

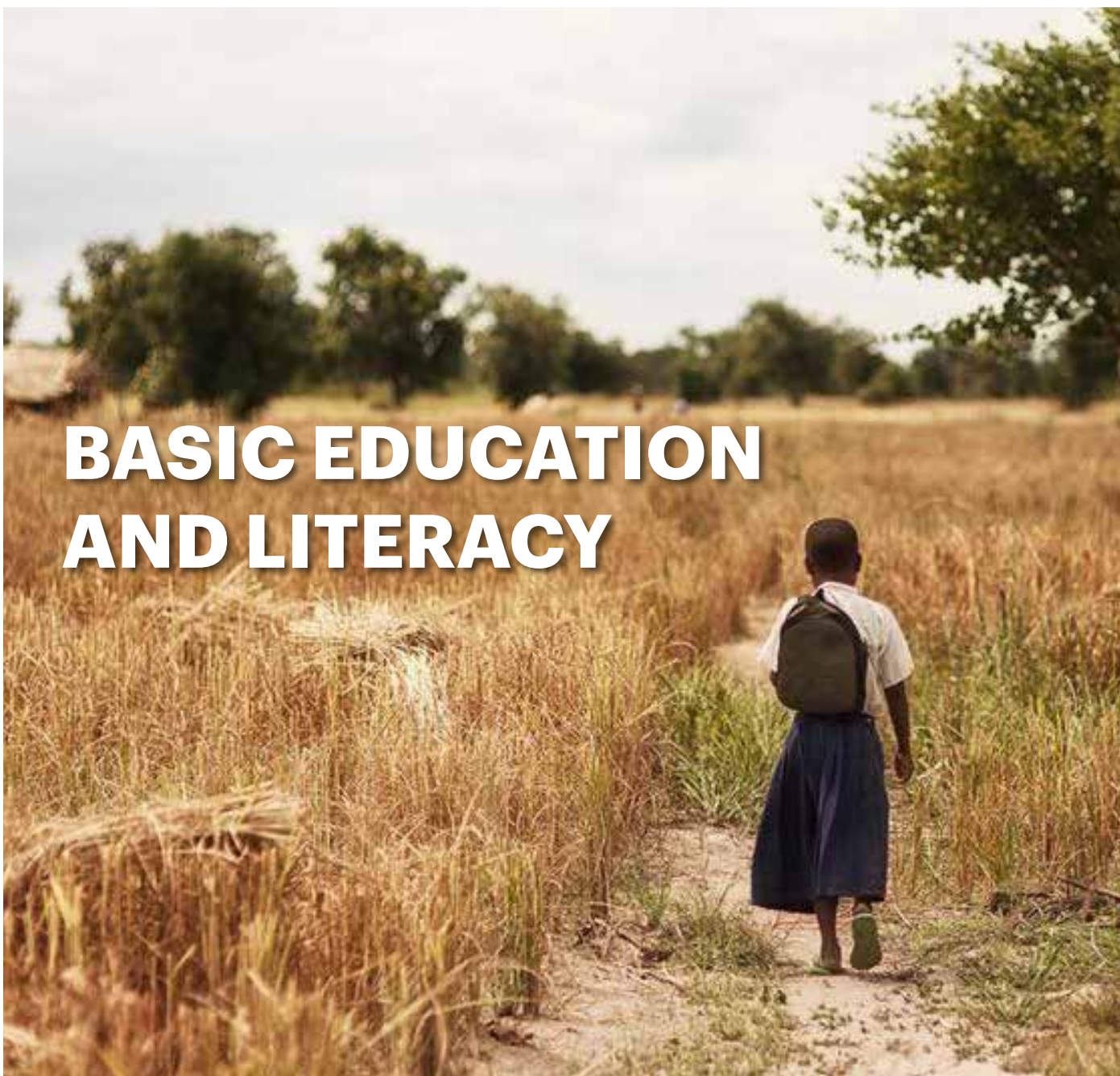


ubuntu

I AM BECAUSE YOU ARE • DISTRICT 9214 • UGANDA / TANZANIA

ISSUE 03
SEPTEMBER 2021

BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY



Rotary
District 9214



Rotaract
District 9214



**SERVE TO
CHANGE LIVES**

97TH DISTRICT CONFERENCE ARUSHA 12 - 14TH MAY 2022



ARUSHA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE

This year's DCA will be held at one of the most prestigious conference venues in Tanzania.



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EDITORS' NOTE



Rotarian Diana Elinam
UBUNTU - Editor in Chief



Rotarian Florence Malinga
UBUNTU - Co-Chair
Uganda

I grew up being told that “Education is the key to success”. And now as an adult I couldn’t agree less; Education has played a major role to my success.

The academia journey is nevertheless not the easiest. It is a sad reality that even as the world is transitioning to the fourth industrial revolution. And some schools are adopting the digitalized, practical and creative ways of conveying knowledge. Some students in African, still struggle; I have witnessed students in the urban areas fight for transport and heard of those in rural areas that have to walk long distances to reach to school. This has led to early pregnancies and deterioration of attendance.

Students have become demotivated due to lack of school meals and school necessities such as textbooks, leading to high increase of dropouts. There are more challenges such as lack of proper water systems, and even extreme challenges such as schools not having latrines.

I have always believed that there is no better way to create a proper future for Africa than wholeheartedly intervening and bringing forth better and innovative projects that can bring a lasting change in the Education system. I am glad that with Rotary through the “shape up a school” initiative this hope keeps going, it is very impressive to see clubs partnering with the government, schools, members of the community, students and the parents of students to bring the changes we need in the education system.

As I was editing this issue, I became so emotional and inspired with the articles by the Rotary Club of Dar es Salaam Bahari Beach, The Rotary Club of Moshi, The Rotaract club Dar es Salaam of Kwanza and The Interacts clubs of Dar es Salaam HOPAC & DIS. These clubs have and still are executing tremendous signature and hands-on projects in schools. Bravo D9214! I also want to appreciate all great articles that were not necessarily project based but were very educative on various aspects such as COVID 19 vaccine, Girl's empowerment and WASH.

This month's theme is “Basic Education and Literacy” and UBUNTU brings to you great content on this. Once again hats off to my partner in creativity; The Assistant Chief editor Rtn. Florence Malinga, The UBUNTU dream team of great writers, The D9214 Public Image team and the PRs for their valuable contribution.

Yours in service!

Diana Elinam

Editor in Chief

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Shekhar Mehta President 2021-2022



My Dear Changemakers,

I am sure you are having an enriching experience as you Serve to Change Lives. One of the ways you can make the greatest change in a person's life is to help them learn to read. Literacy opens up the world to us. It makes us better informed about life in our own communities and opens vistas to other cultures. Reading and writing connects people and gives us another way to express our love for one another.

September is Basic Education and Literacy Month in Rotary. Enhancing literacy skills is critical in our pursuit of reducing poverty, improving health, and promoting peace. In fact, if all students in low-income countries left school with basic reading skills, it would result in a significant cut in global poverty rates.

Without education, illiterate children become illiterate adults. Today, 14 percent of the world's adult population — 762 million people — lack basic reading and writing skills. Two-thirds of that group are women. Literacy and numeracy skills are essential to obtaining better housing, health care, and jobs over a lifetime.

Especially for girls and women, literacy can be a life-or-death issue. If all girls completed their primary education, there would be far fewer maternal deaths. And a child is more likely to survive past age 5 if he or she is born to a mother who can read. Improving outcomes for more people worldwide is possible only if countries remove barriers to education for girls. The economic argument for doing so is clear: In some countries where schooling is geared toward boys, the cost of

missed economic opportunity is more than \$1 billion per year.

