

GUEST SPEAKER – PETER KYLE



Peter Kyle's outstanding career in Rotary and International Finance began in 1970 with the guidance by Denys Pinfold towards a successful Ambassadorial Scholarship, which was taken up at the University of

Virginia. After his return to Wellington and becoming a Partner in a law firm, in 1976 Denys inducted him into this Club. In 1979, Peter took a position in the Legal Department of the Asian Development Bank in Manila where he joined the Rotary Club of Pasay. Returning to New Zealand in 1985, he joined Rotary Club of Auckland, and served as the District RYLA chair.

In 1992 Peter joined the Legal Department at the World Bank in Washington DC. He was inducted into the Rotary Club of Capitol Hill. Two years later he served as President of the Club and became deeply involved in Rotary Foundation alumni activities, both at district and international levels.

Peter was a foundation member of the newly established RI Alumni Relations Committee and served in that role for four years, ultimately becoming the Chairman. He also served as chair of the District Peace Fellow Selection Committee. In 2010, he was honoured to receive the Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award. He was District Governor for District 7620 (Washington, DC and Central Maryland) for the 2013/14 year.

Peter has subsequently held several RI offices. He is currently Dean of the Rotary Representative Network and will commence a two-year term as an RI Director in the coming Rotary year.

On the professional side Peter retired as Lead Counsel of the World Bank in early 2009 after an extremely interesting and varied career that involved traveling to over 100 countries advising on the legal aspects of private and financial sector reform. The first few years at the Bank involved almost monthly commuting to Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and other parts of Eastern Europe as the Bank sought to re-start these economies following the collapse of the Soviet Union.

13 MAY MEETING

We have now slipped quite seamlessly into meeting by Zoom. This is likely to continue through June although, given the wider reach achievable, it could be part of our future meetings mix. One again we welcomed Ross Barrett and Bob and Val Laybourn.

REFLECTION - I HAVE A DREAM

I have a dream - we all remember the inspiring and lasting words of Martin Luther King –

Fast forward over 50 years when a young Swedish girl, Greta Thunberg had a dream, – to save our planet from a slow death.

When Greta's message, delivered at the United Nations, failed to move the leaders of the industrial nations her dream became a nightmare, from which there appeared to be no easy way out.

But, the cause was taken up in China by an invisible virus called Covid-19, which has a distribution network vastly superior to that of Amazon, and only too willing to provide unsolicited deliveries.

As we are about to enter Level 2, let us explore the connection?

Guided by daily doses of verbal medicine from Jacinda and Ashley, we are progressing through a period of pain before the gain. But, the gain could be a future we might not have contemplated two months ago.

Throughout the world, countries have been in lockdown. Fewer vehicles are congregating on the roads, fewer planes to pollute the sky, fewer factories belching smoke, all resulting in reduced carbon emissions. The skies are bluer.

Six weeks ago, the term 'Zoom Meeting' meant nothing to many of us – but, here we are, fellow Rotarians. The deskbound workforce has moved seamlessly to the suburbs. Could that become the new normal?

I have a dream – When our bubbles are finally unlocked, we might want to continue the trend of working from home and communicating via shared screens. That thought is gaining credence. Thus, do we actually need a CBD with all its resulting congestion and emissions?

Maybe we could convert the CBD office buildings into family apartments and supporting services with side streets converted to green parks rather than car parks. The overall footprint of the city could eventually shrink. Carbon neutral could be achieved. The new normal may not be the normal which we have left behind.

Let us all dream of a green sward below us with Tuis in Taranaki Street, Bellbirds in Balance Street and Kereru in Courtenay Place, a myriad of stars in the night sky and, most important, let it be not be just a dream, but the gift to our grandchildren.

