



Rotary Club of Maungakiekie
 Bulletin / Newsletter NL 253
 20th of April 2026



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Monday 20th of April 2026



April

ENVIRONMENT MONTH

"We owe it to ourselves and to the next generation to conserve the environment so that we can bequeath our children a sustainable world that benefits all"

Wangari Maathai

Apologies: Paul Jenner(LOA), Rod Kestle, George Arulanantham, Rodney Foley, Robin Hulford, Gary Hays, Tony Rayner, Heather Latham, Rob Lyons, Mavis Moodie.

Sergeant Noel Another entertaining fine session and update on absent members.

Acting President: Barry welcomed all present and especially Anne Ryan who is the Guest speaker, and her subject is family connections to the WW1 Passendale battle related to ANZAC history.

Barry Presented Priya Paul, our visitor from Chennai with a Club Banner.

Guest Speaker: Anne Ryan's husband, Richard introduced Anne and the evening as a prelude to ANZAC Day with Anne invited to share her personal tale related to ANZAC history. Anne and Richard recounted two personal stories linked to ANZAC Day commemorations: one about Anne's father, W.J.C. Patterson, a New Zealand World War I soldier who fought in the Battle of Passchendaele, and another about Richards family member lost in World War II. Anne, the guest speaker, shares her father's harrowing experiences during WWI, highlighting the brutal conditions of Passchendaele, the battlefield's historical significance, and the deep personal impact of war remembrance. They provided intimate connections to historical events, making remembrance more tangible.



Anne gave a detailed account of the Battle of Passchendaele emphasizing the horrific conditions and the heavy toll on New Zealand soldiers.

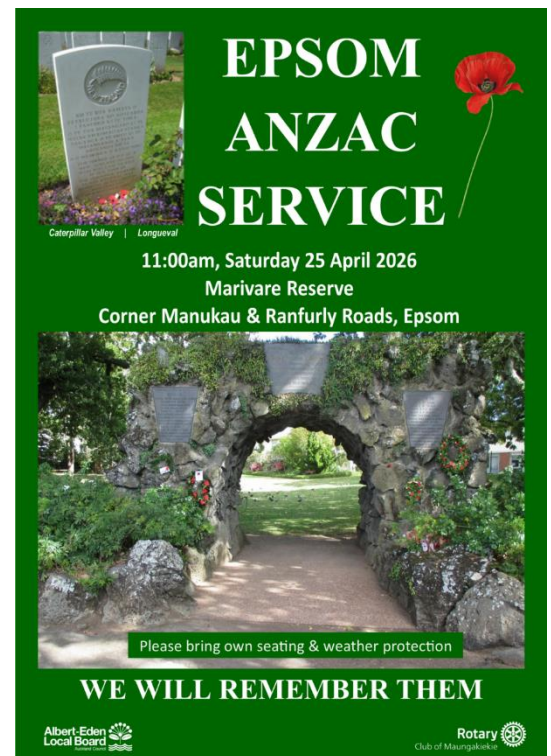


Richard recounted a family story about his uncle, Keith Forbes Ryan a WWII air force captain who was killed in action over Belgium. Richard described a visit to the graves in Belgium belonging to the airmen shot down, one of them being his uncle.

These experiences illustrated how physical memorials and ceremonies foster remembrance and healing. Their shared reflections emphasize the sacrifices made by New Zealand soldiers, the importance of preserving history through visits to memorials, and personal connections to these global conflicts.

Gwynyth thanked Anne and Richard so much for bringing those stories to us. 11 years ago, Greg and Gwynyth went to follow his grandfather's notebook that had where he had been. They visited Passchendaele, Messines, and went to the Menin Gate ceremony at night. It's very very moving. So, thank you both for bringing back all those lovely memories. Thank you.

Bill Grayson followed with reciting the Ode of Remembrance.



EPSOM ANZAC SERVICE

11:00am, Saturday 25 April 2026
Marivare Reserve
Corner Manukau & Ranfurly Roads, Epsom

Please bring own seating & weather protection

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Albert-Eden Local Board | Rotary Club of Maungakokiri

The poster features a green background with a white memorial stone on the left and a red poppy on the right. Below the title, there is a photograph of a stone archway leading to a park. Logos for the Albert-Eden Local Board and the Rotary Club of Maungakokiri are at the bottom.

Programme for balance of this Rotary year.

27th April No meeting ANZAC day observed.

