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FROM THE EDITOR

In late 2022, I announced my intention to retire as Editor of the Club Bulletin. As no successor could be found, and my backup, David Pickering had passed away, publication ceased with the 13th July 2023 issue. Communications have continued with flyers distributed a week before the club's meetings. With the changes now taking place in club, district and international structures the flyers have grown in length to the point whereby it was felt necessary in the interim, to resurrect The Bulletin.

At the time of introducing the flyers, the Bulletin circulation lists, which had grown over the years, were purged. With the new membership and related structures shortly to come into place the lists will be further revised. If any reader no longer wishes to receive communications from the club, please advise the Editor via the email address at the end of this Bulletin.



NEXT MEETING

Lunch gathering at Namaste, Khandallah, 12 for 12.30pm on Thursday 6th June. Guest speaker Susan Paris on Children's Literacy.

NOTE – Because of the proximity to Changeover, there will be no third Thursday evening meeting in June.

FROM MARY POTTER HOSPICE

A thankyou letter has been received for those members and friends who rattled the buckets. The overall appeal raised almost \$13,000. Special thanks to David Young who was part of the organising team.

READY TO GO – THE NEW CLUB STRUCTURE

The Board has taken account of the concerns and suggestions relating to the new community focussed structure for the Club. Discussions have been held with the new Regional Leaders whose principal advice was to structure the club in a way which best suits our circumstances. We have been further advised that there are other clubs in the Region undertaking similar exercises. The following sets out the Board’s decision for the future structure.

Membership Structure agreed to by the Board on 20 May 2024

... from a revised recommendation of the Membership Committee on 20 May 2024

Membership – formalised

- o **Full Membership** ... same as current individual membership, including full subscription
- o **Household Membership** ... one full membership sub covers a couple or household as full members. (Only one person nominated person to pay RI and District fees.) The full subscription applies for the nominated person, and \$30 sub for all others in the household who wish to be members.
- o **Local Membership** – a short term membership provision. Members not registered with RI. Belong to RCWN only. All events & meetings open to them to be part of. Such membership can be held up to 2 years. Encouragement to become full members by the end of the 2 years. Annual sub of \$30 applies.
 - o Free local membership offered to one nominated representative of community organisations.

All formalised (Full, Household & Local) members eligible to hold office in the club.

Relational connection

- o **Corporate** ... for local business operators who are open to providing support to club ventures (resources, personnel, funding). No sub.
- o **Friends** ... those who value an association with the club, including widows and widowers of club members and who may provide hands-on help or attend key club occasions. No sub.

MAY EVENING MEETING


The presentation from the Te Kahu Tiu Trust was a revelation to almost all present. While their web site and video were not shown due to a technical problem these can be accessed on www.tekahutiu.org.nz The video referred to on the evening can be accessed via a link from the web site.

REGIONAL COUNCIL


The Zone 8 Council, which covers the Districts of Australia, NZ and the Pacific Islands, comes into being on 1 July, with Tawa Rotarian **Tony Heyward** as Chair, will assume many of the functions currently the role of RI. Although at this stage it is a 3-year world pilot, along with the Rotary Institute of Britain and Ireland, it is almost certain to be the arrangement for the future, while RI concentrates more on its international role via The Rotary Foundation. Meanwhile, the rest of the Rotary world continues with its current structures and leadership with a growing understanding “that one club structure doesn’t fit all.

Your new support network

Portfolio Committee Member
Develops Zone-wide strategies with their Committee team



Rotary Community Leader
A facilitator who mentors the clubs in their RCG to thrive and grow



Rotary Specialist
Works directly with clubs to provide guidance in their specific area of expertise



Part of the new arrangements include the establishment of Community Leaders. We are part of a Community Group covering Wellington and Kapiti Clubs. Our leader is **Tony Robinson**, currently President of Port Nicholson Club. PE Graeme has been in contact with Tony and has received a very positive response.

The majority of Rotary Community Leaders (RCLs) throughout Zone 8 are confirmed, and have begun an extensive learning and development program. The focus is to equip them with the knowledge and skills needed to facilitate their respective Rotary Community Group on its path to growth and success.

CHANGEOVER

DINNER SET FOR THURSDAY EVENING 27th JUNE FROM 6.30pm

The Club has booked the Wilton Bowling Club once more for a dinner catered by Mindy Wu. Cost will be \$60 each including a table wine. Payment and other details will be detailed in an upcoming invitation flyer. RSVPs to Graeme Waters at garamdelhi7@hotmail.com or 021 455119 by 20th June

GUEST SPEAKER TIM McIVOR



Tim McIvor first came to New Zealand from Northern Ireland on a Commonwealth Scholarship to complete a PhD on the life of New Zealand’s Irish-born Premier John Ballance. This work was published in 1989 under the title of “The Rainmaker”.

