



Weekly Bulletin of

# The Jerusalem Rotary Club

Club # 13459, District 2490

20 January 2016

## Club Officers

**President:**

P/ Yaron Amitai

**Secretary:**

R/ David Lilienthal

**Treasurer:**

P/P Eli Kenner

**Immediate Past President:**

P/P Nezar Tannous

**President Elect 2016-17:**

R/ Nuha Tannous

**Board Members:**

R/ Art Braunstein

R/ Geert Cohen Stuart

P/P Sandi Darmon

P/P Ruth Harris

P/P David Seligman

R/ Dan Shanit

R/ Nuha Tannous

R/Guido de Werd

P/P Kern Wisman

PDG Irene Lewitt (ex-officio)

## Upcoming Programme

**27 January Meeting:**

Special Dinner Outing

**03 February Meeting:**

Speaker: Moshe Arens

Former Minister of Defense

**“The Lavi Fighter Jet—  
Past Present and Future”**

**10 February Meeting:**

Club Assembly

**17 February Meeting:**

Dr. Zadok Alon

Head Visitor Center

Bank of Israel

**“Money, Money Every-  
where”**



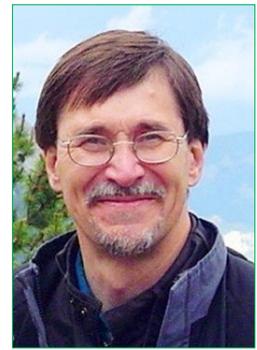
## This Week's Programme

**Kern Wisman**

**Religious Volunteer**

### “From Volcanoes to the Jungle to the Desert”

Fellow Rotarian and Past President of the Jerusalem Rotary Club, Kern Wisman, hailing from Nebraska, and initially a pre-theological student has taken a rather circuitous path on his quasi-Aliyah which finds him residing in Jerusalem. Currently in Israel as a religious volunteer, he has spoken to the Club, previously, on that role and also on his professional career as a jewelry designer, but the Jerusalem Rotary Club Program Chair thought it might be of interest to hear about his journey whose most recent, but not last, stop has been Israel.



The thread which connects volcanoes with deserts began innocuously with a note on a bulletin board on a building on Lækjargata next to Tjörnin, the lake in the center of Reykjavík, an Icelandic wool sweater, and a girl. Initially these things had no effect, but seven years later events would start to unfold



that would establish them as the first exposure to something which would connect the points of an unusual journey from the volcano strewn island country of Iceland to the dense ‘hoof and mouth disease blocking jungles’ of the Darien



between Panama and Colombia, to, most recently, the biblically blooming deserts of Israel.



## You've Got Mail

Published belatedly, but maybe appropriately still, since the Holiday Channukhah/Christmas season in Israel doesn't end until the celebration of Armenian Christmas on 18 January. Competition for space in the Bulletin meant these greetings from Barbara and Michael Mertes were not published when initially planned.

With apologies! - Bulletin Editor



חנוכה שמח  
from Barbara & Michael  
Mertes

Bonn, December 2015:  
We are looking forward to celebrating  
Christmas with our grandsons  
Hannes and Loviel!



## Cyprus Plans Complete

### IMPORTANT: Book Now

President Amitai's elaborate and comprehensive arrangements for the 8-14 March Carnival Tour of Cyprus have been finalized and the trip is ready for booking.

Eleven have already booked but more have indicated interest.

Yaron has already distributed the 7 day program but it is available, also, on our Club website.

Yaron reminds us: "ISSTA has signed an agreement with El Al so that they will reserve the flights until the beginning of February - this and the requirement for the payment of a deposit for the Atlantica Miramare Hotel in Limassol are the reasons why I urge you to please book ASAP."

#### Book through:

ISSTA Raanana, tel. 09-7618888 or 052-3893529, ask for Hemda or Mira



## Fireside Program

### First Round of Firesides Complete

The first round of this year's Fireside Program successfully saw the completion of four Firesides. The first Fireside at Kern and Barbara Wisman's saw them hosting 8 guests, Rotarians and spouses on 3 January. The second Fireside on 12 January was hosted by Yaron Amitai in their home where they welcomed 6 guests. Dick and Maureen Fain were next to host 3 couples at their home on the 13th of January, and the first round of Firesides was capped off by Tony Kolankiewicz and Carmen hosting 5 guests at their apartment on the 14th of this month.



