

ROTARY AFRICA

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June 2018





TOGETHER, WE

END POLIO

Rotary believes healthy communities are strong communities. That's one reason we've worked tirelessly to help immunize 2.5 billion children against polio. Bringing the world closer to eradicating a deadly disease — that's what people of action do. [Learn more at Rotary.org](https://www.rotary.org).



Let's tell the world we are

PEOPLE OF ACTION

The new Rotary public image campaign is now available. Bring your club's story to life and help the world understand who we are: leaders who work together to connect, inspire, and transform our communities.

Get started at [rotary.org/brandcenter](https://www.rotary.org/brandcenter) today.



**Where Rotarians serve,
hope blossoms... pg 17**



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From the Editor

In newspapers you have the silly season; the period of time that leads up to Christmas when everyone goes bonkers and schedules nine million and one “must-do, don’t-miss-out” events, markets, shows and charity collections. It can become so insanely busy that sometimes you start to feel as if the only time the poor and hungry matter is during that six to nine-week period before Christmas.

Rotary Africa, thankfully, does not have a dedicated ‘silly season,’ our readers are so active that ‘silly season’ is a year-long affair. But if I had to declare one period of time as a ‘silly season’ it would be this, the final month and first two months of the Rotary year (June to August) and naturally, I would call it something else – perhaps, our quirky quarter!

There is so much on the go; awards, inductions, new leadership and ideas. This is the time we take stock of the last year and start revving our engines as we prepare to zoom towards greater adventures in the year ahead. I am a fan of cars, which is probably why I see June as the month when our new club and district leaders line up at the start; their engines growling and the air vibrating from the sheer power of their determination and enthusiasm as they prepare for the journey ahead. Our race is not a typical race but more of a journey of shared experiences and strategic planning, so it is vital that we keep those engines humming, the spark plugs firing and the pistons pumping. We need to keep the levels of excitement, determination and passion fuelled and primed. This is often easier said than done when leading diverse groups of people.

There will be clashes, negativity and apathy but we need to find ways to overcome those; actually, we can look to Rotary for the solution.

There is a reason that fellowship is important in Rotary. By associating with people, you start to learn about them and discover things that you like about them. You begin to understand the paths they have walked and the reasoning behind their decisions and values. Once you have that understanding, casual friendships develop and this helps you reach that point where you can say (*I apologise to PDG Patrick Coleman as I have ‘appropriated’ this phrase from him and use it regularly*), “I don’t agree with you, but it’s okay!”

Fellowship is one of the greatest and most under-recognised tools in our leadership tool boxes. The by-products of fellowship (understanding, tolerance and empathy) not only help keep our motivation and enthusiasm levels high, but they also help with conflict prevention and resolution.

I have told this story before but it’s worth repeating: I lived in a town that had its own Facebook group in which arguments erupted and degenerated into nastiness and racism. One person decided he had had enough and invited all the members to coffee and a chat at his home on a Monday evening. Participants enjoyed coffee while sharing their thoughts on a specific issue and no matter how emotional a topic was, there was always respect and shouting was not tolerated. The lesson here is that we can’t stand in front of people and tell them what to do, rather let them relax, talk freely, find common ground and learn about others. This way, we develop the bonds that will motivate and inspire one another and those we encounter. This is how we lead and this is how we generate peace where there is conflict.

Another great way to learn more about your fellow Rotarians is through the Rotary Fellowships. There are so many that almost every interest, sport, profession and hobby is represented and for those which are not, Rotary encourages Rotarians to form new ones!

So, happy Fellowships Month and remember, there is a reason we celebrate this month, so let’s embrace it!

Until next month,

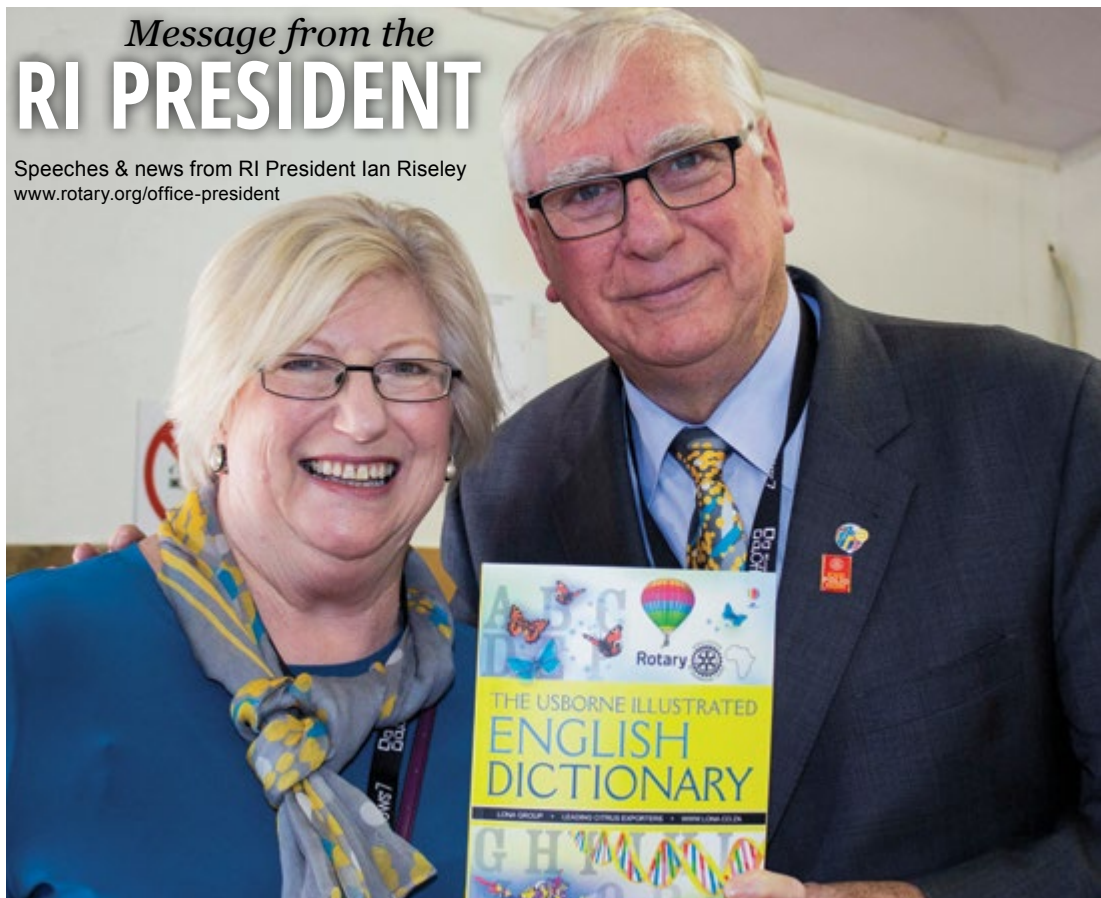


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Sarah

Message from the RI PRESIDENT

Speeches & news from RI President Ian Riseley
www.rotary.org/office-president



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

For 60 years, choosing a theme has been the privilege, and sometimes the challenge, of each incoming president. Looking back on those past themes opens a small window into the thinking and the vision of each leader – how they saw Rotary, the place they saw for Rotary in the world and what they hoped Rotary would achieve.

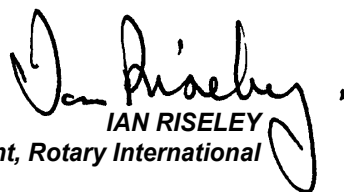
When my turn came to choose a theme, I did not hesitate. I knew immediately that our theme in 2017/18 would be *Rotary: Making a Difference*. For me, that small phrase describes not only what we do now, but what we aspire to do. We want to make a difference. We strive to help, to have an impact, to make the world a bit better.

Over the past two years, I have seen so many ways that Rotary is doing just that. In California, after the devastating wildfires last year, I saw *Rotarians Making a Difference* to those who had lost everything. In Guatemala, I saw the difference that simple wood stoves are making in the lives of women who had been cooking on open fires: They no longer breathe smoke when they cook, they spend less time gathering firewood and they are using their stoves to start small businesses. In Israel, I visited a Rotary-supported hyperbaric centre that is helping brain injury and stroke patients return to healthy, productive lives. In communities around the world, Rotarians are *Making a Difference* by resettling refugees, immunising children, ensuring a safe blood

supply and helping young people learn and thrive.

All over the world, I have been a part of Rotarians' commitment to planting trees. As this issue of *Rotary Africa* goes to press, we are still awaiting the final count of trees planted, but I am delighted to announce that we have already far surpassed our original goal of 1.2 million trees, one new tree per Rotarian. And, all over the world, Rotary is continuing its advocacy, fundraising and support for polio eradication. Last year, wild poliovirus caused only 22 cases of paralysis in only two countries. I am confident that soon that number will be zero and we will begin a new phase in the timeline of eradication: counting down at least three years from the last sign of wild virus to the certification of a polio-free world.

As Juliet and I return home to Australia, we will bring warm memories of the places we have visited, the friends we have made and the service we have seen. Thank you, all of you, for the tremendous work you are doing, through *Rotary: Making a Difference*.


IAN RISELEY
President, Rotary International

FOUNDATION TRUSTEE CHAIR'S MESSAGE



Paul Netzel
FOUNDATION TRUSTEE CHAIR

It's hard to believe that the first year of our Foundation's second century of service – and my term as chair of The Rotary Foundation – is coming to a close.

It has been an amazing experience to see Rotary and our Foundation in action as I've travelled the world. It has been inspiring to see the passion and dedication of Rotarians, the energy and creativity of Rotaractors and the diversity of projects and forms of service. I've seen *Rotary: Making a Difference* in the lives of countless people in need, because Rotarians are People of Action!

These experiences have reaffirmed my belief in Rotary's future and the vital role the Foundation can and must continue to play – especially as we approach our post-polio era.

As Rotarians, we have big challenges and bold opportunities ahead:

- We must achieve our goal of eradicating polio! Please contribute to the polio campaign – whether through a direct donation, by fundraising or by telling the polio story using your preferred media platform.
- We must expand the conversation and determine what corporate project or projects we will undertake next. Think bold!
- We must work to engage the 50 percent of the world's population that is under the age of 30. Surveys consistently

show that these young people want to make a difference and to volunteer. We need to continue developing proactive strategies to engage millennials and Gen Z-ers.

• Women account for 50 percent of the world's population. They are proving to be the backbone of many clubs. We need to expand their reach and welcome their leadership at every level of our organisation.

• More Rotarians and clubs need to connect more closely to the Foundation to understand how it can help achieve our goals.

This Rotary year, I invited you to share your ideas with me. Many did – about how to raise more funds, to simplify the grant process, to better engage youth, to build peace, to enhance our membership experience through The Rotary Foundation. You expressed your passion for a future in which the Foundation will have a greater impact than ever in its second century. This is because you are our greatest strength.

Thank you for the honour of sharing this journey with you.

What should I pass on to my successor? Let me know.
Email me at paul.netzel@rotary.org.

