



HOWZAT!



ROTARY CLUB OF NEWLANDS

“The club that appeals”



President: Colin Burke
Secretary: Lucian Pitt



Be a gift to the world

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25 January 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

The Story Behind an Emergency Relief Tarpaulin

One of the more unusual shopping catalogues you might read is the [Red Cross Emergency Items Catalogue](#). In its three volumes you’ll find a list of all the equipment a humanitarian agency could ever need: coolers to keep a cold chain intact, compact food supplies, surgical instruments. One of the *least* unusual items is plastic tarpaulin, also known as tarp or plastic sheeting, though neither of those names make it sound any less boring.



Ask an aid worker, though, and the paeans to tarpaulin come pouring out. Cheap, lightweight, and waterproof, “tarpaulin is the most common shelter material,” says Joseph Ashmore, shelter consultant for the International Organization for Migration. Responders and survivors can use tarpaulin for roofs, fences, and flooring—but don’t limit your imagination to shelter. “I’ve seen people dry rice on it, in latrines, as bags, as trousers, as umbrellas,” Ashmore adds.

Not all tarpaulin is created equal, though. The Red Cross catalogue's tarpaulin is the *crème de la crème* of plastic sheeting. It's not the blue stuff of construction scaffolds, nor is it the inferior tarpaulin that certain aid agencies give out (which last only months under the sun's harsh ultraviolet glare). These obsessively engineered 4x6 meter plastic sheets last years, and it all goes back to one French engineer tying plastic sheets to poles back in the '90s.

Remaking the Tarp

Patrick Oger was a purchasing officer for Doctors Without Borders when he first got the tarpaulin assignment in 1993. At the time, high-quality tarpaulin came from just one maker, a Danish company called Monarflex. Thanks to its patent on the tarpaulin's eyelets (just the eyelets!), the company could charge monopoly prices. So aid agencies often went with cheap tarpaulin that fell apart after months. One report estimates that the turnover cost \$10 million a year.

So in 1993, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and Doctors Without Borders decided to write their own specifications for tarpaulin in humanitarian aid. With the details in hand—size, strength, colour, thickness, and so on—they could get manufacturers to bid on the cost. They put Oger in charge of collecting the specs, but he needed help. "I'm not a plastic maker," says Oger. "I had to learn everything."

Only one place had the know-how: Monarflex. Oger visited the factory and ended up befriending an engineer there, who became his mentor in plastics. That's how Oger figured out the culprit behind the disintegration problem.

At the time, USAID was giving out tarpaulin with black fibres running in one direction and clear fibres running perpendicular to them. "It was quite strange," recalls Oger. "These samples you could tear very easily in one direction, and in the cross direction you could not."

He was puzzling through this question when the Danish engineer asked, "Do you know why tires are black?" Rubber is naturally white, but tires contain carbon black, a pigment that absorbs all visible light as well as UV light—which breaks down plastic. The pigment in the tarp's black fibres was absorbing the UV rays and protecting the plastic. No such luck for the clear fibres, though.

Solution: black tarpaulin. Right? But "if you have a house, nobody is going to be paint it with black paint," says Oger. "People don't live in black houses." Plus, black tents get sweltering in hot climates.

So Oger went out with a thermometer to a field near Doctors Without Borders' logistics centre in Bordeaux, France and pitched tents in different colours: aluminized white and blue (for the UN), and a matte white. The aluminized colours kept the tent cool at first, but their reflectivity soon wore off, leaving them hotter than the white tents. The standard tarpaulin is now made of black fibres, painted white on both sides.

During his tests, Oger would also drive out to a military antennae field near the ocean, where he tied small rectangles of tarpaulin onto poles to flap in the coastal wind. Tarpaulin can be braided or woven, and the braided tarpaulins shredded in weeks. Woven it was. Finally, Oger got rid of the eyelets. That sidestepped the original patent problem, of course—but a new band-based fastening system is also more flexible and easier to manufacture consistently.

Working mostly alone—while still doing his job as a purchasing officer—Oger completed the specifications for tarpaulins in three years. Since 1996, the Red Cross, UNHCR, Doctors Without Borders, UNICEF, and Oxfam have given out millions of tarps manufactured to those specs. Factories in China, Korea, Vietnam, India, Pakistan, and Kenya churn out the tarpaulin to use all over the world. And they're cheap, at just \$15 a pop in the Red Cross's catalogue.

"We've really made a good product. It is saving money. It is saving lives," says Oger. When you see pictures of UN shelters made out of tarp, it's his.

Oger now lives in the French countryside, where he uses the tarpaulin he helped develop to cover his wood pile. These days, he works for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and he's developing specifications for a tent made from, you guessed it, tarpaulin. And his testing is still pretty hands-on. "I go up the Swiss mountains to validate winter use," he says. The specifications for the tent will come next year. As for tarpaulin itself, its place in humanitarian history is already pretty clear.

