

Vol: 67 No: 20 4<sup>th</sup> February 2016

### **EDITORIAL**

#### **ROCKING THE BOAT**

I was interested to hear that some of our members wish our venue to be approached and persuaded to alter their menu: simple things such as serving hot vegetables instead of a plate of salads, meals with a reduced carbohydrate content and no doubt, other small improvements all of which are simple, easy and no doubt gloriously healthy. Well good for them, I applaud their initiative. After all, why should I eat carrots when I prefer broccoli?

But let us pause for a moment and think this through. Currently we have a charming venue, drinks are available at reasonable prices in a cosy private bar, only now and then shared with one or two strangers. We are provided with a private meeting room and then proceed to a private dining room which has been reorganized to accommodate the one very long table that we want for fellowship.

For very little money we are served what is, in effect, a three course meal, a salad starter, a choice of five very different main courses, served with fresh bread and butter, water and two choices of fruit juice, all followed by as much tea or coffee as we can drink. The staff are polite, helpful and friendly and I have no doubt that, if we ask, they will accede to our requests. But should we be asking?

We must all have noticed how popular the place has become, certainly in the summer season. We frequently find ourselves seeking alternative venues, leaving them free to pursue their core and far more profitable business.

I acknowledge that the changes asked for are small and easy. However, their kitchen serves between 15 and 30 meals, all at one time, on a Thursday night. They are geared up for this; but swap a salad which can be prepared ahead for a bowl of vegetables which must be prepared and served hot from the pot!

Easy? Yes, but it will make ripples and they will rock our boat.

People are individuals. We all have different tastes, likes and requirements. If we achieve these changes, other members will want their desires catered for, resulting in more and more "small" requests, more and bigger waves rocking the boat, maybe growing until Thursday nights cease to be a pleasure for the Palms and become an irritation. Our boat capsizes and once again we trawl Wynberg looking for a home.

One final thought. Rotary was started by a group of professional men gathering in an office to chat whilst they consumed the packed lunches they had brought with them. Like Rotary, the lunches grew until the movement eventually attracted the derogatory title of "A fat cat lunch club". Of course Rotary has changed enormously since then, most of the clubs are now "dinner clubs". Seriously though, perhaps we should think for a while, decide for ourselves. Why do we meet on Thursday? Is it for Rotary ideals, for fellowship or for dinner?

by John Vivian

# **Duty Roster**

		Feb	
	4 (Bus. Mtg.)	11	18
Sergeant	Schreiber	v Eeden	v Wyk
Wynpress Editorial	Vivian	Barnard	Bird
Wynpress Minutes	Cleveland	Maunder	Smith
Door Duty	Cleveland	Dessington	Dietrich
Grace	Overbosch	Schonegevel	Smith
Loyal Toast	Dietrich	Gowdy	Hovstad
International Toast	Maunder	Munday	Murphy
Speaker Intro	N/A	N/A	Vivian
Speaker Thanks	N/A	N/A	Lidgley
	Cleveland, James, O'Driscoll, van Eeden, Overbosch		

	Minutes
	28 <sup>th</sup> January 2016
	Compiled by String Smith
Attendance	70% including make ups.
Visitors	Joelle Naude, Jean and Sanmari Crous.
International Toast	In toasting Seahouses Club, Don informed us that the club had raised funds in association with a District Grant which will result in R11 000 for Lavender Hill.

From the President	Pres.Stephen announced that next week's meeting would be a Business Meeting largely devoted to the Trust.
	The meeting on 11 March at Hotel Verde will have no speaker, a tour of this "green" hotel being the main attraction.
	Changes to the menu at the Palms are being discussed. We anticipate an increase in liquor prices.
	Lotus River visit on 6 Feb. to be confirmed.
	Help is needed at Constantia Primary School on 22 Feb.
	District Conference will be held at Stellenbosch on 29/30 April
	It was Biffy's birthday on 28 January.
Slots	
	Biffy handed out ZA stickers for cars.
Guest Speaker	Aubrey introduced Thelma Naude who spoke on Huntington's disease. Thelma has two sons who are affected by the disease, which is a genetic problem, passed on to 50% of offspring but only becomes noticeable when they are in their 20s. It results in an incurable brain disorder, with jerky movements and other symptoms, Caucasians being most affected. The gene has now been isolated. Thelma has a mission in life to create awareness of the disease and a facility to deal with sufferers. She requested support for a show she is arranging at the Barnyard Theatre and purchase of calendars at R100, proceeds of which will go to the cause. Jackie thanked the speaker.
Fund Raiser	A social fundraiser in the form of a musical show, 50 Carat Gold at the Barnyard Theatre on Sat. 27 <sup>th</sup> . in aid of the Huntingtons Association was proposed. R130pp, take your own food but not booze.
Swindle	Don drew the 3 of Hearts, what frightfully bad luck, while Are showed a R20 profit with the attendance prize.

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with fuel just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump.

"Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip."

The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

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There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country.

"Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk.

"Only the Ten Commandments." answered the lady.

# Going Forward

Dates To Diarise			
4 Feb	Business Meeting		
6 Feb	Library Corners at Lotus River		
11 Feb	Meeting at Hotel Verde		
18 Feb	Youth meeting: Gavin Schachat		
25 Feb	Fellowship evening: RI		
27 Feb	Wynberg Rotaract fun day(Constantia Primary)		
5 Mar	Cape Welsh Choir at Bergvliet HS (see separate flier)		
6 Mar	Cycle Tour		
19/20 Mar	Last Night of the Proms		
3 April	Rotary Family Day, Sea Point		
28 April	District Conference		

### **ZUMA VISITS THE WHITE HOUSE.**

Following Obama's visit to South Africa, Jacob Zuma went over to see him for dinner at the White House. After drinking several glasses of champagne, he asked his host if he could use his personal bathroom. When he entered Obama's private toilet, he was astonished to see that they had a golden urinal! Wow! The next day, Zuma told his wife (one of the wives!) about the urinal in Obama's private lavatory. "Just think,' he said, 'maybe I should get a gold urinal too, using South African gold and paid for by the taxpayers.

But on the other hand I'm worried that it may be just a bit too self indulgent, what with the hoohaa over Nkandla... even for a rogue like me!"

Later in the week, when his wife had lunch with Michelle Obama, she told Michelle how impressed her husband had been when he discovered that Obama had a gold urinal in his private bathroom. Later that day, when Obama got home, Michelle smiled and said to Obama.....

## "I found out who peed in your saxophone"

