Rotary Club of Maungakiekie
Bulletin / Newsletter NL 277
2nd November 2026
President: Tony Rayner
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Secretary: Richard Ryan
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Monday 2nd November 2026

LOA: Paul Jenner, Rod Kestle
Apologies:

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November

ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has"
Margaret Mead

As guests of Remuera Rotary, we were welcomed by President Leigh Marshall who gave Maungakiekie Rotary President Tony Rayner the opportunity to make club announcements.

Tony attended the Onehunga High school senior prize-giving. Commenting on the achievements of the students and that new headmistress there, Sharmeen Hyatt, has done an amazing job in the last four years, and the achievement passes of the school has gone up by 40% or 50%.
Tony commented on the construction school where every year the students build a house, and the latest one's just been finished.
It's about to be ready to be sold to raise funds for the school.
The club sponsors toolkits to go to the construction students.
Tony spoke of his support of youth leadership, and would like to see an improvement, or increase in youth leadership amongst Pacifica students in schools.
Tony will try to get an Interact club going at Onehunga High School.
Tony has heard of some great Interact clubs in Auckland, like hundreds of kids at certain schools, and Interact do really well.
Tony spoke about the clubs Annual Primary School Awards night to be held on the 7th of December.
Tony mentioned that there are pamphlets still available for our book fair and thanked Remuera Rotary for delivering some of the pamphlets in the local area.

Guest speaker: Emeritus Professor Geoff Duffy

Subject: Water, weather systems and climate change

Geoff, presented a discussion about the unique properties of water and the many natural processes that influence the Earth's weather and climate.
His central argument was that climate and weather are influenced by a much wider range of natural factors than greenhouse gases, fossil fuels and industrial emissions alone.
He emphasised the importance of understanding the interaction between water, oceans, atmospheric movements, solar activity, the Earth's rotation and other natural processes.

The unique properties of water

- Water is unusual because it naturally exists in three states: gas (water vapour), liquid and solid (ice).
- Water continually moves between these states through evaporation, condensation, freezing and melting.
- Geoff highlighted the enormous scale of global evaporation, estimating approximately 13 million tonnes of water evaporating every second.
- Water vapour and clouds play an important role in regulating temperatures.
- Clouds can reflect incoming solar energy and provide cooling during the day.
- At night, clouds help retain heat by reducing the amount of energy escaping from the Earth's surface.

Geoff described the Earth's climate as a self-regulating system.

His explanation was that:

- Higher temperatures increase evaporation.
- Increased evaporation can lead to more cloud formation.
- Clouds can reduce the amount of solar energy reaching the Earth's surface.
- This process can help moderate temperatures.

He described this as a dynamic equilibrium in which the natural environment continually adjusts to changing conditions.

A substantial part of the presentation examined the many natural forces affecting weather patterns.

These included:

- The Earth's rotation and axial tilt.
- The Earth's elliptical orbit around the Sun.
- The Moon's orbit and its influence on tides.
- Solar activity and the approximately 11-year sunspot cycle.

- Solar flares and changes in solar radiation.
- The Earth's magnetic field and molten core.
- Volcanic activity and movements of tectonic plates.
- Changes in polar ice sheets.
- Geographical differences between coastal and inland environments.

Geoff’s point was that these factors interact and influence the Earth's atmospheric and oceanic systems.

The presentation highlighted the importance of air movement and atmospheric mixing.

Examples included:

- Jet streams, which move large volumes of air around the planet.
- High- and low-pressure systems.
- Trade winds and prevailing winds.
- Thermals and coastal breezes.
- Thunderstorms, cyclones, hurricanes, and tornadoes.
- Temperature differences and atmospheric turbulence.

Geoff suggested that these movements are major contributors to changing weather patterns.

The oceans were identified as another major influence on global climate.

Geoff discussed:

- Large-scale ocean currents that transport heat around the planet.
- Ocean temperature changes.
- The El Niño cycle and associated changes in Pacific Ocean conditions.
- The influence of ocean movements on rainfall, temperatures, and weather patterns.

He emphasised that ocean circulation is an important part of the Earth's natural climate system.

Human activities and climate change.
The speaker challenged the view that greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel use alone explain climate change.

He argued that other factors should receive greater consideration, including incomplete combustion
Atmospheric chemicals and pollutants.

- Industrial emissions.
- Agricultural emissions, including methane and nitrous oxide.
- Motor vehicle emissions.
- Natural changes in solar activity, ocean circulation and atmospheric conditions.

He questioned the extent to which human activities account for observed global temperature changes.

