



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Rotary Club of Katikati New Zealand

Bulletin

20 September 2021

Editors: [Nigel Williams](#)
& [Martin Hawke](#)



Covid Lockdown Level 2

Our next meeting will be at the **Waihi Beach RSA**

Programme:

27 September - Social Dinner 6p.m. (partners most welcome - no business)

4 October - Regular meeting at Katikati RSA

Club Notes:

1. President Peter reported that the Directors have agreed on a budget item of \$2,000 as the **Club contribution to the Rotary Foundation** for the year.
2. David Foris and Ann Owen reported on progress with a **District Grant application** for the project in Vanuatu.
3. John Strongman reported that the new supply of **high viz vests**, ordered for the Garden Ramble has arrived.
4. Rod Calver reported that the large signs and flags promoting the **Garden Ramble** have been erected, the booklets are now available to ticket buyers, and garden manning arrangements are being finalized.

Speaker — District 9930 Governor **Ross Pinkham** gave us a most encouraging online presentation, during which he:

- **Acknowledged** specially our members who were acting in leading positions in our community and introducing *ClubRunner* to help with running the club effectively.
- **Explained** where the \$78 per member from our annual dues that is spent by the District goes, including: training of club officers; insurance (covers notified club projects); subsidies for District Conference attendance; expenses for some District officers.
- **Mentioned:**
 - ◆ International President **Shekhar Mehta**'s themes for this year:



Membership
Growth



- ◆ His own (District) theme & focus for this year: health & well-being
- ◆ Individual member donations to the Rotary Foundation
- ◆ The next District Conference in Napier, May 2022

Parting Thought from **Peter Mackay**

**"Reason and calm judgement
the qualities specially belonging to a leader."**

Tacticus

Old Batteries off to Korea

The final stage of two years work collecting old vehicle batteries from several business premises around town was completed when a group of about a dozen Rotary Club of Katikati members assisted a team from 'Metalco', based in Tauranga, to palletize **27 tonnes of batteries** (equivalent to about 1600 car batteries) before they are shipped off to Korea.

This exercise has been a major fund raiser for the Club for many of years and this year's record quantity **will raise \$27,000**, which the club invests back into its projects. **Hugh Morison** and **Rod Calver** have co-ordinated this project, with assistance from other members collecting the batteries and storing them at Hugh's property.

We must thank four local auto businesses:

■ **Auto Electrical Services**

■ **AutoSuperShoppe**

■ **Northern Automotive**

■ **Sheffield Steet Automotive**

whose great **generosity** in donating the batteries makes this project possible.

Please show our appreciation to them by using and/or recommending their services.



THE HISTORY OF ROTARY'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE KITS

Rotary New Zealand's sole humanitarian first response for those left homeless following cyclones and floods is the Emergency Response Kit (**ERK**). Established in 1983 the original "fill your own" wooden Emergency Box (EMBOX) with second hand goods replicated a scheme that had been operating in the United Kingdom by Rotary since 1971.

Early in 2009 devastating floods in Fiji saw 150 Boxes distributed from stock held in Lautoka with a further 300 flown in from Auckland. In September of that same year, in Samoa some 3,200 people were made homeless following a devastating Tsunami. Rotary New Zealand responded within hours with 400 Boxes.

In 2010 change was called for. Out with the wooden box of second goods and in with a new a plastic box and all new contents.

Each ERK contains essential items including tarpaulins, blankets, household cooking, eating and cleaning gear, hardware, tools, fishing gear, toiletries and hygiene necessities with a limited amount of essential clothing items.

Under the leadership of the ERK operations manager and his team, filling of ERK's is now done in batches of 500 to 1,000 by members and supporters of combined Rotary Clubs in New Zealand. Prepositioned stock is stored in Auckland, Fiji (Suva, Lautoka and Labasa), Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands and Vanuatu (Port Vila and Santo). Stock prepositioned in the Pacific is monitored for all countries by a Rotarian appointed as ERK Manager in Fiji.

Forward planning by Rotary is essential and crucial to ensure there is sufficient stock prepositioned in the Pacific Islands to cater for an urgent response with adequate stock on hand to replace that depleted overnight following a disaster.

Since 2009, a total of 10,886 ERKs have been purchased and packed responding to 18 devastating cyclones and flooding and 1 tsunami.

Distribution is coordinated with the local in country National Disaster Management Office (NDMO). NGO's who provide transportation, personnel and volunteers to ensure the kits are distributed in a timely manner are called to assist Rotary.

One recipient from Fiji visiting a Rotary information booth in Auckland some years later was reported to have said

"I was not a Rotarian but when my family desperately needed help after disastrous flooding in Fiji, Rotary gave us one of these ERK's – that's why I wanted to join Rotary and became a Rotarian."

For further information contact **Lynne Joseph** (Rotorua Passport) email lynne1.joseph@xtra.co.nz

Donations to RNZWCS Limited A/c 03 1702 0192208 02 Ref : 308

