

## Editorial

### Some thoughts after a short visit to Sweden

The best thing from my short visit was the natural beauty, best seen hiking, cycling or boating. There are many beautiful well-kept buildings and homes. The people are well dressed and in fashion.

There is a strong Viking history with numerous museums and burial mounds. There is something wholesome and healthy about the people. They know how to take advantage of their gorgeous country and cuisine. Local fish and especially salmon are popular; as are smoked meat and fish. Potatoes are included in most meals.

The population is about 10 million, mainly Lutheran. They have recently accepted many Muslim refugees. The costs in Sweden are high but less than Norway and Denmark. Midrange hotels are R1500 per night. Beer is R100 for a small bottle. A medium meal costs R150 per course. Transport is expensive but excellent.

When one thinks of Stockholm we immediately think of the old town (Gamla) with the Parliament and Palace. But especially the Vasa Museum, where the Swedish battleship Vasa, which sank 20 minutes after going off on its maiden voyage in 1628, is displayed. As the sea in this part is low in salinity, wood worm is not present. So, 300 years later the ship was raised and restored to 87% of its original structure. It is well explained and presented.



*Gamla stan, Stockholm*

Next to the Vasa Museum is the lovely ABBA museum in which it is easy to immerse oneself in their well-known music. They are famous for winning the 1974 Eurovision Contest with their hit song "Waterloo".

Adjacent to the ABBA museum is the Skansen open air museum where old buildings from all over Sweden have been relocated. They are furnished in traditional style, giving visitors a real look into Swedish history.

A striking factor that I discerned from the Rotarians I met was a slight feeling of guilt about Sweden's decision to be neutral in the First and Second World Wars. Their motivation was that wars are expensive. So, their country did not suffer the infrastructure destruction that war participants did. Sweden also made money supplying Germany with iron ore and other necessities. They were also not quite neutral. They allowed German troops to travel through Sweden to invade Norway. In mitigation they did allow Norwegian Jews access to Sweden.

In 1998 Sweden took the decision to demobilise their armed forces. But they did continue to build fighter aircraft. South Africa bought SAAB jets for our air force in the mid-1990s. Now with Putin rattling his Sabre, Sweden is trying to rebuild their Navy and Army.

During the Apartheid days in SA, Sweden was a very loyal supporter of the ANC, giving them freedom to stay in Sweden; also much financial, medical and international support. However they did not supply the ANC with arms.

*By Bruce Dietrich*

## WYNPRESS

The Rotary Club of

Wynberg



Vol: 71 No. 3  
18<sup>th</sup> July, 2019

#### President

Keela van Niekerk 0720401131

#### Secretary

Stephanie Thomas 0724807049

#### Treasurer

Rob Murphy 0837267060

#### Editorial Board

Barry Cleveland, Stephanie Thomas,  
Hugh Maunder, Stephen Bredenkamp,  
Stacy Edwards

#### July in Rotary

Start of new officers' year of service

**Wynberg Rotary meet every Thursday,  
6 for 6.30pm,  
Palm House, Wynberg.**

For more information about our club, like us  
on Facebook or visit our website:

**[Wynbergrotary.org.za](http://Wynbergrotary.org.za)**



# Minutes: 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Compiled by Stacy Edwards

## Attendance

13 Members present (56.5%).

Rotarian visitors: Pres. Dave Hawes (Somerset West), Gavin Schachat (Sea Point), Biffy Danckwerts (CT e-club)

Guests: Sandi King, Florence Reddy, Louisa Pearson, Hillary Buchanan, Mensie Potgieter, Patricia Walker, Ruth Ely, Monica van de Berg (all from 97 Blankets), Dave, Brian and Megan Hawes.

Apologies from Keela and Stephen who are in Ireland kissing stones.

## Fellowship

John Vivian, Bertie Williams birthdays were on 11 July. Graham Todd, Pam Munday and Wenche Hovstad share their birthday with Dennis' granddaughter and Biffy's brother on 15 July.

