



www.rotaryeclubsa.org



President Arlene's Letter

Dear Members and Friends of Rotary,

As you are no doubt aware we are in water month. What is that? Well I think that by now after many years initiating, implementing and successfully completing many projects all involved in some way with water that we are all aware of the wonderful effect clean water has on a community. We are very lucky to have such marvellous donors and the ability to source both District and Foundation grants which enable us to complete our many sustainable projects bringing water to the communities.

But and it is a big but, we are also engaged in bringing education to our people through supplying reading materials, online resources, furnishing of premises, food for learners the list is endless. Below is a short extract from our last Board meeting which illustrates some of the points that I have been making.

'Private donors donated R14,969 towards the literacy Kickstart project and these funds have been sitting in our Rotary E-Club's account since 2020. It was agreed that a literacy programme for Grade R – Grade 3 would be initiated with expertise from Rotarian Nareshini Ranganthan. Pat Draper advised that Nareshini is a specialist in education support who has been running the Global Grant funded Kickstart programme for the last two years. Nareshini is currently running Teacher and Learner programs in rural KwaZulu-Natal. This literacy programme would be undertaken at the ECDC which Iris Canham is running in Umkomaas. Nareshini, Logie and Susie will facilitate same.

It was agreed that R500 of the R2,000 balance left over from donations for the food hampers from the Shallcross Community would go towards buying foodstuff for the Taweni Community.

A further amount of R108 is designated for Rotarian Khaya Mposula's Taweni Community project. The Taweni school is a crèche where Khaya provides meals to the children. The sustainability of feeding the children at Taweni is a concern to Linda. Khaya was growing vegetables for the Taweni community. It was agreed that a proposal be crafted to apply for a government grant.'

The following articles in **Drumbeat** will clearly illustrate some of the results of the projects in which we are engaged. All of this is leading up to What? You might ask. **We need you** all please to work with us as a team. You have varied experience, ideas, contacts etc to help our Club go further, it takes teamwork to reach the stars. Please join us in our meetings (if you are able) perhaps WhatsApp or email me, I am always available to work with you.

Some of the statistics that we can find on the Rotary Foundation page. The figures you see below are for 20/21. I am looking forward to seeing the revised stats at the end of the year. I am sharing this in the hope that you all visit the 'My Rotary Page' where you will find up to date information on Rotary world wide not just our club.

WE CONNECT PEOPLE 1.4 million members worldwide

WE TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES Approximately 47 million volunteer hours each year

WE FUND SUSTAINABLE PROJECTS \$333/R6,088/£271 million awarded for global service initiatives in 2020-21

President Arlene's Letter cont.

Rotary International President-elect R. Gordon R. McNally calls for Rotary to create hope in the world by working for peace and mental wellbeing. He urges members to engage in tough conversations and earn the trust that's necessary to realize these values.

Rotarian Linda Zama and I are hoping to 'Open the Door' on this subject and working with counsellors make it easier for our people to speak with those who understand and are able to help

Yours Very Sincerely
Kind regards

Arlene Arnold
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Our Rotary E-Club's Board members

| | |
|---|---|
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| 2. Bill Main, Director Web Administrator | E: bill@mainlinkit.com |
| 3. Linda Zama, Director | E: info@lindazamatrust.org.za |
| 4. Logie Naidoo, Director Projects | E: logie247@mweb.co.za |
| 5. Monique Labat, Club Secretary | E: moniquelabat@gmail.com |
| 6. Patrick Draper, Director Global Grants | E: patdraper7@gmail.com |
| 7. Robert Senkubuge, Director | E: robsenkubuge@gmail.com |
| 8. Tony Holness, Club Treasurer | E: wizardhc@mweb.co.za |
| 9. Viktor Cytra, Director Rotary Foundation | E: vcytra@gmail.com |

Rotary's The Four Way Test

The Four-Way Test is a nonpartisan and nonsectarian ethical guide for people to use for their personal and professional relationships. The test has been translated into more than 100 languages, and Rotary club members recite it at club meetings.



