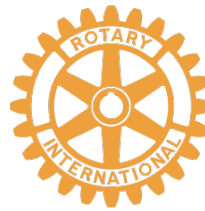


Rotary

Christchurch South



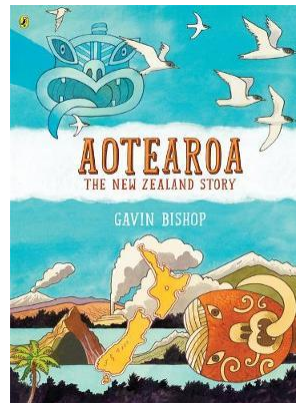
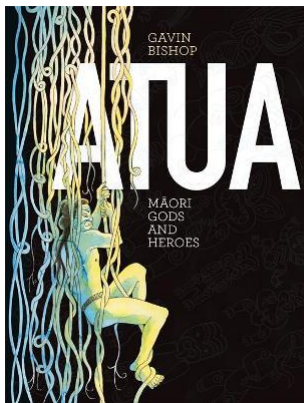
AWARD WINNING AUTHOR AND ARTIST - GAVIN BISHOP

Greetings to Gavin Bishop, artist, illustrator and author, born Invercargill; childhood, Kingston; Honours degree in Painting (UC); teacher Linwood HS and Christ's College; a plethora of literary awards, ONZM, etc. etc.

Gavin acknowledged that today was 40 years to the day, since his first book was published - "Mrs McGinty and the Bizarre Club" - at a time when, there was little NZ literary content for NZ children and little by way of design available at publishers who were pretty much degree-bound, not wanting to know about children related publishing. His second book, 'Bidi Bidi', was about sheep, written and illustrated with NZ toddlers in mind.

Gavin outlined his Whakapapa; that his parents had settled in Invercargill, starting their family. His father was entirely 'closed' regarding family background, even to the extent of not mentioning his 10 siblings in the North Island. Gavin eventually sorted his Whakapapa in Whakatane - a story in itself.

After publication of his "1950's Childhood" - a collection of memories of his childhood living in Kingston, as seen through the eyes of a very small child - Gavin became associated with two receptive publishers: - Wellington's Gecko Press with whom Gavin adapted European stories into 2 books totally in Maori with simple phrases and drawings; and Penguin Random House from which, a telephone call to write within a 64 page constraint, a NZ history covering the last millennium or so. The outcome: 'Aotearoa, The New Zealand Story'. ('Aotearoa')



[Bing search: **Which is the best book about New Zealand?** ... A truly special book, Aotearoa: The New Zealand Story deserves a space on every bookshelf, to be taken off and pored over, thumbed and treasured, time and again].

'Aotearoa' starts back around the era of Gwandanaland with an asteroid hitting Mexico, engendering Earth's life mostly extinct, then, to begin again in the Pacific. So too, NZ wildlife. And so - continuing along lines of Maori myths and early stories of Polynesian settlement - starting with a nothing (total darkness), then to love-making and boundless copulation - (this is a children's book!) - between gods' Ranginui (Skyfather) and Papatūānuku (Earthmother).

Well you get the drift. Such were the joys that ventually 70 children were squashed into the sweaty darkness between boundlessly copulating parents. Seven of them were made gods, but, so trapped, were unable to perform their roles. But wait! - a spark of light under Papatūānuku's armpit, which son Tāne-mahuta, God of the Forests, gathers to grow with and push his father up into the heavens. And so there was life and sky and land and sea. Let there be all.

'Aotearoa's' mythical rendition was sourced and compiled by Gavin, from a collection of Iwi/Hapū variations of the one theme, and is beautifully and imaginatively illustrated. Surely Gavin's opus magnum!

Huge thanks to Mel Opie – meeting reporter



MEL'S TOMATOES SELLING FAST

You don't need green fingers with Mel Opie's tomatoes. There are a few packs left so get in quick, only \$10 for 10 plants or \$5 for 5 plants.

Once you add both the Gates and Rotary multiplier it is a great fundraiser! (thanks Mel, we think you are awesome).

COME AND JOIN US FOR COFFEE

Date: Each Friday

Meet: Urban Eatery, Oderings, Stourbridge Street, Barrington

Time: 10.30 am

Walk: Optional afterwards, only if you feel like it.

No need to RSVP just turn up and connect. Every other week of Level 2 when we are not walking, partners and friends welcome. We will not be making a booking so whoever gets there first can choose a table.



Upcoming Meetings

27th October - Speech Comp winners Year 7 & 8

3rd November - Forum

Notices

29th October **Pink Ribbon Christchurch Airport** (Contact Kim if you would like to help)

Duties

| | 27 October | 3 November |
|---------------------|---------------|------------|
| Cash Desk | A Airay | A Kim |
| Cash Desk | D Conroy | M Opie |
| Reception | K Gunasekara | A McCully |
| Speaker Host | S McLean | N/A |
| Grace | S McLean | H Garlick |
| International Toast | K Gunasekara | A McCully |
| Thanks to Speaker | A Airay | A/A |
| Quote | D Conroy | A Kim |
| Speaker Reporter | J Chamberlain | S Harris |
| Sergeant | A Stewart | L Brown |

Leave

| | From | To |
|--|------------|------------|
| | 09/09/2015 | TBA |
| | 11/08/2020 | TBA |
| | 04/07/2019 | 30/06/2022 |

Reminders

Record your apology by:

- Notifying the Reception Desk
- Email alan.barbara.mckinnon@gmail.com before 11am on that Wednesday
- Emergency apologies to Liz Bermingham on 021 2456875
- You will receive an email reminder a couple of days before the meeting re apologising or bringing a guest
- If you are unable to do your allocated duty, it is your responsibility to arrange a substitute and advise the President
- Please advise all leave of absence (three or more weeks) to the Secretary by email or in writing