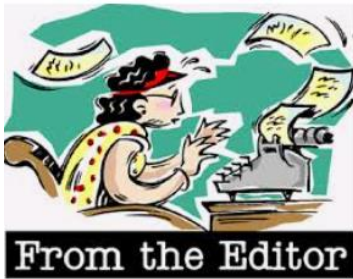




# Rotavision

## January 2022



February is Peace and conflict prevention/resolution month throughout the world. Millions of people all over the world are currently displaced by armed conflict or persecution. In fact, 90% of casualties in armed conflicts are civilians, half of which are children. Through service projects and Rotary programs, the Rotary family is committed to pursuing projects that address the structural causes of conflict, including poverty, inequality, ethnic tension, lack of access to education, and unequal distribution of resources.

Rotarians train adults and young leaders to prevent and mediate conflict, and aid refugees who have fled dangerous areas. During February, Rotary Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month, we're celebrating our commitment to build peace and aid refugees who have fled dangerous areas. During February, Rotary Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month, we're celebrating our commitment to bringing peace to a troubled world.



## Baumgart's Blog

First of all, a very Happy New Year to all of you, and may we have lots of successful projects and also lots of fun for the remainder of this Rotary Year. For me it is now half time, and I am not too sure how I would rate myself in terms of performance. I leave that to you to determine.

Let me start this blog with 2 recent events which have absolutely nothing to do with Rotary but contributed to brightening up my boring days. The first one was the justification of the proposed cancellation of SAA's contract with Air Chefs. The minister of some kind of affairs actually said in the public media that "if my sister can make fat cook, why should I buy from my neighbor?" Now that really had me in stitches and I had to listen to it over and over again. Air Chefs is a state owned company, a subsidiary of SAA, and has the capacity to prepare 45 000 meals per day, and they are actually profitable. I tried to visualize an individual sitting on the tarmac with a portable braai and watching 1000's of incoming passengers, and they all need feeding. But on a serious note, for much longer do we allow cretins to be members of our government? It is really getting from bad to worse.

But other countries also have their fair shares of embarrassing moments. Mr. Joe Biden, in his capacity as President of the great US of A, said on public TV that the US would certainly intervene in the case of a Russian invasion of the Ukraine. But, he said, if the Russians only invade the Ukraine "a little bit" the US will not interfere. Now, can anybody explain the difference between a "proper" invasion and a "little" invasion? This also had me in stitches for quite some time until I noticed that this "intelligent" comment which apparently only took 7 seconds to utter actually cost me quite a bit of money because it resulted in a mini crash of the US stock exchange where I hold a small portion of my pension savings. Is it a consolation that each country has their fair share of idiots at the top? Countries should really only allow people with positive IQ's to be voted into public office.

Enough of idle talk, but it was highly entertaining anyway. Back to Rotary business.

On a personal note I have to apologize that I was unfortunately conned into taking up a full time consulting job with my previous employer which will result in me missing a few meetings, but there are fortunately more than enough members who can stand in for me. Anyway, it will be over in March, and some of you might enjoy evenings without the "Kraut".

Our Potjie competition had to be postponed once again due to unstable weather conditions, a bit disappointing for a few of us who can't wait to take the trophy away from the "Sauerkrauts", but it will happen in April, so no need to panic.

We had a great clean-up day at the WRNR on the 29<sup>th</sup> of January with great support from local schools and good collaboration with other local initiatives, can't name them all but need to mention Tiffany Brigg's unbreakable enthusiasm. This fine young lady never gives up, and her commitment to improve our local environment is outstanding. She was also the guest speaker at our last meeting which resulted in very good attendance. We sold Boerewors rolls and managed to make some money which we decided to donate to Hospice. The highlight was watching Gavin in charge of the cooking, and I was duly impressed to witness such energy in producing top class feeding for all.