Morris Robertson

SPEAKERS

There were short presentations from two speakers, David Young and Jane Bambery



David Young asked how those with pensions and comfortable bank balances could be responding to the rapidly evolving circumstances of

poverty arising from Covid-19 and the consequent changes in the economy, leading to an even more unequal society. He spoke of the implications of the huge debt being entered into by the Government and how it could eventually be repaid. He also dwelt on some of the darker sides of our world, even to the extent of the American government declining to cooperate internationally in the development of a vaccine and discussing whether, if they are the first to discover a vaccine, they will give priority to their own people. The full text of David's presentation is attached to the email for this Bulletin.



Jane Bambery spoke about her team at NZ Qualifications Authority and what lockdown had meant for the office and for the schools and all those associated with the NZQA's

functions. Students working from home had also presented new challenges, both for students and NZQA Subject Advisors and Assessors. Greater support is also being given to internal assessment, with allowance made for time extensions for practical subjects. Jane was grateful that she in her team had continuing employment.

OPERATION RICE



It's like the good old days of Rotary, a working bee followed by coffee and a chat". So spoke Margaret Emerre after a successful Level 2 compliant working bee at Chez Nunn's

to transfer the contents of five 20kg bags of rice into 1kg bags for distribution by Kiwi Community Assistance.

This was part of a second consignment of eight tonnes of rice donated by Tuls's Monty Patel. Johnsonville Rotary Club had already bagged up about 200kg and, having completed the Wellington North operation so quickly, President Lionel and the team are keen to do another round. The bagged rice is being rapidly despatched to Foodbanks.

KCA has had another busy May to date with nearly 19 tons of food rescued and redistributed out into the community. As the demand for supplies for stocks for food parcels grows exponentially KCA has widened its reach for bulk stocks. In the last few days, two tons of fresh and flavoured milk arrived from Palmerston North and they are awaiting three pallets of pork from Auckland, which is an added bonus for the local food banks.

One problem, being faced by Tracy is some of KCA's funding streams, which support the overhead costs, have gone due to previously supporting businesses not reopening. Individuals can support this vital work through the Give A Little page.

<https://www.givealittle.co.nz/org/KCA>



DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2022/23



Marilyn Stevens of the Rotary Club of Kapiti has been selected by the District Nominating Committee as the District Governor for the 2022-23 Rotary year.

Marilyn is an outstanding nominee and is looking forward to the opportunity and the role. She will join the District Governance Train along with Gillian Jones (DGE), Mark Wheeler (DGN) and John Mohi.

As a Rotarian, Marilyn has held several District offices, has experience as a local body representative and, with various roles she has held in the workforce, makes her ideally suited to the position. Marilyn and Wayne, her husband, have a long-standing commitment of service to their communities.

Marilyn has been a Rotarian since 1983 and was a charter member of the Hutt Valley Breakfast Club. She is a Past Assistant Governor and has led a District 9940 Group Study Exchange to Sweden. Currently, Marilyn is Chair of the District Interact Committee and District Youth Service Chair. She has also held club offices, including President of the Rotary Club of Otaki.

Marilyn's working life has included management in the early childhood sector and also a local electrical company. She has been in joint ownership with her husband of a compressed air and construction equipment company, motel owner and lastly Field Officer for the NZ Cancer Society. She is in the third trimester on the Otaki Community Board, two of those as Deputy Chair. Her portfolios are Strategy and Policy, and Health.

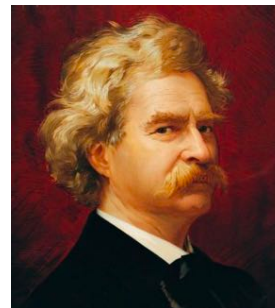
"On a personal note, Marilyn was International Youth Exchange Chair in in my 2000/01 DG year. With the large number of students at that time, she performed the role admirably" [Morris]



KCA Rescued food from Countdown Johnsonville Mall [left] and Churton Park New World

PARTING THOUGHT

From Maurice Manttan



"Life would be infinitely happier if we could be born at the age of eighty and gradually approach eighteen".

Mark Twain

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