



Opening Night 2021 – BBQ and Presentation of Scholarship Awardees

At Wellington Bridge Club

Thursday 18th February
 David King
 Travelling the Scotia Sea

DUTIES

Greeter	Colin Lawton
Host Speaker	Laurie Bond
Attendance	Alan Fraser
Reflection	Peter Shanahan
Happy Dollars	David Bennett
Thank Speaker	Pat Helm
Parting Thought	Brian Poole

Apologies and Guests to Maurice Scott
mjpscott@gmail.com by 10am Wednesday

At Wellington Bridge Club

Thursday 4th March
 Professor James Renwick
 Drowning, Waving
 or Taking action

DUTIES

Greeter	Maurice Manttan
Host Speaker	Steve Brazier
Attendance	Tony Fryer
Reflection	Brian Poole
Happy Dollars	Laurie Bond
Thank Speaker	David King
Parting Thought	Maurice Scott

At Khandallah
Presbyterian Church \$15
 Wednesday 24th February 7pm
 Meng Foon
 Race Relations Commissioner
 RSVP to Graeme Waters by 13 February
garamdelhi7@hotmail.com



NEXT LUNCHEON SPEAKER

DAVID KING



After qualifying as a Chartered Accountant in the UK where he was born, David spent 15 years in Zambia before coming to New Zealand in 1985. He was a partner in Coopers & Lybrand (now part of PWC) in both Zambia and New Zealand.

David's Rotary journey began in Zambia and continued here in NZ. After being President of Wellington North, he became involved in the District organisation as a member then Chair of a District committee before being an Assistant Governor. Currently, he is a trustee of a charitable trust which has connections to the club. This is a role he enjoys as it blends professional skills with the ideals of Rotary helping students in need and those needing palliative care. Outside Rotary, David enjoys travel, struggles with golf, appreciate and tries to keep fit and active.



The Scotia Sea is a sea located at the northern edge of the Southern Ocean at its boundary with the South Atlantic Ocean. It is bounded on the west by the Drake Passage and on the north, east, and south by the Scotia Arc, an undersea ridge and island arc system supporting various islands.

NEXT EVENING SPEAKER

MENG FOON



Meng Liu Foon is a New Zealand politician who served as the mayor of Gisborne from 2001 to 2019. Since then he has been New Zealand's Race Relations

Commissioner, taking over from Dame Susan Devoy. Meng is one of a handful of people of Chinese descent to have become a mayor in New Zealand. He is fluent in English, Cantonese and Māori.

In a statement at the time of his appointment, Justice Minister Andrew Little said. "Foon has an outstanding record as a relationship builder. Meng Foon walked comfortably in the Pākehā world, the Māori world, the Chinese community and other communities making up New Zealand. This is an exciting appointment to a role that presents enormous challenges but tremendous possibilities."

Members of Khandallah Presbyterian Church have been invited to join us for the evening and Meng Foon will be introduced by the Reverend, Ryhan Prasad.

Come from 7pm for a casual pizza and salad meal, with a glass of wine, for just \$15 per head. RSVP Graeme Waters by 13 February.

RECENTLY

LUNCHEON MEETING 4 FEBRUARY

There was a low turnout, less than 50% of members, for the first luncheon meeting of the year. For those who forgot or didn't know when the year started, luncheon meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays of the month, with some exceptions for December and January. Information, for two meetings ahead, is prominently displayed in page 1 of the Bulletin which is published one week prior to the next meeting.

The meeting began with a reflection from Maurice Scott. In it he referred to the political situation following the USA Election and related it to aspects of racial tensions in New Zealand as highlighted by a need to understand the meanings of the Treaty of Waitangi.

Maurice finished with. *"If we are to learn anything from what occurred in the USA, more than ever we need to work towards a truly united community that shows respect and consideration for each other if we are not to be undone by the untruths, misinformation and weird conspiracy theories that now run through the Internet to be, as we know, such a powerful force when it comes to generating dissent."*

Almoner Lionel Nunns reported that Margaret Emerre, who had been in hospital since before Christmas was now home with a three-month recovery plan. She does not wish to receive visitors but would welcome messages.



