# DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

**Botswana, Eswatini, Mozambique and South Africa** NOVEMBER 2024

## *Message from your District Governor George Senosha*

Dear Rotarians of District 9400,

As we approach the festive season, let us reflect on our incredible work while setting our sights on achieving even more. Rotary District 9400 has the potential to grow stronger, and our greatest asset is our members—those committed to the ideals of service, fellowship, and leadership.

We must tap into the parents and guardians of children involved in our programs as a fertile ground for increasing membership. Many people desire to join the Rotary but remain unaware of the process or the true essence of being a Rotarian. Let us not rush to induct members without ensuring they understand and embrace the commitment. We seek quality members who will journey with us for the long haul and contribute meaningfully to our cause.

As we strategize for membership growth, remember that empowering and developing leaders remains at our heart. Diversity, equity, and inclusion guide our efforts, and our youth engagement initiatives are already yielding inspiring results. I am proud to announce the leadership of our District Team, chaired by Chantelle Bernette, with Amy McBride (Rotary Club Okavango) and Ragu Govender (Rotary Club Northcliff) serving as deputies. We are supported by a dynamic group of members committed to driving Rotary's mission forward.

Over the past six months, we have visited many clubs across the District, witnessing your dedication firsthand. Our hearts go out to Mozambique, where unrest disrupted our plans. We continue to hope for peace and remain committed to supporting our Rotarians there.

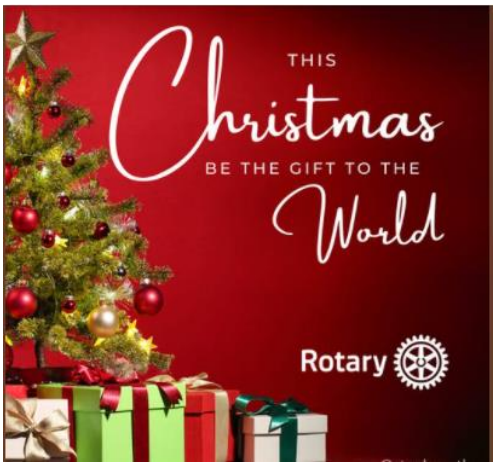
One of our proudest initiatives is the "Through My Body is My Body Autonomy" campaign, which aims to protect children from physical and sexual harm. This program reminds us of parents and guardians' critical role in amplifying our message and extending our reach to safeguard future generations.

To each club, thank you for fostering friendships and serving your communities. However, I urge you to increase contributions to the Rotary Foundation. Through these contributions, we can unlock resources to undertake transformative projects. Remember, applying for District Designated Funds (DDF) is like entering the lottery—you can't win if you don't participate.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Rotary Clubs of Northcliff, Mokopane, Waterkloof, Morningside, Rosebank, and Rustenburg for inducting new members during my visits. Let us continue to strengthen our clubs and build a robust succession plan to ensure the sustainability of our leadership pipeline.

Our successful Rotary Family Health Day in Rustenburg proved the power of collaboration with government and multilateral organisations. I encourage clubs to plan for future Family Health Days to amplify our impact.

As we close this year and look forward to 2025, let us embrace the training opportunities the District offers.




Staying informed and prepared is crucial for our mission to uplift communities. Rotary is exciting, dynamic, and demanding, but the rewards are immeasurable.

I wish you a peaceful and restful Christmas season. Please stay safe and let us return reenergised to make the second half of this Rotary year even more impactful.

Yours in Rotary,

*DG George*

# DECEMBER is DISEASE PREVENTION & TREATMENT MONTH

**December** is **Disease Prevention and Treatment Month**, is one of Rotary International's Seven Area of Focus. Some events that take place during this month include World AIDS Day on December 1st and International Day of Disabled Persons on December 3rd.

Rotary International has been dedicated to eradicating polio since the early 1980s, and has made remarkable progress. However, the job is not finished yet.

Rotary focuses on disease prevention and treatment in a number of ways, including:

- Eradicating polio
- Setting up health camps and training facilities
- Designing and building infrastructure
- Organizing medical camps
- Providing equipment
- Providing knowledge and skills

This is one of the Foundations Areas of Focus and one with numerous projects around the world supported by clubs. You also have a role in promoting improved health at home and abroad and supporting these vital programs that contribute not only to healthy communities but peaceful communities.

Disease prevention and treatment takes on many forms, from supporting studies to helping immunize people to improving drinking water and the sanitation infrastructure. The world relies on Rotary to tackle these global challenges, and to set an example for others to follow. Our members combat diseases like malaria, HIV/AIDS, Alzheimer's, multiple sclerosis, diabetes, and polio. Prevention is important, which is why we also focus on health education and bringing people routine hearing, vision, and dental care.

Disease results in misery, pain, and poverty for millions of people worldwide. That's why treating and preventing disease is so important to us. We lead efforts both large and small. We set up temporary clinics, blood donation centres, and training facilities in underserved communities struggling with outbreaks and health care access. We design and build infrastructure that allows doctors, patients, and governments to work together.

**We believe good health care is everyone's right. Yet 400 million people in the world can't afford or don't have access to basic health care.**

# ROTARY ACTION GROUP FOR PEACE

One of Rotary's greatest strengths is the ability of our members to come together to create lasting change, and The Rotary Foundation helps us transform dreams of change into reality. The cause of peace is especially important, and one of the most effective ways we build peace is our **Rotary Peace Fellowship** — a product of The Rotary Foundation. The program helps current and aspiring peace and development professionals around the world learn how to prevent and how to end conflict.

