

OUTA SPACE

FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

ROTARY E-CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA D9270

www.rotaryeclubsa.org



Date: 26th March 2012
No 17



MARCH IS LITERACY MONTH

You will read on pages 3 & 4 how our Literacy project at Ekuthuleni PS has been making a difference. We are particularly proud that the 3 legs that we have identified as being essential have complemented each other in achieving the various challenging Key Result Areas. This is an ideal example of what we need to achieve in Rotary – establish needs, find solutions and measure results from ongoing activities that ensure sustainability. We are extremely grateful to our partners in these activities especially those from Australia and when Alan & Joy Francis arrive with PDG Harry & Joyce Durey see the difference that has taken place..... well words could not explain what Alan will find. I well remember him standing at Ekuthuleni and looking over the dusty quadrangle and the classrooms with roll up shutter doors and saying; "Joy will not believe this". Thanks to Alan, I am sure when he sees the progress he will say "I can't believe this"

Then there are the improvements

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

that have taken place after the 6th World Rotary Cricket Festival that took place in Durban 2010. Richard Groom and his Club, Hawthorn, in Australia teamed up with the Rotary Club of Durban Bay [our sponsor club] and did a Global Grant to improve the ablution facilities at Ekuthuleni. The building project was undertaken by Project Build who did a marvellous job. Two other Rotarians who attended the Cricket Festival, Mike & Julie Brzozowski went back to their Rotary & Inner Wheel Clubs in Australia and have sent us funding for our Literacy programme. Rtn Johnny Stark will contribute, on a monthly basis, towards the Breakfast feeding programme. But much remains to be done and we will be approaching various funders in the coming months. Can anyone come up with a really excellent fundraising project?

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.

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BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS – March - April

None – quite amazing

ANNIVERSARIES - March

None

April

2nd - Errol & Jayne Martin

6th – Gerald & Sue Sieberhagen [49 years]

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DATES TO DIARISE:

31st March – District Assembly – at Mount Edgecombe Country Club

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

9th May – get together with John & June Fannin in Umhlanga

12th May – Arrival of Alan & Joy Francis and Harry & Joyce Durey at 20.05 from Australia on their Project Safari

13th May – 17h00 – Members and family of E-Club - braai at Garden Grove with above Project Safarians

18th & 19th May – D9270 **District Conference** at Wild Coast Sun. **Closing date for Registration is 13th April - time is running out**

3RD AUGUST – Reach for your Slippers Day – a REACH FOR A DREAM Fundraiser

2014
8th WORLD ROTARY CRICKET FESTIVAL in NOTTINGHAM UK in JULY
Hopefully SA IFCR will have a full team attending this Festival – Great Fun always

2019
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN DURBAN in JUNE

We were pleased to induct a new member, Angie Mitchell. Angie was proposed by PP Jeneth van Leeuwen and in the photo below they are also showing off a book that will be presented to Ekuthuleni PS Library which our Club does each time we induct a new member.



Some of our members took part in the Rotaract Club of Durban Walk along the Durban promenade on the 20th. Looking at the photo below, it actually seemed like an ECR Toy Story re-union with the STARS of Toy Story working team all being there for the walk.



Interesting how we always tell our new members to wear their Rotary label badge at all times with pride. Well Gerald may have worn a Rotary cap and Rotary shirt but only Angie was wearing her Rotary badge. When you receive your accounts for next half year please don't ask what all these R5 fines are for!!! You have been warned!!!

ROTARY E-CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA D9270 2H&1L [Health & Hunger, Literacy] PROJECT at EKUTHULENI PRIMARY SCHOOL

Update on the various Rotary activities and interventions at this school.

Rotary has looked at three important areas of focus at Ekuthuleni Primary School.

Firstly – an improvement in Literacy and Numeracy is seen as an essential requirement for securing a viable future for the young school going children.

Secondly – children who are hungry cannot concentrate on their school work.

Thirdly – children who miss school through illness, especially preventable illnesses, are at a disadvantage.

What we found:

There were insufficient and inadequate resources to ensure high levels of literacy and numeracy. A large percentage of children did not have a meal at home before arriving at school in the morning. The toilet facilities were hopelessly inadequate resulting in many cases of absenteeism because of diarrhoea. The area has a high incidence of poverty and only 25% of the parents paid the R50pa school fees, whilst those families that could afford school fees preferred to send their children to schools with acceptable toilet facilities.

What has been achieved so far:

A Global Grant was obtained by our sponsor Club, Rotary Club of Durban Bay, partnered by the Rotary Clubs of Hawthorn & Balwyn, Australia, which was used to upgrade the ablution facilities early in 2011 and there are now excellent facilities in place. From 2011, our Club has concentrated on a planned Literacy and Numeracy programme and has sought ways and means to expand this as the need to learn English in the Foundation Phase classes [Grade 1 to 3] has become more important. Our Club has recognised the importance of providing a meal at the start of the day. We have also identified the poorest of the poor among the children and provided food packs for them for week-ends and during holidays. A non-profit organisation, Sikhona, is providing enough maize meal for each child to have a plate of porridge on each school day.

