

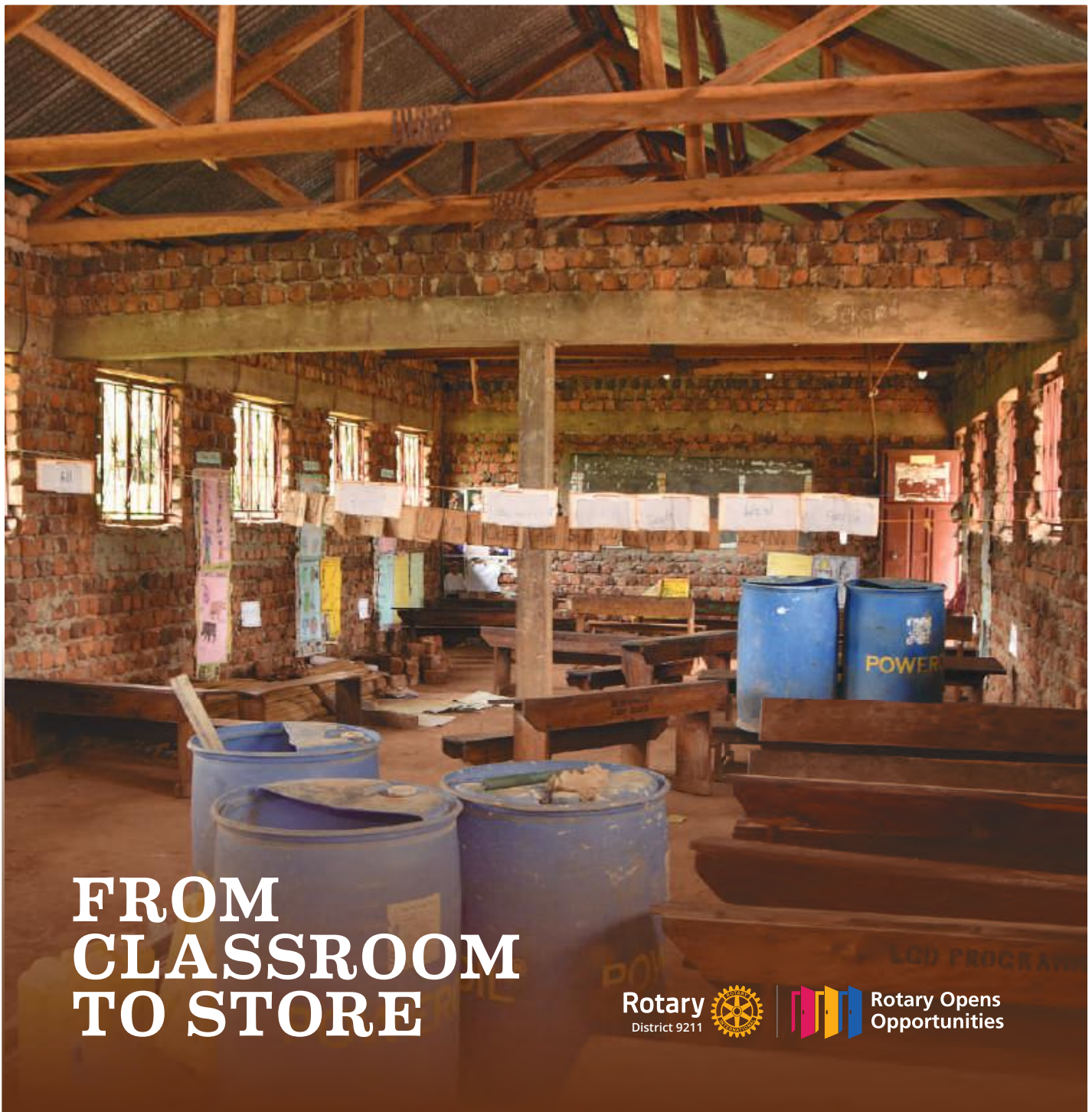
# THE **WAVE**

ISSUE 03 - SEPTEMBER - 2020 — DISTRICT 9211



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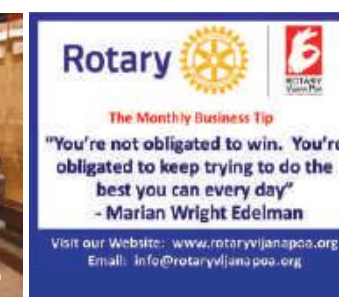
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## Editor's Note

August just ended on a high celebration mode following the certification of Africa as wild polio virus free. This is a historic achievement, 24 years after the Kick Polio Out of Africa Campaign was launched. As Rotarians, we are energized to continue striving to ensure that we have a polio free world.

For the past several months, we have had to embrace and experience many virtual activities, and this year's Rotary Cancer Run, held on the last weekend of August was no different. Thank you for taking part in this noble cause aimed at raising awareness about cancer and raising funds for constructing two bunkers at Nsambya Hospital. In line with last month's theme, a new exciting programme was launched – Rotary Roses aimed at among others enhancing membership engagement. We welcome you all, especially the ladies, to join the Rotary Roses Fellowship, open to both Rotarians and non-Rotarians.

Nelson Mandela (RIP) said that 'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world'. As Rotarians, who seek to create lasting change, one of our focus areas is anchored on implementing interventions that promote Basic Education and Literacy in our communities. This month, we take stock of our contribution towards promoting literacy world over. Access to education during the COVID-19 pandemic has come with a myriad of challenges and opportunities. In this issue, Mr. Alex Kakooza, the Permanent Secretary of Uganda's Ministry of Education and Sports shares the government's plans to re-ignite the education sector. We also explore how some students, teachers, parents and school proprietors are coping.

Do you love wine, bikes, comedy, dancing, farming, or boating? This is your opportunity to learn about new ways of having fun and expanding your networks. In the spirit of celebrating the 5000m world record holder Joshua Cheptegei, you are encouraged to embrace the Fitness and Nutrition (FAN) campaign. Take time to set and even break your own record, just like Past President PP Daniel Babonereirwe Buzareki who run his first 42km marathon at 52 years old. The editorial team is grateful to everyone that participated in last month's Wave Treasure Hunt. We are back with another exciting prize! We also thank the members who shared articles highlighting their club's amazing deeds. It is always exciting hearing from you and we continue to appeal to you for more articles. These should be 500 words, accompanied by three to five action photographs submitted by the 15th day of every month to [dg9211news@gmail.com](mailto:dg9211news@gmail.com).

Yours in service!

Rtn. Maria Roselynn Muzaaki

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## Holger Knaack

Rotary youth exchange — one of the many programs for youths and young adults that we celebrate this month — was my path into true engagement in Rotary. My wife, Susanne, and I began hosting exchange students soon after I joined, and the experience helped me go from simply being a member of my Rotary club to being a true Rotarian. Now Rotary Youth Exchange is a family tradition, and a strong one: Over the past 24 years, we have hosted 43 students!

From the start, we loved it so much that, in addition to hosting students in our home, we became involved with the program by helping to organize student summer camps. During one such camp, I met Christine Lichtin, who was a German high school student at the time and whose father is a past president of my Rotary club. To try something new during this year of embracing change, I am turning this space, normally reserved for the president of Rotary, over to Christine so she can share her story.

*My first contact with Rotaract was about 13 years ago, when I was with Susanne and Holger at a barbecue for the summer youth camp. Holger turned to me and said: "Why don't you visit a Rotaract club? You'll meet a lot of great young people who come together to have fun and to make a difference."*

*A few years later, when I was at Trier University, his words came back to me and I decided to give it a try. That was more than eight years ago, and I'm still at it. Once you are in Rotaract, you just don't want to get out. Rotaract has accompanied me everywhere, starting with the Trier club and then on to a club in Bologna, Italy, during the year I studied there. When I was in Kiel for my master's degree, I got involved*



*with Rotaract there before landing at the Rotaract Club of Hamburg-Alstertal as I began my career. Each of those clubs has its own identity and focus, but all have the same intrinsic motivation.*

*I am now taking on a senior advisory role in my Rotaract club, which I really enjoy. I carry Rotaract in my heart, and it shapes my values, even as my interests evolve. One day, as if she had sensed this evolution, Susanne knocked on my door, wanting to introduce me to a young, modern Rotary club located between Hamburg and Mölln, my hometown.*

*The E-Club of Hamburg-Connect, which Susanne helped charter, holds e-meetings, all of them very relaxed and personal. With members of different ages, everything just seemed to fit, so I thought, why not try it out? After all, time is precious and should be filled with fun whenever possible; the rest happens by itself.*

*Now I am in both worlds — a proud member of Rotaract and a Rotarian. And my small personal goal is to build a bridge between these two parallel worlds. All of us have very similar reasons for being part of the Rotary family.*

It took some persistence to persuade Christine to become a member of Rotary, but it was well worth the effort. It is our duty to put in this kind of effort with youth program participants and Rotaractors so we can keep them in the family of Rotary. I hope you were inspired by her story. It's up to each of us to ensure that more young people like Christine can experience the many ways Rotary Opens Opportunities for us and for the people we serve.

**HOLGER KNAACK**

*President, Rotary International*

**TAKE ACTION**  
**ERADICATE A DISEASE FOREVER**







## District Governor

My family of Rotary, Paul Harris said: "If Rotary is to realise its proper destiny, it must be evolutionary at all times, revolutionary on occasion." And how so right!! Just a few days ago – we had an incredibly successful virtual run – the first in the history of the Rotary Cancer Run. Who would have guessed that at a moment like this, the Cancer Run would evolve into a global event? Congratulations to the Cancer Run 2020 team for a job well done. Thank you for showing the world that in Rotary service, even a pandemic is not the limit!

Talking of evolution, September is the month Rotary has designated for Basic Education and Literacy, precisely because of its transformative nature. As Rotarians we envision a world where all children have access to education, the opportunity to realise their full potential, and to pursue their dreams. And I am so proud of the contributions that Rotarians have made over the years through the construction of classrooms, provision of scholastic materials, scholarships and mentorship programmes i.e. Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), and Youth Exchange.

Despite the progress we have registered, the disruption and lock down of schools for the last six months has exposed the inadequacy of our traditional education system. Many of the children in this part of the world remain locked out of both the physical and virtual classrooms; and many are

in danger of dropping out of school completely. And we know that without education, these children will be at great disadvantage for the rest of their lives. Therefore, as part of our "evolutionary approach" – what should we in Rotary do differently? The COVID-19 pandemic has given us an opportunity to rethink how education should look like for Generation Z and Alpha who are growing up in a world where technology rules. The challenge and the task before us is obvious i.e. to provide an education that prepares our young learners for what the future might hold. And this may entail supporting our communities and schools to incrementally 'leap' into the digital space.

However, as we also know, education should not be limited to the classroom or reduced to the ability to read and write. The world is changing and so are the skill sets required. A World Economic Forum report published recently, argued that 65% of primary-school children today will be working in job types that do not exist yet. What we know though is that the successful youth will be those with the ability to connect effectively, interpret, and discern the complexities of the world in which we live. Our support to basic education and literacy should expand to include those "soft skills" (communication, collaboration, creativity, resilience and adaptability) that employers are looking for; and that our youth will require to navigate the ever changing environment. And in this regard, I would like to commend the team behind the recently launched Rotary Roses programme, which will among other things, focus on the mentorship of young women leaders.

So as we go through the month of September, let us challenge ourselves and share best practices that will enhance the relevance and impact of our interventions in basic education and literacy.

I continue to appeal you to stay home if possible, wash your hands regularly, wear a face mask in public, practice social distancing as per the COVID-19 guidelines, exercise regularly and eat healthy foods. Stay safe and let's grow Rotary!

**Talking of evolution, September is the month Rotary has designated for Basic Education and Literacy, precisely because of its transformative nature. As Rotarians we envision a world where all children have access to education, the opportunity to realise their full potential, and to pursue their dreams...**



**Installation of the President of Rotaract Club Kitgum in August.**



# ‘Our door to partnerships with Rotary is open, and numerous opportunities exist’

As a Permanent Secretary you are in charge of supervising, coordinating, monitoring and controlling all the activities of the Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES), and initiating and implementing policy.

## How successful have universal education policies been in Uganda? What key milestones have been achieved?

First of all, I thank Rotary Uganda for giving us, as a Ministry, an opportunity to share insights on experiences the Ministry is facing during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you for the importance you have continuously given to the Education sector. When we talk about universal education, it mainly refers to Universal Primary Education (UPE) and Universal Secondary Education (USE). Over the years, we have recorded an improvement in school enrollment of learners. Following the launch of UPE in 1997, enrollment increased from over two million pupils to the current almost eight million in primary and secondary education. The numbers have more than tripled. We have also recorded improvements in average literacy standing at over 60% today. This is a very big achievement. A number of children have benefited from these government programmes

and proceeded to complete university and tertiary education. All these efforts feed into the government’s policy of skilling Ugandans to enable them generate self-employment or to get easily employed.

## How has the Ministry ensured that pupils and students all over the country continue learning during the COVID-19 lockdown?

It is important to note that no one was prepared for this pandemic. We did not have resources in terms of infrastructure, and in effect, all schools had to be closed. We then had to find ways to reach out to our learners to keep them learning. We developed home study materials and transcribed them into lessons for teachers to teach on radio and TV. We secured some financial resources and produced material equivalent to 25% of the student learner population, which were distributed in the first phase.

A team of development partners led by UNICEF produced more materials supplementing what we had produced. The materials were also uploaded on the internet and are still available for our learners. This was ideal for those who could afford the resources to download them.

In addition, we brought on board radio and TV learning programmes, taught by well qualified teachers across the country. We believe that quite a number of learners have been able to access learning during this COVID period. Certainly, the best form of learning is face-to-face. Our interventions were to allow the children to revise and keep the hope that tomorrow schools will open, and when they do, the learners should have somewhere to start from. We are planning another phase of distribution of material that will cover all learners. The distribution mode will target delivery of study materials to learners in their homes. Teachers within these areas will support and monitor learning using these study materials.

## We have heard that schools will reopen next year, and this has come out quite late. What caused the delay in the communication?

First of all, there is no delay in communication. You realise the issue of closing schools is beyond MoES. We do not determine when schools will open or when they were closed. That is the jurisdiction of the National COVID-19 Task Force. Our duty is to prepare guidelines for opening of schools, discuss them with the political leadership who in turn engage the national task force. We cannot communicate on the opening of schools until it has been decided by the national taskforce. So far nothing has been agreed and therefore nothing can be communicated.

## Does the Ministry have a crisis plan to avoid such occurrences in future?

Whenever you have such unplanned incidents you get lessons, and plan accordingly. Emergencies by their nature are not easy to plan for. The best you can do is to mitigate them. So, depending on the next crisis and its magnitude, we have learnt lessons from COVID-19 and we are planning accordingly. One major lesson has been the promotion of e-Learning. We have established a team to drive our digital agenda. We are trying to see how we can promote e-Learning in the country, not only in the higher institutions of learning, but also across the entire education sector. This majorly is to address any future events and situations that may necessitate closure of schools. In such situations where we cannot have our schools open, we should be able to continue teaching digitally. Why were some institutions stopped from conducting online classes yet they had prepared for it?

