



Ukraine – A once green and prosperous country – Innocent victims

By ZOOM 12.30pm

Link to be advised

Thursday 7th April

Michael Chilton

Republicanism and Royal Tours

At Wellington Bridge Club?

Thursday 21st April

Ed Forsman

The Road to an Electric Future

May be by Zoom - TBA

DUTIES [as for Zoom meeting]

Greeter	David Pickering
Host Speaker	Zaheda Davies
Attendance	Maurice Scott
Reflection	Michael Hinds
Happy Dollars	President Stephen
Thank Speaker	Maurice Manttan
Parting Thought	Steve Brazier

DUTIES [subject to live or Zoom meeting]

Greeter	David King
Host Speaker	Margaret Emerre
Attendance	Peter Shanahan
Reflection	Paul Tipping
Happy Dollars	David King
Thank Speaker	Gerald McGhie
Parting Thought	Lionel Nunns

See meeting programme on page 5

Apologies and Guests to Zai Davies
[<zahedadavies@icloud.com>](mailto:zahedadavies@icloud.com)
 by 10 am Wednesday [Live meetings only]

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

At Khandallah

Presbyterian Church

Thursday 28th April 6.30pm

The Hon. Peter Dunne

The Social Needs of Khandallah

Date subject to Omicron

NEXT SPEAKER

MICHAEL CHILTON THE WAY AHEAD FOR A HEAD OF STATE



Michael worked in the foreign service for four decades, including 20 years at the Ambassadorial level. He was posted to Washington,

Bangkok, London and Singapore. He then served in Kuala Lumpur, London and Hanoi. In New Zealand, he held positions as Director of Public Affairs, Middle East & Africa, and of the Auckland Office.

A career highlight was to manage the logistics for the largest international diplomatic conference held in New Zealand, APEC99. In 2000, he was made a Companion of the Queen's Service Order (QSO). In 2010-2011 Michael was responsible for VIP visits as the Executive Director for the Rugby World Cup Guest of Government Task Force, Wellington.

Michael was appointed the Director of the Royal Visit Offices set up to organise and manage the visits of Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall in November 2012, and Prince William and the Duchess of Cambridge in April 2014. In the course of his career he met members of the Royal Family and several Governors-General. He is married, with three children and seven grandchildren. He lives in Khandallah.

17th MARCH MEETING

HAPPY DOLLARS – A REMINDER FROM LIONEL NUNNS



At the club's first Zoom lunchtime meeting for a while, 17 March, eight members declared themselves to be

happy. Well, happy enough to pay for the privilege. Yes, we can still do Happy Dollars on Zoom, and during these days of war and pestilence it's probably important to do so.

So, thanks to our happy people we will see our charitable funds swell by that little bit more - well, we will if Pres Stephen, Zai Davies, Morris Robertson, David Young and David King, Gerald McGhie, Laurie Bond and Lionel Nunn's pay up.

Here's how you do it (same each time during Zoom) ... you simply place your happy dollars straight into the club's charitable trust account, marked 'Happy D' ... the number is 03 0525 0338282 00. And remember, the treasurer knows where you live.

NOTICES

Notice was given that the May Club Forum would include discussion on the Scholarship Trust. More information will be circulated prior to the Forum.

UKRAINE INSIDER [abbreviated]



An extended reflection was given by club member Gerald McGhie, who was NZ Ambassador to Moscow at the time of the breakup of the

Soviet Union. While continuing in the Moscow role he also became the first NZ Ambassador to Ukraine.

Gerald began by reckoning that the current crisis has been thirty years in the making. He noted that, during the 1990's, the US and its allies designed a Euro-Atlantic security architecture in which Russia had no stake. Since Putin came to power, Russia has been challenging that system, demanding that the West recognise Moscow's right to a sphere of privileged interests in post-Soviet space.

