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**EDITORIAL**

Despite all of South Africa's mineral resources we sometimes don't think we're really resource blessed, because we don't have oil.

But maybe we do. Some very clever people are prepared to put very big bets on us having it. Or were prepared to, before government started getting greedy.

The belief that South Africa is probably surrounded by rich oil fields has arisen because of a new theory about our offshore geology.

Most people already know that we've got offshore gas in the relatively shallow waters off Mossel Bay. The Mosgas project has been running for nearly 25 years. But the new theory is that the gas off the West coast is not an "outlier", but rather an indication there could be much, much more down there. It all relates to developments many millennia ago, when the continents were closer together. Part of South America was snuggled up against the Cape, more or less where the Falkland Islands are now. And oil has been found in the seabed off the Falklands.

This is obviously not the full story but it is the basis of a theory that serious oil drillers are taking seriously. So seriously that for the first time ever, all the oil exploration blocks off South Africa's coastline have been applied for and allocated.

The allocations have gone to big oil drilling players, like Shell, Total, Exxon Mobil and Anadarko. All of them reckon there's a strong chance there might be oil or at least significant amounts of gas in the deep and hitherto unexplored seabed off our coast. One industry expert says they're hoping for oil and expecting lots of gas.

One Texas-based large oil and gas exploration and production company, that found significant oil off the coast of Ghana resulting in Ghana becoming one of the fastest growing economies in Africa, has also recently discovered a vast gas field off the Mozambique coast, containing the equivalent of the known gas reserves of Qatar. The company has interests in a block off the coast of Cape Town and will possibly need to risk around \$250 million in order to ascertain whether there is a significant oil field lurking somewhere in the deep water, below the seabed.

A leading banker says large amounts of offshore gas or even oil could be the silver bullet that puts South Africa's economy on a new upward path. It could slash electricity prices and provide clean, energy and feedstock that could open the way for mineral beneficiation and industrial processes.

*Submitted by Graham Todd*

**FELLOWSHIP MONTH**



**Attendance:**

Membership	24
Present	17
Make ups	0
Apologies	3
Attendance	79%

**Visitors:** Colin Bird, Howard Boetcher, Ian Overbosch

**Attendance to Biffy** 082 468 7504 or [aecon.e@mweb.co.za](mailto:aecon.e@mweb.co.za).

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**PRESIDENTIAL ITEMS**

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**Pres. Mike** reminded us of the Induction Dinner for Karen at Tango's on 20 June; also a joint meeting of the old and new Board on Wed. 12 June.

And then, despite noisy protest from the floor, he insisted on a "Rap" up of the recent Rotary Conference at Ratanga Junction:

*Now you folks listen and listen well  
I got a story dat I must tell:  
A Conference dat jus' had to be  
Yeah, once a year, dat's Rotary.  
I tell ya fellahs, dat's some function,  
Dey held it at Ratanga Junction*

*De Top Brass dere would make you stare.  
Dose PDGs was everywhere.  
De Preacher spoke on mass atonement,  
Den we had a Rotary moment.  
All de clubs from District came  
To hear demselves honoured by name.*

*Speakers we had – yeah quite a lot;  
Some sure spoke good, some lost de plot.  
We learn some kids, still in de womb,  
Dey on de skids, got seeds of doom.  
Somehow, dough, de time did pass.  
Dose seats, oh brudder: hard on de ass!  
Said to my neighbour, "Now hear me friend,  
I ain't stayin' right to de end."  
Dey call a break: Tea and a Snack.  
I missed de cake. I ain't goin' back.*

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**SLOTS + HAPPENINGS**

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**Graham** gave an update on the Rotary Car Park: Spar should be paying Wynberg Rotary Club R2 200 per month for parking allocated to their customers. However it has been badly managed, resulting in a loss of income for us, including shortpayment of the monthly dues. A recent meeting with the new management seems to have the situation back on track.

**Bev** suggested individual contributions from members this evening could be given to the SPCA via next week's guest speaker (see Programme, below).

