



"Please let the members know the jackpot is safely in Slovenia" - String

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Rotary's June focus is on Fellowship

EDITORIAL

Married or getting married - what are my property rights?

Marriage is an undeniably life-changing event, and not just in the emotional sense - it alters the way we manage things like finances and property ownership too. There is no 'one right way' to handle property ownership when you marry.

The contractual side of tying the knot may not be particularly romantic, but it can have farreaching effects on your future and should definitely be a part of your discussions before you say "I do". Property is often the most valuable asset a person will own in their lifetime.

It's also pretty central to most marriages - the marital home - but that doesn't necessarily mean ownership is always shared equally between spouses. It really depends on your marital contract, and can be affected by whether the purchase was made before or after the marriage.

With more and more couples waiting until later in life to get married, it's not uncommon for one or both parties to already own property before the wedding. They may even share ownership of a property and have a contract in place to define their ownership rights and responsibilities. All marriages are contractual, whether you sign an anti-nuptial or not, and the type of contract you choose determines how the ownership of assets is assigned to each spouse during the marriage and in the event of death or divorce.

In South Africa, the default marital contract is in community of property and if you don't have an anti-nuptial drawn up before the wedding, this is the contract that will govern your marriage. When a couple marry in community of property, they agree to share all marital and premarital assets equally.

That means both spouses will be equal and joint owners of any property bought before or after the marriage, regardless of whose name is on the title deed. They will also both need to consent to any future property sales or purchases.

Most modern couples choose not to be married in community of property - rather, they choose between marriage by anti-nuptial with or without accrual. Accrual basically means anything bought or earned during the marriage - otherwise known as a marital asset - will be divided equally between the spouses should the marriage end for any reason.

That means any property bought after the marriage will be considered jointly-owned in the event of death or divorce, unless it has been specifically excluded in the contract. Assets bought or earned before the marriage, however - including property - will belong to the original owner, alone. It's always a good idea to consult with a lawyer if you have any questions, and to be open and honest about your hopes, expectations and beliefs.

"If a couple jointly owns a property before marriage, the original ownership division should be specified in the anti-nuptial agreement. That way, if the marriage should end, each spouse retains the shares agreed upon when they made the purchase."

Marriages by anti-nuptial without accrual do not share ownership of any marital or pre-marital assets. In this case, whoever bought the property, owns the property, but things can get a little complicated if both spouses contribute to the cost of ownership.

Marriages by anti-nuptial, whether with or without accrual, do not require consent from both spouses for property purchases or sales. This is because all property remains individually owned until the dissolution of the marriage, at which point the assets are divided according to the agreement in place.

"There is no 'one right way' to handle property ownership when you marry. It's something you need to discuss with your partner, and consider all your options to find the best fit for you."

Submitted by Graham Todd

Dates To Diarise			
29 June	Induction of Rob Murphy as President. Cattle Baron, Mowbray Golf Business Park		
6 July	Special Meeting to hand over charity funds from Proms. Representatives from the performers also invited to attend		
13 July	Atholl Swanson & The Wynberg Improvement District		
20 July	Christmas in July at Palm House		
27 July	Ann Barr – organiser of the Cape Town Big Band Jazz Festival		
3 August	Business Meeting		
10 August	Official visit by the District Governor, Lynette Stassen		
26 September	Quiz Night at Earth Fair Market		



Minutes

22 June 2017

	Compiled by Barry Cleveland				
Attendance	16 members present				
Visitors	Val Cleveland, Ann O'Driscoll				
Fellowship	29th June: Marlene Dietrich's birthday				
From the President	Appeal by Joe Maxwell to help make sleeping bags for the homeless from newspape and plastic. Biffy offered to head this up as a hands-on project for the Club.				
Slots	 Keela – 1. There will be a raffle on Induction evening 29th June. Bring cash. 2. Christmas in July will be held at Palm House. Special fare at R110 pp. Bring a wrapped gift of value R80-R100. Jackie – On Sat. 15th July at Mdzananda Animal Clinic, Khayelitsha there will be a hands on kennel building project for pets in the area. Just bring a hammer. Mike – In the attic at Palm House and in Biffy's garage are volumes of old Rotary stuff which need to be sorted/thrown out. Retainable items will then be kept in a cupboard at the Rotaract clubhouse, Wetton Road. Justin – 1. Looking for assistants for Adventures into Citizenship 2-8 July. 2. Quiz night on 29 Sept. There is a new trophy for the winning team. Bev – WRC is sponsoring a STEP student, Liam Lotz to go to Germany. The incoming student will be Lucian Zimmermann from Rodgau, Germany. Liam's parents will be invited to a club meeting. 				
Members' moments	Brian Howard's 10 th grandchild will be arriving shortly. Lina has 5.				
Speaker	Hugh Maunder showed a number of slides from the first month of his 120 day voyage around the world aboard the cruise ship 'Magellan'. In all, he visited 39 ports in 29 countries. There were 850 passengers from 20 countries aboard, looked after by a crew of 550 from 28 countries, and they spent 70 days at sea. The first month covered the cruise from Ilbury to Amsterdam, then across the Atlantic via the Azores, the Antilles and Barbados, through the Panama canal to Acapulco (most famous for its cliff divers and mass exercise evenings). Hugh was introduced by Dennis and thanked by Jackie for his most interesting topic.				
President's song	For his 'swansong', Pres. Alan bravely sang (unaccompanied) the seniors' version of Julie Andrews' 'These are a few of my favourite things'.				
Swindle	Graham was a bit vague about there being no Swindle this evening; and was unable to explain the whereabouts of the kitty of approx. R1000. However he said he has heard from String, who is enjoying his overseas tripa lot.				

Duty Roster

	JUNE	JULY		
	29	6	13	20
Sergeant	Schreiber	Todd	Barnard	Cleveland
Wynpress Editorial	Presidential	Van Niekerk S	Bird	Bayes
Wynpress Minutes	Induction	Maunder	Van Niekerk	Howard
Door Duty	N/A	Bird	Munday	Overbosch
Grace	K van Niekerk	Thomas	Todd	Van Niekerk
Loyal Toast	Klotz-Gleave	Jackson	Howard	Lidgley
International Toast	Danckwerts	Hovstad	Jackson	James
Speaker Intro	Cattle Baron	N/A	Schonegevel	N/A
Speaker Thanks	Mowbray Golf Business Park	N/A	Schonegevel	N/A
Entertainment for the month	Pinelands	Cleveland, Dietrich, Munday, Schonegevel, J, Jackson		

Tailpiece



