



Richard Allan, Ngaio Pharmacy, Dr Joelon Hayes, Club President
Jeremy Spanjaard, Alan Fraser and Dr Denis Delaney.



Jeremy Spanjaard and Brian Poole
recruiting for blood pressure checks.

Launched at the National Library by the Governor General, Dame Silvia Cartwright, on the 22nd May 2006; *Joseph's Story* highlights the emotions and worries that a child experiences when their family life is disrupted and they are placed in the care of strangers. The focus is on Joseph's coping with emotions and feelings which he does not understand.

The reader sees through Joseph's eyes his mother struggling with her problems, his well meaning relatives' attempts to help, until eventually he is placed with a foster family.

This is a children's story but one which will help adults to understand that a child's perspective often has a reasonable basis as well. In Joy's own words "I believe that the vehicle of story empowers us all and helps us to find meaning."

For children placed into even the best foster homes it is often a traumatic experience. Joseph's story aims to help foster understanding for all involved. Joseph's Story was used in foster care situations throughout New Zealand and was later translated into Rwandan and introduced into Rwanda by the Open Home Foundation in that country.

This project was directed towards children at risk of which there are thousands in New Zealand and millions around the world. Hopefully it made a difference to some.

At the launch function excerpts from the book were read by Logan Byrne, granddaughter of President Dermot.

Ngaio Medical Centre Defibrillator

A local fund-raising effort resulted in the presentation of a defibrillator to the Ngaio Medical Centre.

The Big New Zealand Blood Pressure Check

Stroke strikes around 24 New Zealanders each day, young and old. Every year around 3,000 people are left with a lifelong disability and a further 2,500 people die after having a stroke. But, the good news is that stroke is largely preventable.

High blood pressure is a major cause of stroke. Around one in five New Zealanders have high blood pressure and many don't even know it. 2015 marked the seventh year of the project, which is managed by the NZ Stroke Foundation and takes place at New World and PAK'n SAVE supermarkets

Two Rotarians are assigned to each site with the tasks of drawing in shoppers and managing the paperwork, while Wellington Free Ambulance staff undertake the testing, which includes taking blood samples, and referring those with concerning readings to their GP.

Student Art Show

On 22 March 2006 a large crowd of Rotarians, students and other guests gathered at the National Library for the senior secondary school art show promoted by Wellington North and other clubs in its cluster. The exhibition, which was attended by District Governor Rodney Wong, presented a range of outstanding student art portfolios that had been submitted as part of the NCEA examination process and selected by Wellington Area art teachers. Ten Colleges were represented.



Artwork.

Probus Clubs

In the United Kingdom politicians whose time has come can be retired off to the House of Lords. Some say that there is a parallel in New Zealand when Rotarians can be retired off to Probus Clubs.

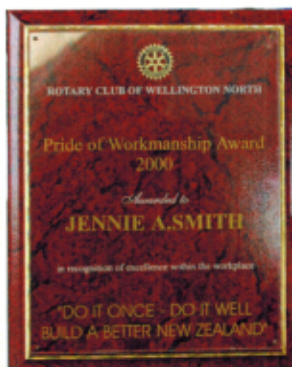
The role of Rotary is to promote the establishment of Probus Clubs and, once launched, they are free to operate on their own. Probus has been very successful and many clubs, with over 100 members, have waiting lists. Wellington North helped establish two clubs, Khandallah and Otari. David Pickering was instrumental in the setting-up of both of them.

Wellington North Rotarian Maurie Hesse was the Charter President of the Khandallah Club, founded in 1962, which meets monthly at the Khandallah Bowling Club. Martin Ferner was the Charter President of the Otari Club, founded in 1998, which meets in the Wilton Bowling Club rooms in Wilton.

Despite the Probus independence the links with Wellington North continue with Ron Potts as Immediate Past President of the Otari club and Morris Robertson as incoming President of the Khandallah club.

Pride of Workmanship

Around the turn of the century Wellington North became involved in Pride of Workmanship awards. Employers and customers were

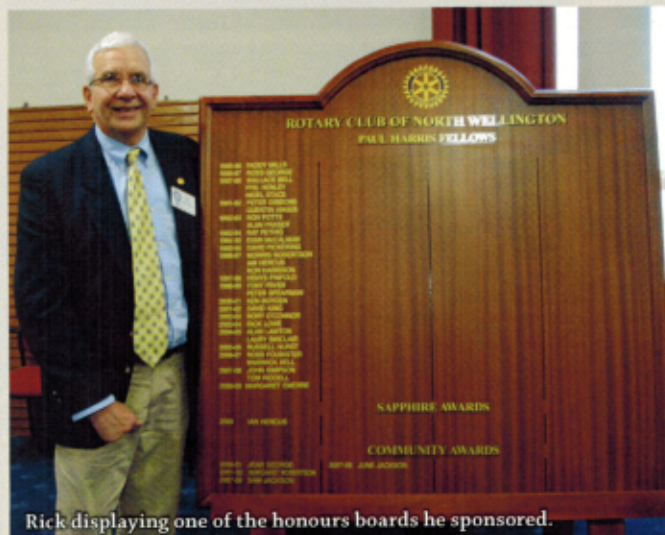


invited to nominate employees who had demonstrated their commitment to their work. Several awards were made each year and the recipients, along with family or other guests, were invited to a club luncheon and presented with their award plaque.

