

# DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

Botswana, Eswatini, Mozambique and South Africa

JANUARY 2023



## *Message from the District Governor: Koekie Makunyane-Quashie*

## *Mensagem Da Governadora Do Distrito: Koekie Makunyane-Quashie*

Dear fellow Rotarians,

It is January - **Vocational Service** month. I hope, after the festive season that everyone is revitalized and prepared for the push through to the end of this Rotary year.

This is a good time for clubs to take 'stock', not only of where you have been and what you have accomplished and celebrate those accomplishments, but to continue to implement your club's goals and plans for finishing this great year.

I ask you all to ask yourselves the following: Is our community, our neighbours and co-workers aware of our Rotary club and the good work that our club has been doing? Do we "Tell our Rotary story" - how we use our vocations to do what we do for and in our communities. This message often translates into an increase in membership. So, now that we are at the midpoint of this Rotary year, this is probably a good time to step back and measure just how well we are doing with that messaging and our club's membership.

Some helpful questions that you should ask include; Have you tried new 'out of the box thinking' for your club? Are you adding new members to represent a more diverse cross section of your community? Are you attracting females and younger members? Are you retaining members by giving them "comfort and care"?

Regarding clubs and membership, another very important question that every member needs to ask themselves is, would I join my Rotary club again today? If you cannot answer that question with a resounding yes, perhaps it is time to take a harder look at what is going on in your club. How is your club's fundraising going and what about service projects in your community? These are all issues that need to be touched on periodically throughout the year for your club to remain vibrant and relevant - "Alive, worthwhile and exciting".



2022/2023  
DG Koekie Makunyane-Quashie

Caros Companheiros Rotários,

Estamos em Janeiro - o Mês do **serviço profissional**. Espero, depois da época festiva que todos estão revitalizados e preparados para o momento até o final deste Ano Rotário.

Este é um bom momento para os clubes avaliarem não só onde estiveram, o que alcançaram e celebrar estas conquistas, mas continuar a implementar os objetivos e planos do vosso clube para terminar este grande ano.

Peço a todos que se perguntem o seguinte: a nossa comunidade, os nossos vizinhos e colegas de trabalho estão conscientes do nosso clube Rotário e do bom trabalho que o nosso clube tem vindo a fazer? "Contamos a nossa história Rotária" de como usamos as nossas vocações para fazer o que fazemos com e nas nossas comunidades. Esta mensagem traduz-se frequentemente no aumento do número de membros. Agora que estamos a meio deste ano Rotário, esta é provavelmente uma boa altura para recuarmos e medirmos o quão bem estamos com essa mensagem e com a filiação do nosso clube.

Algumas perguntas úteis que deve fazer incluem: Já tentamos "pensar fora da caixa" em relação ao nosso clube? Estamos a adicionar novos membros para representar uma secção transversal mais diversificada da sua comunidade? Estamos a atrair mulheres e membros mais novos? Estamos a reter membros dando-lhes "conforto e cuidado"?

No que diz respeito aos clubes e filiação, uma outra questão muito importante que todos os membros precisam de fazer a si mesmos é, eu hoje me juntaria a um clube Rotário novamente? Se não consegue responder a essa pergunta com um retumbante sim. Talvez seja hora de olhar mais profundamente para o que se passa no seu clube. Como vai a angariação de fundos do seu clube? E os projectos na sua comunidade? Todas estas são questões que precisam de ser abordadas periodicamente ao longo do ano para que o seu clube permaneça vibrante e relevante - "Vivo, meritório e excitante."

How are we doing in our district? Our membership has been growing steadily and I look forward to seeing where we are when the January numbers come out.

District's Foundation giving: I without fail stressed on the clubs during my visits about the importance of giving. Now is the time to consider your Rotary Foundation Giving. Do not leave it too late to send (preferably by end of March). This way we ensure the giving gets into this year's figures.



DG Koekie

Similarly with Polio Plus giving; the importance couldn't be stressed enough, and I hope this will bear the required results – that we are a 'giving' district.

Our Rotary year is half complete! During the next few months, we will be working hard to complete our goals. I hope that all the clubs in our district are working toward completing the goals for this year's Presidential Citation.

As we start a new calendar year, let us continue to spread RI President Jennifer Jones' message of "Imagine Rotary".

Let us also remember that February is Peace and Conflict Prevention month and includes the anniversary of the first Rotary meeting held on 23rd February, 1905. Let us think of and plan events and programs that will support the month's theme.

Yours in Rotary.

*DG Koekie*

Como estamos no nosso distrito? O número de membros tem vindo a crescer continuamente e estou ansiosa para ver onde estamos quando os números de Janeiro saírem.

Doações da Fundação: Sem falta, enfatizei os clubes durante minhas visitas sobre a importância de doar. Agora é a hora de considerar a sua doação à Fundação Rotária. Não deixe que fique tarde demais para doar (de preferência até ao final de março). Desta forma, asseguramos que a doação contabilize para este ano.

