



WEEKLY UPDATE



Rotary Club of Etobicoke

District Governor: Ted Koziel

RI President: Sakuji Tanaka

Week February 13, 2013

Board 2012 - 2013

President: Hugh Williams, Secretary: Ron Miller, Treasurer: Don Edwards

February 20, 2013 - Big Ideas Forum & Club Business - Crooked Cue, 7.00 p.m.

News Flash District 7070 is Happy to Announce Michael Bell as the District Governor Nominee-Nominee. If my math is correct Michael will be DG in 2015-16

**Today's Speaker - Nigel Brown
Magoanine "B" School Water &
Sanitation Project**



Nigel began by saying "I'm always reminded a long bio means a shorter talk"

Nigel said he was here today to tell everyone about the Magoanine "B" School Water & Sanitation Project, Maputo, Mozambique. Why help here? There are several reasons.

Mozambique is currently 184th out of 187 countries on the UNDP poverty index - it is a very poor country. In 2003 figures: the population - 18.5 million; Increase in population - 2.1%/year; Life Expectancy - 46.3 years (may be down to near 42 years now); GDP per person - US\$262 (around US\$300 now); absolute poverty - 54.1%; HIV Aids (15-49 years) - 16.2%; Population with access to clean drinking water - 35.7%; Literacy rate men - 62.3%; literacy rate women - 31.44%. The statistics are pretty grim and have not changed much in the last 10 years. The problem is that the demand for funds far exceeds the ability of the government to provide for everything. Around half of the government's budget comes from foreign donors, mainly European and N American. The government is building roads & bridges and rebuilding railways wrecked in the civil war to help develop its natural resources, as well as financing a rudimentary public health system, and do not have sufficient funds to build schools and provide them with staff, power, water and books.

So this is where the Rotary Club of Maputo comes in. They built the Magoanine "B" school in the northern suburbs of Maputo, and now Nigel is raising \$121,000 with the support of this club to provide the children with water & sanitation, which is sorely needed.

The old and rather sad joke goes that when a large, shallow earthquake of magnitude 6.5 rocked the northwest of the country back in 2006, millions of \$'s worth of improvements were made! Not true, but no significant damage was done either - it is that undeveloped!

An important reason why Nigel is raising funds for this project is that Bernadette & he lived in Maputo between February 2003 & September

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2007. It is a lively city with a vibrant range of cultures, including tribal, Portuguese & South African. There are also some elements of the post-independence Marxist-era remaining. Its people are proud of being Mozambican - they rarely leave their country "for a better life abroad", unlike many other nationalities around the world.

During their time in Maputo we were members of the Rotary Club of Polana, the youngest of 3 clubs in the city & surrounding area. Nigel noted that "the members scrubbed up pretty well for dinners but the club was never anything other than small, financially challenged and riven by dissent!" But a few of us drove it to great heights with projects for: water bores; heart monitors for the central hospital in Maputo; feeding programs for HIV/AIDS-affected families; building a school & helping to bring another out of the dark ages; providing food for an old people's home; providing the push for the complete upgrade of another old people's home (that one is a complete story in itself); clothing & school supplies for street kids; providing sewing machines, materials & training for women's groups; donating wheelchairs; and many other projects.

The funding came from clubs/districts in Canada, Switzerland, England, Italy, Belgium, France, the US, Germany & New Zealand.

They made a number of good friends at the senior club in the city, the Maputo club. They built Magoanine as well as a number of other schools in the area. With this present project Nigel says we will help 2400 children (who are split into 3 shifts of 800 daily) to have safe water and sanitation. It is essential we provide water now because the education ministry wants to perhaps double the numbers of children in the coming years.



How do you help an African child? There are no better gifts than clean water and education, which are part of the "Clean Water Cycle: Clean Water leads to better health; to less \$'s spent on health care; to families being better off; to children staying in school longer (especially allowing girls to stay on in school longer); to better education; to better jobs; to less children for the family to have to support. Then the cycle restarts.



The project involves 3 phases:

Phase 1 - drill the borehole, line it and install the submersible pump, build a water tower and add a water tank, install the electrical system and a drinking fountain for the children. (US\$31,280)

Phase 2 - build a toilet block, a water main and construct one septic tank. (US\$35,260)

Phase 3 - provide an additional toilet block, additional water tanks, and additional septic tanks. (US\$54,670)

Nigel says the plan is to train the children in sanitation awareness & methods, and show them how to grow fruit & vegetables, a life-skill.

