



Rotary Opens Opportunities

Rotary



District 9400

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



District Governor Newsletter September 2020



**DG Annemarie and
PP Hans Mostert**

There is no question about the deep commitment that we have to Rotary International. This commitment allows us to serve, influence, commit, understand and improve lives, not only of those people around us but also our own. Our vision and values link us together.

My visit to clubs connected me with incredible, resourceful members, those who have a voice and a chance to make a difference. They are building capacity, are happy to tell beautiful and meaningful stories, and their passion and purpose are in alignment. Their purpose drives excellence! They offer magical gifts and open opportunities to young and old. They give hope.

Rotarians make amazing things happen, like breaking the cycle of poverty for women: Most of the women living in rural areas do not have the collateral to get loans from regulated financial institutions. Our Rotary clubs helped local ECD practitioners to complete financial literacy courses so they could pool their money and fund their own growth. Skills development and business training helped more than 270 community members in sewing, baking, plumbing, microcredit, business management, and leadership. Rotary members gave farmers the skills they needed to improve soil fertility, control soil erosion, and market their produce – this led to sustainable farming in areas such as Polokwane and Eswatini where erosion and loss of soil fertility had significantly reduced farmers' harvests. The results: increased crop yields and profits.

As professionals and business owners, we need to help bridge the gap between Townships and Corporate Southern Africa. Support women and encourage them to participate in the economy, build careers, and establish owner-managed businesses. Let's grow our people, equip our students for the market place, and

build a solid foundation for our economy where all can flourish. One such Rotarian who is having a tremendously positive impact on our local economy is Martha Deacon, a member of the Rotary E-Club of Southern Africa D9400 – read more about her amazing work below.

For the past 130 years The Johannesburg Chamber and Commerce of Industry (JCCI) has been promoting, developing and supporting the South African Economy. This month, District 9400 is proud to announce that our district is now a member of this prominent organisation!



Celebrating D9400's Membership of the JCCI

Rotary District 9400 is now a member of the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) which is the oldest and largest Business Chamber in South Africa. Membership of the Chamber enables every Rotary club access to a large resource that will be of significant benefit to the local community. The economic cooperation between the two organisations includes the exchange of relevant trade and market information, visits for the expansion of bilateral trade by delegations of each organisation, showcasing of sustainable community projects and opportunities, to name but a few. Rotarians are an important part of a new conversation about values-based businesses. In the words of Per Saxegaard, Norwegian Investment Banker. “You can’t just be making money, and Rotarians understand that. You have to be creating value, solving problems. You have to be able to look in the mirror and say this is the type of businessperson I am, this is how I’m improving society and the world.” [Click here](#) for the full details of this exciting new collaboration!

Public Image and Public Relations

These are important functions. When a Rotary club has a positive public image, brand or reputation, current members are motivated to participate in service above self, prospective members are eager to join and sponsors are willing to support service. **Please join us for Rotary Public Image training** on Saturday 31 October at 10am. [Click here](#) to register....



Training

The Rotary Foundation

The mission of TRF is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. Since it was founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects.

Foundation training is held regularly - [click here](#) for details!

October is Economic and Community Development month

For Economic and Social Development to occur we need to develop entrepreneurs in South Africa. It is necessary to develop new ideas into fully fledged and sustainable businesses that can provide employment to other people. As business people in Rotary we need to help the budding entrepreneur to shape his ideas into a workable and sustainable business, guiding the entrepreneur in his transition from employee to a future employer. How can Rotarians help to develop entrepreneurs? By sharing their knowledge in running and growing businesses.

The Rotary Foundation enables Rotarians to invest in people by creating sustainable, measurable and long-term economic improvements in their communities and livelihoods by:

1. Building the capacity of entrepreneurs, community leaders, local organisations, and community networks to support economic development in impoverished communities;
2. Developing opportunities for productive work;
3. Reducing poverty in under-served communities;
4. Supporting studies for career-minded professionals related to economic and community development.



Bringing this month's theme to life is Rotarian Tebogo Manaka, who features in Inside Education's 2020 publication "100 South African Shining Stars". Tebogo, a qualified internal auditor and member of the Rotary E-Club of Southern Africa D9400, assists creches with administration and compliance needs and supports them in securing



funding from the private and public sectors. Tebogo says that she is motivated by the need to improve people's lives and help them sustain their livelihoods; this is clearly demonstrated in the way her assistance has aided a number of creches to access adequate educational infrastructure, replace pit toilets, provide nutritious food, and training for teaching. Tebogo is also an accomplished public speaker, and was selected to be part of their Young Generations Africa Program by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation / Thomson Reuters Foundation.



