

What's Up

The Rosedale Newsletter

June 2019

FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS

The Admiral Halifax Moth Shell-hole held a fund-raiser on **Friday 10 May** where yummy boerie rolls and salads were served up, the entertainment being provided by the Cape Welsh Choir.

I was unable to attend the concert, but managed to take a few pics.



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 Our very dear Chris Soule celebrates her birthday on 14 June and at the end of the month we'll be saying farewell to her. We'll miss you very much and hope you get to spend many leisurely years doing exactly what you want and, most important of all, a long and healthy retirement.

With Ed Wittert appointed vice-president, it fell to him to form a committee that would lead **Toastmasters Rosedale** from relative obscurity to outright fame.

They are Sheila Sainsbury (vice-president education), Sue Bailey (vice-president membership) Del Davies (vice-president PR), John Moulder (treasurer) and Sue Gow (secretary). Deidre Pluke and Evadne Kortje explained the protocol to the group on Thursday 16 May, the next being Thursday 23 May. Future meetings will be held on the 4th Monday of every month.



Deidre, Evadne, Ed & Sue put their heads together.

It was very encouraging to see so many of you turn out to watch Ralph Kelly's **play-reading** group that performed an edited version of JB Priestly's *When We Are Married in the Wreck Room* on **Friday 24 May**.

This three-Act play tells the story of three couples who think they were married 25 years ago by Francis Beech and at their reunion discover said vicar was not empowered to do so. But all ends well.



A very appreciative audience enjoys light refreshment.

The cast (left) comprised of (front row) Sue Gow (Maria, Helliwell's wife), Ann Daykin (housekeeper Mrs Northrop), Beryl Lategan (Clara, Soppit's wife), Wendy Perkins (Anne, Parker's wife) and Ralph Kelly (Alderman Joseph Helliwell); (back row) Walden Davis (Gerald Forbes, a young chapel organist), Anne Greeff (Lottie Grady, the 'other woman'), John Moulder (Councillor Albert Parker), Ed Wittert (Herbert Soppit) and Glen Villet (narrator).

Three teams of four vied for 1st place in quizmaster Ralph Kelly's **Toc H** fun quiz on **Saturday 1 June**.



Orange team: (l to r) Tim Reilly, Colin Flude, Anne Huddy and Don Stokes with quizmaster Ralph Kelly at the back.



Blue team: (l to r) Liz Barker and Alison Lester (from Toc H), Barbara Vivier and Walden Davis.



Green team: (l to r) Colin Slater, Tony Venn, John Verster and Peter Horsburgh.



Scorers Sue Gow and John Moulder kept them on their toes.

Ralph posed some humdingers: Which two countries are linked by the Simplon Tunnel? Switzerland / Italy. And what does the title 'Mein Kampf' mean? Struggling to get the answer? Well, it is in fact *My Struggle*.

I am pleased to report that audience numbers were considerably up on last years' two quizzes and, considering it is a fund-raiser for Toc H, we can jolly well give them our support when Ralph stages the second quiz later this year.

Who took the honours? **Orange team** with 98, followed by the **Blue team** with 95 and creeping steadily up the **Green team** with a not too shabby 78. Well done participants.

The Rosedale Service Centre's Annual General Meeting will be held in the lounge/dining-room on **Wednesday 10 July** at 17:30.

The following members of the current committee are available for re-election:

- Stephen Leibbrandt
- Neville Petiteaud
- Beryl Lategan
- Del Davies
- Gordon de la Chaumette
- Peter Horsburgh

- Doug Clark
- Isabella Petiteaud
- Pamela Poole

The relevant Notice Convening the AGM as well as nomination forms for a new committee will be sent to you shortly.

The next event on the calendar is Mandela Day Thursday 18 July when, once again, willing members will get stuck in and make saamies to be distributed to the needy.

For two years' running we've done our bit to recognise the contribution this amazing man made to our country – indeed, the world – and the appeal is out for you to do so once again (see attached).

A list will be posted on the noticeboard stipulating what you can contribute but, for the moment, diarise from 09:30 that morning for a get-together in the Wreck Room. You need only bring your own cutting board, bread and spreading knife and apron. Men very welcome!!!



A Rummage Sale will be held in the Wreck Room on the morning of Saturday 27 July.

