

Rotary



ROTARY CLUB OF ST FRANCIS

Rotary District 9370
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CLUB NEWSLETTER No 5

JUNE 2021

Hi Everyone!

By now most of us (who are eligible) have had at least our first dose of vaccine against the Corona virus. Although we are having to endure another Level 4 lock down, let's hope that the vaccination drive will provide us with some much needed light at the end of the tunnel!

Our new Rotary year came into effect on 1st July and so we are bidding a fond farewell to Past President Santa Zeiss with our deeply grateful thanks for her two years of service.

Santa had planned a special speech to hand over to our new President George Stegmann but recent lockdown restrictions meant we could not have our special induction meeting.

Here is what Santa would have liked you all to hear from her.

Honored guests, friends and fellow Rotarians I thank you for joining us for this evening's short celebration.

I am proud to have been given the opportunity to serve as your president for the last 2 years, this has been a very interesting and rewarding experience, noting that this is a very young club that Chartered in November 2019.

There are many wonderful people with great energy and passion, helping to create a better life for those in need.

To our board for their commitment to the club, donated time, and for all their hard work to ensure we had a successful year.

To our secretary, Lyn, more than thank you, please accept these flowers in appreciation of your kind, willing, free hard work.

To our club members for rising to the occasion whenever called upon, no matter when. Your ongoing support of club initiatives has been incredible.

To the tolerant Husbands and Wives, thank you for your support.

To the members that have left our Club due to work, health or financial issues, we thank you for the commitment that you showed.

We have undertaken and successfully completed massive projects in these trying times of COVID 19, largely thanks to generous funding, and physical labour and the connections of our club members.

To President George Stegmann and his incoming board: I wish you well in the year ahead. You have a lot of work to do. Fortunately, you have a strong, talented and committed workforce,

In closing I thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president.

Thank you

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WELCOMING OUR PRESIDENT FOR 2021-2022 – GEORGE STEGMANN!

We are thrilled that George has agreed to lead our club for the next year.

George has appointed his Board for this year. Serving will be :

Santa Zeiss – past President and Vocation
Ivan Beaumont – Treasurer
Lyn Aitken – Secretary
Craig Northwood – Projects
Tom Roux – Community Service
Brian Codling – Health
Paul Sherman – Environment

- **(Club members are reminded that each of you will, at some point, be asked to serve on the Board.)**

One of George's first tasks will be to identify President-Elect for the following year who will also be appointed to the Board.

And this should come with a warning - George will be a tough act to follow ! Here is a little bit about him and his past achievements and interests.

George rejoined Rotary as a member of Rotary Club of St Francis in 2018. He had previously been a member of the Algoa and PE West Rotary Clubs in the late 1970's / early 1980's but relinquished his membership due to work and travel commitments.

George's is now retired after 34 Years in the Motor Industry. He joined General Motors in 1967 where he became a Board member and held the position of Director of Personnel and Public Affairs until General Motors withdrew from South Africa in 1986. He was a founding member of Delta Motor Corporation in 1987 after concluding a management buy-out of GM's South African interests. In 1987, along with two of his director colleagues, he was joint winner of the Port Elizabeth Businessman of the Year award and overall Citizen of the Year award presented by the mayor of Port Elizabeth. He was a Board Member at Delta Motor Corporation holding the position of Director of Human Resources until his retirement.

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In addition, George has served on Boards and Management Committees of a number of welfare, civic, labour and business related organisations and bodies. These include Board Member of the Urban Foundation Eastern Cape Region; Executive Committee Member – Midland Chamber of Industries; Inaugural Chairman and Director – Business Against Crime Eastern Cape; Chairman of Management Committee – MCI/MCG Medical Aid Schemes; Trustee and Management Committee Member - Ethembeni Enrichment Centre (High School for Black Students).

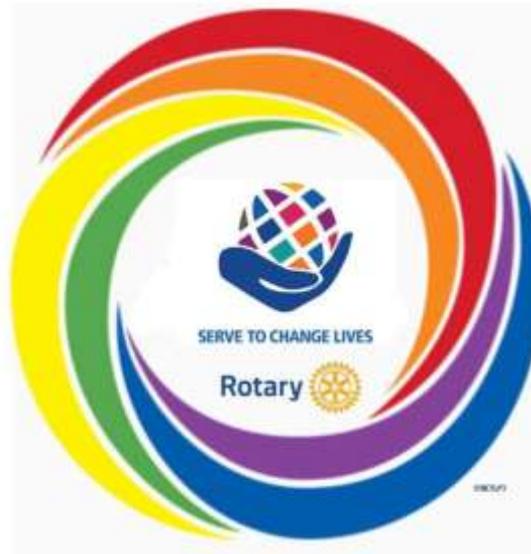
He and his wife, Carol, have four children, a son and three daughters. His son and one daughter live in the USA and Canada with their families, while the other two daughters reside in South Africa. George and Carol boast nine grandchildren, six of whom live overseas, one is teaching in Taiwan and two live in Durban.

