DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

Botswana, Eswatini, Mozambique and South Africa OCT/NOV 2024

Message from your District Governor George Senosha

Dear Rotarians of District 9400,

This month we have a bumper issue for you just to make sure you receive all the good news before you scale down for the festive season!

Since stepping into the role of District Governor in July 2024, I have been deeply moved by the warm welcomes I've received from each club I've visited. Meeting our dedicated members and seeing the remarkable projects underway across the district has been inspiring. I look forward to visiting the remaining clubs and witnessing even more of the impactful work being done!

A special thank you to all clubs for your efforts in marking **World Polio Day** on October 24, 2024. Our dedication to eradicating polio underscores Rotary's unwavering commitment to a healthier world, and together, we are part of this powerful legacy

Looking ahead, I urge each of us to prioritise Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity (DEI) in our clubs. Embracing DEI is crucial for Rotary's sustainability and growth, fostering environments that welcome people from all backgrounds. Let's build an inclusive Rotary that continues to thrive in the years to come.

I'd also like to thank Past District Governor Patrick Coleman for his work on our District Newsletter. PAG Mariana Purnell will now take over, and I look forward to her insights in keeping us connected and well-informed.

Furthermore, I'm pleased to announce that the window for nominating our **District Governor Nominee Designate** (DGND) is now open. I encourage each club to consider nominating eligible Assistant Governors for this prestigious role before the closing date of 15 November 2024. Your participation in this process is essential for our district's future leadership.

Lastly, it's encouraging to see high-quality new members joining our clubs. Your commitment to growth ensures the longevity of District 9400, so let's keep up the momentum.

Thank you for your hard work, and may your efforts be rewarded a hundredfold!

Yours in Rotary,

DG George

DISCON 2025

*The 2025 District Conference theme of "**Breaking New Ground**" aligns seamlessly with Rotary's priorities:*

- *Increasing our impact,*
- *Expanding our reach,*
- *Enhancing participant engagement, and*
- *Boosting our ability to adapt.*

*This is our guiding star as we strive to make a difference this year. The DISCON committee has put together a very interesting programme for all. Please save the date for DISCON 2025 from **1 to 4 May 2025 at Glenburn Lodge in Muldersdrift**!*

The really good news is that it is close enough for many Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors and Anns to attend for a day and not have the expense of accommodation. See you all there!!!!

NOVEMBER is ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

Rotary International dedicates **November** to the programs and activities of **The Rotary Foundation** and this gives us a wonderful opportunity to focus our attention on the many great things that our foundation delivers to our world.

We take so much for granted as we enjoy our privileged life. Water streams from every one of the 10 or so taps in our houses, medical aid is just around the corner, a strong and active education system provides a future for all our children and with the exception of a few, we want for nothing. How different it is for one-third of the world's population!

Including our efforts in the area of polio eradication which is highlighted on 24 October every year, your Foundation provided something like $180 million last year to support clubs and districts in their efforts to 'do good in the world'. If you add the money supplied by clubs and districts to complete these projects, we would have a conservative spend of something like $450 million.

Nothing ever comes cheap and everything **The Rotary Foundation** does costs money. When the money runs out so does our ability to make a difference. Clubs can take the bull by the horns and agreed to pay their **TRF** commitment now rather than wait until the traditional 'rush' period of June. We will get our money working sooner rather than later and that will help enormously. If all the clubs in District 5730 could do this then The Foundation would be in a much stronger position.

We can also help as individuals. Those of us with ***Every Rotarian Every Year*** commitments who aren't tied into a scheduled payment plan could consider paying this month. It's only $100 per person but collectively it has the power to do so much. Those of us who haven't yet made the ***EREY*** 'leap of faith' might give the possibility a little extra thought. That extra few Rands a week can make such a difference to the people depending on us for a better life.

The Rotary Foundation is your own charity and we're just asking you to be part of it. Find out more about the work of **The Rotary Foundation** and how your Rotary Club can help it at https://www.rotary.org/en/about-rotary/rotary-foundation

DG George invites YOU to the Rotary District 9400 Xmas party on Thursday 28 November @ 19h30.
Join us at The Barnyard Theatre, Menlyn top floor.

The venue is open from **18h00** for those who want to socialize and eat there. You can buy food on site or bring your own picnic basket BUT no own alcohol may be brought onto the premises. You can buy drinks on site.

Do not miss out on this D9400 event. Book for your Rotary club! Book for family and friends! Space is limited.

Book NOW with Pat patricianacclements@gmail.com **; +27 83 325 9718**

The Rotary Foundation

Rotary's Heart in Action

The Rotary Foundation (TRF) Is recognised as one of the most effective charities in the world and our score from Charity Navigator score is **100%**, earning it a ***Four-Star*** rating. See more at https://www.charitynavigator.org/ein/363245072 Yet, TRF is one of the most misunderstood components of Rotary International. Here is some information you need to fully appreciate TRF:

At the 1917 RI convention, outgoing Rotary President Arch Klumph proposed to establish an endowment "for the purpose of doing good in the world," with an initial balance of $26.50.

In 1928, the endowment was renamed The Rotary Foundation, and became a distinct entity within Rotary International. In 1929, the Foundation made its first gift of $500 to the International Society for Crippled Children. The organisation, created by Rotarian Edgar F. "Daddy" Allen, later grew into Easter Seals. When Rotary founder Paul Harris died in 1947, contributions began pouring in to Rotary International, and the Paul Harris Memorial Fund was created to build the Foundation.

Rotarians – and non-Rotarians – who make contributions of at least US$1,000 are recognised as "Paul Harris Fellows." Those commiting to giving at least US$1,000 annualy are members of the "Paul Harris Society." There are various levels of recognition for those making more generous contributions including the "Arch Klumph Society" for those giving at least US$250,000 to The Rotary Foundation.

In 1928 Arch Klumph listed three accomplishments that gave him "more satisfaction than any other contributions to Rotary" — and launching the Foundation wasn't among them. Nevertheless, his legacy continues through today as our "Heart of Rotary."