Thanks to a $15.5 million gift from the Otto and Fran Walter Foundation, we can continue supporting peacebuilders in more regions with the next Rotary Peace Center, at Bahçeşehir University in Istanbul. Opening yet another peace center is a monumental achievement that we will celebrate at the **2025 Rotary Presidential Peace Conference in Istanbul**.

The three-day conference **20-22 February** will highlight the many ways our family of Rotary advocates for peace. Keynote speakers, panel discussions, and breakout sessions will allow us to share ideas about building peace and foster meaningful conversations about promoting peace everywhere. Registration for the Presidential Peace Conference is open, but if you can't make it, our Foundation offers so many ways to change the world for the better.

# COUNCIL ON RESOLUTIONS: Outcome of voting

The Council on Resolutions (COR) meets online each year in October. Representatives from all of Rotary's districts vote on resolutions proposed by clubs and districts around the world as well as the RI Board of Directors, and the General Council or Conference of RIBI. The COR also votes on urgent enactments proposed by the RI Board.

The RI Board will consider all resolutions that the Council adopts. Adopted urgent enactments amend Rotary's constitutional documents. Below is the outcome of the voting on COR. The suggested Enactments will be shared shortly by PDG Annie Steijn who is the D9400 representative on COR. When received, Rotary clubs should discuss the outcome at a meeting and provide her with their feedback. Send your feedback to **assteijn@gmail.com** to help PDG Annie prepare for the meeting in Chicago in April 2025.

If you wish to view the 25 resolutions that were rejected, please consult the PDF document distributed by PDG Annie Steijn to all Presidents and Secretaries.

## Resolutions Adopted in October 2024

- 24R-02 To request the RI Board to consider recommending that presidents-elect complete the Club President Basics learning plan prior to attending PETS
- 24R-04 To request the RI Board to consider creating a status of 'club in formation' during the period preceding a new club's charter
- 24R-09 To request the RI Board to consider recommending that each district establish a District Council on Legislation committee
- 24R-10 To request the RI Board to consider implementing enhancements to the training for assistant governors
- 24R-17 To request the RI Board and TRF Trustees to consider amending Codes of Policies to state that officers will refrain from making public statements in support of or against conflicts around the world when acting in their official capacity
- 24R-18 To request the RI Board to consider maintaining a firm position on the prohibition of political subjects by RI
- 24R-23 To request the RI Board to consider adding Hindi as one of the officially recognized languages of RI
- 24R-25 To request the RI Board to consider undertaking a detailed review of the cost-to-value proposition associated with the Rotary magazines
- 24R-27 To request the RI Board to consider establishing guidelines for Rotary clubs and Rotarians when providing support during large-scale disasters
- 24R-28 To request the RI Board to consider respecting all religions prior to deciding matters of place, date, and time for meetings
- 24R-29 To request the RI Board to consider allowing Rotaractors to serve as sergeants-at-arms at RI events
- 24R-31 To request the Trustees to consider increasing the percentage of funds distributed to districts
- 24R-32 To request the Trustees to consider modifying the (DDF) SHARE allocation ratio for district grants from 50:50 to 60:40
- 24R-33 To request the Trustees to consider allowing unused district grant funds to be used in funding the district grant of the subsequent year
- 24R-34 To request the Trustees to consider allowing district grants to support activities for up to three years instead of one
- 24R-36 To request the Trustees to consider reinstating the 100 percent match formerly offered by the World Fund for District Designated Funds used in global grants
- 24R-38 To request the Trustees to consider allocating recognition points for donations made to TRF's Endowment Fund
- 24R-41 To request the Trustees to consider establishing a PolioPlus Society

# New Rotary ICC agreement between D9400 and Italy, Malta and San Marino

Rotary | INTER COUNTRY COMMITTEES

On Sunday, 10 November 2024, District 9400 witnessed a historic moment in the world of Rotary. We participated in the signing ceremony of the Inter Country Committee (ICC) protocol and MOU agreement between seven (7) countries - South Africa, Mozambique, Botswana and Eswatini, making up D9400, and Italy, Malta and San Marino. South Africa is hosted by three (3) districts, namely D9400, D9370 and D9350, and this agreement thus connects these districts as well.

This event promises to strengthen our ties and foster collaboration among our diverse Rotary communities in our respective countries. We aim to promote peace and international understanding while improving awareness, engaging diversities and bridging communities.

In attendance at this auspicious event was PDG Nathalie Huyghebaert, Chair of Rotary ICC Executive Council as well as PDG Annemarie Mostert, Chair Elect of Rotary ICC Executive Council & ICC National Coordinator District 9400, and PDG Alessandro Pastorini, ICC National Coordinator Italy, Malta, San Marino as well as DG George Senosha, D9400 and DG Carlo S.N. Fraquelli, D2042 and the respective Section Presidents.

This agreement signifies the beginning of a journey where we will walk hand in hand, as people of action, to expand our reach and enhance our impact. Friendship is the cornerstone of Rotary and collaboration is the key to unlocking our full potential.

Positive Peace is more than the absence of conflict. It is the presence of justice, equity, and opportunity.