Rotary's Mottos are: Service Above Self and One Profits Most, Who Serves Best

5TH AND 6TH MAY 2023 - DISTRICT CONFERENCE

District Conference is only 5 weeks away! Are you joining Rotarians, PDG Greg Cryer, Khaya Mposula, Linda Zama, Logie Naidoo, Monique Labat, Pat Draper, Rasigan Naidoo, Sambulo Khalala, Susie van der Merwe and Tony Holness in Howick at the Oasis Conference Centre?

There is still accommodation available in the many Bed & Breakfast establishments in Howick and the Midlands. Thanks to Susie the TAFTA Sewing Angels are making us beautiful African print shirts to wear at DisCon. Need a shirt? Please let Susie know on WhatsApp: +27 (0) 83 703 5579 **See you there!**



The poster features the Rotary District 9370 logo and the Imagine Rotary logo at the top. Below them is the text "District Conference 5-6 May 2023" in large blue letters. A photograph of the Oasis Conference Centre building is shown, with the text "Save the date" overlaid in white and blue. At the bottom, there are two text boxes providing details about the conference location and registration, along with logos for Love Howick, Oasis, and Oasis Church.

Rotary
District 9370

IMAGINE ROTARY

District Conference 5-6 May 2023

Save the date

Your Discon 2023 host is The Oasis Conference Centre in the leafy KZN Midlands town of Howick. The conference centre is based on the Oasis Campus, which is also home to Love Howick NPC, Oasis Prep School and the Oasis Church. While all organisations are independently run, they share an ethos of service and community, and are deeply committed to sustainable growth and community development. As such all four organisations have contributed significantly to the uMngeni Community, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic and the rebuilding after the July 2021 riots.

The 2022-23 Rotary District 9370 annual conference will be held in Howick, at the Oasis Conference centre, on 5th and 6th May 2023. The conference will be taking place on Friday afternoon, with a fun evening planned, a full day on Saturday culminating with a banquet in the evening. Registrations forms will be going out shortly and the cost to attend the conference is R1400 per person. Should you wish to pay this monthly prior to the conference, please can you advise Hilary accordingly. There are plenty of B & B's in the area, but would advise that you reserve your accommodation sooner rather than later.

LOVE HOWICK **OASIS** **oasis CHURCH**

Rotary
District 9370

IMAGINE ROTARY

For further information, please contact Hilary Augustus – hau@iafrica.com 082 556 0299

Travels around the Globe!

Past District Governor Elizabeth Cytra and our Director Foundation, Rotarian Viktor Cytra stopped off in Durban on their cruise and were warmly welcomed by Rotarians Logie Naidoo, Susie van der Merwe and supporter of our Rotary Club Selvie Gounden. Both Elizabeth and Viktor were given Rotary pins on the occasion. Enjoying coffee and cake in Durban are from left to right: Viktor Cytra, Logie Naidoo, Susie van der Merwe, Selvie Gounden and Elizabeth Cytra.





Cathy's Corner March 2023

Chatting with President Arlene and DG Gavin before our last meeting, I got on to the subject of outer space and the moon, having recently met Keith Gottschalk, one of the few English language poets who compose poems celebrating engineers, inventions, scientists and space.

In a glib, throwaway sentence Keith asked us at his book launch if we knew that the moon has regular moonquakes. I thought he said daily moonquakes, and it's a fact. Seismic data have recorded 600 to 3 000 moonquakes a year, although many are very small. I also learnt from Google that roughly every 27 days, deep moonquakes happen nearly 700 kilometres below the moon's surface, believed to be caused by the tidal pull of Earth on the moon.

The Apollo missions also detected about one moonquake per day due to space rocks hitting the moon's surface.

