



*You should have been there. – The Wellington North Team at the District Conference Dinner*

## At Wellington Bridge Club

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April

Angie del Favero

Queen Margaret College

The Science Forum

### DUTIES

Greeter	Rory O'Connor
Host Speaker	Roy Ferguson
Attendance	Laurie Bond
Reflection	Peter Shanahan
Happy Dollars	Zaheda Davies
Thank Speaker	Morris Robertson
Parting Thought	Brian Poole

Apologies and Guests to Maurice Scott  
[mjpscott@gmail.com](mailto:mjpscott@gmail.com) by 10am Wednesday

## LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD

**Evening meeting** The Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April Club Forum at Khandallah Presbyterian Church has been **deferred until 27 May**. President Elect, Stephen Spence, will be presenting his plan for the next Rotary year.

## At Wellington Bridge Club

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April

Mark Evans NZ Police

Facial Recognition

### DUTIES

Greeter	Terry Pinfold
Host Speaker	Alan Fraser
Attendance	Colin Lawton
Reflection	Stephen Spence
Happy Dollars	Roy Ferguson
Thank Speaker	Gerald McGhie
Parting Thought	Maurice Scott

### NEXT LUNCHEON SPEAKER



Angelina del Favero, is a Year 13 Queen Margaret College student who co-founded Find Your Fire, an organisation which aims to inform and empower the youth of Aotearoa to educate themselves and speak up about national and global issues, and encourage them to make a change.

Angie and her friend Rachel created an ACC funded magazine through this organisation, which has been distributed to every secondary school in NZ. All of this was achieved before Angie entered senior school!

Fast forward, and with sponsorship from Wellington North, Angie 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.

Angie is a focused young woman and from the age of five years old has had the dream to become a neurosurgeon. Her hobbies include violin and badminton. She's half Italian and half Chinese, but favours Italian cuisine. She loves hiking with her family in Wellington's many different trails, where immersion in New Zealand's beautiful nature helps her relax and rejuvenate from her busy life schedule!

**This meeting would be of interest to partners and friends as well as children or grandchildren contemplating a science career. Please feel free to come!**

## RECENTLY

### ROTARY 100 BATON WALK – MARCH 14th



Early on Sunday morning, March 14, some 35 intrepid Rotarians gathered under blue skies at Avalon Park for the 'once in a hundred years' walk up the Hutt River trail to carry the R100 baton on its journey toward the District

Conference in the Wairarapa. They didn't walk all the way to Carterton but instead left the trail at the Trentham Memorial Park in search of the Fig Tree café where coffee awaited.

Supported especially by the various clubs in the Hutt the nearly three-hour walk provided for unhurried social contact with Rotarians mostly not known to one another. The banner carried during the walk told the many other users of the river trail that this attractive gaggle of humanity was in fact an assembly of Rotarians marking, and celebrating, their proud 100 years of service in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Tired, sunburnt (only a little) and thoroughly satisfied the coffee and eats at the Fig Tree slipped down well after the thirteen-kilometre trek. The best part, it was said, was being able to sit down at last!!

The baton subsequently enjoyed a car journey to conference over the big hill. Great event, good fellowship and brilliant Wellington weather! Well done, Rotary; you can now look forward to the next 100 years of serving our communities. *Lionel Nunns*



*The baton is passed by Anne Hare and Linda Wellington to DG Gillian Jones at the District Conference opening.*

### MARCH 18<sup>th</sup> LUNCHEON MEETING

Indications of interest were sought for a social outing via the East West Ferry on 29<sup>th</sup> April to Days Bay for lunch. Positive support was about 40%.

**There was a reminder for \$100 Centurion contributions to be made before 31 March.**

Forum has been deferred until 27 May





### GUEST SPEAKER

Introduced by Zai Davies, Conservationist Jim Lynch, QSM, who from 1990 to 1995, managed to sell his dream of a fenced, urban sanctuary, and see it evolve into

Zealandia, Wellington’s pride. Jim, who was President of the Wellington Branch of Forest and Bird from 1991, is now retired and living in Waikanae. He spoke of the campaign to secure Zealandia, with the hurdles to be overcome along the way and the support from Rotary. Despite some difficult times, Zealandia is now debt free.

He explained that the success of Zealandia as a mainland sanctuary showed the way for several others to be developed throughout the country, including one that will be fifteen times the size at the back of Wainuiomata. In the greater scheme of things, with the aid of WCC, an earth corridor is progressively linking natural bush areas around the Western Hills of Wellington. The Vote of Thanks was given by Colin Lawton.

### DISTRICT 9940 CONFERENCE

Ground Zero for the Conference was the new Carterton Events Centre. Wellington North was represented by six couples.



The Conference began with a welcome event, outdoors at Greytown’s Cobblestones Museum. Attendees were issued with play money to purchase food and drink.

