



# HOWZAT!



The Rotary Club of Newlands

*The Club that Appeals*



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

## COMMENT: OPENING NEW OPPORTUNITIES (Geraldine Nicol)

*"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times"*. wrote Charles Dickens about the disruptive state of England in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century.

For some, those words still ring true today. Some will look at the *"the worst of times"* and easily identify COVID and the failing economy, as being clear evidence that we are living in the some of the worst of times, as some flail around wondering how to deal with both these challenges.

But, fortunately life always gives us choices. We can choose to view our lives now as either the best or the worst of times, as the glass of life being either half full or half empty. As Rotarians, most of us have been privileged to live our lives in the best of times, in the best of ways. Let's take a look at the opportunities we have ahead of us, as members of this positive, focused, worldwide organisation called Rotary, and take stock and realise that our very own organization, Rotary International, is standing at the very cusp of new beginnings; at the cusp of *"the best of times!"* for our very own organisation.

July 1<sup>st</sup> in the world of Rotary is the time for change; changeover from one leader to the next, from the youngest Early Act Club to the President of Rotary International himself. How wonderful to see the informality of our new Rotary International President in various photo shoots, sitting in his jeans on the steps of his family home, or indulging in the fun of laughing uproariously while rowing a small boat with his wife, every time reminding us, in words and deeds and images, that one of the many joys we find in being members of Rotary is that, along with service, fellowship and commitment, we are also privileged to find that Rotary opens the opportunity to have fun with like-minded others, whether currently limited to around the virtual zoom screen, or in memories past or planned future times not limited by masks and social distancing! That's a great lead from our new leader. AND he brings with that message of fun two significant, hugely positive changes and opens two new opportunities within Rotary.

On 26<sup>th</sup> June 2020 a momentous change occurred in Rotary International. After thirty years of discussion, Rotary finally added *"Supporting the Environment"* as its 7<sup>th</sup> Areas of Focus.



How wonderful to hear the shouts of joy around the world as Rotarians celebrated this news in a world where the waves of change are amplified by the diagram alongside and we are now able to also focus on the vital importance of climate change and environmentally sustainable issues. The timing couldn't be better as COVID reminds us to stand up and be counted in taking action on issues environmental!

The other momentous change was the realisation that our Rotaractors in the age group 18-30 who have always been able to vote, to drive, to run their own businesses, belong as equal partners with Rotarians. They are now no longer linked to Youth Services, with Interactors and Early Actors but take their rightful place as equal partners with Rotarians.

So! Major changes within Rotary and as part of our Newlands Club's ongoing Strategic planning we all need to assess just how effectively we can now incorporate these significant changes into our own club's planning and activities and projects.

Finally to end on an environmentally-fun-note, celebrate these new RI changes along with one of Newrots' favourite friends, Koos Burger. He had tremendous fun creating a smarter, greener way to celebrate his new Presidency of Cape of Good Hope and, fortuitously, this tied in perfectly with the launch of Environment as RI's 7<sup>th</sup> Area of Focus. Enjoy [this drone footage of a new world-first fynbos based Rotary Mandala](#), all of 36 metres in diameter, made by Koos himself!!

Let's plan some more fun for our club when COVID allows us to visit Koos and his new creation in person.

## MINUTES of the PARTNERS (ZOOM) MEETING, 6<sup>TH</sup> July 2020, 18h15

*Scribe: Shân Biesman-Simons*

**Sergeant Wybe** called the first meeting of the 2020/2021 Rotary year to order.

**President Jenny** welcomed our new members **Lisa Lombard** and **Michelle Roos**, special guest **Jeremy Opperman** and our wonderful **partners**.

**Andy** lit the peace candle. **President Jenny** said this candle would be lit at the beginning of each meeting and she shared this quote from **Ralph Waldo Emerson** '*Nobody can bring you peace but yourself*'.

**Melinda** recited the he Four-Way Test.

**John S** did the Grace and Toast and read a grace originated by **Mother Teresa** and we toasted Rotary International and all Rotarians.

**IPP Terry** relinquished his custodianship of the wooden spoon to **Janey** for 'doing her bit'.

There was some discussion about the Wine Swindle and **Graham L** offered to do virtual raffles and winners will receive their wine when feasible.

