

PRESIDENT

Karen Overbosch
(082) 574 5952

SECRETARY

Stephen Bredenkamp
(082) 570 4440

TREASURER

Mike Schreiber
(021) 689 4466

WYNPRESS

EDITORIAL BOARD

Barry Cleveland
(021) 788 6781

Biffy Danckwerts
(082) 468 7504

Mervyn Wetmore
(084) 585 6055

**ROTARY MONTH
&
MEMBERSHIP
EXTENSION**

ENGAGE
ROTARY



CHANGE
LIVES

EDITORIAL

To Give or not to Give?

By Are Hovstad

I have been involved in development aid and projects for many, many years, both through Embassies and state funded projects as well as on the NGO level. After so many years "in the business", one thing has become crystal clear: To give assistance which is sustainable and has the expected long term result, is extremely difficult and complicated.

The following thoughts are based on my own personal experience only and should be taken as such.

There are 2 different categories of assistance.

The first one is relief after disasters, when lots of money is needed and swift actions to either feed or save people from a situation which has occurred. There are no sustainability measures involved, as this form for assistance is a matter of saving lives in an acute situation.

The next category is sustainable development aid, and here is where the problems start. It is very easy to find worthy projects, especially in Africa. If you are in a position to provide what a project needs, it makes no sense not to get involved. The recipient is happy, and the donor feels good.

The sad truth is that way too many projects, started with the very best of intentions, fail. Quite a few communities are left worse off than before the project started. That is the sad history behind the too many failed projects throughout our continent.

Why does it go wrong?

Many of the projects are dependent upon being administrated by people who are not part of the project, or even from the community. When the "outsiders" leave, there are often not enough skills to carry on in the intended matter. Even if there is a strong element of training involved, the upgraded employees too often apply for other and better paid jobs, and the project is back to zero. The newly trained employee has got a better education, but that was not the intended aim of the project. The much used phrase of "taking ownership of the project" sounds good, but unless the project is integrated into an already existing function with budgets for running costs, most projects suffer. To base the running of a project on unpaid volunteers, is a road to disaster. When it is time to find money for rent, repairs, maintenance, wages, electricity, water, property rates, insurance, security, many projects collapse. The ribbons have been cut, celebrations are over, the donors have gone home, often with a glowing feeling of having made a difference in Africa. Then the bills start coming in, pleas to the donors for more assistance, and a circle of dependency from the outside has been created.

One of the most common errors is not to collect enough background information before any action is taken. Many donors focus on projects involving children and women. Interviews are being held with representatives, but it takes an expert to study the local culture in details, to realize who really has the power in this community, who is a spokesperson for whom, who represents his or her own interests, if the spokesperson has got a political agenda, and who will reply in a

manner which they think will bring in the funds. It is almost impossible for outsiders to understand the way the different levels of power and empowerment work in a community, a system which is based on years of traditions and agreed rights among different groups, which a donor needs to respect. This lack of respect, as well as lack of knowledge, has often been the downfall of well intended projects.

Large organizations and states have made the same mistakes over the many years of development aid. After so many well intended projects failed, The Logical Framework Approach was constructed. It is a tool which can be used to prevent the most common mistakes, how to go about assessment, which factors need to be present before one can expect sustainability, what happens when the donor withdraws? Even UN has insisted on using the LFA on their development projects.

Sustainability is a fantastic word, but so difficult to obtain. Having mentioned a few reasons why things go wrong, it is important to focus on what will happen the day when there is no more money.

The Rotary Club of Wynberg's School project funded by Norwegian learners, is such a good example. Money is being spent on sports equipment, library books and bursaries. There are no wages, maintenance, rates, administration expenses involved at all. When the project stops, and no money comes through, there is no disaster. School life will go on as before, we have not created any dependency, but hopefully leave a memory of a better situation for the schools as long as we were involved.

MEETING OF 8 August 2013

ATTENDANCE

Membership: 24
Present: 15
Make Ups: 2
Apologies: 8
Attendance: 70%

Guests: Graham Gavin, Dirk du Plessis, Mark Gibbs of Constantia RC, Gavin Schachat of Sea Point RC, John Routley of Hout Bay RC, Lesley Gittings Ambassadorial student from Canada and speaker for the evening.

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

Grace was said by Roche. The Loyal toast was done by Biffy (her shortest ever). Dennis did the International toast (the longest ever including class 101 on the history of Napoleon) to the 3 clubs in Napoleon's birth place of Ajaccio. This started a true Wynberg meeting of lots of chirping and comments.

The visitors were welcomed with the traditional Wynberg welcome.