## From the President's chair

A Warm Wynberg Welcome to all.

Jackie James' mother passed away today, 11 July. Graham expressed condolences to her from the Club.

## Slots

**Monique** emotionally announced that her daughter has secured a job in Thailand.

**Justin:** Looking for prizes, raffle items, etc for the Quiz Night on 27 August. Pass the prizes onto him. Also asked for people to challenge colleagues and friends to enter a team.

**Karen** announced that Christmas in July will be held at Palm House on 25 July & watch the Wynpress and your e-mail for more exciting details regarding raffles. As it is a Rotary night, full attendance is expected for an exciting evening.

**Graham** explained the Swindle err... raffle to the guests and a new pricing of R5 for 1 ticket and R10 for 3 tickets. A new ticket system was introduced. No ticket, no prize.

**Biffy:** The Global Grant for Victoria Hospital has been approved. The Grant amount is expected to be approximately R1.2 million and will be used to open an Endoscopy Unit with a new endoscope, an ultrasound machine for ER and as many paediatric Sats monitors as possible. Local clubs, including Sea Point involved in the Grant will be at the hand over.

## Guest Speaker

Sandi King was our speaker and told us that '67 Blankets' was started by Carolyn Steyn in 2014. Carolyn was a personal friend of Nelson Mandela and Graca Machel and was challenged by Zelda van Zyl in 2014 to make 67 blankets for Mandela Day. Requests to make blankets via social media has resulted in over 100 000 blankets being made and distributed to the likes of day care centres, old age homes, street people, fire victims, primary schools and any person needing a bit of love and attention.

The movement is known world-wide in places like England, Europe and USA, although they are not as active as the South African organization.

67 Blankets is an official NPO and is affiliated with the Mandela Foundation. They rely on donations of 'good wool' materials and knitting & crochet needles and have ambassadors and volunteers in places such as Bloemfontein, Durban and Nelspruit to name a few.

They have appeared in print media such as the Constantiaberg Bulletin's most recent edition and have been on KFM and Cape Talk radio and Espresso. Social media is still used via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram (@67blankets).

Some of their sponsors include Capitec and ABSA bank with Stuttford Van Lines assisting with distribution.

People can assist their great work by donating knitting yarn, recommending 67 Blankets to people who can knit, becoming a volunteer to knit squares or recommending someone who may benefit from one of their beautiful hand knitted or crocheted blankets.

## Swindle

The Kitty has grown to R1500. Sandi drew Ansie's ticket, but her draw was near but far when she drew the 10 of spades. The R25 consolation prize went to Hillary.

## President's 'Rotarian of the Week'

No Rotarian of the week as Keela is away but Rob thanked 67 Blankets for their great work

Duty Roster	July		August	
	18	25 Social	1 Club Meeting	8 No Meeting
Sergeant	Todd	CHRISTMAS	Bayes	
Wynpress Editorial	Edwards		Jackson	
Wynpress Minutes	Cleveland	IN	Maunder	
Door Duty	O'Driscoll		Schonegevel J	
Grace	Barnard	JULY	Bird	
Loyal Toast	White		Bredenkamp	
International Toast	Bird		Edwards	
Speaker Intro and Thanks	Edwards		N/A	
Entertainment for the month			Smith, Todd, Dietrich, Munday, Cleveland	

## Dates To Diarise

18 July	James Edwards will tell us all about 'Geo-caching' – a treasure hunt, using a smart phone with GPS and clues.
25 July	'Christmas in July' at Palm House. Details TBA
1 August	Club meeting
8 August	No meeting
15 August	Report back by our Interactors who attended Adventures into Citizenship
22 August	Gabriel Athiros, Author/Publisher of 'Cape Odyssey'
27 August	Rotary Quiz Night. Details TBA
29 August	No meeting

# Rotary



# Club of Wynberg

## Tailpieces



Our wireless doorbells  
sitting on their chargers....

