

# ROTARY CLUB OF WYNBERG

# WYNPRESS

Vol. 65 No.16

21st November, 2013

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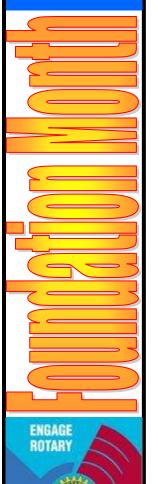
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CHANGE

# **EDITORIAL**

# TRAVELS IN AFRICA

With corruption and incompetence in government frequently being aired, it is sad to note that state owned enterprises such as SAA, which could be made viable, are obliged to follow government policies, leading in many cases to losses and hence a further burden on the tax payer, together with horrible side effects.

The policy of concentrating on routes into Africa in an attempt to become the dominant airline for access in the continent, for whatever reason, comes at a price. Whilst high airport duties and insufficient wealth of the African middle classes at this stage will render this venture uneconomic, the inconvenience and damage to tourism is huge as other services are withdrawn to provide the aircraft for these African routes.

The convenient but supposedly unprofitable direct service to London from the country's No. 1 tourist attraction has gone. Surprisingly the London service from Johannesburg still operates, but for us it takes a further 4 hours, a long addition to the 11 hours of a direct flight and with increased chance of baggage theft. Fortunately other European airlines are moving in to fill this gap. What is interesting is that Middle Eastern airlines such as Emirates still find it worthwhile to fly an extra 60% distance to reach Europe and compete cost wise and to do this twice a day. It is also the intention to withdraw the service to Buenos Aires. Argentina is one of our fastest growing sources of tourists to this country and trade relations will also be damaged. It is unlikely that another airline will take over this route. So we have a beautiful lose-lose situation.

A policy which would be unlikely to be accepted is to dispense with SAA altogether. Many countries manage to exist without a national airline. This however would not address the tourism problem.

Unless the Western Cape is deliberately being sabotaged, I do wonder whether our politicians realise that there is a world beyond Africa, a world where 98% of world business activity occurs, that Africa is largely a joke and that being the biggest joker is perhaps not the best of ideas.

Which brings me to wonder, with the hundreds of other things slowly deteriorating, whether it is not a bad idea to look at booking for Perth while there is still space..... but not on SAA of course!

By String Smith

#### **MEETING OF 14 NOVEMBER**

## **ATTENDANCE**

Membership: 27
Present: 15
Make Ups: 7
Apologies: 1

Attendance: 81%

Guests: Dottie Leveque, guest speaker Dr Nikki Fuller from Victoria Hospital.

Rotarian visiors: Anne and Frederik van den Bergh from Ufenau RC, Zurich, Switzerland, Carol and John

Astell from Church Wilne RC, Nottingham, UK.

Melkbos RC: Angela, Theresa, Andrew, Linda, Peter, Christine, Alan and Una.

Attendance to Biffy 082 468 7504 or aecon.e@mweb.co.za.

## **SLOTS:**

Biffy: 1. Reminder for Conference at Knysna – let her know if you need accommodation.

- 2. Childrens' Day 23 Nov. the new Rotaract Club of Retreat will be involved too.
- 3. Requests help in buying presents for Uncle Paul's Charity Night on 5 Dec. Melkbos immediately responded: they have 60 presents left over from a recent charity function, and Uncle Paul's will be very welcome to them.....now that is Rotary spirit!!
- 4. Funding for Isiphiwe school was finally approved by RI on 13 Nov.!

**Dennis:** Many thanks from the NLC for help by Rotarians with transport to and from the schools last week.

**Don:** Called his Seahouses RC last week and passed on greetings from the President and members.

**Roché:** After a 3 year gap, we again have the invaluable 2013/14 Members' Directory distributed to all present in HARD COPY (whatever that may be). Copies available on request. *Not really a 'slot', but fits here best! (Ed.).* 

#### **GUEST SPEAKER**

Dr Nikki Fuller is a specialist anaesthetist and runs the ICU Dept. at Victoria Hospital. She is also a Triathlon athlete!

Historically the hospital is 125 years old this year, and is the second oldest hospital, after Somerset. Initial fundraising for its establishment was undertaken by the ladies of Wynberg.

