

Rotary Club of Hout Bay



Bay Breezes

11th May 2013



Rotary Family Health Day - President Peter

Sometimes we are blessed in unexpected ways. What began as a laudable exercise in the grand scheme of Rotary International with the massive financial backing of Coca Cola turned into a plethora of last minute problems to be sorted out. Rotary Hout Bay being initially struck off the government listing as participants due to the interference [unintended in its consequences] by a neighbouring Club was just the beginning. Losing our Hout Bay Clinic as a venue [which turned out to be a blessing] and lacking nursing staff at the opening on Thursday morning were just some of the other tribulations.

Funding was entirely inadequate for purposes intended and we have had to dig deep into our own pockets for this. The cost of printing the registration and other forms. Even paying for taxi services to Hangberg and Victoria Hospitals for those who presented with really serious health problems. And so on, and so on.

But as with so many of these occasions where struggle has been necessary, the successful result is that much sweeter.

None of this would have been possible without the dedicated persistence of our Patrick. By that I mean that, whatever good intentions we had would have come to an embarrassing nothing without Patrick giving this his all. Full time working and with a lovely but ailing Joyce to look after, I just scratch my head at how he manages to find the time.

I know though, that Patrick would wish me to point the finger of gratitude to others including Liz Huckle of the Hout Bay Health Forum who could usually be seen as a blur over the three days of the event. Any greeting to Liz was often met with a backward wave of a hand in the air as she disappeared out the door at Mach 2 or thereabouts. Only to reappear ten minutes later on another mission. Warrant Office Tanya Lesch and her kiddies corner on day one made such an impact. No one else thought of doing that but not only was it a source of delight for the little ones but it took the pressure off the mothers



Patrick, Kenny and June

and allowed them to get on with their form filling and other business without the hindrance. Great forward thinking.

Thanks to Sister Babs and her nursing staff. It was sometimes painful to watch the little mites getting their measles jab and some of the photos show that the parents had just as tough a time watching the needle go in! Thanks to all of the other volunteers who partook. The AIDS/HIV nurses and the TB testing ladies. The diabetes testing staff, weighing staff and family planning people. So many to thank for making this work. And a huge thanks to Zoe and her people for coffee and sandwiches. Life savers!

But above all I want to thank our Club. Led by Patrick, we have done ourselves proud and I am proud to be president. To all of those who extended their help and time, I thank you.

I know that June Webber is over the moon with the success we made of it all.

Of course the statistics are also important so the organisation of the results was vital. Ali was working on the figures on Saturday and I expect that these will filter down to us. A couple of statistics were out there however. I understand that we catered for over 250

residents on the Thursday and when I was there on Saturday as well,



it looked like we would do the same or more. I also understand that of over 9,000 people tested in this program for HIV/AIDS in the Western Cape only ONE had a positive result. We are so close to winning the war. Mother to child infection is down to almost nothing and with the stigma of seen being tested, quickly becoming a thing of the past, we could win.

I am sure that we shall have more feedback from District and RI. Bay Breezes will keep you informed.

