



WESTHAVEN VIEW

Vol. 25 Issue 4 : October 2019



Kimberly Pond, 'Brothers In Arms' 8th October'19



At our meeting on 8th October we welcomed guest speakers **Kimberly Pond** (Mentoring Coordinator / Auckland Manager) and **Dave Robertson** (CEO) of **'Brothers in Arms'** Auckland. Brothers in Arms is a Youth Mentoring organisation/registered charity

that has been serving the young people (both boys and girls) of Auckland for over 12 years with over 400 volunteer mentors. The organisation was started by Rotarian Bill Grayson, who was asked to mentor a young teenage boy from a boys home and take him fishing. This then grew to a group of ten children in Glen Innes, and things expanded more from there. The idea is simple—Brothers in Arms facilitates the formation of real relationships between volunteers and young people where they are deeply needed. These relationships build over time as each member safely grows to know each other.

Kimberly and Dave gave us a good insight into what the organisation does and the positive impact it has on youth. Mentors are selected carefully and Kimberly helps to match each mentor with a child who ages in range from 8 to 13 years old. Mentors are given training and are expected to have a minimum one year commitment with the ultimate goal for the child to have a buddy for life. Many of the children come from environments where there has been some level of emotional or physical abuse or negligence, mainly in lower socio-economic areas of Auckland. There are 4 organised events a year, to give the children fun experiences they would not otherwise have the opportunity to do.

If you would like to learn more or get involved, please click on this link to visit website: [Brothers In Arms](#)



CEO Dave, talking to Rotary members

CEO Dave Robertson is the co-founder of Brothers In Arms and has a passion for performance, planning & human development. He has coached over 10 World Champions and has worked as an Olympic class sailing coach. Kimberly is a trained Counsellor and has worked with youth

for over 10 years. She has a huge passion and drive for mentoring and loves to see youth grow and prosper. *Many thanks Kimberley and Dave for coming along to Rotary and sharing your insights into this wonderful organisation.*



Upcoming Speakers

26 Nov: Stuart Spackman, CEO, A Supported Life. *Meaningful lives for adults with intellectual disabilities.*

Upcoming Events

1 Nov: Ride the Polio train [Polio Registration form](#)

8 Nov: Charity Dinner Event. Contact [Chandu](#) for info and tickets.

16 Nov: St Joseph School cleanup 2pm—onwards.

17 Nov: President Elect Training—volunteers needed.



THOUGHT

Kindness in words creates confidence.
Kindness in thinking creates profoundness.
Kindness in giving creates love." – Lao Tzu

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: Regina Smuga
Secretary: Louise Shearer
Treasurer: Tom Morton
Bulletin: Clare McCall
To unsubscribe or amend email:

d9910rotarywesthaven@gmail.com



Michelle Kelly, "The Blanket Show", 22nd October 2019



We were delighted to welcome **Michelle Kelly** back to the Club. Michelle is no stranger to us, she came to talk to us quite a few years ago about her "day job" as a Marine Sponge Specialist (I know interesting right, we might need to get her back for another chat about this!) and she was also a guest at our 2018 Mid-Winter Gala.

Michelle, inspired by our club member Clare in the Gala last year to take action to create change, started to think about where she could create change within her own community. She has spent years making



blankets for her grandkids and saw how much they loved them and also understood what a comfort and security having a blanket is for so many children. She realised this is something that a lot of children in NZ do not have access to. From there she started talking to her local Church parishioners. A lot of them, like her, wanted to help but didn't know where to start. And this is how "The Blanket Show" began. Michelle and her fellow blanket makers take used blankets, either donated or bought second hand, and apply flannelette backing, satin edging and then stitch patterns to add even more brightness and character. They really are lovely blankets that will brighten children's lives.

Michelle is looking for partners to share the blankets - an ideal scenario is working with groups that provide housing for families or work with foster children. How wonderful would it be to welcome a child into a new home with their very own blanket waiting for them on their bed! It

gives new meaning to a security blanket doesn't it. She is also looking for fabric donations, either old blankets, flannelette sheets or satin for edging. There is also need for financial support, for dry cleaning and cloth labels. If you are someone who could help or support this amazing work in any way, please contact us and we'll pass your details on to Michelle.

Email rotary club secretary—louise@jcmccall.co.nz

Alumini Reconnect Week Update – as part of this week earlier in October, **Elaine** emailed some of our previous RYLA candidates and received a lovely reply from one of the attendees **Eloise Wright**, (email below). It's great to get a chance to see the (lifelong) impact of attending this course and we look forward to meeting our two candidates who will be attending next year's programme.

