Rotary Club of Maungakiekie
Bulletin / Newsletter NL 276
19th October 2026
President: Tony Rayner
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Secretary: Richard Ryan
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CREATE LASTING IMPACT

Rotary

Monday 19th October 2026

Visitors:
LOA: Paul Jenner, Rod Kestle
Apologies**:** Craig Jones, Richard Ryan, Heather Latham, Iain McCrae, Tony Rayner, Rhett Stephens, George Varghese, Ant Martin.
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Rotary

October

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTH

Iam of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can" George Bernard Shaw

Sergeant Noel Carey welcomed everyone to the meeting.
Noel asked Bill G to report on the results of the latest All Black sweepstake with Gary Hays declared as winner.

Acting President, Barry Stafford asked Bill A to report on the End Polio All Transit Day Event where the club was represented by himself and President Tony. The following comments from PDG Jenny Wong say it all.

"Our End Polio All Transit Day was a fantastic opportunity to raise awareness and funds for Rotary's global effort to eradicate polio. Across our three districts (9910, 9920 and 9930), clubs pledged more than **$25,000** in support of End Polio Now!

In District 9910, five clubs and two individual Rotarians made pledges showing the commitment of our Rotary community to a polio-free world.

More than 120 Rotarians and polio supporters took part in the day's activities, including a sausage sizzle in Papakura and a visit to Auckland's new City Rail Link.

It was a great day of fellowship, community engagement and raising awareness for this important cause."

Club communications.

Barry advised that the Club has a new electronic notice board in Onehunga.



Gary Hayes has arranged a social event with a breakfast at the Cornwall Park Kiosk for Sunday 6th of November 9.45am. Expressions of interest to Gwynyth Carr please. Gary has booked for 36 people.

<u>Good News!</u>



Email from Mother of Artur Chernenko. I am writing to express our family's deepest gratitude for the generous grant your club awarded Artur last year. Because of your financial support, Artur was able to cover his training expenses and pool access, which gave him the steady foundation he needed to pursue ***his biggest dream.***

Artur's absolute dream was to become a competitive Para swimmer and compete at the National level. Just one year ago, that was only a dream—but thanks to hard work, daily training sessions in the pool and gym, and the wonderful support of our community (including organizations like yours), that dream has officially come true!

This past year has been an incredible journey for him. Most recently, Artur competed at the **2026 NZ Short Course Championships in Christchurch**. Despite fighting off the flu right before the competition, he gave it his absolute all and achieved fantastic results.



Looking back, this caps off an unbelievable **<u>first competitive year for Artur 2026</u>**:
ASA Long Course Championships 2026: 1 Gold, 1 Bronze
ASA Short Course Championships 2026: 3 Golds, 3 Silvers
NZ Short Course Championships 2026: 2 Golds

Artur is not stopping here. He has a new goal: to qualify for the ***NZ Para Swimming***

Development Squad, with his sights set on the NZ Long Course Championships in Christchurch next May. He is fully committed to continuing his hard work in the pool and gym to get there.
Your support played a vital role in making Artur's dream a reality. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for believing in him and for the wonderful work ***Rotary Maungakiekie*** *does to support local youth.*
Artur is so proud to wear the logo of the Rotary Club of Maungakiekie, and he will never forget your help.

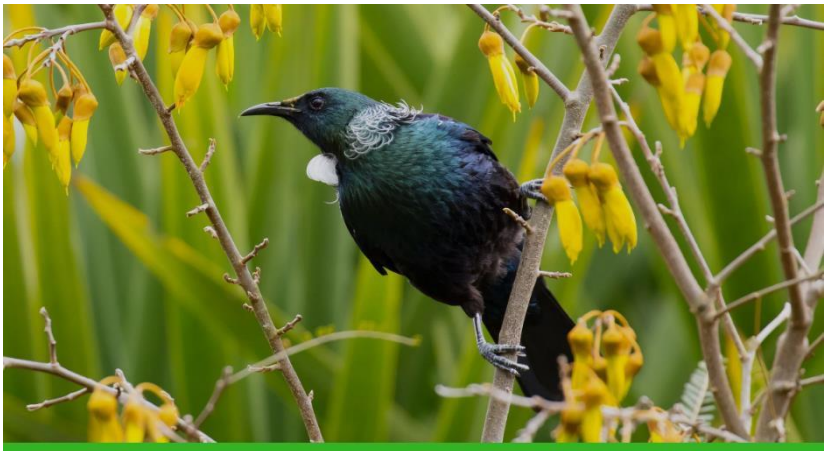
Warmest regards,
Tanya Tymoshenko
(Mother of Artur Chernenko)

Guest Speaker: Iain Hook

Peter Mayow Introduced our Guest Speaker Ian Hook, founder of the Maungakiekie Songbird Trust.

Ian established a trust back in 2020 and has made a huge difference to the bird life through the Maungakiekie area, creating the halo that sits around the mountain. Peter's wife is a member of the trust, participating in the various gatherings that Ian puts on.
They have had support from him with bird feeders and nesting boxes, etc. And have noticed a big difference over the last few years in terms of the bird life that we get in our backyard. Peter asked Ian to address the meeting.

