



HOWZAT!



ROTARY CLUB OF NEWLANDS

“The club that appeals”



President: Colin Burke
Secretary: Lucian Pitt



Be a gift to the world

Editor: Peter Ennis

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Newlands Rotary website: www.newlands.org.za

Rotary District 9350 website: www.rotary9350.co.za

14 March 2016

WEEKLY UPDATE

P O Box 44735
CLAREMONT
7735

MEETINGS: Western Province Cricket Club Sports Centre, Ave De Mist, Rondebosch, every Monday at 18h00 for 18h15 (Except for first Monday of the Month which is a Partner's Meeting, 18h30 for 19h00).

ATTENDANCE: Notice of apologies and guests and/or meal specifics to email Vanessa Rousseau at rousseau@iafrica.com and copy to Melinda Stapleton at mjstapleton@webafrica.org.za before 10h30 on Monday mornings please.

Comment

The Editor

How a Very Wrong Answer Changed the World

On a summer day in 1741, Georges-Louis Leclerc, Comte de Buffon, a wealthy French naturalist, mathematician, and cosmologist, strode into the foundry on his expansive country estate with a task in mind. Lugging two dozen solid iron balls of various sizes, he plopped them in the forge and heated them all to red-hot. Then, one by one, he pulled them out and observed how long it took each to cool. He repeated the procedure many times to obtain accurate cooling times for each size ball. Next, with data in hand, he extracted an equation for the relationship between cooling time and volume, and used it to calculate the age of the Earth.

You might be wondering how such a simple experiment could possibly be used to tackle such an immense topic, but Buffon's reasoning was actually fairly sensible. As the formidable thinker Sir Isaac Newton suggested at the time, the Earth may have started out as a red-hot piece of iron, perhaps a remnant of a cometary collision with the Sun flung out into space. So if you could calculate how long the proto-Earth took to cool, you'd arrive at a fairly accurate estimate of the age of the planet. By plugging the volume of the Earth into his equation for cooling time, Buffon attempted to do just that.

Unfortunately, the answer Buffon got was wrong, very wrong, many orders of magnitude wrong: 74,832 years old. Today, we know the age of the Earth to be roughly 4.54 billion years. But, as science journalist Michael Mosley presented in the BBC documentary *The Story of Science: Power, Proof and Passion*, Buffon's answer wasn't consequential. What was consequential was the fact that he questioned conventional wisdom.

"The important point is that by doing the experiments and by publishing the results, Buffon sparked a debate, not just about how old the Earth actually is, but how and why every creature on Earth came into being."

In 1778, when Buffon published the results of his experiment, the Biblical age of the Earth -- roughly 6,000 years -- still held sway amongst the general public, though many were beginning to question it. Suddenly, Buffon's calculation erupted onto the scene, increasing the age of the planet twelve times over!

As we've witnessed time and time and again throughout history, the world is changed by challenging that which we "know" to be true and trying something new. Such efforts usually begin with simple questions: "How does _____ work?" "What is out there?" "Why are things the way they are?"

Wrong answers often litter the path to resolving difficult queries, but at the same time, such errors serve as stepping-stones to ultimately finding the right answer! Second century physician Galen of Pergamon's work was riddled with errors and scientific inaccuracies, but by demonstrating that the answers to how the body works lies inside the body, itself, he advanced our understanding of medicine and biology. Dmitri Mendeleev's original periodic table of the elements was correct in many ways, and flawed in just as many others, but it laid groundwork for chemistry that would guide decades of discovery. Isaac Newton's law of universal gravitation eventually proved to be incomplete, but it led to Einstein's theory of general relativity.

What question today will change the world as we know it? What wrong answer will eventually inspire the right one?

Article by Ross Pomeroy from www.realclearscience.com/blog

Previous Meeting

Minutes of the Partners "War Stories" meeting on 8 March 2016

Scribe: Richard House

Sergeant Nora See opened the meeting and Past President Wybe (standing in for President Colin who was laid low) welcomed the guests:

- Don Peters (Rotary Hout Bay Club)
- Lee Bergman (Dist. Rotaract Rep)
- Mike Shelly (Ex Rotarian)
- Henry and Carol Campbell (Guests of Menno)
- Des Brown (Guest of Richard Burnett)

Jenny Howard got us all to say the 4 – way test together

Lew Botha said grace and toasted RI and CTCT

The wine swindle was won by Lynne (partner) and Andy Ismay.

Sergeant Nora thanked Garnet for the wine he had placed on the tables to celebrate his birthday this week.

The stirrers spoon was handed over by Kenny to the hard working Peter Ennis.

