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21-25 JUNE 2025 • CALGARY, CANADA



Contents

- 4 Welcome
- 5 President's Message
- 6 Foundation Trustee Chair's Message
- 7 Convention Countdown
- 8 New District Governors
- 9 Magical 55 Years
- 12 Peace is a Journey
- 17 103 Years Strong!
- 18 Anniversary fun!
- 19 Having a ball
- 21 Space for Peace
- 23 From Intern to Social Worker
- 24 Pedal Power
- 26 Constant Support
- 28 Africa in Brief
- 34 2024-25 Presidents
- 38 Wall of honour



WELCOME

Sarah van Heerden - Editor in Chief

Peace projects are essential for fostering stable and harmonious communities. They address the root causes of conflict and create environments where individuals can thrive. But can Rotary clubs bring about peace?

Yes, they can. One community at a time. A single project won't create world peace, but the answer lies in Rotary clubs addressing the pillars of positive peace to develop environments where peace and prosperity can flourish. The pillars, which form the foundation of peaceful societies, include a well-functioning government, equitable distribution of resources, free flow of information, good relations with neighbours, high levels of human capital, acceptance of the rights of others, low levels of corruption and a sound business environment.

There are so many manageable peace projects that clubs can create if they focus on these pillars. For example, clubs can organise workshops to promote understanding and tolerance among

diverse community groups, establish educational programmes to empower youth and women and create platforms for dialogue to resolve local conflicts.

We are thrilled to introduce Gülin 'Eva' Gelogullari, who is joining the amazing Rotary Africa volunteer team as our peace journalist. Eva is a Rotary Peace Fellow with a rich interdisciplinary background in intercultural communication, conflict resolution and peacebuilding. Her educational journey spans seven countries - Turkey, Germany, the USA, Israel, Palestine, Thailand and the Netherlands - offering her a global perspective on peace and diversity. Eva brings a wealth of academic and professional expertise. She is a certified mediator and peacebuilder dedicated to fostering collaboration and harmony in professional environments. Starting this month, Eva will introduce our readers to Peace Fellows and Peace Fellow Alumni, sharing their inspiring stories, frank conversations and informed insights. Welcome, Eva!

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

FROM CHALLENGE TO
OPPORTUNITY



STEPHANIE URCHICK
President, Rotary International

If we are to truly change the world with The Magic of Rotary, it's up to all of us to foster a sense of belonging in our clubs. But every club should take its own path to get there and the Action Plan can help you find your way. What does that look like?

Take for instance the Rotary Club of Beveren-Waas in Belgium. It was chartered in 1974 but has evolved with the times, developing both a strategic plan and a membership plan. To find new members, the club analyses the city's professions to help focus its search and all new members are quickly assigned tasks and roles.

The club also mixes up meeting times, alternating between evening and afternoon sessions, making them accessible to all members.

Sometimes, circumstances force clubs to make changes. But as people of action, we know that behind every obstacle is an opportunity.

The Rotary Club of Holyoke in Massachusetts was forced from its meeting place because of rising costs after the COVID-19 pandemic, but members took this setback and turned it into a strength. The club started meeting

in a library community room that was available for no charge and catering lunch from a nearby deli. Lunch costs \$10 per person but it's optional, so no one has to spend money to attend a meeting. What a great way to work toward being 'fair to all concerned.'

Since making this change, the Holyoke club has gained 13 members. I suspect part of its membership growth is due to the club's sense of inclusivity - the first step toward belonging.

If you ask members what they expect from the club experience, you might find that your club doesn't meet expectations. Think of this as an opportunity to reshape your club in exciting ways, as alternative club models are making a positive impact.

For example, a Rotary Fellowship called Beers Rotarians Enjoy Worldwide, or BREW, has worked closely with the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Rotary Action Group for the past eight years to assist with clean water projects. In that time, BREW has funnelled 25 percent of its dues to those initiatives.

BREW is one of many examples of members pursuing belonging to improve the world.

I can't stress enough the importance of belonging. Clubs become simply irresistible when all members feel that they are exactly where they need to be. To me, belonging is the spark that ignites The Magic of Rotary.

As you receive feedback from club

members and the community you serve, I urge you to pursue that spark. The Action Plan can help you find the path to success and if you light your way with the spirit of belonging, that path will lead to a bright future for your club, your community and the world.

Foundation Trustee Chair's Message

Members are the magic

I love our many Rotary traditions, especially our emblem: the wheel. Whenever I put on my Rotary pin, admire a new club's logo, or spot the emblem on a volunteer's T-shirt, I am inspired by the possibilities that wheel represents.

Early in Rotary, our predecessors envisioned it as a gear, part of a sturdy machine making great things happen. It remains that and much more. To me, it also symbolises cycles and movement on our journey of doing good in the world.

August is Rotary's Membership and New Club Development Month and I encourage you to think about the cyclical connection between membership and The Rotary Foundation.

When we have engaged members in dynamic clubs, The Magic of Rotary happens. Members - both new and experienced - deepen their commitment to each other and their communities. And that local engagement attracts attention and more members.

Gradually, the new members realise their club is part of a powerful organisation that is making lasting change in the world. They learn about the Foundation, support it and perhaps apply for a grant. They see themselves as part of the movement that will eradicate polio.



Mark Maloney
Foundation Trustee Chair

As our members' experience deepens, so does their commitment to Rotary at all levels. The public sees our impact, making Rotary irresistible. New members join, new clubs are formed and the cycle continues. With each turn of the wheel, we grow Rotary and our Foundation.

There are countless ways this magical connection between clubs and our Foundation can unfold. For instance, 100% Paul Harris Fellow Clubs, where every member is a Paul Harris Fellow, showcase how engaged clubs are directly connected to the Foundation. Some clubs even up the ante, like the Rotary Club of Crescent (Greensboro), North Carolina, whose 125 members are all Paul Harris Fellows, Benefactors and Sustaining Members simultaneously.

But you do not need to be in such a "triple crown" club to make a difference.

