

Rotary Bulletin – 20 April 2026

Next Brew Union

24 April 2026, Friday 5.00 pm.

Youth Music Festival

23 May 2026. Contact Steve Paterson.

Circus Quirkus

28 May 2 shows at PNBHS. Contact Mike.

Red Tulip Walk in the Manawatu

Following Ron Dobson's donation of \$55 (\$1.00 per year of membership) the Sergeant's session on 30 March collected in total \$210 which will go to Red Tulip Walk for Parkinson's support.

Monday lunchtime 4 May 2026

Guest Speaker:

Dr Alberto Ramirez-Rodriguez, PN Hospital
"Robot Assisted Surgery – a big step forward"

President	President Norelle
Intro/Thanks	Rodney Wong
Sergeant	Liam Hehir
Corporal	David Chapple
Parting Thought	Maria Bayley
Bulletin Editor	Nick Kaspers
Attendance	Stu Schwartz

Summary of the Speech by Aaron Tait, AgriAccounting Limited *"Agriculture adds up."*



Aaron Tait's speech was largely an introduction to his background and his accounting work.

- Personal background & sport:** He grew up in Gisborne, was heavily involved in sport, and excelled in **judo**, representing New Zealand at age-group level. At 15 he trained with the senior squad preparing for the **1990 Commonwealth Games** (mainly as a training partner), describing the era's fairly "amateur" preparation. He later won **gold at the Oceania Games (Tahiti)**, won medals at a World Youth Invitational event, and received **Gisborne Junior Male Sportsman of the Year**.
- Shift to accounting:** He put judo aside in 1992 to focus on accounting, discovering he liked its structured, rules-based nature. He started working at an accounting firm in Gisborne while studying, noting how much the profession has changed (few computers then, manual processes, annual billing cycles, etc.).
- Career path:** He moved to Palmerston North for Massey University (degree completed 1997), then worked at **Ernst & Young**. He outlined subsequent firm changes (breakaway into Brumby Simpson Marshall → Brumby Simpson Partners → purchased by Allan McNeil). In **2023** he joined his wife Rachelle's firm, **Agri Accounting Ltd**.



- About Agri Accounting:** He described it as a small, boutique, relationship-focused practice (just him and Rachelle), about **65% agricultural / 35% commercial** clients, growing from about **200 to 260** tax returns annually, and consistently meeting the **31 March** IRD filing target. Services include compliance (tax/GST/PAYE/FBT) plus advisory work like **cashflow forecasting, finance proposals, tax planning, succession planning, trust administration, and acquisitions**.



Rachelle Tait

- **Current outlook & issues:** He said many clients had a solid **2025** and early signs suggested **2026** could be better, but uncertainty (including conflict involving Iran) could affect sentiment and outcomes. He mentioned some dairy clients facing large tax bills and using **income equalisation** to smooth tax across years.

We are passionate about the rural sector and love to use our gumboots out on the farm.



- **Q&A highlights:** The **Fonterra payout** discussed was expected to be used mostly to **pay down debt** and sometimes improve farms, with encouragement to treat it as a **capital return** and preserve it rather than spend it. He also noted cloud accounting (e.g., Xero-type systems) has been a **positive** by providing more up-to-date data, assuming clients enter information correctly. On family farms, succession is hardest when there are **multiple children** and not enough capital to treat siblings fairly.

Parting Thought:

Allan Ford:

“An eye for an eye will only make the whole world blind. Mahatma Gandhi.”

