



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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## JULY IS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ROTARY YEAR

### CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Aug. 9	Cancelled	Rotary Duck Race	Maple Ridge Park

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
July 10: Eric Mollema	

### RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



This does not seem like a time for great optimism, but it has to be. Long before Rotary was founded, the world dealt with great crises that tested humankind's ability to progress and endure. In the age of Rotary, the world has faced many more catastrophes; however, we have survived, and every step of the way, Rotary has helped the world heal.

Every great challenge is an opportunity for renewal and growth. I revealed the theme of Rotary Opens Opportunities at the International Assembly in San Diego just as the COVID-19 crisis was beginning, but these are words that I have believed for many years.

Rotary is not just a club that you join; it is an invitation to endless opportunities. We believe in creating opportunities for others and for ourselves. We believe that our acts of service, large and small, generate opportunities for people who need our help, and that Rotary opens opportunities for us to live a richer, more meaningful life, with friends around the world, based on our core values.

Governments and institutions are gaining a greater appreciation for the types of public health partnerships that are critical to our work. People stuck at home, eager for greater connections and hungry to help their communities, are now embracing the values we have promoted since our beginning.

All of this is positive news, but just because there are greater opportunities than ever for Rotary to thrive does not guarantee that we will succeed. The world is changing rapidly — and was doing so even before this crisis. People were starting to move away from regular lunch meetings and toward online gatherings. Friendships were being cultivated and revived in social media relationships even before most of our meetings moved to Zoom and Skype. Younger generations have a strong desire to serve — but have questioned whether they could play a meaningful role in organizations like Rotary or whether they might make a bigger

impact forming different types of connections. Now is the time to put everything on the table, test new approaches, and prepare Rotary for the future.

The COVID-19 crisis has forced all of us to adapt. This is good, and our new Action Plan specifically calls on us to improve our ability to adapt. But adaptation is not enough. We need to change, and change dramatically, if we are to face the challenges of this new age and provide the Rotary the world so desperately needs.

This is our great challenge, not just in the next year but into the foreseeable future. It is up to us to remake Rotary for these new times — to wholeheartedly embrace the ideas, energy, and commitment of young people eager to find an outlet for idealism. We must become an organization fully enmeshed in the digital age, not one that simply looks for online ways to keep doing what we have always done.

The world needs Rotary now more than ever. It is up to us to make sure that *Rotary Opens Opportunities* for generations to come.

Holger Knaack  
RI President 2020-21

### OUR CLUB LAST WEEK'S ZOOM MEETING:

**Adrienne Dale** presided over, virtually, her last meeting of 2019 - 2020 year [and by 'virtually' we do not mean 'nearly' or 'almost' in its traditional sense, because her year is really over!].



To celebrate her final meeting, a number of her fellow Rotarians from South Africa joined our meeting as guests, namely:

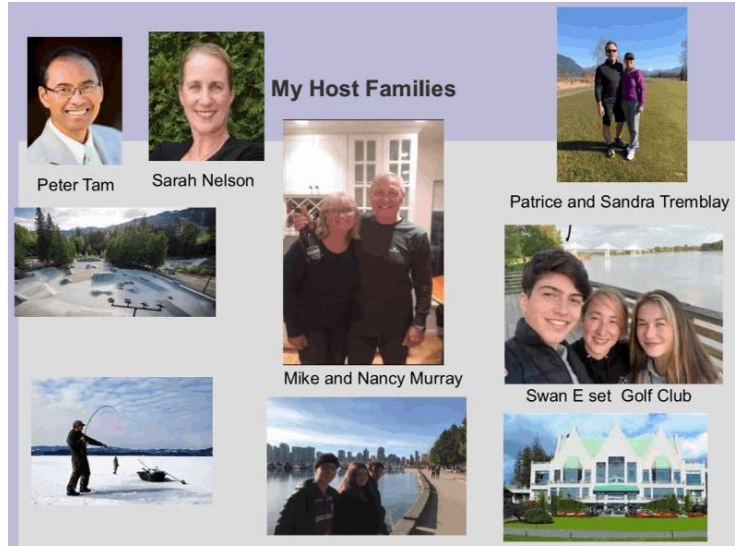
- Clive Smedmor**
- Rick Hunt and wife Carol**
- Johann Van Der Westhuizen**
- Gbenga Apata**

Program: Marceau Chavanne, our exchange student from Lyon, France

Marceau previously spoke to our Club (as recorded in a previous 4-Way Flasher), telling us a bit about his family, himself and his country. Today spoke about his host families, his interaction with his fellow Rotary exchange students, his activities with the friends that he has met here, and his high school experience in British Columbia.