I am asking all Rotary members to remember this month's goal for what I'm

calling Mark's Magical Markers: Please make the personal commitment to contribute what you can to the Annual Fund by 31 August. Do it right now, before you forget, at rotary.org/give. While you are there, set up a recurring direct

donation.

With your help, we can keep that great wheel of Rotary and its Foundation rolling in the right direction, moving toward something greater tomorrow than we can even imagine today.



Shouts of "Yaahooo!" echoed across the House of Friendship in Singapore as members snapped pictures in cowboy hats at the Calgary convention booth and lined up to register for their trip to Canada's West.

You're sure to hear that cowboy call of enthusiasm at the Rotary International Convention 21-25 June 2025 in Calgary, a city with country flair that's famous for its summer rodeo blowout. Affectionately called Cowtown for its cattle industry history, Calgary even has a link to Beyoncé, whose latest album has country music influences. One of her co-writers on the song "Texas Hold 'Em" grew up in Calgary and calls it Canada's country capital.

Don't miss the National Music Centre in town that includes the Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame. A wide-ranging music museum has an exhibit on country star

Shania Twain and a mobile recording studio used by the Rolling Stones.

The timing of the convention, on the grounds of the Calgary Stampede, is perfect. You'll have time afterward to visit another part of North America for a vacation then return to the city to catch the rodeo 5-15 July. One suggestion: take a train into the neighbouring Rocky Mountains to see Banff National Park's breathtaking scenery. And Calgary invites you to celebrate Canada Day 1 July, with an Indigenous showcase, a street fair and fireworks show.

Perhaps you'll leave town with a cowboy hat or boots. But outside of all the fun, you have a serious job: help local members make noise about Rotary to boost public engagement, while supercharging your excitement about all you can accomplish through this great global network.

Congratulations to our new **District Governors**



District 9210: DG Tom Kamwendo with his partner, Mailes Kamwendo



District 9350: DG Stephen Young with his partner, Jackie.



District 9214: DG Agnes Mungati Batengas.



District 9370: DG Raj Ramchunder with his partner, Shereen.



District 9213: DG Anne Nkutu



District 9400: DG George Senosha

Magical 55 years

Dr Patrick Coleman - Rotary Foundation
Major Gifts Advisor



Memos Kavallineas celebrated his 80th birthday in July and has been a Rotarian for fifty-five years! He is the charter president of the Rotary Club of Pretoria Hatfield, but his Rotary story started over twenty-five years before that. He lives in Pretoria, South Africa. I sat down with Memos (over a WhatsApp call) and asked him a few questions about his Rotary career.

Patrick (PGC): Why did you join a Rotary club?



Memos (MK):

I was asked to join. In 1969 I bought a hotel in Brits. I was only twenty-four years old. There was only one other hotel in Brits, so I met the owner. In due time

he invited me to join him for a Rotary meeting. I asked him, "What is Rotary?" He said not to worry about that, just come. So... I did. Ultimately, I joined the Rotary Club of Brits and served as president in 1973. I was the youngest president in the district at the time. After selling the hotel several years later, I moved back to Pretoria, joined the Rotary Club of Pretoria East and served as president in 1992.

PGC: What are some of the highlights of your Rotary experience?

MK: I served as the District Rotaract Chair for many years. The Rotaractors wanted to arrange their own conference instead of being an "add-on" to the district conference. Back in the day, Zimbabwe was part of District 9250. In 1995 they held their conference at Victoria Falls. Over 100 Rotaractors attended. It was all about fellowship and excitement, including bungee jumping and white-water rafting. I had no choice but to join in all their activities. I loved it. After the Vic Falls trip, the Rotaractors felt that I was "one of them" - an unforgettable memory that I still enjoy!

We have had many long-term Youth Exchange students. Sometimes as many as twenty-five or thirty. The result was that I had to keep as fit as the youngsters and join all their activities as if I was also seventeen years old. Rotary has kept me young and physically fit to this day.

Another highlight was a 12-day tour, taking the students to Namibia to canoe the Orange River downstream for five days. We slept under the stars in sleeping bags. One year we had two boys from India with us, who did not have the required visas to enter Namibia. They were refused entry. After arrangements with the Namibian embassy in Cape Town, I drove with the two boys to

meet an embassy representative at an intersection in the late evening. She stamped the passports, free of charge. I made a U-turn and went back, arriving at 5 am the next morning.

I am still in touch with many of those “kids” who are now adults with families. Going back to 1970, I remember one of our projects in Brits was to replace the candles at an Old Age Home with electric lights. We have come a long way since then.

PGC: What are you doing in Rotary now?

MK: Rotary has been my way of life. After many decades of “sprinting” in Rotary, I started to slow down a little. Four years ago, I was asked to be the AG of three clubs for three years. At that stage, the Rotary Club of Waterkloof was a struggling club, thinking of amalgamating with another weak club in Pretoria. I advised both clubs against it and gave them some positive alternatives. One was to invite successful key business and professional people in their communities to join the activities of their club. After all, isn't that how Paul Harris started the first Rotary club? It worked! The result four years later? The Waterkloof club “produced” this year's DG, George Senosha. I am also known as the Rotarian who always carries his camera along. I have stepped back for a while. Soon I will be looking for new challenges. Maybe a new club consisting primarily of professional and business people united in the ideal of service? Who says that we cannot reinvent the wheel?

PGC: Tell me about your Rotary club today.

MK: In 1996, I wanted to break new ground. To start a new Rotary club. We started with a few wine and cheese events, informing visitors about Rotary. In a short while, we had enough signed

up prospective members to charter the Rotary Club of Pretoria Hatfield. I was the charter president and remained in office for the first two years. We did things a bit differently. We did not allow “transfers” from existing clubs for the first two years. These were all new Rotarians who had fresh ideas and carried no “in my last club” baggage. We set our own agenda and followed our own path. We also had no Anns' club. Instead, we had about a fifty-fifty membership of men and women in the club. We had ten past district governors at the charter dinner! An historical event. I also invited local members of the Lions and Round Table in the hope that we could collaborate with projects in our community. That never materialised, but friendships were made.