Fifteen years ago, on the nomination of Walter Stafford, an award was made to Jennie Smith who is well known to anyone who has visited the Khandallah Post Shop over the last 20 years. Jennie still has her plaque and remembers well the occasion when she received it. When not behind the counter, providing a friendly service to the public, her principal interests are cycling and overseas travel. ■

President for Life

Rick Lowe is one of the club's strongest personalities and generous contributors. At the time of his presidency in 1993/94 the Turkish Ambassador, who was a club member, would arrive at a meeting and address Rick volubly as "Mister President." Rick rather liked that and, in true Mugabe style declared that he was "President for Life", a title which has stuck. Rick was struck down with a massive stroke in the prime of his life. Thanks to the wonders of modern physiotherapy and the sterling efforts of his partner, Libby, Rick was eventually able to regain his driving licence and return to the club where he has made himself heard ever since. ■



Rick displaying one of the honours boards he sponsored.

Fun and Funding

Over time the club has embarked on various fund-raising efforts, sometimes with goods and services to sell, sometimes for unique events and sometimes for entertainment with extras. Some fund-raising projects, especially where there has been opportunity to involve the wider public, have been very successful while others have produced modest returns for the effort involved.

Commission sales have produced a steady but not necessarily spectacular income; these have included Christmas puddings, entertainment books and art calendars. Fund-raising events have included theatre evenings, quizzes and wine tastings. In the case of the latter the tasting, conducted by wine connoisseur Richard Gooch in 2008 raised substantial funds due to the generous donations of auction goods and the well-primed bidders.

Fund-raisers involving the public have included National Library and Te Papa pre-opening tours, walking the about-to-be-completed Ngauranga Flyover and, more recently, the Arras

Tunnel. The newly arrived Aratere ferry was opened to view as a club project. Occasional stalls at the annual Khandallah Village Fairs have been a good sales outlet for Christmas puddings, calendars and bric-a-brac.

The prize for the longest continuous fund-raising mechanism must go to the payscopes. Through early support for The Foundation for the Blind street appeals the club learnt of their Australian contact with long vision binoculars for public use. This led to the club importing payscopes. The first installation was at Kelburn at the top of the Cable Car where it still remains. Other installations have been tried but had to be withdrawn due to vandalism. The Kelburn payscope survived thanks to Parks and Reserves staff taking it in at nights.

The club has also participated in fund-raising for other charities. Most prominent amongst these has been the house-to-house appeal for The Foundation for the Blind organised and promoted by Tom Riddell for many years over five nights in October. Collection HQ was the Khandallah Pub with the sweetener of a free beer at the conclusion of a collecting round.



Wine tasting evening with Richard Gooch.



Derek Etherington peddling calendars and cakes while Ross Buxton contemplates a purchase.



Kelburn payscope.



Fraser Paterson and Glen McCullough ready to set out collecting.



Sandy Bruce-Smith, Alan Fraser and Ross Foubister in search of patronage.



Coming over the horizon. Tom's Train to Taranaki (later to Napier) which never quite made it to the departure platform.

One project, which had unrealised potential, was due to the initiative of Sandy Bruce-Smith who arranged to have access to the car park adjacent to the Gryphon Theatre to provide parking at \$3 per show for the patrons, lower than the charges at nearby commercial operations. Club members were rostered and turned out in all weathers but, despite Sandy's best marketing efforts, the patrons did not take advantage of it in meaningful numbers and it was eventually canned. However, as a consolation some donations were made to Rotary in addition to the parking fee.

The biggest project, which never happened, was known affectionately as "Tom's Train to Taranaki." Starting about 1987, Tom Riddell was an advocate for a railway excursion with an overnight stop. Over the years club boards debated the risks versus benefits and resolved to refer it to the incoming boards. It almost reached reality in 2007 with Derek Etherington at the throttle, but now with Hawke's Bay as the destination. After much effort had been put into the planning it was again deferred – apparently forever.

Running for Rotary

A new fund-raiser was introduced to the club in 2014, "Running for Rotary". It worked something like this. The club president ran a half marathon and the members of the club ran down their bank accounts a little.

The occasion was the annual Wellington Round the Bays run/walk event, which saw some 10,000 participants don lycra and sweatbands and head off round the Wellington waterfront for the good of a cause and for the good of their own health. The Rotary fund-raiser piggybacked on this popular and high profile community event and the club president was one of many who pounded the pavement that February morning.

Project manager Alan Fraser worked tirelessly to have the members, and anyone else – all were fair game, sponsor the run to the tune of either \$1 or \$2 a kilometre. This was how the funds were raised. It was simple and tidy.

Because a huge public focus was on this event Ross Buxton came to the party by way of sponsoring the president into some



Ferguson Family ready to roll.



