

What's Up

The Rosedale Newsletter

February 2019



There's been little reaction to the new format newsletter which speaks volumes (no pun intended).

Knowing homo sapiens don't like change I fully expected an onslaught but, no, the comments have been limited to "Very smart" / "A big difference" - and it's all thanks to the kindness and generosity of Matt Tennyson

of whom I wrote about briefly last month.

I had the pleasure of meeting Matt at a Moth get-together on Friday 11 January when I was able to thank him face-to-face for his incredible gesture. With a catchy name and now this professional format, *What's Up* has stepped smartly into the New Year with pride.

THINKING OF YOU Whether it is in celebratory style (birthdays and anniversaries) or maybe you've been poorly (sick or even hospitalised), perhaps there's some consolation in knowing that you're very much in our thoughts.

GOODBYE Gary Haselau has moved to Plumstead Rusoord where we know he will be getting the care he so much needs.

Please take note those of you who wish to visit Daphne Roux: she is now at the George and Annie Lawrence Home in Pinelands – not to be confused with the George and Annie Stark Homes in Bellville.

FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS

In recognition of their services rendered the staff were presented with braai packs after lunch on Monday 11 February and judging by their faces, these went down very well. From our side it's many thanks for a job well done.



back row l to r: Lettie Reed, Frances Prins, Hilda Louw, Lucky Matyumza, Del Davies, David Holmes, Glenn Bock; seated: Nastasha Goodman, Patricia Mentashe, Lionel Stuurman, Mieska Moosa, Brian Barbier, Gaston DeWee, Brunice Solomons-Kemp, Melanie Lowers (absent: Desiree Cornelius, Irene Ngobeni-Manjezi, Nokonwaba Ntobongwana, Carmenita Titus).

Left: Hilda's hug says it all.



Nineties High Tea

February 14 was an even more auspicious event, given that it was also St Valentine's Day.

The committee felt that would be an appropriate occasion on which to host the Nineties High Tea, but they didn't bank on Eskom getting up to dirty tricks slap bang in the middle of the event.

For all that, the organising team of Del Davies, Sue Bailey, Beryl Lategan and

Barbara Vivier managed to provide delectable snacks and a cuppa plus each octogenarian received a gift to mark the occasion.

There was also a small prize for the most appropriately dressed person, given that it was Valentine's Day and here are some of the pics showing them still in the prime of their lives and having fun:



Rosedale residents who have reached this milestone include Marge Beard, Monica Baguley, Kathy Ellis. Lita Gonsalves, Mavis Hammond, Pam

Hare, Lynn Hele, Mia Meister, Nancy Moir, Maureen Osler, Yvonne Rossling, Carmen Villet, Louise Smith, Angelina Tarr, and Des Wollaston.



Best dressed? Pam Hare with Lita Gonsalves runner-up receiving a hug and a small prize from Del Davies

Left: Angelina Tarr, Carmen Villet, Maureen Osler, Lynn Hele, Louise Smith, Kathy Ellis, with Barbara Vivier in the background, and on the right Mia Meister, Marge Beard, Lita Gonsalves and Monica Baguley ((Pam Hare obscured and Beulah Brennand still to arrive). Not able to attend were Mavis Hammond, Nancy Moir, Yvonne Rossling and Des Wollaston.

**The older the fiddler, the sweeter the tune.
--Pope Paul VI**

Dates for your Diary

Well in advance, some dates for you to diarise:

- Supper and entertainment by the Cape Welsh Choir Friday 29 March
- Coach trip (destination as yet undecided) Thursday 4 April
- Good Friday Service 19 April
- Mandela Day on Thursday 18 July
- Heritage Day and National Braai Day Thursday 24 September