Da mesma forma com a doação à Polio Plus; a importância não poderia ser enfatizada o suficiente e espero que isso traga os resultados necessários - que somos um distrito 'doador'. O nosso ano Rotário já vai pela metade! Nos próximos meses, vamos trabalhar arduamente para alcançar os nossos objetivos. Espero que todos os clubes do nosso distrito estejam a trabalhar para completar os objectivos para a Citação Presidencial este ano.

À medida que começamos um novo ano civil, vamos continuar a espalhar a mensagem da Presidente Jennifer Jones de "Imaginar o Rotary".

Vamos também lembrar que Fevereiro é o mês da Paz e Prevenção de Conflitos e inclui o aniversário da primeira reunião do Rotary realizada no dia 23 de Fevereiro de 1905. Vamos pensar e planear eventos e programas que apoiem o tema do mês.

*DG Koekie*

## DISCON 2023

*Imagine the Magic and Celebrate Rotary*

The District Conference (DISCON) of D9400 takes place 27 April to 1 May 2023 at Esibayeni Lodge, near Matsapha in the Kingdom of eSwatini. The theme of the conference this year is "Imagine the Magic and Celebrate Rotary".



The conference will be a time to celebrate what we have accomplished during the year. The complete conference program will be uploaded at the end of January 2023. The conference language will be English and Portuguese.

You may [register](#) manually or electronically. Registered participants will receive a conference kit and have full access to conference (including meals) as well as the **Meet & Greet** on Thursday evening, **Celebrate Africa Night** on Friday and **Gala Dinner** on Saturday night.

- The Emalangeni (local currency) is equivalent to one South African Rand. The two currencies are both accepted.
- All major bank cards are accepted.
- Join the DISCON23 Whatsapp group for updates on DISCON23. Follow the link: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/LaQFhHJSTW89oCpPk3ZuzS>
- Travelers from SADC do not need a visa to enter Eswatini.
- A valid Covid19 registration certificate is required.

## Message from Jennifer Jones RI President 2022-23



## Mensagem Da Jennifer Jones RI Presidente 2022-23

Rotary recently surveyed our members and found something that should be unsurprising but still caused many of us in Rotary leadership to sit up and pay attention: The single most important factor in member satisfaction is the club experience. How at home you feel in your club, how rewarding club meetings are, and how engaged you feel in service projects.

I have seen this first hand across the Rotary world this year. When members feel an emotional connection to their club, they cannot imagine leaving. And that connection is often forged in "Rotary moments," when people feel that special connection to the people around them and the impact of their service. Our Imagine Impact Tour is all about shining a light on those Rotary moments and encouraging our members to tell their stories.

But there's something else that makes an enormous difference in building and sustaining that connection. It's the comfort and care of our members — both Rotarians and Rotaractors. As my Rotary friend Todd Jenkins says, "People can't see how you think, but they sure can see your actions."

We are in the relationship business, and if we take care of each other — genuinely show concern for each other — then we will make friends for life, and we will do anything to widen that circle of friendship. The question is: How do we live with our eyes wide open and do the things that really matter? We do this by taking time for each other, actively listening to one another, and treating every Rotary member as equally valuable — no matter how long we have been a member or what position we hold.

People like me in Rotary leadership can offer all kinds of advice about how to make your club experience more valuable. But what's most important is for everyone in every Rotary club to speak up and listen to one another. We should never be afraid to share with our fellow Rotary member what we expect to get out of our membership and have an open discussion about how to make that happen.

To lead a Rotary club is to invite such dialogue and to be willing to try new approaches. Good leadership is giving it away. Propping others up. Allowing others to feel the victory.

I have one last request for club leaders. We still need to do more worldwide to increase our female membership. It's up a bit this year, but I know we can and must do better. Rotary is growing again. As I write this, we're just a handful of members away from surpassing 1.2 million Rotarians again. So, let's redouble our efforts to bolster our clubs with great new members, then keep them for life by providing comfort and care.

O Rotary fez, recentemente, uma pesquisa aos nossos membros e encontrou algo que não deve ser uma surpresa, mas fez com que muitos de nós, na liderança de Rotary, sentássemos e prestássemos atenção: O factor mais importante na satisfação dos sócios é a experiência do clube. Como se sente em casa no seu clube, como as reuniões do clube são gratificantes e como se sente empenhado em servir projectos.

Já vi em primeira mão no mundo Rotário este ano. Quando os sócios sentem uma ligação emocional com o clube, não se imaginam a sair. E essa ligação é muitas vezes forjada em "momentos Rotários", quando as pessoas sentem esta ligação especial com as pessoas à sua volta e o impacto do seu serviço. O nosso "Imagine Impact Tour" tem tudo a ver com iluminar estes momentos Rotários e encorajar os nossos membros a contarem as suas histórias.

Mas há outra coisa que faz uma enorme diferença na construção e sustentação desta ligação. É o conforto e o cuidado dos nossos membros - tanto Rotários como Rotaracts. Como diz o meu amigo Rotário Todd Jenkins, "As pessoas não vêem como pensas, mas podem certamente ver as tuas acções."

