



THE BULLETIN

ROTARY CLUB OF WELLINGTON NORTH
DISTRICT 9940



Weekly Meeting Thursday
Wellington Bridge Club
17 Tinakori Road
Noon for 12:25 PM

TODAY

24 March

**Pam Waugh Salvation Army
Social Housing**

- Introduced by John Mohi
- Vote of Thanks Peter Shanahan
- Parting Thought John Young
- Raffle Prize Paul Coutts
- Cash Desk Stephen Spence
- Attendance Chris Tempest
- Fellowship Jeremy Spanjaard
- Tables Kerry Ansell
- AV Tony Fryer

President Graeme Waters welcomed Mike Chilton who addressed the club last July about arranging Royal Tours. Roy Ferguson introduced his wife Dawn.

We learnt that Changeover is set for 7 July. Next month we will be visiting Katherine Mansfield House to see the exhibition *Women of Empire: the untold stories of New Zealand and Australian women in WW I*

Then straight to the Rotary question of the week which was answered right off by Maurice Scott and a chocolate fish was his. So far so good, the meeting running like a well oiled machine, a pleasure for members and impressive for visitors.

31 March

**David Bennett
FIJI**

- Introduced by John Mohi
- Vote of Thanks Peter Shanahan
- Parting Thought Peter Spearman
- Raffle Prize Kerry Ansell
- Cash Desk Stephen Spence
- Attendance Chris Tempest
- Fellowship Jeremy Spanjaard
- Tables Kerry Ansell
- AV Tony Fryer

As tradition dictates the distinguished guest speaker Michael Potts, recently retired Australian High Commissioner, was invited to draw the raffle. Some pointed out that there was no sign of a prize. Undaunted our guest speaker drew out and announced the winning ticket. There was no claimant. This is not unusual, members often misplace their tickets. Some of the more impulsive called for a redraw. Possibly they had not been paying attention. Others, more alert explained that in the absence of a prize no number of redraws could change the result already achieved.

Apologies and guests advise
scottfam@paradise.net.nz
by 10 A.M. Wednesday

Always something new at Wellington North. Lionel Nunns and his wife marked their 45th anniversary by going to see 45 years. And they are still happy. Congratulations.



TODAY'S SPEAKER

MICHAEL POTTS

AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND

RELATIONS



Evan McCalman introduced Michael Potts who until last month had spent 44 years as a career diplomat for Australia. He has served in many countries in Africa and Europe and also at the United Nations. He was appointed as High Commissioner to NZ in 2012. Now retired and married to a New Zealander he is making his home in NZ.

He said that sport aside he considered that we have very close relations and are very similar countries with the same banks and many other companies. He said there are other countries that have close relations with a neighbour but they are close in their own particular way and do not have our sort of relationship. He thought that early in the 20th century this was not the case and the current close relationship dates from the start of mass air transport across the Tasman. Though the relationship is a happy one it is not equal. NZ is focussed on Australia but the reverse is not true. Apart from relative sizes, history and geography contribute to this. Australia is very conscious of the countries to its north and NZ is more remote and largely shielded by Australia.

In recent times our Prime Ministers have scheduled annual meetings and in practice take opportunities to talk several times a year when their paths cross at international gatherings. Also our Ministers often get invited to participate in committees of State Ministers looking at various issues.

He mentioned three issues which came up during his spell. One was imputation credits which lots of people on both sides of the Tasman would like sorted. However given Australia's budget deficit they are not going to overlook their treasury's opposition.

The second was the recent policy change which has given rise to an increase in the deportation of criminals. He said they are working to get good information to our officials and that the numbers involved will decrease as a backlog is worked through.

The third is the different treatment Kiwis get in Australia even after they have been there for a long time. This is the downside of the different treatment they get in being able to go

there and work there at any time without a visa. The recent change made after discussions with our PM now gives these people the opportunity of applying for permanent residence and a path to citizenship if they meet certain criteria including being a taxpayer and not a criminal.

It is difficult to recall much new that we heard from Michael Potts but he left no question unanswered and that reflects the truth of what he had to say about the relationship.

Bob Laybourne proposed a vote of thanks.

LIONEL NUNNS WANTS ~~OLD~~ SURPLUS MUGS

Lionel thanks those who brought old mugs for the DCM. It seems they could use even more. Old or new. Unloved or unused mugs Lionel will take them. If you have surplus mugs you could give them to Lionel next week and he will take them to DCM where they will be useful, at least till they walk and possibly even then.

DISTRICT GRANTS

Next month it will be time to apply for district grants. These are a way in which clubs can obtain matching funds for a project. As the money comes from the Rotary Foundation the project must meet its criteria.

Criteria for applying for a District Grant

- Applications must relate to the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty
- Applications may be for both local and international projects
- Grants are matched \$1 for \$1 with club funds
- Grants are generally made up to a maximum of \$NZ5k – this is to ensure that that Foundation funds are shared among clubs.

Full details can be found on the District website www.rotary9940.org.nz under Resources. Should you have a proposal share it.

DIARY

10 April District Training Day Palmerston North

14 April Club Forum

6-8 May District Conference

28 May – 2 June Korea Rotary International Conference

26 June District Changeover Tawa College

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

ENGAGE ROTARY - CHANGE LIVES

rotary.org

www.rotarysouthpacific.org

DISTRICT 9940

[-www.rotary9940.org.nz](http://www.rotary9940.org.nz)

[http://www.rotary.org.nz/function.cfm?
ID=322](http://www.rotary.org.nz/function.cfm?ID=322)

<http://rotaryforum.org.nz/>

CLUB CONTACTS

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Websites

Phone 970 7158

www.wellingtonnorth.org.nz

<http://www.healthyheroes.org.nz/>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Rotary-Club-of-Wellington-North/1540471169573549>

Fliker <https://www.flickr.com/photos/130718676@N02/>

Editor [David Pickering](#)