



# ROTARY GRIQUA

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KIMBERLEY

22 JANUARY 2018

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

## WHY GOOD INTENTIONS AREN'T ENOUGH

Rotarian Marilyn Fitzgerald stresses the importance of community involvement for sustainable service projects

(EDITED FOR SPACE CONSTRAINTS)

Rotarians, volunteers and donors are usually excited to talk about successful projects. Marilyn Fitzgerald, a member of the Rotary Club of Traverse City, Michigan, draws inspiration from a far less popular topic: failure.

A clinical psychologist and author, Fitzgerald has spent years studying economic development projects in poor countries, where well-intentioned efforts to improve lives sometimes backfire.

### Q: How did you come to focus on sustainability in projects?

I realized that projects often created a dependency on the Rotarians coming into a community with money and good intentions. I asked myself why the projects no longer existed, why the people we wanted to help weren't carrying on as planned. I realized that those people were not included in project planning, and that's not sustainable. It's about getting away from the charity model, where we give things away, and getting into the opportunity model, where we empower people.

### Q: How does that work?

I work with microloan programs that provide entrepreneurs with capital to start a business, and the programs I work with always incorporate an educational component. People sometimes don't know how to count

or even the cost of the goods they're selling. They can get themselves into terrible financial trouble.

It's amazing to watch. You teach financial literacy, and the people that listen are the youth and mothers and grandmothers - the core of the community. In the past we've given loans mostly to men and learned when we give a loan to a man, he gets some money, develops a business, and often leaves his family. Women tend to take better care of the money and share their skills with the community.

### Q: How do we define sustainability with respect to humanitarian work?

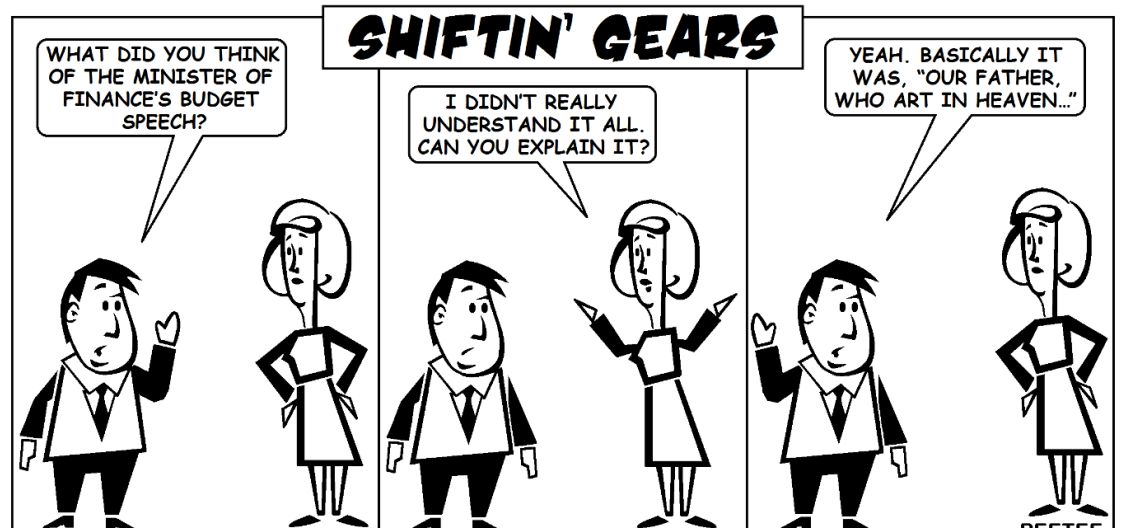
There are two main areas of aid. One is relief aid, and we don't expect that to be sustainable - we help take people out of dire straits and help them get back on their feet. Development aid has to do with people being able to do something for themselves, so they're not dependent on us.

### Q: What steps can Rotary clubs take to make their projects more sustainable?

The first step is to involve the community you want to help. In Guatemala, I worked with women who lived and worked on a city dump. A group of Rotarians came in with the goal of providing shelter for these women and their children. But the houses they built were four miles from the dump, and it wasn't practical for the women to stay there during the workweek. What they really wanted was an education for their children. Do you know how much cheaper that would have been than building houses?

As Westerners, we often think we know the answers, we know people need clean water. What we forget to ask is whether they think they need clean water. Does what you're offering matter to them? If not, you have to go back to the drawing board and come up with something that will.

**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

## JANUARY

### Rotary Awareness Month

22 Jan: BOARD MEETING 12:45 for 13:00  
29 Jan: Social Meeting 12:45 for 13:00

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**“The most common way  
people give up their  
power is by thinking  
they don’t have any”**

Alice Walker

## DUTIES

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

### WEEK OF 22 JANUARY

FELLOWSHIP: No Duty (BOARD MEETING)  
CORPORAL: No Duty (BOARD MEETING)  
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Pete van Zyl

### WEEK OF 29 JANUARY

FELLOWSHIP: Gill Quinn  
CORPORAL: Amanda van Zyl  
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Barry Downs

### WEEK OF 5 FEBRUARY

FELLOWSHIP: Ken Quinn  
CORPORAL: Pete van Zyl  
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Peter Thomas

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE ROTARY GRIQUA  
ARE WELCOMED. PLEASE E-MAIL TO:  
[petertee@vodamail.co.za](mailto:petertee@vodamail.co.za)



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.

## FEBRUARY

### World Understanding Month

5 Feb: Social Meeting 12:45 for 13:00  
12 Feb: Business Meeting 12:45 for 13:00  
19 Feb: Social Meeting 12:45 for 13:00  
24 Feb: ROTARY PUB QUIZ – Details to follow  
26 Feb: BOARD MEETING 12:45 for 13:00

## CELEBRATIONS

### BIRTHDAYS

22 Jan Amanda Van Zyl  
22 Jan Herbie Booth  
05 Feb Peter Thomas  
17 Feb Brenda Booth

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

22 Jan Ken & Gill Quinn

### INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

24 Feb 2014 Colleen Fairweather

### COFFEE CLUB BIRTHDAYS

26 Feb Rob Hollings  
28 Feb Sam Goldblatt

## MEME OF THE WEEK

**I AM A SEENAGER. (SENIOR TEENAGER)  
I HAVE EVERYTHING THAT I WANTED  
AS A TEENAGER, JUST 60 YEARS LATER.**

- I DON'T HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL OR WORK.
- I GET A MONTHLY ALLOWANCE.
- I HAVE MY OWN PAD.
- I DON'T HAVE A CURFEW.
- I HAVE A DRIVER'S LICENSE
- I HAVE MY OWN CAR.
- MY ID GETS ME INTO BARS.
- THE GIRLS I HANG AROUND WITH ARE NOT SCARED OF GETTING PREGNANT.
- I DON'T HAVE ACNE.