

South African wine producers; improving the marketing of South African wines through the use of the unique flora and biodiversity of the Cape Floral Kingdom and, particularly, the industry's proactive stance on biodiversity as a unique selling point to differentiate Brand South Africa. Inge, asked how to define 'Kingdom' in the floral sense, parried the question and said 'Region' was now more commonly used than Kingdom. In reply to another question she elaborated on the problem of alien vegetation, saying the cost of its eradication, and even the maintenance after its first clearing which government will do, was more than the smaller or individual wine producer could afford. Tony Donovan thanked Inga for a most interesting talk.

#### NEXT MEETING

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> August at the Rondebosch Golf Club. **Please let Derick Pelan (021-686 9337) know if you cannot attend.**

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By special request – the Selkirk Grace:

*Some hae meat an' canna eat  
an' some wad eat that want it.*

*But we hae meat an' we can eat  
an' sae the Lord be thankit.*

Robert Burns 1759-1796

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Suggestion by a member that we adopt as 'our grace' the grace that our Founder President, John Nortje, always said, viz:

*For Food, Friends and Fellowship we thank you God,  
and we pray that this fellowship will prosper  
for the rest of our lives.*

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## THE PROBUS CLUB OF THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS

### NEWSLETTER FOR JULY 2007

#### LAST MONTH'S OUTING

Twenty-four members their wives, partners and guests were addressed by Morne du Plesiss at the Sports Science Institute on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>. Morne first sketched the establishment of the Institute, emphasising its research function, financial independence and public service aspects. Morne then commented briefly on the current tri-nations rugby spat about team selection before telling us about the Laureus Sport for Good Foundation. The Foundation's mission is to use sport as a tool to effect social change; a vision defined by President Mandela at the Foundation's inaugural meeting in Monte Carlo some seven years ago. *'Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people...It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope, where once there was only despair. It is more powerful than governments is breaking down racial barriers'*. Achieving the Foundation's mission is the function of the World Sports Academy, an association of 42 world renowned sportsmen and women who act as ambassadors for the Foundation, giving their time to initiate and visit the 48 projects in eight countries. Morne is the South African member of the Academy and, with the sponsorship of Discovery and a budget of nearly R5 million, he supervises and visits nine projects through- out this country, some of which we saw on a DVD presentation.

The 'face' of the Foundation and its main public function is its annual Laureus World Sports Award ceremony now held in Barcelona under the patronage of the King of Spain who was himself an international yachtsman. The ceremony, and its other functions, is sponsored by its founding partners, Mercedes-Benz, IWC Schaffhausen and Richmont.

At the ceremony awards are made to honour the outstanding sports personalities of the year.

The winners are selected by members of the Academy, among whom Morne mentioned Edwin Moses renowned athlete (who visited South Africa last year to chair the Academy's Executive meeting which incidentally Mr Mandela attended), Hugo Porta the Argentinian rugby legend, Martina Navratilova, Monica Celles and Boris Becker of tennis fame. Awards are given for outstanding sporting success in many categories, among which are for the Individual Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year which have been won respectively by Tiger Woods and Yelena Isinbayeva the Russian pole vaulter; Lifetime Sporting Achievement, which Gary Player has won; Action Sportsman of the year, which Shaun White the American snow/skateboarder won last year and Newcomer of the year, won recently by Rafael Nadal.

In answer to a question Morne said the name Laureus is from the latin *laurus*, the laurel from which the laurel wreath is made, originally the emblem of victory in war or of distinction, particularly in poetry.

Tony Donovan thanked Morne for his much appreciated presentation.

### **JULY LUNCHEON MEETING**

Members and our guest speaker Inge Kotze were welcomed by President Basil le Cordeur. There were no visitors. Apologies were received from Patrick Davis, Mike Dachs, David Ives, Glen McLaren, David Naude, Mike Sharkey and Rex Tattersfield.

### **WELFARE**

Mick Morphet reported that Patrick Davis was looking forward with confidence to his operation at the end of next month; Mike Sharkey is recovering from a skin problem but should be with us next month..

### **.CLUB BUSINESS**

\*The organisers of last months outing to the hear about the Laureus Awards at the Sports Science Institute were thanked.

\*President Basil reported on the Prosus Association AGM held last month. Items of interest to us were that membership fees are to increase from R3.50 to R5 per member and Probus News & Views will in future only be available electronically. Our continued membership of the Association was questioned by members and the Committee was asked to give that consideration the matter and report back.

\*The speaker next month is Adam Welz on Biofuels.

### **JULY OUTING.**

The Outing is on Tuesday the 31<sup>st</sup> for lunch and a talk on 'Shark Spotting in False Bay and on sharks in general' by Clive Wakeford, local businessman and philanthropist. The talk and lunch will be held in Francois' Restaurant on the corner of Beach and Recreation Roads in Fish Hoek. Please meet at the restaurant at noon. The usual bar service will be available; wine by the glass at R10 and R12 for white and red respectively and corkage at R5. The cost of lunch (choice of three dishes), including gratuity, is R50.

**For additions or changes to the list circulated at the meeting please phone Jaap Cilliers (021-7870230) before 9am on Monday 30<sup>th</sup>.**

### **AUGUST OUTING**

The August Outing is an excursion to Hermanus for three nights, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, staying at the Esplanade Flats (as we enjoyed so much last year) for R110 pp/night B&B. **Members who have not already signed on and who wish to join the party should please phone Derrick Law (021-788 2508) as soon as possible.**

### **THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER**

Inge Kotse, introduced by Keith Chapman, holds a Masters Degree in Environmental Sciences and is the Coordinator of the Biodiversity & Wine Initiative Project. Inge explained that this project aims to minimise the further loss of the Cape Floral Kingdom habitat to wine production while contributing to sustainable wine production. She pointed out that about 90% of the area under the Cape's vineyards lie within the Cape Floral Kingdom [CFK] which is the smallest and richest plant kingdom on earth. Furthermore, since 80% of the CFK's area is privately owned, it is vital to get landowners' cooperation and participation in the conservation of the rich biodiversity of the Cape Floral Kingdom. This is particularly important in view of the real concern that some of the CFK's most vulnerable natural habitat may be targeted for vineyard expansion. Already there are 86 cooperating landowners conserving over 50 000 hectares which is 50% of the area under vines.

The aims of the Biodiversity Wine Initiative include: preventing further loss of threatened habitat in the Cape Floral Kingdom; enlisting more wine producers as members and champions of the Initiative; promoting farming practices that improve biodiversity and discouraging practices that impact negatively on biodiversity in vineyards and in surrounding natural habitat; encouraging the adoption of biodiversity guidelines by all