

Last Tuesday it was great to be able to join on Zoom with fellow members linked to Dunedin Central Rotary and Oxford England to hear from Nick Tenci a Doctorate Student at Oxford University, whom this Club helped to Sponsor. His research into substitute fuels from biomass is extremely interesting and should prove practical and useful. Already in India bioreactors are producing gas to use as fuel as LPG gas in cylinders is priced out of reach of average citizens. Smaller plants are used to manufacture gas on site for domestic use. We wish Nick well who is now into his second year of study and research.

In addition, I joined Waimate and President Michael Horne in a zoom meeting on Thursday to hear Carol Abraham speak. A New Zealand Defence Officer spoke amongst other things about Covid and raised an issue, as to how it might be possible for New Zealand to eventually open itself up to the World again. There were some interesting contributions made by members with Carol also contributing. Zoom meetings are so easy to join and learning to take advantage of technology is a positive outcome that can come from the current Covid situation. We can also make use of local resources and look after the welfare of our residents and Club Members.

I was invited to represent Timaru Rotary at the service for Jenny McDonald the Wife of our honorary member Malcolm McDonald and a PHF fellowship having been awarded by our club to Malcolm for his contribution to Timaru Rotary. A contribution aided by his very supportive wife and life partner who will be sorely missed by Malcolm. I was able to say a few words at the service on Friday on behalf of our Club in recognition of Jenny's contribution to the life of our Club. I am sure in a few days time Malcolm would love to hear from any members who wish to contact him. If you are a golf player even better, he might like to play in a friendly game against you. His contact details are in Club Runner or contact me for details if you wish.

This Tuesday back to the Town and Country for a more normal tea meeting. Some Covid safety rules need to be complied with. Wear a mask to the meeting but it can be taken off to eat! Once we are in our smaller bubble, as I understand it is possible to remove masks. Sign in by scanning the QR Code or physically signing the sign-in sheet if you are unable to Scan the QR Code. Our guest speaker is our newish member, Chris Connor. Be there to listen and support. Don't miss out on our first chance to meet up again. Who knows when the level could change back up, but hopefully not if we all get vaccinated and obey the rules.

Well, that's a lot from me this time. Rotary doesn't stop. It is bigger than Covid, it's just magic and the magic of Rotary will assist with our overcoming Covid and the woosh of ill winds, wherever in the World adverse events occur. Be there Tuesday you could bring a friend as we won't be over the limit of 50, but by the end of my term, we might be!!

Stay healthy

President Hugh