



Local in Action, Global in Vision.



Notify your attendance or apology (by noon on Friday 26th April) to

Steve Jenkins

ph 478 8467 or

email

jenkins@kiwilink.co.nz

The Club normally meets at Pupuke Golf Club,



This month's Rotary District 9910 area of focus is **Maternal and Child Health**.

Next meetings

**29 April
from 5.30 to 7.30pm
Special event for
members and
invited guests at
Lake House Arts
Centre, Takapuna**

**6 May
5.30 for 6.00pm
Club meeting –
Committees' night.**

From President Jennifer.

This weekend was a big one for District 9910 with the District Conference in Northcote.

There was a good turnout of keen Rotarians and plenty to keep us interested and challenged.

Jerry Norman and his team, especially Fay as Conference Chair, are to be congratulated for arranging a well organised meeting with such a wide ranging and interesting array of key note speakers. There was plenty of inspiration and food for thought to provide impetus going through the year. A variety of Rotary's regular programmes were showcased to remind us how active Rotary is in this District and the greater Auckland region.

The Saturday night Beach Party was a great success, everyone in colourful party garb, beach theme table decorations inspired by Fay, good food and a seriously good band. You can even see a video clip of Rotarians enjoying themselves on the dance floor on their Facebook page - "Fully Stocked". The clip doesn't show the two beach balls that were constantly flying around the dance floor - now that was a novelty.

And next conference is in Vanuatu — better start checking out the plane fares....

Two reminders for events coming up soon :

As host club for the incoming District Governor Ian, East Coast Bays Rotary need to assist with catering at his training sessions. The first of these is Saturday 4th May, the District Leaders seminar, at Onepoto Primary School. Beverley has kindly offered to organise the catering for this but she needs helpers on the day. Robyn has put up her hand, do we have some other volunteers? Please contact Beverley ASAP.

And as we discussed at Monday's meeting, with the Brown's Bay contingent, for the Anzac Civic Service at Brown's Bay the Brown's Bay and Takapuna Rotary are combining to present a wreath on behalf of all the local clubs. The ceremony is at the War Memorial in Brown's Bay - gather at 8.15 for the 8.45 service.

BULLETIN NEWS

President Jennifer welcomed 4 members from Browns Bay Rotary and was delighted to welcome back our returning guest Ted.

A message from Inner Wheel Club of East Coast Bays Albany.

President Jennifer said that we'd received a message from Judi Astrop and the Inner Wheel Club of East Coast Bays Albany to say thank you for a very enjoyable evening down at Browns Bay. They enjoyed the joint event and would like to do it again. Thank you to Ian, Alan and the fellowship committee for hosting.

A reminder about the meeting on Monday 29th April

A reminder from Gary that we will not have a club meeting next week due to Easter and that the following week is our meet & greet event at the Lakehouse Art Centre in Takapuna.

The event on Monday 29 April has a 5:30pm start, includes nibbles, a cash bar and ends 7:30pm. There is plenty of parking through the semi-circle past the cafe. No extra cost to members. Very informal mix and mingle with 3 members of the club taking 5min speaking slots. Usual dress code. [Gary to bring the badge board].

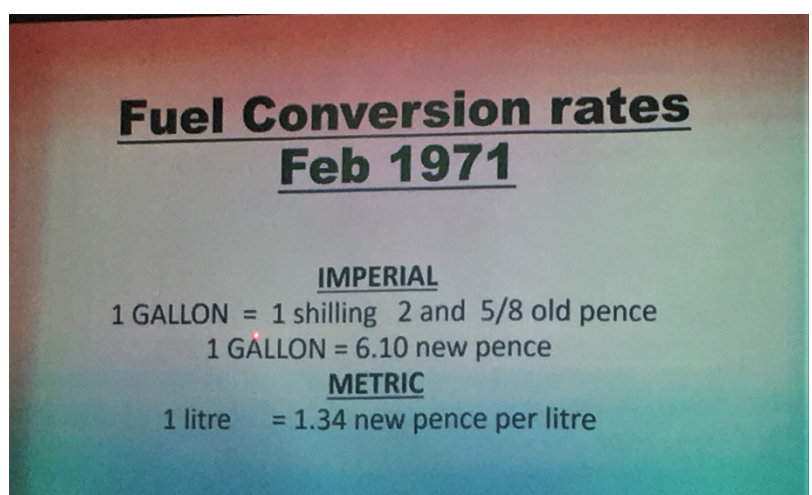
A reminder that if members need to apologise for this meeting (if not already indicated on the clip board which was circulated prior) please let Steve Jenkins know no later than noon on Friday 26th April.