Maungakiekie Songbird Project
Ian secured initial funding from DOC and Auckland Council to establish the project.
Approximately 2,500 households were targeted with colourful, visually appealing flyers delivered to letterboxes.
The flyers included official-looking logos and highlighted the word FREE to attract attention.
A simple website allowed residents to register and learn about the initiative.



The project has built a database of approximately 900 registered participants, representing around 30% of the targeted households.
Ian emphasised that effective community engagement requires understanding local demographics and choosing communication methods that will reach the intended audience.
Ian deliberately named the initiative the Maungakiekie Songbird Project rather than a pest-free project.
The aim was to promote the positive outcome of restoring birdsong, rather than focusing exclusively on killing pests.

This approach makes the project more appealing to residents who may be reluctant to participate in activities focused solely on trapping and killing animals.
The strategy is to attract people through appealing activities and resources, then encourage them to take further steps to protect wildlife.

The project distributes a variety of resources to encourage participation and make environmental protection accessible
These include:
Possum traps to reduce possum numbers.
Rodent traps to control rats and mice.
Wasp traps to help protect beneficial insects.
Bird feeders to attract and support native birds.
Native trees to improve habitat.
Ruru (morepork) nesting boxes.
Wētā motels to provide habitats for native invertebrates.

Ian explained that bird feeders have been particularly popular because residents enjoy seeing birds in their gardens.
The project also encourages residents to maintain their equipment and replace worn-out resources to keep their participation going.

Partnerships with schools have become an important part of the project.
Examples include:
Onehunga High School students making 40 ruru nesting boxes.
One Tree Hill College students producing 50 nesting boxes in an earlier project.
Distributing nesting boxes through local environmental organisations.
Providing traps and swamp plants to schools for environmental learning activities.
Encouraging students to participate in practical conservation projects and competitions.

These activities give young people hands-on experience, build environmental awareness, and connect schools with their wider communities.
Ian stressed that he could not achieve these results alone. The project's success depends on cooperation with a range of organisations, including:
Auckland Council and DOC for funding and support.
Cornwall Park and its nursery for resources and expertise.
Tūpuna Maunga Authority for conservation activities.
Local schools for student-led projects.
Residents who participate in trapping, planting, and habitat improvement.

His approach is to build relationships in which each organisation contributes its own expertise and resources.
The project runs competitions and community events to maintain interest and motivation.
Ian organises approximately four resource-distribution events each year. A bird-watching walk was also planned to provide a different way for residents to engage with the environment.

Ian’s presentation demonstrated how a locally initiated project can achieve significant community engagement by combining a clear purpose, effective marketing, practical resources, and strong partnerships.

The most important lesson is that people are more likely to participate when they understand the positive difference they can make, find the activity accessible and enjoyable, and feel connected to a wider community effort.
For Rotary, this provides a practical model for developing community projects that attract new supporters, strengthen partnerships, and potentially convert community involvement into sustained club membership.

Thought for the week: Robin Hulford**.**

'It is better to arrive late, than dead on time'.

Future meetings and events

Date	Event or activity
26 October	No meeting Labour Weekend
2 November	Combined meeting at Remuera Club
8 November, Sunday **9:30 am**	Breakfast meeting at Cornwall Park kiosk; $35 per person
9 November	Book sorting at Onehunga Community House
16 November	Book sorting at Onehunga Community House
23 November	Club meeting planned; details to be confirmed
7 December	McKeever Awards event: @ Royal Oak Bowls
14 December	Annual General Meeting (AGM)
21 December	Christmas party: venue being considered