Jenny presented the 'Little Yellow Arks' filled with money to Lee Bergman.

Sergeant Nora then invited Rotarians to share their 'War Stories' on the Argus Cycle Tour:

Menno: Told us that Ian Pursch, who missed the Upington Conference by 100 km, had battled to find his vehicle at the quartermaster's store, and expressed his concern about him finding his way when he is DG.

Don Peters: (From the 'Superior' sector in Hout Bay) Completed his 31st year at the Argus in Hout Bay. Pronounced this year's race as the 'year of the cleft stick' due to the comms problems. He thanked Corrine for efficiently passing on messages and stated that Liz was a 'star'. Noted that the ambulance used to collect an injured cyclist in Hout Bay had been donated by Hout Bay Rotary Club.

Chris Beech: ('tail end charlie') Had no chance to sit on his bum as usual – had to attend to a cyclist who had collapsed and required resuscitation by a doctor who thankfully was passing by. The cyclist had to be transported to hospital by helicopter, which managed to land about 200m away. Reminded us that 'anything can happen at any time' during the cycle race.

Jenna Monk: Revealed that Sanparks had wanted R500 million as entrance fees for cyclists passing through the park. As a compromise a 'clicker' was positioned exactly on the 12.5 m chalk line designating the Sanparks border and counted transgressions over the line – for a R115 per person fee!



The infamous SANParks white line

Mike Walwyn: Revealed that Graham was upset that the traffic was not cleared so as to be able to take the bridge down and expressed his disgust over the radio using colourful language. Terry's cell phone went flat and complained about the quality of answering the emergency call line.

Bill Holland: Announced that he was proud to be a Rotarian after the Cycle Tour. Had difficulties with an abusive spectator dangerously handing out bananas and failed a leg-over manoeuvre getting onto a bike, falling to the ground!

Graham Finlayson: Had a hairy high speed bike ride over Ou Kaapse Weg. Had to deal with a serious accident where a cyclist had head injuries along with cyclist's scraps and tantrums!

The 'War Stories' paused for dinner to be served.

Nora See: Was pleased to spot Chaeli, who was part of the 'purple feathers' team, passing her station and assisted with her meds. Announced that Carol Campbell had completed her 24th Argus.

Pippa McLeod: Thanked 'unsung hero' Hilary Botha for her assistance at Soetwater RS. Had to report a helicopter's serial no. using phonetic alphabet which was interesting! Thanked Corrine and Janna for being great with messages and told a story of coming across a beautiful porcupine at 4:45 in the morning.

Peter Henshilwood: Was stopped at Chappies and bragged about being so professional!

Terry Lancaster: Thanked everyone for their effort. Behaved like a sheik with a harem and apparently - that's why it all worked so well! Had to deal with a cyclist who managed to finish the race with a python wrapped around his neck.

Jana Forrester: Wanted to know who had requested a mini sweep 7 times for a man who needed a lift! Advised that the cyclist with a python wrapped around his neck had been disqualified. Thanked Mike W and asked if she could stay on at VOC?

Ian Pursch: Had to deal with a major prang at Hospital Bend with 20 elite cyclists going down. About 9:30 noticed a terrified cyclist wobbling towards hospital bend at about 5 km/hr. She was asked to cycle on the wrong side of the cones to keep out the way. Left a traffic cop alone who was cooking woks on the side of the road as he didn't want to get arrested. The main braai was fantastic and he thanked Johan for cooking the meat to perfection, Andrew Peile for coming with his tongs and Stuart for his apron. When he got home he received 206 WhatsApp messages!

Johan Beukman: Explained that he had gone to great trouble to arrange tea and coffee for the braai but had been upstaged by Jenna who had brought chocolates for desert! Jenna advised that the chocolates were from her RS and that the wrappers had been removed for the cyclists.

Andrew Peile: Noted that the Cape (Zuma) Times had reported that the Argus Cycle Tour had been accident free!

Richard Burnett: Told that there had been no medical tent at his station at the end of the M3. Tent finally arrived at 5:45 and was erected in no time. The tent was then promptly removed as it did not conform to health and safety requirements! Fortunately some gazebo's arrived for the Mediclinic teams. Complained that he and Chippy had given up alcohol, chocolate and carbs to help with her cramp during training for the Argus, but to no avail as Chippy had suffered with cramp during the race anyway!

Rochelle Malherbe: Thanked Vanessa for help with recruiting marshals. Reminded us what the race was all about – her sister who could not ride a bike in October, had completed the race this year!

