

At home in the Scotia Sea

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

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

**At Khandallah
 Presbyterian Church
 Thursday 25th March
 Date and Programme
 to be confirmed**

At Wellington Bridge Club

Thursday 18th March
 Jim Lynch
 Zealandia

DUTIES

Greeter	Gerald McGhie
Host Speaker	Zaheda Davies
Attendance	Pat Helm
Reflection	Maurice Scott
Happy Dollars	Steve Brazier
Thank Speaker	Colin Lawton
Parting Thought	Peter Shanahan

LOOKING AHEAD

Luncheon meeting Thursday 1st. April
 Angie Del Favero on the Science Forum.

This meeting would be of interest to partners and children or grandchildren contemplating a science career.

Evening meeting Thursday 8th April
 Club Forum at Khandallah Presbyterian Church. President Elect, Stephen Spence, will be presenting his plan for the next Rotary year

NEXT LUNCHEON SPEAKER



James Renwick is a weather and climate researcher. He is Professor of Physical Geography at Victoria University, specialising in large-scale climate variations. He was

awarded the 2018 New Zealand Prime Minister's Science Prize for Communication by the Rt. Hon. Jacinda Ardern.

James is fascinated by the general circulation of the atmosphere – how the atmosphere transports energy and momentum and what it does to achieve this. In particular he is interested in how heating in the tropics is communicated to higher latitudes by the excitation of large-scale waves and how this affects the storm tracks and jet streams. In recent years, he has developed an interest in Antarctic climate, especially the growth and decay of Antarctic sea ice. How does the atmospheric circulation (the wind) affect sea ice extent? How this can be tied back to tropical influences? He is also involved with climate prediction work, from months to centuries

NEXT EVENING SPEAKER – TBA

RECENTLY

LUNCHEON MEETING 18th FEBRUARY

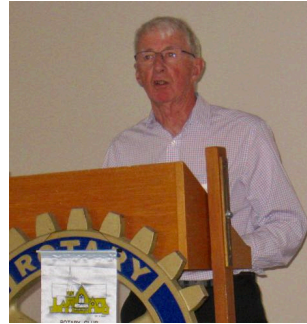
President David spoke about the Club's area for planting a Forest of Peace and Remembrance. The location is in the Odell Reserve which lies on a ridge between Cockayne Road and Kabul Street. It can be accessed from Punjab Street in Khandallah. For further details see 'From the President.'

Tony Fryer spoke about the annual Centurion contribution to The Rotary Foundation – more to come on the subject.

John Mohi promoted payment for the Centennial publication, Mana Tangata [\$40 to the Club]. See separate story.

Indications were that five couples from the club would be attending the District Conference in Carterton, a steep decline in numbers from the heady days, when Tony Fryer gathered the troops with the beating of his mono sided drum.

SPEAKER



David King gave a very interesting talk on an area few of us knew about, the Scotia Sea, which lies on a tectonic plate, partially enclosed by the southern tip of Argentina, Falkland

Islands, South Georgia and the Antarctic Peninsula. The trip, by David and Margaret, was on a 100 passenger boat, which traversed the area with two days sailing between each of the stop off points, the latter accomplished generally by wet landings.



Penguins galore



Shackleton's grave

Some interesting items along the way were a statue of Margaret Thatcher in the

Falklands and Earnest Shackleton's grave on South Georgia. Otherwise, there were vast numbers of albatross and penguins galore. David observed that penguins were not the pristine creatures frequently imagined, but rather had visible hygiene issues. They could best be described as messy creatures. There were times when whales accompanied the boat and the icebergs were sights to behold.

Pat Helm gave the vote of thanks.

EVENING GUEST SPEAKER - MENG FOON



Pizzas and salad with fine wine beforehand



Meng Foon, introduced by Ryhan Prasad KPC

Rotary members present were slightly outnumbered by guests, principally members of Khandallah Presbyterian Church.

Speaker 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. 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.

Meng Foon gave a very comprehensive and amusing talk on his family history and the state of race relations in New Zealand. His family emigrated from China via Hong Kong and established a market garden near Gisborne. After spending several years plucking vegetables from the ground he was persuaded to stand for the City Council and was successful the second time around. Subsequently, he became Mayor, an office he held for 18 years, before being appointed to his current role.