What are the positives in the Key Result Areas following our interventions?

Absenteeism due to diarrhoea and related ailments has dropped as follows:

Boys from 34.5% to 21.3%

Girls from 38.7% to 19.4%

Literacy & Numeracy results in Grade 1

In 2010 there were 306 children in Grade 1; 187 passed; 100 failed and 19 were advanced because of special circumstances.

In 2011 there were 316 children in Grade 1; 290 passed and only 26 failed.

The pupils also won numerous TOP awards at a recent Toyota Reading and Literacy/Numeracy competition. □

Fee Paying Pupils

There are currently 1 607 pupils in the school. So far 43% have paid school fees this year. In addition 84% have voluntarily contributed R10 pa towards the maintenance of the toilets.

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The main donors for Literacy & Numeracy and Hunger relief have been:

Food

Rotary Club of Santo Amora	US\$ 100
Rotary Club of Durban Bay	SARand 3 240
Rotary E-club of South Africa D9270	SARand 14 000
Sikhona NPO # 030467	SARand 15 000
Rotary E-club [during next 10 mths]	SARand 5 000

Literacy & Numeracy

RC of Armidale Central [Australia]	SARand 13 197
Thank you Alan Francis	
RC of Cairns Sunrise [Australia]	SARand 5 058
Thank you Mike Brzozowski	
Inner Wheel Club	
Trinity After Dark Cairns [Australia]	SARand 10 000
Thank you Julie Brzozowski	
Corporate Matching Sponsors	SARand 18 000

We have identified the following needs:

Health - Water & Sanitation

We have ensured that there has been adequate hygiene training for the teachers as well as the pupils but this may need to be repeated.

The ongoing expenses are toilet paper [strictly controlled], chemicals for ensuring high level of cleaning and low incidence of bacteria, soap and towels to ensure that hands are properly washed [we are also planning to recognise Global Handwashing Day in October 2012]

Hunger - Breakfast Feeding Project

There is a monthly shortfall of R1 440 to cover the cost of gas for cooking and sugar to add to the maize meal.

Literacy and Numeracy

There is an ongoing need to extend and expand the reading programme phases by providing further resources. It is estimated that the cost per phase is R20 000 which includes training material to assist and up skill teachers.

The Resource centre which Rotary has been instrumental in establishing and equipping needs 24 chairs at a cost of R70 each. At present the pupils have to move chairs from their classes each time they go to the Resources Centre or else they just sit on the floor.

The container library, also provided by Rotary, is very hot during the summer months and most of winter as well. A lot of the reading and numeracy classes for grade 1's takes place in the library. An air conditioner would provide the necessary relief.

Summary

Without a doubt the contributions of the Australian Rotary and Inner Wheel Clubs have gone a long way to ensuring the improvement in the various Key Result Areas.

14th March 2012



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Ekuthuleni Primary School, Kwa Mashu, Durban, South Africa feeds a maize meal breakfast to 1 607 pupils 5 days a week.

This project is supported by the Rotary E-club of South Africa D9270



Breakfast time at Ekuthuleni Primary School – most of the children would have come to school without having had anything to eat at home so the serving of maize meal porridge is most welcome. It is a known fact that hungry children struggle to concentrate, so filling those empty tummies is essential.



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EKUTHULENI PRIMARY SCHOOL
Clockwise – Dep Head, Penny Pewa and Lit Proj Co-ord Nareshini Ranganthan sorting books; Sponsor label on book containers; Some of the 12 containers; Children reading in groups; Each time E-Club inducts a new member we donate a book & here Sambulo Khalala receives No 11 & 12 from Rtn Irene Kotze; Rtn Nareshini & Penny with books all sorted into containers; Children waiting for their turn to read.

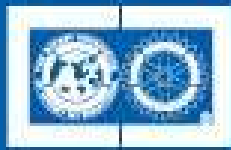


A huge thank you to the Inner Wheel Club of Trinity After Dark. Cairns Australia



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THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

CELEBRATE WORLD WATER DAY

Dear Rotarian,

In Peru, over 70 percent of Lima's drinking water comes from the Rimac River, which is polluted with high levels of cadmium, copper, lead, zinc, and arsenic. The Rotary Foundation and its partners supplied water filters to 5,000 families living along the river.



"They are not just giving us a concrete box", says Maria Moron. "They are **giving us health and our children a better quality of life.**"

This short [video](#) about Rotary's impact in Maria's community is just one example of the life-saving work being done by Rotarians.

In honor of World Water Day on March 22nd, I'd like to invite you to make a special gift to support Rotary's water and sanitation activities. Consider inviting your family and friends to do the same.

