



BULLETIN JERUSALEM ROTARY CLUB

Chartered 1929
Club #13459 District
2490

5 August 2020



Club #13459

Club Officers 2020-2021

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Dieter Ziulkowski

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Today's Program - "Everything about the Computer that you were afraid to ask" –

Dr. Jonathan Devor, Ph.D., Senior Data Scientist, Roadmetric Ltd., Jerusalem

Dr. Jonathan Devor is a data scientist and director of research at Roadmetric, Ltd. He has a PhD (Astronomy) from Harvard, holds 3 patents, and authored over a dozen scientific papers in Astrophysics. He is married and a father of two.

Jonathan was born in Israel, served in the elite IDF intelligence unit, 8200. He then took degrees in Physics and Computer Science from the Hebrew University. He moved to the US for his PhD studies at the Harvard Center for Astrophysics (CfA). While there he developed novel computational methods for analyzing the orbital dynamics of stars. After completing his thesis in 2008, he was recruited to work as a senior software engineer at the Silicon Valley headquarters of Cisco Systems.

After spending nearly a decade in the US, it was time to "settle down". So in 2011, Jonathan decided to move back to Israel, where he became a senior analyst at an international hedge fund, WorldQuant. He then moved on to work as a data scientist at the anti-fraud company, Forter (highlighted in the bestseller, "Startup Nation"). And finally, he joined the Jerusalem start-up RoadMetric, where he currently heads the development effort to build an autonomous machine-learning

Upcoming Events

12 August, 2020 tba

algorithm that identifies traffic infractions.

When not working or spending time with his family, Jonathan volunteers for a few causes. He is a regular contributor to the Q&A on-line forum, *Quora* (with around 100 million users). To date, he has published 1,300 answers in a range of topics, for which he has earned its 2018 “top writer” award. Jonathan is also a lover of travel and the out-of-doors. As such he became involved in the navigation sport of *Geocaching* (with over a million participants in 191 countries and territories). Jonathan holds the official lead of Geocaching in Israel for the past 7 years.

We have a virtual meeting again using the internet application ZOOM. Please log in as follows: just before 1:00 pm (1300), of the meeting date, click on the following "Join URL": <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86112105200> or only the numbers [86112105200](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86112105200) in the log-in window of ZOOM

Fellowship Greetings

Congratulations to our Immediate Past President Robert on his birthday on 9 August. Mazal Tov Robert, and thanks for your great work as treasurer of our RC



The President's Corner

Some events in life give room for reflection. Was it God's planning, fate, unexplainable circumstances or just coincidence that we met someone important, missed something or somebody? We all had these moments when we would think afterwards “what would have happened if.....”. One of the three events mentioned in today's ‘international toast’ had a strong impact on me. The bombing of the Marriott Hotel in Jakarta on 5 August, 2003.

I was sitting at my desk in my Jakarta office on that day, just some 200 meters away from the Marriott Hotel with unobstructed view, no buildings between my office and the hotel. I heard the bang, knew immediately that it is an explosion and not just a car exhaust misfiring, my windows trembled due to the air pressure and I turned my head to look out of the window, to see the flames, taxi drivers burning in their cars, wounded people running out of the hotel – panic and chaos. I was lucky that my office window did not implode and that I had not scheduled a lunch meeting at the Marriott on that day. A note by the Islamic terrorist, later found on the internet, gave instructions where best to kill foreigners in Jakarta, how to do it and how to get away. It contained a map of 1 square kilometre as the ideal location in Jakarta. This square kilometre covered the area of the Marriott Hotel, my apartment and my office!

Six years later, on July 16, 2009 another suicide bomber walked into a meeting room at the same Marriott Hotel, Jakarta and detonated the bomb. A friend of mine lost his hearing, one lost his legs and a few people I knew died. It was a breakfast meeting of executives to which I was often invited. Thank God, not on this day.

Dieter Ziulkowski



International Toast – Rotary Club of Cardiff, Wales

Three noteworthy historical events that happened on 5 August, the day of our meeting:

1925 Plaid Cymru is formed with the aim of disseminating knowledge of the Welsh language, which is in danger of dying out. Plaid Cymru – the Party of Wales, often referred to simply as Plaid) is a social-democratic and democratic socialist political party in Wales advocating Welsh independence from the United Kingdom. Plaid was formed in 1925 and won its first seat in the UK Parliament in 1966. The party holds three of 40 Welsh seats in the UK Parliament, 10 of 60 seats in the Welsh Parliament, and 202 of 1,264 principal local authority councillors. It is a member of the European Free Alliance. While both the Labour and Liberal parties of the early 20th century had accommodated demands for Welsh home rule, no political party existed for the purpose of establishing a Welsh government. *Plaid Genedlaethol Cymru* (English: The National Party of Wales) was formed on 5 August 1925, by Moses Gruffydd, H. R. Jones and Lewis Valentine, members of *Byddin Ymreolwyr Cymru* ("The Home Rule Army of Wales"; and Fred Jones, Saunders Lewis and David John Williams of *Y Mudiad Cymreig* ("The Welsh Movement"). Initially, home rule for Wales was not an explicit aim of the new movement; keeping Wales Welsh-speaking took primacy, with the aim of making Welsh the only official language of Wales.