PGC: What is your Rotary vision for the future?

MK: When I first joined Rotary, we seldom heard from headquarters in Evanston. We met every week and enjoyed fellowship, worked on local projects and generally became a family. Today it seems that RI is sending out programmes several times a month, which may be a little intimidating to some Rotarians. Above all, Rotary must be fun.

Final Words from MK: For fifty-five years I have seen the full transformation of our district and RI. The thousands of projects for our communities that have touched millions of people in our country are immeasurable. Looking at the paraplegic boy's face sitting on his first wheelchair brings joyful tears. The pleasure and gratitude you receive from giving are priceless. That is the reason for my fifty-five years of service and counting.

PGC: That, my friends, is the true Magic of Rotary!



YOUR PROJECT PLANNING EXPERTS



WALLY GARDINER
Canada, District 5360

CADRE TITLE:

Cadre Adviser and Former Technical Coordinator for
Community Economic Development

OCCUPATION:

Retired CEO, Gardiner Computer Consulting Inc.



**WHAT ARE ROTARY
MEMBERS SAYING
ABOUT WALLY?**

"Wally Gardiner provided a tremendous amount of assistance for the design, implementation, and overall success of our two global grants. Wally's support exceeded my expectations of what a Cadre member could do to help us. I strongly recommend that The Rotary Foundation continues to provide support through the Cadre system. Rotary clubs should be encouraged to reach out to the Cadre whenever possible to improve their projects."

— Andrew Bronson, Rotary Club of Lethbridge East,
District 5360 (Canada)

The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers is a network of hundreds of Rotary members who are experts from around the globe. These advisers use their professional skills and technical expertise to enhance Rotary members' grant projects in our areas of focus.

THE CADRE CAN SUPPORT YOU BY:

- Providing project planning advice and implementation guidance
- Helping with community assessment design
- Incorporating elements of sustainability into projects
- Answering questions about Rotary's areas of focus
- Providing financial management best practices

Connect with a Cadre member today by visiting the Cadre page on My Rotary, or email us at cadre@rotary.org.

There are hundreds of experts standing by to help you plan or enhance your Rotary project!



PEACE IS A JOURNEY, NOT A DESTINATION

Interview by Rotary Peace Fellow and Journalist, Gülin 'Eva' Gelogullari



Meet Kathleen Doherty, a Rotary Peace Fellow (RPF) from the United States living in Kenya. Kathleen's interdisciplinary and impactful career journey profoundly blends African-American studies, social work and peace and conflict resolution as she follows her lifelong commitment to addressing social and racial injustice. From her youthful experiences as a foreign exchange student at a high school in Liberia to serving in the Peace Corps in Cote d'Ivoire, Kathleen has genuinely sought to understand the roots of discrimination, inequality, xenophobia, racism, misogyny and homophobia.

Kathleen's experiences as a licensed clinical social worker and certified

domestic violence professional led her to leadership roles as an executive director of gender-based violence and healthcare

agencies, where she became the voice of the voiceless and provided compassion to those neglected.



“Building peace is messy and complicated. It means being willing to create tension to disrupt the status quo. No one size fits all, meaning no person will have the same answer to world peace.”

How did your journey with the Rotary Peace Fellowship begin?

Since 2001, I was the executive director of two gender-based violence agencies, firstly Between Friends and then the Chicago Metropolitan Battered Women's Network in 2014. Ending gender-based violence is a multidisciplinary effort involving NGOs, policymakers, the criminal justice system, advocates and funders. Our local Rotary clubs recognised that safety for women and children was integral to peacebuilding and regularly provided grants to support our work. It was through this connection that I learned about the Rotary Peace Fellowship. In 2018, I was fortunate to complete the Professional Development

Certificate Programme in Peace and Conflict at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. It was only the beginning of my journey!

What are the challenges of being a female mediator and peacebuilder?

I was the director of a residential treatment programme for delinquent boys in East Texas. Despite being in my 30s, the male sheriff questioned my capability as to how a girl like me was going to be able to work with those troubled boys? He assumed that because I was a woman, I was not capable of effectively helping these youth.

Those assumptions exclude us from a seat at the table. If all the decision-

makers at the table look and think alike, the outcome will not reflect the needs of the entire community. Women must be assertive and not hold back on sharing their expertise or addressing misogyny. Madeleine Albright, the first female Secretary of State in the USA, put it very well, "I have said this many times, that there seems to be enough room in the world for mediocre men, but not for mediocre women and we really have to work very, very hard."

You commute between countries for your work. How do you build and maintain bridges between communities?

Living in the countries I work with allows me to understand their systems and community needs, from politics and criminal justice to education, healthcare and economics. Gender-based violence (GBV) manifests itself differently in communities and cultures, with unique challenges and solutions. In 2019, I spent six months in Kenya building relationships, collaborating with hospital staff and engaging with locals, patients and taxi drivers to address GBV. During the pandemic, I maintained connections through online meetings and projects and I returned to Kenya in 2022 to reconnect with my friends and colleagues.

What are your current projects in Kenya?

During the Rotary Peace Fellowship in 2018, I met Moses Mokuu, the founder of LeMayian Hospital. He wanted to develop a gender-based violence programme within the hospital, so in February 2019, I came to the hospital to develop this programme.

As the head of the Gender Unit, I have been working both onsite and remotely to build the GBV programme and

overall hospital capacity. We developed a hospital-affiliated nonprofit called LeMayian Hospital Community Health Services. We aim to provide:

1. Psychosocial and healthcare services to survivors of gender-based violence
2. Healthcare commodities
3. Healthcare education, training and medical camps

The board and I recently engaged Dr Dorothy Mutemi, a Kenyan RPF and her team to lead us through a strategic planning process to guide our future. I love living in Kenya and collaborating with Rotary in Kenya, Rotary International and the Institute for Economics and Peace through projects like Positive Peace Activator and the pillars of positive peace.

What are your observations regarding the ongoing protests in Kenya?

