

OUTA SPACE

NEWSLETTER

ROTARY E-CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA D9270

www.rotaryeclubsa.org

PBO 9612/502/16/2



Date: 7th August 2012
No 3



AUGUST is Membership and Extension Month.

After meandering for 20 months with a membership of around 20 we have now moved up to a healthy membership of 36. Our challenge now is to ensure that our members are all involved with some or other activity in our Club.

Amazing how in many aspects of life there are peaks and valleys – frenetic Rotary activity is no different – weeks go by with very little of huge importance happening and then all of a sudden we get hit with quite a lot of things all seemingly happening at the same time – 18th July was Mandela Day; then we had a promotion at Windermere Centre for END POLIO NOW; we welcomed a further two STEP students to our shores on the 25th and they were off on a tour the following day and got back on 3rd August. We have had to submit our SAR to Zurich [no nothing to do with tax, just our semi-annual return of membership]; we elected our Club President for the Rotary year 2013-14 – **CONGRATULATIONS IRENE!!!!!!!**; we received our PBO number [but you will have noticed that in our heading] – once again, **THANK YOU IRENE** – take

a bow; several of our members have been actively involved in blanket distribution for the East Coast Radio Winter Warmth project; more wheelchairs have been distributed and there was a cocktail function in honour of the donors; the District Membership and Public Image seminar took place; the first edition of OUTA SOUTH AFRICA was produced; **RI President Sakuji Tanaka** visited our city and 5 of our members attended the Civic Reception given in his honour; on 10th August our Club will award a PHF to Karin Hubbard and John Fannin will do the honours; in the Cape, Jayne met Debbie; on the 13th August DG Richard Brooks will have his Official Visit to our club; on 18th August the District Foundation Seminar takes place; then on 24th August it is our Clubs Induction dinner [F2F] followed the next day by the Open Air School Paralympics – no wonder then that during this period we only had time to induct 15 new Rotarians!!!!

We had to contend with many sporting distractions during this frenetic 5 week period as our sporting heroes gave us much cause for celebration and I daresay the odd heartache.

Have Fun

Gerald Sieberhagen - Editor

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

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

AUGUST

7th Jayne Martin; Patrick Andries

15th Anusha Timul

18th Rajen Ranganthan

23rd David Tilling

24th Jeff Watts

25th Susan Hawkins; Rae Kirton; Paul Maistry

28th Kudzai Mqingwana

ANNIVERSARIES

AUGUST

13th Jeff & Linda Watts

18th Sambulo & Siza Khalala

29th Rajen & Nareshini Ranganthan

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DATES TO DIARISE:

2012

13th August – District Governors Official Visit

18th August – District Foundation Seminar – David Tilling please diarise

24th August – Our Induction Dinner

1st September – RC DNth Beach Clean-up

21st September – WORLD PEACE DAY

1st September – Basic PRLS

27th October – Basic PRLS

15th October – Global Handwashing Day

2013

17th & 18th May – Last District Conference of D9270 – venue Sibaya

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

1st July – Merger of Districts 9320 & 9270 to form 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

"We are each the public face of Rotary. What one member does, for good or ill, reflects on all of us." - PRIP John Kenny

SNIPPETS

June & John Fannin depart for Newcastle-on-Tyne, via Amsterdam, on 10th August. John is NOT taking his laptop or BlackBerry with him, so he has been granted Leave of Absence for the five weeks that they are away. John has arranged to join the following Rotary Clubs for their regular lunch meetings: **Hexham, Tynedale, Nairn,** and **Perth** – the last two in Scotland on their Highland travels.

oOo

In one week during July we had **184** visits to our **Facebook** page.

oOo

The Food Stamp Program, administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is proud to be distributing the greatest amount of free meals and food stamps ever, to 46 million people. Meanwhile, the National Park Service, administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior, asks us "**Please Do Not Feed the Animals.**" Their stated reason for the policy is because the animals will grow dependent on handouts and will not learn to take care of themselves. This ends today's lesson.

oOo



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MORE THAN JUST DOGS IN A BOG

Greetings from Newcastle on Ncandu.

