

www.rotaryclubsa.org

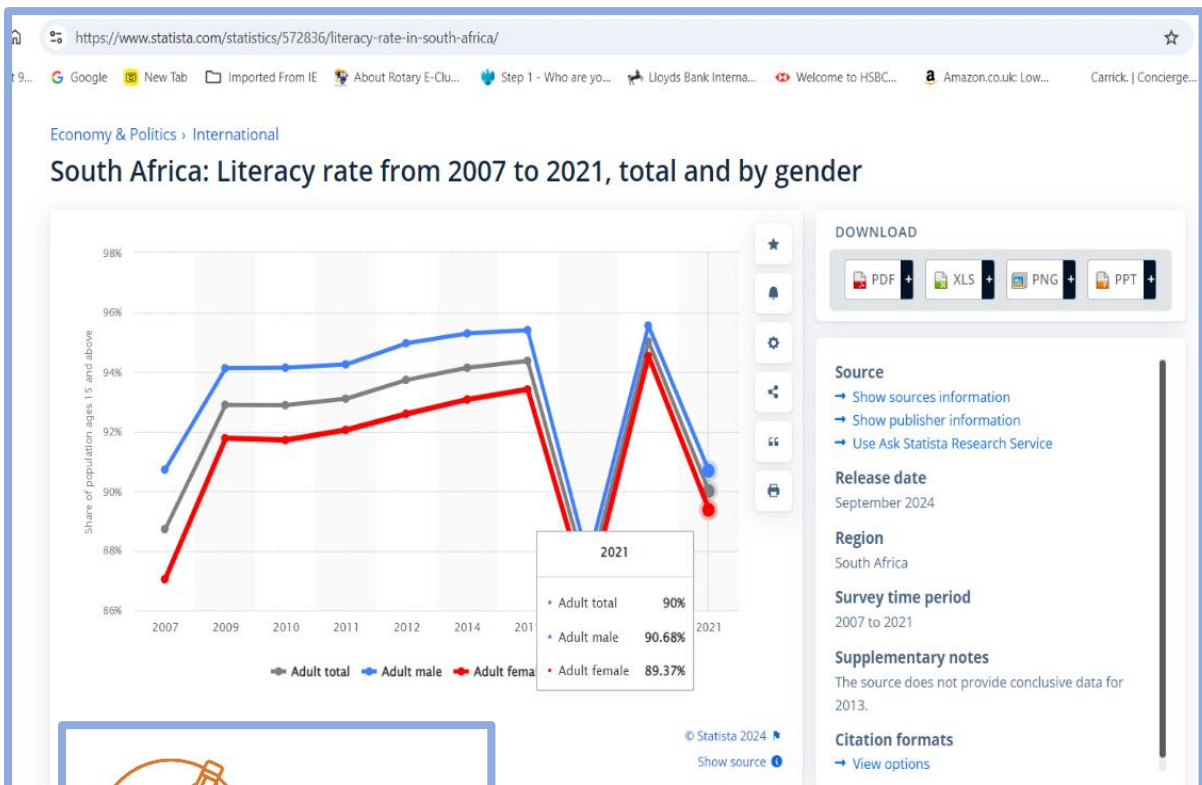
President Arlene's Letter



SEPTEMBER

Basic Education and Literacy Month

South Africa: Literacy rate from 2007 to 2021, total and by gender
 of population ages 15 and above



Release date
 September 2024
 Region
 South Africa
 Survey time period
 2007 to 2021

Literacy rate in South Africa 2021

Published by: Aaron O'Neill Sep 19, 2024

As of 2021, South Africa's total literacy rate was around 90 percent, which means 90 percent of all South Africans could read and write.

The literacy rate measures the percentage of people aged 15 and above who can read and write. There is no common definition for what counts as being literate; individual countries use individual assessments and standards to define it. Despite this, the literacy rate is an important indicator of the standard of education and thus the standard of living in a country.

Sourced from: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/572836/literacy-rate-in-south-africa/>

Dear Friends,

I have chosen to start my letter this month with this graph showing the demographics of literacy standards in our country. It shows 90%, which on paper reads quite well in comparison with some of the other African Countries.

But....and you will notice that I say "but"...on looking at this graph, the rates are declining.

We don't know what the stats were for 2023 and these statistics are based (as far as I can tell) solely on the minimal requirement that is reading and writing. What about the sciences etc.?

This brings me to just some of our projects that have been completed, or are in the pipeline and being implemented, by our outstanding members.

Just one of our projects is: -

UMKOMAAS DRIFT PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Rotary E-Club of SA One together with Casa Dillon Education are involved in improving reading and literacy in our communities.

Thanks to our kind donor - The Trustees of the George Ramalu Memorial Trust - we were able to start this initiative to help a child to read.

