



Rotary Club of Wynberg

WYNPRESS

Vol: 66 No: 21 Date: 22 January 2015

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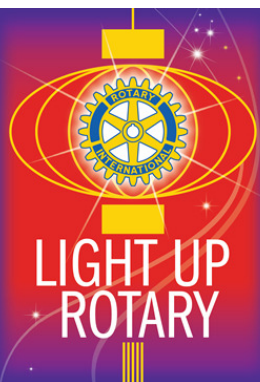
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Rotary in January
Rotary Awareness month



EDITORIAL

Throughout the ages the wise, the not-so-wise and politicians have tried to predict the future. While there have been some successes – after all, if everyone guesses 50 possibilities someone is likely to get it right – but the interest generally lies in the failures by experts or other well - known people.

Some current predictions, which I hope to be around to verify are

- Richard Branson and Virgin Galactic's commercial flights to the moon by 2043 <http://www.virgingalactic.com/> and <http://edition.cnn.com/2013/12/09/tech/space-tourism/>
- Elon Musk and Space-X's manned Martian Colonies starting in the late 2020's <http://www.cnet.com/news/elon-musks-mars-vision-is-bigger-than-you-thought/>
- Artificial eyes (that can see) <http://www.livescience.com/22373-an-artificial-eye-that-can-see.html>

And on the less serious note,

- Pres. Zuma's prediction that the ANC will rule until the second coming.

However, as mentioned, the failures are the interesting ones.

In 1859 associates of Edwin L Drake replied to his suggestion to drill for oil :- "Drill for oil? You mean drill into the ground to try and find oil? You're crazy!"

In 1873 Sir John Ericksen, a British surgeon appointed as Surgeon – Extraordinaire' to Queen Victoria announced that no surgeon will ever operate on the heart or brain :- "The abdomen, the chest, and the brain will forever be shut from the intrusion of the wise and humane surgeon."

Or how about the electric light presented with much fanfare at the Paris Exhibition received the comment from Oxford Professor Erasmus Wilson "When the Paris Exhibition closes, electric light will close with it, and no more will be heard of it." (Did Eskom know something?)

Unfortunately even Lord Kelvin, President of the Royal Society and a scientific pioneer was led astray in 1883, with "X-rays will prove to be a hoax".

Flight has always been a dream of mankind. As a pre-cursor to commercial flights to the moon (and lower places) we have Professor Joseph le Conte reporting in Popular Science Monthly in 1888 "Is it not demonstrated that a true flying machine, self-raising, self sustaining, self propelling, is physically impossible?"

Society would be far more 'stay-at-home' if the advice of The President of the Michigan Savings Bank when advising Horace Rackham, Henry Ford's lawyer, turned out to be prescient: "The horse is here to stay, but the automobile is only a novelty – a fad".

We have often suspected that newspapers and other media prepare their headlines in advance , and so it turned out for the Syracuse Herald which on a fateful day in 1912 brought out a paper stating that “ Titanic Passengers all rescued: gigantic new liner limping in toward Halifax, badly damaged”

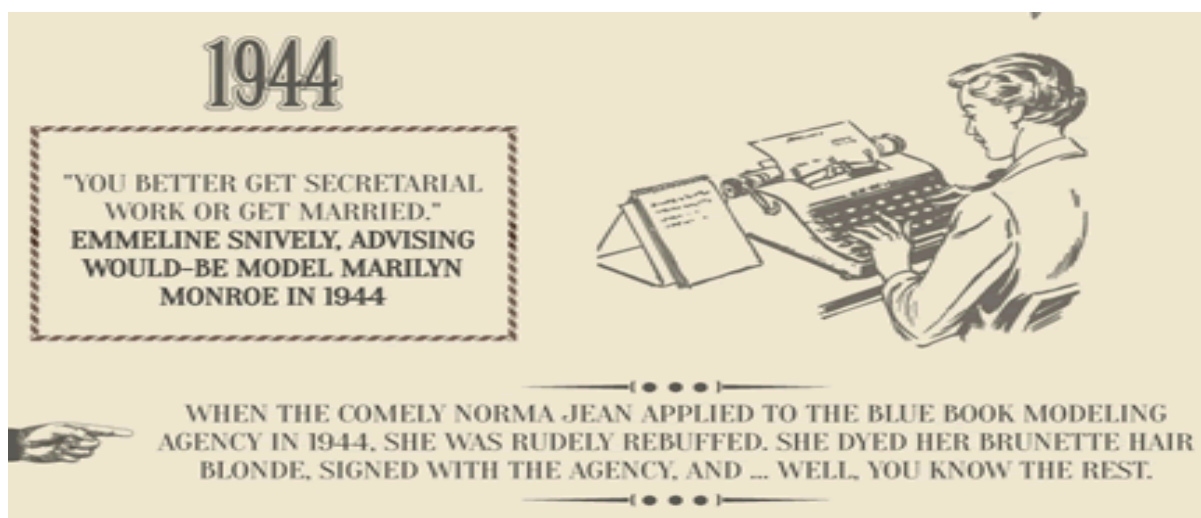
While flight developed, contrary to Professor le Conte’s assertion, space was another story. In 1920 the New York Times announced that “ A rocket will never be able to leave the Earth’s atmosphere”, teaching NASA a lesson, from which it seems to have recovered.