A word from Don

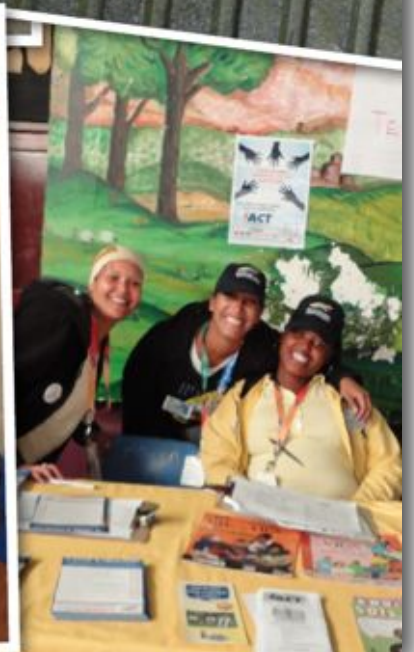
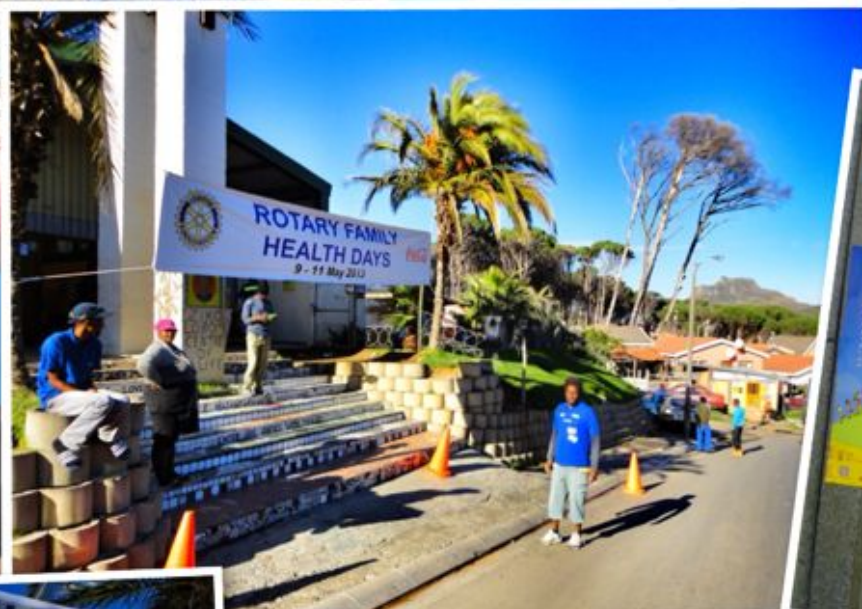
Its been a week of excitement, Bon Jovi did their bit and then we had the Beliebers jumping up and down and what was special, well they were all pretty well healed, they were all in good health because they could afford to see Doctors and if they were attending either they were happy and probably had little stress, unless of course you were 15 years old, had waited all the previous night to get a front row position and the little Canadian chap did look at you, then you had stress, But then the week got even better for the residents of IY in Hout Bay as the amazing work of Patrick locally and of others in the Rotary Family elsewhere reached a climax with Thursday's opening of the Rotary Health Days project. Of course we have had plenty of talk, memos, notices, requests and further announcements about this RHD project in fact Patrick was beginning to feel a little strain. The opening on Thursday was a great surprise, the residents of IY appreciating that Rotary was involved and noticing these Rotarians and others walking around in blue shirts inviting them to come into the hall for medical check ups did so. It was nearly quite overwhelming the support the locals of IY gave the project. Patrick then organised Kenny T. with a loud hailer and asked him to wander around the IY area telling the story of what Rotary was doing at the hall - the results were amazing and Thursday's numbers far exceeded expectations. All of us from Hout Bay Rotary gave super service and all of us were humbled by the efforts of the medical teams at work, their caring, their patience and understanding. Who can forget those discreet views of the little ones being administered with the wonderful polio drops and then the measles inoculation, some very brave with just a twitch, others whilst being distracted were well aware of the needle and then a few who having not been told exactly what was going on voiced and together with physical and violent movements displayed to the nursing fraternity their displeasure. These were the young ones that didnt really think that one sweet given at the beginning of the ordeal was in anyway sufficient. We Rotarian workers together with the different teams of health officials enjoyed some excellent sandwiches from Zoe together with tea and coffee. Our little breaks gave us an opportunity to speak to each other and share stories as equals in the job we all were doing. Thursday saw PDG June visit us and later in the day the DG also came to see us. Friday the numbers eased a little as we realised that the previous day had been a religious holiday and many schools were closed, however we were kept busy. Saturday the numbers grew and particularly the arrival of many more men and man many more children, the hum of voices was continually interrupted by the crescendo of young protesting voices. We worked hard on the preparation of the stats which will be a very important part of the exercise and Patrick will be revealing all.

