

# Rotary Club of Katikati New Zealand

Bulletin

18 July 2022

**Editor:** Nigel Williams



## **Programme:**

**25 July -** Sean Carnachan - Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) scheme

31 July - Mid-Winter Christmas Sunday Lunch

1 August - Club Forum

### **Greeter\***

**Rod Calver** 

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**Jerry Payne** 

#### \*Duties of the Greeter: (if you cannot attend it is your responsibility to delegate)

- 1. Put out the <u>Club Equipment</u>\*
- 2. Greet members as they arrive
- 3. Give the 5 minute talk
- 4. Assist the Sgt-at-Arms with fines
- 5. Introduce (& thank?) the speaker
- 6. Give the "Closing Thought"
- 7. Put away the Club Equipment\*
  - \* name badges, bell, gavel, computer, projector, **2 microphones & stand**, raffle box.

## **Club Notes:**

#### **Zoom address for the next meeting:**

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82298360658?pwd=NklQRjNXWWR6SEtjZjhmYTM1RkkrZz09

Meeting ID: 822 9836 0658 Passcode: 145159

- 1. A member is sought for the club position of **Almoner**, to maintain contact with members unable to attend for health reasons.
- 2. The purchase of a new audio system for meetings has been confirmed.

**Apology?** 

**Members**— If you are <u>unable to attend</u> a meeting <u>please</u> contact **Barry Denton** by <u>6pm</u> the previous <u>Sunday night</u>.

Tel: **07 863 4597** Email: barryjoyd@kinect.co.nz

## **Speaker** - Arnie Meyer related his early life in South Africa, including:

- Childhood on the 1500ha family farm (sugar cane, maize, timber, vegetables) near Durban. 150 farm staff, who became contractors after they burnt down the farm school.
- He was at the local school in Wartburg with Bronwyn Webster and played provincial rugby for Natal Province.
- National service with the Signals Corps of the army for many years, active in the <u>South African Border War</u> with Angola. This involved 120,000 South African troops.
- Ran a power tool business for many years, but when the A.N.C. came into power the challenges of maintaining home and business security became increasingly difficult.
- The progressive deterioration of society (lawlessness, crime, ineffective policing and court system, electricity supply) eventually lead to the decision to emigrate to NZ.



## **Paul Harris Fellowship**

#### for Jenie Strongman

Jennie's outstanding contribution to our Club over the last few years was acknowledged with her receiving Rotary's top honour - a Paul Harris Fellowship at Monday's club meeting. This was presented by immediate past president Peter McKay.

# Personal Bio Talk from James Denyer

I grew up in the UK a little to the west of London. At school, I did well at the sciences and won a place at Oxford to do a degree in Chemistry, but before that got a taste of NZ with a mini OE in 1994, where I spent my time fruit picking in Te Puna, learning to ski on Ruapehu and enjoying the touristy stuff in Rotorua.

At Oxford, my final year thesis for my Masters was on Third Order Nonlinear Optic Chromophores, which meant I was playing with extremely powerful lasers. At these intensities, some of the classical laws of optics break down as quantum mechanical phenomena take over. From these properties you can use a light beam to switch off another light beam, which is the basis of an optical transistor and hence optical logic switches for computers that are faster than electronic circuitry.

After university, I went into corporate finance advising mainly chemical and some pharmaceutical companies on mergers and acquisitions. However, the highest profile deal I worked on was probably in the retail sector where I advised Wal-Mart on buying the UK supermarket chain Asda.

I then had a break from investment banking to work for the bid for London to host the 2012 Olympic Games where I formulated the operating budget which was \$2.5bn. Lots of fun and very interesting. It was also great to meet sporting and other celebrities, and be invited to receptions at No 10 to be thanked by Tony Blair and at Buckingham Palace to meet the Queen, which was truly memorable.

After a few more years in corporate finance, I decided that the long hours weren't really good for family life. In the meantime, I had met my wife Victoria who had been living in London for some years, but grew up in Palmerston North. We decided to head to NZ and chose to live in Katikati.

I joined Rotary in 2010, becoming Treasurer fairly soon afterwards and then President a few years later. I was also on the committee of Katikati Open-Air Art and became a trustee of Aongatete Forest Project and then its Chair.

I stood for election to Western Bay of Plenty District Council in 2019 and have really enjoyed my time as a Councillor. I am now standing for the mayoralty and the next few months therefore look to be pretty exciting with the campaign and election to come.

#### Funds raised at last meeting:

**Raffle -** \$98.00 (for Foodbank & Community Breakfast)

**Fines -** \$20.00 (Presidents Sunshine Fund)

**Rotary Foundation - \$36.00** 

# Parting Thought from James Denyer

No one is in charge of your happiness except you



Imagine Rotary the theme for 2022-2023 explained by incoming President Jennifer Jones.

The theme graphic was designed by an Australian indigenous artist to link with the Melbourne convention in 2023.

Circle - connections to one another

Dots around it - Our People There are 7 Dots because of our Rotary's 7 areas of focus

Circle + dots around it - Navigation star, our guiding light

Green solid line - digging stick (used when doing hard work); for us it's People of Action, represents the tools for getting things done

Colors: Purple, Green & White -Celebrate DEI- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Freedom to express ourselves differently but still with a special connection.

Purple-Polio

Green- the Environment

White - Peace

Represents Empowerment and Newness and also the colours were utilised for the women's movement giving us the opportunity to grow our female membership.



John Buchanan reports that a PC computer and a laptop have been donated to the <u>Chrome</u> <u>Collective</u> for students to learn computer skills and to research opportunities for their own micro businesses.

