

Heart & Soul of D9350

January 2024 Edition 7

District Governor's Monthly newsletter



Message from DG Ann Wright

Dear Members

It's been a busy month. The second half of our Rotary year started with an adrenalin rush at some clubs.

You are Creating Hope, you are compassionate, caring, generous and enthusiastic in all that you do. You are a 9350 Rotarian. Please keep the energy flowing as you are pivotal in keeping our reputation as the top service organisation in the world.

Please celebrate both the small and the big milestones and the projects undertaken in your clubs. Acknowledgements, recognition and a show of gratitude engenders loyalty, builds club spirit and creates a strong bond amongst members and on-going commitment.

The 4 Way Test is integral to being a Rotarian. It's our personal ethical guide. What we sometimes forget is that it's not about judging others behaviour, but our own. When we recite it at meetings we must start with *...Of things we think, say or do* so that the four questions on fellowship, empathy, accountability and trust make sense.

Membership is concerning

Leadership has been actively asking clubs to look at their numbers. First prize is always to retain members and not to lose them. Sadly, the threat to merge our district with another one became a reality in December when we lost too many members resulting in a reduced membership number of 1048. This means we will be redistricted.

Districting Procedures

In accordance with RI Bylaws (Section 16.010) allows the RI Board to eliminate or change the boundaries of any District with more than 100 clubs or fewer than 1,100 Rotarians and in conjunction with any such change, the Board may move the Clubs from such Districts into adjacent Districts. The Board also may merge such Districts with other Districts or divide the Districts. There are pros and cons to this procedure. You are Rotary. Only YOU as members can do something about retaining our identity, our existence. To be safe, to be stable we need to reach 1200 members by June. Fortunately, we have been given a reprieve. I met with all the Presidents and AGs during the holidays and I am most grateful that all present agreed and undertook to induct THREE valuable members by June this year. Will you help find that special person who will be a perfect fit for your club?

Let's all start wearing our Rotary pins everyday. You are our PI representative. Tell your Rotary story. Share the gift of Rotary membership by sponsoring a new member.

Club experience

Have you held a 'health' check in your club. It's a great way to look at what has worked or not worked this past year, do you need to rethink your goals, maybe add some new fresh ideas suggested by a new member, have you met RI President Gordon's challenge to create hope for a better future in your communities, have you started a mental wellness project for club members or for your community? What are the fun, exciting things you have planned as a club? A great club experience is what keeps members involved and motivated. Why not share your fun ideas in this newsletter?

DISCON 2024

18 -20 April Diaz Hotel Resort, Mossel Bay

Registration is open. Early bird registrations were snapped up. Please encourage your members to register NOW.

Attending a Rotary conference reinvigorates, you meet new people, you learn and you have loads of fun.

Best wishes to you all for a fabulous February!
DG *Ann*





NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

1. DG Ann Message
2. Polio Alert
3. DG Club Visits
4. Club News
5. How do you see HOPE?
6. Snippets
7. DisCon 2024
8. Save these dates
9. In conversation with Rotary's Global Polio Chair
10. Tips to grow Membership in your club
11. Rotary's Vision Statement

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Sadly, a child has been identified/verified with Polio in the Cacucaco Municipality in the outskirts of Luanda.

WHO acted swiftly calling in Rotary (Manual De Sousa), UNICEF and Red Cross. They are immunizing, but have had to order more supplies.

If we allocate US\$10,000 to PolioPlus, it becomes US\$45,000 that can protect children from this paralyzing disease. That funding goes toward purchasing the vaccine, transporting the vaccine to children around the globe, and raising awareness about why it's critical that we end polio.

Rotary made a bold choice in our commitment to eradicating polio. We maintain that commitment with every vaccine we deliver, in every community we reach, and through every dollar we raise. We're determined to fulfil our promise to the world — and you can help by contributing personally or as a club.

Angola is in our district, it's one plane ride away. As I have said this year, together, we can end polio.



DG CLUB VISITS

RC STANFORD



DG visit to RC Stanford lunch meeting in a brewery!



AG Tsie, President Lana and DG Ann exploring the brewery.



A new project for the club: creating a recreation room for the primary school boarders at Okkie Smuts school.

RC OOSTENBERG



DG visit to RC Oostenberg at Kuiltsvier Golf Club.



AG Wendy, DG Ann and President Stephan.

RC CAPE OF GOOD HOPE



DG visit to RC Cape of Good Hope in Fish Hoek. AG Ross, DG Ann, and President Ray White.



Lee-Ann Govender being welcomed by Pres Ray as a transferee from RC Knysna.