"Kia ora,

I recently received an email from Elaine Mead regarding the Rotary Youth Leadership Award which I completed in 2013. It was a lovely surprise to be contacted after so many years and brought back fantastic memories.

What has been my path since the Rotary Youth Leadership Award 2013:

When I went on RYLA in 2013 I was in my first year of university at AUT studying Sport and Recreation. I completed my bachelor's degree in Sport and Recreation in 2017 with a double major in Outdoor Education and Sport and Exercise Science. I then completed a Graduate Diploma in Business at AUT, graduating 2018, and a Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Secondary), graduating 2019.

Along with this academic study I worked as an outdoor instructor (Auckland Challenge Inc.) and as a personal trainer (AUT University and privately) until December 2018. Starting January 2019 I have been teaching at Scots College (Wellington) teaching religious studies and social studies.

How has the Rotary Youth Leadership Award impacted what I've done:

I found that Hugh and Debbie spent a lot of time teaching communication skills along with motivation and performance enhancement skills. These skills have been essential in much of what I have done – from helping a group of teenagers to summit a mountain to helping someone set goals and loose weight to ensuring that assignments get in on time. I have applied these skills to both my life and those of the people I have worked with.

Thank you for getting in touch. Nga mihi, Eloise Wright"

Auckland Marathon Volunteering — Sunday 20th October 2019

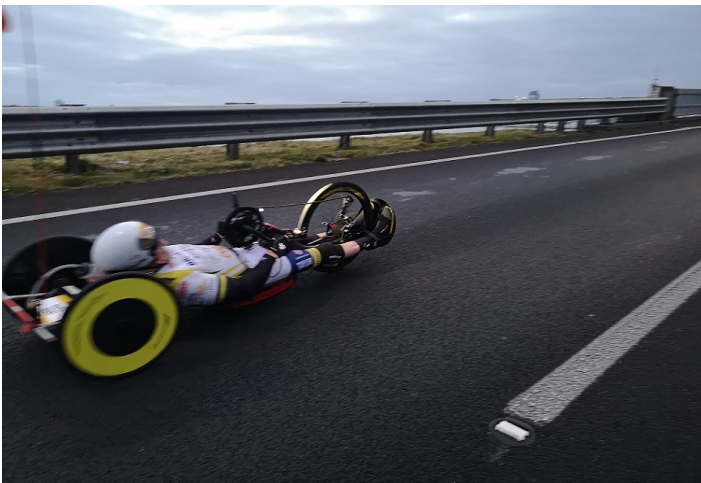
Westhaven Rotary members had a very early morning start, supporting the recent Auckland Marathon. The volunteer team provided encouragement, marshalling on the southern slope of the Auckland Harbour Bridge. Everyone had fun and Elaine managed 22,000 steps on her Fitbit from clapping so much! Well done everyone.



An early start (05:15am) - all rugged up and ready to go with Chandu Daji, Elaine Mead, Alan Foote, Regina Smuga, Rex Billington and Tom Morton at Auckland Harbour Bridge.



After almost 15,000 participants and constant clapping - all done and dusted by 10:15am



Winner of the 2016 New York Marathon and ten-time Australian National Champion Michael Taylor was first through in the handcycle division in the wheelchair marathon race at 06:24am and finished in 1:22 — at Auckland Harbour Bridge.



The first marathoners at 06:50am.
The guy on the far right (white singlet) was the eventual winner in 02:19:33



Volunteer's Needed!

If you can assist with any volunteering please contact **Louise** at louise@jcmccall.co.nz

November 16th: St Josephs School clean up from 2pm onwards.

November 17th: Catering assistance at President Elect Training. Help on the day is required from 8.30am to 3.30pm approx. The more people that help, the shorter shifts we can have.

Shopping: Help is needed with shopping, the week leading up to President Elect Training on November 17th.

Christmas Wrapping: If anyone would like to help with Christmas Wrapping at Auckland City Mission this December, please let Secretary Louise know. Dates to be confirmed.



Congratulations

Elaine Mead presented Tom Morton with a **certificate for 2018 to 2019 Rotary Citation with Gold Distinction**. (photo right). Tom was club president during this time period.

Photo left: Elaine Mead being presented with the certificate.

GREAT NEWS!

Thamdanda Water Project Update from Nepal

"A picture speaks a thousand words!"



27th October 2019

Great news - despite the technical challenging and damaged of pipe lines due to devastating flood and landslide, finally water arrives in Thamdanda village today around 4 pm - luckily today is the first day of Dipawali Festival .



Many thanks to Rotary Foundation, Rotary Club Westhaven, Rotary Club of Kavre-Banepa, Himalayan Leaky Foundation, TA Team, WUC Members and community people of Thamdanda for your great support and hard work.