Pieter van Aswegen: At RS 14, which is normally a 'non-event' due to its closeness to the finish, a cyclist on a very expensive R100k bike had a puncture. Managed to find a specialised tube from another cyclist. Was handed some papers, Westin card and cash, only to later find out that it belonged to the cyclist with the expensive bike! A mobile bike repairer had to deal with an irate tandem cyclist with 2 punctures. She was told that she needed help – from a psychiatrist!

Jenny Howard: Had managed the sweep. Radios were a problem with voice procedures. Mini-sweeps were wondering around town with radios after the race. A disabled rider had got 2 punctures at Chappies and difficulties were experienced extracting the rider and bike from the course.

Lew Botha: Had a hosepipe stolen from his station by a bystander who attempted to hide 20m of hosepipe under his T-shirt and was arrested.

Brian Pickup: Told a story of a rider with his wife who were battling up chappies, offered encouragement to his wife and was told he was going to get 'f_k al vanaand'!

Kenny van Aardt: Had been training hard on a tandem for the race only to hear that his partner had torn his hamstring on Wednesday. A neighbour, who had never ridden a tandem before, offered to ride the race with Kenny instead of getting his bike serviced!

Geraldine Nicol: Told of a UK rider who brought a team of 30 riders each year to the race. The cyclist had an accident and ended up in hospital with 6 broken ribs. He had 'eulogised' about the support he had received and stated that the race support was the 'best in the world'.

Spots:

Nora thanked Jenny for posting Geraldine's interview on Facebook.

Corrine: Advised that President Colin had authorised the purchase of an excellent gazebo and that it could be used by Rotarians for functions. Contact Billy.

Mike Walwyn: Advised that Rochelle's partner Justin had ridden an excellent sub-3-hour race!

Mike Shelly: Thanked everyone for welcoming him back. Stated that the Physio's at the race had been fantastic – working on 60-year-old men's butts!

Graham Finlayson: Gave a reminder of the Bizweni opening. Please send an email to him if attending.

Jenny Ibbotson: Advised of the Awards evening on 4 April and asked if we could make an effort to attend. It was an opportunity to celebrate our bursary students. There would be 5 awards to people who had made a difference in their communities.

Menno: Gave a reminder of the New Member workshop this Saturday.

President's Slot: Past President Wybe reminded us of the District Conference on 28-29 April and asked members to register. He congratulated Garnet and Phil for their birthdays this week, and thanked Terry and all Rotarians for a job well done for the cycle tour and making it a great occasion.

Sergeant Nora issued fines to Bill and Corrine for late night messaging and Happy Rands were collected.

The duties for next week's meeting were announced.

The meeting was closed at 9:40

Previous Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting on 29 February 2016

Scribe: Andy Ismay

SERGEANT: Jenna Monk

GUESTS. Welcomed by President Colin: Peter Offer – Rotary international Director (of Membership); Kim Highfield; Gerome Eckles; Yvonne Noel; Sihle Tshabalala; Denis Henwood; Abe Oliver; Paul Roberts; Anthony Galloway.

4- WAY TEST: Rochelle Malherbe

GRACE & TOAST: Glynis Menné

WINE SWINDLE by Paul Spiller: Guest bottle – Peter Offer; Member's – Billy Meyer

STIRRERS SPOON: Andy passed it on to Kenny in recognition of his sterling work and positive action in the field of Entrepreneurship and for introducing the club to the supporting of budding entrepreneurs in need of support.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Introduced by Chris Beech

Membership speaker 1: Paul Spiller:

- Enjoys companionship of Rotarians and especially being part of a team
- He does what he can and is available after hours and weekends.

- He believes that one must do what one enjoys and if one starts not enjoying Rotary one should leave.
- He does the wine swindle every week for club funds

Membership Speaker 2: District Governor Elect Ian Pursch:

- Ian spoke about the International perspective of Rotary and gave the stats.: number of Rotary, Rotaract & Interact clubs and number of participating countries, districts and zones and number of members of each.
- He has been very fortunate to have been given the opportunity to become a District Governor of our District No. 9350 but has been sent to some “terrible places” like Mombasa and San Diego to train where he “suffered through hard work and no fun & stayed in lousy hotels” ... Ha Ha!
- What he enjoys about the opportunity is meeting Rotarians of similar mind-sets from all over the world and making long lasting friendships, especially many from African zones.
- The 2016 – 2017 Rotary Year’s theme is “Rotary – Serving Humanity” it says it all.

Membership Speaker 3: District Governor Geraldine Nicol.

