

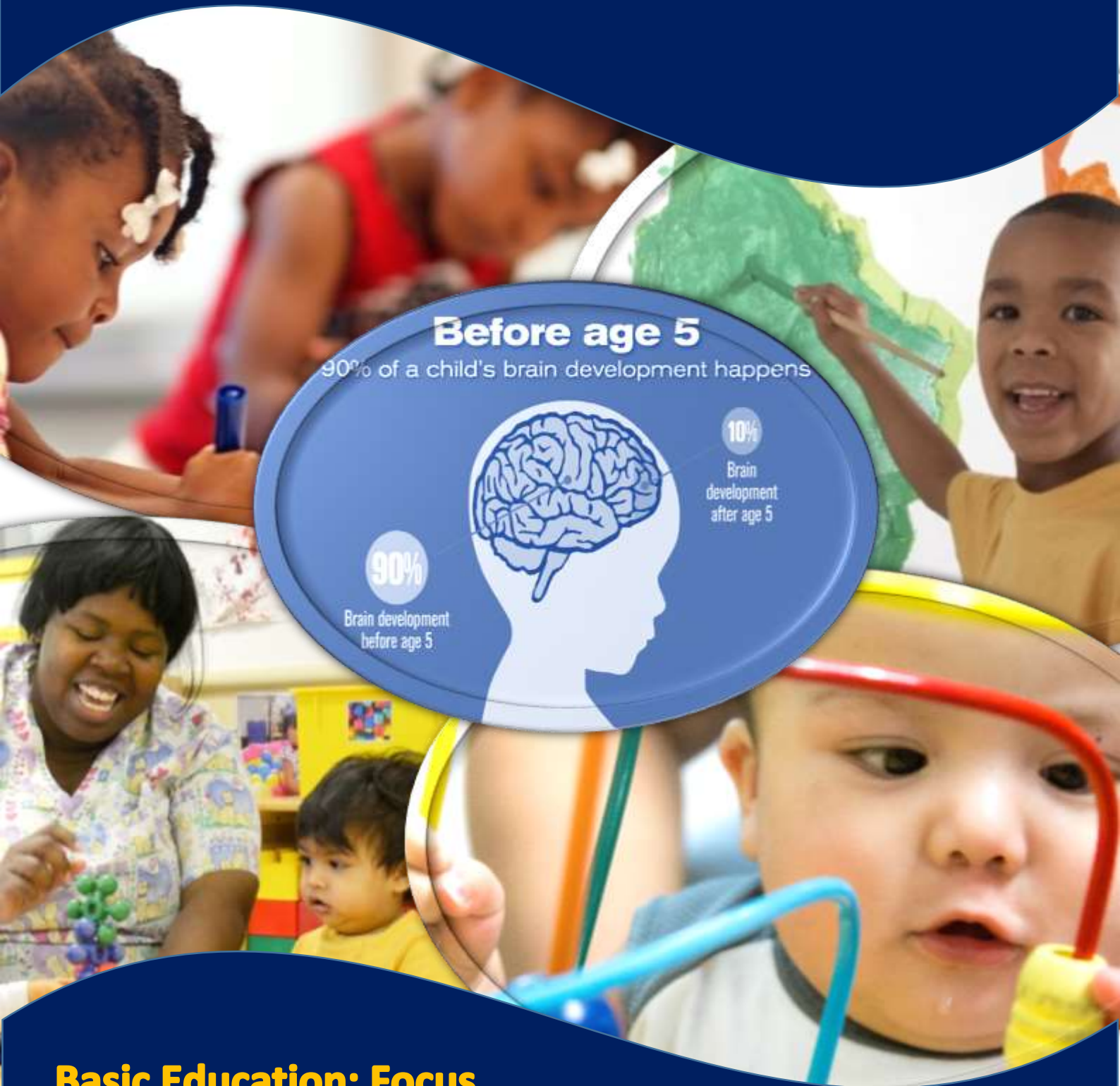
**Rotary  
9350**



# DG's District Digest



**August / September 2015**



**Basic Education: Focus  
Early Childhood Development**





### Message from DG Geraldine

This past Rotary month was filled with exciting project work and many major achievements. Our District is fast moving forward in two exciting but crucial developmental areas of:-