**Italy** is a large European country bordered by Switzerland, France, Slovenia, and Austria. There are twenty regions in Italy, five of which are autonomous regions with special status.

**Malta** is the largest island in an archipelago in the central Mediterranean, some 80 km south of the Italian island of Sicily across the Malta Channel.

**San Marino** is an enclaved microstate within central Italy occupying 61 km$^2$. It is the third smallest state in Europe after the Holy See and the Principality of Monaco.

DG George Senosha undertook to invest time, resources, and energy into creating communities that survive and thrive. This MOU will help us to initiate service projects that tackle the most urgent needs—clean water, sanitation, education, healthcare, and economic empowerment. We will inspire trust, foster understanding, and build bridges of friendship that transcend borders and cultural divides.

PDG Annemarie said that as people of action, we are committed to expanding our reach and enhancing our impact. This agreement is a testament to our dedication to making the world a better place, one project at a time. Service Projects are the heart of Rotary. From clean water and sanitation to disease prevention and treatment, our projects will embody the Rotary spirit of service above self.

***PDG Annemarie Mostert, ICC Chairperson Elect, Executive ICC Council 2026-2028 and National Coordinator D9400 & South Africa and Zone 22 Plan Team Lead***

**Past collaborations exemplify the strong foundation upon which this agreement is built:**

**Renewable Energy Projects**: Italy and SA have collaborated on renewable energy projects under the Mattei Plan, focusing on solar, wind, and hydro-electric power. This partnership harnesses SA's renewable energy potential with Italian technological expertise and financing.

**Cultural and Academic Exchanges**: Italy has engaged in cultural and academic exchanges with SA, including scholarships, research, and arts and culture initiatives. These exchanges have strengthened socio-cultural ties and promoted mutual understanding between the two nations.

**Healthcare Initiatives**: During the COVID-19 pandemic, Italy and SA worked together on healthcare initiatives to combat the virus's impact. This collaboration included sharing medical resources, expertise, and best practices to support both countries' healthcare systems.

**Youth exchange**: This programme has changed the lives of many. May our exchanges continue to impact our young leaders.

# Bringing health services directly to the people

This past month, Rotarians from D9400 celebrated the 2024 Rotary Family Health Days (RFHD) by bringing health services directly to people of Freedom Park and Simunye Residence Sports Ground, Rustenburg, North West. Rotary Family Health Days is a signature program of Rotarians for Family Health & AIDS Prevention (RFHA) – a Rotary Action Group.

To enhance accessibility, we provided these communities with free health services over a period of 3 days from 13 to 15 November, including screening and counselling for HIV/AIDS, TB, diabetes, high blood pressure, and cholesterol as well as child immunisations, nutritional and family planning guidance. Health screening also included comprehensive primary and specialised health services such as hearing tests and eye tests, bookings for Medical Male Circumcision and various other health services in partnership with health sector stakeholders.

Minister of Health, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi and North West Department of Health MEC, Mr Sello Lehari, accompanied by SANAC CEO and Global Fund SA CCM Chairperson, Dr Thembisile Xulu, led the community outreach activities to commemorate the RFHD. He officially announced the 37th World AIDS Day to be commemorated under the theme *Equal Rights, Equal Care.* It will be hosted in the Eastern Cape Province in Buffalo City Municipality on 1 December 2024.

He further addressed the issue of HIV/AIDS and recent spate of food poisonings. With South Africa facing the world's highest HIV prevalence—over 5.6 million people live with the virus—the country endures a "quadruple burden" of disease. In addition, there are 45 000 people who know their status but are not in AIDS treatment. Dr Motsoaledi pleaded with the community to ensure that affected people access treatment.

In terms of the food poisoning that has killed numerous children, he indicated that products bought from spaza shops had been contaminated by organophosphates, an extremely poisonous type of pesticide, regularly used to control rat infestations.

The Rustenburg team was out and about at the official RFHD celebration. Different organisations and stakeholders came together at the Rustenburg event, in the Bojanala district. National and North West Department of Health social mobilisation teams conducted health education talks in preparation for the Department of Health's national event to commemorate the Rotary Family Health Days SA.

During the launch of Rotary Family Health Days in Rustenburg on 13 November, those in need of a special pair of spectacles to improve their eyesight were able to choose a pair. Some 1 111 spectacles were donated by members in GB&I. Friends and family worked behind the scenes - Thank you to our WBO world boxing champion Tulani Tulz Mbenge, Welma, Judith, Sesego Foundation, James, Wilma Lig.

# Rotary first tackled Polio, now targets Malaria

Rotary will benefit from the impact of the first Malaria Vaccine following the very first Global Grant ($2 million) for a Project of Scale in Zone 22. In 2021, Rotary awarded this grant to Rotary club-led partners in D9210 for a Malaria-Free Zambia program. An additional $4 million was contributed by partners, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and World Vision USA. This project also got a major boost from the endorsement of a new vaccine by the World Health Organization (WHO) during October 2021.

