DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

Botswana | Eswatini | Mozambique | South Africa

UNITE FOR GOOD

Rotary

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

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

Service and giving are our normal attributes as Rotarians, but in November we are reminded of the need and power of giving.

The Rotary Foundation

The Rotary Foundation was officially established in 1928, along with the creation of its Board of Trustees.

Matching Grants are launched in 1965. For the first time, the Foundation has a regular program to fund club and district projects.

Rotary begins its fight against polio in 1979.

The first Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) grant is used to purchase polio vaccine to immunize 6 million children in the Philippines.

In 1985 **Rotary launches the PolioPlus program**

The "plus" initially refers to other vaccines administered along with the polio vaccine. It will later reflect the fact that infrastructure, fundraising techniques, and advocacy methods developed for the polio eradication effort are used to fight other infectious diseases.

1999**: The Rotary Peace Centres program is created**

Its goal is to offer fellowships to develop leaders who can build peace and prevent and resolve conflict in their communities and around the world.

2019: **Disaster response grants are introduced**

The Foundation creates this grant type to help districts aid their communities after natural disasters.

2020: **Programs of Scale grants are launched**

These large grants support the expansion of programs that are led by Rotary members, are based on evidence, and have demonstrated success.

The Rotary Foundation's PolioPlus Fund is used to:

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

Servir e doar são atributos normais para nós como Rotários, mas em Novembro somos lembrados da necessidade e do poder da doação.

A Fundação Rotária

A Fundação Rotária foi oficialmente criada em 1928, juntamente com a criação do seu Conselho de Curadores.

Os Subsídios Globais são lançados em 1965. Pela primeira vez, a Fundação tem um programa regular para financiar projectos de clubes e distritos.

O Rotary inicia a sua luta contra a poliomielite em 1979.

A primeira subvenção do programa Saúde, Fome e Humanidade (3-H) é utilizada para adquirir vacinas contra a poliomielite para imunizar 6 milhões de crianças nas Filipinas.

Em 1985, o Rotary lança o programa Pólio Plus.

O «plus» refere-se inicialmente a outras vacinas administradas juntamente com a vacina contra a poliomielite. Posteriormente, reflectirá o facto de que a infraestrutura, as técnicas de angariação de fundos e os métodos de sensibilização desenvolvidos para o esforço de erradicação da poliomielite são utilizados para combater outras doenças infecciosas.

1999: É criado o programa Centros Rotary pela Paz

O seu objectivo é oferecer bolsas de estudo para formar líderes capazes de construir a paz e prevenir e resolver conflitos nas suas comunidades e em todo o mundo.

2019: São introduzidas subvenções para resposta a catástrofes

A Fundação criou este tipo de subsídio para ajudar os distritos a apoiar as suas comunidades após catástrofes naturais.

2020: Lançamento Programa de Subsídios de Grande Escala

Essas grandes doações apoiam a expansão de programas liderados por membros do Rotary, baseados em evidências e com sucesso comprovado.

O Fundo Pólio Plus da Fundação Rotária é utilizado para:

- Get vaccines and administer them to children
- Conduct regular surveillance to detect the disease
- Raise awareness of the benefits of immunization
- Support the work of researchers

When clubs and Rotarians contribute, it makes possible for The Rotary Foundation to offer a variety of grants that help fund local and international humanitarian projects, programs, scholarships, and vocational training teams. These funds allow to support activities in the Focus areas namely peacebuilding and conflict prevention; maternal and child health; disease prevention and treatment; basic education and literacy; water, sanitation, and hygiene; community economic development; and the environment.

The Annual Fund

The Annual Fund-SHARE system pays for much of the good the Foundation does worldwide. It's the source of funding for global grants and district grants.

When clubs and Rotarians give to the Annual Fund-SHARE, the donations enter the SHARE system. In this system, donations are divided between the World Fund and District Designated Funds. After three years, the contributing district is allocated District Designated Funds (DDF), which may be utilized to support clubs and district initiatives, or Foundation projects.

The World Fund is used for grants that maintain and expand Rotary life-changing programs around the world furthering the Foundation's vision worldwide.

"Anyone who knows Rotarians sees how we give our time and resources. They know their money is in good hands" **(Eric Kimani, endowment/major gifts adviser).**

We encourage every Rotary member to contribute to the Annual Fund every year. The Foundation turns donations into service, empowering Rotarians as People of Action to act and create a lasting impact.

Other key recent Rotary Foundation initiatives included launching the $30 million Healthy Communities Challenge (RHCC) to address childhood diseases in four African countries (DRC; Mozambique – D9210 and D9400; Nigeria and Zambia).

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.

- Obter vacinas e administrá-las às crianças
- Realizar vigilância regular para detectar a doença
- Sensibilizar para os benefícios da imunização
- Apoiar o trabalho dos investigadores

Quando os clubes e os Rotários contribuem, a Fundação Rotária pode oferecer uma variedade de subsídios que ajudam a financiar projectos humanitários locais e internacionais, programas, bolsas de estudo e equipas de formação profissional. Esses fundos permitem apoiar actividades nas áreas de foco, nomeadamente construção da paz e prevenção de conflitos; saúde materno-infantil; prevenção e tratamento de doenças; educação básica e alfabetização; água, saneamento e higiene; desenvolvimento económico comunitário; e meio ambiente.

