



**PRESIDENT**

Karen Overbosch  
(082) 574 5952

**SECRETARY**

Stephen Bredenkamp  
(082) 570 4440

**TREASURER**

Mike Schreiber  
(021) 689 4466

**WYNPRESS  
EDITORIAL  
BOARD**

Barry Cleveland  
(021) 788 6781

Biffy Danckwerts  
(082) 4687504

Mervyn Weimore  
(084) 5856055

VOCATIONAL SERVICE

ENGAGE  
ROTARY



CHANGE  
LIVES

## We need to help pupils do much better

THE Minister of Basic Education, Angie Motshekga, recently announced the great strides the Department of Basic Education has made on the finalisation of the Curriculum Assessment Policy Statements, which is likely to provide the leadership for teachers to educate our children.

While this is welcomed, there is the hope that this will help to address recurring issues in South Africa's current public education system. It is hoped that these guidelines will also give young South Africans the edge to reach new heights so that current results, such as the 30% matriculation pass mark, are no longer the common standard.

It is clear that the responsibility of developing a young, educated nation is a joint responsibility of government, teachers and parents.

In my view, the following things also need to be done:

- Parents must be pro-active in holding schoolteachers, administrators and local, provincial and national government accountable for progress. They must be informed of tangible promises and perform reviews of the infrastructure roll-out progress and hours of teaching, among others.
- Parents should get involved in their children's education. We must know what is happening and instil discipline in our children - in and out of school. Neither teachers nor government can drive this alone. Holistic education requires us to continue our education everywhere.
- Teachers from disadvantaged schools need to prioritise pupils. If communities allow their own community teachers to dictate that they will only teach when their salaries are higher, it is the community's task to help keep those teachers in class.
- In order to produce a steady educated population, skilled alumni should be encouraged to mentor pupils by providing voluntary tutelage in areas such as planning, administration, fund raising and reporting - or with skills that can assist them when they enter the workforce.
- South Africa must adopt a more visionary goal for its educational future if it wants to retain its position as a dominant economy in Africa, and remain in the G20 and BRICS. Our focus on providing basic education to the majority of South Africans can never sustain that vision.
- Mathematics, science and technology must be prioritised as critical scarce skills. If we intend to be a dominant emerging economy, we ought to make mathematics, technology and science compulsory subjects from primary school level. We need to groom thinkers and innovators, not just the working class.
- The 30% pass mark must be scrapped. As long as children are made to believe that they can get to the next level with 30%, they will under perform. If you tell them they will achieve greater recognition among their peers and teachers if they strive for 60%, they will try their best to get 60%. We need to condition our young generation to aim for higher success. When I did accounting 1 at university we were told that only 55% would progress us to accounting 2, although 50% would still be a pass.

From a Pretoria News article by Sandile Gwala: Executive Director, Deloitte

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## MEETING OF 3 OCTOBER

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### ATTENDANCE

<b>Membership:</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Present:</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Make Ups:</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Apologies:</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>50%</b>

**Guests:** Graham Gavin, Dirk du Plessis, Keela O'Driscoll, Stephen van Niekerk, Sarah Yousuf and Ann O'Driscoll.

Attendance to Biffy 082 468 7504 or [aecon.e@mweb.co.za](mailto:aecon.e@mweb.co.za).

**Pres. Karen** opened the meeting by welcoming all present and guests, to whom the members gave a warm Wynberg welcome.

In recognition of his year in office, Karen presented Mike with his Past President's lapel badge.

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### SLOTS:

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**Justin** reminded the Club that the Rotaract 'Santa Shoe Box' project is coming up. Wynberg is committed to 10 shoe boxes, which are to be filled with approx. R140 worth of Christmas goodies for underprivileged children.

**String** mentioned that the annual Big Walk will be held on Sunday 10 November. 10 marshals will be required, as for last year, with duties commencing at 08.00. Last year Wynberg was paid R1150 for this service; so it's not really a 'money spinner' but a community service project.

**Biffy** asks for full Club participation over the weekend of 19/20 Oct. to help Wynberg Rotaract repair the 'Rotary Walk' at the Uncle Paul's site at Groot Constantia.

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### CLUB ASSEMBLY/STRATEGY PLANNING:

**Club Sec. Stephen** opened the session by declaring that Wynberg has a history of high levels of activity and it is important that it continues this way.

Pres. Karen then presented a 3 year strategy under headings:

#### **Membership and Succession Planning:**

Membership has been increasing encouragingly, but we should also be looking to expand the racial ratio of new members. A target of 5 new members per year for the next 3 years is achievable.

