

OUTA SPACE

NEWSLETTER

ROTARY E-CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA D9270

www.rotaryeclubsa.org

PBO 9612/502/16/2



Date: 19th February 2013
No 16



February is World Understanding Month.

There are many things in this World that are very hard to UNDERSTAND.

I cannot UNDERSTAND why anyone would want to kill Polio Immunization volunteers, as has happened in Pakistan & Nigeria recently, simply perhaps because of their religious beliefs. [See Page 4]

I cannot UNDERSTAND that, in our own neighbourhoods, senseless killings and other brutal attacks take place. They are now so commonplace that they are no longer front page news. [of course since Valentine's Day this has changed to front page news but all for the wrong reasons]

And so the list could go on and on about things that we just cannot UNDERSTAND.

It is for this reason then, that we as Rotarians should be especially

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

aware of the **Fourth OBJECT of ROTARY:**

The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons, united in the ideal of service.

I also cannot understand why the people in a block of flats at an intersection complained about an elderly gentleman who tried to earn a living by playing his harmonica through a loudhailer at a robot in Durban. The sound through the loudhailer was barely audible to me as a motorist.

I also cannot understand why the pair of Egyptian geese that have chosen a water feature at an intersection in a residential area in Umhlanga to hatch and raise 2 chicks are now going to be bundled off to the Bird Park.

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.

OUTA SPACE

Page 2

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY

19th Linda Watts

27th Sue Sieberhagen

ANNIVERSARIES

FEBRUARY

Nil

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DATES TO DIARISE:

2013

16th March – PEACE FORUM conducted by our Club at ADDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

23rd February – Rotary International 108th Anniversary Celebration

9th to 11th May – ROTARY FAMILY HEALTH DAY

12th May – ROTARY E-CLUB QUIZ EVENING

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

13th to 19th July 2014

8th WORLD ROTARY CRICKET FESTIVAL in NOTTINGHAM UK.

Hopefully SA IFCR will have a full team attending this Festival – Great Fun always

President Elect Irene & I “attended” the meeting of the Rotary E-club of Mauritius – they meet on a Wednesday at 9pm using GoToMeeting. It's different – it's also in French but their President Rachid Karroo did do translations throughout the meeting. Irene also attended last week's meeting. One day when we meet F2F we can tell you all about it, but in the meantime if any members wish to attend their meeting, which is at 7pm our time in RSA, please let Irene know

Congratulations to Sambulo Khalala on the Organisation of an **EarlyAct club at Ekuthuleni Primary School**. Irene Kotze will be the Rotarian Advisor.

#O#

The funding for improvements to the **ITHEMBALETHU EDU CARE CRECHE** in Lamontville amounting to R110 520 has now been received and the work can now proceed.

#O#

Our Literacy project, spearheaded by Nareshini Ranganthan continues to flourish – **WATCH THIS SPACE!**

A meeting with funders has been held and we await further developments.

#O#

Peace Forum – as a result of another large function taking place at uShaka Marine World we have postponed our Peace day activities at Addington Primary School to 16th March.

#O#

The **FDSA** water project in Velddrif area is being held up by a few small snags such as the builders needing to clear their building rubble and then some final work has still to be done at this site and John Fannin has this in hand.

#O#

Our exciting QUIZ evening project spearheaded by Suzanne Edmunds is scheduled for Sunday 12th May 2013.

#O#

We have had a preliminary report back from our Outbound STEP Exchange students. In the next few editions of OUTA SPACE we will have more detailed reports.

The search is now on for OUTBOUND STEP Exchange students for the end of this year.

