



Rotary Club of Palmerston North (1924)

President Dave Gaynor, Secretary Steve Paterson, Treasurer Ron Schalkwijk, Past President John Freebairn

Rotary



Monday 21st July 2025

President Norelle Ward
Speaker **Benji Pritchard,**

"ManawaTech, Fit Rewards, and The Factory - business, community engagement, and impact."

Intro/Thanks	Ramola Duncan
Attendance	Stu Schwartz
Sergeant	Liam Hehir
Corporal	Craig Ross
Parting Thought	David Chapple
Bulletin	Steve Parsons

Monday 28 July 2025

Induction of **Aaron Tait, Agri Accounting**
Presenters Nigel Jolly, John Freebairn

Speaker **Dave Gaynor, Nigel Withell, John Brunsdon.**

"Kahuterawa Bush – an ecological park"

Intro/Thanks	President Dave
Attendance	Martin Townend
Sergeant	Liam Hehir
Corporal	Dan Wheeler
Parting Thought	Brian Donnelly
Bulletin Editor	Steve Parsons

Monday 04 August 2025

Speaker **Shaun Kay**
"Showcasing Palmy's Creative Pulse: Celebrating our Arts Community and Placemaking Pride"

Intro/Thanks	Steve Parsons
Attendance	Stu Schwartz
Sergeant	John Freebairn
Corporal	Nick Kaspers
Parting Thought	Iain Waugh
Bulletin Editor	Steve Parsons

Monday 11 August 2025

Speaker **John Prendergast,** Rotary District

"This is Rotary and what to do about it"

Intro/Thanks	President Dave
Attendance	Martin Townend
Sergeant	Nigel Withell
Corporal	Lesley Boulton
Parting Thought	Mike Charles
Bulletin Editor	Steve Parsons

Report on meeting Monday 14th June

Summary of Talk – Adrian Gregory, District Secretary 9940 "Lifting the Lid"

Introduced by President Dave Gaynor

Adrian Gregory took us on a powerful journey—from a chance invitation to a Rotary meeting in a neighbour's garden, to becoming a passionate advocate and leader for youth mental wellbeing in our communities.

Originally from the UK and with a professional background in health systems in both Britain and New Zealand, Adrian shared how his introduction to Rotary came through curiosity and community spirit—and how that soon turned into deep commitment.

The heart of his presentation focused on **"Lifting the Lid"**, a youth mental wellbeing initiative born in the Kapiti-Horowhenua region, now expanding across the lower North Island. The project began in response to a heartbreaking cluster of youth suicides and was built on Rotary's ability to *see a need and act*. Inspired by an eccentric hat-wearing presenter and with permission to adopt the name from Rotary in Australia, "Lifting the Lid" was launched in 2020 to complement (not replace) in-school counselling services for college students.



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Adrian explained how the project enables school principals and counsellors to apply quickly and confidentially for funds to provide *immediate, targeted mental health support* for high-risk students—cutting through delays and red tape. The process is simple, discreet, and based on trusted relationships with local schools.

The initiative has been funded through generous community donations, Rotary club support, and grants. Adrian proudly highlighted a \$1,200 donation made simply by a local café collecting gold coins—proof of how strongly the community stands behind this kaupapa.

With humour, heart, and humility, Adrian acknowledged the hard work involved, especially as fewer clubs now carry a growing load. But his message was clear: **this is what Rotary is for.** Lifting the Lid is saving lives, restoring hope, and giving young people a chance to step back into life with the right support at the right time.

In closing, Adrian reminded us that this work isn't about grand gestures—it's about *timely, compassionate action*. He invited our club to consider how we, too, might play a role in expanding or supporting this vital mahi.



Nominate a Potential Member

Dave Gaynor asked members to nominate any person they feel is a potential member for Rotary. This has been the traditional way of recruiting members. Choosing people who are likely to be interested.

Dave will make the approach, or members can bring a potential member for free to a meeting to check Rotary out.



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It takes a team effort to make a difference. Please send your nominations to Dave.

Guest Speaker?

If you see or hear of a good speaker, please let Martin know so we can invite them along.

New Member Form

propose a new member. Just click on the link:

<https://www.pnrotary.co.nz/ProposeNewMember.pdf>

Club 100 Year booklet update copy is available from Dave Gaynor. This final edition includes all speeches

Club 100 year booklet is now live on <https://manawatuheritage.pncc.govt.nz/>