HERMANUS HIGH SCHOOL INTERACT CLUB



DG visit the Hermanus High School Interact Club which celebrates its 20th year in 2024.

CLUB NEWS

RC OF SOUTH PENINSULA CAPE TOWN

A NEW CLUB IS CHARTERED



President Jane White

It is a privilege and an honour to announce and welcome the birth of our newest Rotary family in District 9350, the members of **The Rotary Club of South Peninsula-Cape Town**.

They will be operating in the Ocean View and surrounding areas. Their AG will be Lisa Morkel. We will advise all members of the date of the official Charter/Launch of the club as I am sure that everyone would like to celebrate with President Jane White and her members.

On behalf of the Leadership Team and all members, I extend my warmest congratulations to **SPCT** and to David Holtzhausen and Ray White for making this happen.

RC SEA POINT



President Mymoena, Andries Keyser Guest Speaker, Rtn Kathryn, PP Piet, PDG June, President Cosmina.

RC Sea Point invited members of RC Waterfront to a club meeting as they are looking for partners to help them with their Blue train project.

RC HELDERBERG SUNRISE

New state-of-the-art ultrasound equipment for Helderberg Hospital



Sharon Leo (Helderberg Hospital CEO), Carl-Heinz (board member responsible for the Rotary Foundation for Helderberg Sunrise Rotary Club) and Dr Katrin Stuve (a physician consultant at HH Medical Department). The donated ultrasound machine is in the background.

[READ MORE](#)

RC LUANDA SUL



RC Luanda Sul inducted a new member, José da Costa Panzo (centre). Left to right, José Caetano, Isabel Pires, Isabel Panzo (with baby), Luisa Antunes and President Quilaco Pedro.



How do you see HOPE?

Anton Vorster from RC Plettenberg Bay



“As Rotarians, we plant seeds with the optimistic outlook that they will yield fruit in the future: that is hope!”

How do you say Rotary?

We are privileged to belong to Rotary.

How do YOU pronounce it?

Rota-ree, Ro-tree, Ro-ta-ree, Raw-tah-ree,
Ro-taree, Roter-ree

Yes, it is an international organisation and there are so many different ways in which to pronounce the name. If you're looking for a fun club night why not have a debate or a competition around this topic.

Rotary eClub of Innovation

Will you be poet of the year?

An International Rotary Poetry competition - will a winner come from our district?

Let's support the Rotary e-club Innovation (East Anglia) UK District 1080

There are 5 category prizes plus the main **Rotary Poet of the Year Award** plaque.

For more information go to: www.rotarypoetry.org

The award winners will be announced at the Singapore Rotary Convention in May. Alternatively, DG Ann will present the award at an event in our District.
Open to all ages!

Rotary theme for February

Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month

The underlying cause of conflict is often the unequal distribution of resources. If we undertake projects covering our 7 Areas of Focus this should go a long way in addressing the issues in our communities.

But let's also consider the **conflicts that arise at club level** which is of major concern as it's affecting our membership. Surveys undertaken are indicating that valuable members are leaving because they don't appreciate the conflict, bullying and cliques that are destroying the soul of their clubs.

There is a golden rule: *Treat others the way you wish to be treated.*

Let's accept that we are all volunteers from diverse backgrounds, each with our own unique way of doing things. Let's support members so that they feel confident and valued. Accept that things have to change. We have an excellent team of mediators who are available to be guest speakers and who will mediate in conflicts. There is no shame in mediation, but there is shame if you do nothing about it. Please contact Siham Boda from RC Waterfront – sihamboda@gmail.com

Rotary's birthday on 23 February 2024



Ideas to celebrate Rotary Day:

- Ask to speak to the Business Chamber, a school or an influential association – speak about the history of volunteerism in Rotary using the projects we have been involved in over the years.
- Ask your members to volunteer at another NGO during the birthday week.
- Publish the total number of hours your members have donated.
- Publish an article about the accomplishments of Rotary locally and globally.
- Bake a giant birthday cake and distribute to the media, or invite community leaders to share it.
- Record the 'Sun never sets in Rotary' and show to new members, potential sponsors.

Rotary focuses on waterways.



Are you looking for an environmental project which will involve the whole club?

Rotary has partnered with the United Nations Environment Programme to promote the protection of local waterways.

'Action for Fresh Water,' encourages clubs to get involved in clean-up days, raising awareness of the issues, carrying out water quality tests and reporting the results. The Foundation will fund this programme allowing clubs to apply for grants. Let's do this 9350!

THE SYLVIA WHITLOCK LEADERSHIP AWARD

It is named for the first female Rotary Club President, who went on to lead change for women around the world through Rotary. This award honours one Rotary member each year for their work to advance women in Rotary.