Host Families



When he arrived in Maple Ridge on August 26, 2019, he stayed for approximately two weeks with the family of **Sarah Nelson** of the Haney Rotary Club, followed by a one-month stint with the family of **Peter Tam**, president of the Haney Rotary Club and his wife **Eva**. Near the end of October 2019, he commenced his stay with his host family for the next six months, **Mike Murray** and his wife **Nancy** of the Haney Club. His last host family was that of **Patrice and Sandra Tremblay**. [Note: *Patrice Tremblay, a long-time PE teacher at Laity View Elementary, played for the Chicoutimi Saguenéens team of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League from 1985-1989 and he is the club's all-time leading goal-scorer with 225 goals in 273 games. Patrice and Sandra's daughter was a previous exchange student*].

Marceau visited much of the lower mainland and other parts of British Columbia, including Stanley Park, the aquarium, and Whistler (where he went snowboarding). Of particular note was the time he spent at Mike Murray's cabin, situated near a lake and a 7-hour car drive from Maple Ridge. The lake was frozen and he had the opportunity to go ice fishing.

Youth Exchange

He enjoyed the experience of visiting with a group of 12 exchange students in our District, from countries including as Norway, Germany, Japan, Peru, Korea, Australia, and Spain. They met for a weekend in Washington where they "laughed a lot" and had great fun meeting everyone. They stayed in a cabin at Mount Baker and snowboarded all day.

New Local Friends and Activities

With friends he met here in Canada, he went ice-skating, snowboarding on grouse Mountain, hiking at Squamish and Bunsen Lake and up the Grouse Mountain grind, and many other places in British Columbia. His passion is skate-boarding.

His School

He attended Westview Secondary School, conveniently located only a three-minute walk from Mike Murray's house. In his school in Lyon, France, they have no sports teams or technical classes, so he got to participate in woodworking, food, sewing, and other such classes, and attended as a spectator in basketball and other sports tournaments in the school.

He thanked the Rotary clubs of Haney and Meadow Ridge for sponsoring him, and especially thanked his host families, who helped him "realize his dream" despite the coronavirus. "We handled Covid!", he said.

Happy and Sad

**Pres. Adrienne Dale** - very pleased to have the visiting Rotarians from South Africa, and happily looking forward to a RV trip to Princeton with Sharon and Matt and spouses.

**Johann** from South Africa - has been in Rotary for 45 years and offered \$20 Canadian (due to the difficulty of paying by Zoom, Eric graciously picked up the tab).

**Eric Mollema** - paid an additional \$20 saying "I am glad Adrienne will no longer be president". Adrienne clarified the statement, pointing out that she and Eric are law partners and Eric's cheeky reference was to the time taken away from the practice of law.

**Brenda Jenkins** - thanked her sponsor for bringing her into the club, and for receiving the Paul Harris Recognition at the installation dinner.

**Libby Nelson** - as a tribute to Adrienne

South African Guests' Rotary projects:

Our SA guests advised that their projects this past year included:

- (a) Food parcels for non-South Africans living in SA who are caught destitute without jobs by the virus shut-down (the government does not have enough reserves to take care of non-South Africans living in their country).
- (b) They make solid building materials called "ecobricks" to build shelters; these are made out of 2-litre coke bottles filled with plastic;



- (c) The "Rotary Anns" (a woman's arm of the Rotary Clubs in SA) [similar to what Lions Clubs had with "Lioness Clubs"] raised about 15,000 Rands for Rotary projects.

President's Adrienne's quote for the day (and final one for the year):

**MARRIAGE IS LIKE A DECK OF CARDS...**

**IN THE BEGINNING ALL YOU NEED IS TWO HEARTS ♡ ♡  
AND A DIAMOND.  
IN THE END YOU WISH YOU HAD A CLUB AND A SPADE**

President Adrienne, in recognition of the heritage of our Irish President of Rotary International Mark Daniel Maloney, ended each of our meetings in 2019-2020 with an Irish blessing.