- O Fundo Anual

O sistema Anual Fund-SHARE financia grande parte do trabalho benéfico que a Fundação realiza em todo o mundo. É a fonte de financiamento para subsídios globais e distritais.

Quando os clubes e Rotários fazem doações ao Fundo Anual SHARE, as doações são inseridas no sistema SHARE. Nesse sistema, as doações são divididas entre o Fundo Mundial e os Fundos Distritais Designados. Após três anos, o distrito contribuinte recebe Fundos Distritais de Utilização Controlada (FDUC), que podem ser utilizados para apoiar iniciativas dos clubes e distritos ou projectos da Fundação.

O Fundo Mundial é utilizado para subsídios que mantêm e expandem programas rotários transformadores em todo o mundo, promovendo a visão da Fundação a nível global.

"Quem conhece os Rotários sabe como dedicamos o nosso tempo e recursos. Eles sabem que o seu dinheiro está em boas mãos" **(Eric Kimani, consultor de doações / grandes doações).**

Incentivamos todos os membros do Rotary a contribuírem anualmente para o Fundo Anual. A Fundação transforma doações em serviços, capacitando os Rotários como Pessoas de Acção para agir e criar um impacto duradouro.

Outras iniciativas recentes importantes da Fundação Rotária incluíram o lançamento do Desafio Rotary de Comunidades Saudáveis (RHCC), no valor de US$ 30 milhões, para combater doenças infantis em quatro países africanos (República Democrática do Congo; Moçambique – D9210 e D9400; Nigéria e Zâmbia).

O Rotary anunciou o quarto vencedor do Prémio Programas de Grande Escala durante o ano rotário de 2023-2024: Parceiros para o Acesso à Água e Melhores Colheitas na Índia, um programa que visa melhorar a subsistência dos agricultores por meio da agricultura sustentável e da gestão da água. Este programa recebeu um subsídio de US$ 2 milhões ao longo de cinco anos para ajudar mais de 60.000 agricultores em quatro estados indianos. Os Rotários são incentivados a contribuir para o Fundo Anual, e os clubes são incentivados a solicitar e utilizar subsídios da Fundação.

Interact

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. This is a special time of year for Interact clubs as we celebrate World Interact Week from 4 to 10 November and may Interact Awards contests also be held. In 2025, Interact is celebrating its 63rd anniversary! Interact is doing well in the district: currently there are 67 Interact clubs as per 14 November. Keep the good work you are doing Debbie!

Club visits continued

In November, the final round took place in Gauteng (covered in August September and November), after Botswana (September) and Eswatini (October). In Eswatini, two Rotaract clubs, initially at risk of termination, regained active status thanks to support from their sponsor clubs. Unfortunately, the Phalaborwa Rotaract was terminated. Mozambique clubs were the last to be visited. Old issues prevail - some clubs find it challenging to gain recognition by their communities as reflection of the community's diversity is mismatched in club structure, race in particular. Several clubs continue to encounter challenges in recruiting members from younger generations. Clubs are increasingly looking to collaborate, though visibility is still suboptimal. Payment of dues remains a challenge. Improving relations with local authorities is needed.

Membership continues to be D9400 top priority. Clubs have inducted 82 new members but 38 left.

Let's continue making a strong focused effort on membership retention as the major prerequisite for membership growth.

Interact

Em Novembro, celebramos o Interact, a nossa organização de serviços para jovens de 12 a 18 anos patrocinada pelos Rotary Clubs locais. É aqui que os membros desenvolvem habilidades de liderança, organizando e concluindo pelo menos dois projectos por ano: um na escola ou comunidade e outro para a compreensão internacional. Esta é uma época especial do ano para os clubes Interact, pois celebramos a Semana Mundial do Interact de 4 a 10 de Novembro e também podem ser realizados concursos para o Prémio Interact. Em 2025, o Interact celebrará o seu 63.º aniversário! O Interact vai muito bem no distrito: actualmente, há 67 clubes Interact, conforme dados de 14 de Novembro. Continue com o bom trabalho, Debbie!

As visitas aos clubes continuaram

Em Novembro, a última ronda em Gauteng (Agosto, Setembro e Novembro); Botsuana (Setembro) e Essuatíni (Outubro). Dois clubes Rotaract estavam prestes a ser encerrados, mas superaram o desafio com o apoio dos clubes patrocinadores e actualmente estão activos novamente. Infelizmente, o Rotaract de Phalaborwa foi encerrado. Os clubes de Moçambique foram os últimos a serem visitados. Há questões que prevalecem. Alguns clubes têm dificuldade em obter reconhecimento das suas comunidades, pois a diversidade da comunidade não se reflecte na estrutura do clube, especialmente no que diz respeito à raça. Vários clubes continuam a enfrentar desafios no recrutamento de membros das gerações mais jovens. Os clubes estão cada vez mais interessados em colaborar, embora a visibilidade ainda não seja a ideal. O pagamento das quotas continua a ser um desafio. É necessário melhorar as relações com as autoridades locais.

A adesão continua a ser a principal prioridade do D9400. Os clubes admitiram 82 novos membros, mas 38 deixaram os clubes.

Vamos continuar a envidar esforços intensos e focados na retenção de membros, como principal pré-requisito para o crescimento do número de membros.