A keen follower of rugby and cricket, his interests also include travel, art, music, theatre, nature conservation and hiking.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

With the new Rotary Year come new appointments from Rotary International through to all the Rotary Clubs around the world.

Welcome to [Rotary International President](#) Shekhar Mehta and his wife, Rashi. We look forward to embracing your theme: *Serve to Change Lives*.



Shekhar Mehta is a member of the Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar, West Bengal, India.

Mehta is encouraging Rotary members to change lives through service. His theme *Serve to Change Lives* asks members to participate in service projects where they can make a difference in their communities and the people who live in them.

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"Rotary kindled the spark within me to look beyond myself and embrace humanity," he said. "Service became a way of life for me and I, like many others, adopted the guiding philosophy that 'Service is the rent I pay for the space I occupy on this earth, and I want to be a good tenant of this earth.'"

Read all about him – follow this link :

https://my.rotary.org/en/news-media/office-president?fbclid=IwAR14YSJ375dNlu1hA-jCSej1rTjgLnSl9Z-t2ZX4zsf3wmb8OrUml4qcRdU&utm_source=PANTHEON_STRIPPED&utm_medium=PANTHEON_STRIPPED&utm_profile=PANTHEON_STRIPPED&utm_campaign=PANTHEON_STRIPPED

Congratulations to our new District Governor for District 9370, Maddy Webber (Rotary Club of Grahamstown Sunset) who has taken over the reins from Past District Governor, Maud Boikanyo (Rotary Club of Maloti-Maseru, Lesotho). Sadly we never got to welcome PDG Maud to St Francis for her official visit due to the pandemic. Hopefully that will not be the case with DG Maddy.

Moving closer to home, congratulations go to Angela Newton (Santa's very lovely and very smart daughter) of Rotary Club of PE West who has taken over from Clive Hassell as our Assistant District Governor.

Club Activities for June :

Our meetings are still suspended but that doesn't mean nothing has been happening.



WOW FEEDBACK – SAVE THE DATE!!

25 & 26th February 2022 is the date set for the re-scheduled Wine on Water event. Notices have been sent to all current ticketholders, and participating wine estates and home owners. Fingers crossed for no further postponements!!

NEWS FROM ABROAD

Our newsletter has attracted some attention from our Rotary friends abroad.

Firstly our old friends Bill Brown and Graham Dockrill send greetings from the Rotary Club of Marr-Dyke Valley in the UK. Bill (a regular visitor to St Francis) called to congratulate the Club after having read of all the progress we have made with our projects. Their Club has managed only 5 meetings in total since the pandemic affected Great Britain with all their fundraising projects cancelled.

They were delighted to hear WOW has been re-scheduled and hope to be able to join in the fun in February next year.

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We also had welcome news from another old friend and frequent visitor to our town, Rotarian Marc Driessen from the Rotary Club of Lymington in the UK.

*"Dear Lyn,
Good to read about the activities of your RC.
Kiki and I had booked our visit for January and Feb. last year, but Kiki's lung condition became worse and she was forced to have a constant oxygen supply and no flying anymore. So we had to cancel all our ZA plans. Then Covid started here and blocked most of our out door activities. The main source of money of our Club came from the "Summer Spectacular" and we had to cancel that. Weekly meetings via "Zoom" went well, but for different reasons we lost 7 of our members. We hope that in coming weeks all doors will open and travel to a lot of counties will be possible again. Most of the UK population had their Covid injections and there are hardly no more deaths to Covid-19. When you showed us your hospital, you were just in the switch to a new administrator. Impressive how you managed to extend the activities of this hospital. I will ask the "chair" Cheryl of our international committee how we can support you in your activities.
Many thanks for your e-mail and best regards from
Marc & Kiki."*

Shortly after this message, we received another email from Marc informing us that the Rotary Club of Lymington would like to support our Sea Vista Clinic project with a donation of £ 1000.00. We received word on 2nd July that this amount has been transferred with all expenses covered by Lymington Club to ensure we get the benefit of the full £ 1000.00.

This is an amazing gesture, made at a time when fundraising has been so difficult for Clubs around the globe. What a wonderful start to our new Rotary year and our sincere thanks to the Rotary Club of Lymington for this donation which will be put to great use!!

E'PAP UPDATE :

A second payment of R24000 has been received for ePap. Ivan hopes to spread the net towards organisations in Patensie and Hankey areas which may be in need of assistance of this kind.

To re-cap: Supplies of e'Pap are being funded by the Garden Route Community Trust who have already sent our Club a donation of R 25 125 to provide this wonderful nutrition to pre-approved schools. These donations will be repeated monthly until October.

E'Pap is being supplied to our local schools, as well as The Bright Future Creche, in a very impoverished community in the Tsitsikamma.

FOOD RELIEF PROGRAMME :

Rotarian David Truter is the administrator the Food Relief Fund which was initiated early last year when the Disaster Volunteer Group, The St Francis United Church and our Rotary Club banded together to collect funds to supply food parcels to those families in Sea Vista most affected by the COVID-19 total lock down. David reports that the food relief is still continuing to supply four soup kitchens in Sea Vista, all of which are doing an outstanding job of feeding those in need.

