



# TURNING WHEELS OF BULAWAYO ROTARY CLUB



**April-May 2000.**

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## *THE FOUR WAY TEST*

*IS IT THE TRUTH?  
IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?  
WILL IT BUILD GOOD WILL AND BETTER FRIENDS?  
WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?*

**Gilbert Keith Chesterton**

### *Donkey*

**When fishes flew and forests walk'd  
And figs grew upon thorn,  
Some moment when the moon was blood  
Then surely I was born;**

**With monstrous head and sickening cry  
And ears like errant wings,  
The devil's walking parody  
On all four-footed things.**

**The tatter'd outlaw of the earth,  
Of ancient crooked will;  
Starve, scourge, deride me: I am dumb,  
I keep my secret still.**

**Fools! For I also had my hour;  
One far fierce hour and sweet:  
There was a shout about my ears,  
And palms before my feet.**

## ***Up Close and Personal***

### **Impressions of a Brand New Rotarian**

Some years ago, living in one of the highly respected eastern European countries:

“Rotary? Aren’t they one of these secret, mystical, very closed groups of very special people that I just don’t like at all? That is when you are young and that is what ‘being ignorant’ means.”

Six years ago, deciding to come and live in Zimbabwe, staying in St. Luke’s Mission Hospital:

“Rotary, Lions etc, etc... so many clubs and good people came to the hospital and offered their unreserved help. I have to admit they all looked normal and friendly and helping, so my opinion about ‘all these clubs’ started to change. I enjoyed being with the missionaries, helping here and there and getting ‘thank yous’ and smiles as a reward.”

One year ago: A friend, Rotary club member, invited me for a ‘Friday lunch’, and told me that he is going to put up my name as one of the new Rotary club members. Good joke. By then I knew: you have to be well known in your profession, you have to be prominent person in town, you have to have a lot of charity work behind - am I all that? He must be joking, but if he needs company for lunch and I am hungry why not, I go.

All that is behind and I am a Rotarian. Still sounds funny. I am worth it or the criteria dropped, only time will tell. I like the people I meet, small jobs I do and the idea that somebody, somewhere is benefiting from that. In return Rotary has to put up with me being late for lunches (never my fault), forgetting about Committee meetings, in general being very forgetful.

What was that sum (my age plus years with Rotary) that will excuse me from attending the functions? My forgetfulness will be highly admired then. Until then ...

Jasmina Ilic

### **From the International Committee Activities**

A meeting was held on Thursday, 11. May 2000. Rtn N. Maphosa was processing the applications for scholarships. A team from Southern California is due in May. Full report about this visit is expected soon.

ED Programme is now analyzing data collected so far. Three schools were covered. It is possible that the turnout in the Milton School was lower. This matter should be investigated. There is a possibility to cover a school in Nyamandhlovu and to continue with Bulawayo schools. Further plans and dates will be put forward as soon as the situation in the country is normalized.

The doctors in the ED Programme will take more active role in distribution of goods when the medical containers arrive.

Glenn Flaten 3H Drip Feed Project is withdrawn to the political instability in the country. This would have brought US \$2.000.000 funds into the country.

Ralph Morgan is expected in June and his projects will be evaluated at that time.

### **From the Rotary International**

President-elect Frank Devlyn requests that all club presidents for 2000-01 provide their e-mail addresses to RI. This can be done quickly by visiting the RI web site, where club presidents can log in and add or update their addresses in a special database.

The database can be accessed from the home page of the RI web site ([www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)). Users of this service will need to know their Person/Membership ID numbers to get access to the database. The number appears in the membership listing of the clubs semi-annual reports.

Club presidents who don't know their ID numbers should contact their club secretaries or Data Services at RI World Headquarters ([data@rotaryintl.org](mailto:data@rotaryintl.org)). Presidents of clubs in Europe/Africa and Great Britain & Ireland areas should contact the Europe/Africa Service Center ([OD@riea.org](mailto:OD@riea.org)) or RIBI Service Center ([secretary@ribi.org](mailto:secretary@ribi.org)) respectively to obtain their Person/Membership ID numbers.

## **Technology**

It's amazing the number of websites that Rotary Clubs and Rotary Districts have set up, but what is even more amazing to realize is that the majority of the Rotary World is not aware of these websites. In fact, many Rotarians are not even aware that Rotary has a website that has so much valuable information. I encourage Rotarians to stand up at every meeting and simply mention the latest information to be found on Rotary's website.