Another Rotarian who is actively working within the Economic and Community Development arena is Toronto, Canada resident Martha Deacon. Martha spearheads The Townships Project – a non-profit organization in Canada and South Africa that has been jumpstarting the creation of small

businesses in South Africa since 1998. Formed in response to then-President Nelson Mandela's challenge at the World Council of Churches Assembly in Harare, to "do something about the poverty in my country", The Townships Project began by working with South African partners to make tiny loans to groups of women to start or expand small businesses in Mdantsane, and later in Khayelitsha, Gugulethu and other townships. In 2010, its focus shifted to helping the best small



businesses to grow by creating micro-franchises. In 2015, the South African Department of Trade and Industry took over the funding of this initiative. Subsequently, The Townships Project approached several Rotary Clubs in South Africa to partner with it in mentoring and investing in Building

Better Businesses. All funds are donated by individuals and foundations in Canada. Since 1998, The Townships Project has raised about ZAR 35,000,000 in this work. The Townships Project is a partner of Rotary Means Business and has trained people to become resources for their community, offering networking activities, advice on new business development, and mathematics and financial management training. They help business leaders respond to the immediate need as entrepreneurs.



Nominations for District Governor



DG Annemarie with DGE Dr Stella Anyangwe and DGN Koekie Quashie

We invite you to nominate Rotary members to be considered for this position. It truly is an exceptional experience (leading up to and including the Governor's year) and we know that there are many outstanding candidates waiting to be given the opportunity to lead the district. [Click here](#) for more information.

Closing date: 23 November 2020.



Embassy Visit

Plans are well under way to charter a Rotary Club of Diplomatic Corp D9400 in December! In this regard, DG Annemarie and Rtn Haroon Noormahomed recently paid a courtesy visit to the Ambassador of the State of Qatar in Pretoria – His Excellency, The Ambassador Tariq Ali Faraj Al-Ansari.



DGA SEPTEMBER UPDATES

LEVEL ONE – STILL NO HUGGING – BUT ELBOW KISSES ALLOWED

At The Right Place At The Right Time –

DGA ANGELA NORRIS

Being in the right place at the right time, is always first prize. And this can be said about much of this year thus far.

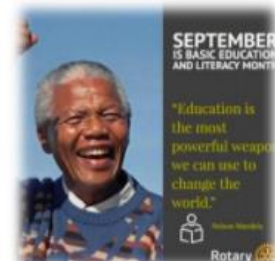
It is because I was at the right place at the right time, and of course with the right people. I have been able to connect people with projects – which has resulted in monetary fund's being offered in a great time of need. Just being part of Rotary has afforded me an exceptionally large circle of friends and acquaintances. Clever fund-raising projects have been discussed, and stories swapped. So well done to all.

DGA Zoom Club visits gave me the chance to chat to all the ladies, and that meant that I was able to connect several club projects.

And of course, I managed to finally get to go on holiday 4 x 4 style to the west coast. Timing could not have been better; with all the wonderful winter rains they have had the flowers were out in full Colour. I once again state that I am privileged to live in such a beautiful country.



My own home-grown wildflower – Kevin.



September was basic Education and literacy month. I hope you all have had time to share with your Rotary clubs the importance of Education. Share your stories on Club Runner.



Namaste
may the divine in me bless the
divine in you.

"and the whole world walked inside and shut their doors and said we will stop it all, everything, to protect our weaker ones, our sicker ones, our older ones. And nothing in the history of humankind ever felt more like love than this"

Remember my motto for the year.

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

What! More Training?

Can we actually get enough training, learning and sharing? No, we cannot – so I am working on a Training program for all Anns. We never got to attend our PETS training this year, and there is so much new and interesting stuff going on around us – I am wanting to set up a ZOOM training session. With interesting topics that many Anns are so often left out of. So, watch this space.

October will bring us Economic and Community Development. And a Call to Action with our Rotary family Health Day.