- Speaking as a Newlands Rotarian & not the DG
- Introduced to Rotary through participating in the Rotary Exchange programme at school and joining Rotaract soon after that.
- She joined Rotary to make a difference and be with friends
- Geraldine listed the 6 areas of focus of Rotary International, which are the key issues facing the world & how they all fit together as a community: -
 - Education, eg the mind shifting lessons we have learnt though being involved in all areas and specifically re the importance of Early Childhood Development.
 - Entrepreneurship which if we get right will change the world re poverty and unemployment. Geraldine has just had an exciting period of organising and attending a successful conference & is so looking forward to implementing the 10 points of action that were listed at the end of the conference.
 - Water & Sanitation – massive basic health need for clean water, hand washing & other basic services.
 - Mother & Child programme is key as the problem is huge with 61% of Africa not living in a “normal & stable household”
 - Many Health challenges in the world. Although Rotary has achieved an amazing feat by almost eradicating polio in the world (only Afghanistan remaining), there are so many other health challenges receiving Rotary’s attention.
 - Peace & Reconciliation work has been foremost for many years in many Rotary programmes and projects and is practised from playgrounds (bullying issues) to the UN itself, with Rotary having had strong representation & a permanent seat there for many years. Shelter Box is a Rotary initiative, which has been very effective in disaster areas all over the world.

Membership Speaker 4: Daphne Lyell

- Has been a member for only one year and has been so happy with the club and says that the members have been so supportive
- Daphne has enjoyed the diversity of professions and the people in Newlands Rotary.

- Was so impressed with the teamwork of Newlands Rotarians who were amazingly resourceful in “pulling off” the Cape Town Cycle Tour in such a short time after the course route had changed so much, due to The Peninsula fires.
- She finds the once a month business meeting feedbacks from the working committees so interesting but also covering so many different solutions to improve the lives of others. She mentioned the tertiary bursaries, the projects done to support the Leap maths & science school and Polio Plus which had particularly got her attention.
- The youth projects, especially Rotex stood out for Daphne.
- When she told her family that she wanted to join Rotary, she got the impression that maybe it was a cult!!
- Why does Daphne like Rotary? – simple – because they get @#\$ done!!

Membership Speaker 5: Past District Governor Shan Biesman- Simons

- Rotary is in her blood – father and grandfather were members
- Rotary is her extended family, both locally and “globally” and almost her religion
- Shan was also a Rotary exchange student.
- Rotary is about being able to contribute and there is a place for everyone in a club
- One of her best experiences was taking a group study exchange team to Japan

Andrew Peile, who claims to be our oldest member made a comment to indicate how global the Rotary Family is. He was a member of a club in England and while he was there brought two Rotary Friendship Exchange groups to Cape Town. One of the team members was so impressed with the Cape that he became a swallow and started a breakfast Rotary club in Somerset West, which has flourished.

Some questions were asked by the visitors, which were answered appropriately.

Chris thanked our speakers for their efforts.

SPOTS:

- Corinne: Brought members’ attentions to an advert for special wine prices of good quality reds and whites. Hello Wine’s brochures were on our tables.
- Terry: Made some final announcements regarding the Cape Town Cycle Tour:
 - He signed a 3-year contract for the club with the Cycle Tour Trust to convene the course
 - Renee and Chad have resigned from the Event’s Office and will be leaving after the CTCT event
 - If you feel you are missing any important information or documentation, please ask
 - After the event, Sector Marshals must please invoice the event, via Terry, with the man-hours of their marshals & get bibs and flags to them timeously
 - R470K is the management fee to the club
 - Sector Marshals must do a route drive, please before Sunday
 - There are 8 trackers for 8 out of 9 marshals to be kept on each of them – no escaping Big Daddy
 - Sweep team must all have a light and a scanner and batteries
 - Terry thanked all in advance and wished us all the best on the day
 - Terry received a rousing applause for the tremendous effort that he has put in so far.
- Pieter: Handed over a cheque from Pick n Pay to the club to fund uniforms for the new Newlands Rotary Emergency Vehicle Staff.
 - Rotary International Membership Director Peter Offer addressed the club.

