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**FEBRUARY IS WORLD
UNDERSTANDING MONTH**



EDITORIAL

The following piece of FUN came about when I was recently helping my assistant's son write a summary of Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice".

The somewhat dry nature of that assignment got me thinking about how the tabloid press of medieval Venice would have presented this rather gory trial to their readers, hence my personal adaptation/skewing of the facts:

CANNIBALISTIC LOAN SHARK LOSES CLAIM AGAINST LEADING VENETIAN SHIPPING MAGNATE ON A TECHNICALITY!

- Michaelus Schreiberi, Investigative Reporter, Venice Sun

In a celebrity court case that has been the talk of the canals and cafes in Venice in recent weeks, judgment was yesterday handed down in the so-called "pound of flesh fiasco". The honourable court was asked to rule on the somewhat outrageous claim brought by rich moneylender Shylock (t/a 'Sharks R Us Loans') against Antonio, a respectable shipping merchant, and owner of the "Proudly Venetian" company "Concordia Cruises".

The plaintiffs were described in court papers as an innovative structured finance company, known for their "cutting edge" technology and extremely swift turnaround times. According to a company spokesman, dealing with them would definitely not cost you "an arm and a leg", but when pressed further about the possible loss of other body parts, the spokesman told this reporter: "No further comment – we believe we have a watertight case."

The detailed facts surrounding this case have been reported (ad nauseam!) in previous editions, but the claim essentially arose out of a loan made by Shylock to Antonio, who in turn gave the money to his playboy friend Bassanio, to enable him to pursue his dream of marrying the rich, trendy socialite Portia (heiress to the Belmont Hotel fortune). Problems arose however when Antonio was unable to repay the said loan because of a slump in the global shipping business, due to key markets being flooded and untimely investments in sinking funds.

Proceedings were dominated by the usual allegations of evidence tampering, trials within trials, and breaks for tea. Although the court heard evidence of ongoing hostilities between the parties, the matter ultimately came down to the small print of the contract. It was pointed out to Shylock by the very shrewd (and strangely attractive) young legal brain "Dr Balthasar" that while he was allowed his pound of flesh, he was not entitled to shed one drop of Antonio's blood (otherwise he would be charged immediately with murder).

As Shylock was not able to comply with this condition, the case against Antonio was dismissed and the court made a further large costs order against the defeated Shylock.

When asked to comment outside the court, counsel for Shylock exclaimed that he personally didn't think Dr Balthasar "had the balls" to win a case like this one, but it seemed that he definitely had a lot to get off his chest!

About the writer: Michaelus is an award winning journalist and has covered many cases in the war zones of medieval Italy. As a direct result of this case he has now become a vegetarian, attends therapy on Wednesday mornings and drinks copious amounts of red wine. Allegations that he is a founder member of the notorious "paparazzi" have never been proved. You can follow him on Twitterus.

Other recent investigative journalism by Schreiberi:

1. New Pisa Development – allegations of poor building contractors and kickbacks are “skewed” says local councilor.
2. Pisa – looking at the proposed new development from a slightly different angle.
3. Pisa – looking at employment opportunities from a different slant.

MEETING OF 6 FEBRUARY 2014

ATTENDANCE

Membership: 28
Present: 16
Make Ups: 3
Apologies: 9
Attendance: 57%

Visitors: Matthieu Snaith & Austin Cook-Lindsay.

Jackie toasted RI and the Rotary Club of Kingston, Jamaica: *“Everything will be alright” – Bob Marley*

Pres. Karen welcomed all to the Business Meeting, and especially Matthieu and Austin.

She shared some sad news: Oistein and Evelyn Glommi, recent visitors from Nittedal, Norway recently lost their son to brain cancer. Wynberg Rotary Club members extend their heartfelt sorrow and condolences.

Attendance to Biffy 0813259570 or aecon.e@mweb.co.za.

SLOTS

Biffy would welcome a volunteer to be her 2iC at the Rotary Family Health Days, please.

Lena, as Austin’s counsellor asked for the name of a suitable short term insurance company to cover aspects such as his laptop etc.

