



# HOWZAT!



The Rotary Club of Newlands

*The Club that Appeals*



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*Apologies before 10:00 on a Monday to Melinda Stapleton, please.*

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## COMMENT: THE [WOUNDED WARRIOR](#), THE [OBESE TURTLE](#) and THE PANDEMIC ELECTION (Jeannine Ibbotson)

What a week it has been. Your commentator has square eyes and bitten down nails after watching the transfixing " American Election Burlesque Show".

America's history of colonial occupation, slavery, low skilled immigrant labour, and its complex mix of cultures and entrenched privilege, has come to an explosive head. This culminated in the ultimate test of whether a democracy really works under these conditions. This test has played out for the last four years, not just the last four days.

We have all chewed and reflected ad nauseum on the serious lessons which watching a large and complex democracy in crisis has offered us these past several years. So I have prepared a little musical tour of the American History and the elections for your amusement and for an occasionally slightly lighter take on a serious topic.

As reflected by [Khushbu Shah](#) and [Juweek Adolphe](#) in The Guardian:

"Four hundred years on, the arrival of the first captive slaves onto American shores has informed nearly every major moment in American history."

To help cope with the extreme horror of slavery, many musical traditions were born, including "Songs of the Underground Railroad : '[Spiritual and work songs](#) used during the early-to-mid 19th century in the [United States](#) to encourage and convey coded information to escaping [slaves](#) as they moved along the various [Underground Railroad](#) routes." (Wikipedia).

These songs included songs such as "[Swing Low Sweet Chariot](#) " ( no it wasn't always a rugby song ! ) and "[Michael Row the Boat Ashore](#)".

The subjugation of the Native American peoples via brutal methods such as the large-scale slaying of the bison they depended on also makes for an immensely poignant and terrible history. Access this piece of music to feel the reverence for the Bison: [White Buffalo](#).

Many immigrant workers also poured in to build the railway and road systems for America, often under brutal circumstances.

As reflected by the Centre of the American West, the year 2019 was the sesquicentennial of the completion of the United States first transcontinental railroad. The history of the Central Pacific and the Union Pacific Railroads is told in books such as that by Stanford Professor Gordon Chang, author of the recently published and much-admired book, *Ghosts of Gold Mountain: The Epic Story of the Chinese Who Built the Transcontinental Railroad*.

The Irish immigrant community also played a major part in establishing America's infrastructure - movingly commemorated by the 2003 U2 Song " [These are the hands that built America](#)" It's a song about the experience of nineteenth century Irish migrants to New York and their contribution to building America.

The transient working lives of many early immigrants - and a nod to the astounding later scientific achievements of the US - are commemorated in "[Highwayman](#)". Written by American Jimmy Webb, it's about a soul with incarnations in four different places in time and history: as a highwayman, a sailor, a construction worker on the Hoover Dam, and finally as a captain of a starship. In 1985, the song became the inspiration for the naming of the supergroup Highwaymen and the album of that name was a platinum seller.

In more recent decades, a strong economy and constitution continued to attract a host of immigrants to America from all over the world, South America, Mexico, Asia and Africa included.

This complex mix of peoples and skills, combined with complex and varying federal powers and entrenched economic privilege, meant that American states and peoples have not thrived equally for many years, leaving the way open for a manipulator to con the desperate.

There is also a complex set of race dynamics at play, stoked by the ex-President:

*"The United States is living through a moment of profound and positive change in attitudes toward race, with a large majority of citizens<sup>1</sup> coming to grips with the deeply embedded historical legacy of racist structures and ideas. The recent protests and public reaction to George Floyd's murder are a testament to many individuals' deep commitment to renewing the founding ideals of the republic. But there is another, more dangerous, side to this debate—one that seeks to rehabilitate toxic political notions of racial superiority, stokes fear of immigrants and minorities to inflame grievances for political ends .... "*

This week, though, we have seen the ancestors of many immigrants and people of colour rise-up to deliver a vote for positive change and against these toxic concepts. This included working class communities in states such as Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania. And [Georgia's on my Mind](#) because this State, (which btw initially banned slavery), delivered a historic shift left and may hold the key to the Senate going blue. And [By the time the vote got to Phoenix](#) Arizona was leaning left [and Viva Las Vegas](#) for delivering a historic Nevada win for the Democrats.

