

THE **WAVE**

ISSUE 12 - JUNE - 2021

— A NEW DAWN



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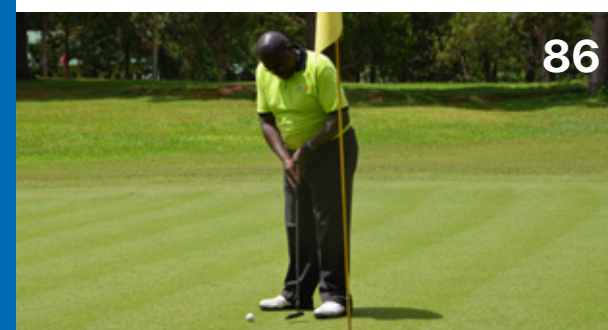
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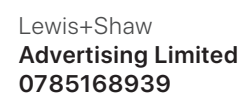
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ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Holger Knaack

is to increase the number of women and amplify their role everywhere.

I am glad that many now see Rotary and Rotaract clubs as equals. Let's keep going in this direction by inviting Rotaract clubs to be a part of everything we do. Let's not squander any opportunity to reach young leaders, but partner with Rotaract and invest in our many new approaches.

I am very proud of the work Rotary is doing to fight COVID-19 by supporting vaccination campaigns through advocating for fair distribution and combating misinformation. But we must also continue to do everything we can to end polio. And we now have opportunities to work in a new area of focus: the environment.

The world is a different place today from when I first announced that Rotary Opens Opportunities. We can all be proud of how we updated what Rotary can be this year. Let's continue on this path, always taking care of our clubs and our friends in those clubs. They are precious, and they keep Rotary alive and thriving.

Susanne and I are thankful for all the opportunities to serve the organization during this special year, a year of finding new meaning in Service Above Self. We see Rotary as a community of people who live their values by putting them into action. In these extraordinary times, there is no doubt that we must place increased emphasis on service. This is our opportunity to show the world what Service Above Self means for Rotarians.

There are so many opportunities waiting for us that will help us change the world. Let's seize them together and get ready to open doors to achieving greater things. And as we open these doors to new ideas, our minds and our hearts also open. Remember that everything we do in Rotary opens another opportunity for someone, somewhere.

In January 2020, when I announced my presidential theme, Rotary Opens Opportunities and spoke of the changes that Rotary needed to embrace, none of us had any idea how quickly change would arrive. But I am a long time believer in seeing challenges as opportunities. This year, we seized new opportunities to reimagine what Rotary could be. For years, we had discussed ways to make Rotary flexible and adaptable, and we had tried a few experiments. This year, we all experimented — and succeeded! Online meetings are a regular fixture now as clubs invite guests from across the globe.

Susanne and I love to meet members of the family of Rotary around the world, and we've missed seeing you in person over the past year. But for me, it was a new way of experiencing Rotary. We travelled the world virtually. I met thousands more of you than I would have otherwise. I never set foot in my office in Evanston as president, yet we found new ways to get the job done while cutting travel costs.

This is the Rotary we experienced in 2020-21: nimble, adaptable, and creative. The next step is not to go back to the way things were before the pandemic. We must move forward. Let's apply what we have learned to offer new experiences and opportunities for our members, such as online attendance as a regular option.

We need a younger, more diverse Rotary at every level to keep our clubs strong. What diversity means is different from region to region, but I encourage you to welcome people from all backgrounds. Another step we can all take



District Governor

Dear Family of Rotary

This is my last monthly newsletter as District Governor. How time flies and what a year it has been! Nobody could have predicted how this year has gone, but I am proud of how Rotarians in this District 9211 have coped and adapted so ably to changes that have been forced upon us.

Next month, District Governors Elect John Magezi Ndamira (D9213) and Young Kimaro (D9214) will take over the reins, so in many ways, it is appropriate that this is Fellowship Month. We have managed to keep fellowship, in its many meanings during the period of lockdown. Zoom meetings have abounded, newsletters have continued, and the love and concern shown to the more vulnerable amongst our number has been outstanding. As we move closer to being able to recommence physical meetings again, the fellowship will be close to our hearts as we re-connect in person with friends and Rotary colleagues. A word of caution though – whilst we all want to get back to physical meetings – we need to do this carefully and slowly. As we move towards the “New Normal”, I encourage each one of you to take a few minutes to look back and think through what we have learnt, both the good and bad, and embrace the positive learnings into our daily lives. If we just go back to the “Old Normal” these learnings will be lost.

It has been an honour and privilege to be your District Governor over the last 12 months. I have been blown away by the welcome and kindness experienced during my various visits around the District. District

9211 grew tremendously. Under DGEs John and Young’s leadership, I know that the new Districts will continue to go from strength to strength. Each of us owes an incredible debt of gratitude!

First and foremost, the Opportunity Presidents: It has been an honour to serve with you this year. I have learnt a lot from you and I am privileged to have been allowed to “look inside” your clubs at what makes this incredible giant called Rotary so successful. Each of your clubs is different as are your needs and passions and those you serve. That is one of the best parts of Rotary. You have taken chances to effect change and energise your clubs and even though it may have not been as successful as you had wished...at least you tried and set the stage for the future.

The Assistant Governors: No District Governor could have asked for a more professional, dedicated, and supportive team of Assistant Governors – EVER. You inspired and motivated one another including me. You have been my “eyes and ears” where I failed to be. I thank each one of you from the bottom of my heart.

District Committees and the Advisory Council of Past District Governors: You have worked hard to support us, our projects and activities this year with a level of dedication and commitment that helped to keep our district at the forefront of all we do. I thank you for your leadership and guidance. I am indebted to each one of you.

Lastly, to every Rotarian who made someone’s life better, gave others a reason to hope and some a reason to believe in a future. And you did it through every Avenue of Service imaginable and even some that haven’t even been thought of yet! That is your legacy as Rotarians. To my successors John and Young, we are all looking forward to you guiding us as you “Serve to Change Lives”. Adieu D9211, as we welcome D9213 and D9214. Thank you!



DG Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga (seated second left) at the ROLI FutureMe Mentorship and Skilling awarding ceremony held last month at MoTIV. Sixty (60) youth got certificates after training in fabric and design, woodworking, mechanics, photography and videography, online marketing and public speaking



A time to look forward

“I have no fear of the future,” Winston Churchill once said. “Let us go forward into its mysteries, let us tear aside the veils which hide it from our eyes, and let us move onward with confidence and courage.”

Churchill used the phrase “let us go forward together” in some of his most famous speeches. He had no other choice but to look forward as he led his war-battered nation with courage.

Each generation inherits its share of challenges; we are living through ours, never once stopping in the face of this challenge. In a year when people were unable to meet, families stayed secluded, and businesses struggled to flourish, we still managed to go forward together in many areas. Through Rotary Foundation grants, clubs and districts brought creative solutions to their pandemic-hit communities. Since March 2020, the Foundation has awarded over \$34 million in grants to initiatives related to COVID-19.

The demand for our global grants was high. They were so popular that we had to make adjustments to grant funding policy that will begin 1 July in a prudent effort to balance demand with resources, so that more districts can participate.

This year, The Rotary Foundation took bold steps forward, breaking new ground: The Foundation expanded its reach with recognition of the environment as an area of focus and awarded our first

Programs of Scale grant to a Rotarian-led program that aims to greatly reduce malaria for severely affected communities in Zambia.

Even though our polio immunisation activities paused for a few months in 2020 because of the pandemic, they began to resume in midyear. We also were finally able to celebrate a huge step forward in our journey together to a polio-free world: The World Health Organization (WHO) declaration that the African region is now free of wild poliovirus.

And the Otto and Fran Walter Foundation signed an agreement with us to fully fund the establishment of a Rotary Peace Center in the Middle East and North African region. This welcome development gives Rotary the opportunity to make a tangible contribution to an area where lasting peace has been so elusive.

Our accomplishments are a reminder that Rotary is a great force for good everywhere and that you are the reason we did not stop. At this writing, we’ve raised more than \$282 million, putting us on track to reach our US\$410 million fundraising goal. The great work we have done this year, and the work we will do next year and in the years ahead, is all thanks to your support. On behalf of The Rotary Foundation Trustees, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for keeping the Foundation — one of our greatest gifts to the world — thriving.

K.R. Ravindran

Foundation Trustee Chair



Do More, Grow More: A clarion call for #ChangeMakers

Imagine this ... Patrick has been a Rotarian for eons. Inducted at the age of 28 into a Rotary Club in 1981, it was an unusual experience in itself. With Rotary at that time mainly accepting men above 40 years for invitation into clubs, his club, ridiculed as a “rebel club”, took pride in redefining the norms. Three years later, as club president, two ladies were admitted into the club, well before the 1987 changes in the world of Rotary to formally accept women as members of Rotary International. It was a time of change and the leaders in these clubs were #ChangeMakers!

As the world changes, so does Rotary. Heraclitus is credited with the saying, *“Change is the only constant in life”*, and Paul Harris made the call for change declaring that *“this is a changing world; we must be prepared to change with it. The story of Rotary will have to be written again and again”*. With the huge impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, perhaps the need for change has never been stronger. We need to change quickly, adapt our existing structures and take on new challenges.

While Rotary has changed according to the vicissitudes of life, our core mandate hasn’t. Our mottos have remained constant – “Service Above Self” and “One Profit Most Who Serves Best”. In both these mottos, the common denominator is SERVICE.

If CHANGE is urgently required to meet the new challenges of this world, and SERVICE is our ever constant mandate, then it is apt that the incoming

Rotary theme is “Serve to Change Lives”. In this theme, our mandate is SERVICE and the outcome we seek is to CHANGE the lives of members of our community including members of Rotary. So how do we serve to change lives?

Rotary International President-Elect Shekher Mehta has asked us all to be #ChangeMakers and challenged us to DO MORE and GROW MORE in the coming year to achieve this goal. Allow me to speak to club leaders and members for a moment. As it is up to us in the trenches to translate this, I propose five things to DO MORE and five areas to GROW MORE.

The ChangeMakers Five Things to DO MORE

1. More Projects and Community Engagement

In District 9210, more than 50% of the clubs are not running a single Global Grant project. More than 30% of the clubs do not have any community project, while some clubs lack a clear definition of who their community is. And it is worse in other districts. It is time to change this. Let each club quickly define its community, conduct needs assessments and just START a project!

2. More Fellowship in Clubs and with Others

Fellowship is the first core value of Rotary. We are however losing the art of fellowship in our clubs. With this pandemic, some clubs have never truly met in a year. Without fellowship – virtual or physical or mixed, we lose the spirit of Rotary. As changemakers,

we must fellowship more. Our weekly meetings must be more fun and engaging. I encourage clubs to fellowship with other clubs. “Invade” other club meetings en masse with yourmembers; invite other clubs for a mass fellowship; create social events together with other Rotary and Rotaract Clubs and deliberately make your meetings fun.

3. Do something new you have not done before

Dream it, do it! The age of “we have never done that before in this club” should be declared over! Discuss and find interesting and “crazy” things to do outside what you have always done. Explore each new idea on its merits and find that *one positive reason* to merit a rethink of why a new idea should not be explored.

4. Provide More Professional Experiences for Members

Give something back to our members for joining and being members of your club. Hold more professional trainings and presentations for the benefit of members and their vocations. Share Rotary Professional expertise with the communities and potential members. Organise more events that showcase the talents and skills of your members. Focus on great speakers at your DISCON (District Conference). Pair new members with others in their professions within or outside your club for linkages and mentorship and consider holding career sessions with Rotaractors and other young professionals in the community.

5. More Giving to TRF

Almost 25% of clubs in D9210 had given 0% in the current year to the Rotary Foundation by February 2021. This situation is the same or worse across Africa. In the same vain, several clubs are not accessing funds from the Rotary Foundation – some because they feel they have not given enough (although not a necessary prerequisite for Global Grant funding) to merit it. We must push for change here. Simply put, we must aim for 100% of all clubs in the district and across Africa *giving something* next Rotary Year to the Foundation. This comes back to help us support more projects in our communities.

The ChangeMakers Five Areas to GROW MORE

1. Grow More in the Public’s Eye

It is time to stop the excuses. There is no “new logo” – there is only one correct logo. Each club must adopt and use proper and consistent branding in

all its materials. Each club must take action to be the front-and-centre in community dialogues and events. They must know, feel and remember your Rotary club as a key stakeholder in the community. Do this by participating in and mounting booths at local expos, projects fairs, fetes, etc. To achieve more prominent signage for your projects, consider as a first act, going back to all the projects you have completed in the community over the past 10 years and repainting the old signage with the correct logo. These can be low efforts leading to quick wins, and a reconnection with your communities.

2. New Members, Now!

There must be Rotary presence in every town in Africa! The clarion call is - **Each One Bring One and Maintain ALL**. We should acknowledge EVERYONE who brings in at least one member. Further, I challenge you that we must aim for every member to bring in five more members. But cast the net wider. Those five new members don’t have to be in your club, country or even district. Just “Gimme Five!”. Across Africa, District Governors have committed to acknowledging and awarding every member who brings in at least five people into Rotary anywhere! Join the wagon and let us get this fire going.

3. Grow more New Club Forms

It is time to explore and set up new club forms. We have heard of eClubs, satellite clubs, passport clubs, family clubs, corporate clubs, caused-based clubs, etc. Each district must ensure there are at least new clubs formed with some of these new features in the coming year. The beauty is that you can experiment with, and create new types of clubs that mix these new forms or create your own form. The canvas is plain and open for you. We will celebrate your ChangeMaker ideas!

4. More Partnerships

It is time to make some changes in the way we partner with others. We must improve partnerships with other like-minded organisations, corporate organisations and their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programmes. If your club is not already holding at least an annual joint fellowship or project/event with other service clubs like Toastmasters International, Lions, RoundTable, JCI, etc. in your community, then be a #ChangeMaker. Start now.

5. Let Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (D.E.I.) be the cornerstone for all our work

There must be diversity in gender, race, age, professions, persons with disability, etc. in all Rotary and Rotaract Clubs. This must reflect in the way we plan for our meetings and events and the equitable opportunities we give to all. We must challenge ourselves to be more mindful in this area.

There is no better time to be a Change Maker

Incoming club leaders face great challenges but with great opportunity. It will be challenging to continue navigating the new club experience within COVID-19 times and post lockdown era. Paul Harris again declared that “Rotary changes us and those we serve. I believe we can change the world one life at a time”. Yes, this is the opportunity to have conversations that

hitherto were too difficult to have and propose the changes needed for the transformation of your clubs and our communities.

“Rtn. Patrick” at the beginning of this article is fictional, but his story and experiences remain true and you can find that in your clubs. If not, CREATE that legacy for future generations to tell such a story of your works this ChangeMaker year alongside that of Rtn. Patrick and his generation. There is no better time to think of yourself as a ChangeMaker and exemplify it. Don’t think too much – Just Do It!

Rtn. Victor P. K. Mensah

District Governor Elect (DGE, D9210)
Rotary Club of Nkwazi
Lusaka, Zambia



RTN. GEETA MANEK

From one Nalongo to another

District Governor Rosetti, foremost, please receive my heartfelt congratulations for a culmination of yet another successful Rotary year for District 9211, and particularly at this special time, as you celebrate the cusp of another milestone.

On a personal note, as a friend, and secondly from one *Nalongo* to another, I extend my felicitations to you. Our paths crossed many years ago. We have shared many fond memories within and out of Rotary spheres and forged a great bond of friendship, which I shall always cherish. We’ve had many triumphs along the way and overcome an equal number of challenges, which has been the litmus test of your leadership. I recall you saying years ago, “Geeta if you cannot change the world; at least try changing the world for one person.” These words continue to resonate within me and I find some solace, whenever I feel confounded or cordoned by challenges.

It is on that note that it is evermore, special, and honourous witnessing you on the perch of being selected to bear twins! I cannot express how proud I am that one of my twins is now “giving birth” to a set of her very own twins! So in a way, I can call myself *Jjajja!*

Reflecting back, one cannot but be fascinated by the sheer grandiose of Rotary International, passing from being D9200 in 2013 and transitioning into D9211, and growing stronger, better, and bigger to a new threshold. This is undoubtedly a testimony of the region’s capacity in harnessing effective leadership, like yourself.

The Rotary phenomenon is remarkable in how we can stand tall on the shoulders of leaders before us; who created a strong and enriching environment where

leaders like yourself can thrive and continue the work initiated by others before us. From where I sit, I can attest that Rotary in this region is growing in leaps and bounds, not only because of the strong foundation laid by our predecessors and the mentoring they imparted to us; but equally because of the value proposition of Rotary International and the Rotary Foundation. This all creating an enabling environment, rich and filled with opportunities for us to expand our capacities and skills. It is therefore encouraging to note how more and more people are embracing the core values and ideals of Rotary. Your challenge is to ensure that we keep up with this trend in our succession planning.

The culmination of all these factors and coupled with the hard work that goes on behind the scenes, have all led to the extraordinary multiplier effect of membership growth, club extensions, and more relevantly, the increased impact of community service work of Rotarians. Again, from where I sit, I’ve observed the tremendous positive impact by the People of Action in D9211. Touching lives of thousands across the region, enhancing access to health, education, clean and safe water. At the same time, it shows that Rotarians are working hard in strengthening our economies by offering micro-credit or even supporting vocations and peace studies.

It’s encouraging to see Rotarians reach deep into our communities and adapt to a whole new way of serving when meetings are conducted online. It’s encouraging to see how the community reflects a more open value system. For instance, we recently remarkably welcomed a female head of State in Tanzania. All these reinforcing the fact that given

the opportunity we are all able to reach our full potential.

DG Rosetti, you’re more than a fellow *Nalongo*. If there’s anything I have observed about you over the years, is your sense of focus, inspiration, and commitment to the service of others. These traits have truly defined your dedicated leadership. I cannot begin to express my pride in your remarkable achievements, both professionally and within Rotary. DG Rosetti, we have been reflecting on how challenging the past year has been for every district worldwide – due to COVID-19 constraints and related impact on the communities we serve.

Some of us have watched you from afar and followed your progress. I must say that we are all heartened by your perseverance and leadership. You have stood tall and strong. As I see women leaders rise through the ranks in Rotary, and their professions, it gives me immense pride. Despite acknowledging that effective leadership is blind to gender bias; we all know that in practice there are more constrictions for women, which are often overlooked. From afar, I know you have what it takes to scale these heights (not because you are a woman), but on the sheer merit and capacity of your galvanising leadership.

As one Nalongo to another, let us pledge to lend a hand to our sisters and daughters to reach their full potential. The rise of women does not mean the fall of men. Each one should be encouraged to reach their full potential. Let us mentor our young women to take up challenges and any opportunities that come their way, rather than be constrained by cultural or societal expectations.

Nalongo Rosetti, you have set the tone for the leaders who will follow you. You have set aspirational goals in whatever you do. You have not succumbed to the “why not’s” but rather worked on a premise of ‘how can we’. Professionally you are a proven trailblazer, having claimed the highest ranks in the Ministry of Finance as Deputy Head of the Budget Monitoring and Accountability Unit. You are a successful farmer, you sit on numerous Boards and most importantly you

As one Nalongo to another, let us pledge to lend a hand to our sisters and daughters to reach their full potential...”

are a mother and homemaker. You also play an active role at the church. This *Nalongo* wears many hats and is the epitome of servant leadership. With all these characteristics you are expanding the ethos of Rotary far and wide.

I cannot enumerate all your achievements. I can only say that your journey is not over, so I encourage you to share your wisdom, skills, experiences, and attributes with our young sisters and daughters. Encourage them to go the extra mile. Inspire them to commit to all the tasks at hand. This will be your legacy. So dear Nalongo, as your term as DG, reaches its cusp, know that more doors of opportunities are likely to open. So my only counsel is to leave open the same if not more doors of opportunities for those who follow you.

Finally, coming from one *Nalongo* to another let me bid you congratulations on a well-deserved honour and title of *Nalongo*, one that will stay with you for perpetuity. I have found so much love, affection, honour, and respect from the people who address me as *Nalongo*. I am sure you will too. Carry that honour with pride and humility, wherever you go. The time is long overdue to encourage more women to dream big and encourage more men to support those dreams at work and home. But I hope, on your journey, you continue to inspire all Rotarians (both men and women) and leave no one behind. Finally continue to make those smart choices and chances, keep learning. Be unapologetically courageous and confident.

Dear *Nalongo* thank you for your friendship and dedication to uplifting humanity. Keep following your passion and continue on the path of being significant. Success will naturally follow. There is no limit to what we can accomplish so Nalongo, aim for the stars they are waiting for you!!!

Nalongo Rtn. Geeta Manek
RC Muthaiga, (District Governor D9200- 2012/13)
The Rotary Foundation Trustee (2020-24)

“I cannot enumerate all your achievements. I can only say that your journey is not over, so I encourage you to share your wisdom, skills, experiences, and attributes with our young sisters and daughters..”



RTN. TUSU

Women in Rotary – A Luta Continua!

The year is 1989. At long last, forced by a court ruling, Rotary International has permitted women to join Rotary. How magnanimous. Is it not interesting that those who oppress others think they are doing the oppressed a favour by granting them their rights? There is a catch. Rotary International now permits the admission – but it is still up to the clubs to decide who they admit. Many clubs around the world “fail” to find suitable women to admit.

The time is the 90s. Some of the younger clubs in Uganda have started admitting women. There is a general excitement among the clubs about the novelty of visiting clubs where there are women. You know, just like when a choir from a boys’ only school visits a girls’ only or mixed school: I was in Busoga College Mwiri. And yet the hesitancy remains among many clubs, some explicitly refusing to admit women. Without naming it, there is a club from which visiting Rotarians proudly introduce themselves as coming from the club where “*Men go*”. I one day visit this club with two lady Rotarians from my club, and someone pointedly tells them they are in the wrong place: “*Inner Wheel is meeting in the next room*”. These are the times when any member can block the membership of any guest becoming a member without giving a reason.

In Kampala North, we also debate this for two years, and we lose the vote twice. Opportunity comes: we decided to take a vote when the key vocal opponents are away and the admission of women is approved. Our first lady member is Janet Kahirimbanyi. You will find her signature on the Uganda currency at the time. Have we ever regretted our decision? Never.

Another dynamic is at play: Rotaract. No discrimination in Rotaract. Aggressive young business and professional women and men. The clubs that developed real bonds with Rotaract grow the numbers

of ladies in their clubs faster. For my club, this is the Rotaract Club of Kampala City. A formal bond is established through a letter signed by Rotaractor Julie Asimwe and a Kampala North Club Resolution. Kampala South gets a transfusion of Rotaractors for rejuvenation, as does Kampala later. Wherever many Rotaractors go, they increase the number of ladies and the attraction of that club to ladies. To think young is to think equality because most of them have grown up without the cultural baggage that comes with our generation.

Does this mean the nineties are easy for ladies? No! Women are still demeaned by the Rotary jokes, almost all targeting sex and women. Many of the pioneer lady members give up. Where they stay on, they are literally scared of becoming leaders in such environments.

The time is the 2000s. An ethical guide to eliminate dirty jokes from Rotary is developed: ***Do not say anything at any Rotary meeting if you would not say it in the simultaneous presence of your parents and your children.*** Rotary starts waking up to the reality that outside legal or moral obligation, women bring great positive impact. Female presidents start appearing

Do not say anything at any Rotary meeting if you would not say it in the simultaneous presence of your parents and your children. Rotary starts waking up to the reality that outside legal or moral obligation, women bring great positive impact



First lady Country Chair, Rtn. Samrawit Moges



RC Kampala North first lady member, Rtn. Janet Kahirimbanyi

on the scene in Uganda, but that is their ceiling. District officers are appointed by the Governor. The District Governor is an elderly male who joined Rotary in the “Good old days when Rotary was for men only”. It is very rare to find any lady serving beyond the club in other than token “title only” positions.

I am honoured by a nomination to the governorship in 2004. I have the opportunity to have Abel Katahoire (Chair), Martin Kiyaga (RIP), Chris Mutalya, Stephen Mwanje, and Dorcas Tusubira as the Planning (and later Monitoring and Evaluation) Team. We take three radical decisions which any of them will be happy to expand on: In appointing District officers, search for competence based on documented minimum standards, focusing on the younger generation; and require that women are included everywhere and at all levels. We get the first lady Country Chair – Samrawit Moges – in Ethiopia. I agree

with Tolstoy’s thinking in his book “War and Peace”: we do not claim the credit. There was a convergence of circumstances that stretched back over the years to make the environment ripe for change, and this Team just happened to be in the right place at the right time to start a new trend.

The time is the 2020s. Are we there yet? No. So far, we have got just one lady District Governor from Uganda, one from Tanzania, one from Kenya, and now one nominated in Ethiopia. Four ladies out of a combined total of almost 40 DGs since 1990 (D9200, D9211, D9212). The numbers just do not make sense. We still have a long way to go. The glass ceiling might be fractured, but it is not broken yet. A luta continua!