Universities and other tertiary institutions are offering online courses as guided by the National Council of Higher Education using the available ICT infrastructure in the country. No one has been stopped. The challenge we had at the start of the pandemic was complaints from the public about the danger that some institutions conducting online learning would leave some learners out. One of our principles as MoES is to ensure that no learner is left behind. This means that if a university is to conduct exams, we have to ensure that every learner is on board. No student should miss exams because they cannot access internet. Whereas some students in the city for example at Makerere University Business School (MUBS) or Uganda Christian University (UCU), can easily access the internet, students who took their holidays deep in the village may not have the means to do so. At the time, public transport was suspended, and no one could travel to the city to study.

However, at the moment the universities have been given guidelines and they are free to conduct lessons online provided all the learners are on board. In addition, tertiary institutions have some practical courses that may be hard to deliver online, e.g. the legal practice bar course that has group assignments that have to be delivered physically. This implies that institutions should identify how to deliver them without compromising the quality of the programmes.

## What are the biggest challenges the Ministry has faced during the lockdown, and what lessons have been learnt?

The closure of schools that has affected learning. We have lost time since our children are out of school. Going to school is more than learning, we provide psychosocial support, nutrition, socialisation as students meet friends and gain the sense of belonging. During this COVID-19 period, some of our students have been married off, others sexually abused, while others have gone into different trades that may make it hard for them to go back into the education system. This has an effect on the education sector and is a big problem.

We have learnt that it is necessary to plan for continuation of schools. We have realised the need to expand our infrastructure and decongest classes to continue learning under such circumstances. If we had more space, we could have probably



continued teaching with the possibility of social distancing.

Equally, there is an outstanding need to improve ICT infrastructure in our schools and institutions. We also need to train teachers to deliver online teaching, we must strengthen our coordination mechanism with all stakeholders especially the local governments and the education development partners. Notwithstanding, parents have a big role in the education of their children considering education is a shared responsibility.

Does the Ministry take cognizance of and acknowledge the contribution Rotary has made in fostering and supporting the education sector in Uganda?

Yes, we are very cognizant of Rotary's contribution. We need to resolve how we can be better coordinated in delivering education to our learners. If the Ministry were informed about Rotary activities before hand, we would harmonise our internal activities. When this is done, we envisage an outcome bigger than what we could achieve when we act individually.

**Does the Ministry plan or consider to formally partner with Rotary?**

The doors of MoES are open to partnerships with Rotary. Please feel free to step in and consult on how we can work together to achieve greater education outcomes.

**Which future interventions would you like to see Rotary undertake in the Education sector?**

We need to combine effort towards the digital learning agenda where every child can get access to ipads and laptops. Rotary can participate in the area of Skilling Ugandans to acquire competences for self-employment. We have to put effort in combating school drop outs especially for the girl child and reducing absenteeism of learners and teachers. Rotary could consider going to communities and villages to encourage children to remain in schools.

**In which areas would the Ministry seek to further partner with Rotary in Uganda?**

We could partner in the area of WASH facilities and provision of study and instruction materials. There is need for expansion of the classrooms. Also our learners need career guidance that Rotarians can deliver. This will enable them understand that their future can be planned at early stages and they can start and grow into useful citizens.

We thank Rotary for their contribution towards the education sector. Rotarians have built schools and expanded existing infrastructure, educated large numbers of children and even adults, and have generally engaged in economic empowerment and in so doing enabled women (and men) to educate their children in communities all over Uganda. This is a major contribution. As we work together, this will only get better. We, as a Ministry, are there to support these interventions. The situation can only get better.



TOGETHER, WE  
SAVE LIVES

Thriving communities start with healthy people. That's why Rotary clubs organize health screenings, host blood drives, and connect neighbors to medical resources. Working together to save lives — that's what people of action do. **Learn more at Rotary.org.**







## Let us Support Early Childhood Development

One of Rotary's seven areas of focus is Basic Education and Literacy, which is essential for a country's economic growth. Literacy is a key factor of an individual's success and collectively a community's success.

This is the right time for Rotarians and clubs in our District to be actively involved in their local communities to support education. We have an opportunity to provide educational facilities to improve the literacy levels in our areas of focus. Once a club defines an opportunity in the local community, funding can be raised for a successful project. One such area which can be very impactful is Early Childhood Education. Early learning initiatives could focus on improving education outcomes for young children living in poverty or with little access to educational materials. Early literacy training is critical to the success of a child's educational impact in the formative years.

Building reading, communication and practical skills all lead to a child's confidence in life. Young children develop an ability for visual processing, improving vocabulary and processing complex language. Formative education, numeracy and literacy are the building blocks that will determine the child's skills in

future learning and communication. The importance of these building blocks cannot be overstated. Each "nursery" school would have unique needs to which a club can tailor an appropriate intervention.

To support basic education and literacy, clubs can:

- Refurbish early childhood centres, paint the classroom walls with educational pictures.
- Donate educational materials e.g crayons, pencils, writing materials to help foster creativity in the teaching methods.
- Donate books for the teachers to read out to the children in order to enhance language and understanding skills.
- Provide basic furniture desks and chairs.
- Create motivational sessions for teachers for interaction and new learning concepts.

A child's early years are the foundation for future development and a strong base for lifelong learning, cognitive and social development.

What will your Rotary club do to support in your community as we celebrate the - Basic Education and Literacy Month?

### IPP Farhat Lane

Rotary Club of Sunset Dar-es-Salaam

**Director of Education and Literacy 2020/21**



## Mama Kuku's Pre/Primary Schools Set to Liberate Chem Chem Village

For a long time, Usa River, with a population of about 80,000 residents had no public school, depriving children of the opportunity to basic education if their parents were unable to afford private schooling. Between 2011 and 2016, an English Medium Primary School, incorporating the Margaret Stanton Preschool was built for the Usa River community in Tanzania. It was opened on 16th May, 2016. The force behind this amazing achievement was Rtn. Faye Cran, popularly known as Mama Kuku. The project was a collaboration between the Rotary Club of Tengeru and the Rotary Club of Riccarton of District 9970 of New Zealand.

Owing to the passion and dedication that Faye has for Rotary and the people of Tanzania, Keith and Margaret Stanton decided that another primary school be built in her honour. Faye was thrilled about the school idea but was embarrassed about it being named after her! Following discussions with the local members of Government and the education officials, a suitable piece of land in the Chem Chem village was provided for the school.

Initial plans estimated the project would cost around US\$650,000. PDG Margaret Reeves (District 9970) alerted Keith, a member RC Riccarton to the fact that The Rotary Foundation was offering a special one-off Global Grant for building a "simple school" (maximum three classrooms).

In May 2017, the application for a Global Grant started. This was supported by Districts 9970 and

9211. It was a long and tedious exercise but eventually, after three years, all requirements were satisfied, and the project was approved on 10th April 2020.

The Grant consists of US\$51,631 from The Rotary Foundation (TRF) World Fund, and US\$30,000 from District 9970DDF, making a total of US\$81,531. The Rotary Club of Riccarton will contribute US\$43,262.

The three classrooms, administration block, library, kitchen, dining hall, toilets and incinerator are nearing completion. A biogas digester is being constructed to supply clean energy for cooking, while solar lighting is being installed in the classrooms. The school was due to be handed over to the Government on 15th September, but this will be delayed awaiting the release of the final funds from TRF for the furniture and other items. The opening has been pushed to January 2021.

Upon the completion of the three classroom simple school, construction of the remaining 13 classrooms will commence at a rate of at least two classrooms a year. It is hoped that the completed school will educate 1,280 children. Unfortunately, the delay in processing the school project put Keith's sponsorship at a standstill, but no doubt he will soon be back. Fortunately, funds have been secured for the next six classrooms and 12 baby class toilets.

Also planned are a playground, netball field and a full size football pitch where primary school children from around the country can meet and enjoy games together





“Faye, a Service Above Self-Award holder met Keith when she was invited as a Keynote Speaker during the District 9970 Conference in New Zealand in 2002. Keith then visited Faye and her husband Derick and was hooked by the beauty and friendliness of the people. Between 2002 and 2016, Keith sponsored 107 projects in Tanzania, and another 90 projects in Uganda, all water or education related.

Between 1988 and 2015 Keith, had completed 482 projects costing \$2,820,925 in different parts of the world. He was presented with membership of the New Zealand Order of Merit in recognition of his services to humanity”







# The dilemma of continuing education services delivery amidst the COVID-19 pandemic

When the World Health Organisation declared COVID-19 as a pandemic, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni announced the closure of all education institutions by 20th March 2020, initially for a period of 30 days. Most schools did not even allow learners to carry their property home. The immediate implication was that around 73,200 institutions with over 15 million learners and about 550,000 teachers were affected.

The Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES) then developed a roadmap for reopening schools, supposedly after the 30-day closure. It formed a COVID-19 task force to draw up an Education and Sports Sector COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan. The plan had three major objectives: Ensuring continuity of learning during the lockdown period; Preparing the sector for resumption and management of schools once the lockdown is lifted; and Building the sector’s resilience capacity and response to emergencies in the post pandemic period.

Several months later, schools are still closed and this is likely to lead to loss of learning, increased unemployment and economic destabilization. Parents are facing challenges with the learners at home indefinitely, forcing many of them to call for reopening of schools regardless of the dangers posed by the pandemic. Many learners are being compromised to the extent that several have resorted to various vices such as child labour and unwarranted sexual activities. The girl child has been sexually abused leading to child pregnancies and early child marriages. The media has often carried headlines like “Over 60 learners in Luuka and Kaliro districts are likely to miss school next term after they were impregnated during the lockdown” (Nile Broadcasting Services, 10th June, 2020), “2,300 school girls conceive, 128 married off during lock down (The Daily Monitor, 23rd July, 2020), “160 students from

Kabale will not get back to school after the lockdown when schools open due to child pregnancy and child marriage (The New Vision, 6th August, 2020).

Teachers, especially those in private schools, have been severely hit to the extent that some have committed suicide. Some directors are turning their schools into rentals or commercial properties.

The MoES COVID-19 task force developed measures to minimize the adverse effects of the pandemic on learners, teachers and the education sector as a whole; enhance the ministry’s capacity, local governments and all stakeholders, teachers and learners to ensure continuity of learning till normal schools reopening.

### Should schools reopen?

Yes, and no! Many parents vow not to allow their children back to school, while an equivalent number support the reopening. At policy level, the stance is that schools should only reopen after fulfilling the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) provided by the Ministry of Health. The SOPs include: ensuring social distancing of about four meters apart; providing adequate hand washing and sanitation facilities; recruiting additional personnel including health professionals for schools. Implementing these SOPs requires funds more than double our National Budget, thus calling for innovative ways to address the issue. Experiences from other countries that have attempted to reopen schools point to the need to wait until a vaccine is available. The Israel, South Africa, South Korea, and recently United States of America examples where within two weeks after reopening, they had several cases of positive COVID-19 learners, and the Kashmir innovations of open air classes that have not attracted many learners support the rational to wait for a vaccine. Promising reports from Russia, France and Britain show the possible availability of a vaccine in the near future. This is a consolation and makes some of us call for calm until that time. The final word is, does it

make sense to open when we are certain of the health of our learners, may be yes. The ministry should use this time to ensure a lasting transition to improved pedagogy, adoption of new technology, demand for improved sector financing, and streamlining parents’ involvement in education service delivery.

### Tripartite responsibility

Effective education service delivery (learning) calls for a tripartite responsibility between parents, teachers, and learners; while MoES and its structures up to the grassroots provides support services. This is akin to a traditional African cooking fire place with its three stones, once one of the stones is not well balanced, the cooking pot cannot sit and it is by mistake that you achieve successful cooking.

Normally, teachers were responsible for the learners for more than three quarters of the year (three terms of the calendar year). During the holidays (usually three weeks on average, with the exception of third term holidays which last over 12 weeks), some parents might never have taken trouble to understand what their children were learning in school, while others may genuinely not have the capacity to assist as they lack sufficient formal education. With the current digitization of education delivery, it is said that some parents have remained analog, while the learners migrated to the digital era.

The pandemic has presented a check on these tripartite responsibilities. Teachers were drawn out of the triangle, and parents needed to take up the role of assisting learners.

### How has the ministry handled learning during the lockdown?

The MoES is playing a supportive role to provide avenues for continued learning through distance learning over radios, TVs, and online; also by posting reading materials on its website, that of National Curriculum Development Centre (NCDC), and Uganda National Examinations Board (UNEB). Parents should ensure that learners are given time and supervised to attend the lessons, or encourage self-reading of the materials.

Although the above learning measures are in place, there has been no assessment from the ministry to ascertain whether there is effective learning. This calls for a Learning Management System (LMS) for the administration, documentation, tracking, reporting, automation and delivery of training programs,

education courses and development programmes.

### Way forward

There is need to review the existing pedagogy to adopt that which is appropriate from the acquirer’s point of view, or by some other body, or both. The key requirement is that there is a learner, and someone or something appropriate guiding or directing the learner. The learner should have the willingness and ability to acquire the attitude, knowledge or practice.

The sector should choose the most appropriate and applicable theory of learning in tandem with the current situation and the future. Merits and demerits of theories like Behaviourism, Cognitivism and Constructivism should be analyzed to choose the most appropriate for our environment.

Learning can be in two ways: Synchronous and Asynchronous. The former happens in real time, and in most cases in a classroom setting giving chance to interaction between instructors and learners. This mode of learning is most prevalent in our Ugandan schools. It however calls for strict timetables and venues, gives no flexibility; learners have to assemble in a class with an instructor taking lead. Our system has been mainly teacher centered, although the new lower secondary curriculum rolled out last academic year focuses on some learner centered practices.

Asynchronous learning depends on the learner’s schedule and provides maximum flexibility, allowing learners to devise workable time frames that may be affordable and achievable. Although this sounds attractive, it also presents challenges such as the need for self-discipline, and at times getting discouraged as it does not give regular encouragement from peers.

We should progressively and cautiously adopt practices that will change Uganda’s education system to allow use of modern digital teaching and learning technologies to deliver comprehensive learning programs that allow participation of instructors and learners from any part of the globe. We should retool the teachers to prepare and deliver the relevant teaching materials, acquire the infrastructure, technology, devices and connectivity across the country.

**PP Frederick Matyama - RC Rubaga Lake View**  
Commissioner – Education Planning and Policy  
Analysis – Ministry of Education and Sports





## Leverage digital solutions to enhance teaching and learning

Can't Wait to Learn (CWTL) is a digital innovation to improve literacy and numeracy skills using the gaming approach to learning. The games, in audio/video format and self-paced on tablet computers, allow children to progress at their own pace and involve a lot of practice to reinforce learning. They are aligned to the national curriculum objectives and approved by the National Curriculum Development Centre (NCDC).

Pioneered by War Child Holland (WCH), CWTL is being implemented in refugee hosting districts in the West Nile region and South Western Uganda. In West Nile, CWTL has reached over 6,000 learners in 13 schools since July 2018, and 3,792 children in 8 schools in the South West since September 2019.

Qualitative results from the pilot in West Nile indicate improvement in basic arithmetic skills, reading, and communication among CWTL learners. It has also helped attract and retain children in school. Impact assessment is being conducted in the South Western schools.

The games are based on research conducted by WCH in Uganda and globally. All designs and graphics used are custom-made to fit the Ugandan context. The children's life stories, their feedback and drawings from local designers are used to co-create the design and learning environment. Focus is on educational and motivational aspects of the games. Children discover

how their skills are applicable in daily life, and how to improve the lives of other community members.