In June, Gen Z brought attention to the plight of Kenyans, who have suffered fewer job opportunities, higher taxation and costs of living, poor-quality healthcare and education, economic inequality and widespread corruption. This was predicated on the passage of Finance Bill 2024, which proposed to increase taxes on, among other things, bread, diapers, sanitary napkins, fuel, cars, phones and electronic money transfers. Although President Ruto's government passed the finance bill, he did not sign it. However, the protests continue as citizens demand significant changes to leadership and government operations to improve their quality of living. Gen Zs are university students and young professionals who are unemployed or underemployed. They used social media to organise the protests and conversations with the president. However, the whole country is behind their efforts and hopes to see change.



Kathleen has collaborated for multiple international peace conferences through the Rotary Peace Fellowship Alumni Association. She is known for speaking with kindness and wisdom while creating harmonious and inclusive spaces for everyone.

Although our diversity is our wealth, peacebuilders sometimes clash in peacebuilding projects. How can we work in harmony?

Mahatma Gandhi said, “We but mirror the world. All the tendencies present in the outer world are to be found in the world of our body. If we could change ourselves, the tendencies in the world would also change.” There is no one

answer.

Each community defines what it needs to build and maintain peace. We must be willing to admit that we don't know what we don't know. We also need to slow down to ask questions and seek to understand. Clashing is not terrible if it creates new ideas and energy for moving forward! Peace is a journey, not a destination.



Gülin ‘Eva’ Gelogullari, a Rotary Peace Fellow, is a seasoned professional in Intercultural Communication, Conflict Resolution, and Peacebuilding. With an interdisciplinary education across seven countries - Turkey, Germany, the USA, Israel, Palestine, Thailand, and the Netherlands - Eva brings a global perspective to her work. She is passionate about promoting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging and is a certified mediator dedicated to fostering collaborative and harmonious environments.

As a volunteer peace journalist for Rotary Africa, Eva will share inspiring stories and insights from Peace Fellows and Peace Fellow Alumni around the world.

The **ROTARY ACTION PLAN**



Is your club looking for ways to better engage your members and enrich their experiences with Rotary?
The Action Plan can help.



Learn about enhancing your club's participant engagement:
rotary.org/actionplan



The 103rd anniversary celebration of the Rotary Club of Johannesburg was a resounding success, bringing together members and guests to commemorate the club's legacy and look forward to a bright future of service and support to the community in need.

103 Years Strong!

The Rotary Club of Johannesburg (D9400) celebrated its 103rd anniversary on April 24, 2024. The event took place at the prestigious Johannesburg Country Club in Auckland Park and was attended by members of the club, DG Riana Pretorius in person, DGE Dr George Senosha online, as well as Rotarians and friends.

Guest speaker, Thabo Masemula of the Provincial Independent Electoral Commission, spoke about the May elections in South Africa. His presentation provided valuable insight into the democratic process and the importance of civic engagement, inspiring the audience with his knowledge and passion for promoting democracy in the country.

In addition to the informative presentation, the event was filled with camaraderie and celebration as the Rotary club reflected on its 103 years of service to the community. The evening included speeches, toasts to South Africa, the club, and Rotary International from President Gustave Ololo, AG Grace van Zyl, and DG Riana Pretorius, a delicious

dinner, superb decor and a birthday song performed by PAG Monica Kiwanuka. Rotarian Sarah Zulu provided the birthday cake.



PP Clifford Alexander, DG Riana Pretorius and PP David Crossley cut the anniversary cake.



RYLA “graduates” with their teachers and Nthabiseng Mohale from Outward Bound kneeling in front. The graduates participated in the Rotary Club of Knysna’s charter anniversary celebration.

Anniversary fun!

The Rotary Club of Knysna (D9350) marked its 62nd anniversary in May and celebrated with a special lunch meeting that featured a delicious Rotary birthday cake that was cut by President Herb Hunter.

The celebration included Interactors from six local schools, who were accompanied by their teachers. These young leaders shared their experiences from the recent Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) camp held at Outward Bound in Sedgfield. The camp, designed to foster leadership skills and personal growth, left a lasting impression on

the participants. Nthabiseng Mohale, Programmes Manager for Outward Bound, provided an overview of the five-day camp, highlighting the various activities and learning experiences.

During the event, president of the Interact Club of Knysna Sekonder, Sean Waites shared his insights from the RYLA camp. He was supported by Rotarian Viv Nightingale, who coordinated the camp on behalf of the club’s youth committee. The Interactors’ accounts of their camp experiences underscored the value of such programmes in shaping future leaders.



Kanana Primary School's first netball team was sponsored by the Klerksdorp club and its partners.

Having a ball

The Rotary Club of Klerksdorp (D9370) recognises the power of teamwork and the role that sport plays in harnessing collective talents and efforts. This understanding drove the club to sponsor the Kanana Primary School's first netball team, which has impressively remained undefeated since its inception.

The Klerksdorp club's collaboration with GDS Chatz Connect and Tecno ensured the team was well-equipped for success. The girls received match day and practice uniforms, water bottles, tote bags, pens

and books. These contributions have not only boosted the team's morale but also reinforced the importance of support and community involvement in sports.

Sponsoring the netball team has provided the girls with the resources and encouragement needed to excel. It underscores the club's commitment to fostering young talent and promoting teamwork. By investing in these young athletes, the Klerksdorp club is helping shape a brighter future for the Kanana Primary School community.



SHARE YOUR FUN TIMES

Email stories and photos (of at least 1mb in size) to rotaryafrica@mweb.co.za.



8-14 September 2024

Celebrate Community Week



Kiwanis



Optimist
INTERNATIONAL

Rotary



For help developing projects or connecting with other service organizations' clubs, or if you have questions related to Celebrate Community Week, write to rotary.service@rotary.org.

During the week of 8-14 September, Rotary and Rotaract clubs around the world will partner with nearby Kiwanis, Lions, and Optimist clubs on service projects related to health and wellness, food insecurity and hunger, education and literacy, and the environment. When we join together, there's no limit on the positive impact we can create in our communities. So start planning today!