Ideally presidents should have been exposed to all avenues of service, including Club Secretary by the time they take office. Jackie James will be the next President, but we should have at least the next 2-3 Presidents confirmed.

#### **Rotary Youth Development:**

The relationship with Wynberg Rotaract Club is good. There is periodic attendance at each other's meetings, and there are a number of joint projects.

The new Retreat Rotaract Club was chartered in July by Wynberg Rotary Club, and there must now be a period of training and mentoring, which will be overseen by Ken Williams.

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### **Global Grants:**

Possible beneficiaries are Victoria Hospital and Lavender High School in the short term. We need to identify Rotary partners, both local and offshore to take the projects further. Wynberg needs to get to grips with the new RI models by attending workshops etc.

### **Communication:**

We have a great new website: [wynbergrotary.org.za](http://wynbergrotary.org.za), and communication both within Club and with other Rotary Clubs is progressing well

The Club strategy was accepted (prop. Biffy, sec. Justin).

**Mike** had earlier distributed the 2014 **Club Budget**, which was then open for discussion.

Although funding for the NLC projects are quite separate from Club projects, it was agreed that in future NLC figures would be included in the budget.

Proms is also kept as a separate account; as will monies for a Global Grant.

The budget was accepted (prop. Alan, sec. Are).

**Biffy** had earlier distributed her **Community Service** report. She mentioned that negotiation with North California Rotary Clubs has been going on for two years, but she now has 100% commitment and the Global Grant application for Isiphiwo school is in place.

It is an ongoing requirement to build up foreign contacts in anticipation of other funding requirements, e.g. another \$5000 will be needed for a Global Grant for Victoria Hospital.

**Mervyn** addressed an aspect of **Youth Services** in Jackie's absence: It is very necessary to get teachers and headmasters/headmistresses of the Interact schools involved. They need to be invited to attend occasional, pertinent Rotary meetings (honorary membership?)

Jackie will present the full report at the next Rotary meeting.

**Mike** gave a brief report on the **Wynberg Rotary Club Trust**. Membership may be a max. of 7 Rotarians, and a min. of 4. Current membership includes Are, Dennis, Graham and Mike. David and Jackie will be invited to swell the number to 6 Trustees. The account now stands at some R2 million, historically administered by Alexander Forbes.

**Are** gave an update on the **Norwegian Liaison Committee**. The beneficiary schools comprise 5 primary schools and 1 secondary school – all in the Grassy Park area; and there is no plan at this stage to increase the number, or move beyond the immediate area.

On 8 Nov. bursaries worth R455 000 will be donated to deserving learners from the primary schools, and 2 students from the secondary school will be given R5 000 each for 1 year's tertiary education.

R130 000 has been set aside for computers, library facilities and sports equipment.

**Karen** spoke for the **Retreat Community Health Centre**. It has been proposed that the late members Ron Davies and Pat Wild be remembered by a commemorative plaque in the new wing, opened two years ago – alternatively in the new braai area.

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### **PRESIDENT'S QUOTES:**

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President Karen's quotes for the evening were all by Mahatma Gandhi:


1. On truth: "An error does not become truth by reason of multiplied propagation, nor does truth become error because nobody sees it. Truth stands, even if there be no public support. It is self sustained".
2. On liberty: "I'm a lover of my own liberty, and so I would do nothing to restrict yours".
3. On the nature of Man: "A man is but the product of his thoughts. What he thinks he becomes".

## PROGRAMME

**October 2013** Committee: Barnard, Bird, Hovstad, Michalowsky, Wetmore, Jackson

- 9 October** Retreat Rotaract Meeting  
**10 October** Kathryn Hoeflich, Cape Town Refugee Centre  
**12 October** Mini conference at Montague  
**12 & 13 October** Uncle Paul's work party  
**16 October** Wynberg Rotaract Meeting  
**17 October** Elizabeth Daly – Public knowledge and stormwater quality in Cape Town: Implications for management.  
**18 October** Constantia Rotary Club – Wine Festival  
**20 October** Uncle Paul's work party (Our big one to fix ROTARY WALK)  
**23 October** Retreat Rotaract Meeting  
**26 & 27 October** Uncle Paul's work party  
**30 October** Halloween Rotaract Social  
**31 October** Rotary social (maybe these two should be a joint one)
- DATES TO BOOK:**
- 7 November** Meeting with representatives from both Haugaland and Oddemarka present  
**8 November** NLC bursary award evening with Haugaland and Oddemarka present  
 These two events are the first time in history that both sponsors will be present together. Let's make it special!  
**23 November** Kids Beach Day out