At Auckland University Tim met his wife Paula, which happily resulted in his staying on in New Zealand and joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. As a diplomat he served in Moscow, Manila and New York before being appointed as Ambassador to Timor Leste. In 2012 Tim became head of the Visits and Ceremonial Office, which manages visits to New Zealand by heads of government and other dignitaries. Now retired from the public service, but working hard on his golf game and first novel, Tim will bring his Irish wit to bear on the subject of “How to Distinguish a Visitor”.

FROM PRESIDENT-ELECT GRAEME WATERS

How nice to have our Bulletin back, and with lots for Morris to report! The Board has been working hard on setting up a more flexible membership structure, which we hope will widen our membership base. At the same time, we expect the new regional structure in Rotary will not only give us more flexibility but also more specialist support if we need it on things like websites and trusts management. Watch this space!

Our next luncheon meeting on 6 June is germane to how we operate. We have invited all the people who work with us on reading in schools to join us for Susan Paris's talk on children's literacy. Susan is a former editor of the Schools Journal, which was a key resource for our readers at Wainuiomata Intermediate. If you have a view on what's right or wrong with education today, don't miss this chance to hear Susan – and meet the members of our current reading teams at Arakura and Pukeatua primary schools.



And please keep Changeover night, 27 June, in your forward planner. We have an excellent speaker in the form of Tim McIvor, a former diplomat and author who is now working on his first novel – a dark political satire set in the Wellington beltway, Canberra and the Philippines. Any references in this novel to an Ambassador with an appalling golf handicap are of course no reflection on myself.

Our Rotary club lives in fluid times, and we need to be aware of the changing (and often shrinking) circumstances of clubs in our neighbourhood. We're open to working more closely with other clubs, and also with other community groups. We are lucky to have most of our Board positions filled for the year ahead, and to have Michael Hinds as President for 2025/26. However, we still have a vacancy for Treasurer. If you feel outraged and personally insulted that you haven't been asked to fill this undemanding and entertaining slot, please contact me immediately. In the meantime, my grateful thanks to Maurice Scott for remaining as Acting Treasurer. If President Steve and I don't see you at our sold out Circa fundraiser this Thursday, we look forward to seeing you at lunch at Namaste on 6 June and Changeover evening at Wilton Bowling Club three weeks later.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2026/27



Over the next three years, the role of District Governors will change in a way which will have less contact with Clubs due to the transition to Regional Council office holders. Nevertheless, the two Pilot Zones will be obliged to elect DG's to carry out specific RI roles.

Brent Gerrard, a member of Port Nicholson Club, has been appointed DG for 2026/27.

Brent has over 30 years of experience in the information technology business with an extensive background in sales, software, infrastructure and operations. He has been involved in business development for the last 15 years working with corporate, government and SME's. Outside work, Brent volunteers and loves spending time with his family and two dogs.

HAPPENINGS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Contacts are being made with individuals and groups in our suburban area of interest. The impact of this is that the Community Service portfolio is under reconsideration. One suggestion is that it could be split into two with one building a presence in Khandallah, Crofton Downs and Ngaio and the other liaising with supported groups outside the area, eg KCA, Women’s Refuge.

Graeme, Zai and Morris attended a community volunteers meeting organised by the Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents Association, which receives funds from WCC for such events. While the stated purpose was for community groups in the area to get to know each other, many of the attendees were specific interest organisations from outside the area. Nevertheless, there was benefit in Rotary having a presence.

SPREADING THE WORD



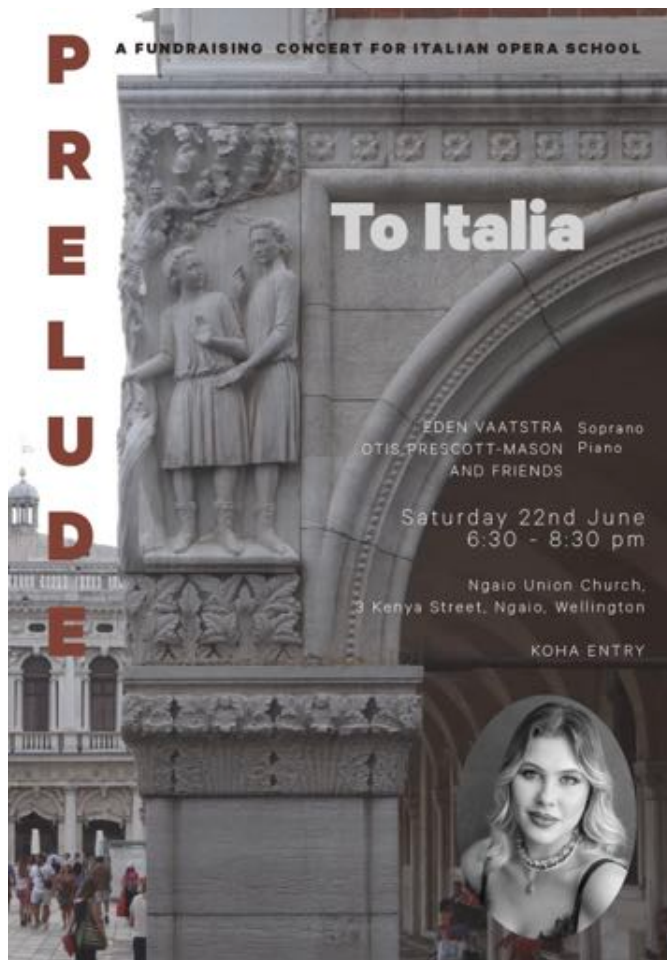
Do you know someone in our community who might respond positively to join one of the new tiers of our expanded club? If so please give them one of our updated club information sheets, which are printed A5 double sided. Copies can be obtained from Graeme Waters or Morris Robertson. You should be prepared to talk about the various membership and associate options as set out on page 2 of this Bulletin.

