



# 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: A CALL DOWN MEMORY LANE (Lew Botha)

A recent two-hour Zoom meeting that I attended with twelve other people made me think like no other such meeting had done before. The thing that struck me was that the thirteen people in that meeting had simultaneously and individually been present in six continents, the sub-continent of India and in the Pacific Islands - but had all been able to see each other (moving and in full colour) and speak with each other (sometimes at the same time!) whilst all sitting in the comfort of their homes.

To some of the younger folk reading this, their reaction may well be, "So what?" But, as I said, this meeting made me think - of just how dramatically telecommunications and visual communications have changed in my lifetime.

I spent my formative years in the late 1940s and early 1950s in Port Elizabeth. In those days you were able to contact other telephone subscribers in Port Elizabeth by merely dialling their number. However, if you wanted to contact someone outside of Port Elizabeth - even in a neighbouring town such as Uitenhage, or further afield, you would have to dial the telephone "exchange" and book a "trunk call" with the operator to the number in that neighbouring town. You would then wait (sometimes for several minutes or hours - particularly for overseas calls, depending upon how busy the lines were) before the exchange operator returned your call and connected you to the desired number *via* the exchange operator in the other town or city. You were charged in terms of the number of three-minute segments of time that you used for your call. The call was often interrupted by the exchange operator asking, "Do you want another three minutes?" - and the call would be terminated or extended according to your answer.

At that time, and for some time thereafter, farmers and folk in rural communities were connected by telephone "party lines". This meant that they were all on the same telephone line and were each allotted a call signal (a variation of rings on the line - such as two long rings and a short ring) to indicate that the incoming call was for them. Everybody on that line heard each and every call signal that was made on that line. They were supposed to answer their own call signal only - but there was always a chance that someone else may pick up on your call - and be listening in on your

conversation!! This system was all controlled by a local telephone exchange. If you wanted to make a call, you would have to turn a handle on the telephone to alert the operator that you wanted to place a call and then lift the handpiece to speak. The operator would respond by asking, "Number please!" or "Nommer asseblief!" You would then provide the number concerned and be "put through" to that number by the operator when the person on the other end answered their particular call signal. To signal the end of your call, you would replace the handpiece and turn the handle briefly to indicate to the operator that you had finished your call. I experienced this party line system when my family visited relatives on farms in the Karroo.

When I studied law and served my articles of clerkship in Grahamstown for five years in the mid-1960s, the telephone system there moved slowly from a manual exchange system to an automated dial-up system as used in Port Elizabeth. The dial-up system then became the norm for most of South Africa.

The first mobile telephones that I can recall were those made for use in motor cars. This was during the 1970s and early 1980s. They were rather chunky, heavy and cumbersome contraptions. I did not acquire one but, as far as I can recall, they needed special transmitters and aerials to be installed in motor cars that were not really designed to accommodate them. They were not widely used.

The 1980s also saw the dawn of a new era with independent and hand-held mobile telephones (the precursors of what we use today) taking over a large slice of the communications systems and markets. Whilst these original mobiles had limited capacity and provided voice-only facilities, this soon changed with the introduction of texting abilities. The application of a host of other abilities and capacities such as still and moving photography, internet access, video calls, banking and the like for mobiles grew exponentially with similar and simultaneous developments in the computer and other communications fields. Their sophistication has developed to the extent that many folk no longer need or use landline-based dial-up telephones.

These simultaneous developments have resulted in the creation of extraordinary and almost magical telecommunications and visual communications systems such as WhatsApp, Skype and Zoom which enable people around the world to communicate with each other on a scale and in manner such as those that I described at the start of this Comment. Just about whatever can be done by laptop or other computers can now also be done by high-powered mini-computers merely held in the palms of our hands!

I must say that I feel blessed to have lived through and experienced these developments and, in doing so, I can really appreciate just how fortunate we all are to have these communication systems available to us in this time of international lockdown during the COVID pandemic. Count your blessings!!

## MINUTES of the BUSINESS MEETING on ZOOM, 24th August 2020, 18h15,

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*Scribe: Andy Ismay*

**Sergeant Rochelle** opened the meeting and asked Andy to light the peace candle which was followed by Henry who read a peace quote from the late and great Jimi Hendrix.