The school identified 10 children in Grade 3 who were struggling to understand phonics from the 48 children in the class which staff struggle to give individual attention.

Our members Tony and Logie, consulted with retired professionals to help with this programme, co-ordinated by Rotarian Iris Canham of Casa Dillon Education.

*We currently have 6 volunteers who offer their time on a Tuesday and Thursday.
We are currently running other projects that aim to help our people in their learning.*

You will see in the following pages an example of some of the ways we try to aid students with their education.

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.” – Martin Luther King, Jr.

So, what do you think? What is the way forward?

One thing that I am certain of, is that a well-balanced education is a necessity in anyone's life.

Yours in Rotary,

Arlene Arnold

Club President 2023-2024
Rotary E-Club of South Africa One
District 9370

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Ed's note: There will never be Peace without Literacy 😊 Read more below.....

September 2024



Rotary



rotary action
group for peace
peace through service

Monthly news & updates

**Message from
Grace Van Zyl
Chair, Rotary Action Group For
Peace**

As I reflect on Rotary International's values and the many impactful projects we take on, I am reminded that we are born peacebuilders. However, what often goes unnoticed is that with every project, we are contributing to positive, sustainable peace, addressing the root causes of conflict. It dawned on me that, as Rotarians and humanitarians, we are often *subconsciously* competent in peacebuilding. Now, imagine the *magic* of Rotary if we all became *consciously* competent in creating peace...

September, with its focus on Basic Education and Literacy, serves as the perfect backdrop for us at the Rotary Action Group for Peace to highlight the power of **Peace Education**. Peace education equips individuals to:

- Promote Conflict Resolution
- Build Tolerance and Understanding
- Develop Emotional Intelligence
- End/Prevent Violence and War
- Promote Social Justice
- Support Sustainable Development
- Cultivate Global Citizenship
- Improve Mental Health and Well-being





**PEACEBUILDING AND
CONFLICT PREVENTION**

Given its far-reaching benefits, I am excited to announce the formation of the **RAGFP Education Committee**. This initiative grew out of the success of the Türkiye Hour, a collaboration with the International Country Committees (ICC) under our signed Memorandum of Understanding. The committee's goal is to equip our members with the knowledge and skills needed to become *consciously competent* peacebuilders and to take intentional action.

Our strategy is simple: **educate, empower, and engage**. We aim to address not only the immediate needs arising from conflict and war but also the deeper root causes of such conflict. With the expertise of our resident psychologist, Dr. Vicki Radel, we can tailor our education programs to meet the specific needs of diverse communities around the world.

The Education Committee is currently curating a comprehensive catalogue of courses that will soon be available to all members, including topics such as:

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- From Empathy to Resilience
- Peace Language
- Well-being
- Gender-Based Violence

I am also thrilled to announce that the beloved Türkiye Hour will be rebranded as the **RAGFP Education Hour**. Stay tuned for the October invitation, where we'll unveil the exciting new direction our Education Committee is taking.

To learn more about our peace education programs, feel free to reach out to us at contact@rotaryactiongroupforpeace.org.

In closing, while knowledge is power, it is *applied* knowledge that brings about change. I encourage each of you to take ACTION and contribute to creating a more peaceful world.