#### **Early Childhood Development & Renewable Energy.**

Read the related articles in this and future DG Digests, which invite you to get more involved in understanding and making a significant difference in these two fields.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS from all of us of D9350 to:-**

- **Dr Dietmar Winzker of Gordons Bay RC & Tasneem Meredith of Kirstenbosch RC** who have each been selected from a large number of applicants as D9350 Vocational Training Team leaders. Dietmar will lead the Renewable Energy Team to Germany and Tasneem will lead the Early Childhood Development team to USA.
- **Wynberg Girls High & Rustenberg Girls High Interact Clubs** on their R.I. Presidential Citations awards
- **Reddam High** on winning the Rotary Peninsula Debating society competition, run by Waterfront and Signal Hill Rotary clubs for the past 26 years!
- **Wynberg Rotary and Rotaract Clubs and the District Youth Services Team** on the excellent Interact Workshop, attended by over 200 Interactors who learnt about entrepreneurship, project & financial management, literacy and more.
- **Birthday Congratulations to the following Clubs**

Paarl Rotary Club:	75 years
Luanda Rotary Club:	60 years
Oudtshoorn Rotary Club:	60 years
Somerset West Rotary Club	60 years
Table Bay Rotary Club	60 years
Swellendam Rotary Club:	50 years
Kirstenbosch Rotary Club:	30 years
Breede River Rotary Club:	10 years



### MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT RAVI

There was once a strong young man who was offered a job as a woodcutter. He set about his task with energy: The first week, he turned 18 trees into firewood. The second week, he worked just as hard, but was surprised to find he had chopped only 11 trees. The third week, despite working nonstop from morning till night, the number was six, and he went despairingly to the foreman to offer his resignation. "I am losing my strength. I can no longer cut as many trees as I once could."

The foreman looked at the young man, who seemed to him in fine health. "Have you thought of sharpening your axe?" he asked. "Sharpen my axe? Who has time to sharpen an axe?" the young man asked indignantly. "I have been too busy chopping wood!"

When we aren't making the kind of progress we feel we should be making, the natural response is to redouble our efforts. Sometimes, though, the better response is not to work harder, but to work smarter. Look at your tools. Analyze your processes. Are you directing your resources in the most effective ways? Or are you pouring all your strength into chopping wood with a dull axe?

It is time to sharpen our tools. We should be asking ourselves, "How can we add more value to Rotary membership, so that more will join and fewer will leave?"

One way we are doing that is with the new **Rotary Global Rewards program**. This innovative program allows Rotarians to connect with, and receive discounts and concessions from, businesses and service providers around the world. Individual Rotarians may submit their own business to be included alongside those with which Rotary has already negotiated relationships; the most appropriate offers will be added to the listings.

I urge all of you to try it out by signing up on **My Rotary at Rotary.org**. This is a new way to benefit from being a Rotarian, and being part of the Rotary network. It is another way to combine business and service. We need to demonstrate the value of Rotary by showing that becoming a Rotarian will enrich their lives, as it has ours!



## FOCUS AREA: BASIC EDUCATION:

## WHY TARGET E.C.D?



### Two main reasons:

- Forty years of research on the USA Headstart ECD Programme confirms that access to quality ECD programmes for children in the 0-6 year age group, ensures children are more likely to do well at school, become good citizens with stable homes, and less likely to be involved in crime, gangsterism or drugs.
- Epigenetics science proves that a child's brain develops up to almost 90% in the first 1000 days of life, including the last 3 months of pregnancy.

**The challenge:** Only about 30% of S.A children have access to effective ECD. Rotary clubs can maximise the most effective impact of their hard earned funds, by investing in Early Childhood Development (ECD) - a decision endorsed by all at D9350 Upington Conference.

