



Rotary Club of Wanganui North

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President: Colin Slaughter tel: 06 3472559
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DG Blog: <http://rotary9940.org.nz>

We Meet:

Every Wednesday 5.30pm
At the Cossie Club
Off Rutland Street
Wanganui

Other Wanganui

Rotary Clubs meet:

Club: Wanganui
Venue: The Avenue Motor Inn
Victoria Avenue
Time: Monday 12 noon

Club: Daybreak (fortnightly)
Venue: The Kingsgate Hotel
379 Victoria Avenue
Time: Monday 6:50am

Please note:

*Apologies or additional guests
are to be phoned or emailed to*
Brian.W.Smith@xtra.co.nz

or

Phone 344-3056

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Des Wink	UFN
Garth Barlow	UFN
Matt McLay	UFN
John van Dalen	UFN
Robin Paul	until 7/10
Bevan Chilcott	until 28/9
Don Speirs	UFN
Bernie Thomas	UFN
Mike Miller	5/9 – 24/10
Dion Hazelhurst	until end Sept



Meeting

The meeting began with a special welcome to DG Marion & husband Mike. Also welcomed were Assistant DG Tony Stewart, all partners and the two inductees, Anshu & Lyn.

Grace was delivered by Leith and a reminder to members when someone is at the podium, about to speak, it is polite and courteous to be silent. Just saying.

Presidents Announcements

Graeme Prince was presented with a bound copy of all bulletins from his year as President.

Lyn Larsen won the raffle and sergeant Rosemary proceeded to fine those with likes and dislikes of various vegetables.

(Am I the only one who doesn't like leeks? President Colin doesn't like leeks, but that's a different matter.)

Induction of two New Rotarians

Anshu Prasad was introduced by Sue Gardner.

Anshu is a GP, born in Fiji, but her parents are now both teachers in Lower Hutt. She went to school in Fiji, Medical School in Adelaide, spent a year at the hospital in Suva where she was born, moved to Nandi for a time then came to NZ where she worked in Kenepuru, Porirua before coming to Whanganui as a locum and has now been here for 6 years. She has three sons, all still single.

Lyn Couper was introduced by Karen Edlin. Lyn was born in Opunake, moved to Fielding and married Lloyd Allpress then moved to Hawkes Bay and then on to Australia and finally back to NZ and Whanganui. Lyn is a member of Zonta and now a member of the Rotary Club of Whanganui North.



Inductees

DG Marion performed the induction, noting that new members were chosen because they displayed those character traits that Rotary seeks-honesty & integrity, while bringing new skills and ideas to the club. She noted that Rotary gives members the opportunity to improve one's self confidence and improve one's leadership skills.

Marion also referred to the 4 Way Test and how its application to our everyday lives will make us all better people. She then presented them with their Rotary Pins, noting that they were now members of an international organisation of over two million members in more than two hundred countries and the pin gives them automatic right of entry to any Rotary Club meeting, anywhere in the world. As well, Marion gave them both their Rotary Coin, with the 4 Way test inscribed.

Anshu will join Phil Walker's committee, and Lyn will join Evert van Reenen's committee.



Calendar

Wednesday 12th September

Committee Meetings

18th October

Foodbank Drive

24th October

World Polio Day

17th November

Rotary Rowing Stakes

9th December

Carols by Candlelight

Duties

Meeting	12 th September	19 th September	26 th September
Speaker	Marco Meijer	TBA	TBA
Topic	Being fit for surgery	TBA	TBA
Host	Karen Edlin	Jane Hickey	Tony Hodge
Thanks	Mike Green	Terry Coxon	Bruce Kennedy
Reception	Brian Smith	Brian Smith	Brian Smith
	Phil Walker	Graeme Meyers	Bryce Coneybeer
Grace	Graeme Prince	Graeme Carter	Brian Foley
Sergeant	Rosemary Hovey	Rosemary Hovey	Rosemary Hovey
Bulletin Editor	Malcolm Jansen	Malcolm Jansen	Malcolm Jansen

If you are not able to attend please arrange a replacement

DG Marion

Marion is the second DG to come from this club, the first being Don Spiers.

Marion opened her address with a short speech in Te Reo, while holding “Tau Piripiri”, the speaker’s staff. Tau Piripiri was carved by a Ngati Porou apprentice as his final “exam” and was given to Don Martin when he worked in Hawkes Bay. On his return to New Plymouth it was given to his club, to be presented to all future District Governors for their period of office. Although the original instructions were that it never be presented to a woman, times have changed and it is no longer about gender or ethnicity but about the mana of the role of DG.

When she first joined Rotary, Marion was incapable of standing and speaking in front of a crowd. Thanks to Rotary and the constant but gentle pressure, she is now District Governor, and regularly speaking to crowds large and small with total confidence.

Traditionally, the RI President chooses a theme for their term in office and this year’s theme is “Be The Inspiration”. His feeling is that the oceans connect us all and if we are therefore united and creating lasting change for the better then we will be “The Inspiration”.

This philosophy resonated with Marion to the extent that she chose not to have her own personal DG’s theme for District 9940 but will stick with the international theme. In Rotary we are united because unity gives us the strength to DO, not just talk, and therefore we can inspire change.

What Marion Would Like to Happen

1. Change-be open to change and the idea or concept of change. Ask ourselves-what do people expect of service clubs today? Change needs to be small, incremental and constant to avoid sudden major disruptions.
2. Take Stock-We do lots of small separate projects which while being worthwhile, may prevent the club from working together. Maybe sometimes we should focus on fewer but larger, more inclusive projects
3. Alter our focus on fund raising and concentrate on the concept of service for a time. Do we reflect “the community?” If not, why not? If we cling desperately to tradition, we make ourselves less attractive to new members. At the current rate of loss of members and Club’s Rotary will cease to exist within a couple of decades in the western world. Contrast this with Asia where new clubs and new districts are constantly increasing. Can we reverse the western trend?



DG Marion Continued

4. Public Perception.

We need to show the public we are proud to be Rotarians. That we DO GOOD in the community, in the country and in the world in general. We need to remind the public of the good we do in the community by being visible, by wearing our rotary pins, rotary T-shirts & caps in public. We can be the best advertisement for rotary if we so choose.

5. Polio

We are so near yet so far. Polio is now trapped on the Afghanistan-Pakistan border but this is a dangerous place for outsiders and there is a lot of anti-vaccination propaganda from certain quarters. Recently a mother/daughter vaccination team was killed in this region. But we cannot stop now. The job needs to be finished. Rotary needs to raise another \$150 million which will be matched by the Bill & Melinda Gates Charity 2:1 which will give us \$450 million with which to finish the job.

6. Volunteer-All DG's and Assistants are Volunteers

There is no "Head Office" just an annual movement of "stuff" from house to house and garage to garage. Volunteer to attend the workshops for club development-they are well worth it and more importantly, rotary needs you.

7. Conference.

This year's conference is in Whanganui, the first since 1991. It will be a great weekend for "connecting" and the program will be inspirational. Every club member should make maximum effort to attend.

In closing, Marion reiterated that the RI vision is

- "Unite and create lasting change"
- "Use the 4 way test as our daily yardstick"

If we do this then we will truly be "THE INSPIRATION"

In giving the vote of thanks, David Hood, (who first tapped Marion on the shoulder about becoming club president,) commenting on Marion's steady progress through the ranks of Rotary, noted that "cream always rises to the top."

Well said David, and thank you Marion for being "