Nomination period is between 1 August and 30 September. If you know a member of any gender who is doing great work to advance women in Rotary, let's nominate that person and recognize them for their contributions.

Send your nomination to annw6942@gmail.com



DG Ann and AG Bev spotted Sylvia at the Convention in Melbourne and didn't waste a photo moment with this remarkable Rotarian.



DisCon 2024

Hosted by the George Rotary Club

The Garden Route Welcomes You to our Eden in Africa



Register for Conference using Club Runner below.



JOIN US FOR DISCON 2024

APRIL 2024
18TH, 19TH & 20TH



PROGRAM
FULL PROGRAM TO FOLLOW



**THE DIAZ HOTEL AND
RESORT MOSSSEL BAY**



1 BEACH EAST BOULEVARD, DIE VOOR BAY

WHAT TO EXPECT

• Thursday

- Golf Fundraising Event
 - Golf at the world-renowned Pinnacle Point Golf Course for those who enjoy a round of golf. Set on a cliff-top with 270-degree Indian Ocean views, this course is a spectacular masterpiece, not to mention the great prizes that will be up for the winning.
- Check-in at The Diaz Hotel. You can park your car; you won't need it again for the duration of the conference.
- Meet and Greet: Come network and socialize whilst enjoying stunning snacks in the Bahai Lounge.

• Friday

- **Day 1 Assembly** - Learn about the Magic of Rotary, doing things differently, interesting speakers, and thought-provoking topics. Then, we will have a scrumptious lunch and finish off the Assembly program back in the conference hall.
- Late afternoon activities to choose from:
 - Beach walk with the Mossel Bay Run/Walk For Life team, **or**
 - Iconic Cocktail Workshop - Try your hand at making Cocktails or Mocktails like Piña Colodas, Margaritas and more, **or**
 - Coffee Barista Workshop - A hands-on workshop that includes various techniques and latte art. Practice makes perfect.
- Evening Activity
 - Craft Liquor Tasting Experience - Whether you prefer alcoholic or non-alcoholic wine, beer, or gin, there's something for everyone, and of course, there will be plenty to eat!

• Saturday

- **Day 2 Conference** - Exceptional Speakers, District success stories, Awards, surprises and more after another delicious lunch.
- Gala Dinner Evening
 - Dress smart with a splash of colour! Enjoy a cordon bleu plated dinner from Diaz's prize-winning chef and musical interludes by saxophonists, violinists, and more.
 - Entertaining addresses by Rotarian VIPs.
 - Handover Chain of Office and The District Awards.
 - Then dance the night away with Davey Mack, playing our boomer music!

DISCON 2024 IS NOT TO BE MISSED!
BOOK YOUR SEAT AND BED.
REGISTER TODAY!

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GEORGE
LOOKS FORWARD TO WELCOMING
YOU ALL IN APRIL 2024!



For more information, go to
www.rotary9350.co.za

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

SAVE THESE DATES!

WHAT'S HAPPENING

- [D9350 Food Garden Webinar](#)
Feb 28, 2024
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- [Race Night \(Horse Racing\)](#)
Mar 22, 2024
6:30 pm – 11:00 pm
- [DisCon 2024 - Golf Day](#)
Pinnacle Point Estate
Apr 18, 2024 11:00 am
- [DisCon 2024 - Meet & Greet](#)
Diaz Hotel and Resort
Apr 18, 2024 6:30 pm
- [District Assembly 2024](#)
Diaz Hotel and Resort
Apr 19, 2024
8:30 am – 4:00 pm
- [DisCon 2024](#)
Diaz Hotel and Resort
Apr 20, 2024
8:00 am – 5:00 pm
- [DisCon 2024 - DG's Gala Dinner](#)
Diaz Hotel and Resort
Apr 20, 2024 7:30 pm
- [D9350 Food Garden Webinar](#)
Apr 24, 2024
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- [Stellenbosch Rotary Club Golf Day](#)
Stellenbosch Golf Club
Apr 25, 2024
8:00 am – 6:00 pm
- [D9350 Food Garden Webinar](#)
Jun 26, 2024
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm



In Conversation with Rotary's Global Polio Chair

By Janey Ball
D9350 PolioPlus Chair

We are pleased to announce that the Chair of Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee, Mike McGovern, will be *In Conversation* with us on 26th February at 6pm, online.

