



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



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Monday 4th of May 2026

Apologies:

So we do have a few apologies, in fact, we've got 17 members present and 16 apologies.

So, we just outnumbered the apologies. 17 to 16.

Paul Jenner(LOA), Rod Kestle, George Arulanantham, Rodney Foley, Tony Rayner, Phil Aish, Lloyd Albiston, Tony Bradley, Mavis Moodie, Rhett Stephens, George Varghese, Brian Williams, Heather Lather, Kat Levine, Rob Lyons, Ian McRae

Sergeant Noel moved into a "sergeant's session" for happy and sad dollars and birthdays. One anecdote involves a broken pair of glasses being quickly and affordably repaired. Another story recounts a trip to Phil's farm at Naike, where Bill Grayson took a group of children who struggled to set up tents.

Acting President Barry then thanked Peter Mayo for his extensive work organizing the Anzac Day service.

Peter reported that the service went well, with an estimated attendance of 200 adults and 50 children. He mentioned a man named Jason who approached him about acknowledging his parents' past involvement and proposes writing Jason a note and inviting him to help next year.

Dr. Lawrence Zhu Nan, the local Green Party MP, also expressed thanks for the program and has been invited to speak to the club on June 8th.

Peter highlighted the effectiveness of the "pop-up" aspect and praised Robin and Trevor's contributions. He noted the service lasted approximately 45 minutes and considers it a valuable community event.

The involvement of the guides was praised for being organized and swift, with a humorous comparison made to the scouts. The community's willingness to come forward and participate in placing a poppy is seen as emphasizing community involvement. Suggestions are made for future Anzac Day services, including the possibility of having an Australian flag and reciting the Ode of Remembrance in both Māori and English, one line at a time, to further involve attendees.

Barry introduced a four-year-old initiative started by the Port Nicholson Rotary Club in Wellington and now adopted by all Wellington Rotary clubs. This project aims to provide rapid mental health counselling access for secondary school students facing suicide risks. The project addresses a critical gap in existing government counselling services, which often entail long waits. Instead, this program raises funds (between \$5,000 and \$10,000 per school) to allow schools to quickly request and arrange



May

YOUTH SERVICE MONTH

"the youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow"
Nelson Mandela

counselling for at-risk students, promising turnaround within hours. Over 1,700 cases have been supported in the program's lifetime, and it is characterized as straightforward and effective. Barry suggested that similar statistics and needs likely exist in Auckland and proposed considering adoption or support from the club for the upcoming Rotary year.

There was a discussion about developing a closer relationship or possible amalgamation with a local Rotary Club. Given geographical proximity, shared meeting venues, overlapping membership profiles, and the trend from Rotary International towards club consolidation, this is seen as a logical step. Barry referenced prior contacts and the benefits of joining forces, such as cost savings on catering and venue use, enhanced membership diversity, and more significant community impact.

We've got to the end of the meeting but are there some volunteers to be involved in possible amalgamation, Richard, there's one. Anyone else? Craig, two. Gwyneth, three.

One more? Okay, there you are. We've got four. Ernie. Thank you. I will make the necessary approach and come back to you.

Thought for the week: Gary Hays

J F Kennedy once said: *Forgive your enemies - but remember their names*".

Programme for balance of this Rotary year.

18th May 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: 18th of May 2026

Sergeant Noel Carey

President Barry Stafford

Attendance: Gwynyth Carr

Hospitality: Bill Grayson

Meals:--Ant Martin – Peter Mayow

5 Minute Speaker: TBA

Guest Speaker: Noel Carey

Subject: – Noel will take you back over 4,500 years and beyond to the Golden Sands and Ancient Wonders of Egypt and a glimpse of the futuristic Dubai 3 days before the first bombings.

Host: President Barry

Thanks: -Craig Jones

Thought For the Week: - Rob Lyons

Apologies and confirmation of attendance to Noel



Smile!

It makes people wonder what you have been up to!

TWO THINGS TO MAKE

YOUR DAY BETTER:

1. DO NOT WATCH THE NEWS.
2. STAY OFF THE BATHROOM SCALES.



As I watch this generation try to rewrite history, one thing I'm sure of.... it will be misspelled and have no punctuation.



Rotary Maungakiekie
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End note. Charles Darwin wrote, "If I had my life to live over again, I would have made a rule to read some poetry and listen to some music at least once every week,"