



Rotavision The weekly newsletter of the Rotary Club of White River



14 September 2015

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Patrick: On my soapbox

Well he brought it off again! The annual Rotary Club of White River Wine Auction was an outstanding success. Pulling in an estimated R71,000 may have been a little less than last year but when people stop you in the street to tell you how much they enjoyed it, it has to be something special. I think part of the improvement was combining lots to make it all move more rapidly. The food was excellent and it gave

me a good feeling to see a Makro R65/bottle going for over R200! Well done Mike Brandon and well done Brian Hyson, auctioneer extraordinaire sore throat notwithstanding!

In celebration of *Basic Education and Literary* month a small bunch of hardy Rotarians braved a chilly Sunday morning to paint out the new library at Lwaleng Primary School. It now has bright, cheerful yellow walls and shelving all down one side. All it needs now is books and many cheerful children to match. There is still much painting to be done; outside walls, beams and new adjoining classroom. Brian Hyson, all hot and sweaty from playing a four-hour (*sic*) hockey match, had a good idea about how to get it all done. We will have a joint painting work party of Rotarians, parents and staff finished off with a braai and fellowship. The head mistress, who managed to avoid getting splattered with paint, thought it was an excellent idea and has promised to put it together. *Watch this space!*

Monday's meeting – 14 September 2015

What happened?

Wine auction: Mike Brandon was congratulated on an excellent wine auction and Brian for being a great auctioneer, even with a scratchy throat.

KNP Seniors trip. There was some discussion on how best to select people for the trip to make sure the most deserving people go along. We need to keep in mind that some wealthy older folks might be able to afford it, but are lonely and need the social outing.

Rotary Family Health Day – a meeting was held with Janine (president of RC of Nelspruit) and Health department. We don't have enough time to do our own day but it was agreed that we would help Nelspruit where needed. It will be held at a clinic at Brondal from 7 -9 October.

Friendship Exchange: A group from Sweden will be arriving on 13th November and 6 couples will need hosting. During their stay we will have a wine tasting at Heuglins and our annual potjie competition at George's home.

Department of Tourism: they are holding a conference on social tourism. Judy and Netto will be involved.

George will be away and out of action for the next few weeks as he is having an operation on his foot. George asked for volunteers to help Liz with transporting building materials to Masoyi and/or Lwalent. His bakkie is available for use.

Liz thanked everyone for their help with painting the new library at Lwaleng on Sunday. Brian has suggested that next time parents get involved in a work party too.

Leon has tickets for a raffle in aid of Cupcakes for Cancer children (they always give us a donation towards Camp Quality). The prize is two nights at King's Camp and tickets are available from Leon for R250.00 per ticket.

Wine draw: Albie won the wine draw.

Sergeant: Renate was the sergeant.

Pretty Belinda:

- Leon is happy that his son is off to Australia to represent South Africa in Indoor cricket.
- Hitesh – anonymous donation
- Tony sad that this is his second meeting as a Rotarian and will be leaving to go back to Australia
- Mike B – glad that the wine auction is over.
- Rob – his car is out of action for a few weeks but his grandson turned 21 and his daughter turned 50.
- Ruffians
- Netto sad that a wall fell on one of his vehicles, but happy it was no worse.



Next week's duties:

- Organizer: Mike Cleary
- Grace and Fellowship: Mike Brandon
- Sergeant: Malcolm Cameron
- Information: Cheryl Calmeyer

The week ahead:

- Sunday 20th – Spring Brunch at the Howlands.

We missed
you



Gavin	Malcolm
Kosy	Huffy
Nic and Joan	Warren
Judy	Cheryl
Hein	Mike L
Don	Patrick R
Debbie	Michael W
JD	



Rob Sykes – 17 September

Mike Lewis – 20 September

Nic and Joan van Zyl – 18 September

Telling our stories

It was cold and wet and rather a dismal day, but that did not deter a band of helpers who arrived at Lwaleng Primary School, near Hillsvie, armed with paint brushes and rollers and all sorts of other paraphernalia ready to transform the new library that has been built there.



Lwaleng has only recently joined our ever growing list of institutions that we help. It started off when two Swiss teachers, introduced to our club by Liz, moved out to South Africa for a year and started helping at the school. They built a classroom, as well as providing furniture for the learners at the school.

Round Square then came along with a group of students and built a second classroom.

A year later, Round Square came back and built yet another classroom and a library. Uplands and Penryn have held book drives to gather books to fill the new library and as you know, we were all involved in painting the new library a beautiful bright sunshine yellow!

The shelves are in, the walls are painted now all we need is to catalogue the books and help them with a system that will work, for issuing the books.

Here is a picture of the current “classroom” – lets hope that they are happy in their new one and that many hours of productive learning take place!



Every time we get a new member in the club, they are overwhelmed by all the “Rotary Speak”, not to mention all the acronyms that are used in the organization.

