



**At Wellington Bridge Club**  
 Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July  
 Craig Nicholson  
 Transmission Gully Project

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July  
 Evening meeting  
 at Automat  
 Details to be advised

**DUTIES**

Greeter	Laury Sinclair
Host Speaker	Pat Helm
Attendance	Tony Fryer
Reflection	Paul Tipping
Happy Dollars	Alan Fraser
Thank Speaker	David Pickering
Parting Thought	Rory O'Connor

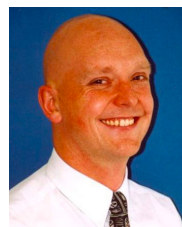
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August  
 PDG David Watt  
 Heritage New Zealand

**DUTIES**

Greeter	Stephen Spence
Host Speaker	David King
Attendance	Ross George
Reflection	Graeme Waters
Happy Dollars	Tony Fryer
Thank Speaker	Pat Helm
Parting Thought	Morris Robertson

Apologies and Guests to Maurice Scott  
[mjpscott@gmail.com](mailto:mjpscott@gmail.com)

**NEXT SPEAKER**



Craig Nicholson was due to be the guest speaker at 19 March meeting. On the day, the Corona Virus front was rapidly approaching and the club needed to discuss going into recess. Craig stepped down and agreed to return when the virus had passed. Hence, he will be our next speaker.

Craig is the Principal Project Manager of the massive Transmission Gully Project, having joined the design team at the commencement of the project in 2006. He was appointed the project head in 2009 and oversaw the transition to a Public Private Partnership (PPP) in 2012. The consortium is building the highway under a contract to be completed on a date yet to be decided and will maintain the road for 25 years thereafter.

Subsequent events mean that Craig's script may not be the same as was intended on 19 March.

## EDITORIAL

### LET THE NEW NORMAL BEGIN



The 2020 Changeover was a very special evening, not only for the transition from Lionel, ably assisted by Diana and other family members, to David ably assisted by

Hilary, but also for the introduction of five of our ex Kaukau members plus the return of Becky Chin. We were able to congratulate our two Paul Harris Sapphire recipients, PDG John Mohi and Rick Lowe plus Community Paul Harris Fellow, Tracy Wellington. Finally, we were entertained by a humorous address from Sir David Carruthers.

We saw the old year out with the 'retirement' from Rotary of Peter Gibbons, now aged 96 and after 50 years in the Club. Brian Poole's tribute to Peter is included in this issue.

The 'new normal' is launched with the club in good heart, especially with the gain in gender balance. We are no longer primarily a luncheon club, but one which has a new meeting structure, new projects and a will to develop partnerships with organisations with which we have synergy. The partnership with Kiwi Community Assistance has been beneficial to both of us. The recognition of Tracy Wellington as a PHF has cemented the relationship.

This is a bumper issue of The Bulletin to launch the new normal, as reflected in the positive spirit evidenced at Changeover. Profiles of members, collected and collated over recent months, will be progressively published, so that club members, old and new can get to know each other better. These will start with two in this issue, the first being the 'official' version of President David, although there was an alternative version delivered by Sir David Carruthers at Changeover.

The second biography is that of Kesh Gilmour who has had extensive media coverage in the past week following the launch of her novel, ***The Air that we Breathe***, written under her pen name, Kara Douglas.

During the Zoom meetings of Lockdown we were able to join with Rotarians anywhere in the world. It was extra special when Peter Kyle was

guest speaker from Washington DC. Peter has now begun his two-year term as a Director of Rotary International. We wish him all the best for the journey ahead and it's good to have one of our own on the inside.

Wishing all readers a great New Rotary Year.  
*Morris Robertson Editor*

### 2 JULY MEETING



This was the second trial of finger food as distinct from a sit-down meal. A vote was taken on the

options of continuing with the format or revert to sit down meals. The result was 50% to continue and 50% to revert. The matter has been referred back to the Board.



The Speaker was club member, Steve Brazier who was introduced by Maurice Scott. Steve spoke in his capacity as Incident Response Manager at ESR, overseeing the group of scientists which gathered

information on Covid-19. His past involvement has included responses to the Christchurch earthquakes, the Rena stranding and Pike River. Earlier response roles included bird flu, Sars and H1N1. With the aid of charts, Steve put Covid-19 and its spread into perspective and cautioned all present to have their flu injections to ensure that their immunity functions were not compromised.

Laurie Bond gave the vote of thanks.

