



Rotary Club of Maungakiekie  
 Bulletin / Newsletter NL 246  
 23rd of February 2026



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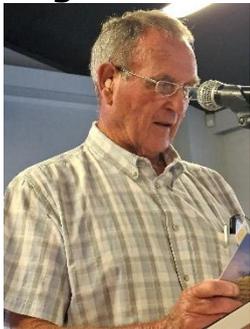
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**Monday 23rd of February 2026**

**Apologies:** Paul Jenner(LOA), George Varghese, Rod Kestle, Ernie Meyer, Tony Rayner, Mavis Moodie, Jeanette Thorn, Rodney Foley , Heather Latham.

**Sergeant Bill Grayson**



Bill welcomed everyone to the club. He noted that tonight was a different format to the usual Meetings as we are reviewing where we are going as a club in the next year or so.

Bill advised that he had communication from Tony and Heather, as well as Phil Aish are currently on the 2026 Tractor Trek. They have been to 2 schools just north of Napier where Phil and his digger equipment were when he went to restore local farm access roads post Cyclone Gabriel, July 2023. Each school visit incorporates a 30-minute show by Cat and Willie, and if you haven't seen one of Cat's shows, I can highly recommend them to you, both entertaining and educational. So, she'll be presenting to the whole school of year one to five children, followed by the young ones crawling all over the tractors lined up in the playing field. Great fun, says Tony, Sergeant Bill referred to his enthusiasm for the book fair whereby some little gems come under his hands.

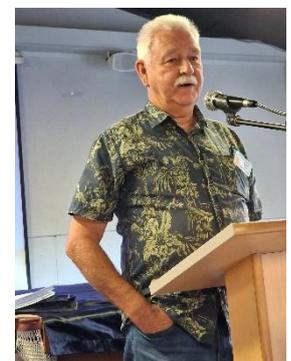
One is a book of Barry Crumps poems entitled " The Song of a Drifter". This year will be 30years from when Barry died on the 3 July 1996. Bill read out two of his poems the first called 'Journey', about the end days, And the second titled ' Toyota'. Almost an epitaph.

**1 Minute: Gary Hays**

Gary is looking into arranging a suitable night at the Little Dolphin Theatre.

Gary did a makeup at Westhaven Club last Tuesday morning, and our young girl from Marist spoke, and she was an exceptional speaker. As she explained at the beginning, she said, "I was a very shy nerd", is probably the best way to put it, and she turned up to the University with 168, as she put it, 'nerds', and she said we thrived together. Because often when you get these types of people, and they're not with their own, they can be very quiet and shy.

But anyway, she really came out of herself, and she just said the two weeks was the best of her life. She did many, many, many things. She's going to be dealing with some microbiology that I couldn't understand.



**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

It's a wonderful program that Rotary do. They had 168 students, I think they had 300 applications, and they're from Invercargill right through the country.

And she's now made a lot of best new friends. So hopefully this year we're going to get somebody from Onehunga and or plus. Marcelin. The secret is having the right teacher to promote it in the school.

### **Peter Mayow**

Peter reminded members of the Charitable collections we are supporting over the next few weeks. The spreadsheets have been circulated, this Friday is at Countdown Onehunga and Saturday is at Mitre 10 Onehunga.

The next one is on the 13th and 14<sup>th</sup> March, which is the Child Cancer Appeal.

Peter was also asked to update the club on the Onehunga High, student Construction School house programme that has built nine houses over the past nine years. The school has been approached by an investment company that manages investments for an Iwi led property group. They will introduce a pilot program around various schools in their Iwi based areas.

This will take away the commercial risk for the current Trust of funding these houses as it has done in recent years.

There is a new intake of 16 students and the construction of this year's house is under way. The school will benefit from the Hapu providing a contribution to the construction school costs, probably between \$30,000 and \$40,000.

Peter chaired a discussion on the details of this years Anzac Day Memorial Service that the club now runs in Epsom.

The following points were discussed, and decisions made.

- Consider play/sing Australia Nat Anthem to recognise Australia as well as NZ.
- Consider giving out poppies to attendees for people to place at crosses.
- Consider making placing of flags easier ; problem climbing into garden to place flag against archway wall.
- Consider delivering Ode of Remembrance in Māori as well as English.
- Consider Local Board member leading wreath laying (as previous) but saying short poem first.
- Special interest section needed ? 5-10 mins at most ; as an insert into service sheet
- Short story of soldier or event
- Possible school involvement
- Reading of a poem

### **Acting President Barry Stafford**

Barry confirmed that he managed to achieve the re-registration of the Rotary Club of Maungakeikei, not without some difficulty with the operation of the Program.

