



HOWZAT!



The Rotary Club of Newlands

The Club that Appeals



PRESIDENT	TERRY LANCASTER
Editor	Janey Ball
Email	howzat@newlands.org.za
Website	www.newlands.org.za
Facebook	www.facebook.com/NewlandsRotary



Apologies before 10:00 on a Monday to Heidi Andersson, please.

COMMENT: Covid, Moody's, The President and Noah (Pieter van Aswegen)

The Covid-19 epidemic will probably be the single biggest event to change our lives forever. What was normal is out of the window and a new dawn is rising whether we like it or not.

If we treat these five weeks as a holiday to watch movies and get tipsy, it would be a waste. We need to change our way of thinking and re-invent ourselves to embrace the new normal awaiting us and we need to try to remain positive at all times. The opposite brings on fear which clouds our thinking and prevents us from recognising opportunities.

We have been battered on all fronts. With the Moody downgrade to junk status SA will lose some investors but there will be others to take their place.

With the downgrade the norm is to expect currency to go down and the interest rates go up, however, it is interesting to remember that in 2017 the R/\$ was 14.70, in 2019 the R/\$ was 14.40 and after 2 downgrades and 2 years nothing material has happened and interest rates have in fact gone down.

Moodys downgraded most of the world recently except for the USA; with 7 million job losses and a 24 trillion dollar balance of payments??? Go figure !!!

In SA, Cyril Ramaphosa is doing a fantastic job leading the country through the Covid crisis and has received accolades from both the WHO and the BBC amongst others. The world is changing (Mercedes Benz are currently manufacturing ventilators and Gin producers are producing sanitisers!). We need to reboot ourselves and our values and focus less on money. The important things are family, friends and broad-based community inclusion.

With the above in mind I would like to recommend an author who I recently came across – Yuval Noah Harari (a guru of our times) and author and historian who wrote “Homo Sapiens” which was translated into English in 2014 and has sold over 1 million copies. This book was followed by “Homo Deus” which looks into the future and also “21 lessons for the 21st Century”.

Google the TED Talk for insight on Yuval Noah Harari.

MINUTES of the PARTNERS' VIRTUAL MEETING on ZOOM (6th April 2020)

Scribe: Geraldine Nicol (Standing in for Melinda who was unable to hear the meeting.)

Sergeant Ian Pursch welcomed all to our second Virtual Zoom meeting, after Zoom moderator (our ever efficient Janey Ball, master and mistress of all things IT-related) cleverly and patiently miraculously managed to get 39 Newrots, 12 partners and 5 Rotary Raiders from both Kromboom and Kirstenbosch Rotary clubs, all on line. This was no mean feat and astoundingly enabled the meeting to start pretty promptly. Ian was followed by President Terry who warmly welcomed our partners, guest speaker Cllr Dave Bryant, and our "raiding" Rotarians, who included our AG, Jerome O'Ryan.

The Rotary traditions were upheld by Glynis (Four-Way Test) and our newest septuagenarian Jamie, who shared the Grace and a Toast to both RI and President Ramaphosa.

With Andrew Piele having been awarded the Wooden Spoon last week, but now residing (probably in quarantine) in the UK, John Stephenson proposed that the Wooden Spoon be virtually awarded to Janey Ball for being such an IT/Zoom whizz-kid. John's proposal was fully endorsed by visual zoom evidence of virtual "deaf-style" claps (cleverly proposed by Jenny Ibbotson) which ensured Janey could see, if not actually hear, our unanimous approval of her nomination, given all were muted and so could not be heard applauding in normal fashion!