4th May Club business

11th May No meeting Dolphin Theatre Night on the 12th May

18th May Egypt and Dubai in war time Noel Carey

25th May Onehunga high School Dinner at Onehunga High School

1st June No meeting Kings Birthday

8th June TBA (Board meeting)

15th June TBA

22nd June TBA

29th June Change over night

Duties: 4th of May 2026

Sergeant Noel Carey

President Barry Stafford

Attendance: Ant Martin

Hospitality: Alan Bannin

Meals:--Craig Jones – Rob Lyons

5 Minute Speaker: TBA

Guest Speaker: Club Business

Subject: – n/a

Host: - n/a

Thanks: -Bill Grayson

Thought For the Week: - Gary Hays

Apologies and confirmation of attendance to Noel by 5pm Friday 1st May 2026

Gary Hays has kindly organised this as a club fundraiser and will be a fun night out for members, family, and friends!! We have booked for **60 seats!!!**

Details below:

- **Tuesday 12th May 8pm** at the Dolphin Theatre, 12 Spring Street, Onehunga. The play starts at 8pm but get there **earlier** to meet at the bar.
- It is a **Gala Night** so one free drink on arrival, plus a treat at the half time interval.
- This **replaces** our Monday night meeting on 11th May. (Do not go to the Bowling Club, no dinner, no meeting!)
- Cost is **\$35** per head **to be paid in advance** to the Maungakiekie Rotary Club Bank Account **02-0208-0417745-00**

Please reference with your "name" and "Dolphin" to assist our treasurer, Bruce.

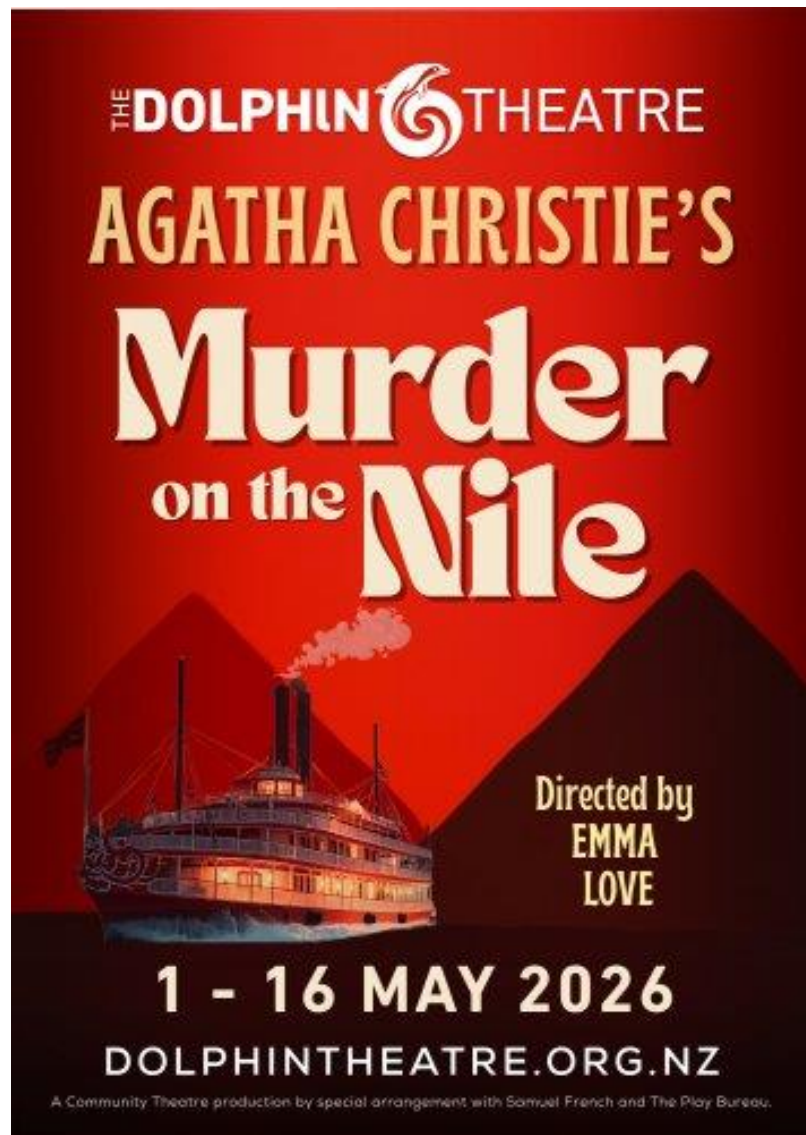
- Email me, gwynythcarr@hotmail.com with your names and numbers asap please.

Let's get behind this worthy fundraiser and enjoy a good night out at the theatre.

Booked out! Contact Gwynyth to see if there are any cancellations available.

Thought for the week: Bill Grayson.

The secret of staying young is to live honestly, eat slowly, and lie about your age.





Smile!

It makes people wonder what you have been up to!

Please excuse the Puns.

A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption.

Two silkworms had a race. They ended up in a tie.

A vulture boards an airplane, carrying two dead raccoons. The stewardess looks at him and says, 'I'm sorry, sir, only one carrion allowed per passenger.'

Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says, 'I've lost my electron.' The other says, 'Are you sure?' The first replies, 'Yes, I'm positive'.

Kevin was starting to think that maybe his mom wasn't coming back.



Rotary Maungakiekie

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End note. Quote of the day by Richard Feynman: *'Never confuse education with intelligence, you can have a PhD and still be an idiot' -*

DID YOU KNOW? The "Ode of Remembrance" is the fourth stanza of the poem "For the Fallen" by English poet and writer Laurence Binyon (1869–1943) which was first published in The Times in September 1914.

For the Fallen

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal,
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.
There is music in the midst of desolation,
And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables at home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
Felt as a well spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.

Laurence Binyon (1869 – 1943)