OUTA SPACE

Page 3

It is NICE to be IMPORTANT but it is more IMPORTANT to be NICE

Recently there was a TOPIC on the Rotary LINKEDIN blog: **How can clubs reduce the average age of their membership?** The best answer was from a woman who said "Recruit more females because we all know they never get older than 39!! So I reduced the ages of all our female members to 39 and at the blink of an eye our average age dropped from 50 to 44!!! I did the same exercise with the male members and the average age dropped to 43.4. So what does all this mean? Absolutely nothing – in Rotary, age is just a number – Our club has an age spread from 23 to 80 and none of the Golden Oldies show any sign of slowing down just yet!!!! On the contrary most of them do not have jobs that keep them occupied so they have more time to devote to Rotary.

THOUGHT YOU JUST HAD TO KNOW THIS.....

The largest prime number has been found.

Although there are an infinite number of prime numbers, the hunt for the largest has in recent years centred on rare Mersenne primes, named after the 17th century Frenchman, Marin Mersenne. They are expressed as $2^P - 1$ or 2 to the power of "P" minus 1. P itself is a prime number. For the new prime, P is 57 885 161, which if you wanted to print out the new number, would take 5 319 pages of A4-sized paper using the Courier New font at 11 point. The 17 425 170 numerical-long number would take a person 403 days to write out if they devoted 12 hours a day at the rate of one digit a second, to the task. The previous record was a mere 12 978 189 digits long. **OK so now you know!!!**

Subject: Incoming shipments from the UK

Date: Thu, 7 Feb 2013 16:50:36 +0200

Dear All,

The current situation is that the organisation with whom we are dealing has until 31st January 2013 to clear the Olympic village. The goods are shipped first to the UK prisons where the sorting and packing will take place; hopefully during February. Then each container will be packed according to the selected wish lists – no preference as to the order thereof! Only then will we be advised which club's container/s are ready for shipment; hopefully during March or April, dependent of cargo space availability.

The voyage can take anything up to three weeks as they also stop on the way to off load, so we are hopefully looking at late May or even only June for the first five containers (the test shipment) to arrive. All being well, customs (ITAC) and VAT (SARS) and clearance and arrival at the selected destination, we will then give the go ahead for shipments to commence that will continue until our wish list orders have been exhausted. The whole process is estimated will take the remainder of 2013 and a good portion of 2014.

The new requirement of estimating each club/project wish list size requirement may well delay the whole project still further so I hope that this can be done expeditiously, but not being the greatest of mathematicians I have my doubts!

I hope that this explanation may assist with any enquiries that may arise from individual clubs.

Best Regards, Yours in Rotary Service, Tom EG Borrill PDG D9300

8 February 2013

Nigeria polio vaccinators shot dead in Kano



Nine female polio vaccinators have been killed in two shootings at health centres in northern Nigeria, police have told the BBC.

In the first attack in Kano the polio vaccinators were shot dead by gunmen who drove up on a motor tricycle. Thirty minutes later gunmen targeted a clinic outside Kano city as the vaccinators prepared to start work. Some Nigerian Muslim leaders have previously opposed polio vaccinations, claiming they could cause infertility. On Thursday, a controversial Islamic cleric spoke out against the polio vaccination campaign, telling people that new cases of polio were caused by contaminated medicine. Such opposition is a major reason why Nigeria is one of just three countries where polio is still endemic. But this is believed to be the first time polio vaccinators have been attacked in the country. Some Kano residents told the BBC's Yusuf Yakasai in the city that other people injured in the first attack had been taken to hospital. A health official confirmed to the BBC that those killed in the second attack in Hotoro were female health workers - there were earlier reports that people waiting at the clinic may have been among those shot. Witnesses in Hotoro told the BBC gunmen also approached the health centre using a motor tricycle.

- ***Polio is an infectious disease caused by a virus which invades the nervous system and may cause irreversible paralysis***
- ***It can strike at any age but mainly affects children under five***
- ***There is no cure for polio, it can only be prevented***
- ***Polio vaccine, given multiple times, can protect a child for life.***
- ***As long as a single child remains infected with polio, unvaccinated children in all countries are at risk***

According to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, there were 121 cases of polio in Nigeria last year, compared to 58 in Pakistan and 37 in Afghanistan.