From www.wired.com

Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting on 18 January 2016

Scribe: Regine le Roux

Sergeant Jenny Howard opened the meeting, all welcomed and thanked for their roles

Pres. Colin - welcomed everyone. Introduced guest Shona MacDonald, ? Campbell, Roy Zazeraj and his wife.

January is vocational month. Entrepreneurial Conference taking place on 27 February 2016 at Kelvin Grove. Those who have not signed up yet, your investment will only be: £8 / US\$11.80

4-way test = Johan Beukman

Grace and toast = Mike Walwyn

Stirrer's spoon from Paul Spiller to Corinne Hudson who was thanked for her tireless co-ordination of guest speakers.

Wine swindle organised by Paul Spiller. Number 44 = Colin Burke

Shân Biesman-Simons (whose birthday it was) introduced the guest speaker – Shona MacDonald. Shona and Shân went to school together. Shona's second daughter was born with Cerebral Palsy and was advised to put her in a home -

Shona sketched the history of Uhambo Shonaquip®. One of Shona's daughters was born with a severe disability. They wanted to give her a quality of life, the same as her other children. She could not sit, roll around, eat etc. When her daughter was born, she knew very little about disabilities. Disabilities was not something spoken about. It was a very steep learning curve. Shona started a small NGO to communicate with other people in similar situation; it grew into more work and they started working with Government about the rights for children with disabilities. Worked on green and white papers. Went abroad and saw tools available to help people with disabilities, unfortunately it was not possible to import as it was too expensive.

Shona decided to build her own tools. Her daughter was able to ride her own electric wheel chair at the age of two. "I wanted to replicated what I had done for her, for other children." Built chairs in a garage, chairs took over rooms, business took over the house. In setting up the business Shona felt conflicted to make money out of disabilities. When faced with people not having equipment, difficult to ask for money. Registered a small CC. In 1992 they were one of the first social entrepreneurship organisations.

Children were being donated inappropriate tools / chairs. Bodies formed around the chairs, and caused even more disabilities. Shona looked at what she had designed for her daughter and worked with Government. Together they developed the "Madiba Buggy" - sponsored by the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund. It's a chair that the child can easily sit in, breathe easier and it is easy to set up especially in rural areas.

Part of factory, employ 65 staff, of whom over 30% have disabilities. They do a lot of training around disability awareness. Not only are they reaching 500 000 children in this country, they have changed how Government see disabilities. In 2010 the company split into two entities. Not profitable enough for shareholders and too profitable for funders – hence the split. Two boards, two financial arms. Programmes include: community support, clinical support, empowerment through learning, institutional capacity building, advocacy and policy development.

Community outreach projects in townships and rural areas. There is a waiting list for chairs; they are also training local people to service and repair equipment. Direct support - train social workers, and empower parents. Surveys - 21000 surveys conducted in township areas, identifying children hidden away.

Clinical support - 80 000 fitted around South Africa. Big clinical support team. Train kids to use the chairs and making sure that they get the right support.

Empowerment through learning. Nearly 1 million children are out of school, more than half have disabilities (those are the ones we know of). Ndinogona 'I can' - through play they can get many caregivers to help children with disabilities get out of care systems into schools. They are currently doing a lot of training with parents and teachers. They also work closely with Dept. of Social Development.

Constantly look at government and international platforms that the way wheelchairs are provided provide a better life, not just a chair for the sake of it.

Question - Bill, we have been working closely on inclusive education, where are we with that?

Shona indicated that there is still a long way to go. Shona's daughter was accepted into mainstream school until Grade 11, this however is not the norm. Another organisation that Shona helped establish is: Inclusion SA, they make sure that teachers know how to manage learners. Majority of schools can't afford inclusion at the moment.

The question about wheel chairs that get donated being useful was raised, as wheel chairs need to be modified quite extensively. Shona did indicate that temporary wheelchairs are still great, however customisation is still very important. “Just as you wouldn't walk up Table Mountain with wife's flip flops, you don't want a wheel chair just for the sake of it.” It needs to be purpose built.

Question - How do people get referred to you?

Shona: Department of Education / Social Development / Corporates / mainly other parents. Big achievement was being recognised by the Chamber of Commerce as the Social enterprise women and exporter of the year.

Daphne Lyell thanked the speaker, commend her on taking what life gave her and making such a huge impact and contribution. Shona was thanked for sharing her journey with us.

SUPPER

Jenny Howard - great food!

