



ROTARY GRIQUA

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KIMBERLEY

30 April 2018

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

Interesting Facts About The Kimberley Club

We take for granted that we meet at the Kimberley Club on Mondays, but did you know...

1. A London Club in Africa

The Kimberley Club was founded in 1881 at the height of the diamond frenzy that gripped the city. The leading businessmen and diamond magnates of the time wanted a meeting place modelled on the famous gentlemen's clubs of London, where they could seek refuge from the common miners and the heat, dust and noise of the diamond diggings.

2. Impact on History

There are few social clubs that have had as great an impact on the early colonial history of Southern Africa as the Kimberley Club. Cecil John Rhodes was a founding member and it is said that he sat on the club veranda working on plans to colonise what later became Rhodesia. Another founding member was Dr Leander Starr Jameson, who used the premises as his planning base for the ill-fated Jameson Raid of 1895 into the Transvaal Republic. The raid contributed to the outbreak of the Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902.

3. Benefits of Membership

Another colourful early member was Barney Barnato, who walked the 1 000km from Cape Town to the Kimberley diamond fields because he was penniless. He left 15 years later as a very wealthy man after selling his diamond-mining business to Rhodes.

According to legend, Barnato was initially reluctant to sell, but a deal-clincher was that Rhodes arranged membership for him at the notoriously exclusive club.

4. Open to All

In 2005 the Kimberley Club and Boutique Hotel became a combination of members' club and four-star hotel, as a way to stave off closure due to rising costs and waning membership. The bar, guest rooms, restaurants and other historic facilities are thus open for paying guests to enjoy.

5. Blackballing of Members

For many years the club used the popular 18th-century system of voting in members using black and white balls. White balls were a 'yes' and black balls a 'no' (hence the term 'blackballed'). If a person applying for membership was blackballed, the members who proposed and seconded his application were expected to resign in disgrace for a year. The wooden 'voting case' and the balls can still be seen at the club today.

6. Ghostly Tales

Kimberley has a reputation as the most haunted city in South Africa, and the 137-year-old club has its share of ghostly tales. On the main staircase, there are reports of a ghostly woman in white. And in the dining room there's said to be a spectral waiter who wears a uniform from the 1880s. The most famous supernatural visitor, though, is claimed to inhabit a guest bedroom. Its eerie modus operandi is to grab the bottoms of lone female guests.

If you have any ideas for Social Events for our members and prospective members for the coming Rotary year, please let us know about them.

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:

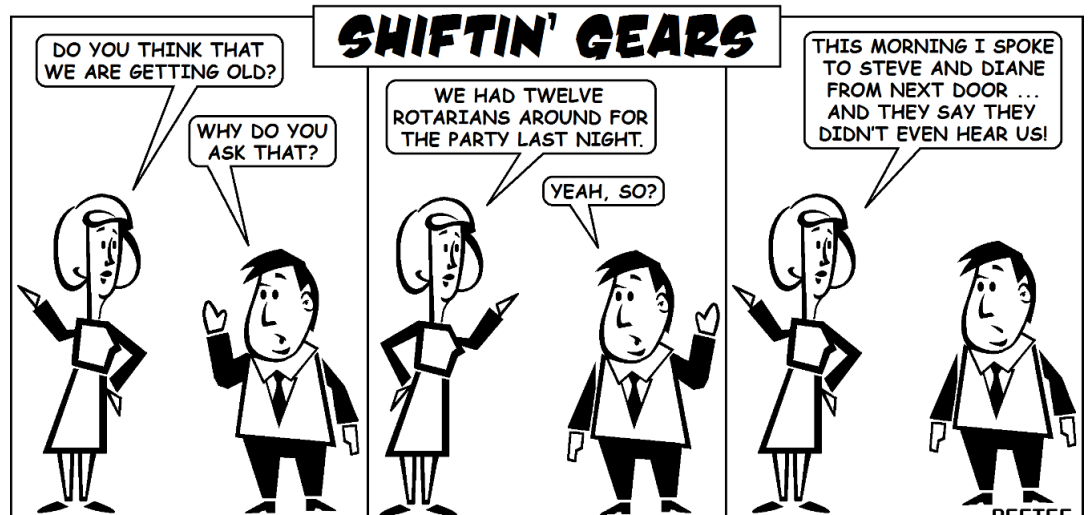
Kimberley Club

Mondays 12:45 for 13:00

INFO: 082 898 3805

SAVE THE DATE

Sat. 16 June – President's Induction Dinner



CALENDAR & DUTIES

APRIL

Maternal and Child Health Month

30 Apr: Social Meeting 12:45 for 13:00

“Lighten up, just
enjoy life, smile more,
laugh more, and don't
get so worked up
about things!”

Kenneth Branagh

DUTIES

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

WEEK OF 30 APRIL

FELLOWSHIP: Ken Quinn

CORPORAL: Amanda van Zyl

TUES COFFEE CLUB: Pete van Zyl

WEEK OF 7 MAY

FELLOWSHIP: Peter Thomas

CORPORAL: Pete van Zyl

TUES COFFEE CLUB: Brenda Booth

WEEK OF 14 MAY

FELLOWSHIP: Amanda van Zyl

CORPORAL: Brenda Booth

TUES COFFEE CLUB: Barry Downs

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

MAY

Youth Service Month

1 May: Workers' Day (Tuesday)

7 May: Social Meeting 12:45 for 13:00

14 May: Business Meeting 12:45 for 13:00

21 May: Social Meeting 12:45 for 13:00

Speaker: Peter Thomas Jnr

28 May: BOARD MEETING 12:45 for 13:00

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

08 May Ken Quinn

16 May Barry Downs

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

17 May Philip & Shirley Maritz

INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

29 Apr 1993 Ken Quinn

03 May 2008 Amanda Van Zyl

04 May 1952 Lawrie Shuttleworth

COFFEE CLUB BIRTHDAYS

4 May Johan Aucamp

5 May David Allen

25 May Bill Fair

MEME OF THE WEEK

**WE SLEEP IN SEPARATE
ROOMS, WE HAVE DINNER
APART, WE TAKE
SEPARATE VACATIONS -
WE'RE DOING EVERYTHING
WE CAN TO KEEP OUR
MARRIAGE TOGETHER**



**Rodney
Dangerfield**