



The Rotary Club of Wynberg

# Wynpress



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**Editorial Board:** Barry Cleveland, Lina Howard, Hugh Maunder, String Smith, Keela van Niekerk

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## Editorial

### THE SLAVE SHIP 'AMISTAD'

*By Bev Bird*

In 1839 the slave-ship, the Amistad, laden with fifty-three enslaved Africans, including four children under the age of nine, all having been forcibly transported from their home country of Sierra Leone to Cuba where they were illegally sold as slaves, was making its way from Cuba to nearby Caribbean island where the slaves were to work on a sugar plantation. During the night one of the captives managed to free himself and some other slaves from their shackles and, using cane-knives which they found stored in the hold, succeeded in overpowering and dispatching the four crewmen manning the ship, thereafter demanding that their two slave-masters, both now seriously injured, sail the ship back to Africa.

For the following 60 days the slave-masters deceived the slaves by sailing southwards by day but turning northwards again each night in a bid to return to the safety of Cuba. The Amistad, its supply of food and water now depleted and ten of its slave passengers already dead, was eventually found by a coastguard vessel, floundering off the coast of New York. All of the surviving slaves were immediately imprisoned and charged with murder and other crimes.

Over the next two years three sensational trials ensued, dramatically splitting the American populace between those (mostly southern) states that were pro-slavery and those (mostly northern) that were anti-slavery. Northern sympathisers, for the first time now calling themselves abolitionists, collected funds to provide legal representation for the Africans, even appointing the former President, John Quincy Adams, to represent the Africans in the final Supreme Court trial. Against public expectation, all three courts found in favour of the Africans, declaring them to have acted as free men, entitled to secure their freedom - by force if necessary. Abolitionist groups eventually raised sufficient money to pay for the (by now 39) survivors to return to Sierra Leone as free men, women and children - all four children having survived their horrific ordeal.

# Minutes

7<sup>th</sup> April, 2016

	Compiled by Barry Cleveland
Attendance	13 Rotarians + 2 make ups: 48 %
Visitors	Nil
Fellowship	None this week
From the President	Pres. Stephen welcomed the small group present. Rotary Fun Day on Sunday 3 April was very successful and raised approx. R12 000. Every helper received a T shirt with the slogan "Rotarian at Work".
Slots	<p><b>JACKIE</b> (recovering from keyhole surgery to her shoulder!): The annual Children's outing has been postponed. Details to follow.</p> <p><b>BIFFY</b>: 1. Rotary Family Health Days will be 12-14 October 2016. 2. Not a good response so far for the hands-on request for Victoria Hospital.</p> <p><b>GRAHAM</b>: Thanks to all participants in Proms this year. Hand-over to the beneficiary, Voluntary Wildfire Fighters will be done at the meeting of 21 April. NB about 40 people are expected to attend on that evening – essential to confirm attendance beforehand. The Press will be invited. No guest speaker.</p> <p><b>MIKE</b>: Proms profit for 2016: R208 000 (2015 was R174 000 – 8.5% increase).</p> <p><b>ROCHÉ</b>: It was the second public exposure for Ground Up coffee at Proms. They made approx. R1800 each night, 50% of which is profit. About 120 cups per night served. Their next public exposure was at the Rotary Fun Day, where they made an encouraging R3400.</p> <p><b>STEPHEN</b>: Suggested a news article with pictures about Proms to distribute to the Promenaders and local community press.</p>
Guest Speaker	Business meeting – no guest speaker.
Swindle	Bev drew Dave's name, resulting in the destruction of 8♠. Rob won the R15 Attendance prize.

# Duty Roster

	April			May
	14	21	28	5
Sergeant	Overbosch	Schreiber	No	Todd
Wynpress Editorial	James	Dietrich	Meeting:	Munday
Wynpress Minutes	Van Niekerk	Howard	Conference	Maunder
Door Duty	Munday	Murphy		O'Driscoll
Grace	Bird	Cleveland		Danckwerths
Loyal Toast	Murphy	O'Driscoll		Overbosch
International Toast	Gowdy	Hovstad		Howard
Speaker Intro	Cleveland	James		N/A
Speaker Thanks	Schreiber	N/A		N/A
Entertainment for the month				Bird, Lidgley, Danckwerths, Hovstad, Klotz-Gleave

## Going Forward

### Dates To Diarise

14 Apr	Foundation: Carl-Heinz Duisberg
21 Apr	Proms hand-over to beneficiaries
28 Apr	No meeting (Conference)
28/29/30 Apr	District Conference
5 May	Business Meeting
24 May	Raid on Constantia RC
23 June	Induction of PE Alan Jackson (TBC)

## President's Quotes

A man without ethics is a wild beast loosed upon this world.

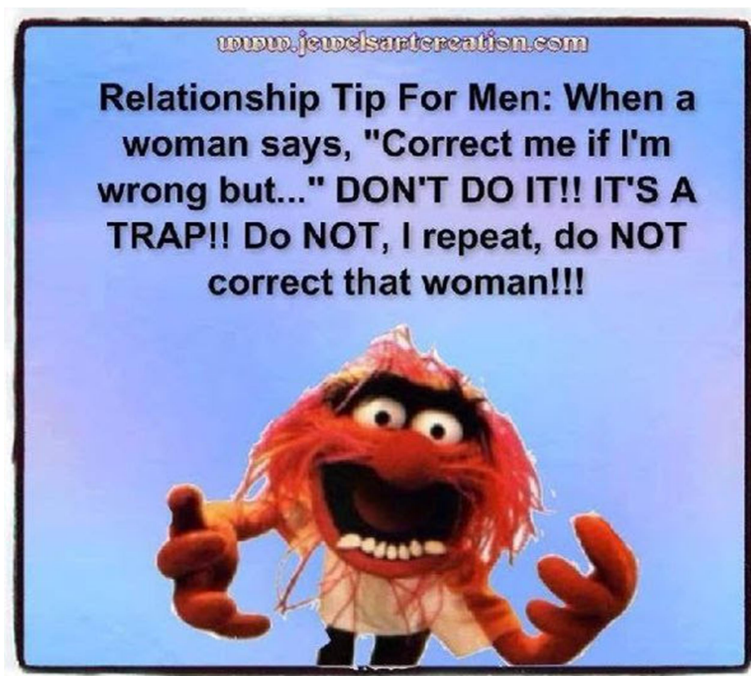
*Albert Camus: French Philosopher*

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

*Mahatma Gandhi*

(Dave Barnard guessed correctly.)

## Tailpiece



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