



ROTARY GRIQUA

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KIMBELEY

30 JANUARY 2017

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

ROTARY AND ITS FUTURE: Part 2

“So, in the short term, I am not sure. But in the long term yes,” Owori said. He added that the -benefits of doing so would have to be analysed; these could be more -convenience, RI’s presence at the grassroots might be more exciting to the -people “as Rotary is growing in India and Africa”, but the regional centres would need support for that growth to be sustained.

Ravindran next quizzed the RI President on the RIBI, the way it worked and if it was -successful then why weren’t there more regional organisations, “such as an -India-Pakistan association or something like that.” Germ’s caustic reply: “If you want to destroy Rotary, go ahead and do it. RIBI is a failure; it was set up as a separate organisation but it is not working. In 2004, when I was the RI Director, RIBI had 75,000 members; right now, the membership is down to about 48,000 members. The members are ageing, the average age of members is 74, younger people aren’t joining because they don’t see value, the dues are extremely high.”

There was a very strong -possibility of RIBI being disbanded in the next CoL or the one after that in 2022, he added.

Replying to his next question on Africa, once the dark -continent, but which now holds a lot of promise for Rotary, as it has potential for both membership as well as good -projects, Owori said, “Yes it was a dark -continent, still is to some extent, and will remain so for some time.” But it was a region of growth; “we have one billion -people. It’s a huge continent and Rotary is needed here the most.”

Rotary is giving up some credit by partnering with other organisations, but that’s okay. We cannot do this by ourselves, and will have to work with others.

RI President John Germ

Answering another question on whether Rotary should aim at increasing membership even at the cost of quality, as was often seen, Germ replied, “Sometimes we put too much emphasis on adding numbers and not getting the individuals who will have high ethical character on which Rotary was founded.”

US was not growing, but now it has begun to; Japan and Korea were no longer growing as fast as they were earlier, and sometimes this was due to tradition, such as “in Europe they are very strict with rules. But the crucial thing is you can only become a Rotarian if someone invites you to become one. We have to go and find the right person for our clubs. We have to take that responsibility. Too many times we take in whoever wants to come because we need members, but just because you need financial income you can’t destroy the organisation.

I think only people with high integrity and character, those who believe in the Four-way test and can pass it, will strengthen this organisation.”

Owori added that quality and numbers were not mutually exclusive. Rotary membership was by invitation; “if we invite the right people, people with ethical standards and values we cherish, we’ll never have a problem about quality.”

Ravindran added, “Sam, what you say is true in theory, but the (RI) Board is aware of cases of -fictitious clubs and members who don’t exist.”

To this Owori quipped: “Then the problem is us, the existing Rotarians.” **(final part next week)**

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

Secretary: Corlia v.Tonder

Club Board:

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: 11 Feb: ROTARY ECLIPSE BIATHLON



CALENDAR & DUTIES

JANUARY

Rotary Awareness Month

30 Jan: Club Meeting 12:45 for 13:00

DATES TO DIARISE

WEEKEND OF 4 MARCH

P.O.E.T.S. Conference - Ladybrand

WEEKEND OF 6 MAY

District 9370 Conference - Grahamstown

WEEKEND OF 20 MAY

Interact Conference - Kimberley

FEBRUARY

World Understanding Month

6 Feb: Club Meeting 12:45 for 13:00

11 Feb: ROTARY ECLIPSE BIATHLON

13 Feb: Club Meeting 12:45 for 13:00

20 Feb: BOARD MEETING 12:45 for 13:00

27 Feb: Club Meeting 12:45 for 13:00

**“Doing nothing for others is
the undoing of ourselves.”**

Horace Mann

DUTIES

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

WEEK OF 30 JANUARY

FELLOWSHIP: Clayton D. & Sharon DeVilliers

CORPORAL: Gill Quinn

TUES COFFEE CLUB: Pete van Zyl

WEEK OF 6 FEBRUARY

FELLOWSHIP: Barry D. & Colleen F.

CORPORAL: Ken Quinn

TUES COFFEE CLUB: Brenda Booth

WEEK OF 13 FEBRUARY

FELLOWSHIP: Jannie Jacobs & Philip Maritz

CORPORAL: Peter Thomas

TUES COFFEE CLUB: Clayton Daubermann

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

05 Feb Peter Thomas

17 Feb Brenda Booth

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

09 Mar Charles & Marie Parsons (Honorary)

26 Mar Peter & Amanda Van Zyl

INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

02 Feb 2010 André Oberholzer

24 Feb 2014 Colleen Fairweather

COFFEE CLUB BIRTHDAYS

26 Feb Rob Hollings

28 Feb Sam Goldblatt

28 Mar George Lodder

31 Mar Charles Burton

MEME OF THE WEEK

**Do you know that awesome
feeling when you get into
bed, fall right asleep, stay
asleep all night and wake
up feeling refreshed and
ready to take on the day?
Yeah, me neither!**

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE ROTARY GRIQUA
ARE WELCOMED. PLEASE E-MAIL TO:
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