CENTENNIAL CALLING
Another Rotary centennial on its way!
MEET OUR TEAM

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END POLIO

Rotary believes healthy communities are strong communities. That’s one reason we’ve worked tirelessly to help immunize 2.5 billion children against polio, bringing the world closer to eradicating a deadly disease — that’s what people of action do. Learn more at Rotary.org.

PEOPLE OF ACTION

Let’s tell the world we are

Get started at rotary.org/brandcenter today.
IN THIS ISSUE...

FOR YOUR INFORMATION
5  | Message from the RI President
6  | Foundation Chair’s message
7  | 2019 RI Convention
8  | Foundation
9  | Public Image
10 | Polio update

25 | Preparing to succeed
26 | Happy birthday Rotary
27 | Ambitiously successful
28 | Mandela House visit

YOUTH NEWS
29 | Developing leadership
31 | Youth Conference fun!
32 | Club and district youth news

AROUND AFRICA
33 | Club and district news

ROTARIANS AT WORK
19 | Where do the funds go?
20 | Necessity drives creative design
21 | Hermanus rises to help farmers
23 | One club, many parties

25 | Preparing to succeed
26 | Happy birthday Rotary
27 | Ambitiously successful
28 | Mandela House visit

WELCOMED & HONOURED
42 | Welcomed and honoured

Rotary Africa is a member of the Rotary Global Media Network

It will bring together people from around the world, and especially Africans, to celebrate
Many of our readers come from what I like to call the encyclopaedia generation; those of us who grew up before or just as the internet and home computers were being introduced.

In those days, the encyclopaedia was the ultimate reference point and we could trust what we read. However, this does not apply to the internet which often makes us too trusting of the honesty of its contents. Think of it this way; every community had that nasty gossipmonger, you know, the one who could only say mean and defamatory things about people, who would twist facts to validate their disdain or even hatred of a person - the internet is just that and we need to treat it as such!

Online, people and communities are supposed to govern themselves but this often fails and the loudest voices, which often don’t represent the majority, can be the most hateful and untruthful. Many of us have been told to walk away from bullies or not react as this will make them stop. This too is untrue, bullies - online or in real life - will continue until they are made to stop.

So what can we do about it, how can we stop the aggressors and make our communities a little more peaceful?

We don’t need to arm ourselves with pitchforks and fire, what we need to do is learn to say the words, “No. This behaviour is not welcome here.” If enough people say it the aggressor will probably retreat or rethink their behaviour. Naturally, this won’t work in every situation, which is why we have police and security guards, but in many instances, a few well placed words can make a difference.

Think about those disturbing online videos of people being beaten up - I recently heard of one where an elderly woman was kicked and beaten on a train. Someone films it, posts it and acts horrified. Note I said ‘acts’. Because the ‘horror’ was just an act, they were actually titillated; excited enough by the drama and danger to stand filming the vicious attack and never once said, “Hey! Stop that!” Never once did they close their camera and call for help. They bear responsibility as well.

Thinking of that train video, if one person spoke up, I am certain that many others would have followed. No one wants to be the first to take a stand but, once someone does, people will follow.

The same applies online. If someone posts hateful or disgusting content, you need to report it. If you can’t find the report option, Google “how to report…” It is always anonymous and is an effective way we can stop the spread of hatred and lies.

My heart broke and I was sick to the stomach when I heard how the Facebook Live feed of the recent Mosque shooting in New Zealand spread online. To give credit where credit is due, Facebook shut it down as soon as they heard of it from the authorities, but by then it had gone viral and had been copied and uploaded elsewhere. The key words there are “as soon as they heard of it.”

Everyone started screaming in horror that Facebook allowed it to exist so long, but with more than 2.32 billion monthly active users, it is impossible for it to police every feed. It relies on the users to police themselves and each other. What I mean here is that if every time a person saw it and instead of reacting, sharing or commenting on the video, had reported it and contacted the authorities, it would have been shut down sooner.

There is nothing we can do about this, except learn from it. Peace ends where intolerance begins and we are reaching the point where nothing will change unless we say no! As community leaders, we need to be seen to lead. We need to be the person on the train who should have said, “Hey, leave her alone. Stop that now.” Because when we do, others will follow.

We don’t need to lead with aggression, we need to act with compassion, empathy and reason. The more we do that, the more we inspire others to join us. Let’s not be the person who says, “We live in a lawless society, so don’t follow the law - no one else does!”

Let’s rather be the ones who say, “We care enough to do what’s right.” And when we see or hear of something that horrifies us, we must say, “No!”. And then we need to report it.

Remember, when we do nothing, we appear to silently approve and I know, we are better than that!

**It isn’t enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn’t enough to believe in it. One must work at it** - Eleanor Roosevelt

**A fundamental concern for others in our individual and community lives would go a long way in making the world the better place we so passionately dreamt of.**

- President Nelson Mandela
Every two minutes, somewhere in the world, a woman dies from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth. And babies whose mothers die within the first six weeks of their lives are far more likely to die themselves than babies whose mothers survive. As I’ve travelled around the world as president of Rotary, I’ve met families for whom these aren’t simply tragic statistics. But I’ve also met people who are devoting themselves to helping mothers and children - and because of them, I’m hopeful. And because many of those people are Rotarians, I’m also proud. April is Maternal and Child Health Month in Rotary, so it’s a perfect time to tell you about some things Rotarians are doing that will make you proud too.

Last fall, I paid a visit to a hospital in the town of Jekabpils, in Latvia. It’s a modern hospital and the doctors and nurses there are caring, dedicated and skilled. But despite all their hard work, the maternal mortality rate at the hospital had remained stubbornly high, due to a factor that was beyond their control: a lack of vital diagnostic equipment and even basic items like incubators.

And that’s where Rotary came in. Twenty-one clubs from around the world joined forces for a Global Grant that provided what the hospital required. And in September, when I walked into the maternity ward there, I saw state-of-the-art equipment and I met patients who were getting the care that they needed and which every mother and child in the world deserves to have.

In Brazil, club members worked with fellow Rotarians in Japan on a Global Grant project that dramatically increased the capacity of an overstretched neonatal intensive care unit. New incubators, monitors and other equipment have enabled the local hospital to save many more babies’ lives each year.

And in Mongolia, a vocational training team from New Zealand organised instruction in emergency response techniques for doctors and midwives, set up a programme that taught midwives modern best practices and researched and wrote a culturally relevant childbirth education manual. Between 2013, when the team first went to Mongolia, and 2017, the neonatal mortality rate in the country fell from 11.2 to 9.1 per 1 000 births and the maternal mortality rate has decreased as well.

That’s what I mean when I talk about transformational service and it’s what Rotarians do best. Because of our networks, which span the globe; our community presence, which allows us to see what’s most needed; and our expertise, which encompasses countless skills and professions, we’re able to serve in a manner that has no equal. And we’re able to Be the Inspiration as we help those who need us most.