Estamos no negócio das relações, e se cuidarmos uns dos outros - genuinamente mostramos preocupação um pelo outro - então faremos amigos para a vida, e faremos tudo o que pudermos para alargar esse círculo de amizade. A questão é, como vivemos com os olhos bem abertos e fazemos as coisas que realmente importam? Fazemo-lo, reservando tempo um para o outro, escutando activamente um ao outro e tratando cada membro do Rotary como igualmente valioso - não importa quanto tempo fomos membros ou que posição temos.

Pessoas como eu na liderança do Rotary podem oferecer todo o tipo de conselhos sobre como tornar a experiência do seu clube mais valiosa. Mas o mais importante é que todos, em todos os clubes Rotários falem e ouçam uns aos outros. Nunca devemos ter medo de partilhar com o nosso colega do Rotary o que esperamos obter da nossa adesão e ter uma discussão aberta sobre como fazê-lo acontecer.

Liderar um clube Rotário é convidar esse diálogo e estar disposto a tentar novas abordagens. Uma boa liderança é dar a liderança. Apoiar os outros. Permitindo que outros sintam a vitória.

Tenho um último pedido para os líderes do clube. Ainda precisamos de fazer mais em todo o mundo para aumentar a nossa filiação feminina. Subiu um pouco este ano, mas sei que podemos e devemos fazer melhor. O Rotary está a crescer outra vez. Ao escrever isto, faltam apenas um punhado de membros de ultrapassar novamente os 1,2 milhões de Rotários. Vamos redobrar os nossos esforços para fortalecer os nossos clubes com novos membros, e depois mantê-los para a vida, proporcionando conforto e cuidado.



# FEBRUARY is PEACE and CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH

February is Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month. This month is also very special in the Rotary calendar because it includes the anniversary of the first meeting of Rotary held on February 23, 1905, in Chicago. That day is now designated as the "World Understanding and Peace Day".

During February we celebrate our commitment to build peace and mitigate conflict. Rotary clubs and districts are encouraged to promote Rotary's public image on February 23 Rotary and celebrate the anniversary of the first Rotary club meeting.

Today, over 70 million people are displaced as a result of conflict, violence, persecution, and human rights violations. In fact, 90% of casualties in armed conflicts are civilians, half of which are children. That's millions of reasons why Rotary is so engaged in service projects, fellowships and other Rotary-sponsored campaigns in pursuit of peace in our world.



Through service projects and Rotary programs, the Rotary family is committed to pursuing projects that address the structural causes of conflict, including poverty, inequality, ethnic tension, lack of access to education, and unequal distribution of resources. Rotarians train adults and young leaders to prevent and mediate conflict, and aid refugees who have fled dangerous areas. We aid refugees who have fled dangerous areas. Rotarians also address the underlying structural causes of conflict by relieving millions of people suffering from poverty, inequality, ethnic tensions, lack of access to education and unequal distribution of resources.

In yet another program to achieve worldwide peace, up to 100 Rotary Peace Fellows are selected to attend Rotary Peace Centers to participate in master's degree programs at one of the partner universities. Rotary Peace Fellows study subjects related to the root causes of conflict and explore innovative solutions that address real-world needs. There are more than 1,000 peace fellowship alumni are working in over 100 countries.

Recently a new Rotary Peace Center was selected by The Rotary Foundation Trustees.

Bahçeşehir University, Istanbul, Türkiye will host the **Otto and Fran Walter Rotary Peace Center**. This is the eighth Rotary Peace Center.

The first application launch will be in February 2024 and the initial cohort of certificate students by winter 2025.



Locally, the Inter-district initiative, Africa Rotary Community Mediation (ARCoM) project well represented in terms of diversity, equity and inclusion. Mediators Beyond Borders International (MBBI) and Academics provide a platform to establish a conflict prevention community mediation initiative which involves Rotarians and Non-Rotarians to deepen Rotary's peace building work within and between communities. By means of Global Grant No 2118203, ARCoM intends to train up 70 community mediators on VTT contracts and 30 self-funding Rotarians in the interest of sustainability. All four cohorts have completed their training and have all graduated. All that is now required is to wrap up the VTT global Grant.

District	Totals	Rotarians	Non Rotarians
9210	2	0	2
9350	16	4	12
9370	10	5	5
9400	38	13	25
<b>Totals</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>44</b>

MBBI through discussions with ARCoM have recently completed their first in person cohort training at Makerere University. The next cohort is planned for February 2023. The ARCoM/MBBI course is now also being made available via Inter-Country Committees (ICCs). The first MOU was signed in December 2022 and will be for the French speaking countries in Africa.

The Graduation Ceremony takes place on 25 March at the Rotary D9400 Headquarters in Milpark, Johannesburg. This will be a hybrid event.



# 2023-2024 Presidential Theme



**Gordon R. McNally** of Scotland is the 2023-2024 Rotary International President. He revealed the 2023-24 presidential theme, **Create Hope in the World**, during the Rotary International Assembly in Orlando, Florida, USA, on 9 January 2023.

Come July, McNally will follow in the footsteps of RI President Jennifer Jones the 2022-2023 Rotary International President who promoted Rotary under the theme **Imagine Rotary**. He is a member of the Rotary Club of South Queensferry, Lothian, Scotland.