TRF is a non-profit corporation that supports the efforts of Rotary International to achieve world understanding and peace through international humanitarian, educational, and cultural exchange programs. It is supported solely by voluntary contributions – mostly but not exclusively by Rotarians.

The Rotary Foundation in 2024 is focused on improving health, education, and alleviating poverty to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace.

TRF is a worldwide leader in the efforts to eradicate polio through its partnership in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI). Since 1988, Rotary and its partners in the GPEI have immunised over **3 billion children**, reducing the incidence of polio by 99.9 percent and eradicating it from all but two countries. Rotary has contributed more than **US$2.1 billion and thousands of volunteer hours** to eradication efforts.

The Foundation also funds training of peacemakers through the Rotary Peace Center program. Most recently, Rotary's Disaster Response Grants are making it possible for Rotary members to respond effectively to local recovery efforts as they unfold, and COVID-19 was recently added as an eligible activity.

Here are some things to know about The Rotary Foundation in 2024:

GRANTS

TRF offers grants for local and international projects. Grants are available until funds are depleted. To participate in TRF Grants, complete the Grant Management Seminar module at the Rotary Learning Center. After completing the learning module, please send your certificate to DGSC/PDG Francis Callard

GLOBAL GRANTS

Global Grants fund large-scale projects and activities, involving both a Host and an International partner. All projects that receive Foundation grants must be initiated and managed by Rotarians. Global grants must align with one or more Areas of Focus.

DISTRICT GRANTS

District grants fund small-scale, short-term activities that address needs in your community and communities abroad. Applications for district grants must be submitted to the District Grants Sub-Committee Chair (DGSC) by the end of April for the following Rotary year.

ANNUAL FUND

This is the "general" fund into which most Rotarians make contributions to The Rotary Foundation. Also known as the checking account, the annual fund allows districts to receive approximately 50% of their giving back after three years. Rotary matched funds (80% of the DDF allocation) come from this fund.

RESTRICTED FUNDS

These funds are for specific causes, such as the *End Polio Now* fund and *Disaster Response* funds.

Can I get information on my Foundation giving?

Log in to My Rotary and open "My Account" by clicking on your name in the top corner OR create an account if you do not have one. The drop down box has a tab for "My Donations"

ROTARY ACTION GROUP FOR PEACE

Grace van Zyl is the new Chair of the Rotary Action Group for Peace (RAGFP) for the 2024/25 year. During her term she would like to focus on efforts which will position the RAGFP and its members to significantly impact global sustainable and positive peace. The following actions are vital:

- Further development of Peace Chapters with regular updates on new insight and best practices;
- Global development of District Governors and District Governors Elect;
- Practical approaches for Peace Builder clubs to incorporate sustainable peace in all their projects;
- Partner with educational institutions and youth organisations to promote Positive Peace RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards);
- Promote mentorship programs where Peace Fellows can take a more active role with Peace Builder Clubs and Chapters;
- Enhance our member experience and create opportunities for our members to serve on committees.
- Rotary International will launch another Peace Centre in February 2025. This new addition will be in Istanbul where the RI Peace conference is to take place.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is an intensive leadership experience organised by Rotary clubs and districts where young people can develop leadership skills.

Essay Competition for the youth on International Peace

Istanbul Rotary Club

The youth of D9400 have been invited by the RC Istanbul in Turkey to participate in their essay competition on international peace! All persons **born between 1st January 2006 and 31st December 2008** are eligible to participate in the competition.

To enter, write an essay on International Peace along the guidelines provided below and submit the essay by sending the document to the following email: **PeaceEssay@istanbulrotary.org**

Participants are encouraged to express their thoughts and insights on promoting peace in an interconnected world.

You are welcome to consider these ideas when writing the Essay on International Peace

- Does peace mean simply the “absence of war” among nations?
- Is there any link between “sustainable development” and peace?
- Can ordinary citizens help realize peace among nations?
- What can young people do in the name of international peace?

GUIDELINES

Maximum 400 words of typed copy

Submit text in **PDF** format, double-spaced in font **Arial** with size **11**.

Essays must be original and unpublished. Do not use AI to generate the essay.

Essays containing hate speech, and social, racial, or sexual discrimination will be will be disqualified.

SUBMISSION

Make sure to state your **Full Name, Address, Mobile Number, Contact Email, and birthday** below the essay. This information will not be included in the word count.

Submission Deadline: **30th November, 2024**

Istanbul Rotary Club wishes you much success with the essay.

Together, let’s write a future where peace prevails.

BUILDING ROTARY
ALL AROUND THE WORLD

The world's first service club was founded on 23 February 1905 when lawyer Paul Harris and three friends met in a small office in downtown Chicago. These men wanted to rekindle in the turn-of-the-century city the spirit of friendliness they had known in their home towns.

After the establishment of the Rotary Club in Chicago, Illinois, several others followed in quick succession throughout the United States – Rotary Clubs were chartered in San Francisco, California on 12 November 1908, Oakland, California on 05 February 1909 and Seattle, Washington on 15 June 1909.

The RC Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, was formed in 1910 but only officially chartered in April **1912,** becoming the first club outside the United States.

In August **1912**, RC London received its charter, marking the first acknowledged Rotary club outside North America. On 22 February 1911, the first meeting of RC Dublin was held in Dublin, Ireland, but it wasn't chartered until May **1913**. This was the first club established outside of North America.

The first Rotary club in Latin America was organized in Havana, Cuba in **1915**.

Asia's first club was established in Manila, Philippines in **1919**.

Rotary extended its reach to South America when RC Montevideo, Uruguay, was chartered on 1 February **1919**.

The first Rotary club in Asia, RC Manila was chartered on 1 June **1919**. Rotary's history in China also dates back to **1919** when the first club in China (and the second club in Asia) was chartered in Shanghai. There are currently 11 chartered Rotary clubs and 5 provisional Rotary Clubs in mainland China.

