



# ROTARY GRIQUA

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KIMBERLEY

11 March 2019

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

## THE INVENTION OF INDOOR PLUMBING

The history of plumbing is extremely long and didn't always involve indoor plumbing. While we often take modern indoor plumbing for granted, it hasn't always been so convenient.

**4000 - 3000 B.C.** Archaeologists discovered the first water pipes in the Indus River in India, dating back to 4000-3000 B.C. Egyptian ruler Menes also supported a thriving civilization by constructing canals, irrigation ditches, and basins.

**2500 B.C.** Egyptians developed copper pipes in order to build sophisticated bathrooms with irrigation and sewage systems inside pyramids. Believing the dead required food, clothing and other such essentials in the afterlife, Egyptians installed bathrooms in tombs as well. Around this time, sitting toilets appear in the Harappa civilization (now India), although it is not known exactly who invented the toilet.

**1500 - 1000 B.C.** Under the reign of King Minos, the people of Crete created elaborate sewage disposal and drainage systems with underground channels. During the same period, the first flushing toilet was invented, complete with a wooden seat.

**500 B.C. - 455 A.D.** The Roman Empire developed complex ancient plumbing systems along with aqueducts, underground sewers, public baths, bronze and lead piping systems, and even marble fixtures. Around 52 A.D., Rome boasted an estimated 220 miles of gravity-powered aqueducts, pipes and water channels to supply baths, homes and public wells.

**1596 A.D.** Sir John Harrington, godson of Queen Elizabeth I, designed the first flushing toilet for his godmother - first used in the Richmond Palace. The contraption included a seat, a bowl, and a water cistern behind the seat.

**1644 A.D.** King Louis XIV of France ordered the construction of a cast-iron main plumbing line. The line carried water approximately 15 miles from a plumbing station to the palace fountains as well as surrounding areas.

**1775 A.D.** The prototype for the modern toilet was first developed by Scottish inventor Alexander Cummings. Sir John Harrington's water closet was able to flush, but it did not have a water trap.

**1810 A.D.** The English Regency shower was first introduced. The water is plumbed through a nozzle and then sprayed at shoulder level. The water was then collected and pumped through the shower again.

**1829 A.D.** Tremont Hotel of Boston was the first hotel of its kind to feature indoor plumbing for guests.

**1833 A.D.** The White House was first plumbed with running water on the main floor.

**1885 A.D.** Chicago was the first city to have a comprehensive sewer system.

**1891 A.D.** Thomas Crapper patented his valve-and-siphon design, updating the modern toilet in the process. His work revolutionized the modern concept of plumbing.

**1910 A.D.** The elevated water tank became the most contemporary closed toilet water tank and bowl that most people know today.

**1966 A.D.** Due to a shortage of copper after the war, non-metallic, and plastic piping systems were first introduced for toilets.

**1986 A.D.** The first sensor-flushing toilets were introduced in Japan.

### ROTARY CLUB OF KIMBERLEY

**2018-2019**

Chartered 20 August 1951

Rotary District 9370

**RI President:** Barry Rassin

**District Gov:** Gianna Doubell

**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

### DISTRICT CONFERENCE WEBSITE:

<https://www.zsports.co.za/rotary-discon>



# CALENDAR & DUTIES

## MARCH

### Water and Sanitation Month

11 Mar: Business Meeting 12:45 for 13:00  
11-17 Mar: WORLD ROTARACT WEEK  
16 Mar: Fellowship Supper (Details to Follow)  
18 Mar: Social Meeting 12:45 for 13:00  
21 Mar: HUMAN RIGHTS DAY (Thursday)  
25 Mar: BOARD MEETING 12:45 for 13:00  
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*"Life is really simple,  
but we insist on  
making it complicated"*

Confucius

## DUTIES

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

### WEEK OF 11 MARCH

FELLOWSHIP: Peter Thomas  
CORPORAL: Colleen Fairweather  
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Peter Thomas

### WEEK OF 18 MARCH

FELLOWSHIP: Colleen Fairweather  
CORPORAL: Hein Knoke  
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Corlia van Tonder

### WEEK OF 25 MARCH

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

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

## APRIL

### Maternal and Child Health Month

1 Apr: Social Meeting 12:45 for 13:00  
8 Apr: Business Meeting 12:45 for 13:00  
15 Apr: Social Meeting 12:45 for 13:00  
19 Apr: GOOD FRIDAY  
22 Apr: FAMILY DAY – No Meeting  
27 Apr: FREEDOM DAY (Saturday)  
29 Mar: BOARD MEETING 12:45 for 13:00

## CELEBRATIONS

### BIRTHDAYS

09 Apr Philip Maritz  
16 Apr Gill Downs

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

26 Mar Peter & Amanda Van Zyl

### INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

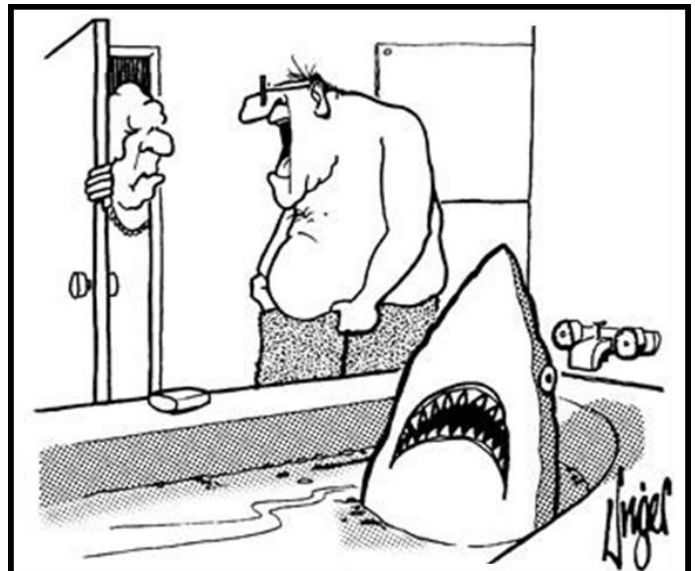
29 Apr 1993 Ken Quinn

### COFFEE CLUB BIRTHDAYS

27 Mar Keith Diener  
28 Mar George Lodder  
31 Mar Charles Burton  
27 Apr Brian Turner



## LAST LAUGH



"I don't care if it is plastic. I could  
have had a heart attack."