Every year the Rotary International Assembly brings all newly elected District Governors together for a week-long intensive training in Rotary matters. The Rotary Assembly in Orlando also forged friendships and an exchange of culture and ideas for international projects.

**DGE Riana Pretorius** of D9400 was one of several 2023-2024 District Governors who were hosted as guests of the members of the Rotary Club of Englewood on the Suncoast of Florida. Following the incoming governors-elect training in Orlando, Florida, these American Rotarians opened their homes to visiting dignitaries from clubs worldwide. The DGs from Australia, South Africa, Denmark and England were entertained and also recognized in true Rotary fashion at several events in Englewood. Read more about DGE Riana's trip [here](#).



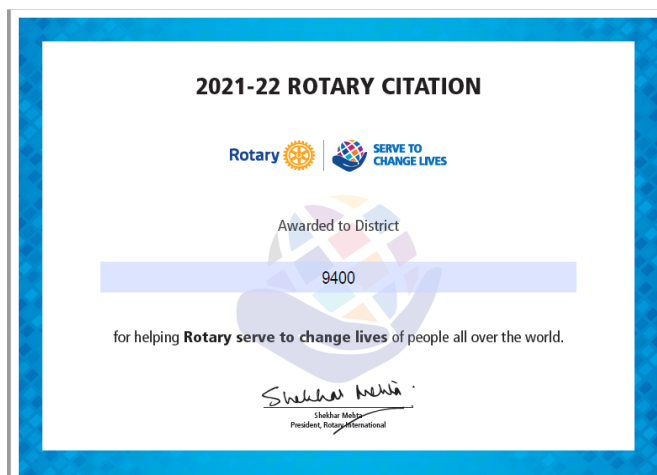
## 2021-2022 Rotary Citation

D9400 has received a Rotary Citation from 2021-2022 RI President Shekhar Mehta. Hearty congratulations to all the Rotarians of this District for the effort put in.

During the 2021-2022 Rotary year, DG Stella and the clubs in our district worked to increase membership, contribute to The Rotary Foundation, serve their communities, participate in Rotary programs, improve their public image, and so much more. As a result, at least half of the Rotary clubs in D9400 earned the 2021-2022 Rotary Citation.

Our district is one of 91 districts worldwide to receive this award, which recognizes those Rotary districts with at least half of their clubs earning the Rotary Citation.

**We hope to do even better this year!**



## 2022 Manual of Procedure Now Available



D9400 representative on the Council of Legislation (COL), PDG Annie Steijn, reports that the last voting on the Resolutions has been completed and the 2022 Manual of Procedure, which is published every three years, is now available.

The Manual of Procedure contains the official text of the Rotary International and Rotary Foundation Constitutional documents. Rotary is only providing electronic copies of the MOP.

Just click <https://my.rotary.org/en/document/manual-procedure-035> to download a digital copy. It, and other Rotary governance documents, can also be accessed on My Rotary at:

<https://my.rotary.org/en/learning-reference/about-rotary/governance-documents>.

**Rotary Clubs** are also again urged to be part of our Rotary legislation.

**How?** By discussing at your clubs proposed enactments, thus to suggest amendments to the constitutional documents, or, resolutions which addresses process, policy, procedures or programs.

# ANN'S MESSAGE

## FROM DGA CHRISTINA



*Dear Rotary Anns of D9400,*

We are well into 2023 and the second half of the Rotary year: one in which we *Imagine Rotary*, with the Rotary Anns continuing to support the DGA theme of *Imagine Empowering Girls*. Thank you for this all of you! On 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023, Rotary International will step into its new theme of *Changing Lives*. For me, this is an inspiring progression of what we have been doing and reflects what our organisation is all about. The smallest things can make a difference to someone – Imagine that even something as simple as a smile can change a stranger's bad day into a better one! DGAE Janice indeed has wonderful words to utilise for her coming year.

January is by nature a quiet month, one in which we recover from however we celebrate the Christmas holiday and gear ourselves up for what is to come. For me, and for many of the Rotary Anns, it is also about notching up another year and I thank everyone for their lovely birthday wishes.

Here in eSwatini it is mostly about our coming District Conference at the end of April and I think you have all received sufficient information on that. You should also have the link to enable you to join the Discon WhatsApp group, but please feel free to contact me if you need anything further. It is great that quite a few Rotary Anns are attending and we will be able to enjoy a short breakaway session during the time.

This month we heard we are losing two more Rotary Ann Clubs with the recently announced closure of Pretoria, while Boksburg Lake has confirmed it will close at the end of June. We wish all these wonderful ladies well and trust that in some way they will be able to continue with the work they do in their communities.

The Rotary Anns of Germiston are extremely busy organising their Conference for 11 March. The registration form has been distributed and I urge each RA Club to respond early to ensure their places. It promises to be an excellent day of fun and fellowship, not to mention awards, which the DGARs and I are working on. I look forward to seeing you there.



*Daveyton Bespoke Sewing Project in Springs by the Rotary Anns of Benoni Aurora*



**The Christmas Eve explosion in Boksburg** rocked communities and lives, many of which will never be the same again. It also brought out the best of humanity, not least among our Rotary Anns. The RACs of Boksburg Lake and Kyalami joined forced to assist the World Support Team for Gas Explosion Victims, while others such as the RACs of Benoni van Ryn and Benoni Aurora organised food, water, blankets and other emergency supplies. Huge admiration, love and respect to these wonderful ladies.



