



# ROTARY GRIQUA

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KIMBERLEY

27 NOVEMBER 2017

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

## ORIGINS OF BLACK FRIDAY

Recently, South Africa has adopted the American tradition of offering big discounts on the last Friday of November (Black Friday), but there does not seem to be consensus over the origin of the term...

The most common story behind Black Friday relates that, after an entire year of operating at a loss ("in the red"), stores would supposedly earn a profit ("go into the black") on the day after Thanksgiving, because the holiday shoppers blew so much money on discounted merchandise.

In another story, Southern plantation owners could buy slaves at a discount on the day after Thanksgiving. This particular version of Black Friday's origin has understandably led some people to actively call for a boycott of this retail holiday, but this story has yet to be proven as accurate.

*Back in the 1950s, police in Philadelphia used the term to describe the chaos that ensued on the day after Thanksgiving, when hordes of shoppers and tourists flooded into the city in advance of the big Army-Navy football game held on that Saturday every year. Not only would the cops not be able to take the day off, but they'd have to work extra-long shifts to deal with the additional crowds & traffic. Shoplifters would also take advantage of the bedlam in stores to make off with merchandise, adding to the headache.*

The first use of the term "Black Friday" referred to the crash of the U.S. gold market on 24 Sept. 1869. Two ruthless Wall Street financiers, Jay Gould and Jim Fisk, bought up as much as they could of the nation's gold, hoping to drive the price sky-high and then sell for astonishing profits. On that Friday in September, the conspiracy unravelled, sending the stock market into free-fall and bankrupting everyone from Wall St barons to farmers.

Another use of the term "Black Friday" stems from 1951 and referred to the practice of workers calling in sick on the day after Thanksgiving in order to have four consecutive days off (because that day was not yet commonly offered as a paid holiday by employers). This "disease" was second only to the bubonic plague in terms of lost production in factories.

**Whichever version you believe, one thing is certain... it's a very effective way of emptying the shelves to make way for the Christmas merchandise!**

ROTARY CLUB OF KIMBERLEY  
2017-2018

Chartered 20 August 1951

Rotary District 9370

RI President: Ian Riseley

District Gov: Wally Jacobs

Asst Gov: Barry Downs

Club Pres: Corlia v.Tonder

Secretary: Gill Quinn

Club Board:

Barry Downs

Colleen Fairweather

Ken Quinn

Peter Thomas

Amanda van Zyl

Pete van Zyl

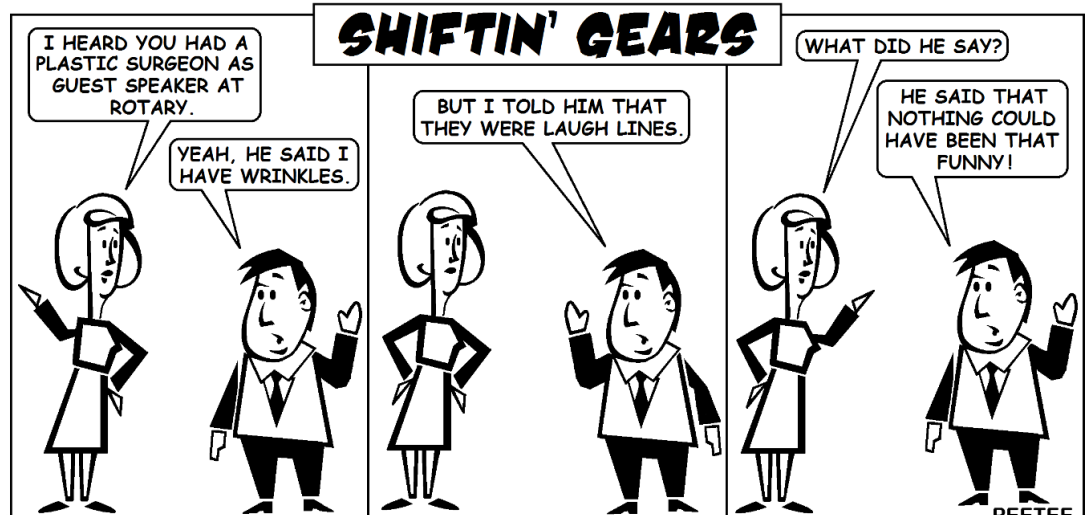
Bulletin Editor: Peter Thomas

Club Meetings:

Kimberley Club

Mondays 12:45 for 13:00

INFO: 082 898 3805



# CALENDAR & DUTIES

## NOVEMBER

### Foundation Month

27 Nov: BOARD MEETING 12:45 for 13:00

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“People often say that motivation doesn’t last. Well, neither does bathing. That’s why we recommend it daily”

Zig Ziglar

### DUTIES

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

#### WEEK OF 27 NOVEMBER

FELLOWSHIP: Board Meeting – No Duty

CORPORAL: Board Meeting – No Duty

TUES COFFEE CLUB: Brenda Booth

#### WEEK OF 4 DECEMBER

FELLOWSHIP: Brenda Booth

CORPORAL: Colleen Fairweather

TUES COFFEE CLUB: NO DUTY

#### WEEK OF 11 DECEMBER

FELLOWSHIP: Amanda van Zyl

CORPORAL: Philip Maritz

TUES COFFEE CLUB: Barry Downs

## DECEMBER

### Family Month

4 Dec: Club Meeting 12:45 for 13:00

5 Dec: Coffee Club Breakfast (No 10.00 coffee)

11 Dec: Club Meeting 12:45 for 13:00

16 Dec: Day of Reconciliation (Saturday)

18 Dec: Club Meeting 12:45 for 13:00

25 Dec: CHRISTMAS – No Meeting (Monday)

26 Dec: DAY OF GOODWILL (Tuesday)

1 Jan: NEW YEAR – No Meeting (Monday)

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

### CELEBRATIONS

#### BIRTHDAYS

09 Dec Shirley Maritz

09 Jan Charles Parsons (Honorary)

15 Jan Maryna Thomas

22 Jan Amanda Van Zyl

22 Jan Herbie Booth

#### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

12 Jan Peter & Maryna Thomas

22 Jan Ken & Gill Quinn

#### INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

02 Dec 1982 Barry Downs

24 Feb 2014 Colleen Fairweather

#### COFFEE CLUB BIRTHDAYS

2 Dec George Astley

20 Dec Alec Woodrow

27 Dec Chris Marnitz

07 Jan Dave Thomas

13 Jan Jannie Jacobs

16 Jan John Paton

## MEME OF THE WEEK

**I don't have Alzheimer's –  
I have “Sometime's” ...  
sometimes I remember  
and sometimes I don't!**



**ROTARY:  
MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE**

**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.