



3 pupils were sponsored by Waikato Sunrise to attend RYPEN in November.

The two pupils from Raglan Area School visited our club in Dec to report back... Read more [page 3](#)



Rotary in Action - Hamilton



Pictured above:

A vehicle was purchased as a fleet car for Big Brothers Big Sisters work in Hamilton, with the donation of \$10000 tagged for this purpose by the Rotary Club of Waikato Sunrise.

The **Toyota Platz** has been a welcome addition to the original fleet of one vehicle, for the BBBS team to undertake their family liaison visits and other meetings. During a visit to the club in Dec by the Trust Project Leader, Lexlei Taylor and Hamilton Police Youth Development leader, Lance Tebbutt (above), the provision of a vehicle for this important work was praised as a truly grass roots donation that would contribute significantly to the community needs served by BBBS.

Coming up in February/March:

4 Feb Guest Speaker: **Maria Carlton, Club Member**
'This is my life'

4 Feb **Sunrise @ Six**
See advert p 4

11 Feb Guest Speaker: **Timon Kraus**
Presentation on South Island IYE Tour

18 Feb Guest Speaker: **Lynette Flowers**
Habitat for Humanity

25 Feb Guest Speaker: **To be confirmed**

3 Mar **Rotary Paul Harris Community Awards**
5pm for 5.45pm
SkyCity Event Centre
Guest Speaker: **RI President Ray Klinginsmith**

4 Mar Guest Speaker: **Peter Bodeker**
NZ Seafood Council

Check it out in Dec-Jan 2010-11 Rotary DownUnder:

P12 The 100th Mission to Fiji

P24 Rebuilding a Community

P34 Social Networkers Launched



Waikato Sunrise was pleased to sponsor Helen Mumby, GSE Team Member to School of St Jude in Tanzania. Helen writes:



It's been a month now since we returned from Tanzania. We had an amazing life changing experience and met some really lovely people. We were able to do so many interesting activities both helping within the school and in the getting to know the nearby Arusha city. Some of the tasks we took part in around the school included making teaching resources such as building blocks, painting playground equipment, creating artwork around the school, assisting in the library and helping with the testing

process for students applying to go to the school. Through supervising the kids who made it through to the written test, we learnt some basic Swahili phrases such as 'you have finished' (ume maleza) and 'I need to go to the bathroom' (wanataka kwenda choo) which I'm sure we will find a use for now that we are back in New Zealand.



Rotary in Action ... GSE to Tanzania



Masai culture. A personal highlight of the trip was visiting local organisations such as a nearby orphanage where we met some very energetic and friendly kids who were as excited to see us as we were to see them. We also spent a weekend on safari in the Serengeti and surrounding wild life reserves and were lucky enough to see lions, rhinos, hippos among many other

animals in their natural habitat. Through this GSE experience, I was able to see firsthand the poverty that exists in parts of Africa and how organisations such as Rotary and St Jude's School are working towards making a difference in the lives of those affected. **Thank you Waikato sunrise for this opportunity. Helen**

Although we were based at the school we were also able to take two trips out to Monduli (a traditional Masai village) and we had the unique experience of visiting a Masai family, seeing where they live and learning about



RYPEN – Rotary Youth Programme of Enrichment

Waikato Sunrise member Stuart Daniel volunteered for the RYPEN weekend, held in November 2010.

Stuart reports:

Friday evening as soon as everyone arrived, there was a briefing and the students were split into 3 groups and then went kayaking across the lake and up a side stream in the twilight at the top of the gorge we waited for darkness and floated back downstream through the gorge that was illuminated by a mass



of glowworms both sides, this was pretty spectacular and my highlight for the weekend. The kids loved it too. **Saturday**, we had a rotation of 3 activities consisting of kayaking, archery and raft building using tubes planks and rope. The students had free time from about 4pm to make use of the swimming pool, water slide and flying fox. After dinner we went for a spot of twilight canyoning, which happened to be only ten minutes walk away surrounded by native bush. The speakers for the day included Libby, Danae and 2 year 13 students from Cambridge High that were good role models.

Follow Timon's daily blog:
timonkrause@waarbenjij.nu



Raglan Area School pupils, Lauren Russell and Ashleigh Waitere, visited the club in Dec with Principal Malcolm Cox, to report on her experience at RYPEN. Lauren reflects:

Sunday, consisted of the big clean up after breaky, and then we had a top town like series of games that the groups were battling it out for the glory of being crowned the champions. After morning tea we had a Rotary IYE guest speaker who went to Brazil for the year. We also had the camp director Jim Hughes talking about his life story, which was very interesting, identifying that you don't have to be an outstanding student academically, but rather its all about making the right choices and applying yourself in life. The kids found these stories very interesting.

