



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: THE GREAT BARRINGTON DECLARATION (Tony Davidson)

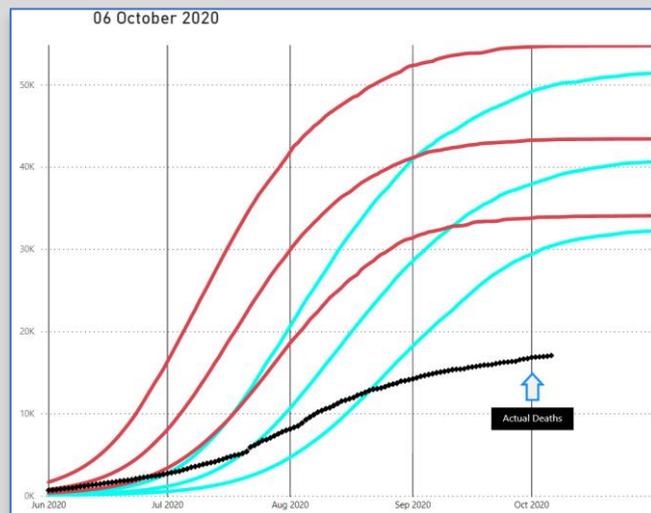
The debate about the effectiveness of lockdown rages on. The initial modelling has been debunked with huge death rates almost as bad as the Spanish Flu. Even so, politician's and policy-makers are still pushing a doomsday approach to managing Covid, devastating lives and the economy. Of note, medical protocols have vastly improved, and the death rates of people in hospital have dropped by 35%. People in their 80s with some comorbidities have more than 90% chance of survival.

Below, is a graph which shows how wrong the initial modelling has been. Evidence now shows that hard lockdowns hardly changed the pattern of infection. Given the advice by WHO, our government had little choice but to start lockdown, but could their decisions have been better after that?

The red line shows the initial South African pro-projection. This was significantly better than the initial international projections for South Africa. After a few months, the blue projections were released.

Each colour has three curves: worst case, most likely and best-case scenarios.

Look at the death rate. 18000 deaths is tragic, but was it worth closing down the country so hard?



This provides context for the article below, called the Great Barrington Declaration. It provides a sane way of moving forwards. Three epidemiologists from this small town in rural Massachusetts started this movement to put pressure on decision makers. You can see the document at <https://gbdeclaration.org/> and sign to show your support.

The Great Barrington Declaration

As infectious disease epidemiologists and public health scientists we have grave concerns about the damaging physical and mental health impacts of the prevailing COVID-19 policies and recommend an approach we call Focused Protection.

Coming from both the left and right, and around the world, we have devoted our careers to protecting people. Current lockdown policies are producing devastating effects on short and long-term public health. The results (to name a few) include lower childhood vaccination rates, worsening cardiovascular disease outcomes, fewer cancer screenings and deteriorating mental health – leading to greater excess mortality in years to come, with the working class and younger members of society carrying the heaviest burden. Keeping students out of school is a grave injustice.

Keeping these measures in place until a vaccine is available will cause irreparable damage, with the underprivileged disproportionately harmed.

Fortunately, our understanding of the virus is growing. We know that vulnerability to death from COVID-19 is more than a thousand-fold higher in the old and infirm than the young. Indeed, for children, COVID-19 is less dangerous than many other harms, including influenza.

As immunity builds in the population, the risk of infection to all – including the vulnerable – falls. We know that all populations will eventually reach herd immunity – i.e. the point at which the rate of new infections is stable – and that this can be assisted by (but is not dependent upon) a vaccine. Our goal should therefore be to minimize mortality and social harm until we reach herd immunity.

The most compassionate approach that balances the risks and benefits of reaching herd immunity, is to allow those who are at minimal risk of death to live their lives normally to build up immunity to the virus through natural infection, while better protecting those who are at highest risk. We call this Focused Protection.

Adopting measures to protect the vulnerable should be the central aim of public health responses to COVID-19. By way of example, nursing homes should use staff with acquired immunity and perform frequent PCR testing of other staff and all visitors. Staff rotation should be minimized. Retired people living at home should have groceries and other essentials delivered to their home. When possible, they should meet family members

outside rather than inside. A comprehensive and detailed list of measures, including approaches to multi-generational households, can be implemented, and is well within the scope and capability of public health professionals.