After brief speeches, entertainment was provided by the Kuranui College Kapa Haka Group and the Masterton South Rotary Club Choir.

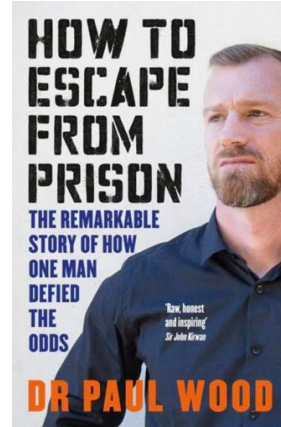


*Kapa Haka group, introduced by John Mohi*

The Conference proper took place on Saturday and Sunday mornings with a mix of live and Zoom presentations. High quality catering for breaks and the Saturday night dinner was provided by Clareville Bakery and the drinks were served by the Carterton Fire Brigade.

### SATURDAY SESSIONS

The morning began with a discussion group, selected from a number of clubs, on topics ranging from membership growth to special projects.



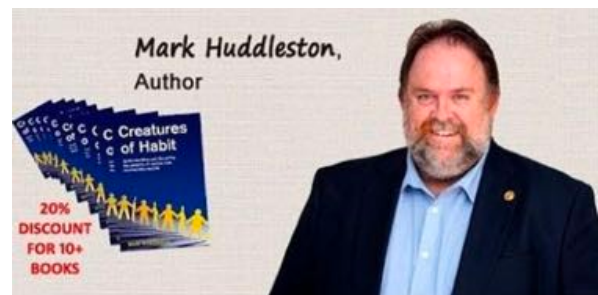
First up was **Dr Paul Wood** by Zoom on “what’s your Prison”. As a teenager, he had taken a wrong turn and convicted for drugs and murder. He managed to turn his life around and commenced a BA in Psychology, which led to an MA and eventually a PhD, followed by a successful career after his release.

**Carterton Mayor, Greg Lang**, spoke enthusiastically and at length on Turning Challenges into Opportunities.



A wheelwright by trade with a history of living in a house bus. Greg settled near Gladstone and was persuaded to stand for the District Council, subsequently becoming Mayor. He has great plans for his

district, some of which might be over ambitious, such as turning rear shop access drives in to laneways, Melbourne style.



Zooming in from Australia, Rotarian Mark Huddleston with charts showing membership

trends spoke about Creatures of Habit and the changes needed for Rotary to reposition itself. He has written a book on the subject, suggested as compulsory reading for clubs. Mark's message was reinforced by Zoomed in comments from RI President, Holger Knaack.



Final speaker, this time live, was chef Martin Bosley, who was wheelchair bound following an accident. He spoke of his involvement with catering training at Remutaka Prison and how it became a participant in Wellington on a Plate. It has become so popular that there is now a public ballot for places at the dinner.

### SWING FLING DINNER

Participants were invited to come dressed in the fashion of the decade their club was chartered. For Wellington North, it was the swinging sixties., with the wives showing the way.



*Wellington North 60's swingers*



Most decades were represented with DG Gillian and Kevin dressed in the 1920's style befitting the chartering of the Wellington Rotary Club in 1921

### SUNDAY SESSIONS



First up was Rotarian Michelle Tanner who promoted the Oceania project to Give Every Child a Future. It principally involves vaccinating children of the vulnerable Pacific Islands against a variety of potential diseases, against which New Zealand and Australian children are protected from.



Next up was Rotarian Deepak Kapur on How India beat Polio with mass vaccinations in which Rotarians, including teams from New Zealand, played a significant part. The sounds of Delhi traffic behind Deepak's Zoomed presentation added authenticity.



Then, we had a live and informative talk from well-known Professor Michael Baker on Our year of beating Covid-19. With the aid of explanatory charts, he gave a very clear explanation of the spread of the virus and the steps taken to control it in New Zealand. The lessons learned will be valuable for the next, inevitable, virus which strikes us.

The final session began with Russ Ballard on the Rotary Peace, Remembrance and Community Forests Trust and Bill Day on the Rotary Commitment to the Wellington Regional Children's Hospital.

Two students from Porirua College spoke on the benefits they gained from attending a RYPEN course and an International Youth Exchange student described her successful Covid bound year in Japan.



The Conference concluded with the introduction of DGE Mark Wheeler and DGN Marilyn Stevens.

There was also promotion for the 2022 District Conference is scheduled to be held at Te Papa.

Various trophies were awarded and the Conference was wound up by acknowledgements from DG Gillian.



*The Venue*

### **EVENING MEETING 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH**

Moderate attendance but a good social atmosphere which continued after we sat down to pizzas and salad meal. After that, the three young Rotaractors, who had been to RYLA, spoke about their experiences; Lin Kee at some length and the other two briefly. Lin covered the course and her own reactions to it in some detail and the other two briefly outlined what they had gained. Each were very positive about the course.



