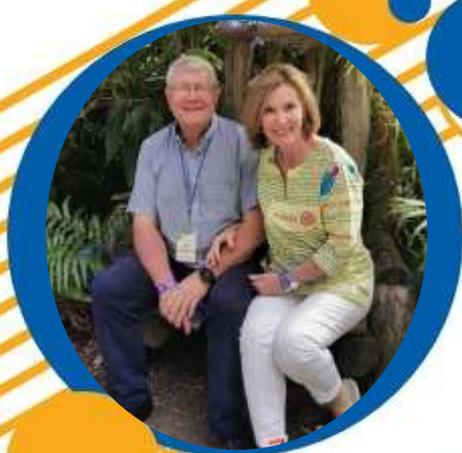




## District Governor Newsletter

1 May 2021



DG Annemarie and  
PP Hans Mostert

We in Africa have been blessed to have the support of Rotarians around the world for projects that have positively impacted millions of lives; through End Polio Now, through RFHA, through providing wells, and building libraries.

But we as Africans also carry the vision of “The African Century”; the belief or hope that the 21st century will bring peace, prosperity and cultural revival to Africa. Former South African president Thabo Mbeki is passionate about this idea; so too is U2’s frontman Bono.

### Can we make this come true?

Many of our friends around the world have heard the word “Ubuntu”, and probably associate it with the free software company which today powers most of the internet. That company’s founder, Mark Shuttleworth, was the first African in space. And he took that word from the Nguni languages spoken by most of southern Africa. It means “humanity” but is often translated as **“I am because you are”**.

One of Africa’s greatest moral leaders, Archbishop Emeritus Mpilo Desmond Tutu, proffered that “A person with Ubuntu is open and available to others, affirming of others, does not feel threatened that others are able and good, based from a proper self-assurance that comes from knowing that he or she belongs in a greater whole and is diminished when others are humiliated or diminished, when others are tortured or oppressed.”

“Service Above Self”, “One Profits Most Who Serves Best”; these are **messages of Ubuntu**.

So picture a world where this continent, which has the world’s youngest population, will be able to prosper with ongoing support from us in Rotary. That young generation of Africans will drive the world’s economic growth over the next 100 years.

**And that generation, as they prosper, will be the future of Rotary!**



What is your Rotary Club doing to focus on Youth Service in May? May is now called Youth Services Month (formerly New Generations) and it is when Rotary Clubs around the world focus on youth services like Rotaract, Interact and EarlyAct as well as educational programmes such as the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) and short- and long-term Youth Exchange. Here is how YOU can help:

**(Click on the logo’s to learn more!)**

**Rotaract** 

Rotaract clubs bring together people ages 18 and older to exchange ideas with leaders in the community, develop leadership and professional skills, and have fun through service.

**Interact** 

**Interact** is a service club for youth ages 12 to 18 who want to connect with other young people and have fun while serving their communities and learning about the world.

 EarlyAct™ is a school-wide service club for elementary students from ages 5 to 13.

 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is an intensive leadership experience where you develop your skills as a leader while having fun and making connections.

 Students learn a new language, discover another culture, and truly become global citizens.

**Youth Services**  
**District Appointments!**  
 Interact Chair – Jacqui Hlongwane  
 Rotaract Chair - AG Bruno do Amaral

# Presenting the 2021 D9400 District Conference and Africa Centennial

This month, the Africa Centennial event took place, providing exposure to Rotary International within South Africa as never before.



The 2021 Conference and Centennial Celebration was hosted by District 9400 from 23 to 25 April 2021. This landmark event commemorated one hundred years of Rotary on the African continent. The first Rotary Club, the Rotary Club of Johannesburg, was chartered on 1 July 1921 by a small group of Johannesburg businessmen who were driven by the opportunity of providing a service for the greater good of mankind, the goal outlined by Rotary International. Today Rotary is entrenched in 54 countries in Africa with a strength of nearly 36,000 members.

