



# 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: ROTARY’S ROLE in PROMOTING PEACE (Vanessa Rousseau)

**As a humanitarian organization, peace is a cornerstone of the Rotary mission and one of our key areas of focus.** We believe when people work to create peace in their communities, that change can have a global effect.

By carrying out service projects and supporting peace fellowships and scholarships, our members take action to address the underlying causes of conflict, including poverty, discrimination, ethnic tension, lack of access to education, and unequal distribution of resources.

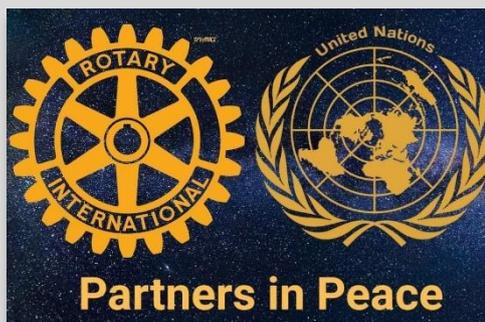
Rotary and its members are:

**Practitioners:** Our work fighting disease, providing clean water and sanitation, improving the health of mothers and children, supporting education, and growing local economies directly builds the optimal conditions for peaceful societies.

**Educators:** Our Rotary Peace Centers have trained over 1,300 peace fellows to become effective catalysts for peace through careers in government, education, and international organizations.

**Mediators:** Our members have negotiated humanitarian ceasefires in areas of conflict to allow polio vaccinators to reach children who are at risk.

**Advocates:** Our members have an integral role as respected, impartial participants during peace processes and in post-conflict reconstruction. We focus on creating communities and convening groups that are connected, inclusive, and resilient.



**On 21 September we celebrated the International Day of Peace**, which was established in 1981 by the UN General Assembly to commemorate and strengthen the ideals of peace among all nations and peoples. This year's theme is **Shaping Peace Together**.

The United Nations invites all nations to commemorate Peace through education and public awareness on issues related to peace. To celebrate the day, the world is invited to **spread compassion, kindness and hope in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic**.

*"Above all let us always be kind to one another. Peace starts with each one of us and spreads one person at a time – from the individual to the family – from the family to the community – from the community outwards like ripples that can change the world."*  
**Jenny Ibbotson: President of the Rotary Club of Newlands 2020/2021**

*References:*

<https://www.rotary.org/en/our-causes/promoting-peace>

<https://sdg.iisd.org/events/international-day-of-peace-2020/>

## MINUTES of the ORDINARY MEETING on ZOOM (20<sup>th</sup> September 2020; 18h15)

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*Scribe: Jeannine Ibbotson*

Acting President Terry Lancaster opened the International Peace Day meeting on behalf of President Jenny Ibbotson, and welcomed the Guests, Lauren Gillis and Neil Robinson from Relate, as well as special guests Johan Taljaard and Jeremy Opperman. Acting President Terry also shared that Jana is feeling much better and sends thanks to everyone who has been sending good wishes

The meeting was then opened by Sergeant Mike Walwyn.

The Four-Way Test was recited by Bill Holland and The Grace and Toast was proposed by Janey Ball. The Peace Candle was lit by the scribe and the peace words were spoken by Wybe Meinesz who shared an appropriate quote by Jimmy Hendrix about the power of love.

The Wooden Spoon had been with Jana and was held by her for another week - she said it was a miracle that she was with us tonight and would like to keep stirring for a while! A sentiment echoed by all concerned.

The scribe won the wine raffle. It is claimed that there was no foul play.

Vanessa Rousseau introduced our speakers, Lauren Gillis, the founder of *Relate* and Neil, the CEO.

Lauren who has been awarded a Paul Harris, has always been passionate about lessening the divide between the “haves” and the “have nots” – she thrives on creating jobs for the underprivileged. Neil Robinson joined in 2014 to make the brand global and brought considerable business experience and acumen to the table. Non-profit work has always been a passion of his.

Lauren made the following points:

- “There will always be inequality but it is inequality of opportunity that keeps her awake. The *Relate* story started when she noticed bracelets being sold for causes and wondered about the impact it would make if the bracelets were hand made. Nando’s placed the first order - for 6,000 bracelets and it was agreed that some of the money be used to feed children. Her domestic worker came on board to help Lauren figure out how to deliver and is now completing a degree in social work. Other campaigns have generated donations of over R20m for malaria.
- Lots of little can make such a difference - one little bracelet at a time. People can contribute. We can give the most unskilled, vulnerable, unemployed people a chance to earn. It’s not a bracelet, it’s about selling an opportunity, a feeling and a chance to be part of change.”

Lauren made the following concluding comments:

- “Our model is like crowd-funding but with a difference. it’s not just asking for a donation. People get something in return to remember what they were involved in and corporates can engage with their customers.
- With sufficiency (in our lives) comes a huge responsibility. I feel a higher power has guided me. I have dedicated my life to making sure that people have enough.”

She mentioned *Relate* has been involved in many campaigns with organisations like Rotary.

Lauren then handed over to Neil.

