

POSITIVELY BRIEF

The week ahead for the Rotary Club of Wellington



Rotary Club of Wellington newsletter • Friday 11 November 2016

Our next meeting is at
James Cook Hotel, Level 17, 147 The Terrace

And our speaker is
Judge Andrew Becroft – Better outcomes for NZ's under 18 year olds: some nip and tuck, or is radical surgery required?



Married with three children aged 20, 19 and 15, Judge Becroft is a keen sports watcher but – he confesses – merely an average (but enthusiastic) participant. Strongly committed to a specialist approach to dealing with youth offenders, he is an advocate for youth issues. Before becoming appointed to his current role, he had been Chief Youth Court Judge of New Zealand for 15 years. In 2009, Judge Becroft received an award from the Public Relations Institute of New Zealand as Communicator of the Year. Bring a colleague or friend you'd like to interest in the club's work to hear Andrew speak.

Do you have a job to do?

- **Visitors and guests:** Bob Stannard
- **Greeters:** Olivier Lacoua, Peter Lawson
- **Five minute talks:** Wayne Morgan (Treasurer)
- **Sergeant:** John Luxton
- **President's table:** Lee Wilkinson (I&T), John Luxton



Starting time for duties is 12pm

If you are 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

Sir Anand Satyanand's timely talk on the future of the Commonwealth, and what it may hold for New Zealand, particularly in light of the current Brexit process.

Established in 1965, the Commonwealth Secretariat now has 52 member nations, not all of which were former colonies of the UK, and is a voluntary association of countries that support each other and which work towards shared goals in democracy and development. It 'is not an organisation with a mission,' according to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. 'It is rather an opportunity for its people to work together to achieve practical solutions to problems.'

Sir Anand chairs the Commonwealth Foundation, an independent organisation with a modest budget that deals with people's aspirations and pursuits, including cultural, literary and professional matters, strengthening civil society so as to achieve the priorities of the Commonwealth.

Now that London is no longer a magnet for New Zealanders, Sir Anand asked whether the Commonwealth might have slipped beneath our radar. He reported that UNDP Administrator and former NZ PM Helen Clark said that not relying on size alone, 'the Commonwealth has shown a capacity to reinvent itself continually.'

Thanking Sir Anand, Hewitt Humphrey reminded us that the Commonwealth covered one third of the globe and contained 2.2 billion people. It is in good hands with a well thought through purpose and a great future.

And new member Rachel Qi's 5 min intro



She came to New Zealand seven years ago for an easier life with fresh air and less pressure than her home city of Beijing where she studied at Beijing University of Chinese Medicine. In Wellington for seven years, she is married with a daughter and works at Victoria University of Wellington organising between 30 and 50 events a year around the country.

The list of her voluntary activities is far too long to list here – where does she find the time? Rachel let us know there are more than 200,000 Chinese people living in New Zealand, and that she is coordinator of the National party lower North Island Chinese Special Interest Group – ‘they were the first party to ask me to join,’ she told us.



While for the Membership committee

Prashanta Mukherjee asked us to share our experience of being a member of Rotary Club of Wellington when we speak with our friends and colleagues. There will be one final survey about membership next month, he told the meeting, looking at where we as members prefer to meet and our food preferences.

We welcomed

Visiting Rotarian, Allan Frazer, Helen Algar's guest regional councillor Roger Blakeley, Ramsey Margolis's guest barrister Susanne Ruthven, and two guests of Lee Wilkinson's – Lynn McKenzie and Ruth Harbling. Also present was Stephen Brown's guest, Peter Harris, Senior Fellow in Chinese Studies at Victoria University, and next week's inductee, Rachel Tilghman.

Finally, we welcomed into membership of our club His Excellency José Gerardo Traslosheros Hernandez, Ambassador of Mexico.