Moses Gruffydd



Nelson Mandela



JW Marriott Hotel Jakarta, before and after

1962 Nelson Mandela arrested for incitement and for illegally leaving South Africa. Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela (18 July 1918 – 5 December 2013) was a South African anti-apartheid revolutionary, political leader and philanthropist who served as President of South Africa from 1994 to 1999. He was the country's first black head of state and the first elected in a fully representative democratic election. His government focused on dismantling the legacy of apartheid by tackling institutionalised racism and fostering racial reconciliation. Ideologically an African nationalist and socialist, he served as the president of the African National Congress (ANC) party from 1991 to 1997. A Xhosa speaker, Mandela was born to the Thembu royal family in Mvezo, Union of South Africa. He studied law at the University of Fort Hare and the University of Witwatersrand before working as a lawyer in Johannesburg. There he became involved in anti-colonial and African nationalist politics, joining the ANC in 1943 and co-founding its Youth League in 1944. After the National Party's white-only government established apartheid, a system of racial segregation that privileged whites, he and the ANC committed themselves to its overthrow. On 5 August 1962, police captured Mandela along with fellow activist Cecil Williams near Howick. His hearing began in October, but he disrupted proceedings by wearing a traditional *kaross*, refusing to call any witnesses, and turning his plea of mitigation into a political speech. Found guilty, he was sentenced to five years' imprisonment.

2003 A car bomb explodes in the Indonesian capital of Jakarta outside the Marriott Hotel. The bombing occurred on 5 August 2003 in Mega Kuningan, South Jakarta, Indonesia at lunch time. A suicide bomber detonated a car bomb outside the lobby of the JW Marriott Hotel, killing twelve people and injuring 150 (mainly in the coffee

shop restaurant by glass fragments of the imploding tall windows). Those killed were mostly Indonesian, with the exception of one Dutch man (the local CEO of Dutch ING Bank. It was his farewell lunch as he was leaving Indonesia the very next day). The hotel was viewed as a Western symbol, and had been used by the United States embassy for various events. The hotel was closed for five weeks and reopened to the public on 8 September.

Today we are toasting the Rotary Club of Cardiff, Wales Wales on the foundation of Plaid Cymru and its aim to preserve the Welsh national language. RC Cardiff was chartered in November 1917, a club with a distinguished history. Congratulations!

Dieter Ziulkowski

 *Some other news*

Some of the participants of last ZOOM meeting, courtesy of Eli:



Food for thought:



Always think about the consequences of your action

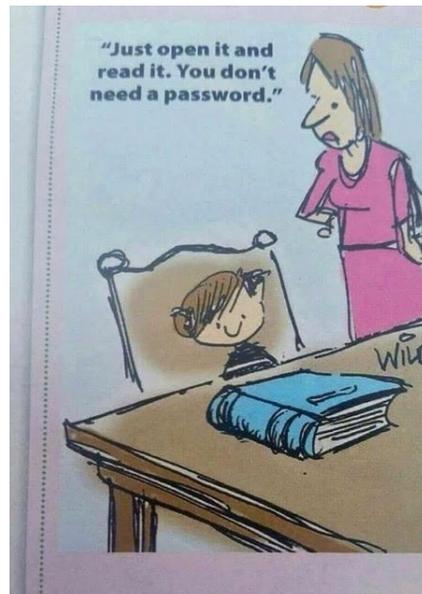
E-mail from Rotary Club Madras:

Greetings and Warm Wishes to you, Rtn. Geert, Rtn. Dan Shanit and Members of your Premier Rotary Club! We offer our very special wishes on International Friendship Day and look forward to *Friendship* as the vehicle that will keep us together on the path of *Service Above Self*.



With Warm Regards, Sincerely Yours in Rotary, Guna

A contribution of Geert:



The Jerusalem Rotary Club meets every Wednesday at 1 p.m. (13.00) at the Jerusalem International YMCA on King David Street. On the last Wednesday of every month it meets in the evening at 7 p.m. (19.00). NIS75 covers lunch/dinner, the Rotary program and a presentation by selected speakers. Kosher meals can be ordered until 90 minutes before the start of the meeting, by sending a message to our secretary 054-4295680. Visiting Rotarians and visitors are welcome.