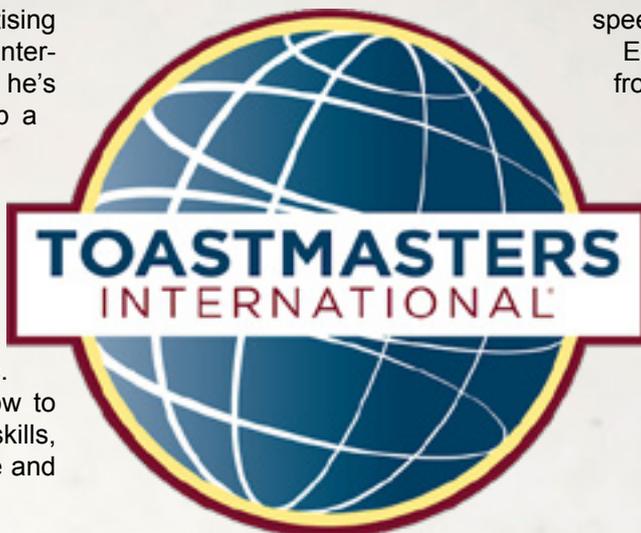


Chitter Chatter

Ed Wittert has been a practising member of Toastmasters International for many years and he's brought the concept of starting up a satellite chapter (for senior citizens) here at Rosedale.

At a recent RSC committee meeting two of his colleagues gave a brief description of the organisation which, incidentally, has 375 000 members in 143 countries who are members of 16 000+ clubs.

Not only will members learn how to improve their public-speaking skills, they'll build up their self-confidence and



speech-writing through group sessions.

Ed has arranged for these colleagues from a nearby branch to give us a full-on demo in the Wreck Room on Thursday 28 February at 18:30, with a break for tea/coffee, when we will experience firsthand what is on offer. If you would like to attend, add your name to the list on the main noticeboard.

And the Oscar goes to...



The 91st Academy Awards ceremony, presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS), will honour the best films of 2018 and will take place at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, Los Angeles, California.

The ceremony will be held on 24 February at 03:00am SATS time. Oscars will be presented in 24 categories and for the first time since the 61st Academy Awards in 1989 the proceedings will take place sans a host.

I thought a fun quiz was appropriate so here goes ...

1. Who was the first black actor to win an Oscar and for what film?
2. Who was the first black actress to win an Oscar and for what film?
3. What was the first colour movie to win best picture Oscar?
4. Who was the first actor to refuse an Oscar and for what film had he been nominated?
5. Who was the first person named Oscar to win an Oscar?
6. What was the first X-rated film to win an Oscar?
7. Who was the first woman director to win an Oscar and for what film?
8. Who was the first actor to win an Oscar posthumously and for what film?
9. Which film/s won most Oscars?
10. Who was the actress who won the most Oscars and for what films?
11. Which actress has been nominated for 21 Oscars? She won three – name the films.
12. Who won the leading actor Oscar in Cleopatra?
13. What film won Oscars for best leading actor and actress and name them?
14. For which film did Oprah Winfrey receive a supporting Oscar nomination?
15. Julie Andrews picked up the Oscar for Best Actress after her first film performance. Which film did she win the award for?
16. How many Oscar nominations did "Apocalypse Now" earn?
17. This movie was made in 1994, it was directed by Frank Darabont and is based on a novel by Stephen King. It received seven Oscar nominations and didn't win any: what movie am I talking about?
18. The year was 1975 and the Best Actor was Jack Nicholson...for which film?

Answers on the following page.

Days of our Lives

I just love sourcing fun days and what they represent, but this had been giggling like a school girl in a lift: Work Naked Day which is celebrated on February 1, the next line down I read about Play Your Ukulele Day on February 2. We could have told 'em that combining the two days would have been much more fun!

Being the romantic that I am I just had to give space to Valentine's Day which we celebrate on Thursday 14 February this year. We all know it's named after a saint, that it dates back hundreds of years to a Roman festival (Lupercalia) held on the 15th when Faunus, the god of agriculture was celebrated until the tradition was banned and 14 February declared St Valentine's Day by Pope Gelasius.

There is also reason to believe that Chaucer may have had a heavy hand in its creation (in his tales he would mix fact and fiction – and that was before fake news!) because there is no actual record of the event before one of his poems was published in 1375, namely Parliament of Foules when he links the tradition of courtly love to the day.

The legend gets even more confusing when you learn that St Valentine's Day can well be attributed to two different men. First, there's the priest who was beheaded by Emperor Claudius 11 for helping Christian couples get married – and that's where the love link creeps in. (If you're so inclined you can view his skull in the Basilica of Santa Maria in Cosmedin.) Then there's Bishop of Terni, another of Claudius' victims. Who

knows, maybe they're one and the same person and the detail has been lost in translation.

