



Rotary Club of Onehunga One Tree Hill Inc.

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Secretary: Iain McCrae Ph: 09 625 8035 (h) Mob 021 963 899 - E-mail: diainz.mc@gmail.com

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Club Meets at Royal Oak Bowls 146 Selwyn Street, Onehunga, Auckland

Each Monday evening 5:30pm to 7:30pm, including dinner.

Newsletter to keep the Wheel Turning!



NL 69 4th Oct 2021

October is-

4th October 2021 Zoom Meeting

Members: 24

Apologies:

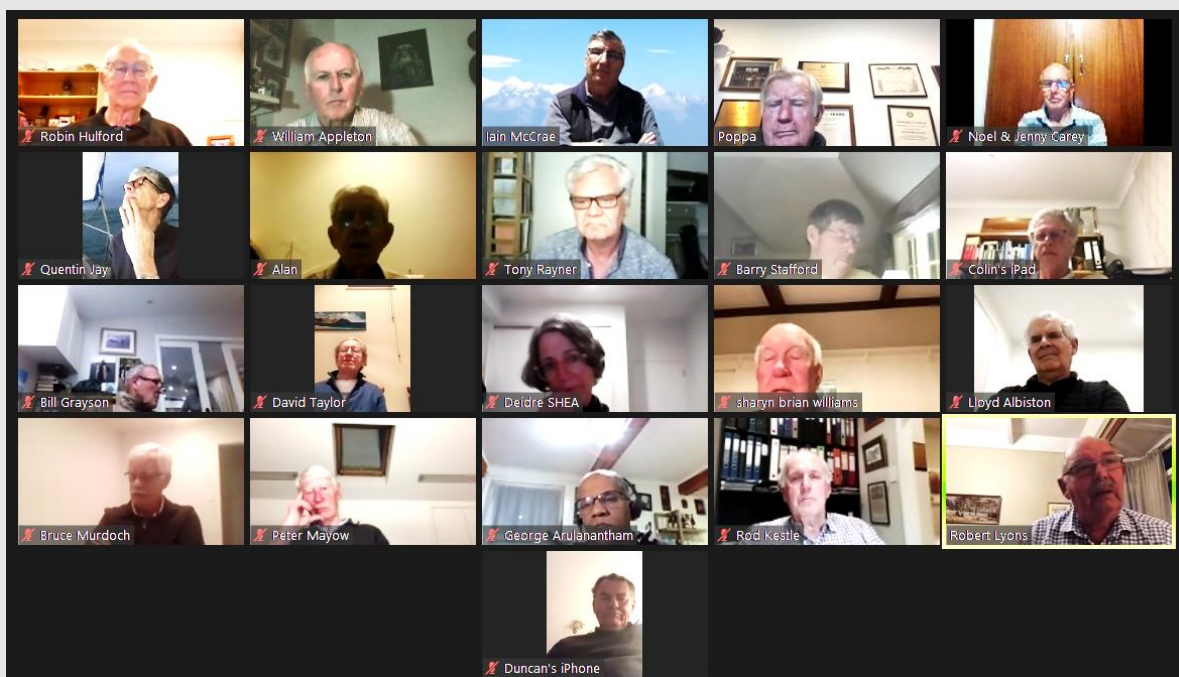
Ernie Meyer, Bruce Clegg, Ant Martin, Fatu and Parehuia Enari, Trevor Mosely, Gwynyth Carr ,Neil Reid, Alistair Grundy

OCTOBER IS ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTH

"To the world you may be one person; but to one person you may be the world."

Dr. Seuss

Rotary www.rotary.org



Presidents Announcements:

President Robin advised that he had been in touch with Fatu Enari at PASS regarding the Food Parcel programme they are running for any student families in need of assistance. Fatu confirmed that the School Board was meeting all that the programme required.

Robin mentioned a notice from District about 'Polio Plus' and a 'Give a Little' page they have set up. Robin suggested we can deposit any donation into the Club Trust account, and we can send that on. Fund raising is a little difficult at the moment and they are not able to use the usual Polio fund raising vehicle that we normally support.

