

PRESIDENT

Frank Matose

fmatose@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Peter Sharples

petershrpls@gmail.com

TREASURER

Dez Jansen

dez@vuyainvest.co.za

EDITOR

Tanya Stone

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Address

PO Box 428
Howard Place
Pinelands
7405

Meeting Venue
Helen Keller Society
Pinelands

Meeting Time
17h45 for 18h15

Face book page
Pinelands Rotary, Cape
Town Facebook

Tuesday
31st MARCH
2020

Message from:
Tanya Stone

Paparazzi
Editor
Pinelands Rotary Club

Tuesday 31st March 2020



Dear Fellow Rotarians

Well, it is now the fifth day of lockdown.

South Africans seem to be obeying the laws, except for a few insurgents trying their luck.

The police and army are in full force performing a sterling job, except for one police traffic officer sitting alongside a main road in Milnerton with a speeding trap. Go figure....

I hope you all are coping well with the lockdown and making the most of it.

Remember to communicate with your family and friends on a daily basis. The elderly, especially who are isolated in their homes with no contact with the outside world. Send pictures of your children to grannie and grandpa.

If you have access to Skype, Zoom or another form of video conferencing, utilise this for work and family.

I was concerned that I now cannot take my two golden retrievers for walks, as they need daily exercise BUT decided to be creative. I hide bite-size doggie treats all over the garden and walk them around the perimeter of the house for them to find. A sort of hide-and-seek game. They love it!

Anyway, let's get to the nitty gritty.

News and articles are below.

I have included a very interesting article on David Attenborough's take on COVID-19 and Climate Change.

Take care and stay safe

Tanya



**Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak situation
TUESDAY 31st March 2020**

801,061

Confirmed cases

Updated : 31 March 2020, 13h00

38,749

Confirmed deaths

Updated : 31 March 2020, 13h00

203

**Countries, areas or territories
with cases**

Updated : 31 March 2020, 13h00

172,317

Recovered

Updated : 31 March 2020, 13h00

Four countries, the United States, Italy, Spain and China all have more than 80 000 cases.
Italy, Spain, China and France all have more than 3 000 deaths.

**UPDATE
SOUTH AFRICA**

**Tuesday 31st
March 2020
12h00**



South Africa now has **1326** confirmed cases.

**Official South African statistics from the Government on COVID-19 at 13h00
31st March**

1326

Positive Cases Identified

35593

**Covid-19 Tests
Completed**

3

Deaths

SA's third death and more lockdown arrests

Your latest coronavirus news: A third death was recorded in SA, in the Free State; more than 200 arrests in the North West for breaking lockdown rules; and how these three countries have managed to contain their Covid-19 infections.

The Gauteng Department of Health has confirmed that five people in Alexandra are under quarantine after coming into contact with a man who tested positive for Covid-19.

The man ignored an instruction to remain in isolation, pending the confirmation of his test results, and travelled to Limpopo before the start of the national lockdown last week.

He was traced to Limpopo, where he is currently being held in isolation at a health facility, said the department in a statement on Monday.

"The people in quarantine are awaiting their results.

"All known close contacts have already been identified, tested, and are in quarantine pending results. Our tracing team will continue to work on the tracking and tracing of other possible contacts.

"We are urging communities to take heed of the lockdown measures and act responsibly, so that together we can contain and prevent the further spread of Covid-19," read the statement.

Five held in Langa over 60 boxes of booze transported on bakkie

Cape Town – At a time when national lockdown regulations prohibit the sale and possession of alcohol outside private homes, five people have been arrested in Langa for the possession of alcohol to the value of R101 000.

4 triple-sized units were delivered to the Cape of Good Hope NSPCA for staff caring for animals around the clock during lockdown

Fleet Star rents out trailers for film sets. On Thursday, they took 4 triple-sized units to the Cape of Good Hope NSPCA for their lockdown staff to have a place to stay as they care for animals around the clock.

The Cape of Good Hope SPCA has a team of 23 staff members who will spend the 21-day lockdown on-site to provide veterinary care.

Those 23 dedicated folks need somewhere to stay, and Fleet Star, a company that provides mobile accommodation to the film industry delivered 4 triple units to the NSPCA's Grassy Park headquarters on Thursday before lockdown.

The film industry had effectively come to a standstill even before South Africa's lockdown was announced, and Marketing Manager at Fleet Star Martin Offersen tells Refilwe Moloto he and his team were more than happy to help.

A 25-year-old Khayelitsha woman who tested positive for Covid-19 has been moved to isolation.

The woman and her three-year-old daughter were moved from Khayelitsha Hospital at around 15:00 on Monday.