**ROTARY
AT A
GLANCE**

ROTARY
Members:
1 232 332
Clubs:
35 617

ROTARACT
Members:
257 140
Clubs:
11 180

INTERACT
Members:
527 229
Clubs:
22 923

RCCs
Corps:
9 723

As at 8 June 2018

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW



Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

First. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

Second. High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

Third. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

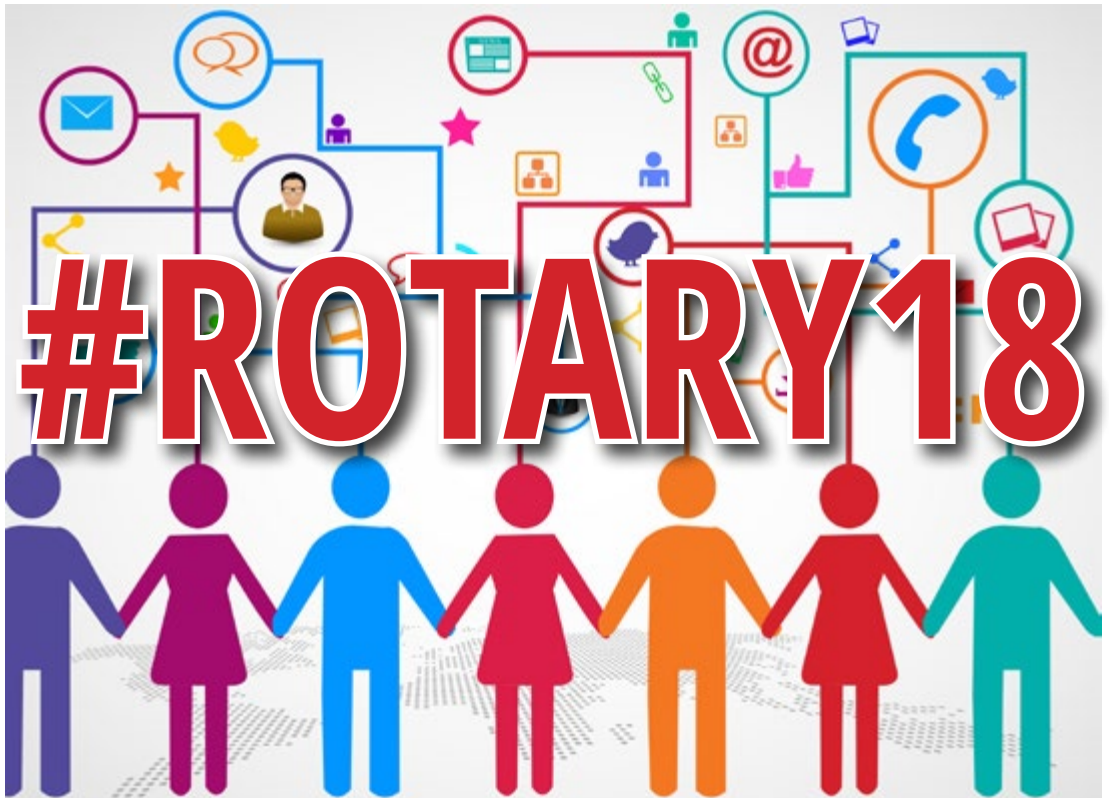
Fourth. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

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?

**Learn more about Rotary at:
www.rotary.org**



2018 RI Convention

ONLINE UPDATES

Whether you'll be at the 2018 Rotary International Convention in Toronto from 23 to 27 June in person or want to keep up with what's happening there from home, you'll find all the latest news on Rotary.org and social media.

Every day, the Convention Minute provides a quick video recap of the previous day's events, along with a look at the day ahead. Our hosts will update you on must-visit House of Friendship booths, bring you interviews with attendees and provide you with coverage of both general sessions and breakout sessions. You can read the Convention Minute at riconvention.org, on Rotary's Facebook page or within the daily convention e-newsletter. You'll also be able to watch and share full videos of the world-class speakers.

Rotary staff will be blogging and tweeting from the general sessions, House of Friendship, workshops, host committee events and more. The live coverage will include videos, interviews and other insights from Rotary's biggest event of the year. Daily news stories will fill you in on all the headlines and developments. You can also browse exclusive photos of all the convention highlights.

If you are attending the convention, you can share your own stories on social media, see what other Rotarians are posting and get the latest updates from the convention team by using the hashtag #rotary18.

Register for the 2018 Rotary Convention in Toronto at riconvention.org.

Next convention, 1-5 June 2019



Keep them involved. A few helpful ideas and

MEMBERSHIP TIPS



PDG Andrew Jaeger, Rotary Coordinator, Zone 20A South

Your club and every club has experienced this: You bring in a new member full of excitement and enthusiasm but within a year or two the member quits, never having been involved in the club.

What happened and more importantly, can it be stopped? Fortunately when you understand the answer to the first question, the answer to the second is a resounding “yes!”

Thanks to surveys we now know why members leave and the answer is no surprise; members leave when they no longer obtain from Rotary that for which they joined.

Why do people join Rotary? The reasons differ but the most common are to give back to their community, to network, to obtain professional development and to make new friends. All of these are perfectly legitimate goals for Rotary membership.

I think that we sometimes fail to understand the full breadth of our great organisation. Yes, Rotary is a ‘service organisation’ but the term ‘service’ encompasses more than most members realise. We have Five Avenues of Service (Community, International, Club, Youth and Vocational Service) and they are of equal importance. Too many times we assume everyone joins for one reason – usually, community service. I even read an article in *The Rotarian* in which a long time member was quoted as saying he joined for the “wrong” reason (networking) and stayed for the “right” reason – community service. I completely disagree that networking is not a valid attraction to Rotary. In fact, most young people join for vocational service (professional development and networking) and leave when their clubs provide too little in this avenue to keep them interested! They never have a chance to learn about the other Avenues of Service that make Rotary membership a lifetime adventure!

Our first priority is to find out what current members want from Rotary. Not what the club is traditionally or what past members made it. The old days of making members fit into our box are gone.

The world has changed and Rotary and our clubs need to change with it to bring in our future members.

We need to know what current members want and then we need to have the courage to implement changes to make those members happy.

How do you find out what members want? Ask them! Do club surveys, or discuss it in club assemblies. Do member focus groups. Surveys need not be long or complicated; a few simple questions are all that is needed. Contact me and I will help you conduct a survey and implement its results.

People have limited time. They will only join and remain in organisations if they perceive the value to be worthy of their time expenditure. Does your club offer a value proposition? In other words, what do members receive from being a member of your club? Why should they join? Once you understand this you are on your way to growing your club!

Please make use of myself or my excellent assistants, Annie Steijn, Nimrod Kapwele and Jaap Steyn, if you need any help in strengthening your membership.

In conclusion: I read a Facebook post that epitomised an important part of the Rotary membership experience when it said, “The people whom we surround ourselves with either raise or lower our standards. They either help us to become the best version of ourselves or encourage us to become lesser versions of ourselves. We become like our friends. No person becomes great on their own. The people around them help to make them great. We all need people in our lives who raise our standards, remind us of our essential purpose and challenge us to become the best version of ourselves.”

Can there be a more noble pursuit for us as Rotarians?

Full disclosure: I joined Rotary to network with honest, ethical people who promoted integrity in their businesses and daily lives. I caught the service bug after a couple years, which was also an important part of the Rotary road. Networking was the hook that brought me in, as it is for most of the younger members and as it was for Paul Harris himself who started Rotary to network and make friends! So, let’s embrace it as a valid entré into Rotary.



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EMAIL ROTARY, ROTARACT AND INTERACT CONTENT TO ROTARYAFRICA@MWEB.CO.ZA

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

But We Are Still Making a Difference!

By PDG Patrick Coleman: Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator Zone 20A South

When Paul, Sylvester, Gus and Hiram first met for lunch on that cold February day in 1905, service projects were not on their minds. They met for fellowship and networking (although that word was probably not in their vocabulary back then). Community service came later and even their first project – toilets in downtown Chicago – had a business benefit. Shoppers stayed in town longer, ate lunch and bought more if they did not have to go all the way home to use the “outhouse.”

To be brutally honest (insert The Four-Way Test here), I did not join the Rotary Club of Luanshya (D9210) to “do good in the world.” I joined because I was new in the community and only knew a few people. I was looking for friends.

It was not long before I saw in my sponsor, PDG Dennis Figov (now a member of the Rotary Club of Waterfront, D9350), a passion for community service that I both envied and desired. To Dennis, Service Above Self is more than just a motto; it is a way of life. His enthusiasm was contagious and I was thoroughly “infected.”

When I joined my club, RI President Bob Barth’s theme was: “Believe in What You Do - Do What You Believe In.” As an English teacher, I recognise the incorrect grammar, but as a Rotarian I recognised passion of that statement.

Since that time we have been encouraged to “Be a Friend,” “Act with Integrity - Serve with Love - Work for Peace,” “Build the Future with Action and Vision,” “Show Rotary Cares for your community for our world for its people,” “Follow Your Rotary Dream,” “Act with Consistency, Credibility, Continuity,” “Create Awareness Take Action,” “Sow the Seeds of Love,” “Lend a Hand,” “Celebrate Rotary,” “Lead the Way,” “Make Dreams Real,” “Building Communities - Bridging Continents,” “Reach Within to Embrace Humanity,” “Engage Rotary, Change Lives,” “Light up Rotary” and “Be a Gift to the World.”

We have also been reminded from time to time of other Rotary themes - “Mankind is Our Business,” “Rotary Shares,” “The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands,” “Peace Through Service” and “Rotary Serving Humanity.”

All of this came under the banner of “Service Above Self.”

When President Ian Riseley prepared his theme for 2017/18 he encapsulated all these Rotary themes into one succinct phrase: “Rotary: Making A Difference.” He admonished us this year to demonstrate all of these themes by Making A Difference in our lives, homes, businesses and communities.

I am writing this from 40 000 feet in the air. During

the months of May and June I am on 28 flights by 11 different airlines in eight countries on four continents. All but four of these flights are Rotary related to training, district conferences and of course, the Rotary Convention in Toronto.

On my trips I have witnessed the incredible difference that Rotary has made in the lives of countless numbers of people including all six of our “Areas of Focus.” The disabled have been enabled. Schools have been built and equipped. People have access to clean water and proper sanitation. Mothers, children and the elderly are healthier. We have peacemakers trained to find solutions to earth-shattering events. Polio is almost eradicated!

PLUS! We have witnessed the improvement of our environment by planting thousands and thousands of trees. In District 2430 (which includes Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkey) Rotarians planted a 250 000-hectare forest!

The organisation started by Paul and his friends developed (matured?) into a global force for good. We are second to none – as confirmed by Charity Navigator, the watchdog group analysing organisations like us. Nobody tops our four-star 100 percent rating! Nobody!

Still, at the core of our being is the theme of “fellowship.” We work together because together is better than alone. Clubs made a difference this year through their own decisions, but it took teamwork on a global scale to move Rotary forward and secure its future.

Within our Rotary family we have “Global Networking Groups” of individual Rotarians organised internationally to focus on shared topics of interest. Global Networking Groups are composed of Rotary Fellowships and Rotarian Action Groups.

A Rotary Fellowship is a group of Rotarians who unite themselves to pursue a common vocational or recreational interest in order to further friendship and fellowship.

A Rotarian Action Group is an association of Rotarians who unite themselves to conduct international service projects that advance the Object of Rotary.

President Ian said, “We know that we can do more together than we could ever hope to do alone.”