In summary, whilst there was some concern from many of us as to what we could do in the three days; I believe we had a wonderful example of Rotarian skills, skills we didnt know we had or we didnt share openly with others. There was an enjoyable and happy connection with the teams from the Health services and from especially Liz Huckle and her Hout Bay Health Forum. Our connections in differing ways with the residents of IY as they moved around the hall to various disciplines displayed a happy and relaxed atmosphere with much enjoyable banter. We welcomed onto the Rotary team two of our bursary students and we greatly appreciated them making the effort to help. Perhaps in the not to distant future we will invite the leaders Jacqui and Sophia with Liz to join us at a Hout Bay Rotary meeting. Yes what we have done is we have established many new super people as our friends. Let me end by saying again congratulations Patrick together with ALL of the members who helped and yes there were some very special ones and they know who they are, thank you. Just another member of the Team.



Tanya's Kiddies corner





Speaker last Tuesday – Bobby Duffus

Rainer introduced our speaker, Bobby Duffus who heads up an organisation called “The Cultural Corporation”. This rather enigmatic moniker hides a company committed to saving our heritage our wildlife and all that nourishes it.

Bobby eloquently spoke about the plight of our big game and other animals. After 10 years in the Kruger and with a son who is now a field guide there, Bobby has a deep and ingrained feeling for his subject.

According to him there are no more than 40,000 Giraffe left on the African Continent. And frighteningly, only some 15 thousand Lion.

There are 53 countries in Africa, many at war and as an example, the Sudanese rebels are responsible for a near total depletion of Rhino and Elephant in the area.

Monetary donations are fine and good up to a point. But only about 3% of the money donated actually “hits the ground”. Bobby’s focus is on education and using modern communication to get to the younger generation. To build from there. To tap into the energy of youth.

Extending his vision of this education he looks forward to a reality where people want to be “in”. To be included in an awareness of the plight of our natural reserves.

Butch asked the question as to how many elephant and Rhino were now left in his estimation. Bobby explained that there is no accurate count at present but he thinks that maybe there are about 100,000 elephant left of which 6 a day are being killed in Northern Mozambique alone. As for Rhino, Bobby estimates maybe 20,000 only left.

Raymond raised the question of other factors outside human interference and in particular, disease and reproductive limitation. Bobby responded that yes, disease is a major issue and certainly stress placed upon animals by encroachment of humankind does affect breeding ability.

Thanks was given by David Heath.

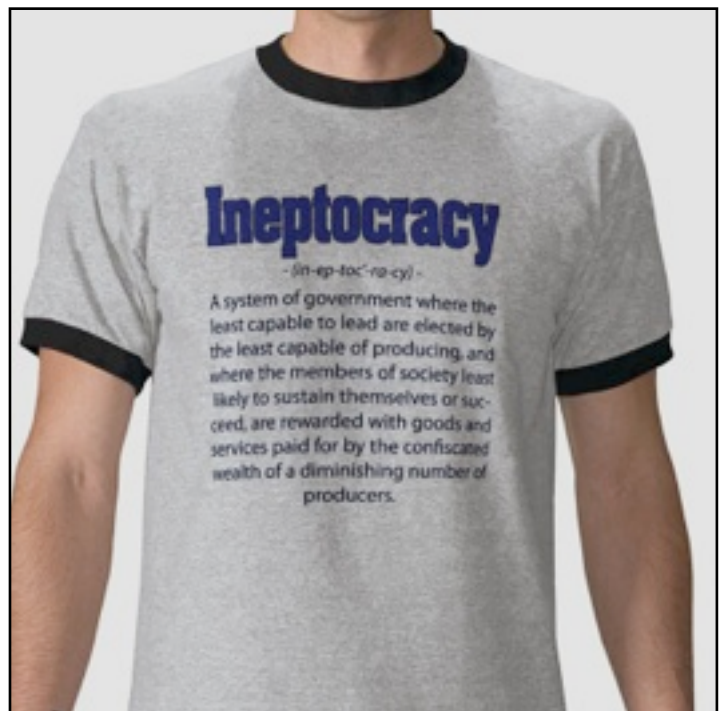


Raid on Cape of Good Hope this Tuesday

You are all aware, or should be, that we are not meeting this coming Tuesday at our own club but at the Cape of Good Hope Club which meets at St James. David Heath as already sent out a reminder email and requesting all to gather at Hout Bay Post Office at 6.00pm from where car sharing and transport will be organised. So far I have listed the following coming along:

Peter Dutton
Roy Graham
David Heath
Suzie Kidd
Hans Kuhn
Butch Liebenberg
Alison Rice
David Walker

If there are additions or subtractions let Pres Peter know now. Numbers have to be advised now to Cape of Good Hope.



WHY WE WILL GO TO THE DISTRICT 9350 CONFERENCE - *Don Peters*

As a member of Rotary in District 9350 there is no entry fee for the District Conference, you have already paid it via your annual subs, now that was painless.

Each year District 9350 selects a different venue and of course where ever is selected is going to be a hardship for some of us but for you this year its painless.

None of us have been directly involved in a District Conference, OK we have had connections in that we have and will be mounting an exhibit, again painless.

Our Club has been a frequent winner of awards presented at the Conference, there could have been more but for the fact that some of the judges maybe misunderstood us.

Conference is fun, its interesting, its an opportunity to meet fellow Rotarians, its a chance to understand other Clubs methods, their successes and failures, its encouraging when congratulated, and its sometimes humbling.

Yes there will be talk about Membership, but, isn't that so very very important? There will be some interesting presenters and as mentioned displays which are always great to view. Visiting the exhibits also gives you a chance to encourage other Rotarians to visit the Hout Bay exhibit.

Friendships are made and potential plans to raid each others Clubs or share with a project all painless.

OK, there is a cost; firstly a shared cost as you will have to travel to the Conference, but why not four of you in the car? Then of course lunch and really it's at very reasonable cost.

So I am going to Conference... WILL YOU?

In memoriam

Many of you will know Suzy Himely and will maybe have met her partner Alain.

Suzie is the President of Claremont Rotary Club which we have raided in my year as President. Alain and Suzie may also be known to many of you as the "cheese sellers" at the Biscuit Mill, Alliance Francaise and more recently at Gardens Shopping Centre.

It is with great regret that I have to tell you that Alain recently passed away in France while undergoing surgery for cancer. Unfortunately his weakened heart could not take the stress.

Suzie will be devastated and our thoughts are with her. In a very difficult time such as this, I am sure that her Rotary friends at Claremont are a comfort to her and her extended Rotary family are ready to lend support.

Wynpress

I am attaching to this email, the latest Wynpress edition. Keeping in touch with our neighbours over the hill.

DG's Indaba newsletter

I am also attaching DG Mike Osche's monthly newsletter. His Indaba for your pleasure and edification.

Mother's Day

If you've forgotten there's still a chance. As long as you read Bay Breezes that is.

BRITISH NEWSPAPERS

Commenting on a complaint from a Mr. Arthur Purdey about a large gas bill, a spokesman for North West Gas said, "We agree it was rather high for the time of year. It's possible Mr. Purdey has been charged for the gas used up during the explosion that destroyed his house."

(The Daily Telegraph)

Police reveal that a woman arrested for shoplifting had a whole salami in her underwear. When asked why, she said it was because she was missing her Italian boyfriend.

(The Manchester Evening News)

Irish police are being handicapped in a search for a stolen van, because they cannot issue a description. It's a Special Branch vehicle and they don't want the public to know what it looks like.

(The Guardian)

A young girl who was blown out to sea on a set of inflatable teeth was rescued by a man on an inflatable lobster. A coast guard spokesman commented, "This sort of thing is all too common".

(The Times)

At the height of the gale, the harbourmaster radioed a coast guard and asked him to estimate the wind speed. He replied he was sorry, but he didn't have a gauge. However, if it was any help, the wind had just blown his Land Rover off the cliff.