Each child has a log-in-account which enables monitoring of individual performance. CWTL is used offline thus providing an opportunity for the most marginalized children with no access to digital learning solutions due to poor internet connectivity. Through a partnership with the Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES), WCH is piloting CWTL within one national school – Nalongo Primary School, Luweero to generate lessons for scaling-up beyond refugee settings in Uganda. WCH will provide 50 tablets for 150 Primary Three learners, train 10 teachers and 2 district officials, and install a solar charging system at the school.

Given the current education crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic, WCH is adopting CWTL to home-based learning. This approach has been tested within the refugee settings and is yielding positive results. A total of 540 children were given computer tablets and are accessing CWTL at home, thus allowing them to continue developing and improving their literacy and numeracy skills. Two facilitators support the teachers to map out learners in the community and distribute tablets to house-holds, in addition to picking them for charging every other day. The parents are sensitized and provided with an illustrated game manual to support their children.

# FEEL THE ENERGY IN TAIPEI





# Rotary Roses Programme

Aimed at enhancing membership recruitment, engagement, and professionalism; strengthening the service record of women in Rotary, working with our male counterparts - the stamens.

Together we shall see women grow to their full potential, not only in District 9211 but worldwide. Women are powerful agents of change. They bring peace, development, and prosperity to their communities.

Owing to this solidarity, we have the first female Rotary International President Nominee Jennifer Jones. After 115 years, this is an exciting opportunity, and the beginning of growth and diversity not seen before in the Rotary fraternity.

In a joint project between Rotarians and Rotaractors, we shall distribute one million reusable sanitary pads to young girls. In the long run, we seek to set up an industrial unit that processes and produces these pads. We shall also teach the young girls and women to produce the pads. We welcome partnerships for this initiative.

**Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga -**  
Chief Cream Rose

**Rotary** D9211

**Rotary ROSES**

**I am a proud Rotary Rose. Are you?**

**Celebrate the End of an era ,Beginning of new dawn**

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## Learning during a pandemic

My name is Malaika Kirabo Kariu. I am 12 years old and in Primary Seven (P7) at Daffodils Primary School. My favorite subject is Mathematics. I like dancing, singing, swimming and reading books.

### What do you miss the most about your school?

I miss interacting with my friends and teachers. How do you feel about not being at school? Weird and sad. I was happy in the first lock-down – yaay, we got a break, but as it continued, I began to miss school a lot.

### What do you know about COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a wide spread virus affecting millions of people around the world. It doesn't have a vaccine yet, but one can be healed from it if they got the right treatment. It can be avoided by washing and sanitising your hands and not touching your MEN – (mouth, eyes and nose) and by wearing a facemask in public.

### How are you keeping up with your lessons?

My school is doing online classes for candidates via zoom. During the lessons, we take down notes and do some revision exercises. After class, I re-read the work and consult the teachers where I may not have understood. Classes begin at 8.30am and end at 1:00pm. All my classmates are attending the lessons, however, some do not attend every day.

### How do you feel about the on-line classes?

Well, it's better than not learning at all, however, I prefer normal physical classes because you can actually talk to real people instead of talking to a computer. Also, learning some things like geometry via a computer is very difficult.

**How do you spend your free time?** I go outside to play after classes and watch TV in the evening.

**Which school do you want to join for secondary education?** Gayaza High School. I would like to become an Architect because I like to draw and design stuff.

### Any message for your fellow students?

We should all continue studying and stay at home where we are safe from the COVID-19 virus. Also, to help with the house chores instead of being idle. Idle minds are a devil's workshop.

**Any message for the leaders (e.g. Minister of Education)?** To consider how locking down schools has affected children. There are many children who have not had the opportunity that I have to continue with learning because although they say that parents should teach their children at home, there are many illiterate parents. Other places far off in the villages do not have access to TV or radio for their children to benefit from the lessons currently on TV. Other children find safety at school away from people that violate their rights at home. I have also heard in the news about many young girls who are now pregnant or married off as a result of not being able to go to school.

11 year-old Dativa Atamba is a Primary Seven pupil at Little Angles Infant Primary School in Kabale District. Her favorite subject is English and she likes reading notes, playing netball and musical instruments like the xylophone and tube fiddle.

### What do you miss the most about your school?

I miss school lessons, assemblies, chatting with my classmates and teachers, and playing netball.

### How do you feel about not being at school?

I am unhappy.

### What do you know about COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a disease which is killing many people in the world. It has stopped schools, churches and mosques, bars and hotels from working. The Government and Ministry of Health have advised everyone to wash their hands using soap and sanitisers, wear face masks and not to shake hands.

### How are you keeping up with your lessons?

I read notes of previous lessons before the schools closed.

### Are all your classmates attending any classes?

No, my classmates are at home.

### How do you spend your free time?

I read the Bible, weave mats and baskets.

**Which school do you want to join for secondary education?** Immaculate Heart Girls Secondary School in Rukungiri District, and later become a doctor.

### Any message for your fellow students?

I advise them to stay home, do domestic work, listen to educative programs on the radio and read notes. They should pray for schools to reopen.

**Any message for the leaders (e.g Minister of Education)?** I request them to distribute scholastic materials to the whole country, facilitate educative radio and television programs and broadcast educational games for kids on mass media.



**11 year-old Dativa Atamba is a Primary Seven pupil at Little Angles Infant Primary School in Kabale District. Her favorite subject is English and she likes reading notes, playing netball and musical instruments like the xylophone and tube fiddle.**



PP. LYDIA BUJARA



## Rotarians should supplement delivery of reading materials

Lydia Bujara is a mother to 12-year-old Malaika Kirabo Kariu, a Primary 7 pupil at Daffodils Primary School. She shares her experiences during this COVID-19 pandemic.

### How did the closure of schools affect your family (especially the child)?

At first, Malaika was excited to get a “half term” from school. The school had provided them with a holiday package so it was a typical school holiday mood – lazy mornings and late night TV. Then the extensions began, and a mixture of feelings took over – confusion, stress. The major one I think was social isolation – she missed her friends and the stimulation from the world she knows which is essential for learning and development. I therefore had to keep her mind stimulated and be emotionally present.

As parents, we were obviously unprepared for home schooling. We seem so reliant on teachers that the thought of being your child’s teacher brought the chills. There have however been some positives that came from the closure – life skills.

**Has your child been learning? If so, how?** Yes, it was important that we keep up with learning especially being in a candidate class. We first used YouTube videos recorded by the teachers and later

migrated to zoom classes which we are still on. We also sometimes attend the lessons on TV. It has, however, not been easy for parents in terms of Internet cost and having the right devices to use for the classes.

### How are you helping your child keep up with the lessons?

Luckily, I had a laptop that she could use and wifi in the house. We also had to create a classroom setting (table/desk). They have a timetable, which helps them know the lessons for each day, so that makes my work easier. Really, I just ensure the Internet is paid on time!

### How do you think your child is coping with online learning?

The transition was stressful because it was an abrupt change from the normal they/we all were accustomed to. There was some anxiety because of the new challenges and opportunities. However, she is now seems more comfortable with the new normal. She still misses her friends and the face-to-face interaction so I encourage her to talk to them more often outside the classroom setting either through zoom or whatsapp video calls.

### Do you feel your child is getting adequate support learning online?

Whereas she can still text her teacher about something she has not understood, I do not think she is getting adequate support because there are

concepts that they are unable to learn online. The teachers are trying their best within the current circumstances and I applaud them.

### How is the school handling the situation? Are you satisfied with what they are doing?

Despite the tough times they are going through, the school continues to engage the children. They are amazing these people. I am so proud of them.

### As a parent with a child in candidate class, how are you coping with the uncertainties and attendant anxiety?

This year is/was supposed to be a year of endings and new beginnings – ending primary school and looking forward to joining boarding school next year. So yes, the anxiety about this year “disappearing” is real.

I do understand the dilemma that the government must face – the need to protect children and teachers while addressing issues of inequality. The situation is real – many in poor and rural households, e-learning is not an option because there is no access to TV, internet or even electricity to power these gadgets. But again, cancellation of the academic year would only make that inequality gap wider. So, I do have mixed feelings.

### How are you taking care of your child’s psychological needs?

In the beginning, there was a lot of anxiety with restriction of movement, constrained access to socialisation, physical contact. Then there was a lot of exposure to information about COVID-19 and it wasn’t good news. This came with difficulty in sleeping, new fears and sadness.

All I do is try to maintain positivity around us and continued reassurance that she is safe. We really just keep active – we love jigsaw puzzles and we had these 5,000-piece puzzles that we had never done, so we did those for like two weeks. Share some tips with other parents who are trying to teach their children at home. Have a daily schedule; create rules and expectations for learning time; and do not forget life skills.

### What advice would you give leaders in the education sector?

Our education system – the curriculum, assessment, grading needs some serious rethinking. Life will never be the same, so we cannot expect things to remain as is. Like my friend Rtn. Michael said, “the education industry is in silos, we haven’t had an opportunity to try and see what is possible.”

see what is possible”.

### How can Rotarians currently contribute to improving basic education and literacy?

With millions of children locked out of schools by COVID-19, we as Rotarians should put more emphasis on this area of focus. The least advantaged have been hit the hardest. Basic education and literacy are essential for reducing poverty, improving health, encouraging community and economic development and promoting peace.

We should identify the right need and opportunities available before us. We could supplement government efforts of delivering reading materials to children in our communities to ensure continuity of learning.

PP Lydia Bujara

Rotary Club of Kampala Central



**“I do understand the dilemma that the government must face – the need to protect children and teachers while addressing issues of inequality.”**



PP. JANE FRANCIS NAKATO



## COVID-19 Experience: A Ugandan school proprietor's perspective

In every situation – good or bad – I believe there are lessons to take home. The Coronavirus, also known as COVID-19 pandemic is no exception. Like a thief in the night, it came crawling, gnawing at the world with stories from Wuhan, China. We read about them, watched them on television and discarded them as fast as we received them – thinking as we humans do – that it was not our problem. It was a Chinese problem. Just like Ebola was a Congolese problem and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) was a Southern Chinese problem. This too, was to be isolated and managed in Wuhan. What happens in Wuhan, remains in Wuhan ... or so we thought!

The news about COVID-19 found me in Doha, Qatar, during my doctoral studies. My Chinese classmates were contemplating staying in Doha until the problem cleared. This was such an important season in China – the Chinese New Year – the Chinese equivalent of Christmas – only bigger, much bigger! It may probably be equated to an exodus. Seriously! Everybody literally moves from their places of normal abode to their villages of origin to spend time with their bigger families. It is a big deal. So, as our colleagues planned and re-considered their plans, the rest of us paid little attention to them. We felt sorry for them and offered words of condolence in reference to those

who had lost their loved ones. We kept nodding our heads in absent-minded knowledge and empathy, offering no solutions, and quickly forgot the problem as soon as we left the discussion rooms. After all, it wasn't our problem! It was their problem! How wrong and far from reality!

Fast forward, the news changed strides. China was locked down; other countries followed. When our Kenyan neighbors locked down, we knew that Uganda would be next. And we were right! As a school proprietor, the first thing that came to my mind before we were locked down, was to work with our teachers to prepare learning materials that our learners would use during the "short" lock down. We did not expect this problem to go beyond a month or so. So, our initial plan was to share this work via email. Parents were happy, teachers were happy, learners were happy. I guess the sudden possibility of a short holiday was also exciting.

If you are reading this and you are a Ugandan with a smart phone that is actively tuned to WhatsApp, you would remember the euphoria that came with newfound freedom. All of a sudden, we became amateur chefs, home designers, trainers, writers and our parenting styles tagged along with our newfound hobbies. Amidst all this, the parents became brand new

teachers. Suddenly the tables were turned, and they were going through what we go through for nine months of the year. Only that this was a different kind of pregnancy and childbirth. The pain was real, and no doctors to administer epidural, or those modern painkillers. We saw apologies flying in – apologies from parents to teachers and to God – for all the painful words they had continuously hauled at teachers. Parents to the Pre-Schoolers suffered more childbirth pains than the older ones. Because those little ones really knew their rights – and who was really in charge. The sentence; "no, you are not my teacher," became a common caller tune in many young homes. Parents, do you notice that I'm gloating? But I'm doing it with love. Now that I have successfully reveled, I will share the COVID-19 experiences from the school's point of view. I would like to remind you that these views are personal and may not necessarily be the views of everyone else.

Like everything in the universe, for every good thing, there is a reverse side. We have gone through some positive experiences as a result of COVID-19. For instance, we reconnected with our fellow school proprietors via WhatsApp. The hustle and bustle of everyday life had really disconnected us, and everyone was focusing on their own personal challenges. Suddenly the shared challenges became too big to individualise, and so we found each other again. Although we still have a lot of catching up to do in this area, these connections have become stronger, and my prayer is that we grow beyond mere WhatsApp. These connections also made us realise that as school proprietors, we had a gap that we needed to address – the need for a forum that brings private school owners together. We have a million things in common; a million challenges to meet and a million more ideas to give birth to. What better way than using a united front? Food for thought!

In addition, we received a myriad of sympathy, empathy and good vibes from friends, parents, our staff members – even some landlords! They had their own issues to deal with, but they called to find out how we were faring. Remember we had salaries and rent to pay, and suddenly, we couldn't! This is enough to crack the weakest businessperson – and some did (just google you'll find out), but the calls, messages and words of comfort came as a surprise and re-assured us that the humane side in us was still active and alive. Some of us used the time to re-organise our schools.

In KinderKare Schools, we planned to review our old strategic plan and discuss more creative ways of teaching – even post-COVID-19. In addition, our teachers who used to successfully escape anything online and anything "research" were forced to learn how to conduct online lessons. I'm happy to report that most of them are actually enjoying the experience.

If running your school was your only source of income, COVID-19 taught us that we needed to think outside of the school box and find ways to earn from other sources. For some, this is work in progress – at least we have the time to mull over some ideas. But seriously, this should be a lesson to all of us to have a fallback financial position in life. "Save for a rainy day", is a statement that is commonly used in financial management lessons. Little did we know that ours would not be just a rainy day – but stormy months – longer than the Biblical 40 days and nights of Noah's ark; only that some of these have tsunamis and mild hurricanes. We really need to save for a rainy day.

I realized that humans are strong beings, regardless of the challenges. For me, maintaining a positive outlook to life, despite the challenges has been my strongest lesson. I thought to myself that I could choose to crack down and cry myself to sleep, or to stand strong and think of options. The options won the day. I realised that money can never be the alpha and omega in life. That life's significance to me lies in people – family, friends and colleagues. Money is a by-product to facilitate life. The people in my life did not disappoint! The phone calls; my refrigerator had never been as full as it was during the lock down – not from food I personally purchased, but from family and friends. Never in life had I turned away the opportunity to receive food, but during the COVID-19 season, I did. And I heard from many others that they too, had more food than they could eat. God's ways indeed!

As mentioned before, there are always two sides to any side. Besides the good experiences from the lockdown, the challenges were numerous – most of them still on-going. We run out of money to pay our staff. And we lacked the right words to say to them. The good news is that they were completely understanding. To me, this has been the biggest challenge. To look at a team of committed people and having no solutions to their immediate financial



needs is really, really heart breaking!

Schools like ours that operate in rented premises are lagging behind in payments. Some schools closed for good and will not re-open post-COVID. Others are waiting for the Government of Uganda (GOU) to give a go-ahead to open up. Again, I decided to take a positive outlook – the rent will be paid – in installments. It’s a matter of discussing with your landlords and get an agreeable understanding. Payment plans will be made with landlords. Life will continue.