My personal favourite is now widely recognised as a mis-quote, though there are variations by other leading figures that have been confirmed. The mis-quote is by Tom Watson the then CEO of IBM, who is reputed to have said in +- 1948: "I think there is a world market for maybe five computers". It would be a weird conclusion by a man who led IBM to the world force it became.

[Picture and details taken from Huffington Post. Comments on Tom Watson taken from Wikipedia]

So now the winner of this year’s J&B Met will be

by Stephen Bredenkamp



MEETING OF 15 JANUARY 2015

Sergeant **Mike** on duty.

Attendance

Present	: 23
Apologies	: 3
Make ups	: 0
Absent	: 3
Attendance%	: 79

Visitors

Hugh Maunder, Austin (Ambassadorial Scholar)

President's items:

1. **Kit Schreiber** was formally inducted as a member of the club as he transferred from RC Beacon Bay.
2. We have a number of Norwegian guests visiting us in February:
 - Teachers and learners from Oddemarka Primary School will be visiting us from 23 Feb - 03 March and will be attending our meeting on 26 Feb.
 - Odd Henning and Reidun Johannessen of RC Karmøy and 6 teachers will be in Cape Town as the guests of Cape Town, False Bay and Boland Colleges from 12-22 Feb and will be attending our meeting on 19 Feb.
 - 8 members of RC Karmoy will be home hosted by RC Wynberg from 22 Feb - 02 March and will be attending our meeting on 26 Feb. We have requested that our club visit them in mid-June - confirmation awaited.
3. **Karen** is recovering well from her op and is now home.
4. Meetings for the rest of the month:

28th (Wednesday) - 'Raid' on RC Kromboom - The Palms is not available to us that evening.

Fellowship Announcements

Don is still alive – his words - after his operation and was pleased to be back at the meeting.
The **Smiths** “celebrate” 32 years of marital bliss on 20th. January. **Roche’s** birthday is that same day, but alas not 32 years.

Slots

Justin reminded members that the meal vouchers which were donated by Tangos at last year’s quiz were only valid until the end of February.

Keela was taking 35 kids to the aquarium and the Spur on 31 January. Assistance would be appreciated, meet at Spur at 8h45, assistants to pay own expenses.

Biffy had sent out letters to all the suggested donor organisations who might want wheelchairs. Positive responses had been received from St Luke's, Maitland Cottage & KFM. Due delivery date is the end of February.

Those going to Isiphiwo are to meet at **Biffy's** house at 8h45. Two cars will be used, with one coming back earlier than the other. The builder will be working and have his full crew and all tools at the school. We need only take cool drinks and muffins – **Biffy** will organise. We will be bashing down walls and plastering. Most of the stakeholders/suppliers have been invited, including two of the WC Education Department officials.

The list for those wanting to attend Opera in a Convent Garden was being circulated. Food is available at the venue, but rather take your own picnic basket.

Dennis implied that we had all missed out on free wine at his 77th birthday the previous week – **HA HA !!!**

Alan circulated samples of labels which could be attached to our generic business cards and which were cost effective.

