





# **Rotary Club of Palmerston North (1924)**

President Dave Gaynor, Secretary Steve Paterson, Treasurer Ron Schalkwijk, Past President Nigel Withell

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Speaker** Debra Wynn

Topic Community Fruit Harvest Manawatu

Intro/ Thanks Martin Townend
Attendance/Cashier Stu Schwartz
Sergeant Roger Clausen
Corporal Steve Paterson
Parting Thought Steve Parsons
Bulletin Editor Chris Klein

## Monday 13th May 2024

**Speaker** Club member Malcolm Hopwood

Topic To be unveiled
Attendance/Cashier Martin Townend
Sergeant John Freebairn
Corporal Nick Kaspers
Parting Thought Ramola Duncan

Bulletin Editor Phil Burt

Note: The regular meetings that have been scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> May have been cancelled in recognition of all of the events happening in the second half of the month.

### From Monday 29th April 2024

Total present: 13 members.

Sergeant's session \$28, 2 vouchers, and internet.

President Dave welcomed members who were present and noted that there was a lot of apologies for today's meeting.

President Dave told members that he had been advised that Bill Bendall, following his fall on 7 April, had moved to Peppertree care while

recovering from surgery, and will shift to Star Ward for rehab when the time is right.

#### **Club Business**

President Dave advised that the second half of May was a busy time for the Club this year with four important activities across eight days.

Youth Music Festival 18<sup>th</sup> May (contact Mark Buxton to log your offer of assistance)

RYDA on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May. We have sufficient volunteers at this stage. Venue is CET Arena. Starting in the Russell Lounge at 8:45am each day.

Circus Quirkus 23<sup>rd</sup> May Spiers Centre, PNBHS

Centennial Dinner 25th May.

<u>Changeover</u> 1<sup>st</sup> July. At the PNCC Conference and Function Centre

Changeover will be in The Gallery on Monday 1 July 12.00-1.30/2.00 pm. The cash bar will be open and partners are most welcome. The meal cost will be the same as a normal Monday (\$30 pp). It will be a relaxed affair focused on fellowship with President Dave reflecting on the past year and President-Elect John looking ahead.

### Speaker

President Dave called Stu Schwartz forward to address the meeting, saying that he could need no introduction.

Stu started by saying that the title of his talk was listed as "Random Thoughts" and that he would get to them later. But before that .... Stu wanted to talk about a couple of serious things.

**Apologies** to Olga Barrett 358-8798 or recorded on our website...

This is important for ordering lunches. Please arrange a substitute if you have a duty rostered for a day you are apologising.

Useful web links...

District # 9940 http://rotary9940.org/ Club # 18626 www.pnrotary.co.nz

Link to our Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/rotarypalmerstonnort







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First, it was important to recognise that NZ was "celebrating" World Workers' Day, and in PN there was an event happening at Memorial Park. "as we meet now". At Stu's request, members stood in silence to honour those people who had died at their workplace. He reminded us that workers should be able to go to their jobs, and return home without receiving an illness or injury.

Second, currently, it is/was the end of the Jewish Passover festival. Stu placed on each table some unleavened bread (which represented the hasty departure from Egypt recorded in the book of Exodus). He went on to say how greatly he missed the weekly emails from Kevin O'Sullivan (a former Rotarian) updating readers on events in the Middle East.

Third, was time for the Random Thoughts of the Topic Title.... Stu said that he and Phyllis arrived in NZ 31 years ago, and since then some things have changed.

- Shop owners were friendlier then
- One didn't need to lock one's front door when you were at home and home alarm systems were novel
- Frozen orange juice soon stopped appearing in stores
- They had challenges with son David being lactose-intolerant. Now dairy-free is common
- Recycling was almost unheard-of
- Proceeds of crime \$\$ being spent on housing in Highbury rather than across the city.
- Non-uber food deliveries have arrived in style
- Too much is being done to slow traffic inside the city
- Mobile phones now have better cameras than those that one could afford 31 years ago

- Given that Stu will be 81 this year we should worry about Biden
- Delighted to have chosen to remain in NZ and to become citizens
- now nearly 37 years as a Rotary member.

The clock provided ample time for comments (and some speeches) from the floor.

### **Parting Thought from President Dave:**

From C S Lewis

"You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending."

### **Sergeant Fines**

Easy to pay Sergeant's fines! 02-0727-0025858-000 OR buy some vouchers to have on hand!

### **Apologies and Club Duties:**

<u>Please</u> apologise if you are unable to attend a weekly meeting.

If you have a duty rostered and are unable to attend, then please arrange a substitute.

### **Guest Speaker?**

If you see or hear of a good speaker, please let Martin know so we can invite them along.

### **New Member Form**

Here is a link to the form that can be used to propose a new member. Just click on the link:

https://www.pnrotary.co.nz/ProposeNewMember.pdf

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