Embrace this monthly theme with your Rotary club, let them share in your projects too. Remember many hands make light work

Let's not forget to put into PER.SPEK.TIVE Community development with our Spekboom It also speaks to our family health day as it cleans the air we breathe.
our project this year...Our climate change hero Spekboom.



Club Focus

[Click here](#) to view Club newsletters
and stories online!

Send your Club newsletters to
admin@rotary9400.org.za to have them
loaded onto the District website!

RC Pretoria Sunrise - Lesedi Secondary School

Until August of this year the 1000 learners and staff at Lesedi Secondary School had been compelled to use unsanitary chemical toilets, as newly built ablution blocks had no water supply.

Rotary Pretoria Sunrise has been involved with the school for several years, sending learners to RYLA annually. In 2020 an Interact Club was formed at the school and during one of the Club's visits a dismal picture met our eyes; the water reticulation system posed a serious health risk to everyone at the school.

The Club commissioned an engineering company to draft a water management plan to initiate a process for repairing, renewing, and re-engineering the water reticulation system.

Thanks to a generous donation from the Club's international partner, the Davis Rotary Club in California, the Club's stewardship and community funds and a District 9400 grant, the ablution amenities have been connected and restored, and the pupils and staff at Lesedi Secondary School now have hygienic toilets and washing facilities.

Grateful thanks to BeeWare and PDG Shirley Downie for the generous donation of honey products to the residents of Melusi informal settlement. Food security is always a challenge for this community and the healthy (and delicious!) donation was greatly appreciated.



The Rotary Club of Edmonton Strathcona received the 2020

Gilbert Paterson Award for Youth Services at the District 5370 Vision 2020 Virtual Conference held on September 12, 2020 in recognition of the support it has provided to the New Hope School in Pretoria, South Africa.

For the past five years, two club members have led tours to South Africa and Zambia for Rotarians, family, and friends. During these trips, the groups visit New Hope School, one of the largest schools for students with special needs in South Africa. These visits have inspired donations which have assisted the school to create a safe environment as well as housing for these students.

After raising more than \$20,000, including donations from several other Rotary clubs in Northern Alberta, the Edmonton Strathcona club partnered with the **Rotary Club of Pretoria**, South Africa to obtain a grant of US\$32,400 (C\$42,000) from The Rotary Foundation.

This was truly an international effort, and thanks go to the Rotarians from the Edmonton Strathcona Club and from the Rotary Club of Pretoria.

Well done to Selebi Phikwe Rotary Club in Botswana, whose members recently donated seven washing basins to all seven health facilities in the town! Club President Kumbulani Mabena says that the club is committed to working with the government in the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic, and hopes that the club's donation will assist in reducing the spread of the virus.

District 9400's

#JerusalemaChallenge

kicks off on the 1st of November!

Get practising – check out this early entry from [RC Benoni Aurora](#) for inspiration!

More info in the next newsletter!

#D9400JerusalemaChallenge

The Rotary Foundation offers grants that support a wide variety of projects, scholarships, and training that Rotary members are doing around the world.

[Click here](#) to learn more about **what grants are available**, and how to apply for them.

Over 1,300 Rotary Foundation grants were awarded worldwide in 2018 – [click here](#) to see how this money was spent!

Rotary has an exciting new way to assist in **creating fundraising campaigns**! [Click here](#) to see how it works!

Rotaract



On Saturday 10 October, Rotaractors and Interactors from all over the world will participate in the **International Debate for the Youth** in India, Australia, South Africa, Malaysia, the United Kingdom and Italy – on the topic of **Peace and Conflict Resolution**. The main objective of this event is to reach across to Youth in different parts of the world to expose them to the values that Rotary stands for, and to come up with **constructive solutions** to the challenges that Rotary and Society face in different areas.

We will report back on the achievements of the D9400 team – good luck to Minenle Majola and Renaldy Beyeme!

**LICENSED VENDOR IN
OUR DISTRICT - Rotary
Emblem Merchandise**

Contact Rtn Barry Hewstone
rotary@promoworld.co.za



View our wide range of products on our website! We are also able to custom-make and print products to specific requirements!

