



BULLETIN

ROTARY CLUB OF WELLINGTON NORTH DISTRICT 9940



19 October 2017

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

26 October 2017

Helen Webber

**Principal He Huarahi Tamariki
 school for teenage parents**

Reflection	Rory O'Connor
Introduce Speaker	Morris Robertson
Vote of Thanks	Ross George
Parting Thought	Alan Fraser
Attendance	Michael Gorman
Fellowship	Ross George
Tables	Denys Pinfold
AV	Maurice Scott

2 November 2017
Committees' Session

Reflection	David Pickering
Introduce Speaker	Peter Gibbons
Vote of Thanks	Tony Fryer
Parting Thought	Michael Gorman
Attendance	Pat Helm
Fellowship	Brian Poole
Tables	Maurice Scott
AV	

Apologies and guests advise
wrmichael.gorman@gmail.com

by Noon Wednesday.

TODAY

President Ross Foubister welcomed us. He told us that the Board had met this week. District is seeking nominations for a future District Governor and anyone who wants to suggest a suitable candidate should talk to Ross or to Tony Fryer.

John Mohi told us that there will be a dinner with a Taiwanese friendship exchange team at the Wellesley on 10 November. Members and partners are invited. The likely cost will be around \$40 each. Further details will be circulated when they come to hand.

John Mohi also talked about Uganda and the work with refugees that David Bennett is engaged on there. David is due to return mid-November. John said that the Board has agreed to raise \$1000 as the start of a plan which would seek to obtain a Rotary Foundation Project grant if David Bennett can come to an arrangement with an Ugandan Rotary Club to partner. Tony Fryer said that we could not get a district grant until next May but if we did this may enable us to get a RF project underway. There are large numbers of refugees, mainly women and children, and there is an urgent need for proper sanitation. The club has members with some experience in doing projects of this sort and although the procedures may seem protracted it is a way of multiplying the resources that we and other local clubs can put to use.

Laury Sinclair was happy to see Peter Spearman who as President had admitted him. Graeme Waters was happy the person who backed into his car had third party insurance.



TODAY'S SPEAKER

President Ross announced that Hon Peter Dunne had agreed to become an honorary member of our club. This was greeted with applause.

Then Brian Poole introduced him as today's speaker. He said Peter was known to us all and was no stranger to the club. He noted that Saturday will mark 33 years since Peter first became an MP.

Peter Dunne said he would reflect briefly on his 33 years as an MP, and would then speak about what may happen today.

Peter said that when he entered parliament in 1984 he was one of a large number of new young MPs. They largely replaced men who had returned from World War II. Since then NZ has changed and is a better place. It has been dealing with being a bi-cultural and now a multi-cultural country and the economy is more resilient. However we are still affected by overseas events and trends. He found little policy difference between our two main parties. Perhaps 10 percent difference. In the main they both did what they thought was best at the time.

On the present situation where the main two parties await the decision of the small NZ First group he said that he thought the process was wrong and that the situation had been hijacked. He said the precedent had been set at the time of the first MMP election of waiting for the parties to sort it out. He thought that what should happen is that the Governor General should invite the leader of the party with the most MPs to form a government and if they failed then invite the next biggest party. This might need a change to the rules but it was something he hoped that the review of the election which Parliament carries out after each election will address this.

On what was likely to happen he said that if Labour got to lead a government he did not expect it to last because of tension between NZF and the Greens and because Mr Peters does not have a track record of lasting a full term. If National is favoured he thinks they would be better off to decline and be ready to step in when the other parties fail. (This last was perhaps a hope rather than a prediction).

He also said that both major parties were ignoring some of the realities of the MMP system and in their own interests they should foster other parties that would generally support them in government.

There followed one of our better question and answer sessions with frank, thoughtful and sometimes humorous exchanges.

Tony Fryer proposed a vote of thanks



PARTING THOUGHT

Brexit is like cancelling your Netflix subscription so you can negotiate with every film producer so that you can get the very best deal for your family.

-from Graeme Waters

CLUB CONTACTS

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Editor [David Pickering](#)

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