- ▶ Mark yourself as "going" to the Celebrate Community 2024 Facebook event.
- ▶ Share pictures on social media during that week using the hashtag #CelebrateCommunity.



Iris Canham and Dr. Suenitha Bhoora lead Lusanda Nkomo's parents through the labyrinth.

SPACE FOR PEACE

Located just an hour's drive south of Durban, South Africa, the seaside village of Umkomaas is a popular destination for fishermen and divers, making it a hub for sea adventures and activities.

A short drive from Umkomaas, across the N2 motorway inland, lies Craigieburn. Once populated by foreign skilled workers and their families, as well as other workers employed by SAPPI, a global renewable resource company, this area has faced economic struggles and high unemployment rates over the past 30 years.

Unfortunately, with unemployment

comes increased risks, especially for children and women who are often the most vulnerable to violence due to alcohol and drug abuse stemming from unemployment.

In March 2024, the community was devastated by the rape and murder of a little girl who attended Umkomaas DRIFT Primary School.

Rotary E-Club of South Africa One (D9370) learned of this tragic event from its member, Iris Canham, who has been running a reading programme at the school for some time, which is supported by the club. Lusanda Nkomo (10), the

victim, was part of this programme and volunteers, such as club treasurer Tony Holness, knew her as a happy, engaging and intelligent child.

In memory of Lusanda and the other children affected, Iris and her fellow club members decided to create a Peace Garden at the school. The garden aims to remind learners that love, compassion and peace do exist in the world.

The club organised an art competition for Grade 6 and 7 learners, focusing on themes of peace, love and environmental protection. Winning artworks were chosen and recreated on a mural wall in the garden by local artist Christine Andrews.

The handover of the garden to the school coincided with a memorial service for Lusanda, creating a meaningful event for both the school staff and the children.

Lusanda's parents and family were invited to the Peace Garden, where Iris Canham spoke about Lusanda and the concept behind the garden. Accompanied by the school principal, Dr Suenitha Bhoora, Iris led Lusanda's parents through the labyrinth of the garden. They paused at the centre for a moment of silence before reaching the donated memorial bench placed under an indigenous tree.

Sitting on her bench,



Members and friends of the Rotary E-Club of SA One.



Principal Dr Suenitha Bhoora and HOD Sally Singh sit peacefully on Lusanda's memorial bench.

Lusanda's parents took a moment to remember their daughter. It was a poignant moment, with the family showing signs of relief, some smiling and even, joyful laughter.

The Peace Garden project was made possible by generous donations and sponsorships from friends of the E-Club, Casa Dillon Education, and the local community.

From Intern to Social Worker



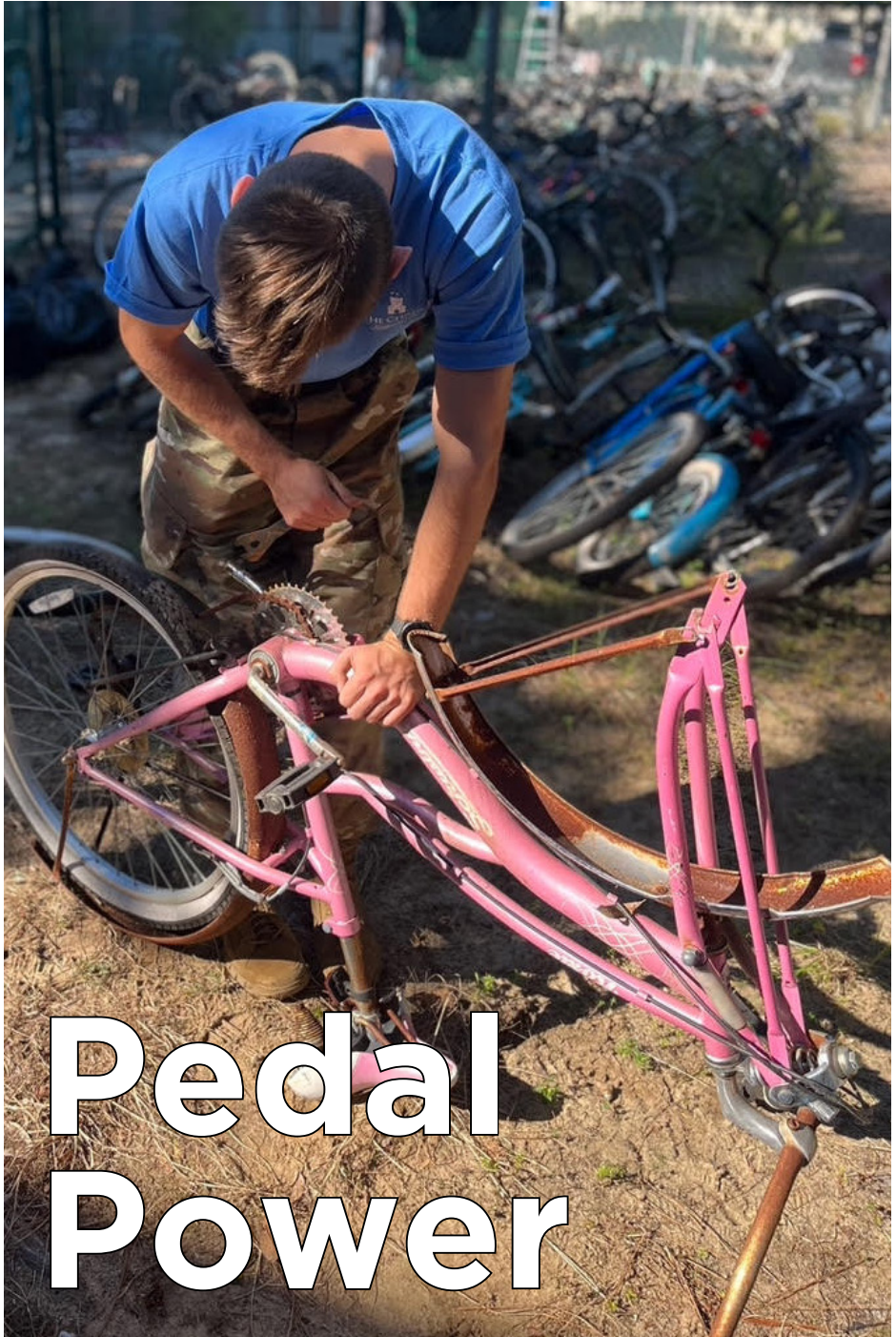
Talent Monyai is one of the students who were given the opportunity to do her practicum for her Bachelor of Social Work Degree in 2023. Ga Rona Community Development Centre and Tembisa Rotary Community Corp (D9400) afforded her the opportunity to successfully complete her nine-month internship with the organisation.