BARRY RASSIN
President, Rotary International
The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

First. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

Second. High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian’s occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

Third. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian’s personal, business, and community life;

Fourth. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

The Four-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

1) Is it the TRUTH?
2) Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3) Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Learn more about Rotary at: www.rotary.org
Every year, the Rotary International Convention is the place to be - to meet old friends in the House of Friendship, get to know local Rotarians at host hospitality events and hear inspiring speakers at general sessions.

Breakout sessions, meanwhile, are a great way to learn about what your fellow Rotarians are doing and to gather new ideas. When you are in Hamburg for the 2019 convention, 1-5 June, you can attend sessions on topics ranging from combating unconscious bias to using Lego Serious Play to help launch a project.

Other breakout sessions will be devoted to developing leadership skills (“Innovation Is No Coincidence: Design Thinking”), recruiting new members (“Membership Development Strategy: Rotaract into Rotary”) and keeping current members engaged (“Retention: Develop Your Club and Engage Members”). You’ll have opportunities to hear from and about the next generation of Rotary leaders: Rotaractors, Interactors, Rotary Youth Exchange students and other alumni.

Several breakout sessions will be dedicated to helping you publicise your club’s accomplishments in your local news outlets, on social media - and in this magazine.

Find the most up-to-date information at: riconvention.org/en/hamburg/breakoutsessions.
MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH
By PDG Patrick Coleman: Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator Zone 20A South

Improving the well-being of mothers, infants and children is an important public health goal for The Rotary Foundation. Their well-being determines the health of the next generation and can help predict future public health challenges for families, communities and the health care system.

Rotarians improve access to essential medical services for mothers and their children. These efforts are aimed at reducing the number of children under age five who die each year because of malnutrition, inadequate health care and poor sanitation.

Our members provide education, immunisations, birthing kits and mobile health clinics to support these causes. Women are taught how to prevent mother-to-infant HIV transmission, how to breastfeed and how to protect themselves and their children from disease.

One of the greatest examples of a Rotary Maternal and Child Health is the Rotary Family Health Days (RFHD) conducted across South Africa and other parts of Africa and India.

I was privileged to witness the event in South Africa in 2017 and it was a life-changing experience! Seeing Rotarians and health professionals working side-by-side treating, testing and counselling patients was an inspiration. Watching the organisation of the programme was astounding! Hopefully, the RFHD programme will be able to expand to other countries in the southern African region in the years to come.

Of course, Rotary’s biggest endeavour for child health is the promise we made in 1985 to eradicate polio. Past RI Director Bob Shoemaker from Anderson, Indiana, USA, recently sent this short reminder to me:

“Perhaps you and I have heard more than we care to hear about polio and PolioPlus - the Rotary programme planned to eradicate the disease from the world. Then, I recall seeing a man in a small airport at Teresina in northern Brazil. He was crippled sitting on a board fitted with skate wheels and his feeble legs under him. He moved around the floor holding a small block of wood in each hand and used the hand boards to get friction against the floor to move about. The man was subsisting in some fashion but crippled since childhood by polio.

“Then, I remember another man whom I knew who was the business manager of a Catholic high school in Indianapolis. This man was a Rotarian and worked with Rotary Youth Exchange and had polio as a child. He was enduring, as an older man, the symptoms that are the result of early polio. He was using a cane and that progressed to a wheelchair by the time of his retirement.

“Polio never leaves the victims. It must be stopped before it spreads. After immunising several billion – yes, billions of children – immunisation is almost complete. There are only a few small areas of the world left with wild poliovirus. It must be stopped there or it will spread again even to our vicinity. Thanks to all of you for what you have helped accomplish.”

Yes, we keep hearing about the need to eradicate Polio. Our End Polio Now Zone Coordinator, Richard Brooks, is rightfully zealous about encouraging district governors to contribute unused DDF to the End Polio Now Campaign and Every Rotarian Every Year commitment to make Africa (and the world) polio free. As of this publication, Nigeria is four and a half months from being certified polio free.

Nevertheless, the fight is not over until EVERY child in EVERY country is safe from the poliovirus. The story from Past RI Director Bob Shoemaker rings true in our family. Sherry’s mother suffers from post-polio syndrome and is now confined to a wheelchair. We think about it every day.

Please join us in making a specific contribution to keep the promise we made to the children of the world: End Polio Now!
PLAN AHEAD FOR SUCCESS

By Lee-Ann Shearing, Regional Public Image Coordinator Zone 20A South

Effective and considered planning for public image/public relations is a critical element of a club’s (or district’s) overall strategic plan. As Benjamin Franklin famously said, “If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail.”

Club and district leaders want their clubs and districts to succeed and soar like eagles. After all, your success is their success! Having a strategic plan can help strengthen areas requiring reinforcement, clarify exactly what you represent, where you want to go and contribute to a set of best practice guidelines.

The benefits of having an effective public relations plan include enhancing the club’s public image, gaining support and resources for projects, building links with other community organisations, attracting qualified members, recognising Rotary members for their contribution to the community and correcting misconceptions about the club and Rotary.

So, if you are about to review your strategic plan or you are about to initiate your strategic plan for the first time, what are your next steps specific to public image?

First, let us define the difference between public image and public relations: public relations informs the community about your club activities, events and services and builds awareness and credibility. Public image is what your club stands for and how you are perceived therefore, your club’s image in the community. Both are equally as important.

Next, ensure you have a public image or public relations committee comprising a chair and members. I remind you here that every Rotarian bears responsibility for public image! Think carefully about who you ask to be on the committee.

Now it is time to start evaluating what you are doing. The evaluation should be done by a small group of both Rotarians and non-Rotarians. Do your current efforts reflect the image you want to present? How relevant and updated are your websites, social media posts, club brochures and so forth? Are you using the new Rotary branding on banners, correspondence and all Rotary related materials?

Now you can build your campaign by asking: what are your goals, who are your target audiences, have you identified your key messages or stories (for example World Polio Day, Rotary’s anniversary and your club’s signature fundraising event)?

Tell compelling stories with a consistent Rotary message, talk about real people and use real narratives, focusing on the why and not the how messages that tug on the heartstrings and define your impact. Have a call to action so that people can respond and be engaged.

Funding and resources are important but often overlooked. Remember that human capital can be more impactful than financial capital. All clubs and districts should include a budget line item for public image and public relations. Establish considered partnerships with other organisations and use social media.

Finally, develop a public relations calendar that includes important dates or days of international observation, your events and service projects for the year, mark specific dates for updating website and social media pages, set dates for blog publishing.

Most of all let every Rotarian become a brand ambassador and Rotary champion. After all, Rotary unites leaders to exchange ideas and take action to improve communities everywhere.

Let me know how you are doing by emailing me at Leeandy@zol.co.zw.
There were more cases of wild poliovirus in 2018 than in 2017. Should we be discouraged?

No, not at all. We’ve always expected the number of cases to fluctuate somewhat as we get closer to zero. We’ve gone four straight years with fewer than 100 cases per year. That’s an indicator of great progress. With dedication from governments and Rotarians in areas still affected by polio, we’ll get there.