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The total cost of the project is estimated to be US\$121,210 and we are looking for partners to help us achieve this.

A Global Grant Expression of Interest has been lodged with Foundation and the process is ongoing. The necessary finances for the project currently look like this; Non-Rotary funds US\$15,000 (C\$13,800 raised so far); Rotary Club funding US\$55,000 (C\$28,400 raised & promised + today's cheques for C\$2,500); DDF D7070, D7020, D9400 C\$15,000 (already raised); TRF requested US\$36,210; total required US\$121,210. If you add up the figures, Nigel needs to find roughly another \$26,000.

And to top it off, Bernadette and Nigel are being transferred to Cape Town, South Africa, in August. This means they will be able to keep a close eye on the project, take pictures, talk with Maputo club members, report to all the stake-holders and organise tours to see the school if anyone is interested!

In summary, this is a really great project with 2 really committed clubs, which will help the lives of 2400 kids to be a little safer, easier, healthier and better. It is sustainable. Nigel "is so pleased this club is leading the project"!



Frederik Martin thanked Nigel for giving the Club an update on the Magoanine Project. Frederik noted that when the project began he told Nigel that he would personally donate \$500 to the project and that he is prepared to keep that promise. When Nigel first brought the idea of this project to the attention to the International Services Committee, his great familiarity with Mozambique, the Maputo area

and the Maputo Rotary Club allowed the committee's to want to pursue this undertaking. Nigel then took the lead and ran with the project getting support not only from our Club but many other Clubs in and out of our District including the Selby Rotary Club in Yorkshire, England. He visited many clubs personally to try and get support. He also was the lead for applying for DDF and TRF grants in support of this project. Frederik says that Nigel has done a great job in raising the recognition of our Club in and outside of our District.

Pennies for Magoanine

After Nigel's presentation on Magoanine, Diane Irvine made a suggestion for an interesting fundraiser for the Magoanine Project, "Pennies for Magoanine".

New Member Introduction



Two of our newest members, Erlene Brown and Mike Walmsley were introduced to the membership by President Hugh. Secretary Ron presented them with their membership cards, their Club ID badges, and the New Member information packages. Past President and Membership Director Michael Bell presented Erlene and Mike with their Rotary pins.

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Cheque Presentation to Judy Leroux - Youth Without Shelter

Gill Dugas was asked to introduce Judy Leroux from Youth Without Shelter and talk about the project we were supporting.



On Thursday, March 7th from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. our Club is doing a "Hands-On" project at Youth Without Shelter (YWS) as part of their Room Mates program. YWS is the singular emergency residence and referral agency in Etobicoke dedicated to providing shelter and support programs to homeless youth ages 16 to 24. We are providing a team of 6 or 7 volunteers to transform a drab, institutional bedroom into a warm and happy space. The bedroom accommodates 3 beds and is located in the Emergency Residence. Decorating is limited to painting; however, we are encouraged to employ our imagination to show off our creative side by using patterns, stripes, sponging and stencils. Along with our painting project our Club's donation of \$1,000 provides the ongoing maintenance and refurbishment of the sponsored Rotary bedroom. Our Club will be recognized by a plaque on the bedroom door with an inspirational quote of our choosing, a charitable tax receipt and an opportunity to tour the shelter. Gill is hoping 2 or 3 more members will join the team for a fun day (Youth Without Shelter, 6 Warrendale Court in Etobicoke). Please contact Gill (416-243-2151 for more information.

Gill presented the cheque for \$1,000 to Judy, who thanked the Club for our ongoing support

and our donation which she was extremely grateful to receive. She is looking forward to greeting our "team" on March 7th and says they will supply lunch to the team.

Visitors & Guests



Guests

- **Lillian Arrage** – Exchange Student
- **Jo-Ann Bell** – Guest of Michael Bell
- **Brock Buchanan** – former member who is looking to return to the Club
- **Judy Leroux** – Youth Without Shelter

Club members – we were **18** today

Total attendees - **22**

Secretary's Corner

By Ron Miller

Following announcements were made

RI President Sakuji Tanaka's visit to the Rotary Club of Toronto:

Rotary Club of Toronto President Neil Phillips is inviting all Rotarians and any interested guests to meet Rotary International President Sukuji Tanaka at a special luncheon on Friday, March 1, 2013 (12 PM) at the Fairmont Royal York (Concert Hall), 100 Front Street West, Toronto. Tickets are \$80 each. Tickets are going fast.

