

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

Botswana | Eswatini | Mozambique | South Africa

UNITE
FOR
GOOD



~ Message to D9400 from DG Maria Angelica Salomao for October 2025 ~

Dear Fellow Rotarians, Rotaractors, Anns and Friends of Rotary of District 9400,

District 9400 is one of 257 districts where the world's 12,000 Rotary Community Corps (RCC) are active. RCC are groups of non-Rotarians who share Rotary commitment to change the world through service projects. They collaborate with local Rotary clubs, which provide them sponsorship and mentorship, to plan and implement community service initiatives thus leveraging the Rotary brand and network. RCCs contribute to increase Rotary's impact and expand its reach by bringing the knowledge and talents of local people to strengthen their community through sustainable projects.



Estimados Rotários, Rotaractors, Anns e Amigos do Rotary no Distrito 9400,

O Distrito 9400 é um dos 257 distritos onde estão activos 12.000 Núcleos Rotary de Desenvolvimento Comunitário (NRDC). Os NRDC são grupos de não Rotários que partilham o compromisso do Rotary de mudar o mundo através de projectos sociais. Os NRDCs colaboram com Rotary Clubs locais, que lhes oferecem patrocínio e orientação, para planear e implementar iniciativas de projectos comunitários, tirando partido da marca e da rede de contactos do Rotary. Os NRDCs contribuem para aumentar o impacto do Rotary e expandir o seu alcance, ao mobilizar os conhecimentos e talentos de pessoas locais para fortalecer as suas comunidades através de projectos sustentáveis.

Waterkloof RC jointly with the RCC led by Rtn Isaac Boshomane has been long involved in a joint effort to vocationally prepare youngsters in the area for an occupation that will provide them income in future. In Limpopo province, I also came across the Sekuruwe and Forest Hill RCCs sponsored by the E-Club of Baobab. The former (chartered in March 2023) is involved in local schools, ECDs, farming, poultry and community support. The latter (chartered in April 2024), more involved with young populations.

Club visits continue. As once said, clubs do their best to implement the Rotary business. Some clubs have strong ties and are in good terms with the communities they serve. As an example, Pietersburg 100 Club in Polokwane received, in 2025, 72 tons of cabbages (17 of which by the time of my visit), about 8 tons of bitterroots which they distributed to houses in need and shared with other clubs and partners in the area.

Though the purpose of Rotary business being the same, differences in implementation approach are huge. In Limpopo, most of the clubs are health, functional and vibrant, increasing the impact of Rotary and expanding Rotary reach. On the other hand, however, there are three clubs facing challenges: one with no clear structure (for the benefit of members participation in activities or projects), not updated bylaws and constitution, and one that have them but have been seldom used to guide clubs' life. Another aspect is the delay in payment of the dues, and/or tolerance to members with no dues paid. Elaboration of meeting minutes is another challenge. Two clubs

O RC de Waterkloof, juntamente com o NRDC liderado pelo Rotário Isaac Boshomane, há muito que está envolvido num esforço conjunto para preparar vocacionalmente os jovens da zona para uma ocupação que lhes proporcione rendimentos no futuro. Na província do Limpopo, encontrei também os NRDCs de Sekuruwe e Forest Hill patrocinados pelo E-Club de Baobab. O primeiro (fundado em Março de 2023) está envolvido em escolas locais, ECDs, agricultura, avicultura e apoio comunitário. O segundo (fundado em Abril de 2024), está mais envolvido com as populações jovens.

As visitas aos clubes continuam. Como já foi dito, os clubes fazem o melhor que podem para implementar as suas actividades. Alguns clubes têm fortes laços e boas relações com as comunidades que servem. A título de exemplo, o clube Pietersburg 100 Club em Polokwane recebeu, em 2025, 72 toneladas de couves (17 das quais na altura da minha visita), e cerca de 8 toneladas de beterraba que distribuíram por casas carenciadas e partilharam com outros clubes e parceiros da zona.

Embora o objectivo da actividade rotária seja o mesmo, as diferenças na abordagem de implementação são enormes. No Limpopo, a maioria dos clubes é saudável, funcional e vibrante, aumentando o impacto do Rotary e expandindo o seu alcance. Por outro lado, contudo, há três clubes que enfrentam desafios: um sem uma estrutura clara (para benefício da participação dos membros em actividades ou projectos), com estatutos e regulamentos não actualizados, e um que os tem, mas que raramente são usados para orientar a vida dos clubes. Outro aspecto é o atraso no pagamento das quotas, e/ou a tolerância para com os sócios sem quotas pagas.

do not get regular Assistant Governors' s (AGs) support, and if they get is not structured to yield results or boost club performance. This is something the district needs to address soon to strengthen clubs' s performance. Training also needs to be taken at a different level. Good news is that Tzaneen club in Limpopo and Silibe Pikwe in Botswana that have been terminated will soon rejoin the Rotary Family. By the 20th of October, membership stood at 1009 members. The district is pursuing the goal of 1,100 members by 31st of December

Polio - the 24th of October

October is also the month of the World fight Against Polio.

A Polish-American medical researcher, Albert Bruce Sabin, developed the oral [polio vaccine](#), which has played a key role in nearly [eradicating the disease](#). Spreading of the disease is prevented by [vaccination](#). There are two kinds of polio vaccine - the oral polio vaccine (OPV), which uses [weakened poliovirus](#), and the [inactivated](#) polio vaccine (IPV), which is injected. OPV is less expensive and easier to administer, and can spread immunity beyond the person vaccinated, creating [contact immunity](#), and it has been the polio vaccine more predominantly used.

Polio eradication, the goal of permanent global cessation of circulation of the wild [poliovirus](#) and hence elimination of the [poliomyelitis](#) (polio) it causes, is the aim of a multinational [public health](#) effort begun in 1988, led by the [World Health Organization](#) (WHO). In 1989, Rotary launched Polio Plus. Rotary is involved in vaccination since 1979 (Philippines). WHO, the [United Nations Children's Fund](#) (UNICEF), the [Rotary Foundation](#), the U.S. [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC), the [Gates Foundation](#), and GAVI Global Alliance for Vaccine Initiative) have spearheaded the campaign through the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) (GPEI) with support of countries. The World Health Organization declared the African continent free of wild poliovirus in August 2020. As per 2025, only 2 countries – Afghanistan and Pakistan are polio endemic. Please refer to the September 2025 Newsletter.

We will continue to support PolioPlus as the pledged funds will be used to distribute and administer the vaccine to children (staff, vaccines), conduct surveillance, engage leaders and community members, and continue polio eradication efforts in affected regions.