And in all this, a historic decision was made for a female Vice President of colour, Kamala Harris . [Respect](#), Kamala !

As Tweeted here by the amazing Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, member of the female " Squad" of four and Democratic Member of Congress since 2018 at the age of 29 and just re -elected in 2020.

"People need to really look at the communities who delivered these miraculous victories in AZ, GA, MI, MN, etc. They are rarely a focus of traditional political investment or electoral strategy, & are often sacrificed in policy negotiations. One "thank you " would be changing that ."

There were ad nauseum delays especially [with Nevada Counting Votes](#), due to the extra processes needed to make voting more accessible during the pandemic.

But finally there has been a positive outcome for this extraordinary, and still great, country which is home to my three siblings and which btw I have driven right across three times with Peter and my parents and sister,- similar distances to what this train does regularly [City of New Orleans](#).

[There ain't no stopping the counting](#) and we just saw really good news from the [Streets of Philadelphia](#).

So [New York says goodbye to Trump](#) and perhaps it's a return soon to the glorious ideal [America](#) as [The Wounded Warrior comes back to win his final battle](#)

### **Songs :**

Remember to check that the YouTube speaker is on, as well as yours. Double-click on the video to see the speaker. With thanks to Janey and Shelley for two of the tracks!

[Swing Low Sweet Chariot](#)

Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald

[Michael Row the Boat Ashore](#)

Peter, Paul and Mary

[White Buffalo](#)

Babas Bogdan

[These are the hands that built America](#)

U2

<a href="#">Georgia on my Mind</a>	Ray Charles and Stevie Wonder
<a href="#">By the Time I get to Phoenix</a>	Glen Campbell
<a href="#">Viva Las Vegas</a>	Elvis Presley
<a href="#">Respect</a>	Aretha Franklin
<a href="#">Back to One</a>	Brian MacKnight
<a href="#">Ain't no Stopping the Count</a>	Amy Poehler's Smart Girls
<a href="#">City of New Orleans</a>	Arlo Guthrie
<a href="#">Streets of Philadelphia</a>	Bruce Springsteen
<a href="#">New York says goodbye to Trump</a>	Late Show – Steven Colbert
<a href="#">America</a>	Neil Diamond

## MINUTES of the MEETING on ZOOM (2<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER, 2020; 19h00)

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*Sorry, there are no minutes this week.*

## REMEMBERING MAGGI GOLDING (28 Sep 1931 – 5 Nov 2020) *(Jana Forrester)*

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Every now and then a magnificent person crosses your path in life and leaves an indelible mark. Such a person was Maggie Goldberg who passed away yesterday.

How do we thank you for all your hard work and the love you poured into the lives of all people with autism and those who care for them?

Maggie, you knew no boundaries with regard to whom you helped, you seldom said no and spent your life, improving communication in autistic lives. Who knows how many people you trained, taught and empowered.

You will always be Makaton Mags! You will be remembered as a special, humble, cheerful and spirited soul and I am grateful to have known you.

You won't rest Mags; you will be teaching the angels Makaton for sure!! That's what made you happy.

RIP.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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The Rotary Club of Knysna is a partner in presenting this comic opera in one act, by Puccini. The libretto is based on an incident from Dante's Divine Comedy and this performance features the CTMVC's Lonwabo Mose as Maestro Spinelloccio.



Due to the National Lockdown, RC Pinelands was not able to host its **Annual Potjiekos Competition** during May. However, the good news is that they will again host the competition on 6 December 2020 at the Rotary Youth Camp, in Glencairn, under the wonderful supervision of Resident Camp Manager, Koos Burger.