To explain – the Ncandu used to be a river - BUT – I took my dogs for a walk last Monday – along the banks of this “river” near our golf course – after a few minutes one of my dogs was gone – so I turned back to find it – after a short distance, whistling the while, the next dog disappeared – so I returned again – a short while later I found both of them down a steep bank – in the “river”. In my endeavours to get them out I managed to fall in myself, up to my neck in – not water – but sewage – all three of us were “up to necks, so to speak”. After some seriously anxious thoughts and minutes (they felt like hours) I managed to get the dogs out. A friendly branch of a basket willow further upstream allowed me –boots and all- to climb, eventually, out of the sewer. Why do I tell you this? We have a new project – putting pressure on local government to repair the sewage lines to protect our river, health and the environment. If we succeed perhaps the Rotary E-club could be a contender for the district “Green” trophy!!!!

Warmest regards YIR Gordon & Lynn

Editor – Only Gordon will find a project out of a situation like this. BUT river pollution is a serious matter and something needs to be done urgently otherwise we will find most of our rivers just being open sewers.

OK, so what's our next step? I have sent Gordon our letterhead. When local government asks what is an E-club, we will just tell them that the E is for Environment!! Or maybe Effluent!!

PHF PRESENTATION

Dear Rotarians Jayne & Patrick,

As the only other Western Cape members of the Rotary E-Club of South Africa, this message is a courtesy to inform you that I shall be representing our President, Rotarian PDG Gerald Sieberhagen, when I bestow a Paul Harris Fellow Recognition on Karin Hubbard on Friday 10th August at Syibonga Care Centre on the Velddrif Road outside Vredenburg.

I realize that, in all probability, that you will not be able to be present, but I felt it necessary to inform you of this important event in the history of our unique Rotary Club.

Yours in Rotary Service,

John Fannin, Port Owen, Velddrif.

MESSAGE TO NARESHINI RANGANATHAN

On behalf of educators and learners of Ekuthuleni Primary I would like to convey our sincerest gratitude for the Reading Workshop you conducted to the staff on Thursday 19 July.

We appreciate what you did for the school since educators have never been trained on the use of Big Books as well as teaching reading in general. Since Thursday I have noticed the oomph they have when they go to classrooms during reading period which takes place from 14h00 to 14h30. For sure learners will benefit from the methods educators gained during your workshop.

Once again thank you. Don't forget to revisit and check the progress. IsiZulu Intermediate Phase educators also want to access Big Books because they complain about learners who can hardly read!

Thank you so much.

Regards, Sambulo Khalala; Headmaster.

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STEP EXCHANGE STUDENTS ARRIVALS: Kayleigh Goodwin welcomes Kristina Salontaji with host Mom Sandra Goodwin and in the photo below Lisa Grewing has a big smile for host Mom Annaline Jack with Nadine Jack looking on.



MEMBERSHIP AND PUBLIC IMAGE SEMINAR

On Saturday, 28 July, Irene Kotze and I attended the District membership and public image seminar. The turn out was poor with only about 80 Rotarians attending. During the Membership section we viewed a video, "the Art of possibility" by Ben and Rosamund Zander. These are two extremely positive people and their message had a very positive motivating theme. It would really be worth it trying to obtain this video.

This was followed by a strategic planning workshop. We split into four teams and each team addressed one of the four elements of a SWOT analysis, **strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats**. One really needs a lot more time to do a meaningful SWOT exercise but the intention was to give the Clubs some idea of what they should be doing – well actually should be doing at the latest in February before they compile their Clubs' Strategic Plan and the Planning Guide for an Effective Club. PDG Richard Alborough who is the District Membership chair pointed out that without moving with the times, no organisation, including Rotary, could take its future for granted.

This was followed by an interesting session presented by Alma Maxwell who owns **Outsourced Communications** on "Social media and why YOU should be signing up". She made a compelling case for us to be involved with social media networking as the communication vehicle of the future, particularly to the younger generation. I guess the future is NOW so maybe we should take note of this.