Geoff’s main conclusions were:

1. Water is fundamental to the Earth's climate and temperature-regulation systems.
2. Clouds, evaporation, and the water cycle play significant roles in influencing temperatures.
3. Atmospheric circulation and ocean currents are major influences on global weather patterns.
4. Solar activity, the Earth's rotation, orbital movements, and geological processes contribute to natural climate variability.
5. Climate change should be examined as a complex interaction of natural and human influences.
6. Human activities, including industrial pollution, combustion, and agricultural emissions, should be considered alongside natural environmental processes.

Geoff’s presentation explored the unique properties of water and its importance in regulating the Earth's climate. He discussed evaporation, clouds, ice formation, atmospheric circulation, ocean currents, solar activity, the Earth's rotation, and geological processes.

His central argument was that climate is influenced by numerous interconnected natural processes and that discussions about climate change should consider these factors alongside human activities.

Geoff’s presentation encouraged a broader examination of weather and climate systems rather than focusing exclusively on greenhouse gases and fossil fuels.

Suggested overall takeaway: Understanding climate change requires examining the interaction between water, atmosphere, oceans, solar activity, natural environmental processes, and human influences.

Future meetings and events

Date	Event or activity
9 November	Book sorting at Onehunga Community House
16 November	Book sorting at Onehunga Community House
23 November	Club meeting planned; details to be confirmed
7 December	McKeever Awards event: @ Royal Oak Bowls
14 December	Annual General Meeting (AGM)
21 December	Christmas party: venue being considered

9th November

No Duties: **Book sorting meeting under way Monday 9th November at OCH, Selwyn St Onehunga.**

Apologies and attendance confirmation to Noel by 5.00pm Friday .

Book Fair. Pamphlets are being delivered now.

Remuera Rotary notice



Remuera Rotary are promoting a fundraising event.
A Student Musical Showcase
to be held at St Marks Church
Remuera on Saturday 14th November 4.30.pm to 6.00pm.

Enquiries to Wayne Brewer.
027 479 7108



Rotary



Rotary Traditional Christmas Puddings make the best gifts for family, friends, clients and staff

Using only the best fruit, spices and wholesome ingredients to a time-proven recipe Rotary Traditional Christmas Puddings are the most delicious and easy way to turn meals into celebrations.

Baked here in New Zealand, they're ready to eat hot or cold - you just can't beat them. Simply serve with custard, brandy butter, caramel sauce, cream, ice cream, yoghurt or try our quick serving ideas at right or on our website.

Gift them, share them or hide them until you're alone – they're just so good!

Whatever you do, make sure you order yours today. Each one you buy includes a substantial donation to Rotary projects and community projects in your area. Proceeds from sales, shared with participating Rotary clubs throughout New Zealand, exceed $2 million since the project began.

EXCLUSIVE GIFT PACKAGING AND RECIPE BAKED IN NEW ZEALAND

Enquiries and orders to:
your local Rotary Club or
enquiries@rotarypuddings.co.nz

Fabulous gifts vacuum packed for superb freshness

Rotary Christmas Puddings (700g) are already cooked ... just heat in the microwave. Due to the brandy content, they last well past their Best Before date - in fact, like good wines, they improve with age. They freeze well too.
There are a range of recipes on the Rotary Puddings website but here are a few ideas.

Quick Serving Ideas

Christmas Pudding Ice Cream

Cut pudding in half (freeze remainder). Roughly fork-mix with equal parts of vanilla ice cream. Press ice cream mix back into original container, cover with cling wrap and freeze. Serve frozen with berries, yoghurt or decorate as you please. Perfect for Christmas dinner or summer BBQs.

Rum Balls

Mix Christmas Pudding with a bit more than half as much of any fruit cake. Add chopped glazed cherries, ginger and rum, stirring until the mixture is moist but not wet. Roll firmly into small balls and coat with desiccated coconut. Freeze until needed.

All-Seasons Cake

Cut in small pieces, fruit, yoghurt, cream or ice cream on the side. Try it with aged cheddar or blue cheese - fantastic!