Empowering people through education is among the boldest goals we have as Rotarians. We don't have to travel far from our homes to encounter those whose lives are being curtailed because they struggle with

reading, rely on others to read for them, or cannot write anything more than their own name.

Starting this month, consider how your club can Serve to Change Lives through literacy: Support local organizations that offer free programs to support adult literacy or local language learning, or that provide teachers with professional development centered around reading and writing. Become literacy mentors, or work with an organization like the Global Partnership for Education to increase learning opportunities for children around the world. Have conversations with local schools and libraries to see how your club can support their existing programs or help create needed ones in your community.

In India, the TEACH program, a successful collaboration between the country's Rotary clubs and its government, has demonstrated how to scale up literacy efforts to reach millions of children. And at a time when schools across India were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the program's e-learning component reached more than 100 million children through national television.

Literacy is the first step out of poverty. As Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai has noted, "One child, one teacher, one book, and one pen can change the world."

DG YOUNG KIMARO



DG's Note

within the first 24 hours has better overall retention. Therefore, parents should avoid sending children immediately after returning home from school to farm or to do household chores until dark.

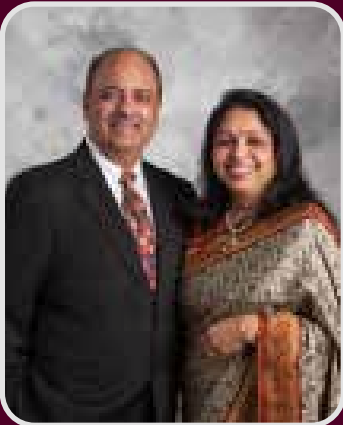
Make a game out of learning the alphabet and numbers. Did you know that children can master the alphabet and count up to 20 by the time they are two? Teach them through fun and games and shower praises whenever they are right. That helps to build positive self-image. Even for parents with limited education, teaching alphabets and numbers should not pose a problem. When school starts and the child finds herself ahead of others in class, she is likely to study harder not to lose her advantage.

Read to your child. From when? From the time the child's eyes can focus, recognize

objects and is able to sit upright on the lap. That reassuring and loving embrace and voice of a parent leave positive emotional imprint on the child's psyche, drawing the child to reading for life. Reading well, you know, is the foundation to good learning.

Nowadays there are so many colourful children's books to choose from at affordable prices. For families that still find it costly, form children's book clubs. In a group of ten, each parent purchases one different book. By sharing, their children will benefit from ten.

What if at every project which targets primary schools Rotarians speak to school parents about what they can do to uplift their children's education...? What if those parents spread the word to their relatives, friends and neighbours? What if?



RI PRESIDENT SHEKHAR MEHTA AND FIRST LADY RASHI'S VISIT.

They will arrive in Kampala on the 13th September and depart late on the 15th to visit D9213 and D9214. President Shekhar will meet with Uganda Government dignitaries, visit various Rotary project sites such as the Rotary Peace Centre at Makerere University, the Blood Bank, and the Cancer Centre. He will hold virtual meetings with Change Maker Presidents (13th), all Rotaractors (14th), and all Rotarians of D9213 and D9214 (15th). **Please all Change Maker Presidents and Rotarians of D9214 make special effort to attend the virtual meetings.** A note at the end of this Ubuntu explains the areas that RI President Shekhar is interested in.

THIS MONTH OF EDUCATION. In September we celebrate the difference we, Rotarians, have and are making to uplift education in our communities. We donate books, desks and chairs, and repair roofs. We construct buildings, build gender-sensitive toilets, provide piped water or rainwater facilities, support training for teachers, and provide computers. In this, parents and communities share. But when it comes to learning, the burden is mostly left to teachers. However, parents irrespective of their education, can make a big difference. Every education project should therefore include a component stressing this point.

Do not send children to school on empty stomachs. Many children, particularly in rural areas, skip breakfast because parents are tending to cows and goats. International studies show that children absorb their lessons 30-40% than when they hungry than when they have eaten.

The solution is quite easy. Some food can be cooked the night before and set aside for children's breakfast, and fruits are readily available.

FOODS THAT CAN BE SET ASIDE	
Cooked the night before	Uncooked
Boiled sweet potatoes	Ripe bananas
Potatoes	Avocados
Corn	Mango
Cassava	Papaya
Pumpkin	Oranges
Eggs	Passion fruit
Milk	Guava

30-60 minutes daily for after school study. It may work best to have a child study soon after returning home from school in a quiet setting before it gets dark, as 60% or more households in Uganda and Tanzania do not have electricity. Educators tell us that a child, who reviews the day's work at school



THE STATE OF EDUCATION – IN UGANDA AND TANZANIA

By Rotarian Julia Seifert

Education is the foundation of a well-informed and engaged citizen and ultimately society. The importance of Education has been recognized by the Sustainable Development Goal 4 which aims to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.” Hand in hand with this goal goes the Rotary Area of Focus “Basic education and literacy”, which aims, among other things, to remove barriers to girls’ education caused by cultural attitudes, safety concerns, and the need for girls to contribute to the household economy. Gender equality is vital to sustainable community development.

That said, in Tanzania and Uganda we are yet to achieve the outcomes listed under the indicators that compromise SDG4, in particular “The provision of 12 years of free, publicly-funded, inclusive, equitable, quality primary and secondary education – of which at least nine years are compulsory, leading to relevant learning outcomes – should be ensured for all, without discrimination.”

In Tanzania, as per the 2012 census the National Net Enrolment rate (measuring percentage of 7 to 13 years old in school) was at 76.8%, hence indicating a gap of slightly less than a quarter of eligible primary school children. Further, literacy levels for men were established at 83.4% whereby their female counterparts were at 73.3%.

In Uganda, World Bank data from 2018 reports an 83% literacy rate for male Ugandans while female Ugandans lack behind at 71%. Further, World Bank data from 2013 indicates a 95% net enrolment rate for primary age pupils.

The above presented statistics indicate a gender gap as well as the need for continuous adult education initiatives, as currently about a quarter of both Tanzanians and Ugandans are

excluded due to their inability to read and write in their respective national languages.

As Rotarians we need to build programs in the education sector that are aware of the above disparities, and we should give particular attention to the gap that exists between male and female students. Many female students, especially in rural communities in Tanzania and Uganda, are challenged by long distances to their schools, which have reportedly contributed to early childhood pregnancy. Further, they are challenged by increased household responsibilities which engage them for a great time out of their school time and hence decreases their ability to engage in both extracurricular activities as well as homework and additional reading.

Considering adult Tanzanians and Ugandans who are unable to read and write, we should reconsider the various means of communications we use to deliver our various programs, i.e. if we create a communication campaign for Polio we should consider that about a quarter of our population will not be able to read, hence radio and other audio-visual engagements become paramount. Secondly, we should derive more effort towards adequate adult education programs to avoid further exclusion of these illiterate population segments. Here, once again it remains paramount to understand the importance of considering the gender gap by providing special support to female attendees in the form of additional compensation to allow for the engagement of a house help or providing child support at the educational side.

Together, through well-crafted initiatives, we shall be able to close the gender gap in basic education and literacy and raise educational standards across Tanzania and Uganda as we deliver to SDG4 and the Rotary Area of Focus.