We have and we will continue to give service to our communities, develop international goodwill and understanding, build higher ethical standards in our vocations and “Do Good in the World” through the common bond of Rotary.

Lists of the Rotary Fellowships and Rotarian Action Groups can be found on pages 14 and 15 or at www.rotary.org



PROTECTING *your data*

What you need to know about new data protection rules

The European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) took effect on 25 May. Because Rotary staff members process the personal data of our European members, Rotaractors, programme participants and others, Rotary is obligated to comply with this new data privacy law.

Despite the implementation of this law, Rotary has always taken the responsibility of respecting your privacy and protecting your information very seriously. Rotary has reinforced its data privacy and security methods for anyone who shares personal information with Rotary — no matter where they live. Here's how.

What Rotary already does to protect your personal data

Long before GDPR, Rotary's policies took care to protect your information. Rotary's Website Privacy Policy explains what information is collected, how it's collected and how it's used. Rotary also strives to give you control over your data so you can decide what personal information to share and review it whenever you want.

To safeguard your personal data, Rotary uses password-protected databases on secure servers behind firewalls and requires all staff to attend information security awareness training each year.

In taking steps to ensure compliance with GDPR, Rotary has been able to build on this foundation of strong data-protection policies.

How Rotary is preparing for GDPR

First, Rotary completed a readiness assessment and risk analysis. These provided understanding on how the new regulation will affect its processes and what Rotary needs to change to comply with GDPR. The analysis led Rotary to focus on the following areas:

Process inventory. Rotary inventoried all of the personal data processing activities in order to comply with GDPR's Article 30.

Lawful basis. Rotary reviewed all data processing to ensure that it has a documented legal basis or reason, for every process, according to GDPR.

Policy and notices. Rotary is updating its website privacy policy to meet GDPR expectations and make its notices on how your personal data is used more specific.

Records management. Rotary updated its schedules for retaining records containing personal data to make sure that they are kept only for as long as necessary.

Data breach procedures. Rotary revised its guidelines for responding to a breach in accordance with GDPR expectations for notifying constituents of a breach.

How Rotary will keep you informed

An announcement will be made on Rotary.org when the updated Website Privacy Policy is posted. If you're attending the Rotary International Convention in Toronto, you can learn more about the compliance efforts at the breakout session *Data Privacy and Data Protection: Rotary's Compliance with GDPR* on 27 June, 1 to 2pm. In the meantime, if you have any questions, write to privacy@rotary.org.



SA Idols 2017 winner Paxton Fiellies, Zintle Kati and Simbongile Sam recently returned from Sweden where they performed at the award ceremony of the World Children's Prize (WCP) in front of Queen Silvia of Sweden and hundreds of people from around the world. They returned with a mandate to fight for girls to have equal rights to boys in their communities.

GIVING THEM A VOICE

"As a child rights ambassador, I teach school children and members of my community about children's rights, especially the rights of girls," said Simbongile Sam. "I give a voice to children because few people listen to children in the communities I live in. Children are afraid to speak up about the abuses they experience on a daily level. I visit other schools to talk to children and educators."

Bonga Hatana and Athenkosi Halu (both 16 years old, from Khayelitsha) together with Sam (17) and Zintle Kati (16) formed a group called the Inkwenkweni Stars that also performed in Sweden. They were joined by members of the Jazz Yard Academy Band from Bonteheuwel, Curtley Cerfontein (16), Quinley Lodewyk (17), Tyrese Stuurman (14) and Charlton Moses (16). All the children performed at the World Children's Prize (WCP) Foundation awards ceremony held at Gripsholm Castle in Mariefred.

Jean Wilke from the Rotary Club of Claremont (D9350) also attended the WCP conference: "Children everywhere need to know that they have rights and they are protected." Commenting on her experiences at the conference, Wilke said that it was inspiring to see how passionate the children were about changing their world: "I was very proud of the South African contingent. Seeing young children talking with such knowledge and

maturity about critical issues was phenomenal."

While in Sweden, Wilke met with members from the Rotary Club of Mariefred (D2370). This club together with District 2370 wish to help expand the reach of the WCP Foundation around the world. "Our ultimate dream is for Rotary clubs in D9350 to help connect more children at more schools to the fantastic resources and connections that the World Children's Prize offers. We want to tap into our Rotary network of clubs in District 9350 to reach more children, particularly in remote and low-income areas where they are at increased risk."

WCP educates and supports children in acting as changemakers, standing up for compassion, the equal worth of every individual, children's rights, democracy and sustainable development.

Since 2000, 42 million children have taken part in the programme which has the support of more than 70 000 schools in 116 countries, as well as over 778 organisations and education ministries and institutions. Since it started, half a million educators have been trained in working with children's rights and democracy in schools.

The foundation offers valuable resources and true stories for educators to use in life orientation classes when discussing issues like human trafficking, sexual exploitation and abuse.

What an opportunity!

AFRICA GATHERS

By Paddy Ansell, president of the Rotary Club of Haenertsburg (D9400)

I received a flyer at the Zone Institute in Johannesburg last year for the first Rotary African Summit. I decided that this was an opportunity not to be missed and indeed, what a privilege it was to attend. I believe I was the only South African and, in the midst of an overwhelming representation by Francophone Africa, English speakers were few and far between.

It was the vision of the late RI President-Elect Sam Owori that Africa should be in its own zone. In his opening address, RI President Ian Risely said that the future of Rotary was in Africa and by harnessing the youth of the continent, great things could be achieved. Having listened to some inspiring talks, I do believe that Rotary has the ability to change the face of Africa. The summit embraced the 17 Global Goals of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal, which are largely covered by Rotary's areas of focus.

There were a few talks which I found of particular interest, especially the one discussing the use of drones to reforest areas such as the mangrove swamps of Indonesia and the Amazon Rain Forest. The challenge from our RI President Ian Risely was for each Rotarian to plant one tree.

This presentation would not have been feasible without the influence and reputation of Rotary. Drones are totally forbidden in Morocco but were needed for the demonstration. Thankfully, Rotary managed to get a permit to import the drones! Another inspiring talk was on youth. There was a delegation of about 100 Rotaractors present, all from north Francophone Africa, all under 30 and all professional. Another great presentation was on the importance of the Polio Plus campaign and once again, delegates were urged to guard against complacency, as although we are close to eradicating polio, the disease could resurface and spread very quickly if we don't remain vigilant.

Social tours of Marrakesh could be booked and were timed not to clash with plenary sessions. This didn't always work out but it was wonderful to be given guided tours of the old city and the souks. All in all, the time went far too quickly and there was so much to absorb and savour.

I just have one last question; why was South Africa not there?





The Rotarians who attended the Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) training that was held in Queenstown.

DISTRICT TRAINING IN QUEENSTOWN

Saturday 12 May saw a number of enthusiastic Rotarians converging on the Rotary Club of Queenstown's (D9370) club house to take part in the Rotary Leadership Institute (part one) course. The course was led by PDG Bruce and Pippa Steele-Gray and Maddy Webber.

The 18 participants came from the Rotary Clubs of Aliwal North, Queenstown and Lukhanji Sunset (Queenstown). RLI courses are held to emphasise both leadership skills and knowledge of Rotary around the world. Every session is conducted interactively which encourages everyone to participate fully. This certainly happened on Saturday and ideas were freely shared and discussion flowed.

On a broader platform, the intention of the facilitators is to try to take the RLI courses to various centres to make attendance both easier and less costly. To this end, there are courses planned, for parts one, two and three, to take place in Durban on 31 August and 1 September, Port Elizabeth on 14 and 15 September and Klerksdorp on 12 and 13 October.

This will make it possible to do all three parts over one weekend and for those who may already have done part one and/or two, this will provide a chance to complete all three courses.



Trainers Pippa and Bruce Steele-Gray and Maddy Webber.



ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS

www.rotary.org/fellowships

Rotary Fellowships provide a chance to make lasting friendships with people outside your club. Members of these groups share an interest, wish to further their vocational development or want to make new friends, explore opportunities for service and enhance their experience in Rotary. Fellowships must have active members in at least five countries and may include Rotarians, Rotarians' family members, Rotaractors, alumni, and programme participants. To join a fellowship, visit the group's website or use the email address provided. If you would like to start a fellowship, write to rotaryfellowships@rotary.org.

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Chess

www3.sympatico.ca/brian.clark

Computer users

icufr.org

Convention goers

conventiongoers.org

Cooking

rotariangourmet.com

Corporate social responsibility

csr-rotarianfellowship.org

Cricket

rotarycricket.org

Cruising

facebook.com/groups/cruisingrotariansfellowship

Curling

curlingrotarians.com

Cycling

cyclingtoserve.org

Doctors

rotary-site.org/health-professionals

Doll lovers

rotarydlf.org

Draughts (checkers)

boyejade@hotmail.com

E-clubs

rotarianseclubfellowship.org

Editors and publishers

facebook.com/groups/IFREP

Educators

rotarianeducators.org

Environment

envirorotarians.org

Esperanto

radesperanto.monsite-orange.fr/index.html

Ethics

facebook.com/groups/1133950666630100/

Fishing

[facebook.com/groups/
InternationalFellowshipofFishingRotarians](https://facebook.com/groups/InternationalFellowshipofFishingRotarians)

Flying

iffir.org

Genealogy

lawrence.tristram@tristram.me.uk

Go playing (board game)

gpfr.jp

Golf

igfr-international.com

Hiking

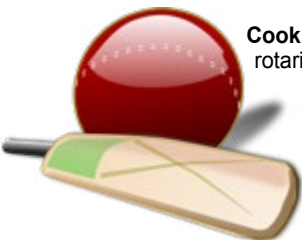
paskky@gmail.com

Home exchange

rotarianhomeexchange.com

Honorary consuls

kappenberger@gmail.com



Horseback riding
franz.gillieron@hispeed.ch

Internet
roti.org

Italian culture
linkedin.com/groups/6528431/profile

Jazz
rotaryjazz.com

Latin culture
facebook.com/RotariosLatinos

Lawyers
rotarianlawyersfellowship.org

Magicians
rotarianmagician.org

Magna Graecia
fellowshipmagnagraecia.org

Marathon running
rotarianrun.org

Military veterans
rotarianveterans.org

Motorcycling
ifmr.org

Musicians
ifrm.org

Old and rare books
rotaryoldbooks.org

Past district governors
pdgsfellowship.org

Photographers
facebook.com/groups/IFRP1

Police and law enforcement
polepfr.org

Quilters and fibre artists
rotariansquilt.org

Railroads
ifrr.info

Recreational vehicles
rvfrinternational.com

Rotary global history
rghfhome.org

Rotary heritage and history
rhhif.org

Rotary means business
rotarymeansbusiness.com

Rotary on pins
facebook.com/RotaryonPinsFellowship

Rotary on stamps
rotaryonstamps.org

Rowing
iforr.org

Russian culture
Germany.eckstein.artur@googlemail.com

Scouting
ifsr-net.org

Scuba diving
facebook.com/groups/150959392719/about/

Shooting sport
shootingsportrotarians.org

Singles
rsfinternational.net

Skiing
isfrski.org

Social networks
rosnf.net

Surfing
facebook.com/SURFSurfersUnite

Table tennis
facebook.com/Table-Tennis-Fellowship-of-Rotarians-1130180430367736

Tennis
itfr.org

Total quality management
rotarytqm.it

Travel and hosting
ithf.org

Water polo
facebook.com/IWpFR/

Wellness and fitness
kappenberger@gmail.com

Whiskey
whiskeydram.org

Wine
ccheede@aol.com

Yachting
iyfr.net

Yoga
rotarianyoga.org



MEET YOUR 2018/19 *District Governors*



District 9210: Hutchson Mthinda and his spouse, Grace.