We require two things of members: your contribution by way of bric-a-brac and your attendance with a purse full of filthy lucre to spend on more junk to take home.



Then, well in advance so you can't say "I forgot!": Tuesday 24 September is National Heritage/Braai Day and we are planning a bring 'n braai on the lawns at Rosedale.

The finer details haven't been worked out yet, but we're hoping to have bacon-and-egg rolls for sale from 10:00. The fires will be lit; you bring your own food and we only ask that you participate in the raffle to raise money to pay for the brickettes etc. All things being equal, a cash bar will be available.

Days of our lives

The handshake didn't start life in a positive way, but today it has become recognised as both a form of greeting – probably the oldest known to man – as well as an indication of trust – think sealing a deal.

In medieval days knights would shake hands or clasp forearms to indicate they weren't concealing weapons. In the Western world the handshake is firm, in the East it's kept light and in some eye contact is to be avoided.

The rather complicated 'Black' handshake, known as Dap, began life as a symbol of unity and sign to Black soldiers during the Vietnam war that they had each other's back. Every year we mark National Handshake Day on the last Thursday of June which, this year, falls on the 27th, and the event is to encourage you to shake the hand of at least one person with whom you

wouldn't normally have done so.

Other elaborate hand greetings can be the signal of membership of a group, club or society (think Freemasons); there is also the clenched fish (revolution, solidarity); bunny ears (the classic photo-pose/two fingers up behind an unsuspecting person's head) which, in olden days was known as a cuckold's horn (a straying husband was locked in the stocks with antlers on his head).

We cross our fingers for luck. This began as two Pagans crossing forefingers, the gesture meaning to hold onto good fortune – hence, tying string around a finger thereby tethering good luck in a person and fellow Christians shook hands with hidden crossed fingers.

In Roman times the thumbs up sign from a referee was the trigger to put a gladiator to death; this later changed to thumbs down. And be cautioned: if

you're hitchhiking on the Continent, you might like to forego doing so in Greece where the thumbs up is a rude sign!

And that brings me to the most memorable day of the month for many: Father's Day on 16 June. For those of you who still have dads, treasure them, as life is short; for those of you who are fathers we salute you and wish you a truly

HAPPY FATHERS DAY

I leave you with this quote from the inimitable Mark Twain:

When I was 17, my father was so stupid, I didn't want to be seen with him in public.

When I was 24, I was amazed at how much the old man had learned in just 7 years.

Father's Day Playlist

In the April issue of What's Up we did a list of songs suitable for Mother's Day. Just do that the dad's don't feel left out, here is a list of songs that you can use for Father's Day.

Papa Was A Rolling Stone - The Temptations

From the 1972 album "All Directions," this classic single is about an absent father. They sing, "Papa was a rollin' stone / Wherever he laid his head was his home / And when he died, all he left us was alone." It was a No. 1 Hot 100 single in 1972.

Papa's Got A Brand New Bag - James Brown

No dad would be that hype about getting a new bag - when Brown wrote about it, he meant a new interest, and in this case it's dancing.

Cat's In The Cradle - Harry Chapin

Okay, yes, this is a little dark for Fa-

ther's Day - it tells the tale of a man sort of phoning in fatherhood and living to regret it - but what a fun chance to revisit this strangely catchy/haunting tune! "You know we'll have a good time then..."

Papa Can You Hear Me? - Barbra Streisand

For some, this Oscar-nominated track from *Yentl* is a "gay anthem." For others, it's a heart-wrenching song about losing a parent. Both are entirely valid.

Father And Son - Cat Stevens

Powerful ballad about a conversation between a father and a son.

Unforgettable - Nat King Cole and Natalie Cole

Do you and your father sound like this when you sing together? Didn't think so.

Father And Daughter - Paul Simon

Yes, Paul Simon is still dropping original tracks, like this 2002 gem that he

wrote for *The Wild Thornberrys Movie*: "There could never be a father who loved his daughter as much as I love you." Lulu Simon is one lucky daughter!

Papa Loves Mambo - Perry Como

What a fun dad! Taking mom out for a cool night of Latin ballroom revelry.

Song For Dad - Keith Urban

It goes without saying that the older we get, the more we can see our parents' mannerisms engrained in us, and it's not always a bad thing.