According to her cousin, who spoke to News24, the woman's health was deteriorating, forcing the Western Cape Department of Health to transfer her.

The woman was tested on 18 March and her results came back positive on Saturday.

More than 200 people have been arrested in the North West for contravening lockdown regulations.

This after the country went into a 21-day lockdown that was ordered by President Cyril Ramaphosa to curb the coronavirus from spreading.

North West Department of Community Safety and Transport Management spokesperson Alpheus Koonyaditse said the suspects had contravened Disaster Management Act regulations.

"The suspects were arrested for failing to confine [themselves] to their residential places, while others were arrested for moving between metropolitan and district areas as well as misrepresenting that another person was infected with Covid-19.

"Others were arrested for failing to close liquor premises and some for failing to adhere to the prohibition on gatherings," Koonyaditse said.



"These trailers are all for the international cast of movies - Netflix, BBC and more - and we supply these trailers for the stars to relax in when they not on set.

"They are very luxurious and smart inside so they were very happy with them"

Martin Offersen, Marketing Manager - Fleet Star

More than enough capacity to house homeless people, said Social Development department



The saying “beggars can’t be choosers” holds true when it is said by a homeless man who has been forced to move in a shelter due to the Covid-19 national lockdown.

Oscey Accom, 35, was one of the homeless people who were relocated to shelters where they will be temporarily staying during the 21-day lockdown.

Accom, who has been homeless for the past six months due to substance abuse by his own admission, said he had no choice but to obey the lockdown measures.

“I guess beggars can’t be choosers. We are on the streets anyway. This will provide shelter for us. The 21 days would be hard for us being homeless.

“We are forced to be inside a building for 21 days. That is gonna be tough, but if it means keeping us away from the disease, then that is the way to go,” said Accom.

Accom, a BCom graduate from Howard College in KwaZulu-Natal, said he would take this time to reflect and “clean-up” his life.

“I lost everything because of substance abuse. I was married with kids and working as a supervisor in one of the leading banks. So I hope this lockdown will bring positive results for me to come out here as a changed person”.

25-year-old Camryn Sauders was accommodated at Kotze Street Overnight Shelter in Joburg on Thursday evening, just hours before the lockdown. He said he and his friends were chased away from Parktown Boys High School, said to be one of the earmarked accommodations in Gauteng.

“When we arrived at Parktown Boys School, they didn’t know anything about it. That is why we had to come to this centre. We are scared of this coronavirus. It is serious bra,” quipped Sauders.

The acting Gauteng MEC for Social Development, Panyaza Lesufi, was at Kotze Street on Thursday evening to oversee the process of relocation of the homeless people to shelters where they will be staying during the 21-day lockdown.

Lesufi said the purpose of his visit was to witness the state of readiness to accommodate the identified homeless people who ordinarily stay in open places, and thus, need to be sheltered properly during this difficult period.

Lesufi said the department was doing the relocation in a humane manner, and no one was being forced to move into shelters.

“I know I have been attacked and accused of not forcing people to move, but my philosophy is that we make the facilities available for people to access them. I would rather have people complaining that there are no facilities rather than have people say we are forced to go where we don’t want to.

“We have a huge capacity, but because of social distancing, we had to reduce. They have just given me the list of 242 places across Johannesburg. We are converting all the recreation centres to accommodate these people,” said Lesufi.

Acting spokesperson for the department Steve Mabona said there were around 15000 homeless people around Joburg and quite a number of them remained unplaced.

CORONA-19

Stories by

Sportsmen (Local and International)

Former Olympic Champion Cameron van der Burgh infected with Covid-19

“His Story”



Former Olympic champion Cameron van der Burgh has spoken out about the debilitating effects of Covid-19 after contracting the disease recently, warning the lack of clarification about the Tokyo Games was putting athletes at increased risk as they persevered trying to train.

“I have been struggling with Covid-19 for 14 days today,” the 100m breaststroke gold medallist from London 2012 wrote on Twitter on Sunday night.

“By far the worst virus I have ever endured despite being a healthy individual with strong lungs (no smoking/sport), living a healthy lifestyle and being young (least at risk demographic).

“Although the most severe symptoms (extreme fever) have eased, I am still struggling with serious fatigue and a residual cough that I can’t shake. Any physical activity like walking leaves me exhausted for hours.”

The 31-year-old tweeted his thread shortly after the International Olympic Committee (IOC) agreed to consider postponing the Tokyo Games, which are supposed to run from July 25 to August 9.

