



ROTARY GRIQUA

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KIMBERLEY

10 June 2019

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

BRIEF HISTORY OF YOUTH DAY

16 June is the day that honours the deaths of many Soweto school children, a day in 1976 that changed the course of South Africa's history.

On that day the government and police were caught off guard, when the simmering anger of schoolchildren finally burst, releasing an intensity of emotion that the police controlled aggressively. SA History Online puts the number of dead at 200, far higher than the official figure of 23.

In 1976 the government introduced the compulsory use of Afrikaans as a medium of instruction from Grade 7 – then Standard 5. Pupils, teachers and principals opposed the ruling on Afrikaans, for more or less the same reasons - teachers were ill-equipped to teach in the language, which was for most, a third language.

When schools reopened in January 1976, parents and principals were unhappy, and at a meeting called by pupils they agreed that on 16 June pupils throughout Soweto would gather in a mass demonstration against Afrikaans. On 16 June they set off for Orlando West Secondary School with thousands coming in from all directions.

By 10.30am over 5 000 pupils had gathered in Vilakazi Street with many more streaming in – a total of 15 000 uniformed pupils were there. The plan, to move to the Orlando Stadium, did not happen as police, who had been called in, formed a wall facing the pupils, warning them to disperse – an order met with resistance. Tear gas was fired into the crowd and in the chaos, children ran back and forth, throwing stones at the police – who fired more tear gas.

Then came the first shot – straight into the crowd and more shots were fired by police and 12-year-old Hector Pieterse fell to the ground.

Then all hell broke loose. Pupils targeted apartheid symbols - administrative offices, government buses and vehicles and municipal beer halls, were first looted and then set alight. By the end of the day thick clouds of black smoke hung over the township, and the streets were littered with upturned vehicles, stones and rocks. Anti-riot vehicles poured into Soweto, roadblocks were erected at all entrances and the army was placed on alert.

Violence spread to another volatile Johannesburg township, Alexandra, and then across South Africa. By 18 June, all schools in Soweto and Alexandra had been closed by the authorities.

International solidarity movements were roused and gave their support to the pupils, putting pressure on the government to temper its repressive rule. This pressure was maintained throughout the 1980s, until resistance movements were finally unbanned in 1990. Principals were almost immediately allowed to choose their own medium of instruction, a major victory for the pupils.

This is a brief outline of why 16 June (first known as Soweto Day, but then changed to Youth Day) is commemorated in South Africa each year in June, which is also Youth Month. **Ack: www.news24.com**

