

# International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians

## Auckland Fleet

### From the Commodore



June 2016

As you will all know Liz Hansen passed away recently here is her obituary as written by Past International Commodore Terry Stretton.

A tribute to our dear friend Liz Hansen who passed away on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016.

In 2009 the Auckland Fleet was asked to form a committee to lead this international fellowship for two years. David and Liz were one of the couples on this committee who travelled extensively around the world with Meryl and myself and they both worked tirelessly for the fellowship attending conventions, chartering new fleets, even helping with cleaning beaches in the Philippines.

Along with the work we also had a lot of fun and happy hours. One such occasion in Boracay, Philippines about 20 of us all dressed up as Greek Gods and Goddesses had happy hour at the beach bar and then walked 500 metres along the beach to the restaurant, causing quite a stir.

Liz always had her camera at the ready to record these many interesting sights and kept us up to date with what was happening back home via Facebook. Whilst travelling through Spain she enjoyed taking photos of me with my beer at morning tea time, while the others had coffee, but the weather was extremely hot.

Over the last 3 years she has been doing all the newsletters for the Auckland Fleet. In February this year she helped David organise 5 days of events for 95 members from Australia, Philippines, Japan, Italy, UK and NZ who attended the Area 3 AGM and made sure everyone was enjoying themselves.

Whenever we met, Liz would put her arms around me explaining to all and sundry that I was the only man she could see eye to eye with. Maybe it has something to do with my size.

Judging by the number of condolence emails we have been copied into from IYFR worldwide we can tell she was well loved and respected by all.

We will all miss her friendship.

Terry Stretton PIC

## Area 3 AGM

The Auckland Fleet's hosting of the Area 3 AGM was a most successful event organised by Regional Commodore David Hansen and Liz and a subcommittee of PIC Ken and Bente Winter, PIC Terry Stretton and Secretary Meryl, Lorraine Geary, Treasurer Peter Johns and Vice Commodore Wayne Brewer along with many, many helpers. This was a large task which included the organising of Hotel accommodation and on and off the water events for over sixty overseas lyforians from England, Italy, Japan, the Philippines and Australia and around thirty members of the Auckland Fleet. In attendance was our current International Commodore Jun Avecilla from the Philippines and four past International Commodores, a record for IC's attending an Area AGM.

RC David Hansen's full account of the Area 3 AGM has been published in District Governor Peter's Newsletter, thank you so much for your support DG Peter; for those members in District 9920 I have included David's report in this newsletter. An important outcome from the actual AGM itself was the nomination of RC David to International Rear Commodore; formalisation will take place at next year's International Convention in Atlanta. Huge congratulations go to you David, please everyone be ready to support him when he becomes International Commodore. If his nomination is successful David will be the third International Commodore from this fleet and as far as I know this is a record.

Following the AGM a number of us drove up to the Bay of Islands and were hosted for three days by the Bay of Island Fleet. Terry and Meryl escorted IC Jun and Lil Avecilla from the Philippines and Vivienne and myself escorted Immediate Past IC Sergio and Laura Santi from Italy. Over the three days we were entertained with drinks at the home of Fleet Commodore Roger and Jill Toplis, enjoyed two lovely dinners out and a most enjoyable day on the water.

From money raised from the Area 3 AGM it was possible for the Fleet to sponsor a young lady, Freya Parmenter, from Waiheke Island on a 10 day voyage on the "Spirit of Adventure". Freya was chosen by the Spirit of Adventure Trust as the most deserving applicant they had who was in need of sponsorship.

## Resignations from the Bridge

At a recent meeting the bridge received and accepted the resignations from the Bridge of Secretary Meryl Stretton and Lorraine Geary.

Meryl had intended to stand down as Secretary earlier in the year but stayed on to see us safely through the preparations for the Area 3 AGM. Meryl has served the Fleet as Secretary for longer than she can remember and has been the person everyone contacts when information or help was required. Meryl thanks so much for all you have done for the Auckland Fleet you have been much appreciated and are much loved by us all.

Lorraine has also served on the bridge for almost as long as she can remember and has been a tireless coordinator of events and a guiding hand where protocol is concerned. Lorraine semi-retired from the bridge earlier in the year but returned to help us through the period of the Area 3 AGM. Thank you Lorraine for all you have helped us achieve during your time, your bright mind and resounding humour will be missed on the Bridge.

## International Fellowship of Yachting Rotarians (IYFR)

(articles written by AG David Hansen (Northcote/Glenfield))

### Auckland Fleet hosts 60 Overseas Visitors

photo right Formal dinner at RNZYS, International Commodore Jun and First Mate Lil with DG Peter and Elaine and Auckland Fleet Commodore Peter Rowell

Area 3 of the International Fellowship of Yachting Rotarians (IYFR) recently held its Annual General Meeting in Auckland, which was more about having fun than the AGM. Fleet representatives from New Zealand, Australia, England, Italy, the Philippines



and Japan were in attendance with their partners to enjoy a Waitangi Day cruise, a Kiwi BBQ in Hinemoa Park, a fishing trip or sailing, a guided shopping tour, formal dinner at the RNZYS, cocktails plus dinner on the final night and of course the AGM. All this between the evening of the 3rd to the night of 7<sup>th</sup> February.



excitement. With a stiff breeze sailing was a little more exciting, some visitors going out on Fleet member's yachts including one classic yacht.