“The loss in body conditioning has been immense and can only feel for the athletes that contract Covid-19 as they will suffer a great loss of current conditioning through the last training cycle. Infection closer to competition being the worst,” wrote Van der Burgh.

“Athletes will continue to train as there is no clarification re summer Games and thus are exposing themselves to unnecessary risk — and those that do contract will try rush back to training most likely enhancing/extending the damage/recovery time.”

Van der Burgh left SA to take a job in finance in London, before retiring at the end of 2018.

Van der Burgh, one of only three SA Olympians to have set world records winning Games' golds, alongside 400m star Wayde van Niekerk in 2016 and fellow swimmer Penny Heyns in 1996, also took the Olympic silver medal at Rio four years ago.

Free meals for children during covid-19 shutdown



Manchester United football player Marcus Rashford is working to get food to children who rely on free school meals after the coronavirus shutdown.

The 22-year-old England international has teamed up with charity FareShare to help children in the Manchester area after schools were closed.

And he revealed that his own childhood had inspired him to want to make a difference to the next generation.

“In the past I have done a lot of work in regards to children and when I heard about the schools shutting down, I knew that meant free meals for some kids that they are not getting at school,” Rashford told the BBC.

“I remember when I was at school I was on free meals and my mum wouldn't get home until around six o'clock so my next meal would have been about 8 o'clock. I was fortunate, and there are kids in much more difficult situations that don't get their meals at homes.”

Rashford said fundraising had gone well.

SA Rugby player, Danie Gerber – tested positive



SA rugby legend Danie Gerber has tested positive for Covid-19. Gerber, 61, was diagnosed in Port Elizabeth on Friday.

The World Rugby Hall of Fame star, who lives in Bluewater Bay, played 24 test matches for the Springboks between 1980 and 1992. In an interview at 10pm on Friday night, Gerber was in high spirits stating that he only found out in the afternoon.

“I am shocked. I cannot believe it. I am just worried about my family now. They are now awaiting results.”

Gerber said he had been on about six different aircraft over the past two weeks including flights between Johannesburg, Pretoria and Cape Town.

“I have no clue where I could have gotten it. I have been playing golf in several places and travelling all over (SA). I have been on six aircraft and in contact with a lot of people.

“Whoever I have been in contact with, please check for symptoms and get yourself tested,” he said.

Gerber said earlier this week his body had been sore and he had a fever.

“I was in pain and went to get it checked out. I then went to the drive-through test centre (in Port Elizabeth) on Thursday and they phoned me on Friday afternoon”

“I am shocked that I am positive.”

“I am currently at home in a room that I cannot leave. It is starting to sink in and it is very scary.”

Gerber said he had spoken to his doctor who had told him to self-isolate.

“When you do the test you fill in the forms and state where you have been. So they (the department of health) have it but they have not contacted me.

“I am feeling fine besides feeling sore. I have no other symptoms, no cough or anything like that. Luckily I stay fairly fit so I think that has helped me as well.”

Gerber, who was inducted in the International Rugby Hall of Fame in 2007, had a triple bypass heart operation a few years ago.

“So I am a bit worried about that but my doctor said that if symptoms manifest I need to call them. At the moment I am fine,” he said.

“I must say that it is going to be very challenging staying inside one bedroom for two weeks.”

Gerber warned people to stay off the streets.

“I see on social media and everywhere that people are still walking and driving around. It is total madness. Stay at home! This is serious and I can tell you that it can happen to anyone.”

The Kolisi Foundation



Through his foundation, the Kolisi Foundation, Rugby World Cup-winning Springbok captain Siya Kolisi has announced an initiative to provide face masks, hand sanitisers and goggles to the Livingstone Hospital in Port Elizabeth and the Khayelitsha Hospital in Cape Town.

This is Kolisi’s part in an effort to curb the spread of the spread of the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) in South Africa. The virulent respiratory disease has already claimed the lives of two people in the Western Cape while reported cases have exceeded 1,000 in South Africa. Cape Town has the most reported cases in the Western Cape.

The Kolisi Foundation initiative will supply more than 4,000 litres of hand sanitiser, 400 reusable pairs of goggles, and face shields. The foundation will continue to escalate its response over the coming months as the needs develop at the hospitals.

In a statement, Kolisi said the battle against the virus that’s continuing to claim lives around the world can’t be government’s alone. In response to the virus, on Sunday, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced a national shutdown that took effect at midnight on Thursday. It’s slated to end on April 16.

“We as a nation should be proud of the way our commander-in-chief, our President [Cyril Ramaphosa], has laid the law. It shows how important this is but we can’t leave everything to the government,” Kolisi said.