OFF-LINE DIGITAL LIBRARY FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Rtn. Maryline Mamuya (RC Iringa, CEO, Global Outreach Tanzania)

CMP Cynthia Asiyo (RC Moshi, Project Leader)

Late Anna Mghwira, the then Regional Commissioner of Kilimanjaro and her team observe students at the computer on the opening day at Karanga Secondary School computer lab

Imagine having a digital library where learning materials can be stored and accessed easily at all times, irrespective of connectivity. A mere dream in Africa? Guess what? RC Moshi's partnership with Global Outreach Tanzania enabled five schools in Moshi in Kilimanjaro region to turn this dream into reality.

For years, RC Moshi had dreamt of bridging the digital divide, to transform learning in government secondary schools. At last this year, with a Global Grant of US\$ 48,559, RC Moshi set out to transform five secondary schools in Northern Tanzania, with RC Venice Sunrise (USA) its International Partner, and a local NGO, Global Outreach Tanzania, which has extensive experience in designing educational software, promoting digital learning and providing technical support to more than a dozen schools in Tanzania.

The over-arching objective of the project is to improve educational outcomes for the students. Secondary school teachers are trained in Ms-word, Excel, Spreadsheets, Internet and e-mails. They are taught 21st century teaching methods to integrate technology into their teaching, to manage classes where all students are equipped with

tech devices. We hope our project will set new standards that when the Government plans to update its computer syllabus and teaching methods, W2K approach to teaching and learning could provide a good frame of reference.

Each school is provided 15-20 computers, depending on enrollment, a powerful server, a projector, a power stabilizer and router. Numerous programs are uploaded onto each computer, including a Windows to Learning (W2K) digital library - an offline software which is rich in educational materials for simulations, models, graphics, animations, quizzes, past national examination papers, e-notes, etc. It encourages research and self-learning. Students are also trained in good stewardship of the lab.

Window to Knowledge (W2K) is an offline software, a digital library rich in academic materials, designed by the Global Outreach Tanzania, an NGO in Iringa. Its aim is to increase children learning, and uplift their performance. It helps teachers prepare teaching materials. It provides unlimited access to learning materials without internet connectivity. It's by far cheaper than keeping a library, as we know it, well stocked and maintained.

The project includes 5 schools with about 2,500 students in total. Its digital library

supplements the few outdated and tattered textbooks in schools and improve the overall quality of education.

The project has students trained on computer basics to enable them to make use of the digital library. Each student learns at his/her own pace. Those who need extra time can do so, repeating exercises, testing with past exam papers until they have understood the subject matter. It enables them to catch up on what they hadn't understood well in class. Reactions to what the project has to offer has been positive.

"I feared computer is a complicated device that requires much time to learn. But, having gone through the training through this project, my fear has gone. Also, W2K software has enabled me to improve my English and problem-solving skills."

(A student at Karanga Secondary School.)

"W2K software is precisely what we needed. Reading habits of students have improved.



A student at Karanga Secondary School, Moshi explains the W2K programmes to the Project Leader, CP Cynthia Asiyo.

The challenge we now face is that once students get into the computer lab, they don't want to leave because W2K carries programmes such as story books, novels, encyclopedias, simulations and videos that are interesting and, yes, addictive."

(A school computer lab manager.)

COVID-19 pandemic makes it clear that schools need to undergo an extensive digital transformation if they are to meet the needs of the future. Unfortunately, though it has been years since Tanzania had declared ICT as a school subject, there still aren't enough computers in schools for hands-on learning to adequately equip them for the technology oriented future.

Rotary Club of Moshi plans to continue its partnership with the Global Outreach Team, and to expand the reach of Windows to Knowledge (W2K) digital library to schools in Kilimanjaro and beyond, to prepare them for the digital future which has already arrived at our doorstep.



Teachers trained at Kirima Secondary School, Moshi



Computer lab at Ewong'on Secondary School, Simanjiro

REFLECTIONS OF A TEACHER AND MOTHER ON THE EFFECT OF COVID 19 ON EDUCATION



By Rtn Maria Namigadde Mpagi
RC Kisugu Victoria View.
Teacher of French,
Rainbow International School Uganda

As we all know, Covid-19 has impacted the world in so many aspects. But of all these changes, one of them has affected almost everyone on Earth – school closure. No matter where you are on planet Earth, from the unbearable heat of the Outback in Australia to the lush green landscape of Uganda, you have felt the unmistakable change in the way children are studying today.

No one foresaw this! There were theories about what the future would be like; robots, cyborgs and smart living rooms; but this was never predicted – school going children studying online.

Now students and teachers' main pieces of equipment are laptops, phones, tablets and routers. Children studying at home and having exposure to the internet means that they run a risk of not being focused enough, cyber-bullying and exposure to inappropriate online content. Also, while in school, they are obliged to get into their lessons on time and settle down, which expectation is a fallacy when they are at home.

Parents have had to either stay at home and supervise their children or get a responsible adult to do it on their behalf. Imagine making this sacrifice when they have their own jobs to attend to! Oh, how stressful! Not forgetting the daily data purchases!

A mother and teacher working from home, doing her best to manage expectations, both from her job and from her family. Teachers and parents have had to adapt and learn multitasking skills.

Teachers have not been spared in this quagmire. During teacher training, what they learnt was how to teach “actual” children in an “actual” classroom. Imagine their horror when they now had to interface with machines, deal with an unstable internet connection and keep addressing virtual children – “Switch on your mic”, “Mute yourself”, “Are you still there?”

Resilience and adaptability – the key skills needed by all ... students, teachers and parents ... if we are to wade these fuzzy waters referred to as the “new normal”



EDUCATION ON COVID 19 VACCINES



Rtn. Ruth Namutebi
Public Image Director
Rotary Club of Kisugu-Victoria View

Due to lack of knowledge very few people knew the effect of the Covid-19 vaccines but through Print media, Radio and TV adverts, and training by the Ministry of Health officials the public gradually got to learn more about it.

Many people were able to learn that COVID-19 vaccines help keep us from getting seriously ill even if we do get the virus. Once we get vaccinated, we may also protect people around us, particularly those at increased risk of severe illness from the virus.

Due to the negative publicity there was hesitancy in the turn up for vaccines hence an increase in numbers of people contracting Covid-19. The Ministry endeavored to educate the public about the side effects which come with this vaccine like low grade fever or redness at the injection site, muscle aches which can be signs that the body's immune system is responding to the vaccine.

So many people decided to stay home because of all this and missed out on the chance to be vaccinated on time. By the time some people decided to wake up it was already late as the Ministry had directed that the available vaccines were meant for those going for the second shot. A good number of people are yet to get their first jab for this reason hence the frustration because of lack of vaccines.

I know of a good number of friends who were affected by Covid-19 because they were not vaccinated. They ended up in ICU because their bodies were not ready to prevent the virus. They listened to the wrong stories and people who did not have the right knowledge about vaccination. Luckily, they all came out well and they are okay.

Based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Covid-19 can lead to mental complications such as agitation and stroke. It is also important to note that although all age groups are at risk of contracting COVID-19, older people face significant risk of developing severe illness if they contract the disease due to physiological changes that come with ageing and potential underlying health conditions.

People may fear the side effects but it is important to accept these vaccines as a key challenge in defeating the coronavirus pandemic both now and in the future. Let us get out of our comfort zones and walk to the Healthy facilities and do the needful before it is too late.

The Government also has a role to talk openly about all aspects of the vaccines including side effects.