District 9211: Sharmila Bhatt and her spouse, PDG Harish.



District 9212: Jeffery Bamford with his partner, Purity.



District 9220: Shelly Oukabay.



District 9350: Casper Kruger and his spouse, Wilna.



District 9370: Gianna Doubell.



District 9400: Charles Deiner with his spouse, Colleen.

District 9210: Malawi, part of Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe

District 9211: Tanzania and Uganda

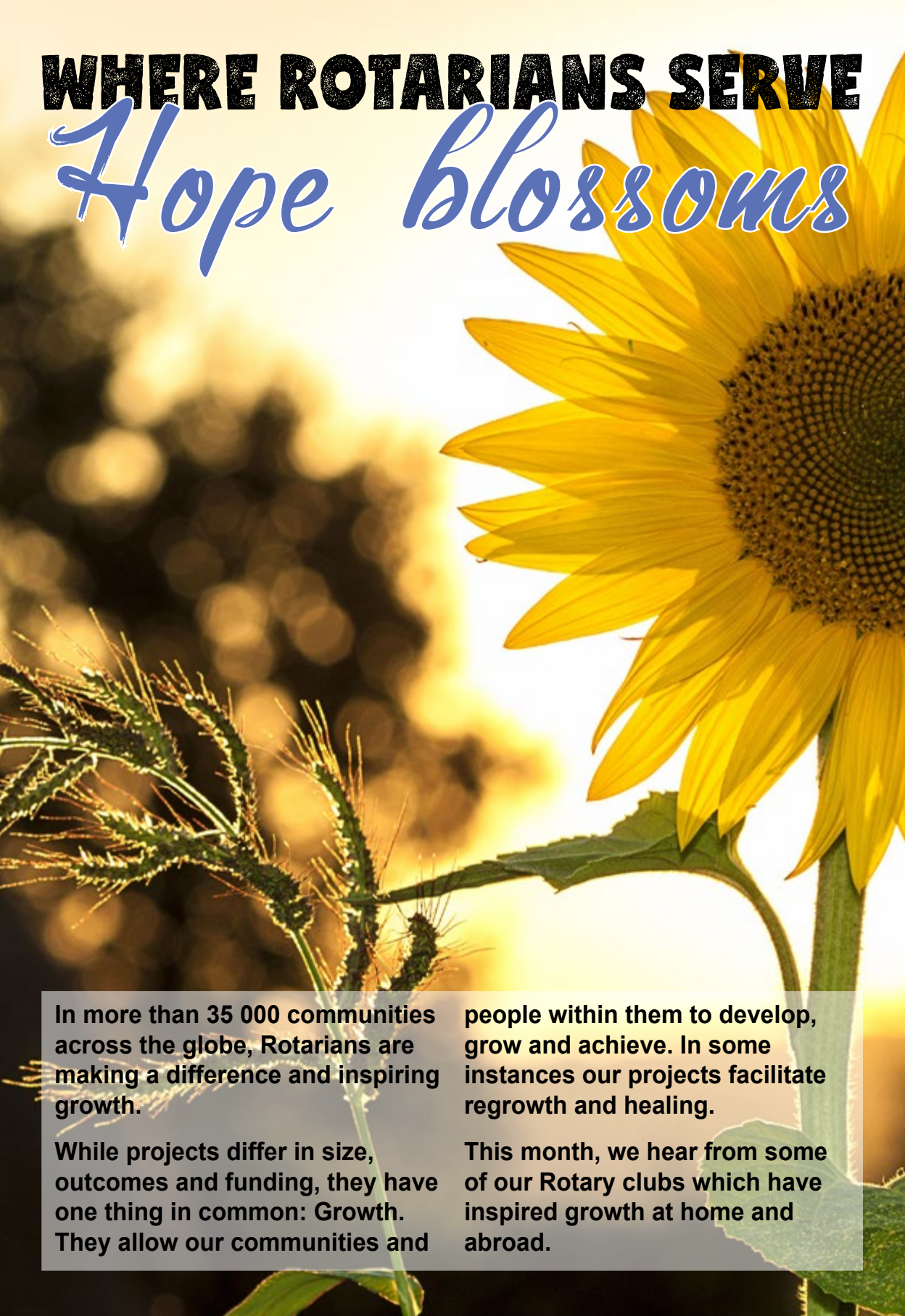
District 9212: Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya and South Sudan

District 9220: Comoro Islands, Djibouti, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mayotte, Reunion and Seychelles

District 9350: Angola, Namibia and parts of South Africa

District 9370: Lesotho and parts of South Africa

District 9400: Botswana, eSwatini (formerly Swaziland), part of Mozambique and parts of South Africa



WHERE ROTARIANS SERVE *Hope blossoms*

In more than 35 000 communities across the globe, Rotarians are making a difference and inspiring growth.

While projects differ in size, outcomes and funding, they have one thing in common: Growth. They allow our communities and

people within them to develop, grow and achieve. In some instances our projects facilitate regrowth and healing.

This month, we hear from some of our Rotary clubs which have inspired growth at home and abroad.

RETURNING TO *Prosperity*

Districts in Africa typically receive aid and are not often in the position to assist others. However, in the wake of the 2016 earthquakes in Italy, District 9370 decided to send what it could to help Rotarians in Italy rebuild and recover.

For a teenager in Westville, South Africa, news of the terrifying 2016 earthquakes in Italy was devastating.

Chiara di Lorenzo, a Rotary Youth Exchange Student (sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ascoli Piceno, D2090, and hosted by the Rotary Club of Westville, D9370), was from the area. Nearly 300 people died in the 6.2 magnitude quake that was followed by two more earthquakes late October. The three in rapid succession left thousands homeless. Chiara's father, a member of the Ascoli Piceno club, and his fellow Rotarians were involved in co-ordinating the Rotary response locally.

Her host club rallied to support Chiara and AG Mike Lindsay proposed that District 9370 raise funds to assist Ascoli Piceno club's response in the wake of the earthquake. The Rotary Clubs of Westville, Hillcrest and Inchanga-A 1000 Hills (since closed) were the first to pledge funds to seed the proposal.

The district responded quickly and Rotarians who attended a D9370 Foundation seminar earlier that month had been captivated by Chiara's moving presentation about the people and the towns in the region and felt a connection with the affected communities.

Bruce Steele-Gray was governor of D9370 at the time and said the district would also contribute. He described the initiative as a "gesture in solidarity with the Italian Rotary club. Since Italy is a first world country, it is not about the amount of money that may be raised. It is worth remembering however, that our district has received an enormous amount from European clubs over the years and this would be a way of expressing both support in a time of need and appreciation for all we have received."

In April 2018, Steele-Gray received a letter from Pierluigi Di Lorenzo of the Rotary Club of Ascoli Piceno that shared some exciting news. "An important day has finally arrived: A significant day for our territory and for our Rotary club, as well as for your Rotary club and district." Di Lorenzo invited Steele-Gray and Rotarians of D9370 to attend the event and see how their generosity had helped his community.

He also thanked the district for the tremendous life experience his daughter received during her exchange

to D9370. "Chiara talks about all of you, her time and her host family in South Africa with gratification and nostalgia. Chiara is really proud of this project because she was involved in first person. Thanks to Mike Lindsay, she presented to your district the sad and difficult moments of our post-earthquake territory."

Di Lorenzo related that the Phoenix Project would hold a ceremony for the new multifunctional centre that is being built. The laying of the foundation stone marked the beginning of the construction of the new Rotary Civic Centre of Borgo Arquata del Tronto. Rotarians, donors, well-wishers, residents and civil and political authorities of the territory, gathered for the occasion.

The new civic centre will be a two-storey wooden building with maximum seismic resistance that covers 900 square metres. Fabrizio Cimino, an engineer who has restructured the engineering faculty of L'Aquila, was appointed as project manager and the centre will be constructed by Wood Beton Spa of Iseo, a company that specialises in residential and large structure construction with laminated and solid wood. They had designed the great Tree of Life for the Milan Expo in 2015. Although representatives of D9370 were unable to attend, they were thrilled at the quick progress and that they had played a role in helping their Italian counterparts.

The Road to recovery

The journey to reach this point of the area's recovery has been a long one for its people. Six months after the earthquakes it was still uninhabitable because of continuing aftershocks. The last of the three earthquakes had a 6.6 magnitude, the strongest to hit Italy in 36 years. It created a huge crack in Monte Vettore and caused the land in a nearby village to drop 0.6 metres. Homes that had survived the initial earthquake were damaged and its residents were living in hotels or with family somewhere safer. A tunnel that had connected Arquata to other towns collapsed and what had been a 15-minute trip became two hours. There was much to be done and Rotarians had to focus their efforts on not only rebuilding buildings but livelihoods as well.

Earthquakes are not unfamiliar to Italians. Two plates



Valerio Borzacchini (governor, D2090) addressing the guests at the ceremony before opening a bottle of champagne and proposing a toast at the ceremony. An artist's rendition of how the centre will look once completed.



of the earth's crust, the African and Eurasian plates, are slowly colliding in north eastern Italy, a geologic shift that created the Alps. Meanwhile, the entire area where that collision is happening is drifting south east. The result is that the ground underneath the Tyrrhenian Basin – the portion of the Mediterranean Sea surrounded by mainland Italy and Sicily, Sardinia and Corsica – is being stretched apart. It's that stretching that is causing the tectonic activity in the Apennines.

Arquata del Tronto, a comune (municipality) in Province of Ascoli Piceno in the Italian region Marche, was one of the areas hardest hit by the earthquakes. The snow-capped peak of Monte Vettore forms the backdrop to this collection of medieval villages sandwiched between two national parks in central Italy's Apennine Mountains.

In the weeks after the first earthquake, Rotarians began meeting with members of the affected communities to find out what they needed most. "The days following the earthquake were full of phone calls from everyone who wanted to go and help, who wanted to collect materials and so on," recalled Paolo Raschiatore, 2016/17 governor of District 2090. His district was home to about 90 percent of the communities damaged by the earthquakes. However, too many well-intended helpers jammed the mountain roads, making the work for emergency crews harder, he explained. "It's not only not necessary; it's a problem. I asked them to stay home."

Less than two months before the first quake, Italian Rotarians had already embarked on a landmark earthquake initiative that was years in the making. The 2014/15 district governor-nominees had decided to focus on earthquake safety as a group. They signed a memorandum of understanding with the national Department of Civil Protection in July 2016 in which Rotarians agreed to create a task force for disaster aid in each district. The groups would organise activities to use Rotarians' professional skills – technical, legal, medical and industrial – to support civil protection activities in both ordinary and emergency situations. The project had to be put on hold as the government responded to the recent disasters.

After an earthquake in L'Aquila in 2009, Rotarians had stepped in and raised €2 million to rebuild a wing of the school of engineering at the University of L'Aquila. But following the 2016 earthquakes, the Italian government promised to reconstruct the buildings. So, instead of a construction project, members of District 2090 decided to draw on their expertise as business people to help the communities rebound economically and give young people a reason to return.

