

The Grapevine

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Paarl

June 2017

President Marita has her (last) say

And so the winter arrives with still no serious rain and the end of my term of office is in sight.

It has been a busy term, in which we supported the Drakenstein club with the six a side cricket day. Although we had to beg borrow and steal to fill our team, we walked away with prizes and a second place. Well done Eugene, Abie and Bryan: at least you did not go home empty handed.

Abie, Anne and I attended Conference in Swellendam at the end of April. Anne and Abie set up the Edubox display and sold a number of boxes. It was an informative conference... Well done to Swellendam. Again we did not come home empty handed. We won the trophy for the best club album. Thanks, Anne, for submitting the entry.

We have also had 4 fireside chats and inducted 4 new members. I hope they will enjoy being part of our club.

Steph and I attended a training session held by Salome of Learn2Live. They have identified a number of educare centres in the Wellington area. It was wonderful to see the excitement on the faces of the prospective teachers. We are proud to be associated with this initiative. We also had a visit from the 'pencil man'. It was great to see Mike Hall from the UK and as always he brought us a big box of pencils which would have landed up in landfill. These were distributed to various schools.

On 24 May, Rob, Elsabe, June and I attended the opening of the Meerlust Hall in Klein Drakenstein. This hall was completely dilapidated and of no use to anyone. Together with a few people in the community and donations from various sources, the Hall has been restored and now can be used by the community again. Thank you, Eugene, for running with this project.

On the 30th I attended a meeting at IOH with Chubby and Clive. Things are happening on site. Destitute people are once again being given hope by using their skills to earn a living. I urge all Rotarians to drop in there and see what they are up to.

Once again we donated warm blankets to Valcare for distribution to needy educare centres. Elsabe, Anne and I accompanied Jolanda to one of the crèches. It never ceases to amaze me what these teachers can accomplish in the smallest of spaces. The need is so great.

We dedicated our evening meeting in May to the Rotary Foundation Centenary. We had a lovely cake, invited guests and were then entertained by Pietie and Leon who shared their experiences of Kaokoland with a slide show.

We paid a visit to our Global Grant project, the POP centre in Nuwedrif, to see how they are progressing. I am looking forward to seeing the completed project.

A few Rotarians and their partners raided Stellenbosch Club, something we have not done for a long time. They had more guests than members but it was a lovely evening which included a talk on the Stellenbosch heritage.

Elsabe, June, Margie and I had tea with Beryl Sterling on Wednesday last week. Since Kevin and Lucy are away, she welcomed the company.

As Abie's Induction is coming up soon, my term of office comes to an end.

I would like to thank everyone for their support this year. To all the partners who attended the coffee mornings, we had great fellowship. It was particularly lovely seeing Joan and Jill from time to time.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish Abie all the very best for a successful year. May our club go from strength to strength.

Keep well and take care.

Marita



BEST ALBUM. The Paarl Rotary Club received the award for best club album at the recent district 9350 conference in Swellendam. Here president Marita receives the award from district governor Ian Pursch. The album was compiled by Anne Kruger, club PRO.



TRAINING. Paarl Rotary recently presented 7 toolkits to Learn2Live, an organization which trains women in educare so that they can open their own creches. They also mentor educare teachers and train them to be leaders and mentors. Learn2Live is part of the Oakhill ministry, which focuses on the first 1000 days of a child's life. They can be contacted on info@learn2live.co.za.



PATH OUT OF POVERTY. The Rotary Club of Paarl has partnered with the Rotary Club of Wantage, UK, the Rotary Club of Walsrode in Germany, and Zaltbommel in Holland, to participate in a Rotary International Global Grant to establish a Path Out of Poverty (POP) centre at Paarl. The POP programme under the auspices of the Goedgedacht Trust helps rural children and youth to break free from the cycle of generational poverty. Paarl Rotary has assisted in the construction of a water-borne sewage system for the centre this year.



La Rochelle Interact Club was recently taken under the wing of Paarl Rotary Club. Interact Clubs are founded by Rotary to teach youngsters about service above self. Showing off their Certificate of Organization are (from left) Mrs Adele Dun (faculty advisor), Beulah van den Heever, Nicole Donnelly (both deputy presidents) and Evette Smith (club president).



CELEBRATION. Abie (incoming president) and Marita (outgoing president) joined in the celebration of the Rotary Foundation centenary with a tasty chocolate cake which was served up as dessert at the May evening meeting.



WINTER WARMTH. Paarl Rotary has donated 300 blankets for distribution to local creches. Here president Marita (centre) and Jolanda van der Lingen (right) of Valcare (umbrella organisation for local creches) visit Washiela Adams (left) of Smurfs Daycare in Chicago, Paarl East, to hand over some of the blankets.



Thoughts for the Day (Jewish humour):

A car hit an elderly Jewish man. The paramedic says, "Are you comfortable?"
The man says, "I make a good living."

I just got back from a pleasure trip. I took my mother-in-law to the airport.

I've been in love with the same woman for 49 years. If my wife finds out, she'll kill me!

Someone stole all my credit cards, but I won't be reporting it. The thief spends less than my wife did.

We always hold hands. If I let go, she shops.

The Doctor gave a man six months to live. The man couldn't pay his bill, so the doctor gave him another six months.

The Doctor called Mrs. Cohen saying, "Mrs. Cohen, your check came back."
Mrs. Cohen replied, "So did my arthritis!"

Doctor: "You'll live to be 60!" Patient: "I AM 60!" Doctor:
"See! What did I tell you?"

A doctor held a stethoscope up to a man's chest. The man asks, "Doc, how do I stand?"
The doctor says, "That's what puzzles me!"

Patient: "I have a ringing in my ears." Doctor: "Don't answer!"

A drunk was in front of a judge. The judge says, "You've been brought here for drinking."

The drunk says, "Okay, let's get started."

A man called his mother in Florida . "Mom, how are you?"

"Not too good," said the mother. "I've been very weak."

The son said, "Why are you so weak?"

She said, "Because I haven't eaten in 38 days."

The son said, "That's terrible. Why haven't you eaten in 38 days?"

The mother answered, "Because, I didn't want my mouth to be full in case you should call."

A Jewish man said that when he was growing up, they always had two choices for dinner - take it or leave it.

A Jewish boy comes home from school and tells his father he has a part in the play.
He asks, "What part is it?"

The boy says, "I play the part of the Jewish husband."

The father scowls and says, "Go back and tell the teacher you want a speaking part."