Tusu
RC Kampala North



PROF. DR. PDG BARBARA WOLF-WICHA

A new page in Rotary's African history

In the history book of 100 years of Rotary in Africa, since celebrating the charter of the first Rotary Club in Johannesburg on 1st July 1921, a new page will open on 1st July 2021: the formation of two new Districts – D9213 for Uganda and D9214 for Tanzania and parts of Uganda. However, the birth of new districts in Africa is not uncommon: District 9211, Tanzania and Uganda, owes its creation in 2013/14 to the division of District 9200 – together with District 9212, Kenya, Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Southern Sudan.

For me, it is more than nostalgia. It is a deep feeling of gratitude for encounters that had a lasting impact on my life and for many chances to gain new experiences and to learn.

As governor nominee in the two Austrian districts, Ismail Sadek (D1910) and I (D1920) attended the D9211 conference and assembly in Arusha in 2017. We wanted to focus on Africa in our Governor year 2018/19 and to promote another picture of Africa to the Austrian people and our Rotary clubs. The meeting and discussions with Sam Frobisher Owori, nominated for “our year” as Rotary International President, was an honour and a special grace. I owe him my understanding of what it means to – Be a Rotarian. From his example, I learned to accept the leadership role with humility – like a conductor who is pointless without an orchestra but needs to have a vision and a conviction of where the journey should go. He made me understand the important mixture of continuity and innovation and work in a “troika” as the best way to overcome the “my year”-syndrome.

On the saddest day only a few weeks later, to pay our last tribute to Sam, I assured him in front of his coffin and the District 9211 that I would keep my promise to build close lasting relations between Austria, Tanzania and Uganda. Out of this grief, close personal ties arose: I found my Ugandan family in “Mama Norah”,

whose death we had to deplore a few weeks ago, and her sons. Between Ismail, Sharmila Bhatt and myself a lifelong friendship was established. In our districts, Sharmila and I were the first female governors.

In this spirit, the Inter-Country Committee (ICC) of our three countries was created in 2018. For the first time, all our three districts – 9211, 1910, and 1920 – invited to a joint celebration at the RI Convention in Hamburg 2019.

Participating in DCAs in Arusha 2017, Entebbe 2018, Dar-es-Salaam 2019, online 2020 and Munyonyo 2021 taught us a lot for the Austrian districts: That such events are more than a mere obligation, but are a celebration of dedication and enthusiasm – and that the district recognises the club's achievements by special awards. We copied this ritual of recognition at the first Multidistrict Conference (1910 and 1920) in Salzburg in 2019 – in presence of Sharmila and Harish Bhatt, Xavier Sentamu and, as a representative of the RI President, Yinka Babalola.

After the DCA in Entebbe 2018, I saw the achievements in the Refugee Settlement in Nakivale. Being the first in the world, a Rotaract Club has been formed there, children getting an education. When both Austrian districts have been invited by the Federal Chancellor of Austria, we drew his attention to the difference between refugee settlements and refugee camps. Unfortunately, they have in common that well trained and educated professionals cannot practice their crafts and knowledge until the long procedure of certification. Existing talents are wasted.

All over the world, the pandemic prevented in-person programs – years of uncertainty, anxiety, fear, state restrictions in curfew or restrictions in electronic communication. Despite this, Rotary in both countries continued to grow and quickly adapted to the



circumstances. I was happy to have attended several club events online, as a visitor, trainer or speaker. Moreover, I have recognised over all the years signs of Rotarian solidarity: around 10 other clubs usually participate in the fellowships of one club. Another example of Rotarian life to be followed in Austrian clubs.

The achievements of the clubs in both countries, presented at all four East African Project Fairs, demanded great respect and admiration from the very first moment. Whether it concerned health-days, runs or races to fight Polio and Malaria, the establishment of blood-banks, new hospitals, bringing clean water to the villages, adopting villages with programs for economic development or special ones for unemployed youth – they are examples for the whole world. The world should know them!

When I was asked for assistance in setting up two school libraries during a visit to RC Kabulasoke-Gomba in 2019, I passed this request on to clubs in my district. A total of 16 clubs responded, we succeeded – and it was a great pleasure for me to work with the children in these two schools for three weeks. Thank you for adopting me as an honorary member! I am grateful, that some Austrian Rotarians or Rotaractors follow the example of hands-on commitment.

Being Chair of our ICC Austria – Tanzania – Uganda,

the division into two districts does not change my mission to promote sustainable networks and increase intercultural understanding. Together with my friends in both districts, we can help to build friendships and networks, involving Rotaract and especially Interact in the schools.

On both sides we will surely find possibilities for the New Generations Service Exchange, but also Friendship Exchanges to take place between our districts. But we should make use of the newly adopted opportunities for online communication. Meeting each other face-to-face, albeit on screen, could be the first step towards a future journey.

For the past five years, I have been regularly travelling to Tanzania or Uganda, spending time with the clubs or in their projects. As promised in 2017, I wish to pass on the “African fire” to the Austrian clubs – grateful for love and inspirations when returning to my second home country Uganda. I wish both districts every success and look forward to our cooperation!

God bless you – *Mungu akubariki – Katonda ali nawe!*

Prof. Dr. Barbara Wolf-Wicha
Chair-ICC (Inter-Country Committee)
Austria-Tanzania-Uganda
PDG - D1920 (DG 2018/19)
RC Salzburg-Land; Honorary member –
RC Kabulasoke-Gomba



PDG STELLA DONGO

PDG Stella: My journey to becoming the first black female Governor in Africa

I joined the Rotary Club of Highlands in June 1996 having been introduced by a business colleague. By that time, I did not know much about Rotary. The club then was much different to what Rotary is today. There were only two other women in the club of about 45 members. It was certainly, a men’s affair, largely pale and certainly much older. It was hard to be taken seriously, I was young, dark and female and by all accounts very different from the majority of the members. While it was tough to make a breakthrough, I did meet some great Rotarians passionate about Rotary and they inspired me. I guess that’s how I managed to stay on.

In the first five years of my Rotary life, I was merely floating through, although I attended meetings regularly and served on several committees. I was never assigned any meaningful role. My breakthrough was in 2001 when the then-incoming President Doug McClymont appointed me Secretary to his Board, out of the blue! I got so excited and served with much zest that I stayed on the Board as Club Secretary for the following three Rotary years.

My real turning point was in 2002 when I attended a District Conference in Mangochi, Malawi. It was the first time I experienced Rotary with some semblance of regional and internationality. My eyes opened to the world, scope and possibilities in service that Rotary offered. From that time on, I never looked back, I was hooked.

In 2003, I was nominated President Nominee for Highlands Rotary Club and served as Club President in 2005/6. The District Governor was the late Rtn. Charles Kandarira and he inspired and encouraged me a lot. I had a fantastic year as Club President despite some challenges and got the award for President of the Year for District 9210!

Immediately thereafter in 2006/07, I served as Assistant Governor under the Governorship of Patrick Coleman. I enjoyed the exposure and privilege of interacting with other clubs learning and sharing ideas, and also received the AG of the Year Award! These were tremendous years of learning and developing in Rotary. I served two years as an AG and in 2008 DGE Josh Chimhanda appointed me the District Administrator which allowed me to interact with the whole district. The following year, I served as Country Coordinator for Zimbabwe.

In 2011, I was nominated District Governor Nominee for D9210. I served as Governor in 2013/14, becoming the first female Governor for D9210 and the first black female Governor in Africa. I was the only female Governor in the whole of Africa for the year 2013/14. It was a lifetime experience as I had an opportunity to tour our District in all four countries of Zambia, Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe, visiting 62 clubs and experienced Rotary locally, regionally and internationally.

I have since held other District Portfolios such as Membership Chair, Nominations Committee Chair, District Trainer and Assistant Rotary Coordinator for Zone 20A South 2015-18. I also led a Group Study Exchange Team to New York District 7120 in 2007.

One of my highlights was being at the forefront of one of the most successful Rotary projects for Highlands Rotary Club - the Community Empowerment in Zimbabwe Project which empowers women in disadvantaged communities by providing basic business and computer training. The project was internationally recognised by Rotary International, and in 2015 I was invited to receive a special award, Rotary Global Women of Action, one of six such recipients worldwide and the only one from Africa, at the UN Rotary Day in New York by RI President Ravi Ravindran. I want to believe President

Ravi was impressed by the project as he subsequently made the historical RI President’s visit to Zimbabwe in February 2016 - the first such visit to Zimbabwe by an RI President in 30 years.

In 2016, I was RI President’s Personal Representative (RIPPR) for President Ravi in D9350, Cape Town, South Africa. I have thoroughly enjoyed Rotary and attended most RI Conventions (my first RI Convention was in Birmingham in 2009), DISCONs, ROTA seminars as well as Zone Institutes.

Through Rotary I have travelled to all Continents and met some incredible people I would never have rubbed shoulders with outside of Rotary. I have made lifetime friends in all corners of the world. I am gratified to see so many awesome, highly capable women at the helm of their clubs, District, and Zone and now a female RI President is coming in office shortly. I am at my best doing life-changing projects, I love training,

I am an advocate for The Rotary Foundation being a multiple Paul Harris Fellow myself. I enjoy travelling and networking.

I hold a Bachelor’s Degree in Economics from the University of South Africa and have had an illustrious career in Commerce and Industry spanning over 40 years. In addition, I sit on some boards in business, non-profit and other institutions. I am a mother to eight children and blessed with 12 grandchildren.

Rotary has become a part of my life and I cannot imagine what my life would have been if my colleague had not invited me or if Rotary was still an ALL BOYS CLUB!

PDG Stella Dongo
RC Highlands – D9210 (Governor 2013/14)
Classification: Retail Management
Current Position: District Rotary Foundation Chair





RTN. EDWARD KAKEMBO NSUBUGA

For 36 months, the PIME team has been working

When a District Governor Nominee Designate (DGND) is chosen, their first agenda is to select a Planning, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation (PIME) team. These Rotarians support and work closely with the DG to plan for district activities to be implemented during their year at the top leadership.

These activities should be in line with the district strategic plan and programs, and they run for 24 months, with the first 12 months working hand-in-hand with the outgoing team as a learning process. In a nutshell, PIME is the Rotary kitchen that steers the ship.

For DG Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga, this team of 26 Rotarians began working in the Rotary year 2018/19. To date, the team has conducted 35 meetings both physical and virtual, with the last held on 29th May 2021.

PIME Committee's key areas of focus

- Support the DG to oversee and coordinate the implementation of strategic planned activities and projects for 2020-21.
- Develop a monitoring and evaluation tool (Dash Board) for the district's strategic activities.
- Develop deliverables for each activity and propose timelines to be shared with district officers.
- Work closely with the DG and District Executive Secretary (DES) to select and appoint various officers for the leadership roles.
- Monitor progress of each activity to ensure its' timely delivery. Where there is no progress, we raise a red flag and ensure that plans are on course.
- Maintain constant communication with committee heads to get an update on their assignments and offer help where needed.

Position	Name	Position	Name	Position	Name
DGE	Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga	District Rotaract Rep.	Dr. Edmund Issae	DCA Chair	Jane Kabugo
Chair PIME	Edward Nsubuga Kakembo	Vice DES	Adeline Rutazindwa	DCA Secretary	Patrobas Sirabo Wafula
Vice PIME Chair	Rebecca Mukasa Mutaawe	Country Chair Tz	Adolf Olimi	DCA Treasurer	Godfrey Byekwaso
Risk Manager	Isaac Sebuliba	Vice Country Chair Tz	Agnes Batengas	Vice DCA Chair	David Kasingwire
Country Chair	Phyllis Kwesiga	DGE 9213	John Ndamira Magezi	District Treasurer	David Balaka
Vice Country Chair	Francisco Semwanga	DGE 9214	Young Kimaro	Advisor	Stephen Mwanje
Training Officer	Julie Kamuzze	DGN 9213	Mike K. Sebalu	Advisor	Emmanuel Katongole
Projects	Mebra Lwabwayi	DGN 9214	Peace Taremwa	Advisor	Robert Waggwa
Projects	Maina Wamuyu			Advisor	Kenneth Mugisha



- Ensure 100% achievement of the various targets both in activities and district goals.
- Convene regular meetings to receive reports from different committees and feedback on areas for improvement.
- Prepare and submit monthly reports to the DG and DES highlighting areas where the Governor may make changes in appointments or approach in implementation

Achievements

- A dash board was created with key district activities that were monitored regularly through the district and country appointed chairs. This dashboard covers the period from 2018/19 to 2020/21 highlighting all Country and District Activities to be undertaken.
- Both at District and Country Level, meetings for the Excom, Assistant Governor, and Presidents were held monthly. This also included meetings for key strategic areas e.g. DCA, FAN, Membership, Youth, Grants etc.
- WhatsApp forums were created with officers from Uganda and Tanzania and DGEs to create a learning platform and sustainability for the incoming team.
- Key achievements and challenges were shared through these platforms and strategies put in place to monitor challenges and progress.

- Re-districting: Come 1st July 2021, D9211 will wither away and two new Districts emerge (D9213 and D9214). We thank the Re-districting team for a job well done.
- A successful RI Zone 22 Institute was held at Speke Resort Munyonyo from 2nd to 5th December 2020, and the Chief Convener was Past Rotary International Vice President Hakeem Olayinka Babalola. We thank the two Co-Chairs PDGs Emmanuel Katongole and Kenneth Mugisha for the good job done.
- The 96th District Conference took place from 21st to 24th April 2021 at Speke Resort Munyonyo, the first of its kind to be hosted in bubbles, kudos to the DC team for the wonderful job.
- The final evaluation report for the 96th District Conference was compiled.
- Final District Report was compiled and ready for sharing.

I thank the appointing authority DG Rosetti for the honour, trust and responsibility bestowed upon me to lead this great District 9211 as District PIME Chair for the Rotary year 2020/21.

Rtn. Edward Kakembo Nsubuga
RC Kampala-Ssese Islands
District PIME Chair



RTN. JULIET KYOKUNDA

Invaluable lessons from Rotary leadership

Throughout my work life, I have held various leadership positions. I have also interacted and worked with various groups and I must confess, the benefits have been immense. When District Governor Rosetti asked me to be her District Executive Secretary (DES), I was lost for words. In my heart, I kept wondering why me, and how did she zero on me. I accepted, but behind the tough face, people see, was a scared girl not sure of the next steps. Thank You Governor Rosetti for the challenge.

One thing led to another, and I spoke to several past District Secretaries, especially Past District Governor (PDG) Jayesh Asher on how to do my work and be the support the Governor wanted. I got the training on becoming an effective Secretary free of charge! Thank you PDG Jayesh.

At the beginning of the Rotary year 2020/21, the worries and insecurities I thought I had conquered returned because I was not sure of how the year would be with the ravaging COVID-19. But here we are, a lot has been achieved by God's Grace.

This year, I have learnt more than I have learnt before in my leadership journey. I was working with volunteers

and people at different levels in life. The humility, willingness to take on tasks amidst the busy schedules, the responses every time I called someone and started "The Governor has asked me to tell you or to request you to.....", are all lessons I may never have picked if I did not interact with several people up-close.

One of the memorable moments in this assignment was the appreciation messages I received from individual Rotarians. That thank you for your service, those email responses you took the time to write were the biggest paycheque for the services we offered to Rotary. Thank you for cheering us on.

I have understood more about Rotary, the protocols, the needs of different clubs, the strengths of our people, and lessons from different regions and clubs. All this has been instrumental, not only in my Rotary work but private assignments as well. Thank you all for the invaluable lessons.

Rtn. Juliet Kyokunda

District Executive Secretary, 2020/21
RC Kajjansi

One of the memorable moments in this assignment was the appreciation messages I received from individual Rotarians. That thank you for your service, those email responses you took the time to write were the biggest pay cheque for the services we offered to Rotary. Thank you for cheering us on.



TOGETHER, WE

EMPOWER

Potential shines brightest when it's inspired. That's why Rotary clubs invest time and expertise in encouraging others to be the best they can be. Empowering those who have big dreams to achieve great things — that's what people of action do. **Learn more at rotary.org/action.**

Rotary  PEOPLE OF ACTION

Go well Rotarian Aggrey

No!
Not again! Wasn't it just yesterday?
That a pot broke at the door?

Now you too have sneaked away from us?
Surely who will fill this huge gap?

The loving father, grooming your little boy
Into a fine young man who knows the love of labour.
A man who knows that it's the sweat on his brow
And how dirty he gets his hand, that count.
A man who knows to honour friendship...

The young man feels cheated.
You have not yet completed your assignment...

Your lovely wife and daughter
With hearts overflowing with love
For you and you alone
Where do you expect them to pour all this love...?

How do we say you have run the good race?
You have not yet completed the race.

The very many Rotaractors and Rotarians...

You not only showed them the way,
You held their hands and walked the path with them.
Their hearts are bleeding
You let go of their hands before the end of the journey.

Aggrey, you were larger than life
You were the life of the party
How dare you just slip away like that?
You really pulled a fast one on us.

We can still picture your mischievous smile
That reveals your toothy gap
That we have come to know so well
A joke here... and people burst
into prolonged laughter
A source of comfort there...



you are the first point of call for many
A pillar of strength.... the bedrock
of RC Kampala South

Your outpouring of generosity
No less than a Major Donor
You rallied Rotarians for a good cause
True service above self.
School children blessed you in
song and dance.

We knew you were able
We voted for you`
District Governor Nominee Designate
We voted overwhelmingly for you.
How dare you, Aggrey...

Dear Lord
Heaven surely must be crowded
With all these earthly angels

But then again
We know that in your Father's house
There are many rooms
And our dear Aggrey
Has answered the bugle call.
He has taken up residency
In your glorious majesty

Aggrey
You have finished the race
Your footprints are visible
You have kept the faith

Now there is in store for you
The crown of righteousness
Which the Righteous Judge
Will award you on that day

Go well, Aggrey, Go well.

Rtn Jane Okot Bitek Langoya
RC Kampala South



“ In loving memory of beloved friend and Rotarian Aggrey Kankunda. ” You will be missed dearly.



RTN. RONALD KAWADDWA SSENTONGO

Leadership amidst turbulent times: Rotary Membership Growth and Extension remained a priority in District 9211!

During business as usual, Rotary clubs that get ahead are of a certain type. They say the right things, don't ruffle feathers, know how to navigate the system, and manage messages so that their membership hears what they want to hear. Many of these outstanding Rotary clubs, that typically are tapped to lead special initiatives, are ill-suited to lead in a landscape crisis of uncertainty.

It has also been widely observed that Rotary leaders with the right temperament and character are necessary during times of uncertainty. In wartime, you want a Winston Churchill, not a Neville Chamberlain.

Unprecedented crises demand unprecedented actions and leadership. Lessons from past crises suggest that leaders are more likely to underreact. However, it is necessary to take bold and rapid actions that would feel too risky in normal times.

His Excellency Barack Obama the 44th President of the United States of America once said, "Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other times, we are the ones we have been waiting for -We are the change we seek." Therefore, leadership amid uncertainty is not easy. Business leaders cannot afford to wait when events are moving as fast as they are right now. With the right approach, turbulent times can become an opportunity to move forward and create even more value and positive societal and business impact.

In the Rotary year 2020/21 we set out to achieve the following:

- Grow our membership by a net of 600 new members - we were at 528 by 4th June 2021.
- Charter 10 new Rotary Clubs and 10 Rotaract club - we are geared to close the year with 15 new Rotary Clubs and 15 Rotaract Clubs.
- Engage in two new corporate partnerships - we had one with Toastmasters International.
- Institute a policy to guide the establishment of new clubs with clear guidelines and a path from formation to charter- This was also done!

As your District Membership Growth, Extension and Engagement team we observed the need to:

Create Nerve Centres: These are a conglomerate of approaches that help organisations to harness available resources and intelligence to best prepare for and track the developments of unprecedented events and their impact on their business and market, rather than reacting to them on-the-fly, possibly even succumbing to them.

Organise to respond to crises (the network of teams): Leaders can mobilise their organisations by setting clear priorities for the response and empowering others to discover and implement solutions that serve those priorities.

Demonstrate empathy: Deal with the human tragedy as a priority: It is vital that leaders not only demonstrate empathy but open themselves to empathy from others and remain attentive to their well-being. As stress, fatigue, and uncertainty build up during a crisis, leaders might find that their abilities to process information,

to remain levelheaded, and to exercise good judgment diminish.

Communicate effectively: Maintain transparency and frequent updates: As Amy Edmondson recently wrote, "Transparency is 'job one' for leaders in a crisis. Be clear about what you know, what you don't know, and what you are doing to learn more. Communications shouldn't stop once the crisis has passed. Offering an optimistic, realistic outlook can have a powerful effect on employees and other stakeholders, inspiring them to support the company's recovery.

Elevate leaders during a crisis: The value of 'deliberate calm' and 'bounded optimism': Just as an organisation's senior executives must be prepared to temporarily shift some responsibilities from their command-and-control hierarchy to a network of teams, they must also empower others to direct many aspects of the organisation's crisis response. Grant them the authority to make and implement decisions without having to gain approval, and quickly establish an architecture for decision making, so that accountability is clear and decisions are made by appropriate people at different levels.

Crisis-response leaders must be able to unify teams behind a single purpose and frame questions for them to investigate. The best will display several qualities. One

Unprecedented crises demand unprecedented actions and leadership. Lessons from past crises suggest that leaders are more likely to underreact. However, it is necessary to take bold and rapid actions that would feel too risky in normal times.

is "deliberate calm," the ability to detach from a fraught situation and think clearly about how one will navigate it. Deliberate calm is most often found in well-grounded individuals who possess humility but not helplessness.

As we sign out, I thank you District Governor Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga for the opportunity and for finding me worthy to lead the District's Membership agenda this Rotary year. This has been a rewarding experience in my Rotary journey, and I will forever be indebted to you for this engagement.

Thank you to our Regional Membership Team: PAG Vikash Shah (Eclub of Masaki), PAG Sam Nsiyona (Bweyogerere-Namboole), PAG Dennis Mugarra (Kabarole), PAG Apollo Ampumwize (RC Mbarara), PAG Francis Waneroba Songoni (Mbale), PP Florence Kanyike (Kasangati), AGE Peter Mukuru (Kampala South), CP Hamza Musah Sekamatte (Kampala Palms), PP Dorothy Nantenza (Rotaract Club of Mbale). I will always remain highly indebted to you.

"As we look ahead into the next century, leaders will be those who empower others." — Bill Gates

Rtn. Ronald Kawaddwa Ssentongo

RC Kasangati
District Membership Growth,
Extension and Engagement Chair

Note: A longer version of this article will be published in the first issue of the D9213 magazine



RTN. PHYLLIS KOBUKINDO KWESIGA

Serving as Rotary Uganda’s Country Chair: An experience I will live to remember

My mantra for this journey was “The Man (*Woman) in the Arena.” It is not the critic who counts; not the man (*woman) who points out how the strong man (*woman) stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man (*woman) who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself (*herself) in a worthy cause; who at the best knows, in the end, the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he (*she) fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his (*her) place shall never be with those with cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat. (Theodore Roosevelt)

This journey started about two years ago, with preparations at the Planning, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation (PIME) level. Years ago, I decided to look at Rotary as part and parcel of my life, so I did what I do best; planned and merged it to intertwine with the rest of what completes me and thus enjoy the journey. When I was appointed as Country Chair, I purposed to use this platform to build my social capital around Uganda, get to know as many people young and old and as diverse as can be, know and appreciate my country better and grow in my Rotary knowledge.

A brief technical synopsis of this year’s journey in Rotary can be summarised as:

General all round coordination of Rotary activities in Uganda:

- Worked with the appointed Boards and officers to coordinate activities of all Rotary Programs in Uganda.

- Participated in several District and Country meetings.
- Published and monitored the implementation of country goals in consonance with the District Strategic Plan.
- Coordinated with other District Officers in ensuring full participation by clubs in all Rotary activities at all levels in the Country.
- Promoted publication of District and Country achievements in all appropriate Rotary and non-Rotary media in the District.
- Coordinated with the Country Trainer all mandatory training programs for the Country, inclusive of the District Training seminar for all D9211 officials.
- Organised and ensured full participation of appointed officers in country retreats.
- Reported to the District Governor regularly on the status of Rotary activities in the country.

Specific coordination of Rotary activities in Uganda

- Supervised, mentored, monitored and evaluated the activities and performance of country officers through the EXCOM committee (inclusive of the Presidents’ Representatives and the Dean of Assistant Governors (AGs) and all country docket heads).
- Convened with the respective leaders and participated in Country Committee meetings composed of all Assistant Governors, and Club Presidents respectively.
- Worked with the appointed Boards and officers to coordinate activities of Rotary Uganda Limited and Uganda Rotary Home.
- Worked with the Redistricting District Team and members to plan for the new structure of

Uganda Rotary office after redistricting.

- Working closely with the District Executive Secretary (DES), coordinated the preparation of work plans and budgets by District and Country Officers in Uganda,
- In consultation with the AGs, planned and coordinated the DG’s official visit to clubs. I highlight this as an area of great success for the Rotary Uganda team, as we started these visits during the COVID-19 pandemic and extreme standard operating procedures. Nonetheless, the DG physically visited all clubs in Uganda, with me joining her in over 75% of the visits. This was quite an interesting journey marked by tons of Dawa tea, “eucalyptus steaming” and showers of sanitiser and vitamins. Most importantly when God is on your side, neither pandemic nor man can stop His plans, so God’s mercies and health were our portion.