Lionel Nunns amidst a crowded start in 2015.

sharp looking running apparel, logoed back and front with the club name and the Rotary wheel. Rotary was on the map and it looked good.

When the flag dropped and the deed was done, over \$1,800 dropped into the club's Rotary Foundation account.

From that humble beginning in 2014 the idea grew to become a partnership event with the Port Nicholson club in 2015. With

an agreed charity being Wellington Free Ambulance, the two clubs got busy amongst their own members and with neighbouring clubs to get as many people as possible registered for the event. This effort resulted in some 80 people, all kitted out in Rotary logoed T-shirts, taking part and good public profiling of the Rotary brand. This time space was hired at the finish at Kilbirnie Park for a Rotary Team BBQ. Plans are now in hand to extend the project even further for the 2016 event. This time the emphasis will be on 'walking for good health' rather than running. The running will be left to the keen and crazy ones.

Lionel Nunns

Art Calendars

In 2003, a group of Rotarians, all of whom just happened to be advisers at New Zealand Financial Planning Ltd., were talking about ways the company could assist Rotary to raise funds. In the office Greg Moyle had about sixty original paintings by New Zealand artists hanging on the walls.

We also knew he had a similar number at home, and more at Auckland Museum and the National Military Museum. The suggestion was to provide calendars from these original works with the company meeting the costs of obtaining the copyright



and the printing, which fluctuated by between \$25-35,000 pa depending on the copyright costs.

These calendars were provided to the Rotary clubs of New Zealand at cost, \$5 to \$7, over a period of 10 years. We estimated that between \$150,000 and \$180,000 was raised by Rotary Clubs for their charitable purposes. Wellington North was a very good supporter of this enterprise, usually selling between 110 and 170 each year. All the artwork came from the private collection of Greg Moyle, a member of the Auckland Downtown Rotary Club.

Alan Lawton

Wairarapa Wine

Over a period of three years the former owners of Martinborough House Wines, Rotarians Brad McAneney and Simon Manning, donated 200 cases of wine per annum to clubs in District 9940 to support club projects and The Rotary Foundation. Sales in one year, through Wellington North members, raised the \$1,500 necessary to kick-start the Timor Leste Safe Surgery project which, with the support of other clubs, District and Rotary Foundation grants, eventually resulted in funded expenditure of \$65,000 plus a considerable quantity of donated goods. ■



Cruising on the Interislander

For several years the club talked about undertaking a major fund-raising project. Francis Small came up with the suggestion that the club could seek to charter an Interislander Ferry for a day to have an enhanced cruise through the Marlborough Sounds, going into areas not seen as part of the normal Cook Strait Ferry route.

To make the project unique the organisers sought to provide a full day's entertainment on board, aimed at making a sizeable profit that would be largely shared between Wellington Free Ambulance and the Life Flight Trust, with a contribution going the Coast Guard. The project offered the club the opportunity to work closely with three high profile community organisa-



Boarding.



Day trippers.

tions. This interaction and the cruise advertising were good for the profile of the club.

With a year's planning and huge support from club member Tom Davis, General Manager of the Interislander Line and his staff, the committee worked assiduously at marketing the project to the public. With strong participation from Wellington Free Ambulance and Life Flight Trust all available tickets were sold and there was even a waiting list.

Four hundred and fifty passengers joined about 25 club members and their partners on board the *Arahura* on a calm Sunday, 18 April 2010. The cruise followed a route that gave breathtaking views of Tory Channel, Queen Charlotte and Pelorous Sounds before going about and returning to Wellington by the open sea. Passengers observed the resident bird and fish life in their natural environments.

A wide range of extra entertainment and activities was provided. These included lunch and afternoon tea for everyone and guided visits to the bridge and engine room while the ship was in open water.

On board activities included wine and beer appreciation, cooking demonstrations, Tai Chi sessions, jewellery appreciation and making, manicures and pedicures, massages, and skeet shooting from the after deck. A range of static displays included equipment from Wellington Free Ambulance, NZ Police, NZ Fire Service and Department of Conservation. To add a taste of luxury, a collection of Ferraris was also on display. Another highlight was the flypast by the Life Flight Trust rescue helicopter.

As the *Arahura* cruised through the Sounds and past points of interest. Captain John Brown, a retired ferry master and Mike Avis, a senior manager in the Department of Conservation, provided commentaries. In the words of then club President, John Young, "It was a fun day"

Departing at 10 am and returning to the Wellington Ferry Terminal in the late afternoon after a calm and sunny day, blessed with benign seas, passengers were full of praise for the enjoyable day out. The club raised close to \$23,000, which was then distributed to the Life Flight Trust, Wellington Free Ambulance and the Coast Guard.

Contributed by Francis Small, Jeremy Spanjaard and John Young



Emergency support vehicles.



Skeet shooting.



Vehicle displays with Ferraris, courtesy Terry Dykes.

