



BULLETIN

ROTARY CLUB OF WELLINGTON NORTH
DISTRICT 9940
10 August 2017



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

17 August 2017

Getrude Matshe *This is a special speaker. See last page. Bring friends and relations*

Introduced by	Morris Robertson
Vote of Thanks	Stephen Spence
Parting Thought	Peter Shanahan
Attendance	David King
Fellowship	Bob Laybourn
Tables	Gerald McGhie
AV	Ross Foubister
Bring a friend	All

24 August 2017

Dean Collett

Jae Services

Cleaning up flooded premises

Introduced by	Peter Shanahan
Vote of Thanks	Paul Tipping
Parting Thought	Alan Fraser
Attendance	Colin Lawton
Fellowship	Maurice Manttan
Tables	John Mohi
AVBring a friend	Maurice Scott

Apologies and guests advise
rotary@kaysan.co.nz
by Noon Wednesday.

TODAY

President Ross Foubister welcomed Vivienne Spanjaard. Past President -Elect Michael Gorman said he had attended the first cluster meeting for this year which was chaired by AG John Mohi. Michael said he had been impressed with the good will evident at the meeting and said it augured well for cooperation with other clubs for this year.



President David Bennett told us that he is happy that he has been seconded to Uganda for three months to help refugees.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Paul Tipping



Elections

Does turnout matter?

Maurice Scott introduced club member Paul Tipping. He told us that Paul had degrees in political science from Victoria and from Oxford. He was a Rhodes Scholar and after he joined our Foreign Service he spent the next two thirds of his life overseas. He was Ambassador to Chile and accredited to some smaller countries,

Ambassador to Spain and Ambassador to Mexico where he was accredited to some other Central American states.

Paul said that after the forthcoming election there will be tut-tutting about the number of people who have not voted.

He said he would ask why people think there is a problem. He does not see a problem.. He listed three reasons which are advanced as to why no voting and low voter turnout is a problem. The first that low turnout means that Parliament and the government loses some of its legitimacy. He said there is no evidence of this. The second is that voting is a duty. However although it is compulsory to enrol there is no legal duty to vote. The third argument is that low voting indicates that our democracy is unhealthy. Voting numbers are higher when opinion is divided on issues which voters feel strongly about. The highest turnout in the last fifty years was in 1984 when the Springbok tour, nuclear ships and Mr Muldoon were issues which generated strong feelings and divided opinions. Paul said he considered democracy was healthier when there were not such deep divisions.

He also spoke about presenting his arguments to a Select Committee which did not accept his views. He thought this was because the members confused the interests of their parties with the interest of NZ and also that they thought that his saying turnout did not matter was the same as saying politics does not matter.

Finally he told us that as turnout is lowest amongst younger and poorer people. These are the natural constituency of the left. Hence those who say low turnout is a problem are consciously or unconsciously siding with the left of centre parties and that the converse is that those saying that it is not a problem are consciously or unconsciously siding with the right of centre parties.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Jeremy Spanjaard

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP SEMINAR

The Club meeting today expressed support for sending a member to this seminar.

<http://www.rotaryoceania.zone/SitePage/2nd-national-membership-seminar>



RETURN of GETRUDE MATSHE

SPEAKER 17 AUGUST

It is some years since we heard Getrude.

She is ex-Lower Hutt Rotarian now living in New Mexico, USA. and looking for speaking opportunities in the Kapiti Coast. She is here for three months connecting with fellow Rotarians to help build a clinic in Zimbabwe in December this year.

International guest speaker, celebrated author and Philanthropy Consultant, Rooney International Scholar, TEDx Speaker and Wellington, New Zealand Rotary Member - Getrude Matshe.

Watch the TEDx Video <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzlyOtusDxE>

She is an inspirational speaker who has been described as a vibrant bundle of African energy whose zest and passion for life inspires everyone she meets. She is passionate about helping people achieve their full potential and find their individual life purpose. She is passionate about individuals' success. This makes her an energetic, inspirational and enlightening speaker.

About Getrude Matshe

Her speaking career started in Norway 1989 and for 12 years she has worked in the IT industry as a Systems Analyst, Systems Support Manager and Project Manager. Getrude immigrated to New Zealand in 2001 with nothing and founded three successful companies.

- She started Medical Recruiters of New Zealand Ltd
- GM Global Investments Ltd (Property)
- As an owner she formed Simzisani Ltd, a talent agency catering for the film and advertising industry and has been instrumental in supplying ethnic extras for prominent movies such as Peter Jackson's "King Kong" and James Cameron's Avatar
- She formed Walk on the Wild Side Tours – a symbiotic tourism company that takes tourist to Zimbabwe to work with HIV and Aids orphans
- She is the mother of three children and a well known African Storyteller, poet, artist and published author.
- She a script writer and an Independent Film Maker
- Getrude Blogs for the Huffington Post - <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/getrude-matshe/>
- Actress in the movie "Cry Freedom" with Denzel Washington in 1987
- 15th March 2014 Getrude was a speaker at the UN Annual Summit on the Status of Women
- Getrude supports and volunteers for :-
 - o The John Fawcett foundation in Bali Indonesia
 - o Mustard Seed Orphanage in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe
 - o The Ubuntu Africa foundation in Cape Town, South Africa
 - o Ujamaa Children's Home in Arusha, Tanzania

Getrude is a dynamic entrepreneur who has started life in a new country and who has proved that anything is possible if you have a purpose.

This will be an experience. Bring someone to share it.

Another list of committee members will be sent to members shortly

PARTING THOUGHT

Politicians are like diapers. They both need changing regularly and for the same reason.

-Mark Twain

CLUB CONTACTS

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Secretary [Stephen Spence](#)

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Editor [David Pickering](#)

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