



**District
9400**

Incorporating clubs in Botswana, Eswatini and
parts of Mozambique and South Africa



District Governor Newsletter August 2020



**DG Annemarie and
PP Hans Mostert**

I have met the most incredible Rotary Heroes in our district, serving their families and our societies. They lead by example, giving back and volunteering during a very challenging time. They live our values and bring the service idea closer. Listening to the stories made me realise the journey started some time back, because as parents, if we can instil a sense of gratitude, kindness, and generosity in children, we can help them to develop empathy, compassion and a spirit of giving. Give your children the gift of giving and it will reap rewards for a lifetime.

Everyone has a role to play - Babyact, Earlyact, Interact, Rotaract, Rotarian.

Whether it's Babyact to Earlyact, Interact, Rotaract or as Rotarians, enthusiastic as professionals with diverse backgrounds, we exchange ideas, form lifelong friendships, volunteer, participate in random acts of giving, connect to a cause and **make a sustainable difference in our communities**. Saint Francis of Assisi said it best, "For it is in giving that we receive." Once students have experienced that warm fuzzy feeling they get from helping others, studies show they're more likely to continue volunteering into adulthood. Let's continue to **invite, connect and unite** people from all continents and cultures who take action to deliver real, long-term solutions to our world's most persistent issues.



For more than 30 years, Rotary has been the driving force in the effort to end polio worldwide and now, we celebrate a [Polio Free Africa](#)! We need to continue our support to eradicate Polio and uphold the promise we made to the children of the world.

While South Africans were celebrating women's month, Rotarians the world over joined our district in acknowledging the historic nomination of **Jennifer E. Jones** to the office of International President. Jennifer is the 1st Rotary Woman, in over 115 years, to be nominated for this position. If no other candidates challenge her, she will become president-nominee on 1 October 2020, and take office July 2022 to June 2023. When Jennifer was asked how we, as Rotary, differentiate ourselves from other groups and community clubs, she said: "We abide by high ethical standards including the Four-Way Test and are both a service and a humanitarian organization. We are leaders, have quality networks and are all about community service scaled globally. We are people who basically have "no extra time on our hands" yet are committed doing amazing work around the world". Learn more about Jennifer's Rotary service [here](#).



One of the highlights of Membership Month (August) was the first **Annual Inter-District Membership Seminar** for Southern African districts.

This impressive line-up of inspirational African thought leaders shared best practices, addressed important issues and inspired members to grow Rotary – TRF Trustee Geeta Manek, past RIVP/RID Yinka Babalola, RC Membership Chair (Zone 22) PDG Larry Mapani, and Membership Chair (D9210) PDG Ravi Devalia.

[Click here for recording of the full event to download and view at your leisure.](#)

Thank you **DGE Stella Anyangwe** and **PDG Annie Steijn** and your committees for organising this amazing event!

Is your club
participating in
Covid-19 Relief Projects?



**Complete the District
survey now!**

Please complete the survey **from the start** of your initiatives, so that we have ALL work to date! Previous survey data has been cleared!

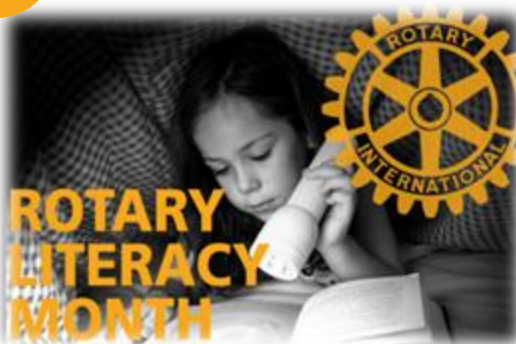
African Rotary Community Mediation

ARCoM's steering committee is crafting a unique African community mediation course, to create a cohort of community-embedded mediators throughout the districts. The search has begun for applicants for this internationally recognised course; members of youth, women, church, charity, sport or school groups.

Application forms for Rotarian and Non-Rotarian applicants will be made available in the near future. For more information please [click here](#).



