

Hout Bay Rotary Club



BAY BREEZES - 20 SEPTEMBER 2011

The Praise Singer's Gazette

Great to see our numbers swell and welcome back Roy from his trip up the West Coast, Roy you needn't take your Passport to see the flowers. A bigger welcome to Colin who has returned from France to enjoy some cool weather. Mike Gie back in Hout Bay house sitting for the family doing a make-up and he told us he had been inducted into the Blouberg Club by no less a person than the District Governor Deon Van Zyl. Congratulations to Alison Bull who has become a Rotarian joining the Totnes Club.

Earlier in the day with Patrick, Butch, Allan and Rainer I was at the Coolamon House Clinic to witness the hand over of equipment for the pharmacy as part of the Tokyo Club Matching Grant part of Operation Medical Hope. There is something special at the Clinic, something Rotary has helped to create, it is a warmth of feeling from the staff towards our Organisation. The success of this project, Operation Medical Hope, continues with leaps and bounds and I sincerely hope that all members of our Club will talk about what has been achieved, not just by the money raised so magnificently with other Rotary Clubs and individual Rotarians but more so by the physical participation and closeness the Rotarians have created in the work done at the Clinic. This does so endorse the importance of not entrenching dependency and thereby disempowering communities BUT having real and actual participation and guiding communities to become self supporting structures. Operation Medical Hope project is continually working towards this goal which should be the goal of ALL our projects.

What a fascinating address Douglas McClure gave us, his eloquent presentation, and as Patrick Flanagan remarked, no notes, no power point and a voice that carried to the back of the room a perfect combination. It is indeed fortunate that the members of the Hout Bay Club were all able to totally assimilate the complex nature of the subject of the address. Douglas most skilfully guided us through the complicated intrigues and left many of us wondering if we could live for another hundred years what life would be like. Of course it will always happen that amongst any group there will be detractors and from one last night we heard the remark, " I thought the punch line was going to be... if you believe anything I have told you tonight your mad."

We have had comment made about a number of the speakers recently and particularly that the content of the address would be much enjoyed by partners as well. Other than the business meetings there is no reason why partners should not accompany members to meetings. The reference to "ladies nights" should only apply to those evenings when the Club meets at a different venue, like the coming meeting. Swelling our numbers is not a problem, other than of course failure to advise Mick. I look forward to your comments on this. The meeting on Sept 27th is to be addressed by PDG Humphrey Worthington-Smith. The meeting Oct 4th is Ross Johnson and his marimba manufacture, teaching and playing scenario; and Oct 11th is WPBTS the blood talk. Congrats to David our Sgt on the changed format, I didn't hear any complaints about being a little earlier. Just a reminder to end with, we need a volunteer to run with the Hands Washing programme and any Past President wishing to lead a GSE team to Texas USA please contact me. Next weeks meeting is a ladies night, can the ABC be warned to advise any lost Rotarians of the changed venue. Please excuse me I will be doing a make-up on the otherside of the Mountain.

The birthdays and anniversary celebrations have been missed recently, Alison Bull birthday 16th Sept, and Keith running fast behind on the 18th. Rainer Jahn comes in on the 21st Sept; Chris Schuchard's absence on the 13th might be connected to his birthday which is on 15th Sept, best wishes to you all from us all at Hout Bay Rotary. When I was in business the Chairman of the company was horrified that junior staff had to match senior staff in the production of cakes for birthday celebrations. He stopped the practice and the company supplied the cakes together with good wishes from everyone. Should Rotary Hout Bay look at stopping this ridiculous habit of suggesting in the most pointed terms that the member celebrating her/his birthday has to buy drinks for everyone and reverse the matter. The Rotary Club wishing to celebrate with the member concerned on her/his birthday buys the member concerned a drink instead. Surely that is celebrating with the member their birthday, the implementation date would be for Club Services to announce.

With all good Rotary wishes

Don



She was honoured to be inducted by Ray M. Burman, President Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland. In the attached photograph with Alison, is the Mayoress of Totnes who was inducted as an Honary Member, with Ray on the right of the photo and Steve Hill, President of Totnes branch beside Alison. Besides the many marshalling and other activities we have both been involved with over the summer, Alison is already heavily involved in a Totnes Rotary initiated project - The Memory Cafe. This is a meeting place for carers and sufferers of dementia where advice and support can be given.