I send you my warm wishes for a very special year in 2023.

Yours in Rotary,

*DGA Christina*

DGA Christina Forsyth-Thompson 2022/23

Rotary Anns of Boksburg Lake donated beds, blankets and food to the SPCA with assistance from a generous shopper named Karen. Three pets from the explosion were staying there and due to go home at time of writing. They also donated medical supplies for explosion victims, including bandages and rubber gloves, as well as formula for eight babies to Kuselo Children's Home.



# Protecting the environment

*Protecting the environment is Rotary's seventh area of focus. Where is your club at???*



Fellow Rotarians following on my last article and six months has passed since the new Rotary year has started, we would like to please know where your clubs are at in regard to this new area of focus

## What is the scope of the area of focus as highlighted in POETS:

- To focus the attention of all Rotarians on taking action to protect and preserve the planet
- To increase the number of environmental service projects undertaken by Rotary clubs
- To encourage Rotary clubs to form an Environmental committee in line with the new area of focus
- To promote awareness among Rotarians and Rotary clubs of environmental issues and
- To foster the image of Rotary and Rotary clubs as dedicated to protecting the environment.

## Key aspects to keep in mind when starting an environmental club portfolio within your club:

- Are some club members passionate about the environment?
- Find out who in your club would like to be part of your new Protecting the Environment committee. Don't forget the Rotaractors and Interactors
- Out of this group appoint a chairman
- If one does not exist, create a board position for your Protecting the Environment group
- Update your club bylaws accordingly
- The chairman will be your link to the District committee
- Start looking at possible projects and funding opportunities

Please share information on the projects you are undertaking and whether you are looking at a global grant to fund it. Also send high resolution photos of your project and members in action to Rtn John Wesson, District Environmental committee chairman

[jwesson@wessanorth.co.za](mailto:jwesson@wessanorth.co.za)



*An excellent example of an environmental project is the Vulture Hide project being run by the Rotary Club of Brits Hartbeespoort.*

*These photos depict the hide from a distance and also close-up.*



## What do you think of the newly proposed Africa Inter-District Friendship Exchanges?



Friendship Exchange has been given it a thought to do Interdistrict Exchanges incorporating SA and adjacent countries.

It will basically be the same as overseas exchanges. Exchanges will be self-funded for the travelling between districts. Accommodation and food will be the responsibility of the hosts. The duration of an exchange trip will be around seven (7) nights.

The Friendship Exchange committee would appreciate your positive ideas and input in making this new project a success. Please contact PDG Annie Steijn at +27 82 550 0806 or [assteijn@gmail.com](mailto:assteijn@gmail.com).



# Join us on the 2023 Friendship Exchange to Australia



The [Friendship Exchange program](#) gives Rotarians and their families the opportunity to experience other cultures first-hand, by participating in reciprocal visits with Rotarians from other countries and their families. The aim of the friendship exchange is to advance international understanding and peace through personal contact across borders as well as develop inter-club relationships for fellowship and service projects. RFE offers Rotarians the opportunity to make long-lasting friendships.

You will get to see and experience different cultures and traditions like no one else but a privileged Rotarian. Rotarians may take you to places not always known by the general tourist! Dates and towns are 100% final. You are home hosted. This means no Bed and Breakfast expenses, except if by pre-arrangement you agree to an additional excursion that includes accommodation not provided by Rotarians. Meals are provided with the compliments of your hosts.

**This year, the Friendship Exchange coincides with the 2023 Rotary Convention in Melbourne, Australia.**



The itinerary contemplated for the D9400 outbound trip to D9660 in the North Western region of New South Wales in Australia during May 2023 is shown below and the total trip **airfare** cost is around **R23 900** (Plus minus R35 000 all-inclusive). Here are the places of interest to visit or things to do that may form part of the program: -

**Depart Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May** OR Tambo to Sydney Kingsford Smith Airport.

**Day 1 Arrive Tamworth Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May for [2 nights]** Tamworth is a 1-hour plane flight from Sydney. **Tamworth** hosts the second-largest country music event in the world after Nashville, USA and boasts the **Big Golden Guitar**. **Tamworth Marsupial Park**, the **Tamworth Botanical Gardens** and a **Regional Playground** provides recreation while the **Power Station Museum** marks the centenary of Tamworth becoming the first Australian town in to use electric streetlights. The Municipal Electric Showroom building presents a huge collection of 20th-century electric household appliances.

**Day 3 Tamworth to Narrabri Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May for [3 nights]** Narrabri is a 2-hour drive northwest of Tamworth. The **Australia Telescope National Facility** with its array of six 22-m antennas about 25 km west is used for radio astronomy. The **Yarrie Lake** and **Pilliga Hot Artesian Bore Baths** are popular recreational spots.

**Day 6 Narrabri to Walcha Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May for [2 nights]** Walcha is a 3-hour drive, southeast of Narrabri. **Walcha Pioneer Cottage and Museum complex** -consists of historical buildings dating back to the 1860s while natural beauty is evident at **Budds Mare Lookout** overlooking the World Heritage-listed rainforest and Apsley River as well as **Nowendoc National Park**.