September is Basic Education & Literacy month

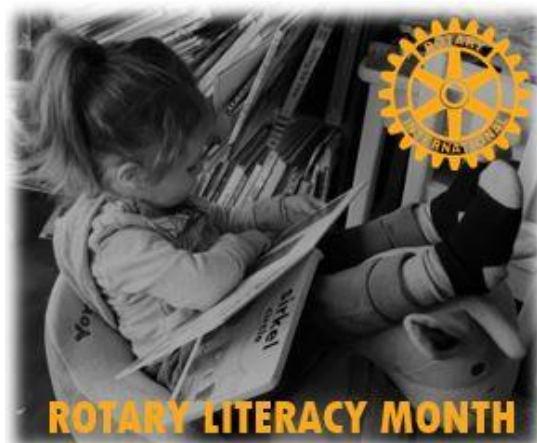


“The more you read,
the more things you
will know. The more
that you learn, the
more places you’ll
go.” Dr Seuss

How can we improve education for all children?

We know that basic education and literacy are essential for reducing poverty, improving health, encouraging community and economic development, and promoting peace. Literacy rates among adults and youths are on the rise and the gender gap in literacy is narrowing. But pressing global needs remain:

- 58 million children worldwide are out of school.
- 781 million adults are illiterate.
- Even after four years of primary schooling, as many as 250 million children cannot read and write.



Rotary supports activities and training to improve education for all children and literacy for children and adults. Just consider:

- If all women completed primary education, there would be 66% fewer maternal deaths.
- A child born to a mother who can read is 50% more likely to survive past the age of five.
- If all students in low-income countries left school with basic reading skills, 171 million people could be lifted out of poverty, which would be equivalent to a 12% cut in world poverty.

Rotary’s 7th Area of Focus: Supporting the Environment



Photo by Chairperson of the COSA Environmental Sustainability Workstream, John Wesson.

This is an exciting moment in Rotary history! With the global population reaching near eight billion, protecting the environment is increasingly important.

The D9400 COSA Environmental Sustainability Workstream has now been established, and now’s the perfect time for you to set up your Environmental Club Committees!

[Click here for more information](#)

[on the COSA Workstream!](#)

DGA CLUB VISITS

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOUR DGA POPS IN FOR A VISIT

Zooming in for a club visit – sounds like something you would do in your Ferrari...

DGA ANGELA NORRIS

Wow, its only the second month of our Rotary year, and it already feels like I have run a marathon. I have been zooming here and zooming there... Of course, I don't have a Ferrari. I suppose I could have said broomstick!!! But I'll leave that for November.

The month of August has afforded me 7 Zoom DGA club visits thus far, and 6 club meetings. During September, October and November I will have visited all the Anns clubs in the district by one means or the other, Zoom, WhatsApp, or actual visit if and when possible.

Club Visits. I reconfirmed the positive role that each President Ann will have to conquer, in order to motivate, encourage and foster good will in her club. August was membership and new club development month. (Please go and find this on Club Runner, it's a great way to infuse ideas and inspiration.) Sure I would like to see the Anns clubs grow, but with all that we have had to deal with this year, I feel that all we must do for now is find emotional stability within ourselves, overcome our own fears, and establish a calm that will give us the courage to carry on with the wonderful work Rotary does.

Accountability of public funds was also addressed, and it is noticeably clear that all Anns clubs and their treasurers know their responsibilities and have assured me that the financials of their clubs are sound.

Secretaries are the constant reminder of all the good work each member does, and her minutes are essential in keeping me and district up to date.

Exited and pleased to have read that Polio in Africa was declared eradicated. Thank you to all the Anns clubs that made both monetary and time commitments. Its thanks to you that we have been able to keep our promise to the children of the world. We now focus on Pakistan and Afghanistan.



When the world
Stopped...
Our Anns didn't.

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go..."
Dr. Seuss.

Remember my motto for the year.

Take care of your environment and
it will take care of you.

"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are" *Theodore Roosevelt*



Are Rotarians and Anns getting more involved with environmental projects this year?
I hope so! Go and have a look on Club Runner about

Karen Kendrick-Hands she is
Communications director, Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG)

There are so many interesting facts about Rotary, and what a fantastic organisation it is to be a part of.



A special thanks goes to DG Annemarie Mostert, for her fervent inclusion of all the Anns, and their involvement in the community. DG Annemarie has embraced us this year, and it shows in all the work that is taking place in and around our district.

Please Anns, send me your photographs of your projects, or the work that you are doing. I can then promote it within the Rotary Organisation. Promoting the Rotary family worldwide, will encourage awareness and that will ensure the growth in our membership.

Let's not forget to put into PER SPEK TIVE our project this year... Our climate change hero Spekboom.



On August 25, the WHO's African region was officially [certified free](#) of wild poliovirus. This certification comes four years after Nigeria – the last polio-endemic country in Africa – recorded its final case of wild polio and marks a major step toward global eradication of the virus. This means that five of the six WHO regions – representing over 90% of the world's population – will have eliminated wild polio.