Those who are not vulnerable should immediately be allowed to resume life as normal. Simple hygiene measures, such as hand washing and staying home when sick should be practiced by everyone to reduce the herd immunity threshold. Schools and universities should be open for in-person teaching. Extracurricular activities, such as sports, should be resumed. Young low-risk adults should work normally, rather than from home. Restaurants and other businesses should open. Arts, music, sport and other cultural activities should resume. People who are more at risk may participate if they wish, while society as a whole enjoys the protection conferred upon the vulnerable by those who have built up herd immunity.

MINUTES of the PARTNERS MEETING on ZOOM (5TH OCTOBER, 2020; 19h00)

Scribe: Geraldine Nicol

Meeting protocol:

Following good club fellowship across the Zoom screen, Sergeant Ian Pursch called all to order to enable RCN President Jenny to warmly welcome our guest speaker, PDG June Webber, our two special guests, Jeremy Opperman and Johan Taljaard, all our partners and a very welcome D9370 visitor, Steve from Westville RC. In support of the Peace candle Peter Van Aswegan shared the importance of focusing on being at peace with oneself. Michelle then led the Four-Way Test and Lisa shared the Grace and Toast.

Speaker:

RCN had invited PDG June Webber to help our club celebrate one of Rotary's major 2020 highlights, the eradication of the Wild Polio virus from the whole of Africa –and to help us understand how much incredible hard work over the past decades had led to this significant achievement.

Jeanine welcomed June, confirming it was a real honour to have her as June was the Rotarian who conceptualised the incredible Rotary 2010 "Kick Polio out of Africa" Campaign. June kicked off her presentation by acknowledging that our own Newlands public image expert, Janey Ball, who was an Africa Rotary Public Image Co-ordinator at the time, also played a huge role in PI for the 2010 Rotary Polio campaign, including the lighting up of well-known landmarks in and around Cape Town.

June shared that since the first dream of a single Rotarian, more than 35 years ago, that Rotary could work together worldwide on the Disease Prevention Area of Focus and together try to eradicate Polio, Rotary had established strong partnerships with the WHO (World Health Organization), the CDC (Centre for Disease Control) and UNICEF. The 2010 Kick Polio out of Africa campaign was a pan-African campaign designed to align with the excitement of Africa hosting the World Cup Soccer tournament for the first time. The key to the campaign was a the official design black-and-white soccer ball which was "kicked into Africa" from a Waterfront occasion, launching it on a journey that

eventually reached 25 countries in Africa, with the goal of escalating everyone's efforts to ensure many more millions of African children would be vaccinated in these 25 countries, where polio was still rife.

With the original backing of President Nelson Mandela and the logistics support of DHL as the transporter of this special ball, June ensured that 25 African Presidents hosted high profile country televised events and immunization campaigns where the focus was for the president to join the campaign by signing this extra special "magical" soccer ball as evidence of their ongoing commitment to ensuring they would partners with Rotary and continue encouraging parents to have their children immunized. June's powerful presentation was highlighted by stunning photos which enabled us all to join the Campaign's technicolour journey through Africa, showing the 'who's who' of African leaders of the time. It also included many VIP's who are still involved, such as our very own SA Polio hero, Archbishop Tutu, famous worldwide for his encouragement of the Rotary polio campaign showing his fingers indicating "just this much more", and Bill Gates who specifically visited Africa during the campaign and who is still doubling every dollar that Rotary raises for polio.

This campaign became a major game-changer in polio eradication and helped ensure that this horrific disease, which used to hit over 300 000 children per annum, among which many died or spent the rest of their lives trapped in iron-lungs, has now been eradicated almost worldwide except for Afghanistan and Pakistan. The final destination of the soccer ball was in Montreal, Canada where this "magical ball", with all the African Presidential signatures, was handed over to the then RI President John Kenny at the annual convention! PDG Shân Biesman Simons then shared with us how she had proudly witnessed this prestigious Canadian handover and had cried buckets of proud tears, knowing the role D9350's June and Janey had played in creating this incredibly powerful campaign. Geraldine thanked June for an absolutely amazing talk and congratulated her on laying the foundations for the 2020 celebration of an Africa Polio Free continent.