The WHO's endorsement was the first step in a process that should lead to wide distribution of a malaria vaccine that is safe and moderately effective in poor countries. The recommendation of this vaccine is based on results from an ongoing pilot program in Ghana, Kenya and Malawi where more than 2.3 million doses have been administered, reaching more than 800,000 children since 2019. Financing for the pilot programme has been mobilized through an unprecedented collaboration among three key global health funding bodies: Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; and Unitaid with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

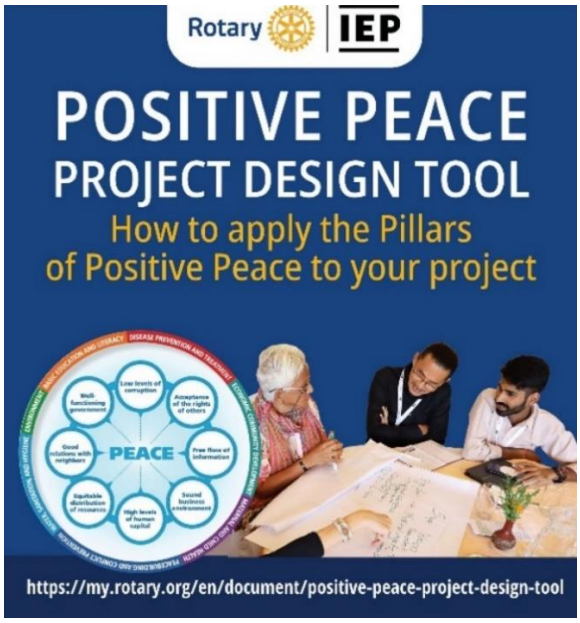
This $6 million program will add 2,500 community health workers to the national health system in Zambia, allowing for effective malaria diagnosis and treatment for more than 1.3 million people in ten of the most highly affected districts in Central and Muchinga provinces. The initiative aims to save and improve lives by empowering community health workers to test, diagnose and treat malaria.

Malaria, a preventable disease caused by a parasite spread through the bites of infected mosquitoes. Bed nets, presently the most widespread preventive measure, cut malaria deaths only by about 20 percent. The development of a vaccine against this parasite is thus a breakthrough for science, child health and malaria control. Its use, in addition to existing tools to prevent malaria, could save tens of thousands of young lives each year.

The vaccine requires four injections; three doses between ages 5 and 17 months, and another 18 months later. Following clinical trials, the vaccine was tried out in Kenya, Malawi and Ghana where it was incorporated into routine immunization programs and bumped up the percentage of children protected against malaria to more than 90 percent, from less than 70 percent.

The vaccine rouses a child's immune system to thwart *Plasmodium falciparum*, the deadliest of five malaria pathogens and the most prevalent in Africa.

Modelling studies estimate that rolling out the vaccine to countries with the highest incidence of malaria, could prevent 5.4 million cases and 23,000 deaths in children younger than 5 each year.




## New Positive Peace Project Design Tool

Rotary IEP is a partnership between Rotary International and the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) which aims to create and sustain societies where all people can flourish. As such, Rotary IEP has made available this useful project design tool to help you align service projects in Rotary's areas of focus with the eight Pillars of Positive Peace.

The transformational power of the Positive Peace Framework starts with understanding how each Pillar depends on the others. The Positive Peace Framework can be used to plan and implement a project in any area of focus – and ensure, in turn, that the project builds Positive Peace.

When designing a Positive Peace project, it's crucial to focus on the needs and perspectives of the community. Use this framework to identify community strengths and weaknesses, set objectives, plan activities, and define outcomes for each the 8 Pillars of Positive Peace.

The tool structures several considerations to help you align your project with Pillars of Positive Peace. Strengthen your efforts now with this beneficial worksheet. To download: Click **here**

# 120th Anniversary initiative in 2025

*Girls Empowerment* is twinning with *My Body is My Body* in an autonomy initiative promoted by Maggie Moruntshi, the District Chair GE MBIMB. She is leveraging the visits of DG George across Gauteng to advocate for initiatives dedicated to empowering girls. These efforts reflect a commitment to transformative programs in District 9400, through Rotary Community Corps, dedicated volunteers, educators, and NGOs.

DG George Senosha has embraced the program, aligning it with *Girls Empowerment* initiatives. He encourages members to prioritize inclusivity and outreach to neighbouring regions, aiming at each to onboard 120 schools, coinciding with **Rotary International's 120th anniversary** on the **23rd February, 2025**.

During recent club visits, Moruntshi introduced the Girls Empowerment program, emphasizing the importance of collective action for girls' success. As we work towards a more equitable future, it's crucial that no child is left behind. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are our priorities as mandated by Rotary International,

She invites all Rotary members, including Youth Exchange participants and Rotaract leaders, to join the *My Body is My Body* initiative. Developed by Chrissy Sykes in 1989, this globally recognized program 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.

***District Chair GE MBIMB, Maggie Moruntshi***

## Get Involved!

For information on supporting the *Girls Empowerment* and *My Body is My Body* initiatives, contact Maggie Moruntshi at +27-76 893 0762 or maggie.lebepe@gmail.com, or reach out to Secretary General Rhonda James at +27-679564955 or sykiej@gmail.com.

Together, we can empower the next generation and ensure every child has the opportunity to thrive. Click here for more information.

## Come join the Team:

*Rotary Girls Empowerment* twinning *My Body is My Body* is looking for five (5) Rotarians to join this amazing team and fill these portfolios. Please apply NOW should you wish to join the team and empower young ladies.

