

THE **WAVE**

ISSUE 11 - MAY - 2021

— A NEW DAWN

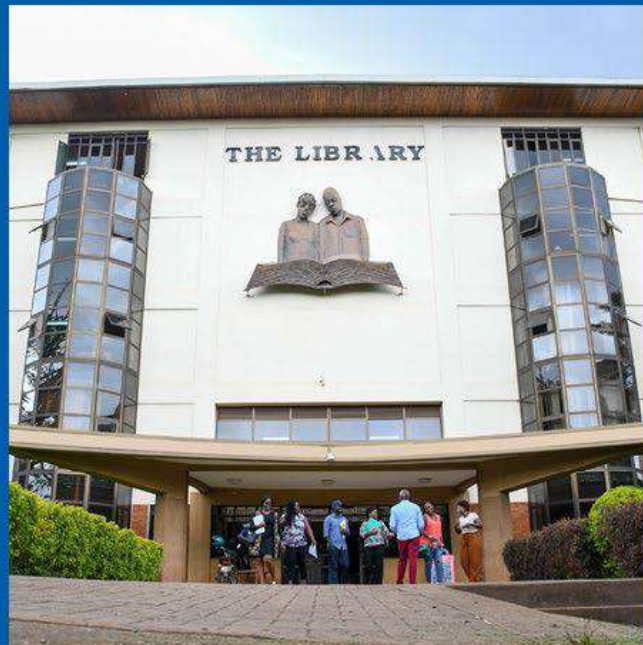


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Inside the Wave

- 05** Editor's Note
Elevate Rotaract
- 07** President Rotary International's Message
Holger Knaack
- 08** District Governor's Message
Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga
- 10** Foundation Trustee Chair's Message
K. R. Ravindran
- 11** Believe you can
Rtr. Dr. Edmund Issae
- 12** "The future is already here ..."
Rtn. Edgar Kasenene
- 14** RYLA21: Unlearning, relearning, and learning to win
Rtn. Ronald Mulindwa
- 16** 'I enrolled for RYLA21 without a job and left....'
Rtr. Josephine Kabyesiza
- 17** Engaging youth virtually to promote disease....
Rtn. Edgar Muganwa
- 18** Connecting Interact and Rotaract globally
Rtr. Anna Careen Schmid
- 20** Rotary Vijana Poa scales down to Rotary....
Rtr. Devota Asasirwe
- 21** Rotaractors go green
Rtr. Simon Okwi

- 24** Demystifying blood donation myths in Eastern Tanzania
- 25** PDRR Aminah: In Rtn. Robinah's memory,.....
- 26** Standing on the shoulders of giants
- 45** Sailing for a plastic-free environment
- 46** 'In my Host Counsellor, I got a lifelong friend'
- 47** Uganda Prisons Services furnishes the Rotary....
- 48** FAN activities boost members' confidence and self-esteem
- 51** Africa's historical moment: RC Sonde is chartered.....



TRAVEL. DISCOVERY. FUN.

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE: SHORT-TERM

Short-term exchanges immerse young people in another culture. Some live with host families for up to three months, while others embark on a tour or go to camp for a few weeks. Go on an adventure in one of more than 100 countries.



Editor's Note

Elevate Rotaract

By 1st January 2021, there were 214,614 Rotaractors (51% female) in 11,223 clubs worldwide according to a State of Membership presentation. Rotaract as per the October 2019 Council on Legislation amendment to the Rotary International constitution is now a unique membership type, thus enabling Rotaractors to enjoy several changes that come along with their new elevated position. Most notable among these changes is:

- Rotaract policies moved from Chapter V, "Programs," to a revised Chapter II, "Clubs."
- Removal of Rotaract's upper age limit, so Rotaract is open to all young adults 18 years and over. Clubs can set their age limit if they wish.
- Rotaract clubs can establish a new club with or without a sponsor.
- Rotaract clubs can choose other Rotaract clubs as their sponsors.
- Rotaractors are now eligible — and encouraged — to serve alongside Rotarians on district and RI committees.
- Rotaract clubs enjoy more support from Rotary International, including access to administrative tools on My Rotary and the option to subscribe to the digital edition of The Rotarian magazine.
- In 2022, annual dues of US\$5 per person for university-based Rotaract clubs, and US\$8 for community-based clubs will be levied to cover the cost of additional support to Rotaract clubs.
- Rotaractors are encouraged to work with Rotary clubs on global grant projects.

With these changes Rotary International hopes to achieve the following by 2022:

- Increase the number of Rotaractors by 100%
- Increase the number of Rotaractors who join Rotary clubs by 20%
- Increase the number of Rotaractors to 1 million

But the question is - how can Rotarians elevate Rotaract? According to Rotaractor Tonny Kitunzi a Past President of the Rotaract Club of Kampala Central (The ROCK), elevating Rotaract can be achieved by Rotarians involving Rotaractors in every planning and implementation aspect in the District to prepare them for life as Rotarians. He added that Rotaractors are very organised when trusted with various tasks. Indeed, this can be attested to by everyone that attended the just concluded 96th District Conference and Assembly (DCA) where the Rotaractors spearheaded a session about - The Past and the Future of Rotaract, culminating in a Rotaract Executive Networking Luncheon graced by the U.S Ambassador to Uganda, Her Excellency Natalie E. Brown as the Chief Guest.

So ladies and gentlemen, as we celebrate Youth Service Month this May, let us manifest the new era for Rotaract. As it is often stated that the future of Rotary is in Rotaract, let us position the youth for a future in Rotary that is 'innovative, inclusive, and adaptive to the world around us'.

We are left with only one edition to wrap up District 9211. This is your last chance to showcase stories highlighting your best club projects, experiences and events. Please send these by 15th May to dg9211news@gmail.com.

Maria Roselynn Muzaaki

Editorial team:



Guru Sykes
RC DSM Mbezi



Helen Kawesa
RC Kampala
Sseese Islands



Gyaviira Luwaga
RC Muyenga
Tankhill



Catherine R. Baretto
RC DSM North



Phiona Atuhaire
RC Kampala North

Contributing Photography
Ibrah Bagalana. Photo on
page 22 by Dickson Kulumba



Ivan Koreta
Rotaract Club
of UTAMU



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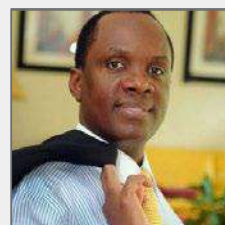
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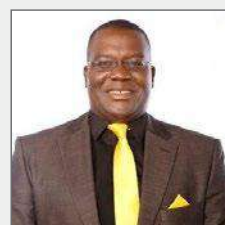
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Visit our website to donate to this effort
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ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Holger Knaack

For years, Susanne and I hosted many Rotary Youth Exchange students in our home. This program was an entry point to Rotary for me, and my heart is truly in it. When Rotary's exchange programs were suspended because of COVID-19 to keep students and families safe, we felt sorry, especially for the participants, because those years cannot be repeated.

Because of the many uncertainties of the pandemic, the Rotary Board has decided to suspend in-person exchanges through June 2022. As we look ahead with hope, we thank Youth Exchange officers, host families, and volunteers for their contributions in years past, and we encourage districts to offer virtual exchanges as a way of connecting students around the world with each other and with our communities.

For those who are not able to participate in Rotary YouthExchange, Rotary offers other opportunities. New Generations Service Exchange (NGSE) is a Rotary program that deserves wider recognition: It is an excellent opportunity for young people ages 18 to 30 to participate in community service as individuals or in a group and to gain internship experience. Simukai Matshalaga, a Rotaractor from Zimbabwe, stayed with us in Ratzeburg during her NGSE experience three years ago.

When I applied for the New Generations Service Exchange program, I did not realise that I was signing up for a life-changing experience. This program gave me that opportunity and much more. It taught me about the importance of failing fast, learning quicker, and being myself.

Some of my greatest experiences happened at the dinner table. The warmth and kindness of every home I lived in still resonate with me today. It took me weeks to understand how a stranger could care for me as deeply as these members of the Rotary family did. I am inspired by the lessons of humility I learned from all the amazing people I met. I came to understand a new culture and realised that the only things that separate us as people are our experiences and, at times, our false assumptions.

Professionally, it gave me confidence in my abilities as an engineer. Seeing how other organisations handled problems made me aware that the best person to solve the challenges in my country was me. Returning home from northern Germany, I declined a promotion, quit my job, and began building a family business — a decision that previously I would have never made, out of fear. I am indebted to the Rotary family. I am not sure whether the friends, mentors and families I left behind knew that they changed my life permanently. I hope they now do.

New Generations Service Exchange changed Simukai's life. It can change yours, too. All Rotary members can experience something similar at any time: I encourage everyone to take a virtual journey this month and visit meetings of other clubs online. You will see how different Rotary is around the world as you meet great people and make new friends. Let us build upon these connections forged online — and later, when the time is right, enjoy in-person exchanges through Rotary Friendship Exchange, another excellent program for Rotary members of all ages.

Our ability to meet in person is limited now, but we know that Rotary Opens Opportunities, always. Now is the time to get ready, so that when the pandemic is behind us, Rotary's exchange programs will come back stronger than before, serving a world that is yearning to reconnect.



District Governor

FELLOW ROTARIANS

I welcome you back from the 96th District Conference and Assembly (DCA). I commend the Conference Chair, Past Assistant Governor (PAG) Jane Kabugo and her team who ensured that we had a memorable 96th DCA experience.

I thought I would be kicking off May talking about the Youth. Instead, we remain focused on COVID-19. But I must say that although this has been a difficult year, we in D9211 have risen to the occasion. I am extremely proud of all our Rotary Clubs and leaders. Not only have you looked "outside the box" for solutions, but some of you have also thrown it away altogether and curved out new and untrodden paths! I thank you all for saying "we can do this", instead of "we never did it this way, and it just can't be done" BRAVO!

I am also truly amazed and delighted that at a time like this, Rotary continues to grow. And I believe that it is now more than before that people appreciate the value of organisations such as Rotary. The pandemic has brought people together and showed that none of us as individuals, as organisations nor as countries can survive as an island on its own. We all need each other and must work together to overcome the challenges of the day. Leaders in our communities are seeing Rotarians out helping in the

community. They are inspired by our spirit. We can keep a positive message in the world that Rotary is here to help. I, therefore, encourage you to continue inviting more people to join Rotary so that we can do even more for humanity.

But before I conclude, I would like to remind you that May is the Youth Service month. The youth make up more than 60% of the communities in both Uganda and Tanzania; and therefore, there is no way that we can promote social and economic development without them. We must support them to become a positive force in their communities by directly addressing the issues that affect them e.g. education, unemployment, substance abuse, health etc.

But as we engage the youth, it is important to remember that our youth service must go beyond our Rotaractors and Interactors to include other young people. I appeal to you to engage the youth from marginalised communities

not just as beneficiaries but as active participants. I would therefore like to encourage all clubs to revive, expand and sustain their youth initiatives started under the Rotary Vijana Poa Programme. Plans are underway to scale up our youth skilling initiatives and we should be ready to exploit these opportunities.

Enjoy the month of May!

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DG Rosetti hands over the theme banner to President Clare Akumu of the Rotaract Club of Gulu during her visit to the club last year

K. R. RAVINDRAN



Rotary members are writing the future

In the classic film **Lawrence of Arabia**, Peter O’Toole plays T.E. Lawrence, the British scholar, military officer, and author who helped Arab tribes in their struggle for independence against the Ottoman Empire.

Lawrence leads a group of Bedouin warriors through the desert for a surprise attack on the Ottoman port of Aqaba. As they reach the end of the desert, they discover that a soldier, Gasim, has fallen off his camel during the night. But it is morning, and the tribesmen, led by Sherif Ali, played in the movie by Omar Sharif, advise Lawrence that going back to find him would be futile, that Gasim would already be dead given the sandstorms and the scorching heat. “Gasim’s time has come; it is written,” one of the soldiers tells Lawrence.

But Lawrence does go back and finds Gasim near death, staggering in the dunes. When they return to camp, Ali offers Lawrence water. Before taking a drink, Lawrence looks at him and says: **“Nothing is written.”**

This unforgettable scene means more than just a quotable movie line; it represents a way of looking at the world. It is a challenge to fatalism — that we must accept a certain outcome because of the way it has always been. No, Lawrence says, history is not written, yet.

So it is with The Rotary Foundation. We have not yet emerged from the sandstorm of the COVID-19

pandemic and the economic fallout from it. We are still occupied by work to raise awareness, deliver critical personal protective equipment, and provide support for frontline workers.

We do not know the day when standing beside our polio eradication partners, we will announce that for the second time in history, a disease has been eradicated. We do know that, because we have worked steadfastly for years, the end of that story will be written soon.

And thanks to a US\$15.5 million contribution from the Otto & Fran Walter Foundation, we are also adding a new chapter in the story of our expansion of the Rotary Peace Centres: Plans are underway to launch a new peace certificate centre in the Middle East or North Africa.

Rotary is engaged in so many noble efforts; it is an ongoing story that inspires me even more than Lawrence of Arabia. We do not yet know the name of the baby whose life will be saved because of a maternal and child health grant from Rotary, or the name of the girl who will learn to read with our support. When will those grants start, and will your district — or you — be directly involved?

Nothing is written. We write it.

K.R. Ravindran

Foundation Trustee Chair

RTR. DR. EDMUND ISSAE



Believe you can

No one said it was going to be easy. But balancing between getting good grades, practising, having good rest, and taking part in community service was hard. Sometimes, I would have Rotaract reports to compile alongside a pile of almost-due school assignments. But at all times, I can say I would happily participate in service because I enjoyed volunteering.

