

# POSITIVELY BRIEF

The week ahead for the Rotary Club of Wellington



## Friday 16 September Newsletter

### Our next meeting is on

Monday 19 September • 12 noon for a 12:30 start

### Our next meeting is at

Wellington Club, Level 5, 88 The Terrace

### Our speaker will be

#### Jonathan Sinclair – After the referendum, what next for the UK, EU & NZ?

The British High Commissioner, Jonathan has had diplomatic postings in the USA and India. He is described as having worked in a wide range of roles where foreign and domestic policies and politics intersect.

As Britain works its way through Brexit, this experience should be very relevant. Jonathan is also Governor of the Pitcairn Islands, which must be a fascinating counterpoint to Brexit complexities.

### Do you have a job to do?

- **Visitors & guests** Bob Stannard
- **Greeters** The 2 Halls, Graeme & John
- **5-minute talk** TBC
- **Sergeant** Tony Hassed
- **President's Table** Tony Hassed, Murray Milner (I&T)

### Starting time for duties is 12 noon



If you're unable to do your duty, please find someone else to fill in for you and let Rebecca know so she can update the roster.

Please don't just email Rebecca telling her you can't do it; she does a superb job for the club but doesn't have time to find a substitute for you.

### Last Monday you missed



**CEO of WREDA, Chris Whelan**, who has close family connections with Rotary, admitted it was his first time at a Rotary club. As well as being a keen mountain biker, as CEO of [Wellington Regional Economic Development Agency](#), Chris asked club members to consider what prosperity is, urging us to move towards it in a purposeful manner, with intention and courage.

With a background as a futurist in South Africa, he told the club that growing exports from the Wellington regional economy will be the focus of his organisation. Chris is of the view that WREDA's best chance to get good results is to look for the gap between startups and the work being done to help exporters – and that is helping existing businesses to scale up for export.

Quoting from Jim Collins's book *Good to Great*, he told us, 'Greatness is not a function of circumstance. Greatness, it turns out, is largely a matter of conscious choice, and discipline.' 'What can Rotary do with WREDA?' was his last word. How would you answer that question?

### And you also missed

**Professor John Nacey** of [Research for Life](#), the Wellington Medical Research Foundation, speaking on how they support Wellington's biomedical research community and the local economy. Research for Life has a history of kick-starting and assisting many of the country's most successful young researchers – some of whom are world leaders in their field now – in the fields of pharmaceuticals, genomics, immune therapy and translational research. The 2016 Research For Life annual appeal will be launched by Minister of Health Jonathan Coleman on 13 October.



### We welcomed into membership

Rachel Qi, introduced to the club by William Sommerville. Rachel is Co-Chair and Board

Member of the China & New Zealand Business Council.

She is also Wellington Region President of the NZ China International Trade Association and Wellington Director of Pacific Culture & Arts Exchange Centre Ltd.

### And we welcomed five guests

Two former club members who came along with Helen Algar: **Stephen Hay**, a Corporate Coach and 'Executive Walker' from People and Process, and **Fraser Carson** who runs Flightdec, a website builder for the community sector, who has been involved in Forum.

Richard Norman brought **Richard Hudson**, and Suzanne Snively's guests were **Janine McGruddy**, the CEO of Transparency International, and visiting Rotarian **Ines Heindl** from Bavaria.

### We donated

\$505.30 into the sunshine box, and there were 61 members present. Looking at the incidence of mental health issues in the community, sergeant Janice Wilson let us know that 1 in 5 New Zealanders are probably mad – but, wait, does that include club members too?

### We sang

Happy Birthday to President Mark for his 60th.

### Eureka!

Francis Wevers spoke with passion on the Eureka! competition that had just taken place, stressing the importance of club member involvement in the fifth Eureka! which ran last week. In future years, he told us, the Royal Society will be working closely with the club on this project, and the focus will include 8–10 year olds in primary schools.