In 1921, Rotary clubs were organized for the first time on continental Europe with the chartering of a club in Madrid, Spain, in January **1921**.

First club in Africa was RC Johannesburg, South Africa, in **1921**, the same year as France and Mexico's first. In **1925,** clubs were chartered in Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Cape Town and Port Elizabeth. The RC East London was chartered the following year.

East Africa's first Rotary club, RC Nairobi, was chartered in Kenya on 8 September **1930**.

The first Russian Rotary club was chartered in **1990**, and the organization underwent a growth spurt for the next several years. The Soviet Union was on the verge of collapse (1991), and the people were transitioning from a communist economic system to one of capitalism. RC Moscow International, an English-speaking club, was chartered in **2001** and joins 9 other Rotary Clubs in Moscow. There are currently 80 Rotary clubs in Russia.

Today, there are also Rotary clubs all over the former communist-controlled parts of Eastern Europe but no Rotary presence in Saudi Arabia, Libya, Iran, Syria or Iraq.

THE ROTARY GUINESS BOOK OF RECORDS

There are more than 1.2 million Rotarians, around the world of which over 33,000 are in the South Pacific (Zone 8). It includes the following countries:

Australia, New Zealand, American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, New Caledonia, Norfolk Island, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Timor Leste, Tonga and Vanuatu. There are over 1,100 Clubs in Australia alone.

- **Most remote club** - Papeete, Tahiti - in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.
- **Southernmost club** - Base Marambio, Antártida - in Antarctica.
- **Northernmost club** - Barrow, Alaska - above the Arctic Circle.
- **Highest club** - El Aguilar, Argentina - 4 880 meters above sea level.
- **Lowest club** - El Centro, California, USA - 12,2 meters below sea level.

ALL ROTARIANS ARE IMPORTANT, BUT HERE ARE 13 FAMOUS PEOPLE WHO WERE ROTARIANS:

1. **Franklin Delano Roosevelt**
2. **John F. Kennedy**
3. **Pope Francis**
4. **Walt Disney**
5. **Margaret Thatcher**
6. **Neil Armstrong**
7. **Bill Gates**
8. **Sam Walton (founder of Walmart)**
9. **Prince Charles (now King Charles III)**
10. **J. C. Penney**
11. **Angela Merkel (German Chancellor)**
12. **Sir Winston Churchill**
13. **Colonel Sanders (KFC)**

6th All Africa Rotary Institute

The 6th All-Africa Institute was held in Mauritius from 23 to 28 September 2024 at the stunning setting of the seafront 4* all-suite Ravenala Attitude Hotel. This event is inclusive of the GELS/GNLS (previously GETS/GNTS – Governor Elect / Governor Nominee Training Session). In Rotary International, GELS and GNLS stand for Governor-Elect and Governor-Nominee Leadership Seminar. These are training programs aimed at preparing future district governors for their leadership roles within Rotary.

The seminar is designed to enhance leadership skills of incoming district governors and Rotary members and helps prepare these leaders for their roles in the Rotary organization, offering guidance on managing district operations, and understanding Rotary's goals and initiatives to promote service within the community and globally.

The logo for the 2024 Zone 22 Rotary Institute depicts the Bird of Paradise Flower, symbolising paradise and freedom. It Is one of the world's best-known plants, native to the subtropical coastal areas of southern Africa

The incoming District Governors for D9370, D9400 and D9350 attended the All-Africa Institute. From left to right DGE Steve Shone and DGN Melonie Gobel of D9370, DGN Grace van Zyl and DGE Angelica Salomão of D9400, and DGE Pamela Rawbone of D9350

- **GELS (Governor-Elect Leadership Seminar):** This seminar is for district governors-elect, focusing on leadership development, Rotary policies, and goals for their upcoming year in office. The training ensures that they are equipped to manage their district effectively and inspire members.
- **GNLS (Governor-Nominee Leadership Seminar):** This seminar is for district governors-nominee, who will take office in the future. It provides them with early-stage leadership training, familiarizing them with the responsibilities and expectations of the district governor role, so they can plan ahead.
- Both seminars are essential for building leadership capacity within Rotary, ensuring smooth transitions and strong leadership continuity.

The All-Africa Institute is the largest and most important annual Rotary event for all Africa. Incoming District Governors spent a week of learning and Rotary fellowship on the island of Mauritius. Each year, past, present, and incoming district and senior leaders attend Rotary institutes to share information, build connections, and exchange ideas about Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation.

DGN Grace with John Hewko, general secretary and chief executive officer of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation.

David Alexander RI Communication and PI chair, RI President Stephanie and DGN Grace van Zyl

Larry Lunsford trustee and 2024-2025 Vice Chair of TRF with DGN Grace

STEPPING IT UP
FOR POLIO ERADICATION

World Polio Day 2024 was commemorated world-wide on the 24th of October. PolioPlus Chairs of Region 28 and Rotary Polio warriors as well as clubs across our Districts held various activities to raise awareness about and funds for polio eradication. Global statistics of the polio situation worldwide shown below should nudge us all to do more for the total eradication of wild polio virus and eventually variant virus all around the world.

Poliovirus Weekly Update

23-Oct-2024, World Health Organization

The number of wild polio cases for 2024 have increased from last year. On **October 16, 2024** there were **54** wild polio cases - 32 in Pakistan and 22 in Afghanistan. One week later, on **October 23, 2024** this number had escalated to **62** with 39 in Pakistan and 23 in Afghanistan.

Given the statistics above, the efforts made by individual Rotarians and clubs are vital and contribute towards all eradication efforts.

New wild poliovirus isolates reported in the week ending 26 October:
AFP cases: 8
Environment: 11
Others: 0

New cVDPV isolates reported in the week ending 26 October:
AFP cases: 9
Environment: 4
Others: 0

For WPD 2024, PDG Stella decided (as she did in 2023) to raise awareness about polio by walking in Rotary gear on the streets of Pretoria, South Africa, from 15 to 24 October. At the end of her walks, she shared with family, friends and well-wishers her total distance walked, and asked for donations towards PolioPlus.