**The D9350 ECD Committee is developing guidelines for** Rotary clubs to work in partnership with other Rotary clubs, Govt Depts. & ECD NGO's, to ensure an integrated ECD approach to provide centres of excellence. Our targets are:-

- Create awareness of the vital importance of effective ECD programmes, especially in the first 1000 days of life ; sign MOU with Dept of Soc.Dev.
- Complete the ECD audit in District 9350
- Contribute to the ECD essential Building Blocks as advised by Dr David Harrison of DG Murray Trust, in line with the national Government ECD policy framework of the provision of five essential services namely:

1. Nutritional support = food

- Maternal & health support = love
- Social Services - ensuring legal registration with Dept for Social Development: funding =security
- Training and Support for Caregivers
- Provision of Early Learning Stimulation Materials & equipment = stimulation

### Where to start?

- Appoint an ECD champion/ team in your club
- D9350 ECD Audit : Please submit by end Sept – thanks to those clubs who have already submitted!
- Visit local ECD centres to assess age groups served (



0-2 or 3-6) & check which of the above five services your club is currently providing for your local ECD centre & identify gaps

- Liaise with our partner, DSD , Dept for Social Development, to get the prioritised needs. District ECD team has the DSD contact details ( email: D9350 ECD chairman [tombharris@gmail.com](mailto:tombharris@gmail.com)) for your area's information
- Develop a relationship with the local community through parents & caregiver to gain community support & thus sustainability of your ECD project
- Together prioritise the ECD centre needs , source additional ECD NGO partners to help selection of training, infrastructure improvement if needed, legal registration, provision of relevant toys, books , caregiver training and community capacity building.
- Identify where there is no evidence of care and support for the 0-2 age group and source local homes where women are providing home based care for 6 or more babies, so club/ DSD can identify a local home based training programme to assist.

### Need more ECD help/ information ?

- Google: The Essential Package- ILIFA Labantwana**
- Watch out for more info' in the next DG Digest**
- Email District ECD team: [tombharris@gmail.com](mailto:tombharris@gmail.com);**
- Attend Worcester Mini Conference on 24 October**

## FOCUS AREA:

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TARGETS:-

#### 1) RENEWABLE ENERGY

#### 2) ENTREPRENEURSHIP CONFERENCE : 27<sup>th</sup> FEB

Tired of Eskom switching off the lights, of stumbling around in the dark, eating cold food?

### *Get involved in Renewable Energy!*

As a result of the huge enthusiasm generated from the Team Leader applicants for the Vocational Training Team to Germany, we have decided to create a new **Renewable Energy (R.E.) District Committee**. Rotarians are invited to participate in a variety of ways

- Identify potential R.E. candidates for the R.E. VTT team to Germany & encourage them to apply – see advert on this page - alongside.
- Register for the upcoming free R.E. conference at the CTICC; <http://www.sairec.org.za/> : 4-7 October



- Indicate your interest in joining the District R.E. Committee which will be planning Renewable Energy Community projects in all R.E. aspects such as policy, planning and networking, as well as working with the RE VTT team. Email:- [D9350VTT@gmail.com](mailto:D9350VTT@gmail.com), giving your name, club and why you are interested in R.E.
- Do you know of Renewable Energy projects/ companies in the fields of solar, wind, biogas, LED, other RE fields working in your area? Share this information with the RE District Committee: [D9350VTT@gmail.com](mailto:D9350VTT@gmail.com)



### ADVERT: Team members for Rotary International Exchange Program for Renewable Energy Professionals

**Closing date: 25 September**

Rotary International, the largest service organization in the world, is organizing an international exchange with Germany through D9350. We are seeking applicants who are professionals in Renewable Energy (RE), to join a team of five to visit Frankfurt, Germany, for two weeks in May/June 2016. The objective will be to;

- Collaborate, interact and exchange ideas on a wide range of RE aspects including Solar, wind, biogas, LED lighting, zero energy buildings and more.
- Work together as a team in advance and on return, with Rotary and business to share and implement RE knowledge and skills learnt
- Contribute to RE development at policy, business & community level in both Germany & South Africa.

