

Rotary Club of Hout Bay

Bay Breezes



issue 94. 7th Sept 2014

LAST WEEK

Our Sergeant at Arms was Hans Kuhn.

As usual, after calling to order, the evening started with spots. The first spot went to Joelle who, in response to Don's call for empty ice-cream tubs announced that one of her hotel contacts had come up with 100 of these. As you will no doubt recall, Don needs these for his Nonceba project as packaging for the toiletries, treats and toys for the abused children. These boxes make the comfort gift that little bit special. So thanks Joelle and thanks to your donor.

Don is presently away in Ibiza and is possibly the only Septuagenarian there, but for a good reason. His groovy music imbued son is getting married there.

President Christine advised that we have a meeting on the proposed skateboard park. More about this later.

The 790 Directory is well on its way to publication. This is now going to be a quarterly business issue the advertising from which is a huge boost to our income.

President Christine also mentioned that 6th to 12th October is National Marine Week in respect of which Hans and Joelle are organising a trip for some local kids to be taken.

Hans then went on to introduce our speaker, our own Tim Smith.

SPEAKER

Our speaker for the evening was Tim Smith of Breadline Africa.

This was a chance to listen to the works of one our own members and learn what dedication means. Tim doesn't dabble. This is his work. It involves building modular classrooms, toilets, and complete centres out of shipping containers. They operate throughout the Western Cape, Eastern Cape, KZN Namibia and Zimbabwe.

Tim's talk was truly inspirational and we learned that since 1993 R120 million has been expended through the fund. That is just the money but the human effort and charitable work cannot be quantified.

The containers used to be free; just given away with no building permission needed to set up the modular kitchens, classrooms, toilets and libraries. But now the containers are R18,000 each and it is uncertain if freedom to build in this fashion will continue. As usual, there is a danger that bureaucracy intended to sort out one problem will adversely impact on another, namely this project.

As Tim set out: 61% of South African children live below what is termed the breadline and 14% are classified as being in hunger. The work that Tim and his colleagues undertake is seriously monumental and I strongly recommend that you all hook into the Breadline Africa website:

www.breadlineafrica.org.uk

As Nelson Mandela put it: "the true character of a society is measured by the way it treats its children"

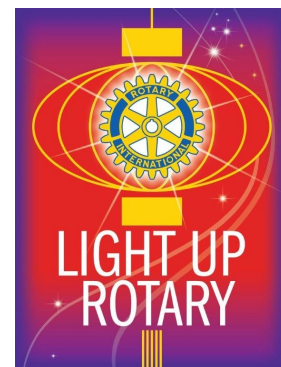
THIS TUESDAY

We welcome Carolynne Stelling and Sharon Scudamore as guest speakers.

Caroline works with Bright Start which is a Hout Bay based charity providing support to the educational system. Read more at:

<http://www.brightstart.org.za/>

Again, we find ourselves listening to those who are working alongside us in the local community. Sometimes, if not very often, we are unaware of their existence and the work they are undertaking. It is well worth coming to listen to those from whom we can exchange ideas and review the issues at hand.



SKATEBOARD PARK

The first meeting of the ad hoc committee for the construction of the proposed Skateboard Park took place on Friday with yours truly, Butch Liebenberg, President Christine, MJ and Greg attending, the latter two being very well versed in the requirements and processes of the skateboarding fraternity.

They had already arranged for a colleague of theirs who is studying design engineering to attend Hout Bay and look at the proposed site at the end of the existing soccer pitch in the valley across from IY. There is space there which would be ideal but of course this needs government agreement. This may hopefully be forthcoming and that is where President Christine's contacts come in.

First things first, we need a building plan and a costing. We need a "mission statement" [a horrible modern expression] to convince government that we can use their land to their advantage [votes] and to the advantage of the local community.

If we can't get permission to build there, which we reckon is the only really good site going, with all of the necessary security and infrastructure, then we shall have to look elsewhere. But the cost is going to be more than we imagined. I know.

We may well have to get public financial support and to really get this project into first gear soon. But the enthusiasm is there.

This is an enterprise which, from the immediate success of the skateboard park in Gardens has shown, is so perfect for bringing kids and young adults from different backgrounds together. We really have to have this. Whatever it takes.

Lawden Holmes, the designer designate should be providing his plans shortly and the sub-committee will keep you all fully informed.

Anyone who wishes to join the ad hoc committee would be more than welcome.

From John Glassford at Coolamon.

Here is our weekly bulletin:

[Coolamon Weekly Bulletin #09](#)

Plenty of news and stories.

I am not sure where I saw this video before but it has come around again. I think inspiring and embodies just about everything we Rotarians in Hout Bay strive for.

<http://www.metaspooon.com/giving-best-communication-thai-boy-caught-stealing/?fb>

Dear Fellow Rotarians, Friends and Associates of Richard Parsons,

Following my notification on Monday regarding the sad loss of our past President, fellow Rotarian and friend, Richard Parsons, I have been overwhelmed by the amazing response and flood of replies and condolences- all indicating the high regard in which he was held. I know he would be very moved and honoured by the tributes and I thank you sincerely on behalf of the family and the Rotary Club Cape of Good Hope

In deference to Richard's express desire for no "big funeral", we never the less want to pay tribute to him as a Rotarian and celebrate his life. It was therefore agreed at our meeting on Tuesday that **we hold a remembrance service at 6pm on Tuesday 9th September at the St James Hotel prior to our regular meeting at 7pm.**

We would be delighted if you joined us - if that be possible.

Should you be available, I ask that you kindly let me know of your attendance and if you would like to stay on for a meal and join our Business meeting (no speaker this week) which will follow.

It is important that we have an idea of numbers so that the Catering staff can be adequately prepared.

I look forward to hearing from you by 10am on Monday morning 8th September

Should I have inadvertently omitted a name of somebody you feel needs to be added to the invitation list, kindly take the liberty of forwarding this message

With thanks

Yours in Rotary,

Bev

BEV FRIESLICH

President 2014/2015

Rotary Club Cape of Good Hope

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