Neil :

- “*Relate* has focused on what makes us successful – partnerships and collaboration. Supply chain and distribution are important but a key issue for global brand success is consistency.
- One of the major reasons I joined *Relate* is that we operate to make as much money as possible so that we can give as much as possible away.
- To (their many) partners it was important to make sure the product was correct and we had to drive the sales by giving margin – value chain benefit to everyone along the chain. Everyone in the chain got opportunities, profit, staff got a chance to develop themselves.
- *Relate* has raised R65m but its more about what the benefits are along the way.... can we put a few hundred rand into a pensioners back pocket which doesn’t sound like a lot but is good percentage wise (compared to unacceptable R1800 they get).
- Every last cent we raise is accounted for.
- We’re in the business of giving the man in the street a chance to make a contribution, not about large donations. People have an innate ability to connect and the bracelet has a symbolism for connection.”

Lauren: "Illness has an "I" in the beginning and "wellness" has a "we" in the beginning"

Neil: "Getting the buy-in of partners is more challenging than logistics. Our work with Rotary should make a key impact in the next year. Packaging an umbrella brand helps us to have a number of different charities within one brand - we cover people and animals."

Mike Walwyn mentioned that he could talk offline to Neil re logistics due to his connections with the international logistics association.

Shân Biesman-Simons thanked the speakers adding that "it is incredible that this organisation has made such an impact - I'm going to hold onto lots of little makes a big impact."

In closing, Terry reminded the club that every bit that we raise adds to the COVID amount and commented that Lauren richly deserved the Paul Harris.

Shelley is asking for volunteers to bake cakes or help on the Family Health Day when RCN plans to recognise nursing staff.

No birthdays or anniversaries.

Mike closed the meeting and reminded us that the duties for next week are in *Howzat!*.

Happy Rands:

- Nora for the dream of travelling again
- Richard not having to see his cardiologist for a year
- Jeannine for the wonderful talk
- Tony for the fact that *Relate* joined us.

## NEWLANDS ROTARY CLUB NEWS

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Build teams to  
empower your  
districts and clubs



Picture: D 9350's ES Committee organized a climate crisis conference. D 9530 spans parts of three nations in Southern Africa

Two of our Newlands Rotarians, as well as our Glencairn Youth Camps friend, Koos Burger, featured on the front page of this month's Environmental Sustainability Rotarian Action Group (ESRAG) Newsletter. Click the pic, left, to read the newsletter online.

By the way, at eighteen, this RAG must hold the record for 'most syllables in a Rotary name'.

Oh... and heads-up ..... this is the last time your Ed is writing Environmental Sustainability Rotarian Action Group in full.

## MORE ROTARY NEWS

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# CELEBRATE ROTARY ALUMNI!

## RECONNECT WEEK 5-11 OCTOBER, 2020

During this celebration, Rotary invites former Rotaractors, Interactors, Rotary Peace Fellows, Rotary Scholars, Youth Exchange students, and other Rotary program alumni to renew their connection to Rotary. Past program participants who have lost their active connection to Rotary can refresh their ties by visiting club meetings, helping with projects, and engaging online. By doing so, they can experience again how Rotary reshapes lives locally and globally.

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

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#### SEPTEMBER - BASIC EDUCATION and LITERACY MONTH

28 Business Meeting

#### OCTOBER - ECONOMIC and COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

5 Partners Meeting  
Speaker, June Webber: *"Kicking Polio Out of Africa"*

13 Board Meeting (TBC)

14 NSRI Wine Auction

19 DG Carl-Heinz Duisberg's Visit

24 D9350 [Mini-Conference](#)  
[World Polio Day](#)

26 Business Meeting

### UMPIRES and SCORERS

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	28 September 2020	5 October 2020	12 October 2020
	Business	Partners	Ordinary
Sergeant	Graham Finlayson	Ian Pursch	Lew Botha
Four-Way Test	Terry Lancaster	Michelle Roos	Richard Burnett
Grace and Loyal Toast	Tony van der Lith	Lisa Lombard	Heidi Andersson
Peace Quote/Comment	Wybe Meinesz	Pieter van Aswegen	Jamie Hart
Minutes	Richard House	Graham Lowden	Vanessa Rousseau
Intro speaker		John Stephenson	Jeannine Ibbotson
Thank speaker		Geraldine Nicol	Glynis Menné-Hart
Comment	Johan Beukman	Wendy Goddard	Tony Davidson

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



<b>BIRTHDAYS</b>		
<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Graham and Claire Lowden
<b>JOINED ROTARY</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2012	Vanessa Rousseau
<b>WOODEN SPOON</b>		Jana Forrester

## 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 Rousseau



Graham Finlayson



Shelley Finch

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



## AND the LAST WORD .....

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Who would have thought that one little octopus who hung out near Simonstown could have such a sphere of influence? He grabbed the attention of renowned documentary producer, Craig Foster, became the subject of a Glen Biderman-Pam's "My Kreepy Teacher" parody, and even made it to the first edition of Daily Maverick 168 and the comic strip Madam and Eve. Mind you, *oĉtopotomi oĉtopodes oĉtopi* many an octopus has provided inspiration. [Ask Ringo Starr](#).



See you on the moro....