The district already had an active mentoring framework called the Virgilio Association, named after Virgil, the guide in Dante's Divine Comedy. Rotarians had founded the organisation several years prior to foster new economic activity in the district. They decided to use the Virgilio Association to develop

Less than two months before the first quake, Italian Rotarians had already embarked on a landmark earthquake initiative that was years in the making.





The municipality of Arquata del Tronto was still uninhabitable six months after the earthquakes because of continuing aftershocks.

programmes for young entrepreneurs, including business mentoring, marketing and facilitating access to bank credit.

In June 2017, the district signed agreements to build two business incubators, one in Arquata (Rotary Civic Centre of Borgo Arquata del Tronto) and one in Camerino, a city about 50 miles away with a university that will manage the programmes to ensure sustainability. Rotarian professionals will handle the design and contracting for the construction of the facilities, which will cost an estimated €300 000 to €400 000 each. "If we want to maintain these places, it's important to build new occupations for people, especially for young people," Raschiatore said. They called the initiative Progetto Fenice – the Phoenix Project.

As of the end of June 2017, €600 000 had been received from Rotary members, clubs and districts in Italy and abroad for the initiative, as well as a substantial portion from non-Rotarian donors. They launched about 20 mentoring relationships, with another 20 in the works. Rotarians are also working to create an e-commerce website to help businesspeople sell their products. "The youth are waiting on us. We absolutely can't fail," said Vincent Mazzone, president of the Rotary Club of Ascoli Piceno, the nearest club to Arquata.

Aleandro Petrucci, the mayor of the municipality, had three main goals: jobs, housing and bringing back youth, something he's glad to have Rotary's help with.

Compiled by Sarah van Heerden

Additional reporting: The Rotarian magazine

Photos: The Rotary Club of Ascoli Piceno and The Rotarian



ENSURING *Regeneration*



Less than a year after the horrific run-away fires tore through Knysna and its surrounds, the Rotary Clubs of Knysna (D9350) and Chatsworth (D9370) and their Anns partnered in the project which once completed, will see 253 trees and 50 shrubs planted.

It started as a simple tree planting exercise but soon grew into something of greater significance. By engaging with SANParks (Garden Route region), the Pledge Nature Reserve and the Knysna Municipality, among others, it soon became a well-researched, appropriately focused and meaningful project for Knysna. This project was well supported by the community. VPN did the aerial survey of the Pledge Nature Reserve, T&T Construction provided labour and a truck to clear the parking area, SANParks provided labour to clear the site and prepare the holes for planting and the Log Inn provided a dry space after the planting session.

The trustees of the Pledge Nature Reserve identified the trees and shrubs that needed to be planted, to ensure a rich diversity of indigenous species and that all plants would be able to thrive under local conditions. Thirty species were selected and sourced, some of which were Wild Peach, Cheesewood, Assegai, Kamassi, Hard-Pear and the Cape Chestnut.

On 29 March 2018, members of the Rotary Club of Knysna, the Rotary Club of Chatsworth and Anns from both clubs met at Pledge Nature Reserve, in the pouring rain, to plant the trees they had donated to replace those burnt in the fires. President Eugene Moodley, his wife, Ann President Merasha, their children, Past President Parlem Paramaul and his wife, Navi, had travelled from Durban for the occasion.

In anticipation of heavy rains on the day, a number of trees were planted the day before. By the end of the 29 March planting session about 160 trees were in the ground. The intrepid gardeners then moved on to the Log Inn for a small celebration and some welcome warm soup and rolls.

During the lunchtime celebration, a number of people involved spoke briefly about various aspects of the project. Theo Bohlmann, the Knysna Rotarian overseeing the tree planting project, welcomed everyone and asked Richard Wilkinson, chairman of the Pledge Nature Reserve Management Committee, to provide the background and context of the day's activities.

Presidents Eugene Moodley and Doug Emanuel.



President Eugene Moodley (back, third from right) said his club has embraced fully the idea of planting trees in its community and was pleased to be able to partner with Knysna in this venture.

Peet Joubert, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Pledge Nature Reserve, spoke of the reserve being home to a large number of indigenous trees and birds and referred to it as the Green Heart of Knysna. After the June 2017 fires tore through the reserve, little was left standing. Between 65 and 75 percent of the vegetation was destroyed along with the buildings, their contents, all records and the manager's house. The Knysna Municipality has agreed to rebuild the offices, the education and administration centre, the ablution facilities, the amphitheatre and the manager's house.

Joubert went on to say that the fire had given the natural vegetation an opportunity to rejuvenate and has also made Pledge Nature Reserve a great number of new friends who are now supporting it and helping to rebuild it to its former glory.

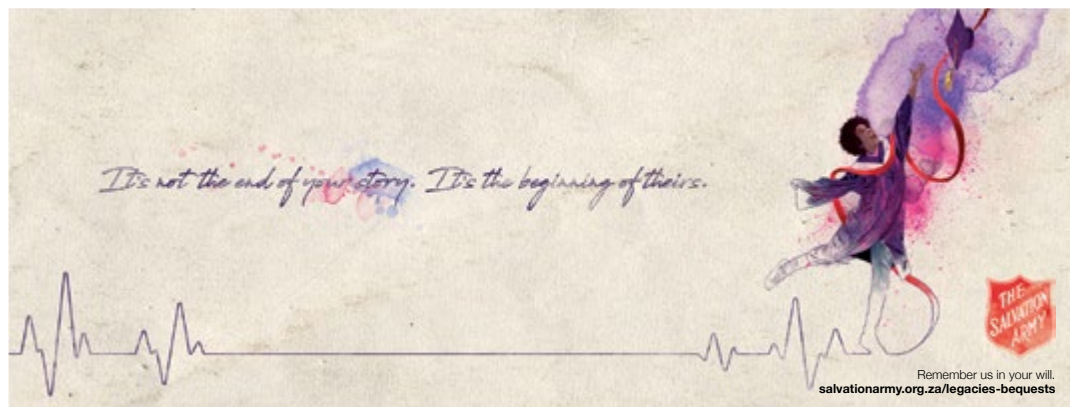
Pat Nurse, a Pledge Nature Reserve trustee and daughter of a former president of the Rotary Club of Harare West (D9210) who is also known as the Bird Lady of Knysna, spoke of the approximately 100 different species of birds that inhabit the Reserve, including three that are named after the town: the Knysna Woodpecker, the Knysna Warbler and the Knysna Turaco (better known as the Knysna Loerie). She pointed out that Knysna is the only town or city in

South Africa with birds named after it.

Nanna Joubert is also a trustee and if Pat is the 'Bird Lady' then she should be the 'Plant Lady'. She enlightened the guests about the more than 300 different species of plants in Pledge Nature Reserve. Over time she had enlisted the help of experts to identify all of them. Until recently, the reserve may have been one of the best kept secrets in Knysna, but since the fire and Nanna's hard work on social media, it has now had many more visitors. She would like the reserve to be better promoted as an integral part of Knysna.

Mervyn Crous, who is the manager of the reserve, spoke about the popular Moonlight Walks he had previously introduced, which he hopes can begin again once the reserve has regenerated a little more and the flora and fauna are re-established. President Doug Emanuel (of the Knysna club) explained the role that many Knysna Rotarians had played in getting the reserve to a point where the trees could be planted and how they had to ensure that once planted, the trees could be looked after.

This involved site clearing, the removal of damaged vegetation, digging holes, obtaining fertilizer and designing, providing and installing a functioning irrigation system.



NURTURING *Potential*



Anben Thulkanum, president of the Rotary Club of Phoenix, with Rotarian and bursary project partner, Sharm Moodley and bursary recipient Yashini Govender signing the agreement.

Realising that there were numerous hardworking and intelligent young minds who did not have the financial means to further their education, the Rotary Club of Phoenix (D9370) decided to empower young people and change lives.

The club initiated its bursary fund six years ago to give tertiary education students the opportunity to further their studies either at a university, technical university, FET College or Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) College. The bursary contributes towards the tuition of one student at a time, until completion of their studies. This was a joint initiative between the Rotary Club of Phoenix and Attorneys Sharm Moodley and Associates. Moodley is also a member of the club.

Good academic results, financial need and character are important criteria for selection. The recipient must also commit to assist the club with community projects.

The first recipient was Leesha Gounden whose tuition fees were fully paid by the club for four years, amounting to nearly R108 000. She completed her degree in education at the University of KwaZulu-Natal and is now looking for permanent employment.

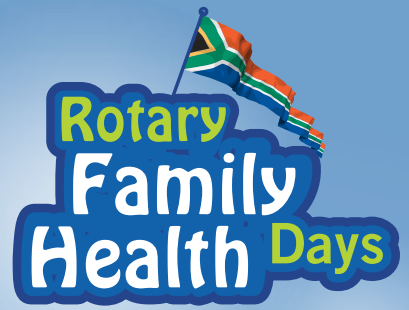
Yashini Govender is the 2018 recipient and is studying towards a Bachelor of Commerce degree. She will receive R20 000 towards her tuition this year. She is in her third year of studies and although she has faced many challenges, she has remained focused on her studies.

Rotary Africa in July & September 2018

**NEW CLUB
PRESIDENTS FEATURE**

EMAIL A CLEAR HEAD & SHOULDERS PHOTO OF YOUR NEW PRESIDENT TO
ROTARYAFRICA@MWEB.CO.ZA (INDUCTION CEREMONY PHOTOS NOT NECESSARY)

**Our 6th Annual Rotary
Family Health Days
is around the corner!**



**3-5 October 2018
in all 9 Provinces**



**Be a part of the prevention
revolution by giving the gift of time.**

Rotary clubs, volunteers, community workers, and organisations are needed to work in this wonderful Public/Private Partnership to ensure this is the best year ever!

Our goal is to serve 100,000 people who fall between the cracks and don't receive critical health services.