Why is it so difficult to eradicate a disease like polio?

Remember that even in the United States, where the polio vaccine was readily available, it still took 20 years to become polio-free. And the areas we are working in now don’t have health systems that are as well-developed as in the United States.

What challenges are you seeing now?

We have been working intensely in the endemic countries - Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan - for a number of years and some of the citizens in those countries are getting concerned that we are spending money on polio eradication when they have so many other needs. There’s some resistance to keep on receiving immunisations for polio and polio alone. Our challenge is to find ways to provide other services to the citizens and children so we still have the parental support we need — to provide the “plus” in PolioPlus.

What role does armed conflict play in those areas?

It makes the logistics of immunisation far more difficult. The Global Polio Eradication Initiative partnership is not only dealing with governments - we’re dealing with anti-government elements as well. While we’ve worked to gain everyone’s trust and support, we’ve had areas that were inaccessible to immunisation teams for months and sometimes years at a time.

Do immunisation teams know when they miss children? Or are there children they don’t even know about?

I think we have a good handle now on knowing when and where we’re missing children. The challenge is to keep reducing the number we miss. In Nigeria, we have done a lot of work since we were surprised by the discovery of several polio cases in Borno state in 2016, two years after the country had last seen a polio case. We now know through GPS mapping where the children are and we are working with authorities there to make sure all children receive the polio vaccine.

Where are we seeing successes?

We haven’t had any cases of wild poliovirus anywhere in the world in nearly five years except in the three endemic countries. And in Nigeria, it’s been almost three years since we had any wild poliovirus cases and those occurred in a small area of the country.

What’s the most important thing Rotarians should know?

I’ve been extremely impressed with the dedication and persistence of Rotarians in Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan. They are working hard to make sure polio is eradicated. It’s pretty amazing what they do in those countries. Rotarians should continue to be optimistic and to support eradication. We also need Rotarians to bring the need for continued funding to the attention of their government leaders. We can’t lose sight of the goal!
TOP 5 REASONS TO ERADICATE POLIO

1. To improve lives.  
16 million people are walking today who would have otherwise been paralyzed.

2. To invest in the future.  
If polio isn’t eradicated, within 10 years, as many as 200,000 children could be paralyzed by it each year. A polio-free world will be a safer world for children everywhere.

3. To improve child health.  
Polio surveillance networks and vaccination campaigns also monitor children for other health problems like vitamin deficiency and measles, so they can be addressed sooner.

4. To save money.  
A polio-free world will save the global economy $40-$50 billion in health costs within the next 20 years.

5. To make history.  
Polio eradication would be one of history’s greatest public health achievements, with polio following smallpox to become only the second human disease eliminated from the world.

endpolio.org Donate Now
In February I attended a meeting in Evanston of End Polio Now Coordinators from around the world. Past RI President John Germ, who chaired the meeting, strongly reaffirmed that PolioPlus remains Rotary's highest priority. Rotary has now been in the centre of the fight to end polio for more than three decades. He said that Rotarians everywhere should be proud of the results that Rotary has achieved since PolioPlus started in 1985.

Since 1985, the world has seen a reduction in polio cases from 350,000 cases in 125 countries to just 33 cases in two countries last year, namely Afghanistan with 21 cases and Pakistan with 12 cases. It was interesting to see the progression of WPV1 cases over the last five years: 359 (2014), 74 (2015), 37 (2016), 22 (2017) and 33 (2018).

What does a polio-free world mean?

Ending polio will be Rotary's greatest achievement. Never has a civil society organisation like Rotary spearheaded a public health initiative of this magnitude. It will also create a $40-$50 billion in health savings, especially in lower income countries.

Why is Rotary optimistic?

The wild poliovirus has been cornered in the smallest geographic area in history. Now there are just three countries that have never been polio-free. Rotary is optimistic because polio has been eliminated in some of the most difficult places in the world. For example, India, once considered the toughest country in the world from which to eliminate polio, has now been polio-free for five years!

Polio in Africa.

I have saved the best news until last! Nigeria has gone nearly 2.5 years without a case of wild poliovirus. In the Borno region alone 100,000 children, who would otherwise have been missed, were immunised in 2018. On 21 August this year, Nigeria will hopefully have gone three years without a case of polio.

This means that should Nigeria reach that date without a case of polio being reported, and we are sure it will, the whole of Africa will be declared polio free by the World Health Organisation – and that is a celebration we look forward to!

Michael McGovern told us, “Rotary was there at the beginning. It would be unfortunate if Rotary isn’t there at the finish line.

“We’ve done too much, we’ve made too much progress to walk away before we finish. We are this close – with the help of Rotarians around the world we can finish the job.”

Rotary’s call to action.

Rotary urges every Rotarian to get involved in the fight to end polio and to take that fight to your clubs and your communities all over the world. We must continue to raise awareness of the importance of polio eradication and Rotary’s huge role.

We need to raise $50 million per year for polio eradication, to be matched 2:1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Starting 1 July 2019, DDF contributions will be matched 1:1 by the World Fund. With the 2:1 Gates Foundation match, DDF contributions will yield a 6:1 match!

Richard Brooks (middle), team leader of the group which became known as the D-Team at the End Polio Now Regional Coordinator meeting in Evanston, USA. With him are EPN Coordinators Marceline Enganalim (Cameroun), Christina Covutsou-Patroclou (Cyprus) and Ijeoma Pearl Okoro (Nigeria).

By PDG Richard Brooks, 2016/20 End Polio Now Zone Coordinator

POLIOPLUS UPDATE

By PDG Richard Brooks, 2016/20 End Polio Now Zone Coordinator
In April 2021, Johannesburg will host 1,350 members of Rotary International from across Africa and the world as Rotarians celebrate the 100th anniversary of Rotary International in Africa.

The Rotary Club of Johannesburg (D9400) was chartered on 21 April 1921 and as the oldest Rotary club in Africa, the club and D9400 were chosen to host the Centennial Celebrations for the continent.

South Africa is fast becoming synonymous with the hosting of big international events and the city has successfully hosted events such as the very successful World Summit on Sustainable Development (the biggest UN-sponsored event ever held) as well as the opening and closing of the Soccer World Cup, as well as the finals of the Rugby World Cup and the Cricket World Cup.

"Gauteng is often described as ‘the cradle of humankind’ and ‘the economic powerhouse of Africa’, so it is fitting that we have been chosen to host this historic event, which will bring together people from around the world, especially Africans, to celebrate the fantastic work that Rotary International has done on the continent over the past 100 years," said Centennial Celebration Organising Committee Chair, DGN Annemarie Mostert.

“This major international event creates an opportunity to connect with the Rotary footprint on the continent,” said Mostert. “As we join hands with Rotarians in Africa and from around the world, we can look forward to the next 100 years of continuing to respond to the needs of the day.”

More information about Africa’s Rotary Centennial Celebrations (held from 23 - 25 April 2021) will be shared on various communication platforms.