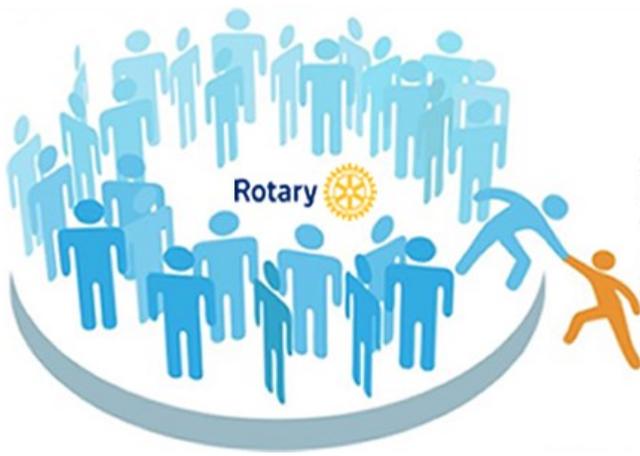
Mike is a member of the Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth, Maine, USA.

He has served as club president, district governor, district foundation chair, Rotarian Action Group chair, RI committee member and chair, trustee and vice chair of the Rotary Foundation, and director and vice president of Rotary International.

Mike will provide a comprehensive update on the eradication of polio and will discuss the factors that influence reaching this most important of goals. He will also share stories of some of the heroic efforts required to make polio history.

**Don't miss out on this golden opportunity.
Secure your spot by registering now.**

[REGISTER HERE](#)



10 Tips to grow membership in your Club

1. Know your club's strengths. If you meet in the morning, you will probably be a good fit for a 9 to 5 employee. But if you meet at noon, you're more likely to appeal to retirees or parents of school-age children. If someone doesn't fit your format, recommend them to another club. They won't forget you and may send you someone another day. Let all the clubs in your area know you are looking for members, and they may send you some that better fit your format than their own.

2. Keep a list of potential recruits. It doesn't matter if it's a paper list or if it's kept on the desktop of your computer – it just makes you think about those people and others that may be a fit for your club.

3. Make recruiting the top priority in your club. You can't do everything as a club president, and knowing that will give you some freedom to focus on the most important thing. Having new members – with new energy – will help you have more people to raise money for The Rotary Foundation, serve on your committees, and invite additional members/more smiling faces to your meetings and fun event. Let your members know this is the top priority so they can all help.

4. Create a letter that lists all the great things about your club. List your star members, the advantages of where your club meets, how many members it has, etc. Make sure to tailor the email/letter to the wants of any potential new member.

5. List potential areas of responsibilities. Potential members will want to know how they can fit in and what opportunities there are for serving.

6. Be persistent. There will be times that it takes literally a dozen requests to get someone to a meeting. Keep asking. They may come to a meeting, or tell you they can't join now because they are too busy, or they aren't interested in joining at the moment. These are all fine answers as long as you keep track of them and keep in touch. How many times did you have to be asked?.

7. Talk about Rotary wherever you go. At church, temple, work, neighborhood gatherings, family gatherings, parties, etc. You'll be amazed how easy it is after you practice for a while. Getting a lot of "no" answers built my confidence because it didn't hurt as bad as I thought and most people were actually happy I asked, even if they responded negatively. It's always a good time to recruit.

8. Celebrate when you get a new member. This gets the club excited about getting more members. Our club makes a poster of the individuals after they've been voted in and we put it in the front of the room at our next meeting. We do the same thing when we induct a new member.

9. Realize there is no finish-line. Even if you are at the size that your club wants to be, there are always reasons people leave. And new insights always benefit a club. You're either growing or you're dying.

10. Be vibrant. Wear a turkey suit before Thanksgiving (it's only your dignity you stand to lose), wear a lanyard with lots of "flair"/Rotary pins (it gets people talking to you), make outrageous centerpieces for your meeting tables (it gets people talking to each other), greet people outside the building you are meeting in and hold the door open for them (it lets people know you care).

ENGAGING YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

MEET THEIR NEEDS

- Flexible meeting time and format
- Various ways to participate, e.g. meetings, donations, leadership roles...
- Affordable club fees, e.g. discounts for young members...
- Personal Development/Leadership Skills
- Service Projects...and more.

Heart & Soul of D9350



District Governor's Monthly newsletter



ROTARY'S VISION STATEMENT

TOGETHER WE SEE A WORLD
WHERE **PEOPLE** UNITE AND TAKE
ACTION TO **CREATE** LASTING
CHANGE ACROSS THE GLOBE
IN OUR COMMUNITITES AND IN OURSELVES

TAKE ACTION: www.rotary9350.co.za

TOGETHER, WE

CONNECT

Rotary  PEOPLE OF ACTION

TAKE ACTION: www.rotary9350.co.za