



# HOWZAT!



The Rotary Club of Newlands  
*The Club that Appeals*

PRESIDENT JENNY IBBOTSON



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

## COMMENT: WHY DO WE ONLY COUNT the BODY BAGS (Wobblies Ink)

Pub quiz time!

- Question 1: How many people were killed in the recent attack on the Capital in Washington DC?
- Question 2: How many people were killed in the Christchurch shooting in 2019?
- Question 3: Who was Breonna Taylor?
- Question 4: Who was George Floyd?

Well done! I am sure most people reading this were correct in their answers.

Now try this.

- Question 5: How many people were seriously injured in those attacks?

And for the bonus prize.

- Question 6: Who is Jacob Blake?

I am willing to bet that less people got this one without looking it up.

The difference between the first four questions and the last two, of course, is that the first four involved death while the last two were about serious injury and, very possibly, permanent disability.

The point I am getting to is that for some reason we tend to direct our attention, horror and outrage toward death, while almost never showing lasting interest in those that get seriously or permanently injured or disabled in these kinds of horrific incidents.

Interestingly, media, not just our own, but globally, perpetuate the ghoulish fascination by repeating over and over again the death toll. Soon, after about a day, the numbers of those who have died are still high on the agenda while, for some reason, details of the injured fall away from view and are almost immediately forgotten.

To me, the greatest illustration of this, is the comparison between George Floyd and Jacob Blake. One was killed – Floyd - while Blake was terribly injured (no surprise there with seven bullets in his back), leaving him paralysed. Yet who is the more famous?

So what, you might ask?

Is there an Economist in the house?

Ask yourself, what is costlier to a family, community or economy?

Death or Disability?

With the greatest respect to those who have lost someone or those who have passed away, death is pretty finite. Tragic certainly for those left behind but they have no choice but to move on and deal with the aftermath, emotionally and perhaps financially should the person have been a breadwinner.

However, if you have just been “lucky” enough to have “survived” a gang shooting, taxi or bus accident or some other trauma and have been left with a serious and lasting injury, like Jacob Blake was, what does your future look like?

Who will pay for hospital care? Rehabilitation? Assistive devices such as wheelchairs, prosthetics or other tech?

Who will convince your boss that you actually can work again but will need a little time or some reasonable accommodation, to be able to do so?

Who will care or even know you exist, if we and media do not shift the attention towards the more significant issue?

As a baby Rotarian, I am constantly humbled and in awe of the sheer enormity of Rotary energy and project munificence. So far be it from me to criticise, but I wonder in the light of our universal tendency to overlook and therefore underestimate the sheer scale of later onset disabilities, whether we are not missing whole swathes of communities left vulnerable by our ignorance and inattention.



*For those who might struggle to see the cartoon, it depicts a person in a Hazmat suit, staring in fear at a classic person with a disability in a wheelchair. The caption reads "Disability is not contagious".*

Due to our atavistic and almost pathological avoidance of disability in our everyday society, is it a surprise that we understand so little and see even less?

In a country like ours, with so much crime, so many accidents and other phenomena that disable so many, can we afford not to open our eyes and pay a little more attention?

Jeremy Opperman

*(Sneak preview of the next Wobblies Ink: Tackling the greatest barrier of all; the attitudinal barrier.)*

## MINUTES of the PARTNERS MEETING on ZOOM (1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY, 2020; 19h00)

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*Scribe: Ian Pursch*

Thirty or so Newlands Rotarians had combined their digital worlds a little after 7pm, and so Master Sergeant Mike W opened the meeting and handed over to President Jenny. She duly welcomed the speaker, Kevin Chaplin, as well as Avriil M, Lorraine W and any other partners hidden in Zoom backgrounds.

The Sergeant guided us through our opening ceremonies: Graham L lit a peace candle after giving us several appropriate quotes, including words from Mahatma Ghandi, Mother Theresa and Vincent Van Gogh; Wybe M recited the 4 Way Test, adding something unrelated about sustainability; Johan B gave us a grace and the toast to RI, and included Newlands too; it was established that Nora S was enjoying her virtual possession of the Just Desserts Spoon to such an extent that she had decided to retain it for another week; Graham L, on being quizzed by Sgt Mike about the "Wine Thing" announced that he had suspended the draw until he could legally deliver bottles to the last four winners – thereby reconfirming its nature as a Swindle.

February 1 has been a slow day in history, according to Sgt Mike, only giving us in 1884 the first edition of the Oxford English Dictionary; the Beatles first number 1 in 1964 ("I Wanna Hold Your Hand"); and the 1981 Trevor Chappell underarm bowling incident (he was instructed, legally but dubiously, by his captain and older brother, Greg, to send the last ball along the ground to deny New Zealand the 6 runs they needed). The Sergeant did point out, though, that the Myanmar coup would be a memorable Feb 1 event in the future.

Shân B-S introduced Kevin Chaplin to us. Raised in KZN, he spent time in Gauteng before settling in Cape Town. He has various business qualifications and spent 26 years with FNB before setting up the Ubuntu Foundation and shortly thereafter becoming CEO of the Amy Biehl Foundation, now called simply the Amy Foundation.

Kevin recalled the help and support given by Johan B and Janey B in his early days with the Amy Biehl Foundation, and spoke to us about his book "Making the Impossible Possible". He attributes his positivity to the role model provided by his mother who, expected to die young because of health issues, survived to the age of 75. He discussed the importance of mentorship, of attitude and of leadership and the reasons for his promotion of the values of Ubuntu. He gave us an insight into the varied fortunes of the Amy Foundation and the reasons for dropping the Biehl name after Linda, Amy's mother, withdrew her involvement. As well as continued work with after-school programmes, the Foundation now has a focus on youth skills development to the age of 35 and has established a

centre with various kitchens and workshops where students are taught. They have been able to place a good number of their trainees in employment.