#### Applicants must:-

- have at least 3 years working experience in the RE field, preferably in some leadership role within an RE project or business
- be between 25 and 40 years old
- have a passion for their work
- be able to travel to Germany for 2 weeks in May/June 2016
- live in one of the Rotary District 9350 areas which include mainly the Western Cape, Northern Cape, Namibia or Angola.
- Must have a valid passport

**General information:** This exchange programme covers costs of flights and accommodation for the 2 week period in the area of Frankfurt, Germany. Successful applicants will spend time meeting fellow team members before departure under the guidance of Rotarian Team Leader who will be travelling with them.

- Please email [D9350VTT@gmail.com](mailto:D9350VTT@gmail.com) for application form; **Closing date 25 Sept**
  - Potential applicants are encouraged to register for the Renewable Energy conference (4-7 Oct) <http://www.sairec.org.za/>
  - Final VTT team to be announced by 31 October
- Entrepreneurship Conference – 27 Feb: See next DG Digest**

## ROTARY LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



One of the many advantages of Rotary is the wide range of opportunities for personal growth and leadership development. As with the above information on VTT, we share these opportunities with you so you know how the process works at Club and District Leadership Team level and you can decide which of the many roles you may wish to work towards. Find more information in the District Directory and on Rotary.org

**1. At Club level:** It is hoped that all Rotarians will step up to Secretarial, Treasurer & Presidential roles at some time to share leadership responsibility. Training is provided and serving as a board member creates the experience.

### 2. At District Leadership Team level:- 3 groups

**2.1 Assistant Governors:** Clubs can nominate Assistant Governors. The final AG team of about 14 will be chosen by the District Governor, together with the DGE (Governor Elect) and DGN (governor nominee). Suitable candidates with leadership and mentoring skills each assist groups of about 5 clubs each, through training, mentoring and visiting on a quarterly basis. No reimbursement is made as Rotary work is voluntary but there is a small contribution to petrol.

**2.2 District Committee Chairmen.** District Governors select candidates best suited to lead the various District Committees, each responsible for specific aspects of District Development & club support. We are trying hard to ensure each District Committee is representative of the 8 geographic regions where all live. See District Committee list opposite - email me to tell me where you would like to get involved & your skills are in that field. **Email:- geraldinenicol@global.co.za**

**2.3 District Governor Team:** This is made up of the Immediate Past DG, current DG, DGE (elect) and DGN (nominee). Clubs will soon be invited to nominate the 2018-2019 District Governor from candidates who have been quality past presidents and Rotarians for more than 7 years. The District Governor role is voluntary but

RI contributes towards the costs of travel and accommodation. The District Governor Nominating Committee is made up of nominated representatives from Past District Governors, current and past presidents with new members added annually, who make the final choice from the DG nominations received. Clubs will be invited to send nominations for both AG's and DG by end October. Two years excellent training is provided at District and Rotary International Level so District governors are well informed of the wealth of knowledge and range of RI programmes.

**Positions are available on most District Committees: If interested send DG Geraldine an email indicating which committee you can best add value to : ( check pages 12-16 in District Directory for more information on Committees )**



- Membership Committee ( Chair Menno De Wet )
- Alumni Committee ( Chair –Jean Wilke)
- Public Image Committee( chair Regine Le Roux)
- Rotary Foundation Committee ( Chair- Carl/H. Duisberg)
- Youth Services Committee ( Chair; Jenny Howard)
- Inter Country Committees ( Chair; Ian Pursch )
- International Friendship Committee( Chair Kirty Patel )
- Shelterbox Committee ;(Chair Dave Moss)
- Early Childhood Development ( Chair; Tom Harris )
- Corporate Social Development( Chair Tony Davidson )
- Literacy Committee ( Chair ( Vyv Deacon)
- Rotary Family Health Days ( Chair June Webber)
- Renewable Energy – (Chair Nadene Ralston)
- Presidential Economic Conference ( June Webber)
- Rotary Fellowships ( Chair Mark Stuyck )