**President Jenny** then welcomed our special guest Jeremy Opperman

**The Object of Rotary** was said by **Chris Beech** ilo John S who had a tech problem with his audio.

Similarly **Brian** helped out **Michelle** with the **Grace and Toast**; she also had the same challenge.

**Wooden Spoon** : **Glynis** had chosen a worthy recipient who was not present so she asked if it could be postponed till the next week.

**President Jenny** started the **Business Meeting** and asked **Vanessa** of our **Membership & PR Cluster** to present her report as follows:-

- The Cluster has decided to form a joint task team of Newlands Rotarians and Khayelitsha Rotaractors with the objectives to bring Newrots and Rotaractors closer to one another, to better understand and learn from each other.
- Vanessa said that It is key that we see and treat Rotaractors as Young Rotarians so that they can stand alone on projects, both large and small, as well as continue to work with us.
- In addition the task team is organising a training and entrepreneurship workshop/s for the Rotaractors.
- She reminded us that our closest partners are our Rotaractors and asked for volunteers to join the task team.

**Tony D** our doctor of **the Environment** was up next to tell us about his committee's decision to partner with an NGO/Social Enterprise called **Relate** (go to [www.relate.org.za](http://www.relate.org.za)). And why?.....

- Relate uses innovative and high impact ways to support environmental, entrepreneurial and educational projects to both protect the environment and change the lives of young and old in needy communities.
- Relate is aligned with Rotary's ideals.
- Rotary (Newlands and other clubs) have the opportunity to partner with Relate more than ever now that we have the 7<sup>th</sup> Area of Focus – The Environment and Sustainability – hence Global Grants are now available for this.
- NGO's have been hard hit by COVID 19 – they need our help.
- To support worthy projects in the focus areas through Rotary buying bracelets to raise funds for Relate to distribute and to increase awareness of these initiatives.
- The funds raised are split one third each for the beneficiary of each campaign, the employees who manufacture the bracelets and to fund the operational and mentoring costs.
- Tony recommends that the Newlands Safe Water Project can also be a "Relate Project".
- Over R60 million has already been distributed by Relate – see the website for clarification.
- Finally Tony invited Newrots to join his committee.

**Wybe** then stepped up to the podium and gave us a **Community Services** report about the return of **The President's Challenge** and its policy and procedures to give individual members the opportunity to champion small (approximately R5,000) but worthy causes that might go unnoticed otherwise. Wybe briefly listed some of the criteria to be used to accept each proposal supplied by a member and will be circulating the **application form** once finalised.

**Wendy** our **Director of Youth Services** followed Wybe with a report on another new and very worthwhile programme for **Interact Clubs**, called School Toastmasters Showcase – I think??

- Wendy attended the Interact Club's programme at COSAT (Centre of Science and Technology) School and was not only very impressed with the speech presentations but also with the choice of topics which were both relevant and challenging.
- Wendy informed us that there is an agreement between the Toastmasters Clubs and Rotary with the purpose of sharing their speaking programmes and she proposed that we should spread these via other Rotary Clubs in District. She added that this training should also benefit young entrepreneurs, especially regarding the pitching of their businesses.

The final report was from Sergeant **Rochelle**, Route Convenor of the **Cape Town Marathon**. Although the race has been cancelled for 2020 there will be a "Virtual Marathon" in which we could participate as individuals as a fun challenge for the club. She explained that entrants on the day from all over the world will walk or run their own routes for three alternative races, (5km, half marathon and full marathon). Somehow using magic, cell phone apps and videos it will show participants where they would have been at any specific time on the Cape Town Routes using CT landmarks – I think!! More dates and details to follow.

**President Jenny** thanked the speakers for their reports and opened the floor to questions. These were answered accordingly.

**Spots:** Shelley announced that there has been an official announcement that Africa was Wild Polio Free. She would post this on Facebook and asked us all to Share and Like It.