The Conference was a virtual affair which made it possible for many international guests to attend and contribute. More than 1,600 participants joined us online to learn and gather information about peace, business strategy, finance, project management, innovation and collaboration, all of which aids in the delivery of sustainable and impactful projects. A magnificent line-up of speakers from across the African continent, leaders in their fields (Rotarians and non-Rotarians) displayed the rich diversity and expertise in countries such as Botswana, South Africa, DRC, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

*RI President Holger and Susanne Knaack with DG Annemarie and Hans Mostert*



**The presentations and panel discussions have been loaded onto the D9400 YouTube channel – [click here to view!](#)**

The whole event was executed with plenty of flair and set the bar high for any future events. DG Annemarie Mostert and DGE Stella Anyangwe took centre stage during the proceedings and welcomed the participants. We were honoured to have RID Katerina Kotsali-Papadimitriou, an accomplished Rotarian and recipient of numerous awards and citations, handle the opening and closing formalities. RID Katerina introduced Rotary International President Holger Knaack, as well as senior Rotary leaders, Past RI Presidents and more. The event ended with a major focus on the youth - young Rotaractors that are the future of Rotary. 10-year-old Kenyan environmental activist Ellyanne Wanjiku stole everybody's hearts and inspired Rotarians to adopt and celebrate the new focus of Rotary, supporting the environment.

The programme provided an exciting showpiece for Rotary’s dedicated areas of focus with a panel discussion devoted to each specific focus area.

Discussion topics included:

- ✚ Strategic community economic development for poverty alleviation
- ✚ Too Little Access, Not Enough Learning: Solving Africa’s Twin Deficit in Education
- ✚ The role of civil society and various role players in ensuring healthy democracies across Africa
- ✚ Unrelenting surveillance in the prevention, treatment and control of communicable diseases in Africa
- ✚ Women in Rotary
- ✚ An integrated approach to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)
- ✚ Innovation for maternal and child health in Africa
- ✚ A greener Africa? Environmentalism, politics & the future.
- ✚ Africa’s Hopeful Future: A Look at Tomorrow’s Opportunities and Challenges

The event also posed a showcase of world fellowship for business and professional people of varying nationalities, diverse backgrounds and religions, all bonded together in Rotary Clubs by a common thread of encouraging fellowship amongst members to foster the ideal of "Service above Self". Leading the charge are DG Annemarie’s Zone 22 District Governor classmates!



*“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”*  
 Ralph Waldo Emerson

In addition to the informative panel discussions and engaging speakers, the Centennial event served as an opportunity to recognise those who are truly living by Rotary’s core values of integrity, diversity, service, leadership, and friendship. We recognise and applaud the following Rotary Heroes:



We also celebrate the Rotary Heroes whose lives were filled with selfless service and who have now gone on to higher service:



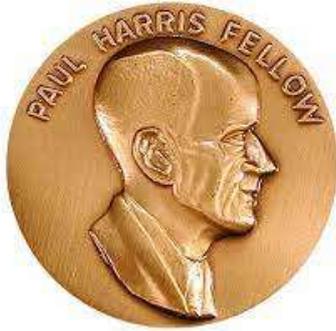
## Peace Builders

The Centennial Committee recognises these individuals for their continued efforts in promoting democracy and peace in our region.



[Click here to view the centennial address from the King of Lesotho, His Majesty King Letsie III!](#)

[Click here to view the Centennial address from the founding president of Zambia, His Excellency Former President Kenneth Kaunda!](#)



Continuing the legacy of our founder, The Paul Harris Fellow recognition acknowledges individuals who contribute, or who have contributions made in their name, of \$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation. The honour was established in 1957 to show appreciation for contributions that support Rotary's Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or an approved Foundation grant. During the Centennial celebrations, the following individuals were honoured with a Paul Harris Fellow recognition:

**Honourable Minister Tito Mboweni** - Honorary Member of RC

Haenertsburg, Minister of Finance, South Africa

**Dr Gcina Mhlophe** - South African Storyteller & Praise Singer

**Scott Martin** - Improvement of community leader skills in Peace & conflict resolution

**Dr Tunji Funsho & Nigeria Polio Plus Committee** - Chair of RI Eradication of Wild Polio Campaign in Africa Programme in Nigeria

**PDG Joe Otin** - Rotary International representative to UN Environment (PHF +4)

**PP Prof Hanan S. Gewefel** - Women and Fetal Imaging Clinic (PHF +2)

**Ellyanne Wanjiku** - Kenyan Environmental activist (the youngest PHF in Africa, at 10 years old)

**Benson Wereje** - Youth Activist for Peace, DRC

During the Centennial event, District 9400 was thrilled to have been able to present our own NPC chair, PDG Grant Daly, with a very special commendation: the Service Above Self Award. This is Rotary's highest honour, and recognizes Rotarians who demonstrate Rotary's motto, **Service Above Self**, by volunteering their time and talents to help others. The award is internationally competitive, and is granted to no more than 150 Rotarians worldwide. Congratulations!



PDG Grant is a Professional Construction Manager by trade, as well as a Fellow Member of the Association of Arbitrators. His roles in and contributions to Rotary are many and varied, and include Chairman of the Board of D9400 NPC, Convener of the recent Centennial Conference, Steering Committee Chair of ARCoM, and DG of D9400 in 2016/17.



PDG Grant is also a Major Donor, and has been awarded a Paul Harris Fellow on three occasions. Grant is supported in his Rotary pursuits by his wife of 34 years Nadine, and their son Cameron.

The **Official D9400 Handover** to DGE Stella will take place on Saturday 26 June (12:30pm for 1pm). It will be a **hybrid event**, with guests able to attend virtually or join us at the Pretoria Country Club! *Clubs are welcome to consider using this opportunity to facilitate their own club's inductions in person as well!*



African Brand Architects was the Anchor Sponsor of the African Centennial, mandated to build strategic partnerships around the world through the effective use of Public Relations and Public

Image globally. The values, vision, willpower and hope that we share with Rotary mean that we were excited to cultivate meaningful relationships with this community of change-makers who gathered at the Centennial celebrations. African Brand Architects and Rotary are connected in our core set of values, our North Star, of service above self, of an innovative African approach that guides the change we need to remain resilient, to navigate uncertain times and build back better for more prosperous days. What a joy it was for African Brand Architects to be the proud headline sponsors of the Rotary Africa Centennial event. We thoroughly enjoyed engaging with you as we began to forge partnerships and friendships, and look ahead with that characteristic African ingenuity and optimism to another 100 successful years on the African continent.

### **Our grateful thanks to Creative Space Media!**

The stage went 'LIVE' every day as per the schedule at 09h00; an experienced technical team and facilities took care of all the behind-the-scenes aspects of connectivity, presentation switching and control, and high production value content delivery. DG Annemarie Mostert and DGE Stella Anyangwe were the Masters of Ceremony and welcomed the delegates live from a green screen studio, and were superimposed into a custom-designed virtual set that complimented the Centennial conference theme. [Creative Space Media](#) created an unforgettable experience with their virtual conferencing platforms that enabled a tailor-made event, from digital networking to online exhibition functionality.

### **House of Friendship Projects Exhibition Fair**

The 2021 Conference and Centennial Celebration supported a virtual expo, allowing delegates to visit stalls and spark conversations with the exhibitors. The exhibition was built into the virtual platform and ran parallel to the conference and provided numerous networking and engagement opportunities with fellow Rotarians and industry peers. It featured our sponsors and 48 innovative companies and NGOs with ground-breaking products, services and solutions that drive real change across previously disadvantaged communities in Africa.