It now draws on an area in the Greater Cape Town sprawl of between 800 000 and 1 000 000 people, handling between 38 000 and 40 000 outpatients per annum – or some 100 per day with an average stay of 2-3 days. Cleanliness is paramount and fortunately there is a high level of teamship, which keeps everything on track. All management are encouraged to draw up 'business plans', which they work to (in most cases regardless of Government permission!), and 'Make Things Happen'.

Future projects include a rehabilitation centre, requiring much equipment, and a new emergency centre due to open in 2014.

Statistically Victoria Hospital runs at up to 110% of capacity, although nursing salary allowance is only set at 85%. Understandably, space has become a major constraint and staff commitment and efficiency are paramount to the successful continued operation. Plans are afoot to move to a site in Retreat by 2016, but this will cost many millions.

Nikki was introduced by Graham G and thanked by String.

Separately Andrew Thomson, from Melkbos RC thanked the speaker and Wynberg RC for the excellent presentation and evening's hospitality.

# **PROGRAMME**

Committee: van Wyk, Gowdy, Overbosch, Todd, Murphy, Klotz-Gleave			
Normal meeting / Thanksgiving Day in the USA			
Guest speaker: Linda-Gail Bekker: The Desmond Tutu HIV Centre, Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, UCT.  Feedback from 6 RYLA students including 4 from Lavender Hill			
Retreat Rotaract meeting / Uncle Paul's starts			
Business meeting			
Committee: Knight, Bredenkamp, Cleveland, Munday, Orsmond, van Eeden			

1 December World AIDS Day

5 December Uncle Paul's charity evening

12 December Fun / Christmas meeting (gifts and no speaker). WRC is 64 years old today!!

16 December Day of Reconciliation

19 December No meeting

21 December Uncle Paul's final evening

January 2014 Committee: James, Danckwerts, Schreiber, Smith, Williams, Lidgley

9 January Business meeting - Rotary info. meeting

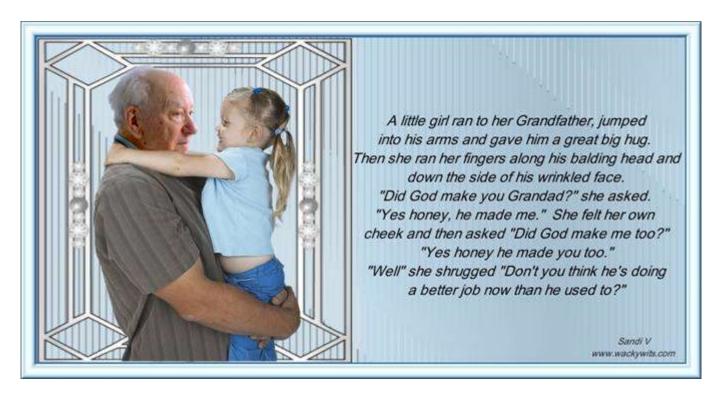
# **DUTY ROSTER**

DUTY	21 November	28 November	5 December	12 December
Sergeant	Van Eeden	Gowdy	UNCLE PAUL'S CHARITY EVENING	Schreiber
Attendance Officer	Danckwerts	Danckwerts		Danckwerts
Wynpress Editorial	Todd	van Eeden		Vivian
Minutes for Wynpress	Wetmore	Danckwerts		Cleveland
Compilation of Wynpress	Cleveland	Wetmore		Danckwerts
Door Duty	Smith	Todd		van Wyk
Grace	Schreiber	Smith		van Wyk
Loyal Toast	Murphy	Schreiber		Todd
International Toast	Munday	Howard		Smith
Speaker Introduction	Schonegevel	N/A		TBA
Speaker Thanks	Lidgley	N/A		Murphy

#### PRESIDENT'S QUOTES FROM DR SEUSS

- 1. I like nonsense. It wakes up the brain cells. Fantasy is a necessary ingredient in living.
- You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes.
  You can steer yourself any direction you choose.
  You're on your own and you know what you know,
  And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go.
- 3. Today you are you. That is truer than true. There is no one alive who is youer than you.

## **TAILPIECE**





It's called **reading**.

It's how people install new software into their brains.