



Rotary District 9350

Connecting the World

Governors Newsletter 2019/20

July 2019



Greetings to all as we start the new Rotary year.

Rotary is facing an incredibly exciting time in the year ahead, as rapid changes and new opportunities are available to us from Rotary International.

The changes recently approved at the council on legislation have opened up a new era with Rotaract, where they proudly stand beside us as members of Rotary International. The full impact of this change will develop over the months ahead.

Our new strategic plan gives us the freedom to adapt and try changes with ease – so we can develop the Rotary that works for us.

As a district, our leadership team are geared up for this exciting time, and in this newsletter we give some insight into where we see the district going – which will be done by you in your clubs, with an amazing support team. From **Future**, led by June Webber, where the team have great initiatives to connect us to the world, **Youth**, led by Barbara Murphy, where the connection between our youth and our clubs is being focused on.

Community/Education – led by Geraldine Nicol – has focussed on strategic partnerships as well as developing a knowledge pool that everyone can access, **Public image** – led by Shelley Finch – looking at getting the message out there.

Rotary Foundation – led by Jerome O’Ryan – continues to do the great work they have done over the years, and the various support committees are also up and functional.

As Governor for 2019/20, I am proud to lead this team and district as we start the year and live our theme: “Rotary Connects the World”.



DAVID

Upcoming Events!

27 July 2019

POETS

A catch up for those who were unable to join us in Somerset West in May (CT clubs)

9/10 August 2019

Rotaract Conference in Luderitz

10 August 2019

EarlyAct Workshop (Contact Barbara Hurwitz for details)

17 August 2019

Public Image workshop:

Branding and Graphic Design for beginners

30 August 2019

Interact Environmental Camp (By Invitation)

14 September 2019

New member Seminar

Cape Town (Intaka Island)

14 September 2019

RFHD Training

Swellendam

28 September 2019

RFHD Training

Intaka Island

5 October 2019

Basic **Public Relations** for your club

26 October 2019

Mini Conference

Beaufort West

8 February 2020

New Member Seminar

8 February 2020

Social Media for your club

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DG David Holtzhausen – was inducted by DG Casper Kruger at his home Club of Bellville. It was the second time, as the first ceremony took place at Conference in Somerset West



This promoted a call for all the PDG'S present to have a combined photo shoot which shows that there is still life after becoming a PDG!

Pictured from L are: DGE Carl-Heinz Duisberg, Geraldine Nicol, DG David, June Webber, Casper Kruger and Lynette Stassen

Also inducted that evening was President Pam Rawbone for her second term as President of the Bellville Club. In her report she paid credit to the Rotaractors - who inducted 3 new members on the night – a Triple Whammy!!! We wish them all a most successful and fulfilling year as they Connect Rotary in the World



FUTURE PILLAR INFORMATION

Future Pillar Chair - June Webber

THE FUTURE

Last year I agreed to take on the role of Future Pillar Chair. This is a challenging role on our evolving state of Rotary today, but our excellent membership growth in 2018-2019 bears testimony to the fact that we identified the correct trajectory and that we are moving in the right direction, upwards. It was a watershed year for our district with us inducting over 100 new members. Well done District 9350!

Our team is loaded with quality, experience and visionary Rotarians who are willing to take risks and do things differently. Nobody can predict the future. However, **what we do in the present** will define the future. Our goal this year is to continue to build a strong, successful, diverse, multi-country district that will increase our impact, expand our reach, enhance participant engagement and increase our ability to adapt. The Future Pillar has four primary components - Membership Development and Extension (June Webber), Alumni (Gail Oberholzer), RFE - Rotary Friendship Exchange (Lynette Stassen) and Rotary Fellowships (Lizelle de Wet). This formidable team of four women will blaze a trail of fun, fellowship and friendship this year, their sights firmly set on growing and strengthening District 9350. Our advice - fasten your seat belts. Look forward to a spectacular ride!

Membership- The lifeblood of Rotary! Our District Membership team is super excited about the year ahead. Our goal - to build on the success of last year, increasing our membership by 100 new members.

