

Moonrise over Wellington Harbour, seen from Whitu St. Khandallah. Photo Tristram Langford

## **MEETINGS WITH A DIFFERENCE**



Wednesday 13 May, 11 am

# **URGENT NOTICE**

The advertised Zoom links published last week have been changed. This week's password, which includes an embedded password, is –

 $\frac{https://us02web.zoom.us/j/93459804284?pwd=}{RkxDempzUS9hdnlLc1ZsYTN1dlkxZz09}$ 

The email from President Lionel, dated, Thursday 7 May, also contains the clickable version of the above link.

## **DUTIES**

## **13 May**

Reflection Morris Robertson
Speaker[s] A Mystery
Thank Speaker[s] Laurie Bond
Parting Thought Maurice Manttan
Happy Dollars Maurice Scott

## **20 May**

# Peter Kyle

Incoming RI Director
Speaking from Washington DC.
Former Ambassadorial Scholar
and Wellington North
Club member

Reflection Margaret Emerre

Introduce Speaker Tony Fryer

Thank Speaker Morris Robertson

Parting Thought Pat Helm

### **6 MAY APRIL ZOOM CHAT MEETING**



As before, we welcomed Kaukau members and former club members including PP Dermot Byrne [top right], who added to the Irish theme of the meeting.

Kesh Gilmour reflected on the current lockdown situation and, notably, how her business as a Celebrant was affected by the restriction on the number persons who could attend wedding and funeral ceremonies.

## **GUEST SPEAKER PETER RYAN**



Irish Ambassador,
Peter Ryan, who was
Introduced by Paul
Tipping, began by
commenting on how
different New
Zealand felt after his
previous postings in
New York and Hong

Kong. He was impressed by our greenery and lifestyle. He went on to talk about the extent of the Irish Community in New Zealand and this was fully demonstrated when the borders were closing leaving a number of Irish travellers stranded. The Embassy had been heavily involved in consular work and, with the support of the New Zealand Irish, had satisfactorily resolved many difficult situations. However, he was still concerned about the number of Irish citizens facing loss of jobs in the NZ tourist industry, especially in Queenstown,

He said that, as nations of a similar size Ireland and New Zealand had similar views

on trading. As a member of the EU, Ireland was able to access 0% interest loans to aid its recovery. With Brexit currently under the radar the issue of the border with Northern Ireland remains to be solved, both in terms of trade and consular issues.

Roy Ferguson gave the vote of thanks, thus completing a three-way round of Ambassadors.

## FROM THE KCA FRONT

KCA received approval from The Ministry of Primary Industries for its food rescue operations to continue during the pandemic as an essential service. In order to remain in this category Tracy outlines the practices KCA needs to follow to meet MPI approval.

"Our cleaning process is very strict and was approved by MPI. We have to ensure the safety of our volunteers and their family members living with them.



The cleaning and sterilising of everything that our volunteers touch takes 1-2 hours a day to clean and protect them. We have to sterilise the whole inside of our chiller truck cabs between each use. This includes everything and anything they can touch in the cab - steering wheel, seat belt, radio, indicators, door handles, the plastic folder, light switches, etc.



Our food rescue volunteers who go out in the chiller trucks are washing their hands or sanitising them up to 10 times an hour. They are also wearing PPE - gloves and face masks. As they

are changing their gloves every time they wash their hands that generates a lot of waste to dispose of.

As the Covid-19 virus lives on different types of surfaces for different lengths of time on cardboard, clothing, plastic toys etc. we can't

be accepting clothing and toys for quite a while. This is to protect our volunteers and the recipients who receive the items from our partner agencies, some of whom are deemed high risk.

We plan to only use the non-food items we already had in stock at our warehouse before Covid-19 started as it's been quarantined. We have also had Chemwash Wellington sterilise everything in our warehouse twice.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused but we must first and foremost protect our volunteers and the families that we are assisting.

Thanks to our financial supporters. We are purchasing in some items that we are not rescuing, such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products and some non-perishable food items."

### **NOT ALL THAT IT SEEMS**



Readers of Saturdays Dompost insert magazine may have read the accompanying article which cites Kaibosh as Wellington's Food Rescue, which supplies Wellington City Mission. The article is identified as "sponsored content" which presumably comes from New World.

To put the record straight, Kaibosh is a very good food rescue service which currently has difficulty keeping up with demand. It is receiving top up supplies from KCA, which also supplies direct to Wellington City Mission



An early example of social distancing on a pedestrian crossing

#### **PARTING THOUGHT**

From Morris Robertson An Irish saying, but not to be tried at home during lockdown.



May your home always be too small to hold all your friends.

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#### **WEB SITES**

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