On **World Polio Day** she completed her solo fundraising walks for polio eradication with a 5.5km walk along the beautiful jacaranda-lined streets of Pretoria, South Africa. Her fundraiser walks are titled "THE POWER OF ONE" because each one of us is capable of raising awareness about and donating/ raising funds for the complete eradication of polio, Rotary's flagship project since 1985! By October 25 she had walked a total of 31.5km, alone but dressed in Rotary gear for attention!

Last year, PDG Stella raised more than $1,000 for her club, Rotary Club of Pretoria West, over these 6 days of walking. She hopes to match or surpass that amount this year. We're 99.9% done but the "last mile" is always the hardest! As Rotary's EndPolioNow Coordinator for Eastern and Southern Africa, PDG Stella believes she must lead by example.The message is that every one of us can and should contribute in any way possible for the last push towards polio eradication.

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

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

NEWS NEWS

2024–2025 BUDGET: At a recent meeting of The Rotary Foundation Trustees, the Trustees reaffirmed the following - a contributions budget of **US$370,900,000**, a net investment earnings budget of **$59,925,000**, a programs awards expenditures budget of **$298,659,000**, and a Rotary Foundation operating budget of **$71,634,000**.

2024–2025 ANNUAL GOALS: The following annual goals for Rotary International and the Rotary Foundation were adopted:

PRIORITY 1 – INCREASE OUR IMPACT

- Eradicate polio, highlight Rotary's role, and plan for a polio-free world.
- Increase the overall giving to The Rotary Foundation and build the Endowment Fund to $2.025 billion by 2025.
- Encourage community assessments and measurement of projects and programs at the club, district, and international level.

PRIORITY 2 – EXPAND OUR REACH

- Advance actions to cultivate diversity, equity, and inclusion in our clubs and the family of Rotary.
- Strengthen existing relationships and develop new partnerships that align with our Action Plan.
- Establish and nurture innovative clubs and new participant engagement channels.
- Increase awareness and understanding of Rotary and our members' impact in communities locally and globally.

PRIORITY 3 – ENHANCE PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT

- Enhance member engagement tools that support clubs in meeting their members' needs and increasing member retention.
- Increase collaboration and connection among participants, particularly Rotary and Rotaract clubs.
- Highlight opportunities offered through Rotary to foster professional connections and build leadership skills.

PRIORITY 4 – INCREASE OUR ABILITY TO ADAPT

- Support regional adaptability by testing innovative approaches to foster greater collaboration and operating efficiencies.
- Support diversity, equity, and inclusion in our leadership and governance

THE TRUSTEES ALSO APPROVED TWO NEW STRATEGIC INITIATIVES IN 2024-2025:

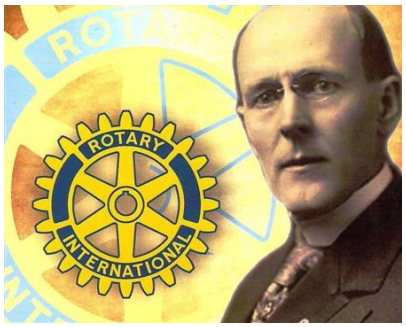
- ***The Club Experience***, aims to enhance club activities and increase member satisfaction through consistent, cross-functional efforts that will bring enhanced products and tools to best meet member needs;
- ***Evidence-based Decision-making***, aims to improve decision quality, enhance innovation, optimize resource allocation, mitigate risk, and enhance accountability by transitioning towards an evidence-based approach to decision-making processes

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE AWARDS FOR A POLIO-FREE WORLD: The Rotary Foundation Trustees met on 30 May 2024, in Singapore, in conjunction with the Rotary International Annual Convention and granted the *International Service Awards for a Polio-Free World* to two worthy recipients, Dr John Sever and Rajendra Saboo.

Dr John Sever, an infectious disease specialist and champion of Rotary's polio eradication program, died on 25 April. He was 92.

Rajendra Saboo, Past RI President (1992), who celebrated his 90th birthday on 11th August, 2024.

NOBODY
"BUYS"
A PAUL HARRIS



Paul Harris Fellows

Continuing the legacy of the founder of Rotary International, the Paul Harris Fellow program recognizes individuals who contribute, or who have contributions made in their name, of $1,000 to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. This recognition is the highest honor in Rotary. New members of the Paul Harris Society Rotary are often honored by their districts which presents the individual (Rotarian or non-Rotarian) with a certificate and chevron at a district or club event.

It was established in 1957 to show appreciation for and encourage substantial contributions to what was then the Foundation's only program, Rotary Foundation Fellowships for Advanced Study, the precursor to Ambassadorial Scholarships. It has now evolved to show appreciation for contributions that support our Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or an approved Foundation grant.

Rotary clubs in which all dues-paying members are Paul Harris Fellows can be certified as a 100 Percent Paul Harris Fellow Club and are eligible to receive a one-time special recognition banner from The Rotary Foundation.

Being recognised as a "Paul Harris Fellow" is (as the certificate states) for "***tangible and significant assistance given for the furtherance of better understanding and friendly relations among peoples of the world***." It is NOT an **"AWARD"** *and nobody* ***"BUYS"*** *a Paul Harris Fellowship.*

There are two ways to become a Paul Harris Fellow:

- Make a contribution of at least US$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation (including the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, Endowment Fund), or to a specific Rotary Foundation project through a Global Grant. Also note that the gift of US$1,000 does not have to be given at one time. As Rotarians consistently and regularly give to TRF, their contributions accumulate to the US$1,000 threshold.
- Being recognised by a Rotarian, a Rotary Club or a Rotary District as someone who has made "tangible and significant assistance given for the furtherance of better understanding and friendly relations among peoples of the world."

The person who makes the financial contribution to The Rotary Foundation has provided "***tangible and significant assistance…***" Giving to The Rotary Foundation ensures that Rotary Clubs can continue to do more "good in the world." Their gift is indeed "tangible and significant!"