Finance and Budget control of the Rotary Uganda Country office: Developed and published a budget with the Country Fund Coordinator, and run it at all levels crosscutting Rotary Programs in Uganda, as well as the financial controls of the physical Rotary Uganda office (rent, salaries and all office expenses). As per the mandate, I also supported the DG in any other duties delegated.

This journey from the heart

I began this journey alert and expecting it to be demanding, albeit the groundwork laid down right down to where my younger daughter would be, and how my house and office would run when I was traversing here and there. Life however is a pendulum that was swung even further by the onset of COVID-19 and the various working constraints we had to adopt, so it all went topsy-turvy. Going back to the start of this story, it all boils down to what one’s purpose is I suppose. On my part, I believe my purpose in life rotates around serving, growing and raising others, so I clung to the wheel and endeavoured to steer the ship at all costs.

I have learnt to plan, plan again, and plan some

more; and somewhat (not successfully always) balance all spheres of my life from Rotary, career, motherhood, family and other relations etcetera. I have grown and been stretched to extents I had never thought of, some days quite joyfully and exuberantly and adopting my warrior stance, other days quite reflective on what I had to give up on occasions such as family and relationship time and wondering if it would all be worth it in the end?

I experienced Rotary as never before in the numerous projects I visited across Uganda and realised that I still had a lot of Rotary to learn on an individual basis. I also learnt from DG Rosetti, about balancing empathy (patience not normally being my strong virtue), country goals and working with each person and club as they come. And yes every person I met this year has added to a chip of the wholesome success of the Rotary Uganda 2020/21 chapter, as it was all inherently teamwork.

My uttermost blessings and thanks go to my inner support family system, and the great Rotary family, right from the Rotary office team, to the Rotary and Rotaract platforms (I have made more Rotaract friends this year than I did over the last decade and the Soroti Rotaract Earth Initiative was the icing to this cake). My phone and emails and a greater part of my life were no longer fully my own, but it is and was an experience I will live to remember. I am most eternally grateful for all the friends I have made this year all over Uganda, and this life-changing way that Rotary opened Opportunities. Would I do this again? That is a topic for another day, in another District, God willing at a much higher Rotary service position.

Dear God; May every aspect of my being be converted to the truth. May every cell fall into place and serve a higher plan. I no longer wish to be who I was. I wish to be more. Amen. (Marianne Williamson from Illuminated Prayers)

I remain yours in Rotary service,

Rtn. Phyllis Kobukindo Kwesiga
Country Chair (Uganda) - 2021/22



RTN. PETER KAGWA

PoP Peter: We are fortunate to have served as Opportunity Presidents

As we wind down this unique Rotary year of service, on behalf of the Opportunity Presidents’ Forum, I would like to thank the entire Rotary fraternity in District 9211 for giving us the honour and privilege of serving in our various clubs this year. We have been honoured to serve under the exemplary leadership and guidance of the first female Ugandan District Governor Rosetti Nayenga Nabbumba in the 64 years of Rotary’s existence in Uganda.

I also thank my fellow Presidents for selecting me as President of Presidents (PoP) and our executive to lead the Presidents’ Forum for the year 2020/21.

About the Presidents Forum

The Presidents Forum is a platform for serving Club Presidents to communicate, connect, learn, partner on projects, share challenges/experiences and support

Position	Name and Club
President of Presidents (PoP)	Peter Kagwa – RC Kampala Munyonyo
Vice PoP	Joan E. Kantu – RC Entebbe
Treasurer	Charles Muweesi – RC Nsangi
Secretary	Alice Mukasa – RC
Mobilisation	Susan Samula – RC Namasuba
Executive Members	Mercy Kainobwiso – RC Bukoto
	Bob Williams Otto – RC Njeru
Regional Representatives	Richard Katatumba – RC Rwampara
	Oscar Rwigyema – RC Mbale
	Jalia Kayondo – RC Mityana
	Daniel Omara – RC Lira

each other in good and difficult times all through the year of leadership in service. The forum facilitates a fast and effective way to share information on grants, trainings, events, engagements etc to the clubs across the District and vice versa. Monthly meetings are held and the PoP represents the Presidents on the Country EXCOM team. We thank the District leadership for giving us this platform to express ourselves and also thank IPoP Godfrey Kayitarama (Rtn. Kai) for guiding us on how to get the best out of the Presidents Forum.

Our year kicked off with a fun President Elects retreat in February 2020 when we for the first time got a chance to meet face-to-face in Entebbe. Little did we know that the retreat would potentially be the last time that the OPs would be meeting as one team with our leaders all through the year 2020/21. Shortly after that meet, the world was hit by COVID-19 which meant that we still had to carry on our plans for the Opportunity year although in a new style. For the first time, our executive was elected online as listed below.

Some highlights of the 2020/21 year of service

• COVID-19 pandemic

Apart from what we all know about COVID-19, the pandemic came with major challenges, making it hard for us to meet, reach and serve our communities, to ignite connections in the way we were all used to. At the start of the pandemic, many of our clubs went into freeze mode. The Opportunity Presidents and their club members were seriously hit, with the pandemic affecting their businesses, careers, revenues and livelihoods in general. This not only affected our membership engagement and retention, collection of dues and our giving to the Foundation, but it affected our impact and reach in our service



to our communities. COVID-19 claimed the lives of our beloved Rotarians from our District and beyond but it also claimed two of our very own OP Abel Jeru Mbiliyini and OP George Mubezi Lwakatare both from the Rotary Club of Dar-es-Salaam Mbezi Beach in Tanzania. May the souls of the departed continue to rest in peace.

• FAN Campaign

We are proud to have championed the DG’s Fitness and Nutrition (FAN) campaign within the clubs across the District. It’s my hope and prayer that moving forward, Rotarians their friends and families adopt lifestyle changes with fitness, exercise and good nutrition as a necessity and not an option.

• Membership Growth

Despite the challenging times, our Presidents through their clubs contributed to the membership growth of over 400 new Rotarians in our District; 11 Rotaract clubs, and 12 Rotary clubs.

We recorded an increase in diversity of our new membership and I cannot fail to mention the charter of the new kid on the block, the mighty Rotary Club of Sonde chartered with approximately 135 new Rotarians during the 96th DCA in Munyonyo.

• Adaptability

Opportunity Presidents have been at the forefront of promoting adaptability and the unavoidable opportunity of embracing technology as the new dynamic medium of reaching/ connecting with our Rotarians and partners within the clubs, in the District and certainly throughout the world through virtual streaming/meeting platforms. As part of our growth,

we recorded an increase of E-Clubs chartered and in-formation. We are the pioneers of virtual/ hybrid installation ceremonies and have also accelerated the use of e-tools to promote our club meetings, events and visibility in general. This, fortunately, has enabled our clubs to invite amazing guest speakers from all walks of life far and wide, making our meetings and fellowships meaningful and worthwhile attending.

On a personal note, I fell sick three months into my year of service. I am still amazed at the overwhelming logistical, emotional and financial support that I received from my club – RC Kampala Munyonyo and the entire Rotary fraternity in Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya. In a special way, I thank our DG Rosetti for engaging D9212 DG Patrick Obath and DGE Alex Nyaga who mobilised a blood donation drive for me in Kenya especially since the borders were closed and I could not get blood from my friends and family in Uganda. I can only repay Rotary with more commitment and continued service in what we all believe in.

As we wind down and take stock of our club achievements, we continue to count our blessings and thank the Almighty for guiding us through the year. We have been fortunate and privileged to have served as the last Presidents of District 9211. I wish the incoming Presidents of D9213 and D9214 an exciting and fruitful year of growth, leadership and exemplary service to our communities. We pledge to support you in every way possible as we serve to change lives.

Rtn. Peter Kagwa

President – RC Kampala Munyonyo

Africa Peace Concert raises US\$112,029

A total of US\$112,029 was collected from the Africa Peace Concert which fed into the Carnival Nite during the D9211 96th District Conference and Assembly (DCA) held at Speke Resort Munyonyo in April. Up to 603 viewers were given the concert link, although 245 viewers logged in online; 200 people were in physical attendance, and another 400 viewed in the different rooms at the hotel to meet the Ministry of Health's Standard Operating Procedures. The three-hour-long concert drew performance from three entertainment groups: Munnye Children Choir, Indian Association of Uganda, and Ndere Troupe.

The US\$112,029 collected is summarised as: Pay Bill Collection - US\$27,271; Uganda Rotary Office - 1,670; and Direct TRF Contribution - US\$83,088. Special appreciation to the sponsors that included: Indian Association of Uganda - US\$2,500; Mr. Korteche of Mindland Group of Companies - US\$2,500; and FCBRCREAD Company owned by Rtn. Vino B. Sookloll who contributed in-kind all the publicity tools and materials, also translated into French for Region 26 Public Image coordination Facebook platform. In virtual attendance was Rotary

International President Nominee Jennifer Jones. She noted that "....as we reflect upon our new strategic priorities, we could have never envisioned that our ability to adapt as we have, would become our lone star during which is an inarguably the most profound time in recent history. Just look at how we have responded to COVID-19.

I like to say - when the world stepped down, we stepped up. We did not need to tell our members to be People of Action, you showed us who you already were. We moved more than US\$35m from the Rotary Foundation for front line supporters' PPE, ventilators, food items and much more. Just imagine the tens of millions more raised from our communities that have provided lifesaving support across the globe.

Our polio infrastructure has helped combat COVID-19 in many parts of the world. When immunisations had to take a brief hiatus, Polio workers were able to pivot into becoming COVID-19 workers and continue the critical contact tracing and surveillance. Today, we stand on the brick of history - both in the eradication of polio and the fight against COVID-19. We have had the audacity to believe that we can eradicate polio, and we will," she added.





RTN. JANE KABUGO

A big thank you from the DCA team

Three years ago when the first female in this country was nominated to the highest office of our District, all of us were overjoyed. Finally, after over 60 years of Rotary in Uganda, we would have a lady at the helm of our great District. As it turned out, she was to be the last District Governor of District 9211 and appropriately give birth to 2 strong Districts (District 9213 and D9214) and assume the title of *“Nalongo”*. I say appropriately because the last time our District split, it was a lady, the first female District Governor of the then-District 9200 who assumed the title.

When District Governor Nominee Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga approached me and requested me to serve as her District Conference and Assembly (DCA) Chair, I was both excited and scared at the same time, I had never seen that role given to a female Rotarian in our country. The only female I knew who had successfully chaired a DCA was Governor Sharmila Bhatt but I wasn't in her league so the fear continued to grow! On the outside, I was exuding confidence and made sure that Governor Rosetti had no clue about my fear.

The Rotary Club of Sunrise-Kampala, to which I belong, is very supportive. My Club always supports me in every role I am given beyond the Club, so naturally, I sought their support and even proposed that we take on the daunting task of hosting the DG's Welcome Cocktail. With the assurances, I received from the Board and all my Club members, the fear quickly disappeared. I now had a rock that I could lean on.

Organising the 96th DCA was both challenging and rewarding. It was challenging because we were and still are in the middle of a pandemic and apart from its impact on our pockets, the possibility of cancellation

was always looming, not to mention some of our committee members falling sick to losing a valued member to COVID-19 – PAG Robinah Lutaaya Lubwama continue to rest with the angels. It was rewarding to observe how resilient Rotarians are, zoom meetings continued whenever we could not meet physically, the sick would get well and work would continue. From the beginning, our focus was on the theme nights, DG Rosetti had tasked us to deliver a DCA that is Majestic, Glamorous, Empowering and Celebrating Women, these became our mantra and all the theme nights were looking for ways to ensure the night reflected all the above

After the initial COVID-19 wave early this year, the possibility of cancellation became even more apparent and we had to put our heads together to come up with a way we could be able to deliver a physical DCA amidst the pandemic without endangering people's lives and the idea of bubbles was born, special thanks to Past President Patrobas Wafula our DCA Secretary who worked with me to bring the bubbles to life. The bubbles added to the complexity of the DCA which was already combined with the East African Projects Fair. We were also hosting the world to a Peace Concert to raise funds for the first Rotary Peace Centre on the African Continent.

Fast forward, although we started with four bubbles, we eventually settled for three when the cost of having four venues went through the roof. Eventually, we managed to get over 800 physical and about 100 virtual attendees. The bubbles were colour-coded blue, orange and green and they would experience a different venue each day and night. Our Rotary International President's Personal Representative (RIPPR) Immediate Past RI Vice-President Olayinka



Babalola was physically present, RI President-Elect Shekhar Mehta and RI President Nominee Jennifer Jones both attended virtually.

The first night, we were hosted to the DG's Welcome Cocktail (The Vegas Night) by the Rotary Clubs of Kampala Muyenga Breeze and Sunrise-Kampala, first day and the second night was the Rotary Roses day and night, it was all glamour, flair and celebrating women on this night after hosting female leaders to a leadership symposium. The second day, we had our young people – the Rotaractors hosting us to a very glamorous and empowering District Rotaract Representative's (DRR's) Luncheon with the guest of honour as the Ambassador of USA to Uganda – Natalie E. Brown. The third night was the Peace/Carnival night host by RC Mukono with the Peace Concert Committee lead by PDG Emmanuel Katongole. The fun-filled peace concert attracted over 700 virtual and physical attendees above all raised a lot of funds for the Makerere University Rotary Peace Centre. Last but not least we had the DG's Banquet hosted by RC Muyenga Tankhill, with a theme of Gifted by Nature. You would be excused if you imagined that we were somewhere in the Caribbean instead of Speke Resort Munyonyo – it was Majestic, Glamorous, Empowering and Celebrated women, what a night it was!

I thank DG Rosetti for entrusting me with such a big role and for all the support I received from you, DCA advisors PDGs Emmanuel Katongole and Ken Mugisha, thank you for the support. RC Kampala Muyenga Breeze and RC Sunrise-Kampala for delivering Vegas to Munyonyo, the Rotary Roses led by PAG Flavia Serugo, RC Mukono and the Peace Committee, our young leaders, the Rotaractors lead by Frederick Bakandonda and RC Muyenga Tankhill for all the work that went into delivering the theme days and nights.

The organising committee of the 96th DCA, words are not enough to convey my appreciation, what an amazing team of Rotarians and Rotaractors working side by side and rising to the occasion, you did an amazing job. Special mention of the DCA Secretariat that also included the event management lead PP Aggrey Kagonyera, thank you from the bottom of my heart! To our sponsors, we are indebted to you, especially our Platinum and Gold Sponsors, Centenary Bank and Vero Food Industries Ltd, you helped us safely deliver a physical DCA. To all the Rotarians and Rotaractors who participated and/or supported the DCA financially or in kind, THANK YOU!

Rtn. Jane Kabugo
RC Sunrise-Kampala
Chair 96th DCA



RTN. FLAVIA SERUGO

How the Rotary Roses blossomed at the 96th DCA

District 9211’s 96th District Conference and Assembly (DCA) will always be remembered as a unique conference in many ways. The fact that we are still in the COVID-19 pandemic, most of us were skeptical whether it would happen, but thanks to the organising team for a magical and excellent execution that attracted more than 800 delegates.

The previous Rotary year, we had a scientific DCA which was historic given that it was the first virtual DCA held in the middle of a lockdown with very strict regulations. We may have missed out on the fun and in-person social interactions of the DCA, but come April this year, Rotarians and Rotaractors were looking forward to “escape” the lockdown, now that the regulations were eased to accommodate more numbers for events, in addition to having the hours of curfew extended to begin at 9:00 pm.

The trick of splitting the 800 participants into three bubbles was brilliant, meaning that each bubble could accommodate at most 300 people. The bubbles were interlinked through live streaming from the main bubble in Victoria Hall. The safety of the delegates was a top priority. COVID-19 rapid testing was also done on arrival before one proceeded to register. The sitting arrangement also ensured the safety of all delegates such that by the end of the four days no incidences of COVID-19 infections were reported. Each bubble had a chance to attend in the main live bubble. All in all, it was a well thought out and innovatively organised event.

The Rotary Roses, a program for District 9211 that was initiated by District Governor Rosetti to engage, elevate and empower women in Rotary service was proud to be part of the organisers and architects of the Rotary Roses DCA day and theme night activities

on April 22nd 2021. This was a special occasion to recognise efforts by females in Rotary in District 9211 and especially those who had taken on leadership positions in the Rotary year 2020/21. There were other notable moments worth celebrating which included:

- The end of an era and birth of two news districts – 9213 and 9214.
- Handover of two districts mothered by the last governor for D9211, as well as the First and last Female Governor from Uganda for D9211.
- A unique gala in honour of women where they were allocated a day and night celebration.
- Achievements of the Rotary Roses Program goals regards female membership, service projects, leadership and mentorship of the youth. Organisers of the Rotary Roses day were drawn from different clubs. Unlike other theme nights hosted by individual clubs, the Rotary Roses night relied on support from its membership and sponsors to pull off such a glamorous event. Particularly outstanding at the DCA was the break out session and the symposium which attracted over 330 participants.

The day began with a powerful presentation on Social Entrepreneurship in Turbulent times by Miranda Naiman from Tanzania; we then had a break out



session on Women Leadership and Power with a panel representing the Roses categories that included:- Yellow Rose Keynote Speaker Taaka Awori, a Leadership Consultant from Ghana; Cream Rose Past District Governor D9211 Sharmilah Bhatt from Tanzania; Orange Rose Past President Inner wheel Club of Mengo- Alice Ddamulira; Pink Rose Chair for Rotaract Ladies Initiative (ROLI), Blessing Owomugisha; Yellow Rose-Executive Director of Federation for Uganda Employers Rosemary Senabulya; Blue Rose Dr. Jeff Sebuyira Mukasa a Capacity Building Expert as well as Rotarian from Kampala North; and Yellow Rose Moderator Josephine Zhane a Communications Specialist working with United Nations.

The afternoon even got better with Dr. Patricia Murungami a global motivational speaker who gave a heart-to-heart talk on Dare to Rise above all odds. Never have I witnessed such a moment in Rotary where we all dropped status aside and connected in a special way by sharing personal experiences as sisters and a few brothers. It was a moment of realisation that we all face similar problems, that we are not in the situation alone, that it’s okay to shed a tear but don’t stay at the scene of the accident by crying forever, that we can pull through these situations together. It was also refreshing to learn that we can speak to the mountains in our lives, the power lies entirely with us! So profound was the symposium that moved many to tears that we even lost track of the time. We ended past 6:00pm but

satisfied with what we had received. It was all worth it.

The evening celebration mostly recognised leaders who were paraded in a fashion show and the clubs that had achieved goals of the Rotary Roses Program. Among the winners was the newly chartered Rotary Club of Sonde which grew female membership from 8 to 54; RC Kampala East for implementing an impactful youth mentorship program; RC Kampala Ssesse Islands for their Ssesse Galz projects, RC Dar-es-Salaam Oysterbay for attendance, ROLI for implementation of the program goals, and RC Nkumba’s non-Rotarian supporting women economic emancipation programs in Iganga District.

As we come to the end of an era, I could only relate to Maya Angelo’s quote, “People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel”. The Rotary Roses will always be remembered for the way they made people feel special, connected and valued. It elevated us as women who are passionate about uplifting and empowering each other to create change within ourselves and in the communities we serve. Indeed, as our tagline, we are Roses and we blossom together. Special thanks to all who have supported us this far. Looking forward to the new dawn as change-makers.

Rtn. Flavia Serugo
Chair Rotary Roses Program
RC Kampala-Naalya



RTR. ANNA CAREEN SCHMID

The D9211 conference: A mixture of joy, friendship and lots of dancing

It is said that Rotary means having an extended family across the world you just have never met. That came true when we arrived in Entebbe after a long flight from Austria. From the moment we laid our first step on the ground in Uganda, the pearl of Africa, we never felt alone. We were cordially welcomed by everyone which was overwhelming. After half a year of lockdown in Austria, being able to talk to so many people again and being able to go to a restaurant was amazing.

We came to Uganda with a purpose: We wanted to start a project about menstrual health, hygiene and education with Rotaractors and Interactors in Uganda. We can proudly say we did not only find great partners in our Global Grant project on menstrual health and education. We did also find many new friends and even more family.

Back in Austria, we had entirely virtual training for our assistant governors. Our PDG Arno Kronhofer asked us: Have you ever thought about quitting Rotary? What keeps you going? Why are you still in Rotary?

We had started organising the European Rotaract Conference back in December 2019, before COVID-19 became a serious health issue in the entire world. Organising a conference like this during a pandemic can be quite frustrating. We kept going because we believed in the power of Rotaract, we wanted to bring our extended family back together to exchange ideas, motivate each other and change the world together.

Days before we attended the D9211 96th District Conference and Assembly we had just cancelled this event. Due to the COVID-19 regulations in Austria, hosting this conference was not possible then. When we later announced that the International Vienna Weekend (IVW) would happen in August 2021 we asked ourselves the same questions PDG Arno had earlier asked us weeks earlier.

Attending the District Conference in Munyonyo was one of the highlights of our trip. Organising this event according to the COVID-19 regulations was simply impressive. We learnt a lot about the amazing projects at the East African Project Fair and were reminded of the impact, we as a Rotary family can have together. We saw how you celebrated women in your district which inspired us to start an initiative called Women in Rotaract. We saw how naturally Rotaractors and Rotarians work together on an eye-to-eye level. We again experienced true friendship within Rotary with people we just meet. The motivation from everyone at this conference was electrifying and inspiring.

It was the first time both of us joined a conference in Africa. We do not know if every conference is filled with so much joy, friendship and dance but we enjoyed it and danced a lot.

We thank everyone who made this week possible, and especially the District Rotaract Representative (DRR) Dr. Edmund Issae, DRRE Allan Lukoda, Derrick Kabuye, Josiah Obunde and Rachel Kiwumulo for helping and taking care of us during our stay. We are very happy to welcome the five of them as honorary guests at the International Vienna Weekend from 5th to 8th August 2021, with tickets and accommodation paid for you by our district.

We also welcome all of you to our event in Vienna. Do not worry if you cannot attend, we already booked our tickets for D9213 DISCON in Naivasha, and will also plan for the D9214 event.

About the project: 4/4 Tumaini - Education and Menstruation is no privilege

The project, which started in Rotaract District 1910 (Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina) focuses on menstrual health and its direct impact on girls' education. As many



girls still find difficulty in attending classes during their periods "4/4 Tumaini - Education and menstruation is no privilege" wants to make sure that no girl misses class.

Interactors and Rotaractors will be trained about menstruation and menstrual hygiene. With this knowledge, they can talk to their fellow students, as it is more comfortable for young girls and boys to talk about this private topic with someone their age. They are also learning how to sew reusable sanitary pads and about the menstrual cup. We partnered with a company started by a fellow Rotarian and former Rotaractor from Harvard University which is producing the menstrual cups and they will be donated to schools we are working with. Menstrual cups can be used for up to 20 years, giving girls a sustainable method to deal with their menstrual management. This project is a joint partnership between Rotaract D9211 and Rotaract D1910.

The International Vienna Weekend

Hosted for the first time in 1982, Vienna International Weekend has a long-standing tradition in Rotaract District 1910. The program includes a traditional Viennese dancing lesson at the famous dancing school Elmayer, free city tours, wine tasting and even more exciting activities. There will be several networking and breakout sessions with different eminent keynote

speakers. The Gala Evening at Hilton Vienna Park Hotel marks the highlight of the entire weekend. All events will take place in historic locations in Vienna.

Rotaract District 1910 is looking forward to welcoming you in Vienna. **More on <https://www.internationalviennaweekend.com> or contact us info@internationalviennaweekend.com**

Rtr. Jacob Polzer - DRR District 1910
Rtr. Anna Careen Schmid - DRRN District 1910





RTN. DIANA ELINAM

Victorious Oyster Bay

At a time when many Rotarians were afraid to travel owing to COVID-19 restrictions, the Joysterbarians attended the 96th DCA at Speke Resort Munyonyo, Kampala in large numbers, one would think they had a premonition that they would be the year’s victors, walking away with five awards.

“This year’s DCA was special in several ways. I was serving as the Opportunity President for the Rotary Club of Dar-es-Salaam Oyster Bay, and it was the last DCA before our District 9211 is split into - D9213 and D9214. To crown it off, our club won the Rotary Club of the Year Award. The DCA had many inspirational speakers that motivated and inspired me as a Rotarian and an individual,” said Rotarian Maryanne Mugo.

The Joysterbarians were hosted by one of the greatest Rotarians in our district - Tusu and his wife Dorcas. What an honour! “We were also joined by Past District Governors Stephen Mwanje and Francis Xavier Sentamu, as well as DG Elect John Ndamira Magezi. The wisdom shared by these Senior Rotarians will help us grow as Rotarians and a District,” she added.