Supporting Tertiary Education

The Wellington North Rotary Scholarship Trust

The Scholarship Trust was born of an idea at the forum following the 25th anniversary celebration of the forming of the club. It was set up to help those students who could not afford tertiary education. The club set up the Trust, with the goal to raise \$25,000, which it did in its 30th year. The original trustees were Peter Spearman, Rick Lowe and Adrian Ellingham.

In 1992 the Club Board established a scholarship fund of \$30,000 with the intent of awarding scholarships to individuals in financial need for the purposes of undertaking tertiary or vocational study.

Each year a small committee calls for applications, identifies successful applicants and forwards names and size of each scholarship to the Board for ratification. The Board and Trustees liaise and the President advises the chair of the committee of the Board's approval. Applicants are advised of their success, or otherwise, in early December each year.

It was a great thrill for Margaret Emerre, as the then President, to announce at the 2002 Christmas party that one of our members, Ian Crabtree, who had died a few months earlier, had left a large legacy to the Club Scholarship Fund, subsequently known as the Ian Crabtree Bequest with a focus on engineering. Every year young people benefit from his munificence.

In 2001 the development of life skills was added to the study categories of tertiary and vocational study. Additions to the capital have increased the fund substantially.

Whilst applicants must be able to demonstrate that they reside in the Greater Wellington Region, the grants can be utilized for study in any institution throughout New Zealand. There is no age limit and applicants must show an ability to work and desire to succeed, be of good repute and demonstrate the potential and ability to complete a programme.

Individual scholarships usually range from \$1,000 to \$3,000, and the club generally awards \$40,000–\$60,000 annually to a diverse grouping of individuals including refugees, single parents wanting to return to study and young people going into first year tertiary, vocational, or life skills programmes.

Applications from migrants and individuals from the Porirua area and the Kapiti Coast have increased, while those from the Wairarapa area have diminished. The study areas cover a wide range of disciplines with an emphasis on the health sciences and engineering.

Towards the end of February each year, successful scholarship applicants are invited to a special club lunch at which their scholarship cheques are presented. ■



Scholarship recipients 2014 with Margaret Emerre and President Lionel Nunns.



Ian Crabtree and his Legacy

Ian Crabtree was a man who saw that the way he lived his own life could positively affect the lives of others in the future. He lived a rich and full life, but also saved and made wise investments so that by 2002, when he died at the age of 74, he had substan-

tial assets and planned to share a large portion of them with the community.

He did this by establishing the Ian Crabtree Charitable Trust in his will. This trust provides grants for financially disadvantaged students studying at state secondary schools in Wellington and Porirua to support their education and personal development. According to his wishes, the Trust also makes grants to charitable organisations caring for the terminally ill, especially the Mary Potter Hospice where he himself was treated.

He also provided for other charities that addressed vulnerabilities he saw:

One was to the Rotary scholarship fund that continues to assist tertiary students faced with financial hardship, and another was to Zealandia, the Karori Sanctuary experience, to help with its environmental conservation work.

Ian's long time friend, Annette Goldsmith, visited the club on 31 January 2008 and gave an outline of Ian's fifty years as an electrical engineer

and his work on electricity supply systems including the Cook Strait cable and the National Grid. After his retirement he continued working on safety aspects of the industry, particularly safe work practices and security of the system from vandalism.

The extensive grants made by the Ian Crabtree Trust over the years have assisted many people in their early and late lives. Ian's foresight and generosity will continue to provide for generations to come.

During the 2013-14 Rotary year Wellington North completed the process of transitioning the responsibility for the governance of the Ian Crabtree Charitable Trust. The Trust was originally governed by two trustees, one being a member of this club, John Simpson. To ensure the long-term operation of the Trust the original trustees have invested the power of appointment of future trustees in the Rotary Club of Wellington North.

Ian Crabtree provided clear guidelines on how the Trust should operate. The value of the original capital investment has grown to over five million dollars.

This Trust is a welcome addition to the club's portfolio of humanitarian care, and is in keeping with its role of wider local community work. Wellington North saw it as an honour to be asked to take on the responsibility of providing trustees for this most generous bequest. ■



Annette Goldsmith.

Peter Lawson

Peter's wife, Marjorie, was first to join the club. From the start Peter, in a supporting role, was drawn into club affairs, particularly as club photographer and co writer of the 2001 Conference Tribute to Rotary. Peter was eventually inducted into the club in 2000 and quickly involved himself in its work, including a term as Sergeant. He was a key supporter of Pioneer for Better Health, which became Healthy Heroes. Peter paid a significant role in the implementation of the programme. His five years of service came to an untimely end with his death in 2005. Meanwhile Marjorie had resigned due to changed employment, which precluded her from attending lunch meetings. ■



Peter Lawson.

Kelly McLuckie

Kelly was a breath of fresh air in the club. Aged 30, and a retired Naval Officer, she approached the club seeking to become a member. She was welcomed in and, with the energy she displayed, became a Director in her second year. Further service was disrupted by the birth of her son, Finn, now five.

With her husband's transfer to Auckland, Kelly brought Finn to the club before she left. Kelly's service to Rotary continues. She is now a member of a new club in Takapuna, one which she says "has thrown out the rule book and is redesigning Rotary." She is happy to point out that she is no longer the youngest member of the club. ■



Kelly shows Finn to the club.