Follow this link to join the WhatsApp group:
https://chat.whatsapp.com/IRdT9HcwtzqL0ZsKSPfaDo

1) *Treasurer*
2) *Deputy Secretary*
3) *Deputy Marketing & Fundraiser*
4) *Deputy Youth Compliance Officer* and
5) *Entertainment & Learning Facilitator*

Interact 2024 - 2025

***District Interact Chair Debbie Smit***

### LAST CHANCE to enter the 2024 Interact Awards!

To celebrate their hard work of Interact clubs across the world, Rotary International hosts the **Interact Awards**. Interact clubs are invited to submit a video, photo(s), and/or essay to showcase club experience and service initiatives. This year, Interact clubs are invited to **showcase their favourite service project**! Submit **NOW** - a video, photo(s), or essay that shows your service project from **start to finish**. Include your **planning stage**, your **service in action**, and demonstrate how your project **makes a difference** in your community. Stand a chance to be named "Best Video," "Best Photo," or "Best Essay," and receive funds to support your next service project.

Submissions due by 2 December 2024 - **https://www.rotary.org/en/interact-awards**

# ANN'S MESSAGE
## FROM DGA CHERYL

*Dear Rotary Anns, Rotary Family and Friends,*

Warm greetings to all! This time next month it will be Christmas Eve!! When we were young it seemed to take forever for Christmas to arrive, and now it comes around in the blink of an eye: A gentle reminder not to put off those little things that we always feel we will get to later. Time passes too quickly and the opportunity is lost. Do the good that you want to do; spend time with friends; tell loved ones how important they are to you and do that today.

I have been very fortunate to be able to attend a number of year end functions, for the Anns and those arranged by the Anns for others. How exciting it is to see the spirit of friendship and giving in action! Thank you to Rosebank Anns for the lovely afternoon spent chatting and getting to know each other.

Thank you to Krugersdorp Anns for inviting me to share in the delightful lunch you organised for the residents of your two homes. How inspiring to see a 98-year-old dancing around the tables! Thank you to Aurora Anns for always making me feel so welcome at all your meetings.

Riverside Anns, thank you for giving me the opportunity to see for myself the workings of a project I have heard so much about for so long. It is so impressive what you can do for the community as a result of all your hard work in the shop. And so fantastic to see Myrtle still hard at work despite having retired from Rotary Anns. Thank you to you all.

I'm so looking forward to my trip to Phalaborwa and White River later this week and seeing the difference the Limpopo and Mpumalanga Anns are making.

*Benoni van Ryn Anns packing gifts to be delivered to Benoni Salvation Army Retired residents.*

*Benoni Aurora Anns delivering Twiddle sleeves to Fairleads Home in Benoni.*

*Germiston Rotary Anns hosted a Christmas party at Bambanani Creche. The children then presented a beautiful singing item for the Anns*

*The Riverside Anns Club delivered food, toiletries and lovely fresh apples to Lewenskruis home shelter and Elsmedsorg*

*Residents of Golden Age Village (GAV) enjoying fellowship and good food at the year-end function arranged by Krugersdorp Anns who were also seen in action serving the delicious lunch*

My apologies to the Kyalami Anns for misnaming the photograph in last month's newsletter. I'm sure the Rosebank Anns were quite surprised to see that they had apparently spent the morning at Bryanston Market. I really did enjoy the morning spent with the Kyalami Anns!

*Always remember: **You** matter; **You** are important and **You** are loved, and **You** bring to this world things no one else can.*

(Charlie Mackesy)

My warmest wishes to you all for a blessed and safe festive season. Love,

*DGA Cheryl Jennings*

***Beautiful books filled with essential life skills were delivered to Halfway House Primary School by Kyalami Anns and enthusiastically received by the learners.***

***Rosebank Anns donated tables for food preparation and plastic containers to Aletta of Protea South who feeds more than 300 women and children three times a week***

## PEACE CONVERSATION

planned for early 2025

Rotary Zone 22 | ARCoM

Community mediators of the African Rotary Community Mediation (**ARCoM**) are inviting four (4) clubs to take part in a "**Peace Conversation**" planned for February/March 2025. The existing Community mediators will receive facilitation training in January to facilitate the discussions. Requirements for the conversations are as follows:

- Zoom platform with ideally 24 Rotarians participating. The group will be divided up into two breakaway rooms of 12 each. If your club does not have 24 members, you are free to merge with other clubs to make up the 24 participants.
- A community Mediator may not facilitate his/her own club. The duration of conversation will be approximately one (1) hour.
- If your club is interested, please contact PDG Grant Daly at 072 071 8111 or grant@granacam.co.za by Monday 2 December.

**EGYPT**

**8-22 February 2025**

# 2025 OUTBOUND
## Friendship Exchange

Rotary Friendship Exchange

**ARGENTINA**

**8-21 November 2025**

**CANADA**

**26 June-9 July 2025**

*We are visiting 4 countries next year!*

*If you want to join us, contact Felicity Jones*

**076 3236513; Fbj6302@gmail.com**

**BRAZIL**

**September 2025**

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

21-25 JUNE 2025 • CALGARY, CANADA

Register today at convention.rotary.org

Rotary | CALGARY 2025

The 2025 Rotary International Convention will take place in Calgary, Canada, **21-25 June 2025**. Calgary is a big city with a small-town feel that warmly welcomes visitors to its breathtaking beauty. More than 165 languages are spoken in Calgary, making it a perfect destination to bring together Rotary members from around the world.