The pandemic has not been a hindrance to President Maryanne’s success, and as she passes the baton to President-Elect Aisha Sykes, she is looking forward to serving as an Assistant Governor, member of the District Membership Committee, promoter of Rotary Roses and 2021 Zone Institute in Tanzania. On a personal level, Maryanne she has made friends all over the Rotary world that she will cherish forever. The club’s success is attributed to the determination and teamwork from the Board and club members.

Excerpts from some Board members

Rtn. Jubril Adeniji - Project/Community and Service Director: Projects are approved at the beginning of the Rotary year through the committees, Club Assembly

and Board. The projects focus on serving communities within our coverage area after a detailed community needs assessment is conducted. We also have some flagship projects like the Tertiary Scholarship and Medical Camp with established guidelines to ensure the selection and implementation processes are impactful. This Rotary year, the club focused on addressing the needs of the Ukonga community and entrenching Rotary in the area, its environs and Tanzania as a whole.

Rtn. Marloes Hamelink – Youth Director: The award is a result of our flagship project - The Scholarship Program, and the projects implemented by the three Rotaract clubs they sponsor. The Program is aimed at creating post-secondary education opportunities for young Tanzanians from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Despite the current challenges, the club supported 26 students this academic year.

Rtn. Janet Lekashingo – Membership Director: The club boasts of a rapid membership growth owing to its avid engagement strategy and having interesting, interactive and easy to join meetings. “The pandemic was a challenge, but we encouraged members to join the meetings online since we often had hybrid sessions. The buddy groups were linked to committees to enhance engagement and allow Buddy Group leaders to follow up their members’ attendance. Past presidents also encouraged engagement by their active participation.”

Rtn. Tom Scherer - Director of Strategy: Before the Rotary year began, we held a Strategy Meeting and each Committee Director shared their goals for the year and how they intended to achieve them. The strategy was shared with club members to obtain buy-in and support for the Board’s Vision. Each committee shared its roles with the members to ensure they are actively engaged. Board meetings were held every two months where each director shared their achievements and



progress, and any requests for support from the other committees.

Feedback from new members

Rtn. Enid Mneney: I joined the club in October 2020 and I feel more fulfilled as a youth, mainly through the opportunities for humanitarian service, friendship, and fun from the various engagements. I also look up to some of the members as leadership mentors. I am glad I joined RC Oysterbay while still young as this will enable me to mould my future early. I seek to engage in more sustainable interventions for the disadvantaged and marginalised in our society.

Rtn. Asa Mwaipopo: The 96th DCA was the first Rotary event I attended and it created a good impression of Rotary as People of Action. The warm welcome from Rotarians in Uganda was an eye-opener for me, as to what Rotary is about - the Peoples club. The DCA program was a good mix with activities ranging from motivational talks to Rotary business blended with colourful social evenings. This made the days enjoyable and memorable. I am filled with pride after my club won several awards which was a good recognition of the efforts and work done by the team. I look forward to participating in more Rotary events.

In conclusion, PE Aisha Sykes noted that the club will focus on building stronger friendships within and beyond the Club; deeper engagement of members;



impactful service projects (including global grants); and working more with young people. “We look forward to sharing what we know, have done and learnt with any club that seeks to grow to strengthen our District and work as Rotarians. We shall not rest on our laurels. The question - how can we do better and serve more is always on our minds. This means tweaking the work done in previous and using it to build for the years ahead,” she added.

Rtn. Diana Elinam
RC Mikocheni



RTN. MARYANNE MUGO

Musings of a winning president

FWinning the Rotary Club of the Year Award at the 96th DCA held at Speke Resort Munyonyo was a humbling honour for the Rotary Club of Dar-es-Salaam Oyster Bay (RCOB). We also won the Community Service Award, Youth Service Award, Membership Growth Award and DCA Attendance Award. This was by no means a simple task.

Being called on stage to receive these awards, one after another made me proud as the President of RCOB. The compliments from the Rotary leadership, fellow Opportunity Presidents and the DCA attendees was overwhelming, but it fired us up to even do more in the coming years as we continue to grow membership both in our club and district, as well as carry out impactful service projects and mentoring our youth. When the Rotary year 2020/21 started, the Board and I agreed that we had to be daring, dream big and develop an ambitious strategy in order to make our club more vibrant despite the COVID-19 challenges. We knew we were going to be called dreamers, but then what is life if not a dream. I thank the Board, Club Officers as well as all members for believing in my dream and making RCOB the best in D9211.

We have grown membership from 58 active and four honorary members as of 1st July 2020 to 84 active and eight honorary members. We have five new prospective members which will take us three members shy of our goal of 100. With support from club members, we have carried out six service projects and are in the final stages of applying for two global grants. Some of the projects implemented include: a malaria focused medical camp attended by over 2,500 children and adults; scholarship awards to 26 Tanzanian students worth US\$18,000; over US\$15,000 contribution to The Rotary Foundation; and charter of a new Rotary Club. We also involved the Rotaractors in all our service projects.

As a leader during this pandemic, I picked several lessons which enabled me to have a successful presidency. I had a strategy to guide the club towards achieving the year's goals, and this called for courage and the ability to take risks both in terms of physical service projects, member engagement and contributions. I built trust with both the Board and club members to help them believe in my ambitious dream of membership growth and implementing impactful service projects. The fact that I am passionate about Rotary helped me lead by example. Those who know me will tell you that Rotary flows in my veins, and I am very passionate about what Rotary stands for. I tried as much as possible to be an inspiration, especially to the young and new Rotarians to ensure that they had a role model to look up to in their Rotary journey.

I had to ensure that the club created value for members so that they could stay engaged and supportive of the activities as the reasons and expectations for which they joined Rotary were being met. Our Mentorship Program and New Member Orientation Process towards becoming a Rotarian have given us big wins in membership growth and retention.

As a Board, we ensured that there was lots of joy and fun as we served our communities to stay true to our being Joysterbarians as we are known in the District. Of course, I had a few challenges, but I always remembered that leadership is a journey, with no dosage or prescription. I learnt that leadership is a daily practice. It is a lifestyle. I had a great time and look forward to continuing serving the club and within the district. John Maxwell tells us " *If you think you are leading but no one is following, then you are only taking a walk*"

Rtn. Maryanne Mugo
President - RC Dar-es-Salaam Oyster Bay



MALARIA FREE UGANDA

Board of Directors



Juliet Kyokunda
(Secretary)
CEO Uganda Biodiversity Fund



Kenneth Mugisha
(Chair)
Rotarian Malaria Partners Uganda



Barbara Mulwana
(Vice Chair)
Chairperson, Uganda
Manufactures Association



Patrick Bitature
Chairman, Simba Group



Proscovia Nabbanja
CEO, Uganda National Oil Company



Harrison Mutikanga
CEO, Uganda Electricity
Generation Company Limited



Sylvia Arinaitwe
Dep. MD, National Water &
Sewerage Corporation



Fabian Kasi
CEO, Centenary Bank



Solomon Ossiya
Rotarian Malaria Partners Uganda
Director, Centre for African Policy



Bildard Buguma
MD, Joint Medical Stores



Lillian Ajarova
CEO, Uganda Tourism Board

Uganda has the
3rd highest global burden of
malaria cases and the 7th highest
level of deaths.

It also has the highest proportion of malaria
cases in East and Southern Africa.

Malaria Free Uganda is an independent, non-profit foundation
with the objective of achieving a malaria-free Uganda by 2030.

We the members of the Board call upon all the people in
Uganda to join this effort to make our
Country Malaria Free.

Get involved by helping us sensitise the communities
you live in.

Visit our website to donate to this effort
that will save so many lives in Uganda.

www.malariafreeug.com



Ssesse Galz: Celebrating sisterhood through action

Ssesse Galz is an entity of the Rotary Club of Kampala Ssesse Islands (RCKSI) formed in 2015 under the initiative of Past President Phyllis Kwesiga and a team of senior female club members. It has a current membership of 44 female members. Its initiatives are geared towards identifying new community projects of interest to the girl child, women and their families, identifying potential new female members, promoting Rotary activities within the communities and formation of Interact and Rotaract Clubs to strengthen the sustainability of the objectives of Rotary in the selected schools and catchment community.

During the 96th DCA last month, Ssesse Galz won the first Rotary Roses Service Award for projects they have undertaken in Water and Sanitation, Early Childhood Education, Menstrual and Reproductive Health in three communities; Bukatira, Kisowera and Kalangala. Through the RC of Kampala Ssesse Islands, Ssesse Galz is applying for Global Grants to take these projects further. Below is an interview with Country Chair (Uganda) Phyllis Kwesiga, the founder of Ssesse Galz.

Tell us about yourself

I am an Architect (M. Arch) and the Chief Executive Officer of K.K. Consulting Architects Ltd, one of Uganda’s few female Architectural Limited Companies. My passion is to use my skills to give new value to architectural planning and city development in low resource countries. I am also a long-serving Rotarian, in the Rotary Club of Kampala Ssesse Islands (RCKSI), who has served through the club ranks and at the country level. I am also a mentor to the youth and an author of a motivational book, “Heels in the Market

Place”. I am blessed with two daughters.

Why did you come up with the concept of Ssesse Galz?

It started with a discussion and assignment at my church, the Worship Harvest Ministries. As leaders, we were tasked to go out and start a community engagement programme to sustainably solve a local challenge.

How did its formation start?

I used the principle Moses was given in the Bible; “use what you have in your hand”; basically, work with those around you – a gathering and group that you already have access to. I zeroed in on an RCKSI subgroup that we already had as ladies in Ssesse and presented the case to them. The main objective was to find an activity we could do together, that would be unique to us as ladies and make an impact on the community and also bring us together to address our special issues as ladies. We coined our name from the vibrancy and life that we have and shall maintain, thus Ssesse Galz with a “Z”. Our mantra is “Celebrating Sisterhood through Action.”

What did you achieve as the first Chairperson?

There were several achievements, and I will highlight a few:

- Setting up a platform for beneficial and focused discourse and action
- Bonding meetings with guest speakers who addressed topics, which uplifted us as women, as well as bonding with each other.
- Launch of our project on reusable sanitary kits; and equipping young girls in our affiliated schools in Mukono with skills on how to sustainably make their own reusable menstrual hygiene kits.
- Launch of a drive to provide washrooms for the young girls in three community schools.



- Equipping the Ddagye Community School (preschool section) – with educational toys.
- Launch of the Objectives and Operational manuals for Ssesse Galz.
- A fundraising drive for our Ssesse Galz Andy who had to travel to India for an emergency operation; and caring for the family while the parents were away.

How do you raise funds and mobilise participation in projects?

The Galz voted in new strong leaders who took on the mantle and planned for the year accordingly. Funds were raised through individual contributions (for the initial projects listed). Additionally, we graciously had an offer for making the first 200 sets of menstrual kits from a relative of one of our members. We then participated in the actual training of the schoolgirls in Kisowera and Bukatira. We mobilise through our bonding meetings and on our WhatsApp platform.

Why has Ssesse Galz focused on water and sanitation and the girl child in particular?

As women, we looked at the major issues that stop young girls between the ages of 8-15 from attending school and those aspects stood out, especially in line with the stigma around menstruation and missing out on school for several days each month. We sought out to get solutions to these issues through the provision

of regular, clean and sufficient water and teaching girls about menstrual hygiene. We also provided menstrual hygiene kits and have as our next step to train girls and women in making their reusable sanitary pads.

Has Ssesse Galz met its objectives so far? How?

Yes, we have most definitely met our objectives. We have taken the initial dreams to a higher, bigger, better and bolder level inclusive of a proper and professional community needs assessment, better-planned community engagements and project write-ups seeking global grants from Rotary International. The bonding has continued and we endeavour to support each other as gals when we have our low and high moments.

Aren’t the men in the Club threatened by the Ssesse Galz and their achievements?

The men in RCKSI are all strong in their own right. Initially, they probably thought the Ssesse Galz concept was one of these usual women small schemes, but as they realised how far it was growing and that we were serious about it, they came on board and assisted us for instance with the community needs assessments, engagements and preparation of our global grant applications.

Ssesse Galz recently won the first Rotary Roses Award?

What does this mean to you as the group, and as a Club? It was an emotional and inspirational moment for us; Our Ssesse Galz baby had gained recognition! We gained

visibility among the Rotary Family and this will drive us to work harder, aim higher, and grow bigger and bolder, now more so that all our eyes are on us!

What challenges have you faced as Ssesse Galz, and how have you handled or countered them?

Our challenges have mainly been around keeping the proposed projects in perspective in three areas; financially, participation and relevance. We also have to be cautious about not “overthrowing and overshadowing” the main club projects. All this amidst the many and varied responsibilities we have in our other societal roles as galz.

What is your dream for Ssesse Galz? Where do you see it in the next two years?

I want to see Ssesse Galz take on a global grant and have a far-reaching community engagement affecting

thousands across the specific platform of sustainable solutions for the water and sanitation challenges faced by young girls in rural areas. I also want to grow the calibre and profile of Ssesse Galz in terms of etiquette, social norms and leadership capability.

What advice do you give to Clubs that would like to promote women participation?

Understand the woman for whom she is, and the various roles she has to play in society and then work with her at that level as a person. Once she believes and accepts the cause, be sure her commitment will know no bounds.

Rtn. Phyllis Kobukindo Kwesiga

RC Kampala Ssesse Islands



FURAHA DAWSON NYELLA

Why Furaha is yet to join Rotary

Furaha Nyella was born in a village called Mwika, along the slopes of Mt. Kilimanjaro. She has served as the Country Office Administrator for Rotary Tanzania for the past four years.

“I am not a Rotarian, but a friend of Rotary,” she quickly states. In Rotary’s five Avenues of Service, I am particularly drawn to Community Service which covers activities Rotarians undertake to improve the quality of life of people in their community. This object of Rotary takes on even greater meaning through the numerous activities done to assist the youth, aged, handicapped and others who look to Rotary as a source of hope for a better life.

Working in the Rotary office has given me great opportunities compared to other institutions I have worked with before. I desire to serve, work and interact with people of diverse nationalities and cultures, and through Rotary I was fortunate to travel in and out of Tanzania attending conferences and seminars, meeting and working closely with great people.

This experience has improved my working and decision making skills and teamwork. I have built a network with influential people. Working with people from different cultures has increased my ability to adapt to different situations and flexibility. My confidence has improved, and I now believe that anyone can achieve anything in life if he or she is willing and committed to it.

I have gained a lot of experience organising trainings such as the Presidents-Elect Training Seminars (PETS), Club Officers Training Seminar (COTS), Training of Trainers (TOT) and District Conferences and Assembly (DCA) every another year.

My greatest moments are during the district

conferences, which is open to all club members and their spouses. With its purpose of fellowship, good fun, inspirational speakers and discussion of matters which make one’s Rotary membership more meaningful, it’s always exciting to attend the district conferences. Here, being a Rotarian becomes even more rewarding because of the new experiences, insights and acquaintances developed at the conference. It’s no wonder that those who attend their first conference enjoy going back, year after year.

I have had the opportunity to be part of several committees, organising great projects led by Rotarians; some of them being the Rotary Dar Marathon that draws participants from around Tanzania and neighbouring countries. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed many things, and everyone is adapting to the new normal. With support from technology experts, my work became easier; coordinating virtual meetings and trainings has been a very cool experience.

It is always awesome working with Rotarians. They are supportive, loving and kind-hearted. With mentors like PDG Harish and Sharmila Bhatt at my disposal, I count myself the luckiest person.

Several times I have been asked why I have not joined a Rotary club. I know that joining Rotary is through invitation, and the procedures are very simple. Truth be told, I feel more engaged and comfortable being a friend to Rotary. I cannot tell what would happen if I join a Rotary club. I do not know how it feels to work or get involved at the club level. That I am yet to explore.

Furaha Dawson Nyella

Administrator – Rotary Tanzania



RTN. LUWAGA GYAVIIRA

Service and Fun: A testament of RC Muyenga Tankhill

When Chicago Rotarian Montague Bear¹ an engraver drew a simple wagon wheel with a few lines to show dust and motion his ethos was to illustrate “Civilisation and Movement.” Little did he know that a couple of years later, a once conceived idea was to become the symbol of service above self - 1923, the present gear wheel, with 24 cogs and six spokes was adopted by the “Rotary International Association.” As a creative, he had fun doing this and passionately developed an element that had stood the test of time through essence.

In a testament to the values for which we stand and thrive, “He Profits Most Who Serves Best.” Like many statements that have stood the test of time, the Rotary Convention, held in Portland, Oregon, in August 1911 accepted these wonderful words first stated by a Chicago Rotarian, Art Sheldon. At about the same time, Ben Collins, President of the Rotary Club of Minneapolis, Minnesota, commented that the proper way to organise a Rotary club was through the principle his club had adopted – “Service, Not Self.” These two slogans, slightly modified, were formally approved to be the official mottoes of Rotary at the 1950 Convention in Detroit- “He Profits Most Who Serves Best” and “Service Above Self.” A few years later, the 1989 Council on Legislation established “Service Above Self” as the principal motto of Rotary.

1 Rotary eClub One, 2020-2021, 50 Things Every Rotarian Should Know About Rotary (by Steve Garret, Rotary Wheels Emblem: District Governor 1994-1995), 07.06. 2021, <https://www.rotaryclub.org/makeups/articles/50thingseveryrotary/>

Ibid

You would wonder, why our history is such an important aspect of who we are and how its traits remain the very foundation of our institution. Like, many strong institutions, the Rotary Club of Muyenga Tankhill is no other - and to make sense of such a young and enthusiastic club, one needs to ask himself three key questions: Who are they, what makes them who they are, and what do they stand for?

I'll delve right into it: Who is RC Muyenga Tankhill?

To do justice to this question, I asked six club members to define RC Muyenga Tankhill, and interestingly, I got fascinating answers. The first being; we are a team of selflessly driven human lovers that cherish purpose and adorn service beyond our smiles, lifestyles and sentiments.

In all seriousness, I thought this was almost as exciting as it gets until another explained that come rain or shine we are friends, brothers, sisters, counsellors that teamed up to save the world. Of course, I began to wonder, whether my interpretation of the answers was a testament to the unified positioning of these gallant men and women.

So, I jumped to the next phone call. “Good morning, Rotarian.” “Yes, Good morning, I am undertaking a survey on what members think about our club, would you care to have a minute and give me your opinion on your interpretation of who we are as a club?” The answer was; “we are a bunch of fun making, and people loving folks whose character contributes to making the world a better place while having fun doing it.”

Are you surprised? If you are, you will get a little astonished by this finding: Almost 85% of the Rotarians in RC Muyenga Tankhill said they cherish helping the unprivileged over self-satisfaction. Only 6% of them said that their Rotary purpose was focused on opportunity. 90% of the respondents exclaimed, that whilst service above self was at the core of their mission, the meaningful connections and friendships built allowed them to have fun doing what they love best.

What lessons do we draw from this?

At RC Muyenga Tankhill, service is at the heart of what we do, and we enjoy having fun, whilst doing what we stand for. For this reason, we inspire and aspire, we seek to find, and explore to become leaders that thrive in enjoying what we do. As a Rotarian, I was intrigued and at the same time confound.

What makes us who we are?

Vividly, this question has at one point popped up in each Rotarians life. Of course, the answers are usually similar. Like many, you will attest that one thing is for sure, the 1.2m Rotarians worldwide all believe in service.² Normally the responses are often drawn from our own experiences, assimilated learnings and in most cases our multifarious experiences with the club.

Many of us believe in Rotary and what it stands for as stated in the Object of Rotary. Above and beyond all, we believe in service above self, in sharing Rotary with others, maintaining high ethical standards in one's business, one's profession, and in one's personal life. Having the opportunity to experience the warm Tankhill fellowship which greatly expands our circles of acquaintance, fostering lifelong friendships, and providing continuous help to the people of Kikubamutwe in Kabalagala in a way that we would individually never accomplish.

2 <https://www.rotary.org/en>



But there is more to this than meets the eye. At RC Muyenga Tankhill, the drive is throttled by involvement, engagement, fun, and the endless joy of selflessness. It is our way of life and a lifelong adventure in the aura of giving with the expectation of no return.

What do we stand for?

Here is a fun fact: we enjoy building relationships and having fun at the core of everything we do. Relationships that are not self-endearing but are purposeful – that is why we are a fun club. And we are not alone — we are authors of engagement and drivers of change. Makers rather than seekers and opportunists committed to service-oriented action.

That's why, even amidst the challenges of COVID-19, we give credence to the fact that we can be fountains of honour by following the footsteps of Mother Teresa. As Rotarians, let — “Peace begin with a smile. There are no great things, only small things with great love. Happy are those. If you judge people, you have no time to love them,” Mother Teresa.

We have a duty to share and care, to love and to hold and we should do this with peace in our hearts and lots of love. If fun is part of your Rotary story, then so be it. Nothing is too small to make an impact as long as it's done with love. By recognising Christ in others, our actions, our beings and our attitude towards many will change. Let us be ambassadors of goodwill and spread the love through fun-oriented service.

Rtn. Luwaga Gyaviira
RC Muyenga Tankhill



RTN. JOY NALONGO BEHANGAANA

Snatched from the jaws of death

At the start of this Rotary Year, so many things were being done in an unusual way, following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The lockdown had affected us, there was less interaction, few meetings and activities if any. Thankfully, new technologies provided platforms for interaction and have several things done and excellently prosecuted.

The previous Rotary Year under the Governorship of Rtn. Francis Xavier Sentamu, I had served as an Assistant Governor (AG), and I believe I served diligently and performed fairly well. So this year, I was called upon to serve as AG under the leadership of District Governor Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga. We were still under lockdown although with a small window of physical interaction. I was in constant communication with my six clubs and more especially with the Presidents. It was possible to attend weekly virtual meetings and other club meetings too.

Lo and behold, what I least expected happened, my first challenge set in and my planned activities were jeopardised. My bedridden mother, who has lived with my family for the past five years since she got a stroke became worse. She developed several complications and went into a comma. She was hospitalised for a month and thereafter we were in and out of the hospital several times. It became very difficult for me to handle my planned activities including the Rotary obligations. I was incapacitated, and could not do anything else but to attend to her. As she started recuperating in December, I hoped to start engaging in some physical interactions and meetings since it was now somehow possible. I managed a few and my,

what I never anticipated was on the way!!

A scare of COVID-19 was on everyone’s mind and several precautions were being taken by most people. I was not exceptional; my family and I also did all it took to keep it at bay, however, in mid-December, we received a guest who stayed with us for two days. We noticed on the second day that he had a slight cough and flu but we didn’t think that it could be COVID-19 related. Two days after he left, some of us at home started complaining of headaches, sore throat and feverish feeling. We quickly thought of taking COVID-19 tests to rule it out. As we waited for the results, my condition started worsening, I could not breathe properly, I had a high fever. I was panting and restless. The doctors advised that I needed oxygen and yet I could not be admitted to the hospital or the COVID Unit until results came back. An oxygen concentrator was brought in which helped me with breathing, but the reading on the Oximeter showed that my oxygen levels were dropping. When the results came out, I was COVID-19 positive.

Immediately, an ambulance came home and took me to the hospital. The doctors did what was possible but I am told that my diabetic condition didn’t help the situation and I kept deteriorating. After two days, I was referred to another hospital for further advanced management. On reaching there, the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) could not be accessed since all the beds were occupied; I was only at the mercy of God. Finally, my husband got a lead to TMR Hospital in Naalya where I was eventually taken, put on a ventilator and other gadgets as they treated me. The whole time I was on the ventilator, I was unconscious and did not know what was happening for 15 days. When I was weaned off the sedatives, I was completely lost. I did not

know what was real or was not, it took me several days to collaborate many things.

Thanks to TMR for handling me and getting me out of danger. I left the hospital in the third week of January and since then, I have been slowly recovering but still experiencing several side effects. Just as the illness varies from one person to another, so is the recovery. At first, I was in a wheelchair, then a walker, and finally clutches to get around in the house, and this felt like running a marathon. My muscle strength is still rebuilding but at least I am now able to walk on my own without support. I have experienced several challenges in the journey of life, but this was the most difficult. I can only say that God is great and most gracious. Many of us lost our loved ones including some of our own dear Rotarians; so we can fully identify with this situation.

I was fortunate to have a strong family support system, which was fully available for me. My husband assured me that he would do everything possible for me to get well (as if he was a doctor) but I believe that his assurance contributed a lot to my healing process. I was sure my superman was “doing everything possible.” I wish to welcome back to life those like me that suffered acute COVID-19 and were spared by the grace and mercy of God. Let’s ask ourselves why we are still here and alive when others did not make it. Let’s commit to serving even more with diligence in the extra life we have been given by the creator Himself. My experience confirmed to me again, that actually; life is unpredictable and fleeting, therefore we should live like today could be the last day, and so if we are to mend fences, now is the time to do it. I get stunned that some people still think that Coronavirus is a scam. COVID-19 is here and it is real; therefore, we must take very serious precaution.

In some instances, contracting COVID-19 comes with stigma where some people associate it with carelessness. This has led to the affected keeping quiet and suffering silently. I know some people who have shared their experiences upon overcoming the post-trauma stress after undergoing counselling.