Let’s work together, connect and inspire by sharing our stories!
The history of Rotary in Africa began with the Rotary Club of Johannesburg, South Africa, in 1921. In 1929, the Rotary Club of Cairo, Egypt, brought Rotary to north Africa and a year later, it entered east Africa with the charter of the Rotary Club of Nairobi, Kenya. The Rotary Club of Dakar, Senegal (chartered in 1939) was the first club in west Africa. Today, there are more than 33 000 Rotarians in Africa.

On 18 January, 1921 Edward Fisher, a member of the Rotary Club of Pittsburgh, had lunch with five men at the Johannesburg YMCA to discuss Rotary. A week later, they met again and each had invited a friend to join them. It was at that meeting that the decision to charter Africa’s first Rotary club was reached. On 21 February, a third lunch and an Application for Membership carrying 45 signatures was sent to what was then known as the International Association of Rotary Clubs. A few months later, the Rotary Club of Johannesburg was chartered. RW “Rusty” Rusterholz was a charter member of the club. It did not take long for the young Johannesburg club to begin to spread the message of Rotary through Africa.

The chartering of other Rotary clubs soon followed; Durban (1924), Port Elizabeth (1925), Cape Town (1925) and Pietermaritzburg (1925). In June 1925, Rusterholz, who had become an Honorary Special Commissioner to Rotary International, attended the Sixteenth Annual Convention of Rotary International in Cleveland, Ohio, USA. Reporting to the convention, Rusterholz described the growth of Rotary in Africa. “Today we have five clubs with charters and three more applications on the way... We thoroughly agree with Chairman Will that in communities as small as 2 500 population Rotary clubs have a distinct function to perform and thereby be a power in civic life... Therefore, we have set ourselves the task of going out in these small towns and organising Rotary clubs. So we look forward to the time where we will have about fifty clubs in South Africa. We have also sown the seeds of Rotary in Portuguese East Africa, Southwest Africa, Northern and Southern Rhodesia, Belgian Congo and Madagascar.”

By April 1926, seven clubs existed when “Rusty” Rusterholz, Chairman of Johannesburg’s Extension Committee was appointed Acting District Governor of District 55 by Rotary International. He was later re-elected to serve for four years, then succeeded by Kenneth Young of Cape Town and subsequently by Otto Siedle, a past president of the Durban club. In 1927, while still in office as district governor, Rusterholz suggested the establishment of a magazine to serve the eight Rotary clubs in the district, today that magazine remains in print as Rotary Africa and is a licensed regional magazine of Rotary International.

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In April 1934, Paul Harris sailed from Southampton on the Armadale Castle to attend the district conference in South Africa in the place of President John Nelson.

Sources: www.rghfhome.org and Google Books: Proceedings Sixteenth Annual Convention of Rotary International

**Did You Know?**

Jonathan B Majiyagbe was the first Rotary International President and the first Trustee Chair of The Rotary Foundation from Africa. He served as president the year before Rotary celebrated its centennial (2003/04) and his theme was *Lend a Hand.*
WHY CLIMATE CHANGE IS ROTARY’S BUSINESS
(Environment Q&A with RI President Barry Rassin)

Rotarians understand that the whole world is their backyard. They can see the effects of climate change in communities they care about and they haven’t waited to take action. They’re tackling the problem the way they always do: coming up with projects, using their connections to change policy - and planning for the future.
Why should Rotarians care about climate change?

We’re people who care about our world. We want our world to be a better place and it’s not just about the six specific areas of focus. It’s broader than that. We have to look at the world as a whole and how we can make it a better place. If we’re losing countries due to sea level changes, if stronger storms are disrupting water supplies or destroying people’s livelihoods, that’s more people who are going to be disadvantaged. So caring about the environment goes toward our ultimate mission, and we should give it the importance it deserves. As a humanitarian organisation, we’re obligated to talk about it. We need to have the conversation!

What kind of feedback do you get from Rotarians when you give speeches about climate change?

There’s a lot of positive response. About 95 percent of the people I’ve spoken with say it’s about time that Rotary talks about the environment. They say it’s about time that The Rotary Foundation Trustees look at helping us understand where the environment fits into the six areas of focus. People have been waiting a long time for this. We plant trees, but we don’t really have the larger conversation.

What do you say to the other 5 percent?

I’ve had one very negative letter telling me that I was doing a great job until I mentioned climate change. Well, the writer said “global warming,” but I’ve never used those words, so he reinterpreted what I said. But for me, climate change is something we have to talk about.

What kind of language do you use when you talk about climate change? Are there ideas that Rotarians can rally around?

I talk about the environment. People don’t have a problem with that language. I talk about the seas rising and they don’t have a problem with that language. I
don’t use the words “global warming.” It’s the only thing people get up in arms about; they say there’s no such thing.

I don’t make judgments. I just say the facts, that things are changing: 2017 was a devastating year for hurricanes. These things are happening. Call it what you want, but we need to look at the environment and we need to talk about it. With polio, people say, “OK, that’s just health care.” But when you start talking about the environment, people ask if it’s political.

I’m not talking politics; I’m talking about our world and how to make it a better place. We’re in a position where, with all the people Rotary has around the world, we can make a difference.

Why is Rotary uniquely able to have an impact?

Our strengths are that we’re in 200-some countries and geographical areas around the world and our members are people who are connected to the right people.

You look at our polio eradication programme: It’s successful not because we’ve provided vaccines. It’s because Rotarians were able to talk to the right people, to give the right support, to do the right thing. If we did that with the environment, governments would listen to us.

What else can Rotarians do?

I’ve been asking Rotarians: What can you do in your region? In the Bahamas, for example, we can plant mangroves to make our coastlines more resilient to stronger storms. After I gave a speech about the environment in the Netherlands, I received an email telling me that if we need any help in the Bahamas, they’re experts and they can come and help us.

There are a whole lot of Rotarians who want to do something, but they aren’t sure what to do. I think that’s part of the dilemma. Rotarians are very solution-driven. If we know a village doesn’t have water, we could bring them fresh water. We know how to do it and we do it well. But climate change is a complex challenge. How do we find a complex solution?

Is this Rotary’s moment to make a difference in climate change?

I think this is Rotary’s moment to start the conversation. I don’t think we’re going to get much further than that at this point in time. One of our challenges as an organisation is how complex we are and how much we do. Therefore, to get everybody rallied around something, you’ve got to focus.

It probably will take a Rotary president who’s going to make this the No. 1 focus. That will make a difference and the world will rally around it. But if Rotary is going to be relevant, then we’ve got to be looking at the environment.
NOTICE TO MEMBERS*

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 22/05/2019, 09H00

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Rotary in Africa will be held at the Westville Country Club situated at 1 Link Road, Westville 3630, KwaZulu Natal, South Africa

AGENDA
1. Call to order and announcements.
2. Confirmation of the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on Friday 11th May 2018.
3. Chairman’s report.
4. Editor’s report.
5. Treasurer’s report and submission of the annual financial accounts for the period ending 31st December 2018.
6. Appointment of auditors.
7. Election of up to 3 directors to serve on the Board. In terms of the company’s Articles of Association the following directors are due to retire from the Board: Gerald Sieberhagen, Peter Hugo and Annemarie Mostert. Being eligible, Gerald Sieberhagen, Peter Hugo and Annemarie Mostert will be available for election together with any other nominations received by close of business 17th May 2019. Nominations must be emailed directly to Rotary in Africa at rotaryafrica@mweb.co.za
8. To consider or transact any other business pertinent to an Annual General Meeting.