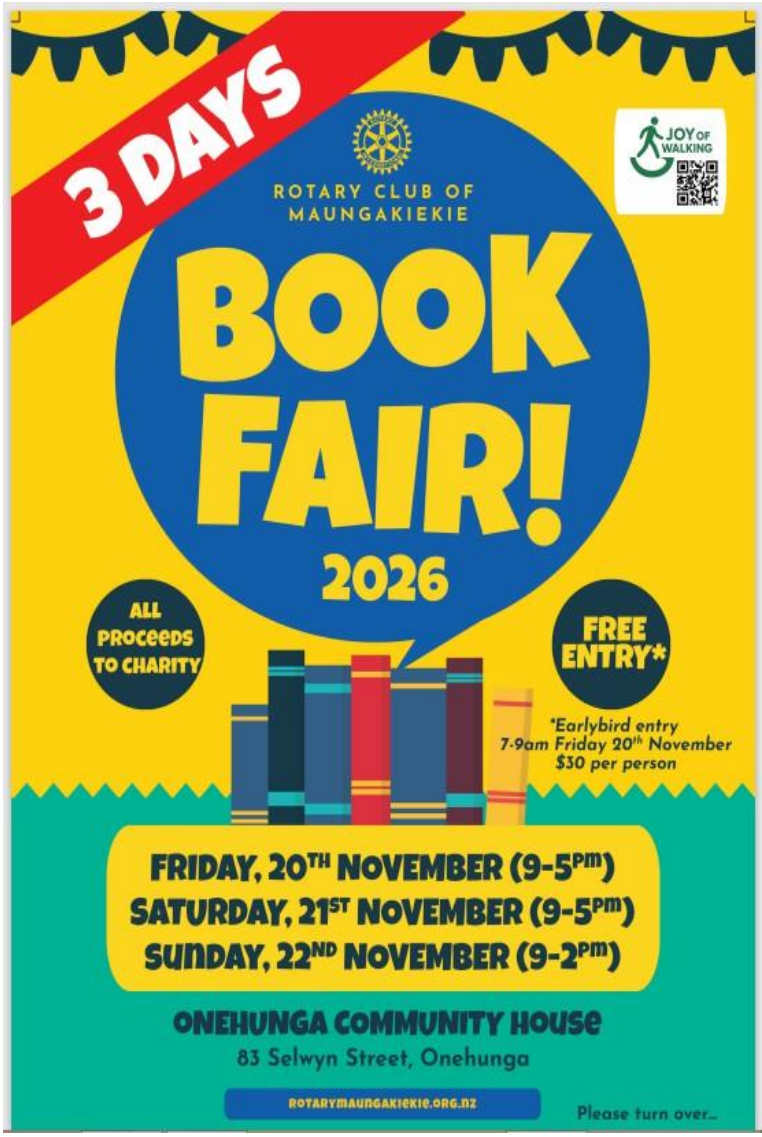
Duties: 19th of October *Meeting at Remuera Rotary Club*
President: Tony Rayner
Sergeant: Noel Carey
Attendance: Bruce Murdoch
Hospitality:
Meals:
Scribe: Bill Appleton
5 Minute Speaker: tba
Host:
Guest Speaker**: Professor Geoff Duffy**
Subject: "Carbon Zero".
Thanks:
Thought for the Week**.**
Apologies and **attendance confirmation** to Noel by 5.00pm Friday .

Book Fair.

Bill Grayson provided an update on activities to date regarding book collections and that the pamphletts were now ready to be delivered from Tuesday 27th October.

Bundles af pampletts with street maps of delivery areas were made available.





Rotary



Rotary Traditional Christmas Puddings make the best gifts for family, friends, clients and staff

Using only the best fruit, spices and wholesome ingredients to a time-proven recipe Rotary Traditional Christmas Puddings are the most delicious and easy way to turn meals into celebrations.

Baked here in New Zealand, they're ready to eat hot or cold - you just can't beat them. Simply serve with custard, brandy butter, caramel sauce, cream, ice cream, yoghurt or try our quick serving ideas at right or on our website.

Gift them, share them or hide them until you're alone – they're just so good!

Whatever you do, make sure you order yours today. Each one you buy includes a substantial donation to Rotary projects and community projects in your area. Proceeds from sales, shared with participating Rotary clubs throughout New Zealand, exceed $2 million since the project began.

EXCLUSIVE GIFT PACKAGING AND RECIPE BAKED IN NEW ZEALAND

Enquiries and orders to:
your local Rotary Club or
enquiries@rotarypuddings.co.nz

Fabulous gifts vacuum packed for superb freshness

Rotary Christmas Puddings (700g) are already cooked ... just heat in the microwave. Due to the brandy content, they last well past their Best Before date - in fact, like good wines, they improve with age. They freeze well too.
There are a range of recipes on the Rotary Puddings website but here are a few ideas.

Quick Serving Ideas

Christmas Pudding Ice Cream

Cut pudding in half (freeze remainder). Roughly fork-mix with equal parts of vanilla ice cream. Press ice cream mix back into original container, cover with cling wrap and freeze. Serve frozen with berries, yoghurt or decorate as you please. Perfect for Christmas dinner or summer BBQs.

Rum Balls

Mix Christmas Pudding with a bit more than half as much of any fruit cake. Add chopped glazed cherries, ginger and rum, stirring until the mixture is moist but not wet. Roll firmly into small balls and coat with desiccated coconut. Freeze until needed.

All-Seasons Cake

Cut in small pieces, fruit, yoghurt, cream or ice cream on the side. Try it with aged cheddar or blue cheese - fantastic!

Lazy Lady's Brandy Sauce

Serve your hot pudding with homemade custard containing a good dollop of cream and ½ cup of brandy.

Contact Peter Mayow to order your *Christmas Puddings*

Smile!

It makes people wonder what you have been up to!

I DON'T HAVE A BEDTIME ANYMORE. I JUST EVENTUALLY RUN OUT OF ENERGY LIKE AN OLD CORDLESS DRILL.

I told the waitress my steak was bad.
She picked it up, slapped it, put it down and said: "if it gives you more trouble let me know!"



Who wants to open a doughnut shop next to a medical marijuana place and call it "Glazed and confused?"

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End note:

We should respect each individual's reality,
and at the same time try to expand it.

(W.R. Appleton)