You can direct your Annual Fund gift to [SHARE](#), to help support the **local** and **international activities** identified by clubs in your district. Or, you can direct your entire gift to Rotary's [Water and Sanitation fund](#), to be spent on **quality** water and sanitation **projects** identified and implemented by Rotarians around the world. Either way, your contribution will be used to fund high impact, **sustainable solutions** to our world's most pressing needs.



Thank you for your consideration and for all you do for Rotary.

Sincerely,

Bill Boyd
Trustee Chair, The Rotary Foundation

P.S. When you [give to Rotary](#), you do so knowing there is no other organization that can leverage your contribution through a **global network** of volunteer and **technical experts** who are committed to the **highest ethical standards**.

The Rotary Foundation Contact Center:
Available for all general Foundation-related inquiries
866-9ROTARY (866-976-8279) | contact.center@rotary.org

THE WONDERFUL REACH OF THE ROTARY E-CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA D9270

From: **John Fannin**

Firstly, my apologies for the recent lack of comments on the website and via e-mail. During our week at Baywater Village in Sedgefield there was NO Vodacom Wireless Broadband available. I was able to use my laptop once for ten minutes when visiting a friend in town for supper! Even connectivity for my BlackBerry was poor, or non-existent. However, June and I returned home last evening and I can connect using my home PC.

I received a call from my good friend, PDG Peter Vurgarellis, an hour ago informing me that his Rotary Club, Durbanville, had given us (the Rotary E-club of South Africa) a single adult wheelchair for distribution. I shall be collecting the wheelchair at the end of next month when Peter V. returns home. In the meantime I have sent messages locally asking for suggestions, with details, as to who, in our community, should receive this wheelchair. When we find a suitable recipient, I shall make the "handing over" a special event, hopefully with the local press in attendance so as to obtain maximum publicity for our Club.

Immediately after speaking to Peter V., the e-mail message below was received. In reply to Peter de La Cornillere, I have suggested that the wheelchairs I receive via our "wish list" remain in the Western Cape, some for distribution on the West Coast, and the rest via Jayne in Cape Town.

On top of this, there may be some more very good news arriving in the next week or so.

From: Peter de La Cornillere

Peter Vurgie has given me your email and has asked me to write about District 9350 next wheelchair consignment.

We are getting a 40' container of wheelchairs donated by a wealthy Californian gent whose son is having or has had a Bar Mitzvah and wanted a container of wheelchairs donated to South Africa. The Jewish community will be taking 50 wheelchairs leaving the remainder to be divided up between Rotary Clubs interested in taking them. Peter V tells me that you are a member of a Rotary E-club based in Natal so please can you let me have your "wish list" as to what wheelchairs you would like. It has to remain a "wish list" until I know what other clubs "wish lists" are. There may a nominal charge to cover our distribution costs.

Hi John

Have cc'd the Rotary E-club members with my reply so that they may also see your email to me. You seem to have had a marvellous trip, but it is always good to be home. No wonder somebody coined the phrase "Home Sweet Home"

Wonderful that Peter Vurgarellis has donated a wheelchair to you for distribution. We look forward to receiving the photos. Please pass on my very best wishes to him - have not seen him for quite a while now.

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We had some marvellous handovers and some sad moments too. We made two wheelchairs available to East Coast Radio for their "The Big Favour" programme and one of the wheelchairs went to the granny of Lillian, the listener who had written in requesting the wheelchair. Lillian was so excited when the wheelchair was handed over. Lillian works as a domestic in Durban area and straight after the handover a family member collected her to take the wheelchair to Matatiele, which is quite a long drive, where her Granny lived on a farm with her Mother. The wheelchair was duly handed over and a photo of the Granny was taken in the wheelchair. **[See below]** Sadly the Granny passed away the very next day. Very sad indeed, but the wheelchair will be put to good use as Lillian's aunt, also in the Matatiele area, was also in need of a wheelchair.

It would be great if you are able to obtain further wheelchairs for the Rotary E-club of South Africa D9270 for distribution in the West. When we received our consignment of 20 wheelchairs, the members here raised the R300 for each of the wheelchairs or in some instances made a personal contribution to secure one. The cost of those that you could receive from the consignment sponsored by the wealthy Californian gent could well be much less as the contribution we had to make included portion of the cost of the wheelchairs. Perhaps you and Jayne, in particular, and our members should put your heads together and see what you can come up with. Remember, I will be bringing a new wheelchair to Somerset East at the end of April which will then be available again for donation to a deserving person when we leave about 3 weeks later. A wish list for wheelchairs is like a bottomless pit with never-ending needs out there. Our 20 ended up being 26 and we needed a further 6 which I have managed to secure - just need to arrange to collect them. Well done on keeping up your networking in the West.



And now, once again we are OUTA SPACE.