DG Maria Angelica Salomao

District Governor 2025-2026,
Rotary District 9400

A elaboração das actas das reuniões é outro desafio. Dois clubes não recebem apoio regular dos Governadores Assistentes (AGs), e se o recebem não é estruturado para produzir resultados ou reforçar o desempenho do clube. Isto é algo que o distrito precisa de resolver em breve para reforçar o desempenho dos clubes. A formação também precisa de ser levada a um nível diferente. As boas notícias são que os clubes de Tzaneen, no Limpopo, e Silibe Pikwe, no Botswana, que haviam sido desactivados, voltarão em breve a fazer parte da família rotária. No dia 20 de Outubro, o número de sócios ascendia a 1009. O distrito está a tentar alcançar o objectivo de 1.100 membros até 31 de Dezembro.

Poliomielite - 24 de Outubro

Outubro é também o mês da luta mundial contra a poliomielite.

Albert Bruce Sabin, um investigador médico polaco-americano, desenvolveu a vacina oral contra a poliomielite, que desempenhou um papel fundamental na quase [erradicação da doença](#). A prevenção da propagação da doença é efectuada através da vacinação. Existem dois tipos de vacina contra a poliomielite - a vacina oral contra a poliomielite (VOP), que utiliza o [poliovírus enfraquecido](#), e a [vacina inactivada](#) contra a poliomielite (VIP), que é injectada. A VOP é menos dispendiosa e mais fácil de administrar e pode espalhar a imunidade para além da pessoa vacinada, criando [imunidade de contacto](#), e tem sido a vacina contra a poliomielite mais utilizada.

A erradicação da poliomielite, o objectivo da cessação permanente da circulação do poliovírus selvagem e, conseqüentemente, a eliminação da poliomielite (pólio) por ele causada, é o objectivo de um esforço multinacional de saúde pública iniciado em 1988, liderado pela [Organização Mundial de Saúde](#) (OMS). O Rotary está envolvido na vacinação desde 1979 (Filipinas). A OMS, o [Fundo das Nações Unidas para a Infância](#) (UNICEF), a [Fundação Rotária](#), os [Centros de Controlo e Prevenção de Doenças dos EUA](#) (CDC), a [Fundação Gates](#) e a GAVI (Aliança Global para a Iniciativa de Vacinação) lideraram a campanha através da [Iniciativa Global de Erradicação da Pólio](#) (GPEI) com o apoio dos países. A Organização Mundial de Saúde declarou o continente africano livre do poliovírus selvagem em Agosto de 2020. Em 2025, apenas 2 países - Afeganistão e Paquistão - são endémicos em relação à poliomielite. Consulte o boletim informativo de Setembro de 2025.

Vamos continuar a apoiar o Polio Plus, uma vez que os fundos prometidos serão utilizados para distribuir e administrar a vacina às crianças (pessoal, vacinas), efectuar a vigilância, envolver os líderes e membros da comunidade e continuar os esforços de erradicação da poliomielite nas regiões afectadas.



**D9400 has a new
PolioPlus Chair**

**Meet Jacky van Wyk, RC Waterkloof
RYLA Chair (current - 30 June 2026)**



NOVEMBER is ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

November is designated as **Rotary Foundation Month** to highlight the importance of The Rotary Foundation and encourage support for its humanitarian and educational programs.

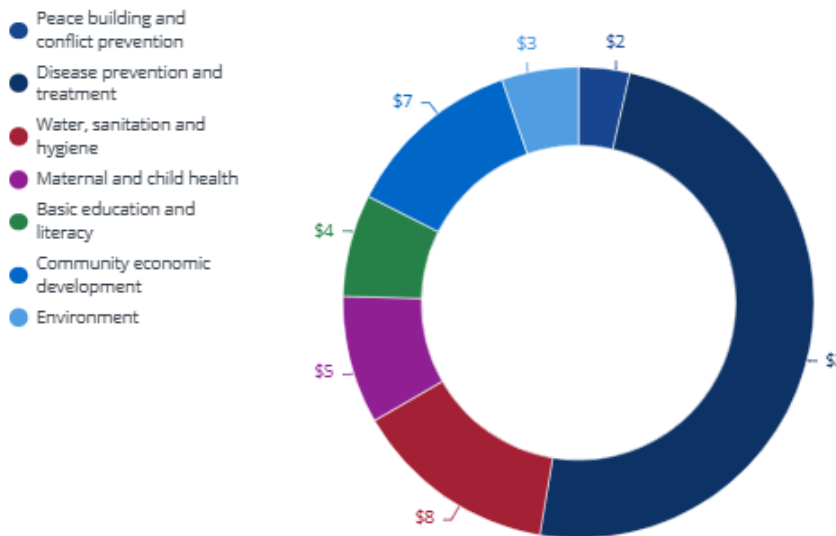
The **Rotary Foundation** is the **charitable arm of Rotary**, transforming gifts into projects that change lives. During November we emphasize the Foundation's work, such as funding grants for global and local projects, and encourage Rotarians to contribute to the Annual Programs Fund.

Contributions from Rotarians support the Foundation's Annual Programs Fund, which in turn provides funding for various humanitarian and educational programs worldwide.

The month serves to raise awareness and support for The Rotary Foundation, which provides grants for a wide range of projects, from water sanitation and disease prevention to literacy and education.



Global grants were distributed among our areas of focus:
(In U.S. millions of dollars)



As the charitable arm of Rotary, the Foundation benefits from a global network of Rotary members who invest their time and expertise to ensure that projects are high-impact and sustainable and meet the most pressing needs of the communities they serve.

Since it was founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects.

Strong financial oversight and a stellar charity rating mean that Rotary makes the very most of your contributions. The Rotary Foundation invests the Endowment assets to provide funding for today's programs and to grow the portfolio to support Foundation programs in the future.

Learn more about the investment return and spending for **Rotary year 2024-2025** at <https://www.rotary.org/en/endowment-fund-financial-report>.

The Rotary Foundation annual report for 2024 highlights the foundation's financial strength and progress on key initiatives like **End Polio Now**, with over \$50 million raised and matched two-to-one by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. As of April 1, 2024, over \$27 million had been raised toward the \$50 million goal for that year. In response to a polio outbreak in Gaza in August 2024, Rotary committed \$500,000 toward vaccination efforts, helping vaccinate nearly 560,000 children.

Other key initiatives included launching the \$30 million **Healthy Communities Challenge** to address childhood diseases in four African countries. Rotary announced its fourth **Programs of Scale** awardee during the 2023-2024 Rotary year - *Partners for Water Access and Better Harvests* in India, a program aimed at improving the livelihoods of farmers through sustainable agriculture and water management. This program received a US\$2 million grant over five years to help over 60,000 farmers in four Indian states.

Rotarians are encouraged to contribute to the Annual Fund, and clubs are encouraged to apply for and utilize Foundation grants for their projects such as humanitarian and educational programs as well as projects aligned with the seven focus areas of Rotary. It emphasizes the need for Rotarian support, with contributions funding The Rotary Foundation helps Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty.