A **Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member** (formerly called a *Paul Harris Sustaining Member*) is a person who contributes US$100 or more per year to the TRF (including the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, Endowment Fund, or to a specific Rotary Foundation project through a Global Grant). Without sustained support of the Annual Programs Fund, the programs of The Rotary Foundation cannot happen.

Paul Harris Society

The purpose of the Paul Harris Society is to honor and thank individuals for their generous, ongoing support of The Rotary Foundation. The Paul Harris Society recognizes Rotary members and friends of The Rotary Foundation who elect to contribute $1,000 or more each year to any combination of the following:

- Annual Fund-SHARE
- Annual Fund-World Fund
- Annual Fund-Areas of focus
- PolioPlus Fund
- Disaster Response Fund
- Disasters of Magnitude
- Approved global grants

2024 Friendship Exchange

Rotary Friendship Exchange

BRAZIL

CANADA

SOUTH AMERICA

NORTH AMERICA

JOIN THE FEX TEAM

TO BROADEN YOUR HORIZONS

RFE from Brazil D4670
11-20 September 2024

Continent expert: Desire Du Toit, RC Riverside

RFE from Canada D5020
05-18 October 2024

Continent expert: Jackie van Waveren, RC Vanderbijlpark

What Is Rotary Friendship Exchange?

The Rotary Friendship Exchange program gives Rotarians and their families the opportunity to experience other cultures firsthand, by participating in reciprocal visits with Rotarians from other countries and their families. Participants may travel as individuals, couples, families, or groups, and may be Rotary members or not. If you want to join, contact **Felicity Jones** 076 3236513**;** **Fbj6302@gmail.com**

Benefits of an exchange

- Broaden international understanding
- Explore a profession or job in a different context
- Build enduring friendships
- Gain opportunities for active project involvement and support
- Learn about a region's people, food, languages, customs, and history
- Find partners for grants

Friendship exchanges are organized around at least one of three themes: culture, service, and vocation.

All exchanges are paid for by the participants or their districts. Hosts are not expected to assume a significant financial burden. Club or district funds may be available to offset the costs of exchanges that have a vocational emphasis.

Click **HERE** to visit the Rotary International RFE Partner Finder Map

UPCOMING FEX TRIP in February 2025 will be an exchange to NEW ZEALAND. If you are interested in joining the other South African Rotarians on this journey, contact Felicity Jones

Interact 2024 - 2025

District Interact Chair Debbie Smit

The 2024 Interact Awards are here!

Each year, over 15,000 Interact clubs across the world are driving positive impacts within their communities. To celebrate their hard work, Rotary International hosts an annual campaign: the **Interact Awards**. Interact clubs are invited to submit a video, photo(s), and/or essay that showcases their club experience and service initiatives. By participating, Interact clubs have the opportunity for their submission to be named "Best Video," "Best Photo," or "Best Essay," alongside receiving funds to support their next service project.

This year, Interact clubs are invited to **showcase their favourite service project**! Submit 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.

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

What is InterAct?

InterAct is a program for students. To promote the growth of Interact, the RI Board has lowered the age of eligibility from age 14 to 12. If an Interact club is based at a school that serves students younger than 12 or older than 18, those students may also be members. Interact clubs can be based in the community or in schools. The school does not "take over" entirely, but works closely with the sponsoring Rotary club to implement meetings and projects.

World Interact Week – 4 to 10 November 2024

World Interact Week is celebrated every year during the week of 5 November to commemorate the founding of the first Interact club in 1962 at a high school in Melbourne, Florida, USA. All sponsoring Rotary Clubs are reminded to please participate in a project or event showcasing your Interact club & the amazing work being done around our District.

Participating in both World Interact week & the Interact Awards will add towards credits for a **Rotary Citation** for Interact clubs. However, these events need to be showcased in order to be eligible for a Rotary Citation. Please submit your Interact club's activities, with a short write-up about the project or event with a photo or two to **Mariana Purnell** by 25th of every month to ensure showcasing in the DG's Newsletter.

Interact District committee

The Interact District committee is currently supporting all sponsoring Rotary clubs that have Interact clubs. Thank you to the Rotary members from all over the district showing their passion for Interact and want to be part of and grow Interact. We are currently looking for a passionate Rotary member that would like to support the Mpumalanga and Vaal area. Any Rotarian interested please mail District Interact Chair Debbie Smit on **djvr2404@gmail.com** with a short bio and a motivation of why you would like to be part of the Interact District Committee.

Interact Peace Essay

In line with the launch of a new Peace Centre in Turkiye, the RC Istanbul has launched a **Peace Essay** that our youth between ages 15 and 17 can take part in. See the information on Page 3 and please share with your Interact Clubs.

ANN'S MESSAGE
FROM DGA CHERYL

Dear Rotary Anns, Rotary Family and Friends,

*I have **September** and **October** news, all wrapped in one for you this month!*

As I write this **September report**, we are in the middle of a bitterly cold weekend, which followed weeks of beautifully warm weather. This stark difference brought to mind the difference we Anns make, in the warmth that we bring into the lives of so many people in needy communities, people who otherwise would feel the cold and distance of a society that has seemingly forgotten about them. Never forget how valued and important your work is, and the difference you make each time you bring warmth, literally or figuratively, into someone's life!

Over the past month I have been privileged to see Rotary at work in so many ways. I visited the Rotary Anns Clubs of Krugersdorp and Springs Gold. With the Krugersdorp Anns I visited the Tower of Light - an organisation that provides a warm shower, a bed and two meals to 100 homeless men every evening. The Anns support this initiative with food donations and provided an evening meal as their Mandela Day contribution. On the day of our visit, the Anns brought cupcakes for each of the men for their dessert for the evening.