I have used this before (thank you Gavin!) but it certainly bears repeating and is both informative and entertaining!

RAs (or Rotary Acronyms)

No matter your background, fellow Rotarian
 Whether Christian, Muslim or plain nonsectarian
 You may be a doctor, a teacher, librarian,
 Famed ballerina, retired veterinarian,
 Carnivore, herbivore, resolute vegetarian
 A Taurus, a Libra, a brave Sagittarian
 Perhaps still a Virgo, or like me, just an Arian.

But I bet you five rand that you are confused
 Bewildered, perplexed, nonplussed and bemused
 Because by now you must have discerned
 That Rotarians use acronyms at every turn.

What is an A-G I ask with a sigh?
 And a new P-E brings a tear to my eye.
 Have you been to PETS? And why ever not?
 Studied the M-O-P, every dot?
 Have you seen the new A-P? She's a good-looker
 And best of all, a knitter and cooker.
 I say, are you one of that illustrious group
 Whose jacket with badges drags and droops?
 A P-P, P-A-G, or maybe a RIPPR
 More ribbons and stars than the biggest Big Dipper.
 I have to admit, I find it quite scary
 Whenever I see a man who's an EREY
 And don't think that POETS are bards slightly worn
 Or the RIP is a garment tattered and torn
 Is your club in STEP? No I don't mean 'in tune'
 I wouldn't suggest or even impugn
 That your YEP is not active and your AMs not all busy
 That your SAMs are asleep or driving you dizzy
 But there can't be a club any more viler
 That doesn't send its young people to RYLA.
 And to T-R-F makes contributions
 As well as upgrading the local ablutions.

I cannot continue, I've run out of steam
 But one thing I know, the Rotary team
 Whether youthful, mid-aged or perhaps antiquarian
 D-G-N, P-D-G or straightforward Rotarian,
 Whether M-O-P's on the desk or in dust on the shelf
 Supports the community, puts Service before Self.

YIR
 PP GS.
 RCWR

AG Assistant Governor
 PE President Elect
 PETS Presidents Elect Training Seminar
 MOP Manual of Procedure
 AP Ann President

PP Past President
 PAG Past Assistant Governor
 RIPPR Rotary International President's Personal Representative
 EREY "Every Rotarian Every Year"
 POETS Presidents and Officers Elect Training Seminar
 RIP Rotary International President
 STEP Short Term Exchange Programme

YEP Youth Exchange Programme
 AM Active Member
 SAM Senior Active Member
 Rotary Youth Leadership Award
 The Rotary Foundation

District Governor Nominee
 Past District Governor

Yours in Rotary
 Past President Gavin Sinclair
 Rotary Club of White River.

On the lighter side

The world is in turmoil and there are some serious problems which will affect us all. It is good, however, to keep one's sense of humour and laugh at those things that really scare us!

The English are feeling the pinch in relation to recent events in Syria and have therefore raised their security level from "Miffed" to "Peeved." Soon, though, security levels may be raised yet again to "Irritated" or even "A Bit Cross." The English have not been "A Bit Cross" since the blitz in 1940 when tea supplies nearly ran out. Terrorists have been re-categorized from "Tiresome" to "A Bloody Nuisance." The last time the British issued a "Bloody Nuisance" warning level was in 1588, when threatened by the Spanish Armada.

- The Scots have raised their threat level from "Pissed Off" to "Let's get the Bastards." They don't have any other levels. This is the reason they have been used on the front line of the British army for the last 300 years.
- The French government announced yesterday that it has raised its terror alert level from "Run" to "Hide." The only two higher levels in France are "Collaborate" and "Surrender." The rise was precipitated by a recent fire that destroyed France's white flag factory, effectively paralyzing the country's military capability.
- Italy has increased the alert level from "Shout Loudly and Excitedly" to "Elaborate Military Posturing." Two more levels remain: "Ineffective Combat Operations" and "Change Sides." The Germans have increased their alert state from "Disdainful Arrogance" to "Dress in Uniform and Sing Marching Songs." They also have two higher levels: "Invade a Neighbour" and "Lose."
- Belgians, on the other hand, are all on holiday as usual; the only threat they are worried about is NATO pulling out of Brussels.
- The Spanish are all excited to see their new submarines ready to deploy. These beautifully designed subs have glass bottoms so the new Spanish navy can get a really good look at the old Spanish navy.
- Australia, meanwhile, has raised its security level from "No worries" to "She'll be right, Mate." Two more escalation levels remain: "Crikey! I think we'll need to cancel the barbie this weekend!" and "The barbie is cancelled." So far no situation has ever warranted use of the last final escalation level.
- A final thought: "Greece is collapsing, the Iranians are getting aggressive, and Rome is in disarray. Welcome back to 430 BC"