*All current, immediate incoming and past Governors of Rotary Districts 9200, 9210, 9211, 9212, 9220, 9250, 9270, 9300, 9320, 9350, 9370 and 9400 are ex officio members of Rotary in Africa. A member may appoint a proxy to attend and vote on their behalf, provided such appointment is advised to the Secretary at the offices of the company at least 48 hours before the meeting. Members can also attend online (contact us for the link).

Natty Moodley - Secretary
1 March 2019.

GET IN TOUCH: +27 31 267 1848

2 PRISCHE HOUSE, 14 CHURCH ROAD, WESTVILLE, 3630 , SOUTH AFRICA ROTARYAFRICA@MWEB.CO.ZA
WHERE DO THE FUNDS GO?

The largest timed cycling event in the world, the Cape Town Cycle Tour (CTCT) took place in March with more than 35 000 cyclists competing. Each year, the Rotary Club of Claremont (D9350), which receives half of the charitable surplus, has the important task of ensuring that the funds are allocated to worthy causes and programmes.

These funds are redirected to many charities and social upliftment initiatives in the Western Cape, Northern Cape, Namibia and Angola. Some of the charities and organisations that the club has provided financial support to or partnered with in the last 18 months include the Cape Town Association for Persons with Disabilities (CT APD), Bicycling Empowerment Network, Sport Science Institute, Rock-a-Fella’s FC, and Zip Zap Circus School.

The Rotary Club of Claremont allocates much of its resources (with substantial donations from the Lewis Group) to the Injongo Project. This project provides holistic support to early childhood development (ECD) centres in Philippi.

“It is one of the biggest of its kind in the country,” explained President Malcolm Dodd. “Besides structural upgrades, the Injongo Project offers additional training for educators and facilitators, ensuring that the centres are places where children thrive and learn,” Dodd continued. In the past six years the club helped to overhaul 14 ECD centres and assisted with training at 59, at a cost of R18 million. One of these ECD centres was Nolufefe Educare Centre.

Besides investing directly into community projects and organisations, many charities benefit through funding support channelled through other Rotary clubs. Dodd explained, “We distribute funds to other Rotary clubs in our region, who understand their communities and where the needs are. In the past six years more than R1.5 million in grants have been allocated to other clubs, which is a good indication of the extent of the reach we have.

“We are proud to have been part of organising the CTCT every year for the last 34 years. It’s not just a world-class event. It makes a major difference in the community,” Dodd concluded.

_Funds received by the Rotary Club of Claremont have been used to support various community upliftment and development projects, such as the Rock-a-Fella's FC, the Bicycling Empowerment Network and the Injongo Project._
For the first six years of his life, Storm grew normally, met all his developmental milestones and was a strong and healthy young boy. Suddenly, he started to lose physical strength and went from walking to crawling, slowly losing his mobility.

After many tests were done, his desperate mother received a diagnosis; her beautiful boy had Duchene’s Muscular Disorder. There was very little that could be done and Storm was removed from school as he could not cope with the physical demands.

In 2012, the Rotary Club of Kenton on Sea heard of Storm’s plight and as a club passionate about wheelchair projects and helping the disabled, it felt it had to help. Project convenor Barrie Brown was able to source a suitable wheelchair for Storm.

Today, Storm is 15 years old and his wheelchair has undergone several upgrades over the years (including an addition of a hoist to help his mother lift him) to accommodate his ongoing muscular degeneration.

Sadly, his condition will only worsen as time progresses and the teen can no longer sit upright in his wheelchair. Not to be defeated, the Kenton Rotarians with the help of a farmer and his wife, came up with a solution; they would 'merge' two wheelchairs to create a wheel-bed! This would allow Storm to be more mobile.

The community, realising that the solo-mother and her son are not financially secure, has rallied around the little family and will fundraise to help provide the essentials they need.

The Rotary Club of Kenton on Sea welcomes any input that could assist in improving the wheel-bed’s design or which could help Storm become more mobile.

Contact: psteelegray@gmail.com
President Ann Wright, of the Rotary Club of Hermanus (D9350), conceived a unique fundraiser for the club’s humanitarian projects: a supper under the stars in the beautiful Fernkloof Nature Reserve surrounded by fynbos and mountains. To make it special, everyone would wear white, including the Rotarians who were acting as hosts and waiters. Then the club set about finding sponsors to help provide supper for about 100 people.

However, on Friday 11 January, three weeks before the planned event, a massive wildfire started at Karwyderskraal, about seven kilometres from Hermanus. Driven by a westerly gale force wind, the fire soon crossed the mountains and reached the Hemel en Aarde Valley, home to wine farms and the Camphill Farm Community, a home for intellectually disabled adults.

In about twenty action-packed and miraculous minutes, the Camphill Farm residents were evacuated. The dairy herd and chickens were moved to another pasture as the fire swept through the farm destroying all in its path.

Indigenous trees that were recently planted by Rotarians were destroyed and the barn that stored cattle fodder for the winter was left a smouldering wreck. The apiary did not stand a chance. Miraculously, while several sheds and wooden huts were lost not a single residence was burnt and everyone escaped uninjured. The fire tore on across the valley, consuming vines and olive trees, and over the mountains towards the Fernkloof Nature Reserve. Then suddenly, it started to rain and the wind died down. The fire stopped short of the buildings and the area in the nature reserve where Rotarians had planned to hold the Long White Supper Table.

The rehabilitation of Camphill Farm, its residents were now safely housed in the Sandbaai Community Hall, quickly became the focus of the Long White Supper Table fundraiser. The club did not anticipate the overwhelming response of the Hermanus community to the plight of Camphill Farm. Spurred on by a free half-page advert in the Village News, all one hundred tickets sold within three days and a further hundred people were clamouring for seats.

President Ann’s email buzzed with offers of donations and help. Soon she realised that Fernkloof could not accommodate such numbers, but Hermanus High School came to the rescue offering the school hall and

Camphill farmer Duncan Clews holds up the remains of a coral tree planted by Rotarians a few months before the fire.
all its amenities as a venue. Preparations went ahead; the menu was expanded, more donations were made. The only expense not covered by the donations was the chicken for the magnificent Coronation Chicken dish. A group of friends made the starter and two courses were prepared by local restaurants. The town buzzed with expectation and local clothes shops ran short of white trousers! On the night, four long white tables were set up in the school hall. A juggler on stilts strode among the guests all dressed in white. Music played and wine flowed. Outside the wind blew and the Rotarians were silently grateful that they were not out in the Fernkloof Nature Reserve!

