

OUTA SPACE

NEWSLETTER

ROTARY E-CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA D9270

www.rotaryclubsa.org

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No 11



November is Rotary Foundation Month

There have not been many of our fortnightly Newsletters where I have battled to find articles but they all seem to come from the same members. Our final newsletter for 2012 will be on 4th December.

The Rotary Foundation has evolved over the years and from July 2013 will make one of its most meaningful changes when the New Vision [aka Future Vision] is rolled out to all the Districts. D9270 has been one of 100 Pilot districts that have been working with Future Vision for the past 3 years. Matching Grants had that certain mystique and with Global and District Grants, under the New Vision there is a similar mystique – a fear of the unknown like most change. Once you have studied the very detailed instruction manuals and the various tutorials on rotary.org it is all a bit less daunting and then when you finally actually do a Global Grant is all seems so simple. **It certainly is a very necessary change that is being introduced.**

Our Club did a District Grant this year in support of Global Handwashing Day and the benefits will surely far outweigh the costs.

Please remember that it is the responsibility of each Rotarian to introduce prospective Rotarians.

To ensure the smooth running of the overall District Grants there are, and always will be, some very clear deadlines that need to be adhered to.

No matter how The Rotary Foundation chooses to do the Grants, the overall purpose of the Foundation which is to "Do Good in the World" will always be a key element of the various initiatives.

For information the last TOPIC of the Week for this year will be on 4th December and then the first one for next year will be on 8th January.

We congratulate Irene Kotze who was confirmed as President of our Club for 2013/14. We certainly look forward to working with this dynamic Rotarian and the Board that she will put together to ensure the continued success of our Rotary E-Club.

Our Year-end function was brought forward this year to enable us to combine our 2nd Anniversary celebration, our AGM and our farewell to our 4 STEP Youth Exchange Students. The traditional Year end FUN event seemed to take centre stage and a lot of FUN was had by all or almost all.

Have Fun

Gerald Sieberhagen - Editor

Rotarians 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

NOVEMBER

30th Vanessa Moodley

DECEMBER

20th Noel Moodley

21st Anesh Timul

22nd Beryl Draper

27th Gaëtan Burm

31st Nareshini Ranganthan

JANUARY

None

ANNIVERSARIES

DECEMBER

7th Richard & Moira Alborough

13th Paul & Sue Hawkins

JANUARY

4th Jacques & Jeneth van Leeuwen

12th Gordon & Lynn Dowsett

15th Anesh & Anusha Timul

28th Tino & Lynn Stefano

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DATES TO DIARISE:

2012

2nd December – FAMILY OF ROTARY DAY

2013

23rd February – PEACE FORUM conducted by our Club

23rd February – Rotary International 108th Anniversary Celebration

9th to 11th May – ROTARY FAMILY HEALTH DAY

17th/18th May – DISTRICT 9270 CONFERENCE – Sibaya Casino

23rd to 26th June – Rotary Convention in Lisbon.

1st July – Merger of Districts 9320 & 9270 to form a new District 9370

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 from 6th to 12th JUNE

Thought I'd get this one in quite early.

Only 57% of people will understand this:

2 + 2 = Fish. 3 + 3 = Eight.

7 + 7 = Triangle.

Will the 19½ members who understand this please let me know. There is a prize for the first correct one I receive.

Peace Day/Forum 23rd February 2012

“Peace comes from within.

Do not seek it without it”

Gautama Siddharta

David Tilling and his working committee had a fruitful meeting on 23rd November – 3 months to go!!!

oOo

FOODBANK SOUTH AFRICA.

I often wonder whether our members and Rotary Clubs in KZN make sufficient use of what FOODBANK in KZN has to offer? See pages 5 & 6.

oOo

OUTA SPACE MAY BE A DAY LATE!!

By now you should all know that I am an absolute cricket nut especially when it comes to **Test** cricket. Now, Australia choose to be in this totally unreasonable time zone which means half of one's normal night of rest is lost if you want to watch the cricket Tests between South Africa and the pompous Aussies. Having savoured the marvellous drubbings that were inflicted on the Aussies by Ali Bacher and Peter van der Merwe's Springboks in the 60's & 70's it is marvellous to relive some of those heights even if we have only drawn the last 2 Tests. For the cricket purist it has made for some exciting cricket and here's hoping that at Perth this coming week-end our Proteas can play to their full potential if only to make the Aussie know-all commentators and sportswriters once again eat humble pie. So I have missed quite a bit of sleep and just made far too many mistakes trying to put OUTA SPACE together before today.

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It seems like an awfully long time ago that we recommended this crèche in Lamontville to receive a Jungle Gym through East Coast Radio's Big Favour. But through the perseverance of Irene Kotze it has now been installed and has received a "thumbs up" from the principal of the crèche, Zandile



The ever alert Irene Kotze has found another very needy crèche – **Unyazi Crèche** in the Verulam area – the crèche really lacks just about everything – has >30 children aged 2 years of age to 4 years. The container is situated next to the Primary school. Ntokozo Busani runs the crèche and she receives R1 500 per month from the Department of Social Welfare. Apart from 2 black boards and a couple of small desks and a few chairs, there is nothing in the container. The children sit on 4 blankets on the floor. Miss Busani depends on the primary school for handouts of educational material. This definitely looks like a crèche that can do with some assistance.