My media job has its interesting side to it. I started working on a South African National Space Agency (SANSA) newsletter in November. I have always been interested in science and space and was fortunate enough to see the launch on television of the first US spaceship to take a man (John Glen) into orbit around the Earth in 1962.

This was an opportunity to catch up on South African and Nasa space news.

Did you know SA officially launched its new 24-hour regional Space Weather Centre in Hermanus, Western Cape, last November?

The space weather centre was well-known worldwide through its international space partnerships. In 2019, the International Civil Aviation Organisation designated SA as the official space weather information provider to the aviation industry in Africa. From being a five-day week, normal hours job tracking terrestrial weather, the space weather centre needs to be operational 24 hours a day as a new annexure requires each aircraft flight plan records space with SANSA and log terrestrial weather.

Space impacts technology systems, and when the sun engages in specific actions like a solar flare that impact the Earth, there are radio communications blackouts. The space weather centre's domain is high-frequency radio communications, and it is this communication that the whole of Africa depends on. The weather centre is open to the public at certain times so it would make an interesting visit.

Back to poet Keith Gottschalk. He wrote a poem about a weak radio frequency designated SHGb02+14 that seemed to be coming from a point between the constellations Pisces and Aries, where there is no obvious star or planetary system within 1 000 light-years. It has a frequency of about 1 420 megahertz – one of the main frequencies of hydrogen. (New Scientist.com news 1 September 2004)

“Thank you for your patience.
Your radio call is important to our stellar cluster.
All our consultants are busy.
Our network is down.
Press star and wait another millennium
or press hash & a genetically modified
Cyno-nano-bacteria will attend to your call.”

From the poetry book, *Cosmonauts do it in Heaven*, Keith Gottschalk 2021.

Guest Speakers at our Rotary Zoom Meetings

Please join Club President Arlene Arnold and fellow Rotarians on Zoom at 19h00 South African Standard Time as we learn from this excellent line-up of speakers. The Zoom link will be sent before the meeting.

Tues 18 April 2023 Geoff Litterick - WaterAID

Tues 2 May 2023 Candy Pierce – PETS Education

Tues 25 July 2023 Angie Thornton – Angel Paws

People of Action – Projects!

Support For Elders's Voice

Rotarian Susie van der Merwe advises that Jo-anne Herbst, who runs the 3 Elders Voice residences here in Umbilo & in Montclair & Pennington in Durban and South Coast of KwaZulu-Natal, was overjoyed with our delivering all the net curtaining that the TAFTA Sewing Angels 🧵 have made for the Umbilo residence.

Now the Elders in that facility can walk to and from their bathrooms in privacy. 15 of the bedrooms now have lovely net curtains for the windows and French doors. The TAFTA Sewing Angels thoroughly enjoyed the outing to hand over their hard work as well as the interaction they had with Rosslyn (who actually manages this residence) including some of the other residents there. Really wonderful to see three of the elderly gentlemen coming to unload the boxes from the car, as well as to see how far they've come with the tiling of each of the rooms.

All the TAFTA Sewing Angels that had been there with Susie in December, said that they could see such a difference in everything now that the rooms are light and bright with the new tiling job 🍷. All the work, the tiling, the painting, the cleaning and the cooking is done by the residents themselves 🧑. They only have three or four dedicated caregivers for the four/five ALZ/Dementia patients. It really is fantastic to see how purposeful and how humble all these old people are here.



The boot of Susie's car filled to the brim with net curtains and our Rotary banner!

Packed and ready to deliver all the net curtains for the passages and bedrooms, as well as the beautiful sari-wardrobe curtains to the Elders Voice, the Umbilo Durban residence.

Water Project

Our E-Club Rotarian, Nareshini Ranganthan works with The Environment and Language Education Trust (ELET) and manages our Rotary E-Club's Global Grant on Literacy.



