



ROTARY GRIQUA

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KIMBERLEY

12 August 2019

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

RESTORING THE HOME OF ROTARY'S FOUNDER

An Interview with Robert C. Knuepfer Jr. – the Restoration Project's Chairperson

1. After working on the restoration of Paul Harris' home in Chicago for several years, what does it look like now?

The exterior is mostly finished. We put a large addition on the back of the house that accommodates at least 40 to 50 people. We envision that any Rotary-centric organization, from Interact to Rotaract to Rotary clubs, could rent it as meeting space. We're still working to restore the interior to what it looked like in 1947 when Paul Harris passed away. He lived there from 1912 to 1947, so we are using old photographs to replicate the furniture and decor of the time. We will also display artefacts, like a baseball Paul Harris threw out at a Cubs game in the early 1900s.

2. Have there been any surprises during construction?

When we restored the kitchen to its original footprint, we discovered a staircase to the second floor. A subsequent owner had enlarged the kitchen and in doing so closed off the stairwell. We also found a small opening in the wall between the original kitchen and the living room. It was a little pass-through that the Harrises added so Jean could easily pass Paul his tea. A later owner had also remodelled the area above the enclosed porch to build a fourth bedroom. We took out that bedroom to restore the balcony where Paul Harris liked to sit outside. He loved nature. The homes in the area are on wooded lots, and there used to be a forested park across the street. It was an affluent neighbourhood in the early 20th century.

3. Why is this project important to you?

From a historical perspective, this is an iconic residence. From an American point of view, it's the Mount Vernon of Rotary — the home of our first president. Many other early Rotary members also gathered there. Founding member Silvester Schiele lived directly behind Paul Harris, and it's said they wore a path between their back doors as they plotted the future of Rotary.

4. What do you need in order to finish?

Our fundraising goal is \$5 million. We need \$2 million to pay back loans and finish construction. The other \$3 million will be used to create an endowment that will maintain the property in perpetuity. We have already raised \$1.5 million, and we hope to raise the rest by the end of this year.

5. How can clubs help?

There are many ways to participate financially — from modest gifts to major ones. There are also naming opportunities. For example, a club could buy an engraved brick to go in the driveway for \$1,000. Each room in the house is available for naming. The information is at paulharrishome.org.

6. What do you hope people who visit the home will take away from the experience?

The knowledge that Rotary is the greatest humanitarian organization in the world. Restoring the home of our founder will allow generations of Rotarians — including those who have not even been born yet — to learn more about Rotary and see what life was like in the early 1900s, when the Rotary story began. That's a legacy that will last forever, and I hope others will agree and share in that vision.

Paul Percy Harris was a Chicago, Illinois, attorney.

He founded Rotary International in 1905.

Born: 19 April 1868, Racine, Wisconsin, United States

Died: 27 January 1947, Beverly, Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.

Spouse: Jean Thomson (m. 1910)

Place of burial: Chicago, Illinois, United States

Education: University of Vermont, Princeton University, University of Iowa, University of Iowa College of Law

ROTARY CLUB OF KIMBERLEY 2019-2020

Chartered 20 August 1951
Rotary District 9370

RI President: Mark Daniel Maloney

District Gov: Jaco Stander

Assistant Gov: Rob Gibson

Club President: Ken Quinn

Club Secretary: Corlia van Tonder

Club Board:

Barry Downs

Gill Quinn

Colleen Fairweather

Peter Thomas

Amanda van Zyl

Bulletin Editor: Peter Thomas

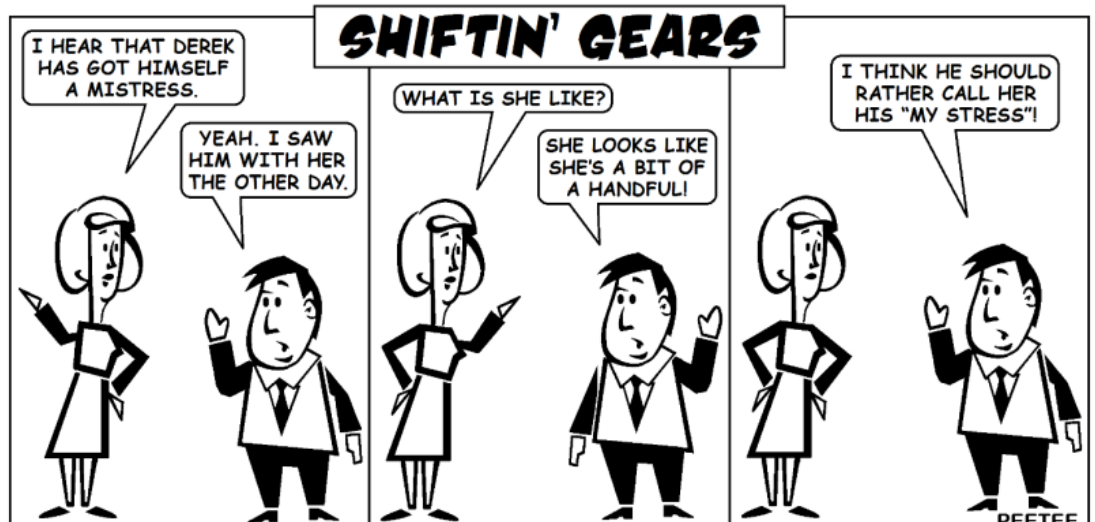
Club Meetings:

Kimberley Club

Mondays 12:45 for 13:00

INFO: 084 688 0508

DIARISE: 2 September: GUEST SPEAKER – RICHARD JONES



CALENDAR & DUTIES

AUGUST

Membership & New Club Development Month

- 12 Aug: NO LUNCH – Club Walk-About
Ebenezer Crech – *Meet at Kbly Club 12h45*
- 19 Aug: NO ROTARY LUNCH
- 26 Aug: BUSINESS MEETING - 12:45 for 13:00

SEPTEMBER

Basic Education & Literacy Month

- 2 Sept: SOCIAL MEETING - 12:45 for 13:00
Guest Speaker: Richard Jones
Subject "Rotary Health Project"
- 9 Sept: NO LUNCH – Club Walk-About
Details to be announced
- 13 Sept: DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S VISIT
Details to be announced
- 16 Sept: BUSINESS MEETING - 12:45 for 13:00
- 23 Sept: NO ROTARY LUNCH
- 30 Sept: Fellowship Lunch at John Dory's

OCTOBER

Rotary Alumni Month

- 2-4 Oct: ROTARY HEALTH PROJECT
Details to be announced
- 7 Oct: SOCIAL MEETING - 12:45 for 13:00
Guest Speaker to be Confirmed
- 14 Oct: NO LUNCH – Club Walk-About
Details to be announced
- 21 Oct: BUSINESS MEETING - 12:45 for 13:00
- 24 Oct: WORLD POLIO DAY
- 28 Oct: NO ROTARY LUNCH

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.

DUTIES

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

WEEK OF 12 AUGUST

CLUB WALK-ABOUT – No Duties
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Brenda Booth

WEEK OF 19 AUGUST

NO ROTARY LUNCH – No Duties
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Peter Thomas

WEEK OF 26 AUGUST (Board Meeting)

FELLOWSHIP: Corlia van Tonder
CORPORAL: Willem Badenhorst
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Corlia van Tonder

WEEK OF 2 SEPTEMBER

FELLOWSHIP: Willem Badenhorst
CORPORAL: Brenda Booth
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Willem Badenhorst

WEEK OF 9 SEPTEMBER

CLUB WALK-ABOUT – No Duties
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Brenda Booth

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- 15 Aug. Willem Badenhorst
20 Aug. Rotary Club of Kimberley (1951)
22 Sept. Gill Quinn
23 Sept. Gordon Dally (Honorary)
29 Sept. Marie Parsons (Honorary)

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 29 Aug. Mike & Beryl Bradnum (Honorary)
27 Sept. Corlia & Dries Van Tonder

INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

- 05 Oct. 2010 Corlia Van Tonder

COFFEE CLUB BIRTHDAYS

- 8 Aug. Derek Preece
10 Sept. Dennis Sparrow

LAST LAUGH

The older I get, the
earlier it gets late!