



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

Issue 8

District Gazette

Official newsletter of DG Jacques Venter.

February 2024



Rotary
District 9370

Rotary Friendship Exchange

Our District will be hosting a Rotary Friendship Exchange (RFE) with a group of Rotarians from Nova Scotia in Canada from 14 to 27 April 2024. The RFE will be visiting the Eastern Cape and will be visiting East London, Port Alfred, Grahamstown and Port Elizabeth.

As this is the first RFE to visit our shores in a while, herewith some information regarding RFE's.

“Experience different cultures and build international friendships through Rotary Friendship Exchange

What is Friendship Exchange?

Friendship Exchange is an international exchange program for Rotary members and friends that allows participants to take turns hosting one another in their homes and clubs.

Participants may travel as individuals, couples, families, or groups, and may be Rotary members or not.

Benefits of an exchange

- *Broaden international understanding.*
- *Explore a profession or job in a different context.*
- *Build enduring friendships.*
- *Gain opportunities for active project involvement and support.*
- *Learn about a region's people, food, languages, customs, and history.*
- *Find partners for grants.*
- *Establish a foundation for peace and service.*

Choose a destination

Explore our Exchange Finder Map to view current exchange locations and the districts that serve them. Connect with the district's Rotary Friendship Exchange chair for help finding potential international hosts and planning your itinerary.

Define your purpose

Friendship exchanges are organized around at least one of three themes: culture, service, and vocation.

Fund your exchange

All exchanges are paid for by the participants or their districts. Hosts are not expected to assume a significant financial burden. Club or district funds may be available to offset the costs of exchanges that have a vocational emphasis”.

© My Rotary

Should you need more information please access “My Rotary” or contact AG Ash Maharaj who is our District Friendship Exchange Chair.



Delight in a new destination.
Explore exciting attractions.
Create lifelong connections.

**SHARING HOPE
WITH THE WORLD**
2024 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
SINGAPORE | 25-29 MAY 2024



Register today at
convention.rotary.org



State of the District

Total membership	1 July	29 Feb	Change
Rotarians	1 128	1 154	+26
Rotaractors	52	55	+3
Honorary members	238	227	-11
Total Clubs			
Rotary Clubs	81	81	-
Rotaract Clubs	11	11	-
Satellite Clubs	2	2	-



Rotary Institute Mauritius 2024
23 - 28 September 2024

contact@rotaryinstitute.info
www.rotaryinstitute.info

“Hope is being able to see that there is light despite of all the darkness.”

Desmond Tutu

The Month that was!

February was supposed to be my final month of Club visits. I have completed 80/81 visits and will wrap up my final Club visit, Hibiscus Coast – Margate & Uvongo, in March.

The month kicked off with a two-week tour of KZN visiting the “Highway” Clubs located on the N3. The Rotary Club of Hillcrest hosted an Awards Evening recognising sponsors, Friends of Rotary as well as Long Serving Rotarians.



Rob Campbell, Imelda Haarhoff and Nosipho Thembane receiving their Long Service Awards from Club President Colin Hegter.



AG Robby Mamote receiving his 25 Year Long Service Award.

During our Club visit to the Rotary Club of Pinetown, we were taken to Hope House which is a safe haven for abandoned babies. This well run and equipped home caters for infants between birth and two years who are awaiting adoption.



The well stock clothing cupboard and one of the new cribs in the nursery.

My visit to the Rotary Club of Durban Bay included the viewing of two Global Grant Projects in the valley of 1000 Hills. The first was a visit to Philakade Care Home where the Club has assisted with the installation of Water and Sanitation equipment.



Some of the water tanks installed at Philakade ensuring continuous water supply to the facility. A borehole has also recently been installed.

The second project was Siyabula Children’s Home where the Club has assisted with a vegetable garden, ablution facility and a boundary wall. Besides for accommodating orphans, the Home also provides tutoring and extra lessons for the children.



A tutor busy with Grade 1 Learners while Marion Spence and I look on.

My final trip of the month was back to the Eastern Cape where I visited the Rotary Clubs of Port Elizabeth and St Francis. The highlight of this trip was the Wine on Water Festival hosted by St Francis. This year, 25 different Wine Estates had their wines available for tasting. This Festival is extremely popular, and the tickets were sold out within the first 10 minutes of going on sale. More detail to follow in my next edition.



Wine on Water Programme and one of the tasting stations.



One of the many barges that transferred the patrons between the tasting stations located on the canals of St Francis.

President / Officers Elect Training

The first two President & Officers Elect Training Seminars (POETS) took place during February. The first session was held at the German Club in Port Elizabeth and was well supported by the local Clubs.



Delegates busy with group discussions during the PE session of POETS.

The second POETS was held at Sewe Damme in Bloemfontein and was also well supported by the Clubs situated in the heart of our District with some 46 delegates in attendance.



The Bloemfontein POETS Ream photo!

The final training session will be held from 15 – 17 March in Durban. Registration details are available on the Club Website on Club Runner.

The month ahead

March is going to be my last busy month. I meet with the RC of St Francis on Tuesday 5th; POETS takes place in Durban from the 15th – 17th and I visit the RC of Hibiscus Coast on the 18th. I wrap the month up with RI President Gordon McNally's visit to Johannesburg on 23 / 24 March.

DISCON 2024

Our 2024 District Conference is approaching fast. Have you registered? If not, please access our webpage on Club Runner and register today. You will not be sorry. Details regarding the programme and best routes to travel etc will be circulated shortly.

Rotary District Conference 2024
District 9370

Creating Hope in the Heart of Southern Africa

Venue: Thaba Bosiu Cultural Village,
Mountain Kingdom of Lesotho
Date: 2 – 4 May 2024

Rotary International Banking Details

PLEASE NOTE: A letter was recently circulated via e-mail stating that Rotary International had changed their banking account to a Standard Bank account. We are currently verifying the information and will confirm if the notification was legitimate. Until then, please DO NOT make any payments into the Standard Bank account.

Rotary

CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

When we nurture peace, opportunities, and one another, we help heal the world and create lasting change.

Let's create hope by:

- Confronting stigmas, expanding access, and raising awareness about the importance of mental health
- Fostering understanding and strengthening connections through virtual exchanges
- Unlocking the power of girls and women around the world

Learn more at rotary.org/initiatives23-24

Branding & Public Image

The new and easier-to-use Brand Center is now available!

Promote your club. Inspire your community.

Visit the Brand Center to access promotional materials and resources to share your club's stories of Impact and show your community we're people of action. You'll find:

- Templates to create club logos and custom promotions
- Ads, photos, and videos that show Rotary In action
- Guidance to apply Rotary colors and design elements

Use these tools to update your website, social media accounts, and community outreach materials. Get started at rotary.org/brandcenter.

Tail Piece

It would appear that all the wine tasting over the past two days has resulted in me growing a set of horns.



Red Bull gives you wings – red wine gives you horns! 😊

Foundation & End Polio Now!

As we head into the final quarter of the 2023 / 24 Rotary Year, have you and your Club contributed to the Rotary Foundation and the End Polio Now Campaign?

I JUST MADE A GIFT TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION!
Join me in making a difference.
rotary.org/donate

The Rotary Foundation

- ANNUAL FUND
- END POLIO NOW
- DISASTER RESPONSE
- ENDOWMENT FUND

If not, payments can be done directly on My Rotary.