The alarming facts are that there must be thousands of similar crèches in KZN.



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Irene Kotze has been exploring in the Rural areas between Verulam & Tongaat. She found 2 deserving recipients for wheelchairs and also a crèche which we featured on the previous page.

The first wheelchair recipient was Ntombenhle, pictured on the left with his wife, Josephine. Ntombenhle had a stroke 2 years ago and has never left his hut since then. This day was the first time in 2 years when he was taken outside in his new wheelchair that he saw his surroundings and all the new huts. Below left he is shown with his grandchildren Gogo Ntokozi was the 2nd recipient and in the photo Right below with her new wheelchair and her helper Bawinile and her friend Zingeinile and family members.



EXTRACT FROM FOODBANK SA OCTOBER NEWSLETTER.

Our June 2011 newsletter explained how Old Mutual had "stepped up to the plate" for the hungry of South Africa. They had provided essential financial support and also volunteerism, notably including the inspirational contributions of their director Crispin Sonn to our own Board.

Last month the relationship sprouted in a new and unexpected direction when Old Mutual's Senior Administrator Tania Pillay handed over to FoodBank several trays of vegetable seedlings.



Our member, Patrick Andries certainly doesn't sit behind a desk all day!!!

"Those seedlings are part of a long story," says Tania. "I'm one of a group of Old Mutual employees who belong to OMAPA (Old Mutual Association of Professional Assistants.) We have involved ourselves in community outreach. A while ago we learned about tunnel farming. We took the unusual step of erecting a vegetable tunnel on our grounds."

Due to space constraints, the tunnel on the Old Mutual Head Office grounds cannot grow veggies to maturity. Instead the staff contribute their time and money to use the tunnel to plant and nurture vegetable seedlings. When the seedlings are viable, the team donates them to small farmers and school vegetable gardens. Last month, the Old Mutual staff took a different approach by donating seedlings via FoodBank SA.

"We were able to pass on these seedlings to our own partners," explains FoodBank's Neil Davison. "We have off-take agreements with a number of small farmers, making it easy for us to distribute contributions such as these seedlings to places they are valued."

This fits well with parts of FoodBank's mission, namely being an enabling agency supporting small food producers and creating links among those involved in the food chain.

"We welcome this extension of our close relationship with Old Mutual," says FoodBank Director Alan Gilbertson. "Three cheers to this Old Mutual team for their enthusiastic and imaginative approach to community development."

Let's hope this germinates into something even bigger!

EXTRACT FROM FOODBANK SA OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Our last newsletter explained FoodBank Cape Town's move into new premises in the Cape Town Market in Epping. We didn't stop there. Our national office has also relocated to share this space with the Cape Town food banking team. Moving is never easy, but the results justify the related effort and stress.

Our new shared home offers multiple benefits. Under the warehouse lease agreement, FoodBank Cape Town assumed responsibility for the market's waste produce. This allowed us to negotiate significantly reduced rent even for the food bank, aside from eliminating 100% of the national office rental. This huge saving is invaluable. There's no easier way to fundraise for a budget than by reducing it!



It gets better. A quarter of the market's waste consists of perfectly viable fresh fruit and vegetables. (The rest is recycled, turned into compost, or used to generate energy.) We have outsourced the gleaning of this produce to "Food on the Table", a group of 45 charities. The result? We receive approximately 50 tonnes of fresh produce monthly. Overnight, this increased by roughly 50% the volume of fruit and vegetables that FoodBank Cape Town can donate to our Agencies.

Instead of paying "Food on the Table" for their efforts to recover this food, we have appointed them as FoodBank Agencies. This means they receive some of the fresh produce they glean for us, plus other food we rescue such as rice, samp, cereal, bread and coffee. This partnership approach saves us effort and cost, and we hope to reproduce it elsewhere.

Sharing with FoodBank Cape Town moved our national office team closer to "the coalface." Every day, the team can now see huge volumes of food they help to source for the hungry people who rely on us. At the same time, our Cape Town food bankers can see more clearly the benefits of having a national office team which cost effectively undertakes critical functions for the entire national network, such as food sourcing and payroll.

Overall, the move has proved to be more than a win: win--in fact we've struggled to count the correct number of wins! Thank you again to the many volunteers, sponsors and partners who helped us to ensure the new warehouse met the exacting standards of food handling and hygiene we require. The results of your efforts speak for themselves.

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AGM – 2ND CHARTER ANNIVERSARY – STEP STUDENTS FAREWELL – YEAR-END F2F



Clockwise from Top left. Some of the members and guests at the best behaved table. Guests at another table. David Tilling handing over a banner from RC of Maputo to Pres Gerald. Janet Rouillard with STEP YE Students LJ Houston and Nadine Jack. Jeneth van Leeuwen with STEP YE Students Kayleigh Goodwin & Kelly O'Donoghue. The Students each had a library book to hand over to Ekuthuleni Primary School. Some members and guests at one of the other tables.