AS OF 14 NOVEMBER 2025, THE DISTRICT HAD A TOTAL OF 1010 MEMBERS /

ATÉ 14 DE NOVEMBRO DE 2025, O DISTRITO TINHA UM TOTAL DE 1010 MEMBROS

Top 5 Clubs with net gain of multiple members / *Os 5 clubes com maior ganho líquido de membros*	Clubs with net gain < 5 members / *Clubes com ganho líquido < 5 membros*	Clubs with net gain of 1 member / *Clubes com ganho líquido de 1 membro*	Clubs with inducted members not yet reflected in My Rotary / *Clubes com membros admitidos, mas ainda não reflectidos no Meu Rotary*
E-Club of Southern Africa - **13**	Gaborone - **4**	Brits-Hartbeespoort	Selebe-Phikwe (reinstated)
Fourways Main Reef - **10**	Hoedspruit - **2**	Giyani	Sandton Central (new E-club)
Pretoria East - **7**	Pretoria - **2**	Haenertsburg	Centurion
Eagle Canyon - **6**	Sandton - **2**	Hatfield	
Okavango - **6**	Middelburg - **2**	Matsapa	
Maputo Metro - **5**		Rosebank	

I will come back to club regalia and banners. I was deeply impressed by the collections at Pietersburg 100, Haenertsburg, Mbuluzi-Mbabane, and Krugersdorp. Not even 2 years of term could absorb the richness of what I was gifted to see!

Voltarei a falar sobre os emblemas e bandeiras do clube. Fiquei impressionada com as colecções que vi em o que vi em Pietersburg 100, Haenertsburg, Mbuluzi-Mbabane, and Krugersdorp. Nem mesmo dois anos de mandato seriam suficientes para absorver toda a riqueza do que tive a oportunidade de ver!

BELAS E ÚNICAS MEMÓRIAS (Beautiful and unique memories). Thank you, Fellow Rotarians for the rich experience you made me go through and the lessons learnt. Rotary business is being implemented in different ways but all ensuring that the Rotary motto is well respected and applied.

Thanks also to Rotarian Margareth Azera Cunningham for being my Special AIDE in the journey of visiting 47 clubs (South Africa, Eswatini and Mozambique).

BELAS E ÚNICAS MEMÓRIAS. Obrigada, Companheiros Rotários pela experiência que me deixaram partilhar e pelas lições aprendidas. O trabalho Rotário está a ser implementado de forma diferente mas assegurando que o motto Rotário é sempre respeitado e aplicado.

O meu agradecimento também vai à Rotária Margareth Azera Cunningham, por ser a minha Assessora Especial ns visitas a 47 clubes (África do Sul, Eswatini e Moçambique).

DG Maria Angelica Salomao

District Governor 2025-2026, Rotary District 9400

D9400 DG Observations

Three weeks after their last donation at the beginning of October, **RC Pietersburg 100** received an additional 3 tons of cabbage; 2 tons of pineapple; 1 ton of onions; 1 ton of spinach; 300kg of mushrooms; 50 kg of strawberries and about a ton of grapes, most of which were dropped at children' s homes.

Congratulations to President John and club for maintaining strong relationships with the local Polokwane community and Friends of Rotary. Farmers trust Rotarians, and Rotary is well visible!

At Harties, **RC Brits-Hartbeespoort** – the home club of the District Executive Secretary, Alice Meyer, I was delighted to meet 3 couples of Rotarians who all enjoy Rotary to the fullest:

- Uli (the longest serving Rotarian in the club) & Trudy Gerth
- Geoff & Jeanette Krige
- John and Jenny Wesson.

Glen Ross, the President of **RC Fourways Main Reef**, will soon turn 80 but he has more energy, commitment and such passion I wish some young Rotarians could also have!

Dave Woodhouse, a senior Rotarian from the **RC Northcliff**, made my club visit memorable. He challenges his age and closely oversees the wheelchair project.

DECEMBER is ROTARY DISEASE PREVENTION and TREATMENT MONTH

December is **Disease Prevention and Treatment Month.** Rotary is dedicated to fighting and preventing disease. Linked to this are the annual **Rotary Family Health Days** (RFHDs) – a life-changing initiative, bringing free healthcare to communities in D9400 and elsewhere across South Africa.

Disease Prevention and Treatment is one of Rotary's Seven Area of Focus. Disease and illness results in pain and injury. Prolonged severe illness may result in loss of employment and income. It affects families. It affects quality of life.

Rotary's top priority is the eradication of polio, but our members take on far greater responsibilities to fight disease. They set up health camps and training facilities in undeveloped countries and in communities struggling with HIV/AIDS and malaria. They also design and build the infrastructure for doctors, nurses, governments, and partners to reach the one in six people in the world who cannot afford to pay for healthcare.

The Rotary Foundation is changing the world by providing grants for projects and activities around the globe and in your own backyard.

This is one Rotary Foundation Area of Focus in which many of us would be aware of the numerous projects around the world supported by clubs and the Foundation. Look at your 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 take on many forms, from supporting studies to helping immunize people to improving drinking water and the sanitation infrastructure. Providing clean water: Rotary has worked with partners to provide more than 80 percent of Ghana's people with clean water to fight Guinea worm disease.

The world relies on Rotary to tackle these global challenges, and to set an example for others to follow. We educate and equip communities to stop the spread of life-threatening diseases. Rotary members have hundreds of health projects underway around the world at any given time. Prevention is important, which is why we also focus on health education, cancer awareness 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 centers, 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.