Another challenge was, and still is with our P.7 candidates. Not knowing if they will write their Primary Leaving Examinations is such a tough pill to swallow. The learners, parents and teachers are all anxious. If the government opts for a dead year, how are schools going to manage the planning process, spacing, et cetera? It doesn’t help that the government is silent about the future of education in 2020.

Related to this, in a letter dated June 17, 2020 to the Minister of Education in which the Minister of Health issued social distancing guidelines (Daily Monitor, July 8, 2020) which were extremely unrealistic, requiring primary schools to maintain 10 pupils and secondary schools 15 students per classroom! Even schools that have plenty of space would not be able to implement the social distancing guidelines and hope to retain their previous numbers – unless teaching under trees is

another option. The only way they could adhere to this is if they increased school fees – which is a no-go area at this point in time! In addition, most schools are worried about how many parents would opt to return their children to the physical classrooms when schools re-open.

Some schools are servicing bank loans. With no current incomes, these loans are becoming a burden because they will ultimately attract more interest as banks work with schools to push the payment periods to a later date. No GOU or central bank assistance to schools in terms of freezing interest charges or reducing interest rates. Due to the financial constraints, many schools have halted their development plans and projects until the situation normalizes, if at all.

I will not even begin to write about the real economic, social, psychological experiences caused by the COVID-19 pandemic to our pupils, teachers and parents. This requires time, money and research. One thing is for sure, the results will be astounding and it will be a long, long time before things normalize again.

**Jane Frances Nakato**  
**Past President RC Kampala North**  
Proprietor of KinderKare Schools



# Using the lockdown to find the good in every situation

RTN. GORRETTI LILLIAN KIRONDE

My teaching career spans over 30 years, having worked at Kitante Primary School, Aga Khan Education Services, SOS Kindergarten Entebbe, and currently at Pop-Up Kindergarten Entebbe as proprietor and head teacher.

The opportunity to continuously assess and profile a child’s growth and development is interesting. I enjoy the close observation and monitoring the process of physical, behavioral, cognitive and emotional change in their early stage of life. Before schools opened in February 2020, we laid out our plans and programmes. However, in March, the Government issued a directive for all schools to close with immediate effect due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This shocked us!! It left a financial challenge resulting from many parents that had school fees arrears. With an obligation to meet payments for the different service providers, it has left a significant dent on the school capital base.

Months have gone by and with each passing day, I miss my school routine, ushering in the children early morning, listening to them narrate stories endlessly, and the cheery noise and sounds that still echo in my mind. My passion for teaching knows no bounds. I could never have imagined that all these months can pass by without conducting a lesson in class, playing with the children and reading to them story books. I often ponder how our newly admitted children would have settled in and enjoyed their new school.

The lockdown setback our school plans and programmes thus affecting the staff and development of our children. On the other hand, I have spent good quality time with my family and bonded better through different activities like

cooking, baking and gardening. Unfamiliar modes of interaction with parents and my teaching staff have become critical. We opened Whatsapp groups for each class to share revision work, experiences and challenges. Phone conversations with my dear school children are one of my fondest experience now.

A number of teachers have resorted to providing home tutorship to our children but keeping within the safe operating procedures set by the Ministry of Health. I offer the following tips on how they can effectively teach in a home environment:

- Keep and respect our professional ethics
- Have passion for children and their work
- Be sensitive and responsive to a child’s needs and interests
- Be aware of the change of their learning environment
- Exercise patience when teaching because home and school timetables are different.
- Create an appropriate environment that includes fun-filled activities that enable learners explore freely, be imaginative and have control of what happens around them.

This lockdown has enabled us carry out proper soul searching and find the good in any life situation. This moment too will pass and leave us wiser, stronger and better. I urge all parents to emphasise good nutrition and health with balanced meals and a safe hygienic environment, which are key factors in the growth of young children. Use this time to bond with your children, understand them better, play games, read to them and share your experiences with them.

**Gorretti Lillian Kironde**  
**Rotary Club of Bwebajja**



# THE 9TH ROTARY CANCER RUN

The first ever virtual Rotary Cancer Run was held on Sunday 30th August, 2020 in different cities worldwide. Speaking at the main event in Muyenga, the Guest of Honour, the Rt. Hon. Rebecca Alitwala Kadaga, Speaker of Uganda's Parliament, praised the Rotarians for their resilience that enabled them hold the event worldwide during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Hon. Kadaga, a Rotarian from the Rotary Club of Makindye thanked the Rotarians for introducing mobile cancer screening services, and called upon the Parliamentarians to ensure that they appropriate funding for cancer screening services even at health centre IIs to enable early detection and treatment.

Funds raised from the runs will go towards construction of the bunkers expected to begin this month at Nsambya Hospital. The run was sponsored by Centenary Bank, Parliament of Uganda, Lycamobile, Vision Group, Maad Advertising, Uganda Breweries Limited, Events Warehouse, BBS Terefayina, Central Broadcasting Station (CBS), Radio One and Capital FM among others.







# RC Kabulasoke Gomba: Saving our Interactors

OP DENIS BUGEMBE



The COVID-19 pandemic has no doubt immensely affected the communities in which we serve and those we serve with, one of those being our interactors. As Rotarians we thought about how our Interactors and their families were coping during this difficult time. Their stories and those of their parents and guardians were touching and disturbing. Hope for their return to school is dimmer because of the negative effects caused by the pandemic to the income of their parents and guardians.

With support from our club members and friends, we provided food relief and home necessities to 61 families of our Interactors from the Interact Club of Mityana Town Secondary School, and Interact Club of Summit Secondary School. Each family got maize flour, beans, rice, sugar, cooking oil and soap.

I thank members of RC Kabulasoke Gomba, patrons of the two schools – Rtn. Solomon Mwesigwa and Rtn. Ibrahim Kajubi for highlighting the plight of our Interactors. We also appreciate Rotaractor Ann Careen

for mobilising the teams. We now seek to provide food relief to teachers and staff of private schools in Gomba and Mityana districts, and welcome your support.

**Opportunity President Denis Bugembe**  
**RC Kabulasoke Gomba**

## My COVID-19 experience



My name is Margret Nabunnya, a Senior Two student and member of the Interact Club of Mityana Town Secondary School.

We thought it was a joke when our head teacher informed us about the outbreak of

COVID-19 and that we were going home the next day, following the Government's decision to close schools. We hoped that it would take only one month and then we would go back to school.

At first, life was normal but things worsened after our parents stopped working since their businesses were not among those allowed to operate. They had no income, so we had to survive from the little they had saved hoping that the government would provide us with some food. Our meals have since changed, and we have limited access to nutritious food, coupled with increased demands for the little available. At times we have one meal a day.

During the lock-down, my parents surprisingly got a call from our Patron Mr. Solomon Mwesigwa, telling me to go to school to get some food relief. This was very exciting news and I thank the Rotary Club of Kabulasoke Gomba for the kindness shown to us during this pandemic.



**“At first, we thought the COVID-19 pandemic would not last long after our children were sent home..”**

## Rotary saved my family

“At first, we thought the COVID-19 pandemic would not last long after our children were sent home. We were told they would stay home for 30 days then go back to school,” explained Jonathan Mwebaza, a resident of Bamunanika Village in Mityana Municipality, and father to four children.

By the time the President banned shops from opening and suspended public transport, my elder brother's three children had come for a short holiday from Mubende since schools were closed. With the increased number of children in my home and loss of income, items like salt, sugar, soap, and food reduced. The children's medical expenses also drained the little money I had.

Although we had a small garden, we could not

afford to have breakfast, lunch and dinner daily, so we left these for the young children, with us adults having only one meal a day. I sold my goats and chicken to raise some money, but this was soon got finished too.

I will never forget the day I received a call from my daughter Margret Nabunnya's teacher telling me that the Rotary Club of Kabulasoke Gomba would provide us with food relief and I should send the child to school to collect it. I did not even have transport for the child so they asked me to direct them to our home. I was shocked to hear a car parking in our compound only to see my daughter's teacher delivering the items!!

We thank the school administration and the Rotary Club of Kabulasoke Gomba for the great work you did to sustain our family in this pandemic crisis. May God bless you.





MARION AKITENG



## Preaching peace through the Rotary Peace Fellowship

*For Marion Akiteng, applying for the Rotary Peace Fellowship was the furthest thing on her mind, until she was encouraged by a friend from the Philippines to do so. The process was very rigorous, forcing her to give up on her first attempt. However, further inspiration from her friend saw her give it another shot the following year, and indeed she got the scholarship at the Rotary Centre, University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia. At a time when conflicts were emerging in several parts of the world, Marion, then working for a de-mining organisation in South Sudan, developed a desire to learn more about peace and conflict resolution.*

I was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Bunik, Amsterdam and hosted by the Rotary Club of Toowong, Brisbane. Upon arrival in Brisbane in 2013, I had a shock! It rained every day for a whole week. Looking for accommodation was a trick with my skin colour playing along. My first day in class was difficult, the different accents gave me a headache! After a month I had to double check that this was the right course otherwise thoughts of signing out had begun creeping into my mind. I later caught up with the programme, made several friends and we are still in touch. My reading culture improved and to-date, I have never read as much as I read during my time as a Peace Fellow. My internship was done in the

neighbouring pacific countries, giving me a chance to experience other cultures, the kind of conflicts they experience and how they are resolved.

Looking at peace building in the African perspective, I appreciate the fact that our continent needs solution providers that understand her unique problems. Sometimes someone else might instead escalate the problem, yet as Africans we might know that this particular problem is domestic and those concerned just need time to address it. Conflicts can be solved in different ways, some need time, others talking while others require the demise of one party.

Enrolling for the programme paved way for me to enhance my knowledge and skills in peace building and conflict sensitivity, which I am gladly deploying in my consultancy work. This experience should enable me develop new ideas in civil society engagement for the coming years.

I am glad that we have the Peace Centre at Makerere University because as a country and region with diverse cultures, we should persistently preach peace, especially during this time where it is important to avoid stigmatizing each other based on our origins. I am hopeful that the strikes at the University will not affect continuity of programme at the Centre.

ROSEY SEMBATYA



## Make reading of storybooks count

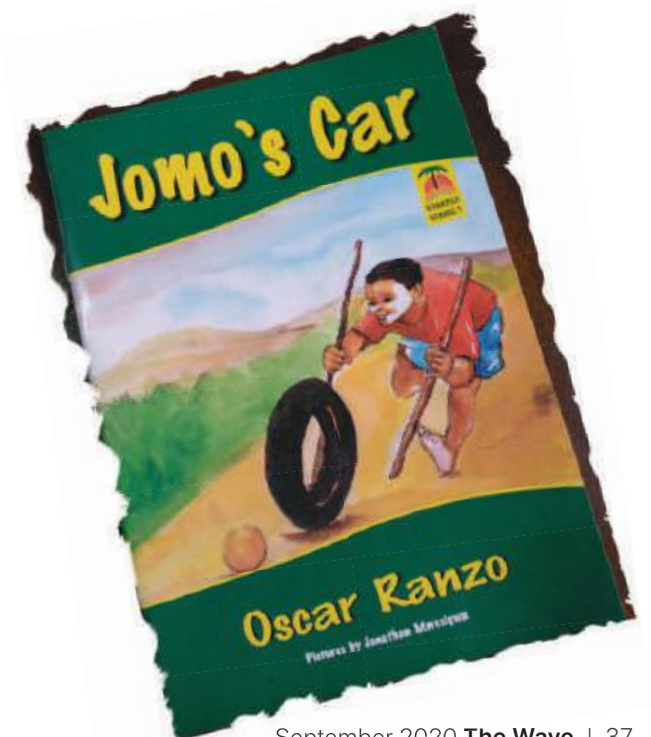
I am an advocate for reading especially to/for/with children. Reading is a culture that has to be nurtured. I believe that reading to the child has to start in utero but even when we miss out on the utero reading, we can still take advantage of moments like these to benefit from story books.

I think of this year is a masked opportunity to connect with our children, and be intentional while at it. I am specifically inclined towards reading so I am going to premise this on how we can use story books to our benefit as parents and nurturers. My focus is on books as conversation starters.

I will use the book, **Jomo's Car by Oscar Ranzo** for better illustration. He is a Ugandan writer. The book is best for children from Nursery to Primary Three though the activities might differ.

**Appearance:** We can use the appearance of the book to learn the different colours, textures and shapes. Some books have a green cover with some yellow. Others are smooth, rough, velvety etc. And when the child flips through Jomo's Car, they are likely to enjoy the pictures and the way the alphabet flows. Therefore, if you have devoted 15-30 minutes of reading, the child would have achieved a lot in that interaction and you would have bonded with the child.

**Title:** The title, Jomo's Car can be used in many interesting ways; First, for pronunciation and articulation. Today, children learn with sounds and they could try to voice out the title. The most interesting sound in that title is /c/. It is a /c/ but pronounced as a /k/. Sometimes the child may get confused and ask why? See that! You are talking. You could mention why and then ask/suggest some words that have that sort of dilemma.





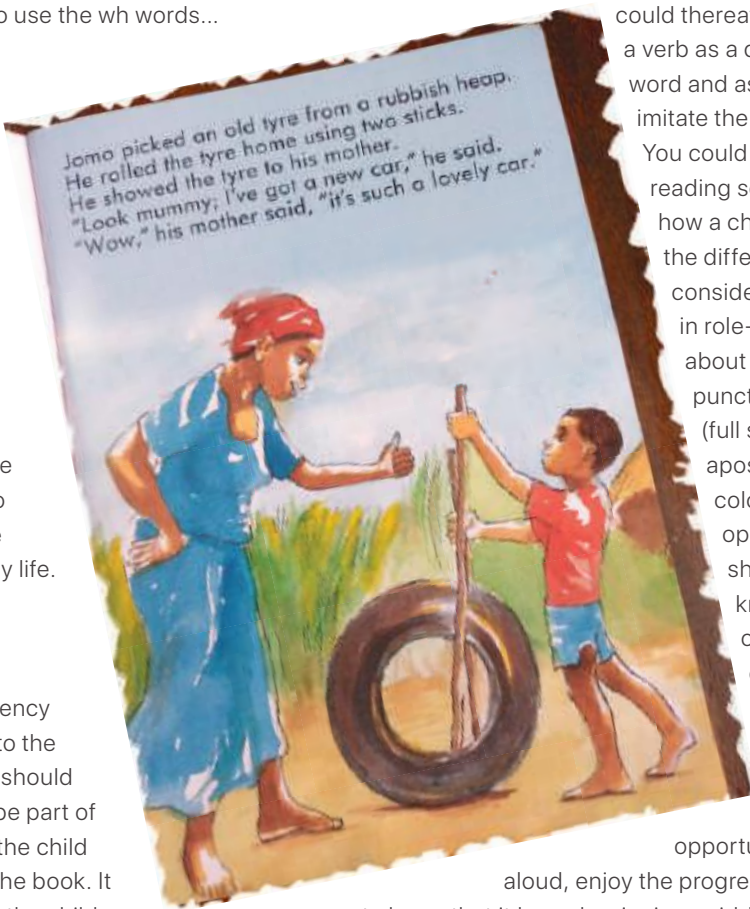
Note: Sound /e/ and /i/ soften the /c/ like in words cent, cite etc.

Then, it is an opportunity to use the wh words...  
Who is Jomo?  
What is he doing?  
Where do you think he is going?  
Where is the car?  
How is he going?  
Whose car is it?

