



Bulletin 10th February 2022



The contrasting views of the view from next speaker Kara Douglas's Khandallah home with the remains of Wittenoom the location of her reality novel

At Wellington Bridge Club

Kara Douglas, Author
The Air that we Breathe
A Reality Novel

DUTIES

Greeter	Zaheda Davies
Host Speaker	Morris Robertson
Attendance	Rory O'Connor
Reflection	David Bennett
Happy Dollars	Zaheda Davies
Thank Speaker	Laurie Bond
Parting Thought	David King

At Wellington Bridge Club

Thursday 3rd March
Alice Montague
Nikau Foundation
Fund Raising

DUTIES

Greeter	Margaret Emerre
Host Speaker	Laurie Bond
Attendance	David Pickering
Reflection	Maurice Scott
Happy Dollars	Margaret Emerre
Thank Speaker	David King
Parting Thought	Adrian Ellingham

Apologies and Guests to Zai Davies
<zahedadavies@icloud.com>
by 10 am Wednesday

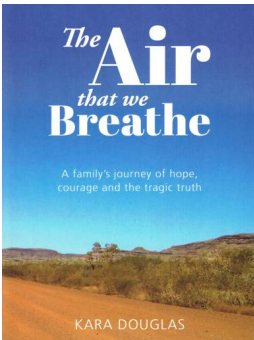
Contributions for The Bulletin please by the
Tuesday following a luncheon meeting or the
Tuesday in the week prior to a meeting.



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

NEXT LUNCHEON SPEAKER

KARA DOUGLAS



Inspired by Kara's birth father's story of living in Wittenoom, Western Australia.

For ten years Kara immersed herself in researching the history of Wittenoom. She took a year out of full time employment to complete

an advanced Diploma in Creative Writing. She ventured to the outback with her husband in 2018 to truly experience the essence and uniqueness for the Pilbara Region.

Kara's book *The Air that we Breathe* is a fictionalised account of one of Australia's worst industrial disasters.

This is the story of an immigrant family wanting a better life for their family for it all to backfire most tragically. In 1961 Italian immigrants Abele and Maria settle into life in Western Australia, far from their friends and family. But they are doing this as they have been promised a financially secure future with Abele working in an asbestos mine. The work is backbreaking, with long hours, in the harsh and desolate outback, but they are willing to do this for their family to get ahead. But what they don't know is there are mounting health warnings to management which are being wilfully ignored, and the mine continues to operate despite it being unsafe.

Thirty years later, Abele and many of the other miners become ill, and the family begins a difficult journey to seek justice. But there are even more twists and turns, and their family is about to undergo the unthinkable.

The Air that we Breathe is a compelling novel that is even more emotionally engaging when you learn it is based on real-life events. Kara has done a fabulous job of creating a believable and ordinary family. They are honest and hard-working, caring and family-orientated, caught up in a nightmare due to corporate greed. It's an unforgettable read.

Editor's note – When first released, I purchased a copy. Leaving aside the reality of the story I

found that as well as giving an insight into a real tragedy and its cover up as well as being a well-written and engrossing novel.

Copies will be available at the meeting. I recommend its purchase at \$29.95 and, on this occasion, Kara is offering \$10 from each sale to our club to support its charitable activities. Payment by cash or on-line with details for the latter available on the day.

3rd FEBRUARY MEETING

The meeting began with Fellowship as usual but without the aroma of lunch preparations. The caterers were contacted and it transpired that there had been a miscommunication on the date for the meeting. However, they offered to organise food and get it to the club as soon as possible. Meanwhile, it was decided to reverse proceedings and be ready for the meal after the day's programme had been completed.

Several visitors, including partners of members, were introduced. These included Silva Kumar, father of scholarship awardee, Kaveesha Kumar, who had spoken at the BBQ evening. Lionel introduced Khandallah resident, Alister McKay and Wendy Tipping was accompanied by Anne McLean.

Rory O'Connor gave the reflection on relationships.



This was followed by the induction of Michael Hinds, proposed by Zai Davies. Michael's bio was covered in the previous Bulletin. In

response Michael expressed his interest in becoming involved in the Club's projects.

At its meeting on 31st January, The Board received, with regret, the resignation of Pat Helm. The success of the Christmas Party and BBQ/Scholarships evenings were noted and agreed to continue them in the next Rotary year. There was discussion on the future of face to face luncheon meetings in the red-light era, with the possibility of Zoom meetings until the future was clearer. The Board recorded its appreciation to Lionel Nunns, whose virtual Queenstown marathon raised \$3,600 as a substitute for the lost charity revenue due to the cancellation of the Khandallah Fair.

Evening meetings, which have outside participants, are on hold depending on Pandemic development

GUEST SPEAKER



Associate Professor, University of Otago [Wellington], Angela Ballantyne, was introduced by Graeme Waters.

Angela gave lengthy and clearly explained address on the Ethics of

Vaccine mandates. Her presentation followed a trail from “do nothing or simply monitor the current situation” through to “eliminating choice by regulation” with the six steps in between. The consequences of each were traversed including perceived inequities. This advice to Government enabled the setting of restrictions.