Now that I am a medical doctor, I will not say that it is very easy, but it’s not that hard either. I assure you that balancing between work and volunteering in service is possible. Community service requires commitment, dedication and devotion. I learned this along the way. Setting your priorities straight will help you find a balance.

Volunteering in community service has many advantages that I experienced:

- Learning new skills and doing things outside your comfort zone. It’s from this that we grow.
- Being part of the amazing team impacting society (Yes! You get to be a change-maker!).
- Networking - you meet people from different backgrounds, professions, and cultures. I have gained many friends from the people I met in service.
- Improving your interpersonal and communication skills since you regularly interact with different people.

- Valuable experience in your field of study can be gained through volunteering, a fact most people overlook. My experiences in medical camps allowed me to bring to life the theory part of my class work thus enabling me to understand these concepts better. Now that I have begun my career, I am happy for the opportunity to practice my career ahead of time.
- Enhanced curriculum vitae. A coin has two sides. Volunteering comes with some challenges too. It can strain your emotional, mental, and physical health. Always find ways to overcome situations that affect your health. We need you healthy to help others. Do not forget to take care of your finances too.

Rtr. Dr. Edmund Issae

District Rotaract Representative

Rotaract Club of Rafiki





“The future is already here ... It is just not evenly distributed” – William Gibson

I must start this piece by apologising as the editorial team was keen to get this months ago. Like everything in my life, I cannot keep anything in a straight line, so circumstances meant that it was delayed but I had to commit as I do not think there is a more important conversation in our modern era. Secondly, it is impossible in one small piece, to unpack what is one of the most pertinent conversations over our generation. It needs much more reflection and unpacking. So, these are just snippets of the foundational aspects to challenge you to think differently about everything you do.

I was asked to write about the future of work, and I am not a fan of such asks as no one can accurately predict the future and in my opinion, it is not so much about predicting the future it is about living a life dedicated to impact and, in this way, you will always proactively shape a better future for yourself... even though the outcomes may not always be clear. Most of what we focus on and have known as “normal” in society has changed quite rapidly in the last few years because of the accelerating access and growth of the internet. The Internet has changed everything, but we have not yet “opened our eyes to it”.

Let us unpack where society still attaches value today and let us challenge that thinking. We still value qualifications (acquisition of knowledge)

yet knowledge today is ubiquitous it has been democratised by the internet. We still think in terms of professional or domain boundaries. i.e., I work in a bank or I work in a media company yet the biggest companies in the world today offer services across all domains and geographies. In essence what industry is Facebook in? or Amazon? Or WhatsApp? Yet we get media services and financial services and so much more from them and spend 90% of our day on these platforms.

The hardest thing to wrap our mind around, especially given how we were raised and where we were asked to focus our aspirations, is that success in life is no longer tied to your qualification (degrees etc.), but your ability to solve problems and apply your mind. This is mainly because knowledge is accessible to all and has been largely democratised through a simple google search or “asking Siri”.

You do not need colleges to learn things anymore everything you want to learn is accessible for free (online). Of course, institutions of high education still have value but in a different light (a conversation for another day). What is required is a deep sense of curiosity and a deep sense of purpose: Clarity of what impact you want to have, what you are passionate about and what you stand for. Purpose is a deeper conversation that needs its own time

as it is in essence the foundation of self-discovery and ultimately impact in our lives. The digital era debunks the modern myths that emphasize qualifications and titles. These do not matter as much as your innate ability to identify needs and focus on solving problems and creating value.

The internet has created economics of abundance and users have accelerating choices and make decisions on products and services based on the ability for it to solve a personalised need. Simply because the can and subconsciously it has and continues to shape and shift their behaviours. Think in simple terms how buying a newspaper to access your news has quite rapidly yet subconsciously stopped happening in your life as your news feed comes to you through WhatsApp, Facebook and so many other digital platforms that you engage with throughout your day. Yet we do not even stop to think that we have made newspapers irrelevant.

These options are increasing, and our perception of value shifts increasingly as we get increasing choice, simplicity and convenience because of accelerating improvements in technology, advances in machine learning driving deep individual personalisation and the speed and price of the internet which continues to decrease exponentially. This is and will affect every single industry and domain and already has. It is just not obvious yet as our mindset was predicated for linear and iterative changes, not exponential changes. In essence, the world has become smaller, companies (platform companies) are working to solve all your needs and take your entire attention and they are getting better at this because of advances in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning and all this is shifting your expectation of value.

The only way a business stays relevant then is to be deliberate about understanding your real needs, experimenting on value and learning none stop and being agile to pivot based on what they learn and see. In this world your MBA becomes redundant. What is critical is your ability to stay open to learning and your deep desire to solve problems (impact customer lives). You have to find it in you to care about creating new customer/user value as the old world of just pushing out products is no longer relevant. Creating value is so critical in a world where users have increasing choices brought on by a boundaryless platform world and where this will not slow down.

Therefore, it is critical to have deep empathy for users and be willing to learn as you build value for them. Embracing the possibility of not being right and learning to fail fast and learn fast. Have an agile persona where learning is more critical than being right. Roles will never stay constant again and business structures (those that survive) will be more fluid to adapt to evolving user needs and not as hierarchal as they are now where expertise and structure were more important than curiosity and agility/innovation.

This had a place in a pre-internet era where the economics of scarcity existed, and product efficiency was important because of the relative scarcity and uniqueness of industry. This is not the case anymore and the largest four or five companies cut across so many traditional domains and create the majority of the global value and yet are region agnostic (*you literally cannot define the largest companies by domain and industry and yet we still have a desperate need to define ourselves in terms of domain: i.e I am a banker or a media expert etc*).

The real struggle is the inability for leaders to “accept” that the operating philosophy and societal structures of the past do not prepare people well to create value in the future. Education models that predicated having the answer rather than encouraging curiosity and learning have created fixed mindsets when more innovative mindsets are needed. We need to be empathetic that our structures did not prepare us for this but courageous to learn, unlearn and relearn.

Seek for impact! Be curious! Embrace ambiguity! Find your purpose. The future you talk about is already here, it is just, as William Gibson so eloquently put it, not yet evenly distributed. Yet that distribution curve is changing much faster than you would like to admit. If you look deeply enough inside based on where and how you spend your time and what takes your attention and what is critical to your day; it will all slowly become clearer to you.

Rtn. Edgar Kasenene

RC Muyenga Tankhill

COO and Co-founder IDEX AFRICA,

ekasenene@idex.africa



RTN. RONALD MULINDWA

RYLA21: Unlearning, relearning, and learning to win

From the start of Rotary Year 2020/21, the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Chair, Rotaractor Immy Julie Nakyeeyune from the Rotaract Club of Kampala South was enthused by the challenge presented to her – skill and equip youth in the district in a manner that would deliver impact and prioritise the well-being of all participants and trainers. With a team of various Rotarians and Rotaractors, we set out to deliver a RYLA of many firsts for the district.

Partnerships for Success

Basing on the RYLA21 theme – *Enhancing Skills for a Resilient Youth*, we sought to equip 200 youth (Rotaractors and non-Rotaractors) with actionable skills to better address the challenge of lost employment arising from the COVID-19 pandemic-driven economic downturn. To achieve this, we partnered with Toastmasters Uganda, Innovation Village, and National Social Security Fund (NSSF). The RYLA21 launch in November 2020 was graced by District Governor Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga, Division Director Toastmasters Dr. Christine Nabiryo, Rotarians, Rotaractors, and officials from Innovation Village, NSSF and the media.

Celebrating our first win

The RYLA is often organised in different regions to ensure that a diverse majority of youth benefit. The COVID-19 lockdown in March 2020 left one route (Eastern) of the RYLA20 team incomplete, so we were tasked to complete that circuit. This called for a shift in focus and learning outcomes to blend the two years.

The blended Eastern RYLA21 held between 19th and 22nd November 2020 started with two days of online training

by Toastmasters and Innovation Village. Thereafter a day of in-person training at the Innovation Village hub in Jinja. The program included two-panel discussions – Business *Startups II: Development, Intellectual Property, Pitching and Funding* featuring Gloria C. Kayanga, Rtn. Mercy K. Kainobwiso, and I moderated by Rtn. Erina Nafula. The other session about *Rotary’s Purpose and Service to the Community – My Rotary Journey*, featured Rtr. Jonathan Musanze, Rtn. Nelson W. Kyagera, and I moderated by Rtn. Patrobas S. Wafula. Other speakers included: Rtr. Aloysius Kawooya –*Inspirational Moment*.

Only 27 youth participated in this training in a bid to observe the COVID-19 standard operating procedures (SOPs). They were hosted at the Nile Hotel Jinja.

Building momentum and handling setbacks

The growing concern of a second wave of the pandemic in Uganda came as a major deterrent and setback to the skills and workshop plans for participants in the remaining regions. Sponsoring Rotary clubs were concerned about the physical meetings and crowd management.

We had to unlearn all the ideas we thought defined a successful RYLA, relearn lessons on dealing with adversity and rising to the challenge, and learn how to adopt and adapt to innovation for continuous learning. This shook the RYLA21 structure forcing the team to craft a new approach. A few major questions guided the principles for the new format: Who do we need? What do we need to get this done? Will we have achieved our objective?

A first time for everything

We were running out of time, with our backs against the wall. The brainstorming sessions were intense and intentional. During one of these sessions, the idea of a merged, wholly virtual experiential learning proposal was born. We engaged industry experts and utilised a range of digital tools to track and monitor both engagement and that learning was being achieved. The team quickly prioritised communication and stakeholder engagement – clear and concise instructions were shared with participants and their sponsors regularly. A lean organising team was adopted with each member having clear instructions on their expected outputs.

This gave birth to the first-ever Virtual Rotary Youth Leadership Awards in D9211 (RYLA21) from 4th to 6th March 2021. It involved the use of three primary digital tools (Google classroom, Zoom, and WhatsApp) for communication, engagement tracking, and training. The unified cohort had 257 participants and run for three days culminating in an in-person award ceremony on 28th March 2021 at BCF Grounds in Muyenga.

The virtual training consisted of a mix of pre-recorded lessons and live presentations. Topics covered included: *Mastering Personal Finances* by Ronald Mukasa Ssenkubuge; *The future of work: Skills to have with the new way of doing things* by Rtn. Edgar Kasenene; *Business training* by the Innovation Village; *Public Speaking* by Toastmasters; *Standing out to potential employers* by Rtn. Moses Ssesanga;

Building meaningful networks; The roles of sponsors, mentors, coaches and peers by Pepe Minambo; and *Pursuing your passion* by Rtn. Julianna Kayaga.

The keynote address focusing on the theme – *Enhancing Skills for a Resilient Youth* was by Past District Governor (PDG) Owek. Robert Waggwa Nsibirwa. Past Assistant Governor (PAG) Joe Nuwamanya handled – *Building Resilience: Strategies and techniques for handling challenges, criticism, and negative feedback*, Andy Olen “Yes, if” in *Getting to Agreement*, while the panel discussion about – *Tips and tricks on starting, sustaining, and divesting a business* was handled by the Innovation Village. We were also privileged to host DG Rosetti who inspired the youth to create and embrace the diverse opportunities in the community.

The participants were challenged to develop actionable business ideas and make a pitch to judges from the Innovation Village. The winners, Roots Afrique got a start-up capital of Ug Shs 1,000,000 to boost their enterprise dealing in trendy African wear and accessories.

RYLA21 was the perfect opportunity to convert ideas to action, and we celebrate all the youth who were a part of this journey.

Rtn. Ronald Mulindwa
District Youth Service Chair
RC Kampala Metropolitan





RTR. JOSEPHINE KABYESIZA

‘I enrolled for RYLA21 without a job and left with a business’

The year 2020 ended with restructuring at my workplace, resulting in an abrupt job loss for me. With lots of time on my hands, I registered for the 2021 Rotary Leadership Youth Awards (RYLA) and was sponsored by our mother club – RC Bukoto. Being an Immediate Past President, I am expected to leave such training to the newer members, but I was hungry for self-development opportunities as a means of self-discovery and coping with my situation. Over 250 youth were sponsored to attend the Virtual RYLA from 4th to 6th March 2021, and the physical graduation on 28th March.

The theme – *Enhancing Skills for a Resilient Youth* was ideal for me. The sessions were virtual, utilising Zoom for the pre-recorded and live presentations. I learnt new ways to conduct engaging virtual training using Google Classrooms. Email and WhatsApp engagement started before the training to enable us to set up and acquaint ourselves with the platforms. The three days were filled with enough content to span three weeks. These sessions were outstanding:

“Yes, If” Negotiation TedTalk by Andy Olen is the first probably because it cuts across many facets of life. When negotiating, you can say YES to a request, IF another condition is agreed to by the other to create a “win-win” for all. For example, in a business – YES a client can have a discount IF they buy more items. I am also using it in my personal life as the speaker suggested.

The future of work: Skills for the new way of doing things was mind provoking as Rtn. Edgar Kasenene stressed how the Internet is now the central nervous system of our lives. He encouraged us to create value by solving real customer needs and leveraging the growing global ecosystem. He preached design thinking; innovation, speed and agility as key to exploiting exponential infinite possibilities in a world with no boundaries.

The keynote address by PDG Bob Waggwa Nsibirwa provided practical advice on how to start business ventures that solve needs around us, with little or no capital, as we aspire towards a bigger picture. Convenience or knowledge gaps can be exploited by the youth. This inspired me to start my journey as an events planner for parties and training. *Building resilience: Strategies and techniques for handling challenges, criticism and negative feedback* by Rtn. Joe Nuwamanya hit the nail on the head. Losing my job was like dealing with rejection! Joe encouraged us to be vulnerable enough, as I am now, to share our stories and gather the courage to ask for help. I am now motivated to excel and encourage others.