Spots and news

- PP Chris Beech confirmed the sad news that he is relocating to the UK to be with family, that he had loved and valued his time at Newlands RC and that he fully intends to continue being hugely involved in Rotary and especially in the Newlands Flagship Langa ECD project.
- Tony Davidson shared the news that Relate bracelets, with their environmental focus, are due to be launched on 1st November and he encouraged all with sales ideas to contact him.
- Richard Burnett reported that all is in place for the wine auction on 14th October in aid of NSRI.
- Peter Van Aswegen offered a desktop and two laptops for students / NGO's supported by RCN.
- President Jenny led a moment of silence for two of our members, Mike Walwyn whose brother had passed away and Jana Forrester whose 95 year old mother had passed on.
- Janey then added her thanks to June for the huge energy, enthusiasm and creativity June had brought to the Polio campaign.
- Jenny extended her good wishes to Chris, her appreciation of Janey's latest Howzat!, especially the heartwarming stories about RCN work with the Prison Care Project, and reminded all of the next board meeting on Tuesday 13th October and the visit of D9350 District Governor Carl-Heinz on Monday 19th November.
- Sergeant Ian rounded the evening off with some very happy rands and a few "Ian style" jokes!

NEULANDS ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Youth Services Director, Wendy Goddard, writing to President Jenny, reports:

I'm so proud of Interact LEAP Langa, I can't only send you one pic! The story is:

LEAP Science and Maths School in Langa decided to present Certificates of Appreciation to various organisations in Langa who have served the community on the front line of the COVID-19 pandemic. To date, certificates have been given to Langa Clinic, Langa Police Station, Shoprite Langa and Ikhaya laBantu Old Age Home.

After the first visit to Ikhaya laBantu, the learners were so moved by the plight of the 36 residents that they decided to give them care packs of toiletries (sponsored by RCN). Teacher-in-charge, Patricia Mudiayi, suggested that a hamper of groceries for the staff would be greatly appreciated. This was purchased with the balance of the funds budgeted for the project.

Each organisation has received the certificate with grateful thanks (sometimes even a few tears); all of them saying that they are very seldom appreciated, and this was a wonderful gesture. They also spoke very highly of the calibre of these youths and felt optimistic and hopeful if these young people were representative of our future leaders.

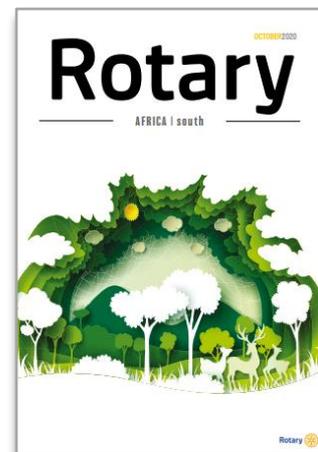


MORE ROTARY NEWS



There is no shortage of quality reading material this week as both the *District Governor's Monthly Magazine* and *Rotary Africa* will have hit your inbox. ('Hit' is of course used in its most flattering sense, to reflect high impact, not burden).

Mislaid your copy? Click on the images to visit the mags, online. And don't forget to save a local copy; you'll be wanting to reference the articles again. And again.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

If you're Zooming in to our mother club, RC Claremont's, Tuesday meeting (October 13th) you'll hear (our) Lew Botha talking on ESRAG. Keep in mind that the meeting time has (happily) changed from 19h00 to 19h30. Why happily? Because the Newlands Board Meeting concludes at 19:30, affording the opportunity to elegantly segue from one meeting to the next. Drop a note to Lew for the RCC meeting link, [here](#).

On Wednesday 14th, at 18h00, you can join Rotary Family Health Days commemoration webinar and their keynote speaker, Minister of Health, Dr Zweli Mkhize.

The National Department of Health and the Rotary Action Group for Family Health and AIDS Prevention, together with their Partners

Invite you to

join us for a Commemoration webinar of the Rotary Family Health Day Programme in South Africa

Keynote address: Minister of Health, Dr Zweli Mkhize:
Our journey towards the realization of universal health coverage in South Africa – the importance of public-private partnerships in our response to the burden of diseases.

14th October 2020

Featured Presenters



Dr Zweli Mkhize,
Minister of Health



Mr Shekhar Mehta, Rotary
International President 2021-
22 and RFHA Inc
Board Member 2014-19



Time: 18h00-19h30 SAST

Remember to limit numbers and socially distance if you gather as a group!