So, where does the roses bit come in? Probably because the flower was believed to have been favoured by Venus, the Roman Goddess of Love. And the greetings card bit? Rumour has it that the priest, Valentine, while imprisoned, wrote a love letter to a young lady he had strong feelings for. It was the Victorians who started the tradition of not signing their Valentine's Day cards; they thought it bad luck to do so. The expression "to wear your heart on your sleeve" actually has a very literal origin. In the middle ages single men and women drew names from a bowl to see who their valentine would be and they would then pin this name on their sleeve.

Oscars - The Answers

And the Oscar for getting the answers correct goes to ...

1. Sidney Poitier in Lilies of the Field (no, not Guess Who Is Coming to Dinner!)
2. Hattie McDaniel who played the role of Mammy in Gone with the Wind
3. Gone with the Wind
4. George C Scott for Patton. (He did so on philosophical grounds believing that every dramatic performance was unique and could not be compared to others.)
5. Oscar Hammerstein for The Last Time I saw Paris

6. Midnight Cowboy (starring Dustin Hoffman and Jon Voigt)
7. Kathryn Bigelow for The Hurt Locker
8. Peter Finch for The Network (Finch died before the 1977 ceremony and was the only performer to win a posthumous Academy Award until Heath Ledger won a Best Supporting Actor Oscar for his portrayal of the Joker in The Dark Knight filmed in 2008. The statuette itself was collected by Finch's widow, Eletha Finch.)
9. There are three of them: Titanic, Ben Hur and Lord of the Rings, each receiving 11 Oscars
10. Katharine Hepburn for Morning Glo-

- ry, Guess Who Is Coming to Dinner, The Lion in Winter and On Golden Pond
11. Meryl Streep for Sophie's Choice, The Iron Lady and Kramer vs. Kramer
12. How many of you got this one correct? It's Rex Harrison in Cleopatra
13. Henry Fonda and Katharine Hepburn did it for On Golden Pond
14. The Colour Purple
15. Mary Poppins
16. Eight
17. The Shawshank Redemption
18. One flew over the Cuckoo's Nest

Valentine's - Did You Know?

February 14 was Valentine's Day and I trust that someone remembered you on this special day.

Here is some trivia about Valentine's Day that you may, or may not, know.

- Every year around one billion Valentine cards are sent. After Christmas it's the single largest seasonal card-sending occasion.
- The most beautiful and incredible gift of love is the monument Taj Mahal in India. Built by Moghal Emperor Shahjahan as a memorial to his wife it stands as the emblem of the eternal love story. Work on the Taj Mahal began in
- 1634 and continued for almost 22

years and required the labour of 20,000 workers from all over India and Central Asia.

- Verona, the Italian city where William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet lived, receives about 1,000 letters every year sent to Juliet on Valentine's Day.
- The oldest surviving love poem is written in a clay tablet from the times of the Sumerians, inventors of writing, around 3500 B.C.
- Cupid is a symbol of Valentine's Day. Cupid was associated with Valentine's Day because he was the son of Venus, the Roman god

of love and beauty. Cupid often appears on Valentine cards and gift tokens holding a bow and arrows as he is believed to use magical arrows to arouse feelings of love.

- The heart is associated with Valentine's Day as it is considered the source of all human emotions. The custom of drawing a heart shape is supposed to have come from early attempts to draw an organ that no one had seen. The symbol went on to become a sign of love. The heart has been the most common figure of romantic love over the decades. Ancient cultures believed the human soul lived in the heart. The heart may be linked with love because the

ancient Greeks believed it was the home of Eros. Of course Eros was better known to the Romans as Cupid. Anyone shot in the heart by one of Cupid's arrows would fall hopelessly in love. Because the heart is also closely linked to love, its red colour is considered as most romantic.

- On February 14th wooden love spoons were carved and given as gifts on Valentine's Day in Wales. Hearts, keys and keyholes were favourite Valentine decorations on the wooden spoons. This Valentine declaration meant, "You unlock my heart!"
- A single perfect red rose framed with baby's breath is named by some florists as a "signature rose", and is the preferred choice on Valentine's Day, anniversaries and birthdays.
- Teachers receive the most Valentine's Day cards, followed by children, mothers, wives, and then, sweethearts. Children between ages six and ten exchange more than 650 million Valentine's cards with teachers, classmates, and family members.