#### **GUEST SPEAKER: JOHN WINSHIP**

**Graham F** 'introduced' **John** to those listening and **Graham** shared that he first met **John** as a fellow resident of Smuts Hall, UCT, in 1975. They re-met decades later at a Newlands Rotary meeting and together have worked on numerous club projects.

**John's** topic was Costa Rica and our thanks go to **Melinda** for pressurising him to share some of the experiences he and **Lorraine** had on their holiday in this beautiful country. John gave us a thorough and outstanding talk which included geographic, geological historical, agricultural, economic, ecological, environmental and cultural thoughts and facts. John's magnificent photographs helped us appreciate their travels in this informative presentation.

*(Scribe's note: I was so enthralled that my minute taking was temporarily forgotten! Apologies but here are a few facts about Costa Rica and this talk has confirmed that Costa Rica should stay on my travel bucket list.)*

- Central American country surrounded by the Caribbean and Pacific
- Occupied since the 1600's (by the Spanish) and became independent in 1821
- Economic activities include agriculture, finance, pharmaceuticals and eco-tourism
- Volcanic mountainous section through country. Active volcano rises to 2700 m
- Beaches are volcanic, water exquisite and sunsets magnificent
- 25% of the country is a protected jungle and National Park
- 850 species of birds including 54 species of hummingbirds
- Catholic influence
- Breakfast, lunches and dinners all consist of a rice, bean and veggie/salad dish and fried plantain is often served.

After numerous questions **Tony** thanked **John** for sharing their memories in this travelogue and suggested that **John** join the Costa Rican tourist board!

#### **SPOTS**

**Glynis** shared her fund-raising idea that arose from last week's request, from an English Rotarian, for home hosting when the British & Irish Lions are in Cape Town July 2021. Newlands Rotarians are aware that our normal income streams are likely to result in less project funding income so other ways of raising money are needed. Her idea is that Newlands Rotary Club hosts a rugby dinner in the Kelvin Ballroom and that well known rugby personalities are asked to participate in the evening's proceedings. **Glynis** has made a tentative booking and is looking for help, connections and enlisting of local entrepreneurs to produce appropriate gifts etc

**Jan Kaars** shared that Covid-19 had impacted the potential Satellite Club's activities but they do have a mission to ensure that every child in Prince Albert attends an ECD facility. Most of the local community is extremely poor so school fees cannot be paid which means alternative funding needs

to be found for salaries for staff at 4 ECD centres. Jan Kaars is hoping for good news about funding from Holland.

**Melinda** told us that the Rotary Club of Rosebank (Johannesburg) had invited us to take part in a Zoom General Knowledge Quiz challenge. This will be on a Wednesday evening from 7:00 pm-8:00 pm. Those interested please contact **Melinda**.

#### **PRESIDENT JENNY'S SLOT**

- Thanked **John W** for his fascinating presentation and informed us that Costa Rica is one of three countries in the world that has a Minister of Peace. Peace and conflict prevention/resolution is one of Rotary's areas of focus;
- Shared information about The Four-Way Test (for new and potential members and if it is to be changed there is a process involved);
- Encouraged Newlands Rotarians to attend upcoming presidential inductions;
- Thanked **Janey** for the new format Howzat! and reminded Newrots that they are all going to be journalists;
- Asked all to support **Glynis** with her fundraising initiative;
- Informed us that Rotary Foundation will start accepting applications for environmental grants from July 2021;
- Spoke about 'attending' the Mount Martha Rotary Club (Australia) induction with **Geraldine**. Outgoing **President Peter Rawlings** gifted Newlands Rotary \$300 (Australian currency);
- Told us Newlands Rotary Club business meetings are scheduled for the fourth Monday of each month;
- Encouraged members to join quiz fellowship evening with Rosebank and to let **Melinda** know if they want to participate;
- Wished Johan well for his upcoming surgery;
- Mentioned that there were no anniversaries or birthdays this week.

#### **HAPPY RANDS**

Quiet evening for our treasurer! **Jan Kaars** promised to boost the kitty if funds are received from the Dutch donor.

