



## Newsletter to Keep the Wheel Turning



**President:** Jeanette Thorne

**Secretary:** Richard Ryan

**Meeting location:** Royal Oak Bowls, 146 Selwyn Street, Onehunga, Auckland

**Time:** Monday evening 5:30pm for 6 p.m. start to 7:30pm, includes \$25 dinner

**Mail:** PO Box 29086, Greenwoods Corner, Epsom


**Web:** <https://www.rotarymaungakiekie.org.nz/>

Rotary

# MAY YOUTH SERVICE

*"The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow"*

*Nelson Mandela*



## Newsletter 173, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Present:**

**Apologies:** George Arulanantham, Noel Carey, Bruce Clegg, Shameen Hayat, Rod Kestle, Cat Levine, Ant Martin, George Varghese.

**Sergeant's fines:** \$151.00

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Jeanette announced that **Duncan Macdonald**, a treasured member since June 2019 has offered his resignation to the club due to ill health. A regular participant, chaired projects, organised guest speakers, fountain of knowledge of all things related to retirement living and retiring. We will miss his companionship, smile and wisdom. Thank you Duncan, you'll be missed.

Last Sunday, Jeanette attended a weeding and planting working bee at the [Onehunga Peoples Garden](#). About 30, mainly locals, turned up.

Along with an invite already sent to member, Jeannete reminded everyone to mark **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June**, when District 99100 have invited club members to **Drinks with International President Gordon and Heather McInally** in Takapuna.

Details and \$5 Tickets can be found below and [here](#).

...a month later there is another invite to the **District 9910 Changeover afternoon** tea in Albany. DG Neil Murray will reflect on the last year and welcome in DG Jenn Wong.

Details and \$22 Tickets can be found [here](#).



FRIDAY 7TH JUNE

*Friday Happy Hour*

WITH ROTARY  
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT,  
GORDON MCINALLY

4.45PM - 6.15PM

\$5 + BOOKING FEE - PROCEEDS TO  
THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

CASH BAR



fantail & turtle, the goodside, smaless  
farm, 72 taharoto road, takapuna



JULY 13 2024

# DISTRICT CHANGEOVER

Come and celebrate the incredible year DG Neil  
Murray has had and welcome the new DG Jenn Wong.

Afternoon tea provided

**12.45PM FOR 1PM  
FINISH BY 3.30PM**

Pinehurst School Theatre, 75 Bush Road, Albany.  
Plenty of parking available!

\$22 per person + booking fee. Ticket sales end 6th  
July

www.HUMANITIX.COM



SEARCH ROTARY DISTRICT 9910

OR USE THE QR CODE

Jeanette also mentioned **Totara-Haumarū (under the shade of the Totara tree)** is a new four storey, state-of-the-art 150-bed hospital facility at the [North Shore Hospital](#). [Construction started in 2020 and completed in April 2024, currently is sitting empty with its opening delayed due to lack of staff and FY 2024/25 operational budget yet to be signed off].

Within the facility is a large open, grey concrete atrium which the [Well Foundation](#) is three-quarters of the way to raising \$2M in donations which will be used to transform the space to NZ's first, large scale indoor healing garden.



Rotary is one of the partners helping to raise funds for The Healing Garden which will be filled with living plants and overlooked by three-levels of wards and will have seating for patients and staff alike.

Donations towards The Healing Garden project can be made [here](#).



**Phil** mentioned next year's **Tractor Trek will be 24<sup>th</sup> Feb-8<sup>th</sup> March 2025 around Northland**. Starting in North Auckland, going up the Hokianga side up to 90 Mile beach and back down the other side. It will be some trek. Phil is looking for a few Rotarians to drive the tractors. It could be Cat's last year, so get in and support by driving a tractor to the various schools where Cat will give her talk to the kids there.

While talking to Bruce, **George Arulanantham** mentioned his daughter is affiliated with the Fire Brigade and on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May she took part with the 2024 [Firefighter Sky Tower Challenge](#) and ran up the 1,103 steps. Every dollar raised goes towards supporting Kiwi patients and their families living with blood cancer or related condition.