Barry referred to the current Tractor Trek for 2026 under way and presenting at schools in the Hawkes Bay area. Barry met with Cat Levine who some of the new members will never have met . This Trek is a 'Think and be Me' program and is not a Rotary project. However as has been mentioned above, our members Phil Aish , Tony Rayner and his wife Heather are Tractor drivers and supporters.

Cat is a woman in her early 50s , a very lively woman who has developed a program for young primary school children dealing with mental health and wellbeing and over the last four years she's delivered this program, with the help of the Rotary

Foundation, to 67 primary schools in the Northland District of New Zealand which is quite an achievement and she is now continuing on and when he met her a week or so ago she's now been accredited by the Education and Health Departments and has got a contract to deliver this program to about nine schools in the South Auckland area.

The great thing about that is she doesn't have to travel or need accommodation and there are something like 80 plus schools in that area so I think she may be on a road which will be good for her and, self-funding, so that's good news.

Links to Pictures and schedule of the Trek below.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/sExg2r55jMVg4tW46>

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Wc3ywHXULgbDin8ZLpq1weFM5tF1UVGUSI28BLos1Xc/edit?gid=0#gid=0>

Barry also attended The Rotary Group 6 Meeting of about 12 clubs. This has been running for two and a half years and now at the behest of the Rotary International organisation and running in the whole of the South Pacific area, Australia included. It has now been extended for another two years.

Barry has been making enquiries with a number of local clubs to invite them to attend our Meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March where local MP Greg Fleming will update us on another year in Parliament. He asked for assistance from members for the contacts of people to invite to this meeting.

Email with photo from Noel Carey. Now safely arrived at hotel in Alexandria Egypt.

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

*At our age you realise something very important then poof! it's gone, and you can't remember what the hell you were just thinking about.*

## **Duties: March 2nd 2026**

**Sergeant** Bill Grayson

Attendance: Derek Neutze

Hospitality: Rhett Stephens

Meals: -- - George Arulanatham-Alan Bannin

5 Minute Speaker:

Guest Speaker: **Kelvin Ricketts**

Subject: **Life Education Trust** (Harold the Giraffe)

Host: Trevor Mosley

Thanks: Brian Williams

Thought For the Week: Bruce Verrall

*Apologies to Lloyd by 5pm Friday 27th February*



## **Guest Speaker 9th March**

Mary Mowbray – Dental Hygiene Clinic

### **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.

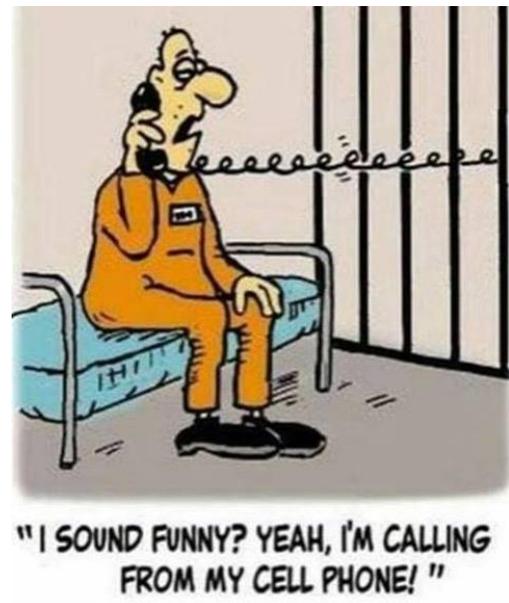
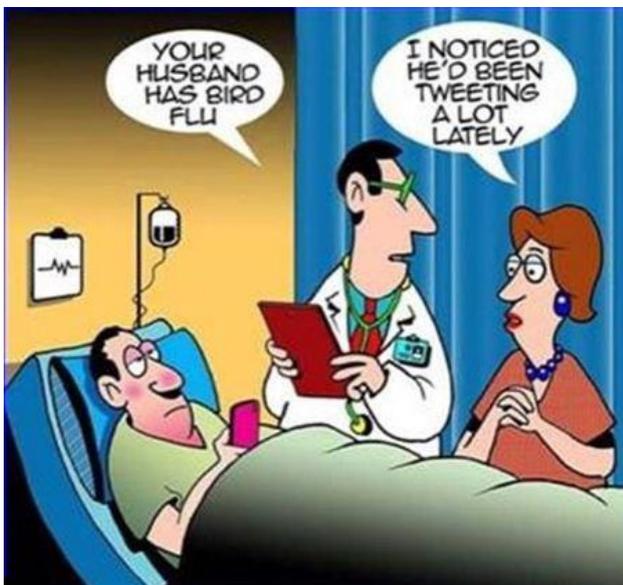
**Two prizes have been won so far!**

<https://joyofwalking.nz/>



*Smile!*

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



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### **End note.**

**"He who has a why to live for, can bear almost any how."**  
(Friedrich Nietzsche)