Rotary | CALGARY 2025

The 2025 convention theme is "***Magic All Around***," and from the moment you arrive in Calgary, you will feel the magic of its spirit, heart, and passion!

The 2025 outbound **Friendship Exchange** to Canada is being planned to coincide with the Rotary International Convention.

## Online scams escalate this time of year

**Beware! The end of the year is a busy time for cybercriminals. Here are three ways to protect yourself and your Rotary Club from online scams:**

- **Be wary of phishing attacks**. Holiday-themed phishing emails are common. Always double-check the sender's address, and don't click on any suspicious links. When in doubt, go directly to the company's website.
- **Be smart with your passwords**. Create strong, unique passwords for each of your accounts and avoid using information that could be guessed. Consider using a password manager to generate your passwords and store them securely.
- **Enable two-factor authentication**. Add an extra layer of security by enabling two-factor authentication on accounts that you especially want to keep private. This protects your account even if your password is compromised.

# D9400 PEOPLE OF ACTION MAKING MAGIC

**Click here to view Club newsletters and stories online! Send your Club Newsletters to admin@rotary9400.org.za to have them loaded onto the D9400 website!**

## Rotary Club of **Haenertsburg**

RC Haenertsburg feels that there is a great deal of ignorance in the younger generations about Polio and decided that Rotary should expand the knowledge of young learners. They tasked the Grade 9 pupils at Appel Combined School with researching Polio for a presentation to the school on World Polio Day.

The learners were given guidelines for their research and pointers for suitable sites to examine. Half way through the allocated 6-week period, they checked on their progress, which was good. On World Polio Day, the 4 teams (the class decision) presented aspects of their research to the assembled school in the school hall. Given the limited access the learners had to internet searches, the Rotarians who attended this presentation were impressed with the considerable effort which had been made.

At the end of the presentation, every pupil was given an End Polio Now ribbon and then given a party pack with goodies, a juice box and a packet of popcorn.

A Friend of Rotary, a retired nursing sister, then spoke to the Gr 9 pupils, encouraging them to remember what they had learned and entrenching the need for vaccinations.

## Rotary Club of **Polokwane**

RC Polokwane proudly chartered the Interact Club of Pax College on Saturday 5 October 2024. The event brought together the enthusiastic students, dedicated faculty, and community leaders to celebrate the spirit of service and teamwork. There was a special guest appearance from DG George Senosha and District Chair Maggie who shared inspirational messages to the future leaders from Pax College.

President John Mogodi of RC Polokwane highlighted the club's mission to empower young people to make a positive impact in their communities, as well as to rise to the challenge of breaking barriers and to continue to lead and serve others while having fun. The newly inducted Interact Club President shared his experience with serving the community through fellowship, in addition to the various projects that they had been working on. The event concluded with a vibrant musical performance by the newly chartered Interact Club of Pax College, led by President-Elect Francis Petha, showcasing their talent. Congratulations to the young leaders of Pax College on such an important milestone – continue to lead in service while having fun!

## Rotary Club of **Brits-Hartbeespoort**

RC Brits-Hartbeespoort hosted RYLA from 18 to 20 October. There were 40 participants with a 50/50 split between male and female youngsters. The group represented youth from Johannesburg, Pretoria and Hartbeespoortdam with a mix between private and Government schools.

The RYLA programme is designed to take them out of their comfort zone and challenge them. The youngsters were well-behaved and a bright bunch; they had clear insight into the programme requirements and were very mature in their approach in completing their tasks. They could bounce back after making mistakes or if their plans didn't work initially.

Youngsters always bring a different energy to an event. This year, the energetic group took their music everywhere, which created a lovely vibe.

## Rotary Club of **Pretoria East**

RC Pretoria East and Bronberg Retirement Village had the opportunity to visit several institutions, including Home for the Needy, to deliver knitted and crocheted items – beanies, toys etc. made with love by the wonderful residents of Bronberg.

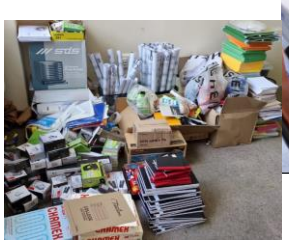
## Rotary Club of **Brits-Hartbeespoort**

RC Brits-Hartbeespoort held a successful fund-raiser at Airspan, Rustenburg by inviting local bikers to participate in some adrenalin pumping activities. The bikers were allowed to ride their motorbikes anywhere on the runway. Afterwards, they enjoyed a good. They were a friendly, generous bunch and, in addition to enjoying the outing, they also helped Rotary to raise funds for projects.

## Rotary Club of **Northcliff**

RC Northcliff received a donation of one ton of stationery. They shared this wonderful gift with deserving schools in the greater area, creches and libraries.

Some of the items were also passed on to RC Van der Bijl Park and the e club of Southern Africa to support their educational drives.



## Rotary Club of **Johannesburg East**

RC Johannesburg East handed over some clothing and stationary to Uitkoms Home for Girls in Observatory, Johannesburg.

The goods, sourced by AG Alco Beton and PP Hazel, were delivered to a very happy group of girls.

## Rotary Club of **Johannesburg**

RC Johannesburg, the first Rotary Club on the African continent is proud to announce the latest achievement of its flagship project, the Educational Facilities Committee (EDFAC). Since its inception in 1936, EDFAC has been dedicated to improving educational facilities and opportunities for underprivileged children. The project focuses on providing proper nourishment and educational support to ensure that children can thrive both academically and physically.

