



**THE ROTARY CLUB
OF KNYSNA
NEWSLETTER
September 2015**



A NEW ROTARY YEAR



President Peter Southey 2015-2016

The Rotary Club of Knysna welcomes its 54th president, Peter Southey.

We wish him a productive and exciting presidency. May the club indeed be a great gift to our community and to the world.

Jaqui von Ribbeck is the president of the Rotary Anns. Together with her lady members, she has already shown that she is a mover of note! The club looks forward to hearing about all their activities this year, and wish them much fun and joy.

A NEW AND MODERN CLUB BANNER

In Knysna the Rotary Club celebrated the new Rotary year by introducing an innovative, sleek and nifty electronic banner as a gift to its Rotarian visitors. Rotarian Caroline Möri of the Rotary Club of Büren-an-der-Aare in Switzerland was the first recipient of this credit-card sized “banner” which holds a memory stick with a PowerPoint presentation of our club as well as usable electronic data space.





President Peter Southey and Rotarian Caroline Möri

INTERACT NEWS

For the Knysna Interact Clubs, this year began with a flurry of activities – club and presidential inductions, projects and activities and, of course, the annual Interact Seminar traditionally held at beautiful Belvidere Manor.

The seminar was attended by 42 Rotary Interactors from 14 schools in the Southern Cape, representing five schools from Mossel Bay, one from Plettenberg Bay, one from George and seven schools from Knysna. They were accompanied by six teachers and nine Rotarians.

The guest speakers were Dr Merle Friedman and Dr Phil Golson who spoke with eloquence and inspiration to these youngsters who are so involved in serving their community. The Interactors presented some examples of their many service projects such as tree planting, reading and playing with preschool children, distributing toiletries to the elderly, forming an eco-club at school and cleaning up public venues. Organisations and good causes are supported through their fundraising activities such as arranging fashion and talent shows, selling cupcakes, organising an ice bucket challenge for an ALS support group and running golf days. The enthusiasm with which these activities were described made it clear that Interactors not only work hard for their community, but also learn organisational and leadership skills, and at the same time have great fun! The annual group activities organised by the Rotary Club such as the annual Outward Bound Course and Know Your Town Day also provide the Interactors from the different schools opportunities to get to know each other and work together on a social level.

During the seminar Rotarian Heather Thomas presented the Montessori Interact Club with the trophy for the best interact club and a cash prize.



Interactors of the Southern Cape (Fashion photos by Penny Foy)

RC KNOXVILLE 100TH ANNIVERSARY

RC Knysna and RC Knoxville have long enjoyed a close, active relationship. Knoxville has supported many of our projects and some members have regularly visited Knysna. So it was with great pleasure that we toasted the RC Knoxville on the occasion of their 100th Anniversary.



RC Knysna toasting RC Knoxville on their 100th Anniversary

HAPPY FACES INDEED!



Excited faces at Happy Faces!

RC Knysna has a long history of cooperation with an outstanding local NGO, the Knysna Education Trust (KET). Recently the new building of the Happy Faces Preschool for 65 pre-schoolers had its official opening in Hornlee. Previously learners were taught in cramped, overcrowded conditions in the home of Elizabeth Swartz, the principal. Various agents contributed to the building in different ways: construction costs, material, equipment, furniture and painting. Rotary supplied the bright, washable flooring and individual Rotarians donated appliances and furniture. The building now complies with government regulations, which will enable Elizabeth to apply for registration and subsequent government subsidy. Happy Faces has been teaching programmes sponsored by the American Rotary Clubs of Peachtree and Albuquerque, under the careful and constant monitoring by PP Lesley Satchel. With increasing recognition of the vital importance of early childhood education, it is hoped that the close cooperation between the Rotary Club of Knysna and KET will continue for many more years to come.



Bright and functional ablution blocks



Nicola Goodall, Elizabeth Swartz and PP Lesley Satchel

JAQUI'S GOLDEN JOTTINGS



Sue Mills & Jaqui von Ribbeck handing over blankets to Sister Mary Ann Farnham of "Babies in Need"

This year is a special year for Knysna Rotary Anns as we are celebrating 50 years since our Charter in 1965; hence our logo for the year!

We are a happy friendly busy group of mostly Rotary wives but recently have new willing ladies unrelated to Rotary, but keen & able and a great asset to our club. We meet on the second Monday in every month at the Thesen Island club house.

Rotary Anns support several charities in the community which are regularly checked and approved by the club. The DOTS project funded by Rotary enables the club to make sandwiches daily which are distributed to the TB patients on taking their medication. The Anns support Badisa Loeriehof old age home & Vermont for the aged with clothes, blankets, equipment, toiletries & any requested needs within our budget. We have recently donated duvets, pillows & lamps to the Epilepsy Society & blankets to the newborn babies at the hospital. We keep in touch with Alzheimer patients and assist with Sedge Mobile meals. There are always new needy

requests so we help wherever we can.

Funds are raised through several functions including assisting with registration for the Rotary Cycle Tour in July and we are grateful to Rotary for including us. We hope to arrange tea & a speaker at the beautiful Rose Farm, Bosky Dell in November, a walk for CANSA in the new year, a make-up demo and our Golden Jubilee lunch coming soon! We are always willing to join Rotary projects during the year.

Apart from all the action we are a special group of ladies who care whatever the circumstances & give our hearts to one another. At present we are 40 members strong including our "swallows" who are here for the summer months from Europe.

Jaqui von Ribbeck



Sister Botha at Vermont

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Man has affinity for his fellowman, regardless of race, creed, or politics, and the greater the variety, the more the zest. All friendliness needs is a sporting chance; it will take care of itself in any company

Paul Harris, 1934

UPCOMING EVENTS

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| 29. September | Club Fellowship – Freshline Fish |
| 20. October | Visit from District Governor |
| 28. November | Club Christmas Celebration |
| 19.-20. December | SPLASH Festival |
| 12.-15. May 2016 | Knysna Rotary Local Golf Weekend |
| 13.–19. November 2016 | Knysna Rotary International Golf Event |

Board Members 2015/2016

President – Peter Southey **Past President** – John Satchel

Secretary – Doug Emanuel **Treasurer** – Rob Clark **Club Administration/President Elect** – Mick Furman
Service Projects - Andy Muir **Youth Service** – Ina Thompson **Rotary Foundation** – Alan Warne

Public Image – Andrew Finn **Membership** – Emil Moller

Anns' President – Jaqui von Ribbeck