Rotaractors – Contact Jenny Howard if you would like to mentor a Rotaractor

SPOTS

John Winship gave feedback on the following projects:

- Bizweni Skills Development - Cerebral Palsy. Rotary Club of Helderberg, Rotary Club of Newlands, R+2m Opening 17 March 2016 Project R+4 million / R2million from PenBev
- Open Door Child Safety Centre - December 2015 – Rotary Club of Cape of Good Hope, Rotary Club of Newlands, Valley Development Projects. PROJECT R+2million PenBev R+0.615. Opening in March in 2016

- Masakhane Grassroots Educare - Mbekweni - 5 September 2016 Rotary Club of Newlands R+1.5 million PenBev R+1.4million
- Langa Edunova Learning Centre - Rotary Club of Newlands R0.575 million / PenBev - R0.575 million 2016 – underway
- Steenberg High School - music rooms. 1200 learners. Very successful school. Rotary Club of Newlands = R2m / PenBev R2m. Awaiting permission to proceed.

Terry Lancaster - Cape Town Cycle Tour (CTCT):

Last week attended a CTCT meeting, quite a lot of time was taken up by Col. Lourens, discussing the disaster at Lincoln Park where one person was killed. As a result a court case is on the go and everyone involved is in the dock. They were grilled for two days because of organisation of the particular event. CTCT is done on contracts, there are a number of things that need to be filled in and sent to Council; things are needed in five copies. Based on the changes, many of the past cycle tours would not have been permitted today. Sector Marshals have very important tasks; when you accept that role, training is key. With the Lincoln Park incident, minutes of all meetings and training were requested. Even if you have been doing it for years, you need to attend the training. Something new which will be introduced is using scanners, it is important to know how to use them. Only attend meetings that you are involved with. Make sure that everyone is attending the meetings. Terry has pretty much confirmed all the roles and will circulate responsibilities. Need 400+ marshals. Vital that co-ordinator of marshals attend the meetings / training.

CTCT meetings for January 2016:

22 January 2016 = Sweep. Includes mini sweeps

VERY NB Route Drive 27 / 28 January 2016 - refreshment statements from sector 1 to 9 - to Capri (27th) / Refreshment station managers need to be at those meetings. Bus leaving from CTCTT at 09:00. If you can't make it liaise with Terry. NB for refreshment station managers to make that tour.

Evacuating an event - there will be specific procedures. If there is a decision to close down the tour, people at the refreshment stations will need to close down the race. There are specific procedures. Need to take notice, everyone will have accreditation for VOC / JOC / medical emergencies. All duties will be clear. Anyone who has queries, please raise them.

Cut off times will be set pending feedback from e.g. doctors / weather. Circumstances will be taken into consideration on the day.

The good news that we have been signed on for another three years. Our ongoing finances needed that boost. Every single member needs to be involved at some point. Speak to Terry Lancaster if you are not yet involved.

Three members will be riding - while practicing, please identify issues on course.

Muizenberg to Clovelly road works stopped before Christmas, will start roadworks again day after CTCT.

One of the duties of the sector marshals on the day of the race, drive their sector on the morning.

Three refreshment stations don't currently have sponsors. Man power needed.

Need to be at the feeding station at 04:30. At least 20 - 30 people on a feeding station.

R55/marshal - if the Pedal Power Association (PPA) / owners if we go beyond that rate, they will get their own marshals.

Audit trail is essential - does not matter if you have done job for last 20 years. If you can't do it, tender in your apologies. Can't be taken lightly. We need to protect ourselves.

We all need to work together.

Melinda Stapleton - looking for banners / confirmed that Colin Burke has them

Brian Pickup - community services meeting after the meeting, please join us

Richard Burnett - Station 2 sorted with Richard and Nora.

Pres. Colin and Richard attended the first wine auction meeting of the year today (18 January 2016). Funds for the boats have been confirmed. Contribute 4x4 for Kommetjie. Well on our way and already have 40 to 50 lots. This year more planning. We are putting GPS co-ordinates on the Western Cape map for all the wine farms. People helping will be given GPS, list of wine makers / class of wine to request etc. We are well known as a Club. It's important to keep relationships / awareness up. Richard's team has already been out there handing out calendars. The vehicle will be in Kommetjie at the end of the year.

Menno - Kim visited us late last year, the Fiat500 pub raffle – the draw has been put forward to 29 Feb 2016 - not sufficient tickets have been sold.

Corinne took the opportunity to move the spoon, acknowledged, service above self – Pres. Colin and everything he has done for the fire truck. The spoon is yours!

Nora - With Terry's report talking about last year's fire, does everyone now about the photographic book that has been published? Incredible book by firefighters - for charity. Supporting a good cause, Cape Town A Flame.

Willie - Thanked Regine for assistance on the presentation to be used for his travels. Regine to share presentation with club via Dropbox. Willie will be travelling to Australia for the next three months – safe travels Willie!

President's slot:

Very good meeting.

Requested that Terry give us an update on the CTCT every Monday of what is going on.