MTAKUJA SECONDARY SCHOOL RESTORATION PROJECT

UBUNTU writer Rtn. Julia Seifert held an Interview with the project manager of The Rotary Club of Bahari Beach Rtn. Murtaza Versi to learn more on their successful signature Project. Their Project is what one would point out to be a textbook example of sustainable project implementation for Rotary and beyond.

By Rtn. Julia Seifert

Rtn. Julia Seifert: What drove you to start the project at Mtakuja Secondary School?

Rtn. Murtaza Versi: The school is located at Kunduchi Beach, in the direct vicinity of our club's area of work. It is a government secondary school, accommodating 39 teachers and 1300 students.

Initially the club deployed various smaller projects, which resulted in the establishment of a laboratory; Three years ago, under Past President Hitesh Tana (Rotary Year 2019-2020) and then the club made a decision to make Mtakuja the club's signatory project for the next 5 years.

Rtn. Julia Seifert: After identifying it as your signature project, what were your next steps?

Rtn. Murtaza Versi: We conducted a needs assessment which presented that the school is facing various challenges, such as poor and insufficient sanitary facilities, inability to provide necessary printing of materials, outdated staff rooms as well as challenges in school feeding and various equipment needed for various subjects.

This was followed by the development of a detailed project plan, focusing on three of Rotary's Areas of Focus; mainly Water and sanitation, Basic education and literacy and Economic and community development.

For now we are looking into the renovation of

classrooms, improved ICT infrastructure as well as summer school STEM education are anticipated.

All activities are implemented with the aim of transforming the learning environment to make it more conducive for both teachers and students and hence positively impact on learning outcomes.

Rtn. Julia Seifert: What has been implemented till date?

Rtn. Murtaza Versi: Since the project has been declared our signature project Past President Hitesh (2019-2020), Immediate Past President Fred Laiser (2020-2021) and now current President Diamond Carvalho (2021-2022) have been able to mobilize the club and completed the new toilet block for 20 students, new water supply and drainage connection, water tank, septic tank and soak pit, chain link fence and water for existing student labs all to the tune of TZS 130m.

Further, we have established an Interact club that will be engaged throughout all onward projects.

Rtn. Julia Seifert: What are the next upcoming activities?

Rtn. Murtaza Versi: We will do soft skill education on health and sanitation issues, to link soft skills with structural projects that have been deployed so far. Further, we are planning an project that focuses intentionally



on the girl child, to deploy an effective initiative we have collaborated with the Roteractors from UDSM to undertake a need analysis.

Further we anticipate building a new block wall, boundary wall [TZS 60m], around the newly allocated land that was given by the municipality. We also want to renovate the existing boys and girls toilet block [TZS 75m], the drinking water shed [TZS 30m], renovate the laboratories [TZS 25m], and lastly renovate the classrooms [TZS 240m].

Rtn. Julia Seifert: Looking back on all that has been achieved so far, would you term the project as a success?

Rtn. Murtaza Versi: Yes, we already see that the project has gained traction with the parents, school management, school board as well as the local community. We are even more excited to know that the local government wants to take the toilet plans designed for Mtakuja and utilize them as a model for other schools.

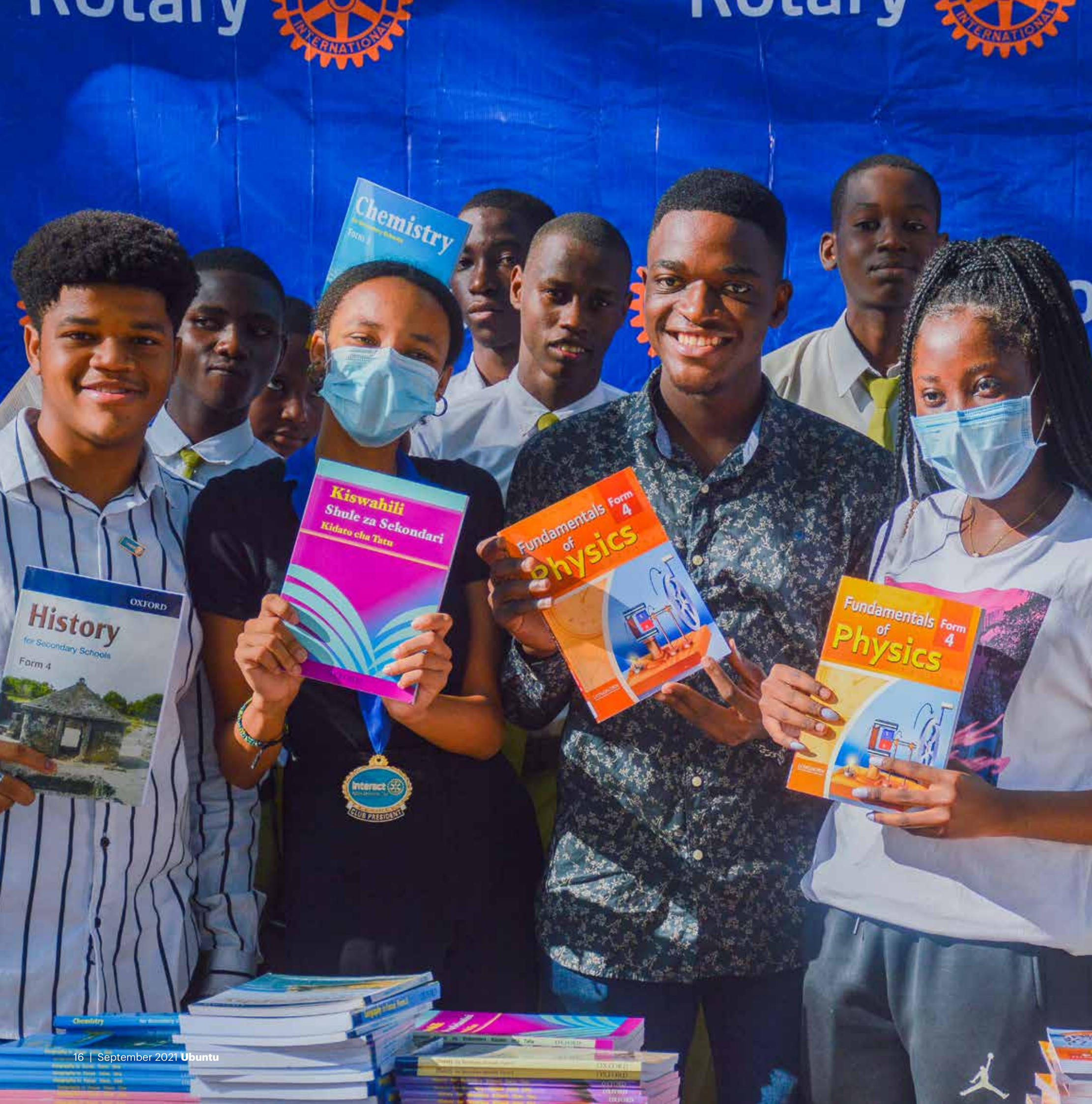
Rtn. Julia Seifert: It is amazing how you have conceptualized, planned and implemented this project so far. What made this project a success?

Rtn. Murtaza Versi: From early on we have engaged both the Parents as well as the school board and management; this has shown immense effects in regard to sustainability and acceptance. They have among other things been instrumental in obtaining all necessary permission from local authorities and ensuring smooth project implementation. To keep them continuously engaged we now hold period student, teacher and parental reviews.

Secondly, the initial needs assessment has been paramount, so that we were able to understand the context better and design more meaningful interventions.

