



BULLETIN

ROTARY CLUB OF WELLINGTON NORTH DISTRICT 9940



5 October 2017

Weekly Meeting Thursday
Wellington Bridge Club
 17 Tinakori Road
 Noon for 12:25 PM
12 October 2017

Colin Hadley, Notary Public
King Henry VIII Notaries Public
and patents

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|-------------------|-----------------|
| Reflection | John Mohi |
| Introduce Speaker | Denys Pinfeld |
| Vote of Thanks | Laurie Bond |
| Parting Thought | Roy Ferguson |
| Attendance | Margaret Emerre |
| Fellowship | Peter Gibbons |
| Tables | David Pickering |
| AV | Maurice Scott |

19 October 2017

TBA

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|-------------------|----------------|
| Reflection | Lionel Nunns |
| Introduce Speaker | Brian Poole |
| Vote of Thanks | Tony Fryer |
| Parting Thought | Roy Ferguson |
| Attendance | Michael Gorman |
| Fellowship | Ross George |
| Tables | Denys Pinfeld |
| AV | Maurice Scott |

Apologies and guests advise
wrmichael.gorman@gmail.com

by Noon Wednesday.

TODAY

Lionel Nunns presided in what he may have considered suitable retirement raiment. He was presiding because President Ross Foubister was absent in connection with the death of his sister in Auckland. President Ross managed to look in later in the meeting and members expressed their condolences. The Board meeting which was scheduled for 10 October will now be held on 17 October.

A reflection was offered by Gerald McGhie inspired by the current attention on politics. He concluded with a quotation from Mark Twain, "To succeed in politics and in life you need two things – a mix of ignorance and confidence."



TAMARA PATTEN

Rick Lowe introduced Heather Johns, Roy Ferguson his wife Dawn, and Graeme Waters introduced our neighbour Tamara Patten who is the new Director of the Katherine Mansfield House and Garden Society who has agreed to become an honorary member of our club.

More meeting stuff

Tony Fryer knew where and when this year's RI convention will be held and this knowledge gained him the chocolate fish which Denys Pinfold has been carrying to and fro Waikanae these past few weeks. Tony said there was a good contingent going from our district and it is not too late to join them in Toronto.



Roy Ferguson is happy his new grandson has a clean bill of health. Tony Fryer thinks he may be happy his grand children are coming for the holidays. Peter Gibbons is happy to be present. Diane Small is happy that her grand daughter may get in on the list.

Progress from the Revitalisation Committee Margaret Emerre said that they prefer to be known as the Revitalisation Group. Whatever, they are sending a paper to the Board and this may result on survey of member opinion. Stay tuned.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

DAVID YOUNG

WORKING WITH MULDOON

Ross George introduced our member David Young. He told us that David got a civil engineering degree and then worked in the USA and in Australia. Back in NZ he worked for the Wool Board. In 1980 he was seconded to the PM's office for two years. Later he worked in transport, spent 3 years in India and worked for the Maritime Retirement Scheme. He and wife Hilary have twelve grandchildren and he is president of the Khandallah Bowling Club.



David said that in 1975 an advisory group was established in the PM's office. There were six members. They were each appointed for two years and then they were responsible for finding their own replacement. David was a member of the third intake. It consisted of an economist from Treasury, a foreign affairs expert from Foreign Affairs, an industry representative from Fletchers, Helene Wong from Internal Affairs for social sciences, and David for transport, engineering and environment.

David said that Muldoon called it an information group as Muldoon did not want advice. He wanted information. The group had one and a half hours each Friday afternoon to present information to Muldoon. David said he was the best listener he had encountered. He listened. He did not interrupt and his expression did not change. It could be an unnerving quarter of an hour for each member. They could also send memos to the PM or in matters of urgency just knock on his door.

This was the period of incorporating the railways and of a surplus of energy from the Clyde dam and the Maui gas field leading to the *Think Big* projects.

He told us some anecdotes that captured the flavour of that time and brought back memories to those of our members involved in some aspects of those events.

David said Muldoon was a disciplined and hard worker. He was intelligent. He read every paper. He was not interested in the environment or social sciences and had little regard for Foreign Affairs. He disliked going against the advice of officials and so did not seek advice if he thought he might not like it. He was a bully. David said that in his two years there Muldoon went home at 5 p.m. every night for dinner with his wife and appeared of sober habits.

Kerry Ansell proposed a vote of thanks.

Correction

Re: Healthy Heroes report in last week's Bulletin

The Bulletin stated that "Some five hundred families were involved in the programme this year".

That number was wrong.

940 families enrolled their children in the programme during the past year.

PARTING THOUGHT

The surest sign that intelligent life exists elsewhere in the universe is that it has never tied to contact us.

-Bill Watterson

-from Adrian Ellingham

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

rotary.org

www.rotarysouthpacific.org

DISTRICT 9940

<http://rotary9940.org/>

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

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Editor [David Pickering](#)