### TWO NEW ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS

1. **RAGES : Rotary Action Group Endangered Species ; Special focus on rhino and elephant poaching : Check them out / join up on <http://www.endangeredrag.org/contact-us/>**
1. **ROTARY DOCTORS: Check them out/ join up on [www.healthprofessionalsinrotary.org](http://www.healthprofessionalsinrotary.org)**



## DISTRICT PROJECT NEWS ROUND- UP

### Focus Area: Basic Education

Rotary Peninsula High School Debating Society Finals

DF Malan Finalists at the Junior Debating Competition



PDG Johan Gerber, Waterfront RC , MC for Debating Finals and Debating Competition Co-ordinator for many years. The quality of the participants this year was excellent and final participating schools were : Juniors : DF Malan vs Deutsch Hoërschool; Seniors: Rustenberg Girls High vs Reddam HS

### Focus Area: Child & Maternal Health

Strand President Peter Kaufman with Heartlands Baby Sanctuary CEO Monica Buitengracht



Heartlands Volunteer caring for baby



Tender loving care

## FOCUS AREA: BASIC EDUCATION & LITERACY

Nali'wali Reading Club at one of Pinelands Rotary Club's 18 Khayeltisha EarlyAct clubs



Cape of Good Hope training Home Careworkers in Masiphumelele



Rotarians and Rotaractors enjoyed the fun of giving at the relocated and vibrant "One to One" Day for Differently Abled people.





## FOCUS AREA: BASIC EDUCATION: ECD

One of the 5 Essential ECD services: -  
Infrastructure development : = security

Noon Gun's Friederich Schaefer , DG Geraldine and Tania Gray , of the Hangberg Educational Trust, admire the site for the state of the art pre-school which is being built with support from Noon Gun & German Rotary Clubs.



Below: Cape of Good Hope Rotarians admire the developments in their nearly completed new pre-school building at Ocean View



## FOCUS AREA:- BASIC EDUCATION: ECD

Another of the 5 Essential ECD services :  
Provision of equipment and materials = stimulation;  
Swellendam RC President Jerry Van Vuuren and local ECD teacher admire the mezzanine floor the Rotary club installed in each of the pre-school classrooms to provide quiet reading corners upstairs and fantasy areas downstairs in the vibrant colourful classrooms



Worcester RC's Zwelethemba After Care Centre with young pupils enjoying the quality educational material





## INTRODUCTIONS

Meet our DG District Digest Expert Editorial team:

Anna-Louise Coetzee & Anthony Wait, both of HSRC



Reminder:

- DG District Digest Monthly Regional Round Ups begin next month;  
First up: Helderberg Basin Area: Will all Helderberg Basin Rotary Clubs please send in your stories and photos by 30 Sept
- All Rotarians: Please share your short stories and photos for possible inclusion in our DG Digest District website and District Facebook

Email : [geraldinenicol@global.co.za](mailto:geraldinenicol@global.co.za);

## ROTARY FOCUS FUN! FELLOWSHIP!

**Save the date !**

**Join fellow Rotarians at the annual**

### MINI CONFERENCE

**Where: Goudini Spa , Worcester**

**When: Saturday 24 October**

**Times: 8.00 am to 2.00 followed by fellowship opportunities**

**8.00 > 9.00 Registration & Refreshments**

**9..00.10.15 Plenary: ECD Partners**

**10.15-10.35 Tea**

**10.35 – 12. 50: Choice of 6 Breakaways, Delegates can attend two; Topics include**

**Teen entrepreneurship ; Youth Services; Global Grants , New members workshop; Understanding ECD; Sharing Presidents ideas**

**For more information and to register, email - [pieterwin@vodamail.co.za](mailto:pieterwin@vodamail.co.za)**

**Fellowship plans after conference can include wine tasting, golf, bowls, hiking , walking, biking, museums, Worcester tour, nearby wildlife reserves**

**Planning to stay over? Accommodation: [www.goudinispa.co.za](http://www.goudinispa.co.za);**

**More detailed information on alternative accommodation and fellowship ideas coming up soon.**