



Rotary Club of Maungakiekie Bulletin / Newsletter NL 265 3rd of August 2026

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CREATE LASTING IMPACT



Monday 3rd of August 2026

Apologies:

Paul Jenner LOA, Rod Kestle LOA,
Craig Jones LOA, George Varghese, Gwynyth
Carr, Mavis Moodie, Gary Hayes, Ernie Meyer,
Robin Hulford, Rodney Foley.



August

MEMBERSHIP AND NEW CLUB
DEVELOPMENT MONTH

*"None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can
all do small things, with great love and together we can do
something wonderful"*
Mother Teresa

President Tony Rayner



Membership Trends and Growth Strategies in Rotary Clubs: A Comparative Survey of Districts 9910 and 9920

President Tony provided an insightful survey and comparative analysis of membership trends across Rotary clubs in districts 9910 and 9920 in the South Pacific region. Emphasis is placed on understanding the factors influencing club growth, decline, and stability by reviewing quantitative data over the past five years.

District 9920's clubs, particularly those serving Pacific Island and culturally specific communities, show significant growth and resilience. In contrast, district 9910 exhibits more modest or declining membership, with some clubs hovering near unsustainable levels.

• **Cultural Identity as a Growth Lever.**

Key success stories in 9920 include clubs like Papatoetoe Central, Rarotonga, and Suva, which have experienced strong membership growth and engagement. The Pacific Island clubs and culturally based clubs such as Greenlane (a Chinese-speaking club) offer models of sustained growth through targeted, community-centric approaches. Meanwhile, many clubs in 9910 face challenges including fluctuating membership, aging demographics, and limited multicultural representation.

President Tony highlighted the value of using data-driven insights to identify successful practices, promote inclusivity, and stimulate sustainable growth. He also expressed interest in expanding youth engagement through initiatives like Interact groups, which currently exist in 9910 but not in 9920.

Practical steps underway include distributing questionnaires within the club to capture member sentiment and launching QR-coded Rotary cards to aid recruitment. Ultimately, the goal is to leverage learnings within and across districts to invigorate local Rotary clubs and foster pluralistic, community-aligned membership.

- **Engaging Members Through Surveys:** The distribution of anonymous questionnaires with simple tick-box and comment options encourages honest feedback on club performance and ideas for improvement. This participatory method supports bottom-up change and ensures initiatives align with member needs.
- **Modern Outreach Tools:** The introduction of credit card-sized Rotary cards with QR codes for easy access to club information exemplifies smart use of technology to improve recruitment and community awareness.

Such tools help reduce barriers to joining by providing instant access to information via smartphones.

This comprehensive survey and comparative analysis highlight the power of data and cultural inclusiveness in fostering vibrant Rotary communities. By learning from successful clubs and employing modern engagement and outreach strategies, districts can sustainably grow membership, diversify participation, and sustain their community impact.

President Tony asked that members please complete the survey and return the forms to him at the next club meeting at the Royal Oak Bowls venue.

Guest speaker Tony Bradley



provided an in-depth account of a cycling trip along the Danube River, highlighting its geography, cultural experiences, logistics, and personal anecdotes. The trip covered approximately 750 km over 12 days, between Passau and Budapest, incorporating well-organized cycling infrastructure, rich historic contexts, and scenic natural and urban landscapes. Tony also touched on a related cruise and some additional European travels, emphasizing the blend of adventure, cultural immersion, and leisurely exploration.

The trip started at Passau on the German-Austrian border and followed the Danube eastwards through Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, and ended in Budapest. Key characteristics of the cycling adventure include:

- Coverage: Approximately 750 km over 12 days (6 days from Passau to Vienna, 6 days Vienna to Budapest)
- Terrain: Generally downhill with occasional undulations; some climbs required to visit sights like basilicas and villages
- Routes: Single-track paths closely following the river with occasional ferry crossings and criss-crossing due to terrain constraints
- Support: Operated by Pedalo Eurobike, ensuring luggage transfers between hotels, hotel bookings with bed and breakfast, provision of high-quality Cube brand bikes, and GPS navigation systems uniquely programmed for each cyclist's daily hotel destination
- Navigation: The GPS alerted users if they went off-route and guided them back on track, making for a low-stress cycling experience.

Tony said he would recommend the trip to anyone interested.

Thought for the week.

All that we are is the result of what we have thought.

(Gautama Buddha.)

Meeting 10th of August at Remuera Rotary.

Apologies to Noel by Friday 7th no later than 12.00pm (Midday).

Duties: 17th of August 2026

President Tony Rayner

Sergeant: Noel Carey

Attendance: Bruce Murdoch

Hospitality: Derek Neutze

Meals: Phil Aish – Brian Williams

5 Minute Speaker: TBA

Host: Barry Stafford

Guest Speaker: **Victoria Puxty: Manager**

Subject: **Onehunga Business Association**

Thanks: Rhett Stephens

Thought for the week: Jeanette Thorne

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"Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves."



Paul Harris
Rotary founder



Smile!

It makes people wonder what you have been up to!

August already?? September is practically next week. Time to pick out a Halloween costume and start your Christmas shopping. Happy New Year, everybody.

This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat, it was obvious that she thought her cat understood her... I came to my house, I told my dog ... we laughed a lot.

The doctor asked me to spend at least one hour per day on the treadmill.



**The longer I live,
the more convinced
I am that this
planet is used by
other planets as a
lunatic asylum.**

- GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

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End note A bird doesn't sing because it has an answer, it sings because it has a song. — Chinese Proverb