Oh My Papa - Eddie Calvert

Personally, this 1953 song is the best ever song about fathers. The lyrics: "Oh, my pa-pa, to me he was so wonderful. Oh, my pa-pa, to me he was so good. No one could be, so gentle and so lovable. Oh, my pa-pa, he always understood." This song always reduce me to tears. They don't make songs like this anymore.

Important Announcement

From manager David Holmes comes this request, "We have been asked by the Department of Social Development to acquire and keep copies of members' identity documents on file. This means that members should provide us with a copy when they next visit or renew their membership."

Never too old

The next time you feel that you're too old to do something, take inspiration from Jock Hutton. The words "too old" are definitely not in his dictionary.

In 1939 Jock joined the 'Black Watch' in the United Kingdom, just shy of his 15th birthday, and soon found himself in the middle of World War II. In 1943 he joined the British Parachute Regiment.

In the early hours of 6 June 1944 he parachute into a field on the outskirts of Ranville, Normandy. His battalion had the important job of seizing and holding vital bridges before the D-Day landings. On 22 June 1944 he was wounded and sent back to the United Kingdom.

He later returned to his unit and deployed to the Ardennes where

he was captured by the Germans. He escaped and in 1945 he parachuted into Germany for further battles.

He remained in the British Army until 1955 when he went to Northern Rhodesia and took part in the first selection course for the Rhodesian SAS (Special Air Service). He passed the course and, in 1967, became the SAS Squadron Sergeant Major.

In 1981 he moved to South Africa and served from 1981 to 1985 in the elite 5 Reconnaissance Regiment in Phalaborwa.

In June this year, Jock turned back the clock by jumping into the very same field at Ranville that he had jumped into 75 years before. And this at the age of 95. It was part of the events to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings.

Jock Hutton said it was "no problem" to jump from 1,500 metres strapped to a member of the Red Devils parachute display team, landing less than ten metres from the watching Prince of Wales.

After brushing himself down and putting on his Parachute Regiment beret to go with his borrowed Red Devils jumpsuit, he joked: "At my age, life tends to get a little bit boring, so you've got to grab any chance of excitement you can." Asked if he had found the experience frightening, he said: "Once I stuck my head out the door and I got a heave from the back I was away.

When asked by a journalist if he had been scared during the jump, Jock's reply was classic.

"During my lifetime I have never been terrified. I'm just a vicious little Scotsman."



Jock Hutton, moments after completing his historic parachute jump.

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

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the SA Legion or Rosedale Service Centre and/or its members. Ideas for future articles can be relayed to Lucille Byrne s flat 211 Rosedale tel. 021-6854375 / 083 558 4900 email lucillebyrnes@gmail.com

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#MANDELA DAY



WE CELEBRATE MADIBA'S BIRTHDAY ON THURSDAY 18 JULY AND HERE AT ROSEDALE WE WILL BE SPENDING OUR 67 MINUTES PREPARING SANDWICHES FOR THE NEEDY AND THEREBY TRYING TO EASE THE BURDEN OF POVERTY SO THAT EACH OF US REALISES THE IDEAL OF A DIGNIFIED LIFE.

RESIDENTS, THEIR FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO JOIN US IN THE WRECK ROOM THAT MORNING AT 09:30. THE PREPARED/PACKED SANDWICHES THEN WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE STREET PEOPLE IN AND AROUND THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS, AN IDEA PROPOSED AND MOOTED BY THE RSC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

WE'D LOVE YOU TO BRING ALONG FOODSTUFFS AND JOIN US IN THE WRECK ROOM THAT MORNING WHERE WE'LL BE MAKING SANDWICHES FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE. IF YOU PREFER, YOU CAN MAKE A MONETARY CONTRIBUTION IN THE ENVELOPE THAT HAS BEEN PLACED IN THE RSC OFFICE. TO TRULY GET THE 'GEES' OF THE EVENT, WHY NOT RIDE AROUND WITH US AND DERIVE THE JOY OF SEEING YOUR EFFORTS BEING HANDED OUT TO THE NEEDY IN AND AROUND THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS.

THERE CAN BE NO GREATER GIFT THAN THAT OF GIVING ONE'S TIME AND ENERGY TO HELP OTHERS WITHOUT EXPECTING ANYTHING IN RETURN.

~ Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela ~

18/07/1918-5/12/2013