ROTARY FAMILY HEALTH DAYS

Launch in Mpumalanga, South Africa: Mobilizing Rotarians for Impact



The national launch event of Rotary Family Health Days (RFHDs) took place at **Elukwatini Stadium, Ermelo in Mpumalanga** on **30–31 October 2025**. This year marks the **14th year** of this life-changing initiative, bringing free healthcare to communities across the country.

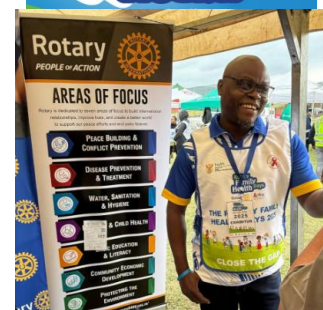
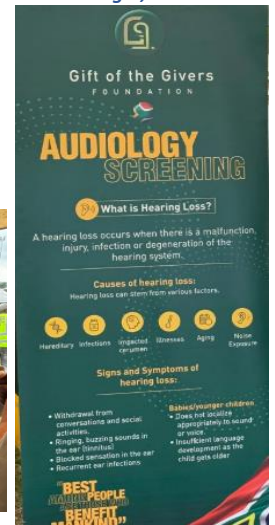
Organized by the **Rotary Action Group for Family Health & AIDS Prevention (RFHA)**, and powered by a **Global Grant** from **The Rotary Foundation**, RFHDs will operate at **20 sites across four provinces**. Since its inception in 2011, RFHA has delivered **over 13.5 million health services to 3.5 million people** across 16 countries, with a strong focus on women and children.

Opening speakers at the launch were **Sue Paget**, Executive Director for the Southern Africa Programme of Rotary Family Health Days and CEO of the Rotary Action Group for Family Health and AIDS Prevention (RFHA), **Dr Imtiaz Sooliman**, the founder and head of the **Gift of the Givers Foundation** and **Dr. Aaron Motsoaledi** is the Minister of Health for the Republic of South Africa.

The Rotary Family Health Days (RFHDs), is an initiative led by RFHA, in partnership with the National Department of Health (South Africa), South African National AIDS Council (SANAC), Gift of the Givers, Bonitas, and Rotary District 9400. This year's campaign aims to bring free, life-saving healthcare services to communities across the country under the theme 'Close the Gap'. RFHD 2025 focuses on improving access to healthcare for underserved communities.



Dr Imtiaz Sooliman, the founder and head of the Gift of the Givers Foundation, PDG Annemarie Mostert, D9400, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi and Sue Paget, RFHA



9400 District Conference 2026:

Announcing our Rotary Annual Gathering!

Conference theme:

Let us safeguard our planet by preserving the environment

Date: Thursday, 30 April - Sunday, 3 May

Location: Apart Hotel/*Ponta do Ouro, Moçambique*

Get ready for the highlight of our Rotary year! We are thrilled to announce our annual District Conference, a time for fellowship, inspiration, and celebrating our collective impact. This year's conference promises to be an exceptional opportunity to connect with fellow Rotarians, share stories of success, and get inspired to continue our commitment to Service Above Self.



Ponta do Ouro is a town in the extreme south of Mozambique, lying on the Mozambique Channel, south of Maputo and just north of the border with South Africa. The name is Portuguese for "tip of gold", referring to a cape at the southern part of the beach.

What to expect:

- **Fellowship and Networking:** Reconnect with old friends, make new connections during social events and networking sessions.

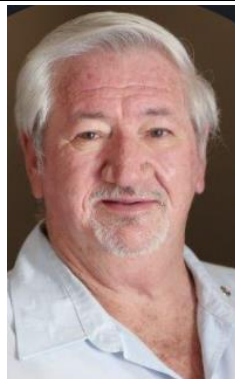
- **Engaging Speakers:** Hear from prominent leaders and motivational speakers who will share their experiences and insight into important Rotary-related matters.
- **Awards and Recognition:** Join us as we celebrate achievements of our clubs and members, celebrating the successful projects and service initiatives throughout the district.
- **Inspirational Presentations:** As PEOPLE OF ACTION and UNITED FOR GOOD, let's share the incredible work Rotarians are doing across our district.



D9400 DG Observations



I met **PDG Chris Pretorius** at **RC Pretoria Sunrise**. At 92, his Rotary motivation is still high. When he feels he will not be able to drive to the meeting venue, he requests one of the younger members to take him, but he does not miss a meeting.



I also met **AG Leon Van Zyl** at **RC White River** with whom I recalled his friendship with late PDG Maria Luisa Natividade.



Rotarians and Friends of Rotary in Polokwane get along nicely. The clubs have a tradition of a cooking competition – Potjiekos, and the link and collaboration among members of Rotary and friends is amazing: It is a real family.

Still in Polokwane, I found another beautiful and big collection of banners and regalia at **RC Pietersburg 100**, witnessing Rotary presence in so many countries. The list of clubs with wonderful collections of banners and regalia is to be continued.

Rotary International: 2025 Manual of Procedure



The 2025 Manual of Procedure (MOP) is now available in English! There is a new PDF copy of the 2025 MOP in English, which contains the official text of the constitutional documents. Please click <https://my.rotary.org/document/manual-procedure-035> to download.

Please note, Rotary is only providing electronic copies of the MOP; however, the format allows for easy at-home printing. The English MOP, along with the governance documents in other languages, can also be accessed on My Rotary at: <https://my.rotary.org/en/knowledge-and-resources/resources-and-reference/governance-documents>. The other language versions of the MOP will be available in November.

The Manual of Procedure (MOP) and the Rotary Code of Policies (RCP) serve as foundational governance instruments within Rotary International. The MOP, a legally binding document revised triennially following the Council on Legislation, consolidates Rotary's constitutional framework—including the RI Constitution, RI Bylaws, and the Standard Rotary Club Constitution—and establishes the core rules governing clubs and districts.

In contrast, the RCP comprises policies and decisions adopted by the Rotary International Board of Directors. While not legally binding, it offers authoritative guidance and flexible best practices to support effective administration and interpretation of Rotary's constitutional provisions.

In instances of conflict between the two, the Manual of Procedure shall prevail, ensuring consistency with Rotary's constitutional mandates. Check out the updated MOP, and if you have any questions, please contact council_services@rotary.org.

GOALSETTING: Some Zone 22 clubs still have a short way to go

Numerous clubs have led the way with entering 3-year goals – we have set over 75% of our goals! But we do need help for some clubs to even further set out our goals.

If you do not have the Guidelines on how to enter your 3-year goals, step-by-step visuals can be found [HERE](#). Please note that the screenshots show the fields in English, but the procedure will be the same in the language of your choice, so we hope that everyone can follow the steps. Your AGs are also able to help and guide you through the process.