RAINBOW DREAMS PROJECT

Dannie Kagan (A Paul Harris awardee and Rotarian) - assists Rainbow Dreams which is a wonderful project assisting the poor and terminally ill.

We would like to assist her with any board games, snakes & ladders, dominoes, small puzzles, dice..... that sort of thing. They need as many games as possible - with over 70 kids ranging from 9 to 16 in three different locations. Please have a look in your drawers and in your garages and let us have those wonderful unused and forgotten board games you and your kids no longer use. It would really be appreciated if you can pass this email onto a couple of your friends.

Franki Lints

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LET'S SEE HOW WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Just a reminder Tuesday is Ladies Night at Alpenstube, 28 Victoria Avenue.

To conform to Ria's request that we do not take on the Hospital feeding time look, let's make the gathering time 6.30 for 7pm. I have organised a menu of four starters, four mains etc to assist Alpenstube with their kitchen work-load, however, the main menu will be available for the odd item that you might prefer.

Desserts will be as the standard menu.

Kurt and Petra have agreed to a no corkage evening, however they have asked that this is not abused. I have indicated that most of the blokes will down ten pints of beer, before they even think of wine. Kurt is the Man in the kitchen and he has indicated that all orders are cooked fresh and no pre-cooked or micro-waved process takes place. He has asked for a little patience between order and delivery. Tables will be 6+ seats depending where you sit.

I have asked that each table receives and settles its own bill, this, I think, is a much more manageable and fair system all round. I have organised a musician to wander between tables, playing traditional Bavarian "hits of yesterday". This will add to the atmosphere and greatly add to the Ladies enjoyment. Roy, I think Florina will love this and the Club should be only too pleased to foot the bill, of a miserable few pennies, that this old fellow is going to charge for his services. (GO ROY GO)

See You All Tuesday
Club Services

Programme

Sept 20 Ladies night David to advise - this is to be a night out at a restaurant in Hout Bay

Sept 27 PDG Humphrey W-Smith Into Don Thanks Peter Dutton
Humphrey is an amateur actor as well as PDG 1989-90 and his subject will be titled "Something interesting"

Oct 4 Colin Sutherland

Oct 11 Glynis Jennings Western Province Blood Transfusion Service Intro Don Thanks Butch
Blood will be the subject and the great work done by WPBTS, Glynis is a Rotarian at the Waterfront Club

Oct 18 District Governor Intro Don Thanks Athol

The annual visit to the Club of the DG, Deon is a retired Judge and also the Inspector of Prisons.

September Anniversaries

The Schuchards	01
The Bulls	16

September Birthdays

Chris Schuchard	15
Keith Bull	16
Rainer Jahn	21

SWALLOW'S SAY



In Ashland, Oregon which is the USA answer to Stratford-upon-Avon.

A picturesque village some 400 miles north of Napa where we visited for the Shakespeare Festival in May this year.

Imagine the opportunities for Rotarians, especially International.

A truly interesting & vibrant place. - NEVILLE MORRIS

A FINAL WORD

A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken.
James Dent

A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows.
St. Francis of Assisi

Colored scents that fill the air as drowsy insects hum around in the meadow is the place of secret magic where nature alone renews itself.
Kate Bergquist

I live on an island and listen to jazz all day long. The sun is always shining, but you can still see the stars. The breeze sings astonishingly like Ella and the wind rumbles in a Louis way. My friends and I dance under magic skies.
Author Unknown

MEALS AND ATTENDANCE

Please would all members advise Attendance Officer Mick Feuillerade prior to the Tuesday meeting if you will not be attending or not dining or bringing your partner or guests by 5:15pm on Monday at the very latest, Mick's details are:- email: annmick@webafrica.org.za - Cell: 082 550 1654

Rotary in Action - events and projects

NONCEBA VISIT - There is a visit to the Nonceba Centre at 1-30pm on Tuesday 20th Sept, Sea Point Rotary have a small group from Scotland they are bringing for a visit. If anyone is interested please contact Don on 021 6852251 or 0836584123.



OPERATION MEDICAL HOPE - The presentation of a much needed copier/printer/ fax machine to Hout Bay's Main Road Clinic, by Rotary Club of Hout Bay's president Don Peters, represents the completion of the second phase of the local Rotary club's support programme in the fight against TB and HIV/ Aids locally.