For the older children, you could talk about the apostrophe and its use for possessives. E.g. Jomo's Car. We use the apostrophe because the car belongs to Jomo. You could use some examples in the child's daily life. What do you own?

**Pictures**

Some children have a tendency of flipping through a book to the end before reading it. This should not be a problem. It could be part of the child's routine. Maybe the child is building momentum for the book. It could also be possible that the child prefers picture reading. You could build the child's creativity by encouraging the child to tell the story using the pictures. This helps you notice how the child pays attention to detail and his or her perception of things. For example, the child might notice that the colour of Jomo's shirt is similar to the mother's headscarf. Reward them with a - very good for that detail. And if the child asks where Jomo's sandals are, you could ask back where the child thinks they are, or use it as an opportunity to talk about village life.



**Tenses and punctuation**

This could start off with you asking a child to underline the names of things and actions. You could thereafter talk about a verb as a doing or action word and ask them to imitate the actions. You could do some loud reading so that you hear how a child pronounces the different words, and consider participating in role-play. Talk about the different punctuation marks (full stops, commas, apostrophe, semi-colons (it is an opportunity to share what you know or teach the child to use the dictionary).

**The story**

This is an opportunity to read aloud, enjoy the progress of the story to know that it has a beginning, middle and an end). This helps teach the children about process. You could also interest the child into the prediction game. What do you think the story is about? Why do you say that? What is going to happen after?

Whatever it is make the time you devote to reading count.

**Rosey Sembatya**

Founder - Malaika Children's Mobile Library

**“Some children have a tendency of flipping through a book to the end before reading it. This should not be a problem. It could be part of the child's routine. Maybe the child is building momentum for the book...”**



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# District 9211 Basic Education and Literacy Global Grants 2019-2020

Grant ID	Grant Title	Project Description	Host Club	International Club and District	Total Budget
GG1748653	Keeping girls in Kakira School	To install a well with solar powered pump, 10 stall flush toilet blocks for girls, 5 stall flush block toilets for boys, provide menstrual hygiene management, and the provision of text books and teach training. The grant also rehabilitated 12 existing classrooms at Kakira School.	Lira (Uganda)	Sebastopol (United States) District 5130	\$121,533.00
GG1757982	Construction of part of a simple school in Entebbe	To construct a new school, EWAD Integrated Primary School, by building three classrooms, toilets and provide training.	Nkumba (Uganda)	St. Catharines (Canada) District 7090	\$84,855.00
GG1873073	Sam Otori Memorial School	To construct seven classrooms, toilets, a kitchen, storage room, staffroom, bursar and teachers' room and provide various trainings to P1-P7 students at the new Sam Otori Memorial School in Nakitoma, Uganda.	Kampala-East (Uganda)	Greater Huntsville (United States) District 6860	\$62,323.00
GG1865613	Chem Chem Primary School Arumeru	To construct three classrooms, an administrative building with four offices, kitchen, incinerator and a library/lab as well as provide water, toilets, and training to start a new preschool and P1-2 in Chem Chem Village, Tanzania.	Moshi (Tanzania)	Riccarton (New Zealand) 9970	\$124,893.00
GG1875053	Mitooma Literacy and Sanitation Project	To provide 6 VIP latrines, two (2) hand washing facilities, water tanks and rain harvesting system. Books and computers for the school library will be provided. Training will be provided in library science, computer basics, community sensitization, and hygiene and sanitation.	Bugolobi Morning Tide Kampala (Uganda)	United States - District 7230	\$64,882.00
GG1876996	Building classrooms in Neville School in Mbokomo village	To construct three classrooms, toilets, and train Neville School in Mbokomo, Tanzania.	Hai Kilimanjaro (Tanzania)	Orléans Val de Loire (France) District 1720	\$66,950.00
GG1978225	RIPE Sam Otori Literacy Project Mukono	To establish a community library at St. Joseph Junior School, train 100 teachers on literacy curriculum for early reading and writing, and 50 community leaders in literacy, as well as provide training in vegetable gardening and rabbit management in Mukono District, Uganda.	Kampala (Uganda)	Altavalleina-Grottefrassassi (Italy) District 2090	\$37,500.00
GG1981309	Ssesse Islands Literacy Project Phase 2, Kalangala District	To improve learning and teaching in primary schools through provision of non-textbook materials, appropriate teaching aids, and teacher training in 23 schools in Kalangala District.	Kampala-Ssesse Islands (Uganda)	Varel-Friesland (Germany) District 1850	\$69,000.00

RTN. REGINA MWENGI



## RC Mikocheni kicks off FAN Campaign in Tanzania

Zumba is a fun dance workout that can also do wonders for your health - it helps in improving cardiovascular fitness, lowering cholesterol and blood sugar levels, melts belly fat quickly and is suitable for all ages. Therefore, an early Saturday morning Zumba workout for Rotarians, Rotaractors, their families and friends was the perfect way to officially launch the Fitness and Nutrition (FAN) Campaign in Tanzania on 8th August, 2020.

The event, organised by the Rotary Club of Dar-es-Salaam – Mikocheni, under the leadership of its President Sophia Chamzigo, brought together both the old and young – the youngest participant being a one-year-old. It also drew participants from the RC’s of DSM Sunset and Mbezi Beach plus Rotaractors from Muhimbili. Dr. Wilbald Lorri, the Country Director for Feed the Children - Tanzania, was the guest of honor, and enlightened the participants about good nutrition.

The club, according to President Chamzigo will organise the Zumba workout monthly throughout the year as part of their FAN activities and also for fundraising purposes. “We will also include speakers on various health topics. A small fee will be charged to support our project with Feed the Children, where we intend to buy school shoes for needy children,” she added. Dr. Lorri appreciated the club for its support to their projects.

The Zumba was led by Zin Nas a well-known and licensed Zumba instructor in Tanzania.

### Walk in the park

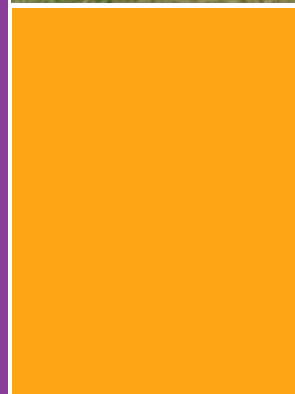
The club, which has enthusiastically embraced the FAN campaign, also organised a 12km walk in Pande Game Reserve on Saturday 1st August 2020. This early morning event also brought together Rotarians, Rotaractors and family and friends. It was followed by a healthy picnic breakfast overlooking Theresia dam.

**Regina Mwengi**  
RC DSM Mikocheni



# PICTORIAL OF FAN LAUNCH TZ

The Rotary Club of Dar-es-salam - Mikocheni enjoyed a FAN filled day during the launch of the FAN activities in Tanzania. The event was graced by Rotarians young and old with several training sessions on fitness and nutrition



Several activities were undertaken and the day was crowned with a walk in the park for 12km and a sumptuous meal in which stories were told, connections built and opportunities were open.

PP. DANIEL BABONEREIRWE BUZAREKI



## Life is a marathon, keep it fit

He had a lot of grey hair, but with a body that looked much younger. I could not resist but ask how old he was. He nonchalantly answered; "58"

"How many full marathons have you done so far?" I inquired. "This is my first," he responded. "Sure!!!" I exclaimed as I surveyed his lanky but fit physic not showing any signs of a worn-out person after a 42km marathon. He explained that he had retired that very year, and resolved to kick-start his retirement with an upgrade from 21km to 42km run.

I met this lanky gentleman in July 2018 at the Victoria Falls Marathon in Zimbabwe, where I had just completed a half marathon with our running group – "Fast and Furious". He challenged me as running a 42km marathon had always been on my wish list, but continuously seemed out of grasp. A leisurely 35km marathon when I was 36 years old is the longest distance I had ever attempted, but abandoned due to pain and exhaustion. Thereafter, I blamed shoes, no refreshments, the heat of the sun.... etc, but failed to raise the stakes again. I settled for 21km, 25km and an occasional 29km but avoided any distance in the 30s.

As I grew older, my dream was slipping out of grasp. If only I focused on a 42km marathon before I made 40, maybe it would be easier to keep at it. My 40s passed without upgrading my marathon

distance and my pace was declining. When I clocked 50, I subconsciously gave up on attempting 42km. My spirit, soul and body unanimously agreed to continue enjoying 21km, keep fit and reduce to doing 10km after I make 70 years, God willing. Then I met this man who shattered all my excuses and made me think of getting out of my comfort zone. Running is my wonder drug and has always been a panacea to every challenge and problem I faced. I don't know why, but running always works for me.

Thanks to my new acquaintance, at 52 years, I resolved to do the 42km marathon – "Do it or die trying". I joined a subgroup of our runners known as the "Bus" for the 42km Stanchart Nairobi Marathon, reputed as best for beginners. There, I learnt several tricks and tactics about running that resulted in me hitting speeds and lengths I last hit in my 30s. In addition, I was getting fitter and steadily losing weight. After a four-month build up, we pushed into Nairobi. It was tough as I had an injury, but this was past the point of no return. With encouragement from the group I crossed the finish line at Nairobi's Nyayo Stadium after five hours and 55 minutes. I could not believe that at 52 years, I completed a 42km marathon, with my toes, legs and knees intact. The feeling was hard to describe, but one thing for sure is the party thereafter was well deserved.

**PP Daniel Babonereirwe Buzareki** aka Dani Babu  
FAN Champion RC Kampala East



# Rotary District 9211

**Angella  
Ssemukutu**

Chair Rotary Fellowships  
RC Muyenga Breeze

## ‘Rotary Fellowships are about friendship, adventure, passion and service’

### What are Rotary Fellowships?

Rotary Fellowships are international groups that share a common passion. Being part of a fellowship is a fun way to make friends around the world, explore a hobby or profession, and enhance your Rotary experience.

### What does your work as Chair, Rotary Fellowships entail?

The Rotary Fellowships Chair is responsible for guiding Rotarians and non-Rotarians with a common hobby to join or form a fellowship. Once the fellowship is formed, as a liaison with Rotary International I make sure that the formed fellowship becomes a legal entity and is duly recognized as an international Fellowship or a Chapter.

### How many Rotary Fellowships do we have in District 9211? What do they do?

This Rotary Year, the following are the fellowships, most still in formation;

- Rotary Mariners of East Africa Chapter (Affiliated to International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians): For those with an interest in boating. – RECOGNIZED.
- Rotary Vintage Fellowship: Collect vintage memorabilia and automobiles–In Formation.
- Rotary Bikers of East Africa Chapter (Affiliated to International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians): For the love of Motorcycles–In Formation.
- Laughter’s Fellowship: Members enjoy fun and laughter through Comedy–In Formation.
- Rotary Roses Fellowship: Promotes women leadership–In Formation.
- Wine Tasters Fellowship: In Formation.
- Farmers Fellowship: In Formation.
- Dancing Fellowship: Members who enjoy dancing–In Formation.

This makes a total of eight fellowships and chapters with only ONE internationally recognized as a local chapter.

What value have these fellowships added to Rotary in terms of numbers (increase in membership) and impact (on communities and financially)?

Several Rotarians are not yet members of fellowships; some do not even know about their existence. They are missing a lot. Fellowships mean friendships, riding adventures, wine enthusiasts, boat lovers etc. Apart from enjoying their hobbies, Fellowships undertake projects in communities of their choice.

### What is the Rotary Roses Programme about? And why the term ‘Roses’?

Rotary Roses Programme is Governor Rosetti Nabbumba’s initiative to start recognizing Women Leadership in Rotary. There will be a theme night–Rotary Roses at the upcoming 96th DCA Conference in Munyonyo in April 2021. The term ‘Roses’ implies femininity; beauty, uniqueness, love and strength – that’s what we’re about....







#### What plans do you have for this programme?

Lots of plans are being unveiled in this programme but for the start, Rotary Roses is partnering with ROLI (Rotaract Ladies Initiative) on a Mentorship Programme in career, business, leadership and/or family. Recently after the launch, a One Drop of Blood (blood donation drive activity) was held at Mengo Hospital Blood Bank. A fellowship for women is in formation to empower women, undertake service projects, and mentor the girl child etc.

#### How has the start been?

The start has been challenging, definitely, but now that most steps have gotten off the ground, the next step is legalizing and getting international recognition. Mobilization is still at a low, however, the Chairs are making sure that they strategise in extending globally to attract members.

#### How will it impact on women membership in Rotary and, more importantly, on the plight of women in general?

Fellowships do not only appeal to Rotarians but to Rotaractors, friends of Rotary and family members. Rotary Roses is attracting women from all walks of life who have the common interest like we do. Women understand women's issues a lot more and so the service projects we are embarking on specifically targeted at

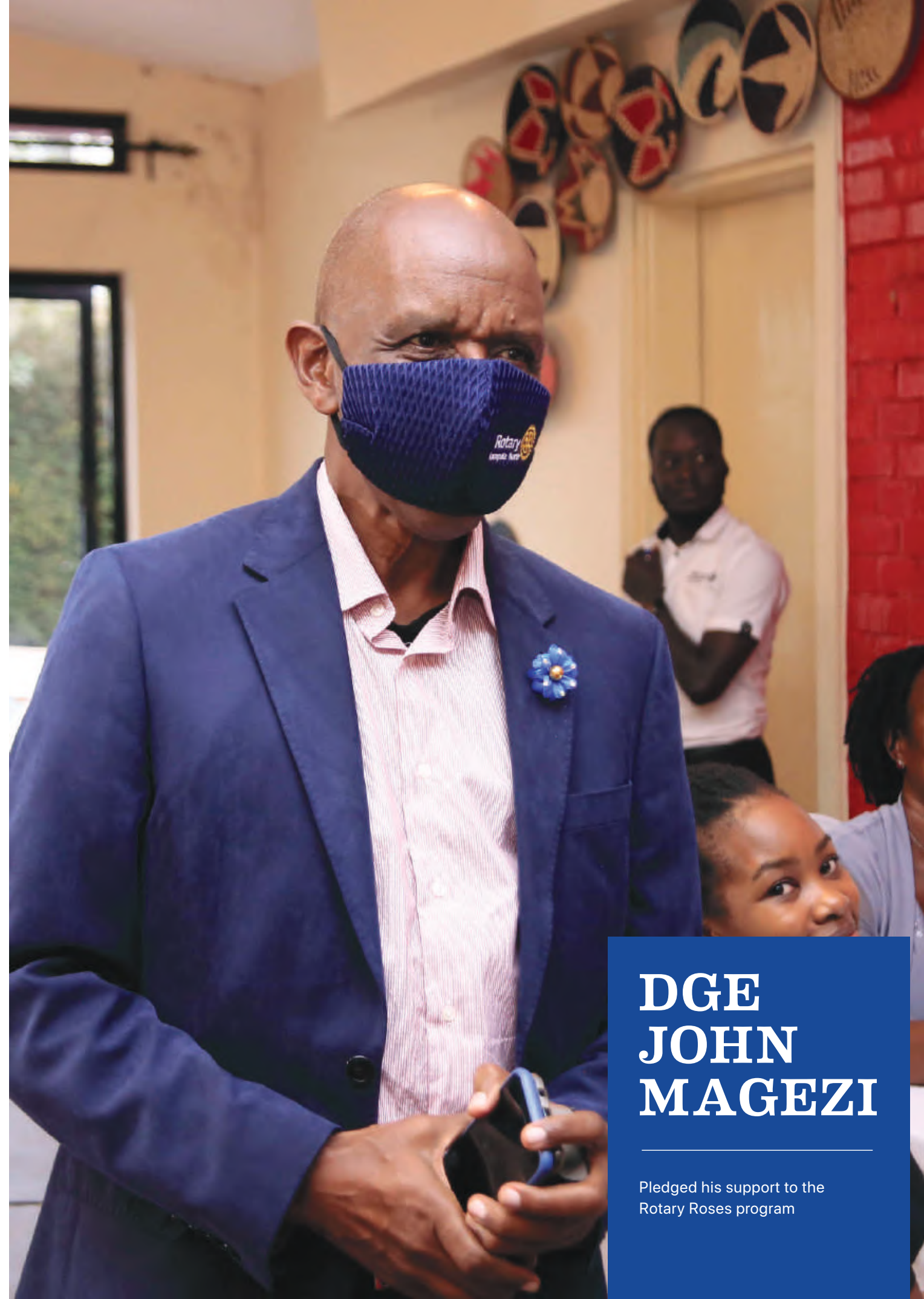
women play a big role in pulling them. This attraction of common interests has sky rocketed our membership and we hope that what we have identified as our plans will continue to implore and impact those who haven't joined to do so.