Thirdly, we have linked structural with soft projects to maximize our impact and ensure sustainability. During this process we are now working in tight collaboration with the newly formed Interact club and the scouts at the school.

Lastly, the decision to make this project our signature project made us focus and determined to allocate all our resources, in terms of time, money and human resource towards a common goal.



PROVIDING TEXT BOOKS TO SUPPORT MTAKUJA SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS



By Gibson Bonaventure Katuma

*Immediate Past President
Interacts Club of HOPAC Dar es Salaam
Sponsored by RC of Dar Mikocheni.*

EBy Gibson Bonaventure Katuma

*Immediate Past President
Interacts Club of HOPAC Dar es Salaam
Sponsored by RC of Dar Mikocheni.*

P2020-2021 hasn't been an easy year on so many fronts; but there has never been a better time to serve others than this. In partnership with DIS interact club, HOPAC interact club pledged to support Mtakuja secondary school by providing textbooks to aid the students there.

This project looked smooth on paper; but with the challenge of the pandemic, its execution was much more complicated.

Things did not always go as planned, and there were moments where we felt like there was no light at the end of the tunnel. However, credit to both club members with the leadership in place, improvisation, dedication and perseverance are what led to this project being a success.

All these challenges proved to be worth it after seeing the smiles on both the teachers and students when we delivered the textbooks. They looked like faces with renewed hope, faces full of delight, and faces that are grateful. These faces will forever remain in my mind. Reminding me of the power that service has and how fulfilling it is. And more importantly, motivate me to choose to help others always; no matter how little our help might seem, the impact might be massive enough to move minds and hearts.



ACCESSIBILITY TO STEM EDUCATION FOR ALL

By Suzan Temba

A truly facilitating community is one in which STEM education and activities are accessible to all people.

STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. The skills gained from STEM education extend beyond those needed to be successful in today's world. STEM education fosters creativity and divergent thinking alongside fundamental disciplines, it motivates and inspires young professionals to generate new technologies and ideas through innovations, and it focuses on practice and innovation which enables students to get to learn through practice.

Every young person of all gender despite their economic, cultural, or social backgrounds has a right to STEM education. However, perspective barriers within the community and lack of STEM role models are widely recognized as contributors to many young people especially girls not participating in STEM activities.

Despite the Tanzanian government's efforts to ensure that there is an increase in the participation of girls in science-related fields and strategies including building science-based schools special for girls, the number of young females in STEM is still not satisfying.

Possible reasons for this could be; Lack of awareness about STEM activities, overwhelming judgment faced by young females aspiring to STEM careers, lack of support from the community and or immediate family due to various cultural stereotypes, difficult work environments for women in STEM sectors i.e. engineering where mostly manpower is required. (No simplified tools/types of equipment that will enable both genders to do the work at ease) and lack of female representatives who could act as a source of inspiration to others especially young girls

The Rotaract club of Kwanza is aiming at increasing the participation of young

women in STEM. We envision a future of STEM inclusion, one in which STEM activities are accessible to all young people of both genders, most specifically young females.

How do we achieve that? Through students mentorship programs that we are planning with different schools, working in collaboration with STEM aspiring organizations to spread the good news.

On that, we are organizing an Inspire STEM Walkathon to be held later this year.

This will be a movement to challenge individual and society perspectives on STEM careers for young females. The campaign aims to promote STEM education to young people especially girls who have been lagging behind STEM activities.

This walkathon also aims to fight the stereotypes and judgment towards women in STEM fields and it can also serve as a starting point on forming a STEM network amongst young people and a getaway to other STEM activities.

The walkathon will involve various STEM stakeholders in the country who will showcase what they are doing in promoting STEM to young people and also inform girls on opportunities available to motivate them.

Through this, we aim to raise 10 million Tanzanian Shillings to be directed to the establishment of STEM clubs in designated schools and also equipping these clubs with the necessities for functioning.

We welcome donations, partnerships, and sponsorships in making this walkathon a huge success.

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RTN. AMIR SOMJI



Past District Governor (District 9200: 1994 - 95)

Happy 50th Rotary anniversary PDG. Amir



By President Samantha Button
(Rotary Club of Arusha)

In our third edition of UBUNTU talks with Rtn. Hamza Kasongo, we get to learn more about the man of the moment himself: PDG Amir Somji who in the interview shares his journey as he reflects on Rotary 50 years ago and today. Before he begins the interview, PDG

Amir asks to dedicate this interview to his late wife to whom he was married to for the past 52 years until she passed on the 15th of December 2015.

Rtn. Hamza: Welcome to the UBUNTU chats with Hamza, PDG Amir. On the 11th of August this year you celebrated 50 years of service in Rotary. Take your mind back to 1971 when you joined. How was the Rotary Club then?

PDG Amir: Rotary then was a strong club. I was invited to join by a man called Mr. MD Kirmali. I visited the club 3 times, and my sponsor requested that I become a member. The president of the club then was Reverend Taylor.

Rtn. Hamza: These days one of the problems is membership retention inspired you stay on for 50 years?

PDG Amir: Let me tell you this Hamza, I'm a very disciplined man because I played sports and I captained many events. I decided that I will keep those two hours for Rotary every Wednesday and I enjoyed that. There was a time I missed 3 meetings consecutively and I received a letter from the president - please tell us why we should not take your name out because you missed the 3 meetings. Fortunately, I had a very good reason - I had been to KCMC, I was about to go for my hajj. In those days they were very strict, if you did not attend 3 consecutive meetings you were told thank you very much you are not a member anymore. But also, our meetings were very conducive for anybody to come there because they were fun but at the same time there was seriousness, and also, we had good speakers.

Rtn. Hamza: Does this mean having fun and the presence of good speakers made the club quite buoyant?

PDG Amir: Yes, I quite agree. Because when new Rotarians join and they don't understand what is happening for instance when we only talk about projects, they tend to get bored and they leave. I would say if any Rotarian leaves us the fault is ours, because we did not nurture them well.

Rtn. Hamza: So if that is the case Amir, how was your introduction and retention into Rotary when you were a new member and what are we doing wrong now, not necessarily in Rotary Club of Arusha. As PDG you visited many clubs too, even now when you are not a governor.

PDG Amir: I still tell my club and they agree with me - if it is all business and no fun, we will lose members. Fortunately for us in Arusha there are a cross section of people - there are professionals and there are non-professionals. But I think when they come to our club, they find it very interesting and so they stay behind.

Let me take you to other clubs - I once went to a meeting in Dar es Salaam - and by the way it happened to be your club - they had no speaker and asked me to speak. I asked them 'What is the subject', they said we don't get good attendance, we'd like you to talk about that.

I said this is the wrong attendance as these are the people attending - but anyway - unless you nurture your members, unless you look after them, remember them when they are absent and tell them we missed them, and things like that, we shall lose them. We used to do that, in our club. The people are very busy, the youngsters have to earn a living, they probably have families to look after. But - but - it can be done!

Rtn. Hamza: It was not an easy adjustment for women to join Rotary. In the US this led to a court case. How did you receive the introduction of women into the club, and how do you find it now that you have a woman president in your club: President Samantha?

PDG Amir: I think it was 1987 when women were allowed to join us. I thought - this is never going to work out - in my mind, I never told anybody but I thought so. I had a habit of telling jokes that were under the belt - I thought what would happen if women would come into Rotary. I later found out they really enjoyed those jokes also.