The last event of the month was our social held at the Hyson's house on Monday the 31<sup>st</sup> of January. As usual it was great fun and members were encouraged to bring new prospective members. Six of those turned up, and it was confirmed that we will be able to get at least two of them to join. Since both of them are below the age of 65, this will also contribute to decrease the average age of our club members. Thanks again to the Hyson's for hosting. This event also gave me the opportunity to get to know a few members a bit better, which is normally not possible at our regular meetings. One of those members, no name mentioned, told me that it is not surprising that I have been married more than once, because no woman could take my sh... over an extended period. Kept me awake for a few nights, but I love honesty!!!

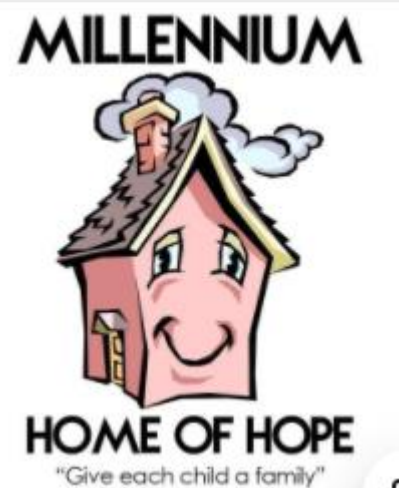
On that note, let me sign off and get ready to work, it is already 2:45 in the morning. Have a great month of February and keep on enjoying Rotary.

## The Rotary Anns

The Anns have not been too busy lately- we resumed meetings on the first Thursday in February after the Christmas/New Year break.

We had to scramble to find people to make sandwiches when we found out at the last minute that we were due to make them the following week. Luckily, we have an amazing group of ladies who offered to take turns and within a very short time had a roster organized.

Renate and I took one of the prospective new Rotarians to Millennium Home of Hope last week and spent a happy hour or so playing out in the garden with the children. They seldom go out and don't really know how to play on the equipment that they have. There are some areas of concern at the home and we hope together with the management and perhaps the Rotary Club, we can address some of these issues.



## Meetings

We started out meetings in January with three live meetings at Gum Trees. After much discussion it was agreed that we would have 3 live meetings and one Zoom meeting each month.

This month we had a very interesting talk on relocating 30 rhinos from South Africa to Rwanda. Thank you, Les.



Tiffany Briggs came to talk to the club before the big clean-up of the White River Nature Reserve and inspired many members to be present on the day. Luckily the weather held out.

## The Big Clean Up!

On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> January, Rotary, in conjunction with several other interested parties gathered at the Rugby club to clean up the White River Nature reserve, This is the start of a project to rehabilitate the Reserve and make it a space where residents of White River can walk, cycle and enjoy being close to nature.



**A group of school children from Uplands joined in the Big clean up**



**White River Rotarians were out in force**





**Everyone was there from our oldest Rotarian to...**



**... the very young**



**Rotarians and Anns helped make Wors Rolls.....**



**.... and Gavin cooked the Wors**

Every Sunday, Woolworths donates their food that is about to expire to our club for Mashadza Special Care Centre. We were very fortunate over the festive season to get much needed food for many people at Mashadza.



**Car laden with food ready for Mashadza**



**Happy children with biscuits from Woolies**



Official rate of exchange for February:  
 $\$1.00 = R15.59$

## February birthdays

Christilda – 4 Feb

Joan– 17 Feb

Mags

Mariette – 19 Feb

Andrew Fry – 20 Feb

Mary – 24 Feb



Puns – you love them ... or hate them!

So here goes!

A man just assaulted me with milk, cream and butter. How

dairy!

Did you hear about the new reversible jackets? I'm excited to see how they turn out.

Atheism is a non-prophet organization.

Did you hear about two silk worms in a race? It ended in a tie.



dyed a little inside.



Yesterday I accidentally swallowed some food colouring. The doctor says I'm Ok, but I feel like I've

Don't interrupt someone working intently on a puzzle. Chances are, you'll hear some crosswords.

"Shout out to the people that don't know what the opposite of in is!"