Hello, I'm Lauren from Raglan Area School. First of all, I'd like to thank the Rotary Club for paying mine and Ashleigh's camp expenses for Lake Karapiro and also for feeding and looking after all of us. It was awesome. A little while after I got there, "there" being the Epworth camp, I was told we were going to go kayaking. I'd never kayaked before so I buddied with someone who had. I picked it up quickly and now I love it. On the way back, we got to see the glowworms too, which was great. You're in this canopy of trees and you look around and it looks like stars. The next day we did some archery - I managed to hit the bulls eye quite a few times but never the balloons on the sides. Last activity, and the hardest, was rafting. Not only did you have to build a raft that fit four to five people on it, but it also had to float and you had to get it 500 meters down the lake. We all swam and pulled the raft with us because it didn't float OR hold four people. The boys team cheated, in my opinion, by starting heaps of meters in front of us. But we all had a laugh, so it was fine. My legs were sore afterwards though. Last day, we all had the option to go on the flying fox and the water slide. I personally opted for watching the activities, but they all looked like they were having fun. As soon as I got home, instead of walking the dog, I jumped in bed and slept for a few hours, exhausted. Thanks for providing the free breakfast today and just everything. It was a really awesome experience and I'd do it again if I had the chance. Thanks!

Service Above Self ...

Each week, we 'take note' of our members, individually, for their service to Rotary. This month, we've acknowledged the following members:



**Robyn Steed
Rural Health**

Robyn joined Waikato Sunrise in 2003, introduced by Raewyn Kirkman following a discussion with Nick Hamilton, a former Club Member. Robyn's first involvement with Rotary was as a GSE team member to Washington and Oregon States in United States of America – an experience that influenced her in both professional and personal development.

Robyn's held club roles including a term as Director, Sergeant and latterly involved with the Youth Talent Programme. Her major club involvement at this time is supporting the Montana contract.

Rob's most fun make-up moment at Rotary has been attending the Taihape Club meetings – swelling the numbers attending to 12. She values the fun and fellowship that is Rotary.



**Richard Frances
Business Coach**

Richard first joined Rotary in 2000, introduced by Raewyn Kirkman with support from Malcolm Neil and the late Marie Flynn (all of whom he says have had a lasting influence on him!).

Richard was a founding beer server at the Stadium, and in the early years was a seminar presenter and key

note speaker at "Fast Track your Future" – a youth programme Waikato Sunrise was involved in. He also assisted with Careers day for a couple of years.

Richard has been a committee member, workshop presenter and Treasurer for RYLA for a few years now, and has been committee member and Treasurer for DARE over the past two years.

And at some stage, he recalls being one of the Red wine riders 'round Taupo' team, and believes he set the record for the slowest half ever!



**Gary Robertson
Insurance**

Gary joined Rotary in 2005. He played his first starring role as a Sergeant, which he says was a great way to get to know the club members and make a name for himself as a stirrer!

He also helped for a couple of years with the ordering and distribution of Christmas puddings to Link House and to members.

This year has been Gary's third year as liaison person with Montana, and Coordinator of volunteers for the beer tents for local rugby games and the V8s, as well as special events like the Tua fight last year. This is a big role that Gary does with dedication, which the club much appreciates.

Gary's most recent starring role was in Dec, in member Renee Casserly's movie – or perhaps he was just an extra like the rest of the members there! Either way, Gary's always up for being involved.

"Sunrise @ Six"

is our social pub night, on the first Friday of every month at a venue selected by our social committee.

Six O'clock kick off or earlier if you feel so inclined. Feel free to bring partners and we extend an invite to members of other local Rotary Clubs.

Next gathering:
**Friday 4 February
6pm at Keystone Bar
See you there!**



**Mary Ann Baxter
Principal, Hamilton Girls High School**

After becoming Principal of HGHS in April 2004, Mary Ann joined Waikato Sunrise Rotary club in mid 2004, introduced and nominated by Jim Annett, who as well as being a Sunrise Rotary stalwart was for many years a very supportive member of Girls' High's Board of Trustees.

With the busy lives so many of us have, Mary Ann really likes the way she can offer her time to participate in a wide range of voluntary projects, which Rotary commits itself to, such as the Montana contract.