As March is Rotary's Water and Sanitation Month, Nareshini shared with us a special project:

“Access to treated and safe drinking water in deep rural South Africa is almost non-existent and the sad reality of deep rural life is that people use raw, untreated water for drinking purposes when safe drinking water is unavailable. Unavailability of safe drinking water is common in deep rural areas even though the provision of clean water to these areas is a national priority for Government. Consumption of river and raw water from other untreated sources is harmful due to the presence of many micro-organisms and other contaminants. This is the main cause of the high diarrheal count in rural areas and many other diseases and illnesses like dysentery, gastroenteritis, typhoid and cholera. Several small water treatment plants are available in some areas, but they require electricity, staff, maintenance and have high-cost implications. Filters to treat water are also commercially available but are not suitable because of the high turbidity of the raw water and the high costs involved. High costs are also incurred in transporting water to certain areas and under the prevailing circumstances it is unfeasible for water treatment plants to be built in some of the rural areas.

The Environment and Language Education Trust (ELET) has therefore actively sought partnerships to find solutions and implement intervention programs to alleviate the serious health issues faced by especially children in rural KZN. The recent floods in KZN have further exacerbated the situation, with infrastructure being damaged and the building of new infrastructure stalling for years to come. The serious challenge of deep rural communities accessing safe drinking water has now become a critical challenge. ELET has entered into a partnership with a Durban scientist who spent 30 years at CSIR and who has developed a unique, patented home water purification plant that is manufactured exclusively in KZN and is safe for home use. The system produces clean, drinking water in under an hour and requires no electricity and no special skills or mechanical expertise to use. There is no maintenance required and it can be safely housed indoors to avoid the risk of theft or vandalism. The system can store 100 litres of treated water and incorporates all 5 of the conventional processes of a water treatment plant – flocculation, coagulation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection. ELET has piloted the project and provided 100 units to households, with training on its use, in the Ilembe District, located north of the City of Durban. These are 100 households that have now been able to create safe drinking water for their families in the last year and a half. This project has now stalled due to a lack of resources to take it forward.” **If you'd like to support this essential project please contact Rotarian Nareshini Ranganthan on WhatsApp: +27 (0) 78 601 4498**

Who are the TAFTA Sewing Angels? Why are they so important to the work that Rotary does in the Durban & surrounding areas?

E-Club Rotarian Susie van der Merwe writes that our Rotary E-Club of South Africa One D9370 supports a completely voluntary sewing group at TAFTA John Conradie House/Langler Towers on the Durban south beachfront.

Rotary assisted with the start-up of this group of wonderful ladies in 2018/9 as there was a call for more involvement with TAFTA than our occasional visits on special days, sponsoring of Christmas meals or drop offs of needed items. Now our aptly named TAFTA Sewing Angels (the TSA's) are the driving force behind most of our Rotary Clubs projects!

When our Club has an idea for a project, we approach the TSA's to see if they are willing and able to get sewing/crafting for the project.....and they are always up for the challenge. And over the last 4 years, they have managed to make the most creative articles for those in our communities that our Club supports.....bringing a bit of love and brightness into the worlds of those less fortunate.

Mrs Sally van Rooyen (80 years old) heads up this incredibly talented group. And the other "passion-for-compassion" team members that are the most involved - Vassi, Gladys, Sadhna, Kumla and Savvy - vary from between the ages of 56 yrs and 85 yrs – so there is enough experience and energy to go around.

Since the TSA's inception, Sally & her team have been involved in the making of 1,000 washable sanitary towels which were distributed with the Bambhayi Project with the assistance of the Oyster Box Hotel, 150 velvet teddy bears & 150 care-bags for the children at CHOC Childhood Cancer Foundation, the cutest little skirts and trousers for the SEED Fund, drawstring bags for the sanitary towels and our Afriweave Project kits, the most creative patchwork cot-covers for the babies of the RobinHood Foundation "Love the Babies" campaign, fun cushions for reading corners at a couple of ECD centres we support, beautiful gathered skirts made out of sari's donated by another benefactor for Vulindleba School of the Deaf in Amanzimtoti.....amongst many other projects both large and small.