The EDFAC project has profoundly impacted the lives of Princess and Harmony Eguzoroibe. Princess was selected for The Golden Lions U16 Schools Rugby team, and Harmony was awarded a scholarship from Jeppe Girls for 2025. The two girls exemplify the power of education and support.

The success of the Eguzoroibe sisters showcases the significant difference that targeted educational support and mentorship can make in the lives of underprivileged students. These achievements highlight their dedication and the invaluable assistance of the EDFAC project, which has helped them reach new heights in academics and athletics.

By investing in their potential, the EDFAC project has not only enhanced their academic and extracurricular achievements, but also fostered a sense of confidence and resilience. Their journey is a testament to the transformative power of education and the collective effort of RC Johannesburg in empowering young minds to prosper.

## Rotary Club of **Knights Pendragon**

Earlier this year, RC Knights Pendragon showcased their Mouse-Free Marion project at Discon 2024. Now their hard work to restore Marion Island for its seabirds has paid off!

At their recent 2024 annual event, BirdLife South Africa has honoured Rotarian Jim Rankin and his Rotary Club, the RC Knights Pendragon, with one of the nine prestigious Owl Awards which are handed out each year.

As one of the sponsors of the Mouse-Free Marion (MFM) Project, the focus of RC Knights Pendragon on maintaining 100 hectares on Marion Island, placed it in the top-tier category on the website's Donor Honour Roll. There are currently only 11 other members who have sponsored an area of 100 hectares or more.

Jim Rankin is a proud supporter of the Mouse-Free Marion (MFM) Project and is one of the project's earliest donors, having first sponsored a hectare of Marion Island at *Flock at Sea Again! 2017* in the then newly launched MFM *Sponsor-a-Hectare* initiative. His Rotary Club's generous support has been due to the steady, but unobtrusive, work via a golf day and from weekly club meetings. Since arranging an initial sponsorship of 10 hectares in 2022, Jim has steadily increased the numbers of hectares sponsored by RC Knights Pendragon to 100 this year, to free Marion Island of alien House Mice that kills the iconic Wandering Albatrosses on the island.

As a much-appreciated MFM Project supporter and advocate, Jim was recognised for the exceptional work he has done in creating awareness about the project and the critical need.

He has championed the MFM Project in both his personal capacity and through Rotary clubs and conferences. In addition, Jim has facilitated contributions through his company AGFACTS, which specialises in agricultural machinery data reporting.

***Jim Rankin holds his Owl Award statuette and certificate with Yvonne Pennington, Chairperson, BirdLife South Africa Board of Directors. The annual BLSA Owl Awards recognize the valuable contributions that people and organisations make to the conservation of South Africa's birds and their habitats.***

## Rotary Club of **Middelburg & Witbank**

The famous Rotary Great Train Race hosted by the Rotary Clubs of Middelburg and Witbank is back!

The 2024 Great Train Race took place on Saturday, November 23, 2024 at 06h30. Middelburg was buzzing as runners from across the country took part in the Greatest Train Race. It started from the Middelburg Railway Station in Middelburg, Mpumalanga. Over 1000 athletes participated in different races, namely; the 21km starting at Pan Station, the 10km, as well as the 5km fun run.

In the Men's 25km, Mandla Nkabinde took the honours while Fransune Du Toit won the ladies' title.

***PDG Anton Meerkotter (far right) of RC Middelburg with the organizers of the 2024 Great Train Race***

## Rotary Club of **Pretoria East**

RC Pretoria East had the honour of inaugurating an Interact Club at CPC – the Christian Progressive College. It is the first Interact Club RCPE has launched in over 15 years! This exciting partnership with CPC marks the beginning of a new chapter, and the energy was nothing short of electric.

The Rotarians were out in full force, with a delegation of six members, including President Anastasia Demertzis and AG Doulien Knopjes. The hall was alive with jubilations and ululations as they officially inaugurated the club and welcomed 50 vibrant Interact members, each proudly pinned.

The moment of the day was watching the sheer joy and pride of Ipeleng, the new President of the Interact Club, as she received the chain of office from Rotarian President Anastasia. Her enthusiasm was contagious, setting the tone for an impactful journey ahead. With these 50 passionate young leaders, CPC is ready to embrace the Rotary spirit of "Service Above Self" and leadership excellence. RCPE Rotarians are equally thrilled about the opportunity to mentor, guide, and inspire these bright minds while working alongside the entire school community. Here's to a wave of positive change, new enthusiasm, and limitless possibilities!

## Rotary Club of **Pretoria Sunrise**

RC Pretoria Sunrise, home club to Nomsa Zikonda, the RFHD Chair of D9400 was actively involved in the Rotary Family Health Day (RFHD) held on Friday 15 November 2024 in Rustenburg.

Preparations were extensive and required meticulous planning. The team sat through meetings, tirelessly strategized logistics, and coordinated with numerous stakeholders to ensure every detail was covered. The sheer scale of the event and the responsibility it entailed were undeniably daunting. Yet, it was their unwavering commitment and the steadfast belief in this goal that kept them moving forward. It was this collective determination that saw Rotary succeed with rolling out this initiative.

