



Rotary Club of Whanganui - Bulletin 10 : 3 Sept 2018

Meeting – 3 Sept 2018

Katy Newton – Welcoming Communities Programme

Host: Martin Visser

Thanks: Ann Petherick

Top Table: DennisMcGowan

Sergeant: Jim Callaghan

Meeting – 10 Sept 2018

Russell Simpson

Himalayan Adventure

Host: Dick Mitchell

Thanks: Don Gordon

Top Table Max Restieaux

Sergeant: Kate Smith

Meeting – 17 Sept 2018

Club Fellowship Meeting

Host: Stuart Hylton

Thanks:

Top Table

Sergeant: Kate Smith

Apologies:

To Peter Smith please:
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Attendance at Last Meeting: (20 August 2018)

Present	-	23
Apologies:	-	7
Silent :	-	<u>15</u>
		45

Men's Care Bags

Donations for Men's Care Bags to Henry Ngapo. Items may be left at the meeting.

Club Members reporting from: Visit to Ngaizumi Cho, Japan; Rotary International Convention Toronto, Canada; Whanganui Male Choir trip to Australia.

Speakers: PP Lei Graham, PP Kate Smith, PP Shirley McDouall, PP Dennis Brown, PP Dick Mitchell.

It is difficult to condense the reports of all these trips, just as difficult as it was to summarise trips filled with so much activity and vivid memories. For some the trip was quite recent, for others, they were going back a couple of months!

Lei and Shirley spoke of the incredible level of hospitality shown in Ngaizumi Cho and the itinerary for their visit. From meticulous planning, travel arrangements to accommodation which allowed a mixture of very formal events and some more light-hearted. Although even when enjoying themselves in a very large, choreographed Wakawaku Walk/Dance parade, they did have to rehearse their movements ahead of time. 2 hours long in 36C heat. However this all contributed to an unforgettable event. Rotary projects mentioned included one club who had its first Polio Plus activity.

Lei and Kate spoke of being part of the some 25000 strong Toronto International Convention attendees. Lei concentrated on her following the indigenous peoples activities and she was surprised that a lack of knowledge of some internationally recognition of past grievances. After listening to the local First Nations leader and several session speakers, she concluded that NZ is doing well in this area. She also explained the PACT programme led by Rotarians to provide mentoring for young people getting in trouble with the law. If they are deemed suitable by the courts, they can be diverted into this programme which has resulted in many turning their lives around and now making valuable contributions to the community. Kate highlighted some of the Peace material she had shared although she was disappointed at not being able to attend as many breakout sessions as selected often because of limited food outlets in the House of Friendship. Among the many new Rotarian friends made was one from Sri Lanka who was a relative of Dr DeZoisa. Next convention is in Hamburg, Germany.

Dennis and Dick travelled as part of the some 35 strong Whanganui Male Choir on its tour of Australia. Some background was given to the Choir and its history which showed just how much of a contribution Whanganui choristers make. Their tours are filled with activity – not all of which is rehearsing and putting on concerts! Often they joined with other local choirs to perform to full houses usually in churches, giving 5 concerts in 10 days in Sydney, Wagga Wagga and Adelaide. Most of their accommodation was home-stay and they were shown local highlights – cheese factory, chocolate factory, museum – as well as having large dinners. While in Sydney they were able to enjoy the 'Vivid Sydney' light show across the harbour. The choir provides a family atmosphere and much fun, but underpinning it all is the expectation of excellence from their leader.

All speakers were willing to share more of their adventures – just ask!!

Tree Planting at Hospice

Sandy McDougall had advised that they have booked 19th September from 1.30-4.30pm for tree planting at the Hospice. If any members would like to assist it would be much appreciated. You will need to bring your own spade and make sure that you are wearing gumboots (or old gardening shoes).

Duffy Books

See Max Restieaux if you want to go to a display on Wed 5 Sept at 11 am.

Rotary Learning and Information 101 – 9 September – Whanganui Fire Station. 9.00 am – 1.30 pm. Lunch provided.

An opportunity for you to mix with Rotarians from other clubs, and learn about the opportunities for personal growth and community involvement offered through Rotary. *If you are interested in attending please let Jim Callaghan know.*