Welcome back Lucian.

01 February 2016, DG Geraldine's visit; board will convene with Geraldine before the meeting

8th February - Rotary Club of Good Hope involved in the Open Door project will visit us to thank us for our support. There will be at least 20 coming to visit us.

Horse race meeting, Signal Hill - at the moment only Colin attending.

EVS multi-vehicle handover: Thanked everyone that came along, sponsors and donors etc. Our truck will start being used next week, only people with training will be allowed on the truck. All the equipment will be barcoded and there will be a scanner; what goes off will come back on again.

Whoever turns up first for a meeting, please put up regalia and when you leave, please pack it away. As a guide - attendance officer needs to put things away.

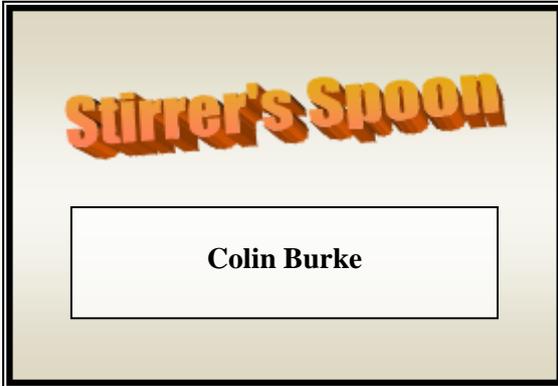
All the best with Colin's wife going in for a procedure tomorrow

Sergeant

Happy Rands - Brian - Lew has a National Geographic, December 2015 for Brian. Interesting (sad) story about a snake and impala. Andy - fourth grandchild born on 01 January 2016. Eric - most of meetings late, resolution to not be late for meetings. car broke down, and good Samaritan helped him this evening to get to the meeting. Richard - more grandchildren on the way! Norma - Daughter got engaged in December.

Board meeting on Wednesday evening at the Police venue

End of meeting: 20:40



[Newlands Rotary Club Runner Calendar](#)

FUTURE FIXTURES

Year Planner

Please advise the secretary promptly of any additions or changes

January 2016

Mon 25 Business

February 2016

Mon 1 DG Visit

Mon 8 Ordinary

Mon 15 Ordinary

Mon 22 Business

Mon 29 Ordinary

March 2016

Sun 6 Cape Town Cycle Tour

**Happy
Birthday**

29 January
Jenny Lancaster

Happy Anniversary

31 January
Tinus & Adrienne de Jongh

Sounds like a plan...

Staff writer

The Allegan County Board of Commissioners has a plan.

That plan is to develop a plan that will help them plan out their long-term strategic planning.

At a work session Thursday, the commissioners debated the best

UMPIRES AND SCORERS

| DATE | 25 January | 1 February | 8 February | 15 February |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| MEETING | Business | DG Visit | Ordinary | Ordinary |
| SERGEANT | Jana Forrester | Graham Lowden | Peter Henshilwood | Bill Holland |
| 4 WAY TEST/ OBJECT | Andy Ismay | Jenny Ibbotson | John Stephenson | Eric Diazenza |
| GRACE & TOAST | Tony van der Lith | Chris Beech | Richard House | Pieter van Aswegen |
| ATTENDANCE | Graham Lowden | Ian Pursch | Tinus de Jongh | Corinne Hudson |
| FELLOWSHIP | Melinda Stapleton | Janey Ball | Terry Lancaster | Vanessa Rousseau |
| MINUTES | Mike Young | Graham Finlayson | Lucian Pitt | Shân Biesman- Simons |
| COMMENT | Wybe Meinesz | Rochelle Malherbe | Heidi Andersson | Daphne Lyell |
| THANK SPEAKER | | | Menno de Wet | Bill Meyer |
| INTRO SPEAKER | | | Jenna Monk | Paul Spiller |

**Invited
GUEST SPEAKERS**

8 Feb **Lance Brown** – *The Driver of
Change*

15 Feb **Nicky Edwards** – *The Clothing Bank*

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.

Want to play?



Rotary Club of Newlands Office Bearers

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Colin Burke | President | colinburke@mweb.co.za |
| Lucian Pitt | Secretary | secretary@newlands.org.za |
| Peter Ennis | Treasurer | treasurer@newlands.org.za |
| Chris Beech | President Elect | chris@aaam.co.za |
| Brian Pickup | Community Service | brianp@automac.co.za |
| Melinda Stapleton | Club Service | mjstapleton@webafrica.org.za |
| Jenny Ibbotson | International & Vocational Service | jennyi@mweb.co.za |
| Chris Beech | Membership | chris@aaam.co.za |
| Wybe Meinesz | Past President | wybe@insectcontrol.co.za |
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| Johan Beukman | Youth Service | jbeukman@netactive.co.za |

Books for the World

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

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