



ROTARY GRIQUA

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KIMBELEY

7 NOVEMBER 2016

<http://rotarykimberley.org.za/>

ETIQUETTE GONE HAYWIRE!

For better or worse, the smartphone dominates life in a way landlines never did. Enormous portions of our day are devoted to calling, texting, posting, sending photos, watching videos, checking scores, seeking directions, or consulting Wikipedia to settle arguments.

However, smartphones have necessitated a slew of exceptions to what otherwise might be considered to be polite behavior. Being polite is not an affectation. It is the civilized recognition of the presence of others. With smartphones, I think there are a few basic social niceties we should adopt.

When checking your email in a public place, mute the phone. Nobody wants to hear that annoying "delete" sound. It shows disrespect for those sitting around you. It's as bad as clipping your fingernails in public.

When the message on the movie screen tells you to turn off your phone, it means before the previews, not just before the movie. The previews are an essential part of the movie-going process and if you do not understand this, you should not be at the theater in the first place. Once you enter a movie house, all the talking should be done by someone named Bond or Brando. Nothing that you have to say is worth hearing.

Similarly, if you are loudly misleading your spouse or employer or significant other about your whereabouts, you are making everyone in the immediate vicinity an accomplice in your treachery. So, if you hear someone lying on his cellphone, do not hesitate to shout: *"He can't possibly pick the kids up from soccer. He's still in Germiston... and he's with someone named Brandi."*

When you are sitting next to someone whose loud and animated phone conversation spills into your sonic space, feel free to sing Marilyn Manson's version of "Sweet Dreams". If that doesn't work, back it up with Led Zeppelin's "Immigrant Song". That usually does the trick.

Then there is the tyranny of "the message". There is no unwritten law dictating that I have to read your email or text message or WhatsApp - or indeed to respond to it within minutes of you sending it. Unless you are my employer, child, spouse, or proctologist, there is no obligation on my part to respond to your electronic correspondence - ever. So don't phone me seconds later to ask, "Did you read what I just sent you?"

Similarly, there is no law saying that I have to listen to messages you leave on my phone. If you have children under 35, you already know that young people never listen to voice messages. They see that you have called, and they call you back. They believe that if the message was really important, you would have texted them. Since refusal to listen to voice messages is the new norm, you should not be surprised when I ignore your 10-minute message describing the Kurt Darren concert you attended.

A final thought about contemporary smartphone etiquette: As with all things involving politeness, there is no standard schedule of sanctions against the transgressors. Previously, when you misbehaved with young Ms. Barrington-Smythe at the dance celebrating her birthday, your punishment would be that Mrs. Barrington-Smythe would see to it that you were overlooked for similar events for the rest of the season.

But now, smartphone offensiveness is so frequent and so fundamentally tears at our social fabric, that immediate retaliation is permissible. We are all connected, we're told. So act like it ...

... or maybe it's just me!

ROTARY CLUB OF KIMBERLEY

Chartered 20 August 1951

Rotary District 9370

RI President: John F. Germ

District Gov: Bruce Steele-Gray

Ass Gov: André Oberholzer

Club Pres: Dwayne Evans

Club Board:

Luzan Hoffman
André Oberholzer
Barry Downs
Colleen Fairweather
Ken Quinn
Peter Thomas
Amanda van Zyl
Pete van Zyl

Bulletin Editor: Peter Thomas

Club Meetings:

Kimberley Club
Mondays 12:45 for 13:00

INFO: 072 236 8658

DIARISE... 12 Nov: Foundation Training in Ladybrand



CALENDAR & DUTIES

NOVEMBER

Foundation Month

- 7 Nov: Club Meeting 12:45 for 13:00
12 Nov: Foundation Training – Ladybrand
14 Nov: Club Meeting 12:45 for 13:00
21 Nov: CLUB BOARD MEETING 12:45 for 13:00
28 Nov: Club Meeting 12:45 for 13:00

**“If you delegate tasks,
you create followers. If
you delegate authority,
you create leaders”**

Craig Groeschel

DUTIES

*If you are unable to do a duty, please
make arrangements for a substitute.*

WEEK OF 7 NOVEMBER

FELLOWSHIP: Pete van Zyl & Brenda Booth
CORPORAL: Brenda Booth
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Brenda Booth

WEEK OF 14 NOVEMBER

FELLOWSHIP: Clayton D. & Barry Downs
CORPORAL: Clayton Daubermann
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Clayton Daubermann

WEEK OF 21 NOVEMBER

FELLOWSHIP: Board Meeting – No Duty
CORPORAL: Board Meeting – No Duty
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Barry Downs

WEEK OF 28 NOVEMBER

FELLOWSHIP: Colleen F. & Luzaan H.
CORPORAL: Barry Downs
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Dwayne Evans

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE ROTARY GRIQUA
ARE WELCOMED. PLEASE E-MAIL TO:
petertee@vodamail.co.za



Disclaimer: The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the editor and the contributors. They do not necessarily reflect the views of the Rotary Club of Kimberley, of Rotary District 9370 or of Rotary International.

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- 17 Nov Charlene Daubney (Honorary)
18 Nov Lawrie Shuttleworth
26 Nov Peter Daubney (Honorary)

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 07 Nov Dwayne & Liesel Evans

INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

- 14 Nov 1991 Peter Thomas

COFFEE CLUB BIRTHDAYS

- 13 Nov Meng Chan Yan
15 Nov Derek Henning
20 Nov Brian Lloyd
21 Nov Danie Theron

MEME OF THE WEEK



Scientists were
on the verge of a
breakthrough this
week when they
finally discovered
what a woman
wants... but then
she changed her
mind!!