Meng's wide-ranging talk covered the broad aspects of his role covering not only race but bullying and inclusiveness and immigration. He finished his talk by singing a full force rendition of an Italian Aria. The vote of thanks was in five parts, each in a different language given by members of the audience.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



A few of our members attended a recent fund-raising event of the Wellington Club to raise funds for "Give Every Child a Future" which is the centenary project of Zone 8. At this event, Professor Michael Baker spoke on the

importance of immunisations to eradicate or at least control a whole range of diseases including, of course, polio. A highlight of the evening was to hear that, having already raised \$2.2M, we are now nearly halfway towards our target of \$4.5M for the Give Every Child a Future project. I am personally very pleased that our club has been able to make substantial grants towards this project.

Another centennial project is the planting of Forests of Peace and Remembrance. A number of clubs are already well advanced with their individual projects. Our hope is to do our planting this winter at a site which has been identified by the Wellington City Council. This is at the reservoir in Odell Reserve in Khandallah, on the ridge line which overlooks the harbour. This site offers glorious nearly 180-degree views ranging from the city round to Petone. It is currently quite barren and is a perfect site for planting with suitable native trees and perhaps adding a seat for sitting and enjoying the view.



I look forward to getting my hands dirty on this one. It's a pleasure to see our club involved in so many meaningful projects.

David

FROM THE BOARD

Stephen Spence circulated a draft strategic plan for the next Rotary year. It was decided that a Forum would be held on the evening of 8 April at the Khandallah Presbyterian Church.



Some of the key points in Stephen's plan are -
To consolidate the realignment of the Club's operations, following the Revitalisation project.

- To continue to make the Club's activities attractive to members and to provide a balance of social contact and service.
- To review and confirm the Club's approach to targeting its charitable funds across both wider and local needs and specific funding allocations.
- To work to keep our former Kaukau members involved and contributing to the Club's role in the community.
- To retain present members and continue to seek new members at every opportunity.

Have your say at Forum on 8 April. The future of the Club depends on the participation of all members.

Graeme Waters has circulated a paper, which included a discussion on the desirability of upgrading the skills of members and volunteers involved in the reading in schools programme and the training that could be obtained. There is strong support from Board members for training, which is available from Āwhina Education with a session of up to eight people for \$300.



Āwhina Education is a Wellington-based tuition company that understands young people are unique, and that their learning styles

can be, too. They cater to a wide range of children with learning differences, including those with Specific Learning Disorders (SLDs) such as dyslexia or dyscalculia. Their goal is to ensure that no matter how a child sees the world, they can achieve great things in learning and in life.

RIP – BOB UPTON



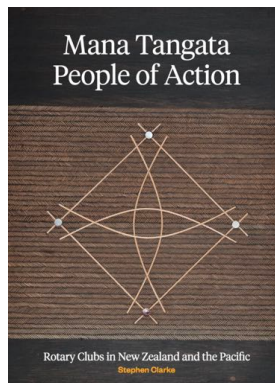
We note the passing away in Devonport on 17th February of former club member, LtCdr Robert Upton. Bob was CEO of Wellington Free Ambulance from 1991 to 1994.

KIWI COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE UPDATE



Progress photo showing the new chiller/freezer room under construction

ROTARY NEW ZEALAND CENTENARY

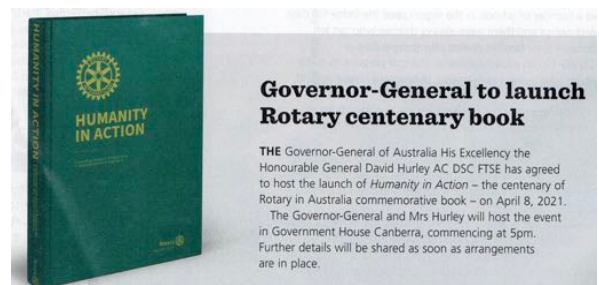


This year sees 100 years of Rotary in New Zealand and Australia. The lavishly illustrated *Mana Tangata* is now at the printers. Club members who indicated that would purchase a copy at a special price of \$40 are asked to **pay now** into the Club's bank account.

A centenary exhibition scheduled to open at the National Library on 12 May and be in place until at least 26 May. The opening will be in the form of a cocktail party, which will include the formal launch of *Mana Tangata, People of Action* by Stephen Clarke.