Paul Mees – guest speaker

Our guest speaker was Paul Mees who lived and worked for most of his life in the oil industry in the Channel Islands. He gave us a fascinating account of his days spent on the small island of Guernsey in the oil distribution business.

When Paul joined the business, it was a new company with an uncertain future as they were challenging big oil companies. He remembers his first day on the job in February 1971 because it was when Britain "went decimal" and he had to explain to customers the very complicated conversion rates of not just shillings and old pence to new pence; but the metric system and converting gallons to litres too.

Paul went from Sales and Marketing, to Service Manager, Depot Manager then General Manager. After a call in the night, he was told that his boss was fired so he, at the age of 34-years old, therefore was in charge of not just staff but a large part of the island's economy.



Paul showed us how his company had to ensure oil can into port in Guernsey via sea tankers. This depended on tides (even at 2am!) and a good relationship with the Harbour Pilot. They were at risk of losing 3000 pounds a day if a shipment didn't make it in and even were at risk of the lights going out

on the island out due to being the back-up supplier for the power station.

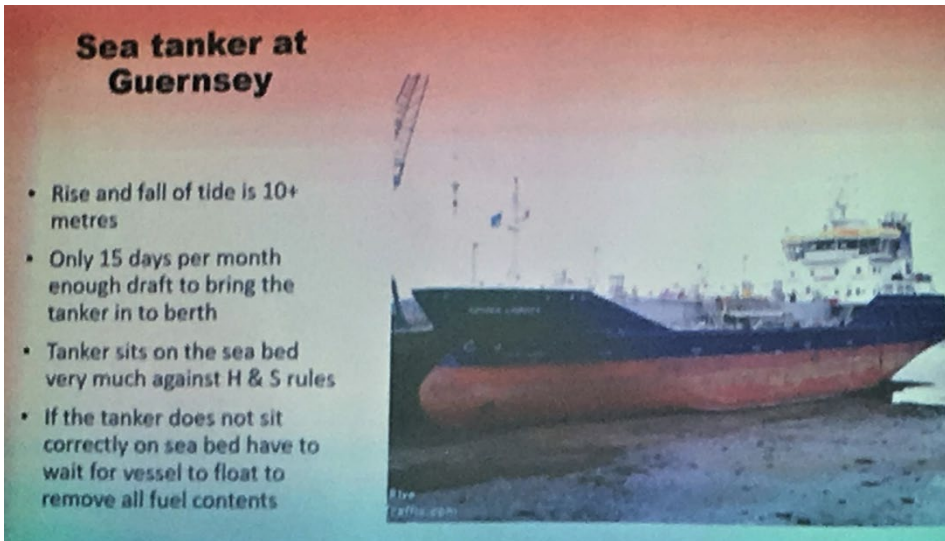
Perks of the job included being flown to France from wherever he was in the world, enjoying French wine and cheese. More difficult parts of the job included price wars and having to restrict customers on oil purchases (particularly in winter). Interesting stories included almost being fined a million dollars for an oil spillage,

welding a leak in a tank filled with oil, the logistics of fuelling a lighthouse via a handrail, waiting for Y2K Armageddon to strike and a \$5.7bn final-quarter loss by Total SA in 2015.

Paul enlightened us on how he joined Rotary in 1992 to enter a Rotarian charity car rally of which his petrol retail outfit was a sponsor. His Rotary team went 8000 miles in 7 days only stopping for ferries. In the year 2000 he became president of his Rotary Club of 75 members and invited 20 ladies for lunch. It resulted in a few resignations but he stands firm that it felt right for him to do so.