Rotary has highlighted six priority areas—membership, service participation, strategic planning, and contributions to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, and the Endowment Fund—that are particularly effective in strengthening our clubs and creating lasting change. The most successful clubs are those that plan for the future. By setting three-year goals in Rotary Club Central, you provide your club with direction and your members with a shared sense of purpose.

You are encouraged to set these three-year goals in collaboration with your two successors. If one or both are not yet known, please feel free to set the goals according to your own vision. Future leaders will be able to adjust them as needed, always keeping your club three years ahead.

IT'S TIME TO STRENGTHEN D9400 ROTARY CLUBS



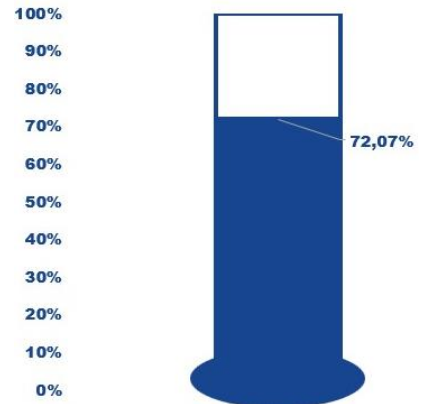
District 9400 membership goal for End December 2025 is 1100 and the Membership Goal for End June 2026 is 1400.

Currently the District has 1004 members after we have lost 24 members since 1 July 2025. The Assistant Governors (AGs) in D9400 will be contacting clubs that have lost members to assist with exit Interviews.

AGs will also follow up on membership leads. Please reach out to the membership committee if you need any help with managing leads, onboarding new members, membership retention or exit interviews. If each club inducts 2 members between today and end December, we will pass the 1100 mark.

Presidents/secretaries should also check that their membership numbers on My Rotary are correct and that all the new members are reflected correctly.

We currently have three new/reinstated clubs that will come on before end December and active plans to charter 3 New clubs before end June. Together we can make the goal of 1400 members



Top 5 Clubs with the highest NET Growth since 1 July 2025:

- Joint 1st:** E-Club of Southern Africa and also Fourways Main Reef with 8 members each
- 2nd:** Pretoria East 7 Members
- 3rd:** E-Club Eagle Canyon with 6 members
- 4th:** Okavango with 5 members

Well done to these clubs! Let's keep the momentum going and turn these new members into fully fledged Rotarians!

Progress at UNISA, Rotary D9400 and DIEM Centre of Excellence for Adaptation and Resilience



In 2023, UNISA, Rotary D9400, and DIEM (an emergency management consultancy based in The Hague) launched a **Centre of Excellence (CoE)** for Adaptation and Resilience at UNISA in Johannesburg.

Since its launch, the CoE has made significant progress in advancing community-focused research for social change. Through a series of workshops held in 2023 and 2024, multiple research support initiatives have been established. The Centre now hosts several international research associates and has forged strong national and international partnerships with public and private institutions. It also serves as a vibrant hub for postgraduate research, with over 20 Masters and Doctoral students conducting studies under its guidance.



The **value proposition** is to benefit vulnerable communities in Africa with a special focus on the discovery and application of Indigenous Knowledge Systems to address of climate change adaptation and community resilience enhancement.

Please contact PP Ian Widdop for more information, and to book talks at your Rotary Club at 082 552 1305 or widdop@mweb.co.za

We are all Rotary BRAND AMBASSADORS!



Helping others understand how we make a difference as People of Action is something all Rotary members can do. Use the resources in the improved Brand Center to publicize your work and strengthen the Rotary brand.

USE THE NEW AREAS OF FOCUS VIDEOS TO PROMOTE ROTARY

The newest videos showcasing Rotary's areas of focus can help you promote the important work that your club and district support. Use these videos to highlight the causes that matter to your club, or share the overview video, which features compelling stories and service projects from all our areas of focus.

Find these dynamic videos in the [Brand Center](#). Go to Downloads and then click the **VIEW ALL** button on the right. Use the **Campaigns** filter to select **Areas of Focus Highlights (Causes)**. Then share them on your online channels or show them at meetings and public events



ADAPTING TO KEEP ROTARY RELEVANT

Rotary's mission is timeless, but what worked for Rotary and its clubs in the past may not be the most effective approach today. The world has changed, people have changed, and communication has changed. In a [Rotary 360 blog post](#) by Herb Silverman (USA), outlines some of the ways his club is embracing change and how other clubs can do the same. Modernizing communications is high on his list. Learn more about how to adapt our tools and embrace today's opportunities.

TIME TO REVISIT YOUR CLUB LOGO?

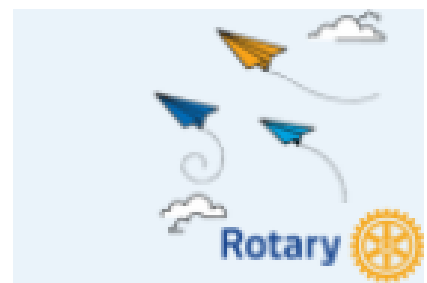
Want to refresh your club logo? Or are you wondering if you're using it correctly? It's easy to make updates and create new logos with our Brand Center templates. Review guidelines and do's and don'ts on the Logos and Graphics page. You'll also find a link to a Learning Center course, Our Logo: Representing Rotary, where you can learn why it's important to use Rotary's logos correctly and consistently in all your communications.

TELL PEOPLE ABOUT YOUR CLUB AND ROTARY

The [Brand Center](#) offers many club and member resources to support your membership development efforts:

- Use the [brochure template](#) to show off your club's personality.
- Download and share a [prospective member flyer or What's Rotary? wallet cards](#).
- Promote your events for prospective members using the [event flyer and social media templates](#).

Visit the Brand Center today to explore these materials and more!



YOU AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Be careful what you "say". This is an important point for personal behaviour - even on your "personal" social media pages. Are you and your employees prepped for the pitfalls of the internet? Find out [here](#) how to get up to speed regarding this important matter! **Shereen Hunter**, District PI Chair says most people don't know this.

Not only can employees compromise employment through bad language and extreme views, but if the Rotary brand is brought into disrepute and reputational damage done in any way, there can be consequences. Please stay conscientious with regards to content and please keep your committees and Rotary affiliates informed.

FREE Rotary Leadership Institute courses



Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is back and taking off like a bolt of lightning in D9400!

RLI believes that having leadership skills does not alone assure good Rotary leadership. An effective Rotary leader must ALSO have Rotary knowledge, perspective about where Rotary has been, where it is now going and a vision of what Rotary can be. The new “virtual” format allows for more in-depth study and closer fellowship between participants via Zoom, WhatsApp and actual in-person coffees.