Website: www.merchandisestore.co.za

Awards & Recognition

Some of the deadline dates for awards are creeping up on us! Clubs are encouraged to recognise the relevant award(s), and individual D9400 members are invited to make recommendations for awards that are not club-related. D9400 also needs to identify the awardees for the 2021 Centennial event (throughout the zone). For the immediate future we need nominations for the following:

- ☐ Service Above Self: 1-31 October
- ☐ RF Citation for Meritorious Award: Nov/Dec

Distinguished Service Award: Gregory Stathacopoulos



*Seated: DG Annemarie Mostert, PDG Greg Stathacopoulos.
Back: PDG Charles Deiner, PDG Jankees Sligcher, PDG Anton Meerkotter, PDG Annie Steijn, IPDG Maurice Stander.*

District 9400 congratulates PDG Greg on being awarded this prestigious accolade by the Rotary International Trustees. The Distinguished Service Award is presented to individuals in recognition of outstanding accomplishments and exemplary service.

Greg was nominated for this award by PDG Annie Steijn while he was a member of the Benoni Rotary Club; he is now a member of the Rotary E-Club of Southern Africa D9400.

Greg is a Paul Harris Fellow and a Member of the Bequest Society, and has served Rotary in various roles at different times, including as Scholarship Chair, District New Governors Chair, Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator, Major Gifts Portfolio Member, and Rotary International President's Personal Representative. Greg has from 2016 been serving as the District Rotary Foundation Chair, a position he also held from 2007-2013.

Supporting Greg in his service to Rotary is his wife, Elaine, and their three children and four grandchildren.



PDG Greg Stathacopoulos with his wife Elaine, daughter Kelly, and son-in-law Adrian.



Community & Vocational Service Survey

Please complete this [survey](#) about the wonderful work you are doing as a Rotarian and in your vocation.

Tell us about your Projects, Programmes or Activities!

Let's recognise the Clubs and Rotarians that are the shining stars of our District!

Include all projects from 1 July 2018 to current (including ongoing/incomplete).

Rotary Family Health Days 2020

Call to Action 2020 : All Rotary Clubs in District 9400

1

[Fill in this form](#) to **nominate a Clinic or Healthcare Institution** (Old Age Home, Hospice, University Medical Faculty, Nursing College) near your Club.

Arrange a date between 15 October and 30 November with the primary head of that facility to **meet on their premises with your Club President, AG and members** to hand over a framed Rotary Family Health Day Certificate of Appreciation (District will prepare this and e-mail it to your club). **Arrange activities to foster an ongoing relationship** with that facility.

3

Ask the Healthcare Workers in the facility to attend: show your Club's appreciation of their selfless dedication to healthcare, and celebrate the **Year of the Nurse**.



2020
INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF THE NURSE AND
THE MIDWIFE

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9

R11,228,956
Spent on
COVID-19
Support

20,368 hours
Volunteered
by Rotarians
for Covid-19
Support

R11,740,332
Raised During
the Pandemic

John Wesson and the COSA Workstream for **Environmental Sustainability** have put together a valuable presentation – [click here](#) to learn more about the scope of this new Rotary Area of Focus, key environmental issues, and interesting project ideas.



WORLD POLIO DAY

IS 24 OCTOBER

[endpolio.org](https://www.endpolio.org) | [#endpolio](https://twitter.com/endpolio)

Rotary has been working to eradicate polio for more than 30 years, and we've made incredible progress in the fight to rid the world of it forever. As a founding partner of the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](https://www.endpolio.org/global-polio-eradication-initiative), we've helped to reduced polio cases by more than 99.9 percent, and on 25 August 2020 Africa was declared wild Polio free by the World Health Organisation. However, it's crucial to eliminate polio from the last two countries where it remains endemic and to keep other countries polio-free. **If all eradication efforts stopped today, within 10 years, polio could paralyze as many as 200,000 children each year.**

Visit <https://www.endpolio.org/world-polio-day> for information on World Polio Day events!

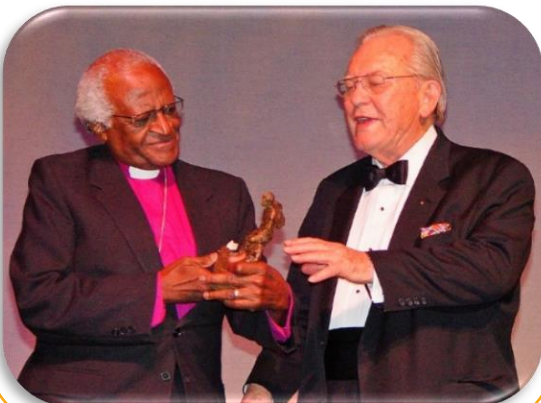


Dr. Tunji Funsho, chair of Rotary's Nigeria National PolioPlus Committee, was recently named one of

TIME's 100 Most Influential People

[Click here](#) for the full article!