President Karen had a couple of items on her agenda:

1. 15 & 16 March are definitely Proms nights. Please diarise as all hands on deck are needed.
2. The DG had written a nice letter of thanks to the club which has been circulated.
3. Next week's speaker is our own Ambassadorial student Laura Heathfield.
4. Rotaract conference was this last weekend at Windstone just beyond Langebaan. It was attended by Pred Karen (at her first Rotaract conference – sis tog!!), Young Jackie, Mom Biffy and Pops John. It was thoroughly enjoyable and great to see our Wynberg Rotaractors running a good show.
5. 28 Aug is a Kromboom meeting with a really good speaker on wildlife photography. Karen will circulate an email for numbers.

Sergeant Graham had a number of good play on words as the traditional jokes.

SLOTS

Dennis: explained that the ding on his head and black eye was not from Biffy but not acting his age and trying to climb ladders to cut trees down. The motto of the story is to act your age sometimes.

Dave: 29 Aug is the 10 pin bowling CONTEST to defend our honour against the upstarts (Wynberg and Retreat Rotaractors). Mike, wanted to know if the side thingies would be up???? Apparently he believes that adults over 45 need them !!!!

Biffy: A reminder to rsvp for the ICore event on 5 Sept. (also her shortest spot!!)

SPEAKER

Francois introduced Lesley.

It was wonderful to have a speaker with a sense of humour when a few slides in a rather blank slide of a map with a few dots arrived on the screen and Lesley was quick to quip that this must be Canada in winter time. Lesley comes from a family with Service Above Self around her in the form of 3 uncles that were all Rotarians and Lesley is keen to develop this motto into her own life and work.

Lesley did an exchange (not a Rotary exchange) to Thailand and this is where she was struck by the have's and the have not's. While there she was there the 2006 military coup took place. She found herself thrown into curfews, food shortages, needing to find her Embassy and had to become interested in politics. During 2006 Lesley also took part in a National Immunisation Day in India and this was her start to Service in her life.

Lesley got back to the USA and was pretty determined to gain an Ambassadorial scholarship through rotary and she had to apply 3 times to win a scholarship finally. In the meantime she was offered a mentorship in Malawi which was the first of her spokes within the rotary wheel in her life. Her first impressions of Malawi were friendly people, smiles, dancing and the kindness of the people. Lesley had to make do with a bicycle as fuel was too expensive and vehicles not easy to come by in the midst of a fuel crisis. The saying at the time went "No fuel, No forex, No medicine, No sugar". About 11% of adults (aged 15 -49) in Malawi suffer from HIV. Most of the population battle along with no electricity and water while the 20% of the have's do not have such problems. While there one of the lessons learned was to focus on what we can do. Also what happens to one happens to all. Lesley discovered one of the problems was the vast distances and battles of transport to get to particularly clinics. With this Lesley set about raising funds to fund a couple of "local ambulances" (pictured below). This is the alternative to wheelbarrows which was the common way of transporting folk of all ages to clinics or hospitals.



The comparative figure for HIV in SA is about 17% so even though we are not as an impoverished country our HIV status are higher.

One of Lesley's passions which she has got involved with is the Girl Child Education project. Some of the facts emerging are:

- Girls do not attend school because of the inability to pay school fees and or the lack of or inaccessibility of affordable sanitary towels
- No electricity
- The pressure to go to work and start earning thereby adding to the income of the family

One of the ways to over-come these problems was to teach girls job creating skills and basic business plans or practices.

Barry thanks Lesley. Once again we were treated to another really worthy Ambassadorial student being funded by our donations to Rotary International.

JACKPOT:

With 47 cards to choose from, Merwyn was not able to find the 3♥. Ag shame. Rob was the lucky winner of the attendance prize once again presented in silver!! The jackpot grows to close to R1100.

PROGRAMME

August 2013	Committee: Knight, Bredenkamp, Cleveland, Munday, Orsmond, van Eeden
--------------------	--

22 August **Laura Heathfield, report back on Ambassadorial year & Proms hand-overs**

28 August **Invitation to Kromboom meeting at Kelvin Grove.**

29 August **Social & JK Nickell (and wife Kat), Ambassadorial scholar from Dallas, Texas – 10 pin bowling.**

September 2013	Committee: James, Danckwerts, Schreiber, Smith, Williams, Lidgley
-----------------------	---

5 September **ICore event – joint meeting with Table Bay Rotary Club, Kromboom Rotary Club, Sea Point Rotary Club.**

12 September **Meeting at Lavender Hills High School – speaker to be announced**

19 September **Marina Jessop: Arizona, Ambassadorial student speaking on human trafficking.**

24 September **Public Holiday – Heritage Day – Braai Day**

26 September **Board meeting**

October 2013	Committee: Barnard, Bird, Hovstad, Michalowsky, Wetmore, Jackson
---------------------	--