District PI Director, PP Simon Swan completed the seminar by emphasising the need for building and renewing the Rotary brand and enhancing its public image. RI has engaged a major consulting firm to advise them on image change and hopefully by the time the 2013 Council on Legislation takes place there will be some positive outcomes. In the meantime I remain amazed to see that nearly every item that incorporates the Rotary emblem has some or other error. It really would be so simple if the very clear guidelines are followed. I notice these things more readily because in my working life I was very closely involved with public image and especially signage that was produced.

More Silence in Court

ATTORNEY: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: And in what ways does it affect your memory?

WITNESS: I forget..

ATTORNEY: You forget? Can you give us an example of something you forgot?

ATTORNEY: She had three children, right?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: How many were boys?

WITNESS: None.

ATTORNEY: Were there any girls?

WITNESS: Your Honor, I think I need a different attorney. Can I get a new attorney?

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Irene Kotze reports.....

Went to the Kenneth Garden Project on 1st Aug with the blankets – they will take the photos and e-mail me – that was a humbling experience. I met Mrs Khanyi Sibiyi who started the project a few years ago. She has converted part of her flat in the Kenneth Garden Housing Estate in Lower Umbilo (for sublevel income people of ALL races) into a clinic. There is no Clinic in the area and when I got there at 11 o'clock the place was swamped. She also managed to get the Interns of King Edward hospital involved on a voluntary basis, so there is a Doctor there from 10:00 to 12:00 to deal with cases that she – Nursing Sister – cannot deal with. This is a truly amazing lady!

It was a real eye opener to the plight of the poor white. I intend going back there next week and want to see how the soup kitchen is run. I have now also found a lady who will join Sue's knitted squares to form blankets (after Mrs Goss died, I have been looking for someone to do this task).

As a further project Kenneth Gardens could do with some simple medical equipment. It certainly is a sustainable project and is on our doorstep and easy to monitor. Also met with the lady who runs an NGO for Orphans and the Elderly – got such a surprise, she is the daughter-in-law of one of our Residents at Garden Grove – I never knew that she was involved in social work - I handed over the slippers to her, she will also send photos. This was a very rewarding morning!

A plane leaves Los Angeles airport under the control of a Jewish captain. His co-pilot is Chinese. It's the first time they've flown together, and an awkward silence between the two seems to indicate a mutual dislike.

Once they reach cruising altitude, the captain activates the auto-pilot, leans back in his seat, and mutters, "I don't like Chinese". "No rike Chinese?" asks the co-pilot, "why not?" "You people bombed Pearl Harbour, that's why!" "No, no," the co-pilot protests, "Chinese not bomb Peahl Hahbah! That Japanese, not Chinese." "Japanese, Chinese, Vietnamese...doesn't matter, you're all alike!"

There are a few minutes silence.

"I no rike Jews either!" the co-pilot suddenly announces.

"Oh yeah, why not?" asks the captain. "Jews sink Titanic."

"What? That's insane! Jews didn't sink the Titanic!" exclaims the captain, "It was an iceberg!"

"Iceberg, Goldberg, Blumberg, Rosenberg...no mattah....all same!"

There was a bit of confusion at the store this morning. When I was ready to pay for my groceries the cashier said: "Strip down facing me". Making a mental note to complain to my MP about security running amok, I did just as she had instructed.

When the hysterical shrieking and alarms finally subsided, I found out that she was referring to my credit card. I have been asked to shop elsewhere in the future.

They need to make their instructions to us seniors a little clearer!!

Ten lessons learned from the Future Vision pilot

Rotary News -- 20 July 2012

As The Rotary Foundation prepares for the global launch of its new grant model next July, a number of changes are being made based on feedback from Future Vision pilot districts.

