



ROTARY CLUB of PAPAIOEA

President: David Everett

Meetings 5.30pm 1st & 3rd Wednesdays

Upstairs at FocalPoint, 223 Cuba St. Palmerston North



October 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Duties	5 th Nov	19 th Nov	3 rd Dec
Host:	Katrine	Trevor	Bruce M
3 min talk	Raewyn	Bob	Marilyn
Sunshine	Katharine	Don	Bruce W
Thanks	John M	Lew	Kerry

What's happening?

Wed 22nd Oct Movie Night

Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale
Focal Point 5.50pm

Tues 4th Nov Fashion Parade

Ballentynes Broadway Ave 5.30pm
Snacks, punch, raffle 20% discounts
If you have already sold your 2 tickets
extra tickets are available from Marilyn
\$15 proceeds to Kind Hearts



Wed 5th Nov Dinner meeting

Guest speaker from Kind Hearts

Wed 19th Nov Dinner Meeting

Guest speaker: Pamela Tankersley

Bulletin

17th October 2025

Guests: Sally Thomas, Mervyn Dykes

Editor's note: NZ had several polio epidemics in the 1940's & 50's. One in 1956 saw 925 children paralysed and 73 deaths

Sally was just 12 months old, her parents thought she had the flu, but soon she was paralysed from the neck down – it was polio. She spent parts of the next 10 or so years receiving treatment at the specialist Duncan Hospital in Wanganui.

Although able to walk with callipers by 3 years old she required many surgeries on her ankles and legs and was self-conscious as a teenager.

Sally did however lead a very full life; leaving home at 17½ to work in Wellington, marrying, having 3 children, a volunteer for Parent Line and finally running the Pregnancy Centre for 18 years. Belonging to Lions, school & church boards, helping her late husband run a café were also fitted in.

Since 2008 she has used a wheelchair and Sally, always positive, says her life opened up again!

Mervyn can remember having a fever as a child, and others being scared of catching what he had. He was soon walking though, polio was not mentioned again and he threw himself into sports to prove himself. He even trained under Arthur Lydiard. Later in life it became apparent those early exertions had caused "post-polio syndrome" So even though he did not suffer as a child, the disease caught up with him later. During his life, Mervyn credits 3 women (his angels) for helping him through difficult times. His mother was always there when he was ill as a child. Raylee Murphy, local Polio NZ Supporter was always on hand to encourage especially when he ended up in Rotorua Hospital, and his wife of 60 years.

Mervyn has had a busy life as a journalist, author and actor. He has lived in Canada and many parts of NZ, has written 11 books and started newspapers. He was even an extra in The Hobbit!

Now he says he would do anything to make sure Polio is eradicated.

Lew's polio themed questions raised \$85 for PolioPlus

Parting thought from **David H:** "One day, polio will just be a memory" (Bill Gates)

Members: please apologise through the website [Papaioea Web Page](#) Members Area/Record My Attendance/tick if apologising /or +Guests/Submit **Now before 3pm Monday**