Academic Ambassadors

International scholars

The Rotary Foundation provides scholarships of up to \$US30,000 to enable exceptional candidates to pursue specialist studies overseas. Clubs seek candidates who have to provide detailed applications, pass rigorous interviews and satisfy the Foundation's scrutiny. Wellington North has an excellent track record with its nominees for the highly sought after Ambassadorial Scholarships, which have since been replaced with Vocational Scholarships that are aligned with the Foundation's principal objectives. Club members have served on the Scholarships Committee the most recent being Margaret Emerre as Chair.

Outbound

The four past scholars nominated by Wellington North who were successful in their applications were:

- ♦ **Peter Kyle**, University of Virginia in 1973 to study Law
- ♦ **John Mohi**, Purdue University, Indiana, in 1998 to study Special Education
- ♦ **Yvette Russell**, New York University in 2007 to study Law
- ♦ **Phillipa McKenzie**, Leiden University, The Netherlands, in 2009 to study Law

Peter Kyle

1973

Peter Kyle's journey to Rotary began in November 1970 when his attention was drawn to a notice titled "Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship."

As Peter recalls, "As I had ambitions to pursue a career in the New Zealand Foreign Service, the word Ambassadorial piqued my interest. I called the listed number and spoke to Denys Pinfold. That was the start of a very happy relationship that has endured to this day."

Denys was extremely encouraging and, with his help and completion of the application, I attended the district interview in Palmerston North. Sadly, a few days later, I received a call advising that I was the runner-up. The successful candidate was the now Chief Ombudsman, Dame Beverley Wakem. However, I was advised to reapply the following year and this time I was successful. The terms of the scholarship required that the candidate list five universities around the world that he or she would like to attend. The Rotary Foundation reserves the right to select one of those five."

Peter's first choice was the University of Virginia (UVA), founded by Thomas Jefferson, and in due course he was thrilled to learn that the Rotary Foundation had assigned him to that university. It was then necessary for him to gain admission. He was very fortunate to receive the support of Geoffrey Palmer who, at that time, was a visiting professor at UVA. He was duly



admitted to the graduate programme in law and set off for Charlottesville, in July 1973.

Peter remembers his year at UVA as truly transformational. "It has a beautiful campus and top quality academic staff. The graduate programme consisted of 18 students from 16 different countries and we very quickly bonded into a very tight group. This was the era of Watergate, a period of tremendous legal, constitutional and social upheaval but also a most exciting time for a young lawyer to be studying in America. I attended many Rotary events while in Charlottesville, including the District Conference."

In August of 1974 Peter returned to Wellington and joined the law firm of Watts and Patterson, becoming a partner the following year. One of the first people to congratulate him was Denys Pinfold who called to say that he would like to propose him for membership in the Rotary Club of Wellington North. Peter was inducted into the club in early 1976.

Peter continues his story. "In December 1979 I took a position in the Legal Department of the Asian Development Bank in Manila, Philippines. There I joined the Rotary Club of Pasay and became actively involved in that Club's activities. In July 1985 our family returned to New Zealand where I rejoined the Auckland office of my old law firm. I joined the Auckland Rotary Club, serving on the Board and as the District RYLA chair. In 1992 I was invited to accept a senior position with the Legal Department at the World Bank in Washington DC. Thus, in July of that year, our family moved back overseas."

Having visited the Rotary Club of Washington DC on several occasions, Peter eventually decided against joining it. At the time he was becoming increasingly involved in the activities of the Outward Bound movement and he decided to focus his time and energy on furthering its goals. He was instrumental in establishing Outward Bound International, the umbrella organization for Outward Bound centres worldwide and served as the Chair from 1996 to 2002. He continues as Chair Emeritus of OBI.

In 2003 another ambassadorial scholar invited him to join a newly chartered Rotary Club in Washington DC. He decided

to re-engage with Rotary and was inducted into the Rotary Club of Capitol Hill. Two years later he served as President of the Club and became deeply involved in Rotary Foundation alumni activities, both at district and international levels. He was a foundation member of the newly established RI Alumni Relations Committee and served in that role for four years, ultimately becoming the Chairman. He also served as chair of the District Peace Fellow Selection Committee. In 2010 he was honored to receive the Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award.

As Peter says he continued to be immersed in Rotary. "I held various positions at the District level culminating in my appointment as District Governor for District 7620 (Washington, DC and Central Maryland) for the 2013/14 year."

In the following year he was Chair of the 2015 Rotary Peace Symposium held in Sao Paulo and a member of the RI Rotarian Action Group and the joint RI/TRF Alumni Relations Committees. He has also served for several years as the RI Representative to the World Bank, Vice-Chair of the Rotarian Action Group for Family Health Days and a member of the WASRAG Board. He now chairs the Rotary Peace Centers Committee, which is the body that selects peace fellows worldwide while also serving on the RI Partnerships Committee in addition to being active at club, district and zone levels.