### BRING ON THE HAPPY DOLLARS

We are now ready to collect all that Happy Dollars money, as far back as our first Zoom meetings. So, come along ready to donate to this collection that will be added to our recently established 'Covid-19 harm response fund. Come ready to give generously whether you took part in the Happy Dollar sessions or not. Let's have a bumper sum of money to count. *Thank you from PP Lionel*

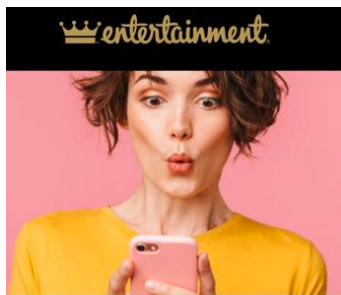
## \$\$\$\$\$\$\$ Stay at home savings



Unspent lunch money during lockdown ... your money not spent on lunches will be automatically credited to your next club subscription, unless you promptly advise the

Treasurer, Maurice Scott (04 934 9966) to donate it to our Charitable Fund for Covid-19 assistance.

## EATING OUT BARGAINS



Once again, Margaret Emerre is promoting the **Entertainment book**, which is now digital and not available in hard copy.

To order your book go to:

<http://www.entbook.co.nz/10479x0>

Scroll down to: Choose a Membership

Fundraising organisation is:

Rotary Club of Wellington North

Each book is priced at \$69.99 for a single city or \$119.99 for multicity (All Australia, New Zealand, Bali) The Club receives 20% of the price of every book sold.

## DISTRICT CHANGEOVER



On June 28, at a gala luncheon at Landsdowne House Masterton, our new District Governor, Gillian Jones, was installed to office and our own, now PDG, John Mohi thanked for his leadership this past year.

## CLUB CHANGEOVER



It was a great evening. Arriving guests were treated to a piano recital played on the dubious Bowling Club piano by Catherine McKenzie. President Lionel, welcomed the members and guests, before the main course, cooked by Craig Dunshea of Automat, and served at the tables by members of the Nunns family. In his address, Lionel thanked the Board members and others who had supported the club during the past year. Mention was made of the various projects undertaken and the developing partnerships, which were being developed. Lionel acknowledged the presence of PDG John and Lane Mohi and AG's Helen Agar and Linda Wellington.



The Clubs' new members were then welcomed into the Club as was returning member, Becky Chin.

Three Paul Harris Awards were made –



A Sapphire Pin to John Mohi as the Club's recognition of his service to Rotary as District Governor.



A Sapphire Pin to Rick Lowe for the regular efforts he has put in to

visiting frail and elderly members and widows of the club.



A Paul Harris Community Fellowship award to Tracy Wellington for her vision and work, along with her

husband Phil, in founding and growing Kiwi Community Assistance into a major food rescue charity.



Then came the passing of the chain from Lionel to David, with flowers for Diana and Hilary.

In his opening address as President, David referred to the new vision for the club, enhanced by the members who have now joined us as full members of the club. He said that the club had remained healthy during lockdown, aided by virtual meetings. Referring to the new era, President David spoke of the new opportunities we had to serve the community including being involved in the wider projects, which are part of the 100 years of Rotary in New Zealand. These include Give Every Child a Future, which will see the inoculation of 100,000 children in the Pacific, a \$4.2 million, Rotary Oceania project. There are also the Scholarship Trusts, the Children's Hospital and a share of the goal to plant 1 billion trees. Nigel Sercombe will be taking the lead in this project.



To conclude the evening, President David introduced the Speaker, **Sir David Carruthers** a long-serving member of the New Zealand legal

community. Sir David worked as a lawyer in Wellington, Pahiatua and Palmerston North, before being appointed as a Family Court Judge in 1985. In 2001, he was appointed as Chief District Court Judge, a position he held until 2005, when he was appointed as the chairman of the New Zealand Parole Board. In 2012, Sir David joined the Independent Police Conduct Authority as its chairman.

Sir David gave a highly amusing account of his life in the Judiciary and the characters he had

met along the way. Like most judges, post retirement meant new challenges in the legal field. Amongst other challenges he has been giving judicial assistance to various Pacific Islands as far afield as Kiribati.

### PROFILE - PRESIDENT DAVID YOUNG

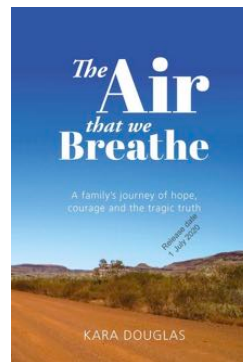


David was born in Auckland. After qualifying as a civil engineer, he did post-graduate studies in the UK and worked in the US and Australia. Since then he has lived in Wellington, for nearly 50 years.

David has had a varied career, working for the NZ Wool Board and then for two years in the Prime Minister's Advisory Group advising on transport, energy, communications and the environment. He was CEO of the association representing waterfront employers and then as planning manager for Transit NZ, now the NZTA. He completed his career in India on a World Bank assignment. In his retirement, he retains his connection with the ports and shipping industries as Chairman of Trustees of the Maritime Retirement Scheme. David has been a Rotarian for five years.