The copier/printer will be linked to the clinic's patient record computer and to the system controlling the clinic dispensary which handles the TB and HIV/AIDS medicine output thereby adding additional security.

So far clinical equipment and medical supplies to the value of R235,000 has been purchased by Rotary for the clinic, which comes on top of an earlier building phase which included additional building extensions to the value of R350,000 and which provided additional space for HIV/ AIDS counselling rooms and more room to handle TB patients.

This was all made possible by a grant, not yet fully executed, from an Australian Rotary Club, Rotary Club of Coolamon in New South Wales, and a further grant from the Rotary Club of Tokyo, which is now complete with the handing over of the printer/ copier this week.

The whole project is known as "Operation Medical Hope" both to South African Rotarians and Rotary internationally and has its own newsletter and website.

"All funds contributed from overseas are matched locally by Rotary Club of Hout Bay and contributed to by Rotary International in the USA and the cumulative effect of this kind of fund raising by matching rands locally with every dollar and yen raised internationally has been extraordinary", said Patrick McLaughlin, who heads up the Rotary project. "It's a wonderful example of international co-operation", he said.

"To raise money for the buildings at Main Road Clinic in Hout Bay, the Australian Rotarians actually came to Africa and climbed Mount Kilimanjaro to raise funds for this and a number of other HIV/Aids projects in Uganda. They intend returning in December to climb the Mountains of the Moon, or Ruwenzori Mountains, in Uganda, for further funds and Operation Medical Hope will again benefit. They will visit Hout Bay and see the results of their work and efforts".

In previous years, the work of Operation Medical Hope resulted in extensions being built to handle HIV/AIDS counselling at the clinic in Hangberg and medical supplies being imported from the USA by sea in conjunction with US Rotary clubs.

"Now that the building phase is complete and we have contributed extensively to the specialised equipment needed to handle the increasing volume of TB patients, the next part of the support programme is to bring medical comfort and nutritional supplies to very poor HIV positive members of our community. These people desperately need the right food to supplement ARV programmes, as do poorer families supporting AIDS victims."

Rotary says it can through work doctors and clinics who will "prescribe" comfort food packs to needy HIV positive persons and to homecare teams who work amongst those suffering from AIDS. South Africa does not have enough hospital beds to deal with HIV/AIDS and consequently treatment for the disease has had to be classified as "homecare" by nature.

Rotary Club of Hout Bay says its appeal for support in this area will again be international as well as local.

PATRICK M^cLAUGHLIN



CLASSICS IN PARROW - Hout Bay Rotary Club will once again be assisting with the Cap Classics Car Show on November 6.

We joined forces with the Multi Motor Club for the first time two years ago on a year-about basis, when we manned the gates at Jan Burger Sports Complex. We will be doing the same duty this year, from about 8.30am until about 4pm, so now is the time to diarise this important fundraising venture. (Last November they came to us, organising the cars for our show.) Needless to say, we need all Hout Bay Rotarians to help out. Last time we went over to Parow we earned just short of R20,000 for our efforts, so it's a very worthwhile event.

John Camplin will circulate a sheet for members to put their names on in a couple of weeks, when most of the swallows will be back in South Africa.

Don't forget the date Sunday, November 6 from about 8.30am.

The piece I have written about the London riots came up in discussion with Douglas McClure after last weeks meeting. I wrote it mainly for my brother David who had recently visited us as his son in law is a member of the Metropolitan Police in London. With the recent unseemly behaviour of groups of young persons connected to a political party in our country it gives food for thought about what could, might or even will happen here.

I came to Africa from London, England in March 1960 and joined the British South Africa Police in the then Southern Rhodesia. I had enjoyed my schooling and many of life's experiences in the eighteen years I lived in England. As a little one I had witnessed the end of World War Two and the return of servicemen and women to civvy street. Perhaps the most important aspects of 1946 to a five year old was that sweets were rationed. Crime in London changed slightly probably as a result of the odd firearm being kept as a souvenir and the swindlers who saw opportunities particularly in the second hand trade. But the real problems were that the factories and businesses had been damaged by bombing that employment was slow in gathering apace.