This progress is the result of a decades-long effort led by Rotary, our partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, and world governments. It has involved innovative strategies to vaccinate children amid conflict and insecurity, and a huge disease surveillance network to test cases of paralysis and check sewage for the virus.



[Read more about this exciting milestone here!](#)

Early 1900s	1950-1960	1970-1980	1980-1990	1990-2000	2000-2010	2010-2020
Polio – a dreaded disease	Polio vaccines bring hope	Polio in the developing world	Global commitment to eradicating polio	The African region commits to eradicating polio	One step forward, two steps back	The final stretch

MYSTERY CAR RALLY




Boksburg Lake Rotary Club

SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER

STARTS AT 10:30

Entrance fee R150.00 per car, for 2 people
Extra passengers – R25.00 p/p

PRIZES TO BE WON




Starting point to be confirmed once booked

Bring your own camping chairs

Snack lunch will be served, inclusive in entrance fee



Book your position:
Tony 082 852 0928
Jenny 082 925 1043



Rotary Club of Rosebank


Invites you

In support of Rotary Projects, to 40 minutes of delightful distraction with Storyteller Rob Caskie (internationally acclaimed), who will regale us with a story from South African History about the Anglo Boer War and Spion Kop.

Date: 9 September 2020 @ 19h00
Ticket Cost: R100 per person/ family

RSVP
2nd September 2020

+27 837071055
sonjagm.hood@icloud.com
Sybille.viljoen@gmail.com

Rotary  Rotary Opens Opportunities

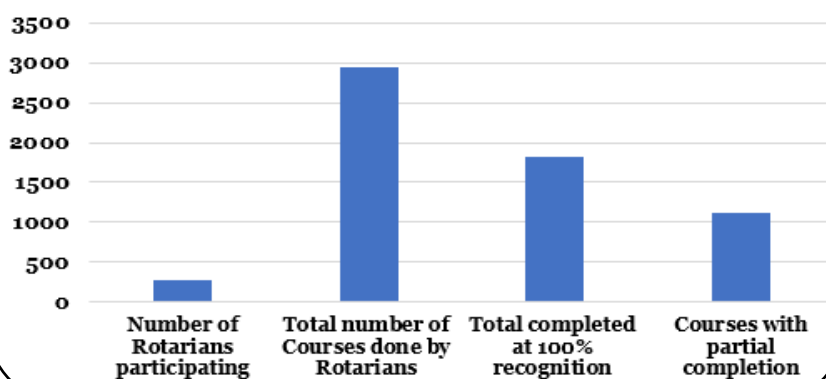
Regional Public Image Awards

[Click here](#) to view the list of winners and honourable mentions from our District!

Well done to everyone involved!

E-Learning Report

D9400 E-Learning



District 9400 has a Strategic Objective to increase the number of Rotarians participating on the [Rotary E-learning platform](#) from 250 on record to 350.

Rotarians are encouraged to check their personal status and go back to complete the courses they started.

Visit our **District website** on www.rotary9400.org.za for inspiring stories, club events, community service activities, and more! **The D9400 website is about YOU!** Exciting project in the pipeline, or recently completed? Upcoming fundraiser you'd like to advertise? New members, club officers, or committees? We want to know about it! Rotarians, clubs, committees, and communities – **send your pictures and articles** to admin@rotary9400.org.za to be featured!

Did you miss out on the Webinar that provided website training for all Club Executives? [Click here to access a recording!](#)

ClubRunner™
Connect. Collaborate. Communicate.

D9400 Conference & Africa Centennial Celebration

**23 – 25
April 2021**

Projects Fair
starts 22 April!



Rotary D9400 Jerusalema Dance Challenge

Join the latest global dance frenzy by participating in our very own D9400 Jerusalema challenge. All around the world, music-lovers are giving to South African Master KG's latest song Jerusalema that has an infectious beat and a dance to match. For a small entry fee of R50 per group, you could be crowned the

Rotary Jerusalema World Champions!

So, [start practising](#) – entries open soon!



Due to the cancellation of RFHDs this year, the Rotary Action Group for Family Health & AIDS Prevention Board (RFHA NPC SA) has published the following Call to Action:





15 October 2020

Call to Action

Rotary  rfha 

The RFHA SA action group is calling on Rotarians to continue being warriors in the fight against Covid-19!