## **World Community Service Resource**

One of the programs that has made Rotary so great is our involvement with the World Community Service projects. Today, thanks to the Internet, every club can contact clubs and districts in other parts of the world with which they would like to carry out a joint project. Let's encourage clubs to contact district Internet communications officers that will soon be listed here on the website and in our new Official Directory to make contacts to carry out joint world community service projects.

## **Who touched you?**

**Richard D. King**

**(Rotary Africe, June 1996, Vol. 69, No. 12)**

Every Rotarian was originally proposed for membership by another Rotarian. That individual who proposes someone for club membership offer a wonderful gift of self. Who touched you? Who proposed you for membership? How does one repay such a gift?

It is estimated there are approximately 1.2 million Rotarians in the world. I really don't agree with this figure. There may be that many club members, but there are millions more "Rotarians" in the world. In their hearts, these people are one with us. They want to give, to do something for mankind. They seek the fellowship and friendship that is so unique to Rotary and makes the organisation a close global family. They want to be part of an organisation in which every race, colour, nationality, language, culture, ideology, and religion are presented. They want to be part of a movement that, in the words of Albert Schweitzer, develops "the truly human man".

And the only reason they are not members of a Rotary club is because no one has asked them. No one has offered the gift of membership; no one has touched them.

Rotary International does wonderful things in this world. We help the lame to walk, the blind to see, the deaf to hear. We help heal the sick, clothe the naked, and feed the hungry. We prevent disease, clean polluted water, build schools, educate teachers, fund scholarships, develop throughout the world. Rotary's programmes of service to others are vast, and involve Rotarians in nearly 28000 clubs all over the globe. Rotary makes a difference, it changes people's lives.

An argument could be made, however, that the people who benefit the most from the organisation's work are not the recipients of the service, but the Rotarians themselves who do the giving. The ones who benefit most are those members fortunate enough to not only be in Rotary - but to have

**Rotary in them.**

**They have performed the service project, the fundraising, the club leadership roles, and the programmes of The Rotary Foundation of RI; Yes, these are the individuals whose lives have been touched - and have been changed.**

**And how do we repay that person who gave us these opportunities by sponsoring us for membership? What debt do we owe to that individual, and to Rotary?**

**I have heard the estimate that 98 percent of Rotarians have never sponsored a single new member. They have benefited - some for many years - from Rotary club membership, yet, have never extended the opportunity to anyone else. They speak with affection and gratitude of the one who sponsored them; they talk of how much Rotary means to them - but they have never shared the opportunity of membership with another person.**

**This year, RI President Herb Brown has asked us to change this. We, who have all been the recipients of club membership, are asked to sponsor at least one new member in this Rotary year. It is not difficult; it does not cost any money. What it does require, however, is an awareness of what our sponsor did for us, and the realisation that the best way to repay the one who touched us is to do the same for someone else.**

**The organisation needs these new people - these individuals who are already Rotarians in their hearts and are waiting for an invitation to join. In order to carry out the programmes of Rotary into the next century, we must reverse the decline of membership in existing clubs that has occurred every single year for the past five. If we do not build for the future, we are destined to become a relic of the past.**

**In the membership campaign this year, I have travelled to many places to urge Rotarians to perform their duty to sponsor a new member. I have heard all the excuses: "Our club is just the right size", "We don't have room to add any more members", "We are tired of hearing about membership - we've heard it all before", "We are more interested in quality than quantity", "This kind of campaign ruins the prestige of Rotary", et cetera. If a club thinks it is the "right" size, or really cannot add any more, then change the meeting place. There is no reason to deny to others the privileges of membership we enjoy because the room is too small. What does that mean to a starving child? To an illiterate adult? To a polio-stricken youth? There is too much to get done in this world. Every time a club sponsors another club, the sponsoring club itself grows. It is one of the oldest principles: the more one shares, the more one receives.**

**And there is no doubt we have heard about membership for years. I can fully understand why some are tired of hearing about it. The problem is that while we've heard it, we haven't done it. It is not enough to just hear the message - we must act on the message if the job is to get done. If in fact we had been doing what we've been hearing, there would not be the serious decline in existing clubs. There would be no need for Calgary Challenge or a membership campaign.**

**The issues of "quality" versus "quantity" and the "prestige" of Rotary are, of course, of vital concern. Rotary is a quality organisation, and we seek quality people. We do not seek people "just to add numbers". The question is, have you invited every qualified person in your community to be a part of Rotary? Can we seriously submit that all the persons of "quality" have been invited, that there are no more in the world? Only when the answer to that question is yes, can we then worry about quantity. Until that time, there is work to be done.**