Reducing HIV/AIDS infection: In Liberia, Rotary members are helping women get tested for HIV early in their pregnancies. They used prenatal care to reduce new HIV infections in children by 95 percent over two years. Our members also combat diseases like malaria, Alzheimer's, multiple sclerosis, diabetes, and polio. Ending polio: Rotary members have played a key role in bringing the world to the brink of polio eradication. Their efforts have not only ended polio in 122 countries but also created a system for tackling myriad other health priorities, such as Ebola.

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***

We are Doing Good in the World

The Rotary Foundation is proud to announce that we have recently received a four-star rating — the highest level possible — for the 17th consecutive year from **Charity Navigator**, an independent charity evaluator in the United States.

Charity Navigator determines its ratings by examining how nonprofits use their funds, how sustainable their programs are, and how well they adhere to industry standards of transparency and accountability.

We owe this success to the unwavering support and dedication of individuals like you.

Thank you for being a crucial part of what makes our Foundation a powerful force for meaningful change and lasting impact through service.

The Rotary Foundation Expenditures: $347 million These funds are allocated as follows:	
Polio Plus	146
Global grans	72
District grants	29
Peace centres & other grants	32
Fund development	26
Programme operations	24
General administration	18

Supporting Rotarians Membership dues to Rotary International ($75) support our members, clubs, and districts and are allocated as follows:	
Programmes & member services	28,07
IT, operations & administration	20,66
Communications	11,20
Finance	4,96
Governance & executive	4,39
International operations	3,04
People & Talent, Legal & Audit	2,68

Statements of Activities

For the fiscal years ended 30 June 2023 and 2024 (in thousands of US $)

You can learn more about how and what Rotary does in the most recent annual report.

Rotary International

Year to Date	June 2023	June 2024
Revenues		
Dues	$84,427	$88,303
Net investment return	1,248	4,383
Services and other activities	34,930	36,968
Total revenues	**$120,605**	**$129,654**
Expenses		
Operating	$87,820	$93,796
Services and other activities	32,706	33,337
Strategic Reserve	2,421	1,252
Total expenses	**$122,947**	**$128,385**
Currency exchange (loss)	$(464)	$(3,025)
Change in net assets	$(2,806)	$(1,756)
Net Assets - beginning of year	$159,256	$156,450
Net Assets - end of year	$156,450	$154,694

The Rotary Foundation

Year to Date	June 2023	June 2024
Revenues		
Contributions**	$366,503	$351,664
Net investment return	58,078	110,356
Split-interest agreements and other activities - net	2,497	5,110
Total revenues	**$427,078**	**$467,130**
Expenses		
Program awards	$278,784	$278,705
Program operations	21,919	23,830
Fund development	25,489	26,612
General administration	17,355	18,076
Total expenses	**$343,547**	**$347,223**
Currency exchange (loss)	$(4,025)	$(7,527)
Reserve against contributions receivable	$(1,543)	$(1,927)
Change in net assets	$77,963	$110,453
Net assets - beginning of year	$1,255,570	$1,333,533
Net assets - end of year	$1,333,533	$1,443,986

2025 Resolutions adopted by the COUNCIL ON RESOLUTIONS

The Council on Resolutions (COR) of Rotary International met online from 15 to 31 October 2025. Of the 32 resolutions that were submitted by the Council, it adopted 9 resolutions, of which seven were recommendations to the RI Board and two were recommendations to The Rotary Foundation Trustees. The Board and the Trustees will consider these items at their upcoming meetings.

	Adopted recommendations to request the RI Board to consider:
25R-01	recommending that governors encourage the participation in district committees by those who have been members for five years or less
25R-02	encouraging Rotaract clubs to establish an upper age limit of 30 years to join Rotaract
25R-09	appointing a committee with representation of the districts in Zone 8 to provide input to current regionalization pilot
25R-14	re-establishing the annual presidential theme
25R-19	encouraging clubs to hold an official meeting every year focused on the Council on Legislation
25R-21	allocating time within the governors-nominee learning seminar to RI's governance documents
25R-22	developing and promoting enhanced public image training programs at the district level
	Adopted recommendations to request the Trustees to consider:
25R-31	providing the amount of available investment income derived from contributions to the Endowment-SHARE
25R-32	membership in the Paul Harris Society for those who donate to the Endowment Fund

Farewell message from PDG Annie Steijn COL representative for District 9400

My time as Council of Legislation (COL) representative for our district will conclude at the end of December 2025 rather than June 2026, due to new legislation. My final duties were carried out in September 2025, when I voted on 32 resolutions. Only 9 of these received a majority vote. The full voting results for all 2025 resolutions can be viewed on My Rotary.

Four resolutions in particular stood out: 25R-02, 25R-14, 25R-19 and 25R-31 (see details above).

One change I sincerely hope to see in our district is greater club involvement in proposing enactments and resolutions. In my nearly nine years of service as COL representative, only one club from our district has ever submitted an enactment. Most enactments and resolutions continue to come from Japan and India. Over the years, several clubs have raised concerns about various issues they felt should be addressed, yet no formal proposals have ever resulted from those discussions.

I have truly enjoyed my time serving as the COL representative and extend my best wishes to PDG Patrick Coleman as he begins his two-and-a-half-year term on 1 January 2026. After that period, the term will revert to three years.