Photo right On board Pacific Mermaid, Regional Commodore for Japan, Kozo Kajino with Immediate Past International Commodore Sergio Santi from Italy

Waitangi Day provided an opportunity to see some of the Hauraki Gulf. Visitors also had time to plan their own sightseeing, some going to east coast beaches while others visited Waiheke Island.

A number of visitors stayed on and travelled to the Bay of Islands to visit the IYFR Fleet there, enjoying a day on the water and dinner with the Fleet. All in all, a great promo for NZ and four days of wonderful fun and fellowship.

If you are interested in finding out more about IYFR go to [www.iyfr.net](http://www.iyfr.net) or contact the Auckland Fleet Secretary, Meryl Stretton at [tamstretton@hotmail.com](mailto:tamstretton@hotmail.com)

Photo above the Visitors from Philippines including the World Commodore



To give our visitors a taste of Kiwi kai BBQ'd butterflied legs of lamb, Hellers sausages and mussel fritters were on offer as well as TipTop's iconic Jelly Tips and of course NZ beers and wines. All done in Hinemoa Park at the water's edge and within an easy ferry trip from downtown Auckland where the visitors were staying.

photos left BBQ for 95 held at Hinemoa Reserve next to Birkenhead wharf

The fishing trip was a quieter affair on Sunday, but two snappers were big enough to keep and provided a taste for visitors, as well as a little



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## Appointment to the Bridge

Vivienne Rowell has joined the Bridge as Secretary and we welcome her. Vivienne will do her best to assist with any questions you may have ongoing and can be contacted at [rowell@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rowell@xtra.co.nz) or 09 4245293 or 0274 872072 or PO Box 271, Whangaparaoa.

## Events

### Pot Luck Lunch

The annual winter Pot Luck Lunch at the Rowell's has been scheduled for 12.00 hrs on Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> of July this will be in the same format as previous years with everyone bringing something that we can all share. You will receive a further notice regarding the lunch closer to the time.

### The Fleet AGM

As there is no change of office this year the fleet AGM has been postponed until September the 11<sup>th</sup> at 4.30pm. The AGM will be in the form of drinks and nibbles aboard "Pacific Mermaid" at her berth at Okahu Bay Marina followed by dinner at a local restaurant for those who wish to Participate. Thank you to PIC Ken and Bente for offering "Pacific Mermaid" for this event. There will be a \$10.00 cover charge for the AGM. More on this closer to the time.

### Fleet Visit to Coastguard

Vice Commodore Wayne Brewer is negotiating with the Coastguard for a Friday afternoon visit and tour of the Mechanics Bay Rescue Centre in late September or early October.

### Lunch Cruise to the Riverhead Tavern Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October

Gary Ardern has kindly offered to take up to twenty members on a winter lunch cruise up to the Riverhead Tavern on his Launch. The high tide that day is at 13.45 pm so we would need to depart Westhaven at 10.30pm returning around 15.30pm.

## 2015-2016 Rotary International Convention Seoul, South Korea

A number of Rotarians from District 9910 attended the Convention in Seoul included were Auckland IYFR Fleet members DG Peter Garnett and Elaine Mead, P D G Bruce Rasmussen and Christine, Bruce Davies and Christine Collins, Youngshin Watkins, Vivienne and myself.

For one week prior to Convention twenty six of us toured the South visiting past and present District Governors and reinforcing the strong ties that have been built up between our Districts over many years. These Districts are so supportive of our Global Grants projects and it was a great pleasure to meet the people who are integral in making our vital humanitarian projects happen. In Seoul I attended the IYFR International AGM and learnt of the activities of the various fleets from around the world. Vivienne and myself had the pleasure of joining in the IYFR Gala Dinner along with 40 international members, all dressed in full formal whites, for a Dinner Cruise on the Han River in Seoul. It was a truly splendid night.



Lunch with International Commodore Jun Avecilla



Gala Dinner "All Aboard"



Table 102



Thank you Youngshin for your help in organising the PCC



Gala Dinner and River Cruise



At Convention the IYFR sponsored a promotional Booth in the House of Friendship and we took turns at manning it. People queued up to be photographed with us all dressed up in our formal whites it was a great experience and hopefully we attracted many prospective new members.

There it is a catch up of where we are to date and those events the Bridge has planned for you in the coming months. Prior to these events Secretary Vivienne will email members asking for a response from those wishing to attend and once we know who can join us we will proceed from there.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Kind regards

Peter

Fleet Commodore

Auckland fleet