“We all have a role to play. For some of us, that is to stay at home right now, and for some of us, we can do a bit more than that. That is to offer resources and help out any way we can.

“The most important thing right now is to fight, to show a united front as a country, and we can only achieve that together. Personal business aside, it’s about people getting behind South Africa and getting behind those who can’t help themselves.”

WORLD NEWS

Spanish princess becomes first royal to die from coronavirus



Princess Maria Teresa of Bourbon-Parma has died from coronavirus at the age of 86.

Spain's Princess Maria Teresa of Bourbon-Parma has become the first royal in the world to die from coronavirus, according to a statement from her brother, Prince Sixto Enrique.

The princess, a distant cousin of King Felipe VI, was 86 and died in Paris on Thursday, her brother said.

Her funeral was held in Madrid on Friday.

As of Sunday a total of 2,606 people in France had died from coronavirus, France's director-general of health, Jérôme Salomon, said, marking an increase of 292 deaths in 24 hours.

Michigan state representative dies of suspected covid-19 complications at 44

Michigan State Rep. Isaac Robinson, a Democrat representing Detroit, has died of suspected complications from covid-19, officials announced on Sunday night.

Robinson was 44. His mother, former Michigan state representative Rose Mary C. Robinson, told Crain's Detroit Business that her son had been having trouble breathing for several days but resisted seeking medical treatment.

On Sunday morning, his breathing problems worsened and he was transported to a hospital. Within hours of arriving, he had died, she said.

Robinson's death comes just three days after another state lawmaker representing Detroit, Rep. Tyrone Carter, tested positive for the coronavirus. Carter, also a Democrat, was not hospitalized and said Thursday that he appears to be recovering.

New York surpasses 1,000 deaths in coronavirus pandemic as Trump says social distancing guidelines will remain through April

President Trump announced March 29 that social distancing guidelines will continue until April 30, adding that covid-19 deaths will probably peak in two weeks. (The Washington Post)

The coronavirus outbreak is part of the climate change crisis

Therefore, climate action should be central to our response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



by Vijay Kolinjivadi

Interesting article on climate change and COVID-19

[READ MORE](#)

TODAY'S ARTICLE

David Attenborough

David Attenborough on climate change: 'We cannot be radical enough'



We've not just ruined the planet, we've destroyed it," says David Attenborough, who has spent his days recording the wonders of the natural world, only to realise that his life's work has, in fact, been to document its demise.

The reprimand comes from his latest film, *David Attenborough: A Life on Our Planet*, which has been delayed due to the **coronavirus pandemic**. With luck, the documentary will hit cinemas and Netflix later this year.

Attenborough was particularly outspoken when *New Scientist* sat down with him at a press event ahead of its release. The film is part-memoir, part-lecture on the state of the environment, and its tone is forthright throughout. It is a powerful plea to humanity to turn things around, for the sake of every living thing on the planet.

Attenborough has mostly kept away from politics and campaigning journalism. He has put this down to the sort of public service broadcasting expected of him at the BBC throughout his long career.

Yet in the past few years, Attenborough has decided to take a stand. In 2017, *Blue Planet II*'s focus on plastics sparked a war on the stuff, while last year's *Climate Change – The facts* put global warming in a prime-time slot for the first time in years, and he's increasingly discussed the climate crisis in interviews and speeches.

"I've got no idea if humanity is going to get through this or not," says Attenborough. "There have been extraordinary changes in the last 5 to 10 years in general public attitude, and that's because I think people actually recognise that the environment is really in trouble."

On coronavirus, he was little more hopeful, however. "I think we will deal with it perfectly well," he says. "I don't think that we can draw a big moral lesson about how we are treating nature so badly that she's kicking back. I think it's just part of life."

Luckier days

A Life on Our Planet starts with Attenborough's childhood fascination with rocks, then follows his nearly 60-year career as a broadcaster, interspersed with regular updates on the state of the planet. In the 1930s, 66 per cent of the world was wilderness and the CO₂ levels in the atmosphere were around 310 parts per million, says the film.

By the time he started recording *The Blue Planet* in 1997, wilderness was down to 47 per cent and CO₂ was at 363ppm. Now, of course, the numbers are much worse: wilderness covers just 23 per cent of the planet, and atmospheric CO₂ is at more than 410ppm.

As *A Life On Our Planet* unfolds, Attenborough speaks about how lucky he has been. He grew up at a time when travelling the world was becoming easier. There were many untouched wildernesses and so, at first, nature filmmaking was simple. People had never seen pangolins or sloths on TV before, he says. "It was the best time of my life."