#### **President's Slot:**

- President Jenny suggested that we all should start to think about how and where we should start socialising face-to-face again – perhaps an outdoor venue – WPCC or Glencairn Camp and asked for suggestions. Jenny added that she expected guidelines on 12 September regarding protocols for face to face meetings. She also asked us by show of hands who would be comfortable about doing this?
- Thanked **Ian** for his comment in *Howzat!*, viz his reminder about Service Above Self.
- Reminded members to please consider volunteering to Mentor and speak to John S.
- So pleased that Tony and his team have kicked off some excellent environmental projects
- Received an e-mail from John Edde of Beirut Metropolitan Rotary Club requesting donations of powdered milk for babies and young children who have been affected by the recent unrest in Lebanon. Jenny to share his letter. Any contacts please. (*From Scribe:* John visited us some years back and donated a coffee machine.)

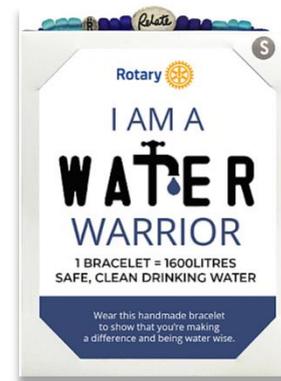
**Sergeant's Slot:** Happy Rands from the Sergeant herself who announced the special news that she is expecting a baby boy which resulted in waving hands and cheers from all. Rochelle announced the duties for next week and closed the meeting.

## NEWLANDS ROTARY CLUB NEWS

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Our club environmental champion, Tony Davidson, asks that you:

*“Please watch out for an email that requires your attention about the Relate presentation I did at last week’s business meeting. We need to take the next step and choose the projects we feel are most deserving to support. Relate has a broad portfolio of 18 wildlife and environmental projects. We can choose eight projects to celebrate and publicise Rotary’s new 7<sup>th</sup> Area of Focus, Supporting the Environment. The top eight projects chosen by Newrots will then be funded through the sale of two unique Rotary-associated bracelets: Rotary SafeWater and Rotary Youth Camp, Cape Town. The deadline for returns is Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September. We will launch the campaign on 1 October.”*



*Relate Safe Water Bracelet*

## MORE ROTARY NEWS

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The updated District Handbook and Directory 2020-21 is now available on the [District Website](#), and a jolly useful reference it is, too. Download your copy from the **District Service Centre** tab. And be prepared ..... you’ll need your ClubRunner password. (If you don’t have this to hand, [click this link](#). Your password will be reset and a new one will wing its way back to you, pronto. Well, fairly pronto.)

## SPECIAL ROTARY FEATURE: FELLOWSHIPS

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So, what do Bird Watching, Bathhouses, Beards and Moustaches, Beer and Bowling have in common? (No, it’s not the initial letter ‘B’.)

These are the names of Rotarian Fellowships, which are international groups of Rotary members who share a common passion. Being part of a fellowship is a fun way to make friends around the world, explore a hobby or profession, and enhance your Rotary experience. You can learn more about joining fellowships, or forming a new one, [here](#).

You can also make your contribution to saving the wine industry by joining the local *Rotarian Wine Quaffers Fellowship*. Click [here](#) to send an email to convenor, PP Joké Young.

And then there's *HikeFOR*, an active hiking club, with members ranging from Paarl to Claremont. *HikeFOR* meets on the third Sunday of every month for some walking exercise. Members usually split into two groups - those who like to walk and those who prefer a more strenuous hike – so there is something for everyone. This is followed by lunch at a local restaurant where the fellowship is always most enjoyable. Annual membership is a nominal R70 per family, and Rotarians and non-Rotarians are welcome.

For further information, email Chair, [Nigel Lambert](#) or phone 082 708 3280.

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

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### *AUGUST - MEMBERSHIP and EXTENSION MONTH*

- 31 Ordinary Meeting  
 Speaker: Styli Charalambous, CEO and Publisher of The Daily Maverick  
*"Five reasons the news industry is in trouble. And how to fix it."*

### *SEPTEMBER - BASIC EDUCATION and LITERACY MONTH*

- 5 District Membership Webinar (10am): *"Building New Clubs Together"*  
 7 Partners' Meeting  
 Speaker: Koos Burger *"Glencairn Camp Restoration Project"*  
 14 Ordinary Meeting  
 Speaker: Terry Lancaster, *"The Croak File"*  
 16 Board Meeting  
 19 District Membership Webinar (10am): *"Diversity (Equity and Inclusion)"*  
 21 Ordinary Meeting  
 Speaker: Lauren Gillis and Neil Robinson  
*"Relate and its Impact, and the 7<sup>th</sup> Area of Focus Campaign"*

