



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

District Gazette

Official newsletter of DG Jacques Venter.



July 2023

Rotary
District 9370

Issue 1

District Governor Induction

The official changeover of District Governors took place at formal dinner hosted by the Rotary Club of Aliwal North on the 24th of June 2023. The Black-Tie Event took place at Sundown Lodge in Aliwal and was attended by PDG Maud Boikanyo, IPDG Maddy Webber, DGE Raj Ramchunder and DGN Steve Shone along with a number of Assistant Governors and Rotarians.



PDG Maud, DGN Steve, DG Jacques, DGE Raj & IPDG Maddy.

The Rotary Club of Aliwal North also inducted their 9th President, Carlos de Gouveia who took the reins over from IPP George Koulpanis.



President Carlos, IPP George and DG Jacques.

Rotary Annual Theme 2023 / 24

The Rotary Theme for 2023 / 24 was introduced by RIPE Gordon McInally at the International Assembly held in Orlando, Florida during January 2023. RI President-elect R. Gordon R. McInally calls for Rotary to create hope in the world by working for peace and mental wellbeing. He urges members to engage in tough conversations and earn the trust that's necessary to realize these values. The 2023 – 24 RI Theme is "Create Hope in the World"



Our official photo with RIPE Gordon and his wife Heather.

District Goals 2023 - 24



Membership Focus

New leaders are always emerging. They live in your community. They are eager to contribute. Younger professionals could make great Rotary members, but to bring them into our clubs, we first have to understand them. This is essential for Rotary.

Understanding younger generations means understanding how changes in society affect them.

Technology has given them the opportunity to customize nearly everything in their lives. But possessions don't sit at the top of their wish list.

Rather, many share a unifying trait: a desire for experience. When young people invest time and money into something, it's with organizations that do good in the world. That's Rotary.

Younger generations are eager. They're motivated to change their communities and hope to move quickly along their career paths. They want to build a solid network and learn from mentors, from people with clout and experience. That's us.

Few organizations span generations and professions and build personal connections the way that Rotary does. We blend tradition with innovation and use trust and respect to close the generation gap.

© My Rotary

The *My Rotary* Website has an abundance of reference material and various guidelines to assist with membership growth.

District at a Glance

Total membership	1 Jul	1 Aug	Change
Rotarians	1128	1139	+11
Rotaractors	52	52	0
Honorary members	238	238	0
Total Clubs			
Rotary Clubs	81	81	0
Rotaract Clubs	11	11	0
Satellite Clubs	2	2	0

At the end of the 2022 -23 Rotary Year, our District took the decision to close a number of Rotaract Clubs that had become dormant. While many Clubs still had members listed, the Clubs were no longer functional. As the Sponsoring Clubs and District would be held liable for the members dues for all Rotaractors, I think we made the right call. This has resulted in our membership falling below the 1 300 mark and as such, we as a District are under pressure to grow. Sponsoring Clubs are now urged to revive their Rotaract Clubs with new and motivated members.

July Diary

Day	Date	Club / Event
Monday	3 rd	Aliwal North
Tuesday	4 th	Maseru
Wednesday	5 th	Maloti-Maseru
Thursday	6 th	Mantsopa-Maseru
Tuesday	11 th	Mandini
Wednesday	12 th	Empangeni
Thursday	13 th	Eshowe
Monday	17 th	Richards Bay
Tuesday	18 th	Nongoma

Wednesday	19 th	Melmoth-Ulundi
Thursday	20 th	Mtunzini
Saturday	29 th	Aliwal Greek / Portuguese Dinner
Monday	31 st	Colesberg

Highlights of my first month as District Governor was my visit to Maseru where we visited two wonderful projects and also attended the Rotary Club of Maloti Induction Dinner which was graced by King Letsie III, who is also the Patron of the Club.



King Letsie III, President Ade Lekoetje, DGA Lynda & DG Jacques.



Board Meeting with the young and vibrant Club of Mantsopa.

During my week of travel in Zululand, I was privileged to join the Rotary Club of Richards Bay during the handing over of wheelchairs at the Mandela Day Project.



Members of the Richards Bay Club with the wheelchair recipients.

While visiting Melmoth Ulundi, I was asked to address the Earlyact Club of Ntuthuko Primary School. These young children are all very motivated and eager to support their communities and have pledged to raise R750 for the fight against Polio this Rotary Year! My AG, Sister Patricia is really doing sterling work with the kids.



Addressing the Earlyactors at Ntuthuko Primary School.



Group photo with the Earlyact leaders from each grade.

Club Health Check

The doctor will see your club now! Just as routine doctor visits help people identify health risks before they become serious, Rotary's Club Health Check can diagnose problem areas and prescribe remedies. Club leaders will find a checklist to assess their club's well-being in the areas of club experience, service and social events, members, image, and business and operations, along with an array of resources to treat any problem areas. Regularly consulting those resources can help maintain your club's health and preserve its value for club members and the community. A few examples follow but review the entire document to ensure you're taking full advantage of these valuable tools.

CLUB EXPERIENCE

The problem: Members don't feel they are participating in the Rotary experience beyond the club.

The prescription: Connect members with various Rotary programs. For instance, encourage them to sponsor an Interact club, organize a Rotary Youth Leadership Awards event, or create a scholarship. And remind members they might want to join a Rotary Fellowship or a Rotary Action Group.

SERVICE AND SOCIAL

The problem: Members feel there are not enough regular occasions for socializing and networking.

The prescription: Put one or two members in charge of organizing social events throughout the year.

The problem: Members worry about the effectiveness of the club's projects.

The solution: Connect with members of The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers to get guidance on service projects.

MEMBERS

The problem: Club membership is stagnant or declining.

The prescription: Create a membership development plan, while teaching members your club's process for proposing new members and explaining that they can also refer qualified prospects to other clubs. Online resources also provide tools to help diversify club membership and connect with prospective members.

IMAGE

The problem: The club has an anaemic online presence.

The prescription: Find a member with the skills and the time to create and manage your club's website and social media pages.

BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS

The problem: The club has difficulty planning and setting goals.

The solution: Have the club board meet at least quarterly to review the club's strategic plan, measure its progress toward established goals, and adjust bylaws and other documents as needed.

© My Rotary

August Diary

Tuesday	1 st	Bloemfontein Raadzaal
Wednesday	2 nd	Ladybrand
Thursday	3 rd	Bloemfontein Thabure
Friday	4 th	Kimberley
Tuesday	8 th	Queenstown
Thursday	10 th	Bothaville Induction Dinner
Monday	14 th	Durban
Tuesday	15 th	Port Shepstone
Wednesday	16 th	Shelly Beach
Thursday	17 th	Chatsworth
Monday	28 th	Grahamstown Sunset
Tuesday	29 th	Kenton on Sea
Wednesday	30 th	Port Alfred
Thursday	31 st	Grahamstown (Lunch)
Thursday	31 st	King Williamstown (PM)

In conclusion

August is Woman's Month, so let us continue to focus on the Empowering of Woman and Girls in our Communities. Let us also be mindful of the needs of others, and those less fortunate than ourselves. May I also ask every Rotarian to do one random act of kindness on a daily basis and thereby Create Hope in the World.