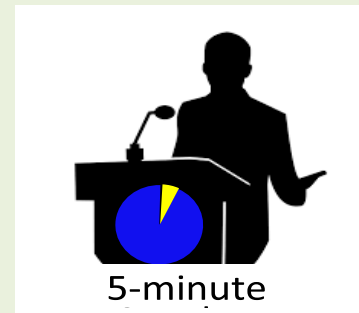
Last week the Board voted on sponsoring George's daughter's donating \$500 to Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand.

Sergeant Lloyd somehow managed to extract fines by tricking members to put their hand up if they liked honey. He then pronounced today, 20<sup>th</sup> May as World Bee Day. Blues (no Crusaders identified themselves) and Warrior supporters also paid up for recent wins and Pheonix's good-effort pretty much included everyone again. Bill's family member's duck shooting success was equally efficient in extracting more fines from him.

---



**BRIAN WILLIAMS**  
Southland & Otago Trip



Brian gave a very informative talk of a road trip he and Sharon undertook a few years ago around Otago, Southland.

For anyone who has been down there, there is a dazzling array of sites and activities to see and do – enough to make your head spin. If you are considering doing one too, Brian's route might be a good place to start. [Click [links](#) below for more info]

Starting in Oamaru in the [Steampunk HQ](#), we saw a fascinating engineering glimpse into how the Victorian era might have imagined the future.

[Riverstone](#) Mediaeval Castle just out of Oamaru was built by Neil Smith, a farmer for his wife Dot who dreamed of being a queen and living in a castle - complete with a lake.



In the centre of [Oamaru Victorian precinct](#) is many restored buildings in the beautiful brown stone. Not far from there one can see little blue penguins coming ashore at sunset. We also visited [Janet Frame's](#) childhood home.

Moving along, we had lunch at [Fleur's Place](#), a restaurant close to the Moeraki Boulders - sadly, this charming place is now closed. The picturesque route took us through the mountains before descending to the [Maniototo](#) Plains.

Passing through Millers Flats, Lawrence, Milton and Balclutha we arrived at the Catlins. While staying at Kaka Point we walked to the Nugget Point [Lighthouse](#), built in 1870. On the track we could see the seals on the rocks below and a lot of bird life.



This area is known as the meeting place of rock, wave, wind and tide - very spectacular.

While in the [Catlins](#) we took in the [Owaka Museum](#) and walked to [Lake Wilkie](#). Next came [Florence Hill](#) lookout with its famous white beach Southland view. As it was low tide, we were able to visit [Cathedral Caves](#), a magnificent scenic place in the Waipapa Beach Scenic Reserve, administered by the local iwi.

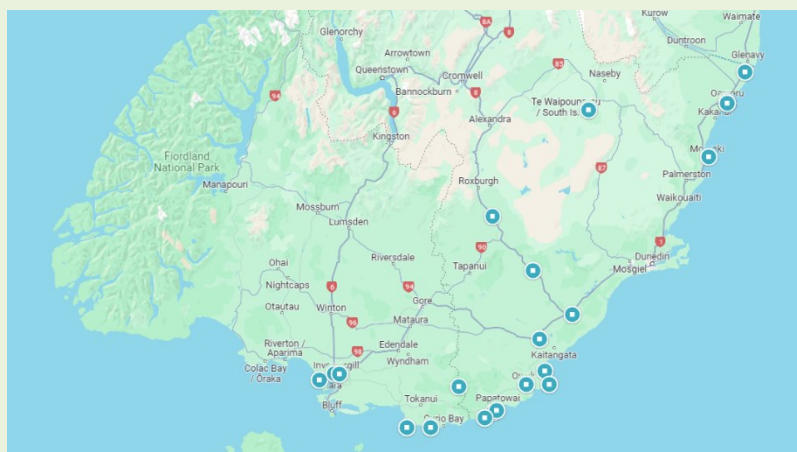


Continuing south we went to [Curio Bay](#), to see the fossil forest 180 millions years old. The Waipapa Point in 1881 the [SS Tararua](#) shipwreck with the loss of 131 passengers. Next to the [Slope Point](#), the most southern point of the South Island.

