

Rotary Club of Katikati



Editor: Ian Stevens

Bulletin for Tuesday, September 23, 2025

The Rotary Club of Katikati presents its bulletin for Tuesday, September 23, 2025. This document provides a summary of recent and upcoming club activities, meetings, and announcements relevant to our members and community.

Upcoming Meetings

Platters will be provided for attendees. The greeter for this meeting will be Chris Keightley.

14th October Hub Meeting

This meeting will be a BYO food event. The greeter for the evening will be Jim Bremner.

21st October Fairview Meeting

The meeting will feature guest speaker Michelle Tanner. Francis Young will be the greeter.

28th October Hub Meeting

Platters will be provided, and attendees are invited to bring their own drinks. The greeter for this meeting will be David Foris.

23rd of September Hub Meeting Summary

Special General Meeting

President Ann went through a series of motions which were passed unanimously to rescind the old club constitution and voted in a new one plus gave the Secretary the powers to complete the process.

Greeter's Talk

Chris Keightley gave a very interesting family history explaining how the industrial revolution in England was the reason Chris is a proud Kiwi.

Updates

Ann and Chris shared some updates with the group during the meeting.

Sargent

Sandra Haigh fired Bronwyn's bullets mostly saved up from last week when Brownwyn was stood down due to a busy programme.

Greeters Talk entitled the Industrial Revolution– Chris Keightley

The Industrial Revolution meant different things to different people. For Chris' ancestors who were agricultural labourers in rural Lincolnshire, England it meant moving to New Zealand on the opposite side of the world

In June 1875 John Keightley & his wife Ellen & nine children departed their homeland on the three masted sailing ship *Chile*, knowing they would never see their homeland or their family again. The voyage took 111 days & was punctuated by one death (the cook who was by all accounts an alcoholic & on one occasion had to be fished from the sea) & there was one birth on board the ship. There were also the occasional meeting with ships going in the opposite direction & these encounters provided an opportunity to hurriedly write back home & mail would be swapped. The first sight of their new home came with the appearance of a snowclad Mt Egmont in the distance

John Keightley was the first European to establish a farm on Radnor Road at Midhirst, one of those radial roads in the Taranaki region which runs up the slopes of the mountain & with the help of neighbours would spend the next decade clearing his land whilst helping to build roads & railways during the day. Burn-offs usually took place in autumn so that seed could be planted prior to winter & in this way further land would be cleared in the following year. Hay was made in summer & cocksfoot seed gathered for the coming planting thus as at their previous home, larger families were a bonus when meeting the need for labour.

During the 1880s herd sizes grew & butter could be traded at stores for tea, flour & sugar, & cash rarely changed hands. Cooperatives between farmers later emerged, leading later to the establishment of larger premises & infrastructure such as a railway station, school, a hall, & were followed by small businesses

Average herd sizes had been around a dozen but by the 1920's were creeping up to 30 or 40. These were prosperous times for farmers & although hand milking continued to be the norm, milking machines soon began to appear

Like many, John lost family members during the first World War and at this time, his eldest son Francis moved his family & his cattle north to Matamata. One of Francis' sons was Chris' grandfather; he would have been aged 11 & the trek that would have taken them about a week

Francis' sons later took up farms between Matamata & Springdale which at that time was little more than reclaimed swamp & kauri stumps & other debris were numerous. A standing joke was that new landowners were often asked whether they had purchased their new land by the acre, or by the gallon & in fact before naming the area Sprindgdale, the name Springfield was considered but later discarded because there was already a place of that name. Another, due to the prevalence of frogs in the area was Frogmore, Springdale it became & although Chris grandfather farmed just out of Katikati here on the main road during the 2nd World War, he returned to Springdale & this is where Chris' father returned to & farmed after the war and raised a family

President, Secretary and Member Notices

Members Survey

President Ann advised that we were overdue for a membership survey to assess how the club was doing meeting the needs of members. A survey has been circulated by Secretary Chris Keightley for everyone to fill in as soon as possible so the results can be discussed at the next meeting.

Member Resignation

It was with regret that President Ann announced that a resignation letter had been received from Sandra Haigh. Sandra is hoping to continue to contribute through working with a local Rotary Community Corps (RCC). See below for an explanation of an RCC.

Community Corps

President Ann talked a little about the Rotary Clubs very on Community Corps groups. “The board are in principle okay with the concept if it is done correctly. John Dallimore spoke further on it and talked about a proposal being received rather than it being initiated by the club as a sponsoring club. If done well it has the potential to strengthen the club.

For the Editors benefit I asked Chat GPT “What is a Rotary Community Corp Group?” I thought it might also give a bit of background. You could also go looking through the Rotary website as well.

Response as follows

A **Rotary Community Corps (RCC)** is a community-based group of non-Rotarians who partner with Rotary clubs to improve their local community.

Here’s how it works:

- **Membership:** Made up of local people (not necessarily Rotarians) who want to work together to solve problems and run projects in their area.
- **Connection to Rotary:** Each RCC is sponsored by a Rotary club, which provides guidance, support, and sometimes resources — but the RCC members plan and carry out the projects themselves.
- **Focus:** They typically work on grassroots initiatives such as literacy programs, clean water projects, health services, environmental work, or skills training.
- **Flexibility:** Unlike Rotary clubs, RCCs don’t have strict meeting schedules or membership requirements; they are designed to be practical and action oriented.
- **Purpose:** To give local people ownership of development efforts, while benefiting from Rotary’s wider network, expertise, and resources.