Contact: http://rtc.r-sourcecenter.com/event/index.asp?Event_id=44 for tickets

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(NOTE: President Hugh has advised that our Club will have a table at March 1st luncheon with RI President Tanaka. Members are encouraged to buy a ticket, and if enough attend, maybe we will have 2 tables)

Rotarians for Peace Symposium:

The Rotarians for Peace Symposium will be held March 2, 2013 at the Fairmount Royal York Hotel in Toronto. Rotarians and their guests from Districts 6330, 7010, 7040, 7070, 7080 and 7090 are invited to attend. Registrations are now being accepted. Rotary International President Sakuji Tanaka will be there to open the Symposium. Please go to the Rotary District 7070 Website at www.rotary7070.org and look in the upper right hand column for Rotarians for Peace Symposium and click on the Register Now button.

Here are some of the details: Saturday, March 2, 2013 (8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.) at the [Royal York Hotel](#) in downtown Toronto. Join Rotarians from Districts across the US and Canada for an extraordinary learning and inspirational experience. Learn about peace, development and global health - locally as well as internationally - and spend time with an incredible group of people who are changing the world.

Honoured guests will include: [Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish](#), "The Gaza Doctor" & the author of I Shall Not Hate; [Raseema Alam](#), a Rotary Peace scholar with over 15 years of experience in developing countries; [Dr. Bob Scott](#), a leader in Rotary's battle against polio; [Wilfred Wilkinson](#), Past President of Rotary International; and Master of Ceremonies [Suhana Meharchand](#), host CBC News Now. There will be breakout sessions on peace in our schools, gang violence, medicine in conflict zones and more. This is a conference not to be

missed! In addition to all the above, a continental breakfast & a lunch is included all for the amazing price of \$100 per person!!

Committee Meetings

- **Monday, February 25th** - CSC meeting - 5 PM - National Silicates

- **Monday, February 25th** - ISC meeting - 7 PM - Nigel & Bernadette's

Wednesday, March 27th - Magoanine Cocktail Fundraiser in aid of the Magoanine "B" School Water & Sanitation Project - 7 PM - Bernadette and Nigel's (437 The Kingsway - near Islington) - Tickets \$55/person - Contact Nigel Brown

(NOTE: The regularly scheduled luncheon meeting on March 27th will be cancelled)

- **Saturday, May 4th** - District Assembly - 8:45 AM - BMO Institute for Learning. This is an opportunity for all Rotarians (especially our newer members) to learn more about what Rotary is "all about" and what we do. For information please contact Ron Miller.

Please put all these dates in your diaries and let Ron know any make-ups/meetings you have attended - THANK YOU!



Nigel Brown - Nigel said he was happy to say that while they were in the Barbados Bernadette and him did a make-up at the Barbados West Rotary Club which he says meets in "a lovely little spot". Nigel was also happy to say that he received a \$2000 cheque from the Eglinton Rotary Club for the Magoanine Project. He also received a \$500

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cheque from the President Neil Phillips from Toronto Rotary Club. Neil had come with an idea to thank speakers at their Club by awarding them with an "appreciation certificate" that shows the recipient a \$100 donation has been made to the Magoanine Project on their behalf. The certificates were produced by Paul Roeser who Nigel said did a "great job". Nigel was also happy about the 4 members who brought him the "can tags". He said Milos at the Forest Hill Club will be "very pleased". They use these to buy wheelchairs.

Bernadette Hunkeler Brown – Bernadette was happy to be back here, but said that while they were in the Barbados they not only did they do a make-up at the Barbados West Rotary Club but they also got to watch a "real sport" – cricket. They got to spend the day watching a 50-Over 1 day match which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Brock Buchanan – Brock was happy to say that while there may be a few newer members that do not know him; he was a former member of the Rotary Club of Etobicoke for a few years until he moved to East Africa in 2007. He was familiar with this area of Africa as he was once a CUSO volunteer there some time ago. Brock said that he is now happy to be back in Toronto and is looking to return to our Club. He was recently living in Moshi, Tanzania and was a member of the Kilimanjaro Rotary club. Brock thinks that our recent increase in membership is impressive and thinks he would like to share some of our ideas with the club back in Moshi. He said the club there had problems getting 15 members to a meeting and are also having trouble getting new members. Brock is looking forward to rejoining our Club and is interested in working with the International Committee where he feels he can offer some of his experience.



50/50 Draw

Winner

Today's 50:50 Draw **RON MILLER** ticket was drawn out of the bag and he pulled the **THE JOKER**.