Please note that Patrick Coleman is the D9400 COL representative from 1 January 2026 to 30 June 2028.
The deadline for submitting resolutions to him for the 2026 COR is 30 June 2026.

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

Building Our Endowment 2025 by 2025

NOVEMBER was **The Rotary Foundation Month**, and there's a lot to celebrate — because of our fellow Rotarians! We have reached a monumental milestone in building The Rotary Foundation's Endowment to US$2.050 billion, thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our members and friends of the Foundation.

After nearly 10 years of vision and dedication from donors like you, we've exceeded our goal of securing US$2.025 billion to the Endowment by 30 June 2025! Yet, this is so much more than a number. A strong Endowment ensures that future Rotary and Rotaract members have the financial resources to make lives better at home and around the world. This achievement reflects your commitment to a brighter tomorrow.

As we celebrate, let's focus on the future and the good we can do by helping communities gain access to clean water, education, and health care, while working relentlessly to build environments of peace. Together, we will continue to create lasting change.

Thank you for supporting our Endowment. Your legacy of Doing Good in the World will change lives and strengthen communities for generations to come.

Rotary | Girls' Empowerment Rotary Action Group

The Girls' Empowerment Presidential Initiative was sun-setted at the end of the 2023-2024 year by Rotary International. While efforts, projects and activities centred on Girls' Empowerment were encouraged to continue among clubs and districts around the world, many have wondered "what's next for Girls' Empowerment?" or "how do we really ensure real sustainability and growth in this area?"

A new Rotary Action Group for Girls' Empowerment

During the 2024-2025 Rotary year, a group of invested Rotarians began organizing a new Rotary Action Group (RAG) dedicated to Girls' Empowerment. The team was dedicated to continuing and enhancing the amazing work of Girls' Empowerment around the world and therefore worked tirelessly on the formation and establishment of this new Rotary Action Group for Girls' Empowerment (**RAG4GE**).

As of April 2025, the **RAG4GE** was approved by the RI Board of Directors and was officially established as the **26th official Rotary Action Group**!

In addition to maintaining the term "Girls' Empowerment", the scope of the **RAG4GE** will encompass the multiple foundational priorities that have been part of the initiative since 2021, including: Education, Health & Wellness, Safety & Well-Being, Economic Enhancement & Security, and Advocacy & Engagement.

RAG4GE

In late 2024, *Girls' Empowerment* twinned with *My Body is My Body* (MBIMB) in an autonomous initiative. MBIMB is now a member of **RAG4GE.** And now ... this is where we need your support!

We Need Your Support

We are looking for the prior global ambassadors for Girls' Empowerment, Rotarians and Rotaractors who are committed to meaningful and impactful service opportunities. Your passion to improve the lives of girls in your communities and around the world is key to the success of the **RAG4GE**.

Additionally, your regional and local networks of district and club advocates and champions of Girls' Empowerment are pivotal to this movement. So ... if you have not already done so**, please officially join RAG4GE** and become an active part of something special. To learn more and join, visit: **https://GirlsEmpowermentRAG.org**

ROTARY FAMILY HEALTH DAYS

More Rotarians mobilizing for Impact

The successful 2025 Rotary Family Health Days (RFHDs) in **Rustenburg** reached a large number of local community members. It is a testament to the power of Rotary and its successful partnerships. Thanks to the coordinated efforts of the supporting Rotary clubs - **RC Waterkloof, RC Pretoria West and RC Sunrise** - as well as the volunteers and partners, these community members accessed the following essential health services during the event:

- HIV testing
- Optometry and audiology screenings
- Menstrual health education
- Eyeglass distribution

The event not only delivered vital healthcare but also fostered hope, dignity, and trust within the community. By working together with purpose and passion, the participating clubs showcased how collective action can create meaningful and lasting impact. This year's achievements serve as an inspiring example of Rotary's enduring commitment to community health, service above self, and sustainable change.

A huge thank you to the RC Waterkloof, RC Pretoria West and RC Sunrise that supported RFHD in Rustenburg on the 20th November

Waterkloof club members in their purple tees with SAPS members taking a stand firm against GBV and raising awareness

PDG Stella administering polio drops

Eye care station provided reading glasses donated by Restoring Vision. Thanks to T.A. Mmadi for the optometrist services and Keamogetswe who did the screening

The RFHD 2025 launch site at Elukwatini, hosted by Rotary District 9400, served as a critical platform to advance South Africa's national health agenda by targeting the "Close the Gap Campaign" target communities. The campaign reached **2,875 beneficiaries**, who received a combined total of **4,947 services** over the two days, including referrals for follow-on care.

In alignment with our objective to accelerate access to life-saving HIV services and provide screening for both **c**ommunicable and non-communicable diseases, the launch delivered a holistic suite of free services. Key services provided to the Elukwatini community included:

- HIV testing, counselling, and linkage to Antiretroviral Therapy
- Screening and education for Sexually Transmitted Infections
- Screening for non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and obesity.
- Vision and audiology screening, including the distribution of reading glasses.
- Sexual and Reproductive Health awareness, as well as mental health screening and psychosocial support.
- Body image and menstrual health education, including the distribution of **Mina cups**.