Learn more at www.rfhdsouthafrica.org



Contact a RFHD District Leader today:

D9400 - AG John Anticevich
j.ant@mweb.co.za

D9350 - PP Bev Frieslich
bevrieslich@telkomsa.net

D9370 - PDG Hennie de Bruin
de-bruin@planetkzn.co.za

PDG Geraldine Nicol
geraldinehnicol@gmail.com

PDG Greg Cryer
greg@keydev.co.za



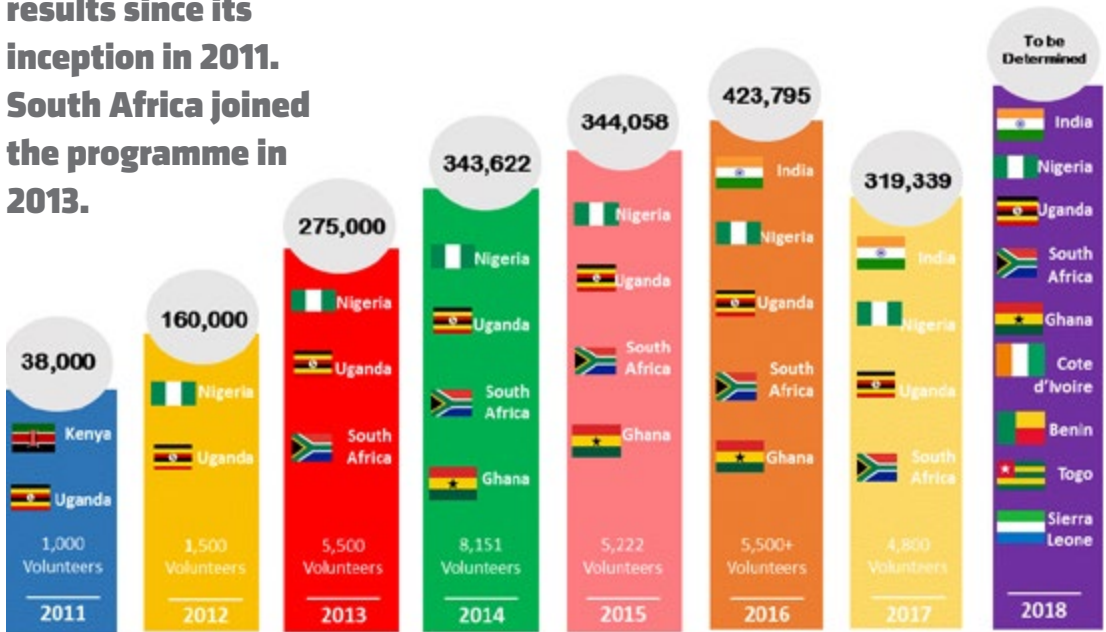
RotaryFamilyHealthDaysSA



@RFHD_ZA



The programme results since its inception in 2011. South Africa joined the programme in 2013.



ROTARY FAMILY HEALTH DAYS

Why the fuss?

For six years, the Rotary Family Health Days has provided free critical health screenings, testing, and referrals throughout South Africa and will continue to do so.

When implemented in Kenya and Uganda in 2011, the Rotary Family Health Days reached 38 000 people and peaked in 2016, when the thousands of volunteers in five countries provided health interventions to more than 400 000 people. This year, with the introduction of the programme in three more African states, it is set to be bigger and better than ever before!

Rotarians for Family Health and Aids Prevention (RFHA) is the mobilising partner for Rotary International on what has become the largest Disease Prevention programme after Polio. RFHA is the programme's convening organisation and the national partnerships it has facilitated with Rotary clubs, National Department

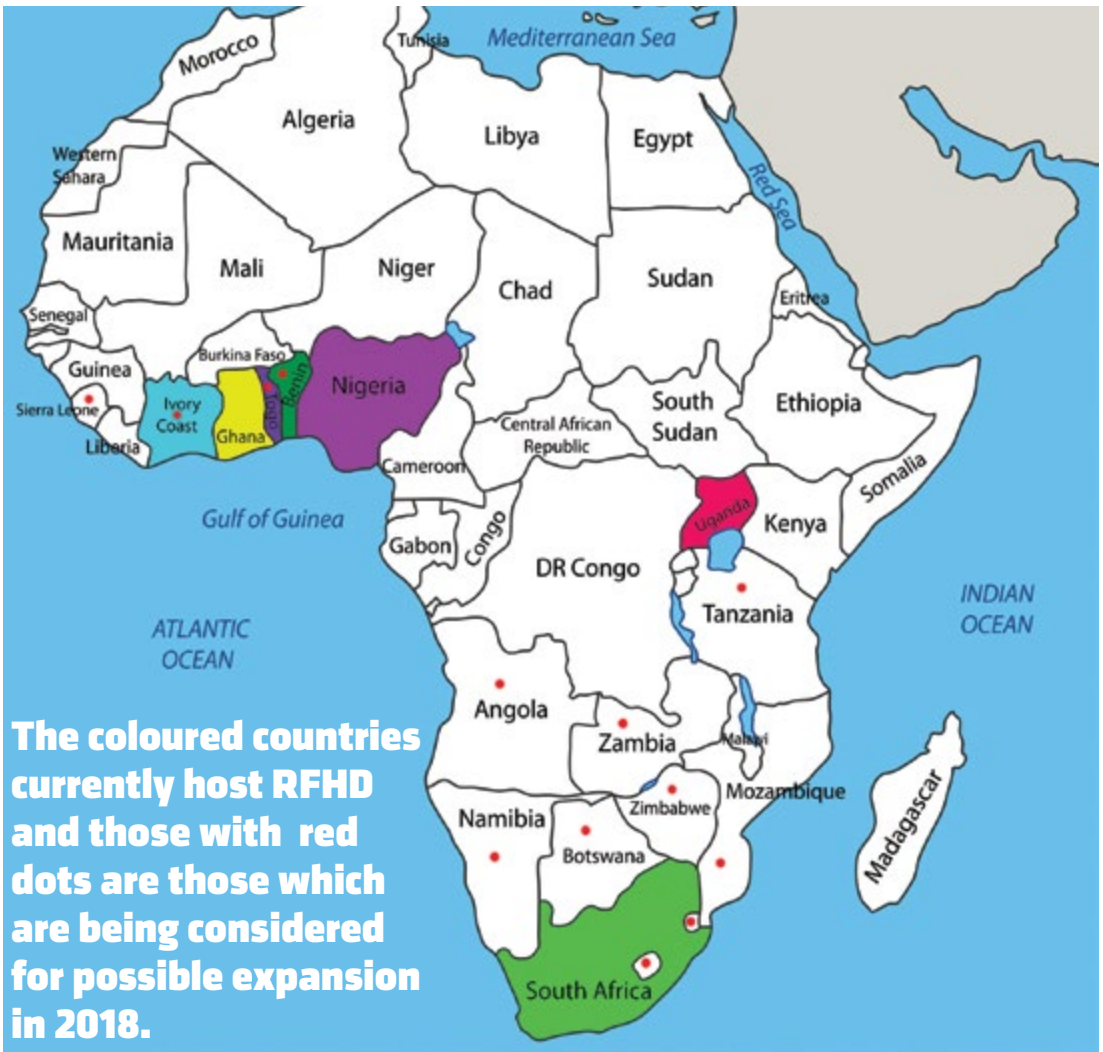
of Health (DoH) and more than 100 additional partners and service providers has culminated in providing more than 135 000 health interventions in the three-day campaign!

RFHA is a Rotarian Action Group recognised by Rotary International and Rotarians from across the world belong to and actively support this group. RFHA is an independent non-profit organisation (with global headquarters in Atlanta, USA) and is governed by fourteen trustees, including Rotarian leaders from four continents, and managed by a CEO in close association with global partners and established country teams in seven African countries.

South Africa has the highest prevalence of HIV in the world with more than 5.6 million people living with HIV. The Rotary Family Health Days was established as an initiative to bring together government, public,

“This year, we will take the next critical steps to eliminate HIV from our midst. By scaling up our testing and treating campaign, we will initiate an additional two million people on antiretroviral treatment by December 2020. We will also need to confront lifestyle diseases such as high blood pressure, diabetes, cancers and cardiovascular diseases.”

- President Cyril Ramaphosa,
South African State of the Nation Address, 2018



and civil sectors to provide holistic health services in a massive three day campaign; targeting diseases such as HIV and TB. The initial campaign was developed as a unifying effort for all Rotarians across the country to meet the needs identified by the government. As the HIV epidemic is growing and there exists a quadruple burden of disease in our communities, DoH has developed a strategic plan through to 2022 to address the issues.

The goal of the RFHDs is to provide a one-stop-shop for family health. It is more than just queuing at a nearby clinic for hours to be treated for the exact problem you walk in with. The RFHDs allow the entire family to be screened and tested for a wide variety of communicable and non-communicable diseases.

A major factor in our Health Days is the referrals providing follow up care to recipients. Not every site can offer treatment on the day, so ensuring attendees are being referred to local health providers is a core component of the relationship building with the clinics and NGOs and effectiveness of the campaign results.

While currently limited to South Africa, the neighbouring COSA (Governors' Council of Southern

Africa) countries are being considered as opportunities for expansion, and will depend solely on the direction of the RFHA Inc board. The potential to improve millions of lives exists through the participation in a prevention revolution.

In South Africa, DoH plays a vital role in the planning and execution of the Health Days. The public-private partnership between government and Rotary, dates back to 2013 and the relationship between the DoH and RFHA has continued to strengthen and allow the campaign to access more people. Their contribution includes, but is not limited to, identifying the sites in need of services, providing people to conduct health screenings, and the integration of any health campaigns which are running such as *SheConquers*.

This immense and impactful Rotary-led international health campaign was independently assessed to have a value of US \$14 500 000 (2015 value based upon four countries). This successful six-year partnership has resulted in the programme's inclusion on the National Health Awareness Calendar for 3 to 5 October, 2018, This is a further endorsement from the Minister of Health of the value and success of the partnership.

The quality of the campaign is monitored through the reporting tools developed by Dr Phil Silvers in conjunction with the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

Nationally, site coordinators are trained to gather consent forms from the recipients of the health services. Ninety days later, they asked for feedback about their experience and their subsequent treatment. The 90 Day Impact Study results evaluated the critical link to care of the campaign.

Each year the diligent volunteers are crucial in the planning and execution of the event, so RFHA is careful to evaluate their experiences at the conclusion of each event. A survey for the support team at 95 sites, gathered feedback from the Rotarians and the national team works to address concerns and improve upon all the data for future events.

Feedback from the 2017 survey included a majority of Rotarians having a positive experience with DoH, rating their interactions greater than seven on a

scale of 10 and DoH committed again to continuing its partnership and RFHA have adapted community engagement guides to facilitate easier communication and integration strategies in the communities. This established that 94 percent of the surveyed Rotarians are willing to participate again this year and it is hoped that more clubs will join the programme.

RFHA is looking forward to this year's event and the collaboration with the DoH in South Africa to have the Rotary Family Health Days as the primary platform to launch the World AIDS Day Campaign.

Get involved with your local Rotary club or enquire about hosting a Health Days in your community or country at www.rfhdsouthafrica.org

Each year as the number of attendees has grown, so has the need for measuring the impact with an accurate percentage to extrapolate data. Data generated from feedback received from each Rotary district, shows the continued growth of the programme in the districts.

QUESTIONNAIRES COMPLETED			
Province	2017	2016	2015
KwaZulu-Natal	172	160	81
Gauteng	157	59	0
Mpumalanga	128	0	0
Western Cape	101	105	78
Eastern Cape	40	48	0
Free State	18	0	0
North West	3	30	0
Total	619	402	159

District	Consent forms obtained (2017)	Questionnaires completed (2017)	Completion Rate (2017)	Consent forms obtained (2016)	Questionnaires completed (2016)	Completion Rate (2016)
9350	171	101	59.06%	181	105	58.01%
9370 E	270	172	63.70%	214	160	74.77%
9370 W	134	61	45.52%	168	54	32.14%
9400	-	-	-	150	83	55.33%
RFHA *	652	285	43.71%	-	-	-
Totals	1227	619	50.45%	713	402	56.38%

** Please note RFHA is a combination of the Launch Site attendees and 15 sites where RFHA piloted the use of a third party service provider for coordination of the site and services.*



The Link Literacy Project receives a cheque for R100 000 from the Rotary Club of Johannesburg New Dawn. At the handover are Rotarian Ian Widdop, Link chairman Tim Bashell, Link co-ordinator Megan Maynard, New Dawn president Carol Stier, DG Jankees Sligcher and PDG Francis Callard. Photo: Jenine Coetzer

100 000 reasons to cheer

The Rotary Club of Johannesburg New Dawn (D9400) handed over a cheque for R100 000 to the Link Literacy Project. The money will help set up new Link centres at schools in Primrose, Germiston, Maboneng and Fordsburg.