In 2003 a law came in which said that no CEO could operate for 3 years in a row, so Paul took an early retirement and the opportunity to make frequent visits to see his younger son in New Zealand. Now living in NZ, Paul & his wife Sue still visit Guernsey every year to see Sue's 95-year-old mother.

At the end of his talk, Paul mentioned that all petrol stations buy the same petrol, but have a different additive. He claims the world's second best secret is what the difference is between the additives and that some stations do not have a good additive package – something to think about the next time you are filling up!



More from the District 9910 conference

Photo at RHS shows PG Sandra McKersey after receiving her “Service above Self” award from Rotary International and District 9910 presented to her by Jerry at the evening dinner. A great honour, and very well deserved.

DG



Photos on LHS show certain members of ECB Rotary Club at the conference dinner. The number of bottles on the table (at LHS top) looks somewhat concerning!

**Notices**

An invitation to club members to attend the **RYLA dinner** on Friday the 3rd of May at Muriwai Surf Club. \$45 per person, smart casual dress, RSVP by 26 April

Browns Bay and Takapuna are doing a joint **ANZAC laying of a wreath**, asking for donations towards the wreath to represent the Rotary Clubs of North Shore. 25 April, Thursday at 9am (the citizens parade). Gather outside the old RSA at 8:30am and march to the Cenotaph.

We are going to be the NZ-based **Host club for Ian Kiernan in his year as District Governor**. Jobs for us as a club includes our fellowship committee handling the changeover at the end of June and helping to cater for Rotary District Training days, such as the Club Leaders Seminar on 4 May at Onepoto Primary School in Northcote. Thank you to Beverley for taking the lead in catering for upcoming trainings. **If any club members are able to help with the day, please get in touch with Beverley. [Bernie & Robyn volunteered].**

Thanks to Bulletin scribe Jenna for this edition of "Bulletin News" and the above notices.

ECBRC "Meet and Greet" on Monday 29th April

It's not too late to invite guests for this information evening. Just let Gary know their contact details and he'll send out a personalised invitation. **Please ensure that Gary knows about all invited guests as he needs numbers for catering purposes no later than noon on Friday 26th April.** If you have any questions, please contact Gary.

Parting thoughts

A parting thought from President Jennifer thanks to a young Muslim student: "Your mind is your own place; you can make hell into heaven and heaven into hell in your own mind"

Another parting thought from Steve Jenkins thanks to an elderly Spike Milligan: "I have the body of an 18-year-old. I keep it in the fridge"

ECBRC Duties Roster

	22 April	29 April	6 May	13 May
	No Meeting Easter Monday	Meet and Greet invited guests. Lake House Arts Centre 37 Fred Thomas Drive, Takapuna	Club Meeting Committee Meetings	Programme to be advised
Invocation			Stephen Wheeler	Keith Young
Reception			Lynette Miller	Beverley Lea
Attendance			Steve Jenkins	Steve Jenkins
Cash Desk				
Fellowship			Warwick Moulton	Warwick Moulton
			Paul Asquith	Paul Asquith
			Sue Yi	Sue Yi
Stewards			Bernie Woods	Warren Patterson
			Bruce Dunlop	Alistair New
			Alan Astrop	Graham Rice
3 Min. Talk			Doug Dempster	
Intro. Speaker				
Thank Speaker				
Parting Thought			Steve Jenkins	Beverley Lea
Introduce a Guest			Amanda Chambers	Paul Asquith
Darius	Jim Mayo	Graham Rice	Keith Young	Alan Astrop

If you cannot carry out your allocated duty, it is your responsibility to arrange for someone else to do that duty

Darius is currently with: Carol & David Seymour, 48 Fitzwilliam Drive, Torbay. (Carol's Mobile is 021414293)

His contact details are – Mob: 021 1486600. E-mail: darius.lehmann@stud.kslzh.ch