Rotarians can expect to see these improvements in coming months:

1. A user-friendly online system for district qualification and grant application
2. A streamlined global grant application process with clearly defined expectations and a list of resources to help applicants get started
3. Clear guidelines on how to meet global grant requirements for area of focus and sustainability
4. Expanded criteria in two areas of focus: basic education and literacy now includes secondary education, and disease prevention and treatment covers prevention of non-communicable diseases and health promotion; in addition, all areas of focus allow certain types of infrastructure projects
5. The elimination of a requirement that applicants for global grant scholarships provide proof of language testing
6. Adjustments to the composition of vocational training teams, reducing the minimum number of travellers to three and allowing, with Foundation approval, the team leader to be a non-Rotarian
7. Funding for international travel to implement global grant projects
8. An option for a contingency fund of up to 20 percent of the total district grant spending plan
9. A reduction in the minimum budget for a packaged grant from US\$50,000 to \$20,000
10. The addition of a district stewardship subcommittee to ensure careful management of grant funds

Our Club is in the fortunate position of having several members who are well versed in Foundation Grants. It is of paramount importance that we equip ourselves to be in a position to apply for and manage District Grants and Global Grants. The whole process appears quite daunting until you actually take the plunge and get involved. Our club has passed the qualification process in anticipation of our Global Grant proposal that John Fannin is working on.

Global Grants and District Grants are not really very complex. However, if you want to benefit from the funding that is available, it is imperative that you embark on some "self-teaching". There are excellent training programmes on Rotary's E-learning website. The District is also required to provide training seminars but this on its own is not sufficient. It is also not a good idea to have just ONE expert in the Club who will do ALL the Grants. Attending the Rotary Foundation Seminar on 18th August would be an excellent starting point.

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Take time to smell the roses!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

May this change the way you think....

"I had a very special teacher in high school many years ago whose husband died suddenly of a heart attack. About a week after his death, she shared some of her insight with a classroom of students. "As the late afternoon sunlight came streaming in through the classroom windows and the class was nearly over, she moved a few things aside on the edge of her desk and sat down there. "With a gentle look of reflection on her face, she paused and said, 'Class is over, I would like to share with all of you, a thought that is unrelated to class, but which I feel is very important. Each of us is put here on earth to learn, share, love, appreciate and give of ourselves. None of us knows when this fantastic experience will end. It can be taken away at any moment. Perhaps this is God's way of telling us that we must make the most out of every single day. "Her eyes, beginning to water, she went on, 'So I would like you all to make me a promise. From now on, on your way to school, or on your way home, find something beautiful to notice. It doesn't have to be something you see, it could be a scent, perhaps of freshly baked bread wafting out of someone's house, or it could be the sound of the breeze slightly rustling the leaves in the trees, or the way the morning light catches one autumn leaf as it falls gently to the ground. Please look for these things, and cherish them. For, although it may sound trite to some, these things are the "stuff" of life. The little things we are put here on earth to enjoy. The things we often take for granted.

"The class was completely quiet. We all picked up our books and filed out of the room silently. That afternoon, I noticed more things on my way home from school than I had that whole semester. Every once in a while, I think of that teacher and remember what an impression she made on all of us, and I try to appreciate all of those things that sometimes we all overlook. "Take notice of something special you see on your lunch hour today. Go barefoot. Or walk on the beach at sunset. Stop off on the way home tonight to get a double dip ice cream cone. For as we get older, it is not the things we did that we often regret, but the things we didn't do. "HAVE A GREAT DAY!

"GOD Bless you every day of your life"

This email message has been sitting in my "to include in OUTA SPACE" file for some time – what is it that makes it quite special? Well, Sue & I had an "on off" friend who we first met in 1970. Because we were transferred so often it happened that some friendships [pre email days of course] became quite a challenge to maintain and then out of the blue we may meet up again in another town. That is what happened in the case of, [I shall call her Eve] Eve who we met up with again in 2000. Then Eve decided to relocate to USA but fortunately we could keep in touch through email....and then suddenly Eve's emails stopped coming. Mine to her were never returned. I only noticed this after 2 or 3 months so decided to look up her daughter – Eve had passed away 3 months before after a battle with cancer that she had never ever complained about. I looked up her last email to me.....

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THOUGHT YOU MAY ENJOY READING ABOUT ONE OF THE VERY MANY ROTARIANS THAT USE OUR WEBSITE TO MAKE-UP FOR MISSED MEETINGS

From: Gerald Sieberhagen [<mailto:geraldandsue@mweb.co.za>]

Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2012 3:24 AM

To: kamiyama@tkcnf.or.jp

Subject: Rotary E-Club of South Africa D9270

Good evening Naoki Kamiyama

Greetings from the Rotary E-club of South Africa D9270

We welcome you as a regular "make up" visitor to our website.