The Tembisa Rotary Community Corp was chartered late last year as a collaboration between the Rotary Club of Johannesburg (D9400) and the Ga Rona Community Development Centre, a gender-based violence group based in Zone 6, Winnie Mandela. Their efforts contribute to creating a more sustainable and economically empowered Tembisa community.

Monyai completed her social work practicum under the mentorship of the Ga Rona Community Development Centre social worker, Uadivha Makungo and graduated with a Bachelor of Social Work in April 2024. Ga Rona Community Development Centre and Tembisa RCC are very proud of Talent Monyai who has found employment as a Grade 1 social work practitioner at a government department.

Both the Ga Rona Community Development Centre and Tembisa RCC will continue to give other students from higher institutions an opportunity to do their internship for many years to come.

Talent Monyai on her graduation day.



Pedal Power

A remarkable international collaboration saw a 12-metre shipping container filled with more than 450 used bicycles arrive in Galeshewe, Kimberley in July. The delivery was part of an ongoing project between the Rotary Clubs of Carroll Creek (D7680, USA) and Empangeni (D9370) which has distributed thousands of bicycles in South Africa to enhance mobility and economic opportunities across the country.

The Rotary clubs partnered with other organisations, including Bicycles for Humanity and Bikes for the World, to collect used bicycles from communities in the USA, Canada and Australia. Currently, the project aims to fill twelve shipping containers, each packed with bicycles, and distribute them to Rotary clubs in South Africa with communities in need.

The Rotary Satellite E-Club of Kimberley - the Karoo Region (D9370), in partnership with the Galeshewe Youth Network, received one of the first shipments. This container left South Carolina in early June and arrived at the port of Durban in July. The container's contents were collected by the Charleston branch of Bicycles for Humanity, with cadets from The Citadel (Military College of South Carolina) assisting in dismantling and packing the bicycles.

This container, now positioned next to the Galeshewe Youth Network office in the Mayibuye Uprising Precinct, Royal Street, will be converted into a Community Bicycle Resource Centre. Local Rotarians, working with the Galeshewe Youth Network and Breakaway Cycles in Hadison Park, plan to use the container as a bicycle repair workshop and storage facility.

The project has several medium-term goals, including establishing a micro-business for bicycle repairs, creating a bicycle rental outlet, promoting bicycle

safety and developing a hub for cycling tourism and heritage trails. The long-term vision encompasses supporting the development of cycling leisure facilities in the community, such as off-road trails and a pump track.

The lead project coordinators, Stephen Bamonti of the Rotary Club of Carroll Creek and Jonathan Moore Warner of the Rotary Satellite E-Club of Kimberley - the Karoo Region, are spearheading the efforts of this latest delivery. In South Africa, project leaders include Andrew Killick and Fulvio Pace of the Rotary Club of Empangeni and Richard Jones of the Rotary Satellite E-Club of Kimberley, the Karoo Region.



Local Rotarians and volunteers unpack and assemble bicycles in Galeshewe.



Cadets from The Citadel (Military College of South Carolina) prepare bicycles for shipment.

Constant Support

By Peter James-Smith

Bethany Home, located in Bertrams, Johannesburg, serves as a refuge and rehabilitation centre for women and their children who have experienced abuse. Founded by Val Halley-White in 1989 in Hillbrow, the centre later moved to larger premises in Bertrams. Bridget Edwards, who began her journey there in 1999, has transitioned from committee member to chairman to part-time worker and now serves as its manager.

Bethany Home supports approximately 50 women and their children for 12 to 18 months. During their stay, they receive comprehensive support ranging from counselling to legal advice and practical training aimed at reintegrating them into society. Many of these women, despite their diverse skills and abilities, require assistance in rebuilding self-confidence and self-esteem after the dehumanising effects of abuse. Bethany Home provides

training in basic handcrafts, encourages academic progress and has witnessed women graduate to professional roles, as well as pursue careers as seamstresses and caregivers. The centre empowers them to achieve independence and care for their families.

The Rotary Club of Knights Pendragon (D9400) initiated its partnership with Bethany Home 20 years ago with modest contributions. Over time, their projects have been transformative. They have installed water tanks that ensure continuous water supply during disruptions, rehabilitated inadequate solar power systems, replaced sewing machines after break-ins and enhanced security measures. Additionally, they have undertaken smaller tasks like painting, tiling and providing groceries every month for two decades. The annual Christmas party, complete with



They [Knights Pendragon] have been a constant support in our lives. And when it comes to groceries, they always include a chocolate bar for me!

- Bridget Edwards,
Bethany Home manager



The two buildings of Bethany Home seen from the street.

gifts from Father Christmas, brings joy to the children at Bethany Home.

Bridget Edwards, reflecting on their collaboration with Knights Pendragon, emphasised, “If we encounter any challenges, I know I can rely on Knights Pendragon to respond promptly.”

When asked about the possibility of relocating to better facilities away from the current crime-ridden area, Bridget expressed her preference for staying accessible to people who rely on taxis or walk from town. She explained, “We provide a vital service here for desperate people in the area.” Beyond providing surplus food to the neighbourhood, Bethany Home acts as a lifeline for many, offering immediate help and resources to those in distress.