Her final Irish blessing is as follows:



Submitted by Laurie Anderson

**JUNE 26 – INSTALLATION OF CLUB EXECUTIVE 2020-2021:**

The Installation Dinner of the executive of the Meadow Ridge Rotary Club 2020-2021 was held at the Meadow Gardens Golf Club facility on June 26, 2020. This was the first “in-person” meeting of our Club since the shutdown caused by the coronavirus, but also included a virtual component with **District Gov Brad Whittaker, Matt and Lynda DeBruyn** and **Warren Dale** attending by Zoom. Among many other family members and guests appearing in person were **Phoenix MacLaren** (the District Rotaract Representative), and **Adam Hill** who with **Alex Carmichael** is co-president of the Fraser Valley Rotaract Club, and our exchange student from France **Marceau Chavanne**.

**President Adrienne Dale** welcomed everyone, stating, in part: Good evening All, Rotarians, family and Zoom friends. I wish to give a special welcome to DG Brad Whittaker Via Zoom as well as our exchange student Marceau Chavanne from France, and our Rotaractors. Thank you to Ineke for chocolates and the Zoom link, Eric for all technical assistance, and Libby for the masks.

**Patrick Dobbyn** acted as Master of Ceremonies. An excellent meal was served, with appropriate “social distancing” observed, with only four persons seated per table.

**Pres. Adrienne Dale**, assisted by **Mike Davies**, presented the following awards and recognitions for club service:

**President's Citation Award - Ineke Boekhorst** - Participation in all projects and events, Seniors' Xmas Party and Starfish Backpack Project.



**Outstanding New Member - Patrick Dobbyn** - President Elect, speaker programme.



**Distinguished Service - Peter Boekhorst** - Digital Media, website photos and The Four Way Flasher.



**Distinguished Service - Laurie Anderson** - Weekly minutes taking, contribution to the Editorial of The Four Way Flasher.

**Rotarian of the Year - Eric Mollema** - 100% attendance, duties, technology, Vision session.



**Paul Harris Award - Brenda Jenkins** - Duck Race, Upgrading Venue, Secretary, Green for St.Pats, Pumpkins for Fall, Hearts for Valentines.

**Vocational Services - Matt DeBruyn** (not present) - Dictionary, Bursaries and Career Guidance Interviews.

We also said good-bye to our Exchange Student **Marceau Chavanne**.



**Ineke Boekhorst** introduced our **District Gov. Brad Whittaker**, who congratulated our club on its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. He said, “Who would have known that we would have been in this situation. Let’s not waste a crisis. Use it to go forward and invite (virtually) clubs around the world to attend your meetings. The world needs Rotary now more than ever, and remember ‘Service Above Self’”.

District Gov. Brad then installed the new directors and officers for 2019 – 2020:



- |                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| President              | Clint Callison    |
| President Elect        | Patrick Dobbyn    |
| Vice President         | Buzz Bezuidenhout |
| Past President         | Adrienne Dale     |
| Secretary              | Brenda Jenkins    |
| Treasurer              | Walter Volpatti   |
| Club Services          | Buzz Bezuidenhout |
| Community Services     | Mike Davies       |
| International Services | Ineke Boekhorst   |
| Youth Services         | Sharon Kyle       |
| Vocational Services    | Matt DeBruyn      |
| Foundation             | Laurie Anderson   |

Our new president for the 2020-2021 year, **Clint Callison**, then spoke, thanking the club for the opportunity to serve as president for a second time. He reminded us that we are close to ending polio, and we need to pledge as much as possible to the Rotary Foundation for this purpose. "What is next after polio?" he asked. "Environmental projects".

Clint commented that going to PETS for a second time recharged his Rotary battery, and reminded him again of what a great organization Rotary is. He then he showed us a video of a humorous but inspirational speech given at PETS by **Past Rotary International President Richard (Rick) King**, who served as president in 2001-2002.