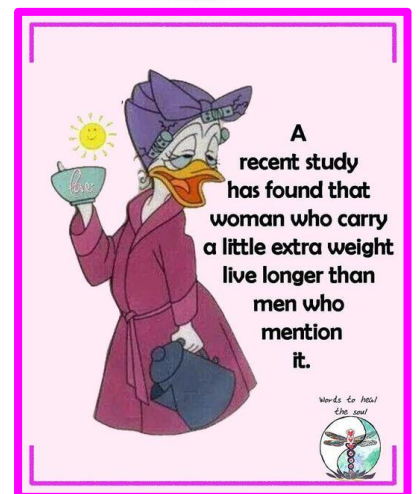
Grace Van Zyl

**10 Reasons
Peace, Basic Education and Literacy
by RAGFP Immediate Past Chair Michael Hayes**



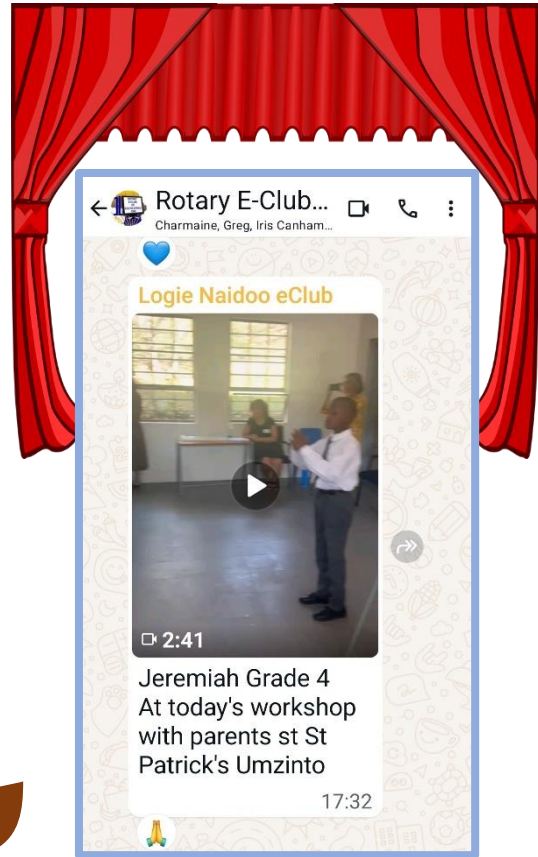
1. Knowledge is power. (Francis Bacon)
2. Literacy creates empowerment.
3. Basic Education creates the opportunity to participate in society.
4. Peace is enabled when literacy is present.
5. Literacy enables empathy.
6. Literacy enables understanding.
7. Literacy enables conflict resolution.
8. Literacy enables Inner peace.
9. Literacy enables respect for all.
10. Literacy enables Peacebuilding!

Peekaboo 😊!!!!



We had such an amazing day at St Patrick's today Parent and Child Reading and Literacy workshop Jointly with ELET 17:17

Logie Naidoo eClub



All our members had the opportunity to watch the short video about the "little leaf".



A fabulously entertaining presentation by future theatrical artist in the making – Jeremiah – at St Patricks Primary School in Umzinto, south of Durban at the combined ELET & Rotary E-Club of SA One sponsored event for parents and staff at the school.



See below the illuminating write-up about this special event in the Rising Sun article...

World Literacy Day Event inspires parents to read to children

ON SEPTEMBER 4, the Environment and Learning Education Trust, in collaboration with the Rotary E Club of SA One, hosted an impactful World Literacy Day event as part of the +Kickstart Literacy Project aimed at encouraging parents to re-instill the culture of reading and to foster a love for reading in their children. Held at St Patrick's Primary School, Umzinto, the event specifically targeted parents of children from grades 1 to 4, emphasising the critical role parents play in building their children's literacy skills from an early age. The workshop facilitated by dynamic Mbalenhle Mkhasibe from Environment and Language Education Trust (ELET) offered parents valuable insights into the importance of literacy in the foundational years, emphasising how reading is not just a skill but a tool that opens doors to future success. She highlighted strategies for nurturing confidence within young learners, helping them navigate their reading journey with joy and curiosity. Then there was time to engage in games that parents and children were tasked with on the sports field. "The statistics for the number of learners who cannot read for understanding by Grade 4, sits at 80%, don't make your child part of that statistic" Mkhasibe emphasised. It became clear to parents that the importance of playing with their children not only strengthens literacy skills but also helps fortify the emotional bond between parents and their children, transforming reading and learning time into cherished family moments. As a special treat, participants and guests were entertained by two learners from grades 4 and 5 who are passionate about poetry, language and



Learners Landile Shabane and Jeremiah Chipeta with Iris Canham, Mbal Mkhasibe and Logie Naidoo.

literacy as well the Grade 6 and 7's who are part of the Youth Citizen Action Programme at the school who put on an enlightening presentation about the importance of healthy eating. The children shared how nutritious foods positively impact their growth and enhance their ability to concentrate and learn in the classroom. The learners started an inspiring project - Changing School Tuckshops to be Health Promoting Schools and distributed sandwiches and fruit and a juice, to highlight the food groups whilst sharing the work and their success thus far. ELET and the Rotary E Club of SA One's col-

laboration reflects their ongoing commitment to empowering families through education and community-building. Mrs Urika Pillay Educator at St Patricks, was excited about the collaboration. "This is a first of its kind. We believe that parents are the first and most important teachers. By encouraging them to read with their children, we're not just improving literacy rates, but also strengthening family ties and boosting the overall well-being of our communities. We are also proud of our YCAP music group under the guidance of Miss Zoko who are in the finals of a song contest and the only primary school and school in KZN to reach the finals," said Mrs Pillay. Logie Naidoo of the F Club was overwhelmed with what she saw and heard from the learners "These children are from a Golden Age with so much to share with the world. The leadership of Principal Mr G Dlamini and the team at St Patrick's is the catalyst for what is reflected here today. High level of commitment and dedication. The parents' engagement encouraged us to continue with these initiatives," said Naidoo. After the event, parents felt motivated to read to and with their children, as well as equipped to support their children's literacy journey, expressing gratitude for the practical tools and knowledge shared. In addition, the ELET also took the opportunity to promote Arbor Week by handing over Spekboom and palms to St Patricks Primary School representatives. For more information visit www.elet.org.za or www.rotaryclubsa.org



Although International Literacy Day took place on the 8th September, all Rotarians & Friends of Rotary are still encouraged to donate towards Rotary's pledge to Inspire Learning and assist communities all around the world to address educational challenges.