The Rotary Action Group for Family Health and AIDS Prevention (RFHA) led the coordination, with a **Global Grant funding mechanism** provided by **The Rotary Foundation** and led by the D9400 Rotary E-Club of Eagle Canyon and also supported by Rotary E-Club of D9400 and Rotary E-Club Portuguese Community, Rotary E-Club of Middelburg.

Friendship Exchange to Argentina

The most recent **Friendship Exchange by D9400** was with **District 4921 in Argentina**, South America. Twelve Rotarians visited this district from 5 to 18 November 2025. The group was made up of D9400 South Africans as well as one Rotarian from Botswana as well as a Rotarian and his wife from **D9350**. The team leader was AG Adriaan Anderson.

The visiting group were: Adriaan Anderson, retired university law professor; Gloria Anne Postema, homemaker; Piet Postema, construction industry manager; Barry Hackforth, retired corporate pilot; Bill McLellan, geophysicist; Judy and Pieter van Aswegen, an entrepreneur in the computing industry; Toni Makina, education consultant; Juliet Garande, accounting professional; Chippy Bumett, preschool teacher; Linda Tacke, weaver and textile designer; and Michael Tacke, engineer.

The cities that they visited were Esquel, a town in the northwest of Chubut Province in Argentine Patagonia, as well as Ayacucho, Benito Juarez, Tres Arroyos, Santa Teresita and the capital Buenos Aires.

While visiting Tres Arroyos, they were interviewed by the local newspaper, La Voz del Pueblo. The full interview was published in their Sunday print edition and also in digital format. Their friendship exchange hosts were members of the Rotary Club Tres Arroyos.

Firstly, they were welcomed in Esquel, Rauch, and Benito Juárez. The itinerary included the Industrial Park, School 56 and the Secondary Art School. In Tres Arroyos the group partook in a variety of activities. They were welcomed at City Hall by Mayor Pablo Garate; visited Tostex; the Mulazzi Museum; the Museum of Fine Arts; the Barrow Integrated Experimental Farm; and they also got to know emblematic buildings such as La Previsión, the Italian Society, the Carmen Church, among other places. On Saturday they departed for Santa Teresita.

It was a great joy to be welcomed by the Argentinian Rotarians and to share their cultural characteristics, the cities, the landscapes, and their kindness.

If you are interested in an exchange organised by the Friendship Exchange committee, please contact Jackie van Waveren **+27 84 326 5228;** **jackievw40@yahoo.com**

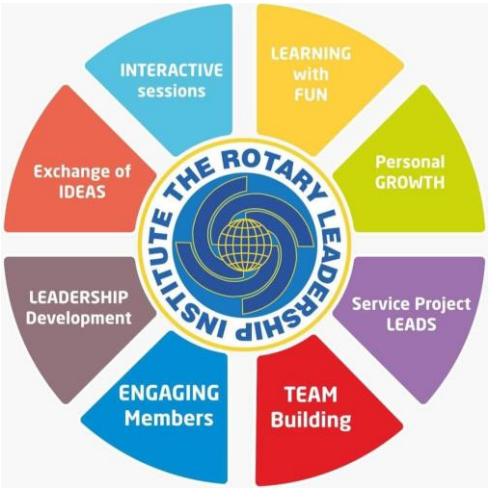
Why Do We Need the Rotary Leadership Institute?

We need the Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) to develop knowledgeable, enthusiastic, and effective leaders for Rotary Clubs by providing general Rotary and leadership education that helps strengthen clubs. RLI addresses the need for a constant influx of informed leaders due to annual officer turnover, especially since many Rotarians are unaware of Rotary's global scope beyond their local club.

Key benefits of the Rotary Leadership Institute:

- **Develops future leaders:** The program identifies and trains Rotarians who show potential for future club leadership, providing them with the skills needed to move a club forward.
- **Increases club strength and enthusiasm:** By educating members on the broader world of Rotary and its potential for service, it creates greater enthusiasm and motivation, which helps combat member drop-off.
- **Provides general education:** RLI offers general education on Rotary knowledge and leadership skills, which is a foundational background that enhances participants' effectiveness in job-specific training later on.

  Fills knowledge gaps: It helps fill the knowledge gaps of new and existing members by providing a comprehensive overview of Rotary's structure, ethics, and service projects that is often not available at the club level.



And possibly the most important:

- **Promotes collaboration and idea exchange:** The program creates a forum for Rotarians to share ideas and experiences, fostering collaboration and improving their knowledge and skills through discussion, problem-solving, and role-play.

Innovation at your District Vibrant Club Workshop

A key priority of **Rotary's Action Plan** is to strengthen our ability to adapt to change. As a facilitator, you can support this by leading events that help members generate and be receptive to new ideas.

The updated **District Vibrant Club Workshop Leader's Guide** now has an Innovation session. You can also include this session in other learning events.
Use it to help members:

- Collaborate effectively
- Explore changes to their club's practices to stay relevant
- Develop practical solutions and implement them

What's happening in Rotary?

Are you planning a grant management seminar?

Support members preparing for grant-funded projects with these resources:

- Grant Management Seminar Leader Guide
- Grant Management Seminar Learning Plan
- Grant Management Recertification 2025-2026

To reinforce key concepts before or after the seminar, share the Service Projects Essentials learning plan. These courses help clubs plan sustainable projects, budget effectively, and measure their impact

I'M A PROUD ROTARACTOR

Rotaract District D9400

END POLIO NOW

Rotaract United for a Polio-Free World

Throughout early October 2025, D9400 Rotaract clubs across Southern Africa joined hands in a series of impactful initiatives under Rotary's global campaign to end Polio. Each club played its unique part in promoting health, education, and hope within their communities: demonstrating that collective action creates lasting change.

