

Rotary Club of Hout Bay



Bay Breezes

20th OCT 2012



LAST TUESDAY

Saw the induction of new member Joelle Searle.

S.A.R. David Heath introduced guests including Joelle's husband Alf who apparently is a Land Rover aficionado; Harold Allsop; Pam [guest of Suzie] and Christoph Beaumer's brother, Stefan who exchanged his banner from the Rotary Club of Osnabruk Nord with President John.

It was noted that Christoph completed the Argus Cycle Tour in 3h 50m. not bad eh?

Moving on to the induction procedure, President John Routley undertook his duties with aplomb and Joelle barely twitched when he took up the ceremonial [but nonetheless sharp] sword to dub her.



Joelle gave us a brief personal history and reasons for her wishing to join us as a Hout Bay Rotarian. While now living in Hout Bay it was the Wynberg Rotary Club which inspired her, having paved the way for the education of one of her children [of which she has her own and adopted] right through to qualification as a doctor.

As Joelle said, it is now her wish to give back to Rotary and to the community.

We welcome you to our ranks Joelle and looks forward to getting to know you. I understand that you would like to involve yourself with community services, an area where your help and enthusiasm will be most welcome. Thanks also to Colin Sutherland who introduced Joelle.

Don Peters gave a run down of the post Argus "autopsy" and made special mention of a number of members who put themselves out on the race day, not least of all Ralph Tobergte who changed his flights and delayed his return to India with Gaby in order to marshal the race. It actually meant that the two then had to travel on separate flights to reach their destination.

Keith and Alison Bull manned the refreshment station which meant a much earlier start for them than the rest of us. He mentioned one particular traffic cop who arrived at 7.30am then promptly disappeared. She was found fast asleep at 3.00pm tucked away out of sight!

Alison mentioned a female cyclist who stopped for refreshment and simply fell over sideways. Not badly hurt, she extracted herself from her bicycle and apologised for "having a blond moment". She forgot to take her feet off the pedals.

Tim Smith also cycled the race beginning to end with his team for charity. While his time didn't match that of Christoph it was certainly very respectable.

Tim mentioned that Hout Bay is without any doubt the high spot of the race with the spectator involvement, the shops, the music and great atmosphere which is not matched anywhere else on the route.

Don advised that 34,180 riders set off but 2,500 pulled out before the start of the race for various reasons. Wind was of course a huge issue on the day.

Don also mentioned the incident of a deaf rider who needed help but who couldn't hear or be understood until some enterprising chap came up with an iPad to help him communicate.

80 bales of safety barrier hay were stolen overnight before the race which will cost the sector R3,000. This time the police are to be involved in tracking down the culprits. Just adds weight to the sad notion that if it isn't screwed down, glued down or nailed down it is going to go.

Suzie Kidd mentioned an incident involving the IY ragamuffins who, at the traffic lights before Suikerbosse were playing "chicken" with the riders, running into the road and touching them before running back across the road. A recipe for disaster. They ignored Suzie's admonitions and it wasn't until Patrick took his red flag baton to them and summoned the police that they were eventually persuaded to stop their silly game.

Rainer had to endure 60km winds on a pretty much constant basis where he, Thomas and Rolf were stationed on Chapman's Peak drive but fortunately only one scary moment when a female rider lost control and narrowly missed going over the barrier [and thereafter the cliff].

Butch told us about a very large and genial member of the public who was present at the Post Office traffic circle throughout the entire race. However, while Butch wandered off for a moment, Lyn happened to bring him his chair. When Butch returned, his large genial friend had taken possession of his chair where he remained, fast asleep, for three hours.

I was the wandering photographer and, as you know, I posted the photos on Dropbox earlier this week. Some have apparently had trouble accessing them so I am inserting a selection in this edition at the end. I am told however, that Dropbox does work. If you are not a member you have to sign up and thereafter, depending upon your broadband speed you have to have a little patience. It is not like Picasaweb which, having been taken over by Google, wants to know your life history, that of your uncle, your dog and that of all of your friends before allowing you access. I suspect that in some cases, some may have their internet security set so high that download is not permitted. Anyway the link again is:

www.dropbox.com/home/rotary/Cape%20Argus%202014

Finally, and on a note which many will find extraordinary, Don made mention that two of the IY helpers returned their R50 fee for the day. Who said that community spirit couldn't be engendered in the township?