On the professional side Peter retired as Lead Counsel of the World Bank in early 2009 after a career that involved traveling to over 100 countries advising on the legal aspects of private and financial sector reform. The first few years at the Bank involved almost monthly commuting to Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and other parts of Eastern Europe as the Bank sought to re-start these economies following the collapse of the Soviet Union. He says, "Few legal assignments could be as challenging, as satisfying and as exciting as securing the transition of a socialist-based legal system to one based on market principles."

In summing up his Rotary experience Peter says, "Without question my scholarship experience changed the trajectory of my life. It led to a love affair with America, which I left in



Peter Kyle
in action as
District Governor.

1974 to return to New Zealand never imagining that one day I would return to America and that this country would become my adopted home. In countless ways Rotary has opened doors. I have had the good fortune to attend literally dozens of Rotary Clubs throughout the world and to meet hundreds of wonderful Rotarians. Rotary has been an integral part of my life and I hope my association with this wonderful organization will continue for many years to come. It all started with that very encouraging meeting with Denys Pinfold, 45 years ago.

Over the last 23 years I have returned to Wellington regularly and have always made a point of reconnecting with Denys and "making up" at Wellington North. It was a special treat last year to be able to address the Club while serving as the District Governor. To Denys and to all those other Wellington North Rotarians who supported me over 40 years ago I am eternally grateful. I have been blessed with a wonderful family and I have been able to enjoy an incredibly stimulating and productive career as well as a very full and satisfying Rotary journey."

John Mohi

1988

Past President John Mohi recalls his involvement in Rotary. "The Rotary Club of Wellington North opened several doors for me. Through being awarded a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship I gained valuable insights into the values of Rotary including its ability to build connections and capacity in civil society."

In 1988-89, with the support of Rotary and his employer, John completed an MSc (Special Education) at Purdue University, Indiana, USA. This mid-career opportunity to study with top scholars at a great school enabled him to appreciate the benefits of international comparative studies in his field of work.

On his return to Wellington John spent a brief spell as an Adviser on Deaf Children, looking after deaf and hearing-impaired students in Wellington and Wairarapa. When Special Education Services was created as a crown entity in 1989, as part of the national educational reforms, he was appointed District Manager for Waikato with a staff of more than 100. His team undertook a process of integrating all special educational professional services into a national framework responsive to students and their parents as the primary decision makers, with professionals in key support roles.

In 1996 he was appointed to The National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Matauranga o Aotearoa as a Director. His responsibilities included Services to Maori, Pacifica, international relationships and, for a while, Property and Services. In this role he led the Library's work on policy for Maori, joined UNESCO NZ as the Chair of the Culture and Communications sections and shared in the leadership of the organisation's programmes of Pacific and Maori exhibitions and digitisation. His teams worked closely with iwi, Te Papa, regional collection agencies



DG Peter Kyle with fellow-visitor
Sanjay Singh at Wellington North in 2014.



John Mohi on his graduation from Purdue University.

and international partners. John continued in this role for 14 years until his retirement in 2010.

John sums up his scholarship year as follows. "During the study year I grew as a scholar, as a New Zealander and as a citizen of the wider world. What was unclear to me at that time was just how I would repay my debt to Rotary. That took until the mid 1990s when I joined the Rotary Club of Wellington North. Since that time I have been able to serve Rotary in various capacities. Through doing so I have been a part of seeing some of the next generation of Rotary scholars realise their personal and professional aspirations."

John has encouraged and brought a Maori dimension to Rotary in Aotearoa New Zealand and his contributions in this respect are covered elsewhere in this publication.

Yvette Russell 2007

After graduating in law at The University of Auckland, Yvette worked as an analyst in Child, Family and Community Policy at the Ministry of Social Development and lectured part time in law at Victoria University of Wellington.

Yvette was awarded a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship to support her Masters study in Law at New York University in 2007/08. In making her application she said, "As a young Maori woman embarking on legal study, it was important for me to learn about New Zealand history and to understand the way our society has grown into what it is



today." This, together with volunteer work at a women's refuge, led her towards an interest in criminal and family law and the interaction of politics and law.

Yvette continues. "Receiving this prestigious and generous scholarship made a huge difference to my life. I can clearly trace the launch of my career as an academic back to receiving this award because it gave me both the means and the confidence to pursue my goals. I retain my pride in receiving this scholarship and think fondly of the Wellington North club and its generous members."

As an international student, Yvette needed to complete a course on American Law before the first semester started. It introduced her to unfamiliar areas such as constitutional law and personal injury litigation in torts. A special experience was attending the annual Rotary International Day at the United Nations where she was fascinated to hear many senior UN diplomats talking about their connection with Rotary and how important Rotary's work was for advancing the goals of the United Nations.

Yvette fulfilled her ambassadorial role by participating in numerous Rotary functions at both clubs and at district level. She particularly remembers taking part in a multi district Rotary Foundation seminar.