Sharing our experience gives us relief and strengthens our faith for recovery with the prayers of assurance from our friends, family, church and other circles of our interactions. Some Rotarians even mobilised finances to support us cover the expensive treatment. I would like to thank my RC Mengo family, the World Class Presidents family and other Rotarians for the great support. My family shall forever be grateful to you.

Finally, I would like to apologise to my District Governor and my clubs: RC Kireka Movers, RC Kansanga, RC Nabbingo, Inner Wheel Kampala, Inner Wheel Mengo and Inner Wheel Ggaba for not being physically available when I needed to. I thank the Presidents, New Club Advisors and PAG Jane Kabugo for standing in the gap. The Rotary clubs are vibrant and growing very strong. Inner Wheel clubs are moving to the formation of a fourth club to qualify for Inner Wheel District which should materialise before the end of the year. The Anns are passionate about Rotary Roses and participate fully in all activities.

I congratulate our dearest DG Rosetti our “Rotary Nnalongo” for ending the year in full dignity with all the accolades and achievements she has garnered. We are proud of you mum. Thanks to the District and Country Teams, and all Presidents and their teams too for contributing to the achievements our District has garnered this year.

For God and my Country.
Rtn. Joy Nalongo Behangaana
RC Mengo

I was fortunate to have a strong family support system, which was fully available for me My husband assured me that he would do everything possible for me to get well



RTN. HAMZA KASSONGO

Miaka 72 ya Klabu ya Rotary Dar-es-Salaam

Klabu ya Rotary ya Dar-es-Salaam ilikuwa ya kwanza kuanzishwa Tanganyika, sasa Tanzania. Ilianzishwa miaka 72 iliyopita, yaani katika mwaka wa 1949. Katika hii miaka 72 Klabu imefanya mambo mengi ya kusaidia jamii. Moja ya huduma ya kwanza ilikuwa ni kusaidia kujenga hospitali ndogo ya wagojwa wa UKOMA, huko Kisarawe, nje kidogo ya Dar es Salaam. Klabu imepata kuwa na kaka wawili wote wakiwa President (Rais) kwa wakati mbali mbali. Halikadhalika Mume na Mke wamepata kushika nafasi hiyo.

Enzi hizo za zamani Rotary Klabu ilikuwa inafanya mambo yake bila kutaka kujulikana. Wakati ule na mpaka miaka ya 1990 Klabu tatu zilikuwa zinasaidia jamii hapa Tanzania. Round Table, Klabu ya vijana wenye umri usiozidi miaka 40. Ukifika umri huo ni lazima uondoke na kujiunga na Rotary au Lions. Wanachama wa Round Table, kwa sababu ya ujana wao na kutaka uarafiki wao ushamiri, kukiwa wanatakiwa kutoa msaada, mathalani, wa kupaka rangi bweni au darasa la wanafunzi wa shule ya Jeshi la Waokofu, wao wenyewe na familia zao wanakwenda kufanya kazi hiyo chini ya mtaalam wanae fatana naye. Hii iliwajengea urafiki mkubwa baina yao. Klab za Lions zilikuwa zinatoa msaada wa pesa na kujitangaza sana. Wazee wa Rotary wao wlikuwa wanatoa pesa tu bila hata kutaka kujulikana. Wanachama wa Round Table wakawa na msembo wa utani kwamba, “Round Table wanasaidia kwa kutumia mikono yao. Lions wanasaidia kwa kujitangaza wao wenyewe na Rotary wanasaidia kwa kutoa hundi bila hata yakumtazama usoni mtu aliyekuwa kuomba msaada. Sidhani kama huu utani ulileta mabadiliko katika Rotary. Laakini baada ya muda Rotary ikawa inatumia pesa nyingi katika Public Relations kutangaza kazi na misaada wanayotoa. Kulikuwa hakuna siri tena. Kitendo hiki kikawaongezea idadi ya Wazalendo waliojiunga na Rotary ambayo ilikuwa inajulikana kama Klabu ya matajiri na wazee tu.

Katika juhudi zao za kutaka kujulikana na kuongeza urafiki baina yao na pia kati ya wanachama wao na

watu wengine, Rotary Klabu ya Dar-es-Salaam, mbali na kukuta kila wiki, ilikuwa inafanya mkutano wa chakula cha mchana, mara moja kwa mwezi na kualika watu wasio wanachama na pia wake zao (social meeting). Mikutano ya Baraza la Wakurugenzi, badala ya kufanyika hoteli, ilikuwa inafanywa kwa zamu katika nyumba za kila mjumbe. Hii ikaongeza ukaribu baina ya wanachama na familia za wanachama wenzao.

Halikadhalika katika hafla zao za kila mwaka za kubadilishana uongozi, (installation night), Rotary Klabu ya Dar-es-Salaam ilikuwa inawaalika wageni wasio wanachama pamoja na wake au marafiki zao. Usiku huu ulikuwa adhim sana. Wanachama na waalikwa walivaa zile nguo maalum za usiku (black tie). Mara nyingi kuna kuwa na mgeni rasmi. Mwaka mmoja wakati Dr Khalid Khan alipokuwa anachukua uongozi wa Klabu, mgeni wake rasmi alikuwa Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, Rais wa Jamhuri ya Tanzania. Baadhi ya watu, wanachama na waalikwa wengine walipata wasi wasi kwamba pengine Mwalimu angelaani Rotary kuwa ni Klabu ya maBwenyenye. Lakini alifurahi na kutoa hotuba nzuri ya kusifu kazi zinazofanywa na Rotary kusaidia Serikali. Alipokuwepo, kabla hajaondoka, watu wakawa wanakunywa pombe kwa staha. Wale waliokuwa karibu naye kwenye meza kuu, wengi waliishia kunywa maji. Baada ya kula na kutoa hotuba yake Mwalimu akaaga kwa kusema, inabidi niondoke mapema ili ni waache na starehe zenu. Maana naona wengi wenu mnakunywa maji kuliko Samaki. Na hii si kawaida yenu. Ukumbi mzima ukaangusha kicheko.

Mwaka 1987 mmoja wa wanachama wa Klabu yetu mke wake alifariki kwa sababu ya Saratani (cancer) ya matiti. Aliambiwa kwamba kama maradhi hayo yangekundulika mapema angeweza kutibiwa. Kutokana na hali hii Rotary Klabu ya Dar-es-Salaam ikanunua mashine ya memograph. Na hiyo ndio ilikuwa mashine ya kwanza Tanzania kupima Saratani ya matiti.

Katika Ukusanyaji wa Pesa kwa ajili ya kusaidia jamii Rotary Klabu ya DSM imekuwa inatumia njia zile zile zinazotumiwa

Halikadhalika katika hafla zao za kila mwaka za kubadilishana uongozi, (installation night), Rotary Klabu ya Dar-es-Salaam ilikuwa inawaalika wageni wasio wanachama pamoja na wake au marafiki zao. Usiku huu ulikuwa adhim sana.

na Klabu nyingine. Moja wapo ni matembezi ya hiari. Katika mwaka 1994 kwa mara ya kwanza tulimualika Raisi wa Awamu ya Pili, Alhaj Ali Hassan Mwinyi kuwa mgeni wetu Rasmi. Matembezi yalianza Kilimanjaro Hotel saa kumi na mbili asubuhi. Na kumalizikia Ukumbi wa Ma Afisa wa Polisi (Police Officers Mess), Oysterbay. Baadhi ya Wanachama na wageni walioalikwa wakahisi kwamba Mheshimiwa Rais na umri wake mkubwa, wakati ule akiwa na miaka 69, kwamba hatamaliza. Kwa mshangao mkubwa wakamuona Rais anakata mbuga kwa mwendo ule ule. Wale watu waliokaa karibu yake ili wapigwe picha wakaanza kuachwa nyuma mmoja baada ya mwingine. Matembezi yalipofika kati kati, mvua ikaanza kunyesha. Wengine tukaamini Mzee atapanda gari. Kwa mshangao mkubwa sana Mheshimiwa akaanza kukimbia. Hapo ndipo ndimi zikaanza kuwatoka watu wengine. Walipofika mwisho, yaani Bwalo la Ma Afisa wa Polisi, wengine hata kuongea ilikuwa kwa taabu sana.

Kuanzia mwaka 2010 Rotary Klabu ya DSM ikaalika Klabu zingine za Rotary za Dar-es-Salaam kujiunga nayo ili kutayarisha matembezi makubwa. Matembezi hayo yakapewa jina la Rotary Dar Marathon. Klabu zilizokuwepo wakati ule na kuhusika katika mbio hizo, mbali na Rotary Klabu ya DSM, zilikuweko Rotary Klabu za Dar North, Bahari, Mzizima, Mikocheni, Oysterbay na Milimani ya Chuo Kikuu cha Dar-es-Salaam. Kutokana na matembezi haya ambapo wenzetu wakutoka Uganda walikuwa wanakuja kushiriki, tulijenga wodi ya kisasa ya Saratani kwa Watoto katika hospitali kuu ya Taifa ya Muhimbili. Wenzetu wa Uganda nao wakaiga mbio za aina hii kwa madhumuni ya kujenga jengo la saratani. Mwaka mmoja walimualika Rais Mwinyi kuwa mgeni wao rasmi. Alikubali na alikwenda. Kwa muda wa miaka kumi, hadi 2019, kila mwaka, bila kukosa, Mgeni wetu rasmi

Alikuwa Rais Mstaafu wa Awamu ya Pili, Alhaj Ali Hassan Mwinyi. Alitimiza miaka 94 akiwa anakimbia na Rotary. Kwa kutambua mchango wake mkubwa Mzee alifanywa kuwa Mwanachama wa Heshima wa Rotary Klabu ya Dar-es-Salaam. Katika kusheherekea siku yake ya kuzaliwa,

alipotimiza umri wa miaka 91, baadhi ya wanachama wa Rotary Klabu ya Dar walikwenda nyumbani kwake na chakula walicho tayarisha na kula naye pamoja na familia yote ya Mzee.

Kama itakavyokumbukwa tangu mwaka 1905 Rotary imekuwa ni Klabu za wanaume tu. Wanawake waliruhusiwa kuanzisha klabu zao zenye uhusiano na Rotary. Lakini mwaka 1989, tarehe 04, Mei, Baraza la Sheria la Rotary likakubali wanawake wanaweza kujiunga na Rotary. Mwanzo Klabu za nje ya Marekani zikapewa hiyari. Hapa Dar es Salaam, Rotary Klabu iliyokuwa ya mwanzo kuanzishwa ndio ikawa ya mwisho kukubali wanawake kujiunga nayo. Wanachama wanne walikuwa vinara kupinga kuwakaribisha wanawake. Vinara hao walikuwa Ally Sykes, Sergio Valente, Mohamed Ismail na Hamza Kassongo.

Mwanamke wa kwanza kujiunga na Rotay Klabu ya Dar-es-Salaam alikuwa Sauda Kilumanga aliyeletwa na mwanachama wa Rotary ya Australia, Grant Pierce, ambaye alikuwa hapa kwa kazi tu. Hata hivyo sherehe ilifana sana maana mgeni wa Sauda alikuwa Anna Mkapa, mke wa Rais wa Awamu ya Tatu, Mheshimiwa Benjamin William Mkapa. Kuingia kwa wanawake katika Klabu hii kumeleta mafanikio makubwa sana. Katika muda huu wa miaka 32 tumepata Rais wakike wanne. Sujatta Jaffar, Milli Rughani na Sharmila Bhatt ambaye pia amekuwa District Governor na mtayarishaji wa Rotary Dar Marathon, kwa miaka hiyo kumi yote. Na Risi atakaye anza kazi July, 2021, ni Satia Gadhvi.

Rtn. Hamza Kassongo

Klabu ya Rotary ya Dar-es-Salaam



RTN. JAMES SERUGO

RC Kampala: Old, but keeping young and growing

Rotary came to Africa in 1921 when the Rotary Club of Johannesburg, South Africa, was chartered, becoming the first club in Africa. The Rotary Club of Cairo in Egypt was the second in 1929. And then, East Africa saw Rotary for the first time in 1930 when the Rotary Club of Nairobi, Kenya was chartered. In West Africa, the Rotary Club of Dakar, Senegal was chartered in 1939. And, so the movement started spreading and growing across Africa.

In Uganda, the Rotary journey started with the charter of the Rotary Club of Kampala on 27th May 1957 after being sponsored by the Rotary Club of Nairobi. Sixty-four years later, the club boasts of members who have been in Rotary since the 1970s, 80s and yet, it has an average age of only 40, making it one of the young clubs around. It has 90 members in total, making it a big, young club.

The Rotary Club Kampala grew modestly in the 1950s and 60s and was largely comprised of the white expatriate community and the few Asian business people. In the 1970s after the Amin government

chased away the white and Asian communities, many locals started joining Rotary being invited by people like S.W. Kulubya who was the first indigenous president of Rotary in Uganda in 1963/64 and Elizaphan Ntende who was president in 1969/70 and later went on to become the first-ever black District Governor in the world. But the club suffered attrition due to the political instabilities of the time. That's why Past President, Prof. Charles L.M. Olweny was president three times from 1976 to 1979 after successive presidents fled the country.

The 1980s saw RC Kampala expand very fast and grow Rotary in Uganda by starting many clubs by people like the late Rotary International President-Elect Sam F. Owori and Past President, Dr. Robert Rutaagi.

The journey to grow young by RC Kampala was started by President Wolfgang in 1996 when he realised that he was leading an ageing and dying club. In one swoop at Rotaract, he recruited eight Rotaractors who all have since gone on to lead the club as presidents, thus giving an example and attracting other Rotaractors to join a club otherwise known as the oldest in Uganda.



The club now has the vitality of young and old, all making a fair mix and balance that is rare in many clubs. This is a combination of wisdom and intellect, matched with energy, drive, caution and ambition mixed with a wealth of experience, and resourcefulness.

The Rotary Club of Kampala has a strategy to keep growing young and more impactful in the communities it serves. Some of the most impactful projects initiated by or at the club or have been supported over time are: The Gift of Life, which is now a worldwide program; Mwana Mugimu which became a national Nutritional and child care program, Uganda Heart Institute, which is a national heart care facility, and the Rotary Hospital designed to be a 200 bed centre of excellence in health care at Mukono.

The club's biggest intervention over time and where it has built immeasurable competencies is in Water and Sanitation (WASH). It has extended water, sanitation training and facilities through global grants to areas like Merikit in Tororo District, Aloji and Barlonyo in Lira and Alebantong districts; in Butuntumula, Luwero

District, and many other areas.

Giving birth to new clubs and supporting young ones to grow strong has also been a hallmark for the Rotary Club of Kampala. We cannot even start counting how many clubs it has mothered because as the first in the country, it's a mother or grandmother to every club in the land.

Marking 64 years on 25th May, the Club hosted the District Governor Rosetti Nabbumba and PDG Stephen Mwanje at the Rotary Hospital during a Family Health Camp at which the partnership between the clubs of Kampala, Mukono, Mukono Central and Lugazi was launched to popularise using and developing the hospital together. An appeal was made for other clubs along the Jinja Road axis to use the Rotary Hospital for their different health camps.

Rtn. James Serugo
Past President – RC Kampala





EMMANUEL SSEMWANGA

Fun, networking and service: Hallmarks of the Rotarians Vintage and Collectables Fellowship

On a bright Saturday morning of 1st May, the Rotarians Vintage and Collectables Fellowship (RVCF) gathered at Total Bulamu, Kasangati along Gayaza road and set off for a memorable tourism and conservation drive to Jinja City in a bid to promote culture, local tourism and conservation within Busoga Kingdom. The event attracted 21 vintage and classics cars which snaked through the towns of Gayaza, Kalagi, Bukolooto, Njeru, streets of Jinja City and finally to Tongolo Resort Beach for overnight camping.

By the serene shores of Lake Victoria, Rotarians, friends and families enjoyed an exhibition of vintage cars and collectables, guided village nature trails exploring a panoramic view of Jinja City and surrounding districts; a Victoria Nile cruise past Jinja Pier, Source of the Nile, the old bridge, Kirinya Prison, Samuka Island and back; and an overnight camp. The two-day vintage excursion was concluded by planting cycad tress at Tongolo Resort Beach.

On 8th March 2021, the RVCF in partnership with the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre (UWEC), celebrated International Women’s Day by organising a Vintage and Classic Car Drive to the Centre. A total of 28 vintage and classic cars were flagged off from the Uganda Museum by Hon. Godfrey Ssuubi Kiwanda, State Minister for Tourisms and Antiquities. Rotarian Angela Semukuutu was recognised for her efforts to restore a FORD Anglia 106E model 1965 UVK684, originally owned by her mother. Angela is a member of the Uganda Bikers Association and Past President of the Rotary Club Kampala Muyenga Breeze.

At the same function, each car owner, their families and other guests planted a cycad tree each as a contribution towards conservation and tourism at UWEC.

I appreciate all the partners for their collective support in ensuring that these activities were successfully implemented; Federation of Motorsport Uganda, Worldwide Movers, Uganda Wildlife Education Center, TEXTFAD, CYCAD Village Uganda, BRIMS Collectables, Classic VW Club Uganda, Landover Club Uganda, Germany Car Show, Tongolo Resort Beach, Total Uganda, Uganda Police Force, and all vintage car owners.



Brief about the RVCF

The RVCF comprises Rotarians and non-Rotarians who share a common interest in classic/vintage cars and collectables. The RVCF is a platform aimed at expanding skills, fostering vocational development, and enhancing the Rotary experience by exploring interests in antique collections, restoration, conservation and usage of vintage cars and collectables while networking, having fun, developing connections around the world, and promoting service.

The term vintage as used in the Fellowship represents cars that are older than 25 years - covering classics and antiques. While collectables refer to material items like the household, office or others like watches, lanterns, gramophones, coins, books, furniture, cloths among



many others. The fellowship recognises and appreciates that collectable items shaped our current and future technologies, thus restoring and keeping them enable us to appreciate our heritage and the future.

As a Fellowship, we purpose to foster the collection, conservation, restoration and usage of vintage cars and collectables. The motivation is vested in passion and fun to preserve historical items, while using them in daily life, or just displaying them to promote tourism, conservation and generational learning.

It’s envisaged that when non-Rotarians joining the fellowship, they will in turn learn and appreciate Rotary and develop interest to join the Rotary fraternity, thereby expanding the Rotary family. The RVCF has membership from Uganda, Kenya Tanzania, South Sudan, and Austria.



Some of RVCF's activities

- Fun-filled Rotary Vintage cars meetings
- Organise exhibitions, conservation and tourism drives in Uganda regularly.
- Support Rotary clubs in various countries where the Fellowship is located.
- The Rotary museum will act as a resource for scholars, tourists and will have frequent vintage activities all year round.
- Organise the annual Women’s day Vintage Awards to recognise a lady engaged in car restoration activities
- Vintage camping outings
- Fashion week vintage shows
- Observe Rotary Fellowship Month (June)
- Road safety awareness program
- Tree planting project to support Rotary Mission Green
- Tourism support programs (local and regional)

Emmanuel Ssemwanga
Vintage Car Enthusiast and Collector



RTN. JOHN ANDERSON

Rotary's pink bikes change life for girls in Ndevelwa

"Nimefurahi kwa kupata baisikeli. Nashukuru kwa msaada wenu kwa kunipunguzia adha ya kutembea umbali mrefu," Kaundime Habibu Samata. Translated as – "I am so happy to get a bike. Thank you for helping to relieve the pain of walking long distances." This praise from Habibu, a Form Four student at Ndevelwa Secondary School is shared by many of her colleagues that received pink bicycles to help ease their transportation to and from school.

"Ninashukuru kwa kunipa baisekeli iliyo bora na inaniwezesha kufika shuleni mapeta na kawa muda muafaka. Ninashukuru kwa msaada wenu. – Thank you for giving me a good bike and enabling me get to school on time. Thank you for your help," echoed Amina Mohamed Saidi.

In December 2020, 53 bikes were delivered with tremendous fanfare for the girls in Ndevelwa Secondary School. The positive effects have been immediate and created the need for more "Pink Bikes" to provide the rest of the girls the opportunity to receive an education.

"The biggest difference is that the girls are more inspired to come to school. The bikes have raised an interest in the upcoming Form Ones, bringing more new registrations to the school this year as they are inspired by the new incentive of receiving a bike at some point, either if new bikes arrive, or if they wait for the Form Fours to finish and hand over their bikes. Either way, their motivation level to register for school is raised," noted Madam Tulahanga Bange the school's Academic Advisor.

The girls have already gained some skills in conducting small repairs on the bikes. "Some girls have taken the initiative to fix the problems that they can resolve, while others have reported that they do not have any trouble with their bikes. Some spare parts are available locally and we will plan a maintenance day (probably in June

or July) and use the money for maintenance to pay for the repairs. Perhaps additional features like mud flaps, saddles can be considered then," she added.

"Baisikeli ilikuwa ina matatizo ya kutokushika breki lakini kwa sasa nimeitengeneza inashika vizuri kwa hayo tu baisikeli yangu haina matatizo mengine zaidi ya ilo. – The bike had problems. It was not applying the brakes, but I repaired it so it is in good condition. My bike has no other problem," noted Amina Mohamed Saidi.

These young girls owe this life-changing intervention to Elizabeth Demichelis, President of the Rotary Club of Modesto Sunrise in 2019/20. When Rotarian Elizabeth attended the Rotary International Convention in Hamburg, Germany in 2019, did she imagine COVID-19 and the Rotary project of a lifetime were both waiting for her? "Definitely not, but I did go to Hamburg looking for something purposeful to bring back to Modesto Sunrise. The extra time given to me due to strict COVID-19 restrictions concerning my business (she is a dentist, known as Dr." E" locally) allowed me to pursue, investigate, and connect faster than I may have been able to otherwise," stated Demichelis.

Demichelis was initially interested in a program that provided reusable menstrual pads to women/girls in third world countries to enable them to stay in school. Dr. E contacted a long-time friend and sorority sister (University of the Pacific), Margaret Andersen, who along with her husband have served as missionaries in Africa for the past 20 years. Through communications with Margaret, Dr. E was able to confirm the need and benefit of such a program in the rural areas of Africa.

While Margaret could see the value in the project suggested by Dr. E, she shared a need closer to her heart and the people she served in the villages near Tabora, Tanzania. It seems the girls who attend Margaret's school



have a challenge with transportation from their homes to the secondary school. Due to the long distance between the rural villages and the secondary school, and the severe poverty most families face, the girls face a long, dangerous walk through unsafe terrains and bushes. An alternative mode of transportation that has been sought by the girls is to "double-up" with the village boys on their bikes thereby shortening the school trip. Inevitably as these boys and girls reach puberty, sexual favours are expected in payment for the rides, resulting in unplanned pregnancies, which put an end to continuing education for the young female teens.

Between Demichelis and Andersen the idea of "Pink Bikes" was born! Pink bikes for the girls to signify these bikes were only for the female students. Andersen was able to tie the program to the school she teaches at – Ndevelwa Secondary School in Tabora Municipality. Through Andersen's efforts, a detailed plan was devised to get "buy-in" from the village and school leaders as well as the girl's parents.

Modesto Sunrise Rotary Past President and I as the International Chair pushed the paperwork necessary to garner Modesto Sunrise's commitment for the original seed money of US\$5,000 in hopes of providing 72 bikes. As well as pledging another US\$2,000 for ongoing maintenance items, bicycle parts, inner tubes and repair tools. Finding a Rotary Club in Tanzania

near Tabora to execute the "Pink Bike" project proved to be an equal challenge.

Providentially, Demichelis connection to her alma mater, the University of Pacific, California came to the rescue again! While attending a U.O.P basketball game, she connected with a fellow Rotarian, who upon hearing about Demichelis' need to connect with a Rotary Club in Tanzania happened to have just the Rotarian; Donna Boyd, a member of the Rotary Club of Mt. Shasta who worked on a water program in Arusha, Tanzania for years. Upon connecting with Boyd, Demichelis discovered one of the Rotary Clubs Boyd worked with, the Rotary Club of Arusha happened to be avid bicyclists and wholeheartedly agreed to partner with Modesto Sunrise Rotary.

We have secured another US\$1,000 for more bikes and Modesto Sunrise Rotary is fundraising for more help through other Rotary Club partnerships and individual donations. To learn more about the 'Rotary Pink Bike' program or DONATE, visit: modestosunriserotary.org/pink-bike-tanzania/ or contact John B. Anderson, john@jbandersonplanning.com or Elizabeth Demichelis, DDS at ead.dds@gmail.com

Rtn. John Anderson

RC Central California Modesto Sunrise

Note: Additional information by

Margaret Anderson (former teacher and

founder of Ndevelwa Kindergarten School



RTN. ANNABELLE CHAUNCY

Building brighter futures with School for Life Foundation and Rotary

In 2008, at just 21 years old, two passionate Australians – Annabelle Chauncy and David Everett approached Rotary Australia with a dream that would later transform hundreds of lives.