We know that times are tough - no country is being spared these difficulties - and that there is also the added call to support Rotary's EndPolio campaign in October.....but if you and your Rotary Friends are able to, please consider donating a small amount to this truly Service Above Self initiative to improve the lives of all children on this beautiful planet.

Thank you!



Take action on International Literacy Day

Consider making a gift to The Rotary Foundation in honor of International Literacy Day on 8 September. Your donation will help communities address educational challenges so that students can focus on the most important thing – learning!

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,
The Rotary Foundation



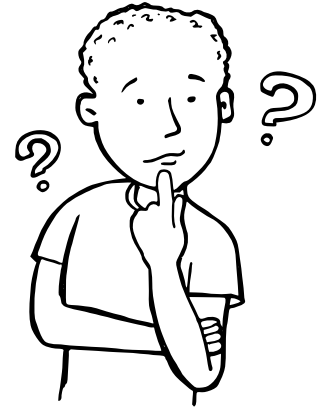
Our E-Club is full of Baby Boomers and some Gen X'ers....but how do we all fit into these generational categories???

And can we as members – each & every one of us - try to encourage some more Millenials to join us



«Generations»

Generation	Time Frame	Age Now
The Silent Generation	1928-1945	79-96 years old
Baby Boomers	1946-1964	60-78 years old
Gen X	1965-1980	44-59 years old
Millennials	1981-1996	28-43 years old
Gen Z	1997-2012	12-27 years old
Gen Alpha	Early 2010s-2025	0- approx. 11 years old



Our very own PDG Elizabeth Cytra has a wealth of Rotary knowledge & experience. This month she shares this very informative article on the structure of Rotary International.



PDG Elizabeth - From My Desk to Your Desk:

In order to be chartered by Rotary International, a new Rotary Club must have a minimum of 20 members. A new Rotaract Club is recommended to have a minimum of 12 members. A new Satellite club a minimum of 8 members. A sponsor club must have at least 20 members.



“ If everything around seems dark, look again, you may be the light. ”

RUMI

In a Nutshell:

- Rotarians are members of Rotary Clubs.
- Rotary Clubs are members of Rotary International (RI)
- Rotary clubs are members of Districts
- Districts are members of Zones.
- **1.2** million Rotarians in **46,000** member clubs worldwide.
- **1.4** million members of Rotary includes 200,000 Rotaract members (18-30) in **10,000** clubs worldwide.
- **342,953** Interactors (12-18) in **14,911** clubs in **145** countries worldwide.

*** District 9370 as of 2023 = 101 Rotary Clubs, with a total membership over 2000 Rotarians.**

If I have captured your interest read on:

In order to carry out its service programs, Rotary is structured in Club, District and International levels. For administrative purposes, the more than **46,000 clubs** in **200** countries and geographical areas are grouped into **529 Districts** and **34 Zones**.

The District Governor (DG) is an officer of RI and represents the RI Board in their respective Districts. District's provides training for Club Presidents. Zones provide training for incoming DG's.

Zones are led by a director who along with **17** other Directors from throughout the world, serves the RI Corporate Board of Directors. Along with these Zone Directors the Board is composed of the International President, President Elect and the General Secretary.

The General Secretary and the **Executive (8)** oversee a staff of more than **800** who serve Rotarians from the RI world headquarters in Evanston and seven International offices. They manage operations at RI Headquarter including Member Services, and Programs, Legal Services, and International Offices in Buenos Aires, São Paulo, Zurich, New Delhi, Seoul, Tokyo and Parramatta (Sydney.)

Trustees (16) the board of Trustees manages the business of the Foundation, the charitable arm of our organization that funds service activities. The RI President-elect nominates the Trustees, who are elected by the RI Bard to a four year term.

Directors (20) The Board of Directors establishes policy for RI and provides guidance that helps our clubs thrive. **The international board** meets quarterly to establish polices and make recommendations to the overall governing bodies, the RI convention and the RI Council on Legislation.

The officers to be elected at the RI Annual Convention shall be the President, Directors, District Governors of RI, and the President, Vice-President, and Honorary Treasurer of Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland (RIBI.)

Next time – The Programs of Rotary



The ROTARY ACTION PLAN Rotary

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

As we stand on the cusp of eliminating polio, we find ourselves poised for our next challenge. **The time is right to move toward realizing a new vision that brings more people together, increases our impact, and creates lasting change around the world.** To achieve the vision of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation, we have set four priorities that will direct our work over the coming years.