**Day 8 Walcha to Gloucester Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May for [2 nights]** Gloucester is a 1,5-hour drive, south of Walcha. **Hidden Treasure picnic area**, **Gloucester River** and **Camp Cobark** have pristine rivers with panoramic views and wildlife sightings while **Roadies Café** provides great food and coffee as well as fast and friendly service.

**Day 10 Gloucester to Port Macquarie Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May [for 3 nights]** Port Macquarie is a 1,5-hour drive, northeast of Gloucester. **Billabong Zoo Koala & Wildlife Park** and **Port Macquarie Astronomical Observatory** focus on science related topics while you can enjoy beers made on site at the **Black Duck brewery** in Port Macquarie.

**Day 13 Port Macquarie to Dorrigo Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May for [2 nights]** Dorrigo is a 2-hour drive, north of Port Macquarie. A historic focus is provided by the **Pioneer Memorial Log** in Coronation Park and the **Dorrigo War Memorial** honouring those lost in WW1 in Waterfall Way at Hickory Street, outside Dorrigo Hotel while **Dangar Falls** has beautiful views.

**Day 15 Dorrigo to Coffs Harbour airport. Flight to Sydney/Melbourne. Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May** Coffs harbour is a 1-hour drive, east of Dorrigo



The RI Convention commences in Melbourne from Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023. You must register and book your accommodation in Melbourne as soon as possible, if you have not done so already. The return flight to South Africa departs from Melbourne via Sydney on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May and arrives at OR Tambo at 15h40 on the same day.

If you are interested, please contact Felicity Jones at [fbi6302@gmail.com](mailto:fbi6302@gmail.com) to get more details. Hurry, hurry! Time is running out!



## MEMORABLE ROTARY DAY to END POLIO NOW

More than 400 proud Rotarians from D2451 in Egypt, accompanied by the leaders, DG Emad Abdel Wahab, DGE and all PDGS, proudly and joyfully celebrated **Polio Day**, standing in front of the Pyramids, the cradle of civilization, addressing a message to the world to “END POLIO NOW”.

This is Rotary at its best – showing passion and service.



## Rotarians for Family Health & Aids Prevention

The Rotary Family Health Days (RFHD) is a signature programme of the Rotarians for Family Health & Aids Prevention, Inc (RFHA). Rotary Family Health Days are three-day national health campaigns held in South Africa and various other African countries such as Ghana, Nigeria and Uganda.

The RFHA initiates, coordinates and manages this program with other partner organizations. The Rotary Family Health Days (RFHD) provide a comprehensive, holistic offering of free health care services over two to three days for parents, children, grandparents, friends and all the family members.

The D9400 RFHD Advisory Committee held meetings with the Department of Health (DOH) on 17 January 2023 and again on 27 January 2023. They confirmed that the RFHD event will take place from 8 to 10 March 2023. Project reports must be finalised by 20 March 2023. Statistics and information will be officially released on World TB-day 24 March 2023 in North West Province.



DOH is awaiting approval for their health program roll out in February. Rotarians' participation will be to share information about the various programs via digital platforms. Programs include cancer awareness, education on teenage pregnancy, and condom distribution.

More information will be shared as soon as it is available.

Clubs need to confirm participation so that information can be shared with DOH as this impact of site management.



# Recruit Rotary Peace Fellow candidates from your community



Districts and Rotary and Rotaract clubs play a key role in recruiting and recommending Rotary Peace Fellow candidates. Each year, The Rotary Foundation awards fellowships to leaders in peace and development to study at one of the Rotary Peace Centres at premier universities around the world. The fellows can earn a master's degree or a professional development certificate. The application will be open early February through 15 May this year, and selected peace fellows will begin their studies in 2024. Find out [who is eligible and what they need in order to apply](#).

If you know any midcareer change-makers or any young professionals who have [peacebuilding experience](#), help them apply for a fully funded [Rotary Peace Fellowship](#). Connect with your district Rotary Peace Fellowship subcommittee chair to learn more about [members' role in selecting peace fellows and get involved](#).


Since the Rotary Peace Centres program began in 2002, more than 1,600 fellows have graduated from our programs. They are now working on peace and development initiatives in more than 140 countries. Many serve as leaders in government, nongovernmental organizations, education and research institutions, peacekeeping and law enforcement agencies, and international organizations like UNICEF, the United Nations, the World Bank, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. Follow the [Rotary Peace Centres Facebook page](#) for updates about peace fellows' work.



## YOUTH EXCHANGE DISTRICT SELECTION INTERVIEWS

The Rotary Youth Exchange **District Selection Interviews** for 2023 were held during January in Gaborone, Francistown and Mpumalanga. The interviews for the Gauteng region will be held on **Saturday 11 February 2023** at the United Cerebral Palsy Home, 8 North Street, Townsview, Johannesburg.