The Exhibition is being built around sharing the Rotary 100 centennial with the public. It will feature our past, our present and the future. The planning is now well under way by designer Celeste Skachill under the guidance of John Mohi, Richard Norman [Wellington Rotary Club], Morris Robertson and Tony Fryer.

Meanwhile Australia, where Rotary arrived second, after New Zealand by a week, also has a book and a launch function.



Governor-General to launch Rotary centenary book

THE Governor-General of Australia His Excellency the Honourable General David Hurley AC DSC FTSE has agreed to host the launch of *Humanity in Action* – the centenary of Rotary in Australia commemorative book – on April 8, 2021. The Governor-General and Mrs Hurley will host the event in Government House Canberra, commencing at 5pm. Further details will be shared as soon as arrangements are in place.

THREE FOR THE ROAD



ROTARY'S CORE VALUES

1. The world today is not the same as it was when Rotary was founded in 1905. Demographics have shifted, the pace of change has accelerated, and

technology has created new opportunities for connection and service. What hasn't changed is a need for the values that define Rotary:

2. REIMAGINING ROTARY

RI's Action Plan calls for us to become more nimble, responsive and open to new ideas. Covid-19 has shown us that the world can change fast and in ways we can't always prepare for. Clubs are challenged to create new kinds of experiences, relationships and structures that will carry us forward.

How do we at Wellington North stand with the following challenge? Revitalisation continues well beyond our initial concepts. For further information go to [rotary.org/action plan](http://rotary.org/actionplan)



3. A NEW TYPE OF CLUB



On 22 December last, a new type of E-Club was chartered, **The Global Nurses and Midwives Rotary Club.**

Based in District 9630, Queensland, the club chartered with 34 members from around the world, including Australia, Spain, Montenegro, South Africa, Liberia and Canada. The club meets twice per month by ZOOM. The Club aims to have a line-up of international nurse leaders and midwives who will present to members at meetings.

RI President, **Holger Knaack**, described the move as a "totally innovative idea." Food for thought?

By honouring our past and embracing our future, we can evolve and keep Rotary not only relevant, but thriving.

EXPAND OUR REACH • Grow and diversify our membership and participation • Create new channels into Rotary • Increase Rotary's openness and appeal • Build awareness of our impact and brand

PROMOTING THE CLUB

4 Thursday February 18, 2021

Herald

Wellington North Rotary continues to support refugees

For the past 30 years, the Wellington North Rotary Club, through its scholarships trust, has enabled over 200 refugees and others of limited means to realise their potential through tertiary scholarships. While it began with relatively modest beginnings the trust got real traction with a bequest in 2000 from late club member Ian Caplan.

Thanks to Ian, the trust now holds assets worth over \$2 million, which generates enough income to help more than a dozen students each year in their tertiary studies.

For the 2021 academic year, more than 35 prospective students from the greater Wellington 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, fourteen students were offered support. They came from varied backgrounds, but all showed the capacity for hard work and meeting challenges.

Several had arrived in New Zealand as refugees, or to join a 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 club's bachelorette gathering at the Khandallah Bowling Club on January 28.



Alina Adams, left, Tishahli Nambharam, Page Governor, Selectors Graeme Waters & Terry Pinfold, Natnael Gebremichael and Dilras Manakathathirath have received scholarships from Wellington North Rotary to continue their studies.

Alina Adams had arrived in New Zealand with her Syrian family as a refugee, and is studying information systems at Victoria University with a view to seeking support work. Tishahli Nambharam had just seen her father near the end of the Sri Lankan civil war in 2009, when she and her mother fled the island to become refugees. She is preparing for medical studies at Ohio University, with the aim of becoming a gynaecologist. Natnael Gebremichael, a refugee from Ethiopia, is studying for a BE at Victoria University, with ambitions to be a software programmer. This being the age of IT, some other students who could not attend are pursuing competing scholarships of themselves and their story.

Exposure to the community is important to the future of the Club. Recent examples have been the Khandallah Village Fair and the Scholarships programme, both of which received coverage in the Independent Herald. The teaming up with KPC for the Meng Foon evening is another example. All suggestions for future possibilities welcome.

PARTING THOUGHT

Brian Poole

We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean but the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.

Mother Teresa

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