(Aberdeen Evening Express)

Mrs. Irene Graham of Thorpe Avenue, Boscombe, delighted the audience with her reminiscence of the German prisoner of war who was sent each week to do her garden. He was repatriated at the end of 1945, she recalled -

"He'd always seemed a nice friendly chap, but when the crocuses came up in the middle of our lawn in February 1946, they spelt out 'Heil Hitler.'"

(Bournemouth Evening Echo)

HEARD ON THE LONDON UNDERGROUND

A list of actual announcements that London Tube train drivers have made to their passengers.

- 1) "Ladies and Gentlemen, I do apologize for the delay to your service. I know you're all dying to get home, unless, of course, you happen to be married to my ex-wife, in which case you'll want to cross over to the Westbound and go in the opposite direction."
- 2) "Your delay this evening is caused by the line controller suffering from E & B syndrome: not knowing his elbow from his backside. I'll let you know any further information as soon as I'm given any."
- 3) "Do you want the good news first or the bad news? The good news is that last Friday was my birthday and I hit the town and had a great time. The bad news is that there is a points failure somewhere between Stratford and East Ham, which means we probably won't reach our destination."
- 4) "Ladies and gentlemen, we apologize for the delay, but there is a security alert at Victoria station and we are therefore stuck here for the foreseeable future, so let's take our minds off it and pass some time together. All together now.... 'Ten green bottles, hanging on a wall.....!'"
- 5) "We are now travelling through Baker Street ... As you can see, Baker Street is closed. It would have been nice if they had actually told me, so I could tell you earlier, but no, they don't think about things like that".
- 6) "Beggars are operating on this train. Please do NOT encourage these professional beggars. If you have any spare change, please give it to a registered charity. Failing that, give it to me."
- 7) During an extremely hot rush hour on the Central Line, the driver announced in a West Indian drawl: "Step right this way for the sauna, ladies and gentleman... unfortunately, towels are not provided."
- 8) "Let the passengers off the train FIRST!" (Pause) "Oh go on then, stuff yourselves in like sardines, see if I care - I'm going home...."
- 9) "Please allow the doors to close. Try not to confuse this with 'Please hold the doors open.' The two are distinct and separate instructions."
- 10) "Please note that the beeping noise coming from the doors means that the doors are about to close. It does not mean throw yourself or your bags into the doors."
- 11) "We can't move off because some idiot has their hand stuck in the door."
- 12) "To the gentleman wearing the long grey coat trying to get on the second carriage -- what part of 'stand clear of the doors' don't you understand?"
- 13) "Please move all baggage away from the doors." (Pause..) "Please move ALL belongings away from the doors." (Pause...) "This is a personal message to the man in the brown suit wearing glasses at the rear of the train: Put the pie down, Four-eyes, and move your bloody golf clubs away from the door before I come down there and shove them up your arse sideways!"
- 14) "May I remind all passengers that there is strictly no smoking allowed on any part of the Underground. However, if you are smoking a joint, it's only fair that you pass it round the rest of the carriage."

Someone's lucky day

On the way back from Rotary Family Health Day I took the following photos of an accident which had apparently occurred just moments before Bernadette and I passed through Bakoven on the way to RFHD in Hout Bay. All we saw at that time were two cyclists peering over the edge of the road onto the rocks below and a police car pulling up.

It transpired that just a very short time earlier, a young 19 year old woman, driving this Jaguar had lost control on the sweeping left hander coming out of Bakoven on Victoria Road, had crossed the road evidently at some speed and took off after hitting one of the protective rocks on the other side of the road. The debris indicates that the car flipped sideways and barrel rolled over the rocks for some 20 meters before coming to rest, a tangled mess of metal lodged between the rocks.

The road was closed for two hours while the air ambulance landed and took the young woman off to hospital where, we were given to understand, she was found to have only minor injuries.

I bet she is thanking the stars for air-bags, seatbelts and for the fact that she was driving a Jaguar and not a Toyota Tazz.