Report from Sylvia of the IY Team marshalling in Hout Bay for the Cycle Tour. Don Peters

Sylvia was part of the IT Team and was stationed at Beach Road at the bottom of Chappies.

At our debrief meeting in Imuzamu Yerthu on Thursday she gave me her "report".

"To be part of the Marshals was so good, I learned much. What I have seen to the cyclist is the appreciation when you encourage them that they must keep going, I heard from them say, 'Thank you marshal' that makes me so happy.

What I did not like is the people who were trying to cross the road whilst the bike is so close and I heard a cyclist shouting what are you doing ? That makes me angry because some people take the Marshals for granted, they just cross the road without informing the marshal that they want to cross so it would be like as we are not doing our job.

I was very excited to help because I watched from the beginning to the end and I felt so important that day.

Lastly we worked nicely with our team mates from Rotary, I've seen the kindness of them.

Sylvia "

UPCOMING SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

18TH MARCH	DON PETERS	ASHLEY KAIMOWITZ
25TH MARCH	DR WEBER	THE CAPE TO RIO ,THE MEDICS STORY
1 st APRIL	AM KAP.	A TALK ON UPCOMING ROTARY FAMILY HEALTH DAY'S
3rd & 4th APRIL	Rotary Family Health Day	
8TH APRIL	BRONWYN	"THRIVE"
15TH APRIL	HOUT BAY E.M.S.	TALK BY MATHEW ROSENBERG
22nd APRIL	ROY GRAHAM	TALKING ON COIN COLLECTION (LADIES NIGHT)

THIS COMING TUESDAY

Is another highly notable and important day for Rotary Club of Hout Bay.

It is the official unveiling of the memorial to Ashley Kaimowitz which “reliquary”, if I can call it such, has been entrusted to us through Don Peters, in the shape of her badge encrusted jacket. This is not just a jacket but her jacket, and it is worth understanding why it is there, why it is important and what made up the body that used to fill it inside.

This jacket is presently preserved in a glass cabinet and was recently hung in the entry hallway to our meeting place upstairs at the Atlantic Boat Club but has not, until this time, had an official unveiling.

Many, if not most of the readers of Bay Breezes know the history of Ashley and how she inspired so many, not just here but in Japan on her exchange visit there, to understand and empathise with the young victims of rape and abuse particularly in the poor townships surrounding Cape Town. But to elaborate, for those who may not know her story....

Ashley was instrumental in the setting up of what is now known as the Nonceba Centre in Kayelitsha [an impoverished shack settlement of many thousands] where these distressed children can be given the urgent support, succour and protection so vital in the immediate aftermath of their tragedy.

Sadly, Ashley died so young at only 16 years, killed by a drunk driver, but her legacy was already set by her work even at those few years.

We now have the opportunity to give proper acknowledgement to Ashley, and Don has organised what is going to be something of a gala event with a plated dinner and some rather illustrious guests including our District Governor.

Don's outline of the evening proceedings is below:

Between 6-45pm and 7-00pm there will be a lining of the stairs from the bar to the meeting room by approximately ten children from IY.

at 7pm, prior to the welcomes from the Sgt, the children will move through the room saying goodbye. They will be led by Ms Mhinti Pato the leader of the very successful IY Team who helped at the Argus Cycle Tour

Please note that the following day, March 19th will be the 9th anniversary of Ashley's passing

Don will set the scene and the 12 minute DVD will be shown.

SAR will then ask PDG Rodney to speak and he will then introduce the DG.

DG will say a few words and invite Kelly Kaimowitz, Ashley's sister to join him, to cut the ribbon.

President John will then say a few words and thank the DG, the family and all the guests for their presence.

IT SHOULD GO WITHOUT MENTION THAT PROPER SMART ATTIRE IS EXPECTED

WHEELCHAIR BUTCH STRIKES AGAIN

Rotary handed over a wheelchair to 82 year old Ntombekhaya Sanda this week. She is very frail purely an age thing, and is bed ridden. She lives in IY.



THE WHEELCHAIR STORY

WE HAVE BEEN RECEIVING WHEELCHAIRS THROUGH DISTRICT OFFICE NOW FOR PROBABLY 5 YEARS. THE SYSTEM WAS, YOU PHONED OR E-MAILED YOUR ORDER TO THE CONTACT PERSON AND WITHIN 4 WEEKS YOU WERE E-MAILED TO COLLECT THE CHAIRS ON A CERTAIN DAY AND TIME. WHEN I LAST PHONED TWO WEEKS BACK I WAS TOLD THE SYSTEM HAD CHANGED AND THERE WERE NO LONGER CHAIRS COMING AS BEFORE. IT IS NOW VERY INVOLVED AND COULD TAKE A YEAR OR MORE TO RECEIVE AN ALLOCATION.