On day two, we were given 45 minutes to create a business idea. As Group Three, we came up with Roots Afrique. I was selected to present after the panel discussion by Innovation Village on *starting, sustaining and divesting a business*. We made it to the top five of 10 groups. On graduation day, we won the business startup cash prize of Ug Shs 1,000,000. Roots Afrique is a fashion social enterprise selling items made from African fabric and recycled materials as means of improving the lives of youths affected by unemployment and unplanned pregnancies. The youths are trained to make these items. The 10 co-founders who started the company are happy to serve you. We were also offered free legal services from FAMM Advocates, a payment platform by Jjengo Tech Ltd, and business advisory by Mkazipreneur. This RYLA was a catalyst for many positive changes in my business, professional and personal life. I encourage youth to keep attending, Rotarians to never tire of sponsoring them, and the Districts to keep organising impactful practical RYLAs.

Rtr. Josephine Kabyesiza
RAC Bukoto

RTN. EDGAR MUGANWA



Engaging youth virtually to promote disease prevention and treatment

It has been over a year since the world started grappling with the disruption brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. Within the Rotary and Rotaract fraternity, several activities had to be postponed or carried out virtually. The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) were not spared either. Organisers of the RYLA had to adapt innovative ways to engage the youth in Tanzania while maintaining their safety and health.

Through an essay writing competition and recorded video messages, the Rotary Club of Arusha Mount Meru engaged the youth to explain their understanding of one of Rotary’s areas of focus – Disease Prevention and Treatment. The topic was relevant given the circumstances, and the decision to switch to online engagement was timely as well.

The essay writing competition attracted 11 contestants (six males and five female) from the following Rotaract clubs: Kairuki Dar-es-Salaam, St. Jude, University of Dodoma, and Arusha City participated in the competition. The Rotaract Club of St. Jude had four contestants.

The winning essay was titled – “*Rotary, Disease Prevention and Treatment*” by Joyce Joseph of the Rotaract Club of Kairuki Dar-es-Salaam. She got a TZs 300,000 cash prize, and a book voucher worth TZs 50,000. Joyce’s essay demonstrated her knowledge of Rotary’s seven areas of focus, referred to its polio eradication efforts, the Rotary Country Office’s COVID-19 relief package to the government, and the role of the Rotary Foundation in promoting disease treatment and prevention.

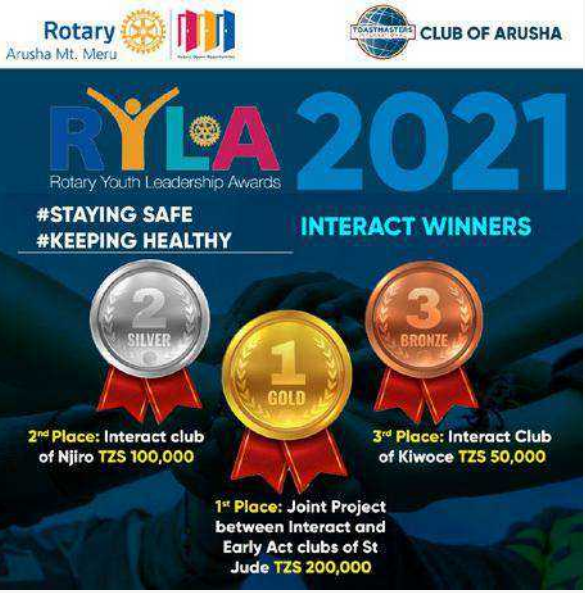
In addition, we partnered with the Toastmasters Club of Arusha and invited youth clubs (Rotaract, Interact, and Early Act) to record, and submit a four-minute video message based on the theme – *Staying safe and keeping healthy*. They were encouraged to use Fitness and Nutrition (FAN) ideas in the video message. The

competition was also aimed at encouraging the youth to practice and improve their public speaking skills.

In the Rotaract category, the winner of the US\$200 top prize was a joint project between Rotaract Clubs of Rafiki and Kairuki, followed by RAC Mwenge Catholic University that got US\$100, and US\$50 to RAC Iringa and University of Dodoma.

For the Interactors, the top prize of TZs 200,000 went to a joint project between the Interact and Early Act Clubs of St. Jude, while the Interact Club of Njiro got TZs 100,000, and that of Kiwoce got TZs 50,000.

Rtn. Edgar Muganwa
RC Arusha Mt. Meru





RTR. ANNA CAREEN SCHMID

Connecting Interact and Rotaract globally

With more than 560,000 members worldwide, Interact has more than twice as many members as Rotaract. While there are many ways for Rotaractors to connect with other members at a global level, for Interactors there are no such organisations. Multidistrict organisations (MDIO) are an innovation to unite Rotaractors from different districts and countries. There are also several other events for Rotaractors to connect. In Austria we brought one long-lasting tradition back to life: The International Vienna Weekend, and invited are all members of the Rotary family.

By 2019, nearly 30 different MDIOs were registered at Rotary International. Why are there so many organisations for Rotaract, and none for Interactors? One of the main reasons is that Interactors by Code of Polices are minors. Collecting their data and sharing it globally is quite more complicated due to privacy reasons.

But why connect Interactors in the first place? I joined Interact seven years ago, as an encouraged but not all A-grades student. I began giving speeches when I was 16-years-old when visiting Rotary Clubs. Standing in front of a bunch of Rotarians was extremely intimidating. But after some time, I recognised that working within the Rotary family was – as I described it – like working in a safe environment. If you fail in school, you get bad marks, if you fail later in your professional life, you gain a bad reputation. But if you fail within Rotary, nothing happens. No Rotarian will judge you if you lose track during your speech or if you get lost in your presentation or even if your charity project did not work out as successful as planned.

With that knowledge, I was able to learn so much about organising events, how to make presentations, and leadership at a very young age. When I was 18-years-old, we organised an international conference for

Interactors with speakers from high-level institutions and universities. At the University of Harvard or CERN Institute in Switzerland, we also organised an international charity evening event with more than 500 participants. Nothing like that would have been possible without the support of the Rotary family and experiences gained through my work in Interact.

Interact faces the same problems around the world. There are two main reasons why Interact Networks are often unsuccessful: First, your time as an active interactor is extremely short compared to the time you spend as a Rotarian or even a Rotaractor. After about five years, most members are too old to Interact. For this reason, we often see that the clubs have no members after five years and everything starts over.

Second, there is a lack of structure in the Interact clubs. Interact clubs are directly connected to their sponsoring club and in many cases, the contact with other clubs ends here. Very often Interactors do not know that there is another Interact club in the immediate vicinity.

The solution

Rotarians and Rotaractors know other clubs in their area. This is because there is a higher structure responsible for all clubs in the district. In Rotary, there is a District Governor; while Rotaract has the District Rotaract Representative (DRR). But there is nothing for Interact.

In Austria, we activated an Interact Board six years ago. The Rotary District team had an Interact District Representative, a Secretary, some Assistant Governors for different areas and Social Media Accounts, sharing all the information about what happens within Interact in the District and globally. This made it easy to communicate and know what was happening in the district. Since the board is elected by the Interact club



presidents, for the first time there was someone who could speak to the District Governor on behalf of all Interactors about the challenges they face. With a board, it is easier to ensure that Interact work is carried out more sustainably.

During my term as the Austria Interact Representative, a year after founding this board, we saw its incredible benefits. Interactors meet at board-organised conferences, and they started visiting and learning from each other, working on joint projects and exchanging ideas.

The first and most important step to improve Interactors and help them grow and connect is to create a board of Interactors and for Interactors at District Level. Building a structure will help improve Interact and join forces. This could also be beneficial for Rotaractors and Rotarians.

Interactors have a different perspective on many things. Quite often they are not afraid to try, something grown-ups are faced with quite often. Supporting Interact does not only mean supporting young future leaders it is also beneficial for every Rotarian involved. After a long time of social distancing, bringing people together seems more important than ever. On another note, the main reason Jacob Polzer, the DRR for District 1910 and I travelled to Uganda is to check on our project – 4/4 Tumaini which focuses on

menstrual health and education. We are aware that as teenagers talking to an adult about menstruation is not the most comfortable thing to do. We can reach out to the Interactors as peers and make this project more sustainable. This is an important year for Rotaract. Rotaract policies were moved from Chapter V, “Programs,” to a revised Chapter II, “Clubs.” For the first time, it is possible for Rotaract clubs to apply for a global grant. 4/4 Tumaini should be one of the first Rotaract projects to apply for a grant.

Rtr. Anna Careen Schmid
RAC-Vienna Hofburg St. Stephan

Anna Careen Schmid is a law student in Vienna, Austria. After several years as a member of the Interact Club of Tanzenberg, she joined Rotaract in 2019. Anna was the Interact Representative for South Austria and later Interact Representative Austria. In 2018, she founded Initiative Interchange an organisation connecting Interactors globally. She now serves as Rotaract District Marketing Officer, Assistant Governor for Vienna and is part of the District’s Interact and Rotaract Committee. In April, she was elected DRR for 2023/24 and President-Elect of her Rotaract Club. She received the Paul Harris Fellow Award, and Appreciation Award by the Rotary Club of Kabulasoke-Gomba for her engagement and involvement in founding a new Interact Club at Kasaka Senior Secondary School.



RTR. DEVOTA ASASIRWE

Rotary Vijana Poa scales down to Rotary and Rotaract Clubs

To garner more support and participation from the various Rotary and Rotaract Clubs, the Rotary Vijana Poa (RVP) Program has appointed Rotary District Chairs and Area Support Ambassadors for Districts 9213 and 9214. Participation in this program is rooted in the avenue of Youth Service, and Economic and Community Development area of focus.

The Rotary Vijana Poa District Chairs will work with the district team to;

- Engage and support all Club Youth Chairs/Directors to implement the RVP annual program. This will be done with support from the District Governor.
- Coordinate all RVP work and be the first point of call.
- Work with the RVP Board, secretariat and selected Assistant Governors to mobilise clubs to make cash contributions for the Global Grant for Mindset Change and Enterprise Development coaching and mentoring for unemployed youth in the communities where clubs operate.

The Rotary Vijana Poa District Chairs are Rotarians Friday Madina from the Rotary Club of Kisaasi-Kyanja



for D9213 and Alex Kamukama from RC Kajjansi for D9214.

They will work with the Rotary Vijana Poa-Area Support Ambassadors who will in turn work with selected Assistant Governors to support all Club Youth Chairs/ Directors to implement the RVP annual activities.

The Rotary Vijana Poa team has engaged the incoming chairs for Professional and Leadership Development (PLD), Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), Youth Directorates, and District Rotaract Representatives (DRRs) in both districts and they agreed to incorporate RVP activities in their annual work plans to create more impact for youth in both Rotaract and the communities.

Rtr. Devota Asasirwe

Program Administrator – RVP
RAC Namboole

For more details, contact
The Rotary Vijana Poa Secretariat;
Tel: +256 704 400 640 or +256 781 446 849 or
+256757192292 |Email: info@rotaryvijanapoa.org



RTR. SIMON OKWI

Rotaractors go green



For some years, a young lad had an idea to unite all Rotaractors in the District in a tree-planting campaign to regain the earth’s green cover. In 2015, this gentleman, then Rotaractor Kenny Rand Kityo started the Rotaract Earth Initiative (REI) to galvanise the young people in District 9211 to plant 20,000,000 trees by 2020. This was to be done in the different regions countrywide.

Kenny Rand, then a member of the Rotaract Club (RAC) of Kampala-Nateete was the Chair of the first REI in Nakasongola District in 2015. That year had two editions, with the other held in Busitema under the leadership of Tonny Lubanja from RAC Kyengera where 1,000 trees were planted. This was followed by the Fort Portal edition in 2016 led by Steven Kabuye from RAC Seeta and 1,300 trees were planted. Gulu hosted the 2017 REI under the leadership of Abass Bwanaheri from RAC Cape Munyonyo and about 1,200 trees were planted. For the Mbale REI, Adule Francis, then a member of RAC Lukuli-Nanganda spearheaded the team that planted 7,000 trees. Adule has since transferred to RAC Bweyogerere-Namboole.

In 2019, we headed to Bushenyi led by Robert Kalenzi from RAC Lubowa and another 1,000 trees were planted. This year, I (commonly referred to as General) led the team to Soroti in March. Over the years, several changes have been incorporated in the initiative, in line with Rotary’s areas of focus. This has increased the project’s momentum, brought more stakeholders on board, making the REI more impactful.

In Soroti, we planted 10,000 trees at Teso College Aloet; sensitised the students about menstrual hygiene, donated reusable pads from Afripads to students of Aloet Parents School where an incinerator was commissioned; conducted a blood donation

campaign at Soroti grounds in partnership with Uganda Blood Transfusion Services where 76 units of blood were collected from the Rotaractors and local community. We also had a vocational tour of the Soroti Fruit Factory, makers of Teju Juice and learnt more about fruit processing.

We are glad that COVID-19 only led to an extension of the project, but did not stop it. This gave us more time to plan better with support from the DRR Dr. Edmund Issae, Patron Rtn. Ronald Kawaddwa, Country Chairs Rtn. Phyllis Kwesiga and Rtr. Allan Lukoda, District Youth Service Chair Rtn. Ronnie Mulindwa, and the whole REI20 team.

