



Rotary Club
White River
Mpumalanga



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Rotavision

May 2022



From the Editor

In June, we look at a topic in Rotary that many people are not even aware of.

As I sit here with my computer balanced on my lap and an ice pack on my Knee (and its really cold outside!) I got to thinking about Rotary Fellowships

Rotary Fellowships are international groups that share a common passion. Being part of a fellowship is a fun way to make friends around the world, explore a hobby or profession, and enhance your Rotary experience.

I then got to wondering if there was a Rotary Fellowship of people on crutches? It might be quite useful to share experiences and frustrations of trying to get around on crutches or with a walker. However, no matter how hard I looked, I could not find one!

To link in with a Rotary Fellowship group when travelling, is a wonderful way to meet like minded people in new countries.

Here are a few of the fellowships that exist:

- [Bathhouse](#)
- [Beard and Moustache](#)
- [Bee](#)
- [Beer](#)
- [Bird Watching](#)
- [Bowling](#)
- [LGBT+](#)
- [Magicians](#)
- [Magna Graecia](#)
- [Marathon Running](#)
- [Metalhead](#)
- [Military Veterans](#)

Just a small cross section of groups that one can join. And then I found one for Pickleball lovers – Pickle ball?!?





Our annual Golf day was held on Friday 27th May, 2022.

Thanks to all the Rotarians who turned up to assist with the Golf Day and helped to make it a success.

Thank you, too, for all the donations for the Booze Barrow which helped to swell the coffers.

The Hysons were the lucky winners of the Wheelbarrow, which was sorely needed for the work required to keep their rather large property in order! Of course, the many bottle in the Barrow were of no real importance!



Community



MSHADZA

We would like to give the Club an update on the Mshadza Special Care Centre, our project for children with disabilities. There are many Rotarians in the club who are not too au fair with what we as a club do for Mshadza and have done in the past.

Firstly, a little bit of the history. More details on this can be found on the booklet "History of White River Rotary Club – written by PDG Albie Van Der Venter.

Mshadza was started by our Club more than 20 years ago. It took several years to get the project up and running. The Presidents at the time were Brian Regan, George Canning and Frances Hyson and the main person involved with Mshadza was Rhodes Abell. The centre has had its ups and own but the work of Lucy Ngomane was crucial in its continued existence. Lucy died recently and her work has been continued by her daughter Gloria. Liz Mackintosh has played a huge role from the Club's perspective over a number of years, coaxing funds from our Club to help repair, add to etc, When things go wrong she also acts as a general overseer of Mshadza for our Club and the Swiss group that is involved in the centre. . This is a job that is quietly done in the background.

The current Position.

In the first instance the Woolworth Food continues to be taken every Sunday. We pick up at about 16:00 /16:15 and deliver it to the home of Gloria, the person in charge of Mshadza. It is not a long distance and generally one is back home by 17:30.

Any person who would like to join the Group please let Liz know. I know that if the Group gets too big, I, for one, would be happy to drop out.

The number of children being cared for is approximately 65 and is steadily growing.. For this number of children, a number of carers are required. These people are generally parents of the children attending the school. They are paid a minimal stipend well under the minimum wage.

A few of the carers have been sent on courses and over the years there has been improvement in care and stimulation given to the kids.

The extremely low stipend was noted by Liz and she spoke to her contact in Switzerland, Sandra. Sandra having been involved in Mshadza and the expansion thereof has started an organization called Operation South Africa. From funds received the Swiss have enabled the stipend to be increased to a more acceptable level.

A further development is the need for some sort of sustainable income. In the past chicken production was seen to be the best form of income. Indeed a Global Grant was received and the chicken house together with state of the art feeding lots. The funding was done by the application and receipt of a Global Grant.

The sad thing is the scheme never really worked due to a number of issues and currently the whole building is not in use. A sad state of affairs.

There is a lot of ground and there is water. In the past a good crop of Chillies have been grown and sold locally. The problem here is that thieves just helped themselves to the crop.

Again Liz spoke to Sandra and Adrian, a new benefactor, to see if they could help. It was agreed that if vegetables were to be grown then security was needed. A quote was received to totally fence the whole property. This was approved by the Swiss, an amount of R 120 000.00.

Installation of this fence will take place in May this year. Ezigrow have agreed to supply all the vegetables and the University of Mpumalanga has agreed to conduct soil testing and generally oversee the planting programme.

As can be seen we are on the move to hopefully making Mshadza a better place for the children as well as creating a sustainable vegetable programme.

Although the Swiss have been wonderful in their help and support of the project our Club is still very much involved and any member who would like to assist or has any ideas that can be used would be most welcome.

We hope the above gives the Club a clearer indication of the project and what has been done there . There still is much to be done and hopefully one day the whole centre will be taken over and run by the government. Who knows!!

Brian Hyson and Liz Mackintosh.

. Welcome to our newest member – Trudi Grove Morgan! We hope you enjoy being a member of the Rotary Club of White River.



Official rate of exchange for June:
\$1.00 = R15.52

June birthdays

James – 8 June

Kath – 22 June



If we don't laugh, we will cry!

