GUEST SPEAKERS: MUNA Team, St. Mary’s School

We were delighted to have Year 12 students Olivia, Giorgia and Angela who made up the team from St. Mary’s School, representing Romania at the Rotary Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)

They found it an 'eye-opening' experience and talked about lobbying, debating, points of information, extreme views and a lot of learning. A highlight for them was the guest speaker; a Professor with a PHD on peace and conflict resolution who gave them advice on how to get involved with and encourage change in global causes. They all agreed it has encouraged them to be more actively involved in global politics and to keep doing things like MUNA. All three are keen to be involved again next year and encouraging another team from Year 12 to take up the challenge.

Purpose of MUNA:

- To simulate the working of the United Nations Assembly by having school teams of three Year 12 and 13 (Forms 6 and 7) students representing a particular UN country in debates on matters of world politics and social concern.
- Debates are held from Friday morning until Saturday afternoon.
- To develop bridges of goodwill for the furtherance of world peace and understanding.

Goals of MUNA:

- To develop in college students an awareness of the United Nations and the international situation of the countries of the world.
- To enable students to improve their public speaking and debating skills.
- To encourage students to make informed comments on world problems.
- To encourage students to share their opinions and friendship with students from other schools in Rotary Districts 9910 & 9920.

Want to know more about Rotary?
Click on links below:
Rotary Westhaven website
Rotary District 9910 website

Meetings

When: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays
Venue: Billfish Café Z Pier Westhaven Drive
Time: 7.00am for 7.15am start
President: Tom Morton
Secretary: Elaine Mead
Treasurer: David Beattie
Bulletin: Clare McCall

To unsubscribe or amend email:
d9910rotarywesthaven@gmail.com

From little acorns mighty oaks grow
Thanks to all those who supported our Mid-Winter Gala dinner fundraiser for Auckland City Mission (ACM), Himalayan Leaky Foundation (HLF) and Westhaven Rotary.

Those who came along, our generous sponsors and donors of goods and services for the auction plus the wonderful staff of the RNZYS. Under the MC-ship of Ric Salizzo we had stories of potential, generosity and whanau from Chris Farrelly (CEO, ACM), heard from Mike Allsop (adventurer, pilot, Dad) about having a dream and never giving up and Clare McCall (Co-founder, HLF) about the work done and planned for assisting people in Nepal.

A lot of fun in selling auction items, under the skillful gavel of Julia Rust and then dancing the night away to the fabulous Hands Off Cover Band.

A highlight of the night was the presentation of a Paul Harris Fellow recognition to Clare McCall for her ‘service above self’ in Nepal. We’ll update you will the final amount raised soon and see you all again next year!
Dear District Governor,

As you will have seen in the news, Guatemala has been left reeling by the most violent volcanic eruption since 1974. The Fuego volcano has spewed lava, ash, rocks and deadly hot gas onto hillside villages, killing 69 people so far. More than 3,000 people have been forced to flee their homes, whilst the entire community of El Rodeo is said to be buried.

As soon as the volcano erupted Rotary in Guatemala and the District Governor 4250 were in touch with ShelterBox Operations and have been liaising closely with the Guatemala national agency for disaster reduction. DG Julio Grazioso told us:

"The situation here is very sad and dramatic. This is very different to any other emergency I have experienced because of the burns and sand everywhere. RI Director Jorge Aufranc, other Rotarians and I have been to the disaster area to assess the situation there. The affected communities are: Alotenango in the Southeast and El Tablón, La Reyna, El Rodeo and San Miguel los Lotes in the South. There are 80 families without homes, half of them in the temporary shelter in the school. In the other communities there are hundreds more families without homes. This is the number of families displaced so far.

The National agency for disaster reduction is leading the government efforts, other government entities are also involved. Fire department and the Army are conducting rescue operations. Local communities are responding extraordinarily contributing with food, water, mattresses, blankets and some medicine. Rotary is working in coordination through the Rotary Emergency Committee with the participation of many different clubs. The Rotary clubs closest to the disaster are having a key role in logistics and contacts."

A ShelterBox response team is making its way to Guatemala now. The team will work with our contacts and Rotary partners in the country to understand how best we can help. We will provide more updates when the team has arrived.

Yours in Rotary Service,

Mike Cahill MBE
Media Officer, ShelterBox New Zealand