### PLEASE TAKE NOTE:

-  Clubs must please refer students to the website [www.youthexchange.co.za](http://www.youthexchange.co.za) to register online. The student MUST select the Club's Name from the list in the application.
-  NO other types of applications will be accepted.
-  Last date for new applications will be **31 January 2023**.
-  Clubs to have finished with their Club Interviews by **4 February 2023**.
-  Students must be in the age group 15 to 17. Year of birth 2005 to 2007.
-  Program cost for 2023 intake is **STEP = R30,000** and **LTEP = R40,000**

**R30 000**

**Short Term Exchanges**

**R40 000**

**Long Term Exchanges**



Should you be interested in joining our committee or would like a current member to address your club regarding the benefits to your club of being involved in the Youth Exchange programme, please feel free to contact Marina Britz at 083 299 5539 or [chairman@youthexchange.co.za](mailto:chairman@youthexchange.co.za).

# POETS 2023

This Rotary year will see the first in-person **Presidents & Officers Elect Training Seminar (POETS)** in 3 years. The training team is excited as the in-person training will allow more interaction. There are two dates to choose from!!! The same training will be held on both days

The POETS will take place on **Saturday 18 February 2023 AND Saturday 04 March 2023.**

## INSPIRE LEARNING



**IT IS COMPULSORY FOR INCOMING PRESIDENTS TO ATTEND THE TRAINING.**

**If they do not attend, they will not be allowed to take office in the new Rotary year.**

**For delegates further than 200 kms from the venue, the training will also be Hybrid with Online access available.**

### In-Person

The in-person training will take place at Ambrosia Hall, 97 Allan Road, Halfway House, Glen Austin, Midrand Johannesburg.

- Please bring your laptop or tablet if possible, as not all applications work well on cell phones.
- The cost will be **R250** per person

### Online Access

- Only clubs further than 200km will be allowed to attend online
- A zoom link will be sent to these attendees
- The cost will be **R100** per person

### Registration & Payment

- Registration will close on **10 February**
- Should a president not be able to attend, they must contact Alice Meyer, District Secretary [alice@rotary9400.org.za](mailto:alice@rotary9400.org.za)
- If you have any questions, or need further information, please contact Alice Meyer, District Secretary [alice@rotary9400.org.za](mailto:alice@rotary9400.org.za)
- Please register [HERE](#)
- Make payment to *Rotary 9400 E-commerce, Account No 242 609 473 at Standard Bank, Fourways Mall*  
Ref: POETS and club name

## MOVE FOR ROTARY

**RC Pretoria Capital invites all Rotarians from nearby Rotary clubs to Move For Rotary in a Botanical Parkrun on Saturday 25 February at the Pretoria Botanical Gardens.**

RC Pretoria Capital will be encouraging Rotarians and the public to participate in this event. This 5km event starts at 08h00 and is open to all – you can walk, jog, run as fast as you can or even be in a wheelchair.

The entry fee is R150 and all entrants entering for the Rotary team will get a free T-shirt. Our team will have the slogan **"Move For Rotary"**. A sponsorship of 80 T-shirts has been secured from Niselo, a Tshwane University of Technology spin-out which has previously partnered with RC Pretoria Capital on school nutrition. The entry fee will be used as a contribution to Rotary projects.



We will be delighted to get other contributions e.g. bottled water, and of course, your participation either in person or virtually. This initiative has three goals: 1) to promote health in the community through movement, 2) to raise visibility of Rotary in the community and 3) to raise funds for our club projects.

Please bring family, friends and colleagues and join us in the **Move For Rotary**. Perhaps we can have some inter-club challenges with fellow Pretoria Rotary clubs in Region 5 and beyond. And what about some corporate challenges?

**The more challenges we have, the better for Rotary! REGISTER [HERE](#) NOW** (Registration closes 10 February)







# D9400 PEOPLE OF ACTION

Click [here](#) to view Club newsletters and stories online! Send your Club Newsletters to [admin@rotary9400.org.za](mailto:admin@rotary9400.org.za) to have them loaded onto the D9400 website!

## Rotary Club of Vanderbijlpark



RC Vanderbijlpark could revive its favourite project 2 years after Covid. They could once again hold the kids Christmas party for about 80 excited children who were treated to fun and games on the banks of the Vaal River.

While the children were having fun, Rotarians and friends prepared food for the ever hungry guests. Pizzas, ice cream, watermelon and cooldrink were just a few items on the menu. Lunch consisted of a "boerie roll" eat-as-much-as-you-like event.



The highlight of the day was the arrival of Father Christmas. Each child had the opportunity to pose for a photo with Father Christmas on receiving their gift.

As always the project ended with fun and fellowship amongst Rotarians, family and friends.

A huge thank you to the sponsors of RC Vanderbijlpark - Econoflex, Stonehaven on Vaal, Big Bull Bread, El Paso Spur and fellow Rotarians - who contributed to the success of the day.



## Rotary Club of Johannesburg

For seven years, RC Johannesburg has been involved in Carl Sithole's Salvation Army Home project in Pimville, Soweto. On 22 December Gustave Ololo, the champion of the project, together with Monica, Bridget and Rotaract President Vicky visited the Home. The team was warmly welcomed by the Salvation Army team led by Owen and Rebecca Mkhize and staff.