Raffle tickets were sold out and raised R8 000. When the dust settled and the accounting was done there was over R76 000 in the kitty for the rehabilitation of Camphill Farm. But that was not the end of it. The Claremont Rotary Trust Fund, the Western Province District Masonic Lodge and other private donors brought the total raised to more than R140 000.
A series of parties were held by the Rotary Club of Hout Bay (D9350) to ensure that more than 50 senior citizens and 350 underprivileged children had a reason to smile at Christmas.

The first party was held for the Imizamo Yethu Elders at Risk and the Hout Bay Lions Club joined as a project partner. Sponsors who contributed to the success of these parties included The Teddy Bear Foundation, the local Spar and the Sandak Lewin Trust.

After arriving with a carload of water, fruit and food, the Rotarians hurried to the Izeko Lebomi Hall to warm the patties for the burgers.

In the meantime, the 45 elderly guests were having a great time on the beach, enjoying activities such as yoga before going to the hall to collect their lunch. After which they returned to the beach to enjoy their lunch on the beach. After lunch, goodie bags from the Lions Club were given out. Thrilled by their gifts, the guests sang and danced in thanks.

The Rotarians and Lions united again to host a party for children at Main Road Clinic. The children each received a teddy bear, from The Teddy Bear Foundation, fruit juices, fruit, and ice lollies. One of the Lions popped and packed 200 packets of popcorn for the children.

The day of the party dawned and the hosts arrived early to find the grounds already awash with little people and their minders. As they waited for the arrival of the goodie bags and popcorn, more children poured through the gates. Once all the goodie bags were packed and ready, Father Christmas arrived.

It was glorious, organised chaos! Sister Ester Carolus desperately tried to maintain an organised queue as the children took their goodie bags; some screaming in fright at the sight of Father Christmas and others screaming in delight as they took their ice lollies and peered into their bags.

At first it was uncertain if the party for the Handberg children would be held as volunteers from Helping Hands Soup Kitchen had not been able to source a donation of gifts for the children. Thankfully, The Teddy Bear Foundation saved the day and had enough teddies to give to the more than 100 children fed by Helping Hands.

This party was financed by R1 560 raised at the Rotary Club of Hout Bay’s Christmas party. In addition a raffle of Portuguese wine, donated by Marcelo and Candida Andrade, added a further R1 070 to the kitty.

On the day of the party, the Rotarians went to the home of a Helping Hands volunteer to help transport...
the biryani to the venue, where they found a 100-litre pot of biryani cooking over an open fire in the front garden.

Once the food was cooked and the pot was loaded on a trolley, the merry group of Rotarians, volunteers and a hopeful dog set off to the venue, the home of another volunteer. There they were ushered inside a home and invited to enjoy a meal of fried fish, salads and cold drinks as they waited for the children to arrive.

By the end of the day, every one of the happy and excited children received a teddy bear and an ice lolly, as well as a heaped helping from the never-ending pot of biryani.

From top: Some of the elderly IY residents at their party. At one of the parties, the Rotarians walked along while the 100-litre pot of biryani was taken to the venue down the street from where it had been prepared. The Teddy Bear Foundation was one of the sponsors and ensured that each child received a teddy.
Eight women between the ages of 20 and 45 from Durbanville attended a three-week job readiness course in November. Their attendance was sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Tygerberg and Claremont (D9350). One of the women has since found work at Pick n Pay, while two more are registered for further frail care training.

The training was provided by Fisantekraal Centre for Development (FCD). The centre’s director, Jane Gelderman said, “The lives of 255 families have been positively impacted by this training and subsequent initiatives during 2018.”

According to Statistics South Africa, 39 percent of young people aged 15 to 34 are unemployed. For those who attend job readiness training, the chances are higher at breaking into this challenging job market and many have already received employment.
As the world celebrated Rotary International’s 114th anniversary on 23 February, the Rotary Club of Harare Central (D9210) gathered at Luisa Guidotti (All Souls) Missionary Hospital in the rural area of Mutoko (situated 200 kilometres from Harare) to do a little more than just celebrate the occasion.

The Rotarians were joined by Rotaractors, Youth Exchange Students and some guests as they handed over 48 wheelchairs obtained from a wheelchair project run in partnership with Rotary Club of Fresno (D5230, USA).

The club also commissioned dental equipment worth more than €200 000. It was sourced from Secours Dentaire International, a Swiss-based NGO whose current President, Dr Michael Willi, is the president-elect of the Rotary Club of Luzern Settal (D1980, Switzerland). The Rotarians also donated 150 medical books to be used for the training of nurses at Mission Hospital. These were sourced through the club’s partnership with Book Aid International.

To help raise awareness of environmental issues, especially in rural Zimbabwe, the Rotarians donated 114 trees and helped plant them around the hospital, local children’s home and primary and secondary schools.

The Rotaractors of Harare Central donated clothing and toys to the children’s home and spent time playing with and getting to know the children.

The Rotarians also visited the new mothers in the maternity ward and donated clothes for their newborn babies. They were thrilled to hear that three babies had been born that day and would share a birthday with Rotary!

Rotarians, Rotaractors and Youth Exchange students celebrated Rotary’s 114th Anniversary by supporting a rural hospital and disabled people.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ROTARY
Every year just before Christmas, members of the Rotary Club of Gaborone (D9400) gather outside supermarkets and ask shoppers to add something extra to their shopping trolley. The collected groceries were donated to various children’s organisations.

This project started in 2005, when PPs Barney O’Riley and Raj Ralan decided to collect non-perishable food for organisations in and around Gaborone that care for children in need. This has become an annual event.

This year an ambitious four store programme was undertaken and the club had collection points at two Pick n Pay and two Spar supermarkets. With Rotary banners on display, Rotarians worked in shifts on Saturday and Sunday. The stores’ managers were very accommodating and a local contractor, BJ Builders, helped with collections.

The Botswana Agricultural Marketing Board donated produce, sorghum and beans worth BWP2 400 and Pick n Pay Botswana donated five tonnes of rice, sorghum, maize meal and samp.

As soon as the beneficiaries returned from their annual break, the club delivered the donations to Bakgatla Bolokang Matshelo (Setswana for Bakgatla Save Lives), Childline, the Botswana Retired Nurses Society, SOS Children’s Village and Tsogang Trust at Mogoditshane near Gaborone.

In addition, the Camphill Rehabilitation Centre, which looks after children with disabilities at Otse, received a share of the donation from Pick n Pay.
“Humbling and heartwarming. A profound experience that we will never forget,” is how Chairman Marcel Hoogeben described the day that the members and guests of the Rotary Satellite Club of Franschhoek Valley, a satellite club of the Rotary Club of Franschhoek Valley (D9350), spent at Mandela House.

It is situated at Drakenstein Prison on the R301 between Paarl and Franschhoek and was declared a national heritage site in 2018. Mandela House was the venue of the many historic meetings and discussions that facilitated the end of apartheid.

Their guide for the day was Manfred Jacobs, a former prison service employee, who had met former President Nelson Mandela. With this experience, he was able to provide an interesting historical perspective, insights and anecdotes of visits from struggle leaders, government and royalty.