In the past month, polio workers have also been targeted and killed in Pakistan, where the Taliban have threatened anti-polio efforts - accusing health workers of working as US spies and alleging that the vaccine makes children sterile.

Gaetan Burm shared a [link](#) End Polio Now: "My status is worth \$996 in the fight against polio. Learn about End Polio Now and see what your status is worth at <http://www.endpolionow.org>."



[End Polio Now](#)

www.endpolio.org

Rotary International's End Polio Now initiative protects children around the world with Polio vaccines to globally eradicate Polio forever.

How polio changed my life

Posted on [February 7, 2013](#)

Pulmão de Aço (Iron Lung), published this year in Brazil, tells the story of Eliana Zagui, a polio survivor who has lived for decades in a hospital in Brazil.



By Eliana Zagui, author of Pulmão de Aço (Iron Lung)

Before it was eradicated through the effort of massive immunization campaigns in 1989, poliomyelitis was prevalent in Brazil. The lack of vaccine and poor sanitation in small towns resulted in thousands of victims a year. Avoiding polio was often a matter of luck.

In January 1976, at the age of two, my luck ran out. I woke up with a fever and weak lower limbs. Although my parents were used to my recurrent episodes of sore throat, they brought me to the nearest city of Jaboticabal for medical treatment. The next day, lacking a diagnosis, I was sent to Ribeirão Preto, a larger city with better medical facilities. By the time the doctors came to the conclusion that I had contracted polio, the virus had already started its devastating muscular paralysis process.

We lived in Guariba near São Paulo, more than 180 miles from the major polio treatment center in Brazil. Getting to the 'Hospital das Clínicas' in São Paulo was a struggle. But after several hours, we received a ride from a charitable individual. By that time, I was already paralyzed from my neck down, and my breathing was restricted by the paralysis of my diaphragm.

I was placed in an iron lung a number of times in an attempt to reverse the respiratory failure, but eventually the doctors concluded the battle was lost. I was tracheotomized and connected to an artificial respirator. More than 36 years later, I still depend on the artificial respirator to breathe.

I have lived the rest of my life at the same 'Hospital das Clínicas.' Out of hundreds of children admitted to the hospital in the '60s and '70s, seven of us formed a family, and developed bonds with the doctors and nurses who looked after us. Five of our family died in the '80s, and now only Paulo Henrique Machado and I remain. We still share a room in the Intensive Care Unit.

It was in that room that Paulo and I learned how to read and write. While Paulo has limited hand movements, I can only move my neck and head. Everything I can do with some autonomy has to be done with my mouth. That includes my paintings, which are sold around the world through an association.

The story of how Paulo and I survived polio and how, for decades, we have lived almost completely paralyzed at Hospital das Clínicas is told in the book *Pulmão de Aço (Iron Lung)*, published this year in Brazil by [Bela letra Editora](#)

- Learn more about [Rotary's efforts to eradicate polio](#).
- Be part of the effort to make the World's Biggest Commercial at www.endpolionow.org
- Contribute to [help End Polio Now](#).
- Read more [blog posts from polio survivors](#)

You may have an idea about how we could raise funds to contribute to the "END POLIO NOW" campaign.

You may know of a school that could be approached to participate in our END POLIO NOW sticker project. JUST ASK!!!

COVERING SCHOOL BOOKS WITH PLASTIC COVERS – Nareshini Ranganthan obtained a large quantity of plastic which enabled the pupils and teachers at Ekuthuleni Primary School to cover the books donated by our Club. The books were purchased with funds provided by Sibaya Trust and form part of our Literacy project at the school.



