



**ROTARY CLUB OF WELLINGTON NORTH**  
 Bulletin 29 July 2021

*Bridges gone far, usually a gentle river in flash flood, Koromako Stream in Ngaio Gorge drains the hills of Ngaio and Crofton Downs, where it is joined by Kaiwharawhara Stream, from Zealandia. It is a significant artery in our Club's territory.*

*These photos are from the upper reaches on Saturday 17 July*

**At Wellington Bridge Club**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> August

Chris Elder

China and New Zealand  
 an Historical Perspective

**At Wellington Bridge Club**

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August

Melissa Carrere and

Amelia Volkerling

Āwhina Education

Teaching Children to Read

**DUTIES**

Greeter	David King
Host Speaker	Rory O'Connor
Attendance	Peter Shanahan
Reflection	Zaheda Davies
Happy Dollars	Gerald McGhie
Thank Speaker	Paul Tipping
Parting Thought	Laurie Bond

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

**DUTIES**

Greeter	Paul Tipping
Host Speaker	Terry Pinfold
Attendance	David Young
Reflection	Rory Ferguson*
Happy Dollars	Rory O'Connor
Thank Speaker	Graeme Waters
Parting Thought	Stephen Brazier

\*subject to escaping NSW lockdown

Contributions please by the Tuesday following a luncheon meeting or the Tuesday in the week prior to a meeting.



What's this? See page 4



## NEXT LUNCHEON SPEAKER CHRIS ELDER



Chris Elder trained as a Chinese linguist before serving in the New Zealand Embassy in Beijing when it first opened in the early 1970s. He returned to Beijing as Ambassador

from 1993-1997. Other ambassadorial appointments have been to Indonesia and to Russia. In Wellington, Chris has served as the Deputy Secretary with responsibility for Asian affairs and security policy in the Asia-Pacific region. He retired from the Foreign Ministry in 2012.

Chris has published a range of papers and articles relating to New Zealand's interaction with China and with Asia. He co-authored with Michael Green a historical survey of New Zealand-China relations (*New Zealand and China 1792-1972*) and with Robert Ayson a Centre for Strategic Studies Discussion Paper, *China's Rise and New Zealand's Interests: A Policy Primer for 2030*.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Since Changeover on 1 July, I've had the pleasure of presiding over my first Club lunch meeting on 15 July when PDG Simon Manning gave a sensitive and absorbing talk on repatriating the remains of NZ service personnel. This was followed by my first Board meeting as President on 19 July and I have to confess it takes a lot more concentration when you are in the hot seat! The new Board is packed with quality Rotarians and I'm sure they will do a great job.*

*Looking further afield, there's no let-up in existential threats from floods to famines and the ever present COVID. So as Rotarians there's no let up for us either.*



*Let's spare a thought for Roy and Dawn Ferguson who have been caught up in the deflated NSW bubble. The news from Sydney isn't getting any better and shows the virulent nature of the Delta variant. We hope they make it back home safely very soon.*

*Nga mihi nui  
Stephen*

## PRESIDENTIAL WELCOME

We welcome the following new Wellington Cluster Presidents to our readership

**Graeme Titcombe** – President, Karori

**Joy Tracey** – President, Wellington

**Marc Rands** – President, Port Nicholson

**Tessa Murphy** – President, Rotoract

**Abdur Rahman Khan** – President, Wellington South

**James Leong** – President, Mount Victoria

## 5 JULY LUNCHEON MEETING

**SIMON MANNING - Te Auraki The Return**



Past District Governor, Simon Manning, was introduced by Gerald McGhie. Simon described Te Auraki as a Defence Force initiative to repatriate to New Zealand the remains of defence force personnel and their dependants who died while overseas between 1955 and 1971. The choice to repatriate rested with the families, who reinterred their relative at a place and time of their choosing. He spoke movingly of his work as a member of the team responsible for Te Auraki.



Simon's role demonstrated that Rotarians are often at the forefront of challenging and important actions that help to make New Zealand a better place.

Simon described his participation as a complex and demanding task, involving liaison with foreign governments and militaries, funeral directors in the countries concerned and in New Zealand, and the families of the deceased. Not all families chose repatriation, but 35 did so. Repatriations came from Fiji, Malaysia, American Samoa, UK and Korea.

He described how the disinterment in the various countries, was carried out and the remains transferred to the NZ funeral directors who were appointed for each family. He concluded with stories of how relationships were developed with the various recipient families.