The D9400 booth featured details on various projects that our District has worked on recently – the ARCoM Mediation Global Grant, the Rotary Family Health Days, and Inter Country Committees to name but a few. Projects undertaken by individual clubs in D9400 were also showcased with great pride. For those who missed it, the booth display will be available for viewing in due course.



# Africa House of Friendship Projects Exhibition

We were delighted to have a variety of exciting and innovative brands and organisations join us at the fair!





# “THE DIFFICULTY LIES NOT SO MUCH IN DEVELOPING NEW IDEAS AS IN ESCAPING FROM OLD ONES”

**THE MIRACLE IS NOT TO WALK ON WATER. IT IS TO WALK ON THIS EARTH WITH AWARENESS.**

## Awareness:

### DGA ANGELA NORRIS



#### *Dancing through the minefield:*

Old age is a bit like a minefield; if you see footprints leading to the other side, step in them. That is awareness, be aware of your surroundings.

Look at how other clubs are happily working towards their goals, find role models and copy their stance.

Setting personal targets for positive wellbeing. If the pandemic doesn't finish us off, then we have an enormous part to play in our community.

If it means changing or tweaking your agenda.. don't be afraid of doing it.

Escape from old obsolete ideas, and find, copy, and share new thoughts and ideas.

I have shared many new and exciting ideas with you all, over the last 10 months. These ideas have come from enthusiastic people, who have changed the way they think. They have adapted almost evolutionary to the change that has surrounded them and grown stronger and more able to fulfil their goals, both personally and as Rotary Anns.

Have you? It's not too late. Just like a sunscreen that protects you from the harshness of the sun, make sure you smother yourself in family, friends, and especially good conversation – this will, I can assure you protect you from the anxiety the media portrays. Find your enthusiastic self, prepare her beautifully, and step out singing.

Bake, knit, sew, can-can, garden, read, phone or visit family and friends. Cuddle your pet, love life. And you will already be helping your community.

Mandela day is the 18<sup>th</sup> July what are you going to do for your 67 minutes? Make the effort count.

## Do you recognise your DGAR?

These ladies have been my rock this year and without them, I would have really been lost. They have kept me up to date with their clubs in their region.

This Month I highlight PDGA Ros Cartwright.

Ros became an Ann in Marondera Zimbabwe in 1978 – 43 years ago. Evicted from their family farm in Zimbabwe in 2002 after 67 years, Ros and her husband came to live in SA. Ros was DGA 1991/1992 district 9250. Ros has been district secretary for the Anns since 2010.

She has two daughters one in Johannesburg, and the other in Gozo Malta. She has two sons one in Cape Town and the other in Perth Australia. Her hobbies are travelling, skiing, tennis, reading, knitting, gardening, visiting Kruger Park and Rotary. I am truly blessed to have Ros as my secretary this year. A Rotary mentor for sure. She looks after Pretoria and Kyalami.



PDGA Margie Grant has been a Rotary Ann for the Last 15 years. She looks after Krugersdorp and Monument Anns Clubs.



PDGA Janet Callard looks after Johannesburg, Randburg and Rosebank.