DG and DGA visit to Krugersdorp

Visit to the Tower of Light

Riverside Anns arranged a Spring Tea for the Golden Thoughts group

Phalaborwa Rotary Anns recognised Women's Month with a 4 month's supply of sanitary pads to all the girl learners of two schools

Midrand High School Interact collected food and asked RC Kyalami for assistance in identifying needy women and children's shelters. The RC and the Anns of Kyalami identified the Frida Hartley Shelter and the Green Door Safe Haven as worthy recipients of this donation

The Golden ladies of Springs Gold

Springs Gold delivering baby clothes to Hope Ithemba

With the Springs Gold Anns, I visited the Hope Ithemba Crisis Pregnancy Centre. This centre provides counselling, information and support for more than 200 young women monthly, who are facing any crisis associated with pregnancy. They teach young girls faced with an unplanned pregnancy how to care for their baby, and even work with them on creating a business plan so that the girls can become self-sufficient.

The Anns assist by sourcing baby clothes, food and toiletries which are 'sold' to the mothers in payment for attending education sessions.

Rosebank Rotary Anns organised a successful Bridge drive to raise funds to assist the Eventide Salvation Army home with improving their lighting

I also spent time with a large group of visiting Rotarians who supported the District 9400 Tutu Desk project and were assisting in delivering these desks to needy children. I attended a Rotary meeting with the Friendship Exchange group from Brazil. These vibrant Rotarians are passionate about Rotary and, in addition to the 100 dollars they gave, they promised to source soccer balls and uniforms to donate to the soccer clubs sponsored by the Rotary Club of Benoni van Ryn.

It is so inspiring to see the magic of Rotary being sprinkled far and wide. I just wish that every Ann could join me when I visit all the projects with which the Anns are involved. I have no doubt you too will walk away, as I do, amazed and in awe of all the good work being done by the members of this organisation to which we all belong.

On that note, it is with a heavy heart that I received notification of resignation from Rotary Ann Myrtle Stringer from Riverside. Myrtle has served Rotary for 15 years. Your commitment and many contributions will be missed, Myrtle, but I know you will continue with the meaningful work you have always done. May your years ahead be blessed as you have blessed the lives of others.

Myrtle Stringer was inducted as an Honorary Member of Riverside Rotary Anns after 15 years of loyal service

SAVE THE DATE Please remember the **Anns Conference** on **22nd February 2025.** The Krugersdorp Anns are already hard at work ensuring that this event is going to be the best ever! Please RSVP as soon as possible so that Julia and her team know how many attendees to expect.

Aaah, **October**! I love this time of year. The spirit of kindness and giving, which is the basic ethos of all Anns, really takes flight as we near Christmas. It is so inspiring to read the plans that are being put in place by all the Anns' clubs, not only to make a difference within the community, but also for some really good fellowship as we near the year end. Remember to spoil and take care of yourselves as much as you care for the people around you.

Thank you all for the fantastic work you continue to do. The Rosebank Rotary Anns prepared the food for the young people who attended the RYLA camp organised by RC Rosebank and the White River Anns provided sandwiches for children at White River Primary School. Despite the closure of the clubs of Johannesburg South and Germiston, these two groups of ladies continue to make a difference in the community, with the Germiston ladies continuing their work at the Humanitarian Centre and the JHB South group providing blankets to the local home for the aged and underwear to the children at Francis Vorwek School.

The photographs below showcase the work done by the other clubs. Well-done to you all!

Riverside Anns presented Zilisimenya Home with a donation of R5000. There was much laughter and fun at the family fundraising day. These Anns also assisted the local SPCA and homes for the aged with some much-needed funds

SAVE THE DATE Exciting news is that the **Rotary District Conference** will be held on **1st - 4th May**, but the really good news is that the venue is Glenburn Lodge in Muldersdrift. That means that it is close enough for many Anns to attend for a day and not have the expense of accommodation. The DISCON committee has put together a very interesting programme for Saturday 3rd May, and there will also be time for the Anns to get together separately. The day ends with enough time for you to drive back home before it gets dark. The cost of attendance for the day is less than R1000 which includes teas and lunch. Please start putting money aside now so that we can have as many Anns as possible at the conference. It is the perfect opportunity to show the Rotarians that we are still a thriving organisation!

Krugersdorp Anns delivered towels from the Rotary Humanitarian Centre to the Tower of Light

Krugersdorp Anns treated the folk at Golden Age Village and Memorial Flats to a Spring Tea and Bingo morning

An exciting morning was spent at Laerskool Unitaspark where the Riverside Anns paid for their new name board

'Farmers' hard at work harvesting fresh produce from RC Benoni Aurora's vegetables garden for the Anns of Benoni van Ryn and Benoni Aurora to donate to children's homes and homes for the Aged in the Benoni area

The generous public of Benoni helped the Aurora Anns collect more than 6 trollies of groceries for distribution to the needy

Rosebank Rotary Anns spent a delightful morning at Bryanston Market

Benoni van Ryn Anns delivered lenses to Dr Agnes at OR Tambo Memorial Hospital so that she can continue her excellent work in restoring sight to the blind

Wishing you all health, peace and happiness

Love,

DGA Cheryl Jennings

Rotary D9400

CALLING FOR DISTRICT GOVERNOR NOMINEE DESIGNATE 2027-2028

You are invited to nominate Rotary members to be considered for the position District Governor 2027-2028 in District 9400. It truly is an exceptional experience leading up to and including the Governor's year. We know that there are many outstanding candidates waiting to be given the opportunity to lead the district.

All Rotary districts worldwide need to nominate a District Governor for the 2027-2028 Rotary year starting on **1 July 2027**. The procedure has certain deadlines: The proposed candidates will be ***interviewed*** on **22 November 2024** and the selected District Governor Nominee Designate will be **announced** on **7 December 2024**.

The responsibility of serving as Governor is a four-year-commitment serving as District Governor Nominee, District Governor Elect, District Governor, and Immediate Past District Governor. The commitment requires time and focus on behalf of the nominee as well as the personal and professional circumstances to allow for that commitment.

As you consider this future leader, keep in mind the following qualifications for a District Governor.