This year's winner was Andrew Tang from Scots College, with his very engaging presentation on using algae as biofuel. The standard of entries rises every year and competitors handled Kim Hill's probing questions with aplomb. As well as encouraging some very talented and committed students, the awards give the club wonderful profile with students, parents and sponsors.

The winners of the awards and scholarships get much needed money to help them finance their studies. More important in the long run, they make great contacts in the science/technology world, and if they become involved in the Alumni, get excellent opportunities to build their networks and gain valuable STEM experiences.

### Our next meeting will be at the Wellington Club



We're in the middle of our experiment with venue and food options.

Make sure you come to as many meetings as possible so you can give an informed opinion on the options.

- **19 Sept: Wellington Club** and a hot lunch at \$23 plus \$5 for RCW
- **26 Sept: James Cook** with different food and lower cost options from the usual buffet

Towards the end of the month, or early next month, we'll be sending out a follow-up survey for your views.

### Other interesting possibilities

- **TOMORROW** – 17 Sept **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner** – we all love mysteries and dinner parties, so the club is combining them into one marvellous event; register on the club's website at <http://rcw.org.nz/calendar/>
- 26 Sept **New Members Evening** 5:30–7pm in the Manpower Group boardroom, level 10 City Chambers, 142 Featherston St – who can you bring?
- 1 Oct **NZ Blood Pressure Campaign** street appeal – contact Sue Elsworth if you can help
- 21 Oct **Rotary Forum 2016**: Good to Great for Wellington
- 26 Oct (Wednesday) **Akina Social Enterprise Awards** at the Wellington Club
- 21–23 April 2017 **Rotary District 9940 Conference** in New Plymouth

### Bice Awan – 'influence for good is about attitudinal change'

*A Scottish, Canadian Kiwi, Bice Awan became a club member in Feb 2015. Taking a few minutes out of a busy life, she spoke with Ramsey Margolis.*

When I retired, I thought I'd have space in my life, and as a delinquent Port Nicholson Rotarian I've really enjoyed coming back to Rotary. Port Nicholson had far more female members, though. I've always been interested in rehabilitation, disability issues, mental health and people's well being.

Our club, this club, got Skylight going 19 years ago and I was Chief Executive for 17 years. I founded Skylight as an operational entity and decided it wasn't going to function with no money, so started a social enterprise.

The high points of my career? Making a difference to people in everything I've tried to do. Possibly one of my high points was getting the ONZM this year in recognition not only for the work I'd done in rehabilitation in mental health but also the incredible people who'd worked with me.

Influence for good means for me trying to make a difference in every way possible, whether to an individual, a family, a community, or an organisation. It's value-laden because it depends on what one perceives as influence; it's not a power thing, it's attitudinal change.

I'm on the vocational committee but every time there's a meeting I'm either away or have an SPCA board meeting. It's a very interesting committee, but I'm unsure what 'vocational' means. I'm really interested in the international committee, but would like to help further develop the vocational committee because really interesting discussions are happening there, adding my experience in social enterprise, HR and the educational sector.

What makes me get up every morning are the issues I'm involved with around mental health – it's not mental illness, it's well being and that's really, really important.

I do like the club's newsletter now – it's future oriented and really makes you think, 'goodness I don't want to miss that,' whereas before it was 'oh I missed that'.

#### **Interest a colleague or friend in the club**

By inviting them to a club meeting, and show them this page on our website: <http://rcw.org.nz/join>.

#### **Rotary beyond our club**

**Emergency response to two new polio cases in Nigeria.** Disappointing news but Polio Plus was able to activate emergency response centres that had already been set up to respond to just such an event. These are equipped to bring all key decision makers into the one room and to respond quickly.

Big vaccination programmes are underway. A particular challenge is the two million people living in camps in Nigeria as a result of Boko Haram insurgency. The children in accessible camps can be vaccinated, but thousands are living in refugee camps where there is no access. The army is being used to provide security for polio vaccinators and helicopters to deliver the vaccine. Neighbouring countries have started to vaccinate all children. Rotary International immediately donated \$500,000 to help in the emergency.