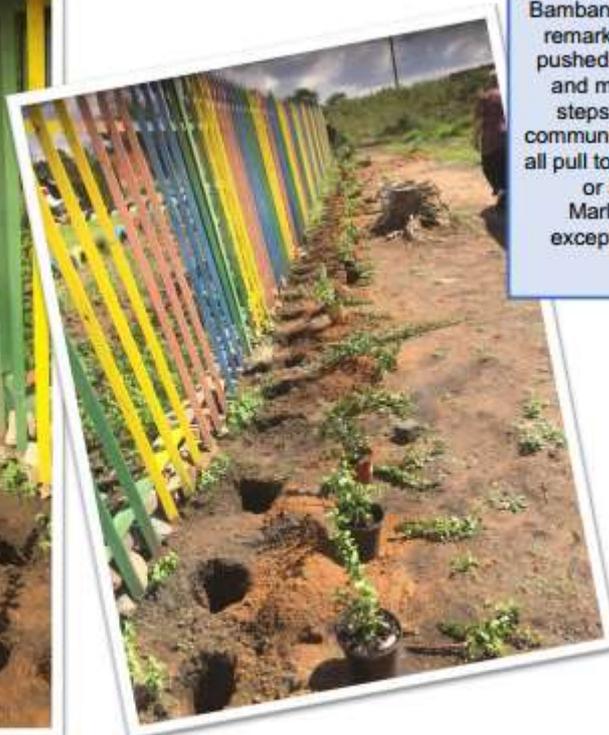


PDGA Colleen Diener looks after Middleburg and White River.

All these amazing ladies are the inspiration that we all need. They make a difference positively in a changing world.



The Germiston Anns planted over 120 Spekboom Plants along the fence line at Bambanani creche. These remarkable ladies have pushed through this year and made some giant steps in serving their community. 14 Active Anns all pull together in one form or another, and Marlene Rodda is exceptionally proud of them all.



Jane Soester has been the president of Johannesburg South 101 for a number of years, and her Anns have nominated her as the Ann that holds the club together. She has been an Ann for 50 years. Well done Jane an inspiration to us all.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

I must congratulate all the organizers of our POETS training sessions all 4 of the training sessions done on Zoom, managed to cover all the necessary information needed to manage and lead our Rotary clubs. With a lot of added on interest, like the PRO training and Stella's talk on Maternal and child health in sub-Sahara Africa. The guest speakers, at most managed to encourage and motivate.

And with the end of all training, comes the much-awaited Rotary Africa Centennial International conference. –

100 years of lasting change. 23<sup>rd</sup> /24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Tickets are R350.00 per person.

There will be a tribute to the oldest club in Africa – on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Johannesburg... There will also be a tribute to their Anns.

POETS for all the Anns clubs will be on the 8<sup>th</sup> May details will be forwarded accordingly.

My year end farewell will be on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2021. It starts at 10.00am. It is a Zoom farewell, and I hope to see many of you.



I trust you all had a wonderful Easter, with too many chocolates and lots of delicious food. There are many religious holidays in April. Passover, Ramadan, and the end of Lent on the 10<sup>th</sup> of April. All our Greek Families happy Easter on May 2nd



**May is Youth Month in Rotary – What will your plans be for the youth of our country- where can you help.**

**We are looking for the longest-serving Rotarians!**

District is analysing the membership data from Zone 22, which includes members' names and individual admission dates, as a means of identifying the longest-serving Rotarians in the Zone. However, in some instances, Rotary International did not begin collecting member data from clubs in our region until 2000, and in some cases, the admission date listed may be 30 June 2000 as a result of the data conversion, or the admission date may have defaulted to the club's charter date. **Clubs are thus requested to look at their induction dates and send their corrections** to District to forward on to Rotary International (or send the information directly to [data@rotary.org](mailto:data@rotary.org)) so that we have a database of integrity.



**Registration is open!**  
[Click here!](#)

Get your items for your club's Presidential Induction now! Rotary clubs are reminded to visit [Promoworld](#), our one stop destination for **Rotary Club supplies and Rotary Emblem Merchandise**. Please send your orders to Simon Selaledi ([rotary@promoworld.co.za](mailto:rotary@promoworld.co.za)) as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Available items include a **Collar Bar** for the Presidential Pendant, a Past President **Lapel Pin** & Past President Medallion, and a **Ribbon Bar** for the Past President Medallion.



The **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Rotary Action Group (WASHRAG)** is a group of Rotarians whose purpose is to support Rotary clubs to effectively plan, finance, implement, monitor and evaluate water, sanitation, and hygiene programs, where they are most needed in a collaborative, cost-effective, timely, and sustainable manner, true to the principles of Rotary International. **Click [here](#) to read more about the WASH Rotary Action Group.**

Clubs in D9400 are reminded to **update their citations** as soon as possible to be considered for the **District awards**.