**The quality we seek is a quality of the heart. We seek that person who truly wants to give something back, who wants to serve beyond self. It can be argued that the organisation has many quality people, as determined by position or income, who are more interested in taking the benefits of membership than in performing Rotary service for others. Which one is the truly "quality" person?**

**What would your religion say?**

**Of course we want to maintain the prestige of Rotary.**

**Each of us is proud of the fact that Rotary is a prestigious service organisation, made up of people who are leaders: owners, managers, executives, and professionals - people who have the ability to make a difference. But too many clubs are more worried about prestige than about doing service, or even staying alive. The average age in many clubs is 60 to 70 years. Without adding many new young members, where are these clubs going to be in another 10 to 20 years? They could be dead "prestige" clubs. Whether we like it or not, young people may be interested in prestige, but they are more interested in a organisation that does things, and that provides tangible benefits to the member. It is the ideal of Rotary, and Rotary's dreams of a world at peace, which really invites them. We learned this from PolioPlus. Much as we have given to the world through our PolioPlus Programmes, Rotary itself has benefited even that much more. In giving, we receive. And it is things like PolioPlus which really bring prestige and honour to Rotary.**

**Some districts and clubs are responding magnificently to President Herb's Calgary Challenge this year. How are they doing it?**

**First, there must be a goal. Most clubs and districts submitted their goal to President Herb at the beginning of this Rotary year. If your club did not set a goal then, it isn't too late to set one now. There are two months left in this Rotary year, plenty of time for each Rotary to propose a new member.**

**The goal is important. A specific number - a target. Without such a goal, most campaigns will not succeed.**

**Second, there must be a plan. Is the club going to divide into teams? Is there a deadline by which each member on each team will propose a new member? Will the club have a "bring-a-guest" day, or a "fireside" for potential new members and their spouses? Does the plan involve seeking out younger business people - former interactors, Rotaractors, Rotary Foundation Scholars, young people in the news? In the words of Past RI President Robert R. Barth, "If we want Rotary to survive into the next century, we must make Rotary attractive for young people".**

**And thirdly, there must be action. It does no good to have a goal and a plan unless the plan elicits action. It needs to get done over the next two months if the club is going to be part of this historic year. The time to act is now. Every Rotarian should be a part of this historic effort, by sponsoring a new member this year.**

**I will always remember with much love Past District Governor Paul Ehret, who came to my office one day and said, "Rick, how would you like to visit the Rotary club?" Paul changed my life. He touched me.**

**Who touched you? and more importantly - who will you touch?**

**- Past President Director Richard D. "Dick" King is general chairman of the 1995-96 Membership Task Force and a member of the 10th Decade Committee and the PolioPlus Speakers committee. He is a Trustee-Elect of the Rotary Foundation of RI, and a member of the Rotary Club of Niles-Fremont, California, USA.**

## April 2000 % Attendance

<b>NAME</b>	<b>MONTH %</b>	<b>YTD %</b>	<b>EXCUSED ATTENDANCE</b>
Barbour C.	60	94	Kadey L
Bond L.	100	100	Lawrence G.
Bond M.	80	98	Katz B.
Bonett J.	100	94	Manyoba C.
Chiponda C.	100	93	WEEGER Fr. O.
Clarka R.	60	93	WHITAKER G.
Cooper A.	80	65	
De Souza A.	100	100	CLUB AVERAGE SENT TO DG.
Dlamini J. C.	100	72	
Downing A.	70	62	TOTAL MEMBERS 40
Dube K.	60	85	(EXCEPT HONARY MEMBERS)
Geddes G.	100	90	
Ilic J.	100	80	NUMBER OF MEETINGS HELD 5
Lazarus C.	0	60	
Mac Donald M	90	38	
Maibvisira E.	70	45	
Maksimovic P	100	93	
Maphosa N.	60	38	
Milic S	100	80	
Mladenovski J.	100	62	
Morar B.	0	8	
Munoro N.	0	28	
Mwete C.	70	76	
Naik M.D.	100	100	
Ncube N.	40	50	
Peters T.	100	55	
Pool C.	80	76	
Rensburg E.	100	100	
Ross M.	60	95	
Scott L.	0	70	
Scott Rev N.	100	95	
Siwela P.	0	30	
Stipinovich J.	60	71	
Vaghmaria S.	40	93	
Wheeler R.	0	33	
Williams A.	80	70	