#### What plans do you have to boost this programme in District 9211?

For starters, the Rotary Roses Programme was launched on 8th August. The event, streamed live was attended by well over one hundred guests Online. Our strategy is to be able to tell people who we are and what we do constantly. We are moving within the pandemic times and so being live keeps us in touch with our membership. Attracting sponsors to support our projects is another pipeline initiative. Partnerships are very relevant in the communities in which we are undertaking projects. But above all, our social media campaign must be top notch.

What do you expect to hand over at the end of your tenure? (in terms of Rotary Roses and as Chair Fellowships) I want to have at least all fellowships in formation to be legal entities and recognised internationally with fully functional structures and at a minimum, a service project for each completed.

**Angella Ssemukutu**  
Chair Rotary Fellowships  
RC Muyenga Breeze



**DGE  
JOHN  
MAGEZI**

Pledged his support to the  
Rotary Roses program





# The Rotarians Vintage Fellowship

The Rotarians Vintage and Collectables Fellowship (RVCF) is a Fellowship in formation that comprises of Rotarians and non-Rotarians who share a common interest in vintage cars and collectables. We help expand skills, foster vocational development, and enhance the Rotary experience by exploring interests in collection, restoration and usage of vintage cars and collectables while developing connections around the world.

The term Vintage as used in the Fellowship represents cars that are older than 20 years and covering classics and antiques cars. The term Collectables refers to material items worth collecting, restoring, using or keeping. It could be a watch, lantern, gramophone, coins, books, furniture, material and culture among many others. We recognise and appreciate that collectable items shaped our current and future technologies restoring and keeping them makes us understand our history and appreciate our future.

Our purpose as Rotarians Vintage and Collectables Fellowship is to foster the collection, restoration and usage of vintage cars and collectables as an opportunity for fellowship, fun and service. Our motivation is vested in the passion and fun for preserving historical items while using them in day-to-day life, or just displaying them for public viewing.

**Our key activities include and not limited to the following;**

- Fellowships: We congregate for fellowship every last Friday of the month at Sports View Hotel, Kireka, however, the venue will change to one more accessible in Kampala City. During the fellowship, we discuss matters pertaining to the development of the fellowship, plan implementation of activities and confirm new member applications.
- Exhibitions: The fellowship runs one major vintage exhibition annually. The first was planned this year but due to COVID-19, the event was postponed to 2021. The exhibition will attract Rotarians and non-Rotarians to exhibit their valuable cars and collectables. The collectables can be valued during this event and those interested may sell them.
- Support Rotary District events: Members of the fellowship participate in District Programmes like Rotary Cancer Run and other Rotary events within the East African region. In addition, Rotary clubs in various countries where the fellowship is located are supported.
- The Rotary Museum: As a long term project, the fellowship plans to establish a museum to house a variety of members' collectables, as well as those that may be donated. The museum will act as a resource for scholars, tourists and will have frequent vintage activities all year round.

**Other activities include the following:**

- Fun filled Rotary Vintage cars meetings
- East Africa Rotary Vintage car road safaris
- Inter country Vintage and collectables fairs
- Participation in the Kampala CBA Vintage, and Classic Auto show and Concours de elegance Nairobi, Kenya
- Vintage and collectables challenge
- Annual Women's Day Vintage awards
- Vintage camping outings





- Fashion week vintage shows
- Observe Rotary Fellowship month (June)
- Road safety awareness program
- Tree planting project to support Rotary Mission Green
- Tourism support programs (local and regional)

#### Importance of the Vintage and collectables fellowship

- Help participants make lasting friendships outside their own club, district, or country
- Advance Rotary's public image and identity
- Incentive for joining Rotary for non-rotary members
- Enrich the Rotary experience beyond a club or district
- Facilitate long-term friendships and a better understanding of the world
- Further vocational development through acquaintance with others of the same interests.
- Allow individuals to explore new opportunities for service

#### How can you join the fellowship?

The fellowship is open to Rotarians and non-Rotarians through expression of interest to join as well as through invitation. An annual membership fee of US\$30 must be paid for one to be recognised as member and issued with a membership certificate. A membership percentage of 70% Rotarians and 30% non-Rotarians shall be maintained at all times. We expect non-Rotarians joining the fellowship to learn and appreciate Rotary work and develop interest to join Rotary.

For further enquiries contact **Rtn Kimani Muturi** on **+256772692444** or our Facebook page Rotarian Vintage and Collectables Fellowship and drop a request to join.



**PP. Vikash Shah**

## The Values Rotary Brings Far Outweigh the Sacrifice

We have all been in that situation when speaking to non-Rotarians, and they ask you why you are a Rotarian; why did you join Rotary? Rotary has given me tremendous opportunities to grow and expand my networks. This has by far outweighed the sacrifices of time, juggling a career and family with Rotary. So, why join Rotary? Here's my list of reasons why:

**Service:** Rotary is an organisation of like-minded professionals who come together to serve the community around us. Being a Rotarian makes one a better community citizen. Did you know that the average Rotary club consists of the most active citizens of any community?

**Collaboration:** Things we cannot do alone are achieved when we all come together. The Rotary Dar Marathon is a prime example of what happens when clubs come together for a good cause. As President of the Rotary Club of Oysterbay, we organised medical camps working in collaboration with our Rotaract Club of Hubert Kairuki.

**Friendship:** In an increasingly complex world, Rotary provides one of the most basic human need – the need for friends and fellowship. Fellowship can take on many forms: fitness activities like aerobics, hiking and dancing; pizza parties; home fellowship; mixing cocktail; coffee tasting; bringing in guest speakers; visiting club projects and of course Family of Rotary events. The more we meet, the closer bonding between members and their families; some have become lifelong friends and extended families. Incidentally, it is one of the two reasons Rotary began in 1905.

**Skills and Leadership Development:** Various trainings take place, professional speakers are invited to clubs and District Conferences which enhance our learning experience. Serving in Rotary provides an opportunity for leadership: learning how to influence, motivate and lead.

**Public speaking:** Many people who join Rotary were afraid to speak in public. Rotary helps you develop confidence and skills in public communication and the opportunity to practice and perfect these skills.

**Personal Development:** Through your work at club level you also get opportunity to lead at District levels.

**Networking:** Not only does it create bonding, it also provides an excellent networking platform with Rotarians around the globe with over 1.2 million members and over 35,000 + clubs. This means instant friends in both one's own community and in the world.

Because there are Rotary clubs everywhere, Rotarians in need of a doctor, lawyer, hotel, advice, etc., while traveling have found assistance through the Rotary network. A great way to connect with Rotarians and find clubs when you are traveling is through the Rotary Club Locator application, available for both Android and iOS.

**PP Vikash Shah**

District Membership Chair TZ 2020-21





# Requirements for Rotary Clubs to register as legal entities

In Uganda, registration of Companies Limited by guarantee is governed by the Companies Act, 2012 and its implementing Regulations namely; The Companies (General) Regulations, 2016, The Companies (Single Member) Regulations, 2016 and the Companies (Powers of the Registrar) Regulations, 2016.

The Companies Act governs the incorporation, regulation and administration of companies and makes provision for related matters. The Act provides for formation and registration, management of companies, corporate governance and dissolution /winding up of companies.

The Government institution mandated to administer the Companies Act, 2012 and its implementing Regulations is the Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB). URSB is an autonomous statutory body established by the Uganda Registration Services Bureau Act, Chapter 210 Laws of Uganda in 1998. The Bureau was created to take over the functions of the Registrar General's Office under the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs.

The Act came into force on 16th of August, 2004 and the self-accounting status was granted in July, 2010. The Bureau is governed by the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer is the Registrar General.

URSB is responsible for civil registrations, business registrations, registration of patents and intellectual property rights, and any other registrations required by law.

## Registration of Rotary Clubs

Rotary clubs are groups of local business and professional persons who form part of Rotary International, a humanitarian/community service organisation founded in 1905. Members of Rotary are called Rotarians and membership to Rotary is voluntary. It is through these clubs that several community projects that have changed the lives of masses are implemented based on the seven (7) areas of focus.

In Uganda, Rotary clubs are registered under the Companies Act, 2012 as Companies limited by guarantee since they carry out non-profit making activities. Such companies are formed for other purposes other than the profit of their members e.g. those formed for social, charitable or quasi-charitable purposes.

Companies limited by guarantee have two forms namely: a company limited by guarantee without a share capital, and the guarantee company with a share capital. Under these companies, the liability of its members is limited by the memorandum to the amount that members undertake to contribute to the assets of the company if it is being wound up (Section 4(b) of the Companies Act, 2012)

The Companies Act, Section 3, requires that a Register of Companies be kept by the Registrar of Companies and in this case the URSB. The Registrar of Companies maintains registers, data and records on registration and acts as a clearing house for information and data on the registrations.

## The Registration Processes

It involves making a reservation of the proposed company name, submitting an application form for registration, and the Memorandum and Articles of association as follows;

**Reservation of name:** The process of registration involves reservation of the company names with URSB. The law provides that the Registrar may, on written application by the applicant, reserve a name pending registration of a company and the reservation remains in force for thirty (30) days or for such longer period not exceeding sixty (60) days, as the Registrar may for special reasons allow (Section 36 of the Companies Act).

Section 36(2) prohibits the use of undesired names. A name is considered undesired if it violates an already registered trademarks, emblems, business names or includes offensive words.

The law requires that every company name registered in Uganda has to end with initials "LTD" or word "Limited" [Section 36(3)]. However, under Section 41, companies limited by guaranteed whose purpose is charity, science, religion or any other related objectives, to dispense with the use of the initials "LTD" or word "Limited".

**Application form for registration:** The applicant is required to submit an application form provided in the second schedule to the Companies Act (Section 18). For a company limited by guarantee, the form requires information on the name of the company, the names of subscribers (members), the address of the company, the place of business and signatures of the members. The form is accompanied by passport photos of the members and copies of their identification cards.

**The Memorandum of Association:** The memorandum and articles if any, shall be delivered to the registrar and he or she shall retain and register them and assign a registration number to each company so registered (Section 19(1).

The Memorandum and Articles of Association shall when registered, bind the company and the

members of the company to the same extent as if they respectively had been signed and sealed by each member and contained covenants on the part of each member to the memorandum and of the articles (Section 21(1). The Memorandum of Association sets out the name of the company, its purpose (objectives), shares (for companies with shares), names of subscribers/ members/shareholders, their occupations and the address of the company.

**The Articles of Association:** These set out the internal rules of how the company is run, governed or owned. They include the responsibilities/obligations and powers of directors, that relate to rights of subscribers/members/shareholders, directors, procedures in meetings among others.

**The Companies Act** requires that the memorandum of a company limited by guarantee states each member undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company if it is being wound up while they are members or within a year after ceasing to be members.

## Principles Corporate Governance

Section 14 of the Companies Act provides for adoption and application of Table F, which contains the code of corporate governance. Whereas it is mandatory for public companies to adopt the said code of corporate governance, it is optional for private companies, however all types of companies are encouraged to adopt the same code as a best practice.

The Code contains standards of the board of directors, board composition, relationships between the company officers, remuneration of directors, board meetings, board committees, the office of the secretary, risk management, the audit function, sustainable reporting, accounting, auditing and finance reporting (Table F of the Companies Act, Code of Corporate Governance).

## Consequences of Incorporation

A certificate of incorporation is issued to the company upon registration by the Registrar of Companies. This certificate is conclusive evidence of ownership (Section 22).

A company limited by guarantee is a legal entity that exists in its own right separate and distinct from its members. When a company is registered, it becomes like a natural person in law and it is referred to as



artificial person in contrast with a human being, a natural person.

The effect of registration of a company is that the company become a body corporate/legal entity, distinct from its members, which means that the company has legal personality and is capable of owning property in its name, suing or being sued, has perpetual succession, has capacity to borrow in its own name and enter contracts with other entities, among others.

**Post-Incorporation Requirements**

After registration, a company limited by guarantee is expected to appoint its directors (Section 185), secretary (Section 187), open a bank account, submit notification of its address/situation (Sections 115 and 116). A company limited is further expected to file its annual return a year after incorporation.

**Filing of Annual Returns**

Section 133 of the Companies Act, requires that a company limited by guarantee files an annual return with the Registrar of Companies annually either from the date of incorporation or from the date of filing the last return (Section 133).

Note that the annual return under the Companies Act is different from the Tax Returns. The latter relates to sales and profits for purposes of tax, but the former is simply a status update of the

company on the directors, address, debts/loans etc.