After her LLM year in New York, Yvette returned to Wellington to work, before moving to the UK in late 2009 to undertake a PhD in law at the University of Kent. She completed this in 2014, and has recently taken up a new position as a Lecturer in Law at the University of Bristol. She writes and teaches primarily in the area of Criminal Law and her work has a strong social justice and equality focus; a perspective, which she feels was heavily influenced by her association with Rotary. It is her intention to return to New Zealand eventually and to continue her connection with Rotary and, in particular, Wellington North.

Phillipa McKenzie

2009

Phillipa graduated in public law from the University of Auckland. Prior to her scholarship application she had already gathered a wealth of experience, having been a legal assistant on the Ahmed Zaoui case and on a three-month internship in Tanzania at the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. As well as her work experience Phillipa had been active in a number of several community organisations.

Phillipa took up her scholarship in The Netherlands where she was accepted into the Master of Laws in Advanced Studies in Public International Law at Leiden University. Parts of her studies were undertaken at the International Courts in The Hague. Of her time there Phillipa writes:

"Without the Ambassadorial Scholarship I would not have been able to obtain an Advanced Masters from Leiden University. During this time I truly made the most of every opportunity to participate in Dutch Rotary life as well as open sessions at the International Court of Justice, International Criminal Court, Special Court of Sierra Leone, Special Tribunal for Leba-



Phillipa with her counsellor, Morris Robertson, in front of the only hill (artificial) in Leiden.



Phillipa McKenzie and Yvette Russell at a reunion dinner with their counsellors at Jamie Oliver's Italian Soho restaurant in 2012.

non, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and Europol. I travelled with the class to participate in the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights sessions in Geneva. Whilst at Leiden University, I was also selected for the NICLAS Summer School scholarship at the Central European University in Budapest, Hungary."

Phillipa continues her story after graduation. "Since graduating from Leiden University I have been fortunate to travel and work for Unilever, a global consumer goods company, that focuses on sustainability. Over the past five years I have been involved with a range of corporate, investigative and litigation work, including leading small cross-functional teams that sought to investigate a range of Code of Business Principle issues and improve the welfare and safety of women working at Unilever's tea estates in East Africa. It is the changes we made, which are still working, that fuels and inspires us.

These days, I am responsible for the Business Integrity function within Europe. We operate under a 'prevent, detect, and respond model' to address matters including: anti-corruption and bribery, financial crime, trade sanctions, information security, sexual harassment, discrimination and related issues."

"In my spare personal time, I mentor at the "Ladies who L-EARN" charity that works to empower young unemployed

women from the East End of London with the confidence, skills, networks, knowledge and experiences needed to lead financially independent and happy lives.

Phillipa, now married to a New Zealander, concludes. "These scholarships are truly transformational for young people's lives and long may they continue."

In the summer of 2010 Phillipa's outbound counsellors, Morris and Margaret Robertson, visited her in Leiden, met her inbound counsellors and enjoyed the hospitality of her host club, Leiderdorp, such are the international bonds of Rotary. Toasts to the Rotary Club of Wellington North were duly reciprocated with a toast to the Rotary Club of Leiderdorp a few weeks later.

Counsellors

The role of outbound counsellors is to introduce scholarship applicants to Rotary in its many aspects and to assist and monitor them through the application process. Once they have taken up their scholarship they are hosted by an inbound counsellor who will integrate them into a host Rotary club and ensure their welfare. The outbound counsellor will continue to monitor and report back their progress.



Leiderdorp hospitality.



Wellington North toasts the Rotary Club of Leiderdorp.

Inbound

As well as sponsoring outbound scholars, Wellington North has hosted a number of inbound scholars from various countries. Amongst those who were hosted were:

1981 **Daniel and Patricia Frame** from Scottsdale, Arizona, both studying Education.

1982 **Bernie Solomon** from Hillstone, Ohio, studying Special Education.

1992 **David Upchurch** from Tupelo, Mississippi, studying History.

1999 **Karen Anderson** from Storrs, Connecticut, studying Fine Arts and Poetry.

As author of the two books written as resource material for new adult readers, Karen made a significant contribution to the Literacy Aotearoa project, which is covered elsewhere in this publication.

2005 **Amy Carrington** from Birmingham, Alabama.

Amy graduated Magna Cum Laude from Alabama's Stamford University with a Journalism and Mass Communication degree. She then completed an Honours Degree at Victoria University. Upon returning to Kentucky, Amy began her career at Georgetown College's Graves Center for Calling and Career. In 2008, Amy developed the Global Scholars Program, a Program of Distinction at Georgetown College, serving as its Executive Director for three years. While in Wellington Amy became actively involved with Women's Refuge.



2009 **Hitomi Yoshida** from Kobe, Japan. Hitomi studied Applied Linguistics for a MA at Victoria University and completed her PhD in Language and Culture at Osaka University. She is now an Assistant Professor at Kwansei Gakuin University in Kobe.



Karen Anderson, centre, with her family and Margaret Robertson (left) on a cold afternoon at her home in Storrs Connecticut in January 2001.



Amy Carrington.



Alan ready for the 2015 Run for Fun.