David Young gave the vote of thanks

**22 JULY EVENING MEETING AT KPC  
SPEAKER CLEO ARATHOON  
WOMEN'S REFUGE**



With 50% of the people in its safe houses being children, its perhaps not surprising that Women's Refuge has embarked on a study of just what their needs might be. Since safe houses were first established in the 1970's, the assumption has been that caring for mothers would meet the needs of children. However, a new study for Women's Refuge by Cleo Arathoon has shown that children have a particular set of needs in their own right.

Cleo, now a professional staffer at Women's Refuge, was employed specifically to conduct this research. She spoke to her audience of Rotarians and church members with eloquence, enthusiasm and authority. Cleo said the children she interviewed proved well able to articulate their concerns and were aware of what was going on around them. Toys, books and tablets are appreciated, but the kids valued above all the comfort, companionship and safety that Women's Refuge can provide.

In future, there will be more targeted child specific programmes, procedures and planning goals. Women's Refuge is now committed to working with children as clients, and setting up a network of counselling and other support for them. Wellington North Rotary has given \$3,000 this year in support of this new "kids in the middle" programme.

*Graeme Waters*

**IN YOUR COMMUNITY**



**KIWI  
COMMUNITY  
ASSISTANCE**

Wellington North has assisted KCA with new pallets as evidenced by Past President Lionel.

**CORNERSTONE TRUST**



*Line of succession – Pat Helm with Kerry Ansell at Changeover*

Following the retirement of Kerry Ansell, President Steve is pleased to announce that Pat Helm has taken up the challenge to represent the Club on the Cornerstone Resource Centre Trust. This is one of the club's outreach activities and Pat will be keeping us informed on its activities, which include management of the Khandallah Town Hall.

**FOREST OF PEACE AND REMEMBRANCE**



The club's project to plant a Forest of Peace and Remembrance is to take place on Saturday, 7 August at 9am. All able-bodied members are encouraged to support this project either by planting a few trees or providing moral support. We will be planting our forest in Odell Reserve off Punjab Street in Khandallah.

The Wellington City Council is clearing the site and providing the trees and some picks and shovels. Please bring your own tools if you have any, and gloves. The local Ngaio Scout group will be joining with us to provide some of the manpower. David would appreciate advice of your participation. [dhyoung@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dhyoung@xtra.co.nz)

## MEDIA EXPOSURE



about resources, best practices, and inspirational examples from Rotary International.

## FACEBOOK

President-Elect Zai has been working hard on the Facebook page for the club and it is up and running. The QR code below is the key to access. Alternatively, the search function can be applied. All members, please look at it, like it, comment on it and share it. I've tried the QR - it works. ED

## PARTING THOUGHT

*From David King*

If you can start the day without caffeine,  
Always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,  
Resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,  
Eat the same food every day and be grateful for it,  
Understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time,  
Take criticism and blame without resentment,  
Conquer tension without medical help,  
Relax without alcohol,  
Sleep without the aid of drugs.

*Then you are probably the family dog!*



Revitalisation of the club includes getting the word out that it exists and does great things in the community. The weekly *Independent Herald* largely mirrors our area of interest. While it is no longer delivered to homes, it is available in supermarkets etc. and is on-line every Thursday morning. It provides the opportunity for the club to promote its activities. All members are asked to come up with promotional opportunities, which can be scripted by the Bulletin Editor. Good quality photographs are essential.

## THE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL VIEW

### 2MY ROTARY – CLUB FUNCTIONALITY

Clubs are now able to record in My Rotary an appointment for their Public Image Committee Chair and their Service Projects Chair. Reporting these club leadership appointments to RI will help clubs by: creating a direct line of communication to the district public image committee, who will discuss ideas, share best practices, and coordinate district-wide public events and trainings; better support Rotarians in these positions with direct communications

## CLUB CONTACTS 2020/21

**President – Stephen Spence**

Phone 970 7158 or 021 2278099

Email: [steve.spence@hotmail.com](mailto:steve.spence@hotmail.com)

**Secretary – David Pickering** Phone 476 7322

Email: [aurius@xtra.co.nz](mailto:aurius@xtra.co.nz)

**Bulletin Editor – Morris Robertson**

6 Trelissick Crescent, Ngaio 6035

Phone 479 2436 or 021 02522033

Email: [mrps6T@gmail.com](mailto:mrps6T@gmail.com)

**WEB SITE:** [www.wellingtonnorth.org.nz](http://www.wellingtonnorth.org.nz)