We called on [E Hays & Sons Mitre10](#), the best Mitre10 in New Zealand, where they have purchased Burt Monroes 1920 Indians Scout motorbike. The world's fastest Indian proudly on display. On the 26th of August 1967, Burt claimed the world land record in the USA at 184.07 mph. He was 68 years old. 10kms west of Invercargill, is the [Oreti Beach](#) where Burt Monroe raced his bike.



We also took in [Bill Richardson Transport World](#), which has over 300 trucks and cars. They have a very novel restroom toilets. They use parts of cars, trucks for the taps.



Brian & Sharon's Southland and Otago trip  
(Ctrl +Click to open the map)



guest  
speaker

**ROB WOODLEY**  
**GM Blues Charitable Trust**

**BLUES**  
CHARITABLE  
TRUST INC '22



### **The Genesis Youth Trust: A Legacy of Transformation**

For 28 years, Rob Woodley has dedicated himself to serving New Zealand in NZ Police (rank of Sergeant). For 22 of those years, he has served as Founder of the [Genesis Youth Trust](#), a beacon of hope and rehabilitation for young offenders in South and East Auckland. Since its inception in 2000, the Genesis Youth Trust has worked with over 4,000 rangatahi (young people) and their whanau, achieving a remarkable 60% success rate in preventing reoffending among participants. In recognition of his unwavering commitment, Rob was honoured as an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to youth and the New Zealand Police in 2015.

### **A New Chapter: The Blues Charitable Trust**

In October 2022, Rob transitioned from his role at Genesis Youth Trust to become the General Manager of the newly established [Blues Charitable Trust](#), headquartered near Cornwall Park. This new venture leverages high-performance sports and the concept of leadership to empower emerging young leaders to make positive life choices. Rob's mission is to design and deliver a comprehensive Blues youth leadership program to over 300 emerging leaders, guiding them toward great life outcomes.

### **Personal Journey: Roots of Leadership**

Rob's personal story is as inspiring as his professional achievements. Adopted by loving and hardworking pakeha parents from the South Island, Rob later reconnected with his birth family, discovering his Māori heritage and lineage of Rangatira (chiefs or leaders). His late birth father, Harry Pittman, exemplified leadership by founding Te Atea Marino, a drug and alcohol service for Māori in Auckland. Rob dedicated his research into Māori leadership, culminating in a Master's degree in Advanced Leadership Practice from Massey University in 2021, to the memory of both his fathers.

### **The Vision Behind the Blues Charitable Trust**

The Blues Charitable Trust was born out of a desire to create meaningful community engagement beyond tokenistic gestures. Inspired by Patrick Tuipulotu, the captain of

the Blues, and supported by the club's CEO Andrew Hore, the trust aims to harness the special influence of its players to foster community support and encourage youth well-being.

### **Onehunga Connection**

Rob also acknowledged many connections he has had with Onehunga over the years. Past-Principal of the Onehunga High School (OHS) and past Rotary club member, Deidre Shae, was a core advisor in the design of the Blues Charitable Trust. Many of the young people Rob worked with at Genesis Youth Trust also attended OHS.

For the past 28 years Rob has passed through Onehunga while commuting between his home in Orakei and work at the Mangere Police Station.

Rotarian Iain McCrae, daughter Heather McCrae works at the Blues as part of its Performance Team. Heather's connection with Rob also dates back to when she was assisting at Grammar Carlton Rugby Football Club when she looked young players including Rob's sons, Jordan and Caleb who were ball boys then (now 18 and 21 respectively).

### **Empowering Rangatahi: The Leadership Program**

The primary goal of the Blues Charitable Trust is to "empower rangatahi to make good choices for great lives." The focus is on teenagers aged 15 to 17 yrs, particularly those in the middle cohort who often lack sufficient support. These emerging leaders are identified by their schools based on their potential and charisma, even if they are not necessarily academic or athletic stars.