President Adrienne Dale gave the following outgoing president's address:

*When Irish RI President, Mark Maloney, choose his Rotary Theme for 2019 – 2020, "Rotary Connects the World", could he have ever imagined how appropriate his theme would be for the Year that Changed the World. 2020, a Year with unprecedented times, with no one living on earth able to say, "this is how we need to do this", or more importantly "here is the vaccine to fix this". Never before has the stockbroker in his million-dollar apartment in New York faced the same fears as the humble, barefooted sole living on the streets of Calcutta - the fears of mortality, isolation and things being totally out of our control.*

*I believe that Rotarians have learned a lot from COVID in 2019/2020. I am quoting a couple of comments from Bill Gates, a great supporter of Rotary's Polio Plus, which puts this into perspective. He said the following about COVID 19 and what we can learn from it:*

- *COVID is reminding us that we are all connected and something that affects one person has an effect on another.*
- *It is reminding us that the false borders that we have put up have little value as this virus does not need a passport.*
- *It is reminding us, by oppressing us for a short time, of those in this world whose whole life is spent in oppression.*
- *It is reminding us of the shortness of life and of what is most important for us to do, which is to help each other, especially those who are old or sick. Our purpose is not to buy toilet roll.*
- *It is reminding us of how materialistic our society has become and how, when in times of difficulty, we remember that it's the essentials what we need (food, water, medicine) as opposed to the luxuries that we sometimes unnecessarily give value to.*

*Rotary meetings all over the world are now being conducted by the same virtual means, from North America, to Africa, to Europe. We are here tonight, meeting together for the first time since March. We started the year, being in disagreement over our venue. We wanted a venue change, well, we sure got it.*

*My greatest sadness was not being able to hold our 30th Anniversary to mark our Club's monumental birthday. Then I thought, small sacrifice as opposed to all the weddings, Celebrations of Life and saying goodbyes to loved ones. As our precious Dr. Bonnie Henry says, "This is not forever, this is just for now." But despite COVID 19 and all its woes, this is a celebration of being*

*together and a new year to come, and all that what did we managed to get done in the 8 months before we were shut down:*

1. *Our Duck Race raised \$84,000, and we had a record number of groups participating;*
2. *I achieved my goal for the year and that was to reach out to Seniors through partnering with other community organizations, while engaging in a hands-on project. We had members wrapping, gifts, serving meals and transporting seniors. We had our bumper Christmas party with 140 seniors - gifts, turkey dinner and live entertainment. I am hoping this will be an annual event.*
3. *We participated in a Global Grant application for a Literacy Project in Belize with other clubs in Area D.*
4. *We obtained a District COVID grant to support our local Food Bank. To this, our Club donated over \$7,500.*
5. *We provided \$20,000 for the Pitt Meadows Elementary School Playground*
6. *We completed the 5th and final year of our Dictionary Programme for grade four students.*
7. *We participated in the Youth Exchange program. Our exchange student Marceau is here with us tonight; we actually say goodbye to Marceau as he heads home to his family in France next week.*
8. *We connected with the Rotaract Club of the Fraser Valley – we have members here tonight.*
9. *The Starfish Backpack program.*
10. *Finally, we went through the ultimate in Service Above Self and attended 4 hours of a Visioning Session.*

*In closing, I want to thank the Board for their support and dedication to their duties in the Club. I would specially thank AG AI, who was always just a text away. Thank you for the guidance and your support of our club.*

*I have not brought gifts (or rather, more dust collectors). Because the Board seems to be recycled year after year, we have so many of them. So, all awards and thanks will be by a personal donation to a Rotary COVID project. All that is left is to wish Clint and his Board a happy and successful 2020-2021 and to end with my final Irish Blessing:*

*To all the days here and after  
May they be filled with fond memories, happiness, and laughter.*

### **MEADOW RIDGE ZOOM MEETING INSTRUCTIONS:**

All members have to do, is click on [this link](#) Tuesday at noon. Give yourself a few minutes in advance.

The first time it will download the zoom app, which takes just a couple of seconds and you are in; it's that simple!  
Members can turn on their camera if they like, but don't have to.

Topic: Meadow Ridge Rotary Club Meeting  
Every week on Tue, July 7 until Nov 17, 2020, at 12 Noon PT.

Join Zoom Meeting: Click the following link  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86123292506?pwd=T2xlS0JwaW43bEpMVWFuU24wZi9xUT09>

Meeting ID: 861 2329 2506  
Password: 578913