PERHAPS ONE OR MORE OF OUR SWALLOWS COULD PICK THIS UP AS SOMETHING THEY COULD DO FOR US. WORKING WITH PERHAPS TWO OR MORE OTHER CLUBS IN THE UK OR THE USA, SEE IF ENOUGH INTEREST COULD BE RAISED TO FUND A SMALL CONTAINER OF 18" 20" AND 22" CHAIRS FOR SHIPPING TO SA. I HAVE NO CONFIDENCE THAT WORKING THROUGH THIS NEW SYSTEM PROPOSED BY DISTRICT OFFICE, WE WILL EVER RECEIVE CHAIRS AGAIN. TO DATE WE HAVE DISTRIBUTED, ACCORDING TO MY RECORDS, 130 WHEELCHAIRS. MOST OF THESE WENT INTO HANGBURG WITH PROBABLY 15 OR 20 INTO IY.

IT WOULD BE SUCH A SHAME NOT TO BE ABLE TO SERVICE THIS VERY NEEDY COMMUNITY AND BRING SOME HAPPINESS INTO THE LIVES OF THOSE THAT ARE IN NEED OF A CHAIR. OUR TOTAL STOCK IS NOW 3 WHEELCHAIRS.

BUTCH LIEBENBERG
HOUT BAY ROTARY

R.A.G.E.S.

A son of investor Warren Buffett has pledged nearly \$24 million for protecting rhinos in South Africa, earmarking the money for ranger teams, sniffer dogs and other security measures.

Howard Buffett said Friday that the three-year program in one-third of the vast Kruger National Park, which struggles to contain poachers crossing from neighbouring Mozambique, will employ some of the same methods used by the United States to monitor its border with Mexico. They include aerostats, large, tethered balloons with infrared cameras that can scan the landscape around the clock.

"We're going to do it at a scale that hasn't been done," Buffett said in an interview with The Associated Press. He described the initiative, which will also focus on cross-border criminal investigations and intelligence networks, as way of learning "what works and what doesn't work" in a southern area of the park that has 4,000 rhinos. South African is home to most of the continent's rhinos.

Buffett acknowledged that the \$23.7 million initiative doesn't directly address soaring demand for rhino horn in Vietnam and other parts of Asia where it is viewed as a status symbol and a healing agent for serious illness, although there is no evidence that rhino horn, made from the same material as fingernails, is an effective medicine.

"I have no illusions about this," said Buffett, who announced the initiative with the South African national parks service at Standard Bank headquarters in Johannesburg. "This is an overwhelming issue."

Parts of a fence once separating Kruger park from a national park on the Mozambican side were removed a decade ago to encourage wildlife migration, but the surge in rhino poaching has prompted some calls to restore the barrier. The South African government said Friday that poachers had killed 172 rhinos so far this year, two-thirds of them in Kruger park. Last year, 1,004 rhinos were poached in South Africa, three times as many as in 2010.

Buffett's Illinois-based foundation aims to assist poor communities around the world, including in areas torn by conflict. It views poaching in Africa, particularly of elephant ivory, as part of a broader problem in which armed groups such as the Lord's Resistance Army, which originated in Uganda, get funding from the illegal trade. Buffett also cited links between poaching in Tanzania and al-Shabab, a Somalia-based extremist group with ties to al-Qaida.

In January, the U.N. Security Council targeted illegal wildlife traffickers for sanctions in resolutions against armed groups in Congo and the Central African Republic. Conservationists described the measures as a major shift on a problem that has morphed from an environmental issue into a security threat.

In Mozambique, clashes have broken out in the past year between the government and Renamo, a former rebel group that fought in a civil war until a peace deal in 1992. Many analysts, including Buffett, say they have yet to see any evidence linking Renamo to poaching, including cross-border forays into Kruger park.

The philanthropist compared the tie between armed groups and poaching to human trafficking.

"It's so underground and it's so difficult to rout out, but clearly it's there, and clearly the results are incredibly negative," Buffett said. "Just because you can't prove everything doesn't mean that you don't keep trying to go after it."