Testimonials by Rotary Participants:

- It was a great way to learn more about Rotary and what Rotary does and how I can be involved.
- Encouraged to hear other people's perspectives to situations. Enjoyed the flow of the day. Good to hear about the background and structure of the Foundation. Overall, now have a broader and clearer understanding about Rotary.
- Great overview of Rotary providing understand and new opportunities for service.
- Great learning experience- highly recommend to other.
- As a new member, this session was very insightful. It was very helpful in providing a great overview to Rotary.
- This was incredibly helpful and I would highly recommend it for all new members.



16 new graduates have completed the three basic books of RLI. Many want to continue with the auxiliary courses and a few are actually looking forward to joining the facilitator faculty.

The next sessions will begin in January so “watch this space” for information! Classes are limited to 20 participants and a consistent internet access is required. Participants will have “homework” to do between sessions and collaboration between participants is strongly encouraged!

More good news! As soon as we have Portuguese speaking graduates of the program, a Portuguese speaking RLI program will be instituted. We already have a few interested Rotarians in Northern Mozambique so there may be additional recruits from our sister District 9210.

The courses are FREE, but **active** participation and **attendance** to **EACH session** is required.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

PDG Patrick Coleman
D9400 RLI Coordinator, Rotary E-Club of Southern Africa
colemanpq@gmail.com



Rotary Leadership Graduates who completed Books 1–3 under the Facilitation Team Patrick Coleman, Francis Callard, Fiona Brokensha (Secretary)

Ken McGhee	Maputo Metro
Janice Carter	Benoni Aurora
Lebogang Joan Pillar	Gabarone
Margaret Stafford	Rosebank
William McLellan	Gabarone
Ashleigh Schaap	Springs Gold
Jankees Sligcher	New Dawn
Judith Sligcher	New Dawn
Sindiso Nkosi	RECSA
Nomasisi Ndara	RECSA
Alton Werrett	Knights Pendragon
Nontsikelelo Xoliswa Mkhumane	Nhlangano

Let us Celebrate the Learning Centres' five highlights:

- ▶ We launched a new mobile app, RotaryLearn. It has already been downloaded by over **16,000** users.
- ▶ More clubs are signing in to the Learning Center. At the end of 2025-25, **64%** of clubs had at least one person who was using the Learning Center.
- ▶ Course completions increased by **23%**.
- ▶ More club officers took their required courses. Course completions by Rotaract club officers rose by **40%**, and completions by Rotary club officers rose by **11%**.
- ▶ Learners found the content relevant and felt confident applying what they learned. Among members who completed course evaluations, **92%** said they learned something new.

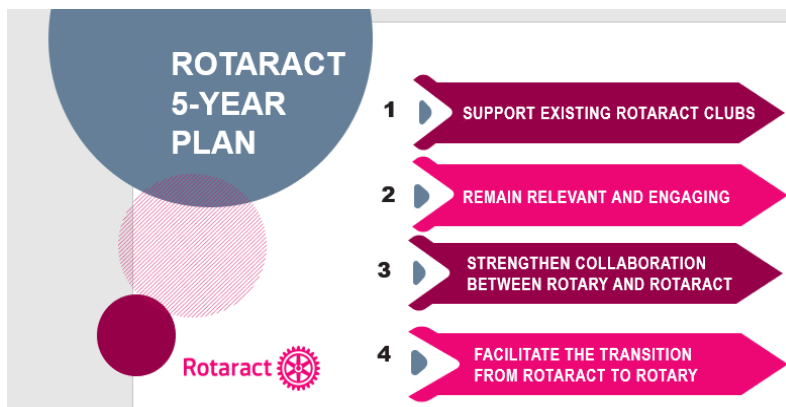
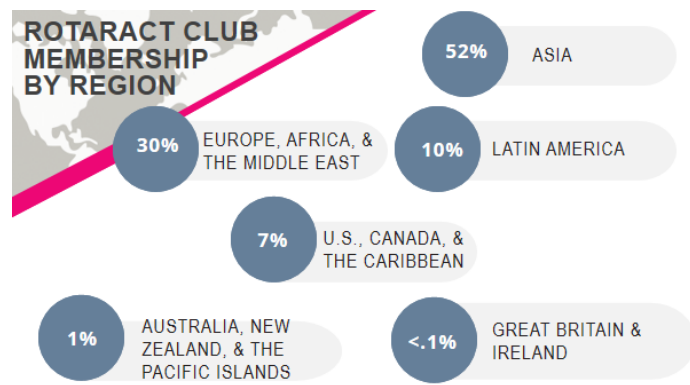
THE STATE OF ROTARACT



In celebration of Rotary's 125th anniversary in 2030, Rotary has adopted a worldwide Rotaract membership growth goal of 125,000 Rotaractors by 1 July 2030, so these numbers show exciting progress toward that goal. More than half of Rotaractors belong to clubs in Asia. Europe, Africa, and the Middle East also have a significant number of Rotaractors. In other parts of the world, there remains an incredible opportunity to start new Rotaract clubs and engage with young leaders. Let's now examine the proportion of our total Rotaract club membership by region.

Let's take a look at our current membership numbers first. As of 1 July 2025:

- Rotaract has more than 132,000 members in more than 9,500 clubs.
- Rotaract has achieved virtual gender parity, with women as 46% of members.
- Dual members belong to a Rotary and Rotaract club simultaneously. Every club decides how it wants to handle this dual membership to foster more effective collaboration between members of the clubs.
- Since 2022, Rotaractors have paid dues to RI, enabling a more accurate figure for membership.
- Currently officers only reported for 30% of Rotaract clubs globally so we can expect additional changes to both the number of active clubs and Rotaract members.



In October 2024, the Board of Directors adopted a five-year strategic plan to support the long-term growth and sustainability of Rotaract. A dedicated group of members from the RI Membership Growth Committee, including Rotaractors, are working to enact these strategies. Part of this plan outlines that the purpose of Rotaract is to give young leaders the unparalleled opportunity to develop their leadership skills and that we should work to create more paths for Rotaractors to join Rotary clubs when they are ready. It supports our existing Rotaract clubs' efforts to remain relevant and attractive to new members and deliver an experience that engages and retains current members, while also strengthening the collaboration between Rotary and Rotaract clubs.

One goal of this five-year plan is to promote the consistent message that Rotaract is a unique and valued membership type for young adults. Rotaract clubs tend to appeal more to younger professionals who want to become more effective leaders and have fun through service. They bring together people ages 18 and older who take action through community and international service while learning leadership skills and developing professionally. Rotaract clubs provide an inclusive network of like-minded people who are closer in age.

Clubs can be community- or university-based. University-based, established within a college or university, with membership primarily consisting of students enrolled at that institution. Community-based, focused on addressing community needs and fostering leadership and professional development.