It would be wonderful if you could tell us a bit about yourself.

It would also be interesting to know from you whether you always find something of interest on our website Do you read our OUTA SPACE newsletter/bulletin? Do you ever look at the various Links we have on our website? As you may know, we are a new club and our website is only 6 months old so we are still learning new things all the time.

We have just been reading about our Incoming RI President Sakuji Tanaka and look forward to another excellent RI President. Does your Rotary Club have a website?

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing many more make-ups from you!!!

Warmest regards

Gerald

Gerald Sieberhagen

President Rotary E-club of South Africa D9270 www.rotaryclubsa.org

From: Naoki KAMIYAMA [<mailto:kamiyama@tkcnf.or.jp>]

Sent: 28 June 2012 04:41 AM

To: 'Gerald Sieberhagen'

Subject: Thanks for your contact to me

Dear Gerald

Thanks for your very kind mail. I read your mail very interesting, because I didn't receive welcome mail from Rotary e-Clubs in the world.

With your asking, I write about myself as follows;

Private Data - My name is Naoki Kamiyama, living in Ibaraki (=prefecture located between Tokyo and Fukushima). My career is Certified Tax Accountant (licensed in JAPAN) and CPA (licensed in U.S.). I will be 50 years old in this year.

Business - Every day, I was asked from the small and medium sized company about accounting problems and tax saving planning.

Research - And now, I'm belong to the University Graduate Course, researching about the Tax-Accounting themes in the Construction Industry.

Rotary experience - I have an experience for Rotary Member about 8 years. I have 1 Paul Harris Fellow. I have following position in my Rotary Club: •vice-SAA •Announcer •International Activity Committee, Chairman; •Social Activity Committee, Chairman

Rotary e-club of SA - I start making up in Rotary e-Club from Big-Earthquake in Japan. Because after that big earthquake, I cannot participate in my club. Our club rental building was not broken nor our club members were not injured from that earthquake. But my club did not have the meeting about 1 month after all. It is the reason for my making up for the Rotary e-club.

My profile is that's all.

I hope I can make-up for your e-Club for long time.

Best Regards

Naoki Kamiyama

CELL PHONE FEATURE

It is worth knowing about the #77 feature!

It was the Saturday before New Year's and it was about 1 PM in the afternoon, and Lauren was driving to visit a friend.

An UNMARKED police car pulled up behind her and put his lights on. Lauren's parents have 4 children (high school and college age) and have always told them never to pull over for an unmarked car on the side of the road, but rather wait until they get to a gas station, etc.

So Lauren had actually listened to her parent's advice, and promptly called #77 on her cell phone to tell the police dispatcher that she would not pull over right away. She proceeded to tell the dispatcher that there was an unmarked police car with a flashing red light on his rooftop behind her. The dispatcher checked to see if there was a police car where she was and there wasn't and he told her to keep driving, remain calm and that he had back-up already on the way.

Ten minutes later 4 cop cars surrounded her and the unmarked car behind her. One policeman went to her side and the others surrounded the car behind. They pulled the guy from the car and tackled him to the ground.....the man was a convicted rapist and wanted for other crimes.

I never knew that bit of advice, but especially for a woman alone in a car, you should not pull over for an unmarked car. Apparently police have to respect your right to keep going to a "safe" place. You obviously need to make some signals that you acknowledge them (I.e., put on your hazard lights) or call #77 like Lauren did.

Too bad the cell phone companies don't give you this little bit of wonderful information. So now it's your turn to let your friends know about #77.

Tell every person that you can about this.

