

## **Editorial**

The Washington Post Experience.

## Submitted by Are Hovstad

In an experience initiated by Washington Post's columnist Gene Weingarten, the world famous violinist Joshua Bell donned a baseball cap and played as an incognito busker at the Metro subway station L'Enfant Plaza in Washington DC on January 12th 2007. The experiment was videotaped on hidden camera,

Of the 1.097 people who passed by, only 7 stopped to listen to him, and only one recognized him. Bell collected 27 dollars at the end of his performance, out of which 20 dollars were given by the person who recognized him.

Gene Weingarten won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing for his article on the experiment. His focus was on our inability to appreciate beauty around us when we are given an opportunity to enjoy it, and how our daily tasks and busy daily life always take priority.

Without any comparison to the experiment, we were fortunate to attend a concert at our own City Hall last week, where the same violinist had us all spellbound. City Hall was packed, with as many extra

seats crammed in as possible, and when this young man (now 47 years old) walked on to the stage, dressed in simple black trousers and a shirt, carrying his 300 year old Stradivarius under his arm, the audience was mesmerized. It was not just the knowledge of how famous he is, his many accolades, professorships and among others, the Music Director of the Academy of St Martin in the Fields, but the way he just took control of the music, took it to places we had never experienced before, as well as giving the orchestra due respect and room for the players to excel.



It was sublime. An experience we will never forget. Also, we had a feeling of being extraordinary lucky and fortunate and privileged to be exposed to so much beauty and perfection. Joshua Bell, who many consider the world best violinist at present, chose to come to Cape Town and play with our orchestra in the City Hall, when he is sought after by the big metropolis.

The question remains: if Joshua Bell had donned his baseball cap and busked at the Central Train Station in Cape Town,- would we have been just as much in awe?

## **Duty Roster**

	October			
	1	9	15	22
Sergeant	Todd		Cleveland	Hovstad
Wynpress Editorial	Jackson	Rotary Family	Munday	Maunder
Minutes for Wynpress	Cleveland	Health Day	Maunder	Howard
Door Duty	Lidgely		O'Driscoll	Overbosch
Grace	Bredenkamp	No Meeting	Dessington	Dietrich
Loyal Toast	Overbosch		Smith	Todd
International Toast	Murphy		Schonegevel	Schreiber
Speaker Introduction	Gowdy		Howard	Jackson
Speaker Thanks	Vivian		Bird	Cleveland
Find Speakers	Barnard, Jackson, Maunder, Van Niekerk, Vivian			

## Youth Services Report Back

## Alan Jackson

#### Wynberg Rotaract: Financial Statements 2012/2015

Having promised these by end June 2015, they are nowhere near having them ready at end September. We will have to include in notes to the 2015/16 Financials that the 2014/15 Financials are not available.

### Wynberg and Steenberg Rotaract Clubs: Financial Statements 2015/2016

The July Accounts are prepared. I am in the process of receiving info on the August and September situations.

#### Wynberg Rotaract: Address Electricity, Alarm, Telephone

• Electricity- The Club will be putting in a metre outside the premises, and this will considerably reduce the rate



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The New Year has started very well; we managed to deliver the final Afrikaans books in August bought to bolster the Afrikaans classes of Perivale Primary. Late in September we managed to spend the final Tucson money on two sets of Big Readers also for Perivale Primary. This brings a close to the first Library Corner Project install which began in February this year.

We started the new Rotary year with a budget of R10 000 and after successfully running a second Quiz night brought in R3950 to add extra needed funds to start our next library corner install at Lotus River Primary. The committee has put an order in to buy 5 new bookshelves which will be installed in the Grade 1 and 2 classes of Lotus River in 4<sup>th</sup> term. The committee is still waiting on news from district regarding their proposal to apply for a district grant of R10 000. When these funds come in we'll be able to roll out the Grade R and 3 library corners at Lotus River. This is a highly successful outcome with two schools being completed within 12 months. More energy is needed to find support for the remaining schools to bring all schools level.

A part from the financial strengths we have received over 800 books from Wynberg Boys Primary, 50 books from Sweet Valley Primary School, several donations at the Quiz night and from Rotarians. We still have sufficient funds to add stock to the shelves, buy the mats and educational extras. No funds have been paid to WW yet, Stephen will monitor their needs over the next year.