The zeal to serve our communities was a great motivation for us to persevere in organising this event despite some shortcomings experienced. With many companies still suffering from the COVID-19 effects, sponsorship was low and we are greatly indebted to entities like Rotary Uganda, Olwendo, ESSI, BDO East Africa Limited, Uganda Insurers Association, Wash and Wills Hotel Mbale, Infinite Communications, CEO Lyca Mobile (Rtn. Alapati C. Vinaya), Boqwana Media, Gnatic Construction, Bites Cottage, Parliament of Uganda, Rotarians, Rotaractors and friends of Rotary. With these services and opportunities created for communities, I propose a toast to Rotary International!

Rtr. Simon Okwi

President - RAC Bweyogerere-Namboole
Rotaract Earth Initiative Chair -2020/21

Honouring His Royal Majesty the Kabaka of Buganda

His Royal Majesty the Kabaka of Buganda, Ronald Muwenda Mutebi II is an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Mengo, and a Paul Harris Fellow (PHF). He has dedicated his efforts to tackling the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges which include - hunger, poverty, diseases (like malaria, HIV/AIDS and COVID-19), promoting access to mother and child health care, water and sanitation, which are Rotary's focus areas. This he has done, not only in his Kingdom but beyond Buganda and Uganda, serving all people. Going by the Object of Rotary, the Kabaka is promoting acquaintance and peace in the region.

He initiated a global grant project in Kiyindi-Najja, Buikwe District, worth US\$92,000 to be implemented by RC Mengo with the support of international partners from D5170-USA. As part of the project, 20 water tanks have been earmarked for this area; and sewing machines will be provided to make life jackets for the fishermen and their passengers. The Kabaka has enabled the Kiyindi landing site community to get a micro finance facility to help improve the locals' income. Through his efforts, telehealth care services will be provided at Kawolo Hospital in Buikwe and Kyangwali Refugee Centre. He also directed that a hospital be constructed to benefit the Kiyindi community, a directive RC Mengo has happily accepted to take on.

In recognition of his excellent performance in promoting Rotary's areas of focus, and impacting humanity through living by the Four-Way Test, RC Mengo recognised His Royal Majesty with a Major Donor status. The award (MD lapel pin and plaque) was presented by the Rotary International President's Representative Olayinka Hakeem Babalola to Prince David Kintu Wasajja who represented the Kabaka during the 96th DCA held at Speke Resort Munyonyo.





RTR. HERMELINDA JOSEPH BIKONGORO

Demystifying blood donation myths in Eastern Tanzania

Blood donation is a selfless act of giving life to another person. Despite the significant advancements in medical technology, blood cannot be artificially manufactured and it only takes donation from one person to save another. One unit of blood can save up to three lives. Women can donate blood up to three times a year and for men, it's four times a year.

Why donate blood?

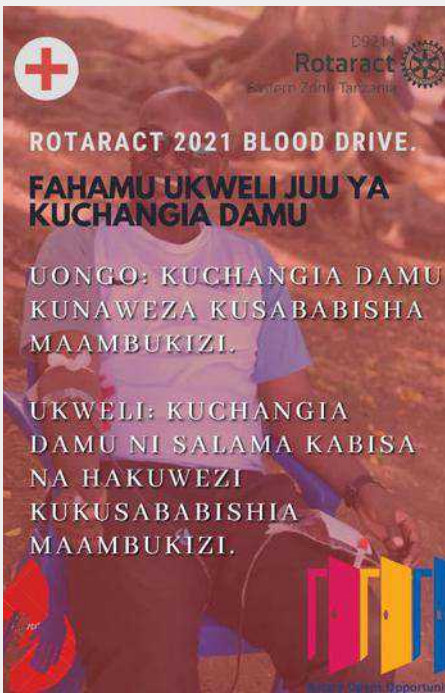
- Save women in need of blood due to birth complications
- Save young children that need blood to survive
- Save individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as Sickle Cell Disease and cancers
- Save victims of accidents who lose lots of blood
- Save patients undergoing medical and surgical procedures

It is about saving lives and feeling good for doing good.

Eastern Zone Clubs in Tanzania conducted a three-month blood donation campaign to mobilise the public to give blood, raise awareness and demystify the myths about blood donation. Various posters stating facts about blood donation were shared on social media platforms, and this sensitisation also continued in the different venues of the activity. Over 150 units of blood were collected across all three phases.

The host Rotaract clubs included: Young Professional, Muhimbili and Kwanza (January); Dar City and Nairobi Parklands Kenya D9212 (February); Rafiki and Kairuki, University of Adelaide (D9510) Australia for March.

Rtr. Hermelinda Joseph Bikongoro
ADRR- Eastern Zone Tanzania



RTR. AMINA NASAAZI

PDRR Aminah: In Rtn. Robinah's memory, I rose to the challenge

The invitation by the District Conference and Assembly (DCA) Secretariat to join the Awards Committee caught me unawares. Nevertheless, it was an honour and vote of trust too humbling to turn down. It came through my mentor and friend Rotarian Robinah Lubwama Lutaaya who was the Committee Chair. I heavily counted on her guidance given that I would be away and engaged with school for a greater part of the year. My experience with Rotary leadership made me appreciate the value of presence while leading and working with fellow volunteers. It would take an effort extraordinaire for me to fulfil my mandate on this committee.

I was assigned to be the secretary of the committee and tasked to formulate all necessary documentation and reports about our work. With the COVID-19 induced lockdowns, I was able to return home and actively engage with the committee. We finalised the Awards Categories and formulated the working tools for the awarding process. We adopted online engagements and regular virtual meetings that progressed our tasks. My mentor – Rotarian Robinah continued to forward to me the necessary information and insights about what we could do better and differently.

Suddenly, she fell ill and passed on. Lost to the scourge that is COVID-19. Isolated at the onset of her short and painful illness; from her family, colleagues, cherished responsibilities and the people she loved. With not a hand to hold, and no family to bid farewell. A dark cloud hovered over that fateful morning. Rotary, Uganda, the church, community, friends and family paused to mourn and pay tribute to a lady who left no stone unturned on her marathon through all kinds of terrain. A diligent and excellent servant, a mother of all, mentor, revolutionary mind, great friend and rock of her family.

Before her departure, I was able to meet her a couple of

times. In her affable self, she provoked me to think about different ways to execute our tasks. She generously poured unto me her wisdom and guidance. After her demise, I was tasked to assume leadership of the committee. It then occurred to me that Rotarian Robinah had been preparing me for this, albeit unbeknownst to both of us. With the zeal to see her work to the end and honour her memory, I gladly accepted the role. Sadly, she was no more to revel in the pride of her protégé taking to the podium.

Since I had to return to school, it was incumbent on me to find ways of steering the committee remotely, a challenge I had not foreseen. Nonetheless, in the spirit of service, I soldiered on. The support of my committee members has been instrumental, whilst seeking counsel from the District leadership and successfully sourcing for sponsors. We were able to get our branding chiselled, publicise the awards and motivate clubs to apply. We hope the awards are becoming a secondary source of motivation for clubs to celebrate their exceptional works and progress.

It has been a challenging and heart-breaking journey, but I find great satisfaction in having completed it in honour of the late Rotarian Robinah. I am indebted for the footprint of excellence she left in my life; as a leader and person. I am also grateful for her invitation and trust to serve on the Awards Committee. I can only pray and believe that I will continue to make you proud, my dear mentor and friend. I also extend my appreciation to the Awards Committee that worked tirelessly in my absence.

Rtr. Amina Nasaazi
Past District Rotaract Governor – RAC Bukoto and RC Bukoto
D9211 Awards Committee Chair



RTR. WINNIE NAMUTAawe

Standing on the shoulders of giants

“If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants,” Isaac Newton wrote in a 1675 letter to Robert Hooke. Today, I share the same sentiments as Isaac Newton.

Shortly after my graduation, I was privileged to be appointed as the Personal Assistant (PA) to the first District Governor of D9211 in 2013/14, Mr. Emmanuel Katongole. During this year, I worked closely with then-District Secretary Past Assistant Governor (PAG) Sam Bwaya and Country Chair Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga. This laid a firm foundation for my professional life and nurtured me. It is not by coincidence that I am serving in the same position as PA to the first Ugandan lady Governor and the last Governor of D2911 Rosetti as the district undergoes transition! These are experiences I will forever be grateful for; they are indelibly ingrained in my memory. They have shaped my career and crowned my Rotaract path with the fulfilment of the five objectives of Rotaract.

I am pleased to share my experience as PA to the indomitable DG Rosetti, a role I took on while serving as an Administrator for the 2nd All Africa Rotary Zone Institute held in December 2020, in addition to my other obligations. This was a time when the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic shook the entire world. A period rife with disruptions, disappointments and uncertainties when the World was faced with overwhelming pessimism, we explored new ways of getting work done in the “new normal” with resilience and optimism. Whereas I had previously served in the same role, this season seemed to be more challenging given the unique circumstances posed by the

pandemic. It called for adjusting with the slow, flow, and the blows.

We quickly adapted by using virtual space and modern information technology tools to supplement the traditional ways of working. Most of our engagements were all held scientifically or virtually in emphasis of our safety in line with the Government COVID-19 regulations. Amidst all this, emails and calls kept flooding in, which called for prioritizing and multitasking. The skills I have gained in this season are as unprecedented as the epidemic itself and I will always be grateful.

The DG’s club visits, especially in Tanzania were purely virtual due to the closure of Entebbe International Airport from April to October 2020. Even after opening the borders, there were numerous restrictions on travel, for instance, presentation of negative COVID-19 tests within 72 hours before travel and spending 14 days in quarantine upon return. To avoid time wastage, we adjusted the DG’s itineraries often and resorted to online meetings for all abroad engagements. I lost count of the meetings I attended with the DG as I have been to several parts of the world at the click of a button.

What an experience! The convenience and cost-saving resources, on the other hand, had a downside of limiting physical interface and socialising. At times, internet connections got disrupted due to bad weather or poor connectivity. We rescheduled meetings especially in the mountainous Kilimanjaro region of Tanzania. Some clubs had never interfaced with these online tools thus, we had to find people who were well versed with these online platforms to set up and run the meetings on

behalf of the club. Some were even conservative to learn these new skills for survival in the “new normal”.

At the start of the year, the implementation of a curfew in Uganda meant that all programmes had to end by 7:00 pm hence programmes had to be cut short or start earlier than usual. In case of pending work, I had to resort to working from home. The usual rush hour traffic jams took on a new form as everyone had to ensure they were indoors by 7:00 pm.

Despite the challenges experienced, many opportunities emerged in fulfilment of this year’s theme of *“Rotary opens opportunities”*. As a Team, we have achieved quite a lot and I have made new acquaintances that I will forever cherish and as we redistrict, I look forward to sharing my expertise with others especially the youth in pursuit of making this world a better place. I urge the youth to stay focused and never give up.

Benjamin Franklin once said, *“Tell me, and I will not*

At the start of the year, the implementation of a curfew in Uganda meant that all programmes had to end by 7:00 pm hence programmes had to be cut short or start earlier than usual. In case of pending work, I had to resort to working from home. The usual rush hour traffic jams took on a new form as everyone had to ensure they were indoors by 7:00 pm.

forget — show me and I may remember — but involve me, and I will understand”. To my mentor PDG Emmanuel, I am extremely grateful for your support over the years. Thank you for involving me in your numerous assignments and sharing your invaluable experience and wealth of skills with me. It’s an incredible experience, working with a person whose skills and talents are notable. To DG Rosetti, it has been an honour working with you. Your motivation and kindness are among the traits that make you the great leader, you are. This has been one of the greatest work experiences anyone would wish for.

In all, I am grateful to the Almighty God, for granting me the grace to accomplish the tasks assigned. Indeed, like Isaac Newton, I reiterate that If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of these giants.

Rtr. Winnie Namutaawe
RAC Nakawa-MUBS

- Personal Assistant to:
- Emmanuel Katongole (District Governor, RID 9211 - 2013/14)
 - Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga (District Governor, RID 9211 - 2020/21)



RTN. RICK OLSON

Giving refugees hope for the future

Shots rang out in the night, bullets piercing the home of Daniel, a successful businessman and veterinarian in the Democratic Republic of Congo, wounding him in his side under his armpit. After months of harassment, this was the last straw leading him to relocate his family to the Nakivale Refugee Settlement in South Western Uganda. Daniel and his family joined over 140,000 others who had fled for their lives from their home countries and now call Nakivale "home". Few believe they will ever be able to return to their home countries and are forced to face the reality of learning how to survive under harsh conditions.

Upon arriving in Nakivale, the refugees get some initial support from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and they are assigned a 30-by-30-meter plot on which to reside. Thereafter, they get scanty support. Each month they receive less than US\$6 per person per month for all of their worldly needs. (This compares with the World Bank defining "extreme poverty" as living on less than US\$1.90 per day or US\$57 per month). Safe drinking water is in short supply, available from 36 "water points" scattered within the 71 square miles of the Settlement. This water has to be carried to their homes. Job opportunities are rare. Life in short is simply attempting to survive.

In 2017, the Nakivale Rotaract Club was founded, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Kiwatule and the Roseville Rotary Club from Minnesota, USA. It was the first Rotaract Club formed in a refugee settlement in the world. The story of Nakivale Rotaract Club was featured in the Rotary International magazine read around the world.

One of the Rotaractors organised community members to manufacture bricks from local clay and build a three-classroom school block. Best Future School, a free, community-based, non-discriminatory

primary school opened for students in February 2020 based on prayer and hope, with no money for school supplies or staff wages. I visited Best Future School in late February 2020 and upon my return to the USA, I founded a non-profit organisation Best Future Center (USA) to solicit donations to support the school.