INCREASE OUR IMPACT

- Eradicate polio and leverage the legacy
- Focus our programs and offerings
- Improve our ability to achieve and measure impact

EXPAND OUR REACH

- Grow and diversify our membership and participation
- Create new channels into Rotary
- Increase Rotary's openness and appeal
- Build awareness of our impact and brand

ENHANCE PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT


- Support clubs to better engage their members
- Develop a participant-centered approach to deliver value
- Offer new opportunities for personal and professional connection
- Provide leadership development and skills training

INCREASE OUR ABILITY TO ADAPT





- Build a culture of research, innovation, and willingness to take risks
- Streamline governance, structure, and processes
- Review governance to foster more diverse perspectives in decision-making

4419-EN-(722)

Not only was September Rotary's Basic Education & Literacy month, but during the week of **29 August to 4 September**, South Africa annually celebrates Arbor Week. Rotarian Vanessa and her Friends of Rotary had a fun and very active day teaching the children of Isipingo Hills Primary School all about planting trees for the future.....



ARBOR DAY
ISIPINGO HILLS PRIMARY SCHOOL
6 September 2024 / 11h00 [Click Here](#) to RSVP

green4ema and wastefreeplanet
A Tribe Called Quest • Check The Rhyme (Instrumen...



TO PLANT A GARDEN
IS TO BELIEVE IN
THE FUTURE

ema

Today

We are having an Arbor Day Programme at Isipingo Hills Primary School. You are cordially invited to attend. 09:04

Friday 6 September 09:04

@11 09:04

@ Isipingo Hills Primary School. 10 Spathodia Drive. 09:04

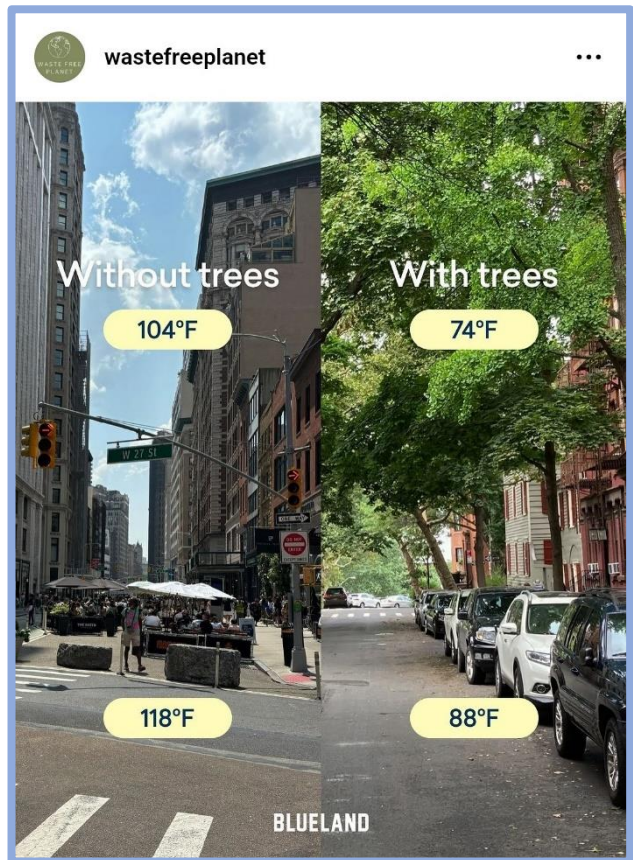


Repost • @blueland

Did you know trees can cool your surroundings by up to 45 degrees? 🌳

Urban areas experience a “heat island effect” when heat is absorbed by buildings and pavements and radiates into the air. As cities around the world are breaking temperature records, we need ways to stay cool. One solution: trees! Not only do they provide shade and bring moisture back into the air, they also support biodiversity, reduce air pollution and decrease stress!

So plant those tree’s everyone 😊
 We can never have enough tree’s.....





International Day of Peace fell on the 21st September this year.



It was a cold and snowy day in parts of South Africa, but despite the logistical problems that this caused, we all sent out our positive intentions for Peace and spared a thought for all those countries that continue to believe that aggressive action is the answer to all of life's difficulties.



International Day Of Peace
September 21, 2024

We invite all our members and readers to share their plans and activities for International Day of Peace! Whether you're organizing an event, participating in a community initiative, or engaging in a personal act of kindness, we want to hear about it. Your efforts inspire others and contribute to a global movement towards peace. Send us your stories and plans, and let's come together to promote and celebrate the diverse ways we are making a difference.

Let us know your plans at
contact@rotaryactiongroupforpeace.org

Rotary

SAVE THE DATE

Healing in a Divided World
PRESIDENTIAL PEACE CONFERENCE

Istanbul, Turkey • 20-22 February 2025
Learn more at rotary.org/istanbul25

Make sure to follow us on social media for daily updates

EXCITING NEWS

The Rotary Presidential Peace Conference is to be held in Istanbul, Turkey next February 2025.