“We can’t thank New Dawn enough for helping us to create sustainable growth,” said the Link’s chairman Tim Bashell, who accepted the cheque with Link co-ordinator Megan Maynard. “Megan and I are overwhelmed by this donation,” he said.

The Link Literacy Project is a non-profit organisation which was started in 2010 to teach literacy and numeracy skills to seven and eight-year-olds whose first language is not English and whose parents are often illiterate and unable to help them with homework.

It now has 500 volunteers, who work at 11 specially equipped Link centres established at low income schools in Johannesburg, giving one-on-one help to children in Grades 2 and 3 – all with the nod from the Gauteng Department of Education.

The children who take part are identified by their teachers and principals through testing and there is regular consultation on their progress.

The Rotary Club of Johannesburg New Dawn raised

the money for the donation from a Golf Day and raffle held last year, and a Bridge Drive and raffle in March.

It is also in the process of working towards raising even more money for the Link via a Rotary International Global Grant, in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Parkdale-High Park-Humber (D7070, Canada).

“We have become the link to literacy. It has taken years of tenacity,” said Rotary District 9400 Governor Jankees Sligcher, who is a member of New Dawn.

The club’s focus is children and literacy, which falls squarely into Rotary’s six focus areas: basic education and literacy, peace and conflict resolution, disease prevention and treatment, water and sanitation, maternal and child health, and economic and community development.

“Rotary consists of people around the world doing their best to try and make it a better place by making a difference within their own communities,” said New Dawn president Carol Stier.

The Rotary Club of New Dawn also supports, among others, the Woodside Sanctuary for the profoundly intellectually disabled in Auckland Park, the Christ Church Christian Care Centre for children in Berea, and Hotel Hope Ministries orphanages in Melville.



DG Emman Akpèh and PDG Grant Daly at the opening of District 9142's first district conference.

VIBRANT DISCON

By PDG Grant Daly

In February this year RI President Ian Riseley and his wife, Juliet, invited Nadine and me to be their representatives at the maiden conference of District 9142 in Awka, the capital city of Anambra State, Nigeria.

We considered it an honour to be asked but when we looked at the route we would be travelling, we realised that Nadine would not survive all the flying with an arthritic back and decided that I would attend alone.

The conference was meant to be from Thursday 10 May until Sunday morning 13 May, but to ensure that I would arrive on time and be energised for a conference; I started the journey on Tuesday 8 May. My first flight left Polokwane at noon and a few hours later, I was flying out of Oliver Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg towards Lagos, Nigeria.

A lot goes through your mind on this flight because of all the negative things (such as the threat of kidnapping, crime, drugs, unscrupulous individuals wanting to relieve you of whatever you have, the presence of guns and threat of gun battles) that one hears about the country. Going through immigration and customs is as regular as any country, but as you exit the luggage collection it's a little overwhelming as you are hounded by many people who want to assist you with a taxi or your luggage. Fortunately for me, when my aide

approached me the hounding stopped.

The first night was spent in a hotel close to both the international and domestic airports. At breakfast the next day I met three South Africans who are scuba divers doing maintenance on the underwater oil lines. They stay out at sea on a ship for stretches of six weeks and described it as being in jail but said that the money was worth it. The average dive they do is about 20 metres deep.

The next morning, past assistant governor Dr Okechukwu Okonkwo and I caught a taxi to the Lagos domestic terminal. Driving through Lagos is an experience all on its own. There are no stop signs or traffic lights and I quickly realised I would never be able to drive in Nigeria where special skills are required to navigate the roads.

After an uneventful flight from Lagos to Enugu, I was met by a delegation of Rotarians who gave me such a warm reception. The trip to Awka was by road and took us about an hour to complete. I think we went through four police and two military controlled road blocks. As we were in a government-registered vehicle, the police waved us through but at military road blocks we were obliged to stop.

In Awka I was booked into The Best Western Meloch Hotel and it certainly lived up to its name! On the Wednesday evening, I had the pleasure to meet the past, current and future leaders at a PDG council

meeting. I can certainly confirm that all the leaders are strong in character and up to the task of grappling with district issues.

It was very encouraging to witness and realise that Rotary is in good hands in Nigeria. DG Dr Emman Ude Akpeh took the opportunity to generously kit me out in local traditional dress which I graciously accepted. I realised that there was an expectation that I would wear the garments at some stage, which I did with pleasure over the duration of the discon.

The first day started off with an early morning End Polio awareness walk. The opening Plenary started in the afternoon with prayer, a theme song, music and dance, flag parade, welcome address and introduction of dignitaries. I was given an opportunity to deliver a welcome address on behalf of RI President Ian Riseley.

It was interesting to note that the district has 1493 Rotarians and that over 700 registered for the discon. Rotaractors and guests attending the discon brought the number of delegates up to 1000. How do they do it? Simple, registration only costs the equivalent of US\$30.

The next day started off with an impressive list of guest speakers who spoke on a range of relevant topics. These included Transformational Leadership by Professor Kingsley Moghalu, former deputy governor of the Central Bank, Confronting the Monster of Polio and other Communicable Diseases – Lessons from the Ebola Experience by Professor Onyebuchi Chukwu, former Minister of Health, Federal Republic of Nigeria and a panel discussion by present and future leaders on Strategic Planning.

These were followed by the break-away sessions on 50 years of Rotaract, Polio: The Final Push, Friendship Exchange, Women in Rotary, Creative Ways to Grow Membership and Fun Ways to Raise Funds for Foundation.

I took up the opportunity to attend the topics on Polio and Women in Rotary. Both were well presented and everyone was given fair opportunity to ask questions, comment or make contributions to the discussion. However, an area of concern did arise when it came to the session on eradicating polio in Nigeria.

I was very impressed with the structures and efforts being made in Nigeria by government structures to eradicate Polio.

In so called “no go areas”, Nigerian troops are trained up to administer the vaccine. The area of concern sits with the clubs. They all acknowledge that eradicating Polio is a Rotary priority and signature project which they are proud of.

However, the clubs feel they stretch themselves to raise money for Polio by contributing to The Rotary Foundation and do so to capitalise on the leverage from matching funding. The problem arises when, having paid across all their money to The Foundation, they have nothing left to contribute when state departments inform them of their programmes and invite them to partner in immunisation campaigns. This means that when they arrive, there is a shortage of bibs, consumables and so forth which results in many initiatives being called off.

I can only assume that the money received by The Rotary Foundation is paid out to Nigerian state authorities but that this is too little and the clubs are trying to subsidise the shortfall with the little that they can collect. Despite having many competent and



The delightful inspirational and motivational speaker Ethan Musolini all the way from Uganda.



PDG Grant Daly and aide Okey Okonkwo.

enthusiastic volunteers, the financial shortfall means that the Rotary clubs are unable to effectively partner with state departments.

There is also a lot of positive and inspiring polio news from the nation. Keynote speaker Professor Christian Otu Onyebuchi Chukwuis informed us that by using the structures in place to fight polio, the country was able to effectively respond to the ebola crisis when it entered Nigeria. He said that had the structures not existed, Nigeria would have lost a lot more lives to ebola.



DGE Dr Dan Ajawara, Dr Okey Okonkwo, PDG Grant Daly and DG Dr Emman Akpeh.

At this stage of the conference I was beginning to understand what the local cuisine was when they spoke of bush meat or grass eaters/grass cutters. I enjoyed the wild spinach that went with most meals and found comfort in eating chicken. I was also beginning to notice that there were at least seven armed guards with AK47s at any given time protecting the function. The day finished off with a talent evening where we were all kept entertained.

Saturday kicked off with a breakfast for Rotarians attending their first conference and it was my absolute pleasure to address them. After breakfast we had the pleasure of listening to more thought-provoking presentations.

I was interested to hear how The Four-Way Test had acted as an ethical guide for Rotarian Chike Okafor, Chairman of the House of Representatives, Committee on Health Services and former Commissioner of Finance – Imo State. His presentation How Rotary Prepared a High Profile Minister for Public Office was inspiring testimony to the value of Rotary in our professional lives. Another energising presentation was from the 20-year-old film producer, Fiyin Gambo, who spoke on How to Make Your Dreams Come Alive. Professor Chukwuma Soludo, former Governor of Central Bank Nigeria was a

fascinating speaker and presented a thought-provoking and somewhat scary presentation titled Beyond Private Philanthropy.

All the speakers were excellent but for me, Ethan Musolini stood out. The inspirational motivational Ugandan speaker's address, Our future is now: Explore and Exploit it, is one I would recommend for southern Africa.

The remainder of the Discon was Rotary business and the Assembly. I was impressed by the fact that Rotaractors form an integral part of District 9142. In its first year as a District 9142 has experienced a membership growth of 226 to 1 493 Rotarians.

The Discon concluded with a banquet and I had an opportunity to wear one of my traditional Nigerian outfits during the handing out of awards. The next morning was an early start to drive up to Enugu to catch a plane to Lagos, then Oliver Tambo International and finally Polokwane.

My sincere thanks go to DG Emman Ude Akpeh and my aide Dr Okey Okonkwo who looked after me so well. I also thank the Rotarians of District 9142 for accepting me and for being such warm hosts. I have made new friends, great memories and look forward to seeing them again.

The signs were there: During 2017/18 District 9350 showed symptoms of MAD-ness and it was contagious! The Rotarians had spent a year feverishly Making A Difference (MAD) in their communities.

M.A.D. *and loving it!*

The Ultimate MAD Conference took off! What better way to celebrate this MAD year than with a spirited conference in the picturesque little fishing village of Lüderitz, Namibia?

This turned out to be the most inspired decision of the year, as it became a mini-international conference with no less than 11 Rotary districts represented, including all four districts of the southern African region.

Words cannot do justice to the incredible fellowship, great speakers, Rotary learning, touching moments and the best food ever, which can only be described as a musical feast of tastes.

The Rotary International President's Personal Representative was Brenda Cressey who is a trustee of The Rotary Foundation (2017-2021) and the first woman vice-chair. She is also a down-to-earth person who inspired and delighted the delegates with her passionate stories, openness and Foundation wisdom.

An impressive line up of speakers kept the audience spellbound. They included motivational speaker Chris Bertish (known for his extreme ocean adventures, who inspired the audience to push their limits and redefine what's possible), Namibian conservationist Michael Leech (of the Save the Rhino Trust) and Namibian born Miss Universe 1992 and Children's Trust Ambassador for RI, Rotarian Michelle McLean-Bailey (an internationally-

The magnificent Nest Hotel was the venue for this year's D9350 conference





It was a foodie heaven for seafood lovers as a giant two-metre paella pan, crayfish tower and unlimited supplies of seafood waited for them. Top: Host Chair Ulf Grünewald and his chefs sniffing the paella.

recognised women empowerment speaker).

McLean-Bailey brought Oscar statuettes with her to lend glitter to our award ceremony. Handing out the Oscars, Michelle and DG David Freudenberg (both of D6930, USA) filled the event with many moments of laughter, inspiring the jovial recipients to thank their “mom and dad” in true Hollywood style!