Having volunteered in developing communities throughout Kenya, Annabelle and David had become acutely aware that education was the only real way to end intergenerational cycles of poverty and empower children to achieve their full potential. Building a school in rural Uganda, they argued, was one small, but not insignificant, step towards this goal of educating poverty out of existence – but it was a dream they could only achieve with a helping hand.

Thankfully, Rotary Australia recognised the potential of the Foundation to transform lives, and in 2008 the Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) division of Rotary named School for Life Foundation as an official RAWCS program. Through the RAWCS program, School for Life raised the bulk of the funds necessary to build their very first school in the rural community of Katuuso, Uganda.

Under the careful guidance of long-serving Rotarian, Jack Elliot OAM, as treasurer of the School for Life board, the Foundation developed plans for the school’s construction and soon the foundations of the building were laid. Building progressed rapidly following the assistance of Rotary and in 2011, Katuuso Primary and Vocational School (KPVs) opened its doors to its first 80 students across Pre-Primary and Primary 1.

As a result of the dedicated efforts of Rotary and School for Life Foundation, students at Katuuso Primary

School soon began to flourish in the classroom under the careful guidance of their teachers. In 2012, a further two classrooms, two health rooms and a storage area were added to the school. Enrolment increased rapidly to 120 students from Pre-Primary to Primary 2, with six teachers now under the school’s employ. Agricultural projects were also established on the school grounds, with a range of crops planted to help feed the growing cohort of students and staff.

The following year saw an additional expansion of the school, with another four classrooms, an outdoor shade shelter, staffroom, playground and five teacher houses being added to the campus. Enrolment increased again to 180 students across Pre-Primary to Primary 3 and 10 teachers were now hard at work at the school.

With the school deemed a huge success amongst the community, the Foundation began to look for additional ways to bring educational and vocational training opportunities to Katuuso and its surroundings. After much deliberation, it was decided that the construction of a vocational training centre for women in the community was to be the next step in School for Life’s mission to educate and empower rural Uganda.

A vocational training centre was soon erected in Katuuso, to teach women in the community to sew garments and accessories to be sold to support their families to escape the poverty cycle and receive a quality education.

Rotary was once again an invaluable support to the Foundation in the construction of the centre, with Rotarian Tony Castley along with the Rotary Clubs of Moss Vale and Ku-Ring Gai arranging for a Global Grant



to be provided to School for Life to set up the centre.

This grant proved to be a significant support in the establishment of the centre, funding the purchase of sewing machines for the women to use, as well as the purchase and installation of solar panels to power the facility.

During this time, Rotary also kindly sent a container full of school supplies, including books, tarpaulins, sports equipment, educational materials, school uniforms and many other wonderful donations to Uganda where they were put to good use by School for Life’s ever-increasing student cohort.

With the centre fully established, a group of enthusiastic local women began training at the centre. Rotary-supported organisation SewAid International stepped in to assist with the initial training, with a group of skilled volunteers travelling to Uganda to teach the women to operate the sewing machines and create a range of basic garments and accessories.

As the project expanded, the team of 10 women at the centre banded together to form Kumi, a social enterprise through which they would sell the beautiful range of clothing and accessories they created while

completing their tailoring training. Kumi proved to be a great success and its products are now available for purchase on the School for Life website. One hundred per cent of the profits made from the sale of Kumi products go towards supporting the women and their families to build a brighter future for themselves. The success of Kumi, however, is not unique in the communities reached by School for Life.

School for Life’s Katuuso Primary School continued to grow exponentially and in 2015, further construction was undertaken to complete an early learning centre and assembly hall at the school to accommodate the 280-strong cohort of students from Pre-School to Primary 5. Agricultural projects underway to feed the staff and students were expanded, and two 100,000 litre underground water tanks were built to provide fresh, safe water to the campus.

Demand for enrolments grew so strong that the very same year, School for Life announced its plans to construct primary and secondary schools in the nearby village of Mbazzi with the support of Cotton on Foundation.

Construction of Mbazzi High School began in 2015 and it was officially completed in 2017. Sporting science labs, classrooms, an outdoor amphitheatre, a soccer pitch, apiary and 25 teacher houses, the school was perfectly

fitted out for its first intake of 80 students who began their studies in Senior 1 in January 2018.

Construction of Mbazzi Primary School had been underway simultaneously and it also opened its doors in early 2018 to a bright new cohort of School for Life students.

During this time, Rotary was again an invaluable support to the Foundation, with Rtn. Tony Castley stepping in once more to arrange a Rotary-endorsed container to be shipped to Uganda full of essential supplies to stock the two new schools. Rotary’s generous contributions included enough books to set up libraries in the two new schools, bicycles to help children travel to and from school, medical supplies, stationery and educational materials, laptops, computers, sports equipment and much more.

The support from Rotary in these times proved critical to the success of the Foundation’s endeavours to provide quality education to children in rural Uganda, so they could escape the cycle of poverty and achieve their wildest dreams.

The Foundation is indebted to many Rotary Clubs across Australia for supporting School for Life in so many ways,

from sponsoring children and volunteering to collect donations in kind. An extra special mention must be made to the Rotary EClub of Greater Sydney and Clubs of Ku-Ring Gai, Moss Vale, Crows Nest, Dural, Sydney Cove, North Sydney Sunrise, Rose Bay, Terrigal and Strathfield for the tireless support they have shown to School for Life throughout the years. Today, School for Life provides quality education to over 1,025 students, from Early Childhood to Senior 3. In 2021, a girls’ boarding school was also opened to house senior students undertaking studies at Mbazzi High School, with plans to open a boys’ boarding school now well underway.

In addition to its educational programs, the Foundation continues to facilitate a range of community-led projects within the region, as well as providing access to clean water, healthcare facilities and psychosocial support to assist students and their families to flourish and learn.

For more information about School for Life, visit www.schoolforlife.com.au.

Rtn. Annabelle Chauncy
Rotary EClub of Greater Sydney



What sort of people read *The Rotarian*?

People who make their community a better place.

The Kigali Public Library, the brainchild of Rotarians, is a center for peacebuilding, education, and connection.

76% of our readers said working in their local community is their top priority.

SOURCE: 2016 *Rotarian* Reader Survey conducted by GfK MRI

A photograph of two young women with dark hair, smiling and looking at a book together. They are in a library setting, with shelves of colorful books visible in the background. The woman on the left is wearing a patterned shirt, and the woman on the right is wearing a blue shirt. They are both holding the book, which has a colorful cover.



RTN. MAYA SMEULDERS

An enduring love affair with the people of Mubende

In 1997, a group of Rotarians from Abingdon Vesper Rotary Club visited Mubende District to buy and distribute wheelbarrows and other farming tools to women’s groups. They had heard about Mubende from a Ugandan studying in England and decided to visit and see whether they could do anything to help.

It was love at first sight, and since that visit, at which they also met Rotarians in Mubende, lots of District Grant-funded projects followed to benefit schools, Mubende Regional Referral Hospital and whole village communities. These projects continue to date.

Agricultural Microcredit Project

In 2007, after meeting Kulika Chief Executive Officer the late Elijah Kyamuendo, the plan for an agricultural microcredit scheme combined with training in organic agriculture was born. Starting with three farmer groups, the project has gradually matured into a scheme with 40 microcredit groups at any one time and a total of 120 farmer groups to date. Abingdon Vesper developed a microfinance fund, helped by other Rotary Clubs in the Netherlands, France and Italy. Kulika Uganda is a partner in the scheme.

The philosophy behind the project is to give a hand-up, not a hand-out. Once they are trained in organic agriculture and bookkeeping, Ugandan farmers are perfectly capable of running their own business. So, the groups administer the loans themselves. The members of a group also know each other’s strengths and weaknesses better than an outsider would. They work within a set of rules and guidelines designed to lead to the success of the group.

A vital role is played by our team of Key Farmer Trainers

(KFTs) under the leadership of Local Coordinator, Emmanuel Tubuhimaana. In 2014 and 2019/20 young farmers from different villages were trained at RUCID Organic Agricultural College in Mityana and Kulika Training Centre in Lutisi. In return, they committed to sharing this knowledge with farmers and schools in their communities. So they are guiding farmer groups through the preparatory stages before microcredit is given, by initiating or adjusting saving and lending practices and record-keeping for the future loan system. This is to ensure, that when a group receives a three-year interest-free loan, it has all the necessary skills to administer small loans to its members. Training in soil health, organic fertilisers, organic pesticides, water management etc. goes hand in hand with this. KFTs and visiting Rotarians continue to follow the groups’ progress over the years.

In addition to in-group training, over 200 group leaders attend a yearly training seminar and learn more about farm economics, animal husbandry, crop growing, water harvesting, reproductive health, land rights and other topics from organisations like C-Care, RUCID, RHU or Kulika. Group treasurers learn and practice bookkeeping skills using electronic calculators.

Loans to individual members in a group are decided by the whole group. That is because at the end of three years the group is responsible for paying back the original microcredit (not the interest earned). The loans, which can only be used for income-generating activities, are for ten months and are paid back in three equal instalments after four, seven and ten months. The farmer pays an affordable interest to the group, calculated over the declining balance. This money is added to the loan pool. During the first four months, interest accrues but



is not paid until the first instalment is due. This grace period enables the farmers to grow and sell crops or animals before making any payments. When the group pays back the original microcredit, it will have built up its capital to continue lending. The money it has paid back is passed on to another group.

Any group can adopt a similar saving and lending system, even without external loans being provided. As long as the group has the patience and discipline to save and lend for income-generating purposes and to use the interest payments to build up its loan pool, the members can grow their assets. The key word is patience. Do not be tempted to charge interest rates above 2-3% monthly. It will not work, as borrowers will be unable to keep up the payments and the group will eventually fail. Honesty, fairness and democracy are also vital ingredients of the magic formula.

This system has enabled thousands of farmers and tens of thousands of family members to have a better lifestyle and hope for the future. It has paid for children’s education, home and farm improvements, better health, start-up capital for a business and other material benefits. In addition, the participants have gained agricultural knowledge, planning and

leadership skills and a good credit record.

Farmers face plenty of challenges like unreliable rainfall, soil depletion, difficult market access, land scarcity to name just a few. Some of them are climate-related, others due to lack of knowledge and investment and unsustainable population growth. These factors should be addressed to ensure a prosperous future.

As one chairperson put it, “microcredit has helped us a lot. Those who had bicycles, now have motorbikes. Those without land, now own a plot. Those with a mud house, now have a permanent home. Those without animals, now own at a cow.” *Indeed, testifying to this is Joules Uwihoreye, a member of the Abasa Ekimu Lwemiyaga Farmers Group who got a loan of Ug Shs 450,000 to buy a bull, sold it after six months and bought two others which she later sold to buy an acre of land for farming. Jovia Mbabazi, a member of the same group had been evicted from the land she previously occupied. With this interest-free loan, she was able to buy land and construct a new house.*

Fuel-saving eco-stoves

One of the trainings the KFTs undertake with their groups is building fuel-saving eco-stoves. This is very important, as the women told us they were spending up to five hours

daily to collect a bundle of increasingly scarce firewood for cooking. Compared to cooking on open fires, the eco-stoves need only a third of firewood, because they burn more efficiently and cook several pots at the same time. They also reduce smoke and the risk of burns. Firewood collection trips can be limited to twice weekly, an effort and time saving of 60 days per year, which can be better used for other activities.

These stoves are made from free local materials. By mixing dried grass, sand, loam, termite soil, ash, sawdust, sweet potato leaves and water you get a clay mixture with which to build your stove. Two banana stems are needed to keep the fireplace, smoke channels and pot stands open during drying. Slow drying is important to avoid cracking. After a few weeks, the pan positions and fire opening can be shaped, while smearing with cow dung will make the surface smooth and more durable. Should any cracks appear later, they can easily be repaired with the same mixture. Internal smoke channels take the smoke outside through a hole in the kitchen wall at the back of the stove. If the position of the stove is carefully chosen with the outlet downwind, a chimney will not be needed to achieve smoke-free cooking. Think of the enormous health benefits that brings. The World Health Organisation reckons that spending one hour in a smoke-filled kitchen equals smoking 400 cigarettes. Cooking smoke is the main cause of eye and lung disease and damages the development of unborn children.

Mud stoves save trees, combat climate change, improve health and give women a better quality of life by freeing up time and energy! Plus.... they are dirt-cheap!

No wonder that most locals in the village want to have them as well. They formed small groups to build stoves in each other's houses. The Rotary Club of Mubende is helping to raise awareness about the advantages of eco-stoves by organising events where some model stoves are constructed. Mubende Radio also broadcasts a song called Kekereza Enku at regular intervals. We would like to encourage all Rotary Clubs in District 9211 and beyond to take up this cause. For more information, visit <http://learning4lifeafrica.org/> or you can contact RC Mubende to connect with the stove- builders – Kibalinga Young Farmers Association (KYOFA).

Learning4Life School Development Programme

As Rotarians from Abingdon have continued to visit the microcredit groups every year, they also became aware of the problems rural primary schools are facing: crumbling buildings, overcrowded classes, demoralised teachers,

lack of teaching aids, and sometimes hungry pupils.

In 2015, a rural primary school development project, called Learning 4 Life (L4L), was started, first in two, but now 10 village schools. Under this programme, food is grown around the schools to help provide daily meals for all children and teachers. Children often walk a long journey to school, so it is very important for their physical wellbeing and learning that they eat healthy food while at school. Teachers, parents and pupils can learn organic growing methods from a KFT and apply that knowledge to their farms. We hope to raise environmental awareness also by avoiding littering and planting trees.

L4L also arranges continuing professional development training for teachers by Varkey Foundation and Montessori trained consultants. The emphasis is on a more child-centred method of teaching so that pupils are more engaged and also learn from each other. Teachers working with the younger learners were also equipped with skills in early childhood development and the use of more informal teaching methods. It was emphasised that toys, even at a very young age, develop a child's brain and that playing is a child's way of learning.

Thanks to a £180,000 donation from the Dutch Education Foundation, private donations, numerous Rotary District Grants from RC Abingdon Vesper and small contributions from the UK link schools, L4L has achieved lots of improvements in 10 primary schools (Kyakasimbi, Kasaana Public, Kabubbu, Mugungulu, Nabibungo, Christ the King, Ntungamo, Mawujjo, Kitalemwa, Ntunda Modern). In these old classrooms were renovated and new ones constructed too, including teachers' accommodation and separate latrines for girls, and eco-friendly stoves, desks were provided in addition to rainwater harvesting systems including large underground reservoirs holding 80,000 litres of water and clean drinking water filters. Library and textbooks, posters, charts, toys, musical instruments and sports equipment were donated and these all contribute to a positive learning environment.

Amongst the highlights of the year are the interschool competitions. Pupils from P1 to P7 from each school compete against each other by answering questions based on the core curriculum, and the winning teams get a small solar light for their personal use. These quizzes are combined with either a sport or music competition in the afternoon. In the 2020

competition before the COVID-19 lockdown, they performed wonderful songs about the environment. The Mugungulu choir stood out:

*"Oh Uganda, the land that feeds us,
the pearl of Africa
We care for you and the environment*

*Everything we do, makes a difference
Every tree we plant, shows we care
If we care now, we save the future*

*The environment is part of us
We have to care, keep the land,
protect the forest, save the lake,
If we care now, we save the future
Plastics are dangerous,
Wasting is bad, avoid pollution"*

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a terrible impact on the education of rural children. It will not be easy to catch up. We are glad that schools will soon welcome back all pupils. L4L has ensured that thermometer guns, water for handwashing and food are available for the pupils. We, Rotarians, can't wait to visit Mubende



again. Good education is the best gift parents can give their children. In today's world with high youth unemployment, it is more important than ever, that all boys and girls get basic primary school education and additional skills so that they become resilient and can adapt to whatever future they may face in later life.

Far too many children do not complete the primary level. L4L is happy that there are local non-governmental organisations like the Kyamukoona Skills Centre, run by Ugandans, who offer affordable courses in practical skills like building, welding, dressmaking, hair braiding, even computing for young people. With such skills, they become valued citizens, able to take care of themselves and their families. Rotarians, please support education in all its forms.

Rtn. Maya Smeulders

RC Abingdon Vesper - District 1090, UK

Mubende Projects Coordinator

Note: Additional information by

Emmanuel Tubihimaana

Local Project Coordinator - Mubende

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CYNTHIA ELAINE PACUTHO



A journey of a thousand miles: Tracing RMPU’s first steps

Rotarian Malaria Partner Uganda (RMPU) is a nascent organisation seeking to ignite a national Rotarian campaign towards the eradication of malaria in Uganda. Rotary’s polio track record and vast project experience through various Rotary and Rotaract clubs countrywide makes her well placed to support RMPU’s Vision to eliminate malaria in the country. Along with her global partner – Malaria Partners International (MPI) formerly RMP and strategic partners like the Ministry of Health (MoH) National Malaria Control Program (NMCP) and Uganda Parliamentary Forum on Malaria (UPFM), RMPU’s five-year Advocacy Plan is to change the malaria prevalence and incidence landscape towards national elimination through:

- *Malaria prevention through Integrated Vector Management (IVM); Achieving and sustaining protection of at least 85% of the target population at risk through recommended malaria prevention measures. Our strategic interventions include Long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLIN), Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS), larval source management, lifestyle change, home citing, and natural mosquito repellent plants.*
- *Malaria Case Management; Increase levels of awareness, knowledge of malaria signs and symptoms to support all case reporting and effective management in the community and at the national level. Our strategic interventions are in diagnosis and treatment of malaria and organising blood donation drives.*
- *Malaria in pregnancy and chemoprophelaxis; By 2024, at least 85% of the target population is knowledgeable about and utilising malaria treatment in pregnancy. Strategic interventions include Intermittent preventive treatment (IPT) in*

pregnancy and chemoprophelaxis.

Blood Donation Drives

A few months after its inception in 2019, RMPU championed a three-month National Blood Donation Drive in collaboration with Uganda Blood Transfusion Services (UBTS). Statistics showed that blood banks are supported mainly by high school students, market vendors and motorbike riders (80%), corporations 8%, security companies 1%, fixed sites 4%, assorted clubs and associations 2%, hospitals 1%, and religious bodies 4%. RMPU invited the Top 100 Taxpayers to partner in a nation-wide blood donation drive that kicked off with a press conference and blood donation at the MoH headquarters and a social media campaign dubbed Donate Blood: One pint saves three Lives that elicited a massive corporate response and saw UBTS meet their monthly blood collection target in September 2019.

Urban Malarial Site Visits

RMPU carried out Urban Malarial Site Visits in Mulimira Zone, Bukoto in February 2020 with RC Bukoto, and Katanga slum in September 2020 with RC Kampala-Wandegeya. RC Kampala-Naguru hosted RMPU on a needs assessment with Village Health Teams (VHTs) in Naguru in October 2020, while Nsooba Mulago II parish VHTs’ meeting was hosted by RC Makindye. After sensitising the VHTs about malaria prevention, they get megaphones to facilitate community engagements.

MPI Small Grant Projects

The Rotary Clubs of Arua/Arua Eco-City, Mbale Metropolitan, and Bukoto are the first beneficiaries of the MPI Small Grants. They received US\$5,000 from MPI, matched by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, to implement malaria-related projects. s; RC Arua’s VHTs implement malaria prevention and control interventions in communities like Ombatini and Adroyi villages in Arua



where reported malaria cases at partner hospital Kuluva decreased from 200 to 54 in the first quarter of 2021. RC Mbale’s Peer educators were trained and equipped to support fellow market vendors in Mbale on Malaria control and prevention, while RC Bukoto trained VHTs and conducted larviciding in Katanga slum, Kampala. RC Kiwatule’s Nakivale Camp Malaria Project is in the running for approval.

Stakeholder Engagement

RMPU has run two successful media campaigns; the first in 2020 dubbed – Mosquitoes are not on quarantine and the second, *Plant a tree; Mosquitoes flee* in the first quarter of 2021. The radio and social media campaigns addressed the effect of COVID-19 on the malaria fight and the need to plant various mosquito repellent plants around our homes in addition to the current household interventions like sleeping under treated mosquito nets, clearing stagnant water, and practising IRS houses respectively. The latter campaign was launched in Arua with RC Arua/Arua EcoCity and Rotaractors in September 2020.

In the first quarter of 2021, the MoH’s National Malaria Control Division (NMCD) invited RMPU to join a multi-sectoral team of malaria actors from varied sectors – World Health Organisation (WHO), African Leadership Malaria Alliance (ALMA), Alliance of Mayors and Municipal Leaders Initiative for Community Action on AIDS at Local Levels (AMICAALL), InPact and UPFM among others – to review progress and plans towards establishing a multi-sectoral approach to malaria control and elimination in Uganda. Under objective

six of the Uganda Malaria Reduction and Elimination Strategic Plan 2021-2025, by 2025 at least 80% of districts will have strengthened an enabling environment to deliver malaria interventions and measure progress through coordinated partnership and multi-sectoral collaboration.

In April 2021, as part of the Malaria Awareness Month commemoration, UPFM hosted various stakeholders to a high-level meeting with their Malaria Champion, the Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga, Speaker of Parliament. The meeting included representatives from MoH National Malaria Control Program, WHO, UNICEF, Global Fund, USAID, DFID, Malaria consortium, ALMA, The Aids Support Organization (TASO), Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), Uganda CSO Action Against Malaria (UCAAM), UBTS, Central Public Health Laboratory (CPHL) Rotary Uganda represented by Governor Rosetti Nabbumba, Pilgrim Africa and Malaria Free Uganda represented by PDG Ken Mugisha.

The Speaker acknowledged that COVID-19 had pushed all other health concerns to a corner. She committed to follow up on pledges made by H.E the President during the launch of UPFM/Mass Action Against Malaria (MAAM) in 2018, and urged stakeholders to continue sensitizing Ugandans about malaria prevention interventions, most of which are free. She opened the blood donation drive in the Parliamentary Gardens with a call for more support to UBTS.

RMPU continues to leverage collective action and resources towards malaria elimination countrywide.

Cynthia Elaine Pacutho
Administrator - RMPU



To celebrate World Malaria Day in April, the Rotary Club of Kisaasi-Kyanja partnered with the National Malaria Control Program to host a national Malaria Awareness 30Km bicycle. The event was the climax of the 96th District Conference and Assembly graced by R1PPR Yinka Babalola, Governor D9211 Rosetti Nabbumba and PDG Ken Mugisha, Chairman Malaria Free Uganda and RMPU.





RTN. EDGAR NSEREKO

Training for Life

Training for Life is a global grant seeking to decrease mother and child mortality, and promote Sustainable Development Goal three focusing on reduced worldwide maternal and perinatal mortality.

The US\$117,091 project, which targets skills improvement in all referral hospitals in Uganda is implemented by the Rotary Club of Kyambogo in partnership with the Ministry of Health, Máxima Medical Centre–Eindhoven, University of Technology–Eindhoven Netherlands, and RC Eindhoven-Welschap (D1550) as the International partners.

This project involves setting up a medical simulation centre (three rooms consisting of a simulation (delivery) room, control room and debriefing room, with patient, birthing, neonatal and part-task simulators, plus audio and video equipment) per target hospital. The medical simulation development and training program target all medical cadres (gynaecologists, paediatricians, anesthesiologists, and senior midwives/nurses, communication experts, researchers' staff and students) involved in the obstetrics and gynaecology fields in Uganda.

It was hoped that a vocational training team (VTT) from the Netherlands would visit Uganda and impart both medical skills/knowledge and team/communication skills to over 350 professionals in the areas of obstetric/neonatal/anaesthesia departments in the New Mulago Specialised Maternal and Neonatal Centre in Kampala. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the training is being conducted online from the Netherlands.

Among the many of the project's innovations is digitising local scenarios, culture and practices as learning experiences for other students and medical

practitioners for other countries globally. From these, it is expected that any trained medical practitioner should be able to support child delivery in emergencies cases in a maximum of three months.

The project also supported participating hospitals to set up an Electronic Birth Registry System (EBRS) with a maternity dashboard to enable real-time Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation.



Participating institutions in the first phase included New Mulago Specialised Women and Neonatal Hospital, Kawempe National Referral Hospital and Nakaseke General Hospital where 30 gynaecologists, 250 midwives, 60 senior health officers, 20 junior health officers, 45 anaesthetists and five neonatologists were trained.

The second phase has Mbale Regional Referral Hospital (RRH) where a TOT- training was conducted from 1st-3rd December, while Gulu and Arua RRHs were scheduled for April-June 2021.

While closing the training, the Dean College of Health Sciences in Busitema University commended Rotary and all project partners for introducing such cost-



effective technologies and innovative ways of improving health care providers' skills in managing emergency obstetrics and neonatal conditions.

Phase three will target nine non-teaching RRHs, and phase four shall be a joint university and partners' research to measure the effect of two major patient outcomes: mother mortality and morbidity, and child mortality and morbidity. The total project value is estimated at US\$2.78million, in five years, and it's envisioned to cover at least all the referral hospitals in the country.

There is evidence that simulation training has improved knowledge and skills and there are early indicators of a reduction in child mortality. The project model has had an impact globally such as a 50% reduction in shoulder dystocia damage after training (The Netherlands), 20% reduction in C-sections (Mexico), 40% reduction in maternal mortality (Mexico), and 34% reduction in perinatal mortality (Zimbabwe).

