



Whangarei Rotary

(Chartered 1925)

District 9910



Chronicle for November 2017

Int President Ian Riseley

President – Maurice Schicker, Secretary- Alison Rossiter, Treasurer – Bill Rossiter, Chronicle - Andrew Bax, Community – Andrew Bax, International - Roger Barber, Programme –Mike Elrick, Almoner – Graeme Corbet, Website - Andrew Bax, Youth – Maurice Schicker, District Governor – David Oliphant, Assistant Governor – Brian Burnett

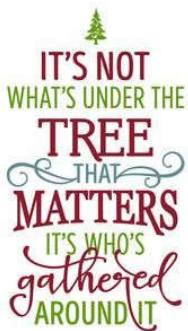
Presidents Monthly Report

Another great year is coming to an end. Half way through my term as president (or only a quarter if Andrew has his way) has been fun and we have achieved quite a lot. Thanks to you all for helping and working around my work, especially Alison for running meeting that I couldn't attend.

I Enjoy the social activities such as the 5th week dinners and the Octagon Theatre and I'm sure our breakup party at Mikes will be fun.

Let's put in a big effort in December with the Trailer Raffle and may your holiday season be filled fun

We have had some interesting speaker this year, thanks to Mike.



President
Maurice Schicker

Guest Speaker (8 November) – Rob Furlong – CEO WDC



Rob moved up from Wellington as CEO for the Environmental Protection Society. WDC has been a learning curve and he has a passion for this area and doesn't like hearing negative talk about our district.

Rob carries out a wide range of jobs and today was a typical example from meeting with the a group and discussing high level economic strategy, to dealing with a complaint about smelly seaweed on the beach.

Some interesting statistics which show how fast our district has grown in recent years.

- Northland employment rose to a new record high of 79,500 in June 2017.
- The annual average unemployment rate dropped to 7.5%.

- Northland's GDP rose approximately 3.5% in the year ended June. Northland ranks 5th out of 16 regions in terms of annual GDP growth
- The average wage and salary rose 3.6% in the year ended June 2016, higher than the national average increase of 3.2%
- Northland's salaries rank eighth out of the 16 regions, about 89% of the New Zealand average and is very close to that received in the Bay of Plenty and Otago
- Northland experienced the sharpest drop in affordability over the 12-month period

We increased our population by 2,000 last year. Other people Love it Here too.

So What is happening in our District now?

- Long Term Plan
- LED lighting upgrade
- Tarewa Park Tank
- Pohe Island Projects
- Sealed Road Pavement Rehabilitations
- Whau Valley Water Treatment Plant
- Tutukaka, Ruakaka and Hikurangi Wastewater Networks Upgrade

Changing all street lighting to LED is very beneficial for Whangarei. It is subsidised by Government by 80% and will reduce our yearly power bill from \$186,000 to under \$10,000.

The Tarewa Park Tank involves a 650,000 litre emergency underground storage facility which is a holding tank for excess sewer in time of significant rainfall which will prevent spilling into out harbour.

Pohe Island Management Plan



Pohe Island will be developed into an amazing recreational area.

Rob's power point presentation was very interesting and he obviously has a passion for Whangarei. Well worth watching and many questions were answered well by Rob.

Guest Speaker 22 Nov – John Barber – Update on Hundertwaaser

https://youtu.be/pda5_m6zp3A

Watch This video.....



You probably remember when it all started with Stan Seminof wanting to do something with the Regional Council Building. It was decided to go ahead until the new Mayor decided to get the public support. This vote was taken and whatever you think, the decision to go ahead was taken, The cost is now \$21m which was escalated due to the foundation work that is required. 75 x 600mm dia bored concrete fill piles to a depth of 28 meters.

The tenders are out now and the 3 local contractors are very keen and the tender closes on 18 Dec 2017. If the tender price is over the budget then the whole project falls over. (Fingers crossed)
The roof is going to carry a full bush with 5 metre trees, from endangers trees to fruit trees. This means the roof thickness is 500mm thick.

The public will have free access to walk over the building and entre the Maori gallery. On the 3rd floor there is a Café / Restaurant which will be privately run.
Council will maintain the garden and bush. All plants and tree are growing now ready for the opening.
Barry Trash, who is one of the main drivers behind it is trying to get a cruise ship for the grand opening.

The build will take 20 months to complete, utilising some recovered material from the old building.
John had plans for us to view and a copy of the schedule which was as thick as our telephone book.

Steve Bowling is very keen and has offer to construct at cost.

Its all exciting with lots of questions from members and Frank Jackson thanked John for his informative talk.

Trailer Raffle

The silly season is upon us and we are selling Raffle tickets again. Grab some books and sell, sell, sell. This way Bill we be happy and keep of my back...

All hands on deck at the summer show on Saturday and again at Mitre 10 during December.

This is our big fundraiser and we only need to put in a big effort in December.



Aug Duty Roster (a.m – 11:30 for Noon, p.m. – 5:30 for 6:00pm) KAMO club					
Lunch first, dinner second – 1 st Wed lunch 2 nd dinner etc					
Duties	10 Dec Lunch/dinner	That's it for	the year		Start late Jan 2018
Speaker	At Mikes batch				
Host	None				
Thanks	None				
Reception	None				
Parting Thought	None				

Parting thought – From Andrew

Christmas cards were originally written in England when children would practice their writing skills on cards for handmade gifts to their parents. The representation of a red robin with a card were based on the old Victorian postmen in England who wore red uniforms and were referred to as robins that would deliver Christmas mail. Christmas cards were later commissioned in the mid 1800's and were lithographed on dark cardboard with holiday messages and greetings.