We plan to stay focused but intend adding more value, providing clubs with additional information and resources. A Membership "R&R" Team is on standby to assist clubs with health problems!

This is what's on our radar this year -

- *Monthly Membership meetings:* These will continue to link all three countries, including the Southern Cape to ensure we “connect” on membership matters throughout the year (anyone wanting to attend these meetings are welcome to do so)
- *New Member Orientation:* Two are scheduled - on 14 September and 8 February respectively and are “must-attend events” for new members (Presidents – please Save the Date)
- *Identifying opportunities for growth* is ongoing, providing clubs guidance on new model Rotary clubs, adding to the diversity of Rotary
- *An “R & R team will be on standby* to assist clubs with health problems, on request
- *Satellite Extension initiatives:* A team of committed Sponsor Club champions is in place to drive our ten extension initiatives forward to ensure “lift off” by 30 June 2020
- *Personal growth opportunities* such as public speaking, enhancing leadership skills through new member workshops as well as additional new training options, such as PRLS (Potential Rotary Leader Seminars) and Toastmasters, is being looked at
- *Alumni Reconnect:* This year we will see an effective re-launch of Alumni with the introduction of a dedicated Facebook page
- *Introduction of a bi-monthly newsletter – the “D9350 Membership Energiser”:* As a tribute to late RIP-Elect Sam Owori, to honour his dream of one Rotary Zone in Africa, which becomes a reality on 1 July 2019
- *Promote and support both Government,* Local Government and other Rotary partnerships in Education, Early Childhood Development (ECD), Entrepreneurial and the Environmental spheres, as well as supporting other community initiatives under this pillar
- *Promote collaboration with our PI district team* as membership and PI run in tandem, working together we are stronger
- *Launch of a Facebook campaign* on the benefits of being a Rotarian. Material for the posts will be drawn from information gathered in the District Data Project with a particular emphasis on Early Childhood Development, Environment and Entrepreneurship. The intention is a) to measure response to the posts and b) to attract interest from potential members.



Reconnecting with our Alumni!

Gail Oberholzer - District Alumni Chair

Rotary Alumni would like to work with the 2019-2020 theme of Rotary Connects the World. A Facebook page will be created with the focus on sharing stories, reminiscing and letting fellow Alumni know ‘where in the world’ they are now. With stories of old and current Rotary happenings being discussed we hope to build the list of contacts and a community of Alumni who get involved and support District 9350.



Rotary Friendship Exchanges: the best way to connect Rotarians in the world!

Lynette Stassen

Rotary Friendship Exchange Chair

Do you want to make friends for life? Go on a Friendship exchange!

Do you want to get support for your project? Go on a friendship exchange!

Do you want to understand yourself and the world better? Go on a friendship exchange!

Do you want to grow as a human being and understand diversity; cultures? Go on a friendship exchange! So, what is a Rotary Friendship Exchange (RFE)?

It is an international exchange program for Rotary members and friends that allows participants to take turns hosting one another in their homes and clubs. Participants may travel as individuals, as couples, as families, or as groups and may be Rotary members or not.

In 2019-2020 we have already secured incoming group RFE from Pennsylvania in the USA; from D3012 in India and from 3 Districts in Kansas, USA with interest from D6920 Georgia in USA and from UK.

Members of our D9350 are invited on outbound RFEs to India (October 2019) and Kansas (May 2020).

Do you want to make the best decision you ever made in Rotary? Then join an RFE!



Rotary Fellowships

Lizelle de Wet

District Fellowship Chair

Customise your Caravanning, do you have a passion for Port – or are you a Parkrun addict? The list is as long as your arm... Allow your hobby, your way of life, to enter your Rotary World and become part of by joining **“FUN IN ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS”**.

So, what to do?

Presidents, please talk to your members about Fellowship opportunities. Send me their names and email addresses. I am looking for champions and participants who will be interested in joining the **“FUN IN ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS”** of their particular passion. To name a few examples: wine / whiskey / brandy / port tasting, photography, yachting, wine tasting, birdwatching, tennis, wine tasting, hunting, marathons, cycling / musicals and theatre, wine tasting... you name it. Remember, with the fellowship, it is All Play and No Work (did I mention wine tasting?).