The magical connection between Rotary and Afriweave....

Does everyone remember last months story about Busi, who attended the Malangeni GBV workshop in August and committed to starting a weaving club that helps keep children between the ages of 10 and 15 years off the street in here community?

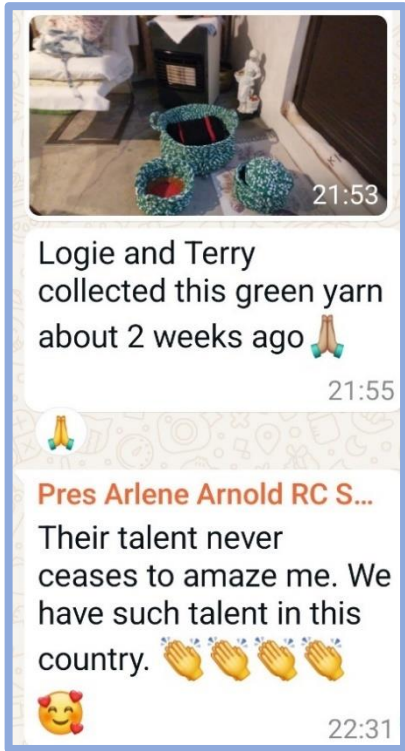
Well, Busi has put her talk into action and along with producing her own creations, has succeeded with her dream of upskilling young girls....all in the short time of less than 1 month!



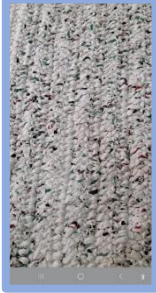
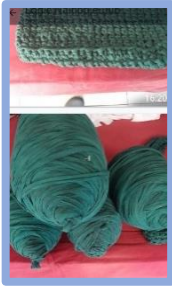
Iris Canham ECD INDWE...
 And one of those who quietly sat and weaved, unsure of herself because ste says she doesn't do well in crowds but has started the GBV girls group after this workshop! So she teaches girls to weave. All the girls started with 3 needles and this week they got their 4th needle 🥰🥰. They have to keep coming before they get the full set 🥰
 Edited 20:22



So we can all see that the 15 Afriweave kits that were donated specifically for this cause have been put to good use already 😊

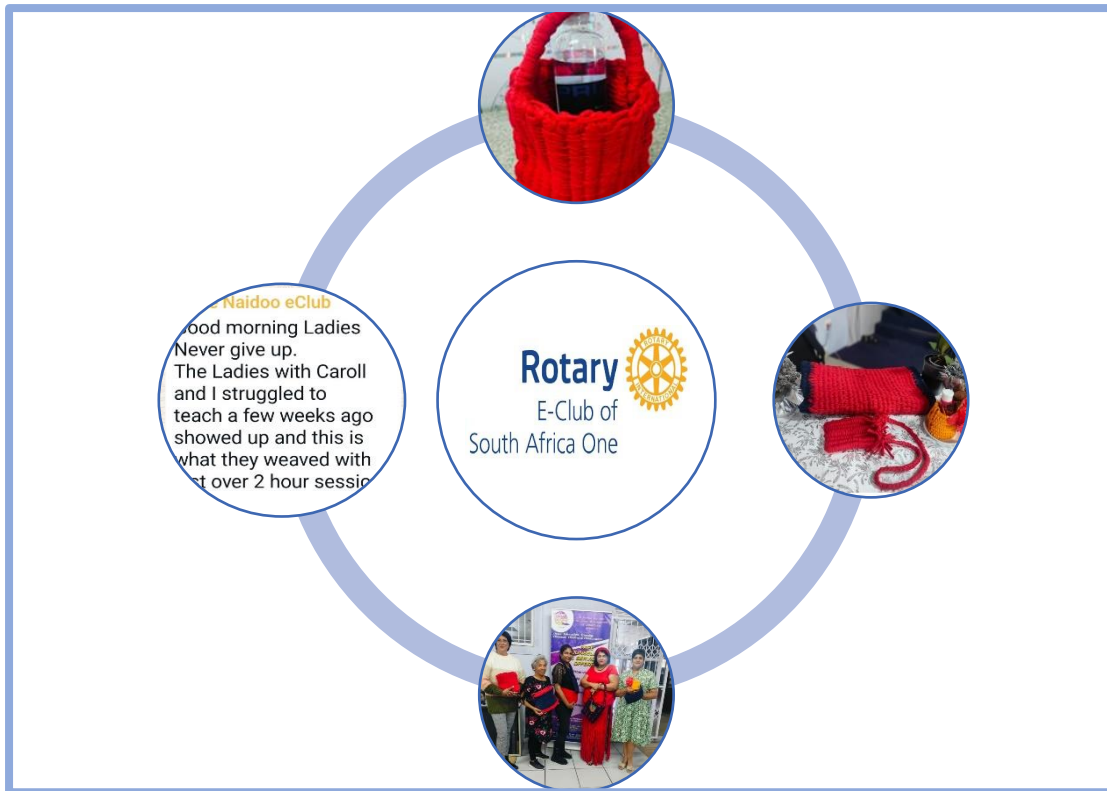


And here are some truly neat works of art from the group of ladies under Rotarian Linda Zama's care 😊.
Thanks to Dyefin for donating the yarn for all our Afriweave workshops.