At the conclusion of the talk, questions flowed until being brought to a halt by the arrival of Monique with the hastily assembled food, fish and chips with some chicken slices, beetroot and green salad. Margaret Emerre concluded the meeting with a vote of thanks to the speaker.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Kia ora

We held our first regular lunchtime meeting last Thursday and things did not go with quite our usual military precision however order was soon restored with Rotarian efficiency and we proceeded to welcome new member Michael Hinds, who was introduced by Zai Davies. Michael will be a great asset to our Club. Thanks, Zai and welcome on-board Michael.

We also had the pleasure of a number of very welcome guests including our speaker Angela Ballantyne who walked us through the ethics of vaccine mandates with energy and expertise, proving if we were in any doubt that just about everything that impinges on our lives is complex.

At the meeting, I announced with great regret that I had received the resignation of Pat Helm. I will report fully to members shortly. I also reported on a number of matters discussed by the Board the previous Monday. These are touched on as follows:

On the potential impact of Omicron on our Club and Club meetings, we will need to follow events closely and likely revert to Zoom if there are rule changes or our members clearly prefer not to meet directly until things improve.

A real positive has been the success of our Christmas Dinner and January's BBQ/Scholarship presentations and the Board recommend these should be a regular feature of our Club calendar in the future. Thanks again to all those who made these events possible with a special shout out to Margaret Emerre, Maurice Manttan, Terry Pinfold and Graeme Waters.

Last but not least among all our other challenges, we'll need to put our mind to the Climate Emergency - so plenty to think about this year. More on this later.

Nga mihi nui

Stephen

OTHER NEWS

KIWI COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE UPDATE

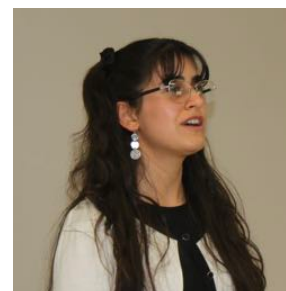


Funding from New Zealand Lotteries Commission, Hutt Mana Charitable Trust and an

anonymous donor has allowed KCA to purchase a second 2019 model chiller truck with less than 14,000kms on the odometer. It is due to replace the 2007 chiller truck which was purchased approximately 5-6 years ago. It will work alongside the truck partly financed by Wellington North.

In the first four days in February, KCA's volunteers received over five tons of food to redistribute into the Greater Wellington community. All 3 trucks, currently in the fleet, have been on the road to keep up with demand.

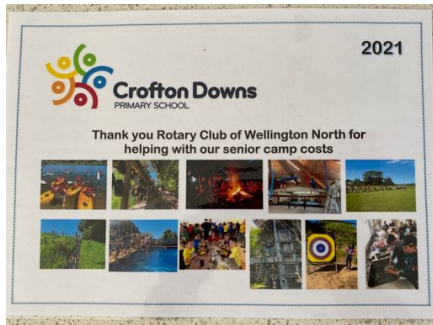
RYLA – ALMA ADAM



Double scholarship recipient, Alma was supported by the Club to attend this year's RYLA Course. Alma will report back to the club in the near future.

CROFTON DOWNS SCHOOL

A legacy of the Kaukau Club is the Sunflower fund, which provides support to local primary schools. Crofton Downs, a recipient from last year, has shown its appreciation with the following certificate of thanks.



IN THE MEDIA

The following story occupied pages 1 and 2 of the Herald on January 27th. This coverage continues to be great for raising the Club's profile in the community.



SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF TONGA



Tonga is in desperate need of support and Rotarians can play a vital part.

As well as a contribution from the Club's charitable funds, individual Rotarians have the opportunity to make personal donations through Rotary New Zealand World Community Service.

WHY GIVE THROUGH ROTARY?

1. As Rotarians, this is our Charity
2. RNZWCS Ltd. is a totally voluntary charity, with no paid administration, allowing every Dollar donated to be applied to the end recipients.
3. The Rotary Club of Nuka'alofa is on the ground with the knowledge and ability to best apply the funds received.

Details showing how to donate through Rotary are attached to this Bulletin.

PARTING THOUGHT Details not supplied.

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Join with other Rotary Clubs, Rotarians and the Public of New Zealand to Make a Difference

Rotary's Tonga Volcano Eruption and Tsunami Appeal

It would appear, from limited reports, that the greatest impact is access to potable water, followed by land rehabilitation and the urgent need to restore livelihoods. Our trusted partners, including the Rotary Club of Nuku-alofa are well established to respond.

With 538 prepositioned Rotary Emergency Response Kits [ERKs] in Tonga available to be distributed, it is imperative to restock in preparation for the next inevitable climatic event.

Donation options

RNZWCS Ltd. bank account [03 1702 0192208 01](#) placing [555](#) in the reference field

or

Through the web site www.rnzwcs.org by CREDIT CARD by pressing the **DONATE NOW** button under disaster Relief

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