If you are in Knysna, Beaufort West or Cape Town, you can participate with your fellow Rotarians throughout District 9350. With your participation, your **“FUN IN ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS”** experience will never be the same again, until next year when we will, with your participation, make it even better!

YOUTH PILLAR



Youth Pillar Chair – Barbara Hurwitz

Our goal is to create a strong, sustainable youth programme.

To do this, we need to ensure that

- We set up a correct and easily managed database on the website that can be updated by Presidents themselves.
- Clubs carry out training at least twice a year
- We have more interaction between the Youth and sponsor clubs. This means encouraging clubs to involve the youth in their projects wherever practical, and encouraging them to charter Youth clubs within the area of the sponsor club so that travel to and from school meetings is not such a challenge.

I want to encourage those clubs with youth clubs in areas such as Khayelitsha or Langa to involve Rotaract or a Community Corps team if it is not possible for them to provide full support. All the basic info that any club would need on chartering clubs or citations, awards, camps, workshops, etc. needs to be on the website and easy to find. We need to incentivise EarlyAct to perform as well so I chatted very briefly to a few of the team about EarlyAct awards and a mini conference. It's in the budget and I would love to make it a reality this year and establish it as an ongoing, regular event.

I would like us to attend the WCED Principal meetings to chat to them about our youth programmes, as student involvement can benefit the school as well as the students. It doesn't need to be a complete redo of what has gone before as there have been some great initiatives that we can carry on with and develop. There are fantastic opportunities to partner with WCED after school programmes, instead of reinventing the wheel. If we want to bring chess into the schools for example we can link schools with NPO's already doing this work. As Rotarians, we network, and we can be the network partner for the school also. I think if we sell it to the Principals on the benefits, we will get a lot more support. I don't want us to take the “teacher's responsibility” approach because it's our image as Rotary at the end of the day and if the teacher is not a Rotarian we shouldn't be delegating everything.

I really want to encourage Rotary clubs to institute the one Rotarian per club rule because I believe it's the best way to develop healthy youth clubs.

I would like our focus to be on developing strong, sustainable clubs that will lead to eventual Rotary club growth when the students reach 31 and not a rush for numbers game where we lose half of them because we have not excited them about Rotary and what is actually involved.

I believe that the way to tackle our membership issue has to come with the way youth perceive Rotary and the opportunities they can gain to serve and become a dedicated and passionate citizen. By getting them involved in all of the sponsor club activities, they can see what we as Rotarians do in our community, not just inviting them to a meal with a speaker. That kind of thing wouldn't excite me if I was young. I would get more excited about a hands on project.

We need to invest in our young Rotarians in order to be able to hand them a strong and active Rotary District when they reach our age. And we want to make sure they are excited enough to stay in Rotary until they are our age !!

The Team!