By the 1970s, however, Attenborough started to see warning signs when some animals became harder to find. He visited a part of Rwanda, for instance, where mountain gorilla numbers had drastically declined, and rangers had to be with them at all times to save them from poachers.

The film's three directors, Alastair Fothergill, Jonnie Hughes and Keith Scholey, have worked with Attenborough before. They skilfully paint a picture of how dire the planet's situation has become. Half the world's rainforests have been cleared, and two-thirds of the Bornean orangutan population has disappeared since Attenborough first filmed them.

Each stroke of the brush intensifies the image: whaling, over-fishing, large-scale agriculture, coral bleaching. Average global temperatures are now 1°C warmer than when Attenborough was born. "Our blind assault on the planet has now come to alter the fundamentals of the living world," he says.

Collection for COP26

Individually, this is all old news. Put together, though, it is a timely and compelling document in the run-up to the crucial United Nations COP26 climate talks, which are still scheduled for November this year.

Attenborough does offer solutions. Again, most of them are already known, but they perhaps have more chance of being heard with his support. The human population needs to stabilise as soon as possible, he says, which he believes is achievable by raising people out of poverty, giving them access to healthcare and keeping girls in particular in school for longer.

Next on his list is phasing out fossil fuels. We already have solar, wind and geothermal power, and they need to become our primary sources of energy, he says.

For food, the ocean is a "critical ally": by making large no-fishing zones, we would give a stocks a chance to recover and still be able to supply our fishing needs. On land, he says we need to radically reduce the area we use for farming by half to make it available for wildlife. The quickest way to do that is by changing our diet, he says. "The planet simply can't support millions of meat-eaters."

Laid out like this, Attenborough makes the road to saving the planet and a long-term environmentally friendly future look straightforward. We know what to do, it is just a case of having the will to do it, he says.

This feels like a baton-passing moment. Attenborough's cinematic memoir lays out the state of play, but it is up to us to fix the problems before it is too late.



The ozone layer is healing and redirecting wind flows around the globe

[READ MORE](#)

The hole in the ozone layer above Antarctica is continuing to recover and it is leading to changes in atmospheric circulation – the flow of air over Earth's surface that causes winds.

Using data from satellite observations and climate simulations, Antara Banerjee at the University of Colorado Boulder and her colleagues modelled changing wind patterns related to the layer's recovery. Its healing is largely thanks to the Montreal Protocol agreed internationally in 1987, which banned the production of ozone-depleting substances.

Before 2000, a belt of air currents called the mid-latitude jet stream in the southern hemisphere had been gradually shifting towards the South Pole. Another tropical jet stream called the Hadley cell, responsible for trade winds, tropical rain-belts, hurricanes and subtropical deserts, had been getting wider.

Banerjee and her team found that both of these trends stopped and began to reverse slightly in 2000. This change couldn't be explained by random fluctuations in climate, and Banerjee says they are a direct effect of the recovering ozone layer.

Alterations in the path of a jet stream may influence weather through shifts in atmospheric temperature and rainfall, which could lead to changes in ocean temperature and salt concentration.

In terms of ozone layer recovery, “we’ve turned the corner”, says Martyn Chipperfield at the University of Leeds in the UK, who wasn’t involved in the study. He says we had already seen signs that the ozone layer is recovering and that this study represents the next step, which is seeing the effect of that recovery on the climate.

Chipperfield says it is important to know which aspects of climate change have been caused by carbon dioxide emissions, which are continuing to rise, versus ozone depletion, which is now stopping and reversing.

Despite the ban on ozone-depleting substances, these chemicals have very long lifetimes in the atmosphere, so full ozone recovery isn’t expected to take place for several decades.

The ozone layer will also recover at different speeds in different parts of the atmosphere, says Banerjee. For instance, the ozone layer is expected to recover to 1980s levels by the 2030s for the northern hemisphere mid-latitudes and by the 2050s for the southern mid-latitudes, she says, while the Antarctic ozone hole will probably recover a bit later in the 2060s.

Climate change will also have an effect on the ozone layer. “A thinning of the ozone layer over the tropics is predicted,” says Chipperfield. “We still have to tackle climate change.”

REMEMBER TO...

Protect yourself and others from getting sick

Wash your hands



- after coughing or sneezing
- when caring for the sick
- before, during and after you prepare food
- before eating
- after toilet use
- when hands are visibly dirty
- after handling animals or animal waste



World Health
Organization

Some amusement to lighten the mood:

When your holiday has been cancelled by the coronavirus but don't want to give up the dream



Look after yourselves, stay safe and take care.

Until next time...