The 59 children, 12 boys and 47 girls aged 3 to 18 who could not be placed in foster families at Christmas, received gifts from the RC Johannesburg in a very joyful atmosphere full of Christmas fever. Lunch was shared with all the children together with caregivers.

Joy and happiness could be seen on the faces of all the children who received their gifts. The gesture was once again appreciated by the staff of the Carl Sithole Home who wish to be helped with toiletries and sanitary towels for the children for the next edition of the project this year.

A gift of hope for these children who are full of life and have a bright future.

## Rotary Club of Polokwane

The RC Polokwane has supported the Siloe School for Blind and Partially Sighted children since the late 1960s. It is a 30 minute drive from Polokwane, in a rural area and was managed by nuns for about 60 years, but the school's management was taken over by government in recent years.

RC Polokwane has provided up-to-date special learning equipment and musical instruments which enabled the school to become a centre of musical excellence. and encouraged the club to build a music centre.

Buildings and the school's water supply were maintained plus toilets were provided. Washing machines, shoes, blankets, spectacles and sunscreen were provided. Funds were raised to support the extra training of staff.

Rotarians also provided expertise to secure the ailing water and electricity supply. Since the 1970s, the Rotarians and Anns annually arranged a Christmas party for the learners. To assist the school to manage the challenges of the COVID pandemic, members of the club constructed and delivered sanitising stations for use at the school.

RC Polokwane helped with the establishment of a workshop for visually impaired adults in the 1970s, specifically for those who had been educated at the school. The cane items made here have become well known. The club raised funds for purchasing the cane to keep the workshop active and generating an income. The Anns assisted with the sale of the cane baskets made at the workshop. Whilst the workshop came to a standstill during COVID, club members have recently helped to re-establish the sales by setting up stands at two markets. Currently a team of Rotarians are re-evaluating maintenance needs of the school and the boarding facilities.



## Rotary Club of Johannesburg

RC Johannesburg members - John, Clifford, Monica and others – participated in the Toy for Joy project to distribute over 200 toys that were collected at the ToyRun event and by the St Stithians Interactors.



They took a long bike and caravan ride on Sunday 4 December from St Stithians Chapel in Sandton to Mookgophong in Limpopo. An epic convoy of bikers and caravan announcing the distribution of gifts were welcomed by children who were running behind and beside them. The event where the toys were distributed was attended by many children as well as the local community. Each child received a toy as a Christmas present. It was an euphoric event which is always well received by the community of the Mookgophong community.

See you again in December this year.

## Rotary Club of Vanderbijlpark

Fortune was on the side of RC Vanderbijlpark when they succeeded in obtaining a Rotary 9400 District grant which together with the club's contribution enabled the installation of a water tank at the Maria Magdalena Children's home.

Rotarian Alan Claase (Foundation chair) put the project together and President Celeste Lance attended to the handover.



## Rotary Club of Johannesburg

The RC Johannesburg raised R36 362 between 5 and 24 December at their cheerful table that was dedicated to Christmas giftwrapping. This project was located at the Ferndale on Republic Shopping Center.



These funds will be contributed to the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund.

Clubs that volunteered their time will benefit in having an allocation of the donation towards the Annual Fund contribution. Congratulations to the RC Johannesburg.



## District 9400 EVENTS CALENDAR

<b>5</b>	February 2023	RLI Training
<b>6</b>	February 2023	<u>Registration</u> closes for Online Leadership Fundamentals program Program 20 February - 12 June 2023
<b>18</b>	February 2023	<b>D9400 POETS 2023-24</b> Ambrosia Hall, 97 Allan Road, Halfway House, Glen Austin, Midrand
<b>23</b>	February 2023	Anniversary of the first meeting of Rotary
<b>4</b>	March 2023	<b>D9400 POETS 2023-24</b> Ambrosia Hall, 97 Allan Road, Halfway House, Glen Austin, Midrand
<b>8-10</b>	March 2023	Rotary Family Health Days (RFHD)
<b>25</b>	March 2023	ARCoM Hybrid Graduation Ceremony @ Rotary D9400 Headquarters in Milpark, Johannesburg.
<b>20-23</b>	April 2023	RYLA camp in Magoebaskloof
<b>27-30</b>	April 2023	<b>D9400 District Conference</b> – Esibayeni Lodge, Eswatini. Register <a href="#">here</a>
<b>25-26</b>	May 2023	Global Malaria Congress - Melbourne 2023
<b>27-31</b>	May 2023	<b>2023 Rotary International Convention</b> in Melbourne, Australia Learn more at <a href="https://convention.rotary.org">convention.rotary.org</a>
<b>31-3</b>	Aug-Sept 2023	RYLA camp in Magoebaskloof

### 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 & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

### A Prova Quádrupla

#### Do que pensamos, dizemos ou fazemos:

1. É a VERDADE?
2. É JUSTO para todos os interessados?
3. Criará boa VONTADE e MELHORES AMIZADES?
4. Será BENÉFICO para todos os interessados?

### DISTRICT 9400



Botswana



Eswatini



Mozambique



South Africa

To view the 4-Way Test in some of the other languages spoken in D9400, click [here](#)

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