During our conversation, a Congolese mother and her child arrived seeking assistance. The mother faced an impending court order to return to the Congo by January 2025. Bridget quickly connected her with a nearby lawyer, though the outcome seemed uncertain. “People come here with overwhelming challenges all the time and we do our



Bridget Edwards (manager) and Rebecca Gikonyo (housemother).

best to assist,” Bridget remarked. “If we were to move, what would happen to them? We’re fortunate to have the contacts to make a difference, but often their situations are heart breaking.”

Visiting Bethany Home underscores the diverse ways Rotary serves communities and highlights the dedication of individuals like Bridget and her team. They go above and beyond to support not only the residents of Bethany Home but also the broader community.

AFRICA IN BRIEF



The Rotary Club of Keetmanshoop (D9350) was chartered in June. The vibrant new club aims to address various community needs through diverse initiatives focusing on education, health and community development. District Governor Ann Wright attended the charter ceremony.



The Rotary Club of Durban (D9370) were joined by the Interact Club of Glenwood High School to serve as marshalls at the recent ECR Big Walk.

With the support of a donor, the Rotary Ann's of the Rotary Club of Helderberg (D9350) made a large donation of food and blankets to the Animal Welfare Society. At the presentation are Julia Evans (AWS manager), Mieke MacDonald, Pauline Brinkworth, Gayl Boone and Vera Loffler.



In June, the Rotary Club of Chatsworth (D9370) and its Anns club awarded a deserving student a bursary of R30,000 to further her tertiary education. Cora-Lee Nathan, a second-year UKZN student pursuing a Bachelor of Business Administration, was overjoyed by the news. President Cogie, Vocational Service Director Bala Moodley and Ann President Mallosh Pillay presenting the cheque to Cora-Lee Nathan.

Rotarians Charlie Panday and Suren Singh of the Rotary Club of Chatsworth (D9370) visited Khanya Hospice CEO, Neil McDonald, to deliver the good news that the hospice would receive a donation of wheelchairs.





The Rotary Club of Paarl (D9350) organised a fun day at the Paarl Arboretum for the members of its local Interact clubs. Activities on the day included vocational guidance and a walk to identify alien plants.



Witches, astronauts, big game hunters, and more all came out to play at the Rotary Club of Pretoria Hatfield's (D9400) bowling fundraiser at the Wingate Park Country Club. Fun was the order of the day, with bowlers enjoying the event and teams vying for the best costumes and team spirit awards. Thanks to the bowlers and generous donors, R80 000 was raised for the community feeding project and the Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centre run by Kefilwe Thusano. The club has been supporting Kefilwe Thusano since 2011 with its community feeding project. The ECD initiative is relatively new, and the funds raised went towards replacing old mattresses and blankets for the 60 toddlers currently in their care. Funds were also used for repairs to the building housing the ECD Centre.



Khanya Hospice CEO Neil McDonald (right) and the Rotary Club of Chatsworth's (D9370) Charlie Panday (left) were thrilled to receive wheelchairs from "Chair the Hope," an NGO run by Nathan and Heather Ogden (centre) in the United States. The donation of 280 wheelchairs to the South Coast area of KwaZulu-Natal, including Khanya Hospice, has been life-changing for many in need, making daily activities like using the bathroom and going outside much more accessible.



The Rotary Club of Vanderbijlpark, which is known for its active participation in the District 9400 Exchange Student Programme, recently bid farewell to long-term exchange students Frederic Muscho from Germany and Guidetta Grosso from Italy. At a heartfelt event at Stonehaven on Vaal, the students shared their South African experiences, forming lasting bonds with their host families. Youth Officer PP Rita Benecke and President Adri Roos oversaw the exchange of banners from both countries, symbolising the enduring connections made.



After reading an article on EarlyAct in the September 2002 issue of Rotary Africa, the Rotary Club of Empangeni (D9370) sponsored the first EarlyAct club in the then District 9270. In May, the EarlyAct Club celebrated its 21st charter anniversary and invited Andrew Killick, the president of the Empangeni club, to attend. Joining him were Ndalo Dudula (president of St Catherine's EarlyAct Club), Karen Braithwaite (staff advisor), Denise Brook (club Interact and EarlyAct advisor), and Gemma Soldat (president of St Catherine's Interact Club).



Global hunger is on the rise, driven by natural resource shortages, climate change and armed conflicts. According to a recent Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) study, 828 million people across the world go to bed hungry every night and 258 million people are suffering from acute food insecurity. The Rotary Club of Klerksdorp (D9370) celebrated World Hunger Day with a donation of Cfam (a fortified porridge) that will provide about 2,000 meals for the residents, approximately 80 people, including 31 children and 12 senior citizens, of Uitkomsdal Plots.



Thanks to a generous donation from a donor abroad, the Anns of the Rotary Club of Helderberg (D9350) spoilt the residents of Lancelot Place for the Aged with an afternoon of delicious eats and refreshments.



The Rotary Club of Vanderbijlpark (D9400) has been actively engaged in community service over the past few weeks. Numerous children's homes, organisations and Old Age Homes have benefited from their recent projects. These include distributing scarves from a collaborative effort with the Golden Triangle Chamber of Commerce (GTCOC) for the Guinness World Record attempt for The Longest Scarf, as well as 1,000 blankets (500 sponsored by an anonymous donor and an additional 500 from the club). They also received vouchers from Vaalgate Shopping Centre for winning the best Christmas tree competition, toiletries from Dischem and various items donated by the GTCOC, including clothes and funds raised through their monthly Market Project at Mighty Grow Nursery. Funds from book sales at President Hyper and entrance fees from Gira Rio Restaurant in Riverside Mall, along with contributions from Rotary members and the community, have further supported their initiatives.