We can appreciate that Rotaractors might be at a different point in life than Rotarians, one that requires them to travel, spend more time at work, or support a young family. Supporting their leadership journey is a great way to collaborate and show that we care. Rotary's Learning Center offers professional development courses, such as Becoming an Effective Facilitator, Change Management, Essentials of Understanding Conflict, and Leading Effective Committees. Some clubs also have professional development programs. Rotary and Rotaract clubs can create mentoring programs and look for other ways to share vocational expertise.

Appeals to younger professionals who want to become more effective leaders and have fun through service

University-based	Community-based	Dual membership
		
Members are enrolled in the college or university.	The focus is on service, leadership, and professional development.	People can belong to a Rotary club and a Rotaract club simultaneously.

Rotaract clubs have the same flexibility as Rotary clubs and this allows for the nurturing of Rotaract clubs with diverse participants, encourage new ideas and perspectives from the next generation of leaders, such as:

- Satellite clubs, which are part of a Rotaract club but have their own meetings, projects, bylaws, and board, managed in collaboration with their sponsor club
- Passport clubs, which allow members to attend other clubs' meetings frequently if they attend a specified number of home club meetings each year
- Cause-based clubs, whose members are passionate about a specific cause and focus their service efforts on that topic

Another goal is for Rotarians see value in Rotaract and believe their Rotary experience is better because of collaboration with Rotaractors. With support from the Board of Directors, Rotaract clubs and members have gained access to additional membership benefits, including:

- Serving on district, RI, and Foundation committees
- Participating in Rotary grants
- Being nominated for and receiving Rotary International and Foundation awards
- Setting goals and tracking achievements in Rotary Club Central
- Accessing Rotary's Learning Center, Brand Center, and Service Project Center
- A strengthened role for district Rotaract representatives, allowing them to focus more on strategy and support

DISTRICT 9400

Learn more in our new State of Rotaract presentation. Download the PPT by clicking the link: on.rotary.org/3lYf9g

You can find trends for D9400 on the Rotary Club Central dashboard - **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP, RETENTION IN YOUR DISTRICT as well as AGE AND GENDER TRENDS**

For the district-specific data you need, Rotary district officers can access **Reports** in the "Membership and Engagement" section of **Rotary Club Central**. Rotaract leaders and members do not yet have access to these reports. With data from Rotary Club Central available regional trends can be added to your own observations.

Increased Rotaract involvement means:

Support for The Rotary Foundation	Sustainable projects	Recognition and awards
		
1,036 clubs contributed US\$506,696 in 2024-25	559 district grants 13 global grants	Service Above Self Avenues of Service Foundation Citation

When we think about supporting a smooth transition from Rotaract to Rotary, we can consider three pieces of data from recent surveys of current and former Rotaractors:

- About 30% of Rotaractors had participated in Rotary programs before they joined, especially Interact and Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, or RYLA.
- Over 80% of Rotaractors say they are interested in joining a Rotary club.
- Approximately 30% of Rotaract clubs do not have any officers reported to RI. This presents challenges for communication and supporting leadership continuity.

Expanding access to member benefits has been beneficial for both Rotaract and Rotary International and include the following:

- There is more support for The Rotary Foundation. In 2024-25, a record-breaking 1,036 Rotaract clubs earned the Rotaract Giving Certificate, contributing a total of US\$506,696 to The Rotary Foundation, an increase of 29% from the prior year. Since Rotaract was recognized as a membership type in 2019, Rotaractors have contributed more than US\$1.3 million through the Rotaract Giving Certificate initiative.
- 13 global grants have been awarded that involved Rotaract clubs as either the host sponsor or international sponsor.
- 417 Rotaract clubs in 53 countries are involved with district grant activity.
- Rotaractors have been awarded some of Rotary's highest honors, including several Service Above Self awards, Avenues of Service awards, and The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service.

EXCITING Interact News



In November we celebrate Interact, our service organization for young people ages 12–18 sponsored by local Rotary clubs. This is where members develop leadership skills by organizing and completing at least two service projects each year: one in their school or community and one for international understanding. In 2025, Interact is celebrating its 63rd anniversary!

This is a special time of year for Interact clubs as we celebrate **World Interact Week** from **4 to 10 November** and hold the **Interact Awards** contest. *We also have the World Interact Week Webinar!*

The 2025 Interact Awards

Clubs worldwide are submitting creative videos that show how they *Unite for Good* and build peace through service. It's inspiring to see young people leading real change in their communities, and as Rotary staff members, we're proud to share their impact with Rotary members everywhere. Rotary's youth programs empower the next generation to lead with empathy, take action, and make service a lifelong commitment.

The Interact Awards are where service meets creativity. Each year, Interact clubs craft a video, photo, or essay in response to a theme for a chance to win funds for their next service project. This year's theme? Promote Interact!

See more https://www.instagram.com/p/Cw2r0CvMYe2/?img_index=1

For this year's [Interact Awards](#), Interact clubs are invited to showcase how Interactors *Unite for Good* and build peace in the world. Submit a vertical video (9:16 aspect ratio, in the style of a social media reel or short), of two minutes or less, that shows how your Interact club is involved with peacebuilding.

The Interact clubs whose submissions are named best video and runner-up will receive funds to support their next service project. Submissions should be in **English**, French, Italian, Japanese, Korean, **Portuguese**, or Spanish and are due **1 December**.



World Interact Week Webinar

How does your community celebrate Interact? Join our upcoming webinar hosted by Interact participants and alumni to explore how Interact clubs around the world are making an impact. Everyone who registers will receive the full recording to watch and share with your Interact club and community. The webinar will be available in **English**, French, Italian, **Portuguese**, and Spanish.

Language English

Scheduled Date/Time: Thu, 6-Nov-2025 9:00 am

Duration: 60minutes

Interpretations Available: Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese

Offered Language: English

Registration URL:

https://rotary-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zpxe5TfMTKezy0ozYnTcKg?x_zm_rta...

Topic: [Interact](#)

Expiration Date: Fri, 6-Nov-2026 1:45 p



The **Global Domino Challenge** for 2026 is a 24-hour, live streaming event on 1-2 May 2026. It will be completing a Trip around the world, moving through time zones. This dynamic fundraising initiative by **Rotary District 9370**, invites schools and youth organizations to join the fun by designing and building creative domino toppling patterns - all in support of community projects. Learn more [here](#).

Rotary District 9370 has set-up this event where Clubs around the world will topple their sponsored Domino's. The **Global Domino Challenge** is a dynamic team building activity that gets your group working together to design and construct a complex chain reaction.

Each team partners with their local Rotary Club and raises funds by securing sponsorships at R10 per domino. Individuals and companies can sponsor dominoes, and businesses can also pay to have their logos featured in the patterns. On event day, all domino topples will be live-streamed across YouTube and social media platforms, giving teams and sponsors global visibility.