Lazy Lady's Brandy Sauce

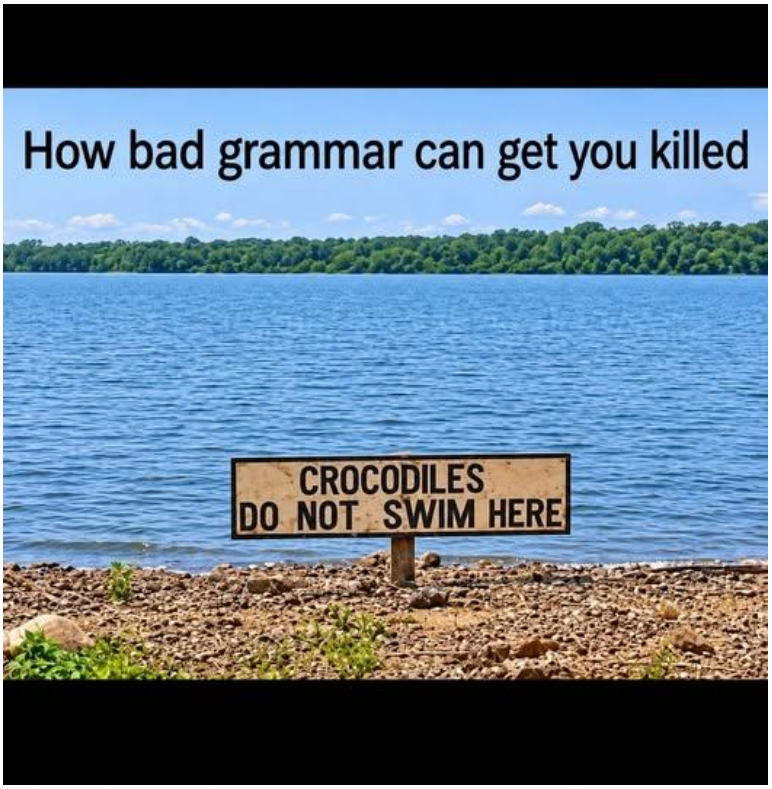
Serve your hot pudding with homemade custard containing a good dollop of cream and ¼ cup of brandy

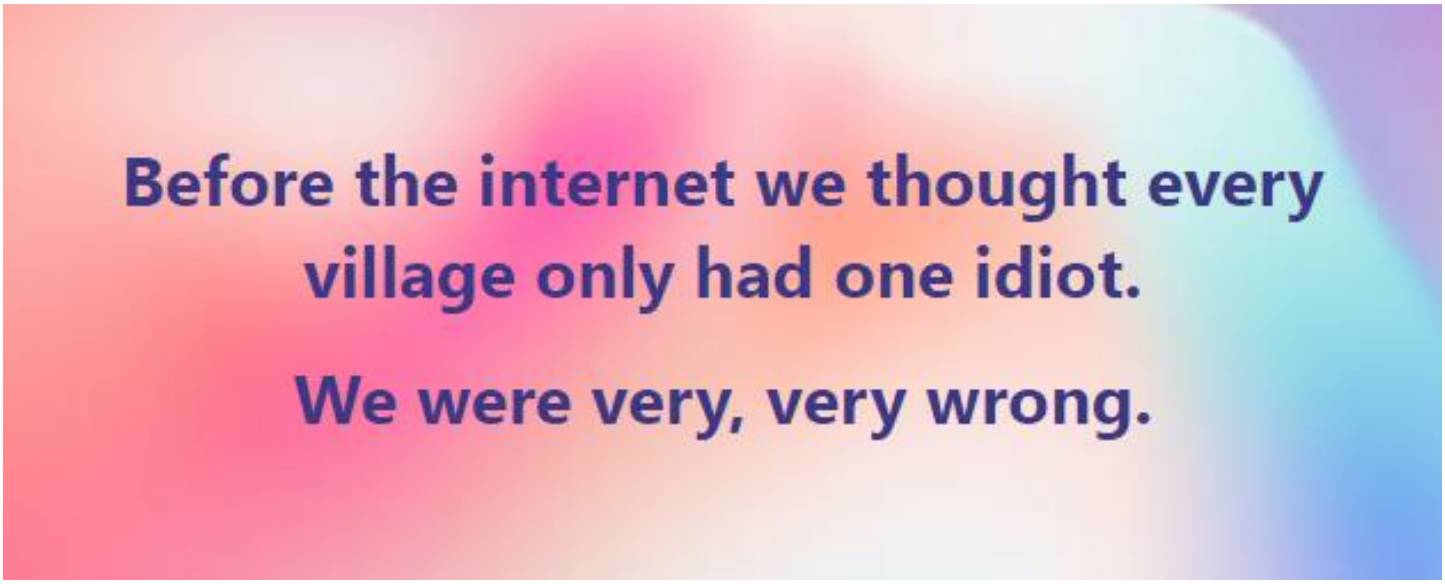
Contact Peter Mayow to order your ***CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS***

Smile!

It makes people wonder what you have been up to!







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End note: *Over analysing – leads to paralyzing.*