

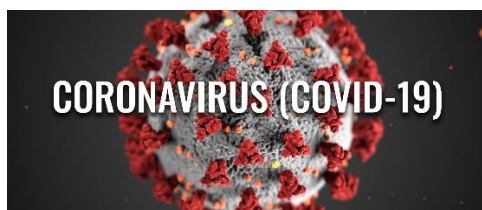


District 9350

Connecting the World"

Weekly Newsflash – Covid-19

20 May 2020



A weekly update during this time of crisis

Living in a virtual world

On a lighter note – Neil Diamond's song "Sweet Caroline" has been banned – "reaching out, touching you, touching me" is no longer allowed ☺

How to cope with the new reality in Rotary

All clubs are facing a complete paradigm shift in light of the current epidemic, and members need to get to grips with the new reality and embrace change. A few issues that have come to light since we had to all move to virtual meetings are important:

1. Rotarians are adaptable. Many members who are not fully computer literate (or as one of our members describes himself – BC – before computers) are coming to terms with and embracing the use of technology
2. Clubs are reporting higher attendance on line than they had at physical meetings
3. The cost of being a Rotarian is lower than previously – despite the impact of exchange rates (savings on weekly meeting fees)
4. People are still excited to Join Rotary – the e-club continues to grow, Blouberg and Bellville have / are welcoming new members during the time when clubs cannot physically meet.

We all miss the fellowship of our regular meetings, but need to adapt to where we are and be ready to work within the constraints of this current reality. The fellowship will be back – we just don't know when!

Training and development

One consequence of the current situation is that one of the pillars of Rotary's strategy plan – the ability to adapt – has been put to the test.

One major area is training. On every level, we have had to adapt training plans and events to embrace technology and try new ideas.

On line training has been around for a while, but in our district this is the first time it has been done on a large scale. The POETS on 16 May was a success with 186 attendees – more than normally attend the physical POETS at conference!

We have had two other trainings on membership and virtual inductions, and have another discussion on Covid-19 on 30 May (see page 2 for details) – followed by the virtual assembly of 6 June and Virtual conference on 20 June. Additional events are being planned based on the feedback from attendees last Saturday.

In addition, RI has launched a number of new e-learning courses. Please visit the learning centre on www.rotary.org for more details

Rotary Virtual Convention

While registrations have not yet opened for the virtual convention, some details are now available. Here is what has been released

"Now More than Ever, Rotary Connects the World: The 2020 Rotary Virtual Convention" **When: 20-26 June**

Schedule at a glance

Saturday, 20 June

General Session 1: Together, We Connect

- 15h00-16h15 SA Time (we will link to this from our own virtual conference)

Sunday, 21 June

General Session 2: Together, We Learn

- 15h00-16h15 SA Time

Monday – Friday, 22- 26 June

Featured Breakout Sessions (details coming soon)

Each day, one breakout session will be offered at each of the following times*:

- 15h00 – 16:00 SA Time
- 19h00 – 20h00 SA Time
- 01h00 – 02h00 SA Time

(Somehow, I doubt many of us will be watching session 3)

Our response to Covid-19 **Lessons from clubs and exchange of ideas**

Join us for an interactive discussion on the response to Covid-19 – hearing from clubs how they are responding, effective fundraising ideas and plans for the future

Saturday 30 May 2pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86561927775?pwd=dE1qQjF4R0dYZlA2U2t3V003VWt6QT09>

Meeting ID: 865 6192 7775

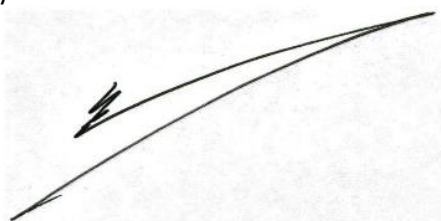
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We can accommodate 300 attendees for this discussion

Please stay safe, stay connected and let's keep up the great work!

Yours in Rotary

DG David

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DG David', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.