

Rotary Club of Hout Bay



Bay Breezes

2nd Jun 2013



Last Tuesday we had no speaker presentation but the time allotted was otherwise used most usefully with a member discussion thrown open to all present and with any subject open.

First though we had our usual "spots" and Ria was first up to report on a portrait of a Cheetah which has been offered to the club by a neighbour of hers. The idea is for the proceeds of the auction of this item to go to club funds. Rainer Jahn has shown a specific interest in this which apparently would go well at his Hootspruit farm.

Next up was our President Elect, John Routley who passed around a list of the sponsors for Mick Feuilherade's Memorial Golf Day asking if anyone can identify the contact names and addresses of the sponsors in order that he can send a personal 'thank you' to each. Unfortunately, all he got was one more sponsor added to the list with no contact information. It goes to show that sometimes things don't turn out as we expect! Still, the point is that if anyone does have this information please contact John.

In actuality, John is away in the UK this week following the passing of his step-father. Our condolences to John.

Getting the discussion session going President Peter drew the club's attention to the speech given at Conference recently by Dr David Harrison of the DG Murray Trust. For those who were not present at the District Conference this was a key speech concerning the learning rates, development and abilities of the human brain. His talk, which drew a two minute standing ovation, clearly showed how learning ability starts in the third trimester of pregnancy, peaks at one year old and tails off dramatically after three years of age. Further, any child deprived of love, security, and interaction through until three years of age will be permanently damaged.

So, President Peter in this coming year intends to work closely with Ashley Newell of All Out Africa, the schools and others in the community to follow the advice of Dr Harrison and to put into practice his ideas.

Ashley is already well acquainted with the various crèches and youth centres in the community and we shall be working closely with her to implement a sustainable program.

The next discussion point was regarding the organisation of club trips which have fallen somewhat by the wayside this year. Clearly, the cost of some of these trips, particularly to outlying wine farms and such, is becoming rather expensive, but club trips don't have to be.

On the to do list is a visit to the Christian Barnard museum in town which, by all accounts is something not to be missed. The entire operating theatre where the world's first heart transplant was performed is preserved as it was.

Also, a trip to the Parliament will be organised by Raymond and John. So there are two trips on the map already. Any more ideas?

Rainer's Farm

Here's a trip which one has to say, is a bit out of the ordinary.

Rainer has thrown out an invitation to the club membership in general to visit him and Ursula at their farm in Hootspruit. He can accommodate about twenty.

The best time to visit is around this time of year but, planning ahead we should get a group together for next year. This is a tremendously generous offer from Rainer and I hope that we can get a group of us committed to this. We shall sort out dates and travel arrangements.

Rainer did say that there is a direct flight from Cape Town to Hootspruit which costs about as much as a round the world cruise in First Class but otherwise we can fly in a group to Lanseria and organise transport from there for the 500km to the farm.

So there's another item on the 'to do' list for Club Services.



Upcoming Speaker for 11th June

Don has arranged for Doctor Renee Nathanson to speak to us on Tuesday 11th June.

Doctor Renee Nathanson is a member of Gordons Bay Rotary Club, she was introduced by PDG Deon who heads up Literacy for the District and Renee spoke at Conference about the iPad at primary schools. Her talk and visuals were excellent and as many Clubs including ours are involved with children it will be of great interest to Rotarians who didn't attend the Conference to hear her speak.

I believe that there was an article about this in one of the Wynpress publications I attached to BB some while back.

How these kids can pick up spelling and other skills simply teaching themselves on an iPad is amazing.

FEED A HUNGRY CHILD FOR ONLY R2

Don Peters - With thanks to Lailia Majiet of the Peoples Post 28/5

The subject of feeding children has been a topic of interest amongst us as Rotarians seeking ways of helping children at schools and creches. We have identified the size of the problem which is enormous and the fears of being sucked into a never ending cost to the Club. We have taken a decision to do something and therefore there will be some children who will benefit and as a result will probably perform better at school than others less fortunate.

Now Lailia writes about the termination by the Department of Education next month of the subsidy paid to feeding schemes. A total of 660 000 meals are served daily in the Province by the Peninsula School Feeding Association. The Association receives a subsidy from the Department of Education to feed 90% of that total while the remaining 10% requires a group to raise R12 million to avoid being forced to decrease the number of children being fed. The result of the removed subsidy will mean instead of 330 000 children being fed it will only be 22 000. It cost only R2 to feed a child two cooked meals a day. Three out of four children go to school hungry every day. I am not going to dwell on any comments about why the subsidy is being removed it certainly isn't because the children are obese, maybe the money is needed elsewhere.... did I see something about new planes.

Excuse the remark..." food for thought".

Get Well

As some of you may be aware Eve Saxby, the wife of our District Treasurer PDG Mike Saxby is presently quite ill. On behalf of the Club I wrote to Mike and received the following response. We wish her well in her battle and offer our support to Mike through this difficult time.

Dear Peter, Thank you for your very kind and considerate email with regards to Eve. She is recovering well from the surgery (removal of a part of the colon and her gall bladder) she had three weeks back – still gets a bit tired when she does too much. She is carrying out her duties as President of Signal Hill and working on our library project at Abedare Primary School. Tomorrow she sees the oncologist and we will find out about the chemotherapy treatment and when the tough time of chemotherapy will begin.

Please convey thanks to the RC of Hout Bay Board and to the Rotarians for their good wishes.

Thank you so much for thinking of Eve and me.

Kind regards,
Mike

We are not holding a meeting this Tuesday.

The weather is going to be foul and for the second week in a row we do not have a speaker. John was ready to give us a "life talk" but sadly has to be in the UK at this time. So, I invite you to otherwise visit any of the other clubs in the District for a make-up. I expect that I shall go along to Seapoint which meets at Metropolitan Golf Club. Anyone interested in joining me? They meet Wednesdays for lunch. Otherwise there is a choice below. Why not get a group together?

1. CONSTANTIA Contact is Ania KING 021 7890728 or 0834546484 Steenberg Golf Club 1830
2. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE contact is Luise Rouessart 021 7854123 or 0822110474 St James 1830
3. CLAREMONT contact is Malcolm Dodd 021 6744413 0825661150 Kelvin Grove 1815
4. GROOTE SCHUUR contact is Marie-Jo O'Leary 021 4332702 and 0765687005 CT Club Leinster Hall 1800
5. SEA POINT contact Karen Attyah 021 4348374 and 0723054748 Metropolitan Golf Club 12-30 this is our old and new AG's Club

STOP PRESS - THIS JUST IN FROM ASHLEY NEWELL

On 02/06/2013 10:50, "Ashley Newell" <ashley@alloutafrica.com> wrote:

Dear Rotarians and Lions,

I may be enjoying sunshine and sand here in Moz but am not oblivious to the current needs in Hout Bay with the lovely weather you guys have been having. I'm hearing that there is a movement happening to get community members to contribute soup and blankets to be distributed via Iziko Lo Bomi (021 790 5827) Afrika Moni is also assisting with distribution (083 719 4870) ASAP!

Perhaps you can send a call out to your members to throw a pot a soup on the stove and help with the cause? I've suggested that Ikhaya le Themba and TB/HIV Care could be used to help with distributions of donations into the communities most needy.

Thanks so much,
Ashley Newell

I HAVE JUST FORWARDED THIS EMAIL TO ALL OF YOU. ANYONE WHO CAN HELP PLEASE DO.