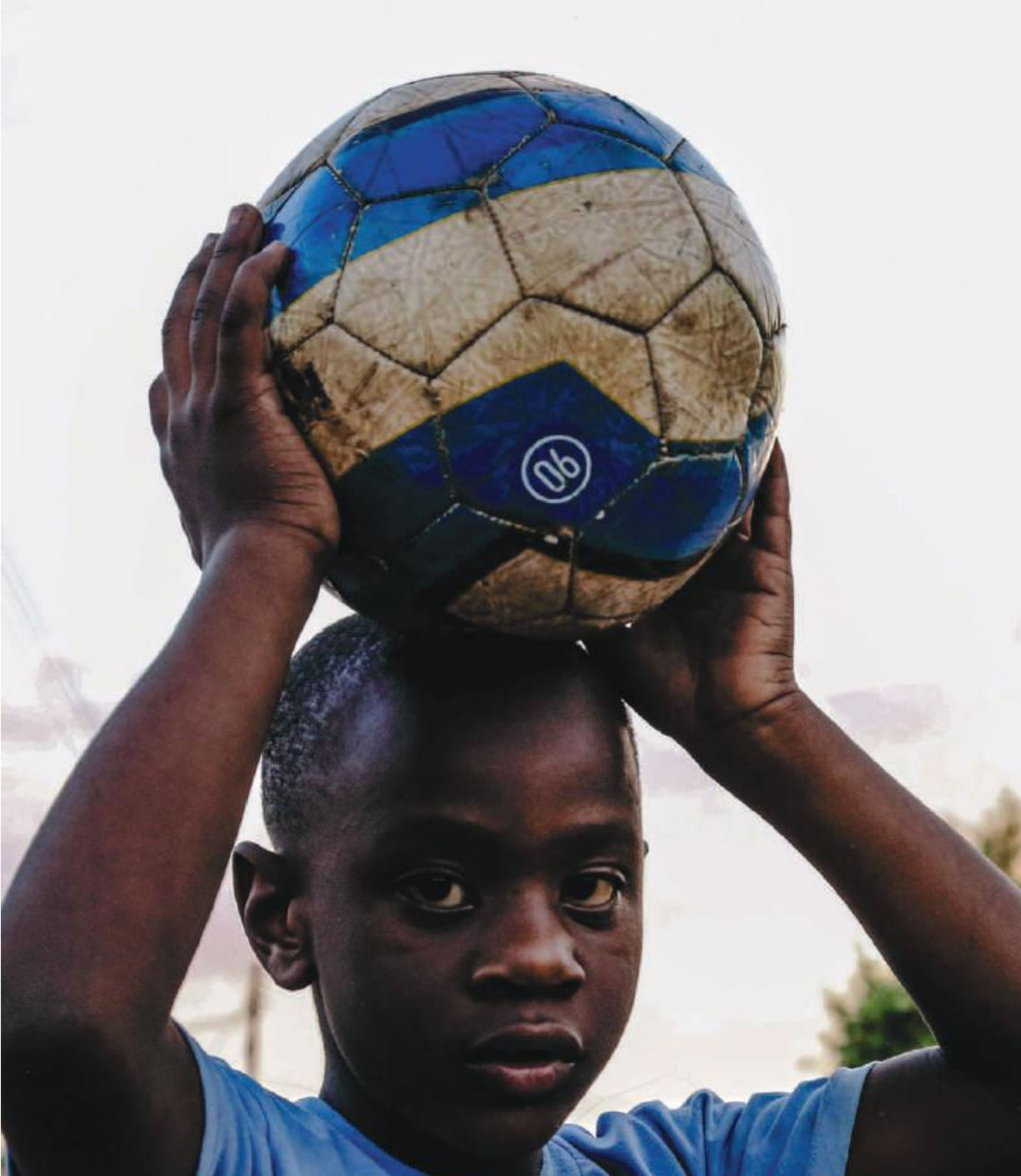
An annual return contains information about the company which information is important for members, creditors and potential partners or donors. This information includes the name of the company, the members, directors, address, liabilities, secretary etc. If a company fails to file annual returns within five years consecutively, the registrar shall require that the company files a statement of solvency and show cause it should not be struck off the register (Section 134(5)).

**Conclusion**

Rotary clubs are advised to register as companies limited by guarantee (non-profit making) to qualify as legal entities. Statutory compliance is key to corporate governance and Rotary clubs that register as companies limited by guarantee must adhere to it. Rotary clubs are further expected to maintain their records, hold annual general meetings, file annual returns with the Registrar of Companies every year, submit audited books of accounts among other post-registration requirement as laid down by the Companies Act.

**President Mercy K. Kainobwisho**  
**Rotary Club of Bukoto**

Advocate /Business and Intellectual Property Specialist  
Director Intellectual Property at URSB /Former Director  
Business Registration at URSB  
Email: [mercykains@yahoo.com](mailto:mercykains@yahoo.com) ,  
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# DG's Club Project Visits



**Rotary Club of Mbale Metropolitan**  
**Global Grant 1986275:** Hygiene and Sanitation for Namatala and Yoweri Museveni Primary Schools located in Mbale City.

The two schools share a compound and have a population of 2,890 (1,530 girls, 1,301 boys, and 59 staff). Both had nonfunctional flush toilets. The project will provide safe VIP latrines, female wash facilities, and training to all students and staff to promoted hygiene and sanitation at school.

The project, which cost USD 66,500 was implemented in partnership with RC Solon, RC Fairlawn, and Drink Local Drink Tap (DLDT), a WASH non-governmental organisation based in Uganda and United States of America.



**Rotary Club of Gulu**  
**Global Grant 1863836:** Hospital equipment for Atiak, Uganda  
The club in partnership with San Diego Rotary Club 33 (District 5340) donated equipment worth USD 302,350 to Teresa Ayiko International Hospital, a newly constructed hospital in Atiak, Amuru District. The equipment so far delivered includes: x-ray, ultra-sound and image digitizer machines, dental unit and laboratory equipment, plus a fully equipped ambulance.

The Atiak community donated the land on which the hospital was constructed and also added USD 2,000 towards the project costs. The hospital, built by Alliance for African Assistance-Uganda, a Uganda non-profit organization with strong ties to RC Gulu, will offer a broad range of services.

# DG's Club Project Visits

**Rotary Club of Soroti Central**  
**Global Grant 1982636:** Usuk Water and Sanitation Project

The project has enabled the: drilling of six boreholes in six villages of Amarotoit, Okadanya, Odoom, Orukurukun, Acuru “B” and Ogoria; rehabilitated four existing boreholes in four villages of Okuliak, Acuru “A”, and Akoboi; and motorized one of the new boreholes in Okadanya- Aperu village with three tap stands and a 20,000 litre tank. In addition, WASH Committees were formed for the nine water sources in nine villages, Water User Committees were trained, and two Rotary Community Corps were formed in Acuru and Okadanya-Aperu villages.

The USD 101,404 project was supported by Rotary clubs in Districts 6920 and 5110. It will benefit 6,000 members in nine villages in Usuk County, Katakwi District.



**Rotary Club of Kitgum**  
**RI-USAID WASH Project:** A borehole was drilled at Aywee Primary School, Omiya Anyima sub-county, Kitgum District. The school, with a population of over 700 pupils had lacked a water source since inception in 2003. The overall project objective is to improve water, sanitation and hygiene in target populations in Uganda in selected schools, health care facilities and communities. As part of this initiative, Rotary and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) have committed USD 2 million each to increase access to safe drinking water and sanitation, foster improved hygiene practice, and support community management systems and advocacy for environmentally sustainable, locally appropriate, and effectively financed water and sanitation services in Ghana, Uganda and Madagascar. Local Rotarians in these countries and international sponsors are responsible for raising 10% (USD200,000) of Rotary's USD 2 million.





PAG JULIET KYOKUNDA



## Gear up to support the environment

In the 2017/18 Rotary Year, Governor Ken W. Mugisha's Signature Project for our District 9211 was protecting the environment, and thus 'Rotary Mission Green' was born. It was received with enthusiasm and all clubs planted trees in different parts of our District. Of course, planting and growing are two different things. In all we lost some trees but gave mother earth more trees. Today, the district still has a partnership with the National Forestry Authority which provides one million FREE seedlings annually, distributed to over 100 participating clubs for planting.

There are on-going discussions to partner with the Government of Uganda, through the Ministry of Water and Environment to gazette a **National Tree Planting Day**. Under the initiative, the target is to plant 40 million trees in eight hours. This is planned to become an annual event.

At the close of the last Rotary Year, we received the wonderful news of the approval of a 7th area of focus - **Supporting the Environment**. Clubs will soon be able to apply for Global Grants to effect/implement their Mission Green projects. This is very exciting and we must put our act together to make use of this area of focus to make a difference in our communities. Often when you talk about protecting the environment, people especially in Uganda will quickly tell you how tourism is one of the biggest forex earners. That is an undisputed fact, however, before we get into tourism, all human beings exist because of the environment. People will be unhealthy in the

same way the environment is unhealthy and vice versa. We must start from the bottom going up, and a clean environment is a basic human requirement.

We should understand that each person has a basic need, this need will only be met when our environment is healthy and therefore it is every person's responsibility to contribute in a positive way to protecting our environment. As a Rotarian there are several things you can do:

1. Plant a tree in your compound, along the boundaries of your land, or at your office. Make every celebration, be it a wedding, anniversary or birthday a tree planting opportunity.
2. Adopt the use of clean cooking technologies like gas, briquettes and energy saving stoves in our homes. Look at solar as an option for energy.
3. Minimize/avoid the use of disposable plastic containers and bags. Your decision to do this will make a difference in the community, and can help change another person's attitude.

At club level, let us continue to plant and grow trees, embrace the energy saving technologies (which are an excellent avenue to create youth employment), and advocate for a clean and healthy environment. The rains are almost here, let's prepare to receive seedlings and plant in time. As we wait for guidelines on how the grants will be managed, we should understand the dimensions of environment projects, and make our district better through the Rotary Foundation.

**PAG Juliet Kyokunda**

District Executive Secretary, 2020/21  
Rotary Club of Kajjansi



## “Thank you Rotary for sustaining my daughter's life”

PAG RONALD KAWADDWA

It is written somewhere in the Bible that “the left hand should not know what the right hand is doing;” in other words, we should never boast about our good deeds. But there are those stories that are so compelling and that one cannot resist sharing. Recently while driving home, my phone rang incessantly that I was forced to answer it. Since I could not recognize the caller, I quickly mumbled that it was probably a wrong number. But the lady at the other end insisted that she had been given my number and just wanted to thank me. And then she was suddenly overcome by emotion. For a moment – I could not make out what she was saying nor where this was going.

After she had composed herself, the lady informed me that she was calling to thank Rotarians for sustaining her daughter's life. Again I was at a loss! She then went on to narrate her desperate struggle during the month of July, to obtain blood group O negative for her teenage daughter who suffers from sickle cell anemia, and who urgently needed a blood transfusion. She told of how she had traversed the country and hospitals all the way from Soroti to Kampala without success, and had all but given up until somebody directed her to Mengo Hospital Rotary Blood Bank where she was swiftly assisted with the required blood products. Following the transfusion, her daughter was subsequently discharged and has since resumed her normal routine as a teenager; and this harrowing experience is probably the furthest thing from her mind. But for the mother, it clearly left an indelible mark. Not only because of how close she came to losing her daughter, but also how an institution established and supported by people of good will i.e. Rotarians had saved the day!!

As a Blood Donor and Chair of the Rotary Blood Bank Programme, this story was humbling but also affirming. Sometimes donating blood can almost

feel mechanical and rarely do we the donors, get the opportunity to meet the people who receive this blood. But more importantly, the experience of this family from Soroti reminded me of the significance of what we do. Because you showed up and donated blood – the lady from Soroti still has her daughter.

I have since done some basic research on sickle cell anaemia and have learned from a doctor of the debilitating effects of a sickle cell crisis. A crisis may lead to acute chest syndrome, lung injury, strokes and even death. As a result, sicklers require regular transfusions. But so do cancer patients, expectant mothers and accident victims. Infact, the need for a reliable supply of blood in Uganda to meet the diverse needs is enormous. Unfortunately, we are frequently in deficit owing to the limited number of blood donors. The last few months have been particularly bad – due to the closure of schools on whom we, as a country, mostly depend for safe blood donations.

Since 2018, the Rotary Blood Bank Programme has been running the “One Drop of Blood Initiative” whose objective is to increase access to timely supplies of safe blood products. Through the annual Transformational Leadership Forum and Concerts, we have raised funds that have enabled us to improve the infrastructure for blood donation at Mengo Hospital. But more needs to be done. The Rotary Blood Bank has thus embarked on recruiting blood donors to ensure an adequate supply of blood, all year round. Thankfully, a number of Rotary clubs have come on board. Donating blood is one of the easiest ways to help save lives. Infact, each pint of blood donated can save up to three lives! All you have to do is make an appointment for your club and/or your friends at the Blood Bank in Mengo.

**By PAG Ronald Kawaddwa -**

Chair Rotary Blood Bank Programme

Additional reporting by **Rtn. Anne Nkutu –**

RC Kampala Naalya





# RC Kampala South kickstarts this year's blood donation drive

RTN. FAITH GABONA

Statistics from World Health Organisation (WHO) indicate that Uganda has an annual demand of about 340,000 units of blood, but falls short by over 100,000 units. The Ministry of Health figures also show that Uganda's blood needs are increasing at 20% per year.

Research further indicates that several women in labour, surgery, sticklers, cancer patients and those with various ailments need constant blood transfusions. The existence of patients who need platelets and plasma also constantly increases the need for blood. The Mengo Hospital Blood Bank built by Rotarians was opened in February 2017. Since its establishment, it has collected approximately 9,647 units of blood.

It is against this background for the high need for transfusions that the Rotary Club (RC) of Kampala South initiated a blood donation drive to save lives of the most vulnerable within our communities. The inaugural event was held on Wednesday 29th July 2020 at Mengo Hospital Rotary Blood Bank, led by the Club President Jennifer Byokusheka and Blood Bank Mobilisation Officer Past President (PP) Donnan Byabazaire. Members from RC Kampala Springs and Rotaract Club of Kampala South joined the team.

The donors were first counselled, assessed and tested by medical personnel for suitability before donation. Twenty-seven (27) units of blood were collected. After donation, the Rotary fraternity were led on a guided tour of the facility. Mr. Pontiano Mayambala explained the various processes and stages the blood is taken through, which include – reception, separation of plasma, blood platelets, red blood cells and blood itself. This was meant to raise more awareness on the entire blood donation processes from donation to delivery. The club is grateful to the Rotary Blood Bank Board Chair PAG Ronald Kawaddwa and Dr. Frank Kakuba, the Blood Bank in Charge that made the donation possible. This blood donation drive will be conducted once every four

months. "We target to collect 30 units of blood at each event," said PP Donnan who encouraged everyone to donate blood as safe blood saves lives. The next donation drive is scheduled for Friday 27th November 2020, and the last event shall be on Wednesday 31st March 2021.

The club's commitment to Service above Self were highlighted by the President during her inaugural speech in which she noted that the club would continue to identify needs within the neighbourhoods Rotarians can offer meaningful interventions - blood donation is one of these initiatives.

Rtn. Faith Gabona  
RC Kampala South

# Rotary ambulance saves mothers during COVID-19 lockdown

In 2010, Mbale People's Hospital, then operating as Mbale Maternity Home was struggling, so donations of hospital equipment which included an ambulance from the Rotary Club of Lake Shores Montreal were greatly appreciated.

During the COVID-19 lockdown, the leading cause of maternal deaths in the Elgon region was the delayed provision of emergency care to pregnant mothers as they failed to reach health facilities quickly due to lack of transport. The area lacked government ambulances, forcing patients especially expectant mothers to use risky means of transport such as boda bodas to access health facilities.

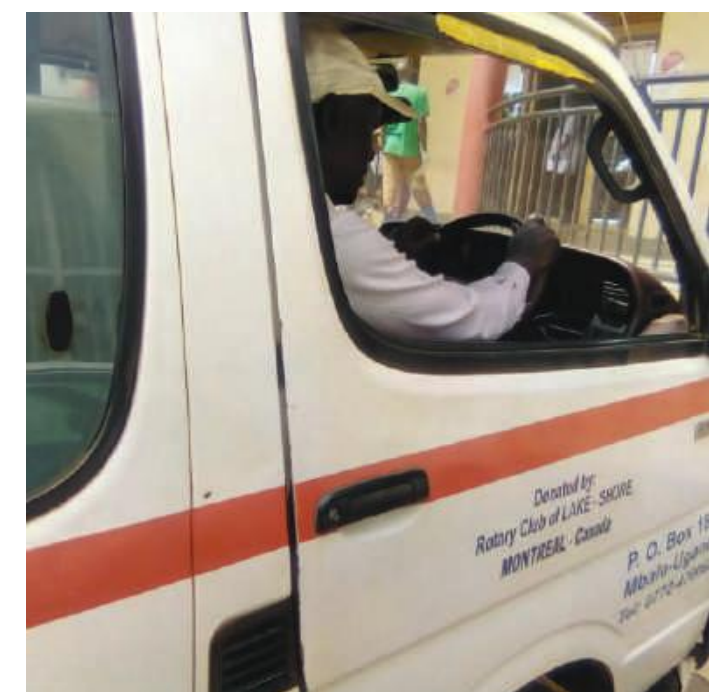
To avert further a crisis in the area, the Mbale People's Hospital deployed the ambulance to work full time, serving especially mothers that needed medical attention. The hospital put aside some money for fuel and maintenance.