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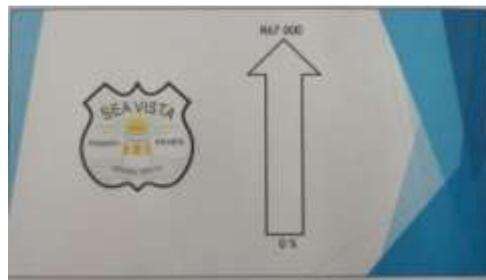
Funding for this ongoing programme derives from the initial drive last year. The United Church still receives funding from their congregation for this and Rotary are still holding funds ring fenced for the project which will be continued until no longer required.

JULY 18TH – MANDELA DAY

This is the day when all South Africans are encouraged to give 67 minutes to volunteering to help those less fortunate.

Some local activities you may wish to support :

SEA VISTA PRIMARY SCHOOL MANDELA DAY FUNDRAISER



The School Governing Board aims to raise R67 000 from now until 18th July 2021 by encouraging a thousand or more people to donate just R67 each.

They have had a hard time raising money since March 2020 as the lockdown prohibited gatherings and made it impossible for the planned events of 2020.

The school has managed so far to raise funds for the day to day running expenses. However they need to raise a significant amount of funds to ensure the school operates effectively and can afford the SGB appointees in Grade R and Grade 4. 490 learners stand to benefit from this exercise.

In addition the school will be taking part in a community clean-up outreach as their 67 minutes volunteering for Mandela Day.

For more info : 042 294 0450

Donations to be made into the school's account:

Bank: Nedbank

Type of Acc: Current Account

Acc number : 1263021689

Reference: (Name)-Mandela Day

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TALHADO CHILDRENS' HAVEN MONTESSORI PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE - Sunday, July 18th, 2021 (Lock down restrictions permitting!)

This year marks our 5th annual Nelson Mandela Fundraiser to support Talhado Montessori school, based in the Sea Vista community of St. Francis Bay. As a registered non-profit organization and one of a few choices for a pre-primary education in the community, they offer low annual school fees to our pupils; however they strongly rely on private donations to facilitate and flourish this remarkable endeavour.

Talhado is very excited to be hosting this year's Mandela Day at Seal Point Lighthouse, a Run/Walk for Education and a fun day outdoors for the entire family. We challenge corporations and the St. Francis Bay community to help us reach our goal of R100,000! There are many ways to get involved, please email talhadchildrenshaven@gmail.com for more information.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." – Nelson Mandela

[#mandeladay2021](#) [#ActionAgainstPoverty](#) [#MandelaDay](#) [#education](#) [#Mandela](#)

#MANDELADAY
LET'S MAKE THIS MANDELA DAY COUNT
AT THE *lighthouse*

SUNDAY 18 JULY 9AM
1PM

**67 MINUTE WALK/RUN
FOR EDUCATION**

67 Minute walk/run
Lighthouse Tours
Silent Auction
NSRI Visit / Yoga
Bake Sale / Seedlings Sale
Music & Refreshments

**BRING ALONG
DRY FOODS,
TINS, BEANS,
PASTA, RICE**

**ROOPE BARBER
RAFFLE!**
R500 PER TICKET

**A FUNDRAISER FOR
TALHADO MONTESSORI & Montessori Preschool**

For more info or to get involved contact us at talhadchildrenshaven@gmail.com

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SIBANYE LADIES GROUP :

SHARE YOUR KINDNESS
Sibanye would greatly appreciate donations of Toiletries for the girls and boys empowerment groups (ages 11-18)

Items needed:
Soaps, Roll-ons,
Body Lotions
Toothbrushes,
Toothpastes
and
Sanitary towels.

LIKE & SHARE & FOLLOW

If anyone would prefer to do an EFT transfer
Our banking details are:
Sibanye NPO 210 564
Standard Bank
Acc Nr 1013887534
Branch code 051001

Sibanye
CHANGING LIVES
SEA VISTA, RSA
210-564 NPO

**THERE IS NO
BETTER EMPOWERMENT
THAN FEELING CLEAN.**

OUR UTMOST GRATITUDE TO ALL WHO ARE ALWAYS SO WILLING TO ASSIST!

DUES : Invoices for the dues for the July-December period will be sent soon. These will be made up as follows: Rotary International \$36. District R230. Rotary Africa R135. The basic cost of being a Rotarian is R1900 pa, or R160 pm.

Finally – The new POPI ACT is now effective in South Africa. Our website administrators are in the process of creating the necessary Privacy Policy to ensure our Website and Facebook page are compliant.

All Club members will have seen the POPIA Disclaimer posted to our Whatsapp Chat Group. We are required by law to comply with this and you are all encouraged to familiarise yourselves with the conditions of this act.

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WHAT IS ROTARY?

What you see before joining

- BBQ Fundraisers
- Helping the community

What you see once you join

- Teamwork and communication skills
- New friendships and connections
- Speaking and professional development opportunities
- Opportunities for collaboration and networking
- International aid, travel and worldwide friendships

Design by **Rotaract** 

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