AGs should write up their **quarterly reports** on the District website and assist their clubs in completing the relevant information on the citations.





## Guest speakers at the Rotary Club of Pretoria East

**Monday 3 May** (18h30) –PDG Kurt Bostrom from Sweden will address the all-important question: ***What is the difference between a Rotarian and a member of the Freemasons.***

**Monday 10 May** (18h30) –Rotarian Barbro Bostrom from Sweden will explain: ***What is the difference between a Rotarian and a member of the Red Cross International.***

If you wish to attend either presentation, contact Patrick Kain at [pkain1@icloud.com](mailto:pkain1@icloud.com) for the link to the Zoom meeting.



The 65th birthday celebration of the **Rotary Club of Vanderbijlpark** at Stonehaven on Vaal was an event to remember! The event was attended by club members, partners, family, Rotarians from Riverside Rotary Club, Round Table members and exchange students. PP Dave Gilliland shared **memories of the club's history** while a scrap book containing **photos of past projects**, the club's **charter** and a list of **founder members** were displayed as well.



**The Rotary Peace Fellowship** is now accepting applications for the Rotary Peace Scholarships 2022-23. Each year, **130 fully-funded scholarships** are awarded for international to study a full-time Master's Degree Program or a Certificate Program at one of the top universities of the world!

[Click here to learn more, and apply!](#)



Rotary's logos are **the visual representation of our identity and values**; they instantly convey who we are and build global recognition of what we do. When we all use the same visual identity, it **builds awareness** amongst the public, **enhances our impact** as people of action, and **establishes trust** in our organisation and our members.

Rotary, Rotaract, and Interact clubs are invited to **update their logos** to align with the latest Rotary brand standards by using the template in the Brand Center to create a club logo and then using it consistently – [click here to start!](#)

**Rotary Exhibition Centre**

The Rotary Exhibition Centre will be housed in a 40-foot shipping container located at PromoWorld, Gauteng.

The Rotary Exhibition Centre will be completed this year. You can be a part of this significant Rotary structure by donating towards its construction and administration! Individual bricks are for sale at R50 each. All contributors' names will be recorded, and funding 25 or more bricks will secure your name on a plaque for posterity. Place your orders [HERE!](#)

This opportunity is open to all Rotarians, Rotary Anns, Rotaractors, Interactors, Clubs, Businesses, Corporates, and Friends of Rotary.

**RIP Elizabeth (Beth) Thomas**



On 26 April 2021 we said good-bye to one of the most treasured Rotarians in our District.

In 2007 Beth Thomas was elected District Governor of D9300 to serve her year in 2009/2010. She applied her exceptional business leadership skills in her law firm, in politics and in her church, and was well respected by Toastmasters worldwide as a board member and trainer throughout Africa and beyond. In Rotary, Beth diligently headed the RLI programme for a number of years and this took her to our neighbouring countries too.

She also served on various district committees. Beth was also a Paul Harris Fellow and a Benefactor.

Beth was a very positive, well-respected lady but God has claimed her as his latest angel. Beth was a loving and caring wife, mother and grandmother. Her husband Cobus cared for her with much love and she spoke of him always with affection. She will surely be missed but not forgotten. Memories of Beth will remain in D9400 and with all her fellow Rotarians. Our deepest condolences to Cobus and her family and friends.

**Let's plan ahead: Important dates in May / June**

- 8 May** – Rotary Anns' Training
- 15 May** – Social Media Workshop
- 15 May** – Deadline for District Grant applications
- 15 May** – Deadline for Peace Scholar applications
- 22 May** – D9400 Assembly (9am – 12pm via Zoom)
- 12-16 June** – Rotary International Virtual Convention
- 26 June** – Luncheon and official handover to DGE Stella Anyangwe

**June is Rotary Fellowships Month**

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