“A Great Attitude
becomes a great day
which becomes a
great month which
becomes a great year
which becomes a
Great **LIFE.**”
mandy hale

WWW.LIVELIFEHAPPY.COM

This quotation by Mandy Hale fits in quite nicely with the TOPIC of the past few weeks – for those who missed the excellent Topics, you can still access them in the Members Clubhouse on our website @ www.rotaryclubs.org

Hawaii peace forum builds bonds

Rotaractors Andrea Tirone, left and Jennifer Petrichenco, right with RI President-elect Ron Burton at the Rotary Global Peace Forum in Hawaii

Editor's note: Rotaractors Andrea Tirone and Jennifer Petrichenko were among more than 1,800 participants in the Rotary Global Peace Forum in Honolulu, Hawaii, 25-27 January. The forum held a special focus on getting youth involved in the peace process. We asked Tirone and Petrichenko to share what inspired them about the event.



Tirone: Having been involved with Rotary as a Rotaractor and Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar, I have had many opportunities to see how peace is built through club and district projects, events, and initiatives around the world. I've also had many opportunities to attend conventions, and sometimes ask myself "will I benefit from attending yet another?"

The answer in Honolulu, Hawaii, was a resounding "yes." Not only did I learn a lot from the speakers and from informative workshops, but even more beneficial were the bonds I built with other delegates. I gained a better understanding of the friends I met and the cultures they come from, which in turn builds on my understanding of why people behave in different ways. This is a key step in building peace.

All this was captured in the very first workshop, which sought to teach participants how to understand different cultures. It is rare that a conference will begin its first sessions with workshops instead of a plenary. In Honolulu, the schedule did just that – and it worked!

The workshop was led by students, faculty, and alumni from the Brigham Young University of Hawaii and was designed to be interactive. Engaging topics invited us to consider our relationships at work and in our personal lives and how the interactions we have with others are either responsive or resistant. We learned that the patterns formed when we react to others can trap us into cycles of collusion rather than cooperation and understanding. "If no one thinks they need to change, no one will."

It was such a powerful start to the forum where subsequent plenaries focused on peace through communication, service, collaboration, and action. A trip to the Battleship Missouri Memorial in Pearl Harbor was moving, and served as a reminder that the road to peace is not always easy, but it is necessary.

CONT FROM PAGE 7

Petrichenko: When I learned about the peace forum in Hawaii, my first thought was what a great opportunity to escape the cold and dreary winter along Canada's west coast and travel somewhere warm. But when I investigated further, it was the thought of taking part in a peace forum concentrated on youth that won me over.

Two aspects of the conference were awesome – the quality of speakers and the access to Rotary leaders. I sat in on several excellent workshops, including ones focused on how to bring out peace in others by finding peace within, how to use social media and how it's used differently around the globe, and how using a self-administered personality test can help you understand different cultures.

There were many opportunities to sit and talk with Rotary leaders during the event. I was impressed at how open and accessible they were. It's not every day that you get a lesson in Japanese from the RI president (Sakuji Tanaka), or get to discuss dancing "Gangnam style" with the RI president-elect (Ron Burton).

The peace forum was one of the best conferences I have ever attended.

Two of our members, Suzanne Edmunds & Kudzai Mqingwana are members of this District Committee

6 February 2013

Rotary World of Work for the Youth of Amaoti

Rotary District 9270's Committee on **Economic and Community Development** has been tasked to facilitate sustainable economic initiatives within our communities. A number of key sectors will be considered in the course of the Committee's work namely: Education including Literacy, Training and Reskilling, Wellness, Water & Sanitation.

Corporate companies will be approached for assistance and in return would receive Enterprise Development points in a bid to help create employment.

Initially a hands-on workshop, Rotary Road to the 'World of Work' (WoW), will be held for unemployed school leavers at the Victoria Mtshali Hall in Amaoti to cover both careers and entrepreneurship development. This workshop, which is being held on **Saturday, 16th March 2013**, has been earmarked as a pilot project. Outcomes of this workshop will guide the Committee in encouraging Rotary Clubs throughout the district to host similar workshops.

We look forward to seeing a report back from this meeting - Ed

And now we are once again OUTA SPACE