



ROTARY GRIQUA

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KIMBERLEY

19 JUNE 2017

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

STRENGTH IN DIVERSITY

Muslim and Christian women work together to prevent dengue fever in Indonesia

In a world where intolerance and violence fueled by religious differences seem to be increasing, one Rotary club in Indonesia is showing how diversity can help prevent a pandemic threat.

When the Rotary Club of Solo Kartini in Surakarta, Indonesia, formed 25 years ago, its members drew criticism from the predominantly Muslim community. The club's members were mostly Christians, atypical for a country where more than 80 percent of the population is Muslim. Religious leaders were skeptical of Rotary's secular mission and wary of intrusion. Undeterred, the club started recruiting more members. Today, the 72-member, all-female club includes both Muslims and Christians. The effort they have put into breaking down barriers and fostering respect and understanding among club members has reinforced the club's capacity to address dengue fever, one of the biggest public health threats in tropical cities like Surakarta.

Dengue fever is a virus transmitted by mosquitos that flourishes in tropical environments like Surakarta. There is no effective treatment; once infected, victims experience sudden high fevers, severe headaches, joint and muscle pain, fatigue, nausea, and vomiting.

Launching an effective public health initiative to prevent the disease requires volunteers with deep knowledge and connections to the community who can craft specific and sustainable solutions. And that means being able to build relationships across religious, cultural and socio-economic lines. Rotary member Mariam Kartonagoro says her club's diverse makeup – particularly its abundance of mothers and professionals of varied ages and backgrounds – enhances their effort to fight dengue fever. "The fact that we are different does not create trouble, but it strengthens our relationship," she says.

In collaboration with the Rotary Club of Westport, USA, and the local ministry of health in Surakarta, the club members have been able to help reduce the risk for dengue fever by interrupting the breeding cycles of carrier mosquitos. The first step was to implement a startlingly simple, low-cost strategy: line the dark cement bathtubs, common in Indonesian households, with white tiles so mosquito larvae is easier to see – and remove. In five years, the club project modified more than 3,500 tubs in two neighborhoods. But tiles weren't enough. The club needed to change habits and behaviors that contribute to infections, which required building trust to educate the community.

"Our main focus is to educate and invite people to be aware of health issues, hygiene, and the importance of a clean environment," says Rotarian Indrijani Sutapa. Community social workers teach homeowners how to empty and scrub infested tubs twice a week, close the lid on water containers, and bury waste that can collect water.

Siti Wahyuningsih, Surakarta's director of public health, hopes to extend Rotary's white-tile project to other parts of the city. "Health is a shared responsibility between government, society, and the private sector," she says. "The government can't do it alone. We as a community must embrace all of our strengths, and Rotary is a big one."

"Rotary has a very diverse membership, and we can be examples to others in the way we work. Rotarian Febri Dipokusumo says, "We try to foster relationships with people who may have different beliefs or thoughts. We can become friends here in Rotary. Maybe this way, we can inspire Indonesia and the world."

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



CALENDAR & DUTIES

JUNE

Fellowship Month

19 Jun: Club Meeting 12:45 for 13:00
26 Jun: BOARD MEETING 12:45 for 13:00

"When we give
cheerfully and accept
gratefully, everyone
is blessed."

Maya Angelou

DUTIES

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

WEEK OF 19 JUNE

FELLOWSHIP: Brenda Booth & Clayton D.
CORPORAL: Ken Quinn
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Pete van Zyl

WEEK OF 26 JUNE

FELLOWSHIP: Board Meeting – No Duty
CORPORAL: Board Meeting – No Duty
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Brenda Booth

WEEK OF 3 JULY

FELLOWSHIP: Barry Downs & Dwayne Evans
CORPORAL: Peter Thomas
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Brenda Booth

JULY

New Administration Month

3 Jul: Club Meeting 12:45 for 13:00
10 Jul: Club Meeting 12:45 for 13:00
17 Jul: Club Meeting 12:45 for 13:00
24 Jul: BOARD MEETING 12:45 for 13:00
31 Jul: Club Meeting 12:45 for 13:00

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

08 Jul Shirley Dally (Honorary)
24 Jul Dries van Tonder
20Aug Rotary Club of Kimberley (1951)

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

28 Jun Barry & Gill Downs
05 Jul Brenda & Herbert Booth
16 Jul Gordon & Shirley Dally (Honorary)
29 Aug Mike & Beryl Bradnum (Honorary)

INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

01 Jul 1981 Philip Maritz
13 Jul 2015 Brenda Booth
30 Aug 2009 Pete Van Zyl

COFFEE CLUB BIRTHDAYS

15 Jul Mark Harding
17 Jul Robbie v.d. Nest
22 Jul Karel Byleveld
08 Aug Derek Preece
24 Aug Trevor Urry

MEME OF THE WEEK

I just did a week's
worth of cardio
after walking into
a spider web!

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.