We moved into the 1950's and the Government of the day described it, "you've never had it so good" but of course it was followed by the baby boom and fewer jobs again. What was significant of this period was the appearance of the "Teddy Boys" the Mods (motor bikes) and the Rockers (scooters). This was probably the first time since the great depression that British Police Forces had lost some respect particularly from the younger generation. The fault – as history has shown was not all one sided. The "senior" establishment of the Police Forces around the country had never enjoyed or indeed understood the exuberance of youth or the new found maturity as a result, not just of war but television, press freedom and pop music. The establishment and indeed the majority of parents were quite lost when it came to young people asking questions which were difficult to answer. For example, sex, prostitution, homosexuality, carnaby street clothes, pop music and culture etc. So many leaders of communities, politicians, teachers and indeed parents were floundering and hiding behind sayings like, "it never happened in my time", "there is no respect by the young for their elders" What was being forgotten was the contribution that young people had made to save the way of life their parents enjoyed.

Why all these things as an introduction to the first line... I came to Africa in 1960. Well as a product of the baby boom (the early version during the war) at eighteen I became a little disillusioned with what was happening in England and I was someone looking to do something different. My mature outlook on life was however missing the day I was interviewed by the BSAPolice recruiting officer a more charming individual whose colourful stories of tennis matches in the sun and dinner jackets was enough to convince me to sign on the line and thus I sailed away from Southampton to Africa. What I left behind improved for the younger generation, an improvement that was not preceded by riots, looting and yobbish behaviour. Sadly and I say sadly now because at the time the shadow of National Service – eighteen months service in Her Majesty's forces – was there for all young men. Sadly because perhaps that discipline and all the other trappings of service life made the majority better men. Can it be argued that the loss of National Service has resulted in some of the behavioural changes as well. Whilst I did not undertake National Service I joined a service that equalled the discipline of anything the British Forces could offer.

It all leads me to the horrors I witnessed on television, BBC, CNN and others this week with the criminal unforgiveable behaviour of young yobs in London and elsewhere. It all reminded me of an experience I had had fifty years ago in a town called Gwelo (now Gweru) in Southern Rhodesia. Rioters, mainly youths had burned their local tavern, the health clinic, looted shops and attacked innocent bystanders. I am not going to dwell on all of the reasons for this riot but it was the experience of seeing wanton destruction of facilities that served the communities and the perpetrators alike. I wonder what the Police interviews of arrested youngsters in London will reveal.

For us it was a case of many not knowing why they just had joined in, some because they could get something for nothing and why should others have more than them. Most on reflection accepted that what they had done was wrong. I am not trying to over simplify the rioting but we have to acknowledge that riots are nothing new, just about every country has had its share.

So why Tottenham and all the other places, we wait to hear the outcome of the inquiries that will be carried out. One major difference is in 1960 there was no TV camera, no cell phone or Blackberry and more so no CCTV. I watched on television as many of you did a bottle store (off-licence) being attacked and "cleaned out", of cars being kicked and set fire to, of rocks and bottles being thrown at the Police. We heard the complaints from the public about the poor response of the Police. How much intelligence could the Police have had that would have identified that there was to be a spontaneous riot. Gathering intelligence from children, as many of the rioters were, is not a norm and if you look at riots worldwide in the past those that started with young people were very rarely predicted. I did wonder if the underlying causes were the result of the complete loss of family control, understanding and simple acceptable standards of behaviour.

As a retired Police Officer I sincerely hope that the British Police Forces win this "battle" quickly but more so that the Justice and prosecutions departments are given additional powers to punish offenders most severely. A slap on the wrist and probation is not the answer lengthy prison sentences, naming and shaming parents indeed making them appear in the court cases. Together with an inspection led by disciplinarians not scared to call a spade a spade of the causes and the suggested changes to community behaviour, education, corporal punishment etc. To those injured Police Officers we wish a speedy recovery and return to duty.

Lastly there is a message for my Rotary International colleagues because problems like these London riots can happen anywhere. It is only two years since Rotary recognised the importance of Youth and established the additional avenue of service - New Generations. There is a clear message, let us do more to involve young people, to understand young people, to reward young people, to share with young people and listen to young people not talk down to them. Not just Government, local authorities, Universities and schools, sports facilities but everyone must be involved. It would be, no lets change that, it will be fantastic to say never again will we have anywhere in the world young people rioting.