And 57 club members

Donated \$485.40 into the sunshine box as a result of Joan Smith's light-hearted treatment of the most difficult topic that's around at present, the US presidential election – if you missed Joan's sergeant session be sure to ask her to tell you the story of the Washington barber. It'll cost you, of course – an extra donation at the next sergeant session.

What will our next fundraising project be?



Peter Cornish spoke about some possibilities for the club's next big project, suggesting we consider annual events that might feature a:

- family-based Wellington cycling event (not a race!)
- classic and unique car show, featuring driveable art – Wellington on Wheels, perhaps
- chefs' meal for 200 – four top chefs each providing a course at a dinner
- corporate golf day
- book fair

Peter is looking for two or three people to help him evaluate each of these possibilities, before the end of the year. To talk with him about this, please phone him on 021 417 418.

Skyline walk



Saturday November 5th was a glorious day and five intrepid RCW walkers gathered at Wellington Railway Station, boarded a shuttle and headed out through Karori to the start of the Skyline Walkway on Makara Road.

The walk was easy going and the total distance of some 13 km to Johnsonville was accomplished in just under six hours, including refreshment and rest breaks.

An interesting interlude was provided when we found it necessary to retreat to higher ground off the track while a farmer moved half a dozen young steers along part of the track.

Views in all directions were sensational: the South Island, Kapiti Island, the harbour, Cook Strait. And the company was top class. On arrival at Old Coach Road in Johnsonville, we were delighted to find that Peter Bushnell had arranged for his wife to meet us and transfer us to the railway station for the trip back to Wellington.

Thanks to Geoff Eades for organising the day, and to Peter for the photo and the end of walk transfer.

Other interesting possibilities

• Don't forget to register for our Christmas Lunch on December 12

• 1 Dec (Thu) **Kapiti Rotary Annual Charity Golf Tournament** Paraparaumu Beach Links Course – info Doug Hooper Smith 027 454 5754 or grenaby@xtra.co.nz

• 10 Dec (Sat) **Winemakers' Lunch** at the White Swan, Greytown – a 3 course lunch plus the wines, which will be Martinborough wines vs Gladstone wines @ \$80 per head, a minimum of 40, maximum of 80 people, so bring your friends – travelling by train means you won't have to drive home

• 21–23 April 2017 **Rotary District 9940 Conference** New Plymouth

Tell your friends about the club

Give them a club business card, invite them to hear Andrew Becroft speak on Monday, and direct them to our website: <http://rcw.org.nz/join>.

Have you met Oliver Ibbetson?



'I've just shifted jobs to a business advisor role at the Ministry of Social Development, having formerly been in communications with a Wellington PR consultancy firm, *Oliver told Lee Wilkinson*. Originally I did an accounting degree but I've never worked in a specific accountancy role.

'I had an early awareness of Rotary when my grandfather, Denzil Brown, would talk about his Rotary activities at family Sunday lunches and, in 2007, I gained a huge amount from attending RYLA. It was always in the back of my mind to join Rotary, so earlier this year I enjoyed the wine options evening, started coming to lunches, and experienced some wonderful speakers. Lunch at the Sommervilles' firmed up my decision to join.

'I have a long term love affair with Asia, because I am interested in cultural challenges and international politics. I spent a year in Taipei learning Chinese and my Taiwanese fiancée has helped me to improve my Chinese. I have also been to Asia on two delegations – the Asia NZ Foundation Network delegation and the British High Commission's Successive Generations Initiative.'

Rotary beyond our club

Liz Powers from Boston, Massachusetts, had worked extensively with homeless and disabled people. In 2011, won a Rotary Global Grant Scholarship to do a Masters in Interdisciplinary Creative Practices at the University of Edinburgh. She developed an art show focusing on the amazing talents of disabled and homeless people, but realised that a once a year opportunity wasn't enough.



On her return to Boston, she and her brother decided to scale up and founded [ArtLifting](#) – an art gallery that is both a [social enterprise](#) and a [benefit corporation](#) that features the work of disabled and homeless artists. To further increase their scale they partner with other non-profits to reach more artists.