## DUTY ROSTER

<b>DUTY</b>	<b>10 October</b>	<b>17 October</b>	<b>31 October</b>	<b>7 November</b>	<b>14 November</b>
<b>Sergeant</b>	Van Eeden	Barnard		Cleveland	Murphy
<b>Attendance Officer</b>	Danckwerts	Danckwerts		Danckwerts	Danckwerts
<b>Wynpress Editorial</b>	Michalowsky	Munday		Schreiber	Smith
<b>Minutes for Wynpress</b>	Danckwerts	Wetmore		Danckwerts	Wetmore
<b>Compilation of Wynpress</b>	Cleveland	Danckwerts		Cleveland	Danckwerts
<b>Door Duty</b>	Barnard & Bredenkamp	Michalowsky		Schreiber	Cleveland
<b>Grace</b>	Vivian	Gavin		Munday	Murphy
<b>Loyal Toast</b>	Schonegevel	Du Plessis		Michalowsky	Munday
<b>International Toast</b>	Danckwerts	Schonegevel		Hovstad	Michalowsky
<b>Speaker Introduction</b>	Wetmore	Michalowsky		Hovstad	Gavin
<b>Speaker Thanks</b>	Todd & Bird	Jackson	TBA	Du Plessis	

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## TAILPIECE

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Silence in Court -

These are from a book called Disorder in the American Courts, and are things people actually said in court, word for word, taken down and now published by court reporters that had the torment of staying calm while these exchanges were actually taking place.

ATTORNEY: What was the first thing your husband said to you that morning?

WITNESS: He said, 'Where am I, Cathy?'

ATTORNEY: And why did that upset you?

WITNESS: My name is Susan.

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ATTORNEY: What gear were you in at the moment of the impact?

WITNESS: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.

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ATTORNEY: Are you sexually active?

WITNESS: No, I just lie there.

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ATTORNEY: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: And in what ways does it affect your memory?

WITNESS: I forget.

ATTORNEY: You forget? Can you give us an example of something you forgot?

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ATTORNEY: Do you know if your daughter has ever been involved in voodoo?

WITNESS: We both do.

ATTORNEY: Voodoo?

WITNESS: We do.

ATTORNEY: You do?

WITNESS: Yes, voodoo.

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ATTORNEY: Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?

WITNESS: Did you actually pass the bar exam?

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ATTORNEY: The youngest son, the 20-year-old, how old is he?

WITNESS: He's 20, much like your IQ.

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ATTORNEY: Were you present when your picture was taken?

WITNESS: Are you kidding me?

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ATTORNEY: So the date of conception (of the baby) was August 8th?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: And what were you doing at that time?

WITNESS: Getting laid.

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ATTORNEY: She had three children, right?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: How many were boys?

WITNESS: None.

ATTORNEY: Were there any girls?

WITNESS: Your Honor, I think I need a different attorney. Can I get a new attorney?

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ATTORNEY: How was your first marriage terminated?

WITNESS: By death..

ATTORNEY: And by whose death was it terminated?

WITNESS: Take a guess.

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ATTORNEY: Can you describe the individual?

WITNESS: He was about medium height and had a beard

ATTORNEY: Was this a male or a female?

WITNESS: Unless the Circus was in town, I'm going with male.

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ATTORNEY: Is your appearance here this morning pursuant to a deposition notice which I sent to your attorney?

WITNESS: No, this is how I dress when I go to work.

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ATTORNEY: Doctor, how many of your autopsies have you performed on dead people?

WITNESS: All of them. The live ones put up too much of a fight.

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ATTORNEY: ALL your responses MUST be oral, OK? What school did you go to?

WITNESS: Oral...

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ATTORNEY: Do you recall the time that you examined the body?

WITNESS: The autopsy started around 8:30 PM

ATTORNEY: And Mr. Denton was dead at the time?

WITNESS: If not, he was by the time I finished.

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ATTORNEY: Are you qualified to give a urine sample?

WITNESS: Are you qualified to ask that question?

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ATTORNEY: Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: Did you check for breathing?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: How can you be so sure, Doctor?

WITNESS: Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar.

ATTORNEY: I see, but could the patient have still been alive, nevertheless?

WITNESS: Yes, it is possible that he could have been alive and practicing law.