Women have been a blessing to Rotary. And I always say - women deliver babies already, so why can't they deliver here? You give them a project, and I can assure you it will be completed successfully. And I think now if they said no women in the club, I would ask for an exemption in the attendance. I enjoy being there. In my club the women are going to outrun the men any time now - the women will be in the majority. I have some of the finest women I think in my Rotary Club - we have the

5th consecutive lady president at the moment and now we are having difficulties to find a President Elect, that is why we had to ask somebody to become one.

Rtn. Hamza: At present, certain clubs in Tanzania particularly face an acute shortage of Rotarians who want to become presidents. In fact, in many clubs, Rotarians have got to be cajoled to become the president. Why do you think this is and what was the situation when you became the president?

PDG Amir: I became president in 1982 - 83, I had competition then, there was someone else standing. My friends had to canvas for me to become the president. There was competition then and practically every year. To come to your question - why do we have to cajole people to become presidents? I have difficulty in saying exactly what is happening, but maybe they are too busy, maybe there is too much work to be a president. I would fail to give a proper response to this.

Rtn. Hamza: So, is there anything we can do? At that time, we were busy in our own style, but now they are now in their own style. You and I are analog, these fellows are digital. What can we do to make people become leaders of their communities, through our clubs?

PDG Amir: Put them on the ladder. - to serve as secretary, as treasurer, as board members. Unless they do that and they feel they are getting it higher up, we will struggle to find leaders. But then - I say some leaders are born, some leaders have leadership thrust onto them. Some who you think are not leaders go on to become fantastic leaders in Rotary. We shall have to take it that way, make our meetings very interesting, because if we don't do that, we will fail in our goal to have more and more members.

Rtn. Hamza: As the president in the 1980s, of course the needs were much more than now. Of the projects that you undertook, can you name 2 - 3 projects that are still dear to your heart?

PDG Amir: Let me take you back to before I became a president of the club, a lady from Makumira which is not far, just before Usa River, was crawling and could not stand up to use crutches because she needed an operation. A missionary came and told us what was required - 20 thousand shillings to be taken to KCMC to be operated on to enable her to walk. President said we would let her know through Amir.

I said, why can't you do this, I was told - we don't have money. Realize that 21,000 TZS in those days - divided by 7 - was 3000 US\$. I stood up and said, we are all Rotarians, what can we do to make this number. I sent a card to everyone to contribute what they wanted, and, it came to about 19,000 TZS, I raised the rest and gave it to the lady. In the meeting later I was criticized, who gave me permission. Rightfully, I apologized, I said I should have done it privately. But - 6 months later that same lady came to speak to us, she showed us a picture of the lady who was crawling - and another picture of crutches and walking. That gave me a lot of satisfaction and it is one project I will never forget.

PDG Amir: The second is the 3H project - during that time we didn't have these Global Grants, we had matching grants. There was a special grant for 3 H -- Humanity, Hunger and Health. In 1991 with the help of Mama Kuku Faye Cran, we applied through an international club and were given a grant of \$434,000.

This was to provide a place for the lepers who came to live in Arusha. We bought a plot in Usa, a place called Maji ya Chai. We put electricity and water there, then we built a place for the lepers, after which we built a school and a lot of things. After 5 years we handed over to some nuns - there is a fishpond cattle and kukus. Mama Kuku did a fantastic job with this, But I was part of it too because I wrote to my Past District Governors in 1995, requesting for help. Again, I was criticized for going outside, but anyway, on 1st May 1995, it was a holiday of course, we walked a golf cart from Arusha to Kili airport. By the end of it the Arusha club had collected \$75,000. That project is there and sometimes we still take visitors there. The real leader to see it was done was Mama Kuku - Faye Cran.

Rtn. Hamza: What would you advise young Rotarians regarding attending or not attending the coming DCA? If they do, what will they get out of it?

PDG Amir: This is a platform where people meet, and they make friends. And it is an absolutely fantastic thing, it gives you time, it is not all business, there is also pleasure out of it. For instance, the DG's cocktail functions and many other evening functions where you meet.

Rtn. Hamza: What do you have to tell Samantha with regards to getting more women into Rotary?

PDG Amir: Samantha is a very professional person, in fact before we finish the interview, I'd like her to speak also. Not necessarily about me, about her own club, how she found it, how we are doing it. I think we are equal at the moment, men and women, there is a lady coming in 2 - 3 weeks and there will be more females. I don't have to tell her anything, she is good, and she knows exactly what she does. But before you go to her - before you end the interview with me, I will also tell you my scariest moment in life, in Rotary

Rtn. Hamza: What is your scariest and most horrible experience you remember in your 50 years in Rotary?

PDG Amir: I was District Governor, in 1994 when I went to Madagascar, I was at a hotel; I would be collected every day at 9 o'clock and on the dot, they were particular about it. I was in Antananarivo, the capital of Madagascar. One day I needed some money, there was a bank under the hotel. For \$50 you got a lot of Malagasy money, Malagasy Francs. And so I went with my jacket, as a District Governor, and I went to the teller and I gave her a \$50 note, and asked her for Mlagasey money, they usually deal in French Francs. She went inside, came with another lady and they looked at me and both of them went inside, a man came with those two ladies and they said 'sorry sir, but the note you have given us is fake'. And my heart skipped a beat, I am sure. I said "my God, what am I doing?

They said 'this note does not say at the back 'in God we trust'. I looked at it and said it was true. And I took out some other notes which I had taken from the bank. In 1993 you were not allowed to open a USD account, but because my money was coming from Rotary International, I could have a USD account. So, I looked at another one and it said 'In God we trust'. I said 'can I give you another note', and they said why not. Oh, I said 'my God, I gave them another note and they came with the money. I forgot about it but I was scared - what if they had put me in jail and there was news "District Governor, across international borders... ".

But that is not the end of the story - I went to the bank, I told them 'You gave this to me but it's not right - they took it very quickly back and gave me another 50 dollars note, and I was told by a banker after about 2 years that the note was worth about \$2000" as it was antique.

Rtn. Hamza: I will conclude before I ask

Samantha to speak. Your friends call you Kipara and Fupi. You accept Kipara and not Fupi. Why

PDG Amir: Because I am not as fupi as you think! But let me tell you something, in my time if your name started with A, you became a governor. Andy Chande. Amu Shah. Abdul Sanji. Amir Somji. Amin Merali. and so on. There was a time when all the Fupis were presidents, and I was not there, they were mostly from Uganda. And the late Hatim was there (may he rest in peace)

Later the time came for bouncers. The Bigger people, Harish was one of them. I'm not Fupi, I'm Kipara.

Rtn. Hamza: What are your concluding remarks?

PDG Amir: I first tell Sharmilla to put Samantha on the DCA, she will be the host president during that time. I would like to thank Samantha for organizing this interview.

Rtn. Hamza: President Samantha, please could you conclude our program.

CMP Samantha: Thank you so much Hamza for carrying out this interview for PDG Amir. It has been a pleasure to listen. Amir, you wanted me to talk about Rotary - it has been such a wonderful moment in my life.

I'd heard about Rotary for a long time, Rotaract at university, at school Interact. I have had the opportunity to learn from people like Amir, as he mentioned we have people of so many different professions, ages, nationalities, and both genders.

In terms of professional learning, it has been enormous. I really care so much about giving back. It is such a big and important thing for me, Rotary is the perfect platform where you can connect needs and resources - both in terms of professional resources, money, skills, time, and heart. So, Rotary has been such a wonderful experience in my life, and I really value it. Those few hours on a Wednesday are often the highlight of my week. Amir challenged me, when I congratulated him on Wednesday, on the 11th of August, on his 50 years in Rotary, he challenged me to strive to achieve the same. (Will you). I will try my best, I would like to - God willing, and my health allows - I would like to be in Rotary for the rest of my life.