3 October **Business meeting**

10 October **Francois van Eeden on the justice system**

17 October **Elizabeth Daly – Public knowledge and stormwater quality in Cape Town: implications for management.**

18 October **Constantia Rotary Club – Wine Festival**

DUTY ROSTER

DUTY	22 August	29 August	5 September ICore	12 September LHSS	19 September
Sergeant	Cleveland		Murphy	Smith	Gowdy
Attendance Officer	Danckwerts		Danckwerts	Danckwerts	Danckwerts
Wynpress Editorial	Jackson		James	Klotz-Gleave	Knight
Minutes for Wynpress	Wetmore		Cleveland	Danckwerts	Wetmore
Compilation of Wynpress	Danckwerts		Wetmore	Cleveland	Danckwerts
Door Duty	Williams		Wetmore	Gowdy	
Grace	Hovstad		Schachat	Jackson	Cleveland
Loyal Toast	Gowdy		Table Bay	Vivian	Jackson
International Toast	Bredenkamp		Kromboom	Hovstad	Murphy
Speaker Introduction	Vivian		N/A	TBA	TBA
Speaker Thanks	Bird		N/A	Bredenkamp	Gowdy

PRESIDENT'S QUOTES:

Happenings on this day:

- Today is Thursday Aug 15, the 227th day of 2013. There are 138 days left in the year.
- In 1057, Macbeth, King of Scots, was killed in battle by Malcolm, the eldest son of King Duncan, whom Macbeth had slain.
- In 1769, Napoleon Bonaparte was born on the Island of Corsica.
- In 1945, in a radio address, Japan's Emperor Hirohito announced that his country had accepted terms of surrender for ending World War II.

"Impossible is word to be found only in the dictionary", Napoleon Bonaparte

"Never interrupt your enemy when he is making a mistake", Napoleon Bonaparte

"women are nothing but machines for producing children". Napoleon Bonaparte

"In politics stupidity is not a handicap", Napoleon Bonaparte

"The best way to keep one's word is not to give it", Napoleon Bonaparte

"You must not fight too often with one enemy, or you will teach him all your art of war", Napoleon Bonaparte.

"If you are going through hell, keep going", Winston Churchill.

Why we don't want Rotary to be like baseball



David Postic at the 2011 Rotaract Preconvention Meeting in New Orleans. Posted on [August 16, 2013](#)

By David Postic, a member of the Rotaract Club of Norman, Oklahoma, USA, and a member of the 2013-14 Rotaract and Interact Committee

Baseball is a sport so historically beloved in the United States that it is called “America’s pastime.” Yet few Americans I know actually watch baseball on a regular basis. Why? Because when you really look at the game, it can seem slow, boring, and it can get old pretty quickly. Most people love the *idea* of baseball; they just don’t love watching it.

Similarly, there are many young people out there (like me) who love the *idea* of Rotary. But when you really look at any given Rotary club it can seem, well, slow and boring.

I had the luxury of growing up around Rotarians, so when I see Rotary I see something groundbreaking, something transformational. Yet of all the Rotary meetings I have been to, never once have I heard someone say, “Did you know that, through Rotary, you can change the world?” That is Rotary’s most powerful message, and it is the one young people need to hear. And if they do not hear it, I can guarantee you they will not be engaged in Rotary.

Generation gap

The problem boils down to this: there can sometimes be a generational gap in Rotary clubs. There are older Rotarians who see it as a social club and younger people who see it as a retirement home. As a result many young people choose not to join those old clubs and instead form new ones. New clubs are by no means bad things, but when all the young people are creating new clubs the math says those old clubs will eventually die.

How do we fix this problem? As a near expert on 22-year-olds, allow me to offer two pieces of advice for any Rotary club looking to recruit young people like me:

First, wake up. If your meetings or service projects are not more exciting than going to the mall, watching the latest episode of American Idol, or even spending an hour on Facebook, young people will not be engaged and they will not join. Get out into the community and serve. Develop innovative projects that truly make a difference. Writing checks is not enough to keep us interested.

Second, let go of your club. Give up control. People my age want to feel like they are making an impact. Give young members responsibilities. Listen to their ideas. Most importantly, make them the leaders and let them *change* things. If you make it a habit to continuously evolve as a club, you will continue to engage young people and flourish. And when clubs flourish, Rotary flourishes. It is as simple as that.

Rotary is a great idea, and I want to be a part of it. There are millions and millions of young people like me who want to be a part of it too. But as long as Rotary, like baseball, seems to be slow and boring, what reason do we have to join? If you want to engage young Rotarians, wake up and let go. We think that’s awesome.