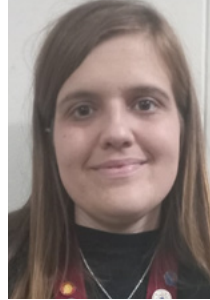
Congratulations to our 2024-25 Club Presidents



Eleutério Saene
Beira Golf, 9210



Betty Ramaselela
Haenertsburg, 9400



Cath Baker (Rotaract)
Wynberg, 9350



Andrew Mushoke
Ndola-Mukuba, 9210



Serelda Caiger
Grahamstown, 9370



Logan Pillay
Chatsworth, 9370



Shano Pillay (Anns)
Chatsworth, 9370



Alex Wardle
Westville, 9370



Andy Muir
Knysna, 9350



Arnold Mahonye
Bulawayo, 9210



Andrew Musunga
Ndola, 9210



Leslie Mkarati
Harare City, 9210



Bertha Salasin,
E-Club of Ndeke,
9210



Mable Ndakaripa
Hungwe
Harare Central, 9210



Panganai Dhlwayo
Pretoria Sunrise,
9400



Simone Alicia Singh
Durban Clairwood
Park, 9370



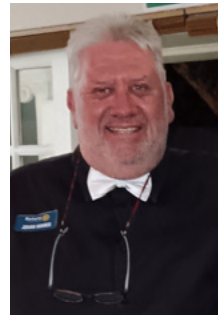
André Joaquim Júnior
Chimoio-Planalto, 9210



Rydal Spavins
Durban, 9370



Angela Church
East London, 9370



Johan Gerber
Orkney, 9370



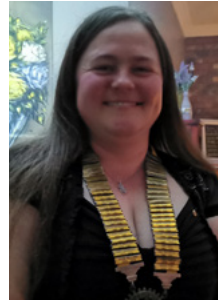
Richard Cook
Keetmanshoop,
9350



Jacqueline Magodo
E-Club of D9210
Harare



Hlubi Hewitt-
Coleman
Port Elizabeth, 9370



Vicki Harrison
Welkom-Flamingo,
9370

CONGRATULATE YOUR NEW CLUB PRESIDENT

Include your new club president in our Presidents' feature in our September magazine. Please send the **name of your president** and **club**, as well as a **head and shoulders photo** to rotaryafrica@mweb.co.za. Deadline for submissions is **10 August 2024**

ROTARY AFRICA | south



Anita da Silva
Dundee, 9370



Merry Phiri
Harare CBD, 9210



Seigfried Nyahoza
Matsapha, 9400



Mthokozisi Moyo
Matopos, 9210



Nomhle Mujakachi
Harare North, 9210



Adri Roos
Vanderbijlpark, 9400



Rudy Dupont
Paarl, 9350



Mwembo Mashilipa
Lusaka East, 9210



Manfred Burkert
St Francis Bay, 9370



Ntandoyenkosi Moyo
Avondale, 9210



Ren Mouton
Port Alfred, D9370



Stephanie Gabriel
Kasama Central, 9210



Bright Halende
Lumwana, 9210



Sousa Alberto
Beira-Chiveve, 9210



Presten Nyamangara
Marondera, 9210



Lyn Ndlovu
Belmont, 9210



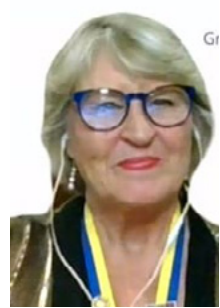
Sep Mapfirkupa
Borrowdale Brooke,
9210



Graham Chipande
Lilongwe City Centre,
9210



Priscilla Sani-
Chimwele
Lilongwe Lotus, 9210



Lee-Ann Shearing
E-Club of Greater
Cape Town 9350



Innocent Rukute
Harare the Bridge,
9210



Celestina Languitone
Campira
Chimoio, 9210



Fanuel Emmanuel
Magangani,
Mzuzu, 9210



Limbani Kakhome
Lilongwe-Lingadzi,
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Richard Tarr
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Faith Kauseni
Kalulushi, 9210



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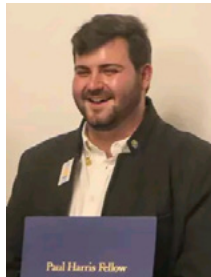
WALL OF HONOUR



The Rotary Club of St Francis Bay (D9370) recognised Ann Knight, Ivan Beaumont, Craig Northwood, Lyn Aitken, Tom Roux (awarded posthumously and accepted by his widow, Patsy) and David Truter as Paul Harris Fellows.



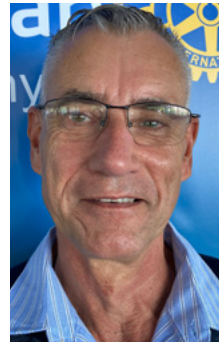
Charles Lusipho was recognised as a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Club of Vanderbijlpark (D9400).



Zander Lintvelt was recognised as a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Club of Vanderbijlpark (D9400).



Ghila Soldaat was recognised as a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Club of Knysna (D9350).



Riaan van der Merwe is a new member of the Rotary Club of Knysna (D9350).



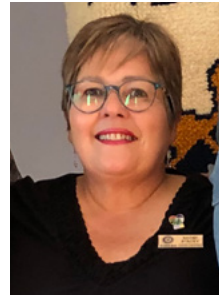
Wayne Furphy was recognised as a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Club of St Francis Bay (D9370).



Nicky Morgan is a new member of the Rotary Club of Haenertsburg (D9400).



Anzelle Sheppard is a new member of the Rotary Club of Haenertsburg (D9400).



Naomi Stacey is a new member of the Rotary Club of Algoa Bay (D9370).

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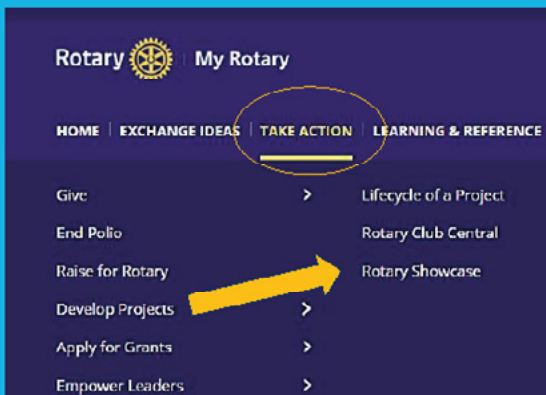
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