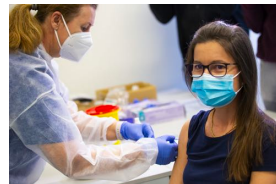
The Philippines Ambassador, H.E. Gary Domingo, who had spoken to the Club three years ago, outlined how his government supported Rotaract and various youth programs it had, some of which could be possibly picked up by Rotaract here. He also reminded us that the Philippines had substantial investments in NZ but that NZ businesses seemed to ignore the Philippines.

### **PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS**



Compared with other countries, Covid 19 seems so far away, barely affecting life in New Zealand. For many of us, the major constraint is on our international travel. We are looking forward to the day when we have been vaccinated and hopefully can again visit our overseas families.

Many countries are experiencing a “third wave in multiple daily cases.” We have the luxury of being able to prioritise vaccinations for our elite sportsmen and sportswomen knowing that the risk to other vulnerable groups is quite minimal. For other countries, the risks are far more real and the trade-offs far more difficult.



Internationally, there is a wider issue of how to prioritise the distribution of vaccines between countries, an issue which, regrettably, the international community is failing to address. Most vaccines are going to rich countries. The US already has more vaccine than it requires for its entire population. The UK and Europe are squabbling over the distribution. India, the largest manufacturer of pharmaceuticals in the world, having made an exemplary start in supplying other countries, has now banned the export of vaccines until its own needs have been met. All the while most poor countries have received only minimal if any supplies. The motto that “charity begins at home” seems to be alive and well. Is it too much to hope that countries, and that we, individually, will be happy to stand in the queue behind those more at risk, behind those more deserving? Oh, that I might live so long!

Rotary’s involvement in vaccination programmes was a major feature of District 9940’s conference in the Wairarapa last weekend. In addition to a talk from Prof Michael Baker on Covid 19, we received an update on the End Polio project. We were also updated on the Give Every Child a Future project, which was also the focus of a Rotary event hosted by the Australian High Commissioner at her residence this week. At this function, to mark the commencement of our

centenary celebrations of Rotary in New Zealand and Australia, we were also asked to commit to the next centenary of Rotary, in the words of our motto, "Service before Self".

On your behalf, I made that commitment.

*David*

### KIWI COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE NEWS

KCA has seen a significant increase in the volumes of food that they rescue and redistribute since Covid-19 arrived in NZ. It is expected that the number of families requiring warm winter clothing over this winter will also increase as the long-term effects of Covid-19 continues to affect families and jobs.

KCA is one of the 19 food rescue organisations in the Aotearoa Food Rescue Food Rescue Alliance (AFRA).



The above photo shows KCA Board member, John, from Countdown, at an AFRA meeting in Auckland, with Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development, and Julie King from Auckland's Love Soup Food Rescue.

Tracy now has commenced her surgery; However, this is only the start for her; further surgery follows some 8 weeks later. She is confident the organisation will function OK while she is indisposed. She has invited the club to a club site visit in the evening, later in the year.

### SPONSORED CONTENT

We enjoyed our talk from David King on exploring the Scotia Sea. If you would like to experience it for yourselves you could embark on an expedition cruise (with less than 300 passengers) where you'll have time to really immerse yourself in exploring the Falklands, South Georgia, and ever-impressive Antarctica. Itineraries are now available through to 2023 with a no worry offer. No rebooking fees, easy refunds, no stress. Contact Zaheda for details 021 733659

## THE 3 A's

### APOLOGY

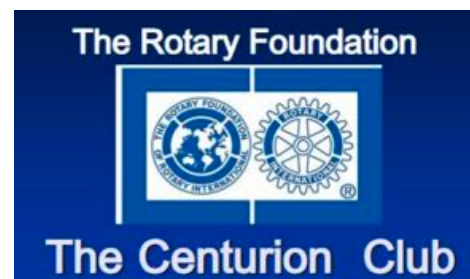
For lateness of this issue due to the Editor being away from home for the week after the Conference. Whilst it is no doubt feasible to produce a Bulletin on a cellphone while on vacation, it doesn't bear thinking about!

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To Lane Mohi for the headline and baton handover photos.

To David Pickering for the report on the 25<sup>th</sup> March meeting and the accompanying photo.

### ACTIONS



Submit your contribution by 31<sup>st</sup> March to get the tax benefit. Details from Tony Fryer.

Bring guests to this Thursday's lunch meeting and let Maurice Scott know.

### PARTING THOUGHT

From 18 March, delivered by Peter Shanahan  
*I am a success, today because I had a friend who believed in me and I didn't have the heart to let him down.*

Abraham Lincoln

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