EMPOWERING GIRLS IN D9214

By Rtn. Susan Ssamula
Assistant Ambassador
Empowerment Girls Team

INTRODUCTION:

Empowering of Girls is one of RI President Shekhar Mehta's initiatives this Rotary year 2021/2022 focusing on club level projects to create change in the lives of our girls. In D9214, District Governor Young Kimaro has taken this on and it is one of the programs that we are running. It is aimed at helping girls 18 years and below to have access to education, better health care, more employment opportunities and equality.

In Uganda currently, I am working on our concept with Rtn Doreen Busingye, RC Kyengera and Rtr Prudence Asobola, Rct Muyenga Breeze. The Tanzanian team is led by Assistant Ambassador Rtn Aisha Sykes.

PROBLEM:

Girls today are faced with poverty, HIV and AIDS, early marriage, teenage pregnancy, Gender-Based Violence, Female Genital Mutilation and low participation in secondary education among others. As a result, they lose their self-esteem and this makes it difficult for them to realize their full potential.

INTERVENTION BY THE ROTARY / ROTARACT CLUBS:

A lot can be done to ensure that we empower young girls both in and out of school. Some Clubs have already started on the interventions by implementing these projects. Interventions cover all Rotary areas of focus and below are some examples:

1. Community and Economic Development Mentoring, Advocacy and Skilling where mentors are identified, Schools and Institutions are convinced to take on girls to enable them attain financial independence in areas like financial literacy, savings culture and sanitary pads making among others.
2. Basic education and literacy Keep girls in school campaign. Clubs are encouraged to sponsor at least five

girls for primary, secondary, tertiary and technical education.

3. Maternal and Child Health Early prevention and treatment services focused on teenage pregnancies.
4. Disease Prevention and treatment Promote HPV immunization, a young girl's vaccine to prevent cervical cancer. There is need to sensitise our communities so that they can have more girls take this on. Clubs can approach Government medical centres and partner with them.
5. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Construction of toilets which are gender sensitive and proportional to the school population, incinerators, boreholes and sanitary pads disposal systems in schools and communities.
6. Environment Natural resources management practices put in place like teaching the girls to make bricks and power saving cooking stoves.

The girls together with their families can be taught how to sort waste at home and encourage their communities to do the same. The other waste is sold off for recycling while the biodegradable is turned into manure. The manure is used to grow vegetables among others in gardens or containers. The environment is protected, nutrition at home is improved while some income is earned from sale of scrap and also extra food grown.

7. Peace Building & Conflict Prevention Provide Rehabilitative services in our communities for victims of domestic violence and engagement in peace building processes.

MOBILISATION AND SUSTAINABILITY:

Mobilisation will be done by the Community leaders including Youth Council leaders and to ensure continuity, projects have to be sustainable.

PARTNERSHIPS:

Will be with organisations already working on the empowerment of girls' projects.

These include RFEW (Rotary Fellowship for Empowering Women), Rotary Vijana Poa, ROLI (Rotaract Ladies Initiatives), Commercial Banks, Mothers' Union and others.

IMPLEMENTATION:

The National Committee will support Clubs and cover all the functions of reporting, coordinating, mobilization, sensitization, publicity, Monitoring and Evaluation of the entire project on behalf of the District.

All Clubs will be required to nominate Empowerment of Girls Officers under the Director Service Projects who will help in the implementation and be the link between the National Committee and the Club.

Clubs are encouraged to address the problems faced by our young girls today, create a lot of awareness about the Empower Girls project, and broadcast successful stories on Rotary showcases and other media channels. M&E will be done progressively throughout the period to check progress and measure the impact of the project.

AWARDS:

At the DCA in Arusha, Clubs which go an extra mile will be recognized.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

We will among others have better quality girls, better educated, regain their self-esteem, enjoy their rights and lead to economic betterment of our nation.

THE CALL:

We are going to take stock of what is happening in clubs, we request for cooperation from the entire District Leadership, Club Leadership, Rotarians and Rotaractors. Together, we can do this.

Clubs are requested to forward names of the Empowerment of Girls officers as soon as possible.

D9214 – Uganda.
0772 503296/0702 503296
susynaks@yahoo.com



BURHANI SCHOOL VOCATIONAL PROJECT

By AG Shrooti Asher

BURHANI PRIMARY SCHOOL AND BURHANI SECONDARY SCHOOL, are both Private schools managed by TANGA BOHRA EDUCATION SOCIETY here in Tanga.

On Friday, 30th July 2021, the members of the Rotary Club of Tanga Central visited the Burhani School for a seminar for the Students of Class 6 and Form 1 on the overview of the "INTERACT CLUB".

President Fatema and Rtn. Shrooti gave a wonderful and informative presentation to the students enlightening them about Rotary and the Interact Club. The 100 (approx.) students and 3 teachers who attended the seminar were very anxious and delighted to know about all the good work that the Interactors do across the Globe.

In order to bring out the leadership skills in them, the club members also arranged some leadership games to play with the students which was fun. The main motive of conducting the seminar was to encourage the students to form a new INTERACT CLUB in the school and step into the world of "SERVICE ABOVE SELF". We also received a very good response from the teachers who were very supportive in encouraging the students, ON OUR MOTTO for the youth to SERVE the community.



ROTARY CLUB OF TANGA CENTRAL
President 2021/22

**OUR MESSAGE TO CHILDREN:
GET READY TO BE LEADERS FOR TOMORROW,
SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES"**

MIKANJUNI SECONDARY SCHOOL VOCATIONAL PROJECT

By CMP Fatema Mamujee

RC Tanga Central

On Rotary International focus for the Year 2021/22; RI President, Shekhar Mehta calls on empowering girls, hereby sharing our story. "TUWAWEZESHE WASICHANA"

RC Tanga Central, in collaboration with facilitators from Community Volunteer Services TZ, on 6th August 2021 presented an Educative Presentation on MHM, Menstrual Health Management And Sexuality Education AT Mikanjuni Secondary School which has 1649 plus students, out of which 864 are Girls.

Demonstrations on how to use the menstruation kit had also been shown to them. The 800 plus girls that were present there were very keen to learn about menstrual hygiene and were spontaneously taking part in the discussion as well. The CLUB gave donations for 200 packs of Reusable Sanitary pads.

As a club our message to our girls was: "WASICHANA na Wanawake ni Nguzo ya Maendeleo, hivyo Basi"



Our Future plans are: In order to make our Project Sustainable we have planned to teach them the skills of making their own reusable sanitary pads. Furthermore with this we will also ensure that they become capable of generating their own revenue with the skill provided.



D9214 GIVES BIRTH TO THE ROTARY FELLOWSHIP FOR EMPOWERING WOMEN



Julie Kamuzze-Musoke
Director, Pr & Publicity

"Childbirth is more admirable than conquest, more amazing than self-defense, and as courageous as either one." These words by renowned Feminist Gloria Marie Steinem resonate and bring as much joy to the new mothers in D9214 after

the birth of a new child; The Rotary Fellowship for Empowering Women (Rfew).

The Fellowship was born out of the Rotary Roses, a brain child of IPDG Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga, whose objective as the Governor of Rotary District 9211, was to grow and groom female leaders in Rotary and to highlight the role of women in community service.