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For whatever reason, these members and guests did not make it onto page 7 –
On the left – Rosemarie Gee, Lily Houston, Jeneth van Leeuwen & Marc van Leeuwen.
On the right Kayleigh Goodwin & Paige Reiersen [who bore the brunt of the inter-table revelry] and Irene Kotze who will see from this photo that it is not possible to hide behind a bottle. Next to Kayleigh is where Paul & Sandra Maistry would have been seated but I won't say why they weren't there. Paul can tell you!!



It may appear as though Sue is looking at Gevan Jack disapprovingly but all she was doing was egging him on and no doubt selecting targets. Anyway, this was PEACE during a ceasefire.

WHAT CEASEFIRE? – READY OR NOT HERE I COME – SIX-GUN GEVAN SMILES AS HE HONES IN ON HIS TARGET – ALL HIS SHOTS WERE DONE FAIRLY & SQUARELY THOUGH! “FAIRLY SUDDENLY & SQUARELY IN THE BACK”!!

Should I Really Join Facebook?

A good laugh for people in the over 60 group !!!

When I bought my Blackberry, I thought about the 30-year business I ran with 1800 employees, all without a cell phone that plays music, takes videos, pictures and communicates with Facebook and Twitter. I signed up under duress for Twitter and Facebook, so my seven kids, their spouses, 13 grand kids and 2 great grand kids could communicate with me in the modern way. I figured I could handle something as simple as Twitter with only 140 characters of space.

That was before one of my grandkids hooked me up for Tweeter, Tweetree, Twhirl, Twitterfon, Tweetie and Twittererific Tweetdeck, Twitpix and something that sends every message to my cell phone and every other program within the texting World. My phone was beeping every three minutes with the details of everything except the bowel movements of the entire next generation. I am not ready to live like this. I keep my cell phone in the garage in my golf bag.

The kids bought me a GPS for my last birthday because they say I get lost every now and then going over to the grocery store or library. I keep that in a box under my tool bench with the Blue tooth [it's red] phone I am supposed to use when I drive. I wore it once and was standing in line at Barnes and Noble talking to my wife and everyone in the nearest 50 yards was glaring at me. I had to take my hearing aid out to use it, and I got a little loud.

I mean the GPS looked pretty smart on my dash board, but the lady inside that gadget was the most annoying, rudest person I had run into in a long time. Every 10 minutes, she would sarcastically say, "Re-calc-u-lating." You would think that she could be nicer. It was like she could barely tolerate me. She would let go with a deep sigh and then tell me to make a U-turn at the next light. Then if I made a right turn instead, well, it was not a good relationship. The other day I went to visit one of the children. "Did you use the GPS to find our house"? "No, I replied, I used an MAP" "What's an MAP"? came the reply!! Really!!!

When I get really lost now, I call my wife and tell her the name of the cross streets and while she is starting to develop the same tone as Gypsy, the GPS lady, at least she loves me.

To be perfectly frank, I am still trying to learn how to use the cordless phones in our house. We have had them for 4 years, but I still haven't figured out how I can lose three phones all at once and have to run around digging under chair cushions and checking bathrooms and the dirty laundry baskets when the phone rings.

The world is just getting too complex for me. They even mess me up every time I go to the grocery store. You would think they could settle on something themselves but this sudden "Paper or Plastic?" every time I check out just knocks me for a loop. I bought some of those cloth reusable bags to avoid looking confused, but I never remember to take them with me.

Now I toss it back to them. When they ask me, "Paper or Plastic?" I just say, "Doesn't matter to me. I am bi-sacksual." Then it's their turn to stare at me with a blank look. Us senior citizens don't need any more gadgets. The TV remote and the garage door remote are about all we can handle.

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AAH! At last something useful for Quaker Oats.



Quaker Oats for fast pain relief.... it's not for breakfast anymore! Mix 2 cups of Quaker Oats and 1 cup of water in a bowl and warm in the microwave for 1 minute, cool slightly, and apply the mixture to your hands for soothing relief from arthritis pain.

In case you needed further proof that the human race is doomed through stupidity, here are some actual label instructions on consumer goods.

On Woolworth's Tiramisu dessert (printed on the **bottom**)

"Do not turn upside down."

(well...duh, a bit late, huh!)



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On some brands of Christmas lights of Eastern origin:

"For indoor or outdoor use only."

(As opposed to what?)

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On a German chainsaw.

"Do not attempt to stop chain with your hands or genitals."

(Was there a lot of this happening somewhere?)



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THINKING OF DOING SOME PLUMBING THINGS AROUND THE HOUSE DURING THE HOLIDAYS – BEWARE OF SOME HANDYMEN



AND NOW WE ARE ONCE AGAIN OUTA SPACE