



August 2022

www.rotaryeclubsa.org

# IMAGINE



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

August already, where does time go?

When I read the reports from our members and look at the fantastic community spirit they radiate, I am truly humbled.

On behalf of all our people I would like to say a very big thank you. You will be able to judge for yourself their efforts as you continue reading this edition. Imagine if humanity embraced this spirit of generosity and love for their fellow man, in the words of Louis Armstrong *What a 'Wonderful World it would be'*.

Being a Rotarian gives us the opportunity to make not just our dreams but the dreams of others come true. Whilst I am sorry to say Richard Brooks resigned as a full member after 30 years of serving Rotary, Richard became an honorary member and Esmeralda Witbooi is taking a sabbatical.

However, July saw me inducting four new members to our club. Linda Zama, Susie van der Merwe, Paul Mitchell and Kiran Setty. These new members bring with them not only a world of experience but fresh ideas and a knowledgeable perspective. On behalf of all our club I welcome you all.

This month I have added a couple of films to my letter, both of which I hope you enjoy. The first "Let the River Run" is something close to many people's hearts. I know that when I go out, I hate seeing litter everywhere but more importantly we are causing an escalation in climate change. We are killing our animals, our seas and fish etc. Many places worldwide are suffering from flooding and/or drought. If we continue on this path, we will not have enough food to eat or it will be so far out of many people's budget, many will starve. We only have to look at some Central and North African countries. So let us start now and teach our children.

Our Rotary theme for this year is **Imagine** 

**Imagine** we can leave a better legacy for future generations.

Imagine a world that deserves our best, where we get up each day knowing that we can make a difference.

You don't imagine yesterday. You imagine tomorrow.

Imagine a world without polio.

Imagine a world with clean water for everyone.

Imagine a world free of disease. A world where every child learns to read.

Imagine kindness and hope and love and peace.



# Let the river run.mp4

Yours very sincerely. Arlene Arnold Club President Rotary E-Club of South Africa One District 9370

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#### **Our Club Board Members:**

1. Arlene Arnold, Club President

2. Bill Main, Director Web Administrator

3. Logie Naidoo, Director Projects

4. Monique Labat, Club Secretary

5. Patrick Draper, Director Global Grants

6. Tony Holness, Club Treasurer

7. Viktor Cytra, Director Rotary Foundation

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## The Four-Way Test

The Four-Way Test is a nonpartisan and non-sectarian ethical guide for people to use for their personal and professional relationships. The test has been translated into more than 100 languages, and Rotary club members recite it at club meetings.

Of the things we think, say or do

- 1. Is it the TRUTH?
- 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

#### **ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 2023**

Who is attending the next ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION *From 27 – 31 May 2023* which takes place in Melbourne?

Please let Club President Arlene Arnold know if you heading Down Under to attend! Email: davearlene39@gmail.com

For those keen to plan ahead, take a look at the future Rotary International Conventions:

8 - 12 June 2024 Singapore
 21 - 25 June 2025 Calgary, Canada
 5 - 9 June 2026 Honolulu, Hawai'i

# **New Members - the lifeblood of Rotary!**

In July Club President Arlene Arnold inducted Rotarian Kiran Setty who is based in Cape Town. Kiran is the son of Rotarian Suresh Setty making this a strong Rotarian family! Wishing Kiran a happy and productive time in Rotary as you participate in Service above Self.



On left: Rotarian Kiran Setty

Our E-Club Rotarians reside in: Australia, Canada, Germany, South Africa and the United Kingdom. Have you thought of asking someone to join Rotary today? For more information please contact Club President Arlene Arnold on email: <a href="mailto:davearlene39@gmail.com">davearlene39@gmail.com</a>

Wishing our E-Club Rotarians and Honorary Rotarians Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary!

#### **Birthdays:**

Terry Naidoo	4 Aug
Dr Christina Rencken	25 Sep
Linda Marsden-King	12 Oct
Viktor Cytra	18 Oct
Logie Naidoo	24 Oct
Greg Cryer	26 Oct
Kevin Lachanna	31 Oct

#### **Anniversaries:**

Sambulo and Siza Khalala	18 Aug
Nareshini and Rajen Ranganthan	29 Aug
Arlene and Dave Arnold	2 Sep
Nicole and Paul Mitchell	19 Sep
Lindsay and Greg Cryer	31 Oct



## Cathy's Corner

President Arlene's email about special needs children and adults needing help in Ukraine jogged my memory.

I have absolutely no clue how I originally got called upon to babysit or nanny kids not that much younger than me whilst living in England between the ages of 13 and 16 years old.

We lived in what was then (the 1960s) a modern tripled-story terraced houses in a complex in Marlow, Bucks. I suppose being one of the older kids, I got roped in, and then other babysitting jobs transpired.