Great progress has occurred at Best Future School in the past year. When I returned for another visit this year, solar panels had been installed on the office roof. A WiFi hub was purchased to give ready access to the Internet. Some office and school supplies were secured. The school was up and running, connected to the world.

Prior Lake Rotary funded the construction of a school kitchen in 2020, which is also the site for a commercial kitchen, seeking to make Best Future School more self-sustainable. An Australian group, Amicus Global, funded the purchase of 30 sewing machines and supplies to begin a Sewing Center in a new building funded by Best Future Center (USA). The first group of 30 women have completed their training and the second group of 30 had a month to go. A Motivation Group meets weekly at the school, and an Entrepreneurship Program is ongoing. There is a sizeable number of talented artists being trained. Community meetings are held at the school. Another building was built by staff and contributions from various activities. Best Future School is a buzz of activity even during this COVID-19 period.

The school kitchen, Sewing Center and the newest building were built by (or supervised) a certified engineer from Burundi, who is applying his talent and training in Nakivale as a builder. He has displayed significant talent, creativity and skill in the construction of low-cost buildings due to the



abysmally low wage rates.

The Prior Lake Rotary Club is sponsoring two projects in Nakivale totalling over US\$100,000 this year, with RC Kiwatule serving as the Host Club. The grants will cover educational supplies, 12 latrines, and 8 hand washing stations at the school where 570 students will shortly resume learning. It will also cover improvements to the Nakivale water system, thus enabling an estimated 3,500 families to access clean water. Despite the hardships, the residents of Nakivale have hope for the future.

James' (not his real name) father transported goods in DR Congo from one region to another. Some people from his home region suspected him of carrying secrets from their region to the neighbouring competing region. He was severely harassed. One night, men broke into their home, and in front of their mother, James and his brothers and sisters, they killed his father. Everyone else ran away, including 12-year-old James. He kept running, separating himself from the rest of the family. Years later, he arrived in Nakivale, still afraid of being recognised and killed. There he found his mother and some siblings. In Nakivale, his talent in creative arts was recognised and he was awarded an internship in Kampala. He has since returned to Nakivale to share his newly acquired skills.



Daniel and James are a few examples of the people who have had to flee their home countries to survive. There are many stories of parents being killed, even by relatives, because of their relative success in small businesses, causing the orphans to flee to Nakivale. Widowed women and children greatly outnumber the men in Nakivale. Teachers, other professionals and even doctors cannot practice their crafts because they are not "certified" in Uganda. Much of the considerable talent in Nakivale is untapped, wasted as they simply try to survive. Efforts by Rotary Clubs from around the world, as well as other non-government organisations, give them hope. You too can help.

Rtn. Rick Olson

Prior Lake Rotary Club, Minnesota, USA

For more information, go to <http://bestfuture.center> or write to Rick Olson, olson48176@gmail.com



ANTHONY HUIELLEBECQ

‘37 years later, the Ngora I remember’

As we are preparing to celebrate 100 years of Ngora Freda Carr Hospital next year, we can look back and give thanks for the good that has been done in treating and healing so many people. We give thanks to God for all the staff, doctors, nurses, midwives, and administrative staff who have worked behind the scenes over the years to keep it going and to help shape and develop the hospital to make it what it is today.

I am Anthony Houiellebecq and my association with Ngora started in February 1984. I was a young man who volunteered as a carpenter/joiner to be part of a building team sent from Jersey, Channel Islands. I arrived to help construct the “Jersey Ward”. A major building project supported by the Jersey Overseas Aid Fund. We spent about three weeks helping the local building contractors. We also helped dig soakaways for drainage.

Our time there went far too quickly. Before this trip, I had been praying and exploring how I could use my skills and talents to serve and work overseas. I remember in February, after chatting with several people, making notes about various items needed by the hospital, I made a list so that I could speak to friends, churches and businesses to help raise funds for some tools and other items. I also wanted to raise funds to purchase a minibus ambulance and a pickup.

On my return to Jersey and after much prayer I decided to write back to the Rt. Rev. Bishop Geresom Illukor whom I had met while he came to work on the building project. I asked if he would be happy for me to come back for six months to help support the ongoing work. He must have thought and prayed about it and then wrote back saying that I should come for two years.

So I did return in September 1984 through The Church Mission Society (CMS) as a short term mission partner.

What a return! There was no one from CMS nor from the hospital to meet me at the airport. I remembered Mr. Stephen Ariko whom I had met during his visit to Ngora in February. I recalled he was a Member of the Hospital Board of Governors and the Attorney General then. I managed to find him, and he was kind enough to provide me with a lift to Ngora. It was my first time in a Mercedes!

I soon settled and I worked on various jobs and was challenged in so many ways. The building work progressed well with a steady and loyal team. It became clear that I was not so much needed to support the work day by day on the site, but I was better being used to negotiate, purchase and secure more needed building materials. I also purchased and registered a pickup and Mini-bus converted into an ambulance.



I would drive to Nairobi to organise and purchase these materials to help keep the project going. I also transported for urgent repair the hospital water supply submersible pump and generator. I would also go to Eldoret to purchase vital drugs to help keep the pharmacy stocked. Sometimes I would be asked to drive to Nairobi and back in three days and on my return once unloaded, be asked to then head off to Kampala a day after for more vital purchases. I am sure you may have heard of or remember the state of the roads!! Potholes like swimming pools. The journey was NOT straight forward nor always safe. There was often gunfire in Kampala at night.

At that time, Dr. Francis Omaswa was the Medical Superintendent and progress was not only being made in the building work but also in the quality of and the ability to carry out more complex operations. The Association of East African Surgeons supported the construction of the new operating theatre. Jersey helped to finance the plumbing work, in fact they sent out two plumbers to help plumb the Jersey Ward and theatre.

Once complete we used to get flying visits from eye surgeons from Sight by Wings. I remember the joy on the patients’ faces as they for a Bible when the

bandages came off and the delight on their face as they could read again.

There is a photo of me in the theatre. Quite often during night time power cuts, I was asked to set up my bright paraffin lamp and keep it going for the time needed. I did this for a while and it soon became obvious to me that the idea was good but it got far too hot and I became too tired!!

So I decided to string some old car headlights together as they could be used as spotlights and with a car battery I did not need to get up to help!! Well, although less hot, I still did need to get up as I was able to drive the vehicle closer to the theatre to connect the lights as someone had forgotten to charge the theatre battery!!! Then there were times when the vehicle was out and so it was back to the lamp. I think you can see the car lights in the photo as well.

Work continued well as the lorry loads from Nairobi and mini busloads of building materials arrived on time.

I remember well in 1985 we had an official visit from President Milton Obote who was coming to open the Jersey Ward and tour the hospital. Days before his visit, workmen appeared and for the briefest of hours on

the opening day, we had electricity and telephone communication. It was soon taken down again after he left.

I continued to work and support the hospital until December 1986 helping to complete the ward and new theatre.

In 1992, I returned to Uganda with my wife Liz and six-month-old baby son Daniel. We were based in Soroti working with Bishop Geresom to help set up a Development Department. During the first few weeks, Daniel started to become very unwell and in August 1992 we were told to go to Freda Carr Hospital as he became extremely ill. He was admitted in the Jersey Ward and our friends Margaret and Christine from my earlier time there nursed him back to health. It is by God's grace that he survived. He ended up a few weeks later going to Great Ormond Street Hospital. God is good and he provided for all our needs.

We give thanks to God for all His goodness to us. We returned to Soroti in 1998 with two sons and left in 2003. Ngara will always have a special place in our hearts.

We all have seen so many changes at the Hospital, but the dedication and hard work of all the staff has remained the same. I am so grateful to the Rotary Clubs for all they have done and are still doing to support the infrastructure projects to help the continuing vital work.

There have always been problems in finding funds to support the salaries and welfare of the staff. One idea that I believe would help is that various income-generating businesses, such as a vehicle maintenance garage, not only to service the hospital vehicles but also vehicles from the other institutions based at Ngara could be set up. Another business idea is a well-stocked hospital shop that could support it through the sharing of profits to help top up the running of Freda Carr.

I hope and pray if God is willing, to be able to visit Ngara and the Freda Carr Hospital again before too long. Thank you all.

Anthony Houiellebecq
The Paint Pot Colour Centre – Jersey



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.





RTN. ABDALLAH SINGANO

Changing Ukonga- one project at a time

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, this Rotary Year 2020/21 has been quite exciting for the Rotary Club of Dar-es-Salaam Oyster Bay (RCOB). With a lot of team work and tenacity, the club has executed several projects. One of our ambitions was to have a new club chartered, so - Project Ukonga was conceived, nurtured and born during the year. This was a testimony to what can be achieved from team work, passion and commitment required from a Rotarian when supporting needy communities. We were excited by the opportunity to twist some of our annual projects to fit this community in Ukonga.

The business community in Ukonga was interested in serving their populace but lacked guidance. They reached out to RCOB seeking more information about Rotary and the possibility of partnership. After attending our weekly fellowship for a while, they saw the need to start their club, noting that the structures and commitment in Rotary would help fulfil their mission. We supported them on this journey and eventually the Rotary Club of Ukonga Mwembe Madafu was chartered with 28 members in January 2021. We are hopeful that it will have a huge impact on the Ukonga community.

During the various visits to the community, the RCOB team realised that the community had several challenges, and some within Rotary's focus areas. A visit to Juhudi and Ukonga primary schools revealed that they lacked suitable classrooms, clean water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities, especially at a time when the COVID-19 pandemic was at its peak and students had to occupy few classes as the others were dilapidated and inconducive for learning.

Each school has 1,278 students, and there was a need to renovate/rehabilitate 20 classrooms. Most

of the toilet facilities were ruined, with 40 of them in dire need of rehabilitation. The RCOB in conjunction with RC Ukonga raised over TZs 8 Million (about US\$3,500) and renovated two classrooms at Juhudi Primary School. Other challenges will be addressed in phases, starting with the renovation of 10 classrooms, 20 toilets and two clean water points, and the provision of 100 classroom tables and chairs. The teachers and students will be trained about environmental protection. Through a partnership with the Rotary and Rotaract Clubs of Mechelen, Belgium, we hope to get a global grant of about US\$ 50,000 to undertake some of these projects in June 2021.



Since Ukonga has a high level of malaria incidence, the RCOB decided to conduct its annual medical camp in the area with malaria prevention as a key focus. RCOB partnered with RC Ukonga, Rotaract Club of Kairuki, Malaria Partners International, Rotarians Against Malaria and several corporate sponsors such as Guaranty Trust Bank (GTBank) to sensitise the community about malaria prevention, test several school children and adults for malaria and other ailments, and treat the sick. The camp, conducted at Ukonga Prison Clinic targeted 1,500 students from three local primary schools - Ukonga, Juhudi and JICA.



With funding from our partners, the club fitted mosquito nets on doors and windows of 70 houses belonging to the most vulnerable households in the community. This is a pilot project and subject to the post-implementation success in the reduction of malaria prevalence in the sample area of the community. We hope to partner with Malaria Partners International to expand this project in the wider Ukonga community, Dar-es-Salaam and Tanzania as a whole. The medical camp and mosquito net fitting were executed at a total cost of US\$13,000.

The Service Project team, led by Rotarian Jubril Adeniji, believes that through more partnerships, a lot more can be done for this community. With the Rotary Club of Geneva, we hope to apply for a global grant focusing on environmental protection education and waste recycling for schools in Dar-es-Salaam.

The club also donated books worth US\$1,300 to Oysterbay Secondary School, and medical equipment worth US\$4,500 to Tumaini La Maisha, an organisation based at Muhimbili National Hospital and working with children affected by cancer. Scholarships worth US\$18,000 were handed out to 28 students in various

institutions of higher learning in Tanzania.

To have implemented projects worth over US\$40,000 during this challenging environment is a testament to the resilience of Rotarians in their bid to create lasting change in our communities.

Rtn. Abdallah Singano
RC Dar-es-Salaam Oysterbay





The indefatigable ‘Mo’

“The more we get together, together, together. The more we get together, the happier we are.’ For your friends are my friends, and my friends are your friends.....” That was and probably still is his favourite song in Rotary. And from frequently singing this song when he visited the Rotary Club of Nkumba back in the day, his moniker changed from Gala to Mo.

His jovial and social character endears him to many a people. To him, life is about highlighting the positives and valuing people. “In Bwebajja, we celebrate everything. That is why the club organised a party when I was appointed as Assistant Governor-Elect (AGE) last year. It was the first time in the club’s five-year existence then to have a member serving at the district level. So why not rejoice? We also celebrated the elevation of our honorary member, Rtn. Peace Taremwa to the position of District Governor Nominee (DGN). We celebrate our presidents before they take on leadership, I am sure you have heard about the all-white installation kasikis. That is our humble culture,” said Moses Quinion Galabuzi.

With a natural versatility and ability to discuss diverse topics, Mo is probably the AG with the highest number of presentations in clubs this year. “I love inspiring members, especially those in Rotary to do better. In everything I do, I love to give my best shot. If it is dancing, pull out your finest strokes, the world is watching,” added Mo, a charter member and secretary of RC Bwebajja.

The club, chartered in 2015 was mothered by the Rotary Club of Kololo after almost three years of waiting since the members had started meeting. “In 2012, I had organised about 40 people and we were meeting at Rico Caribbean Restaurant- (Bwebajja Akright stage junction). There was no Rotary club

in Bwebajja yet it was a fast-growing area. We lacked guidance thus the prolonged journey from formation to charter.