Dirk Croucamp - 012 316 7036; 082 823 1225

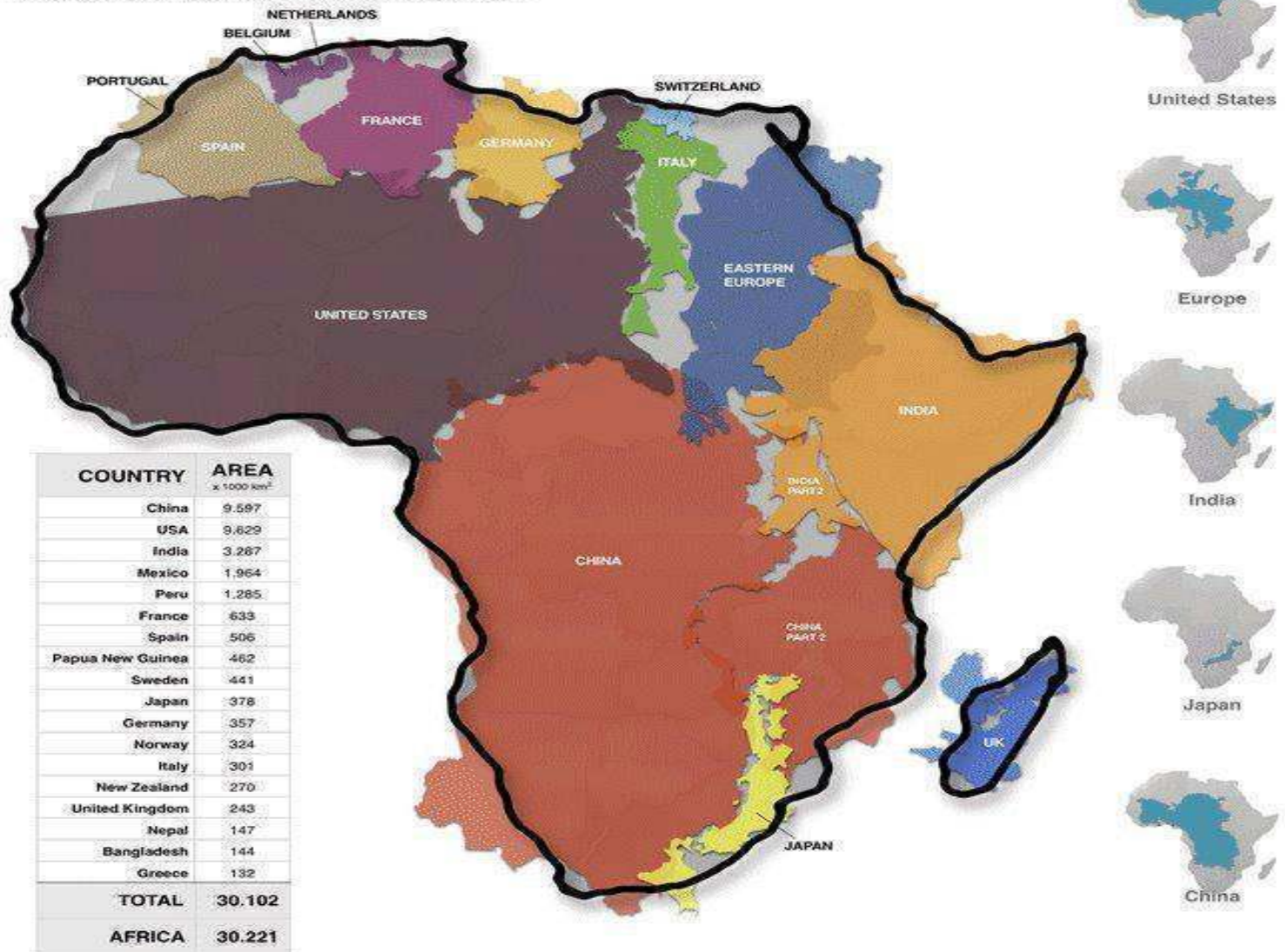
EDMS System Administrator; Dept Home Affairs



New member, **Jean Singh** met **Jeneth van Leeuwen** [have yet to see a photo of Jen where she doesn't have that fabulous smile] and President Elect **Irene Kotze** [nice name badge!] at King Shaka Airport during the evening when our STEP Students from Germany arrived.

The True Size of Africa

A small contribution in the fight against rampant *immisparity*, by Kai Krause
Graphic layout for visualization only (some countries are cut and rotated)
But the conclusions are very accurate: refer to table below for exact data



Global Polio Eradication Emergency Action Plan

The Global Polio Eradication Emergency Action Plan aims to boost vaccination coverage in Nigeria, Pakistan and Afghanistan, the three remaining polio endemic countries, to levels needed to stop polio transmission.