Regarding the Te Tai Tokerau Project, Robin has booked Cat Levine to speak to the club on the 18th of October and has invited the DG Grant and wife Sandra to attend. This meeting, we hope Covid permitting, will be back at the usual venue. The situation is very fluid, so we wait and see!

The following is a link to the DG;s Newsletter which has information on this project.

[Rotary Te Tai Tokerau Tamariki Mental Wellbeing Project](#)

Robin has received an email regarding **RYPEN**, (**R**otary **Y**outh **P**rogramme of **E**nrichment), RYPEN is a residential camp that takes place over 2-5 days for school students aged between 14-16 (Year 8-10) that focuses on the development of self-concept, relationships, and is designed to develop skills that will assist them in the transition to adulthood.

This is run by District 9920 and Deidre has two students selected for the March 2022 programme. The cost is \$375 per student, and we will look at supporting this project which has had very positive reviews.

Members surveys: 2 surveys have been sent to members and we have yet to receive all replies. The information requested would be very helpful for immediate future decisions of the club programme.

Please reply as soon as possible.

Iain reported that he had been in touch with Julie our caterer, as to members concern for her during Level 3, and she confirmed that she is receiving assistance and is currently OK.

Guest Speaker:

Two 5-minute spots each from new members Tony Raynor and Robert Lyons.



Rob Lyons was born in Auckland and lived at .Mt .Albert and went to Mt Albert Grammar. Served an apprenticeship with the NZ Electricity Dept.

Married Mary in 1971, so celebrated their 50th Anniversary in May this year. Decided they would live in Canada. Not easy to get into and they had to immigrate. On good advice they bought a house in One Tree Hill in 1973 before they left and are still living there. In 1973 they went to Vancouver where he worked at a steel plant and the Vancouver hospital. Then worked at Ontario Nuclear Power Station which was an interesting exercise as the station output was enough to power the NZ Electricity network 5 times over. Spent 3 months driving across the US returning to New Zealand in 1977. Not wishing to return to NZED to work he applied to work with the Auckland Electric Power Board installing the computer system to run all the substations from the main control room in Newmarket. Went on to running the construction arm of the AEPB. When AEPB decided to restructure their outside contracting division in 1993, Rob had the opportunity to take over that contracting work and started his own company Switchtec Ltd. Rob is now semiretired and his 2 sons Andrew and Wayne now run the business. In 1987 they bought a bach on Waiheke which they subsequently sold and now have built a place at Big Bay on the Awhitu peninsular. They have 4 children, Wayne Christopher, Andrew and Paula and 9 grandchildren aged 2 to 9 years.



Tony Rayner produced a very informative Power Point presentation with pictures covering the various aspects of his life and career.

Born in Thorne East Yorkshire. Yorkshire is famous for a few things, Yorkshire pudding, Yorkshire Cricket team, Sheffield Stainless Steel Cutlery and the World's First Football club established 1857.

The Bronte sisters also came from Yorkshire.

The family emigrated to NZ in 1963 as part of the "10-pound POMs" of that era. Travelled out on the Shaw Savill liner Northern Star built for British immigrants to Australia and New Zealand in the 60's. A 6-week journey in those days and Tony had his 5th birthday on board.

His father worked as an engineer for the forest Research Institute designing bridges through the Kiangaroa Forest. Tony showed some historic photos of Rotorua including the Blue Baths building which is worth a visit as some of the building is now a museum.

Tony referenced the Whakarewarewa Village tourist attraction and quoted Guide Rangi's sense of humour in describing one of the thermal vents as the "Politicians Pool, because it was full of Spouting, Mud Slinging and Hot air".

Guiding jobs were one of longest traditions in NZ. Starting in early 1886, just after the Mt Tarawera explosion, tour guiding has been one of the longest, unbroken jobs in NZ.

Rotorua was also famous for its meter maids who would come around just before the meter ticked over and put money in so that you would not get a parking ticket. Then they would leave a note on your windscreen which was a nice touch.

They then moved to Mt Maunganui when his father got a job as borough engineer. The Mount was a far cry from what it looks like today. No high rise, roads without curbing and really great places to run around and play in the sand dunes as a youngster. Tony was at High School and developed an interest in electronics looking after the Lighting and the Smoke machine at school dances.