Rtn. Edgar Nsereko
President – RC Kyambogo



RTN. NATAL GLORIA BIRUNGI

Clean hygiene facilities for Cambridge Secondary School

Cambridge Secondary School is located in Kyengera Town, Wakiso District. It was founded by Mrs. Kevin Kalule after her retirement initially as a home for children escaping the vagaries of poverty, war, and child labour. She later turned this home into a boarding school to offer these children education with the hope of creating a positive change in their future.

With a population of 60 boys and girls, the school had incomplete hygiene facilities which posed a challenge for the learners. This prompted the Rotary Club of Muyenga Sunday Sunset (MSS) to partner with the Rotary Club of Barrie, Ontario in District 7010 (Canada) to complete the construction of waterborne bathrooms and toilets for the girls’ dormitories.

Speaking during the handover of the facilities, Rtn. Christine Namayanja, RC Muyenga Sunday Sunset’s

Charter President underscored the importance of sanitation facilities in schools. “Clean washrooms are a good starting point to encouraging sanitation and hygiene for school-going children. I believe every child has a right to a clean and well-kept environment,” she noted. The function was presided over by the District Governor Nominee Designate Francisco Semwanga.

The club raised US\$4,000 which funded the plumbing works, the building of the septic tank, four toilets and 12 bathrooms, and an overhead 1,000-liter tank. The students lauded the effort, noting that it was an important step to improving hygiene for the girls. The Rotary Club of Muyenga Sunday Sunset pledged to finalise the remaining works.

Rtn. Natal Gloria Birungi
RC Muyenga Sunday Sunset



ENOCK NAMWOYO



Rotary scholarship to create more WASH opportunities for Soroti residents

I had nursed a desire to enrol for a master’s degree for several years. This fantasy often lingered in my thoughts, as I painted images of what could fill the emptiness I felt. My dreams of conducting research and developing new technologies seemed farfetched not because I could not achieve them, but because I was required to have a master’s degree to engage in these activities.

With a desire to create solutions to the water and sanitation problems faced by communities in Uganda, I often applied to several universities and got admitted, but failed to enrol due to lack of funds. Lady luck smiled upon me when I applied to the IHE Delft Institute for Water Education in the Netherlands. Upon admission, they advised me to apply for a scholarship from the Rotary Foundation.

One Tuesday evening, my trot along the streets of Soroti town, with the dust trying to settle with the sunset but the rather busy motor and pedestrian traffic repeatedly raising it, I landed on the LandMark Hotel. Here the Rotary Club of Soroti met for an hour. I introduced myself and made the acquaintance of some members. I was then invited to another meeting where I made a presentation requesting to be sponsored for the master’s course. The club vetted me and with guidance from Dr. Joel Okalany (RIP), the application forms were filled and sent to the Foundation.

Months later, I woke up to an email confirming me as one of the 14 candidates awarded a scholarship to study a Master of Science in Urban Water and Sanitation specialising in sanitary engineering. This was a result of a US\$49,988 global grant between RC Soroti and RC Vlaardingen 80 from the Netherlands. On 19th November 2019, I took a flight to Delft, a small student city in the Netherlands where I would find over 150 nationalities. This offered me the privilege to study

in a multi-cultural environment attaining vast knowledge, not only in water and sanitation but also different cultures from all over the world. I gained insight into better methods to conduct research and my innovative thoughts were challenged to seek more solutions in deeper scientific realms than I had done before.

I shall use every ounce of knowledge, networks and other resources to improve the quality of life for my communities in Soroti. Now that I have graduated, I will return home and hopefully collaborate with RC Soroti to use the new ideas to improve the livelihoods of Soroti residents, and also teach them how they can achieve more in life. This scholarship offered me an eye-opening opportunity that every aspiring water professional should seek.

Enock Namwoyo
Recipient – Rotary Foundation Scholarship





RTN. DIANA ELINAM

Education during and after pregnancy: A perspective from Interactors

In a recent article in The Citizen newspaper, Zanzibar’s Minister for Education and Vocational Training, Mr. Simai Mohammed Said highlighted the need to re-evaluate policies that restrict pregnant girls from continuing with their education. This is one of the most controversial topics in the country. In 1960, a policy was introduced in Tanzania banning pregnant girls from attending school. In 2002, a law to the same effect was passed and it was later reinforced in 2017 by President John Pombe Magufuli (RIP).

When girls fail to continue with their studies, they together with their communities are affected. This article looks at the negative effect of banning pregnant girls from continuing with their education from the perspective of Interactors at Mikocheni Secondary School and Dar-es-Salaam International Secondary School. As the moderator of the discussion, I was joined by the patrons of the two clubs from RC Mikocheni and RC Mbezi Beach respectively.

The students were asked to voice their opinions various perspectives: the pregnant girl who has dropped out of school, a male counterpart, family member, Government Officer, and a member of the society. The students were informed that about 8,000 girls drop out of school due to pregnancy every year, according to the National Accelerated Action and Investment Agenda for Adolescent Health and Wellbeing 2020/21 – 2023/24. This information was received with shock, and it infused the emotional quotient needed to work parallel with their intelligence quotient to produce an engaging discussion about this sensitive matter.

With the discussion led by Eliud Valentino, Hassan Ally, Sarah, Queen Abdallah, Hafsa Makame, Angela

Scaramuzzo and Malimi Majaliwa, it was noted that banning girls from returning to school during and after pregnancy results in negative outcomes as explained below:

High rate of illiteracy: From the statistics, there is a potential to send 8,000 girls into illiteracy every year. Mothers are the first teachers for their children and they teach from experience, so if they are illiterate, they might not be motivated to encourage their children to go to school, thus resulting in a high number of uneducated people in the country.

Limited economy growth: Tanzania was recently listed as one of the middle-income countries in Africa, with one of the contributing factors being an increase in the number of women at workplaces. Banning young girls from returning to school will create more dependent women in the future that cannot carry out meaningful economic tasks, which could affect the economy negatively.

Early marriages: There have been many cases of early marriages in Tanzania. When a girl gets pregnant, she carries the stigma and blame for shaming the entire family. In most cases, the families of the girl and responsible male counterpart quickly arrange a marriage for the two. However, sometimes when the boy’s family retaliate and refuse this arrangement, sadly these girls are forced to marry even older people. Early marriages lead to detriment of mental, physical and emotional health, abusiveness and many other negative factors such as young widows left behind with a large number of children to look after when the older partner passes on.

Overpopulation: Once the girl is pregnant and stays home, they will lack basic family planning education and this could result in unplanned family growth. These children could also grow without role models to educate them about family planning and the circle continues. Once a girl returns to school after birth, chances are high that they could still work to improve their livelihood and learn better family planning methods.

Increase of the HIV and AIDS pandemic: Many young school dropouts face a risk of either getting into forced marriages, rape and prostitution usually as a result of loss of hope arising from the stigmatisation. These risks could lead to contracting sexually transmitted diseases like HIV and AIDS.

The Interactors playing the roles of different actors noted thus:
Daniel George speaking from the perspective of a boy who impregnated the girl, “I would own my actions, invest and open for her a business in case she is not allowed to return to school. This would enable her to support herself and the child.”

Hafsa Juma speaking from the perspective of a mother of a pregnant girl, would be shocked and disappointed because society would judge her, but she would take her daughter to the hospital for a checkup, and institute legal action against the person responsible for

impregnating her daughter so that they provide the necessary child support.

Speaking as a Member of Parliament, Malimi Majaliwa, says, “I would inform the National Assembly about the annual numbers of girls getting pregnant while in school, and advocate for them to stay in school. But I would campaign for special schools for such students since they have a right to education.”

For Angele Scaramuzo, as a Minister, she would first reverse this law since pregnancy should not stop a girl from continuing with her education, and she would advocate for effective sex education in schools.

The Interactors all agreed about the effects of banning pregnant girls from continuing with their education, although some thought it wise to have alternative schools for girls and boys in such scenarios. It was noted important for both the boy and girl to have a choice to return to. In conclusion, they also called for severe punishment against rapists to deter the offence that is becoming common especially in the rural areas.

Rtn. Diana Elinam
RC Mikocheni





RTN. JIMMY MUSIIME

RC Kabale: Celebrating 37 years of changing lives

Amidst a light morning downpour, Rotarians and well-wishers gathered at the National Teachers College Kabale campus on 1st May and planted over 500 trees in celebration of the 37 years of the Rotary Club of Kabale. Chartered on 24th April 1984, RC Kabale is one of the oldest clubs in western Uganda.

The Chief Guest Rotarian Robert Rutagi was stunned on seeing a generator donated to this College by the Exe-Valley Rotary Club, Tiverton of UK in partnership with the RC Kabale way back in 1989. Rtn. Robert helped transport the generator from Mombasa to Kabale when he was the Managing Director of Trans Ocean (U) Limited. It was indeed amazing that several years later, the donation was still sound and functional! The Chief Guest was taken on a tour of the town to see the green belts planted by the club over the years.

A sumptuous dinner was served at White Horse Inn, Kabale with several Rotarians, including a few surviving charter members in attendance. The first leaders were awarded for their exemplary service, and Past Assistant Governor (PAG) James Ndomeirwe a Charter member was commended for his continued active participation in club activities and for being their “encyclopedia”.

President Alison Byarugaba outlined the club’s numerous achievements over the years, credited to great teamwork. It was a day worth celebrating the 15 past presidents still in active service, eight of whom are female; plus, five PAGs.

Rtn. Robert thanked the club for its exemplary stewardship which has enabled them to implement several community projects. The Club is one of the oldest Rotary Clubs in Western Uganda.

The day ended with sharing of a commemorative cake and a great dance to prepare for the coming years. We are grateful to all members of the organising committee led by Rtn. Prof. Mesach Katusiime, Rtn. Roland Fox of Fox Images Ltd who offered photography services, and the jocular emcee Rtn. Solomon Kobwemi for spicing up the day with lots of fun.

Having joined RC Kabale in 2015, I have served in several positions and have seen the club implement several service projects covering the six areas of focus, but the most fascinating to me is the annual student sponsorship project done in partnership with Port Lethen Rotary Club and Bill Burge Trust of UK. Through this project, tuition fees are paid for pupils in primary and secondary schools and students in university and tertiary institutions in the greater Kigezi Region. More than 100 students have been sponsored to pursue degrees and diplomas in higher institutions of learning. This year the club paid Ug Shs 11,900,000 for 13 students attending various courses at Kabale University under this sponsorship scheme.

Rtn. Jimmy Musiime
RC Kabale



RTN. SOLOMON JACKSON KOBWEMI (PHF)

Rotary: A chance to pay back

A story is told of a young man born in a poverty-stricken home. With a polygamous father who never knew or even thought about the need and value of educating a child, all his siblings had not studied beyond Senior Four. This young man realised as early as the age of nine that to make it, he had to fend for himself. With the help of his mother and older sibling, he started a business selling brooms. So, every Saturday he would walk seven kilometres to town and sell his merchandise. This enabled him to pay fees, buy scholastic materials and support the mother with household needs.

After completing Primary school, he was stuck. The business could no longer support the secondary school fees bill. At this point, a good person offered to pay for this young man’s education. This young boy saw his dream start to materialise. He left the village for a town school. What a joy it was! Hope was restored!!

The young man performed very well and sat his Uganda Certificate of Education, which he passed with a First Grade. However, the then guardian could no longer afford to pay for higher secondary education. Gloom and hopelessness set in again. In that midst, another good samaritan showed up and offered to pay his fees enabling this boy to continue with higher education. Elation, ecstasy, joy untold filled his heart. He studied hard and joined the university, where he graduated with honours and went ahead to complete a Masters in Economics. With a relatively good job, he now has a fire and energy for life. He supported four of his siblings to return to school and they are all now educated with different qualifications- what a multiplier effect!!! I am this young man. Life looked so hopeless and meaningless until someone held my hand and led me forward. The main reason and motivation to join

Rotary was to help those in situations like mine. How better could I pay the people who helped me along my path of life other than paying it forward? You may never know the impact a dollar or two has until you hear stories like mine. When that little is gathered under a great organisation like Rotary International, the effect is exponential.

If we can commit to giving, however little it might seem, several peoples’ lives will never be the same. It’s never too small- it can make a difference. If you and I can choose to shine a light for those who have lost hope, blessed are you. Remember, I would not have dreamt of becoming a Rotarian if someone had not helped. So, let us give unreservedly.

Rtn. Solomon Jackson Kobwemi (PHF)
TRF Director/FAN Champion – RC Kabale

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RTN. MARGARET KYEMBA KULABA

RC Jinja City ushers in a breath of fresh air

Margaret Bugonzi Kyemba Kulaba is married to Rtn. Ben Kulaba, Charter member of the Rotary Club of Jinja City. The seventh born of nine children, Margaret is a mother of five biological children and many dependants. She studied at Bat Valley Primary School, Old Kampala Secondary School, and Eastern College of Advanced Studies. Margaret holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration from Makerere University, a diploma in Gender Studies from MASHAV Israel, and holds several certificates in various fields.

She is a human rights activist currently serving as the Executive Director of the Anti-Domestic Violence Centre (ADOVIC), a non-governmental that ensures families live happily in harmony. Margaret also serves as a Director at Rainbow Funeral Services Ltd, Chairperson of the Women Human Rights Defenders Network Uganda, and Jinja District NGO Forum.

The Rotary Club of Jinja City is an extraordinary story born out of careful thought, and deep reflection that aroused the conscience of its leadership to experience Rotary in a new way. It was inspired out of a need for new ways, thoughts, culture, challenges, and a wind of change that would usher in a fresh “breath” of air in terms of experiencing Rotary. This club was meant to give members a new experience in terms of family bonding, freedom, joy, a culture of love, tolerance, innovation, and exchange of gifts and talents in the spirit of the Four-Way Test.

The Club started its journey a year ago, drawing on Paul Harris’ words – “the foundation upon which Rotary is built is friendship; on no less firm foundation could it have stood.” These words have been the heart, soul and spirit of our Club – having set out to form a club

based on a new culture and identity that promotes the bond of friendship, love and openness to each other.

With a current membership of 28 members (10 females and 18 male), of which 22 were charter members and six inducted, the RC Jinja City is promoting mutual sharing and love for one another and the family spirit is the fulcrum of our weekly fellowships. Freedom of expression, fraternal correction in love, mentorship by the old and young are important ingredients of our club.

When our first charter date of 20th February 2021 was cancelled on the insistence of the Mother Club that we were not ready because they had not trained us, instead of being demoralised, the members were energised and continued with our projects and recommended. A new charter date was set for 27th March 2021 but it was also postponed due to the burial of late Rtn. Norah Owori. This created a dilemma, but eventually, we settled for 8th May 2021. I thank the club for their understanding and perseverance and my family for standing with me during this time.

The club has a unique diverse membership consisting of members of all ages. We also have a member with sight impairment but serves as the club treasurer, an albino, and a person with a physical disability. We also have a Moslem cleric and a Catholic Priest. The membership includes Ugandans, Indians, Europeans, and Americans.

Attending the 96th District Conference and Assembly (DCA) was a great networking opportunity as I got to meet Rotarians from all over the country and beyond. I am grateful to everyone that attended the Charter Night celebrations which attracted over 200 people from 20 Rotary clubs. Rotary is family. I am the Vice-Chairperson of the Rotarians Laughter fellowship,



which has enabled me to meet and interact with several Rotarians. I have been to Kasese to attend a wedding of a daughter to Rtn. Agripina Tuhimbise Nkwasiabwe of RC Kasese. Ten members from this club attended our Charter Night celebrations. I have built a network of business partners through the Rotary Business Connect platform. In partnership with some Rotarians, we started a business venture buying toilet paper manufacturing equipment.

We hope to achieve the following:
Service Projects: We shall write project proposals and dedicate one fellowship per month to monitor these projects, with the buddy groups playing a central role in implementation. Train members on how to carry out needs assessment for projects, utilise classifications in forming projects and proper stewardship in project implementation.

Membership: Increase membership by at least 20% and focus on recruiting younger people, filling the classification gaps, and implementing a robust

membership recruitment, mentorship and retention plan. Youth Service: Sponsor the youth for RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award) and participate in the Rotary Vijana Poa Program.

TRF: Contribute US\$5,000 from fundraising and member contributions. We hope to supplement all the above with an active public relations campaign.

Rtn. Margaret Kyemba Kulaba
Charter President – RC Jinja City

The club has a unique diverse membership consisting of members of all ages. We also have a member with sight impairment but serves as the club treasurer, an albino, and a person with a physical disability. We also have a Moslem cleric and a Catholic Priest.



RTN. CHARITY NAMAGANDA (PHF)

A desire for something new births Rotary EClub Ntinda

Charity Namaganda is a business entrepreneur with experience in managing Organisational Change. Having studied Psychology at Makerere University Kampala, she is pursuing a Masters at UCaAM University, Spain, specialising in Gas and Oil. If Charity is not serving in the community, you will find her buried in a library reading books either about religion, business, marketing, health or cooking. She is a mother of two beautiful daughters.

Starting as a charter member of the Rotary Club of Ntinda Metro, Charity is passionate about Rotary. She served as Chair TRF Committee, and Club Administration; and also at the District level on the Cancer Run Committee. She is a graduate of the Rotary Leadership Institute, and it is evident that Rotary runs in her blood vessels, being a daughter of PAG Florence Tinkamanyire, a.k.a. Super President. Her desire to empower several individuals and extend the growth of Rotary saw her take up the challenge to form an Eclub during these COVID-19 times.

In August 2020, 15 people attended an online meeting to learn more about Rotary. Having failed to get a "right-fit" within the existing clubs, these individuals wanted to start a new club with a different culture. They also had friends living in other countries that wanted to contribute towards changing communities back home in Uganda – thus the idea of forming the Rotary EClub Ntinda was born. We choose Friday morning because then, there was no club meeting at that time. Although members were excited to join Rotary, getting them to attend the Friday 7:00am meetings was difficult at first owing to the different time zones

especially for members in the USA and Canada, who have to be asleep at that time. It became worse during winter, with members in the UK and Sweden finding it difficult to wake up at 3:00 am to prepare for the meeting. With help from our Mother Club – RC Ntinda, we were able to get exciting and knowledgeable senior Rotary leaders as speakers and this excited the members. These leaders have mentored and trained us.

With time, we began having physical meetings every last Saturday of the month and this helped us get to know each other more, bond better and ease communication. We then formed buddy groups which improved attendance. We experienced some low moments when some of our members contracted COVID-19 between November and December 2020, so the festive season was a difficult time for us but we thank God everyone was healed.

After our third physical meeting, we attained Provisional status, and in April 2021 RC EClub Ntinda was chartered with 31 members (16 females and 15 male), and another 10 (seven females and three male) members will be inducted during the charter celebrations later this month. With a membership drawn from various countries: UK, Sweden, Holland, Canada, USA, Qatar, Rwanda, France and the majority from Uganda, the club encompasses various professions, cultures, and backgrounds.

We draw attendees from all over the world. Some of our frequent visitors include Opportunity President Olukayode Oladipo from RC Abeokuta, Nigeria and PAG David from Australia, who got to know about our Club from our website www.rotaryclubntinda.ug. We try to spice up our meetings by having the Rotary Norms in another language like French.



Forming this club has enabled me to meet very many people with integrity, and my leadership skills have escalated to another level. I have learnt how to deal with people and how to look at things from a different perspective.

We hope to achieve the following:

- **Membership:** Continue recruiting members taking into account diversity in countries, age, and gender.
- **Service Projects:** We plan to donate some food items to the juvenile Remand Home in Naguru, and have embarked on a Ug Shs 25,000,000 Maternal Child Health Project with the China Uganda Hospital Naguru, where we hope to donate Maternity equipment.
- **TRF:** We contributed Ug Shs 500,000 to the Polio Fund, and we continue to encourage members to contribute to TRF and soon we shall apply for Global Grants. We already have PHFs for our Charter Night.
- **Youth:** We have involved Rotaractors from other clubs in our activities. Rotaractor Ivan Semwanga from RAC Kawempe is our Sergeant-at-Arms. One of our Buddy groups participated in the Vijana Poa Program on 8th

May 2021 in Mukono.

We hope that with continuous training and mentorship, the club will be able to achieve great things. We have online trainings every Sunday for those who wish. Our kimeeza before the Friday meeting starts at 6:00am and members are free to ask questions which are answered by any senior Rotarian on the call.

Rtn. Charity Namaganda (PHF)
Charter President – RC EClub Ntinda





RTN. BETTY KYAKUWA

Golfing to transform Kamwokya slum

Over 160 golfers participated in the Rotary Club of Kitante’s inaugural TRF (The Rotary Foundation) Golf Fundraiser held last month at Entebbe Golf Club. A total of 36 teams (each with four players) participated in the tournament played in a stable ford (full-handicap).

Converging at Uganda’s oldest golf facility, to tee-off, evade numerous bankers and trees, chip to approach the greens and putt to glory, the golfers raised Ug Shs 17,000,000 for the club’s two major service projects. The tournament also offered an opportunity for non-golfers to take a go at putting – an exercise won by Rtn. Andrew Ntegeka of RC Kampala.

Through the I-WASH project, RC Kitante seeks to provide clean water and construct a community hospital in the Kamwokya slum. The Chairman Organising Committee and TRF Director, Rtn. Hannington Mpiima lauded the golfers, sponsors and partners for the support rendered towards the noble cause. “I appreciate everyone and all the companies that participated in this fundraiser. We could not have done it alone,” he said.

In attendance was Past District Governor Xavier Ssentamu, who praised the club for its continuous innovative fundraising initiatives dedicating to changing lives for the people in Kamwokya. He urged the golfers to join Rotary and contribute to transforming our communities.

The tournament was won by Team Kabalaza (team category) of Entebbe Golf Club with 114 points. Golfer Russel Knight emerged the overall winner with 43 points under the Men’s Category, while Godlive Nayebare won in the Ladies Category with 42 points.

The Club President, Rtn. Jackie Namara Rukare thanked all the partners for their support. “To our sponsors – ROKE Telecom, C-Squared, Vivo Energy, Liquid Telecom, Jibu Water, Stanbic Bank, Bank of Uganda, Legends Events and ICON Bar and Restaurant, today would not have been possible without you and we hope you can partner with us on our journey to transform the lives of the people in the Kamwokya slum,” she added.

To garner more funds, participants were engaged in board games at a minimal fee of Ug Shs 5,000 per game.



The day was crowned with dinner, fun activities and merrymaking. It is hoped that this fundraiser will be an annual event.

About the RC Kitante Service Projects

I-WASH: It was launched in 2017 after a needs assessment identified two challenges in the Kamwokya community: access to clean water and health services. A 20-litre jerrycan of water costs between Ug Shs 200-250, a charge not affordable for most households.

In partnership with National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) under the Pro-Poor Project, the club has installed eight community water points in Kisenyi Zone to enable 10,000 residents access water at Ug Shs 25 per 20-litre jerrycan. This means that with Ug Shs 200, a household can have sufficient

water for a day. Installation of each water point costs US\$1,200, and the club seeks to raise US\$40,000 to enable over 41,000 people living in the Kamwokya slum to access clean water.

Community Hospital: Currently the main health service provider is Kamwokya Christian Caring Community (KCCC) registered with the Ministry of Health and Kampala Capital City Authority as a Health Centre IV. The facility struggles to provide maternal services since it has one delivery bed for over 40,000 women. Working with KCCC, RC Kitante plans to support the construction and equipping of Kamwokya Community Hospital which requires US\$1 million, with phase 1 requiring US\$600,000.

Rtn. Betty Kyakuwa
RC Kitante





RTN. LUCY VRONTAMITIS

Arusha's Yin Yogathon raises funds for the girl-child

This Rotary year, Governor Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga has promoted Fitness and Nutrition (FAN) as one of her campaigns. With this in mind and my love for staying flexible, the idea to have a fun event and also raise funds - the Yin Yoga-thon was born.

With support from our President Harkiran Sidhu and the Board, Yin Yoga-thon was launched in February 2021. Yin Yoga is not a familiar routine to the wider community of Arusha, yet I was able to find nine yoga teachers in this small town with varied expertise, and two qualified to teach Yin. How great is that!! Onward we went with planning - two introductory sessions were held in February and March, (one hosted by a Rotary family and the other at Braeburn International School), and the main event happening on 24th April.

The one-hour long introductory sessions attracted 19 yogis. An in-depth introduction to Yin was done at the beginning of each session. The Yogathon was held over four weekends - allowing participants to enjoy the benefits of regular practice. Some of these include: Calms and balances the mind and body; Reduces stress and anxiety; Increases circulation; Improves flexibility, Releases fascia and improves joint mobility; and Balances the internal organs and improves the flow of chi or prana.

Between the planning period (February to April), over Tz Shs 3 million was raised to support two non-governmental organisations - Ndoto Zetu (www.ndotozetu.or.tz) and Jobortunity (www.jobortunity.org) both working towards the betterment of girls within the Arusha Region.