The opportunity to earn a stable income from the sale of their art has massive positive impacts on the artists' confidence and self-esteem, enabling them to push their housing applications and get side jobs. Find them at <http://www.artlifting.com>.

- Also, take a look at the November District 9940 newsletter [here](#)

And the last word from me this week is that

Anand reminded us that even though it is a loose collection of non-binding interests the Commonwealth is increasing relevant. So too with Rotary – with service above self, whatever you put in, you get back – and far more. Our club, through recognising need and harnessing our passion, allows us to continually make an enduring impact on humanity that we can collectively be proud of. Our challenge is to persuade more like-minded individuals to become members so they too can also have a legacy. Let's grow to 221 by 2021 and truly make a difference.

Mark Wheeler
President

Speakers at upcoming meetings

Monday 21 November • 12 noon for 12.30 start • James Cook Hotel, level 17
Kirsten Smith – Evolving to meet the growing needs of Wellington's young people

Monday 28 November • 12 noon for 12.30 start • James Cook Hotel, level 17
Andrew Tang, with Russ Ballard and Francis Wevers – EUREKA!

Monday 5 December • 12 noon for 12.30 start • James Cook Hotel, level 17
President Mark Wheeler • AGM

Monday 12 December • 12 noon for 12.30 start • James Cook Hotel, level 17
Rev Alastair Lane, St John's in the City – Xmas lunch

Duty rosters

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

Monday 21 November

- **Visitors & guests** Bob Stannard
- **Greeters** Martin Lenart & John Luxton
- **5-minute talk** Andrew Jackson & Tracy Brown (Youth Committee)
- **Sergeant** John Rowe
- **President's Table** Janice Wilson (I&T), John Rowe

Monday 28 November

- **Visitors & guests** Bob Stannard
- **Greeters** Martin Matthews, Duncan McDonald
- **5-minute talk** Update on the club's Charitable Trust
- **Sergeant** Kane Patena
- **President's Table** Geoff Bascand (I&T), Kane Patena

Monday 5 December

- **Visitors & guests** Bob Stannard
- **Greeters** Brian McKeon, Roger Miller
- **5-minute talk** Richard Norman on tree planting
- **Sergeant** Katy Anquetil
- **President's Table** Alasdair Finnie (I&T), Katy Anquetil

Monday 12 December (Christmas Lunch)

- **Visitors & guests** Bob Stannard
- **Greeters** Sir Anand Satyanand, Lady Susan Satyanand

Latest News

Upcoming Events

Christmas 2016

Monday, 12 December 2016 - The annual RCW Christmas lunch is always very popular. Enjoy special Christmas fare, a glass of wine and great company whilst taking time to reflect on the year of 2016. Seating is limited to 130, so early registration is advised to avoid missing out. [MORE](#)

Kapiti Island visit

Saturday, 11 February 2017 - We will be visiting Kapiti Island on 11 Feb 2017, setting off from Paraparaumu Beach at 8.45, 9.30 or 10.15 (to be confirmed) The cost is:
Adult \$75 Children 5-17 \$40 Student \$60 Under 5 Free [MORE](#)

Nonsuch Consulting JUMBO TENNIS 7s Tournament 2017

Friday, 3 March 2017 - This is a fun and fund-raising tournament. Join in the action at the Renouf Tennis Centre!! Follow lead-up progress on Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/RCWJumboTennis7s> Register your team of four to experience this high spirited, fun and exciting event, first introduced to Wellington in 2008 by the Rotary Club of ... [MORE](#)



Wairarapa Winemakers' Lunch

Saturday, 10 December 2016 - Join us on December 10th at the White Swan in Greytown for a delicious lunch and a Gladstone versus Martinborough wine experience. Three courses including wine for \$80 a head. An option to travel by train, rather than have to drive over the Hill. The train leaves Wellington at ... [MORE](#)

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