The emergency numbers for the ambulance were shared on radio, leading to an overwhelming number of calls from patients even in far off hard-to-reach areas.

A total of 150 mothers were saved in April 2020, while for May and June, the numbers increased from 165 to 185 mothers saved respectively. This could only happen because Rotary gave us a platform to save lives.

The community, especially the District COVID-19 Taskforce appreciates Rotary Club of Mbale's contribution and this has increased opportunities of engaging in public private partnerships. We thank Past District Governor Bill Gray, Rtn. Peterson and others who mobilised funds through their club to support the maternity home.

Rtn. Canon Aruho Boaz Mbagaya - RC Mbale  
Managing Director, Mbale People's Hospital







## Restoring hope for children and youth affected by sexual abuse

We are a couple of months into the COVID-19 pandemic induced lockdown and it's devastating effect is unrelenting. Rotary clubs all over the country have come together to offer support in different ways. They have donated personal protective equipment, food and hand-washing dispensers and other items. A worrying trend that continues to be reported in the media during the lockdown period is the escalation of violence including sexual violence against children. In Gulu District, there have been several cases of sexual violence against children especially the girl child. As people of service and action, Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Gulu last month donated various food items to Generation in Action, an organisation providing refuge to girls, especially those that have been sexually violated. The items included posho, beans, dried cassava, rice, sugar, millet flour, cooking oil and milk for those on antiretroviral (ARVs) drugs. The Club also partnered with an organization that will support the legal and transport needs of the NGO. According to Josephine Latigo, the NGO Administrator, emotional support is a basic need for these girls. "On arrival, many are reserved, they do not talk nor interact with others. But with trauma care and counselling they eventually begin to talk," she added.

The other support offered includes spiritual sessions, drama, play and dancing therapy, and counselling.

Since the organisation relies on well-wishers and at times donations from the District COVID-19 Task Force, it still grapples with challenges of getting food, blankets, clothes, undergarments and payment of utility bills. Many of the girls who seek refuge at the NGO have either run away from domestic violence experienced in their homes. Others lived on the streets, while some are dumped at the premises. They often come with trauma, sexually transmitted infections, pregnancy, injuries and mutilation to their private parts and lifelong scars. At the onset of the lockdown, the institution housed 16 girls ranging from 9 to 15 years. Of these, eight were allegedly defiled and two were pregnant. The defilement incidences were quite tragic: a ten-year-old was defiled by a gang of three charcoal loaders, others are daughters of sex workers and were defiled outside their homes after being asked by their mothers to give them privacy to host their clients since the lodges were closed. RC Gulu hopes to partner with more individuals and organisations to help rebuild these girls' lives. There is also urgent need to partner with a medical facility to take care of the girls' medical needs and health. As the girls sang 'the sun will shine again', the smiles on their faces was a reminder of the hope Rotarians bring into the lives of the less fortunate in our societies. With Rotarians in Action, the sun will surely shine again!

**Rtn. Akademia Wandibba**  
Sergeant at Arms, RC Gulu



## Rotary Cancer Run: Hope you set a new record

RTN. RINAH N. MUTEKANGA

The fastest man to run a distance of 5000 metres is Ugandan. He is Joshua Cheptegei and he did it in a record 12:35:36 minutes on 14th August 2020. Ugandans and the world at large have congratulated him for this historic milestone, with President Yoweri Museveni acknowledged that, "You have brought honour, pride, and joy to your country." The First Lady Mrs. Janet Kataha Museveni chipped in with, "You have kept your promise to me and to Ugandans to win again". As a Rotarian, I too congratulate Joshua, not only for winning, but more so for the inspiration his achievement has opened for us all.

A day before the race, Joshua had announced that he would return for his first official race of the year with a World Record, something that he indeed achieved. Here, I drew a valuable lesson; Stop running from something, instead run after something. Are you running away from your challenges, responsibilities, and opportunities? Or are you running after them? If life is a race, then let's aim to run after and to achieve records that will draw praise and satisfaction for our race.

Yesterday Sunday August 30th, 2020, 16 days after Cheptegei's exploits, Rotary presented you an opportunity to set your own record, albeit not necessarily of athletic semblance to Joshua's. Why did you run? What did you run after? What did you run for? What record did you set out to break and establish? What promise did you make that you needed to fulfil? I hope you got some praise, honour, pride and joy for participating in the virtual Rotary Cancer Run.

I hope you ran to thank God for your health. To help you appreciate the gift of good health, I encourage you to read about or speak to a friend or relative who knows anything about cancer, or better, talk to a victim or survivor. I am quite certain that not only will you gather invaluable knowledge, but you will be



motivated to live a healthier lifestyle. The Cancer Run is an opportunity for you to share the proceeds from your good health.

By running in your cancer run outfit yesterday, you created awareness not only for the noble work of Rotary, but specifically about cancer. In so doing, you contributed towards sensitisation and promotion of health and to saving the life of others. The virtual run gave us a unique opportunity to take the message where it is needed most; at the heart of our most immediate communities, unlike in the past where we all assembled to trot along very specific routes. We spread our wings of inspiration and change everywhere. Beautifully intertwined in Joshua's timing, I hope you at least run for 12 minutes on Sunday. Enough time for you to set your own record, not necessarily for athletic significance, but more critically in the fight against cancer.

Kindly contribute towards the construction of the bunkers at Nsambya Hospital by depositing any amount on the Rotary Cancer Run Account 3100023145 in Centenary Bank.

**Rtn. Rinah N. Mutekanga**  
Rotary Club of Rubaga



EMMANUEL EBIACHU



## Rotary Cancer Run: why I run

Over the years, a cancer diagnosis was considered close to a death sentence. Each time someone was told they had cancer, the best thing friends and family could do was make the “last days” as comfortable as possible for the patient, however with the Rotary Cancer Run, we are moving towards changing the narrative.

Growing up, I saw many cancer patients resigned to their fate with little or no hope whatsoever of recovery. With proceeds from the Rotary Cancer Run, we hope to change this and give cancer patients another chance at life through treatment.

Every year, for the past four years, my friends and I have joined several other runners around the country to run on the last Sunday of August. Not necessarily because sport is our strong feat or for the love of marathons, we run because the small contribution of less than \$10 goes a long way at giving someone another chance at life. It’s easy to take certain things for granted but it’s only until you see someone struggle for their life that you realise that you cannot do much unless you make a conscious and intentional choice each day to contribute towards changing lives in our communities.

Imagine the impact we would have if just half of this country’s working population joined this race against

cancer! I am a firm believer in the effectiveness of united efforts and that together we can beat cancer.

No race in life is ever easy. As Rotary we have waged war against cancer for a number of years and the war is far from over – but just as we are close to winning the war against worldwide, I think a similar level of resilience will bear similar or even better results.

Consider this message a clarion call for you, dear reader, to join us next year and in all subsequent editions of the Rotary Cancer Run. You may not be in position to run actively but every little contribution towards the cause counts. My excitement for this year’s edition was boundless, until the pandemic hit. However, not even a pandemic can kill this energy.

This year, unlike previous ones, for the safety of all our partners in service, we were called upon to run in our localities. We had and enjoyed our first virtual run. We donned our kits with pride, took and shared photos and videos as we ran because a cancer patient somewhere was counting on us. Let us join the cause and run against cancer. Until the race is won, until cancer ceases to be a death sentence, I will run.

**Emmanuel Ebiachu**

Assistant District Rotaract Representative Central Zone 4  
Rotaract Club of Kampala Wandegaya



## Reflections from one of ‘The Pilots’

I am Ramlah Kawooya a First-Class Past President of the Rotaract Club of Entebbe Airport, “The Pilots”. I was president in the Rotary Year 2014/15 under the leadership of Governor Harish Bhatt. I am the proud charter secretary of the Pilots. The seven-year-old club currently has only three charter members still active (Charter President “Owek” James Sembatya James, IPP Johnnie Kayinda, and I).

I served in various capacities within the club, and was also the Public Relations Director for Rotaract Uganda, and part of Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Kabale team. Serving in Rotaract has seen me grow and evolve. The great network and friends have molded me into the confident young woman that I am today.

I was the club’s first female President, and although my presidency was fast-tracked after the then President Elect got a job posting out of Entebbe, however, I still enjoyed my time. I experienced a bit of anxiety owing to the fact that there was so much to do, and a lot I was not familiar with; however, I was willing to learn. Many of the guys doubted my ability to do the job so I made it a personal mission to excel and take the club to greater heights. We were the first club to win a Rotary International Presidential Citation award among the clubs along the Entebbe corridor. I am grateful to the amazing team that I worked with and attribute all the success to teamwork and cooperation with club members.

We also had some challenges, among them lack of well stipulated structures; poor time management for all club activities; several members were not gainfully employed so it affected the membership and dues payment; and low turn up for fellowships. Sometimes we had less than 10 people in attendance.

We tried to enlist interesting guest speakers like Abbey Mukibi, Isaac “Rucci” Ruccibigango of the gospel dance group Limit X, Tindichebwa Mustapha of Fun Factory, the now National Unity Platform (NUP) flag bearer Hon. Robert Kyagulanyi (Bobi Wine), and Michelle Omamteker (CEO Malengo Foundation) among others, in an effort to make the fellowships vibrant and engaging. This increased our attendance and guests.

We also introduced buddy groups with interesting names like katoogo and abanywi to keep things fun. Every week, a buddy group organised fellowship and organisers of the best fellowships got an award, thus encouraging friendly competition and innovativeness. We encouraged members to attend Rotary programmes and the club was well represented at district conferences (seven members attended the DCA in Dar-es-Salaam), RYLA, ROTS etc.

My advice to Opportunity Leaders:

- Share frequent accountability reports with your members and mother club.
- Teamwork! Together you can move mountains.
- Be your friend’s keeper – Use home hospitalities to strengthen the bond between club members. As President, I knew each club member’s home, and had a contact for their next of kin.
- Organise meaningful and fun fellowships; Institute and respect club structures
- Visit other clubs as there is a lot to learn; Consult whenever you are stuck. Learning never stops!
- Engage all members. To quote a Rotarian – “use me or lose me”
- Finally, mentorship is important. Find someone who you look up to and respect to guide you in your journey of service or in your personal life.

**Sandra Langi**

RAC Entebbe



RTN. RINAH N. MUTEKANGA



# Hospitalities open opportunities for harmony, fun and friendship

The greatest opportunity you have now is life. It is the best asset God has blessed you with. Opportunities however, come with challenges, what you do with the opportunity of being alive is perhaps your greatest challenge. What are you doing with your life right now?

Paul Harris’ great idea of Rotary has opened endless opportunities since 1905. Today, you too can start a journey of opening opportunities for yourself and others. What you choose to do with your life has an enormous potential to transform it in ways that will provide inspiration to those around you and beyond to change their own lives.

Be the gift that keeps giving. With whatever you will choose to do with your life, may you always ask yourself whether in so doing, you are helping someone by sharing your knowledge, expertise, talents, gifts, blessings, time, etc. ...to make the world a better place.

We, for whom Harris’ idea of Rotary continues to open new opportunities, are truly privileged and equally challenged as we seek to serve above self. We are the living proof that indeed, Rotary Opens Opportunities.

Even within the current pandemic, as Rotarians we should keep in harmony and fellowship. We should continue bonding in order to open opportunities for others. To do this, the Rotary Club of Rubaga, through our President, Farouk Busulwa, is

championing a home hospitality initiative where every weekend, a select team of club members pay a cordial visit to another member.

August 3rd was a delightful heart-warming day for me when I hosted the Rotarians at my parents’ home in Sonde, Mukono. We had a great time, our metabolic enzymes were engaged, our ears spoilt for choice between tales of fun and inspiration, and our eyes rolled in sprints across faces of wide smiles. So much was the food and the fun, and so good was the mesmerizing ambience of camaraderie that time seemed to come to a standstill – a planned visit of just about an hour ended up spanning just shy of four hours. It was indeed an indelible memory, as the experience presented opportunities for our hearts and minds to be bathed with a refreshing sense of belonging in RC Rubaga.

I give special thanks for the opportunity to smile and share the love from our home. Thank you for the opportunity to refresh and reaffirm my commitment to the ideals of Rotary and my service in RC Rubaga. On behalf of my mother, husband and the whole family, I thank you for giving us the opportunity to have such a beautiful and inspiring memory that your kind visit shall always be remembered for. May God richly bless you and, please come again, will you?

**Rtn. Rinah N. Mutekanga**  
Rotary Club of Rubaga



# DG’S VISITS

ROSETTI NABBUMBA NAYENGA

Date	Activity 9 (AM)	Activity 12 (Noon)	Activity 2 (PM)
Tue 01-Sep-20			RC Kampala Nsambya
Wed 02-Sep-20		RC Kampala West (12noon-2.00pm)	RC Bweyogerere Central(4.00-6.00pm)
Thu 03-Sep-20		RC Kampala (12noon-2.00pm)	
Fri 04-Sep-20		RC Kigo	RC Songea (6.00pm-8.00pm)
Sat 05-Sep-20		RC Usa	RC Karatu
Sun 06-Sep-20			
Mon 07-Sep-20		RC Mengo (12noon-2.00pm)	RC Arusha Clock Tower
Tue 08-Sep-20	RC Rubaga (10.00am-12noon)		RC Acacia Sunset (4.00-6.00pm)
Wed 09-Sep-20			RC Rubaga Lake View
Thu 10-Sep-20	OTHER DUTIES (BANK OF INDIA)		RC Makindye West (4.00-6.00pm)
Fri 11-Sep-20	OTHER DUTIES (BANK OF INDIA)	RC Nalumunye	RC Mutundwe (4.00-6.00pm)
Sat 12-Sep-20			RC Igoma
Sun 13-Sep-20			RC E-club Global Uganda (6.00-8.00pm)
Mon 14-Sep-20	OTHER DUTIES (BANK OF INDIA)		RC Dar es Salaam Mzizima
Tue 15-Sep-20	OTHER DUTIES (BANK OF INDIA)		RC Lugazi Central
Wed 16-Sep-20	OTHER DUTIES (MFPED)		RC Mukono (4.00-6.00pm)
Thu 17-Sep-20	OTHER DUTIES (MFPED)		RC Seeta
Fri 18-Sep-20	OTHER DUTIES (MFPED)	RC Kibo	Inner Wheelers
Sat 19-Sep-20			RC Mwanza
Sun 20-Sep-20			
Mon 21-Sep-20	OTHER DUTIES (MFPED)		RC Mukono Central
Tue 22-Sep-20	OTHER DUTIES (BANK OF INDIA)		
Wed 23-Sep-20	OTHER DUTIES (BANK OF INDIA)	RC Iringa	
Thu 24-Sep-20		RC Bwebajja	RC Gaba
Fri 25-Sep-20			RC Bukoba - Uhuru Kagera
Sat 26-Sep-20			RC Ngambo
Sun 27-Sep-20			
Mon 28-Sep-20			RC Njiro
Tue 29-Sep-20	RC Same		RC Hai
Wed 30-Sep-20			RC Mwanga



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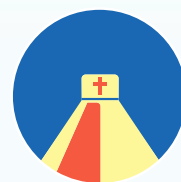
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