

Rotary Club of Hout Bay



Bay Breezes

18th Aug 2013



MODAY LAST AT KELVIN GROVE

Last Tuesday we had no meeting at our Clubhouse but a special "Cluster" meeting of clubs at Kelvin Grove on the preceding Monday in order that we might meet with our District Governor Vyv Deacon and ADG Gavin Schaschat. We all know Gavin quite well now but this was an opportunity for the DG and our Board to sit down before the general meeting got underway.

All members of our Board who could make it did make it, I am happy to say, and although we put in a good membership showing for the general meeting we were still a bit light on the ground.

Nevertheless we were also able to make a good showing as each club present gave a rundown of their respective projects. We do have a tremendous obligation with all of our projects [Operation Medical Hope, bursary scheme, Nonceba, and the schools to mention a few] and I believe that our work is greatly appreciated by District.

It was interesting to hear that Kirstebosch's revenue from their Carols by Candlelight event tops R100,000. We had awful problems getting our Car Classics going again this last year due to the constraints of the terms of the Safety at Sports and Recreation Act. I wonder how they managed to overcome those? Time to have chat I think. Any event with more than 2,000 attendees is subject to this incredibly onerous Act.

The DG, at the Club meeting gave us a very direct and erudite talk on his approach to his duties as DG and how we should be as Rotarians both as individuals and as Clubs.

Vyv has told us that contact between Clubs is essential. It is obvious and something that we should exercise. How can we know what projects might overlap or what projects simply missing in the area if we don't communicate?

DG Vyv held up the MOP [Manual of Procedures] which anyone who has been Secretary or President is acquainted with. This is the bible of rules by which we should operate. Vyv made it clear that we must operate as benefits us best and those rules can and should be "bent" if the need truly arises so long as we remain within the spirit of Rotary. Remember the 4 Way test at all times. We must work to the best procedures which suit the needs of the Club.

DG Deacon also asked us to recall why we each became a Rotarian and challenged us each to think if we remain now a Rotarian for the same reason. The answer in most cases is "no". Initially, we are invited in as a Rotarian but our focus and objectives often change. This is an interesting question each to ask ourselves.

Lastly, DG Vyv asked us directly "what have you done to change someone's life?" not collectively as a Club member but as a Rotarian, individually. This is important. This is why the "Rotary Moment" is also important. We are made up of individuals in any Club. Each individual should have a very personal commitment as well as a club involvement.

The second part of the DG's talk encompassed his video slide presentation of the Lisbon Conference. There were 23,000 participants. So many that two opening ceremonies were required, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The second part of his presentation gave us a flavour of Lisbon and the surrounds as he travelled around before and after the Conference.

DG Vyv's lovely wife, Pat gave us a further presentation of the sights and historical background of that area of Portugal but also focused on one of the side events at the conference which was a talk by two indigenous Canadians who had struggled through some very difficult times with help, in large part, from Rotary. One young man described his life on a native Reserve as being Third World amid a First World environment. At 16 years old he was dependent on drugs and alcohol and indeed many if not most of his tribe were. After coming to terms with his problem he was helped through by Rotary and is now a valued member of his society, helping others through the addiction problems. The second speaker, coming from the same local situation had to come through the trauma of both of her parents having committed suicide. Again, suicide is an all too common tragedy in that environment. Rotary helped her cope and come through.

Truly inspiring talks by DG Vyv Deacon and Pat Deacon. Thank you.





13 August 2013

Greetings John

Pat and I thank you and your club most sincerely for the warm hospitality that we received on the occasion of my official visit to your club last night.

Your club is commended on the excellent spirit among the members. This is the glue that binds a club together, so congratulations to all of you - it is not easy to create this spirit. The spirit within your club should make the introduction of new members so much easier, as they will immediately detect the warmth within the club.

I hope that you soon recover totally from the problems that arose from a previous (mis)matching grant and we look forward to your renewed contributions to The Rotary Foundation. Continue using your swallows as contacts with overseas clubs and districts, as this is the way for the maximum gearing of funds. I am pleased that you have connected with Lloyd Whitfield for him to give a presentation to your club on the Future Vision programme.

Please encourage members to "put their hands up" for the different leadership positions in the club. Try to elect a president-Elect soon so that he/she can learn from the current President – it makes the transition so much easier. Please also enter the club's goals etc. on rotary.org website. Congratulations on having done a SWAT analysis in the past few years and for using the outcomes in your planning.

Your members exude great energy and are all involved in so many projects that I am sure you will continue to grow and be the envy of many other clubs. Well done.

Enjoy the rest of the year, grow your club, and have fun as you Engage Rotary and Change Lives

Best wishes

Vyv Deacon

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And from ADG Gavin

Good morning All,

I was pleased to have been part of Monday's successful and most enjoyable joint meeting. I hope the clubs will realise the benefit of this kind of meeting and do it more often – I will certainly try and promote it amongst the clubs I'm involved with. You guys certainly livened things up.

