reconsidering effectiveness.

To combat the "sleepwalking effect," Vicky suggested an "autopilot reset," introducing the ACT model to stimulate curiosity. The C in this model stands for curiosity, inspired by Albert Einstein's assertion that passionate curiosity is what leads to great discoveries and change. This curiosity drove Vicky to change her life significantly during her time away in Australia.

As she reflected on her journey, she recounted an incident that altered her life's trajectory. While hiking in Ormiston Gorge, she suffered a severe fall after slipping and sustained major injuries, which included multiple fractures. This led to life-changing medical interventions and a significant recovery process, as her family received the distressing news that she had suffered a serious accident.

Vicky's passionate advocacy for curiosity is rooted in her own experiences and serves as a call to action for all attendees to embrace a mindset of questioning norms and exploring new potentials. She emphasized that the spirit of inquiry, fuelled by genuine curiosity, can lead to profound personal and community transformations, illustrating the pivotal role that individuals can play in fostering more engaged and purposeful environments.

In closing, Vicky encouraged everyone to reflect on their own lives and roles within their communities. She reiterated the impact of Rotary's work and the necessity for leaders to challenge the status quo, drawing on both their experiences and curiosities to enact tangible change. Ultimately, her message was one of empowerment – encouraging individuals to step out of the autopilot mode and embrace the journey towards leveraging curiosity for collective growth and positive impact.

Vicki was thanked for her very informative address by Tony Rayner. Tony mentioned her examples of Curiosity, Fearlessness, and how they could be incorporated into the Rotary model of actions to be taken for the sustainability of Rotary in the wider community.

Thought for the Week Rhett Stephens

The right to do something, does not necessarily mean it is the right thing to do!

Link for New Members. About Rotary information.

https://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000013190/en-us/files/homepage/rotary-basics-a-guide-for-new-members/Rotary-Basics_A-Guide-for-New-Members.pdf

1 Minute: Bruce Verrall.

Bruce is actively involved in several community organisations, and has passed on notice of a PUBLIC MEETING about a new **Mens Shed** in **Mt**

Wellington/Panmure/Glen Innes and one in **Onehunga/Penrose/Oranga**

A Mens Shed is a non-profit community space where men can gather to share skills, work on projects, and socialize in a workshop environment. These sheds provide a supportive place for men of all ages to connect, reduce isolation, improve mental and physical health, and engage in activities like woodworking, metalworking, and community projects. You are welcome to attend either or both:

Saturday, 21-February-2026 10:00am Dunkirk Road Activity Centre 50 Dunkirk Road, Panmure

Sunday, 22-February-2026 10:00am Onehunga Community House 83 Selwyn Street, Onehunga.

Duties: February 16th 2026

Sergeant Noel Carey

Attendance: Bruce Murdoch

Hospitality: Derek Neutze

Meals:-- Ernie Meyer, Brian Williams

5 Minute Speaker:TBA

Guest Speaker: Debbie Malligan (& Dave).

Subject: "**A conversation about AI**"

Host: Tony Rayner

Thanks: Rhett Stephens

Thought For the Week: Mavis Moodie

Apologies to Noel by 5pm Friday 14th February

Correspondence to the Board for members consideration:

I hope this email finds you well. My name is Danny Pietersen , and I am a member of the Rotary Club of Atlantis in South Africa. Our club is passionate about community service, international understanding, and making a positive impact.

I am writing to explore the possibility of establishing a relationship between our clubs. We believe that by joining forces, we can create even greater change in our communities and beyond. Here are a few ideas on how we can collaborate:

Joint Service Projects: Let's identify areas where our clubs' expertise and resources can complement each other. Whether it's a local project or an international initiative, working together can amplify our impact.

Exchange Programs: We could organize exchange programs for members, allowing us to learn from each other's experiences and cultures.

Twin Club Relationship: A twin club partnership would allow us to foster long-term connections. We can share best practices, celebrate milestones together, and collaborate on meaningful projects.

Please let me know if you're open to exploring this partnership further. I believe that together, we can make a significant difference. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for considering this proposal, and I hope we can build a strong and lasting relationship between our Rotary clubs.

Yours in Rotary service Danny Pietersen

President Rotary Club of Atlantis

dannypietersen78@gmail.com 0727750904

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.

Two prizes have been won so far!

<https://joyofwalking.nz/>



Smile!

It makes people wonder what you have been up to!



Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear & the blind can see.

Mark Twain



Rotary Maungakiekie
Bulletin Editor: Bill Appleton.

bill.appleton.ri@gmail.com

End note.

To whoever stole my copy of Microsoft Office...I will find you. You have my Word.