👉 Think of it as Rotary’s way of empowering local communities to help themselves, with Rotary acting as a partner and mentor.

Almoner Report

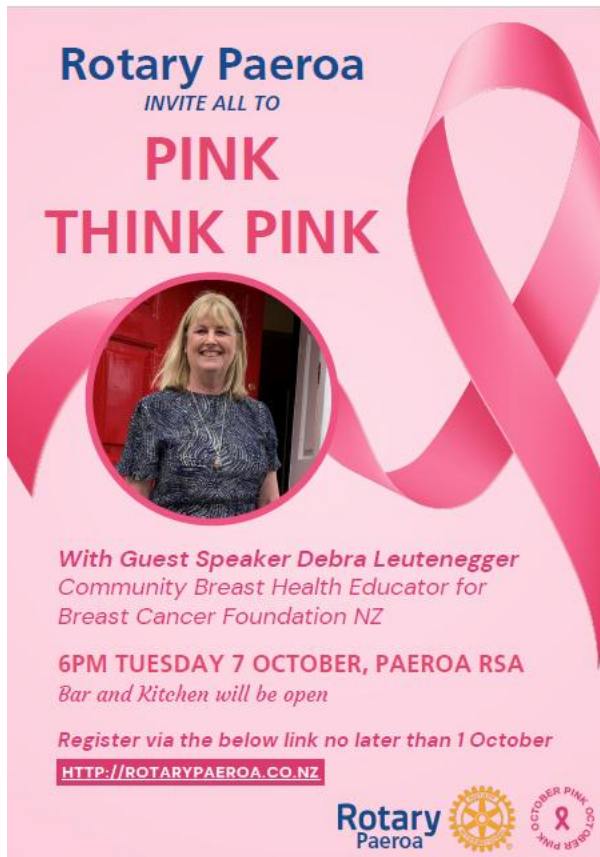
John Strongman is not well. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Update on Daffodil Bulb Digging for Cancer Foundation

You can stand down your fork now as Rod Calver has discovered that NZTA have no intention in the short term of disturbing the threatened bulbs.

Think Pink Function in Paeroa

The Think Pink function will be held in Paeroa on 7th October. Members are invited to attend and are encouraged to refer to the following brochure for further information.



Robyn Walker Update on Katana, Outward Exchange Student

Robyn and Katana attended a very good orientation event where she learnt lots of useful stuff for her upcoming exchange. She learnt that she will be going to Belgium not France. Luckily the language will still be French so her good progress learning on the duo lingo app have not been wasted.

Don't forget to order your wine to support katana at the link below.

LAST DAY FOR ORDERS: Sunday 19th October

Rotary Katikati are selling a selection of handcrafted New Zealand wines from Alana's award-winning selection. Alana Estate is a family-owned, boutique wine retailer, producing world-class wines from the best wine-making regions in New Zealand for more than 30 years. They are known for their fruity and flavoursome wines which are accomplished through hard work, dedication and craft. We are raising funds to support youth adventures and life changing experiences in the Katikati community. The main goal of this fundraiser is to help get "Katana" on her 12-month exchange to France, an incredible opportunity for growth, cultural learning, and personal development. Funds raised will also contribute to broader youth focused initiatives in the area, creating more opportunities for local rangatahi to explore the world beyond their own backyard. Thank you for your support!

<https://katikatirotarywine.raiseit.co.nz/rdrk2mlkra>

Invitation to Masonic Lodge Function

Jerry Payne has extended an invitation to all members to attend an upcoming Masonic Lodge function. Further details will follow.



Actions for the well-being of future generations - Invite to Free Event



Visit by Jacob Ellis international leader in the well-being of future generations

The local governance think tank has been able to arrange a public event to hear from Jacob Ellis and local thought/practice leaders discussing the well-being of future generations. Waikato University at Tauranga has agreed to host a public presentation and Tompkins Wake is sponsoring Jacob's visit to Tauranga.

Jacob has been with the office of the future generations Commissioner for Wales since its establishment. He's played a pivotal role in embedding the role of the Commissioner as an internationally recognised leader in the policy and practice of enhancing the well-being of future generations. It's a real privilege to be able to hear from him in person especially at such a critical time in New Zealand's development. We are also very fortunate that Chris Duggan from House of Science and Roimata Ah Sam have agreed to share their vision for the well-being of future generations and what they are doing to make that vision become a reality.

Waikato University at Tauranga will host a Free public presentation on Friday 10 October. The flyer for the event, and the registration pathway can be found at the URL below. We are keen that as many people as possible should have the opportunity of hearing the presentation and connecting with Jacob. I would be very grateful if you could arrange for the presentation flyer and registration pathway, available at the URL below, to be circulated amongst Rotary clubs with an encouragement for their members to attend.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/in-dialogue-with-the-future-tickets-1709037540289?aff=oddtcreator>

Parting Thought

Shared by Chris Keightley

"Its not who you are it's what you do that counts!"