One Cause, Many Hands! From Gaborone to Mbabane, from Johannesburg to Manzini, these clubs exemplified the true essence of Rotaract: "***Service Above Self***." Each project, though unique in approach, shared the same heartbeat - a commitment to protect children, support mothers, and advance Rotary's mission to eradicate Polio worldwide. Together, their collective actions remind us that through unity, education, and compassion, a Polio-free world is within reach.

Rotaract Club of Gaborone: Empowering Children Through Awareness

On 4 October 2025, the Rotaract Club of Gaborone conducted a Polio Awareness Activity at **Spring of Life** in Mmopane. The goal was to educate children about Polio: what it is, how it spreads, its symptoms, and most importantly, how it can be prevented through vaccination and good hygiene practices.

The session was interactive and age-appropriate, ensuring the message was both understood and memorable. A highlight of the event was the Handprint Cloth Project, where each child dipped their hand in paint and left their print on a shared cloth. This collective artwork symbolized unity, hope, and a shared commitment to a Polio-free world.

In addition, the club donated over 300 books to the children and the centre, supporting not only health awareness but also literacy and education. This initiative beautifully reflected the Rotary mission of combining service, awareness, and community upliftment.

Rotaract Club of Young Professionals Mbabane: Supporting Maternal and Child Health

In commemoration of World Polio Day, the Rotaract Club of Young Professionals Mbabane organized a series of activities aimed at raising awareness on polio eradication. The club facilitated a broadcast session aired on **Eswatini National TV** featuring the Assistant Governor Mr Wellington Motsa who shared on television what Rotary is doing globally on Polio Eradication and a Surveillance Officer from the Ministry of Health, who shared insights on the fight to end polio.

Additionally, the club participated on the End Polio Awareness event at **Siphofaneni Inkhundla** in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, engaging community members on the importance of vaccination and disease prevention.

To conclude the awareness campaign, the club hosted a virtual session in partnership with the

Ministry of Health and Past District Polio Chair and Polio Ambassador, Dr. Muda. The discussion focused on the global status of polio eradication and emphasized why ending polio remains a critical priority today.

CULTURE. COMMUNITY. CONNECTIONS.

Rotaract Club of Southern Star: Bringing Comfort to Mothers and Newborns

In Johannesburg, the Rotaract Club of Southern Star celebrated Child and Maternal Health Week at the **Rahima Moosa Mother and Child Hospital**. The club raised awareness on maternal and child health through education and the provision of practical necessities.

Mothers received “Mommy and Baby Care Packages”, designed to provide support during the early stages of motherhood: a time that can be overwhelming, especially for those without immediate assistance. This thoughtful gesture reinforced the club’s commitment to compassion, care, and community well-being.

Rotaract Club of Mbuluzi Mbabane: Growing Hope Through Service

The Rotaract Club of Mbuluzi Mbabane, in collaboration with Saint Mark’s Interact Club, extended their outreach to two orphanages, namely **Hosea Heart** in Sdvokodvo and **Halfway House** in Manzini.

At both centres, members donated food, clothing, cleaning materials, and hygiene products. Beyond donations, the team also planted fruit trees and vegetable gardens, ensuring a sustainable source of nutrition for the children. At Halfway House, a protective green cover was installed along the fence to create a safer and more comfortable environment for the kids.

This project demonstrated how small acts of service can create a long-term impact by fostering both well-being and sustainability.

ANN'S MESSAGE
FROM DGA Frances

Dear Anns

"*Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has*" is a quote by Margaret Mead. I think we can substitute the word Anns for citizens—and that perfectly sums up what the Anns of our District are doing.

Krugersdorp Anns continued with their ongoing project of providing lunch to a Grade R class on a regular basis. They also supported RC Krugersdorp at their Bingo evening.

Benoni van Ryn have worked for months preparing goodies to sell at their Christmas market. One of their Anns, Rhoda Toker, was featured in the local newspaper for her efforts to encourage those around her to fill Santa Boxes. Rhoda has been an Ann in the Benoni van Ryn Club for the past 50 years—wow!

The Benoni Aurora Club inducted a new member, Desiree Ashbury. Welcome to the world of Rotary Anns, Desiree! They also made DGE Grace van Zyl an Honorary Ann.

The White River Anns made sandwiches for children at the local primary school who arrive without food and also assisted RC White River with a wine auction fundraiser. President Neha and I visited a local school to distribute our first ICE packs. The girls were about to attend a Grade 7 farewell function and were dressed in their finery. It made me reflect on the values of parents and schools in an area of extreme poverty, where families spend money on outfits that could instead feed a household. In White River, we were blessed with a generous donation of products for our ICE packs from a local pharmacy.

The White River Anns distributed ICE packs to Grade 7 girls

Anns are truly the heart of Rotary

Phalaborwa Anns donated pre-loved clothes and sanitary towels in their local community. They also supported RC Hoedspruit at a breast cancer awareness day and fun walk.

