

History of the Hastings Rotary Club

Inaugurated 15th April 1924.

A preliminary meeting of business men was called at 11 am on Monday 7th April 1924 at the Hastings Chamber of Commerce Rooms, and was presided over by the Hon. George Fowlds, Rotary Commissioner for New Zealand, and an International Director. Charles Rhodes of Auckland was also present. Others present at this meeting were Messrs Hobbs, Rowe, Hallett, Richmond, Whitlock, Gardner, Scott, Bone, G.F. Roach, & G.H. Roach, after informal discussion on arrangements for the evening meeting this meeting was adjourned.

The ^{particulars} minutes of an evening meeting following the above meeting, are given herewith, from a press report

HASTINGS ROTARY CLUB. INAUGURAL MEETING.

A meeting of business men was held in the Y.M.C.A. rooms, Hastings last night, for the purpose of forming a Rotary club in Hastings. The Commissioner for New Zealand, the Hon. G. Fowlds, was present, and with him were associated the International Director, Charles Rhodes, of Auckland, and the president of the Wellington Rotary Club, Charles Odlin. Three visitors were also present from the newly-formed Napier Rotary Club.

The following is the list of charter members:—

Messrs Chas. Gardiner G. C. Lowe, Wm. Richmond, W. E. Hyslop, F. S. Candy, G. F. Roach, E. J. W. Hallett, A. M. Robertson, G. A. Maddison, G. H. Roach, H. E. Phillips, Jos. Phillips, A. E. O'Meara, C. B. Spinney, Mason Chambers, H. R. French, E. A. Westerman, J. S. McLeod, J. R. Foot, B. Hobbs, A. J. Rainbow, F. L. Bone, J. H. Scott, W. J. Rowe, W. J. Whitlock.

The meeting unanimously decided to form a club in Hastings and adopted the constitution and by-laws of International Rotary, and decided to apply for registration and affiliation hereto.

The following were elected officers of the club:—President, W. Richmond; vice president, Charles Gardiner; treasurer, W. F. Rowe; secretary, G. F. Roach; board of directors: E. J. W. Hallett, H. R. French, A. M. Robertson, and J. R. Phillips.

The Hon. G. Fowlds gave a short address and this was followed by a more lengthy and instructive speech by International Director Rhodes. President Odlin, of the Wellington Rotarians, also spoke, all dealing with the aims and purposes of Rotary.

Members were then indebted to the ladies of the Women's National Reserve for providing supper, and after Mr. Edmundson had spoken on behalf of the Napier visitors, the proceedings closed with the National Anthem.

The first meeting and luncheon of the club was held at 12.45 p.m. on Tuesday the 15th April 1924. President Richmond was in the chair.

Rotarian Rainbow was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.

The day took the form of a club day and various details in connection with club matters were discussed.

The Hastings club was elected ~~to~~ ^{to} membership of Rotary International on 13th June 1924.

Synopsis of the 1924 - 25 year

<u>Speakers</u>	<u>Subject</u>
Judge Giffesden	"Friendship"
Dr. Felkin	"Rhythms of life"
Rotarian Hallett	"Constitution and By-Laws of Rotary"
Rotarian Gardner	"Sawmilling Industry"
Rotarian Odlin of Wellington	"Progress of the Wellington Rotary Club"
Rotarian Scott	"Etymology"
Rotarian W.B. Hobbs	"South Africa"
" Richmond	"The Meat Industry in New Zealand"
" French	"Books"
" Mason Chambers	"New Zealand and How long we shall be here"
" R. Peters of Napier	"New Zealand, the unknown"
Mr. W.A.G. Pennington	"Samoa"
Rotarian Edmondson of Napier	"Liquid air"
Mr Henry Hill	"Nature"
Rotarian Bransky Williams of London	"Look After the Boys"
Rev. J.A. Bennett	"Work Among the Maoris"
His Excellency Sir Charles Fergusson	"The Rising Generation"
Rotarian Rowlands of Auckland	"Toronto Convention"
Mr J.A. Miller	"Water Seaming"
Mr H.D. Bisson	"California"
Rotarian Mehead	"Wembley Exhibition"
Mr H.B. Hughes	"Boy Scout Movement"
Rotarian George Jowles of Auckland	"Rotary"
Mr R.D.D. Mackean	"Early New Zealand"
Mr T.C. Clarkson	"A Trip Abroad"
Capt. Pearce	"Port of London"
Rev. R.B. Waring	"Electricity"
Judge Giffesden	"Wool Affairs"
Rev. Gardner Miller	"Complacency"

Club activities

Boys works including Y. M. C. A. and Scout movements;
Entertainment of Inmates of Old Peoples Home at Parke
Island.

New members

D. Ritchie elected 26th January 1925
L. S. Bliff "
J. Hall "

Resignations

F. L. Bone resigned 14th Nov. 1924
J. H. Scott resigned 8th December 1924
J. R. Foot " " "