Engaging with the communities that flocked to the venue, eager to benefit from an array of services, was an eye-opening experience. Witnessing families and individuals receive medical check-ups, health education, and various treatments highlighted the importance of our mission.

The keynote address by Minister of Health Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, emphasized ending foodborne fatalities and promoting healthy sexual behaviours.

RFHD is more than just a single event. It represents a sustained effort to empower our communities and ensure lasting access to essential health services.

Thanks to our primary, implementing partners and everyone who contributed to this day - your support and collaboration were essential to the event's success. Together, we are making a difference!

# The Four-Way Test:

## *A Timeless Guide to Ethical Stakeholder Relations*

The Rotary Four-Way Test, created in 1932 by Herbert J. Taylor to save a struggling cookware company, is a beacon of ethical decision-making. Adopted by Rotary International in 1943 and translated into over 100 languages, it provides a framework for fostering integrity and trust, which is valuable for professionals navigating stakeholder relations.

The test poses four essential questions**: 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?** These principles—truth, fairness, goodwill, and mutual benefit—offer more than guidance; they serve as guardrails ensuring ethical and transparent practices. For stakeholder relations professionals tasked with maintaining trust, fostering mutual respect, and achieving equitable outcomes, the test is vital for building stronger relationships and enhancing organisational reputation.

For instance, Taylor's Club Aluminium Company provides a compelling real-world example. Amid the Great Depression, the company realigned its policies and advertising with the Four-Way Test, prioritising transparency over exaggerated claims. This approach rebuilt trust, strengthened customer relationships, and ultimately turned the business around, underscoring the value of ethical communication in fostering success.

Rotary

**FOUR-WAY TEST**

FOUR QUESTIONS – 24 WORDS

| THE UNIQUE STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS | PROCESS TO ACHIEVE DESIRED OUTCOMES THAT ARE ETHICAL, FAIR AND BENEFICIAL TO ALL |
|---|---|
| **IS IT THE TRUTH?**<br>• Clarity<br>• Transparency<br>• Fact checking<br>• Ethical behaviour | That we do our homework to collect information and to apply critical thinking by asking questions to know the difference between facts, beliefs, assumptions, and opinions as well as know what we don't know. |
| **IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?**<br>• Inclusion<br>• Empathy<br>• Acceptance<br>• Belonging<br>• Accountability | That we use empathy to see other points-of-view in the context of the problems to be solved and the goals to be reached. |
| **WILL IT BUILD GOODWILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**<br>• Trust<br>• Do good<br>• Feel good<br>• Have fun | That the process is civil, and there is a feeling of respect and openness to ask the "dumb" question, they can lead to creative and innovative answers. Also, people prefer to work with people they like, respect and trust. |
| **WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?**<br>• What if scenarios<br>• Trade-offs<br>• Being creative and innovative<br>• Better decision making | That these are the conflict transformative answers and decisions that can lead to mutually satisfying solutions, that are sustainable and scalable. This can be an iterative process as we learn more from doing and continuously improving with time. |

However, ignoring these principles comes at a cost. A lack of truth, fairness, goodwill, or mutual benefit can erode trust and strain stakeholder relations, has been seen in various high-profile cases like Equifax, Volkswagen and even Eskom in South Africa.

For stakeholder relations professionals, the Four-Way Test offers practical applications:

- **Develop Ethical Policies:** Use the test as a foundation for drafting truthful and inclusive policies.
- **Foster Trust:** Embrace transparent communication and equitable decision-making to build stronger connections.
- **Resolve Conflicts:** Apply its principles to mediate disputes, ensuring balanced outcomes.
- **Promote CSR:** Leverage goodwill and mutual benefit to design impactful corporate social responsibility initiatives.

The Four-Way Test is more than a moral compass—it is a strategic tool for fostering trust, resolving conflicts, and building robust relationships in a complex stakeholder environment. By embedding its principles into daily operations, organisations can navigate ethical challenges and lay the groundwork for sustainable success.

As the dynamics of stakeholder engagement evolve, the Rotary Four-Way Test remains a timeless guide, illuminating the path toward ethical and impactful decisions. It's not just a test; it's a foundation for creating enduring and meaningful connections in the business world.

# District 9400 **EVENTS CALENDAR**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **1** | December 2024 | **World AIDS Day** |
| **3** | December 2024 | **Giving Tuesday -** Make a special gift to the Foundation on Tuesday 3 December. Click **here** |
| **3** | December 2024 | **International Day of Disabled Persons** |
| **20-22** | February 2025 | **2025 Rotary Presidential Peace Conference** in Istanbul, Turkey with theme *Healing in a Divided World*. |
| **23** | February 2025 | **RI birthday 120 years** |
| **9** | March 2025 | **Cape Town Cycle Tour.** Contact PDG David Grant 083 626 4523; **davidgrant.rotary@gmail.com** |
| **22** | March 2025 | **World Water Day** |
| **25-27** | April 2025 | **2nd ICC Africa Peace Forum** (Rotary Intercountry Committees) in Cape Town. Theme "*Bridging Cultures, Building Positive Peace*." |
| **21-25** | June 2025 | **2025 Rotary International Convention in Calgary, Canada** |

**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**

**DISTRICT GOVERNOR**
George Senosha
george@rotary9400.org.za

**Join the District 9400 Facebook Page**
**CLICK HERE**

**SEND YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO:**
Mariana Purnell
mariana.purnell@egrain.co.za