Tim Allman
DRR



Biffy Danckwerts
Rotaract Chair



Peter Sharples
Interact Chair



Anja Verheijen
RYLA Chair



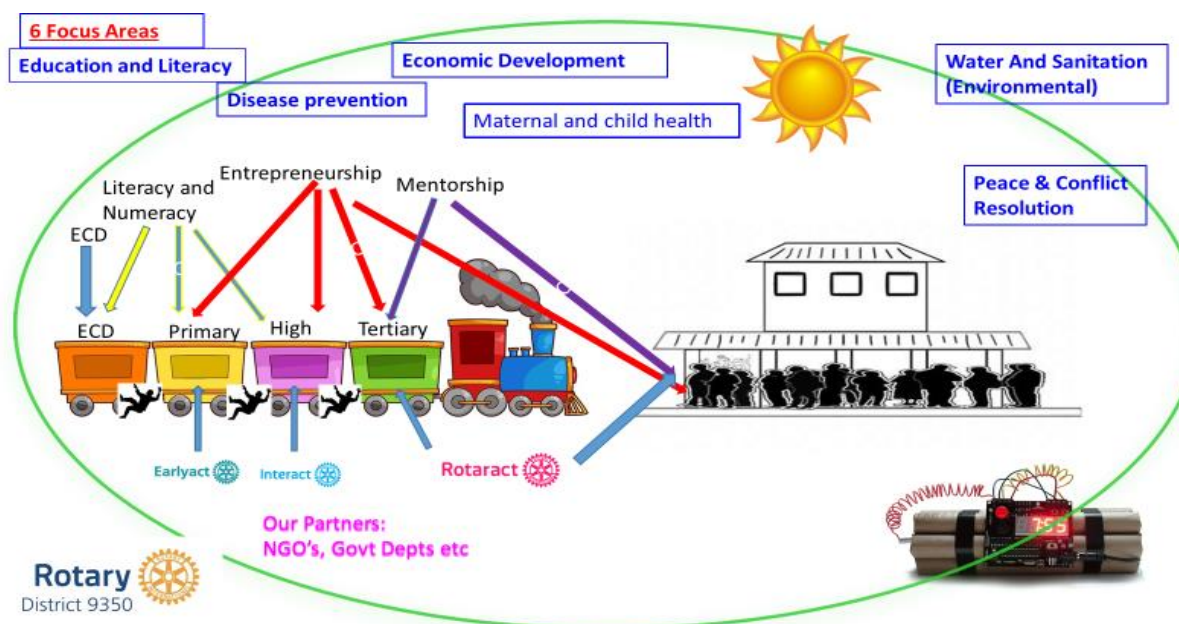
Pam Rawbone
Youth Exchange Chair

COMMUNITY & EDUCATIONAL PILLAR – STRATEGIC PLANS



Community & Educational Pillar Chair – Geraldine Nicol

All these committees follow the RI vision of unite, take action and make lasting change through a triple “i” focus on Integrate, Implement, Impact. The integration is shown in the Discon diagram of one Project Train all working together on various aspects related to community and educational development within the 6 RI focus areas



In line with D9350's recently signed MOU with WCDBE we hope to assist clubs to scale up so that clubs, while making time for smaller "care" projects, are also scaling up to implement significant "core" project that have long lasting impact and sustainability, in partnership with relevant government departments and NGOs to enable us to increase our impact. Clubs will be supported by the appointment of initially 8 new Regional Facilitators (RF) who will be piloted in WC and then rolled out across district. Their role will be to integrate Rotary work in our partnership with WCDBE and encourage club implementation & impact. Regional facilitators will meet monthly by skype on the first Tuesday of the month to help develop the RF pilot and share successes.

Committee strategic plans include the following:

• **E3 (previously Entrepreneurship) – Paul Stohrer**



- Encourage clubs to contribute to peace & reconciliation in SA by identifying projects in the threefold job targets of Entrepreneurship, Employability, Education in Entrepreneurship
- Expand the existing Entrepreneurial Mentorship programme into all D9350 clubs and, in partnership with UNICEF in SA, WCDBE & other Rotary Districts, throughout Southern Africa.
- Ensure good returns on investment of Rotarians' mentor time by working mainly with entrepreneurs whose work is relevant to 4th Industrial revolution, Climate Crisis, renewable energy, green energy & which adds value to 21st century.

- Work in partnership with WCDBE & national DBE to encourage entrepreneurship in schools
- E3 Committee meets monthly on second Tuesday of the month at 2.00 pm at DSC.

• **Early Childhood Development (ECD) – Geraldine Nicol**

- Increase Club ECD awareness of & impact on the first 2000 days of children's lives
- Encourage clubs to address the 70% country wide lack of ECD services by working in Rotary Club cluster partnerships together with whole communities to scale up ECD as opposed to supporting just single centres
- ECD Committee meets at 10.00 am on second Thursday of month at DSC
- Host bi monthly ECD workshops/ seminars: provisionally set for 24 Aug, 26 Oct, 25 Jan, 28 March, 23 May

• **Environmental Sustainability – Lew Botha**



- Ensure all clubs identify their Environmental Sustainability Club Champion & club task team
- Continue D9350 roll out of Climate Crisis awareness
- Work with Youth to host 4 Environmental Camps , two Early Act & Two Interact Work with Climate Reality Leader partners & other partners to gear up integrated relevant action plans to address the Climate Crisis
- Work with D9350 Clubs and all other Southern African Rotary Districts to ensure that every Rotary project is environmentally sustainable, as agreed at COSA, Feb 2019.