Many moments of fun and laughter kept the spirits high. Some of the more colourful officiates and delegates even resorted to ‘hijacking’ the programme. These culprits included MC Andre du Toit (aka The Big Positive Guy) who became an auctioneer selling books to fundraise for the Lüderitz club, The Rotary Foundation and specifically, Polio Plus.

He was joined by D9370’s PDG Tom McGhee who burst into song with a beautiful rendition of *Flower of Scotland* before his speaker slot.

Assistant Governor Buddy Bramwell was not to be outdone and hilariously turned the song *Galveston Bay* in to *Walvis Bay*.



Professor Hal Walker, a rocket scientist from the USA who became known as *Rocket Man*, took over the guitar and became an instant hit when he joined the swing band.

Every event at this year’s conference was different but each of them achieved the same thing; they cemented relationships among all who attended.

The fellowship events included a meet and greet on the beach where cocktail tables, piles of seafood (including a massive paella pan and oysters almost as far as the eye could see) and fire dancers dazzled the guests. The party continued through into the late hours as guests danced on the beach.

A mayor’s cocktail evening flowed from the terrace to the pub and into the lounge as delegates enjoyed more seafood and chatted until the pub ran dry.

One of the most enjoyed events was the ghost party at Kolmanskop, a nearby ghost town. Guests arrived dressed in white and their already high spirits soared when the crayfish tower was unveiled. The highlight of the evening was the Ultimate MAD theme LED dance show.



The club recently held elections for its 2018/19 office bearers. Deidre Crouser was elected as secretary, Anthony Lawrence as president and Lindiwe Munjeri (who is also a Rotaractor) was elected as treasurer.

READY, STEADY... *Charter!*

There is great excitement in District 9350 as the proposed Rotary Club of Century City is set to charter in early July.

The charter members represent a good mix of young professionals from the area, most of whom are new to Rotary, as well as a number of experienced Rotarians who have relocated and now reside in the Century City precinct.

With this mix of youthful enthusiasm and Rotary experience, the club is billed to become one of the leading and most sustainable clubs in the district.

The Rotary Club of Blouberg sponsored the club and its members have been instrumental in canvassing

for potential members and getting the club established. This charter is the culmination of a dream of PDG June Webber, who first proposed the establishment of a club in Century City during her term as district governor 14 years ago. There were three previous attempts to charter the club but as PDG June said, "The timing has never been better" and this time it is a 'go'! Financial support to help with the set up costs and establishment of the Rotary Club of Century City has been offered by many of the clubs in the district.

Members have already identified two projects and these include assisting a local orphanage and an environmental initiative titled 'Kicking back on Plastic'.



Club and district youth news



At the charter anniversary dinner of the Rotary Club of Port Elizabeth (D9370) are President Thandi Ndzombane, Hlubi Hewitt-Coleman, Liz Prins and Nancy Nhliziyo.



Ninety-Three years of service were celebrated by the Rotary Club of Port Elizabeth (D9370). At the charter anniversary dinner are guest speaker Lance del Monte and wife Cynthia with President Thandi Ndzombane and President-Elect Julia Gooden.





The Rotary Club of Windhoek (D9350) embraced RI President Ian Riseley's 1:1 tree planting challenge and planted 27 trees and shrubs at the Oponganda Community Centre. A nursery that specialises in indigenous trees and plants provided the club with advice on what to plant. The members of the Rotaract Club of Windhoek helped the Rotarians with the physical work. The Rotaractors also assumed the responsibility of caring for the trees and shrubs over the coming years, as their club's on going community service project.



To commemorate Earth Day, the Rotary Club of Phoenix (D9370) planted 15 indigenous trees at two schools; Just Juniors Academy and Greenbury Primary School.

DG Wally Jacobs, his wife, Arlene, and AG Wally Brooks visited the Rotary Club of Melmoth Ulundi (D9370) and were shown some of the club's successful projects. Their first stop was to see the jungle gym and eight trees that the club had supplied to Sivananda Crèche. "Although the crèche has applied for funding from the Department of Social Development, it has yet to be approved. Children have to bring food from home and many families cannot afford a nutritious meal," said Rotarian Patricia Shezi. Principal Thobile Zulu showed the ground that had been prepared for the garden and DG Wally gave the crèche a book to guide them on what to plant, when to plant and how to plant. Examining the facility are Thobile Zulu, Wally Brooks, DG Wally Jacobs, Thobile Nxumalo and Arlene Jacobs. Photo: Daphne Memela





The Rotary Club of Port Elizabeth (D9370) accept the RI President Ian Riseley's 1:1 tree planting challenge and planted 15 trees at the Sanctor High School in Bethelsdorp, Port Elizabeth. At the tree planting is Sibongile Tsiu of the Rotary Club of Port Elizabeth (D9370) with learners and an educator of Sanctor High School.



Children of St. Thomas Children's Home were overjoyed to receive new school bags, books and other supplies from the Rotary Club of Durban-Clairwood Park (D9370). The smiling children waited anxiously to receive their new school bags. One little boy was so excited to receive his new reading book that he held President Sarita Siruhi's hand and paged through the book while holding it upside down.



Members of the Rotary Club of Port Alfred (D9370) Dave Hawkins, Janet van Schalkwyk, Carol Oliver, Julie Beer, Ray Oliver, Ivan Schafer and Delene Hawkins having fun while sorting out and pricing the many items donated by the public for the club's fifth annual Bargain Hunt fundraiser. This successful fundraiser is held in the Civic Centre parking lot.

HOW WE...

By Barry Downs

Plant trees in Kimberley



Amanda van Zyl at her supervisory best.



Gill Quinn can't believe that Amanda van Zyl can actually use a spade.



Ken Quinn and Dries van Tonder marvelling at President Corlia's horticultural expertise.



Ken Quinn explaining to President Corlia van Tonder how deep the hole should be.



President Corlia van Tonder and Gill Quinn debating what should go in the hole - the brown bits or the green bits.

Members of the Rotary Club of Kimberley (D9370) planted trees to commemorate Earth Day and visited Gum Tree Lodge in April. Aply led by spade-wielding President Corlia van Tonder, the Rotarians provided and planted some 20 or so indigenous Karee trees in a suitable section of their grounds. Needless to say, the occasion was used as an excuse for a fellowship braai, to say nothing of drinking to the health of the trees.

FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR

WITH MUCH CHUCKLING AND A LITTLE TREPIDATION

We would like to assure our readers that no Rotarians were hurt, dazed or confused as a result of the tree planting and we thank Barry Downs for his commentary and 'objective' reporting. We wish Barry well once his fellow Rotarians see this report back!

Readers wishing to share the fun moments and character of their clubs are welcome to submit "How we..." pictorial reports to rotaryafrica@mwweb.co.za





Ann's of the Rotary Club of Helderberg (D9350) have been busy with their annual jersey drive. Learners of Beaumont School in Somerset West donated a boot-load of jerseys to distribute to needy children in the community.

WELCOMED AND HONOURED

NEW MEMBERS, RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS



Charles Bosman is a new member of the Rotary Club of Bonza Bay (D9370).



Gary Hindman is a new member of the Rotary Club of Bonza Bay (D9370).



Skhumbuzo Qwabe is a new member of the Rotary Club of Estcourt (D9370).



Pamela Rabushe received a meritorious service award from the Rotary Club of Port Elizabeth (D9370).

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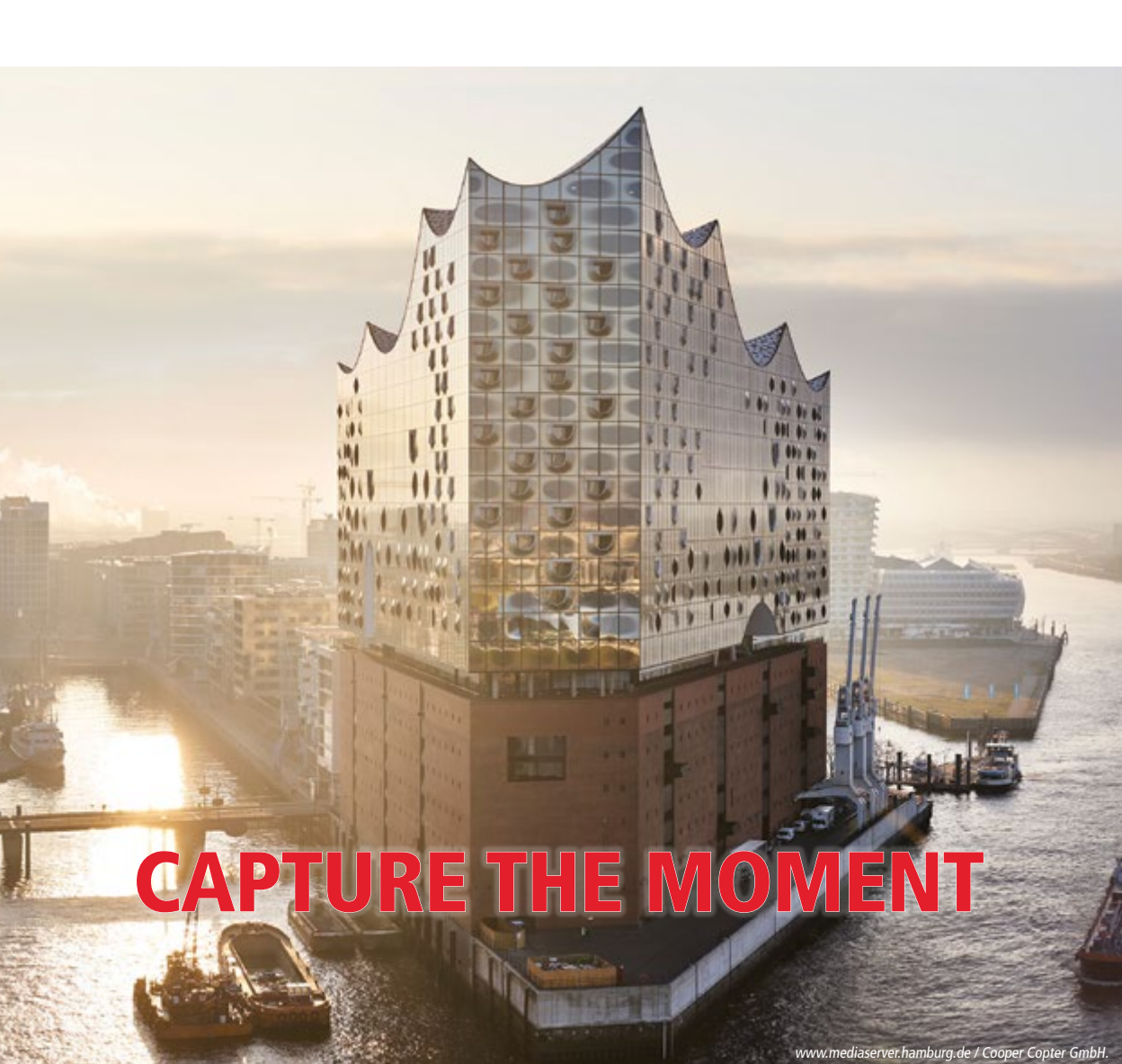
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 Rotary Club of Boksburg

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