

# Kromboom Kronicle

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Kromboom



*The club building bridges of friendship*

Twinned with the Rotary Club of New Malden



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

<https://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubofKromboom/>

**President:** Steve Theron

**Secretary:** Rod Palmer

**Editor:** Gavin Smith

**19 January 2022**

**January is Rotary Vocational Service month**

Members at the time will remember that we presented a Paul Harris Fellowship Award to Jean Viljoen in recognition of her Baby Bundles project. Jean has continued to make meaningful contributions via donations of baby goods and accessories to mothers of newborn babies in locations around Cape Town.

I am delighted to publish a report recently received from Jean, updating the club on the work she and her fellow helpers continue to do:

In December 2018 I was honoured to be awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship Award by your club, for the work that we do at Baby Bundles.

This acknowledgement and encouragement has spurred us on to continue supporting vulnerable moms in greater Cape Town, by supplying bundles of essentials to new moms at the MOU clinics.

This is the backbone of what we do, and to date we have supplied over 3300 packs of essentials to moms, who, in some cases, have absolutely nothing. It is now well overdue that I report back to you on some of the work that we are involved in.





Because of our now considerable network, we have become a conduit to support several worthwhile projects in Khayalitsha. The Lindokuhle Children's Home was a safe home for abandoned and abused children.

*(PHF Jean, on right)*

We were able to assist with kitting out the entire home with furniture, bedding, toys, books and even a magnificent jungle gym in the garden. For 2 years we held a Christmas party for their 18 children ranging from 1 to 15, and what heartening events those were.

Sadly, Pamela, the truly amazing woman who started this home, died of liver cancer only 2 years into her project. The children unfortunately needed to be re-located. The takeaway from this project for us was how we can facilitate, and kick start such projects, with relative ease.

Another outstanding project we were approached to support, is the Teen Moms Club (Intyantyambo Yesizwe) run by Ntombie Basso, a social worker and a big-hearted individual. She supports young girls who fall pregnant at school. She encourages them to continue their schooling, has created peer support groups, encourages the girls to come with her to schools to give talks on the downside of teenage pregnancy, and generally makes an enormous difference in her community.

We supply her with Bundles to give to the new moms, and with generous Australian sponsorship, were able to give the moms a great Christmas





party at Green Point Park in 2020.

Ntombie has become a friend and through us, has created her own network of support for the truly wonderful work that she does.

Our January appeal is for an Early Learning Centre in Khayalitsha. We have a carload of clothes, toys and equipment for this little school, which will be delivered today, and will make an enormous impact. I will visit them next month to meet the children.

The project we will put out our first appeal for in February, is a children's home for abandoned, orphaned and neglected children.

Nobuhle foster cares for 18 children and needs clothes, equipment, and food. We will do our best to supply her with all that we can.



Covid has had an impact. Firstly, the enormous suitcases of clothes and toys that were regularly being brought out from Australia by travelers connected to the Jewish Women's Guild in Sydney (they started a project called Cuddle Bundles, with the express purpose to support us in our work), have stopped for the time being, as have the regular supplies from England and Germany.

However, it is amazing to see the lengths some of our "cheerleaders" will go to get parcels to us. Our German friends have "coerced" a pilot and a flight attendant at Lufthansa to be couriers for us. We have recently received several wonderful parcels from them.



Our local supporters are, however, our main donors and we are so grateful for the ongoing generosity.

We're also grateful to our core of willing volunteers who help us pack, store and collect goods each month. We're proudly a fully voluntary organisation.

The need for baby clothes, blankets, soft toys, toiletries is endless. Any contacts you may have, especially for nappies and toiletries, would be hugely appreciated. Any gently used baby clothes you may have in your circle of influence would be most welcome. And, of course, the need for funds is ongoing.

The two current projects we are supporting need wall charts for pre-school, stationery, clothes (ages 1 to 15) and general household equipment (linen, towels, mattresses, etc.)



Thank you, Gavin, for your ongoing interest and I will try to be more regular with feedback in the future.

Jean Viljoen

*On behalf of the Kromboom Rotary Club, well done, Jean, and keep up the amazing work that you do.*

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**Birthdays:**  
3 February: Rod

**Anniversaries:**  
None

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<b>Duty Roster</b>				
	<b>19 January</b>	<b>26 January</b>	<b>2 February</b>	<b>9 February</b>
Administrator/ meeting host	Gavin	Pres. Steve	Gavin	
Four Way Test	everyone		everyone	
Attendance & Welcoming	David		Gavin	
Speaker Introduction	<b>Business</b>	<b>Board</b>	Gloria	<b>No meeting</b>
Speaker Thanks & Report	<b>meeting</b>	<b>meeting</b>	Rod	
Object of Rotary	Jean-Claude		Graham	
Meeting Scribe	Gavin/Rod	Rod	Gavin	

**Gavin, or a temporary substitute, will e-mail the Zoom link plus ID & Password prior to each meeting.**

Kindly let me know in advance if you are unable to attend a particular session ([gavinpsmith1@outlook.com](mailto:gavinpsmith1@outlook.com))

*Speaker report (from speaker 'thanker') to above e-mail by the Friday after the meeting.*

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### **Club Diary & Events**

**Wed 19 January**

Wed 26 January

Wed 2 February

Wed 9 February

Wed 16 February

Wed 23 February

**Business meeting**

Board meeting

Normal meeting. Speaker tba.

No meeting

Business meeting

Board meeting

Thurs & Fri 17 & 18 March

Wynberg RC **Proms-Lite on the lawn** at Groot Constantia Wine Estate

Sat 4 – Wed 8 June 2022

Rotary International Convention in Houston, Texas

All online Zoom meetings will commence at 6.00pm & login information will be e-mailed in advance

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### **Tailpiece:**

Nothing is ever accomplished by a committee unless it consists of three members, one of whom happens to be sick and the other absent.

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