



## *Presidents Post*

Greeting fellow Rotarians,

Hope you all had an enjoyable weekend, with a number of sports on with Super Rugby, the Blackcaps and the start of the NRL.

This past Tuesday's meeting we discussed the future of the club and the need for a President Elect for this coming Rotary year. After a rather long discussion and thanks to Peter Chaney and Graham Smeaton for putting their hands up to both take on the responsibility with hopefully one or two more members to allow the members to have only a three month term as President. The slight increase in meal cost was also discussed.

This coming Tuesday we are at Strike Ten Pin Bowling, we have done this before in the past and they have been very enjoyable.

I look forward to hopefully see most of you at Strike in Petone as it has been great fun in the past.

Joe Howard

President

Hutt River Valley Rotary

## Meeting Tuesday February 28<sup>th</sup> Club Night

A very disappointing attendance tonight when there are some serious issues that as a Club we must address.

There were two issues that occupied most of the discussion and these were:

1. President Elect. At the moment we do not have a President Elect for the 2017/2018 year and at this stage of the year this is not acceptable. The Club should have established a President Elect and President Nominee quite some time ago so that attendance at PETS was possible. After some discussion we decided to operate with four previous Presidents standing for a three month term each. At present we have three; Peter Chaney who will be the President of record, Graham Smeaton and Peter Wright. Next year's President Nominee is Casey Diver.



2. Membership. This is a very pressing problem and needs to be addressed urgently. The Club needs to attract younger members and it is my opinion that to do this we need to change how our club operates, possibly with some radical changes. At the meeting Leole spoke about another club that only had one formal meeting a month and with the reduction in cost and time commitment was attracting younger members. Something like this may be the way to go but we urgently need to look at

this and other possible Club structures to help attract younger members. What we have been doing is not working – WE NEED CHANGE.



## Parting Thought

The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today.