**Are** said that another sponsoring school from Norway collected at total of R90 000, which has been given to Perivale Primary School to upgrade their library

**Jackie** had just experienced a Big Happening: This evening she graduated with a Masters degree in Urban Infrastructure, Design and Management. The bottles of sparkling wine on the supper tables were for us all to share in her remarkable achievement. Congratulations and many thanks, Jackie!

## GUEST SPEAKER

**Jackie** reported back on the recent trip to Norway by herself, Derek and Karen. Predictably they were wined and dined like royalty; were taken on some spectacular tours, participated fully in the Söttende Mai celebrations (on 17 May) and generally were just blown away by our Norwegian friends' tireless hospitality. The story was enhanced by many lovely photos and personal anecdotes. Jackie was introduced by Sergeant Roché, and thanked by Francois.

## PROGRAMME

<b>June 2013</b>	Committee: James, Danckwerts, Schreiber, Smith, Williams, Lidgley
<b>12 June</b>	<b>Joint Board Meeting</b>
<b>13 June</b>	<b>Brett Glasby, SPCA Wildlife Unit: "Unusual Catches" Also lots of visitors</b>
<b>20 June</b>	<b>Induction Dinner at Tango's</b>

## DUTY ROSTER

<b>FUNCTION</b>	<b>13 JUNE</b>	<b>20 JUNE</b>	<b>4 July</b>	<b>11 July</b>
<b>Sergeant</b>	Gowdy	<b>INDUCTION DINNER</b>	TBA	TBA
<b>Attendance Officer</b>	Danckwerts		Danckwerts	Danckwerts
<b>Wynpress Editorial</b>	Van Wyk		Barnard	Bird
<b>Minutes for Wynpress</b>	Knight		Wetmore	Cleveland
<b>Compilation of Wynpress</b>	Cleveland		Knight	Wetmore
<b>Door Duty</b>	Smith		Williams	Barnard
<b>Grace</b>	Knight		Danckwerts	Wetmore
<b>Loyal Toast</b>	Michalowsky		Vivian	Williams
<b>International Toast</b>	Smith		Van Wyk	Vivian
<b>Speaker Introduction</b>	Jackson		TBA	Danckwerts
<b>Speaker Thanks</b>	Bird		Cleveland	Smith

**IF YOU CANNOT MAKE YOUR ROSTERED DATE, PLEASE SWAP WITH ANOTHER ROTARIAN AND INFORM THE DUTY SERGEANT**

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## JACKPOT

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With 6 cards left and the kitty at R3 510, Graham drew an unlucky 5 of clubs, and Biffy won the consolation prize.

With the pack now at a nailbiting 5 cards, it was decided to carry the next draw over to Induction night, 20 June, when it must surely be finally won....

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## PRESIDENT'S THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

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I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know: The only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve.

- *Albert Scheizer: philosopher, physician, musician, Nobel laureate (1875-1965)*  
(.... and tennis coach? – Ed.)

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## TAILPIECE

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A father bequeathed his 17 camels to his three sons.

When the father passed away, his sons opened up the Will.

The Will stated that the eldest son should get half the camels, while the middle son be given 1/3rd (one-third) and the youngest son be given 1/9th (one-ninth) of the 17 camels.

As it is not possible to divide 17 by 2 or by 3 or by 9, the three sons started to fight. Eventually, they decided to seek a wise man.

The wise man listened patiently about the Will.

The wise man, after some thinking, brought one camel of his own and added it to the 17. Now there were 18 camels.

Now, he started reading the deceased father's Will.

Half of 18 = 9. So he gave the eldest son 9 camels.

1/3rd of 18 = 6. So he gave the middle son 6 camels.

1/9th of 18 = 2. So he gave the youngest son 2 camels.

Now add this up:  $9 + 6 + 2 = 17$  and this leaves one camel, which the wise man took away.

Moral: The attitude of negotiation and problem solving is to find the 18th camel i.e. the common ground.

Once a person is able to find it, the issue is resolved. It is difficult at times to reach a solution. But the first step is to believe that there is a solution. If we think that there is no solution, we won't find it!