The Fellowship brings together like-minded people with a passion of empowering girls and women to take action to lead and thrive in their professions, businesses and personal lives while creating a lasting change in our communities. Our membership is open to both male and female Rotarians, Rotaractors and non-Rotarians with a passion of empowering women throughout the world.

"We are proudly known as ROSES because of our diversity in gender, age, professions, ethnicity, interests and skills. What brings us together is our love for empowering women through our gender related service activities, sharing ideas and knowledge as well as celebrating our sisterhood."

Each Rose color identifies our membership as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| a. Blue Roses | Male |
| b. White Roses | Female Rotarians |
| c. Yellow Roses | Non-Female Rotarians |
| d. Pink Roses | Rotaractors |
| e. Orange Roses | Females from other service organisations e.g. Inner wheel, Lions Club |
| f. Green | Corporate sponsors |

Our Vision: A future where girls and women lead and thrive.

Our mission: Empowering women to lead change within themselves and in the communities.

Objectives of RFEW:

- Widen our membership base
- Create visibility through service projects
- Leadership and personal development
- Celebrating sisterhood

Core Values of RFEW:

1. Leadership

We are individual leaders in our fields of work. We believe in the importance of leadership and the personal development of our members.

2. Service

We are members of action; committed and passionate about changing lives in our communities through service. We believe that our service activities and programs bring about greater world understanding and peace.

3. Diversity

We believe in the object of Rotary that unifies all people internationally behind the ideal of service. We are diverse in vocations, age, ethnicity and gender.

4. Fellowship

We are a global fellowship who believe that individual efforts focus on individual needs but confined efforts serve humanity. The power of combined efforts and passion knows no limitations, multiplies resources and broadens our lives and perspectives.

5. Relationships

Relationships are about recognizing and celebrating our achievements. Through our sisterhood, we establish healthy, positive business relationships with colleagues, partners, associates, and any other entity that directly or indirectly contributes to the success of our fellowship. We foster friendships, camaraderie, valuable professional networks and treat others with respect.

Membership

Our membership is globally represented and constitutes Rotarians, Rotaractors and Non-Rotarians both male and female who have a shared passion of giving back to our communities through service and grooming women and the youth to become better leaders of tomorrow. Our annual membership fee is US\$30.



Rotary Fellowship for
Empowering Women



OUR VISION

A future where girls and women lead and thrive.

OUR MISSION

Empowering women to lead change within themselves and in the communities.

OUR MISSION

1

Widen our
membership
base.

2

Create visibility
through service
projects.

3

Leadership
and personal
development.

4

Celebrating
sisterhood.

Visit our website: www.rotaryempoweringwomen.org



@rfewofficial



@rfewofficial

A COLLABORATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: ROTARY CLUB OF ARUSHA MOUNT MERU

By PP Catherineroose Barreto & PAG Edgar Muganwa

The success of any project depends largely on how well you are able to engage your community. Community members and stakeholder input can help shape your project vision, ensure you are responding to community needs, and help you to build support for your ideas. The community you are working in should be involved from a very early stage; this will help you to form lasting relationships with community members, which in turn will ensure project success and sustainability. Collaboration and engaging communities in developing projects is an integral part of creating sustainable projects that have impact.

Over the past 5 years, the Rotary Club of Arusha Mount Meru has been perfecting a model for community projects that brings together partners and community members who are directly involved in the design, implementation and sustainability of the project.

As one of her first duties as club President Roselyn Kwenda led members from the Rotary club of Arusha Mount Meru, and members of the community to a Project visit at the Women's Empowerment Project at St Magdalene Canossa in Njiro Arusha.

The Economic and community development project which is currently in its fifth year is a partnership between the local community, St Magdalene Canossa training centre in

Arusha, and the Rotary clubs of Arusha Mount Meru and Rotary club of Boras Viskan Sweden. The training centre provides one year tertiary training for teenage girls, the majority of whom are unable to complete school. The girls are trained in knitting, soap making and baking. Upon completing the program, each graduate receives 50% funding towards a sewing machine as start up capital on her entrepreneurial journey. Recognising that ownership at a community level is also important, students in the program are encouraged to raise 50% of the cost towards their sewing machine.

To encourage the centre to become independent, a commercial knitting machine has been purchased, again with funds mobilized using the three way partnership model of the community, training centre, and Rotary. This transition will see the centre and trainees commercially knit and market school outfits, with the target market being primary and secondary schools in the Arusha area.

As the local club has established a strong M&E capacity, the alumni from the previous years will be instrumental in shaping the programming for the next three years. The success stories, and not so successful stories will all feed into this partnership strategy. To ensure that alumni and the community are an integral part of the development of further programming alongside Sister Stella Anna Rweyemamu, alumni have become advisors for the project.

With the fifth annual graduation scheduled for November 2021, preparations are already underway to celebrate this landmark occasion. Rotarians are pre-ordering shirts, dresses, and blouses made by the students that will be worn for graduations. With graduates in the past having sewn their own graduation gowns, Rotarians are simply playing catch up!

Interested in supporting the training center or attending graduation? Drop an email to RC Arusha Mount Meru rcamm2002@gmail.com



SUPPORT TO BUTABIKA MENTAL HOSPITAL, KAMPALA UGANDA



By CMP Prof Augustus Nuwagaba:
Rotary Club of Muyenga

On July 01, 2021, the Rotary Club of Muyenga together with Rotary Club of Butabika Royals donated 10 Water Tanks to Butabika Mental Health Hospital in Kampala. The donation was handed to the Hospital administration by President Prof Augustus Nuwagaba, of Rotary Club of Muyenga. Speaking at the handover ceremony, President Nuwagaba reiterated that Rotary is a movement of people who SERVE ABOVE SELF. He said that Rotary comprises about 1.7 million people worldwide and that what they do best is to provide service to humanity. He emphasized that all of us as Ugandans have a responsibility to contribute to prevention of the spread of COVID-19 pandemic. He thanked Butabika Hospital administration for the service the Hospital provides to the country. Dr Brian Mutamma, a Consultant Psychiatrist extended their appreciation to Rotary Club of Muyenga and the Rotary Club of Butabika Royals for the good gesture. He said that many people do not want to associate with Butabika Hospital not knowing that we are all potential candidates for the Hospital. He thanked Rotary for the big heart of serving the community, particularly the vulnerable.



RI PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT SHEKHAR AND RASHI'S VISIT TO DISTRICTS 9213 AND 9214

13TH - 15TH OF SEPTEMBER, 2021-22

President Shekhar will hold three virtual meetings with:

1. Rotaractors
2. Change Maker Presidents of the two Districts
3. All Rotarians of the two Districts

The focus of RI President Shekhar's interest is on

1. Membership growth
2. Empowering girls, and
3. Rotary Days of service

I call on every CMP from District 9214 to do your utmost to attend. Please prepare the questions you would like to raise.

How does EACH ONE, BRING ONE sit with your Club? Is your Club ready to pledge and deliver? We all have friends who are as Rotarians as Rotarians can be. Often the only missing link is in the asking. Step forward and **ASK**. Clubs that fulfill the "**Each One, Bring One**" pledge will be so recognized at the DCA.

On Empowering girls, are you currently implementing a project that targets girls or are you preparing such a project?

One Rotary Days of Service, when and on what area of focus will your club hold its special Rotary Days of Service events this year? How frequently are you planning it? With what focus?

Rotary is what Clubs do. Rotary District is indeed what you do; no more, no less. The quality of what we deliver depends heavily on your contributions. I look forward to hearing from you.