H. Jackson Brown Jr.

## Upcoming Events

**March 7<sup>th</sup>** – Ten pin bowling at Strike Force Petone

**March 14<sup>th</sup>** – Anna Trethewey, the student our Club sent to the Auckland Science and Technology Forum

**March 21<sup>st</sup>** – Brew'd Stokes Valley

**March 28<sup>th</sup>** – Visit by Rotary Club of Petone

## Duties

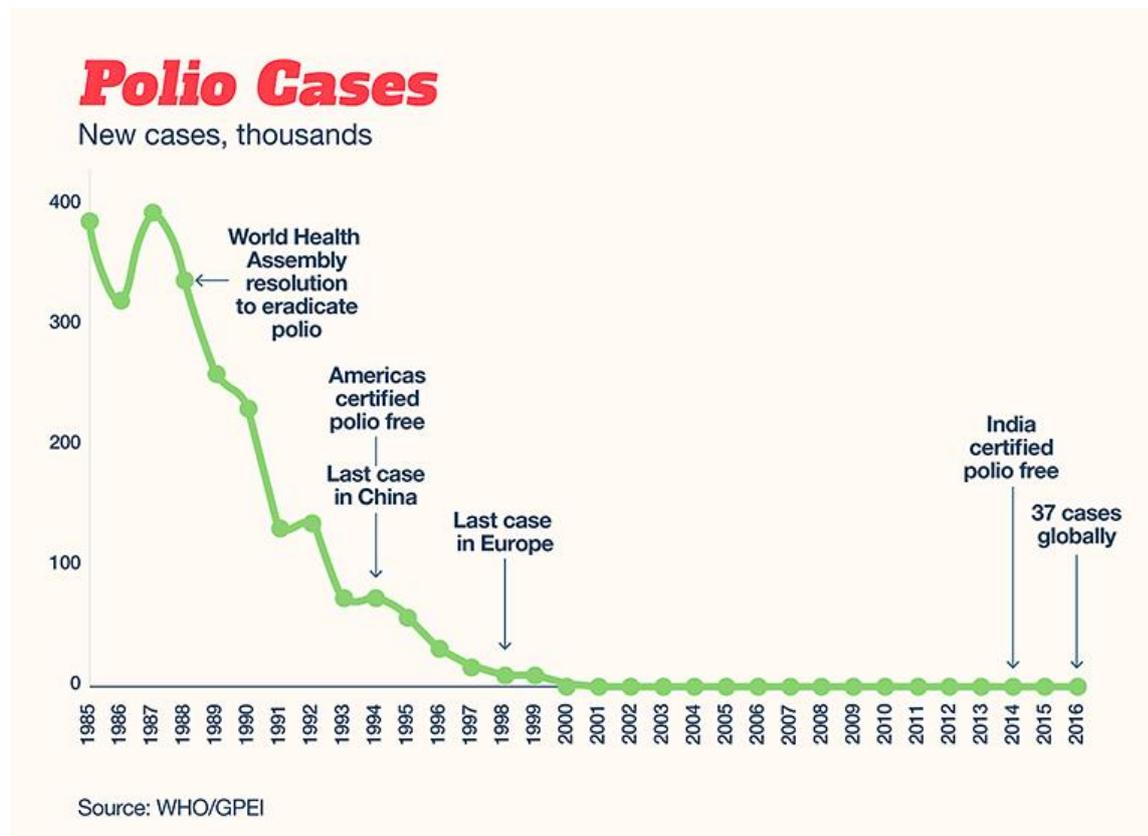
	7-Mar	14-Mar	21-Mar	28-Mar
Guest Speaker & Topic	Ten Pin Bowling Petone	Anna Trethewey Science and Technology Forum student	Brewd Stokes Valley	Petone Rotary Club visit
Host		Graham Smeaton		Joe Howard
Set Up		Alan Thorburn		Alan Thorburn
Grace		John Anderson (T)		Richard Beaufort
Thanks		Richard Bridge		Joe Howard
Parting Thought		Richard Stephen		Raj Prasad
Stewards & Tidy Up		Leigh Sutton Leole Malama-Prasad		Peter Chaney Casey Diver

## Bill & Melinda Gates - Disease Eradication

**Bill:** We want to end our letter with the most magical number we know. It's zero. This is the number we're striving toward every day at the foundation. Zero malaria. Zero TB. Zero HIV. Zero malnutrition. Zero preventable deaths. Zero difference between the health of a poor kid and every other kid.

**Melinda:** Moving toward zero is perhaps the biggest difference between our philanthropy and a business. In the private sector, the goal is to stay in business. In our case, nothing would make us happier than going out of business because we've achieved our goals.

**Bill:** Polio is closest to reaching this magic number. You and I have talked about polio a lot. When you were growing up, you saw things kids never see today: children with polio on crutches and leg braces, photos of kids in iron lungs. By the late 1970s, with the help of vaccines, the United States eliminated polio, but it still raged around the world. In 1988, when the global campaign was launched to end polio, there were 350,000 new cases each year.



Last year, there were 37.

*Melinda:* Those 37 cases were confined to northern Nigeria and parts of Afghanistan and Pakistan. Honestly, Warren, we thought polio would be over by now. But immunizing children in conflict areas is hard—and dangerous. We're awed by the teams of vaccinators who take risks to reach each child. And we're inspired by the infinite persistence of Rotary International. They were leading this fight long before we joined it, and they've just kept moving forward. They know that going from 350,000 cases to 37 is amazing, but success is zero.

*Bill:* It's thrilling to be nearing the day when no children will be crippled by polio. But we're often asked why we're making such a big effort on polio if our priority is to save lives. The answer is, ending polio *will* save lives—through the magic of zero. When polio is eradicated, the world can dedicate polio funds to improving child health, and the lessons from polio will lead to better immunization systems for other diseases.

*Melinda:* And the world will benefit from the electrifying effect of ending a disease. The surge of optimism will draw energy and brains and dollars into global health, and that will intensify the fight against measles, malaria, TB, and AIDS.

To see the full report go to:

<http://gates.ly/2lcud16>