The club was honoured to be allowed to induct four new members in the living room of Mandela House and took a photograph around the table where once many significant meetings were held and documents drafted.

Madiba, as the former president was fondly known to many, dedicated his life to fighting for freedom for all. He provided much wisdom and inspiration and one of his most popular quotes was: What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead.
Some 30 kilometres from King William’s Town lies the tiny village of KwaShushu where nothing much happens, save for the annual Easter rugby tournament.

With a population of just over 100 people (according to the last Census), KwaShushu is the quintessential story of rural life in the Eastern Cape – poverty, unemployment and substance abuse are rife within the community. But a young man is determined to change that, one step at a time.

As the sun rose on the morning of 16 December 2018, Abongile Zaza was about to realise his dream as the residents of KwaShushu B prepared for an important event: the Rural Cancer Awareness Fun Walk and Run. This was a milestone in the leadership story of Zaza.

Zaza joined the Find Your Voice Rotary Leadership programme in March 2018. Working as a technical assistant at Isringhausen, he was encouraged by his line manager, Greg Thompson, to apply for the programme.

Looking back on that day, Zaza says, “I was really not ready. The timing was very bad for me because my mother was in and out of hospitals at that time; she was in the last stage of cancer. But on the application form, they...
had a very powerful slogan which said ‘Find your voice’ and that was exactly what I was looking for! I said, ‘Yes’ and applied.”

He joined 21 other delegates and nine months later, supported by his leadership class of 2018, he organised the cancer awareness fun run and walk in KwaShushu. Zaza picked the venue as he has found that there are low levels of cancer awareness in rural areas, which decreases the early detection of cancer.

“In the process of trying to find my voice, I actually found myself, my vision and the purpose of my life.” Experience from the leadership programme suggests that successful leadership takes more than just skills learnt at a course or a programme. Leaders need followers and for leaders to realise their potential, they require support on their journey of leadership. They need a platform, in the form of a network of caring people, who show up for them and contribute to their success. The Rotary Club of Gately (D9370) and the Leadership Development Institute (LDI) Trust are committed to providing the network, tools and skills for young adults to meet immediate and future challenges facing the province.

The seven-month course forms part of the greater Find Your Voice project in which two critical aspects of leadership are measured. The first is the individual growth of the delegates, through assessment of cutting edge leadership methodologies known as Leadership Fluencies. The second is the number of initiatives led by these young people, either in their respective businesses or in the community.

Although Zaza is committed to this journey, he realises it is not going to be without obstacles. “Now I know what I want to be, but I have to give myself a chance to go back to school. I need to invest in me. Unfortunately, I can’t quit work, so I’ll have to do it part time,” he says.

Zaza joins the newly established alumni group under the leadership of Rotaractor Nitesh Harry, who was a member of the of the Find Your Voice Rotary Leadership programme class of 2017. The Rotary Club of Gately hopes to continue to strengthen the support base of its leadership programme and continues to look for leaders in East London who are willing to mentor the young adults.

Zaza’s Rotary mentor, Chris Ettmayr, speaks glowingly of his mentee. “It’s been a real privilege for me to be involved in Abongile’s time on this programme. Instead of our just imparting knowledge to him, he has given us inspiration. He had some challenges that he handled in a very mature manner and now, with the new leadership skills and techniques that he has picked up from this course, I am sure that he will thrive. I am very keen to see where he moves from here as an alumnus of the course and a leader in his respective areas of business and home life.”

When the Winter Rose Rugby Club takes to the field to represent KwaShushu village at the rugby tournament over the Easter weekend, Abongile will not only be rooting for this local team, he will also use his voice to raise awareness about cancer. “Nothing much happens in my village except for the Easter rugby tournament. That’s another reason why I chose to organise the cancer awareness fun run in December. Most people didn’t understand the idea behind it and wanted to see how it would turn out.

“The next one will be even bigger!”
A group of learners from 12 public and private schools met at Cornwall Hill College for the sixth annual Rotary Club of Centurion (D9400) Youth Conference.

The learners were split into 16 groups, each of which was led by a learner from Cornwall Hill College who had undergone three weeks of training. The theme of this year’s conference was Be The Inspiration.

All the food and drink was provided by donations from sponsors and the Rotarians and the venue was arranged by the school’s geography educator.

The programme included team tasks and was led by the facilitator using a ‘talking stick’ as the medium to guide the process.

At the beginning of the conference, the learners were shown a video of the talking stick, a concept that originates from American Indian tribes. They were then shown the tasks that they had to complete by the end of the two days. Topics such as; crime, bullying, global warming and drugs were covered and each group had to create a rally cry, present a poster and perform a skit.

On the last day the keynote speaker, Siphiwe Moyo provided a very inspirational talk. His message was that despite coming from a disadvantaged background, we can all be inspirational and it’s up to us to make a difference. Finally, a draw for an all-expenses-paid trip to a RYLA camp was done before the conference was closed with The Four-Way Test.
The Interact Club of Woodlands International College (D9400) invited representatives from three community projects, A Schoolbag For All (a project of the Rotary Club of Boksburg), Urban Ruins (a project of the Rotary Club of Boksburg Lake) and Anti Freeze, to attend a special school assembly. Each project received a R3 000 donation from the Interact club. At the presentation of the donation to A Schoolbag For All are Nicole Donker, Anastasia Argyrou, Emma Thompson, President Daniella Dos Santos, PP Elsa Venter of the Rotary Club of Boksburg, Shae-Lynn Henderson, Yolanda Maklaba, Noxolo Ntalane.

The Rotary Club of Pretoria Capital (D9400) sponsored four short-term Rotary Youth Exchange Students (three outbound and one inbound). Two learners from Pretoria Boys’ High School spent six weeks in Argentina and a third enjoyed six weeks in Germany. The inbound student was from Argentina and was hosted by a family in Pretoria.
Rotarian Robbie Muzzell (far left) has been busy serving the greater East London community. Recently, he assisted in obtaining much-needed wheelchairs and walking aids - thanks to the Warehouse Project of the Rotary Club of Gately (D9370).

This equipment was part of a shipping container donation from the Wheelchair Foundation UK and arrived in East London last September. It contained medical equipment, including 54 electronic wheelchairs, 96 ‘push-type’ wheelchairs, spares, walking sticks, crutches, walkers, bedrails, mattresses and children’s toys.

Zolile Mneke was a taxi driver until two strokes left him partially paralysed on his left side. The club donated a walker that has allowed him to regain some of his mobility.

Funeka Diko (18) is unable to walk and received a wheelchair from the club. Until then, she had been housebound and could only get around on her mother’s back.

43-year-old Tamara Ngxata was rendered almost immobile by arthritis in her lower body. She was totally housebound and had to use her disability grant to get to the clinic. Thanks to the club’s donation she is now able to be pushed to the clinic and is generally more mobile.
PDG Jankees Sligcher and AG Peter James-Smith together with other members of the Rotary Club of Johannesburg New Dawn (D9400) celebrated their 10th charter anniversary on 20 January. AG Peter James-Smith’s birthday falls on the same day.