We will hold a sorting session in October before we can install.











# Minutes 9 September 2015

Compiled by; String Smith

Attendance, Apologies & Make-ups	17 members present, 1 Make-up = 62%		
Visitors	Shirley Harding (Guest Speaker), Val Cleveland, Carol Vivian-Coetzee		
Fellowship Announcements	Dave Barnard will be celebrating his 50 <sup>th</sup> birthday on 14 September.		
	From the President's chair:		
Slots	* It was quite a novelty – welcoming the Guest Speaker, who was also the host for the evening!  * Congratulations to Keela for a 'professional' edition of the Wynpress  * At a recent RYLA conference a prize for the best learner at his school was given to a student sponsored by Wynberg Rotary Club.  Biffy is looking for helpers for the Rotary Family Health Days 7-9 October. Volunteers should add their names to the form which she would be sending to all club members.  Stephen announced to all members that St Lukes Hospice have set aside a table for 10 Rotarians and guests at their Spring Ball to be held at Grand		
	West Casino on Saturday 19 Sept. Contact Stephen directly on a first-come-first-served basis.  Dave announced that all tables for the Quizz Evening on 17 Sept. have now been accounted for, although there were still a few places available at some		
	of the tables.		
Guest Speaker	Shirley Harding was introduced as Wynberg Rotary Club's first lady member and first lady President; and although her position as Headmistress of Wynberg Girls' High School caused us to lose her as a Rotarian, her friendship and hospitality towards the club persist.		
	Shirley has recently returned from an educational conference held in Helsinki, and she related some of the far thinking aspects of this conference – acknowledging that Finnish education is regarded as amongst the top in the world. Principals were told to encourage creativity and respect new ideas. Schools should become production zones, not remain as comfort zones. Effective principals need change: Embrace technology and transformation. Transformational leaders don't just think about 'best' practices; they focus on discovering the 'next' practices.		
	At the local level, Shirley believes that all schools in the Western Cape will be on line by 2016, a number of them with 100 meg. Fibre Optic cable facilities. 26 000 teachers have been through an e-teaching course, and education, at least in this province does seem to be on course.		

	Barry introduced and John eloquently (as always!) thanked Shirley for her most interesting address.		
Swindle	With the kitty at R1430 and the pack now at 36 cards, Justin only managed to despatch the Ace of spades.  Shirley won the R16 'consolation' prize.		
President's quote	<ol> <li>"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." Nelson Mandela</li> <li>"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education." Martin Luther King, Jr.</li> <li>"My mother said I must always be intolerant of ignorance but understanding of illiteracy. That some people, unable to go to school, were more educated and more intelligent than college professors." Maya Angelou</li> <li>Maya Angelou was born as Marguerite Ann Johnson on April 4, 1928, in St. Louis, Missouri. Her brother gave her the shorter first name, Maya, short for, "Mya Sister," and she later created her surname as a version of her first husband's. In 1993 she recited a poem, "On the Pulse of Morning," at the presidential inauguration of Bill Clinton; the recording of which won her a Grammy. She was only the second poet to compose an inaugural poem, the first being Jack Frost, for John F. Kennedy. Maya Angelou died at home on May 28, 2014, in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. We will always remember the songs of this lovely bird, who refused to be caged. She once remarked that she would choose these words for her epitaph: "I did my best, I hope you do the same."</li> </ol>		
Next Meeting	1 October at the Palms		

## **Tailpiece**



## **Going forward**

### **Dates to Diarise**

Sat Oct 3: Tree Planting at Khaynisa School at 12.30pm (Jackie)

Wed - Fri 7-9 Oct: Rotary Family Health Days (Biffy)

Tues Oct 6: Help needed at RFHD at 3.30pm (Biffy), Raid on Hout Bay Club

Thur Oct 8: Social - No meeting due to RFHD commitments

Sat Oct 24: District Mini-conference – Worcester
Thur Oct 29: Social at Clay Café – Hout Bay (Keela)
30 Oct - 7 Nov: Visit to Cape Town by Haugaland College

Thur 5 Nov: Visit to Club by Haugaland College Thur Nov 26: Election of Office Bearers

Thur Dec 3: Uncle Pauls : SOS Childrens Home

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

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