The nominated Rotarian must:

1. *Be a member in good standing of a club in D9400.*
2. *Have full qualifications for such membership in the strict application of the provisions, therefore, and the integrity of the member's classification must be without question.*
3. *Be a member of a functioning club in good standing which has no outstanding indebtedness to RI or to the district as of the close of the year preceding that in which the Rotarian is proposed as a candidate for nomination for district governor.*
4. *Have served as President of the club for a full year.*
5. *Demonstrate willingness, commitment and ability, physically and otherwise, to fulfil the duties and responsibilities of the office of district governor as provided for in section 15.070 of the Manual of Procedure.*
6. *Demonstrate knowledge of the qualifications, duties and responsibilities of District Governor as prescribed in the bylaws and submit to RI through its general secretary, a signed statement that the Rotarian understands clearly such qualifications, duties and responsibilities. Such statement shall also confirm that the Rotarian is qualified for the office of District Governor and willing and able to assume the duties and responsibilities of that office and to perform them faithfully.*
7. *Have been a member of one or more Rotary Clubs for at least seven (7) years.*

Should you know a suitable candidate and the person is willing to serve as the District Governor 2027-2028, please submit a detailed CV, together with a signed completed copy of the **Governor-nominee Designate Form** (obtainable from **Alice Meyer**).

SUBMIT TO: IPDG Riana Pretorius, Chairperson of the District Nominating Committee
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: 15 NOVEMBER 2024 (midnight)

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.

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!

Register and pay by 15 December 2024 before prices increase

convention.rotary.org

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 **Maputo**

Rotary has expanded the diagnostic capabilities at Maputo Central Hospital with RC Maputo's Project Cystoscope.

The diagnosis and treatment of urinary tract diseases in children at Maputo Central Hospital (HCM) have improved with the donation of a cystoscope to the Pediatrics Department. This advanced equipment enhances the detection of bladder inflammations, tumors, and urinary bleeding in young patients.

The donation, made by RC Melbourne, Australia, in partnership with RC Maputo, also included pediatric surgical tools valued at $50,000 (approx. 3.3 million Meticais)

Dr. Massada Rocha, a pediatric surgeon at HCM, noted that before this, the hospital only had one cystoscope, mainly used for adults. On average, HCM treats 3 to 5 children with such conditions, previously requiring temporary urinary diversion procedures. Now, many children on the waiting list receive quicker treatment.

Celso Moiane, RC Maputo's President (2023/24), thanked the Australian partners, emphasizing this donation is part of a broader project to enhance healthcare at HCM.

Rotary Club of **Pretoria East**

RC Pretoria East hosted the 12 Rotarians from Brazil from Wednesday 11 to Friday 13 September 2024. The Brazilian Friendship Exchange (FEX) group visited the Voortrekker Monument and Freedom Park as well as Church Square, the Union Buildings and the Pretoria Botanical Gardens.

The FEX group was also exposed to several projects of RC Pretoria East. They visited the SOUNS and Early learning centre at PEN in Pretoria central. SOUNS is a step-by-step process using simple tools and techniques to teach pupils to become readers. The children identify the sounds in words and identify the letter symbol representing that sound. This is done in small groups with emphasis on playing games with the letters while learning. They then build simple phonic words by "pulling out" the sounds of a word (building and writing words) and then sound out phonetically written words, eventually discovering that they can read.

The Brazilian FEX group visited SOUNS, the flagship project of RC Pretoria East and promotes literacy in pre-school children.

The Brazilian Rotarians also went to Arrova at Nicus Lodge which is a hostel for caregivers of children undergoing cancer treatment. During this visit the cancer patients received knitted scarves and beanies and bed socks.

Fun time included a special dinner and a braai with members of RC Pretoria East.

Rotary Club of **Riverside**

The Brazilian Friendship Exchange (FEX) group were hosted by RC Riverside from 14 to 20 September. Local Rotarians took the group to Keyes Art Mile in Rosebank followed by drinks and snacks at Marble Restaurant. Thereafter they were treated to a spectacular Vaal River cruise with host families and friends.

The guests were treated to a tour of Weltevrede Lion Farm at Heilbron and interaction with the lions, followed by lunch at Loch Vaal with DG George Senosha, the Friendship Exchange committee and Rotarians. The next day they enjoyed an excursion to The Kingdom Resort where they could relax at swimming pools of this beautiful resort and go on a game drive through Pilanesberg National Park.

The Brazilians and their hosts also spent a day at Sun City enjoying the Valley of the Waves. Once again, they were treated to a braai for dinner.

RC Vanderbijlpark donated books to the visitors. The Brazilian Rotarians all received African books (left). Each Brazilian lady received the Recipe Book,* Festival of International Flavours (*right)

Rotary Club of **Benoni**

Under the guidance of the RC Benoni, the Brazilian FEX group explored Hartbeespoort Dam on Wednesday 18 where there is a Crafters Market, the Pretville Film Set, and the Harties Cableway. A highlight of the trip was on Thursday 19 September, when the FEX group visited Soweto for a cultural tour and typical lunch.

The group ended their D9400 visit with a dinner hosted by RC Benoni and four other Rotary clubs.

After making lots of new Rotarian friends, the 2024 Brazilian FEX tour was concluded with a visit to Cape Town

Rotary Club of **Maputo**

RC Maputo launched Project 49 to aid the resettlement of 49 families displaced by the February 2023 Boane floods. In partnership with the Boane Municipal Council, the project secured land plots for these families, ensuring permanent ownership. A water connection was established, cutting costs by 70% and ensuring access to clean water. Each family received support to create home gardens, promoting food security and extra income. Continuous water supply for improved sanitation is also part of the project, with future plans for better toilet facilities.