....And there's more.....Here is some of the wonderful work done at the Phoenix Survival Centre.....





Thanks to the efforts of Logie, Carrol and Iris, Afriweave has boomed



In an article in a local newspaper this past month, our friendly-connection-for-all-E-Club-project specialist, Projects Director Logie, rightly stated: “We are privileged to have Carrol on board, who shares her gifts and talents so freely & wholeheartedly and is delighted to see the many lives (positively) impacted with the skill.”

With only a single or just two sessions, Afriweave attendee’s of the various GBV workshops held in August & September have shown what creative spirit they have. Their designs are beautiful and above all, useful, so the skills learnt from Afriweave are worth their weight in gold.

The demand has grown and there are already 2 or 3 workshops in the pipeline – one on November 25th down in Scottburgh at the beginning of 16 Days of Activism and another one (date T.B.A.) at Isipingo Hills Primary School to teach skills to women in the informal settlements surrounding the school along with a group of elderly go-getters called the “Radiant Retiree’s” 😊

So watch this Afriweave space.....there will ALWAYS be photo’s in the DrumBeat of the products of this wonderful skill.

Street art
in
Morningside, Durban



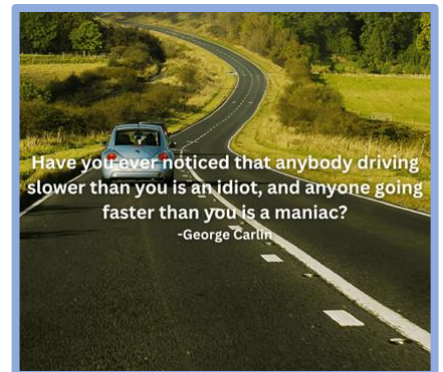


At one of the country's most prolific shipyards in Quincy worked James J. Kilroy — a rivet inspector who, like everyone in his trade, was paid by the number of rivets he checked and recorded his day's work on the machinery itself with a chalk mark. To avoid having his marks erased and moved by unscrupulous workers continuing his line of rivets, Kilroy began inscribing "Kilroy Was Here" on the machinery, historians say.

Sourced: <https://www.livescience.com/7577-kilroy-changed-world.html>



And now, in the spirit of friendship, goodwill and lending a helping hand, some advertising on behalf of other Rotary Clubs



Rotary Club of Amanzimtoti

Join us!

Rotary education month

September : Wills month

PROCESS **DRAW UP A WILL** SENSITIVE DAUNTING
 WE DO NOT KNOW **TIME OF DEATH** BE PREPARED
 CONTENT OF **YOUR WILL** ASSET DISTRIBUTION
 LEGAL **IN WRITING** MENTALLY CAPABLE
 PROFESSIONAL **EXPERIENCE** DRAFTING AND ADMINISTERING
 VALID WILL **LAST WISHES**
 INTESTATE **UNINTENDED** PERSONS BENEFITTING
 EXECUTOR **ADMINISTRATOR** MASTER OF HIGH COURT
 EXECUTORS FEES **ESTATE DUTY** CAPITAL GAINS TAX
 WINDING UP **COMPLEX** AND LENGTHY

Thursday 19 September 2024 Kubashni Govender
 17h00 for 17h30 Wills specialist
 Amanzimtoti Country Club Sandam Legacy
 and Conservancy

From the Rotary Club of Amanzimtoti (19th September)....and from the Rotary Club of Richards Bay (1st November)....



Rotary Club of Richards Bay

MUSIC TRIVIA

1 NOV - 6:00PM
 PORKY'S @ THE LAKE

R1000 table of 10
 Cash Bar
 Snack Platters
(available from Porky's)

MEGAN 082 334 3221
 ANTHONY 073 757 9424

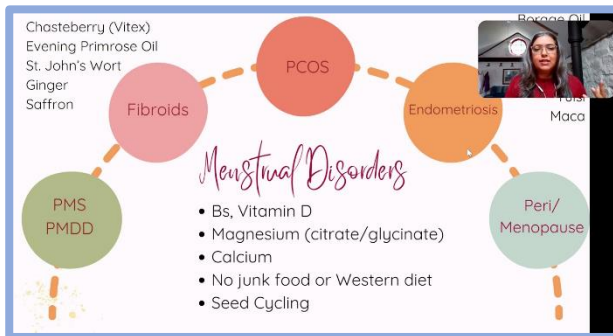


Ed had the opportunity to participate in the Rotary Club of Durban Clairwood Park's EndPolio fundraiser on Spring Day.