Over many years this has proved to be a wonderful fellowship event with much fun and laughter and has attracted many Rotarians and friends. To confirm attendance, e-mail [Mike Ochse](mailto:Mike.Ochse@rotary.org) who will forward the details needed in order to plan your day!

## RCN FUTURE FIXTURES *(Online, for now.)*

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### NOVEMBER – ROTARY FOUNDATION

9	Ordinary Meeting <i>Speaker: Andre du Toit (The Economics of Positivity)</i>
16	Ordinary Meeting <i>Speaker: Andrew Baxter (Cape Town Cycle Tour CEO)</i>
18	Board Meeting
23	DG Carl-Heinz Duisberg's Visit
25	Philisa Abafazi Bethu (PAB) Opening
30	Business Meeting and AGM

### DECEMBER – DISEASE PREVENTION and TREATMENT

7	Partners Meeting <i>Speaker: Carole Goodman, iZinto</i>
14	Ordinary Meeting
21	Annual Break

## UMPIRES and SCORERS

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	9 November 2020 <i>Ordinary</i>	16 November 2020 <i>Ordinary</i>	23 November 2020 <i>Partners / DG's Visit</i>
Acting-President	Terry Lancaster		
Sergeant	Vanessa Rousseau	Jamie Hart	Shelley Finch
Four-Way Test / Object	Johan Taljaard	Pieter van Aswegen	Glynis Menné-Hart
Grace and Loyal Toast	Jeremy Opperman	Tony Davidson	Richard Burnett
Peace Candle and Quote	Lisa Lombard	Michelle Roos	Jeannine Ibbotson
Minutes	Wendy Goddard	John Stephenson	Geraldine Nicol
Intro speaker	Henry Campbell	Ian Pursch	
Thank speaker	Terry Lancaster	Graham Finlayson	
Comment	Wybe Meinesz	Nora See	Melinda Stapleton

- *If you cannot make this duty, please arrange a substitute and let the Sergeant know.*
- *Peace Candle duty includes lighting a candle and providing a quote or comment.*
- *Comment is due as indicated above. Publication is the Monday following. Usually. Please submit a text file and, if you have pics, please attach these.*



<b>BIRTHDAYS</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> November	Janey Ball
	19 <sup>th</sup> November	Anna Marie Kaars-Sijpestijn
<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b>		
<b>JOINED ROTARY</b>		
<b>WOODEN SPOON</b>		John Stephenson

## 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**  
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**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 .....

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Did you know.....?

- The *Umpire and Scorer* duty roster, published each week in *Howzat!*, is compiled by Peter Ennis save for the Sergeant's duty roster which is compiled by Master Sergeant, Mike Walwyn.
- If you cannot make your duty you need please to find a replacement and to let the duty Sergeant know.
- If you're duty Sergeant, please ensure that umpires and scorers are aware of their duty and will indeed be present.
- If you're up for *Comment*, it is due on the date shown in *Future Fixtures*.
- When submitting comment you should send in a text file. Sending PDFs or links to articles mean the Ed has to retype. She is not terribly fond of doing so especially when this can require hours of reformatting, all sorts of modification, cutting-and-pasting of graphics, deletion of ads, disarming click-bait, ignoring incredibly interesting links and the remedial exercises for carpal tunnel syndrome that invariably follow.
- If you miss your *Comment*, you are not off the hook. You still owe a *Comment*. (Yes, wine may be an acceptable substitute and can be delivered to Ball Hall.)
- If you're on *Minutes*, you should please send these before Saturday.
- Please?... do send complete *Minutes*. If you "... can't remember what happened here" or you "... lost your audio" or "Mr Delivery arrived during the Spots" or "Biden won", please don't leave such comments lurking deep within the body of the minutes for the Ed to discover, last minute.
- If you need to reconstruct the Minutes, the last person you should imagine will remember the content of the meeting is the Ed. She has enough trouble remembering to get up, each day. Truly.

See you on the moro....

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.