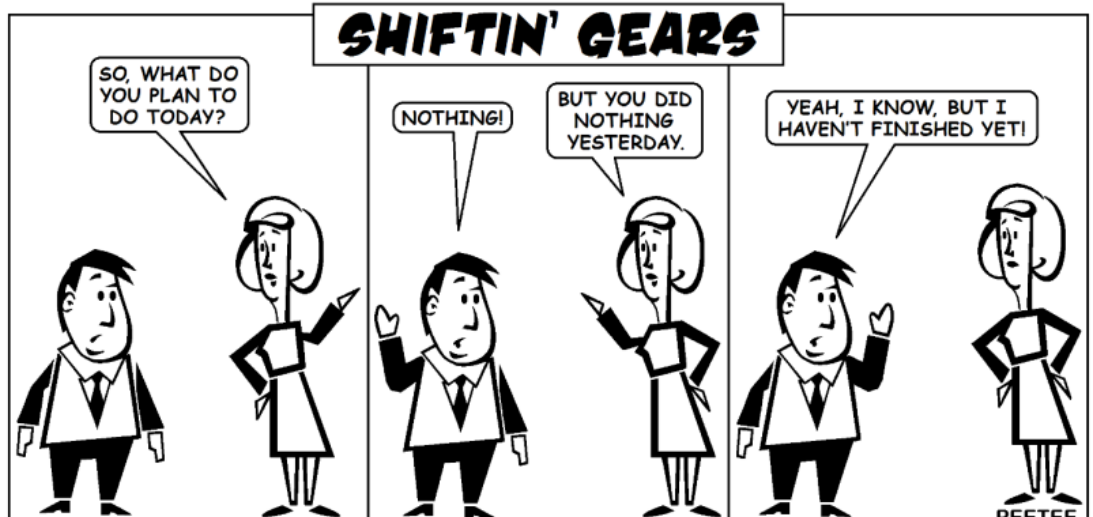
DATES TO DIARISE

17 June: No Lunch Meeting

1 July: President's Induction Lunch

8 July: Outing to S.P. University

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
Bulletin Editor: Peter Thomas
Club Meetings:
 Kimberley Club
 Mondays 12:45 for 13:00
INFO: 082 898 3805



CALENDAR & DUTIES

JUNE

Rotary Fellowships Month

- 10 Jun: Business Meeting - 12:45 for 13:00
16 Jun YOUTH DAY (Sunday)
17 Jun YOUTH DAY HOLIDAY (Monday)
17 Jun: NO ROTARY MEETING
24 Jun: BOARD MEETING - 12:45 for 13:00

“Those who believe in tele-kinetics, raise my hand”.

Kurt Vonnegut

DUTIES

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

WEEK OF 10 JUNE

FELLOWSHIP: Barry Downs
CORPORAL: Colleen Fairweather
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Willem Badenhorst

WEEK OF 17 JUNE

PUBLIC HOLIDAY – NO MEETING
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Brenda Booth

WEEK OF 24 JUNE

FELLOWSHIP: BOARD MEETING – No Duty
CORPORAL: BOARD MEETING – No Duty
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Peter Thomas

WEEK OF 1 JULY (Induction Lunch)

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

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.

JULY

First Month of the New Rotary Year

- 1 Jul: President's Induction - 12:45 for 13:00
8 Jul: No Lunch – Club Outing - 12:45 for 13:00
15 Jul: Business Meeting - 12:45 for 13:00
22 Jul: No Meeting
29 Jul: BOARD MEETING - 12:45 for 13:00

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- 26 Jun Hanlie Louw
08 Jul Shirley Dally (Honorary)
24 Jul Dries van Tonder

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 16 Jun Peter & Charlene Daubney (Honorary)
28 Jun Barry & Gill Downs
05 Jul Brenda & Herbert Booth
16 Jul Gordon & Shirley Dally (Honorary)

INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

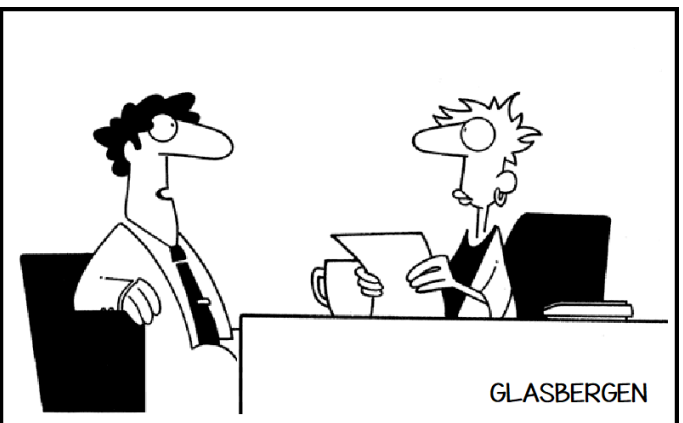
- 06 Jun 2005 Gill Quinn
01 Jul 1981 Philip Maritz
13 Jul 2015 Brenda Booth

COFFEE CLUB BIRTHDAYS

- 13 Jun Jock Robey
14 Jun Piet V.D. Merwe
15 July Mark Harding
17 July Robbie V.D. Nest



LAST LAUGH



"Yes, I think I have good people skills.
What kind of idiot question is that?"