

Programme:	Greeter*
<b>5 September -</b> Scott Simpson, M.P. with Arona (Youth Parliament)	Brien James
12 September - Club Forum	Bruce Calder
<b>19 September -</b> Brendon Ogilvy, <i>Equalis</i> medicinal cannabis	Rupert Jacks
*Duties of the Greeter: (if you cannot attend it is <u>your</u> responsibility to delegate)	
1. Put out the <u>Club Equipment</u> * 6. Give the "Closing Thought"	
2. Greet members as they arrive 7. Put away the <u>Club Equipmen</u>	nt*
3. Give the 5 minute talk	
4. Assist the Sgt-at-Arms with fines * name badges, bell, gavel	computer projector

- 5. Introduce (& thank?) the speaker
- \* name badges, bell, gavel, computer, projector,
  2 microphones & stand, raffle box.

#### Club Notes:

Apology

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

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89598760436?pwd=QmpvWkRua0JXNTMxM3d6a1NWSTRKQT09 Meeting ID: 895 9876 0436 Passcode: 575926

Jenie Strongman informed members about meeting attendance and the **"Rule of 85"**, which allows for our older and more experienced members to be excused from regular attendance if:

- 1. They have served in Rotary for at least 20 years
- 2. Their age plus service totals 85 or more
- 3. They have applied to the Secretary in writing asking to be excused.



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# Speaker

David Foris gave us a fascinating presentation about his and Christine's 16 years (1970-1986) working as linguists in a remote area in south-western Mexico. The local **Chinantec people** had their own native language (spoken but not written) which was discouraged by the authorities, who recognised only Spanish as the national language.

The only available education was 6 years of primary school in Spanish. Centuries of subjugation by the Aztecs and the Spaniards had resulted in a people characterised by low self-esteem, shamed in their own language and culture and with limited comprehension of Spanish. They were not well equipped to improve their livelihood.

David and Christine set out on a project to learn the Chinantec language and construct an alphabet and dictionary to enable the people to read and write in their own language. The next step was to commence writing and publishing books in their language to enable them to learn to practice reading and writing skills and to learn more about their own and other cultures. There are now more than 30 titles in Chinantec and native languages are becoming more recognised in Mexico.

This literacy project is a good example of the value of preserving/enhancing regional languages and cultures.

## Biographical Talk from Barry Denton

Barry treated us to some of his childhood memories from in Seatoun, Wellington and early tramping experiences in the Tararuas while at St Pats College. Barry became a trainee engineer with the Ministry of Works and commenced university studies in Wellington and then Christchurch.

"Holiday" jobs included maintenance on the Napier/Taupo road, a fitters assistant in the construction of a sewage tunnel in Wellington, surveying and construction of a bridge and an airport runway.

Funds raised at last meeting:

Raffle -\$84.00 (Foodbank/Community Breakfast)Rotary Foundation -\$70.00 (sustaining membership)Fines -\$60.00 (Presidents Sunshine Fund)

### Parting Thought from Barry Denton

The ability to speak several languages is an asset,

but the ability to keep your mouth shut, in any language, is priceless.