Alan McMaster

The passing away of Alan in 2015 was a sad event for the club. He was inducted into the club in 1987 when he was Operations Manager for NZ Railways. Following his retirement he commenced practice as a mechanical engineering consultant and, amongst other clients, was the Vietnamese Railway system. Alan was one of the club's quiet achievers who cheerfully undertook the many tasks that were allocated to him. Only a few months before his death Alan was an active participant in the Run for Fun. ■



Kaitlin Vadla demonstrates her culinary skills.



Meredith Willett Jones.

2012 **Kaitlin Vadla** from Soldotna Alaska studied Psychology and story telling in the leadership development process at Victoria University. Kaitlin had graduated in 2008 from Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington, USA with a major in International Relations and minors in Spanish and Political Science. She spent a year studying at Magdalen College at Oxford University, England. Being ever resourceful, when she first arrived, Kaitlin volunteered at a bicycle workshop that allowed her to construct a bicycle for her own use. Later, in order to travel further afield she acquired a motorcycle and, finally, when her parents were coming to visit, she upgraded to a car.

Many others from the programme, hosted by other clubs, have spoken to the club, as guest speakers, on their background, home territories and specialist areas. One such speaker, Meredith Willett Jones, struck a chord with several of the members present. Meredith, who was sponsored by the Rotary Club of

Frankfort, Kentucky, outlined the three principal industries of the state as tobacco, horses and bourbon. While reference to tobacco was low key Meredith said that in the previous year 157,500 had attended the Kentucky Derby and betting on the race totaled \$118 million. She also referred to a well-known brand of fried chicken that originated in her state.

Meredith then revealed the background to her middle name (Willett) by announcing that she had bourbon in her bloodstream. She was descended from the family, which owned the Willett Distilling Co., makers of Old Bardstown Bourbon. Although the company no longer exists there are closely guarded stocks within the family and a bottle was opened to celebrate the award of her scholarship. In conclusion, she noted that the family home was only two minutes away from the Jim Beam distillery. ■

Past President Wallace Bell

Ron Potts recalls the time when Wallace Bell stood at the top of the staircase in Mardi Caterers' rooms in Brougham Street and stated that, as it was 11.00 pm, the Christmas social function had to stop because of the Licensing Laws. He then proceeded to invite everyone back to his home in Woodman-cote Road, an invitation which was apparently not appreciated by his wife, Shirley. The party thus continued in Khandallah and what happened afterwards has not been researched. ■



Past President Denys Pinfold

Long time member Denys has been a quiet achiever with many successful projects to his credit. Probably the greatest was the support given to Peter Kyle for his scholarship application, which led to Peter's stellar international career in the World Bank and in Rotary. In more recent years Denys has taken on the role of Quizmaster seeking answers to questions derived from the latest issue of Rotary Down Under. The first correct answer became the recipient of a chocolate fish. ■



International goodwill

Group Study Exchange

Group Study Exchange (GSE) was an educational programme of The Rotary Foundation until 2013 wherein Rotary districts in different countries were paired to send and receive professional study groups of four non-Rotarian team members with a Rotarian leader to travel for four to six weeks, staying in the homes of Rotarians when possible.

The programme was designed to develop professional and leadership skills among young adults so that they could address the needs of their communities in an increasingly global workplace. GSE offered Rotarians the opportunity to participate in sending, receiving and sharing educational experiences of study teams in order to enhance Rotary's worldwide mission.

While the GSE programme had been successful for some 50 years, time and needs had changed. It was becoming difficult for younger people to get six weeks off work to be part of a team and, with cheaper fares, it was apparent that most applicants had already experienced overseas travel. Many of the attractions of the earlier days were no longer unique.

In 2013 the programme was replaced with vocational training teams. These are groups of professionals who travel abroad either to teach local professionals about a particular field or to learn more about their own. Activities may include training medical professionals on cardiac surgery and care, sharing best practices on early childhood education or explaining new irrigation techniques to farmers. A successful VTT increases the

capacity of the host community to solve problems and improve the quality of life.

Over the years Wellington North club members participated in the exchanges by nominating candidates, hosting team members, providing vocational experiences and serving on the district committees. Morris Robertson was a member of the Outwards Committee and, later, Chair of the Inwards Committee. David King served as a member then Chair of the Outwards Committee.

The earliest record of club involvement comes from Alan Fraser. "I represented our club on the Incoming Committee for a GSE from Central California. I believe this was the first such team visit to our Rotary district. The Chairman of the committee was Jack Stansfield, MD of Kodak New Zealand. The team comprised six professional male members in their mid-twenties along with a Rotarian team leader who was a carpet retailer from Modesto. My role was to organise billeting and transport for the six weeks that the team was in the district. With support from our own club members and those of the Johnsonville Rotary Club plus some of my pharmacy colleagues, every one of the team was successfully billeted with a family. Many lifetime friendships arose from this exchange and even today I know of families that stay in touch. Our first GSE venture was a huge success and a great morale booster for a fledgling club."

Swiss GSE team being led into a District welcome at the Beehive in October 1997.