Hope to see you soon.

Regards
Gavin

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OMG, I'm rich!
Silver in the Hair
Gold in the Teeth
Crystals in the Kidneys
Sugar in the Blood
Lead in the Ass
Iron in the Arteries
And an inexhaustible supply of
Natural Gas.

I never thought I'd accumulate such wealth

If you wondered just how slow our internet is

An international speed index report, released by the Ookla Net Index, shows that South Africa has an average internet speed of 3.99 megabits a second (mbps).

This is the sixth-fastest in the Southern African Development Community, behind Namibia (5.72mbps) and Zimbabwe (5.04mbps) and far below the international average of 13.84mbps.

Cape Town's speed was clocked as 3.56mbps, slower than Joburg's at 4.60mbps and Pretoria's at 3.98mbps. Durban's was 2.75mbps.



President John, Don and Butch just had a work party to put up Ashley's Jacket. For those reading this edition of Bay Breezes and not aware of the history, Ashley was the tragic Interact Rotarian featured twice on Carte Blanche whose unbelievable dedication to the raped and abused children of Kayelitsha lead to the establishment of the Nonceba Centre, a refuge for these terribly unfortunate youngsters.

Ashley died at the age of 16 after being run over by a drunk driver. Her jacket has kindly been donated to Don Peters and the Rotary Club of Hout Bay by Ashley's parents. Somewhere under all of the buttons and badges Ashley collected on her travels as an Interact Rotarian is a jacket!

Don had the jacket framed and with help from our in-house handyman Butch plus the helpful direction of President John, the framed finished product was hung in the entrance passageway.

please read Don's article on the following page

Dues Due

DG Vyv Deacon mentioned, at the joint Club Board meeting with him prior to Monday's general meeting, that Club dues must be paid on time. He meant our collective club dues to RI which we have of course paid on time. However, we are out of pocket having done so, as I am reminded by our Treasurer that only 17 of our 27 members have paid. These dues should have been paid before 1st July and at the latest by 31st July. Technically, and referring to that Manual of Procedures mentioned by the DG, those who have not paid at this date are technically, NO LONGER MEMBERS.

This is not a case where we are going to name and shame. But I have no doubt that our President will be making a personal call shortly. You know who you are. PAY now please. If you have any difficulty in making one payment of R800 you can make two 6 monthly payments of R400.

Totnes Rotary Club – Keith Bull

Saturday 10 August saw the now-annual Rotary organised Duck Race on the river Dart at Totnes. Numbered tickets were sold several weeks beforehand to all and sundry, and to the public at large on the day. Rotarian Alison Bull, working with a local school for educationally sub-normal children, arranged for the school also to sell tickets at £1 each with the school retaining 80% of the ticket sales for their projects. Nearly 2,000 tickets were sold in total.

Photos show President Pip dressed up in the duck costume, with the Mayoress who 'threw' the ducks over the bridge before they were carried by the tide half a mile downstream.

Another great community event with hundreds of spectators and R19,000 raised for Rotary charities and R3,500 for the school. This week sees Totnes Rotarians again on duty at the annual Totnes Carnival.....marshalling at several processions.

Best wishes

Keith



From Don Peters

Firstly thanks and acknowledgement to Caitlin Spring for her excellent article in the Cape Times 16.8.13

"It is outrageous that the word 'rape' has become a buzzword."

'Rape a buzzword' – I have for some time contributed pieces on the concerns, the fear, the horror, the misunderstanding and the casual approach to rape; much has been said about the specific area of concern that I personally follow, that is child rape and our Rotary Club's involvement with the Nonceba Child Counselling Centre. Of course all rapes are outrageous.

In her article Caitlin, a Second year BA student at UCT majoring in English literature and philosophy writes; '.... I feel that my words are empty, that nothing will change – I feel despondent..... I don't want to feel hopeless.' We've institutionalised rape. It's become a buzzword. It's become synonymous with feelings of slight hardship when it's really so much more. I've been guilty of this, finishing a hard test or exam and describing it as "raping me". How dare I desensitise myself and those I speak to from such a brutish word? I've stopped this now; I could not justify its use. We've heard the word so much that we don't need to consider that it actually entails when we use it. We know what it means, yet we forget what it describes. We even know the words that fit into its definition; we can define those too. But how often do we actually imagine rape when hear or use the word? Hardly ever, and when we do the thoughts are too painful to truly consider. 'We don't want to think about it.' And why would we?

Most people discriminate with whom they want to have sex, and even more with whom they actually have sex. When someone is raped they're losing their choice, their autonomy. But not only are they losing the rights to their bodies but those rights are being forcibly extracted from them, violently and painfully, leaving physical, emotional and intellectual scars. There are few wounds that cut so deep, that hurt so much.