They were not allowed TV in the home during the study time of life, however Tony made up for it with electronics and car repairs with the help of the ubiquitous Haynes Manuals. Funding for hobbies came from working and having a paper run. One of the best runs was the wharf run as the wharfies were the richest people in town and they used to tip really well.

After schooling he joined South Pacific TV based in Christchurch where they did in house training, and it was the best training available.

After Christchurch he was at Avalon where he met his wife Heather and they went to the UK, mainly to visit his relatives, in 1987, the year of the stock market crash, they went for 1 year and ended up staying 9 years.

He worked for MTV as a studio Manager and Heather worked at St Mary's Hospital, where many of the Royals were born. They then came back to NZ, after travelling around Europe and the Middle East, and worked for First Media, Telecoms first attempt at cable TV. There was a lot of controversy over the cables that had to run between power poles as in Auckland the lava rock substrate was too hard to lay cables through. Photos of the good the bad and the ugly. Then the internet was growing, and the video data stream could be delivered to the homes via the telephone wires and some advanced signal compression techniques. Now being replaced by fibre. They returned to Auckland working at TV NZ, TV3 and then SKY TV at Mt Wellington, which was a lot of fun. He worked in operations management, managing the studio and the master control room including the satellite uplink and programme distribution. Tony enjoyed the TV technology because of the constant change from film to server-based technology, so it is an industry where you really have to keep up to date. Satellite uplink and beam down to NZ earth footprint from Optus satellite. One day he had the opportunity to run a station for SKY TV in Honiara, the capital of the Solomon Islands. Tony said he always wanted to work in the Pacific as he thought it was an area needed a lot of help.

He wanted to build up the broadcast and enable good TV to come out of the Pacific.

He went there in 2017 and stayed 2 and a half years. It is a safe place with lovely people.

There had been a lot of unrest in the 1990's but is now settled into a well-run country.

There is no public TV station there and through social responsibility Telecom built a TV station in the 90's but it was just languishing, and Tony believes that if you want to provide growth in a

country you need to be able to communicate with its people. Tony's job was to build up the station and paid licenses for a lot of sports programmes, NRL, NZ Rugby and Football. The Solomon Islanders love Football, they are the most football mad country in the whole of the Pacific. Tony introduced us to his TV team that he has trained up to run the station. The outside broadcasts were introduced, and Tony emphasised the Solomon Islanders love of formality. As can be seen at Lawson Tama multipurpose stadium with Army and Police Band performances. TV NZ with Pasifika TV is the main supplier of programmes to the Pacific Islands. It is a very Christian country and Christmas is celebrated every year with a Giant Christmas tree outside the Telekom building.

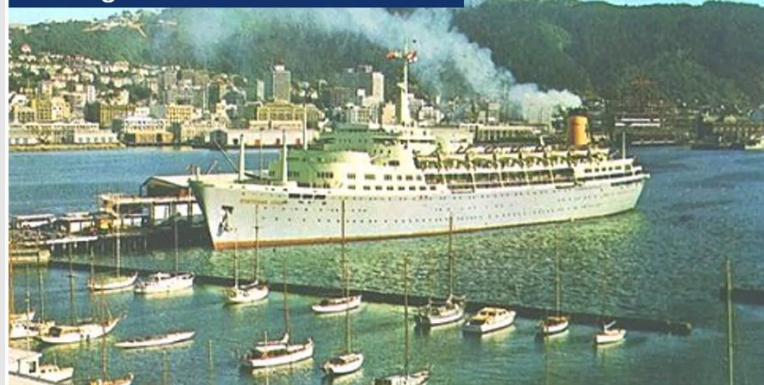
Tony was sad to leave there at the end of 2020 and got back to NZ in March 2021, after waiting 2 months for an MIQ spot. But that's another story!