Members' Moments

Keela had received a learnership from FNB for a Master's Degree in Business Management at Johannesburg University. **Graham G** would be returning to Durban as he was needed in what is basically the family business. **Dirk** would be running the Cape Town Office and **Graham T** had been recruited.

Barry informed members that following Delise Nash's funeral, he had taken her daughter along the Leafy Trail which had apparently meant so much to her mother.

Francois enquired what had happened to his badge.

Jackpot

In the absence of **Graham T**, we were spared the graft which is always present at the National Lottery.

President's Quotes

"If God did not intend for us to eat animals, then why did he make them out of meat?"

John Cleese

Amendment to last week's minutes

ROTARIANS at BABY COLLEGE

Training of "family supporters" will occur on 14 February 2015.

Running Parent Training from Saturday 14 March to Saturday 9 May, aside from 4 April and 2 May, which are a part of long weekends.

Wynberg Rotarians are welcome to attend the training of "family supporters" on 14 February as an opportunity to understand the programme to a fuller extent. If Rotarians wish to attend all or one or two training sessions, they are also welcome to do so.

Rotarians are required to assist in two ways:

To provide healthy sandwiches each Saturday (This means whole wheat or low GI bread, and healthy fillings- more info will be provided to volunteers)

Assistance to care for babies of up to 2 yrs (Only those who have had practice!)

If we get 7 volunteers for each of these requirements each volunteer will need to do 1 Saturday with regard to the requirement for which they volunteer.

Please respond to **Alan Jackson**.

Guest Speaker :

James Fernie, born in the Eastern Cape and having lived in the United Kingdom and Brussels, became disenchanted with violence and the law which he had studied. His experience in international tourism lead to his involvement with Uthando - Love-, an organisation which promotes community projects to tour operators with a view to foreign money providing a form of income, whether by tours, getting operators to establish vegetable gardens or building day care centres with British financial support. His personal project for the year is to publish a book of short stories of elderly ordinary blacks under apartheid.

John thanked James for a most interesting talk and obtained his signature on a dictionary for a school library.

GOING FORWARD



Duty Roster

	SOCIAL		FEBRUARY		
	22	28	5	12	
Sergeant			Todd	Van Eeden	
Attendance Officer	SAB	RAID	A O'Driscoll	A O'Driscoll	
Wynpress Editorial	VISIT	ON	Danckwerts	Dietrich	
Minutes for Wynpress	DETAILS	KROMBOOM	Cleveland	Overbosch	
Door Duty	TBA	CLUB	Dietrich	Du Plessis	
Grace			Barnard	Bird	
Loyal Toast			Cleveland	Danckwerts	
International Toast			Lidgley	Munday	
Speaker Introduction			Munday	N/A	
Speaker Thanks			Howard	N/A	
Find Speakers				Barnard, Bird, Hovstad, Jackson, Vivian, Schonegevel, A O Driscoll	

Programme

Thu Jan 22	SAB visit & tour
Tues Jan 27	WRC Board Meeting
Wed Jan 28	Raid on Kromboom
Thu Jan 29	No meeting: see last night
Mon Feb 2	Wynberg Rotaract
Thu Feb 5	1st Business meeting of the year
Thu Feb 12	Youth Services Meeting
Mon Feb 16	Wynberg Rotaract
Thu Feb 19	Alan Jackson Me Talk / Visit by Haugaland
Mon Feb 23 – Tue Mar 3	Visit by Oddemarka
Mon Feb 23	RI 110 Today
Tue Feb 24	WRC Board Meeting
Thu Feb 26	Fellowship meeting with Norwegian guests from Oddemarka / Karmoy
Mon Mar 2	Wynberg Rotaract
Thu Mar 5	Business meeting
Thu Mar 12	Meeting tbc
Sat Mar 14 / Sun Mar 15	Pearls of The Proms!!! :

See the WRC [calendar](http://wynbergrotary.org.za/calendar/) (http://wynbergrotary.org.za/calendar/) for full details.

Like us on ,  follow us on twitter (@wynbergrotary) and visit the [Rotary Club Wynberg website](#) to keep up to date

TAILPIECE

An old Woman was asked, "At your ripe age, what would you prefer to get : Parkinsons or Alzheimers?"

The wise one answered, "Definitely Parkinsons - Better to spill half my wine than to forget where I keep the bottle."