The Rosebank Anns presented a well-deserved Community Service Award to the manager of a home for abused women and children. They also painted the office of the Buskaid Trust and paid a visit to the South African Guide-Dogs Association

The Riverside Anns partnered with a motorcycle group and donated food, toiletries, toys, and clothes to a homeless shelter. The children received gifts and party packs. They also donated baby essentials to a 9-day-old baby at the shelter.

It has been a very busy month, with Anns making a meaningful difference in the lives of so many people.

Best wishes,

DGA Frances

UNITE FOR GOOD

D9400 SERVICE ABOVE SELF

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 **Benoni Aurora**

RC Benoni Aurora has been blessed with a monthly grocery donation to the value of R 5 000 from the Northmead Pick n Pay in Benoni over the past number of months. The instruction from the Pick n Pay was to distribute the groceries to a different group of individuals each month.

To date the club has donated to TAG (The Animal Guardians), Benoni SPCA, Angel Wings and Barcelona Community Centres to name but a few.

At the club's October Business Meeting, it was decided to use the R 5 000 donation to purchase enough ingredients to make up into 190 x Meals-in-a-Bag.

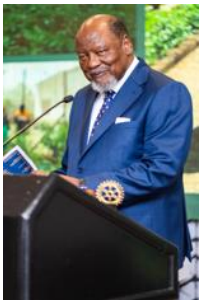
Following the original "Jars of Hope" recipe, Benoni Aurora's Meals-in-a-Bag contains split peas, soup mix, lentils, rice, a stock cube and a packet of soup. Each bag feeds up to four people and can either be used as a nutritious staple or used along with mealie meal pap or bread as a tasty part of the meal.

RC Benoni Aurora held a Saturday work party in November and set about making 183 Meals-in-a-Bag with the available goods. These specific meals are being allocated to the old folks at the Deneys Conradie Old Age Village.

Rotary Club of **Maputo**

RC Maputo celebrated its 35th anniversary on September 24th. The ceremony's motto was: *Celebrating 35 years of service to communities, always committed to Peace, Ethics, Justice and social development.*

The event was attended by DG Angelica and the club's honorary member, Dr. Joaquim Alberto Chissano, former Head of State of the Republic of Mozambique.



In turn, the former Head of State, in his speech as the main speaker at the event, highlighted that these are 35 years of Ethics, Friendship and Service to Communities and that the strength of the Club lies in the union of good people.

Rotary Club of **Vanderbijlpark**

RC Vanderbijlpark recently held its annual Kids Christmas Party on the banks of the Vaal River. As always, the event was a great success.

The CPF of Barrage selected more than 60 deserving children from their community to treat for the day. The many activities kept the children busy and hungry. Refreshments included cool drinks, watermelon and ice cream and a midday meal of Boerie rolls which all kept the hunger pains away.

President Zander Lintveld brought his latest toy, a drone, along which proved to be one of the most popular treats of the day. As always, the arrival of Father Christmas was the highlight of the day.

It was a privilege to treat the most vulnerable members of our community and watch them enjoying a great time. This event would not have been possible without the sponsorship of Stonehaven on Vaal, El Paso Spur, Harry's butchery and fellow Rotarians, Thank you!

Rotary Club of **Maputo**

RC Maputo attended the closing ceremony of the implementation phase of the Home Garden project on 4 October. This initiative of the Club supported 49 families affected by the 2023 floods in Maputo Province.

During the project, beneficiaries received seeds, plant seedlings such as cabbage, onion, tomato, beetroot, and lettuce, and also received training on sustainable agricultural techniques, which contributed to improving the families' diet and generating income.

At the closing event, beneficiaries shared positive experiences, highlighting the reduction in food expenses and the sale of surplus produce.

The closure symbolizes the end of a stage, but Project 49 will continue to support the families, encouraging the strengthening of production and the expansion of the gardens.

Rotary Club of **Maputo**

RC Maputo held a lecture on financial education as part of the second phase of the "Rethinking Education Project", for the girls of the Casa Da Madre Mardia Clara in Maputo city. The lecture was also attended by the Interact Club of Enko Maputo.

The lecture, which took place on 30 October, highlighted the importance of involving young people in promoting financial literacy. The speaker was PAG Florêncio Infante, an economist and retired employee of the Bank of Mozambique, who was a founding member of RC Maputo (September 1990).

During the event, RC Maputo distributed piggy banks and books donated by the Bank of Mozambique as an incentive for saving and the proper use of financial resources.

District 9400 **EVENTS CALENDAR**

6	December 2025	**Financial Learning Session from 08:00 to 09:30 Microsoft Teams** Join the meeting now **Meeting ID: 342 008 265 482 45 Passcode: rq9fV9PV**
11	December 2025	**Rotaract 1st Semester Assembly** Thursday
29	January 2026	**Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) training**
23	February 2026	**Sun never sets on Rotary**
11-12	April 2026	**PETS in Polokwane**
30-3	April/May 2026	**DISCON: Apart Hotel/Ponta do Ouro, Moçambique**
16-17	May 2026	**PETS in Gauteng**
13-17	June 2026	**Rotary International Convention in Taipei, Taiwan** Click here to find out more: https://rotary5810.org/sitepage/rotary-international-convention

DISTRICT 9400

Botswana Eswatini Mozambique South Africa

To view the 4-Way Test in some of the other languages spoken in D9400, click **here**