

OUTA SPACE

NEWSLETTER

ROTARY E-CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA D9270



Date: 8th December 2011
No 11



DECEMBER IS FAMILY OF ROTARY MONTH

Family Month – what a wonderful time of the year for those with families that we so often just take for granted.

Being involved with East Coast Radio's Annual Toy Story project is a reminder of the many children out there who do not have families. It is gratifying then that in some small way receiving a NEW gift at Christmas time brings some cheer into the lives of these OVC's.

Quite a few E-Club members have volunteered to assist with Toy Story this year and they will be duly recognized in a future issue.

How many times have you heard – “but Rotary is fellowship and what fellowship is there in an E-Club?” How wrong those Rotarians are if they really think there is no fellowship in an E-Club. Our Club is geared for FUN. When we do get together we have so many things

Please remember that it is the responsibility of each member to introduce prospective members.

that the so-called normal Rotary Clubs don't have:

Whenever we meet, almost without fail, there will be a meeting face-to-face of members for the first time and it is often more like meeting a long lost friend such is the camaraderie that is built up through regular contact on the Internet. I love standing back and watching as this unfolds!

No one gets to sit in the same chair or with the same members week after week.

Our projects are mainly aimed at involving as many club members as possible – all members have the opportunity to get involved.

I am often quite surprised at the lack of real fellowship in many Non E-Clubs [not sure if that is a correct description but you know what I mean]

Have FUN

Editor – Gerald Sieberhagen

Members should always be on the lookout for suitable projects that would be suitable for our E-Club to undertake.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

DECEMBER

9TH John Higgs

13TH Chris John

20TH Noel Moodley

21ST Anesh Timul

23RD Jane John

31ST Nareshini Ranganthan

ANNIVERSARIES

DECEMBER

13TH Paul & Sue Hawkins

JANUARY

4TH Jacques & Jeneth van Leeuwen

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DATES TO DIARISE:

We drift off into recess from 12th December until 9th January 2012

**23RD January - District Governor's Visit
VERY IMPORTANT DATE IN THE CLUB'S
CALENDAR**

11th February – Basic PRLS [Potential Rotary Leaders Seminar]

Details about PRLS will be listed on our Website by 15th December

23rd February – Rotary Internationals 107th Anniversary

3rd March – PETS [President Elect Training Seminar]

31st March – District Assembly

6th to 9th May – Rotary International Convention in Bangkok

18th & 19th May – D9270 **District Conference** at Wild Coast Sun.

2019

**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
IN DURBAN in JUNE**

This is just a reminder that the District Governor will pay his official visit to our Club on Monday 23rd January 2012.

This morning I received the following Email from DG Rob G

Good Morning Pres Gerald,

As you know my official visit to your club is scheduled for January 23rd.

It is of course breaking new ground for me to visit a club like yours.

I will be taking up a weeks timeshare during the week of 23rd to 27th January, so there is no need to provide accommodation.

You know well what constitutes an official visit, so I await your advices, time-table and schedule for my visit.

**Regards
Rob Gilligan**

I may well know what constitutes an official visit to a club but how we do it in an E-Club is certainly breaking new ground.

Here is what the Manual of Procedure [MOP] of RI has to say about the DG's Official Visit:

The governor's official visit is the personal visit of the governor to each Rotary club in the district, individually or in groups, for the purpose of

- Focusing attention on important Rotary issues
- Providing special attention to weak or struggling clubs
- Motivating Rotarians to participate in service activities
- Personally recognizing the outstanding contributions of Rotarians in the district

The governor or assistant governor should review the status of the Club Leadership Plan during the official visit. To maximize the impact of the governor's presence, visits should coincide with events such as charter nights, induction ceremonies, new member orientation programs, citation or award presentations, special programs, Rotary Foundation events, or intercity meetings.

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DG's Official Visit [cont]

I don't think one can say that from year to year the Official Visit takes the same format. When I was District Governor just about each Clubs format differed even though there was a suggested format. We will seek email guidance from AG John.