Lady luck struck in 2013 when Rtn. Munira Ali, then a member of RC Kololo and a resident of Akright Estate heard about us and offered her club to nurture us. With Rtn. Yorakamu K. Abainenamar (RIP) as the Governor’s Special Representative, we were supported by other Rotarians like PAG Herbert Muhumuza, PAG Joel Sekabembe, and the late Paul Bogere, among others. We have come a long way; RC Bwebajja started as a social club. I gave birth to the foundation of this club even when I did not become the charter president. To me, it was important to start, and indeed we did and the rest is history. For now, despite our challenges, we target to be the biggest club on Entebbe Road,” he noted.

Family history

Moses Quinion Galabuzi is the firstborn of Musisi Ssedyabane and Victoria Zawedde. His youngest brother- Fahd Ssemambo (RIP) a Rotaractor passed away in 2019, leaving him with a sister and several siblings on the maternal side. Raised in Najjanankumbi and Bunamwaya, he speaks fondly of his late brother and notes that his sudden death was a deep cut on his heart and perception of life. “We were only two brothers and now the whole vest of building the clan is on me,” he added. Mo moved with his siblings to Bwebajja in the year 2000, with him as the family head. Taking on leadership at a tender age saw him through Aggrey Memorial School and Standard High School Zzana for his Ordinary and Advanced levels respectively.

In school, Mo was the person that made things happen – being extremely creative, confident and witty endeared him to the teachers, but he was also very talkative, assertive and positively stubborn. Not even his honesty



and confidence could save him from his father’s canes. Owing to this perceived tenacity, his family was advised to enrol him in the Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU) where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Education Degree majoring in Literature and Linguistics, graduating in 2007.

“My aunt Ms. Rose Nagujja has played a huge part in my life and I will always remain deeply indebted to her because she gave me an unfathomable foundation to my present. She taught me independence and being self-reliant apart from making sure I go through my education significantly. She used to focus on the traditional adage that; education is like a piece of hair in the nostril, it is only the owner who can remove it. This is what I keep reminding my learners up to now.”

Building a career in pedagogy

His first job in Namagabi Secondary School in Kayunga District accorded him the initial encounter with Rotary. The headteacher and his sponsor in Rotary Hajji Siraje Lwanga (RIP) was a member of RC Kayunga, and the club was struggling. In Mo, he saw a young vigorous man and entrusted him to form an Interact Club in the school. “The day the club was formed, with me as its patron, I was also inducted as a Rotarian, although I did not know much about Rotary. My boss even paid by first dues. By the time I left in 2010, I was slated to be the next club president.” Upon his return to Kampala, he taught English Language and Literature, and General Paper in

several schools along Entebbe Road. “I must have taught in all schools along Entebbe Road. I was too ambitious. I also enrolled for a Masters in Educational Leadership at Walsh University. Our classes were at Kisubi University, my colleagues connected me to St. Mary’s College Kisubi (SMACK) which I joined in 2012, while also moonlighting in other schools.”

Over the years, Mo prides in successfully excelling students wherever he goes. He proudly calls himself the best language teacher in the country. “I don’t teach students to pass, I teach them to excel and not only teach the curriculum set aside but also teach disposition, life skills, etiquette, and exposure, life, critical thinking and mix them with the topical components that a self-sustaining learner needs especially in this generation. Talk of any top school in the country and my name will be there. I deeply enjoy standing in front of students and seeing them change attitudes over time and sharing their joy as they excel. Today, many of them still thank me for mentoring and inspiring them. This deeply humbles me.”

His love for teaching and imparting knowledge has been coupled with that for music dance and drama, poetry, confidence-building talks and resource facilitation in schools. He is a mix of a loving teacher although he doesn’t tolerate indiscipline and laziness. He deeply abhors poor handwritings and disorganised work. He loves thinking outside the box. In fact, he notes that he pays special attention to organisational skills and order. It is little wonder that when serving as the Inspirational

President, the club organised the first Annual Secondary Schools Career at Taibah International School, the Andy and Ann's Boat Cruise Dinner where over Ug Shs 9 million was saved.

Funds from both events were earmarked for the club's signature 10-year-project the Rotary Geriatric Centre, for which partners are still being sought. In addition, the Rotaract Club of Bwebajja a community-based youth club was formed. What makes RC Bwebajja is our sizzling *kimeeza*; we always look forward to every Thursday after fellowship to wine and bond with heartfelt laughter. Of late, *our kimeeza* is also our court and fundraising platform where we instantly lift each other up as a family.

Fruits of COVID-19

"The lockdown was terrible. We thought it was a joke when students were sent home. We expected them to return after two weeks, but these turned into a month, then two and then close to a year. COVID-19 gave me time to rethink and rebrand myself – I even started a company – Creative Lab Uganda which is more into educational consultancy and issues of personal branding.

I focused on my family, neighbours and made new friends. I had time to think for my club and myself. God was merciful and He adequately provided for and comforted us even when we experienced a tragedy in the family. We learnt to appreciate the little we had. It taught us obuntubulamu (humanity). I advise Rotarians to build friendships. Get to know people. Know what would offend them and their values. Clubs are defined by their culture; we must build a positive culture. As a club, we bonded and celebrated our achievements and implemented a project in Luweero and Kyotera districts respectively. Sadly, we lost some Rotarians due to the hardships at that time. We are now 35 Rotarians, with three in waiting."

In District 9214, Mo will serve as the Regional Membership Coordinator focusing on clubs along Entebbe Road. This will partly involve forming new Rotary, Rotaract and Interact clubs. Redistricting creates opportunities for leadership, membership growth, and more visibility. "I am happy to serve with another club member – Past President Daniel Settuba who will be the Country Fund Coordinator. There are times when u simply cannot say no to an invitation to serve beyond the club."

Mo has now reduced critical engagement in schools and is only active at Bishop Cipriano Kihangire Senior Secondary School in Luzira; apart from this, he facilitates candidates and teachers in schools and institutions

only when called upon. Apart from this, he is also focusing on his educational consultancy – Creativity Lab Uganda which he strongly believes should spread wings globally. When we speak of Mo's first fond love, we should not forget his children and friends. If you happen to be part of these two in his life, then lo and behold Mo can die for you. Mo is married and is blessed with four children so far, therein a set of twins.

Rtn. Maria R. Muzaaki
RC Kampala Central



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

Two women are shown from the chest up, smiling and looking at a book together. They are in a library setting with bookshelves in the background. The woman on the left is wearing a patterned shirt, and the woman on the right is wearing a blue top.



RTN. PETER M. WAFULA

Transforming Yoka Zone through water ATMs and demo garden

Yoka is one of seven zones of Bukasa Parish (Namuwongo) of Makindye Division, Kampala District. Yoka, much of which is an informal settlement, lies in a ‘narrow space’ between the Nakivubo Channel and a railway line reserve. Of its 2,700 inhabitants, 82% are below 30 years, and there are more males (54%) than females (46%).

The literacy levels are low, with almost 65% not having studied beyond the Ordinary Level. As would be expected, employment levels are also low, with approximately 60% either unemployed or self-employed as bodaboda riders, salon operators, foodstuff roadside sellers, etc.

Yoka’s population gets its water from standpipes/taps, protected springs, and wells. Although the springs are ‘protected’, they and the wells are largely contaminated and are located outside the zone. To access safe water, especially for drinking, at any one of the three functional taps in the zone, residents pay Ug Shs 200 for a 20-litre jerrycan and this often involves a long wait of up to an hour. Only 38% of the households utilise two jerrycans of water a day, well below the nationally recommended water usage of 20 litres per person per day; while the World Health Organisation recommends between 50 and 100 litres of water per person per day. It is for these reasons that water safety, cost, and accessibility became key focus elements for the Rotary Club of Kisugu-Victoria View (KVV) to address in Yoka.

We plan to install 10 automated water dispensing machines (prepaid water standpipes) at US\$1,200 each, with the cost of a 20-litre jerrycan of water halved to Ug Shs 100. Starting in 2019, three ATMs have so far been commissioned with support from the Bank of Uganda and CivSource Africa. API Technical

Services Limited and KVV will install a fourth water ATM before the end of this Rotary Year.

As part of the economic development plan, KVV was to launch the Urban Farming Demonstration Garden last year but this was halted owing to the nationwide lockdown. The Demo Garden is a training ground for Yoka residents to learn farming in small urban spaces and improve their quality of nutrition, food security, and household income.

With easing of restrictions, work on the 8x10m sized garden resumed, and several successful harvests of vegetables have been done, one of which coincided with the Club’s FAN launch in October 2020. The produce has been mostly bought by KVV members resulting in net revenue of Ug Shs 415,000. All monies collected will be placed in a revolving fund to support more economic empowerment projects/activities in Yoka Zone.

In collaboration with the community, another harvest cycle has started. It is expected that harvesting of tomatoes will continue for three months, spinach for four months, and sukuma – for the next six to eight months.

This project is supported by Kampala Capital City Authority’s Directorate of Gender, Community Services and Production. Through its Kyanja Agricultural Resource Centre under Dr. Esau Galukande, the guidance and support has been tremendous. In 2019, the Centre hosted 40 members from Yoka community members for a two-day learning tour. The Centre also facilitated the set-up of the garden by contributing Ug Shs 9,000,000), hiring a contractor and providing technical supervision under the leadership of the late James Epilu (he passed away in February 2021), who



oversaw operational issues at Makindye Division. The Makindye Division Town Clerk provided support during the excavation and removal of the mountain of garbage that had ‘sat’ in the Zone for many years — 560 tons of garbage were removed — to pave way for the establishment of the garden.

Other aspects of KVV’s economic development intervention include:

- Training 36 Yoka community members in kuroiler chicken rearing and management, by the KCCA Kyanja Centre.
 - Financial literacy Training-of-Trainers (ToT) for 32 community members conducted in partnership with Labour College of East Africa, an institute bordering Yoka that provides short skills training for employability enhancement. The college provided the training within its premises at a subsidised cost.
 - After this ToT, the trainees formed an investment group named- ‘Yoka Vision Group’. The group registered as a Community-based Organisation (CBO) in October 2020, under the Gender and Community Services Department of KCCA, and hopes to lead the economic transformation within the area.
- To support the club’s interventions and foster an



increased level of community ownership of the projects, a Rotary Community Corps (RCC) was established, comprising 10 youth (five males and five female). Many of them are also members of the Yoka Vision Group and are managing the Demo Garden. They will soon undergo further training at the Kyanja Centre to improve their agronomic skills. We hope for more economic and WASH interventions in Yoka Zone soon.

Rtn. Peter M. Wafula
President – RC Kisugu-Victoria View



RTN. JOSEPH SSUUNA

Lessons from the RI-USAID Partnership Project in Lwengo District

For many of us, Lwengo District conjures thoughts of George Mutabazi, the LC5 Chairperson caning residents without sanitation facilities. The 2018/19 Lwengo District Local Government Statistical Abstract shows that safe water coverage was at 55%, below the national coverage of 85%, while latrine coverage stood at 65%. The distribution of water sources was fair, although the functionality at 65% is low.

Lwengo is one of the 21 districts where the Rotary International - USAID Project is being implemented, and the Rotary Club of Bwebajja is one of the clubs contributing to this cause.

As part of the March 2021 Sanitation Week activities, a monitoring and evaluation exercise was conducted in the district by the RI-USAID WASH Project Manager; representatives from the Rotary Clubs of Bwebajja, Lukaya, Kalisizo, Masaka and Kyotera; Gankanga VHTs; Uganda Sanitation for Health Activity (USHA) and sub-contractors; the District Health Officer and the area Local Council Chairperson.

The exercise was meant to assess the effectiveness, relevance, sustainability and impact of community-based water, sanitation and hygiene services (WASH) projects; understand the project performance against the planned objectives, expected results and targets; generate lessons learned for future WASH project activities; and identify, where possible and evident best practices and innovation in WASH.

Benefits from the intervention

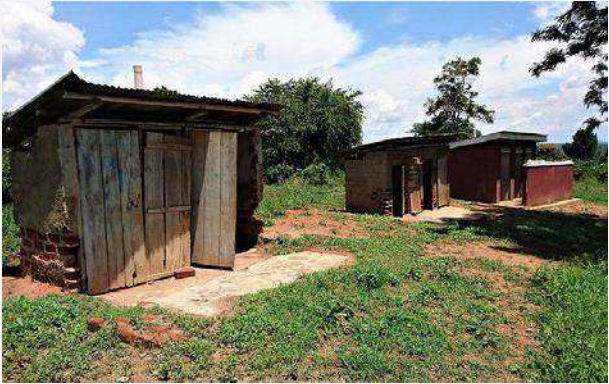
Before the project, several households lacked latrines, they often practiced open defecation and did not

observe proper hygiene and handwashing practices. At Kalisizo Primary School and Kalisizo Health Centre III, the latrines were in a dreadful state and lacked hand washing facilities.

Through the RI-USAID project, a modern pit latrine, incinerator and a water tank were erected at the school in July 2020. Additionally, sanitation and hygiene supplies such as cleaning brushes and squeezers were provided. The facilities were well embraced and are fully utilised by both the pupils and teachers. There are similar plans to provide water at the health centre.

Prevailing challenges

It was noted that there is a need to sensitise the teachers, parents, pupils and the local community to provide the learners with basic hygiene supplies and requirements such as toilet paper, and sanitary pads for the girls. Another prevailing challenge is the long-distance the pupils have to walk from school to the well to collect water for handwashing especially during the dry season. The available tanks are dependent on rainwater, have the minimal capacity and yet the surrounding community



illegally uses the same water facilities at the school. Cases of vandalising the water tank padlocks by the neighbours/intruders were reported.

It was noted that households are missing out on sanitation and hygiene information since they lack radio sets, and the messages are broadcast at times when they are in the garden. Sanitation products such as SaTo pans are available within the communities but several members are not aware of their availability. Sensitisation campaigns can be carried out through community radios and local group gatherings.