The 1,000 washable sanitary towel project was a massive project and was completed during the whole COVID year of 2020 – the ladies busily sewing individually in their own rooms during lockdown. The beautiful 100% soft Egyptian cotton used was donated by the Oyster Box Hotel to the Rotary Club of Umhlanga, who then shares a lot of it with our Rotary Club. Thank you Rotarian Rob Hay and your Rotary Club.

Another huge project – now thanks to our friendship with Agie Govender (Regional Manager – KZN) & Nirupa Kasserchun of CHOC, this has become a lasting relationship – was the black & brown velvet teddy-bears. These teddies are given by CHOC to each child that arrives at either Albert Luthuli Central & Greys Hospitals here in Kwa-Zulu Natal, giving a bit of soft & cuddly comfort when times get rough under hospital treatment. All the bright and colourful bling (ribbons, buttons, shiny bits & bobs) was donated to the TSA's – 20 boxes!! – by the Eden Clothing Group.

Now our TSA's have made 150 Care-Bags - each and every one a unique design with each of the TSA's creative ideas. The project we have in place now, is for CHOC to hand out a Care-Bag to each child as they arrive for treatment. Each bag will contain a pair of slip-slops (made possible thanks to a kind donation from our friendship RC in Canada which allowed us to take advantage of the 2-for-1 special that Pick n Pay Hyper By the Sea had on slip-slops in March), a pair of fun & colourful hospital pyjamas made by the TSA's, a toothbrush & toothpaste (thanks to Colgate-Palmolive) and either a colouring book or a diary with stationary (depending on age).

Yet another very worthwhile project is the voile net curtaining for all the windows (and there are many....) in the new Elders Voice residence in Natal Settlers Park in Umbilo, Durban. This elders residence is the latest addition by Jo-anne Herbst to the Elders Voice group of residences in and around Durban and is in dire need of some love and attention, as it is extremely run-down. Our Rotary Club thinks that this is an absolutely wonderful gesture – where some of the compassionate elders of TAFTA, voluntarily help out the elder residents of another organisation which looks after our "forgotten ones" – with a little help in the background from Rotary International. The above is merely a snapshot of what our beautiful sewing angels have accomplished in the short time Rotary and the TSA's have been friends. They are so very grateful to be kept busy....and so willing to share their love and compassion....and we as a Rotary Club, are extremely happy to keep working with them!

English Dictionaries – Thanks for the donations!

Director: Projects, Rotarian Logie Naidoo arranged to buy second hand dictionaries for The English Club in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) thanks to donations from Logie herself and Rotarian Monique Labat. The English Club was established by Papy Kalaba Ontafia who many years ago was a French-speaking refugee in Durban. Papy is now back in his homeland of the DRC and has started *The English Club* to share his knowledge of English with the youth in his region. Papy has reached out to our Rotary E-Club asking for English dictionaries to assist the youth in The English Club. By purchasing the 2nd hand dictionaries, our Rotary E-Club is supporting The Cheshire Home bookshop in Queensburgh, Durban. Thank you Logie for arranging same and sincere thanks to past Rotary Exchange Student, Anne Robinson who donated English dictionaries to this good cause!

If you are able to donate English dictionaries please contact Club Secretary Monique Labat on email: moniquelabat@gmail.com or WhatsApp: +27 82 924 6349

Donate NOW button!

Rotarian Robert Senkubuge has been actively promoting our Rotary E-Club's fundraising portfolio. Check out the "Donate NOW" button on our Club's website <https://www.rotaryeclubsa.org/> and on our social media pages. Simply click on any of the good causes that our Rotary E-Club of South Africa One is currently supporting:

Food (Porridge project)
Health (End Polio Now)
TRF (The Rotary Foundation)
SUBZ (Safe Reusable Sanitary items for School Girls)
Education (Afriweave project)
Agriculture/water (Market gardens project)
Community General



Dearest fellow Rotarians, your E-Club needs your support, please encourage friends, family, pets, and others to come to visit our website and press the **red button** and donate to the club.