The ideas of rape make me sad. The statistics scare me. But what I find most disheartening is the institutionalisation of rape. Rape is not a violation that only effects the one who is raped (which is no longer gender-specific), it effects those that were not involved, too. It affects the society we live in. It adds heaviness to all we do. The ramifications are a weight we all bare.

And as I write this I feel that my words are empty, that nothing will change – I feel despondent. Other people have said things, powerful things, and we are moved for a moment and then we forget – we can't keep forgetting. I want us to be more considerate. I want us to treat rape as a scene in our minds and not a senseless word.

When we use this word it must be with a respectful understanding for those who have experienced this, and a profound disapproval for those who have destroyed the value of sex. This is an article of words, and this word is used to lightly."

Invitation from Kromboom Rotary Club

From: "Graham & Janet Parkhurst" <granet@iafrica.com>

Date: 14 August 2013 14:41:28 SAST

To: "Graham & Janet Parkhurst" <granet@iafrica.com>

Subject: INVITATION TO JOIN KROMBOOM RC 28th August

<image002.jpg><image004.jpg><image006.jpg>

Greetings Fellow Rotarians,

The Rotary Club of Kromboom would like to invite you, including partners, to a very special dinner evening on August 28th at Kelvin Grove. At this evening we are very fortunate to have been donated a presentation by a world class motivational speaker Lorne Sulcas. Lorne is a former game ranger at Sabi Sabi and a renowned wild life photographer. Through two decades of observing animals in the wild, he shares simple lessons learned from the three big African cats about how to prevail in an ever changing world. . He is passionate about his subject and has also been an active member and office bearer in South Africa of the Toastmasters International organization since 2002. His talks are not only aimed at the boardroom, but extend to all who are in search of excellence. His talk is accompanied by stunning wild life photographs which have won numerous local and international awards and are used to good effect as added entertainment during his talk. This is a rare opportunity which we are privileged to have been offered, and we would like to share this special event with your club.

Where: Kelvin Grove, Campground Rd, Newlands (next door to SA Cricket)

When: Wednesday 28th August

Time: 6:15 for 6:30 pm

Dress: Smart casual

Price: R95,00 (single course plus tea/coffee) Cash bar available.

This is a "one off" event so should you wish to attend, please reply as soon as possible (latest Fri 23rd) to enable us to secure a suitable venue. Further information on what you can expect from our speaker is attached. I Look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Graham Parkhurst

The Rotary Club of Kromboom

Cape Town, South Africa

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 9350

The Club building bridges of friendship

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A thought from Colin Sutherland

Something in Common

It was with great relief on Saturday evening Dagmar and I found we had, at last, something in common. Having been married for forty-seven years this mattered.

It seems that in 1959 long before we met, Dagmar, a new young teacher in London (straight from Bergville, Natal) went twice to see the stage show "Salad Days", a very twee musical from the 1950's. I, as a simple CA articulated clerk, saw the same show, but in Edinburgh, twice in that same year.

We reflected on this and concluded that if two young people had gone twice to see this particular show, they deserved each other. However like us it has been revived three times since.

*"My salad days, when I was green in judgment, cold in blood, to say as I said then.
Antony and Cleopatra - Shakespeare.*

From Annette Jahnel - previous speaker

I mentioned at my presentation to your club that I am putting on a fundraising talk, for my next adventure, on 15 September. There were several members who expressed an interest in attending. I would be so very grateful if you and your club could help me spread the word by forwarding this mailer to your friends, acquaintances, business associates ...well everybody on your mailing lists actually. It is sure to be an entertaining and thought provoking hour.

Thank you so much

With kind regards
Annette

Celebrations this coming week

Margaret Kilbride celebrates her birthday on 21st August and she and Bill celebrate their wedding anniversary the following day.

Peter and Bernadette celebrate 37 years married [our second of two wedding anniversaries we have each year]

Have you ever wanted
to break free and set off
on a grand and wild quest?

To the edge of the wild frontier

If you've ever wanted to go...and didn't...
on 15 September 2013
come with me



"riveting"
"wonderful"
"captivating"
"fascinating"
"stimulating"
"passion, veracity and humour"
"...inspiration, education and entertainment."

come...

push your brain to the limit

allow Annette; extreme road tripper, humorous philosopher,
and first woman to drive solo once around the planet
to transport you in body, brain and mind

"Adventure, excitement, enthusiasm, amazement and then downright envy."
"Annette really has that privileged knack that only a great story teller has."

"...and she's funny!"

Personalised copies of 'My year of beds'
will be on sale after the show.
www.ajahnel.com



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BUY TICKETS: info@ajahnel.com