+ take a look at the [District 9940 newsletter](#)

#### **The last word from me this week is**

That the theme of our meeting was science in Wellington and the future of New Zealand, and what we can all do to support it, and this brought to mind the fact that we all have a role to play in the future of our club.

Mark Wheeler



President

#### **Speakers at upcoming meetings**

Monday 26 September • 12 noon for a 12:30 start

*Note the venue:* we meet at the James Cook Hotel, with a different food option

**Dame Suzie Moncrieff – The World of Wearable Art**

Monday 3 October • 12 noon for a 12:30 start

*Note the venue:* we meet at the James Cook

**Greg O'Connor – Reflections on policing in New Zealand**

Monday 10 October • 12 noon for a 12:30 start

*Note the venue:* we meet at the James Cook

**Nicky Riddiford – Skilled Migrants Programme**

Monday 17 October • 12 noon for a 12:30 start

*Note the venue:* we meet at the James Cook

**Peter Miskimmin – Sport NZ**

Wednesday 26 October • 5pm for a 5:30pm start

*Note the venue:* we meet at the Wellington Club, Level 4, 88 The Terrace

**Annual Wellington Akina Social Enterprise Awards**

#### **Duty rosters**

Starting time for duties is 12 noon – please arrange a substitute if unable to attend

Monday 26 September

- **Visitors & guests** Bob Stannard
- **Greeters** Helen Hancox, Peter Halsted

- **5-minute talk** Island Bay Marine Centre, Autism NZ
- **Sergeant** Joan Smith
- **President's Table** Joan Smith, Donna Dentice (I&T)

Monday 3 October

- **Visitors & guests** Bob Stannard
- **Greeters** Gray Hughson, Brian Hasell
- **5-minute talk** TBC
- **Sergeant** John Mr Singers' Event Boshier
- **President's Table** John Fletcher (I&T), John Boshier

Monday 10 October

- **Visitors & guests** Bob Stannard
- **Greeters** David Henderson, Tony Hassed
- **5-minute talk** TBC
- **Sergeant** John Emanuel
- **President's Table** Karen Thomas (I&T), John Emanuel

Monday 17 October

- **Visitors & guests** Bon Stannard
- **Greeters** Hewitt Humphrey, Siah Hwee Wang
- **5-minute talk** TBC
- **Sergeant** John Fletcher
- **President's Table** John Fletcher, Karen Thomas (I&T)

## Latest News

## Upcoming Events

### **'Guess Who's Coming to Dinner**

**Saturday, 17 September 2016** - We all love mysteries and dinner parties, so we are combining both, as a repeat of last year's popular event. Please register as a host or guest, and we will arrange a series of dinner parties - you won't know who else is coming until the actual dinner. If you are prepared ... [MORE](#)

### **New Members Evening**

**Monday, 26 September 2016** - New Members Orientation Evening: 26th September. 5.30 - 7.00 pm at ManpowerGroup Boardroom Level 10, City Chambers 142 Featherston Street. [MORE](#)

### **Rotary Forum 2016: Good to Great for Wellington**

**Friday, 21 October 2016** - Rotary Forum 2016: Good to Great for Wellington. More details to follow. [MORE](#)

### **Akina Social Enterprise Awards**

**Wednesday, 26 October 2016** - The annual Rotary Club of Wellington Akina Social Enterprise Awards will be held on 26 October at the Wellington Club. Further details coming soon [MORE](#)



### **Melbourne Cup**

**Tuesday, 1 November 2016** - THE MELBOURNE CUP 2016 - The Race that stops two nations TUESDAY 1st November. Race starts at 5.00pm NZ time. There will be an exclusive RCW Birdcage set up in the 1815 Bar at the Wellesley Boutique Hotel. Exciting prizes for the best shirt tie combination and the best hat. ... [MORE](#)

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