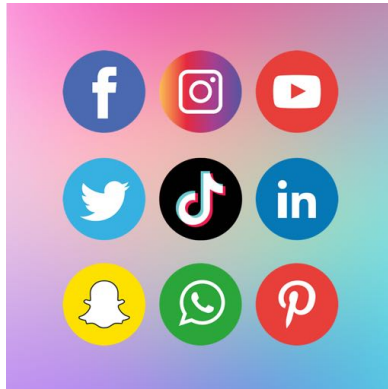
Please head to the link and show your love and appreciation for the **Donate NOW BUTTON**. Test drive it, **CLICK IT**, and drop your most generous contribution for **2023** to show your appreciation for this massive breakthrough for our club.

The **RED BUTTON** allows us to immediately and effortlessly donate.

Thank you for your generosity. All funds raised will go towards our various club projects. **Click the link below or type it into your browser** and let your most generous donation go to work in building our club even further.

www.rotaryeclubsa.org

Social Media Links Promoting Rotary International, Rotary Foundation and our E-Club!



Click on the links below and see what's happening on our social media pages.

If you have items of interest, photos and captions please send them to Rotarian Kiran Setty on Email: kiransettyks@gmail.com

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Rotary-E-Club-of-South-Africa-One-D9370>

Instagram page <https://www.instagram.com/rotaryeclubsone/>

LinkedIn profile <https://www.linkedin.com/company/rotary-e-club-of-south-africa/>

Some smiles from Club President Arlene Arnold!

1. A man walks into a library and asks the librarian for books about paranoia. She whispers, "They're right behind you!"
2. Want to hear a roof joke? The first one's on the house.
3. What should you do if you're attacked by a group of clowns? Go straight for the juggler.
4. I saw a movie about how ships are put together. It was riveting.
5. Why did the taxi driver get fired? Passengers didn't like it when she went the extra mile.
6. How do you look for Will Smith in the snow? Just follow the fresh prints.
7. I couldn't believe that the highway department called my dad a thief. But when I got home, all the signs were there.
8. I submitted 10 puns to a joke-writing competition to see if any of them made the finals. Sadly, no pun in 10 did.
9. Which rock group has four guys who can't sing or play instruments? Mount Rushmore.
10. Why does Humpty Dumpty love autumn? Because he always has a great fall.
11. It's always windy in a sports arena. All those fans.
12. Why should you never trust stairs? They're always up to something.
13. How do mountains stay warm in the winter? Snowcaps.
14. Is this pool safe for diving? It deep ends.

15. I tried to catch fog yesterday. I mist.
16. What do you call a religious person who sleepwalks? A roamin' Catholic.
17. Two windmills are standing on a wind farm. One asks, "What's your favorite kind of music?" The other replies, "I'm a big metal fan."
18. What kind of shorts do clouds wear? Thunderpants.
19. Can February March? No, but April May.
20. What is red and smells like blue paint? Red paint.
21. What do dentists call their x-rays? Tooth pics.
22. What's the difference between a poorly dressed man on a unicycle and a well-dressed man on a bicycle? Attire.
23. What is the best day to go to the beach? Sunday, of course.



DRUMBEAT: APRIL 2023 ISSUE

Hello Rotarians, Honorary Rotarians and Friends of Rotary!

Do you have Rotary related content and photos you would like to see published in the next edition of Drumbeat? Deadline for our next issue is Saturday 22 April 2023.

Please submit your photos in High Res, minimum 1MB with captions including name and surname of your photo subjects to Drumbeat Editor, Monique Labat on E: moniquelabat@gmail.com

We look forward to your submissions
and wish you all the best in Rotary Friendship and Fellowship!