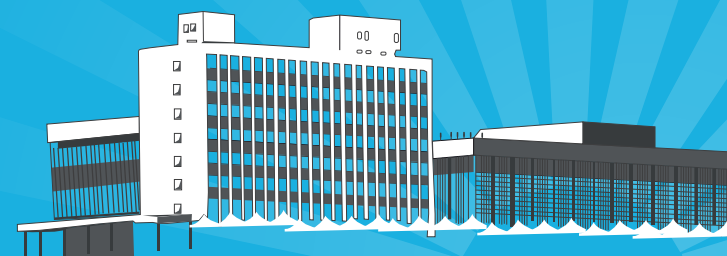
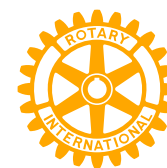
On 15th May, we held a four-and-a-half-hour session of Yin Yoga with some Yang, meditation and pranayama. The whole campaign has raised Tz Shs

6 million which the Rotary Club of Arusha will match. This initiative was successful due to the generosity of Brarburn International School and UWC East Africa, my fellow Yoga teachers in Arusha, friends, family and Rotarians worldwide.

What is Yin Yoga?

The practice of yin primarily targeting meridians, (the simplest definition is that a meridian is an energetic highway in the human body. Meridians allow for the flow of energy, known as Qi (pronounced "chee"), to circulate throughout the body. Meridians exist in corresponding pairs and each meridian has multiple acupuncture points along the pathway, according to Paul Grilley's book "Yin-Insights." Yin Yoga targets also the denser, deeper, more plastic/less elastic tissues, such as the ligaments, joint capsules, cartilage, bones and fascial networks of the body

Rtn. Lucy Vrontamitis
RC Arusha



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RTN. SUSAN ROSE KITUYI

How RC Soroti benefited from the first East Africa Project Fair

Never in my wildest dreams, had I ever imagined an encounter with Mexicans. But Rotary has been a game-changer in my life, creating opportunities that seemed far yonder. Last month, the Rotary Club of Soroti had the pleasure to host three Rotarians Christy Caldwell and President Carole Wolff led by Past Assistant Governor (PAG) Dale Knight all from clubs in Mexico. This was Dale's fourth visit to RC Soroti, and she has now earned the name "Akello". With the strong ties growing between the two clubs, another group is expected in October. Dale, who also serves as the District began her interaction with RC Soroti in February 2018 during the first East African Project Fair held in Entebbe and graced by the then Rotary International President-Elect Barry Rassin. Dale visited our stall, where she met Past President Godfrey Egwau and me. We discussed possibilities of partnering to implement various projects in water and sanitation; and improved agriculture in schools.

Our experience at the project fair

Being the Chair Projects and President-Elect then, Rtn. Godfrey was contemplating which project to implement during his presidency. I being a new and ambitious Rotarian was ready to participate in any Rotary activity. When the project fair was announced, with encouragement from Dr. Rtn. Joel Okalany (RIP) we were eager to take part, even though the US\$200 participation fee was a little beyond our reach as individuals and a club. Thankfully this fee was raised by Rtn. Felistas Coutinho from the sale of paper caps during a cancer run, and her top up. With the club paying for our transport, and us catering for accommodation, we ventured into a journey of the unknown.

Day one at the fair included training in the morning, and organising our exhibition stalls in the afternoon. Without any decoration, but armed with 16 projects to exhibit, a flip chart, brochures and markers, we spent the afternoon

telling stories on paper. Some people would visit our stall to simply ask very tough questions. Luckily, the District officials advised us on how to improve our presentations. By the end of day one, we had narrowed the projects from 16 to 4 by combining some.

Our signature project was in energy conservation where we wanted to provide energy saving stoves, grow trees and provide water in schools. Many clubs had similar projects, and we were advised to visit their stalls to seek possible collaborations.

By the end of the second day, no potential international partner had visited our stall, but as we visited other stalls, we got to know whom to look out for and even scheduled some appointments. Lady luck smiled on us on the last day as we got a visit from Dale and five other Rotarians. We exchanged contacts, and they later visited Soroti before departing from Uganda. This was the beginning of our friendship and partnership which has span the last three years and hopefully for many more to come.

Working with international partners

Incidentally, these Rotarians knew the operations of our district better than we did. During their next visit to Uganda after the fair, we met at Garden City, and they invited PDGs Emmanuel Katongole and Stephen Mwanje, who later invited PAG James Nkooka.

After perusing through the requirements, we kick-started the write-up for the pilot environmental conservation project. Rtn. Dale and Rtn. Barry Cogbil "Odeke" (a solar expert) from RC Santa Rosa East visited Soroti and met would-be beneficiaries. We conducted a needs assessment and I wrote the project with great assistance from Rotarians James and Barry, with the latter persistently insisting that I answer all the questions from Rtn. James, and ready

to assist if I had a challenge. Barry at times insisted that we have recorded clips since Zoom was not common then. During his visits to Uganda, we met some of the suppliers since he is a Solar Energy Specialist.

After the grant application was submitted, the international partners made their third visit to Uganda to simply assure the beneficiaries of support and outline their responsibilities. They returned at the height of COVID-19 in February 2020 with Rtn. Josephine Thornston "Kituyi" and three other partners to monitor the implementation of the US\$37,600 grant which supported the construction of three double burner solar-powered institutional stoves, 30 double domestic stoves, and conducting entrepreneurship training in three schools. Dale and Barry were excited about the progress and quality of work and noted the areas for improvement in the second grant. Barry even pledged to help Teso College Aloet acquire two stoves. "I wanted to spread thin, but Susan insisted and I am glad she did. This has been a successful project and we can now scale it up. There is now need to raise about US\$100,000 as Susan needs to expand the project," he added.

With lessons from the first grant, we have applied for another worth U\$74,000 with RC Santa Rosa East as the lead international partners. Here, four schools will get five double solar-powered institutional stoves; 35 community stoves donated to teachers with large families, fruit trees and legumes will be grown, training in soil moisture retention methods, making organic pesticides and fertilisers, entrepreneurship and formation of SACCOs conducted. The latter was in response to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic

endured by teachers who were majorly dependent on their classroom earnings. We also seek to get funding for carbon credits to ensure continuity of the project after Rotary's support is withdrawn.

We appreciate the support from our international partners - Barry and Katrina Zalvaney also from RC Santa Rosa East are always guiding us, topped up by Dale being the motherly figure believing in each person's abilities. Drawing from these collaborations, we hope to have a formal club twinning agreement with RC Santa Rosa East by their next visit in October. We are also conducting a community assessment to identify avenues for possible assistance since several clubs want to support us. The project fair opened us to good and beneficial friendships with the outside world. Through Zoom, I have presented possible service projects to two international clubs, and I am booked for two more presentations.

Our project has also featured in the ESRAG (Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group) newsletter "Restoring Ravaged farmland in Uganda" by Ariel Miller (<https://www.esrag.org/restoring-ravaged-farmland-uganda>)

As a young and small club, we have benefitted from the guidance of these international partners. I encourage clubs to always participate in project fairs, for they are not competitions, but an opportunity to unite and offer solutions to our common problems.

Rtn. Susan Rose Kituyi

President - RC Soroti Central





RTR. KEITH SEREMBA

Southern Knights: Building a winning brand

It is difficult to talk about Rotaract in Uganda without mentioning Kampala South. The club has built a reputation and brand that has propelled it to the highest levels in the District. Several people often wonder how we do this year after year.

From winning the Signing and Dance competition back in 2018/19 where for the first time we participated on our own as opposed to the joint partnership with our mother club, to winning several other awards such as Rotary-Rotaract Partnership, TRF Contribution, Membership, Rotaract Earth Initiative (REI) contribution and many others. The club continues to soar. Again one would wonder how? This is a question many of the Southern Knights as we are commonly known have been asked time and time again.

Speaking about projects, we adopted a school in Nyakijumba, Kabale District four years ago. When we started, this school was in a very bad state and we have improved the conditions by renovating the existing classroom block, installing solar lighting, a rain trap water tank and a borehole. In 2019/20 we took on an ambitious project to construct an additional classroom block. This was a bold move on our part which allowed us to explore new fundraising avenues, among them winning a district grant, and a grant from Sanlam worth Ug Shs 10 million. With these funds coupled with winnings from past events like the Singing and Dancing Competition, we kick-started this bold project, currently at ring beam level. We hope to complete it by December 2021.

The club has also carried out several other projects, more so during the COVID-19 period characterised by several disruptions in terms of finances and activities. We have persevered and soldiered on by encouraging buddy groups to carry out mini-projects. The first such initiative was a skilling project in Nakulabye where

50 youth affected by the pandemic were taught how to make books, snacks like potato chips, doughnuts, samosas, soap making and others to supplement their incomes this project.

We also had a buddy group led blood donation drive simultaneously in partnership with our twin clubs - Rotaract Club of Karura in Kenya and RAC Abugida in Ethiopia. In their different countries, each club collected over 100 units of blood in a campaign dubbed #SAVEALIFE KUE. This campaign received a lot of social media praise from the different club around the world and immense support from the local clubs. On the same day, we engaged in another fairly simple but impactful project called Move GECAF which was a partnership between nine countries in Oceania, talking about the impact of global warming and climate change. This project required each club to perform a challenge - either a dance, bike riding, run or hike and record a video which would later be merged into one.

The next buddy group activity was done during the Christmas break when members visited a home for children with special needs - Katalamwa Cheshire Home and donated some items among them diapers, food items, and soap. This home also makes prosthetics and wheelchairs for children with spina bifida and takes care of over 100 children living with different ailments that require physiotherapy and constant special attention.

January 2021 saw a buddy group implement the #AHELPING HAND Project. Here they partnered with Sister's Keeper and Women's Rights Initiative, My Kuku and several other organisations to fundraise for women affected by domestic violence. With each buddy group member contributing Ug Shs 10,000, and a social media fundraiser, over Ug Shs 1 million was raised and handed over to Patience Ahumuza the



main project organiser. The project targeted a home in Jinja which supports women affected by domestic violence. The team collected money, food items and clothing donated to the home to support some of the women and children.

The last buddy group project was done in March 2021. The buddy group adopted Faith Heart School, located on Sentama Road. The school mainly looks after orphaned children and provides a safe space for them to learn in a loving environment devoid of negative influence from the outside world. One of our club members works with this school and organised a visit for the Rotaractors to interact with and inspire the children. They also set up a 20,000-liter water tank and modern cooking stove; and shared a meal with the children and caretakers which gave them great joy.

Even with all these activities, the club still had room to host the REI Caravan, emerging as the highest contributing club with over Ug Shs 3 million, and also had the biggest number of members attend and participate in the project alongside several guests to the club. Through an ambitious public relations campaign, the club partnered with media houses and had some time articles published in The Daily Monitor, and some members featured on Radio City, Magic FM, UBC TV and Hot 100 FM.

These achievements have earned us several awards during different DCAs from 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20

and also 2020/21. These awards include: Community Service Project, President of the Year, Public Relations, TRF Contribution, Rotary-Rotaract Partnership, International Service, Membership, and a Special Recognition Award to one of our members as the highest contributor to Polio-Plus in Africa.

This success can only be attributed to the hard work and dedication of the 86 club members who strive to ensure that nothing but excellence is achieved yearly. Over time, the members have appreciated the value of their hard work. In everything we do, whether a fundraiser or in-house competitions we always aim for the top thus the reason behind our success.

Rtr. Keith Seremba
RAC Kampala South





RTR. HERMELINDA JOSEPH BIKONGORO

Rotaractors making a difference in Tanzania

The Rotaract Club of Young Professionals visited Victoria Primary School, Makumbusho Dar-es-Salaam, to sensitise the students and teachers about the importance of proper hygiene and handwashing with clean water and soap. The Rotaractors also taught them how to make handwashing liquid soap, and provided materials to kick-start this activity.

The young leaders in collaboration with Najali Pads Tanzania also sensitised the girls about adolescence, risky behaviours and menstrual hygiene management to raise awareness about Menstrual Health Management. An official from Najali Pads Tanzania taught the girls about menstruation, menstrual hygiene and taught them how to make reusable sanitary pads. This session was attended by about 100 girls who also got reusable sanitary pads.

In the same spirit, the Rotaract Ladies Initiatives-Tanzania, under the ROLIFutureMe and Skilling Mentorship Programme celebrated Women's Day with adolescents and young ladies at the Goal Youth Club in Vingunguti, Dar-es-Salaam. Among the activities undertaken were menstrual health education, financial literacy, and public speaking to boost their self-esteem so that they choose to challenge gender blind scenarios in life.

Rtr. Hermelinda Joseph Bikongoro
President – RAC Young Professionals
Programme Coordinator- ROLI Tanzania
ADRR- Eastern Zone Tanzania



Global Grants Approved in Rotary Year 2020/2021

Grant ID/ Project Description	Host Club	International Club/District	Total Funding	Primary Area of Focus
DG2112147	N/A		\$14,000.00	
GG1639960: To provide 2 wells and hygiene and sanitation training to the village of Kumwambu, Tanzania.	Bukoba, Tanzania	Iowa City A.M, D6000	\$137,315.00	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
GG1866536: To expand antenatal care at level III health centres in Kalangala, Uganda with ultra-sound services through the acquisition of ultrasound equipment, training of nurses and midwives in basic obstetric sonography, and providing on-site clinical observations and remote monitoring and management system.	Kampala-Ssesse Islands, Uganda	Wilmette, D6440	\$99,915.00	Maternal and Child Health
GG1866567: Provide the forming of a clinic at Makerere University Hospital, Uganda providing training and equipment for testing, diagnosis and treatment and support through teaching programs for children with hearing impairment and disabilities, and their families.	Kololo-Kampala, Uganda	New Westminster, D5040	\$130,000.00	Disease Prevention and Treatment
GG1872122: To improve the survival of premature babies in south-western Uganda by establishing Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) at Mbarara Regional Referral and Teaching Hospital through medical equipment donation and training for medical professionals.	Mbarara, Uganda	Calgary at Stampede Park, D5360	\$110,900.00	Maternal and Child Health
GG1874227: This project will provide computer equipment and training to schools in Tanzania.	Moshi, Tanzania	Venice Sunrise, D6960	\$48,559.00	Basic Education and Literacy
GG1875053: To provide 6 VIP latrines, 2 handwashing facilities and water tanks and a rain harvesting system. The grant will also provide books and computers for the school library. Training will be provided in library science, computer basics, community sensitization, and hygiene and sanitation.	Bugolobi Morningtide Kampala, Uganda	Dänischer Wohld, D7230	\$64,882.00	Basic Education and Literacy
GG1981953: This project will provide health and agricultural training at six clinics in rural Uganda.	Ntungamo, Uganda	North Downs, D1120	\$42,980.00	Maternal and Child Health
GG1982469: to strengthen the capacity of 25 Health Centers in Uganda to manage emergency obstetric and neonatal care conditions by providing training in Helping Mothers Survive (HMS) and in Helping Babies Breathe (HBB) and will distribute compact solar electric systems for each site.	Kiwatule, Uganda	Mount Pleasant, D7305	\$152,500.00	Maternal and Child Health
GG1983266: To provide training and education of community members (leaders, men & women, girls & boys) with respect to menstruation hygiene management and establish 2 fully certified Days for girls enterprises to produce washable reusable menstrual hygiene products	Kalisizo, Uganda	Calgary, D5360	\$89,950.00	Water, sanitation, and hygiene

Grant ID/ Project Description	Host Club	International Club/District	Total Funding	Primary Area of Focus
GG1984966: to provide three blocks of two stance VIP-drainable pit latrines for the teachers and five stance latrine for the males and a five stance latrine with an additional room for menstrual hygiene and management for the female students at Mafudu Primary School in Mbale District, Uganda	Mbale Metropolitan, Uganda	Guelph, D7080	\$48,748.00	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
GG1987811: To provide equipment and training to start a laparoscopy cancer surgery unit at Bethesda Medical Centre in Kampala, Uganda.	Kampala-North, Uganda	Highdown, D1145	\$38,500.00	Disease Prevention and Treatment
GG1988328: Train 20 youth in tailoring and fashion design over 12 months, and 20 youth in music mentorship over 24 months, as well as 1,200 teenage girls and 60 teachers from 4 secondary schools on menstrual health management.	Kololo-Kampala	Brighton, D9800	\$70,262.00	Community Economic Development
GG1989791: This project will provide various WASH interventions at six schools in Wakiso District, Uganda.	Nsangi, Uganda	Pa-Te Mei-Te, D3502	\$48,964.00	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
GG1991433: To provide the area of Kamwewa, Uganda with clean and safe water through a solar-powered water system with additional 5 taps, 10 rooftop water harvesting tanks, 10 handwashing stations, 3 5-stance latrines and an education program to improve hygiene and sanitation.	Wobulenzi, Uganda	Calgary, D5360	\$87,238.00	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
GG1991434: Provide equipment and training at Kibombo Health Centre Karagwe Tanzania	Karagwe, Tanzania	Elst Over-Betu-we, D1550	\$72,891.00	Maternal and Child Health
GG2001328: To provide a 250,000-litre water collection system using a solar-powered submersible pump, to provide safe water to Kiziranfumbi Senior Secondary School in Kikuube District, Uganda along with a robust WASH program for School management, the Board of Governors, PTA and Students.	Port-Bell, Uganda	Front Royal, D7570	\$75,250.00	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
GG2010369: To provide a scholarship to Theophile Kiluba Wakiluba to pursue a MSc in Wildlife Health and Management-Wild Animal Resource Management at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda.	Kampala Munyon-yo, Uganda	Edmonton River-view, D5370		Community Economic Development
GG2010397: To provide furniture, textbooks, computers, and tools to St. Padre Pio Rotary Technical Institute Buikwe, Uganda to develop the vocational skills of students.	Kajjansi		\$88,295.00	Community Economic Development
GG2011166: This project will provide an ambulance and train healthcare workers at Midas Touch Hospital in Kyenjojo, Uganda.	Kabarole, Uganda	Kokomo-Early Risers, Kokomo, D6560	\$85,276.00	Disease Prevention and Treatment
GG2011733: Rehabilitate two staff houses, the outpatient department and mechanical and electrical works in the maternity ward at Freda Carr Hospital in Uganda	Kampala-Central, Uganda	Reading Matins, D1090	\$105,000.00	Maternal and Child Health
GG2012305: Provide a cath lab and medical equipment to Bhagyoday General Hospital in Kadi, India	Kadi, India (D3054)	Kiwatule, D9211	\$576,000.00	Disease Prevention and Treatment

Grant ID/ Project Description	Host Club	International Club/District	Total Funding	Primary Area of Focus
GG2013679: To provide a water, sanitation and hygiene scholarship to Hildah Ayesigye to obtain an MSc in Water Management and Governance at IHE Delft Institute for Water Education in Delft, Netherlands	Netherlands (D1600)	Kajjansi, D9211	\$52,046.00	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
GG2014247: This project will provide boreholes, 15 rainwater harvesting systems, eco san toilets and hygiene training at 15 primary schools and 8 health centres in Uganda.	Kololo-Kampala, Uganda	Kenosha West, D6270	\$130,000.00	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
GG2015117: This project will drill one well, install solar panels, and provide a water tank and maintenance & hygiene training for the Give Her Chance Girls Centre Orphanage, St Francis Primary School and the surrounding community.	Rubaga, Uganda	Mission San Jose, D5170	\$38,226.00	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
GG2015144: To provide a scholarship to Dushiime Kaguliro. Dushiime to Thunderbird Graduate School of Global Management.		Kajjansi	\$31,270.00	Community Economic Development
GG2015340: To provide training to 17 health workers and 85 VHTs in PMTCT/ANC management and HIV/AIDS-related cases and provide medical equipment to Mother Francisca Lechner Health Unit in Kabale, Uganda.	Kololo-Kampala, Uganda	Cataraqui-Kings-ton, D7040	\$55,006.00	Maternal and Child Health
GG2016110: Provide MCH training and improve services in Kabale, Wakiso and Fort Portal, Uganda.	Entebbe, Uganda	Allschwil-Regio Basel, D1980	\$167,050.00	Maternal and Child Health
GG2095309: To provide a scholarship to Adrien Ntwari to pursue a Masters in Wildlife health and management at Makerere University, Uganda.	Kampala Munyon-yo, Uganda	Edmonton River-view, D5370	\$38,842.00	Community Economic Development
GG2096194: Provide the establishment of: VSLA for Women who will also be trained in practical vocational skills, Early Learning Resource Centers, Functional Adult Literacy (FAL) groups, and improvement of access to sanitation and menstrual hygiene facilities at 6 schools in Ntenjeru Sub-county, Uganda	Kampala Maisha, Uganda	Frankfurt/Main-Städel, D1820	\$220,000.00	Community Economic Development
GG2096760: To provide vocational training equipment and machines for sewing, knitting, and embroidery to Mityana Standard High School, Kagavu in Mityana District in Uganda as well as training in leadership and business management skills.	Mengo, Uganda	Houthalen Midden-Limburg, D2140	\$65,480.00	Community Economic Development
GG2096828: This project will provide WASH interventions and vocational equipment and training at Adullum School in Uganda.	Kyotera, Uganda	Saanich, D5020	\$44,022.00	Community Economic Development
GG2097081: To improve water and sanitation at The Divine Mercy Secondary School with the provision of a new well and underground cistern. A filtration system will be provided for drinking water. Six new latrine stances will be built and hygiene education will be provided to school and community leaders	Kyotera	Dänischer Wohld	\$50,106.00	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Grant ID/ Project Description	Host Club	International Club/ District	Total Funding	Primary Area of Focus
GG2097579: To improve water and sanitation in Bujanara, Uganda through the construction of 8 clean water supply facilities and hand washing stations as well as promote appropriate hygiene practices through community education campaigns and set up 3 village operations and maintenance water user committees.	Kabarole, Uganda	West Haven, D7980	\$76,673.00	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
GG2097864: To provide training in menstrual hygiene management and sanitation at 6 schools and provide training in the design and manufacturing of reusable sanitary pads and the development of a social enterprise for feminine hygiene products	Kampala-Nsambya, Uganda	West Vancouver Sunrise, D5040	\$63,481.00	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
GG2098144: This project will create a comprehensive breast cancer education, awareness and diagnosis and treatment plan in Unguja, Tanzania.	Zanzibar Stonetown, Tanzania	Potsdam, D1940	\$90,253.00	Disease Prevention and Treatment
GG2098537: Provide purification and pumping systems for safe drinking water, install 6 stanza toilets with a sanitary waste removal system, and school hygiene and sanitation training in addition to the formation of a community water user committee and Rotary Community Corps Kibuutu village, Uganda	Kampala-Nsambya	Louisville	\$35,000.00	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
GG2098675: To provide safe water underground drilled water well using a solar pump to water tanks in addition to the existing ones, construct (2)11 stance sanitation facilities, hygiene education and sensitization including menstrual hygiene Kayunga Town Council Primary School, Uganda.	Bweyogerere-Nam-boole, Uganda	Suwon Hwahong, D3750	\$70,550.00	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
GG2099687: To provide clean and safe water and hygiene and sanitation training to the communities living in 9 rural villages of Alaba, Birigonga, Lanzua, Invenga, Mazanga, Teremu, Yumbe Peace Nursery and Primary school, Olugofe, Mundomoro in Yumbe district- Uganda.	Makindye, Uganda	Kelso, D5020	\$70,500.00	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
GG2117656: Will improve access and increase the quality of medical care to pregnant women in Uganda.	Tororo, Uganda	Eugene, D5110	\$97,894.00	Maternal and Child Health
GG2117805: This project will build toilet facilities for the community of Nakigalala, Uganda.	Kajjansi, Uganda	Boothbay Harbor, D7780	\$50,167.00	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
GG2123091: Provide telemedicine program to improve the capacity of healthcare officials, improve sanitation and hygiene and provide training to build the capacity of entrepreneurs in three sites in Uganda.		E-Club Silicon Valley Smart Village, D5170	\$92,000.00	Disease Prevention and Treatment
Grant Count:110			\$3,725,991.00	



Congratulations to Partners for a Malaria-Free Zambia

The recipient of The Rotary Foundation’s first Programs of Scale grant

The first program of scale is a Rotarian-led effort to dramatically curtail malaria in Zambia. The clubs leading the program are the Rotary Club of Federal Way, Washington, USA (sponsoring club), and the Rotary Clubs of Kabwe, Lusaka, Mansa, Ndola, Ndola Kafubu, and Nkwazi, Zambia. They are working with World Vision, the National Malaria Elimination Centre, Malaria Partners Zambia, Malaria

Partners International, PATH Malaria Control and Elimination Partnership in Africa, and local health leaders to reduce the incidence of this deadly disease by 90 percent in two provinces, reaching 1.3 million people. Co-funded by World Vision USA and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in line with their commitment to fight malaria, this \$6 million program will save lives and create lasting change.

Programs of Scale

Read more in the May issue of *Rotary* magazine about the devastating effects of malaria in Zambia and how the clubs organized an effective response and built this partnership.

For more information on how Programs of Scale increases impact in our areas of focus, visit rotary.org/programsofscale.



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