Editorial

NEW ZEALAND CONSERVATION Queen Charlotte Sound

Prior to the arrival of human beings, there were no 4 legged mammals in NZ; only birds and reptiles, plus of course many insect species. Accordingly some bird species evolved into flightless varieties, without the ability to counter 4 legged predators when they were introduced to the country. As we now know, Emus became extinct – hunted out by humans; and Kiwis are severely threatened by introduced mammals. Possums, introduced from America are regarded as #1 alien invader. Originally vegetarian, they have become carnivorous over the years, now robbing birds' nests and devouring chicks. Over the past 40 years there has been a huge effort towards total eradication of Possums. From an estimated 90 000, mainly in the South Island, there are now an estimated 40 000, with a goal of zero by 2050. Weasels and Stoats are also on the hit list for similar reasons.



Queen Charlotte Sound has been identified as a rehabilitation reserve where threatened birds are placed on islands with absolutely no 4 footed predators. Specifically Kiwis as well as some 'tree hopping' species (they don't migrate off a

designated island) have been relocated to these islands, which are rigorously monitored by NZ Conservation staff; and over the past 20 years numbers have nearly doubled. By 2050 the Kiwi is expected to be taken off the 'endangered' list.

Pine trees, mainly Douglas Fir were introduced to NZ in the 19th century as a cash crop. It has been highly successful and timber export is a major contribution to GDP. Trees, which take 75 years to reach maturity in native North America, are harvested within 30 years in NZ. However the wind-blown seed is difficult to limit to plantations, and has spread into wildlife reserves, such as Queen Charlotte Sound. In 1990 a decision was taken to poison the invaders. The NZ Conservation team would traverse the steep terrain on foot, drilling holes into the trunks of the pines and pouring in tree poison. By killing the tree in this way, it also killed the seeds, limiting further invasion. But this method was painstakingly slow, so they started using helicopters. A staff member with his poison pack was lowered beneath the helicopter and sprayed the tops of the pines. This was 100 times faster and equally effective to drilling into the trunks; and would still be used if Health & Safety hadn't got to hear about the inherent danger of people dangling under helicopters! The solution was to devise a robot to do the job, and this has indeed been the answer. Invasive pine control is working well, and although it will be an ongoing task, there is a very positive attitude towards this aspect of conservation.





Minutes: 4 April 2019

Compiled by Barry Cleveland

Attendance

20 members present = 71.4%, No visitors

Fellowship

5th April: Stacy's birthday

From the President's chair

Keela gracefully accepted her President's pin, pending her official induction on 25 May.

Stephen B: 1.There are about 1200 Rotarians in D9350, the vast majority of whom are unknown to us. District Conference over the weekend 3-5 May gives Rotarians the opportunity to make acquaintance with them.

2. Rotary Family Health Day – volunteers from WRC are urgently needed

2. Rotary Family Health Day – volunteers from WRC are urgently needed of the 3 days in October. We share the duty locally with Constantia and Kromboom.

Slots

3. Pam will be heading up the Childline project in Wynberg.

Keela: 1.Did her best Park Run last weekend – an impressive 57 minutes!

2. She and Stephen have adopted a puppy from Aid4Aid.

Justin: Adventures in Leadership will be 16-22 June.

Stacy: Easter Egg drive – Please drop extra Easter eggs with Stacy by 17 April, latest.

String: If there are any changes to 'regular' attendance details, he needs to know them by the Wednesday at 17.00, latest.

Ruth: is involved in funding for her school, Lotus River Primary School.

Club meeting

The main topic was feedback from Proms 2019, which is reported on separately.

Swindle

Hugh drew the 8 of Hearts, missing the jackpot – ah shame! String won the attendance prize of R25

President's 'Rotarian of the Week'

Pot plants labelled "Thank you for helping us grow" were awarded to: Dave for his Sergeant skills

Barry for leading Proms 2019



If you're in a group of 23 people, there's a 50% chance that two of them share a birthday. If you're in a group of 70 people, that probability jumps to over 99%.

	April			May
Duty Roster	11	18 No Meeting	25 Social Quiz Night	2
Rosier				
Sergeant	Jackson			Overbosch
Wynpress Editorial	O'Driscoll			Schonegevel R
Wynpress Minutes	Maunder			Thomas
Door Duty	Thomas			Van Niekerk
Grace	Dietrich			Howard
Loyal Toast	Gowdy			Jackson
International Toast	Jackson			Maunder
Speaker Intro and Thanks	Cleveland			
Entertainment for the month	Van Niekerk K, Cleveland, Dietrich, Munday, Schonegevel J			

Dates To Diarise			
11 April	Life coach, Rex Hillier on 'Addictions'		
18 April	No Meeting: Tomorrow is Good Friday		
25 April	Social – Quiz Night at Jack Black in aid of Aid4Aid (Keela / Stacy)		
2-5 May	PETS / District Conference: Lord Charles Hotel, Somerset West		
11 May	Steenberg Rotaract – induction of 2019/20 committee. 09.00 at Norman Henshilwood HS. Respond to Kelly-Anne <u>steenbergrotaract@gmail.com</u> by 13/4.		
25 May (Saturday morning)	Induction of President Keela: Vineyard Hotel		

When you see that trading is done, not by consent, but by compulsion

When you see that in order to produce, you need to obtain permission from men who produce nothing

When you see that money is flowing to those who deal, not in goods, but in favours
When you see that men get richer by graft and by pull than by work, and your laws don't protect
you against them, but protect them against you

When you see corruption being rewarded and honesty becoming a self-sacrifice

— you may know that your society is doomed.

~ from 'Atlas Shrugged' by Ayn Rand (written over 60 years ago....)

Tailpiece

SOME LESS FAMOUS PROVERBS

- 1. He who laughs last thinks slowest.
- 2. On the other hand you have different fingers.
- 3. Change is inevitable except from a vending machine.
- 4. I just got lost in thought. It was unfamiliar territory.
- 5. Those who live by the sword get shot by those who don't.
- 6. You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say will be misquoted, then used against you.
- 7. I wonder how much deeper the ocean would be without sponges.
- 8. Honk if you love peace and quiet.
- 9. Despite the cost of living, have you noticed how it remains so popular?
- 10. Nothing is foolproof to a sufficiently talented fool.
- 11. The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.
- 12. It is said that if you line up all the cars in the world end to end, someone would be stupid enough to try and pass them.
- 13. Latest survey shows that 3 out of 4 people make up 75% of the world's population.
- 14. The things that come to those who wait are usually the things left by those who got there first.
- 15. A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.
- 16. It was recently discovered that research causes cancer in rats.
- 17. I started out with nothing, and I still have most of it.
- 18. I wish the buck stopped here, as I could use a few.
- 19. Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
- 20. Fully 50% of the population are below average.

