

Rotary Club of Katikati

Bulletin



Editor: *Ian Stevens*

Tuesday 12th of August 2025

Programme (upcoming)

19th August Fairview Kurt Waugh WBOPDC on Community Resilience

Greeter – Roy Robinson

26th August Robyn Walker will introduce Katana Te Ngaio Outward Rotary Exchange Student being supported by our club. Then we have committee meetings club meeting finishes at 7:30pm. Followed by Board meeting for the Inc Rotary Fund followed by a Trust Fund Meeting

Greeter – Lawrie Donald

Meeting at The Hub

The following notes were provided by reporters extraordinaire Martin Hawkes and Bronwyn Webster.

International:

David Foris gave a very positive update. Port Vila Rotary suggested we contact a company in Auckland that sends school equipment to Vanuatu and so we did. So the science equipment is being sent by them as they gave us the best quote – at least \$2 k less than other quotes and no GST. Thus there is no need for a District Grant. Mendocino Rotary also contributed.

Community & Environment

Its good for members to see Rotarians in action and getting stuff done in the community.



Brien James working at new Project Parore Base



Lawrie Donal Track Builder, Bridge Builder making magical walks in Waitekohe Reserve you must go and have a look!

District Grants:

David further updated that any other committee can apply for one now through him as he had done the qualification for our club.

Healing our waters:

President Ann spoke about this. There will be 3 very good speaker to listen to. Tickets for Rotarians are \$15. Contact President Ann for more info.

KK 150th Celebration:

We will be helping prepare The Landing site on 10th Sept. We will be assisting Project Parore with tree planting. School children will also be assisting. Please let John Strongman know if you are available to help.

Rotary Quiz Night on 3 Sept at the Armitage Hotel, Tauranga:

President Anne mentioned this and would like a team from our club be there. Get back to President Ann, all keen quiz folk, to book your place!

Youth:

Robyn Walker gave updates on several matters.

Skatepark development: Robyn is now a member of the Community Led Committee and attended her first meeting there and spent time with Pastor Patrick who is very involved. Rotary has been asked to sponsor the outside sensory play equipment. This would come to \$4,315.

Rotary Youth Exchange:

Robyn updated that 11 outward bound students in total are going in January 26. Our student Katana Te Ngaio found out on the day of the area meeting that she is heading to France with 3 others. They are all very excited. She is a yr 11 student at Katikati College. Her father looks after her siblings and her mother suffers poor health. Fundraising is

underway. She will need \$6, 900.00 to cover airfares and insurance. She is keen to come along to Rotary and be involved. She will attend the next Hub meeting.

Fundraising was explained by Robyn and involves selling of chocolate fish and pies. John Buchanan will supply her with a laptop with Windows 11 to assist with the fundraising and preparation. Katana is involved already with fundraising and will be selling half the chocolate fish that have been ordered.

[RCC – Rotary Community Corps:](#)

Jenie did a presentation on this tonight. The details she spoke to were from the MyRotary site. She recommended that our club should have an RCC. This group would be younger and able to be volunteers to assist with projects which we may not otherwise be able to take on. This is different from the Friends of Rotary. Check it out on MyRotary.

[Tasman district flood appeal details for anyone that wants to donate](#)

District 9999 has asked Rotary Oceania (ROZOps), our New Zealand and Pacific Islands business unit, to accept donations of money, issue tax receipts to donors, and forward monies to the Motueka Club as required. Our Operations Manager, Kirsten Hawke (an accountant), will manage this process and liaise closely with the Motueka Club.

The bank account is: 06-0193- 0905286-008

Name of the account for the bank is ROZOps Limited.

Please add your name and a project identifier, 'Tasman Flood Damage'

Your donations will be greatly appreciated.

Keith McIntosh

District Governor D9999

[Aladdin's Cave Fundraiser – 10 Rochfort Crescent, Pyes Pa](#)

The Rotary Club of Tauranga Te Papa is selling the entire contents of 10 Rochfort Crescent, with **50% of proceeds to youth projects** in the Bay of Plenty and the rest to local charities in Tauranga and Northland.

Items include:

- Collectables, artwork, rugs (new & used)
- Kitchenware, small appliances, linen, towels (many new)
- Furniture, lamps, mirrors, ottomans, bar stools
- Rocks & crystals, Xmas decorations, craft gear, garage tools
- Bric-a-brac galore

Preview for Rotarians & friends:

Sunday 17 Aug 2025, 10am–12pm

Payment by direct credit to the Big Wheel Trust.

Bargains for anyone setting up home or adding something special!

[Almoner Report:](#)

Martin updated on Warren Yardley who is in Lexham Park for 5 weeks while Shirley is visiting family in Germany. Warren appreciates all the visits he has had from many Rotary

members. He is doing well and is bright, positive and chatty and very complementary of the care at Lexham Park.

Greeters Talk – Sandra Haigh

The Rise and Fall of Katikati's Railway

Sandra Haigh shared a fascinating history of the railway that once passed through Katikati, blending archival research, local recollections, and her own childhood memories from England.

The line carried everything from onions and fertiliser to livestock, schoolchildren, and general freight. Locals like Rosalie Smith recalled the train's unreliable schedule — sometimes delivering “railway kids” to school in time for the last lesson — while others, like Di Martin, remembered the midday toot as the workers' lunch bell.

Known as the *Taneatua Express*, the passenger service was originally infrequent and slow: a 16½-hour, four-change journey to Auckland. Improvements in 1929 reduced the time to 10½ hours, but the Depression, WWII, and later the growth of road transport steadily eroded passenger numbers. Diesel railcars in 1959 shortened the trip to 5 hours 23 minutes, still slower than the direct road journey.

By the 1950s, trains ran only twice weekly, and the opening of the Kaimai Tunnel in September 1978 signalled the end. Tracks were removed, bridges demolished, and the station burned down in 1983.

Sandra noted the parallels with the UK, where her Yorkshire village also lost its train service in the 1970s. She closed with the thought that while a modern, carbon-neutral rail link between Waihi and Tauranga would be welcome, convincing Kiwis to give up their cars might be as hard as convincing them pavlova is Australian.

Parting Thought – Sandra Haigh

E. M. Forster's evocative reflection on train stations a “parting thought” about journeys. Here's his memorable line:

“Railway termini are our gates to the glorious and the unknown. Through them we pass out into adventure and sunshine; to them, alas, we return.”