What we do know is:

The DG would like to see a written report from each portfolio director.

If we have any projects we would like to show him; that would also be in order. [We could of course just ask him to look at our website]

He would want to see our Finances [although he may well have delegated that to the Assistant Governor] but in any event, Greg, you will need to draw up an Income & Expenditure Statement and Balance Sheet for the Half year ended 31st December 2011.

We know the DG will want to address us so we will need to arrange a face-to-face for that evening at a suitable private venue and we should perhaps ask him for a copy of his talk which can then be sent to our members who reside in faraway places. He may also wish to meet separately with our President & President Elect and Secretary.

There was probably a detailed outline of how DG Rob wished to conduct the Official Visit, in the President's pack at PETS which our Club never attended so our Club never received the "pack". [You remember I was only nominated and appointed after PETS had taken place.

OUR BOARD FOR 2012/13

President - **Gerald Sieberhagen**
Executive Secretary - **Irene Kotze**
Treasurer - **Greg Maddox**

Directors
Club Service - **Janet Rouillard**
Foundation &
International Service - **David Tilling**
Membership - **Suzanne Edmunds**
Community & Vocational
Service - **Nareshini Ranganthan**
Public Relations - **Kudzai Nqingwana**
Youth Service - **Jeneth van Leeuwen**

Very soon each of the Directors will be receiving a booklet outlining the above Service Portfolio's. I also mention that these booklets are available on www.rotary.org

FOOD FOR THOUGHT—THE 'GREEN' THING

In the line at the supermarket, the cashier told an older woman that she should bring her own grocery bags because plastic bags weren't good for the environment. The woman apologized to him and explained, "We didn't have the green thing back in my day." The clerk responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment."

He was right -- our generation didn't have the green thing in its day.

Back then, we returned milk bottles, soda bottles and beer bottles to the shop or off licence. They sent them back to the plant to be washed, sterilized and refilled and re-used. So it could use the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled.

But we didn't have the green thing back in our day.

We walked up stairs, because we didn't have lifts and escalators in every shop and office building. We walked to the local shops and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go to a super-market. We bought fruit and veg loose - and washed them at home. We didn't have to throw away bins full of plastic, foam and paper packaging that need huge recycling plants fed by monster trucks all day, everyday.

But she was right. We didn't have the green thing in our day.

Back then, we washed the baby's nappies because we didn't have the throw-away kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy gobbling machine burning up 220 volts -- wind and solar power really did dry the clothes. Kids got hand-me-down (mostly hand made or hand knitted) clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing shipped from the other side of the planet. Back then shops repaired things with funny things called spare parts - we didn't need to throw whole items away because a small part failed. Back then, we had one TV, or radio, in the house -- not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief not a screen the size of Wales. In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us. Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn petrol just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power and hand clippers for the hedges. We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a brightly lit, air conditioned health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity and then drink millions of litres of that special water from those plastic bottles.

But she's right; we didn't have the green thing back then.

We drank from a fountain when we were thirsty instead of using a plastic cup or a plastic bottle every time we had a drink of water. We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new plastic pen, and we replaced blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole plastic razor just because the blade got dull. Back then, people took the bus and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their parents into a 24-hour taxi service. We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest fish & chip shop.

But isn't it sad the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were just because we didn't have the green thing back then?

And this is not the Green Thing but just a reminder of the Festive Season.



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Church Ladies with Typewriters.....They're Back! Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences (with all the BLOOPERS) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.



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EAST COAST RADIO TOY STORY ONCE AGAIN BRINGING MUCH JOY AND EXCITEMENT TO THE CHILDREN IN KZN WITH THE HELP OF ROTARY VOLUNTEERS



This toy [wonder what it was] created much excitement.

For those handing out the gifts, these are the moments that are priceless.

All ready for the start of the big race.....and away they go....



And of course there has to be a Mandatory Pit Stop