- Keep challenging RI to ensure they play a greater role in environmental issues
- Committee to host monthly meetings at 9.30 am on first Thursday of each month at Glencairn Rotary Youth Camp, (depending on availability of our Climate Reality Leader partners who are essential partners in knowledge sharing).

• **District Resource Network(DRN) Tony Davidson**



- In line with RI requirements, strengthen our newly established District Resource Network
- Encourage Clubs to get more involved in international service & partnership, share project successes and help identify potential new international partners
- Create developmental and learning opportunities for Rotarians by encouraging the sharing of skills & knowledge between clubs and Rotarians & build clusters of local experts
- Work in collaboration with other districts, through COSA, and wider, to partner on larger projects that have greater impact.

- DRN to meet bi monthly

- **Literacy & Numeracy - Janet Krisman**



- Encourage all clubs to work together in clusters to address the 78% illiteracy & in-numeracy rate in Grade 4 primary schools
- Clubs to work in partnership with WCDBE and relevant literacy/ numeracy focused NGOS
- Continue encouraging provision of libraries, books and librarian, library assistant training.

- **RFHD: Rotary Family Health Days 2-5 Oct – Bev Frieslich**



- Work in partnership with National & Provincial Department of Health (DOH) to roll out RFHD
- Encourage Clubs to partner with other Rotary clubs and NGOs to deliver range of services
- Expand services to communities who traditionally do not receive quality health services
- Identify additional Add-On services (eg. Eye and Hearing testing) not traditionally covered by DOH

- **ShelterBox – Tracey Wilson**



- Strengthen Rotary's relationship with ShelterBox
- Increase awareness of the ShelterBox service

Motivate expansion of use of ShelterBoxes in disaster areas in Southern Africa

Public Image: - Shelley Finch



Public image is critical in Rotary, but does not stand in isolation. The team will be working closely with the other pillars as it is the work of Rotary that will get us the support and attention – PI just helps get the information out in the right way!

Public Image strategy for 2019 - 2020

1. Complete the rollout of the **Diversity Project** including a facilitated workshop, workbook and video series

This is well under way, and we look forward to completing the project with information to clubs, as well as a social media roll out with the new materials

2. Complete the rollout of **District Data Project** PR campaign

The District Data Project is gaining momentum, and as you read above, is expanding into the District Resource Network (DRN). The project has two elements, and using the data in a PR campaign to tell the world what we do is part of the PI initiative at a district level

3. **Updated website(s).**

We are working on a new public facing website, as well as expanding the members section of the district website to create an easy to access resource for everyone from prospective members to members needing information on specific projects or areas of focus. We have incredible on line resources available, and our aim is to make them more easily accessible to those looking for the information.

4. Assist clubs in updating their **club branding** including pull up banners, gazebos, etc

The use of correct branding is an ongoing effort, and the PI team are available to help clubs identify the correct branding to use, and confirm the suppliers being used are aware of the requirements from RI

5. Host a series of **PR workshops** to upskill Rotary members with marketing and PR skills

Public Relations is both simple and complex – a simple concept with multiple paths to achieve it, and various tips and tricks which make it work. Our team of subject matter experts are available to share information at the workshops (see calendar on page 1)

6. Launch automated **Welcome emails** for new members (Series of emails to new members and sponsors)

Who remembers being overwhelmed at the deluge of information you found as a new member? Together with the membership team, a system where new members receive information in bite sized chunks will be implemented this year, helping us develop better informed and highly motivated members who are both willing to serve and have the information they need to do so!

With this team, we are ready to go out and connect the world! Looking forward to a great year

David