SUPPORT FROM THE VERY TOP

Stephanie Urchick, who takes office in July. To quote Stephanie. “Measures taken by Rotary leadership to survive and end critical challenges often make our organization stronger and more resilient for future events. This kind of essential leadership also creates new levels of cooperation, even among rivals, when Rotarians pull together as people of action to serve and solve a crisis.”

“Making regionalization a priority is crucial” says Stephanie





PRELUDE TO ITALIA – A MUSICAL TREAT IN OUR COMMUNITY

Ngaio Union Church, following a major upgrade, has been transformed into a centre for community activities including monthly recycling collection and a very popular repair café. Various local organisations, including the Residents Association, use it for their meetings as do musical groups and purveyors of home skills. Pews have been replaced by chairs to allow flexibility of use, which is generally by koha.

On Sunday 18th May the congregation was treated to a magnificent musical performance by Ngaio resident soprano Eden Vaatstra. After the performance, Eden praised the acoustic qualities of the church.

For those who missed this opportunity there is more. On Saturday 22nd June Please join us for an enchanting evening of sharing music with Eden. The programme will comprise favourites from opera, German Lieder, French mélodie, duets, musical theatre, solo piano and violin, and a special feature performance from Stringendo Wellington Children's Orchestra. Bring your friends and whānau, there will be something for everyone! Entry is koha and any contributions are gratefully received. Supper to follow.

Understanding and appreciating the relationships between music and architecture have greatly influenced and inspired Eden, a 2020 Keystone Trust Study Award recipient, Bachelor of Architectural Studies & Bachelor of Music student at the University of Auckland.



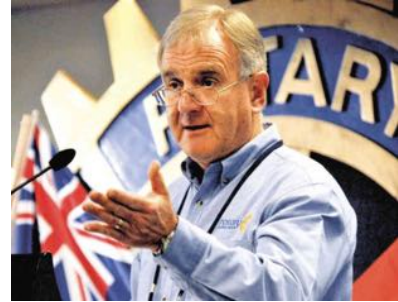
To quote Eden “My time at university has been enriched and I have been able to have incredible experiences due to being part of the Keystone family and accessing their networks.

Being introduced to the team at Warren and Mahoney Architects in Auckland and Wellington, meeting with Chris Day from Marshall Day Acoustics, and enjoying time with Ben Makisi, renowned opera singer are experiences I could not have dreamed of.”

In addition to her musical career Eden is completing a Master of Architecture and works for an architectural practice in Wellington, cycling into the city each day from Ngaio. Soon, Eden will be off to sing in Bologna, Italy. As a prequel, she will be giving a performance on Saturday 22nd June 6.30 to 8.30 at Ngaio Union Church. **All welcome, entry by koha**

RIP: BOB AITKEN AM

Many Rotarians throughout New Zealand, Australia and the Pacific, who knew Bob well as a highly respected journalist and long serving Editor and Executive Director of Rotary Down Under, were deeply saddened to learn of his passing on 20 April, aged 78.



Bob Aitken had a huge presence on the Rotary International stage, commanding respect by Rotary leaders, World Presidents, The Rotary Foundation, especially through his leadership for End Polio Now initiatives over three decades, for his people skills and popularity organising major conferences and Rotary Conventions in Australia. and playing a leading role for such events elsewhere in the world.

Bob was the Editor of RDU for 27 years and Executive Director of RDU from 2011-2014. He joined the Rotary Club of Parkes in NSW in 1975 transferring to the RC of Blue Mountains in 1984. He was a Rotary District Governor in 1996-97 and served on many RI committees and as the RI President's representative on many occasions. In 2007, Bob was made a Member (AM) of the Order of Australia for services to sport (cricket and hockey), and the community through Rotary. [*Notes thanks to PDG David Watt, Karori*]



Rotary theme for 2024/25 or possibly longer to eliminate the costs of annual changes.

Information for future Flyers or Bulletins to Morris Robertson mrps6T@gmail.com on the Tuesday one week before meetings. Continuation of this Bulletin is subject to timely contributions from WN Rotary Board members. Contributions also welcome from members and local community leaders.