The Fireside Chairman, Tony Kolankiewicz, will announce the beginning of the second round of Firesides at this week's meeting and explain how it will work. If you miss the meeting or have any questions about this year's Fireside Program, please contact Tony.



## Get Well Soon

If you are not already aware, fellow Rotarian Guido de Werd was taken ill while away in Germany over the holidays. Heart by-pass surgery was required, but the treatment is proving successful. He will not, however, be joining us for meetings until a suitable period of convalescence has passed. We wish him well, a quick recovery, and a refuah shlema.



# International Toast

## The Rotary Club of

### The Westman Islands, Iceland

Taking advantage of my quadruple role, this week, of club speaker, bulletin editor, stand-in International Toastmaster, and former resident of Iceland, I have taken the liberty of choosing to honor with this week's International Toast, the Rotary Club of Vestmannaeyjar (The Westman Islands) of Iceland.

It is tradition that we choose the International Toast related to some event in history which coincides with the date of our meeting. As it happened, actually nothing took place on the 20th of January on the main island, Heimaey, of the Westman Islands which is South and West of the main island of Iceland in 1973.

Well, nothing that anyone noticed, but subterranean pressures were building on the junction point of the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates below the island such that three days later on 23 January the sleeping volcano of Eldfell began an eruption that would last until 4 July.



The eruption was a major crisis for the island causing massive

evacuations of the nearby city where 400 homes were destroyed by falling ash and where only the innovative proactive pumping of sea water onto the encroaching magma flow was able to save the harbor and with it the home base for its fishing fleet, the island's primary source of income. The resourceful and resilient Icelanders responded to the nearly disastrous



event by using the cooling lava flows to generate electricity and hot water while using the airborne rocky material (tephra) to extend the island's airport and create a new landfill on which 200 new homes were built.



The Rotary Club of the Westman Islands was founded in 1955 as part of District 1360. The Club currently has 10 members who meet on Thursdays at 18:30 at the Kaffi Maria, according to the RI Directory (their website gives a different address, Vestmannabraut 28 ).

Each spring the club has a cleaning project for all the open areas and beaches of the island. They also support an awards program for talented primary school age musicians and academically excelling students.



The Club, in past years in cooperation with other service clubs, purchased research equipment for

the Westman hospital, supplied a copier for the Westman Culture Center, provided cover plates for the floor of the sports center, supplied hearing diagnostic equipment for nurses, and twice supplied decoders for Hraunbúðir (Lava Shops). It has provided Christmas trees for those with disabilities for several years, and funded a treatment home. The club also has made awards for the best academic performance at the Icelandic Navigation College and awards to support financially promising young people from the islands to study music and music theory at the Conservatory. (Information from Club Website)

Skál Rótarýklúbbur Vestmannaeyja!



Kern W. ♣



## Happy Hour

### Alert to Significant Health Risk!

Recent studies have revealed significant new developments with respect to the use of alcohol and fat in our diets. These results have a particular interest for the members of the Jerusalem Rotary Club - **WARNING: Urgent changes may be needed!**

- ◆ **The Japanese eat little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or the Americans.**
- ◆ **The French eat a lot of fat and also suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or the Americans.**
- ◆ **The Japanese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or the Americans.**
- ◆ **The Italians drink excessive amounts of red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or the Americans.**
- ◆ **The Germans drink a lot of beer and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or the Americans.**

**Conclusion: Eat and drink what you like; speaking English is what apparently kills you!**



**Parlez-vous Francais?**

**Contribution by David L. ♣**

### Jerusalem Rotary Club

Weekly Lunch Meetings are at the YMCA, 26 King David St, Jerusalem Wednesdays at 13:00. The last Wednesday of each month is a dinner meeting at 19:00.

Meetings are conducted in English.

Visiting Rotarians and other guests are welcome.

Luncheon/Dinner costs: NIS 75, students and lone soldiers: NIS 50, children under 18: NIS 30.

For Kosher meals please book in advance. For this and other enquiries please contact us through the Contact section on the website.

Please visit our website:

[www.rotaryclubjerusalem.org](http://www.rotaryclubjerusalem.org)

Follow the Jerusalem Rotary Club on social media: (Press 'Control' and click on icon to go to site)