Registration link:

<https://tinyurl.com/RFHD2020Webinar>

Meeting ID: 841 4943 9960

Passcode: 270975

Queries: kristal@rfha.org

The Webinar will be livestreamed on the following channels:

 @HealthZA

 @SANationalAIDSCouncil

 @rotaryfamilyhealthdays



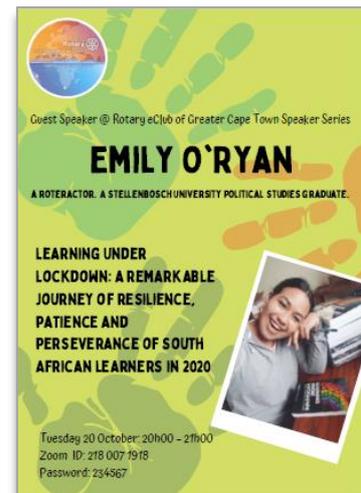
And earlier on Wednesday (from 10h00 to 1h30) you can attend Newlands and Table Bay Rotary Clubs' annual fundraiser, in aid of the NSRI. The auction will be held [online](#) and offers a range of fine local wines and some special treats, including a 2015 *Edgebaston* Shiraz Salmanazar (9 litre) and a 2014 *Meerlust* Rubicon Magnum (1.5 litre). The proceeds of the auction will fund a JetRib rescue craft for Station 42 (Kleinmond).

Looking further ahead, our daughter Club, the Rotary E-Club of Greater Cape Town, has invited us to the second in their 2020-2021 Speaker Series.

They are thrilled to have the youthful voice of Rotaractor, Emily O'Ryan, sharing her insights and providing a Rotaractor's perspective on the "Resilience, Patience and Perseverance of South African Learners during COVID-19".

Emily together with noted Educationalist, Prof Jonathan Jansen, recently launched their book titled *Learning Under Lockdown*, a collection of essays from learners across the spectrum talking about their experiences during these challenging times.

But wait folks! There's more..... on 24th October, we have Mini-Conference. The program is 'hot off the press' and appended to an email you'll have received today. Go on... Check your inbox.



CLUB CORRESPONDENCE

President Jenny received the following from former Rondebosch Rotarian, John Stegmann:

Good morning, Jenny, JP Duminy was member of Rondebosch, which admitted me in 1977. It seems that Rondebosch - the original supporter of the Argus Cycle Tour - has become too small to survive. Perhaps it was absorbed by Newlands? This note is to let you know that JP's son, Andrew, has produced a meticulously researched book 'JPD Remembered', available from Michelle Meyer in Cape Town. info@blueweaver.co.za

As many Newrots will know, JP Duminy was also the the first non-American to be elected a First Vice-president of Rotary International. You can learn more in the book's chapter on Rotary International, and you can find the kindle download of *JPD Remembered*, [here](#).

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

OCTOBER - ECONOMIC and COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- 12 Ordinary Meeting
Speaker, Candice Mostert ([WasteED](#)): "Waste Education and Ecobricks"
- 13 Board Meeting
- 14 [NSRI Wine Auction](#)
- 19 DG Carl-Heinz Duisberg's Visit
- 24 D9350 [Mini-Conference](#) "Covid-19 opened Opportunities: the POSITIVE Stories"
[World Polio Day](#)
- 26 Quiz Night (and perhaps a bit of a Business Meeting)

NOVEMBER – ROTARY FOUNDATION

- 2 Partners Meeting
Speaker, Andrew Baxter (Cape Town Cycle Tour CEO)
- 9 Ordinary Meeting
- 16 Ordinary Meeting
- 18 Board Meeting
- 23 Business Meeting
- 30 Ordinary Meeting

DECEMBER – DISEASE PREVENTION and TREATMENT

- 7 Partners Meeting
- 14 Ordinary Meeting
- 21 Annual Break
- 28 Annual Break

UMPIRES and SCORERS

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

| | 12 October 2020 | 19 October 2020 | 26 October 2020 |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| | Ordinary | DG's Visit | Business |
| Sergeant | Lew Botha | Henry Campbell | John Stephenson |
| Four-Way Test / Object | Richard Burnett | Shân Biesman-Simons | Graham Lowden |
| Grace and Loyal Toast | Heidi Andersson | Brian Pickup | Richard House |
| Peace Quote / Comment | Jamie Hart | Graham Finlayson | Nora See |
| Minutes | Vanessa Rousseau | Melinda Stapleton | Michael Walwyn |
| Intro speaker | Jeannine Ibbotson | | |
| Thank speaker | Glynis Menné-Hart | | |
| Comment | Tony Davidson | Terry Lancaster | Pieter van Aswegen |



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|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| BIRTHDAYS | 12 th October | Michelle Roos |
| | 17 th October | Rochelle Malherbe |
| | 18 th October | Avrill Meinesz |
| ANNIVERSARIES | | |
| JOINED ROTARY | | |
| WOODEN SPOON | | Jana Forrester |

CLUB OFFICE BEARERS



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

To the Ed's great relief, and probably yours, too, there is no space for a last word.