Work with fellow clubs in your region and donate PPE, respirators or other medical emergency support items, or recognise frontline staff as Rotary Heroes!

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO

RFHA enjoys critical partnerships with Rotary and the South African Department of Health, as well as well-known NGO [Gift of the Givers](#).

Nominate Rotary Heroes Today

For Rotarians, family of Rotary, or non-Rotarians who are committed and dedicated, and uphold the spirit of **Service Above Self**.

Rotary Awards

[Click here](#) to see a list of **Rotary International Awards** that are open for nominations! Please note deadlines for each category!



D9400 has awarded Rotarian [Prof Martin Rupiya](#) with a **Regional Rotary Hero Award**! Please send your nominations to admin@rotary9400.org.za

RC Pietersburg 100 has recently recognised individuals who contributed to their lockdown effort... [please read their heartfelt letter of appreciation here](#)... **who are your heroes?**

Some 60 years ago, RC Johannesburg sponsored the studies of **Joseph Maphophe**.... he has been a Rotarian for the past 20 years and at the age of 86 is still serving his community and giving back!

Born in Limpopo in 1934, PP Joseph grew up in Johannesburg. After finishing high school, he attended Jan Hofmeyr School of Social Work but was forced to abandon the course after the first

year due to lack of funding. Dr Ray Phillips, Director of the school, secured a scholarship from the Rotary Club of Johannesburg to pay for the remaining two years.

Since receiving his Diploma, PP Joseph has worked as a Social Worker, Probation Officer, and HR Officer, and most recently as Chief Liaison Officer in Giyani Gazankulu. Shortly after his retirement in 1998, he joined the Rotary Club of Giyani and served as President for the 2004/2005 Rotary year.



Member Focus



Does your club follow your investments into the youth? Where are your Alumni members? Get in touch with them, and share their stories with us! They could be part of our Member Focus segment!

Meet Lucille - one of the founding members of RC Johannesburg New Dawn. **Professor Lucille Blumberg** has been at the forefront of the fight against Covid-19 in her capacity as Deputy Director of the National Institute of Communicable Diseases; a position she has held for the past 18 years. And her club is so proud of her!

After 5 months of extremely demanding work she is relieved to see the number of cases on the decline but warns against complacency. "Although the numbers are declining, we expect a resurgence. We have to open up the economy and get on with our lives, but remain aware of the need to protect vulnerable groups," she says. One of Lucille's passions is identifying opportunities for helping communities in need. She has been involved in community work at Hluvekani in Bush Buck Ridge, near the Kruger Park, for many years – providing support to a crèche and wheelchairs to the community.



RC Johannesburg New Dawn thanks Lucille, for all that she is and all that she does!

PEOPLE OF ACTION



The District website has a page for **[club stories and projects!](#)** Share your Rotary experiences and read about your fellow Rotarians!

Submit articles for uploading to
admin@rotary9400.org.za



Speaker Bank

An exciting new initiative!

A high-quality guest speaker programme is an asset to any Rotary club, and many clubs are frequently in search of interesting and topical speakers for Fellowship meetings and events. In this vein, District 9400 will be starting a “Speaker Bank” – an up-to-date list of people within the community who are willing to speak at Rotary meetings. Consider the best speakers you have heard over the last few months and send them to us – they may be featured in our newsletter! **The Speaker Bank** will be accessible on our District website soon.

This month, we look at the [Arthritis Foundation of South Africa](#) (AFSA) – a Non-Profit Organization with a mission to better the



lives of those with arthritis, as well as to educate and increase awareness. AFSA has proposed a collaboration with Rotary to bring awareness of arthritis to our members, in the form of presentations and reading materials. To arrange a talk for your Rotary Club, e-mail the AFSA Johannesburg Branch Manager, [Nadine Lewis](#) (nadine@arthritis.org.za) or phone (011) 485-0199.

IN MEMORY

This month we pay tribute to the following
Rotarians who have been called to higher service:

PP John McCory (11/05/2020) (Rotary Club of Gaborone)

PP Francois Pienaar (02/08/2020) (Rotary Club of Rustenburg Kloof)

Let's plan ahead:

Important dates in October

24 October — World Polio Day

5–11 October — Rotary Alumni Reconnect Week

15 October — Connect with your local Rotary Family Health partner / facility

CONTENT EDITOR
MARIANA PURNELL

admin@rotary9400.org.za

DESIGN & LAYOUT
JACQUELINE WEITZ