We lived in the middle of a terrace, and on one end, my friend lived with three sisters and their parents. She and her elder sister were normal healthy girls, the third had slight brain damage at birth, and the fourth girl was born normal and healthy but contracted meningitis at 10 months old, and mentally she remained 10 months old while physically, she grew just like any other child.

I was in the same class as my friend and was always welcome at their house and I often helped with the baby, who was cute and cuddly while little. The baby had epileptic fits that grew too numerous to mention, and she grew too big to carry. Their parents got a lot of assistance from the NHS, I presume, such as chair lifts (3 stories), and a crane affair (or maybe more) to assist with bathing and putting to bed. Fortunately, the third sister was able to go to a special school, and she was happy.

The last I saw of the family when I was 22 years old was tired, worn-out parents – the father still worked for a bank, but they were poor. Raising severely and partially disabled children left them with no money to spare on refurbishments, yet they invited me to share a meal with them. Everyone had a slice of bread with whatever was available for dinner. A British middle-class family, but not once did I hear them complain.

At the other end of the same terrace was a family of three children, one a boy with Down's. I babysat to give the parents a break, as the child had difficulty settling and would rock on a wooden rocking horse for hours on end. The other two children had obviously got used to the constant rocking and just had their supper and went to bed. I am always awed by parents who give their all, seemingly without complaint.

I remember thinking and praying when I was expecting my two children that they would be normal and healthy as I didn't think I would cope as these parents did. Funnily enough, at school, rather than do community service for a home for severely disabled children, I chose to stay at school and learn Latin. Not that I ever became good at it.

The summer before coming to South Africa, I was still 15 years old, I was persuaded (probably at the thought of money) to be an au pair to a brother and sister for the summer holidays. I didn't realise that au pairing is different from babysitting! I had to make beds, change sheets, put the clothes in to wash, hang them up, give the kids breakfast and lunch, and I presume, take them out. These days it is called child labour.

As I was molly-coddled by my mother and had grown up mostly in Kenya and Malawi, where we had 'servants', I was not very good at housekeeping jobs. I grew up fast and probably that lesson taught me to be quite picky with my own kids.

The highlight of this interminable job was sunbathing in a bikini in the back garden, with the record player going full blast and my favourite song of the time was 'these boots are made for walking,' by Nancy Sinatra. Heaven knows what the neighbours thought!

# **THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS!**

Thank you to Rotarian David Tilling for your generous donation of underwear and school shoes in honour of Mandela Day, 18 July 2022 to the Ethelbert Home in Durban. Rotarian Logie Naidoo, our E-Club Projects Director arranged to deliver these items to the Ethelbert Home.



A heartfelt letter of thanks was received from the Ethelbert Child and Youth Care Home's Director, Vanessa Theophilus below.



19 July 2022

ROTARY E-CLUB OF SA ONE Attention: Mr David Tilling & Friends

Dear Mr Tilling

Imagine a place where love really counts, where you are more than your circumstance and your future is alive with possibility... That's the place every child should get to call home. At Ethelbert Child and Youth Care Centre we are committed to ensuring each child placed in our care is given the opportunity to outgrow their trauma, and thrive in an environment of love and security - free of prejudice. This is only possible through supporters like you!

On behalf of the entire Ethelbert Child and Youth Care Centre family, I extend a heartfelt Thank You for the generous donation of underwear and school shoes to our organisation for Mandela Day 2022. Your response to our wish list appeal fulfils a priority need in our Child Care programme – for this we are so grateful. We hope to receive your continued consideration and support.

Thank you for seeing the worth of our cause and helping keep Ethelbert Child and Youth Care Centre a place where love counts!

Kind Regards,

Vanessa Theophilus

Director



### **FDSA Velddrif**

FDSA Velddrif is a registered non-profit org based in Velddrif, a coastal town located 160kms north of Cape Town in the Western Cape. It all started with Flora, Dorothy, Sandra and Anna whose delicious cooking smells caught the noses of our underprivileged children around Noordhoek, Velddrif. The Tannie's started cooking extra food for the kids. Soon there were more children, each one with heart-breaking stories of going to school on empty tummies.

Now our Honorary Rotarian, Bettie van der Merwe Bonnet and her team have 512 mouths to feed on a daily basis and are overwhelmed at the growing numbers in the soup kitchen's queue.

FDSA Velddrif relies on private donors and a grant from the Western Cape Department of Social Development. When the centre was burnt down at the end of October 2019, Bettie found premises to run the Feeding Centre, however FDSA Velddrif now has to rent these premises adding to the cost of running the organisation. FDSA Velddrif is a registered NGO/PBO with South African Revenue Service Section 18A certificates and all donations receive a Section 18A tax certificate.