The birth of a son to our caterer, Monique, was announced. Happy Dollars were dedicated to a gift for Monique.

A call was put out for more participants, club members or otherwise, to fill gaps in the Readers in Schools programme. Please volunteer to President David or VP Graeme.

GUEST SPEAKER



Helen Davidson, General Manager Engineering New Zealand, was introduced by Laurie Bond.

Helen joined

Engineering New Zealand in February 2016 and is responsible for leading the legal and public affairs work, including complaints resolution, governance, communications, policy and thought leadership, as well as the people function. She has over fifteen years' experience in law, complaints management and policy.

Helen gave a comprehensive overview of the engineering profession, which represents 5% of GDP. It covers a wide range of activities from civil engineering through to food processing systems. There was a need to recruit more engineers, especially women where the current ratio was 14% of membership. Promotion, beginning with the 13-17 age group, is needed to before curriculum pathways are chosen, which preclude a later transition to the necessary tertiary studies.

Helen spoke about Engineering New Zealand's concentration on standards and continuing professional development ultimately resulting in the management of risk.

Tony Fryer gave the vote of thanks.

RIP - PAST PRESIDENT BOB NORMAN

Bob Norman, Club President in 1983/84 and former Commissioner of Works, passed away on 6 February at the age of 97. He was a Past President and Distinguished Fellow of Engineering New Zealand.



Bob was a prolific poet and author of several books, the last being *94 not out* [his age at the time]. He inflicted on the bureaucracy and the political arena many examples of his satirical wit, which did not always endear himself with his superiors. Despite his year as President coinciding with major problems with the Clyde Dam construction, Bob had a successful year with his projects including the charity walkover of the then completed Ngauranga flyover.

28th JANUARY MEETING – BBQ and SCHOLARS



Alma Adam, Teshalini Nanthivarman, Page Govender, Selectors Graeme Waters & Terry Pinfeld, Natneal Gebremichael & Dillan Manikkathiagarajah

There was a good turnout of club members, partners, scholars and their families at the BBQ evening held at the Khandallah Bowling Club to launch the New Year. Once again, the skills of Maurice Manttan and member's partners were evident in the fare.

For the 2021 academic year, more than 35 prospective students from the greater Wellington and Wairarapa area applied for assistance. They were invited to highlight their academic, sporting and cultural contributions, as well as any voluntary or community work they may have undertaken. Priority was given to students who faced evident financial hardship.

Every applicant made a good case, but with the funds available just 14 students could be offered support. They came from varied backgrounds, but all showed the capacity for hard work and meeting challenges. Several of the students had arrived in New Zealand as refugees, or to join a refugee family. Another was a recent migrant from Samoa. One student was wheelchair bound, but committed to becoming a social worker to help others in similar circumstances.

Five of the students who were awarded scholarships attended the gathering in person. They charmed the audience with uplifting stories of adversity and ambition. Alma Adam had arrived here with her Syrian family as a refugee, and will be studying information systems at Victoria University with a view to seeking airport work. Teshalini Nanthivarman had last seen her father near the end of the Sri Lankan civil war in 2009, when she and her mother fled the Jaffna peninsula as refugees. Now she is preparing for medical studies at Otago University, with the aim of becoming a gynaecologist.

This being the age of IT, seven other students who could not attend in person sent video clips of themselves and their story. They made compelling viewing too. Ian Crabtree would be very pleased, and very proud, to see the enduring value of his bequest. Wellington North Rotary can be proud of its ongoing role in helping change lives for the better. Ross Foubister has a 30-minute disc of the videos. Contact Ross to get the video. *Summarised from a report by Graeme Waters and Terry Pinfold*



KIWI COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE UPDATE

WELCOME to Miki who is KCA's new paid Storeman. Miki has come from Vegechips in Australia and has over ten years' experience in food warehousing.

He has a forklift licence as well. Miki will be working at KCA until 24th December 2021 due to funding constraints. Sincerest thanks to Lotteries Commission for funding his wages for 2021.