Developed in coordination with country national emergency plans, the global plan builds on India's success in stopping polio transmission and outlines a range of new strategies and initiatives to better support eradication efforts, including:

- Intensified focus on worst-performing areas of Nigeria, Pakistan and Afghanistan to increase vaccination coverage by end of 2012 to levels needed to stop transmission;
- New approaches tailored to each country to tackle persistent challenges and improve polio vaccination campaign performance;
- Heightened accountability, coordination and oversight to ensure success at every level of government and within every partner agency and organization;
- Surge of technical assistance and social mobilization capacity.

AND NOW FOR SOME VERY GOOD NEWS FROM PAKISTAN!

Pakistan is making progress against polio in the face of challenging, sometimes tragic circumstances, including the recent killing of a local community polio immunization worker and wounding of two others -- a staff member of the World Health Organization and an international consultant -- in Karachi, Sindh. In addition, leaders in a small region of the northern part of the country have banned polio vaccinations.

WHO issued a statement expressing condolences to the family of the worker who died, adding, "The partners of the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) remain committed to supporting the government of Pakistan and the people of Pakistan in their efforts to eradicate this devastating disease."

Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Nigeria are the only remaining polio-endemic countries in the world. The incidence of polio in Pakistan has dropped by more than 60 percent this year, with 23 cases reported as of 12 July, compared with 59 cases during the same period last year.

"Pakistan this year has perhaps the best chance ever to achieve success, because tremendous new efforts are being undertaken, led by the government, in implementing a national polio emergency action plan that mobilized all government and civil society resources," says Robert S. Scott, chair of Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee. "There is strong evidence that implementation of the emergency plan is showing results, particularly in key reservoir areas such as Balochistan and Sindh."

In support of Pakistan's polio eradication efforts, Rotary recently installed two mobile clinics at checkpoints between Karachi and other parts of Sindh. The clinics are staffed 24 hours a day and supervised by WHO. Rotary also provided 45,000 vaccine carriers to the government in April.

"Rotary's district governors and Rotarians at the club level are in the forefront of Pakistan's drive to become polio free," says Scott. "They are organizing health camps to vaccinate children, meeting with local politicians to urge their support, and sponsoring walks and putting up posters to promote the country's emergency action plan against polio. I salute them for their commitment and tireless efforts, which are making a real difference."

Rotary is also working to organize a committee of ulema, or Muslim religious scholars, to help correct misconceptions about the polio vaccine. Rotary successfully used this approach to overcome resistance to the vaccine in Muslim communities in India, which WHO removed from the list of polio-endemic countries in February.

In June, health officials from both Pakistan and Afghanistan visited India to learn firsthand about its proven strategies. Past RI President Rajendra K. Saboo, Rotary Foundation Trustee Ashok Mahajan, and India PolioPlus Committee Chair Deepak Kapur briefed the Pakistani delegation on India's eradication efforts. The Rotary representatives focused on the role of infrastructure, coordination of immunization campaigns, and lessons that could be applied in Pakistan, whose terrain, climate, and socioeconomic conditions are similar to India's.

Pakistan's national PolioPlus committee and Coca-Cola Beverages Pakistan have joined forces to build awareness of polio. The company provided 14 billboards promoting National Immunization Days in July, signs to be placed in shops in districts where the wild poliovirus has been reported, and vans to transport polio vaccine and water to toll booths.

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“On behalf of 1.2 million Rotary members worldwide, including more than 5,100 in Pakistan, I would like to extend my thanks to Coca-Cola Pakistan for its generous support and dedication to ensuring that all children are reached during our national polio immunization campaigns,” says Pakistan PolioPlus Committee Chair Aziz Memon. “Working together, we are one step closer to a polio-free Pakistan, and a polio-free world.”

International cricketing superstar Shahid Afridi, a goodwill ambassador for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, has also joined Pakistan’s anti-polio effort. A participant in Rotary’s [“This Close”](#) campaign, Afridi is from the Khyber Agency in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas and a Pashtun. In 2011, Pashtuns accounted for more than 75 percent of Pakistan’s polio cases, but the group only makes up 15 percent of the population.