Register your team today - completely free - and be part of something exciting that makes a real difference in your community!

Yes, this is a Domino toppling challenge, together, while having fun, we can promote Rotary, engage with our Rotaractors, Interactors, friends, family and more importantly our community and potential Rotary members. While having fun, we are also generating funds for not just our Interact & Rotaract clubs, also for our Rotary clubs and our District 9400.

Calling on all Rotary, Rotaract, Interact, RCC's, Rotary Ann's clubs including our Rotary Friends and family to participate & have some fun while generating substantial funds for our Community Projects.

To find out more on how you can have fun, engage and raise funds, please join **via MS Teams** on **15 November @ 08h00** for a presentation on the **Global Domino Challenge 2026** or connect with directly with **Debbie Smit** on djvr2404@gmail.com.

What do you think of Africa Inter-District Friendship Exchanges?



Friendship Exchange has debated whether we should encourage Interdistrict Exchanges incorporating SA and adjacent countries. It will basically be the same as overseas exchanges. Exchanges will be self-funded for the travelling between districts. Accommodation and food will be the responsibility of the hosts. The duration of an exchange trip will be around seven (7) nights.

The Friendship Exchange committee would appreciate your positive ideas and input in making a decision whether to pursue this new project idea. Please contact Jackie van Waveren **+27 84 326 5228**; jackievw40@yahoo.com.



Rotary International Convention 13-17 June 2026

Taipei, the perfect place to celebrate Rotary with friends old and new.
From inspiring sessions to unforgettable cultural experiences, you won't want to miss it!

Start planning your journey to Taipei, Taiwan today!

Click here to find out more:

<https://rotary5810.org/sitepage/rotary-international-convention>



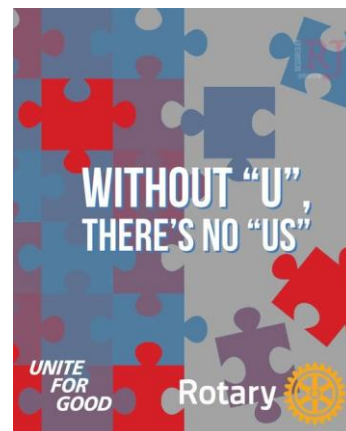
District International Service Committees

Our District International Service Committees (DISC) work with clubs and districts to identify resources to develop international projects and design global grants of higher quality and greater scale by leveraging local Rotarian, Rotaractor, and Rotary alumni expertise, establishing connections between clubs in your district and a host or international partner, and creating a network of local experts to help with planning projects and grants.

However, the information must be provided by their **international club committee** members and discussed during our meetings. Confirmation must be provided by district admin / clubs to ensure each of the clubs have this position in place.

The list of members has indicated that they are happy to support activities and contribute their available resources, networks or expertise / vocation are on the web site.

PDG Annemarie Mostert has been elected as Inter-Country Committee (ICC) Executive Chairperson of the ICC Executive Council for 2026-2028. The structure of Exco will be announced in December and final vision, strategy, directors and structure will be communicated in May in Italy. The ICC Chair for D9400 is **PP Ebhodaghe Iyere**. D9400 is already in an Inter-Country relationship with Great Britain & Ireland, India, Taiwan, Nigeria, NC- Eswatini, NC- Mozambique, NC- Botswana, AC: Austria, Egypt, Germany, France, Canada, Italia, Malta and San Marino, Spain, Portugal, Serbia and Montenegro, Tunis, Nigeria signed while Poland is currently engaged with us.



Rotary & International Day of the Girl Child



International Day of the Girl Child on 11 October 2025 was a huge success with Chrissy Sykes as one of the speakers.

In late 2024, *Girls' Empowerment* twinned with *My Body is My Body* (MBIMB) in an autonomous initiative. MBIMB is now a member of **RAG4GE**, the Rotary Action Group 4 Girls Empowerment. Developed by Chrissy Sykes in 1989, MBIMB is a globally recognized program that teaches body safety and abuse prevention through engaging activities. It provides age-appropriate knowledge to protect children effectively, with resources now available online for parents, educators, and community leaders.

Chrissy Sykes is an award-winning singer/songwriter who is educating young people about themselves and the world around them, producing 2D [animated videos](#) with Cartoon Animator for her YouTube channel "My Body Is My Body". She generously offers her programme free of charge and people are using this site in over 40 countries. So far her channel has reached well over 1 million children.

Going forward, MBIMB will have a permanent slot on SABC Plus for the next 2 years. We celebrate Rotarian Chrissy Sykes, founder of *My Body Is My Body*, who has signed a 2-year contract with SABC Plus to air the programme in multiple languages from 1 November.



Expresso Morning Show

PDG Annemarie Mostert was interviewed on SABC 3 – Espresso on Tuesday 28 October and spoke about Child safety and Chrissy's journey in our country. Well done to PDG Annemarie for flying Rotary's flag high on the Espresso Morning Show! This is a huge step forward in protecting children and empowering families across South Africa.



ANN'S MESSAGE

FROM DGA Frances

Dear Anns

Once again, our clubs have had a busy month. First of all, though, a sad note for the Rotary Anns of White River. One of their oldest, most active members passed away at the beginning of October. Dot Weir was involved with the Rotary Anns for many, many years – firstly as a couple in Kokstad, then Piet Retief, followed by a stint in Port Shepstone, before they finally settled in White River. She was one of those amazing people who always had a smile and a willing hand to offer in service.

Riverside Anns helped two children's homes with food and one of the homes also received sports shoes for the children to wear.

Benoni Aurora had a fun day on **World Hand Washing Day** at a local pre-school. They taught the children a song about washing hands and showed them how to wash their hands correctly. A lovely, original project. Keep your ears open for different world days – they might form the basis for new projects! For example, 10 November is **World Toilet Day**. We all know that sanitation and hygiene are key to disease prevention and good health.



Dot Weir, Rotary Anns of White River



Riverside Anns assisted at two children's homes



Benoni Aurora participated in a day dedicated to World Hand Washing

At the end of September and beginning of October, I met with a few clubs. I spent a lovely afternoon with the Rotary Anns of Krugersdorp. One of their projects is providing a lunch for a pre-school once a month. Such an important thing, making sure children get a good meal.

Unfortunately, it was a public holiday so I could not meet the Anns of Benoni Aurora at a formal meeting, but I did get to share breakfast with them.

I also met with Benoni Van Ryn Anns and heard all about their Christmas market. What a lot of beautiful Christmas goodies have been created so far. Well done. I hope you have a most successful market.



DG Angelica with Pietersburg 100 Anns who will be hosting the Anns Conference in March 2026

Further afield, I joined the DG in Polokwane at the Pietersburg 100 club. Don't forget that they will be hosting the Anns Conference in March next year. Start making your plans to get to Polokwane and see if you can make a weekend of it.