The late PRIP Glenn Estes recognised Arch Bishop Desmond Tutu, who survived an illness believed to be polio as a baby and battled tuberculosis as a teenager, in 2005 during the Rotary International Centennial celebration held in Johannesburg.



TOGETHER WE STEP IT UP TO... KEEP POLIO ZERO

24 October - World Polio Day

10am (GMT+2)

Purchase your ticket <https://qkt.io/82tnoV>

R200pp

All proceeds go to Polio Plus

ZUMBA FITNESS

Rotary PEOPLE OF ACTION

END POLIO NOW

#KEEPPOLIOZERO





100 years of Rotary in Africa

22- 25 April 2021

Venue: Emperors Palace, Johannesburg

Come and connect! Make new friends as you enjoy true South African hospitality. Days filled with the rhythm of Africa. Be inspired by the thought leaders sharing this celebration, and be part of the legacy we'll leave for generations to come.

Africa House of Friendship & Projects Fair

An exhibition will run parallel to the conference, and will provide numerous networking and engagement opportunities with fellow industry peers. It will feature innovative companies and ground-breaking products, services and solutions that drive real change across previously disadvantaged communities.

Centennial Legacy Project

Africa Rotary Community Mediation (ARCoM) is an inter-district RAG project that aims to train 100 community mediators in districts 9350, 9370 and 9400. The curriculum and training material is being compiled by representatives of the University of South Africa's Institute for African Renaissance Studies, The African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD), and Mediators Beyond Borders International (MBBI).

We congratulate our collaborators MBBI on recently being selected for the 2020 International Advocate for Peace Award – bestowed by *The Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution* (CJCR) (recognized as one of the world's preeminent legal journals of arbitration, negotiation, and mediation). [Click here](#) for more information on the award ceremony.

Another important "Promoting Peace" partnership has been finalised this year – between Rotary International and Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda. DG Annemarie, Rtn Professor Martin Rupiya and PDG Grant Daly recently met with Dr Helen Nambalirwa Nkabala, the centre director of the new Makerere University Rotary Peace Centre. The institution is offering a postgraduate year-long program in Peacebuilding, Conflict Transformation and Development with strong emphasis on issues and solutions that are of particular relevance throughout the African continent and beyond.



Dr Helen Nambalirwa Nkabala being interviewed on NTV Uganda.

[Click here](#) to watch the interview.

CALL TO ACTION – Join the Rotary Anns’
PER.SPEK.TIVE Project - plant a spekboom!

DISTRICT TARGET – plant 1,000 spekboom
plants this spring. It’s our duty to future generations!

[CLICK HERE](#) for 7 great reasons to plant
spekboom in your garden!

Excited about Rotary’s new Area of Focus? Why not
join the **District Committee** for Supporting the Environment?
Participate in environment-focused projects and make a difference to
an area you’re passionate about – **climate change, animal
conservation, water and air quality, solar energy, plastic
pollution...** Become a member of our committee and help steer the
way forward for Rotary’s new focus area! Contact
admin@rotary9400.org.za for more information on the committee,
and to read about other ways you can be a part of D9400’s
efforts to Support the Environment!

Supporting
the
Environment

ESRAG
ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY
ROTARY ACTION GROUP

Action model: Identify
environmental leaders within
the Rotary world, assist them in
initiating environmental service
projects that are meaningful to
THEM, help where we can, and
acknowledge and publicize their
awesome work.

[Click here for more info!](#)

Rotarian Action Group for Endangered Species

Our purpose is to mobilize Rotarians and provide
global awareness and focused ACTION in the
continuing struggle to preserve and protect
endangered species. We will be supporting and
promoting new and ongoing joint projects with Rotary
and Rotaract clubs located in the areas of concern.

[Click here for more info!](#)



Let’s plan ahead: Important dates in October

5–11 October – Rotary Alumni Reconnect Week

15 October – 30 November – Connect with your local health care institution

24 October – World Polio Day

November is Rotary Foundation month!

BULLETIN EDITOR
MARIANA PURNELL

admin@rotary9400.org.za

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JACQUELINE WEITZ