As needs grow, KCA is also growing its organisation to keep up with demand. Thanks to government funding, KCA is currently expanding its chiller and freezer rooms. This expansion is much needed as it outgrew chiller and freezer room space months after they were built in July 2020. The new chiller and freezer room will allow storage of 11 pallets of fresh produce and 5 pallets of frozen stock.

Accenture has donated \$10,000 which is being used to purchase two large commercial chest freezers for the completed order bay.

This will allow KCA to loan the old smaller chest freezers to local foodbanks/community groups enabling them to increase the volume of stock they can give out in food parcels.

KCA is currently looking for volunteers who can assist them with sorting and putting away clothing items on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9.30am to 11.30am. This is a weekly commitment. KCA invests six weeks into training all new volunteers. If interested, please go to <https://www.kca.org.nz/help-us/donate-time/> Applications are all on-line.

SPONSORED SCIENCE SCHOLAR SCORES

Last September, members of the Club interviewed Queen Margaret College student Angelina Del Favero, whereupon the Board agreed to contribute half (\$950) towards the cost of



attending the Rotary Science & Technology Forum held in Auckland in January. She was selected by the Wellington District Coordinator to be one of a small group from Wellington. Angelina was subsequently selected as the winner of a national scholarship (the AUT Roy Geddes Science Education Award) to represent New Zealand at the London International Science Youth Forum to be held in July. This is a prestigious scholarship. The International Science Youth Forum brings together about 500 young scientists from 70 countries and provides just two places for New Zealanders - one male and one female.

Following the Forum Angelino wrote the following to Pat Helm. *"I've returned from this year's Science and Technology Forum. It was truly a life-changing two weeks and I am so thankful for this opportunity that you and Wellington North Rotary Club gave me.*

It was also an incredible honour to receive the AUT Roy Geddes Award to attend the London International Youth Science Forum - and although it may not go ahead in-person this year due to COVID, I have my fingers crossed for potentially attending next year (otherwise I'll be participating in the virtual version of the LIYSF)." If possible, I would absolutely love to come in and

give a brief presentation to the club about my experience at the Forum. Thank you again for this amazing opportunity.”

Angelino, now in year 13 at QMC has a remarkable academic and entrepreneurial record. She will be making a presentation to the Club in the near future.

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT NOMINEE ZAHEDA [ZAI] DAVIES



Chris and Zai with twins Nisha and Isaac

Being offered the opportunity to be your President in 2022/23 has been very humbling and thought provoking and has been a very hard decision to make. I see myself as a relative newbie to Wellington North, with lots to learn and get to know all of you well enough. I humbly thank those of you who see something in me so I can contribute in a positive way. In the coming months, I look forward to getting to know you all better so we can look at ways to work together towards serving our communities and help them grow.

When the time comes, I will be looking to you all with your vast expertise and experience in Rotary matters to help make up a strong team. Please do consider how you will be able to bring your skills forward and get in touch with me for 2022.

ROTARY NEW ZEALAND CENTENARY

This year sees 100 years of Rotary in New Zealand and Australia. There are two key elements to the celebration, the publication of Mana Tangata and a centenary exhibition scheduled to open at the National Library on 12 May and be in place until at least 26 May.

The Exhibition is to be built around sharing the Rotary 100 centennial with the public. It will feature our past, our present and the future.

There will be opportunity for Rotary Clubs to host the exhibition and assist visitors. Detailed planning has now begun with teams established for the implementation. John Mohi is responsible for co-ordination with Morris Robertson and Tony Fryer being part of the support team.

2021 DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Rotary District 9940 Conference will be held in the Wairarapa between the **19th and 21st of March** at the *Carterton Events Centre*.



Come prepared to be entertained, informed and challenged. Enjoy a Taste of the Wairarapa – food, beverages, sights.

There will be a range of activities around the Wairarapa throughout the weekend including *A Taste of the Wairarapa* on the Saturday afternoon and a *Swing Fling* on the Saturday Evening.

For further details go to -

www.rotary9940.org/page/district-conference-2021

PARTING THOUGHT

Terry Pinfold

New Zealand could reach its Climate Change Target at a cost of 1% GDP – **Let's do it!**

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