- Lace is a fine textile associated with love and romance. Many years ago, a woman would drop her handkerchief in front of the man she liked. This was supposed to be a type of indication to him encouraging him to come forward. If he picked it up for her an introduction could be made. Lace has always been part of women's handkerchiefs, and has from that time been linked to romance.
- Lovebirds are often associated with Valentine's Day. These lovebirds found in Africa, are brightly coloured and sit very close together with their mates, earning them their name. Doves are also part of the Valentine tradition. These birds are symbols of love and loyalty because they mate for life. A pair of doves will also share the care of all their babies. In olden times some people used to believe that if a woman saw a robin flying overhead on Valentine's Day, it meant she would marry a sailor. If she saw a sparrow, she would marry a poor man and be very happy. If she saw a goldfinch, she would marry a millionaire.

Days of Note

February 14 is also Library Lover's Day when we honour libraries, librarians, bookworms, and library lovers in your life.

Sorry, technophiles, hugging your Kindle or tablet doesn't count!



And finally, in the round-up of days of note there's Single-tasking Day on February 22, especially created, I would have thought, for our menfolk out there, so us multi-tasking women will just sit back and watch you guys do all the work on this particular day.



There's always a sunny side to every story and here's one that, hopefully, will make some of you smile – and that is distribution of the newsletter. With the approval of the RSC committee and the blessing of management, in future non-colour (in other words, black-and-white) copies will be placed in the post boxes of those residents who don't have access to email. If you want to read it in colour there's a copy on the main noticeboard and on the file in the RSC office. (Please note: it will not be pinned up on the Pillans Place board as it is wont to blow off.)

If any resident has not received a hard-copy in his/her post box and does not have access to the 'Net will they please let me know so I can include his/her name in my database. Getting this right is quite a job and will take time, so bear with me, please, and in order to do this I need your help: bear in mind, the more pages that are printed the higher the cost, but if you have limited vision – for example, macular degeneration, not just short-sightedness - and would like to receive a large-print copy of the newsletter we can't promise but will endeavour to meet your needs.

Sales and Service

This section provides RSC residents and members with a means of advertising absolutely anything of worth to other readers that has wide appeal and at no charge.

Here's a service-provider who has given Tosca Coetzee excellent service

at a most affordable rate - and for pensioners that's at a special call-out price of R250,00:

Fridge repairs
Charles van Rooyen
021-7885587 / 083 228 4312

If you want to add to this database, call Lucille Byrnes (contact details below) with details to be included in a future newsletter.

The Last Laugh

A Sunday School teacher decided to give his class a quiz. One of the questions was, "Who is the Prince of Darkness?"

Most of the kids gave their answer as, "Eskom."

South Africa has been voted as the most romantic country in the world. They eat their dinner by candlelight - every night.

What the difference between South Africa and the Titanic? When the Titanic went down the lights were still on.

Eskom. The only company in the world that spends a fortune on adverts pleading with you not to use their product.

What does LOL stand for?
Lots of loadshedding.

New English word - Electrogasm.
That excited feeling you get when your lights come back on after loadshedding.

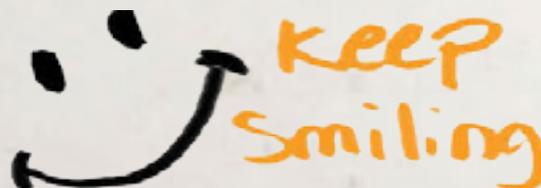
You think loadshedding is bad now? Wait until we get Stage 5 loadshedding. Eskom comes to your house, blows out your candles, and takes the batteries from your torch.

A government spokesperson has denied rumour that the South African national anthem is going to be changed from 'Nkosi Sikelele iAfrika' to 'Hello Darkness My Old Friend'.



Share your copy of the newsletter with a friend or tablemate and if you remove the newsletter from the noticeboard in order to read it please put it back for the benefit of others.

Till next time - keep smiling



The Rosedale Service Centre Committee