“We have seen the support that celebrities of this stature can bring to national awareness efforts in other countries, and we have no doubt that Mr. Afridi will boost interest in the campaign and in ensuring that every child in Pakistan is vaccinated,” says Memon.



(From right) Asif Ali Zardari, president of Pakistan, talks with Robert S Scott, chair of Rotary’s International PolioPlus Committee, and Aziz Memon, chair of Pakistan PolioPlus Committee, about the country’s emergency action plan against polio during a meeting of senior government officials in Islamabad in March. Rotarians also helped secure the signatures of 150 members of Pakistan’s parliament in support of polio eradication in June.

Photo courtesy of Pakistan PolioPlus Committee

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This photo was actually taken showing me handing the RI President a copy of the new look Rotary Africa but the photographer was perhaps just too tall to take this photo.

Here we go again – we go to all the trouble of producing a pull up banner to welcome our RI President and then we have a Rotary emblem that has several errors. Compare the 2 emblems in this banner!



Jeff Watts at the Olympics! Jeff was totally fed up with having to walk in the weeks ahead of the Olympics so when he was given the chance to run with the torch he grabbed it with both hands

Jenna Reinbach, RI President Sakuji Tanaka and President Gerald Sieberhagen at the Civic Reception.
Photo by Mike Kuttner



Now we are eventually OUTA SPACE but there is another page

OUTA SOUTH AFRICA

No 1

Summer has arrived in The Soggy North!!! (But for how long, we cannot tell!). At The Oval, South Africa annihilated England. At Royal Lytham & St Annes, South Africa was again triumphant, albeit due to the collapse of an Aussie. No surprise there, apart from the fact that it is a more common sight outside a London pub just after closing time.

The imminent Olympic Games may bring an even greater and long lasting South African influence upon Londoners than may be obviously anticipated. The euphoria of getting one over on the French by landing the 2012 Olympiad has gradually waned over the past few years as Londoners have begun to realise that our close friends across the channel may just, possibly, be sitting outside their local cafes blowing Gauloise smoke circles into the air, sipping their Pernod and thinking what a close shave they have had. "Ze Ingleesh are well-come to de gemms!". Whilst Pierre & Co watch from the comfort of their favourite chaise-longue, Londoners are being treated to Olympic Traffic Lanes, which nobody can drive in, and adjacent to London Bus Lanes, which nobody can drive in; unless you are a bus or taxi. A taxi is not allowed in an Olympic Traffic Lane. Neither is a bus. However, if the rather large sign, mounted on the back of a lorry that is completely blocking one of the two lanes, is illuminated with the message, "Olympic Lane Open" then.....well, does that mean it is open to all traffic or that it is only open to accredited Olympic vehicles or.....?

But I digress. The long lasting effect that South Africa may well have on Londoners is allied to the fact that, for some months now, there have been sinister forces at work. Apparently, a British government minister recently visited Durban to attend the Top Gear Festival. The minister immediately recognised the chaos one simple event can cause. Since then, signs have been appearing on overground stations, underground stations and even on the sides of buses: DURING THE OLYMPICS IT MAY BE QUICKER TO WALK. I will have a 45 minute walk from Victoria Station to my office in Baker Street. Each way!!! There won't be much movement transport-wise along Park Lane!!!

Enter the inspirational Oscar P!!! I am expecting a large consignment of "Oscar P Blades" customised to clip onto the sole of one's shoes to arrive at any time. This will be wonderful. Can you imagine all those city gents in their bowler hats and pin-stripes bouncing over London Bridge into the city every morning? The return at the end of the day could be even more interesting, as a sharp left turn is required to enter London Bridge Station. I suspect a considerable number will disappear on in a straight line for Dover, via the Old Kent Road. Park Lane, Hyde Park and all approaches to the Olympic Stadium will look like a Marsupial Convention!!!

Despite this rather jaundiced view, I have two great wishes:

- 1 I hope the games are a great success
- 2 I hope I am watching them, sipping a rock shandy, in dearest South Africa!!!

Kindest regards

Jeff