THIS MONTHS SPEAKER.....

Dr Faryal Luhar, a Canadian naturopath, took time out of her busy work schedule to chat to us about something she is very passionate about – womens hormonal health – all the way from Ireland.

It was a huge amount of fun & such a great idea



We sadly ran out of time with such an interesting presentation, so Faryal has promised that we can arrange another date for her to continue to educate us all about women's menstrual health.

With the E-Clubs interest and work with Project Dignity, we are hoping that many more young women will attend the next talk on this important topic.



Step 5 Hormone Loving Lifestyle

- Ensure adequate, deep sleep
- Practice stress-reduction: meditation, deep breathing, journaling, walking, earthing, calming teas (chamomile, passionflower, lemonbalm, tulsi)
- Get Moving! Strive for 8000 steps per day or more
- Exercise according to Infradian Cycle
- Spend time in nature; get sensible sun exposure
- Nurture relationships that make you happy
- Detox bad vibes
- Ask for help when you need it
- Learn to say NO

BIRTHDAYS COMING UP NEXT MONTH IN OCTOBER 2024



Wishing Logie, Viktor & Greg a very happy birthday this month.



16	Cytra	Viktor	18 Oct
17	Naidoo	Logie	24 Oct
18	Cryer	Greg	26 Oct



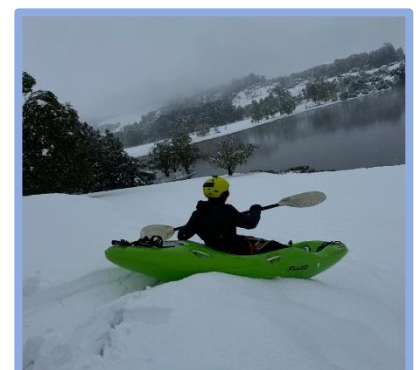
Enrico is now exactly 9 weeks into his long-term exchange and despite a hiccup in only his second week when his cell phone was stolen from his kitbag at rugby practice at school, he has adjusted so well to his new routine.

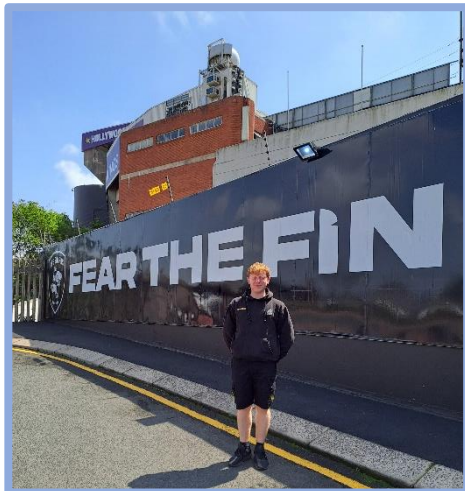
He had the opportunity to play sevens rugby for the first time last term, which he was very excited about (he has played rugby 15's since he was 7 years old 😊)



He spent his first school holidays with Quintus and Susie where he

went kayaking in our extreme snow weather up at Lake Naverone, went walking along the Dolphin Coast beaches, swimming in the blue, clean sea and the massive tidal pool. He even braaied with us on Heritage Day and visited the Shark Tank.





And now its time for everyone to have a LAUGH....so read on !





Passengers travelling first class on British Airways Boeing 747s are worried about a re-design which means some lavatories have windows. A woman travelling to New York complained that there were no blinds. She was told by a Cabin Crew member "Madam, if some pervert is clinging to the side of this aircraft at 36,000 feet, they deserve to see everything".

A family went to a ranch to go on a horse ride. They all had the chance to pick out their own horses. The dad was the last to pick his out because he helped his kids all get on their horses first. As he kicked his foot into the stirrup, an old ranch hand, leaning against a fencepost, drawled out "I dunno about that ol' nag, mister. She don't look so good."

The dad, sweating and ready to start said "She looks fine to me. Can we just get going?" The ranch hand shook his head and said "It's your ride, mister." And motioned to the lead horse to get started. The horses knew the way and started off.

About an hour later, the family returned. The dad was all covered in dust. His face was all scratched up and his shirt had been torn in several places. "This is an outrage!" he yelled. "This horse ran into trees, tore through thornbushes and ran headlong into low hanging branches. It's like she's blind!"

The ranch hand pulled a piece of straw from between his teeth and said "Well, she is."

"Why didn't you warn me?" screamed the dad.

"I did" said the ranch hand. "I told you she don't look so good."



Righto everyone.....this newsletter is now 3 days overdue.....Ed asks for your forgiveness and promises to be on time next month (well, this month !!!)