Ian introduced our very first virtual speaker, Cllr Dave Bryant, Ward Councillor for Cape Town CBD and surrounding areas. Cllr Dave's "talk" was in the form of an interview, with his interviewer being Janey Ball who serves on Cllr Bryant's Ward Committee. A family man who has been a Ward Councillor since 2009, Cllr Dave shared his pride in the country's resilience and commitment to help one another during this COVID 19 crisis. He also proudly shared news of many international compliments on the way South Africa at national, provincial and local government level, is seen to be handling this COVID crisis. His already large portfolio, including City Resilience, Energy and numerous other portfolios, is about to expand exponentially as his latest direct, face-to-face responsibility is to ensure the effective round-up and collection of the homeless, providing all with masks and ensuring the homeless are relocated to safe and reasonably secure tents. A tough challenge with the cold and wet winter coming! The number of homeless people is hugely challenging and, as all the standard homeless shelters are full to the brim, City of Cape Town has had to create "tent cities" in areas like Strandfontein, where the first batch of 2,000 homeless were transported on Monday 6th April and a further 2,000 are likely to join them by the end of the week. Cllr Dave appealed to all three participating Rotary Clubs that if they were able to assist in any way, the City urgently needs blankets, toiletries and tinned food to help with City's homeless outreach programmes.

A plethora of questions ensued, covering such diverse topics as Provincial and City Disaster Risk Management systems, Food security Co-ordination, GBV (Gender Based Violence), Crime, Strategic Planning post-lockdown, spirit of co-operation between political parties and the challenging question of where the money comes from to finance these unexpected but necessary outreach programmes.

Sergeant Ian finally called a halt to the many questions and thanked Cllr Bryant for joining us, and for his empathetic approach during this challenging time. If you didn't get a chance to raise your question and need to know more, do contact Janey for a direct link to Cllr Dave Bryant.

President Terry closed the meeting with belated welcomes to all who joined during the meeting, thanked Cllr Dave and gave birthday wishes for the lucky 4 who would be celebrating in isolation in the week ahead. Given the success of our second virtual meeting, thanks to Janey, the board may yet decide to host an unusual public holiday meeting on 13th April but failing that, club members could look forward to a virtual Pub Quiz, run by Mike and Vanessa on Monday 20th April.

FUTURE FIXTURES

APRIL: MATERNAL and CHILD HEALTH MONTH

- 20 Business Meeting and Online Pub Quiz
- 27 No Meeting (Freedom Day)

MAY: YOUTH SERVICE MONTH

- 4 Partners' Meeting
- 11 Ordinary Meeting : Feedback on India Friendship Exchange
- 18 Ordinary Meeting
- 20 Board Meeting
- 25 Business Meeting

JUNE: ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS MONTH

- 1 Partners' Meeting
- 8 Ordinary Meeting
- 15 Ordinary Meeting
- 17 Board Meeting
- 22 Business Meeting
- 29 Ordinary Meeting

UMPIRES and SCORERS

	20 April 2020 <i>Ordinary</i>	27 April 2020 <i>No Meeting</i>	4 May 2020 <i>Partners</i>
Sergeant	Tony Davidson		Jana Forrester
Four-Way Test	Shelley Finch		Brian Pickup
Grace and Loyal Toast	Lew Botha		Melinda Stapleton
Attendance	Ian Pursch		Jenny Ibbotson
Fellowship			
Minutes	Michael Walwyn		Heidi Andersson
Intro speaker			
Thank speaker			
Comment	Jeannine Ibbotson	Jamie Hart	Richard Burnett



BIRTHDAYS	19 April	Ian Pursch
	25 April	Peter Ennis
		Shelley Finch
ANNIVERSARIES	21 April	Jamie and Glynis Hart
WOODEN SPOON		Janey Ball

OFFICE BEARERS

President	Terry Lancaster	Environment	Tony Davidson
President-Elect	Jenny Ibbotson	International Service	Jenny Ibbotson
Secretary	Janey Ball	Membership	Graham Finlayson
Treasurer	Peter Ennis	New Generations	Vanessa Rousseau
Club Services	Heidi Anderson	Public Image	Shelley Finch
Community Service	Corinne Hudson	Rotary Foundation	Mike Walwyn
Entrepreneurial	John Stephenson	Vocational Service	Jeannine Ibbotson

QUOTE of the WEEK

"I looked into her eyes, deep into the emerald green, my heart fluttered, I felt a connection, something deeper, something magical, I was transported to another place and I thought, Blimey these binoculars are brilliant."

Paul O' Connor : Gaelic Football Player

AND the LAST WORD