Simply click on the link below to "Follow" and "Like" FDSA Velddrif's Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Fdsa-velddrif-soup-kitchen-and-youth-centre-1736298310003981">https://www.facebook.com/Fdsa-velddrif-soup-kitchen-and-youth-centre-1736298310003981</a>

All donations welcome. Please contact Honorary Rotarian of our E-Club of South Africa One, Bettie van der Merwe Bonnet, Chairperson of the FDSA Velddrif on M: +27 (0) 82 678 9073 or on email: <a href="mailto:bettiefdsa@gamil.com">bettiefdsa@gamil.com</a>



Above: On left Astrid Dunn and on right Bettie van der Merwe Bonnet collected a bakkie load of carrots for the FDSA Soup Kitchen from a generous farmer in Stellenbosch! On the way home to Velddrif Bettie and Astrid popped in to have coffee with Rotarian Monique Labat.

The FDSA Soup Kitchen in action in the Velddrif Community on the West Coast of South Africa:



**Taweni Community Project – Eastern Cape** 

E-Club Rotarian Khaya Mposula is the Chairperson of the Wana Johnson Development Community in the Eastern Cape. Khaya took delivery of seed potatoes, and goodies for the preschool. Wool and Afriweave kits were also donated to show the little ones how to weave, all part of this wonderful delivery thanks to Projects Director, Rotarian Logie Naidoo!



### Early Childhood Development Centres – Upper South Coast, KwaZulu-Natal

One of the wonderful people that our E-Club works with is Iris Canham. Projects Director, Rotarian Logie Naidoo arranged for bags of maizemeal porridge to be delivered to Iris for distribution to Early Childhood Development Centres in KwaZulu-Natal.

Iris wrote to thank Logie for the generous donations: "Thank you for the donation of 25 X 5 KG bags of porridge that was collected yesterday for distribution to ECD's. The ECD's are always delighted to receive a consignment of porridge as they hail this a highly nutritious breakfast.



"This goes such a long way for our children. They get such nutritious value" said Nombulelo Khomo.

"Thank you, just that smell alone says that this is something good. I get so excited when you come here because the children love this porridge" Caregiver at Nkuthalo

### Early Childhood Development Centres – Upper South Coast, KwaZulu-Natal

The 25 packs of maizemeal porridge were delivered to the following ECD's:

Nkuthalo ECD in Danyana,
Illfracombe 3 packs
Bathanda ECD in Magabeni 3 packs
Thembeni ECD in Umgababa 4 packs
Othandweni ECD in Mnini, 3 packs
Somelulwazi ECD in Umgababa, 3 packs
Senzakahle ECD in Illfracombe, 3 packs
Snenhle ECD in Umgababa, 3 packs
Jabulani ECD in Abraham's Creek Informal Settlement, Kelso, 3 packs

18 bags of maizemeal porridge were dropped off at a central point in Illfracombe where the ECD supervisors will collect on Friday when they attend a meeting.

Thank you for your continuous commitment and support. Children cannot learn on an empty stomach and your contribution makes a huge difference to healthy bodies and minds.

#### 10 August 2022

Thembi and Gogo at Thembeni ECD, Umgababa

Victoria with a parent at Jabulani ECD, Abraham's Creek informal settlement in Kelso as well as a picture of Jabulani and the Informal settlement where the ECD is situated.

#### 11 August 2022

Attached please find a pic of Jabu Khumalo from Nkuthalo ECD with her three packets and with the remaining 15 that will be collected by Othandweni, Snenhle, Bathanda, Somelulwazi and Senzakahle.

### Donations welcome for Feeding Scheme for KwaZulu-Natal Children

Care to support the littlest people with much needed maize meal porridge after they have suffered so much due to the devastating floods in KwaZulu-Natal? Your donation no matter how small or large will make a big difference in a child's life! Please donate into our Rotary E-Club's bank account:

Account name: Rotary E Club of South Africa One

Bank: Standard Bank
Acc no: 043 671 756
Branch code: 042 826
Branch name: Durban North
SWIFT code: SBZAZAJJ

Ref: Your surname and KZN Floods

Kindly email proof of payment to: Tony Holness, our Club Treasurer on wizardhc@mweb.co.za

### **Social Media Links**

Find us online on our Club's website managed by Web Administrator Director Bill Main, and on Facebook and Instagram.

Please give our social media posts a 🖤

You'll be helping to drive more traffic to our Rotary E-Club's social pages to promote the volunteer work which Rotarians undertake!

Our Club's website:

www.rotaryeclubsa.org

Did you know that our Rotary Club was chartered on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2010?

Our Club's Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/RotaryeclubSAone

Our Club's Instagram account:

https://www.instagram.com/rotaryeclubsaone/

**DRUMBEAT: SEPTEMBER 2022 ISSUE** 

Hello Rotarians, Honorary Rotarians and Friends of Rotary!

Do you have Rotary related content and photos you would like to see published in the next edition of Drumbeat? Deadline for our September 2022 issue is Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022. Please submit your photos in High Res, minimum 1MB with captions including name and surname of your photo subjects to Monique Labat on E: moniquelabat@gmail.com

We look forward to your submissions!