### *OCTOBER - ECONOMIC and COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT*

- 19 DG Carl-Heinz Duisberg's Visit

## UMPIRES and SCORERS

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	31 August 2020 <i>Ordinary</i>	7 September 2020 <i>Partners</i>	14 September 2020 <i>Ordinary</i>
Sergeant	Wendy Goddard	Richard Burnett	Graham Lowden
Four-Way Test	Chris Beech	Richard House	Tinus de Jongh
Grace and Loyal Toast	Shân Biesman-Simons	Graham Finlayson	Henry Campbell
Attendance			
Fellowship			
Minutes	Johan Beukman	Terry Lancaster	Pieter van Aswegen
Intro speaker	Geraldine Nicol	Tony Davidson	Brian Pickup
Thank speaker	Michael Walwyn	Heidi Andersson	Melinda Stapleton
Comment	Glynis Menné-Hart	Peter Ennis	John Stephenson

*If you cannot make this duty please arrange a substitute and let the Sergeant know.*



<b>BIRTHDAYS</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Jan Kaars-Sijpesteijn
	4 <sup>th</sup> September	Tony Davidson
	7 <sup>th</sup> September	Lynne Finlayson
<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b>		
<b>JOINED ROTARY</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2004	Ian Pursch
	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2005	John Winship
	3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2007	Dottie Leveque
	3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2007	Glynis Menné-Hart
<b>WOODEN SPOON</b>		Glynis Menné-Hart

## CLUB OFFICE BEARERS

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**President**  
Jenny Ibbotson



**Past President**  
Terry Lancaster



**Treasurer**  
Peter Ennis



**Secretary**  
Janey Ball



**Environment Chair**  
Tony Davidson



**ECD Project**  
Geraldine Nicol



**Vocational Service**  
Jeannine Ibbotson



**Foundation Chair**  
Mike Walwyn



**Club Services**  
Heidi Andersson



**Youth Service**  
Wendy Goddard



**International Service**  
Shân Biesman-Simons



**Entrepreneurship**  
John Stephenson



**Community Services**  
Wybe Meinesz



Vanessa Rosseau



Graham Finlayson



Shelley Finch

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



## AND the LAST WORD .....

Most of the above was food for thought but there is also food for tummies, right.

Since this is the last time you'll spot our club caterers' menu in *Howzat!* best make sure you get onto Julia and Jenny's email or WhatsApp lists, this week, yes?

See you on the moro....



TO ORDER: WhatsApp Julia on 082 447 8748 before 18:00 for next day delivery (include address)  
Free Delivery within 5km of WPCG | R30 per delivery >5km or <R100



## Eat at Home Fresh Daily Meals

WEEK 17 | 31 August - 4 September 2020

	300g	500g	1kg
<b>Monday</b>			
1. Thai Chicken Curry & Rice	R 55	R 95	R 180
2. Creamy Chicken Pasta Bake	R 55	R 95	R 180
3. Veg Thai Vegetable Curry & Rice	R 55	R 95	R 180
<b>Tuesday</b>			
4. Beef Lasagne	R 55	R 95	R 180
5. Grilled Chicken Fillets + Sweet Potato & Roasted Veg	R 55	R 95	R 180
6. Veg Roasted Vegetable Lasagne	R 55	R 95	R 180
<b>Wednesday</b>			
7. *Beef Bourguignon	R 90	R 190	R 280
8. Chicken & Mushroom Risotto	R 55	R 95	R 180
9. Veg Mushroom Risotto	R 55	R 95	R 180
<b>Thursday</b>			
10. Sweet & Sour Pork on a Bed of Noodles	R 55	R 95	R 180
11. Veg Sweet & Sour Vegetables on a Bed of Noodles	R 55	R 95	R 180
<b>Friday</b>			
12. Baked Fish with Creamy Lemon Sauce	R 55	R 95	R 180
13. Mexican Chicken Whop	R 55	R 95	R 180
14. Veg Mexican Chickpea Whop	R 55	R 95	R 180

Microwave Safe | Remove Lid | \*Premium Option  
Menu is subject to availability of fresh ingredients