Several homesteads visited did not have utensil stands (butandalo), bathrooms, and latrines. For some with latrines, these lacked doors. The village chairperson and his team were tasked to continue promoting sanitation and hygiene messages in the communities. These can be supported by the VHTs and masons, who can be trained to improve their quality of work.

The project has increased hygiene awareness and

reduced open defecation, but there is still a need to improve access to clean sources of water and sanitation supplies. RC Bwebajja looks forward to making more contributions to promote WASH in various project districts.

Rtn. Joseph Ssuuna
RC Bwebajja

Through the RI-USAID project, a modern pit latrine, incinerator and a water tank were erected at the school in July 2020. Additionally, sanitation and hygiene supplies such as cleaning brushes and squeezers were provided. The facilities were well embraced and are fully utilised by both the pupils and teachers. There are similar plans to provide water at the health centre.



RTN. ROBERT M. J. KINTU

Sailing for a plastic-free environment

The Rotary Mariners of East Africa – Uganda Fleet are members of the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians (IYFR), with a membership of 70% Rotarians and 30% Non-Rotarians; that come together for fellowship, fun and to promote social and economic humanity concerns; while creating awareness of matters relating to water bodies and associated activities.

In March, the Mariners partnered with the Flipflop Sailing Expedition – a project aimed at promoting the recycling of plastics through sensitisation and sailing expeditions. The organisation’s Flipflop dhow (sailing boat) was made from eight tons of fully recycled plastics collected from the Indian Ocean around the Coast of Lamu Island in Kenya. It was covered with 30,000 multicoloured flip flops, thus the name – Flipflop.

To promote awareness and educate the public about the importance of plastic-free waters, the promoters sailed around the shores of Lake Victoria, meeting several local and international non-governmental organisations and government agencies mandated to protect the waters and environment. They preached a message of ending the unnecessary single-use of plastics, most of which is dumped by the roadside, bins and other waste areas, and end up in channels transported by the rains to the freshwater lakes and rivers.

This year, the Mariners with support from IYFR are running a campaign aimed at clearing and freeing our water bodies of plastics and other non-decomposing materials. We urge you fellow Rotarians and friends of the earth to join us to advocate for plastic-free waters. As citizens of this country, you can take

part in cleaning the beaches, planting trees, policy enforcement, community policing, and desiring beauty in the nature around us. This five-year project will raise awareness and educate the users of bodies, industries, beachgoers and property owners.

You can be a part of this campaign by:

- Promoting circular solutions and call for an end to single-use plastic in the region.
- Encouraging cross-border collaboration to address climate change and plastic pollution.
- Collaborating with government, local, central and regional bodies in ensuring water and environment security for socio-economic transformation with a focus on solutions to address the rising water levels, water scarcity, food security, health, biodiversity, and impact of COVID-19.
- Protecting and restoring land, coastal, marine, and freshwater resources.
- Enhancing the capacity of communities to manage and conserve natural resources.
- Supporting sustainable agriculture, fishing, and aquaculture practices.
- Reducing the emission of greenhouse gases to address climate change.
- Strengthening ecosystems and communities affected by climate change.
- Advocating for sustainable consumption to build an economy that uses resources more efficiently.
- Addressing environmental justice issues and public health concerns.
- Sorting and managing your waste.

Rotary clubs can promote/fund the following activities:

- Cleaning of beaches on Saturdays at 3:00pm for 30 minutes.
- Promoting tree planting by all school-going children



- twice a year. Every child should have planted and natured 40 trees by the time of their graduation.
- A monthly general cleanup day at the national, regional or city level.

We appreciate the collaboration and support from the following institutions: Ministry of Water and Environment, Ministry of Transport, National Forest Authority, National Environment Management Authority, Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities, Buganda Kingdom, Busoga Kingdom, Flipflop Project, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), European Union, UNEP Clean Seas Campaign, UK’s Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, French Development Agency, Rotary International and IYER, private companies, corporate bodies and associations.

This is our concern and our problem. We welcome any ideas that will make this campaign effective and meaningful to our beloved country Uganda. Through Rotary let us connect the world in action.

FC Rtn. Robert M. J. Kintu (CP. PHF)
RC Kampala Central

Fleet Commodore – Rotary Mariners of East Africa – Ugandan Fleet
CEO – FIT Insights Ltd/ Chairperson of Maali Financial Corporation
Email: mjkintu@gmail.com /Tel – 0752460354





RTN. JOAN KANTU ELSE & ELEANOR ROSE CURL

‘In my Host Counsellor, I got a lifelong friend’

President Joan Kantu Else – Host Counsellor

Being chosen as a Host Counsellor for a Peace Fellow from the first cohort to enrol at the Makerere University Rotary Peace Centre was an honour. As Rotarians, it is important to form relationships with people from all corners of the globe. My fellow – Eleanor Rose Curl is the only non-African in this cohort. Rose is from the United Kingdom, and although she is widely travelled, I was not sure how easy it would be for her to acclimatise to the Ugandan community. As soon I was appointed Rose’s Host Counsellor, we began communicating and struck an immediate friendship. I supported her through the last-minute flight cancellations and changes. By the time I met her at the airport, it felt like I was meeting a lifelong friend.

Rose and I have spent some time together and experienced an adventure or two despite our busy schedules. She has visited my house, travelled with me to Fort Portal, and we have attended several functions together. Being able to guide and have fun with a young woman in a professional field very different from mine is a great learning experience. To talk to someone with different life experiences, but similar strong ideals and ambitions for the future of Uganda is fascinating. In hindsight, I need not have been concerned about Rose. She has fitted in well with her colleagues and taken everything in good stride. We are in regular contact, and I feel it is part of my responsibility to continue “nagging” her about washing, eating healthy, and getting enough rest. Rose has become a friend for life.

Eleanor Rose Curl – Rotary Peace Fellow

I was delighted when I got an email from my Host Counsellor Joan. She was very welcoming and excited to be part of this incredible experience that Rotary International has honoured me with. I felt an immediate connection with Joan. She has such a good sense of humour and was so supportive when my flights were cancelled and the travel arrangements

appeared an insurmountable challenge. To have Joan meet me at the airport was so special and reassuring. I felt like I was coming home. I spent a wonderful first evening meeting the Rotaractors she supports and getting to know her family. Joan is one of the humblest and most hard-working woman I have met. She is such an inspiration. I am blessed to have her as my Host Counsellor.

Joan has been very kind and generous. We have taken fabulous trips, had some highly intellectual conversations, and a lot of fun. I look up to and admire this wonderful woman. I know that this is a relationship that I will forever hold dear. She is very busy but still creates time to check that I am coping with my work and chores. Joan calls it “nagging” I call it caring beyond the call of duty.

I know that if I have any difficulties, I can call on Joan. And if she can help, she will. The most special part of the Host Counsellor – Fellow relationship is that I have made a lasting connection with a woman who shares such similar values. Joan inspires me to be stronger, work harder, inspire others, and push to make a difference in the world. She motivates me to achieve more using knowledge gained in the fellowship, and from the great friends and connections, I am making here.

All the Fellows are having similar positive experiences with their Host Counsellors. They have enjoyed amazing hospitality and wonderful support. We agree that Host Counsellors are an essential part of the program. They enrich the Fellowship experience. We have enjoyed many experiences because of their kindness – the cultural dances, excursions, parties, International Women’s Day conference, and lots of excellent food and cake! We truly value the relationships and are honoured by their interaction with us. Their guidance is invaluable.

Rtn. Joan Kantu Else

President – RC Entebbe

Eleanor Rose Curl – Rotary Peace Fellow

LOREEN SEERA



Uganda Prisons Services furnishes the Rotary Peace Fellows’ residence

Uganda Prisons Services (UPS) has a modern carpentry workshop at Luzira Prison in Nakawa Division, Kampala. When the Commissioner of UPS, Rotarian Johnson Byabashaija from the Rotary Club of Kajjansi heard about the opening of the Makerere University Rotary Peace Centre, he pledged to furnish the Fellows’ residence at Mugenyi Flats with dining sets.

The 18 five-piece dining room sets were handed over by the Prisons Commissioner Robert Munanura last month. The furniture was specifically designed and made by the Uganda Prisons Industries for the Makerere University Rotary Peace Centre, currently hosting its first cohort of 15 Fellows from Liberia, DRC, Zimbabwe, Somalia, Nigeria, Zambia, United Kingdom, Burundi, Botswana, Australia and Uganda.

Rotarian Herbert Tumwesigye, who represented District 9211 thanked the Commissioner and UPS for the timely support rendered towards building the Rotary Peace Centre, which was still in its infancy. “I thank the Commissioner for this timely intervention.

Since the centre has just started, these donations will help make the Peace Fellows more comfortable as they pursue their studies,” he added.

Patience Rusare, a Rotary Peace Fellow from Zimbabwe thanked the Rotary Clubs for their support. She added that the donation showed the unconditional love for humanity, as we strive towards building a community of peacebuilders.

The Makerere University hosts the first Rotary Peace Centre in Africa. The Rotary Peace Centres program develops the capacity of peace and development professionals or practitioners to become experienced and effective catalysts for peace. Applications for the next intake of Peace Fellows (2022-23 academic year) should be submitted by 15th May 2021. Please write to rotarypeacecenters@rotary.org in case of any questions.

Loreen Seera

Communication and Engagement Officer
Makerere University Rotary Peace Centre





RTN. JONATHAN WANGUBO

FAN activities boost members' confidence and self-esteem

Sunday is normally a day we interact with our families and friends away from the work environment. Whereas many people might choose to spend the day feasting and resting, engaging in exercises can help you unwind in preparation for the next week.

The Rotary Club of Mukono Central decided to engage in a Fitness and Nutrition (FAN) session every Sunday. This allows us to enjoy the outdoors, connect with family members, friends, Rotarians and Rotaractors in a fun social setting. We either walk cycle or play football.

These activities have boosted our health, some members have either lost or maintained their weight, they definitely feel better and others have even been relieved of depression symptoms. Club participation and cohesion has increased thus enabling us easily collect Rotary dues, engage the community, and identify local projects.

Testimonies from Rotarians that participate in these FAN activities are encouraging. Rtn. Nicholas Lwasampija has become more active and productive after the Sunday exercises.

From our Mother Club – Mukono, Rtn. Isaac Sebulimba

has lost weight and had to buy new clothes for the new size. The new physical appearance has greatly boosted his confidence and he now walks with increased vigour since the energy levels are also higher. For Rtn. Bob Kibirango, the FAN activities have enabled him to fall asleep faster and enjoy a blissful sleep, he hopes this will enable him to live longer.

For Emmanuel Kalule, President of the Rotaract Club of Mukono, he now feels better about his appearance, which has boosted his confidence and self-esteem.

In November last year, we held the FAN Cocktail Sunday in conjunction with Rotary and Rotaract Clubs along the Jinja Road Corridor – Bweyogerere Namboole, Bweyogerere Central, Seeta, Kyambogo, Kira, Najjeera, Mukono, Mukono Central, Lugazi Central, Namugongo, Kireka Movers, Rotaract Club of UCU and that of Mukono. We were also joined by the Rotary and Rotaract clubs of Kampala Munyonyo. The Rotarians, Rotaractors, and well-wishers had a fun time engaging in netball, football, cycling and volleyball.

Rtn. Jonathan Wangubo
President – RC Mukono Central



RTN. SHROOTI ASHER

Virtual cooking fundraiser to buy stretchers for Tanga Hospital



After adopting virtual Rotary and Rotaract meetings, training and conferences, the next move was to also hold fundraisers online. Last month, the Rotary Club of Tanga Central organised a 'Live Cooking Class' fundraiser at Mkonge Hotel, Tanga.

The class focused on Goan Cuisine. The 30 online participants got an opportunity to learn authentic recipes of one of the least heard about cuisines in the world. The recipes included Chicken/Paneer Cafreal, Coconut Cake (Batika) and the Coconut Water Carnival.

Surrounded by nature and enjoying the cool breeze from the sea, our club members – Chefs Veronica and Jacinta who originate from Goa led the participants through the classes. This beach cooking experience excited the participants.

About TZs 900,000 was raised to buy stretchers for Tanga Regional Referral Hospital.

Rtn. Shrooti Asher
President – RC Tanga Central





RTN. MIKE K. SEBALU

Africa’s historical moment: RC Sonde is chartered with 122 members

It all started in July 2020 at Piato Restaurant during a luncheon hosted in honour of Rotarian Gloria Katuku for her outstanding performance as the President of the Rotary Club of Bukoto. This luncheon was coordinated by Opportunity President Mercy K. Kainobwisho to thank her predecessor for a job well done.

In attendance was Rtn. Catherine Barasa one of the new generations of Bukoto Girls inducted into the club over a year ago. We discussed a wide range of issues, among which was the idea of starting a new club in Sonde. Catherine justified this move based on the good catchment of the Sonde area as an upcoming affluent residential area. This suggestion was music to my ears as it opened up yet another opportunity for Rotary growth and extension. Catherine invited me to preside over the launch, to which I responded in the affirmative and the rest is history

On 12th July 2020, my spouse Maggie and I graced the launch of the first meeting of the Rotary Club of Sonde at Model Gardens. Since the club is community-based, it was deemed convenient to have the meetings on Sunday at 3:00 pm. With 19 prospective members in attendance, the journey began in earnest. I broke the ice by taking the prospective members through the basics of Rotary. From the onset, the prospective members expressed a lot of interest and excitement to be part of the Rotary fraternity. Charter President Catherine enthusiastically organised and coordinated the meeting whose success is attributed to her efforts. Rtn. Edith Mujwisa and I represented the mother club in this meeting.