He's been married to Hilary for nearly 30 years after his first wife died. They have five children between them, twelve grandchildren and one great-grandson. His retirement interests are bowls, bridge and occasional writing.

### PROFILE – A NOVELIST AMONGST US



We are pleased to welcome **Kesh Gilmour** and her husband, **Nigel Sercombe**, amongst the other former Kaukau members, into Wellington North. As well as a day job in leadership development with the Ministry of Defence and with weekends as a

wedding celebrant Kesh, under the pen name of Kara Douglas, has published a novel *The Air that we Breathe*, which was inspired by Kesh's birth father's story, of living in Wittenoom, Western Australia, that is described as the most contaminated site in the Southern Hemisphere, and has now been struck off the map of Western Australia.

For the past ten years Kara, AKA Kesh, 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 Nigel, in 2018 to truly experience the essence and uniqueness of the Pilbara Region.

***We're on the road to nowhere ...***

*Hours of driving on scorched red dirt We passed two abandoned cars and two dead cows, no human being in sight. No GPS, no cellphone coverage, hours from anywhere, no pit stops, the feeling is terrifying.*



The story begins In1961, when Italian immigrants, Abele and Maria Moretti settle into life in Western Australia. They are promised a financially secure future working in an asbestos mine in the harsh and desolate outback. Despite health warnings to management, the mine continues to operate.

Thirty years later, the unthinkable happens and the Moretti family begin an arduous journey to seek justice. At the same time, Katerina, a lawyer, representing the mining company, makes a surprising discovery about her family that causes her to rethink her allegiances. The human stories weave between the narratives of the immigrant miner and mine manager, and later, the lawyer and the miner's daughter. The impact of this story will stir emotions that remain long after the last page has been turned.

The *Air that we Breathe*, which has been launched in the past week, can be ordered on-line for \$34.95. Google Kara Douglas – Nationwide Book Distributors

**VALE PETER GIBBONS**



Peter Gibbons now age 96, accompanied by his daughter Alison, made his retirement appearance at the club after some 50-

years as a member. In recognition of this, Brian Poole delivered a valedictory to Peter, who was inducted by Jim Stone on 5 May 1965, became President in 1977/78 and subsequently became a Paul Harris Fellow.

Peter was born, raised, and lived in Khandallah for most of his life. Peter completed an engineering degree from Canterbury University. He was then called up for the Navy at the end of the war which reinforced a love of the sea which continues to this day. Peter began working at the Engineering firm of JJ Niven, then joined the family company of Colonial Motor Company where he progressed through the ranks retiring as Managing Director.

He owned several pleasure craft over the years and regularly went from Port Nicholson across the Cook Strait to his holiday home in the Marlborough Sounds. Peter was a formidable tennis player and can more than hold his own on the bowling green. Peter and Faith were wonderful hosts to Rotary over the years. Many events from Rotary dinners to fireside meetings were held at their home.

At the conclusion of the valedictory, Peter spoke a few words in reply and was surprised when President Lionel announced that he had been made an honorary member of the club. Peter's response was that this might encourage him to make an occasional return visit.

**KIWI COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE**

It's been a busy week for Tracy, Phil and Michelle, aided by teams of volunteers including a good turnout on Saturday by Wellington North members.

During the course of the week, Tracy was notified of two awards from **Volunteer Wellington.**

“We would like to present a Covid Volunteering Heroes Award to Kiwi Community Assistance in recognition of the exceptional work your organisation did to ensure that people were looked after during the Covid-19 lock down period.

We think you are awesome and want to honour and celebrate you all for helping our community through a very difficult time. “

**Also from Volunteer Wellington**

“We are excited to announce that Kiwi Community Assistance are to receive an award for your ongoing work and for your marvellous hosting of volunteer groups.

You have contributed to the goals of the Victoria University Corporate Challenge this year and we want to celebrate this”.

Last but not least



**MEANWHILE - BACK AT THE COALFACE**

KCA is consolidating its operations, currently located in several locations, into one larger warehouse at 39 Jamaica Drive, Grenada North. Amongst the volunteers packing and moving, a sizeable team of Wellington North members was on hand on Saturday to pack the contents of the existing Jamaica Drive warehouse onto pallets for relocation.



Down the road at No.39, another team of volunteers was hard at work preparing the new premises



*The Wellington North team of packers in action*

**PARTING THOUGHT**

From Brian Poole



I am easily satisfied with the very best  
*Winston Churchill*



Thank you, Lionel and Diana.

It's time for a well- earned rest.

*Photo by Lane Mohi*

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