#### **MEETING CLOSURE**

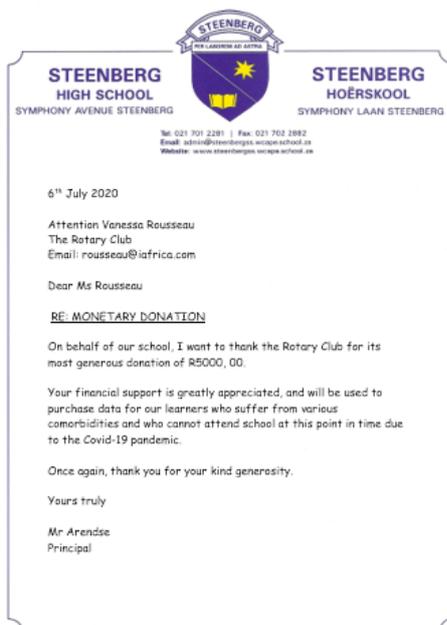
**Sergeant Wybe** closed the meeting after reading out the duties for next week.

## NEWLANDS ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Word from our roving reporters, first, IPP Terry Lancaster:

*“On Friday (3 July) my wife Jenny and I visited Die Eiland Huis in St Helena Bay and delivered two wheelchairs kindly donated by the Rotary Club of Melkbos together with PPE consisting of masks, gloves and sanitiser which were donated by the Rotary Club of Newlands. It was a very heart-warming visit as the staff of the home are such caring people and really appreciated what we had delivered to them. I have attached their thank you card and would like to thank the Rotary Club of Melkbos for their contribution of the wheelchairs that are for Leah Stander (9) and Irvin Boois (15). I was asked not to take photos of them but I hope that we are sent a photo in due course. This was a day well spent and for me this is what Rotary is all about.”*

Then, from Vanessa Rousseau, a letter of thanks from Steenberg High School Principal, Mr Arendse, as well as some background to the letter:



*With the closure of schools, we needed to find ways to support our Interact schools.*

*The teachers in charge of the Interact clubs alerted us to the lack of data that has been a major obstacle to some learners in accessing online academic resources.*

*We were able to donate R5000 each to Steenberg, Malibu and Groote Schuur High Schools from the Youth Services budget.*

*The distribution of the data has been managed by the teachers who are aware of which learners in particular have been struggling to access these resources, including those learners who not able to return to school due to medical issues.*

## MORE ROTARY NEWS

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Have you heard of Evan Burrell? If you haven't, look out for this online Sydney-based Rotary star. He's been posting compelling content for a few years now, none more so than this amplified Four-Way Test:

<b>ROTARY FOUR-WAY TEST</b> Four Questions – 24 words	
<b>Rotary Four-Way Test</b> <i>The Unique Step-by-Step Process</i>	<b>Process to Achieve Desired Outcomes that are Ethical, Fair and Beneficial to All</b>
<b>Is it the TRUTH?</b> <i>Clarity, Transparency</i> <i>Fact checking</i> <i>Ethical Behavior</i>	That we do our homework to collect information and to apply critical thinking by asking questions to know the difference between facts, beliefs, assumptions and opinions as well as know what we don't know.
<b>Is it FAIR to all concerned?</b> <i>Inclusion, Empathy</i> <i>Acceptance, Belonging,</i> <i>Accountable</i>	That we use empathy to be see other points-of-view in the context of the problems to be solved and the goals to be reached
<b>Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?</b> <i>Trust</i> <i>Do Good, Feel Good,</i> <i>Have Fun.</i>	That the process is civil, and there's a feeling of respect and openness to ask the "dumb" question that can lead to creative and innovative answers. Also people preferred to work with people they like, respect and trust.
<b>Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?</b> <i>What-If scenarios, Trade-offs</i> <i>Being Creative and</i> <i>Innovative</i> <i>Better Decision-Making</i>	That these are the conflict transformative answers and decisions that can lead to mutually satisfying solutions that are sustainable and scalable. This can be an iterative process as we learn more from doing and continuously improve with time.

You can follow this Gen Y Rotarian on Facebook, [here](#). And be prepared: Evan tells it likes he sees it, with occasional irreverence, but he has fine Rotary insight and a wonderful take on how Rotary looks, going forward.