On 19th July, Maggie and I were back to the Model Gardens for the second meeting which was well

attended by the prospective members. The club shaped up very quickly and gained momentum with very interesting and exciting meetings every Sunday characterised by great refreshments, fun and happiness. Rotarians Claudia, Edith, and Robinah from the mother club were common faces at the club’s regular meetings and activities.

Sooner than later, RC Sonde-in-Formation became a household name within the Rotary fraternity and attracted partnerships and friendship from Rotary leaders in various clubs who gave it supplementary support. The club took a deliberate effort to have well-coordinated and massive visits to other clubs as a public relations tool. This strategy paid off as Sonde became highly visible and attractive to both Rotarians and prospective Rotarians.

The club registered steady progress and growth in membership, recruiting many high personalities.

In December 2020, RC Sonde became a Provisional Rotary Club. I visited the club and shared the good news as a Christmas present to the members. In return, I challenged them to reciprocate by giving me a New Year present too. I requested them to grow membership and be chartered with 100 members. That was the origin of the Sonde challenge of charter at 100.

The Sonde Models took up the challenge immediately and before the meeting ended, several members made commitments to invite their relatives, friends and workmates to join the club. Those that did won themselves an honour to sit on the Club stool. Sonde Models exceeded my expectations, having 122 charter members, inducting 13 on the charter day, plus one honorary member. This



makes it the biggest club ever to be chartered in District 9211, if not in Zone 22.

This achievement is attributed to the hard work and committed leadership of CP Catherine and her board members. The entire club membership exhibited and demonstrated teamwork and unity of purpose that defines Sonde as a unique Rotary Club. One of its outstanding uniqueness is its overwhelming size in terms of membership at charter. The majority of them are from the Sonde area and its neighbourhood, making it a well-grounded community Rotary Club. It also boasts of a sizable membership in the diaspora, giving it an international appeal and outlook

The club mirrors all aspects of diversity. The gender distribution and parity are quite close, classifications are well spread out and all tribes and religions are well accommodated. This makes the club a true reflection of a diverse community of Sonde residents. The club has also supported the Rotary Foundation with over 20 members as Paul Harris Fellows, and being a 100% foundation giving club. This too is unprecedented in the history of our District.

With the character of a model club, RC Sonde’s members are seen as role models in terms of their well-coordinated networking activities with other Rotary clubs within the district and beyond. They have built a positive public image and visibility through their massive club visits. Indeed, wherever Rotary

is, RC Sonde is always in a ‘tsunami’ style. Rotary’s outputs, outcomes, and deliverables are service projects undertaken to impact the lives of the communities. In this regard too, RC Sonde is not found wanting as it has already implemented a Mission Green project of planting trees in partnership with schools around the Sonde community.

I commend the good leadership of DG Rossetti and the District Membership Committee led by PAG Ron Kawaddwa that enabled RC Sonde to be chartered during the 96th District Conference and Assembly. I also thank RC Bukoto for mothering such a big bouncing and lovely baby club. Kudos to the New Club Advisory Committee chaired by PP Mike Opira. CP Catherine, your dream has come true, and your effort towards its realisation is acknowledged, appreciated and recognised.

To my Sonde Models, all I can say is – Go for Gold. All the stakeholders, Rotary leaders and the Rotarians that have walked with and along RC Sonde on this journey are highly valued and saluted. Worthy of mention are PAGs Ben Waira, Sam Nsiyona and Jane Kabugo. I am extremely proud, with a great sense of fulfilment since I have walked with you from the beginning to date. I pledge not to let you walk alone as I am ready, available and willing to walk with you as we serve humanity through Service Above Self.

Cheers, and enjoy Rotary.
Rtn. Mike K. Sebalu
DGN D9213 – RC Bukoto



RTN. HONORATA RAYMOND NASUWA

Rotary Club of Mt. Kilimanjaro aims for the peak



Honorata Raymond Nasuwa is a 46-year-old Tanzanian lady working with nongovernmental organisations to promote and protect women and girl's rights. For 20 years, she has served marginalised communities in rural areas to eliminate harmful traditional practices and other forms of gender-based violence. She has expertise in program development and management in the areas of health, nutrition and human rights of women, children and youths. She is ready to further champion the needs of the communities as the Charter President of the Rotary Club of Mt. Kilimanjaro.

The club was chartered in April with 23 members, the majority aged between 30 to 50 years. We are eager to learn more about Rotary and provide the best service to our community. The Rotary training and mentoring have essentially strengthened our commitment to Service Above Self.

We aim to add vibrancy to the Rotary family in Tanzania. As a club born around the highest mountain

in Africa, we see ourselves at the peak of this great Mt. Kilimanjaro. As young professionals, the members have united to bring change to the less privileged. We hope that with maintained connections to our Mother Club – Moshi, this will enable us to learn some tips about service to the community.

We shall begin by conducting a community needs assessment to determine the priorities for interventions, collect funds for The Rotary Foundation, recruit several young professionals, and establish Rotaract and Interact clubs.

We are set to achieve these interventions by building an effective unified team that values and cares for one another; set, monitor and evaluate yearly goals; participate in Rotary training, meetings and workshops; collaborate with other Rotary clubs worldwide, and organise interesting weekly meetings to ensure maximum attendance members.

Rtn. Honorata Raymond Nasuwa
Charter President – RC Mt. Kilimanjaro



RTN. MARIA R. MUZAANKI

DGs Emmanuel, Ken and Rosetti garner more accolades



Last month, we celebrated 100 years of Rotary in Africa. Several members of the Rotary fraternity and non-Rotarians gathered online to participate in the Rotary Africa Centennial International Conference and the House of Friendship Exhibition Projects Fair. Governor Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga was one of the presenters during this conference. In recognition of her stellar performance in this historic year, DG Rosetti was accorded the Rotary African Centennial District Governor Award.

DG Rosetti was also recently appointed to serve as the Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator (ARRFC) beginning 1st July 2021 for a three-year term. She will work with colleagues in the following Districts: D9211 – Uganda and Tanzania; D9212 – Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia and South Sudan; D210 – Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe; D9350 – Angola, Namibia, Western-Southern Africa; D9370 – South Africa, Lesotho; and D9400 – Botswana, Swaziland, Mozambique.

“DG Rosetti’s appointment, while still serving as Governor, is not only a vote of confidence in her work but also the ability of our District to produce credible leaders worth serving above the District,” noted PAG Juliet Kyokunda, the District Executive Secretary.

This position was previously held by PDG Kenneth Wycliff Mugisha, who will serve as the District 9214

International Service Chair for three years with effect from 1st July 2021.

In this same accord, PDG Emmanuel Katongole was bestowed the African Centennial Rotary Heroes Award for his leadership in furthering service to humanity on the African continent. He was also applauded by the Rotary Foundation Fund Development Committee and Board of Trustees for successfully organising the first African Peace Concert, which was embedded within the 96th DCA. “The concert was a remarkable achievement which highlights the impact that our Major Gift Initiative Committee members can have. Your efforts and recent contribution of US\$25,000 will help ensure the future success of our newest Rotary Peace Center at Makerere University,” noted Brenda Cressey, Chair – Fund Development Committee

In other good news, the Comedy and Laughters’ Rotary Fellowship was officially recognised as a Rotary Fellowship by the Rotary International Board as of 26th April 2021. Congratulations to RC Kampala Palms Charter President Musa Sekamatte, Chairman of the Comedy and Laughters’ Rotary Fellowship, and the members for holding our District flag high. Congratulations PDGs Emmanuel and Ken, and DG Rosetti upon these meritorious achievements.

Rtn. Maria R. Muzaaki
RC Kampala Central

ROTARY AWARDS - 2020/21					
NO	AWARD	CRITERIA	WINNER	1st RUNNER UP	2nd RUNNER UP
1	Membership Growth	Small Clubs (less than 30 members)	RC Mubende	NA	NA
		Medium Clubs (30-60 members)	RC E-Club Uganda Global	NA	NA
		Big Clubs (over 60 members)	RC Dar-es-Salaam Oysterbay	NA	NA
2	Membership Diversity & Gender Balance		RC Sonde	RC Dar-es-Salaam Oysterbay	
3	Membership Extension Award		RC Bukoto		
4	Rotary Foundation Award	Small clubs (less than 30 mem- bers)	RC Moshi Kilimanjaro	RC Port Bell	RC Kampala Maisha & RC Wobulenzi
		Medium clubs (30-60 members)	RC Kajjansi	RC Rubaga	RC Muyenga Tank-Hill
		Big clubs (over 60 members)	RC Kiwatule	RC Muyenga	RC Kololo
5	Global Grant Utilisation Award		RC Kiwatule	RC Kololo	RC Kajjansi
6	Rotary Club of the Year		RC Dar-es-Salaam Oysterbay		
7	Public Relations		RC Kasangati	RC DSM Oysterbay	RC Munyonyo
8	Community Service		RC Bukoto	RC Muyenga	RC Kampala North
9	Youth Service		RC DSM Oysterbay	N/A	NA
10	Enhanced Participants Engagement Award		RC Kampala South	RC Muyenga Tankhill & RC DSM Oysterbay	RC Kabarole
ROTARY ROSES AWARDS - 2020/21					
1	Female Growth Award		RC Sonde	RC DSM Oysterbay	RC Bukoto
2	Rotary Roses Service Award		RC Kampala Ssese Gals	Rotaract Ladies Initiative (ROLI)	RC Bweyogerere Namboole
3	Mentoring and Coaching Award		RC Kampala East	Dar-es-Salaam Oysterbay	Rotaract Ladies Initiative (ROLI)
4	Attendance Award		RC DSM Oysterbay	N/A	N/A
5	Chief Cream Rose Honour Award		ROLI	N/A	N/A
6	Woman of Choice		Maureen Mugisha - RC Nkumba	Rotary Roses Elizabeth Ntege	N/A

ROTARACT AWARDS - 2020/21				
NO	AWARD	WINNER	1st RUNNER UP	2nd RUNNER UP
1	Professional Leadership Development and Capacity Building	RAC Naguru	RAC Nakawa	RAC Kampala North
2	Outstanding Membership Extension Award	RAC Nakawa	RAC Mulago	RAC Kampala West
3	Outstanding Community Service	RAC Kololo	RAC Young Professionals/Dar City	RAC Kampala North
4	Rotary Foundation Award	RAC Kampala North	RAC Kampala City	RAC Kyambogo
5	Rotaract Public Image Award	RAC Mbale Uptown	RAC Young Professionals	RAC Kampala South
6	Rotaract – Interact Partnership Award	RAC Kyambogo	RAC Bweyogerere Namboole	RAC St. Judes Arusha
7	Rotaract – Rotary Partnership Award	RAC Kairuki	RAC Kampala South	RAC Rafiki
8	Reporting Award	RAC Bwebajja	RAC Bweyogerere Namboole	RAC Bukoto
9	Outstanding Rotaract Club of the Year Award (Community Based Club -CBC)	RAC Bwebajja		
10	Outstanding Rotaract Club of the Year Award (Institutional Based Club - IBC)	RAC Nakawa		
11	Most Outstanding President	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Douglas Ssebaduuka (Nakawa) - IBC CategorySimon Okwi (Bweyogerere-Namboole) CBC Category		
12	RAC Bwebajja	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hermelinda Joseph (TZ)Josephine Kabyesiza (UG)		
13	District Rotaract Representative’s Award	Francis Adule (District PIME Chair)		
14	Conference Attendance Award	Rotaract Club of Mbale Uptown		

Special thanks to the award sponsors: Bridge Credit Finance Co. Ltd, Ashland Motors Africa Ltd, DGN Mike Sebalu, DGND Aggrey Kankunda, DGND Francisco Semwanga, PAG Ronald Kawaddwa, DYSC PP Mulindwa Ronnie, PP Ajuu Daniel Odongo, Rtn. Phillip Kamugungunu, and PDRR Enock Mukasa.

Celebrating End of an Era

The 96th DCA was held at Speke Resort Munyonyo from 21st – 24th April 2021. To accommodate the various members of the Rotary family, the attendees were grouped into smaller numbers in different bubbles in observance of the COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures.

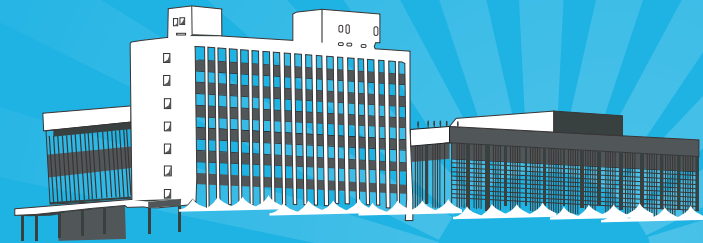
Among some of the highlights, the U.S Ambassador to Uganda, Her Excellency Natalie E. Brown was the Chief Guest at the Rotaract Executive Networking Luncheon. She shared tips on investing in East African Youth.



Beginning of a New Dawn

Rotarians Aggrey Kankunda from RC Kampala South, and Francisco Semwanga from RC Kampala-Nateete were chosen as the District Governor Nominee Designate (DGND) for D9213 and D9214 respectively. They were joined by Rotaractors Sarah Owembabazi from RAC Lake Victoria and Francis Matovu from RAC Nkumba Stewards as the District Rotaract Representative Nominee Designate (DRRND) for D9213 and D9214 respectively.





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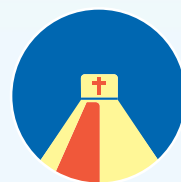
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