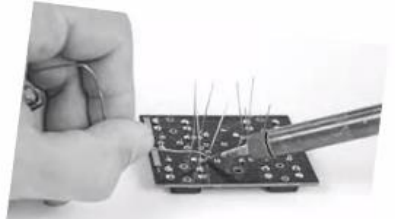
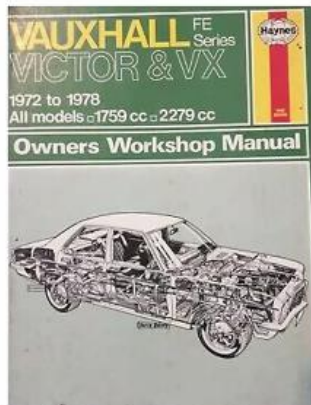
Bede thanked Tony for putting this together at short notice.

President Robin thanked both speakers for very interesting presentations.



Northern Star (1961 – 1975)
Wellington Overseas Terminal

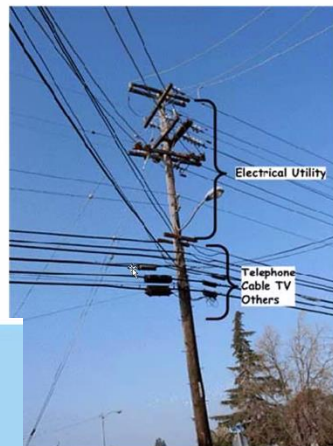




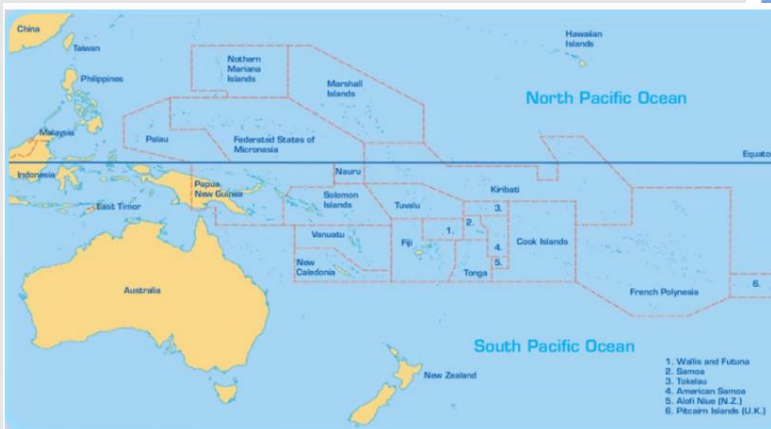
FIRST MEDIA

Telecom
NEW ZEALAND

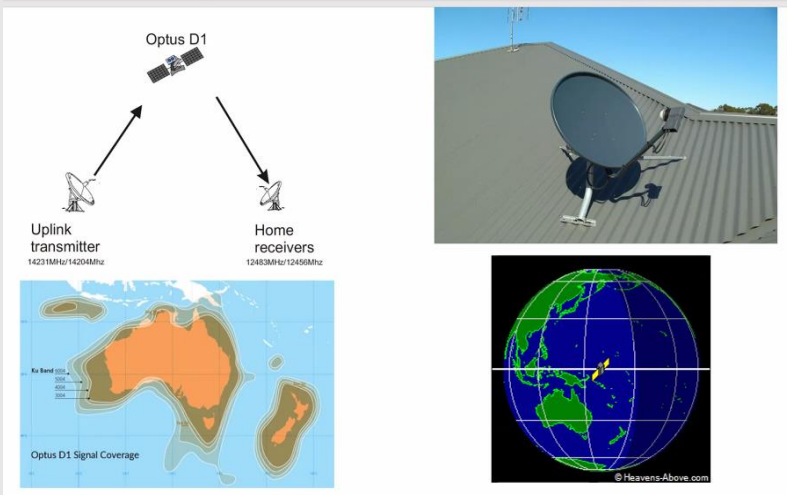
SKY



Cable TV wires: the good bad and ugly



The Solomon Islands



Tony with The Team!



High Commissioner Georgina Roberts with a delivery of equipment from Pasifika TV NZ



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Guest speaker for the 11th of October is *Viv Beck*
CEO of "Heart of the City" (HotC)
Auckland's City Centre.

Touch of Humour



I Finally Did It!
I bought a new pair of shoes with memory foam insoles.
No more forgetting why I walked into the kitchen.



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