Rotary Minute Waltz (with an Apology to Chopin)



For Nigel Brown's presentation today, he had prepared a bio of himself saying that "even though most of the members know him, they may not know everything about him". It was suggested that this would be a "perfect fit" for our "Rotary Minute Waltz" segment where a member gets up and talks about himself for a minute. In this case however, it was agreed that Bernadette would read Nigel's bio since she would give it the proper "panache" required.

"Nigel was born in England and, during this first period of his life, followed his father's career to Wales and back. After completing school, he worked at a High Street bank, and then on shift work at a power station, until he decided on his future, and the second stage of his life - following his own dream!

He attended the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth studying geology. Aber had the highest percentage of female student car-owners of any university in the UK, but he still managed to gain an honours degree, in 1978! His first job after uni was at an engineering consultancy outside London. As the result of his political views being at odds with Prime Minister Thatcher's, low pay/the cost of living being so high, and his wanderlust, he looked for work overseas. This resulted in him joining a US company and living in Norway and working on drilling rigs in the North Sea. Following an unfortunate incident involving an icy road, a frozen lake and a company vehicle he was transferred to the Libyan Sahara! His last hitch there was in 1981, drilling for sour gas in the middle of a minefield near the border with Egypt, at the time that a Libyan-backed group assassinated President Sadat. He was amongst the lucky group of foreigners threatened with being used as a human shield if the country was invaded in retaliation. He quit for health reasons and went back to the North Sea!

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Marriage to an Australian lady took him to South Australia where he enjoyed working in *The Outback* as a geologist on exploration and appraisal wells for a few years, before moving to Sydney, NSW in 1986, to be laid off 4-months later because of the plummeting oil price. Almost overnight he became a consultant and worked for a number of small - medium & national oil companies over the next 10 years. During this very rewarding time he became single again and eventually decided to hit the road as an itinerant geologist. His first position was in Canberra, the federal capital of Australia, where he met Bernadette, who was working at the Swiss embassy there.

When she left Australia in 1995, his CD collection somehow managed to be packed into her container and he had to follow her to the Dominican Republic to retrieve it. They married a couple of years later. Over time he found he was out-running his contacts and work was becoming harder to find. He gradually adjusted to the concept of being a "kept man" and entered the third phase of his life - following the career of his wife. In 1999 he joined his first Rotary club, in Wellington, New Zealand, where he was also taught the intricacies of jade carving by a Maori carver. In 2003 his wife & he were transferred to Maputo, Mozambique. They have since been transferred to Dublin & Toronto, and both have continued to be active in Rotary and other circles."

Lilian Arrage - Birthday

Friday, February 15th is our Club's exchange student Lilian Arrage's birthday. Michael Bell presented Lilian with a gift from the Club, a Hudson Bay blanket. Michael explained that the "original" HBC blankets were wool but since it is not "that cold" in the part of Brazil that Lilian is from, this blanket is "polar fleece". Michael wanted Lilian to know the history behind the Hudson Bay blanket.

A Hudson's Bay "point blanket" is a type of [wool blanket](#) traded by the [Hudson's Bay Company](#) (HBC) in [British North America](#) (now [Canada](#)) and the [United States](#) during the 18th century and 19th century. The blankets were typically traded to [First Nations](#) and [Native](#)

[Americans](#) in exchange for [beaver](#) pelts. The blankets continue to be sold by Canada's Hudson's Bay Company and have come to hold iconic status in Canada. In the [North American fur trade](#), point blankets were one of the main European items sought by native peoples in exchange for beaver pelts, buffalo robes, pemmican, moccasins, and other trade goods. They were desired because of wool's ability to hold heat even when wet, and because they were easier to sew than bison or deer skins. Wool cloth of one kind or another was traded as far back as the [French regime in North America](#) (1500-1765), but HBC point blankets were introduced in 1780 to compete with similar blankets offered by the Montreal-based private traders. The blankets were often produced with a green stripe, red stripe, yellow stripe and indigo stripe on a white background; the four stripe colours were popular and easily produced using good colourfast dyes at that time. From the early days of the fur trade, point blankets were made into hooded coats called capotes by both natives and French Canadian voyageurs which were perfectly suited to Canada's cold winters"



Jo-Ann Bell baked a chocolate birthday cake for Lilian. After Lilian blew out the candles the cake was cut up and served to everyone attending today's luncheon. A birthday card (signed by everyone attending) was also presented to Lilian

Reporting & Pictures Courtesy: Ron Miller