Continued page 5

The emphasis on youth is something Mary Ann finds refreshing within the club and within Rotary - as this is her passion and her life's work - and she regularly commends the club for all that is done here. Throughout her time in Rotary, Mary Ann has been part of a HGHS liaison committee and it was in 2007 that along with Harvey Duncan who led this committee, invited our club to support the Waikato Sunrise Rotary/HGHS Artist in Residence, which she reports is a superb success, and very much appreciated across the local arts community. Mary Ann has also been involved in the recruiting of young people to go the highly successful RYLA camps, as well as assisting with the City Leader interviews, which RYLA awardees attend, discussing what's involved in leadership.

Mary Ann very much enjoyed being a Sergeant in 2006-7. In addition to service, she values the comradeship which offers a supportive sounding board for issues you can deal with as an employer and may wish to quietly test the water about. The trust involved in being able to do this, and the capacity for Rotary to be there at what can sometimes be very lonely isolated moments as an employer, is something Mary Ann appreciates and values in her Rotary mates.

Mary Ann is completely committed to living our motto 'service above self'. This has a strong influence on how she leads her school, and she enjoys the opportunity that Rotary offers to further live the motto.



Marg Jenkins
Features Consultant, Waikato Times

Marg joined Rotary in 2005, introduced by Phyllis Huitema. Upon joining, she heard of the Red Wine



In Dec, we farewelled IYE student **Stewart Gibson**, left for Argentina in January.

Stewart will be hosted by the Rotary Club of Chilecito del Bicentenario, in Chilecito City, La Roiija, Argentina. See page 6 for his first update.

Stewart's email:
whangasurfa@hotmail.com

Congratulations to member **Sharyn Bell** who has been made a Director at Staples Rodway, effective 1 Feb.

2010 Thank You...
While acknowledging community partnerships at a Christmas morning tea function in Dec, member Dianne Pollard-Williams, Principal of Melville Primary, expressed appreciation to Waikato Sunrise Rotary club for our support throughout the year.

Riders and the Taupo Bike Challenge and promptly joined the group. Before long, Marg decided the group needed a uniform top. Malcolm Neil and Marg auctioned off their prominent 'best TOP' bits!! and raised \$1,000 from members who purchased 'best bits' for their logo to go on our bike tops. These are worn with pride to this day.

Marg's committee involvements have included organising guest speakers, Social committee (involving having far too much fun with Phyllis and the two Johns), and holding a Director's position for two years.

Marg has attended three District Conferences, and deserves acknowledgement for being an enthusiastic team builder for the dress up events at these conferences. She was also involved with Justin in establishing the current club banner.

Marg regularly works in the beer tents at Waikato Stadium and V8's. She also volunteered for the Tua fight and AIGP in Taupo. She enjoys her annual involvement with Circus Quirkus, which she finds a very rewarding event.

Drawing on her vocational skills and local contacts, Marg strives to get appropriate publicity for Rotary and our club in the Waikato Times and Community newspapers. She achieved awareness for Shelter box at 2010 women's expo. She is currently on the Innovation and PR Committee, as well as the PH Community Award organising committee.

Marg wishes to thank one and all for what she gets from being a member of Waikato Sunrise. She says her social life has quadrupled in variety and enjoyment since becoming a member, and feels that she receives a weekly smorgasbord of fun, friendship and fellowship.

Thank you Robyn, Richard, Gary, Mary Ann and Marg for your service to our club and Rotary. You are valued members of Waikato Sunrise.



IYE student, Stewart Gibson, gives us his first account of life in Argentina...

Santiago then onward to Argentina

I simply cannot get enough of Argentina. Three days in Chile were amazing and I met sooooo many cool people. Then, when I landed in Cordoba, I had a painted sign waiting for me held by Catalina and Mario, my host sister and host father. If I thought trips to the beach were long, this was something else. Six and a half hours to my current town - luckily I slept a little. After dinner, I went to a party with Caty, which lasted till 6.30 in the morning ... well we went home at 6.30 but the party was still going strong! Needless to say, I slept until 1pm that day. I am trying to write in my diary every day but its not happening. I'm getting all these random ads from people I have supposedly met. Everything here is sweet, everything has sugar its hard to get used to. At night, people only start to come over at 2 in the morning ... so many late nights, I've not had breakfast since being in Chilecito! Everything is amazing here.

