



**BNZBA**  
BRITISH NEW ZEALAND  
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION INC.

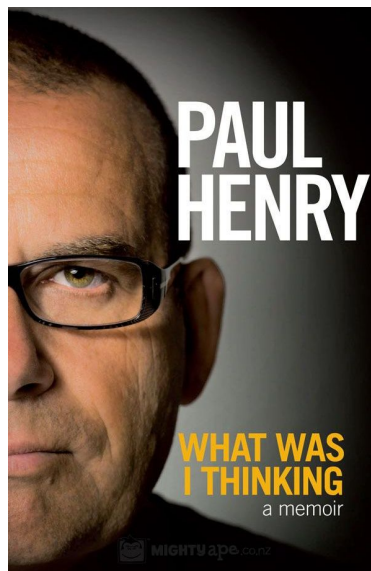
# BNZBA BUZZ

Issue seven. June 2011



## Paul Henry in the Lions' Den?

Paul Henry resumes his public profile at a BNZBA luncheon on June 8 prior to taking up a new role with Radio Live. Henry was educated in Britain and started his media career there. The circumstances of his 2010 departure from TVNZ are well catalogued and he has promised an unstructured address, which should mean plenty of opportunity for questions.



**Auckland Mayor, Len Brown**

Len Brown addressed a BNZBA luncheon on 27

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April. He shared his views with the group after 200 days heading the Super City. A few extracts from his observations: 'Economic prosperity is the key to optimising Auckland's opportunities - we need to undergo an economic transformation. Trade with Europe, and Britain in particular, remains strong. The EU is our second largest market after Australia

and takes some 15 percent of our total exports. More than 20% of those exports to Europe (almost \$1.5 billion) go to Britain.



And Britain is our largest source of long-term immigrants and second-largest source of international tourists. This year Auckland faces its biggest tourism challenge for a generation when we host 85,000 visitors for the Rugby World Cup. 20,000 of them will be from England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. We must look beyond the Rugby World Cup to how we will develop our tourism potential for years to come. In June, I want to get all of Auckland's tourism industries together to figure out how to do that. I want the accommodation operators, the bus companies, the airport, port and cruise ship

companies, the waterfront and tourism CCOs and every other organisation involved with tourism to figure out how we can work as a coherent tourism brand – Auckland Inc. Many of you will be crucial to helping the city do that. We all know how stunning this place is – now we need to spread the word, and ensure we give visitors from Britain, and other parts of the world, a world-class experience worthy of the world's most liveable city.'

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### **A Tale of Two Cities Countries**

In the UK they are taking the path of austerity while here in New Zealand we are doing the opposite and borrowing heavily. (Some cynics are calling it, 'Muldoon 2', borrow and hope again). Which is right? During the Asian economic crisis, Malaysia made some radical and dramatic changes in policy to reduce damage from the crisis. When then Singapore

PM Lee Kwan Yew was asked, which is the right policy and did he approve or disapprove of the Malaysian moves, his answer was, 'Those questions are a waste of time, there is only one question that is important, and that is - will they work?' Leaving economic policy settings aside, what is the outlook for both the UK and NZ over the next eighteen months?



As most commentators are saying, the recent budget was based on over optimistic forecasts by the treasury and the treasury track record over the past three years has been inaccurate. So what is our view? Our forecast is that there will be little economic growth in NZ for at least another year. Yes, the rugby world cup will give NZ a small lift in the second half of 2011, but not much - anaemic at

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best. The first half of 2012 is looking poor again with low growth and the possibility of another recession before growth finally returns in the second half of 2012.

The UK is a different picture; moderate growth for the second half of 2011, followed by consistently strong growth all year in 2012. For the purist, which is better? Austerity or borrow and hope? Austerity comes out a clear winner when comparing the UK and NZ. Is this a reflection of the Anglo Saxon ability to respond positively to austerity? Maybe.

There are of course unpredictable factors, both negative and positive. In the UK the coalition is looking stressed and may well fall apart. In New Zealand we have many potential negatives; China with a big slow down, inflation taking off and one we don't want to consider - another big earthquake in Christchurch. There are of course positive shocks as well. Imagine

a lower NZ\$/US\$, that with higher commodity prices would really make the agricultural sector fizz, and would deliver higher employment growth with a big increase in taxes so the level of borrowing would fall dramatically. But that's another story.

*Economic comment by BNZBA's Andrew Criglington. For 30 years he has produced accurate, long term economic forecasts for most major economies.*

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### Member Profile

#### **Rob Lavender, XPO Exhibitions**

Rob Lavender is Exhibition Sales Manager at Xpo Exhibitions. 'The ability to maintain and create industry events that encompass flair, innovation, new technology, state of the art design, and education for New Zealand industrial sectors is something that I really enjoy being part of. When it all comes together there's a great sense of achievement.' XPO Exhibitions organises many of New Zealand's major trade

and other events, including buildnz, designex, EMEX, Foodtech Packtech, Plush, Printech, and the three annual Gift & Homeware Fairs – Autumn, Winter, and Spring.



Expo's Buildnz Designex 2011 runs 26-28 June in Auckland

The core of their highly experienced team spent many years working for DMG World Media (NZ) building expertise in the event management field. That knowledge and skill is now under 100% New Zealand ownership making world-class events happen. The key events they organise represent millions of dollars in trade for more than 1500 exhibiting companies from throughout New Zealand, Australia, and around the world. Currently about 35,000 trade visitors attend XPO shows every year to research, network, and to buy new products and services. More at [xpo.co.nz](http://xpo.co.nz).

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## **An Evening at Raines**

The evening of 4 May saw a BNZBA group enjoying a pre-mothers' day look at Raines' wonderful selection of china and collectables – everything from traditional Denby to Royal Doulton's Maze collection by Gordon Ramsay.



Geoff Topham hosts BNZBA at John Raine Ltd

John Raine Limited is the longest standing BNZBA member and we're going to do it again. Thanks to Geoff and co for a pleasant evening, and for making special prices available to members.

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### **Engaging With the Business Community Over Rugby**

Where will you be on Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup>? If the answer is New Zealand, there's a good chance you're here to watch at least one of the 48 Rugby World Cup games being played in the

land of the long white cloud.

UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) will be hosting an event for British business people and New Zealand companies on Thursday September 29<sup>th</sup> in Auckland. The event precedes the much anticipated match between England and Scotland at Eden Park on Saturday October 1<sup>st</sup>.



The event will provide Brits with the opportunity to meet with sector specialists and local businesses, establish contact with the British High Commissioner Vicki Treadell and hear from a former rugby great. UKTI, along with the British High Commission, welcome visiting Brits to get in touch and connect with like minded business people in New

Zealand. We also encourage you to register with the NZ2011 Business Club at: <http://www.nz2011.govt.nz/business/international/>

Please contact Hamish Jenkin for further details:

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### **Upcoming Events**

**Lunch with Paul Henry** - 12.00 pm  
Wednesday 8 June.

**Dates to be confirmed:**  
**Raines** – a further advantaged purchasing opportunity over a glass of wine.

**Ports of Auckland** tour.

**Coopers Creek Winery** visit – a reprise of last

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year's popular event,  
once the days lengthen.  
**John Anderson,**  
Founder of Contiki - to

be scheduled in  
September.  
**Please visit:**  
[bnzba.co.nz/Events.asp](http://bnzba.co.nz/Events.asp)

## Membership, Sponsorship Enquiries and 'BNZBA Buzz' Contributions



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