- Thanked all those involved in the recently held Economic Development Conference – he was most impressed
 - He noticed that Ian had a great suntan from all the time he had spent outdoors when he should have been training in Mombasa and San Diego. Is it the Truth?
 - Peter said that too many clubs are getting too old to be effective as they should be. Their club's average age is 73 so they decided to charter another younger club in their area to replace themselves.
 - There is a very large growth in Rotary in the Eastern countries
 - Assured the club that RI Membership committee is focussing on new innovative ways to grow Rotary and to continue to encourage clubs to make changes for the better.
 - RI Board of Directors has also gone as far as proposing some ground breaking changes to the constitution to increase membership.
 - The Board are also looking at Africa in more detail because Rotary in the continent is becoming more of a focus – firstly a re-zoning is proposed to shed eastern countries from Africa zones and secondly they are considering a city in South Africa to have a RI Convention and every 7 years to have an African host city.
- Jenny Howard: reminded members to return their ARKS money boxes full of loot on 7th March to return to Rotaractors
 - Menno: announced that the Tour De Plain is scheduled for 1 May but Newlands will not be participating as insufficient time to organise this year, but maybe in the future.
 - 12th March is the district membership workshop at from 08h15 to lunchtime at JP Duminy Hall, under Newlands Bridge.
 - Asked Abe Oliver to please meet Denis Henwood after the meeting
 - Pete Henshilwood: was fortunate to have met RI Foundation Chair on Saturday Night at Kelvin and had a “nice chat” – Pete saw the Rotary badge & that was that.
 - Chris Beech: announced that the Newlands Rotary Strategic Plan had been completed and circulated to members. Comments will be welcomed.

Happy Rands: In lieu of the rands, Geraldine handed out choccies to all who were involved or had attended the Economic Development Conference that weekend in appreciation for what Newlands Rotarians had contributed to make the event so successful.

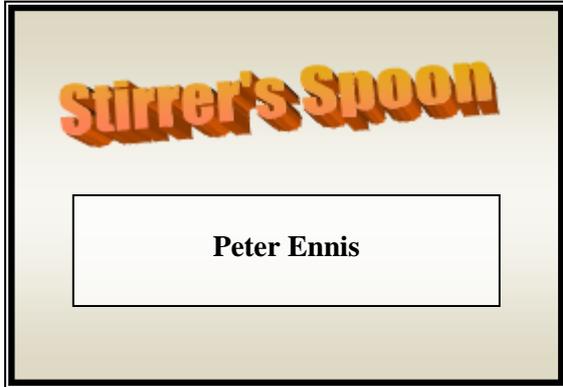
President's Slot.

- President Colin thanked Chris for arranging such a successful meeting and all the guests for attending
- Announced a new date for the Induction Dinner which is 24 June
- The only birthday was Colin's own on 3 March.

Other Business:

- Abe Oliver the Entrepreneurship Incubation Manager at Westlake Campus, False Bay College thanked Kenny for inviting him that night and especially to Kenny for linking him to Newlands Rotary and for our support of entrepreneurship students and the incubation hubs in general.
- Abe very briefly explained what False Bay College is doing for entrepreneurship through their hub and their Rapid Incubator programme.

Sergeant Jenna: closed the meeting with the permission from The President.



[Newlands Rotary Club Runner Calendar](#)

FUTURE FIXTURES

Year Planner

Please advise the secretary promptly of any additions or changes

March 2016

Mon 14 Ordinary
Mon 21 No meeting – Public Holiday
Mon 28 No meeting – Public Holiday

April 2016

Sun 3 Rotary Family Fun Day
Mon 4 Partners – Int & Voc evening
Mon 11 Ordinary
Mon 18 Ordinary
Mon 25 Business
Fri 29 – District
Sat 30 Conference

Happy Anniversary

18 March
Geoff & Liz Sessions

Happy Birthday

18 March
Philomena Dillon

26 March
John Stephenson

27 March
Andy Ismay

27 March
Claire Lowden

UMPIRES AND SCORERS

DATE	14 March	21 March	28 March	4 April
MEETING	Ordinary	No Meeting	No Meeting	Partners Vocational Evening
SERGEANT	Jenny Ibbotson	Public Holiday Human Rights Day	Public Holiday Family Day Easter Monday	Andy Ismay
4 WAY TEST/ OBJECT	Bill Holland			Graham Lowden
GRACE & TOAST	Paul Spiller			Graham Finlayson
ATTENDANCE	Menno de Wet			Mike Young
FELLOWSHIP	Daphne Lyell			Rochelle Malherbe
MINUTES	John Stephenson			Corinne Hudson
COMMENT	Bill Meyer			Jenna Monk
THANK SPEAKER	Janey Ball			
INTRO SPEAKER	Michael Walwyn			

**Invited
GUEST SPEAKERS**

14 Mar **Anthony Galloway** –
LEAP School update

If you cannot do your job on the day, please find someone who can do it instead of you, then contact the Sergeant on the day to update the roster. Please don't leave this until the Monday afternoon – let the Sergeant know in advance if you have not been able to arrange a swap. If you are going to be away for particular future meetings let Peter Ennis know.



Rotary Club of Newlands Office Bearers

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Books for the World

For all educational school books and novels for age from early education to High school

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