1 week down 51 to go

So my first week is down and I simply cannot say enough about Argentina. Maybe its just cause I'm an exchange student, but the people are so friendly and inviting and the landscape is simply breathtaking. An average day for me is:

Wake up at about 1300 and have lunch with the father who comes home from work (because it is still holidays my host parents don't have much work as one is a teacher of an English school and the other is an accountant for the town). After this mammoth feed, we usually bum around and do nothing for a while then go to meet at someone's house for mate (this is a kind of tea which everyone drinks and I mean EVERYONE. If you say no thank you they will stare you down until you have some!). At about 1800, everyone's hanging out in the square (1800-2100) (this is like the Garden Place of Chilecito, centre of the city and where everything happens) then dinner at about 2300. Home for dinner then out again at about 1200 or 0100 to meet with friends and go somewhere to drink a little. Then at about 0300 or 0400 we will go to a disco or pub or party, whatever's on offer until 0600 or 0700, then after the pub its off to the local Shell for biscuits and coke.

Everything here is so late. I guess they're working on island time. Rugby training meant to start at 1500 ends up starting at 1630. Training has started already and forgive me if I'm not enthused about my first run in a couple of months, in a new country with new people I don't know, 15km up and down the side of a mountain, in high altitude, in my host sisters hockey shoes!

Every night so far, I have been out with my host sister (I'm like the brother who your mum makes you take everywhere with you) meeting all her friends and enjoying the Argentinean lifestyle. The drinking age over here either doesn't exist or isn't enforced. You go to a dairy and there's no I.D. asked for or anything (partly because there are no drivers licenses) but you do have to hide it (beer) from the cops at night.

I have been a good little exchange student so far and said yes to everything, apart from sleep. Loving the pools here because no one can do any bombs, its really funny watching them try. I have met so many people - so many that for the life of me I cant remember a quarter of their names, all of whom are completely amazing and you could not find a bad word to say about them. They always invite you along to everything and shove food down your throat. It's such an amazing experience. *Stewart*

News from Tel Aviv



District 9930's Ambassadorial Scholar, **Robbie Frances**, currently studying at University in Tel Aviv, writes ...

Hello friends and family...

It's been a long time since my last update - I can't even remember when that was! Life is going by very fast in the Holy land. I am one week off finishing my first semester. Of course that means I am stressed out with exams and assignments. It is all very stimulating and inspiring but also incredibly demanding. However, I am loving every minute of it! I had a wonderful Christmas and New Year in France, although it was very cold! I've never had a white Christmas so it was an

experience and a half. Christmas is not celebrated in Tel Aviv. Bethlehem was overrun with Christian pilgrims this year. Some of my classmates had a Christmas dinner in the Jerusalem Old City (at the house of a friend) followed by a day in Bethlehem. They said it was packed and unless you got your tickets for mass months in advance, you had no hope of even seeing the church of the nativity!

Mum arrives in 3 days. I am incredibly excited. She is by far the best-est friend in the world and I can't wait to share my life here with her. We will spend time in Jerusalem, Masada, Dead Sea, Bethlehem, and I also bought her a camel trek in the Negev for Christmas!! So we will head to Beer Sheva on the 2nd of February where we will hang out at a camel ranch followed by an afternoon hosted by Beer Sheva Rotary. I will speak at the Rotary club in the evening ☺

University update: I have taken up an extra class in Jerusalem at a Jewish institute called Pardes. The class is called 'Rodef Shalom' or pursuers of peace. Pretty much it's a biweekly lecture on the Jewish perspective of conflict and peace. It is the third piece in my academic puzzle as I study the religious approaches to conflict and resolution of the three monotheistic religions. I had my first class today and came away absolutely inspired- such interesting stuff! I will attend classes in Jerusalem once or twice a week. I am also in the process of sussing out an internship in Jerusalem, which I hope to incorporate into my studies at Tel Aviv University and Pardes. So in a nut shell- everything is full on but I am loving it. Doors are opening all over the place, and who knows where they might lead! I have no exciting photos to show; no doubt I'll upload some after Mum's visit.

Happy New Year everyone!! *Robbie*

Congratulations to President Libby and Tim Anderson on their marriage, Saturday 22 January 2011. Pictured here, the wedding party (Libby's children Jared and Danae, and Tim's daughter Adelle). NB change of marital status, but no change of name for our President.



This bulletin would not be complete without acknowledging the hidden talents of our Sergeants, who gave us a hearty 'Rotary rendition' of the '12 days of Christmas' at our final breakfast in Dec. Outstanding, team!