### **Program Structure and Impact**

The flagship programme consists of four workshops over four weeks, held at Blues HQ. Each session is centred around a key aspect of leadership:

1. **Self-Leadership:** Understanding personal values, strengths, and heritage.
2. **Great Leaders:** Learning from historical and contemporary leaders, both in life and rugby.
3. **Career Planning:** Aligning personal strengths and aspirations with future career paths.
4. **Team Leadership:** Building skills to lead and inspire high-performing teams.

The program features storytelling from Blues players who share their personal journeys, challenges, and triumphs. Players like Caleb Clarke and Maia Roos, who have overcome significant personal obstacles, provide relatable and inspiring role models for the participants.

### **Expansion and Community Engagement**

The programme was originally piloted with the assistance of Past-Principal Deidre Shea and students at the Onehunga High School in 2022.

Since then the programme rapidly expanded engaging 317 youth from 22 schools, with an additional 430 participating in bespoke programs tailored to specific needs. The trust aims to expand its reach to 30 schools in the current year and is developing follow-up leadership and career coaching to support participants beyond the initial program.

### Future Plans: Building Partnerships

Looking ahead, the Blues Charitable Trust plans to deepen its impact by forming partnerships with businesses and community organisations. These partnerships will provide work experience, internships, and employment opportunities for the young leaders. Mainfreight, a logistics company, is one of the first corporate partners to recognize the potential of these emerging leaders and has committed to offering employment opportunities aligned with the trust’s values.

### Governance and Leadership

The trust is guided by a dedicated board chaired by Peter Reidy, CEO of KiwiRail, with Patrick Tuipulotu and other esteemed members overseeing its strategic direction. This governance structure ensures that the trust remains focused on its mission and continues to grow its positive impact on the community.

### Conclusion: A Legacy of Empowerment

Rob Woodley’s journey from the New Zealand Police to the Genesis Youth Trust and now the Blues Charitable Trust exemplifies a lifelong commitment to youth empowerment and community service. The Blues Charitable Trust, with its innovative leadership programs and strong community connections, is poised to create lasting positive change for New Zealand’s young people. As the trust expands and deepens its impact, it stands as a testament to the power of leadership, sports, and community in shaping a brighter future for all.





## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK provided by Brian Willaims

Worry never robs tomorrow of its sorrow, but only saps today of its strength – A J Cronin

## DUTIES

Unable to attend > apologies to Lloyd: [albiston@xtra.co.nz](mailto:albiston@xtra.co.nz)

Unable for a duty > arrange own replacement & text Lloyd Mb: 022 6579 200

### Meeting: 6pm Mon. 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**President:** Jeanette Thorne  
**Vice President:** Barry Stafford  
**Sergeant:** Lloyd Albiston  
**Attendance:** Derek Neutze  
**Hospitality:** Barry Stafford  
**Host:** Rhett Stevens  
**Equipment & Scribe:** Tony Rayner  
**Meals1:** Alan Banin  
**Meals2:** Paul Jenner  
**5-Min:** Bruce Murdoch  
**Guest:** Anita Totha: Dir. The Arts House Trust.  
**Thanks:** Brian Williams  
**Thought:** Phil Aish

### Mon, 3<sup>rd</sup> June NO MEETING

### Meeting: 6pm Mon. 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024

#### Invite a friend

**President:** Jeanette Thorne  
**Vice President:** Barry Stafford  
**Sergeant:** Noel Carey  
**Attendance:** Barry Stafford  
**Hospitality:** Rhett Stephens  
**Host:** Brian Williams  
**Equipment & Scribe:** Tony Rayner  
**Meals1:** Alan Banin  
**Meals2:** Gwynyth Carr  
**5-Min:** Rhett Stephens  
**Guest:** Lindsay Ford: Handover Enkul Village Project, Vanuatu  
**Thanks:** Phil Aish  
**Thought:** Lloyd Albiston

## toUch of hMour