Ken brings greetings from former member Derek Magnussen, as well as from Dennis Toens’ widow, Emra, who is currently at Arniston.

Stephen advised that Aubrey is trying to get an Australian visa in order to see his daughter, who is terminally ill with cancer. We will not see him for several months.

NOT THE PRESIDENT’S QUOTE

When the Dalai Lama was asked what surprised him most about humanity, he answered, “Man, because he sacrifices his health in order to make money. Then he sacrifices money to recuperate his health. And then he is so anxious about the future that he does not enjoy the present; the result being that he does not live in the present or the future. He lives as if he is never going to die, and then dies, having never really lived!”.

PROGRAMME

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|----------------------|---|
| February 2014 | Committee: Barnard, Bird, Hovstad, Michalowsky, Wetmore, Jackson, Schonegevel |
| 12 February | Retreat Rotaract meeting |
| 13 February | Interact evening |
| 14 February | Valentine's Day |
| 15 February | Valentine's Day social |
| 19 February | Wynberg Rotaract meeting |
| 20 February | Wendy Dias "Anti-Counterfeiting and Security." NB At Perivale Junior School. |
| 23 February | Rotary International birthday (109 this year) |
| 26 February | Retreat Rotaract meeting |
| 27 February | Elizabeth Daly – Public knowledge and stormwater quality in Cape Town: implications for management. |

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| March 2014 | Committee: van Wyk, Gowdy, Overbosch, Todd, Murphy, Klotz-Gleave, van Niekerk |
| 3 March | Board meeting |
| 5 March | Wynberg Rotaract meeting |
| 6 March | Business meeting |
| 9 March | Argus Cycle Tour |
| 12 March | Retreat Rotaract meeting |
| 13 March | Normal meeting/Rotaract Birthday – speaker TBA |
| 15 & 16 March | Proms |
| 19 March | Wynberg Rotaract meeting |
| 20 March | Normal meeting – speaker TBA |
| 21 March | Human Rights Day / Public holiday |
| 26 March | Retreat Rotaract meeting |
| 27 March | Normal meeting – speaker TBA |
| 28 March | School holidays start |

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| April 2014 | Committee: Knight, Bredenkamp, Cleveland, Munday, Howard, van Eeden, Du Plessis |
| 2-4 April | Rotary Family Health Days |
| 3 April | Business Meeting |
| 7 April | School term starts |
| 10 April | 'Wine Tasting – Truths and Lies': Dennis Gowdy and Fred Kuys |
| 17 April | Normal meeting – speaker TBA |
| 24 April | Normal meeting – speaker TBA |
| 1-4 May | District Conference |

Words have the power of conveying images.
This power has the habit of transcending the truth.
It's why myths persist in the face of facts.

- Professor Roy Siegfried

DUTY ROSTER

| DUTY | 13 February | 20 February | 27 February | 6 March |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| Sergeant | Cleveland | Schreiber | Barnard | Todd |
| Attendance Officer | Danckwerts | Danckwerts | Danckwerts | Danckwerts |
| Wynpress Editorial | Howard | Jackson | James | Klotz-Gleave |
| Minutes for Wynpress | Danckwerts | Wetmore | Danckwerts | Cleveland |
| Compilation of Wynpress | Cleveland | Danckwerts | Wetmore | Danckwerts |
| Door Duty | Hovstad | Schonegevel | Du Plessisname | Gavin |
| Grace | Gavin | Howard | Jackson | van Niekerk |
| Loyal Toast | Bredenkamp | Gowdy | Hovstad | Howard |
| International Toast | Wetmore | Cleveland | Du Plessis | Bird |
| Speaker Introduction | James | TBA | TBA | TBA |
| Speaker Thanks | Williams | Du Plessis | Gavin | Schonegevel |

JACKPOT:

Austin drew Jacob Zuma's name from the box (Big Brother is not only watching you, he is there!), But 10♣ didn't qualify for the R1715 kitty, and was destroyed – leaving 36 cards in the depleted pack. Don won the R22 consolation prize.

TAILPIECE

