

PRESIDENT'S PIECE

We start our second meeting week of the new Rotary year full of optimism after an enjoyable dinner at Cobb & Co last Tuesday. The reason I joined Rotary was the enjoyment of the company of people that like me get huge pleasure from supporting causes that add to the value of the community we live in.

This week our guest speaker will address the key question we all face of ensuring our loved ones are not burdened by the debt we leave behind. I am sure we will learn some valuable insights.

Over the past week I have been communication with Ian Ferguson, the New Zealand Olympian who holds the record for the highest number of Olympic medals for a male sportsman. He was at one time Lisa Carrington's coach but that is another story he can tell us about. I was delighted when Ray White Real Estate offered to cover his travel costs for him to come down from Northland and spend time with us. Thank you Ray White. I encourage you to bring friends, family to meet and hear Ian talk with us.

I am currently in New Plymouth for an overdue family reunion. Great stories from Melva's brothers of early days on their family dairy farm. I am learning to treasure these moments.

Have a wonderful week

Pat



Susan Weekes

I was born and raised in Timaru but have spent most of my life in Wellington. I have 3 siblings but we did not grow up in an extended family. My grandparents died before I was born and aunts/uncles were few and far between. A turning point in my life was being able to take the opportunity to spend a year in Ohio, USA, as an AFS exchange student in 1976-77. This was something I had to earn and pay for as my parents could not afford to do that for me. My determination has carried me onwards. After that experience, I felt confident to make the decision to go to university where I met my husband of 42 years. A university education may not sound like an unusual thing to do for some but I was the first person in our family to do so and 30 years later, our eldest son became the 2nd person to go on to higher education. I still stay in touch with my American family - my US mom has just turned 92!



We have 3 adult sons, 2 of whom live locally and 1 lives in Los Angeles where we also lived on our OE in the 80's. Our son has a green card but I have recently achieved gold card status! I have chosen to continue to work fulltime as a Health, Safety & Wellbeing Coordinator for a small NGO that supports people with mental disabilities to live as independently as possible in the community. I spent many years as a fulltime mother and longtime volunteer in organisations such as Scouting NZ and WREMO etc but now spend most of my spare time in the garden or reading. I love to try new things and satisfy my natural curiosity through new experiences, traveling and meeting people.

My parents both passed away within weeks of being diagnosed with cancer. My father died 20 years ago, just days before Christmas and my mother died very suddenly on Christmas Day in 2022. It was my experience of shock/grief and the decisions I was required to make at that time that brings me here to talk to you tonight, on behalf of Death Without Debt.

TAWA ROTARY INVITES YOU TO JOIN WITH US and OUR GUEST SPEAKER, OLYMPIAN IAN FERGUSON



6:50pm for 7:00pm
Tawa Bowling Club
Davies St, Tawa
No charge to attend
Read more: <https://tawarotary.club>

ON
TUESDAY 30 July

Few New Zealanders have competed at more Olympic Games than Ian Ferguson, one of our top medal winners and 1984 Sportsman of the Year. Ian was awarded an MBE in 1985 for services to canoeing.

Rotary Hutt Valley SUPPORTING Life Flight - JUMP ON BOARD

Big Hats High Tea

Sunday 4th August 2024 | 3 - 5pm
Pelorus Trust Sports House (Hutt Park)

- Delicious eats + bubbles on arrival
- Prize for best hat + auction + raffle

Buy your \$60 tickets online at rotaryhuttvalley.org.nz/event
Or contact Lorraine Girvan 027 443 6981 or Judy Bain 027 451 5048

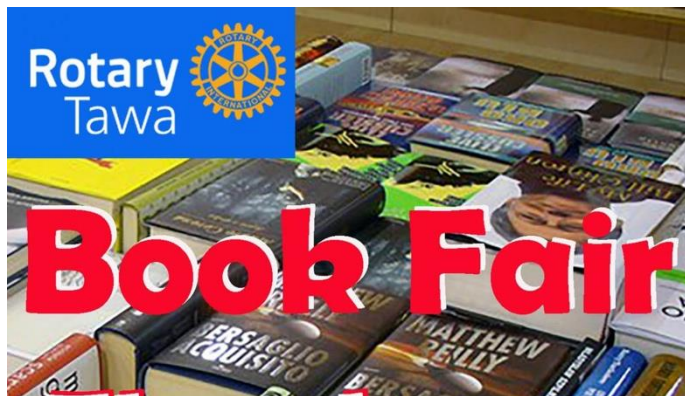
Big Hats High Tea is kindly sponsored by the following sales people at Harcourts Lower Hutt, Eastbourne, Waimui & Upper Hutt:

John Tonkin	Lorraine Girvan
Celia Barnao	Glen Robertson
Nicky Cooper	Gisela Ngubo-Mchena
Mike Maurice	Mike Ledger
Madel Rignonan-Quayle	Margaret Lindsay

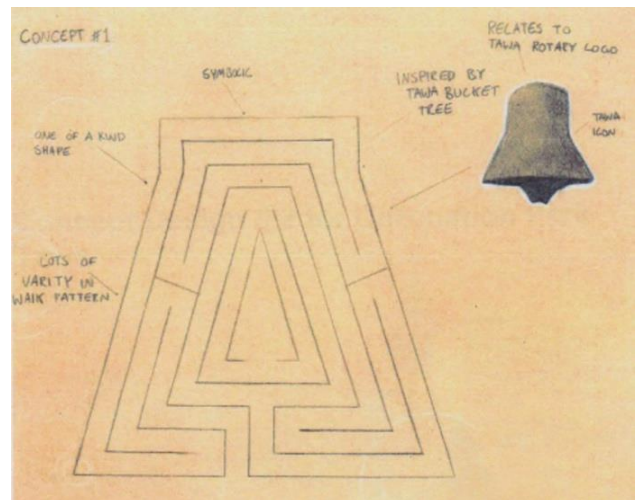
Harcourts Team Group

If you wish to attend Big Hats High Tea please contact Judith Gray to purchase tickets (Im doing a group booking) by Monday midday. Grayju02@gmail.com or 0274406098

PROJECTS



Book Fair 5 – 13 Oct 2024



Tawa Labyrinth

Concert in the Park 16 February 2025



Our Raffle Sponsors