Nora S thanked Kevin for his interesting talk and encouraged him to continue with his message of spreading Ubuntu.

No spots were requested and so President Jenny gave us her slot: thanked Kevin again for joining us; members not happy with the new 7pm meeting time should please let her know; encouraged us to read the Rotaract newsletter recently distributed (which includes a piece about our own Khayelitsha Club); pointed us to the webinar on food gardens to be held on Saturday; congratulated Mike W, Shân B-S and Pieter V A on their birthdays and the Zazeraj and Meinesz couples on their anniversaries, and mentioned Nora S, who joined Rotary on the 5th February 2007.

On prompting, Terry L recalled that he did have a spot after all. It is hoped for a Big Walk on 12 September and it is also hoped that the postponed Cape Town Cycle Tour can take place 10 October. As the Cape Town Marathon is projected for just a week later, Terry suggests that Newrots be prepared to make themselves available for work in September and October to help with these vital fund-raising activities. (Since no one can have booked any overseas travel yet, no doubt everybody will present themselves for duty. Scribe)

Introducing the opportunity to pay happy rands, Sgt Mike got the ball rolling with the announcement that he has another grandchild on the way and explained that he is happy about this because he quite likes his first one. He was also happy, for less obvious reasons, that he had recently had a piece of his face removed. The rest of the company, perhaps awed by so much Walwyn joy, then failed to come up with any further happiness.

So the Sergeant, after reminding us that next week's duties were to be found in the excellent 'Howzat', closed the meeting, and we all dissolved back into the ether.

## NEWSLANDS ROTARY NEWS

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John Winship reports on the Ramp Project on the West Coast: "Kirstenbosch Rotary Club is pursuing initiatives up the West Coast. We approached PP Jerome O'Ryan with the intention of identifying opportunities in that region as it is part of CCPB (Penbev's) area of operation. The ramp project is of particular interest. Coordinated by RCK and with involvement of Rotaract Saldana, 15 ramps are being built to replace steps at selected homes in the Diasville settlement of Saldanha. Similar projects have been identified at: Springbok (three ramps / Rotary Partners) and Upington (one ramp/RCU). Penbev has now contributed R75,000 plus VAT to this worthy project. In addition, at least four of the residents require wheelchairs. Terry has directed Jerome to Melkbos Rotary Club should they have availability.



## NEWS FROM THE ROTARY WORLD

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Incoming RI President Shekhar Mehta, a member of the [Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar](#), West Bengal, India, revealed the 2021-22 presidential theme, *Serve to Change Lives*, at this week's virtual Rotary International Assembly. He urged district governors-elect to become more involved in service projects, saying that caring for and serving others is the best way to live, for it changes not only other people's lives, but also our own.



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

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#### *FEBRUARY – PEACE and CONFLICT RESOLUTION / PREVENTION*

- 8 Ordinary Meeting Sarah Oliver, [URI: Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution](#)
- 15 Ordinary Meeting Godfrey Mokaeanne, *Breadline Africa: Social Impact Investing and Raid by RC Melkbos*
- 17 Board Meeting
- 22 Business Meeting

#### *MARCH – WATER and SANITATION*

- 1 Partners Meeting Ngwe Tiyo: *President of Khayelitsha Rotaract.*
- 8 Ordinary Meeting Mike Walwyn: *Rotary Peace Fellowship programme*
- 15 Ordinary Meeting Quiz: *Wendy Goddard*
- 17 Board Meeting
- 22 PUBLIC HOLIDAY
- 29 Business Meeting

#### *APRIL – MATERNAL and CHILD HEALTH*

- 5 PUBLIC HOLIDAY
- 12 Ordinary Meeting
- 19 Ordinary Meeting
- 21 Board meeting
- 26 Business Meeting



<b>BIRTHDAYS</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> February	Glyn Menné-Hart
	11 <sup>th</sup> February	Diana Booth
		Deon Malherbe
	13 <sup>th</sup> February	Liz Sessions
<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> February	Mike and Sheila Walwyn
<b>JOINED ROTARY</b>		
<b>JUST DESSERTS SPOON</b>		Nora See

## UMPIRES and SCORERS

	8 February 2021 <i>Ordinary</i>	15 February 2021 <i>Ordinary</i>	22 February 2021 <i>Business</i>
Sergeant	Jamie Hart	Richard Burnett	Graham Finlayson
Four-Way Test / Object	Wendy Goddard	Brian Pickup	Johan Beukman
Grace and Loyal Toast	John Stephenson	Melinda Stapleton	Michael Walwyn
Peace Candle and Quote	Johan Taljaard	Bill Holland	Geraldine Nicol
Minutes	Shân Biesman-Simons	Pieter van Aswegen	Wybe Meinesz
Intro speaker	Glynis Menné-Hart	Terry Lancaster	
Thank speaker	Jeannine Ibbotson	Tony Davidson	
Comment	Peter Ennis	Lew Botha	Richard House

- *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.*
- *Comment is due on the date above. Publication is the Monday following. Usually. Please submit a text file and, if you have pics, please attach these.*

## 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 .....

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And from last week's ridiculous to the somewhat more sublime, [here's](#) a clip that just may be emblematic of the Ed's lifestory. But what's the message? Perhaps 'keep trying'? Or maybe 'give up the piano'?

See you on the moro....

PS No, the Ed doesn't listen to Boney M, well .... not unless Cale Brown is dancing.

PPS You missed Cale, last week?..... Last chance, [here](#).