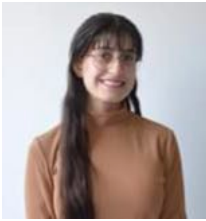
Why did Russia invade? Putin sees it as a good time to act. In his view, the US is weak and divided, the new German Government is still finding its political feet and the tight energy market gives Russia more leverage over the continent.

In Gerald's view, the core element of Putin's doctrine is getting the west to treat Russia as if it were the Soviet Union – a power to be respected and feared with special rights in its neighbourhood and a voice in every serious matter.

Putin's overarching aim is to reverse the consequences of the Soviet collapse, splitting the transatlantic alliance and renegotiating the geographical settlement that ended the Cold War. For the most part, the US and Europe have rejected the Kremlin's narrative of grievance

which centres on the encroachment of NATO on to its near neighbourhood, thus threatening Russia itself. Russia has a past history of being invaded from the west.

RYLA REPORT



We also heard from double scholarship recipient, Alma Adam who was supported by our club to attend this year's RYLA course. Alma said that, while she was initially concerned about knowing

anybody she rapidly gained friends and confidence. Hearing from Alma reinforced our focus on and investment in youth which our members have always valued highly. As well as her support from Wellington North, Alma has received a Goal Setters Award from the Rotary Club of Port Nicholson.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Kia ora



Wellington North is in a unique position in having a number of former Diplomats amongst its members. Collectively, they are in a position to give a first-hand account of events in the wider world. We are grateful to

Gerald McGhie, former NZ Ambassador to Russia and Ukraine, for preparing, at short notice, an enthralling description from an historical perspective, of why the Russian invasion of Ukraine has come to pass. Judging by the talk and the questions which followed the presentation was well received.

The Board met on 21st March. David Young, who has taken over as Chair of the Scholarship Trust reported on a number of matters relating to the Trust. These included future availability of funding, a review of the Trust Deed and its long-term future. The selection of recipients for Tertiary Grants is a time-consuming task which falls on a few busy club members. Graeme Waters, on behalf of the Scholarship Panel, reported on some possible options for how our club might manage the scholarship selection process. The Board agreed that the 26 May Forum would provide the appropriate opportunity for fuller reporting and decisions on the way forward.

The Board received a report from the Community Services Committee which included a number of recommendations which the Board endorsed. These included continuation of the Khandallah Fair, a possible Matariki event from 2023 and, for the current Rotary year, a movie night to be organised as a fundraiser to address the ongoing challenge of raising funds for our Charitable Trust

We are now looking for a motivated person to take the lead on the movie night. Volunteers please!



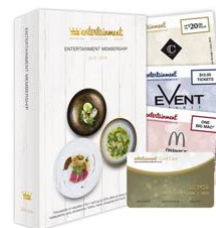
The future of the Commonwealth is becoming shaky, especially beyond the

reign of The Queen. This has been evidenced by the reaction in some of the Caribbean countries visited by the Young Royals. Thus, it is appropriate that our next Guest Speaker, former Diplomat Mike Chilton, will talk about *Republicanism and Royal Tours*. As the meeting will be on Zoom, a message will be circulated next week giving the link and timing of the meeting. All readers of this Bulletin are invited to Zoom in to the meeting.

While the club is being cautious by holding its "luncheon" meetings by Zoom, we have a desire to return to the face to face format as soon as it is deemed safe to do so. Likewise, we intend to resume our evening meetings when the current Covid wave has passed.

Nga mihi nui
Stephen

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS NEW DISTRBUTOR SOUGHT



Margaret Emerre has been looking after the Entertainment Books for RCWN for some years now and is ready to hand it on to another member. She is seeking expressions of interest from a member in taking on this role. It isn't a heavy load.

CONGRATULATIONS



Maxwell Sercombe, son of WN Member Nigel and grandson of Karori Rotarian, David has been awarded the honour of 2021

Engineering Apprentice of the Year. Max assisted in constructing one of the longest and highest structures on the Transmission Gully project, the Ara a Toa bridge over Cannons Creek, 60 metres high and spanning 230 metres. His apprenticeship included placement of large precast elements, erection and dismantling of large proprietary shutter systems and renovation work.