My last trip was to Phalaborwa to meet with the small, but busy group of Anns there. I was warmly welcomed by Khensani and Comfort before joining the DG, the Rotarians and other Anns for supper.

Last, but not least, the Rotary Anns in White River helped the Rotarians with one of their major fund raisers – a Music lunch. There is always a huge amount of collaboration between the Anns and Rotarians in White River.

And then, of course, is the good news – Sylvia Knoop from Benoni Aurora – will be the DG Ann for 2026/27. Congratulation DGAE Sylvia.

Keep smiling, keep serving and know that you are all really special ladies!

Best wishes,

DGA Frances

Rotary Club of Haenertsburg



Earlier this year, RC Haenertsburg was honoured to have Daryl van der Merwe, a BSc graduate with a Masters in Conservation Biology, as a guest speaker. He presented an illustrated talk on the Cape Parrot.

The Cape Parrot is the only endemic parrot species in South Africa. This bird once inhabited the montane forest of the eastern escarpment, but only two remaining pockets of this once continuous forest remain – one in the Hogsback region of the Eastern Cape, and the other in the Wolkberg Granite region of Limpopo – particularly the Woodbush Forest.

Pursuant to this talk, the club proposed planting trees in the Haenertsburg cemetery, a favoured view site situated above the very picturesque village. Since the parrot is highly endangered, with fewer than 1,000 birds remaining, and given that the primary food source for this seed eating bird is the **Outeniqua Yellowwood** (*Afrocarpus falcatus*) is greatly diminished, it was resolved to plant this species of tree.



On **Heritage Day**, 24th September, the club planted 50 yellowwood trees, as well as four **wild plum** trees (*Harpephyllum caffrum*), another favoured food source. This small contribution to future generations of both the parrot and people will hopefully bring pleasure to those, perhaps not yet born, in future years.



Rotary Club of Pretoria East

On Saturday 1 October, RC Pretoria East, friends from the Bronberg Retirement Home and other Rotarians helped to exhibit and pack knitted items for various charity projects.

These items will be distributed to selected homes looking after new-born babies and to Children's homes.

After exhibiting the knitted articles, all joined in for a brunch and fellowship at Bronberg Retirement Village.



Rotary Club of Haenertsburg

RC Haenertsburg is involved in the refurbishment of Appel Combined School - a small rural middle school catering for grades 5 to 9.

During DG Angelica's visit to our club, she witnessed the progress being made on this project. The principal explained that the school had been started in this early 1950's by local farmers who made land available and assisted in building the first block of four classrooms. A hall was later built by a neighbouring farmer and later still an additional classroom added by yet another local farmer. In spite of having five grades, only three teachers are allocated to the school in accordance with the Department of Education policy.



The refurbishment started when Irene Laemmle, owner of The Door Group, took a delivery of broken desks to be repaired. The community services committee proposed to continue with improving the classrooms. The first was completed during the July school holidays, which involved replacing rotten roof beams, installing a ceiling, fitting new LED lights and completely repainting the room inside and out.

This is an ongoing project and the club is grateful for the assistance of The Door Group which supplied ceiling boards, new doors throughout as well as continuing to repair desks, as well as ZZ2 and Denny Mushrooms who assisted with transport. The project will lead to a more congenial and healthier environment for the learners.

Rotary Club of Vanderbijlpark

RC Vanderbijlpark joined hands with Life Line on their project to share valuable information to senior members of the community. The information included applications for SASSA, Disability grants, health related matters and more.

Each attendee received a small gift and were treated to beverages and snacks. AG Jackie van Waveren and Rtn Lidia Corte were the champions of the project.



Rotary Club of Johannesburg

RC Johannesburg recently held a Youth Evening. RC Rosebank also presented at the event. The Rotary clubs of Northcliff, Rosebank, Brits-Hartbeespoort, JHB New Dawn and E-Club of SA supported the evening and brought attendance to an impressive 80 people.

Several highlights marked the Youth Evening of RC Johannesburg and they will now make this an annual event.



Rotary Club of Hoedspruit



On 25 October, RC Hoedspruit proudly partnered with Hlokomela Health Clinic for the **Tekkies4Tieties** and **Rotary Family Health Day**. The RC Hoedspruit team staffed a free water station for all runners and families, with bottled water kindly donated by Letaba Networks. Hlokomela delivered primary health services — including immunisations — in support of **World Polio Day** (24 October). Inspiring speakers raised awareness for Breast Cancer Month. We were humbled to hear from one survivor and two women currently undergoing treatment.

Heartfelt thanks to Hlokomela for their wonderful community health work; to the Maruleng Traffic Officers for keeping everyone safe on the road; to Greg Smith for serving as the MC; to everyone who joined in; and to all Rotarians who helped at the water point. We're grateful for this collaboration and for the vital conversations about cancer and women's health that help save lives.



Rotary E-Club of Eagle Canyon

It's happening ... RFHD 2025 Out of the Blocks. at Elukwatini Stadium in Carolina. In addition to other health services, eye tests will also be performed on the community.

Some 2500 of the 10 000 pairs of glasses donated through Rotary E-Club of Eagle Canyon, South Africa will find their way into this community over the next 2 days!





District 9400 EVENTS CALENDAR

01	November 2025	Foundation Seminar, Saturday 08h00 – 10h00. Everybody is welcome CLICK on the LINK: Join the meeting now Meeting ID: 388 329 785 046 3 Passcode: F6q4nB6Y
04-10	November 2025	World Interact Week — The Interact anniversary is celebrated the week of 5 November. Celebrate your Rotary Club's sponsored Interact club/s by participating in an event or project together.
05 - 18	November 2025	Friendship Exchange to Argentina
15	November 2025	Rotaract Finance & TRF Seminar Saturday
19	November 2025	World Toilet Day Sanitation and hygiene are key to disease prevention and good health
19	November 2025	Giving Tuesday vital to show your support for our Foundation
29	November 2025	Grant Management Seminar, Saturday 08h00 – 10h00. Everybody is welcome CLICK on the LINK: Join the meeting now Meeting ID: 388 329 785 046 3 Passcode: F6q4nB6Y
11	December 2025	Rotaract 1st Semester Assembly Thursday
29	January 2026	Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) training
23	February 2026	Sun never sets on Rotary
30	April 2026	DISCON , Mozambique

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?

A Prova Quádrupla

Do que pensamos, dizemos ou fazemos:

1. É a VERDADE?
2. É JUSTO para todos os interessados?
3. Criará boa VONTADE e MELHORES AMIZADES?
4. Será BENÉFICO para todos os interessados?

DISTRICT 9400



To view the 4-Way Test in some of the other languages spoken in D9400, click [here](#)

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