## FUTURE FIXTURES *(Online, for the time being.)*

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### JULY

- 13 Ordinary Meeting  
*Speaker: Dr Rudi Kimmie, CEO, "TSIBA Education - Navigating change; building sustainability".*
- 18 District Rotaract Conference
- 20 Ordinary Meeting
- 22 Board Meeting
- 27 Business Meeting

**AUGUST: Membership and Extension Month**

3	Partners' Meeting
10	No Meeting (Public Holiday, Women's Day)
17	Ordinary Meeting
19	Board Meeting
24	Business Meeting
31	Ordinary Meeting

**UMPIRES and SCORERS**

	13 July 2020 <i>Ordinary</i>	20 July 2020 <i>Ordinary</i>	27 July 2020 Business
Sergeant	Jeannine Ibbotson	Richard House	Heidi Andersson
Four-Way Test	Andy Ismay	Michael Walwyn	Wendy Goddard
Grace and Loyal Toast	Pieter van Aswegen	Terry Lancaster	Geraldine Nicol
Attendance			
Fellowship			
Minutes	Peter Ennis	Henry Campbell	Glynis Menné-Hart
Intro speaker	Shelley Finch	Ian Pursch	
Thank speaker	Chris Beech	Vanessa Rousseau	
Comment	Graham Lowden	Graham Finlayson	Bill Holland

*If you cannot make your duty, please arrange a substitute and let the Sergeant know. Beforehand. Please. Thank you.*



<b>BIRTHDAYS</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> July	Wybe Meinesz
	16 <sup>th</sup> July	Lew Botha
		Roy Zazeraj
	19 <sup>th</sup> July	Henry Campbell
	20 <sup>th</sup> July	Terry Lancaster
<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> July	Jan and Anna Marie Kaars-Sijpestijn 29 <sup>th</sup> June was in Holland, 13 <sup>th</sup> July in SA 😊
<b>JOINED ROTARY</b>		
<b>WOODEN SPOON</b>		Janey Ball

## CLUB OFFICE BEARERS

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**President**  
Jenny Ibbotson



**Past President**  
Terry Lancaster



**Treasurer**  
Peter Ennis



**Secretary**  
Janey Ball



**Club Services**  
Heidi Andersson



**Youth Service**  
Wendy Goddard



**International Service**  
Shân Biesman-Simons



**Entrepreneurship**  
John Stephenson



**Environment Chair**  
Tony Davidson



**ECD Project**  
Geraldine Nicol



**Vocational Service**  
Jeannine Ibbotson



**Foundation Chair**  
Mike Walwyn



**Community Services**  
Waha Maina



Vanessa Rosseau



Graham Finlayson



Shelley Finch

----- **Membership & Publicity Cluster** -----

## AND the LAST WORD .....

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You read the focus feature in *Howzat!* last week? Yes? Of course you did. And keeping focus on the cause, our environmental champion, Lew Botha, has offered the loan to club members of his environmental DVDs, “*An Inconvenient Truth*”, Al Gore’s follow-up “*An inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power*” and James Balog’s “*Chasing Ice*”. Contact Lew to arrange collection. And for those sans DVD player, [here’s Al Gore](#) on TED with his talk, “Countdown”.

Newrots who were able to attend the induction dinner of the E-Club of Greater Cape Town, the first E-Club in our District (chartered by Newlands, nog), enjoyed a treat of an evening. Not surprisingly, the E-Club excels at ‘things online’ and a fine job host, PDG Lynette did, too.

And what a bonus to enjoy Foundation Trustee, Brenda Cressy’s, address. Brenda brings energy and vision to her role and we’re fortunate that she is a fond ambassador of our District. Brenda spoke of Rotary’s new [Diversity, Vision and Inclusion statement](#) and, really, you so have to read this. She also reminded us that, by 2023, Rotary will introduce women into 30 of its leadership positions.

There was more. Much more. But, as tends to happen, there’s too much upon which to report. And the Ed has miles to go before she sleeps. And there are promises to keep.

See you on the moro....

LOOKING FOR MEMBERS’ CONTACT INFORMATION ?

Download the ClubRunner App from the [Playstore](#) or the [AppStore](#).

And if you’ve lost your login details, send wine to the Secretary or WhatsApp +27 82 378 7800.