ROTARY RESPONSE MESSAGE FROM DG MARK WHEELER

The situation in Ukraine, and surrounding countries receiving refugees, is deeply concerning. Rotary Clubs in our District will be keen to support relief efforts.

More than 2 million people have fled Ukraine and are in dire need of emergency aid. The United Nations estimates that number could grow to as many as 5 million people displaced. Rotary clubs in Europe and around the world have stepped up their relief work, some working on the ground to help displaced families.

The Rotary Foundation is coordinating contributions by Rotary members, clubs and districts around the world to support the relief efforts for the people of Ukraine that are underway by Rotary districts. In addition to support provided through the Rotary Foundation's Disaster Response Fund, the Foundation is coordinating with partners and regional leaders, exploring effective solutions to the increased humanitarian needs.

The Rotary Foundation has designated its Disaster Response Fund as the main avenue for contributions. The Rotary Club Charitable Trusts in our District do not have donee status under [Schedule 32](#) of the Income Tax Act, so may

not remit funds overseas. Similarly, individuals who remit funds overseas will not receive a receipt for tax deduction purposes.

We recommend that you provide contributions to support relief efforts for the people of Ukraine by the Rotary Foundation by using our normal channel for sending funds to the Foundation:

1. Transfer your funds to Rotary District 9940 Foundation Account **03 0502 0416962-00**
2. Code these transfers **DST-RESPON** and note **Ukraine**
3. Transfers need to be completed by **21 April**.

Any enquiries may be made to Peter Whittington, Administrator, TRF9940@rotaryoceania.zone Funds sent through our District Foundation Account are sent to The Rotary Foundation through The New Zealand Rotary Clubs Charitable Trust which has donee status under Schedule 32.

2022 DISTRICT 9940 CONFERENCE



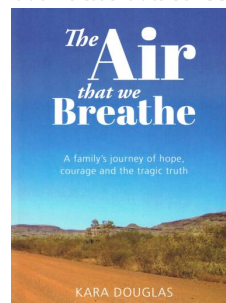
Shaping our future, together.
8 - 9 April 2022

ON-LINE FRIDAY 8th APRIL 6 – 8pm & SATURDAY 9th APRIL 9.30am – 12.30pm

To register go to <https://www.eventspronto.co.nz/Rotary2022>

Registration cost is \$60 per person and is largely going to pay for the technology to support this online event. You'll need to register to receive the link to participate. No charge for partners.

THE AIR THAT WE BREATHE – A SEQUEL



Author Kara Douglas, known to us as club member Kesh Gilmour, spoke recently to us about her novel, *The Air that we Breathe*, which drew attention to the true story of Wittenoom, its mine and its people who, unwittingly, signed their own death warrants.

Finally, the West Australia Government has passed a Bill to close the riddled town, which ends a dark chapter of the state's history. The long-awaited Wittenoom Closure Bill has passed WA Parliament and will allow the state government to acquire and demolish the final 14 properties in the town.



Wittenoom, in remote northern WA, was taken off the map in 2007 but visitors have continued to ignore warnings about the serious risk posed by its blue asbestos tailings, the products of mining in the town until 1966. Lands Minister John Carey said he hopes the final closure will put a stop to what he has described as "idiotic" behaviour. "There will be, in effect, nothing left to visit," he said.



At least 1,200 former Wittenoom residents and workers have died from lung cancer and mesothelioma, according to a database maintained by the University of Western Australia's Occupational Respiratory Epidemiology Group.

PARTING THOUGHT

From Peter Shanahan



Truth that's told with best intent beats all of the lies that you can invent

William Blake

PROGRAMME FOR 7th APRIL MEETING

Open at 12.30 pm

Reflection

Notices

Happy Dollars

Guest speaker at 12.45 pm

Vote of Thanks

Any further notices

Parting thought

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