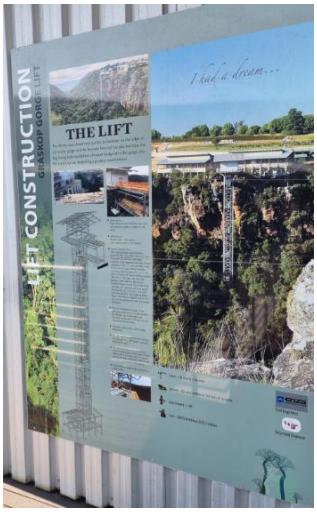
Project 49 goes beyond immediate relief, focusing on long-term sustainability and community-driven recovery. RC Maputo emphasizes collaboration and self-reliance, remaining committed to supporting these families as they rebuild their lives.

Rotary Club of **Witbank**

The Canadian Rotary Friendship Exchange group who visited D9400 also went to the Lowveld.

They experienced some of the jewels of our country on their visit to The Lift in Graskop, Bourkes Luck Potholes and Blyde River Canyon.

En route they spent some time and plenty of fellowship with the RC Witbank.



Rotary Club of **Maputo**

In September, RC Maputo welcomed six members from the RCs of Boise and Sunrise Boise (District 5400), led by Steve Merrill.

The clubs exchanged the traditional club banners as well as valuable experiences about the positive impact their projects have had on communities. Attendees included Steve Merrill (Sunrise Boise RC), Todd Fischer (RC Boise), and Larry Sutton (RC Sunrise Boise), and their spouses.

Salvador Cossa Jr., President of RC Maputo, emphasized that the visit strengthened the friendship between the clubs and expressed gratitude for their willingness to collaborate, contributing to transformative actions in communities. The club members of RCs Boise and Sunrise Boise, along with RC Maputo, visited the Special Education School No.1 in Maputo, where a basketball court was rehabilitated in 2023 through a partnership with RC Sunrise Boise. This project has promoted inclusion and development for deaf students.

Rotary Club of **Centurion**

RC Centurion hosted a Canadian Rotary Friendship Exchange group of 12 people who visited D9400.

There were Rotarians from the Andes Mountains and the Atlantic Coast as well as from the interior in the Pampa area of the province of Buenos Aires.

Their visit was arranged by Rotarian, Jackie van Waveren.

RC Centurion treated the visitors to a snoek braai after their visit to Ditshego, Freedom Park and Dove's Nest, a project of RC Centurion.

Rotary Club of **Maputo**

On October 11, RC Maputo, celebrated *International Girls' Day* by promoting Menstrual Health Education in partnership with the Mozambican Association for Family Development (AMODEFA). They jointly held a workshop at the Casa Madre Maria Clara Center in Maputo. The theme was "Adolescence and Menstrual Health," and 52 girls aged 8 to 23 participated, gaining insights into intimate health, personal hygiene, behaviour, mutual respect, and self-discipline.

Led by AMODEFA health professionals, the workshop emphasized the importance of menstrual health knowledge for the healthy development of girls. Personal hygiene kits were distributed to all attendees, reflecting Rotary's dedication to supporting the well-being and dignity of young women.

This activity is part of the "Rethinking Education" project, an initiative by the Rotary Club of Maputo aimed at transforming youth education, with a special focus on the unique needs and challenges faced by girls.

Rotary Club of **Hoedspruit**

RC Hoedspruit drew the crowds with their **#Tekkies4Tieties** initiative. A massive THANK YOU to each and every one who joined forces with for this event in Hoedspruit!

Together, they PAINTED THE TOWN PINK, made a REAL difference through community empowerment, and brought breast cancer awareness to the forefront!

The energy was so ELECTRIC!!! RC Hoedspruit rocks!!

Rotary Club of **Centurion**

One of RC Centurion's projects is at Ditshego, a long-standing partner and a source of support for Mooiplaas' children and families in need, providing education, shelter, medical care, and nutritious meals.

RC Centurion has recently explored ways to increase the productivity of Ditshego's community garden, which supplies food for local children and volunteers and is working with them to pilot the implementation of the Black Soldier Fly Larvae (BSFL) as an innovative, organic approach to waste reduction and sustainable farming.

The Canadian Rotary Friendship Exchange group of twelve Rotarians who visited D9400 and were hosted by RC Centurion, purchased Black Soldier Fly Larvae for this project. Thank you to the FEX team from Canada D5020 for your support!

Black Soldier Fly Larvae are particularly suited to community projects like Ditshego. They can break down food waste remarkably quickly, turning it into two valuable products: nutritious feed for chickens and frass, a natural fertiliser that enriches the soil. The larvae feed on various organic materials, from garden waste to food scraps, making them a perfect match for the permaculture methods at Ditshego.

RC Centurion has been inspired by the potential of Black Soldier Fly Larvae farming and in planning the project, has focused on designing a rotating cylindrical bin system that will allow for efficient waste breakdown and easy maintenance. With this BSFL project, Ditshego could sustain a productive cycle of chicken feed and natural fertiliser, all while reducing waste. With only a small portion of larvae needed to maintain breeding, this project offers a sustainable model that could provide long-term benefits for Ditshego's garden and wider community.

District 9400 EVENTS CALENDAR

4-10	November 2024	**World Interact Week - 4-10 November 2024**
7	November 2024	**RAGFP EDUCATION HOUR – ICC** Practice: Magic of Rotary **PEACE LANGUAGE** (Learn to think before you respond) on Thursday @ 17:00 **https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82122526817** Meeting ID: 821 2252 6817
15	November 2024	**Rotary Africa Annual General Meeting** @ 09h00 Send your zoom link request to **rotaryafrica@mweb.co.za**
19	November 2024	**World Toilet Day**
26	November 2024	**Giving Tuesday**
28	November 2024	**50 CARAT GOLD - A Rotary District 9400 Xmas party** on Thursday @ 19h30 (open from 18h00 for those who want to eat there – buy food on site or bring your own picnic basket; no own alcohol, buy drinks on site). Join us at The Barnyard Theatre, Menlyn top floor. Space limited. Book with Pat **patricianacclements@gmail.com ; +27 83 325 9718**
30	November 2024	**Closing date** of Essay Competition on International Peace for the youth
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