The Rotary Club of Phoenix (D9370) had another novel idea to promote the club and bring joy to the community. It created a romantic photo garden at the Cornubia Mall where shoppers and diners could make beautiful memories on Valentine’s Day. The project was well received by supporters who also donated to the club’s bursary fund. The club had the opportunity to engage people and create awareness of the club’s mission. Next year, the club plans to repeat the project but on a larger scale.

Above left: A shopper making memories at the Rotary Valentine’s Day Photo Garden. Above right: Rotarians Alan and Sharm Moodley enjoying The Rotary Photo Garden.
The theme for this year’s CANSA Relay for Life in George was CANSA Carnival. The relay served as a fundraiser for cancer and continued throughout the night. Hundreds of people took part in the 24-hour event held to give hope and support to every cancer survivor. The field was packed with teams from local and regional businesses as well as government institutions. The teams wore colours representing the different forms of cancer. Rotarians of the Rotary Club of George (D9350) and Interactors of the Interact Clubs of York High and Rundle College provided refreshments, coffee, tea and pancakes throughout the night. Entertainment was provided by different artists.

WHICH CLUB MEETS TODAY directory 2019/20

Make sure your club’s correct details have been sent to Rotary Africa for inclusion in the new directory.

Email rotaryafrica@mweb.co.za for more information
People aged between 50 and 100 gathered at the Bhekuzulu sports field for the Rotary Club of Nongoma’s (D9370) first-ever 5km fun walk for the elderly. Walkers braved the rain to take part and were also able to visit a mobile clinic which had been arranged to provide tests and other health services for the elderly. The main sponsors were Spar, Standard Bank, Build-It and Nongoma Inn while the departments of traffic, sports and the ambulance services sent officials to ensure it ran smoothly. The Rotarians attended in full force and stood out from the crowd in their lime green club shirts.

Residents in two blocks of flats at the Algoa Bay Council for the Aged’s (ABCA) Buffelsfontein Retirement Village in Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape feel safer after new security gates were installed with the help of a donation from the Rotary Club of Claremont (D9350). After two break-ins late last year, ABCA took drastic measures to upgrade the security in the village that provides a living space for 420 elderly people. While eight blocks of flats still require security gates, the 24 residents aged 60 to 90 years old in the two blocks of flats now have an extra barrier against robberies.
Foxy’s Boxies, as the members of the Rotary Club of Boksburg (D9400) are affectionately known, have become even harder to miss! The club has enthusiastically started to colour its community lime as members now wear bright lime green shirts when busy with club activities.

The Rotary Club of Phoenix (D9370) celebrating the 114th anniversary of Rotary International.
President Neil McDonald and Rotarian Aneska Dupont of the Rotary Club of Amanzimtoti (D9370) visited Kingsway High School to plan the year ahead with principal Sandra du Toit and Colleen Smith. The school has become known for its ethos of caring and sharing within its community. Last year, the school was at the forefront of the Pink Tree Drive, a project where trees and gates in Amanzimtoti are draped in pink as a show of support for cancer awareness. The school plans to help lead the charge again this year and will be selling the pink fabric.

More than 100 school children from nine farm schools around Cape Town received prizes for being top achievers. This prize-giving project, initiated and run by the Rotary Club of Durbanville (D9350), rewards top achieving learners from Grade 4 to 9, as well as those who are top of their class in English, home language subjects and maths. A grant from the Rotary Club of Claremont helps fund this project that also provided dictionaries and school bags for the top learners. Past President Mark Lawrence, of the Rotary Club of Durbanville, visited some of the schools to present the prizes.
The Rotary Club of Swellendam (D9350) hosted a golf tournament in February. Nedbank was the tournament’s major sponsor and Rotarian Andre du Toit of Smile 90.4FM was the MC and the auctioneer. A dinner, prize giving and auction was held. That evening a cheque for R20 000 was presented to Marnie Meyer (right) of Huis AA Tomlinson, a beneficiary of the tournament. With him are Elida Roos (Nedbank) and President Brian Cole.

During a visit to the Rotary Humanitarian Centre in Bedfordview Johannesburg, the members of the Rotary Club of Boksburg (D9400) were impressed to see the huge selection of books, among other things, that are regularly received from The Second Wind Foundation. This foundation is the financial arm of the Rotary Books For The World project and finances the delivery of the books from Houston, Texas, USA. At the centre are Boksburg Rotarian Sharon Fitzgerald, the principal of Saint Dominic’s Catholic School for Girls, and Past President Roger Dymond.
The Hospitality Academy teaches young people skills they need while working in guest houses, hotels and restaurants. These include cooking, serving, reception and wine knowledge. The 2019 intake of 21 students, aged between 15 and 21 years, received uniforms from the Rotary Club of Franschhoek Valley (D9350).

The Tygerbear Foundation in Aid of Traumatised Children and Families, a non-profit organisation at the Tygerberg Hospital, received a new wheelchair to help the people it works with. The wheelchair, worth approximately R3 000, was donated by the Rotary Clubs of Claremont and Tygerberg (D9350) and will be used at the hospital to transport chronically ill or elderly people who are immobile. At the presentation are Manette de Jager, founder of Tygerbear, and René Lesch of the Rotary Club of Tygerberg.
A group of 12 learners attended the Rotary Club of Knysna’s (D9350) Youth Leadership Awards programme. They also attended Outward Bound South Africa in March.

Members of the Rotary Club of Umhlanga (D9370) took to the La Lucia Mall to man the tables at this year’s Cansa Shavathon. The national campaign was held to raise funds for the charity and show support to patients and survivors across the country.

Members of the Rotary Club of Hermanus (D9350) and the Interact Club of Hermanus High School painted a four-metre Rotary Wheel at the top of Rotary Way. This was done as part of the annual Absa Cape Epic Flyover competition. The town showing the most “gees” receives the Best Town Spirit Award. Hermanus last won this award in 2017.
WELCOMED AND HONOURED

Marette Steenkamp (centre) is a new member of the Rotary Club of Beaufort West (D9350). She is a third-generation member of the club. With her are President John Christie and her father, Charles de Villiers.

Marno du Toit received a Vocational Award from the Rotary Club of Beaufort West (D9350).

Lynda Venter is a new member of the Rotary Club of Aliwal North (D9370).

Vuyisile Zini is a new member of the Rotary Club of Aliwal North (D9370).

Carol Dyantyi received a Vocational Award from the Rotary Club of Rosebank (D9400).

Lynda Venter is a new member of the Rotary Club of Aliwal North (D9370).

Ron Elmore is a new member of the Rotary Club of Estcourt (D9370).

Mandy Davis received a Vocational Award from the Rotary Club of Rosebank (D9400).

Mimi Van Deventer received a Vocational Award from the Rotary Club of Rosebank (D9400).

Adeola Shaun Makanjuola and Gwenaelle Colin are new members of the Rotary Club of Franschhoek Valley (D9350).
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