Rotaract District 9350

October 2025

# ROTARACT NEWSLETTER

"We make a living by what we get,
but we make a life by what we give"

- Winston Churchill

**OCTOBER ROTARY THEME:**
**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

UNITE FOR GOOD

Rotaract
District 9350

# THE FOUR WAY TEST
## RECITED AROUND THE WORLD

**As Rotaractors, we do not need to be reminded of the content or history of our Four-Way Test. Incorporating it into the start your day could prove to be very uplifting especially if everyone around the world did it. Of the things we think, say, or do:**

- **FIRST: Is it the TRUTH?**
- **SECOND: Is it FAIR to all concerned?**
- **THIRD: Will it build GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIP?**
- **FOURTH: Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?**

**Posted by Charlotte Brown Ramos**
https://portal.clubrunner.ca/1579/stories/the-four-way-test-recited-around-the-world

# OCTOBER 2025
# ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

October reminds us of the incredible power of community and the impact we can have when we work together to strengthen local economies and support sustainable growth. This month, Rotary focuses on Economic and Community Development, a call to action for projects that create opportunity, foster entrepreneurship, and empower individuals to improve their own lives.

**Why It Matters:**

- Strong local economies lead to stronger communities. By supporting education, small businesses, and sustainable initiatives, we help reduce poverty, create jobs, and provide people with the tools to thrive. Economic growth is not just about money, it's about opportunity, dignity, and hope.

**What We Can Do:**

- Support and mentor local entrepreneurs and small business owners.
- Promote vocational training and skills development programs.
- Partner with community organizations to create sustainable economic initiatives.
- Advocate for projects that empower marginalized or underserved populations.

**How This Aligns with Rotary's Goals**

Rotary's mission is to create lasting change in communities around the world. By focusing on economic and community development, we address root causes of inequality, foster peace through prosperity, and help communities become self-reliant, living out Rotary's core values of service, integrity, and leadership.

# MESSAGE FROM DRR CHADWIN PETERSEN

Dear Rotaractors

Looking back on the past few months, I've realised something, when passion meets purpose, time doesn't walk....it runs. That is exactly how I would describe my year thus far. It has been an absolute honour leading a dynamic group of Rotaractors, each bringing their own authenticity and fire to the table. What I've seen across our district has been nothing short of inspiring. It is clear that our clubs are not just meeting for the sake of meetings; they are being intentional about how they impact and empower the communities they serve.

This past weekend, on my DRR visit to Hermanus, I was reminded once again of the magic that happens when passion meets purpose. To witness how our clubs have been able to touch lives through authentic, meaningful projects was incredible. Whether you find yourself walking through the vibrant township of Zwelihle in Hermanus or in the bustling suburb of Bellville, one truth remains, when communities are empowered, economies are transformed. That is what October's Rotary theme, Community Economic Development is truly about: creating environments where opportunity grows, potential is unlocked and service becomes the spark for real transformation.

I am equally excited about the upcoming events and initiatives that our leadership team has been working on. Their energy speaks to their deep understanding that leadership is about action, collaboration, and creating momentum that others want to be part of. As we move forward, let's continue to show that Rotaract isn't just an organisation. For some of us, it's a family. The familiar faces at every meeting, the laughter that carries through projects and the safe space. A movement of young leaders who believe in doing good differently. Who believe that every project, every visit, every act of service, no matter how small, contributes to the bigger picture of sustainable change.

Chadwin Petersen

# DRR VISITS

The purpose of the DRR visits is really to connect with clubs, to listen, and learn about the incredible work being done on the ground. These visits aren't about formality or inspection, it is about connection and collaboration. They give us the chance to see the heart of Rotaract in action, to meet the members behind the projects, to hear their stories,their challenges, and their triumphs. More than anything, DRR visits are about building relationships strengthening the bond between district and club, and ensuring that every Rotaractor feels seen and supported to continue making an impact in their community.

**Bellville Rotaract Visit**

**Hermanus Rotaract Visit**

# DRR VISITS

Steenberg Rotaract Visit

Waterfront Rotaract Visits

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"The ultimate resource in
economic development is people.
It is people, not capital or raw materials
that develop an economy."

- Peter Drucker

# CLUB PROJECTS
# RC ATLANTIS

## Read To Lead

On 27 September, 45 Grade 1 learners in Atlantis enjoyed a morning filled with literacy fun and spring-themed creativity! Learners rotated through a series of engaging learning stations designed to spark imagination and a love for reading.

This project, aptly named Read to Lead, is built on the belief that literacy is leadership. When children read, they develop empathy, creativity, and the courage to dream bigger. Through storytelling, crafts, and play, the activity aimed to nurture these essential qualities, shaping the leaders of tomorrow.

A memorable highlight was watching the learners create their own personalized bookmarks, which were later laminated and sent home as a reminder to keep reading. The excitement and curiosity at each station were heartwarming, from painting to literacy crafts, the learners eagerly participated in every activity.

It was literacy intervention made fun, and a beautiful reminder of the power of reading to inspire, connect, and empower young minds.

# CLUB PROJECTS
## RC BELLVILLE

Bellville Club hosted Heritage Day Social event on 24 September. It was a vibrant celebration of the rich cultures and traditions that make up both our communities and our club. The aim was simple yet meaningful, to honor diversity through food, music, and storytelling, while embracing the spirit of fellowship and inclusivity that defines Rotaract.

The event brought together members and Ghanaian guests for an afternoon of cultural exchange, learning, and laughter. It provided a wonderful opportunity to connect beyond borders, to share experiences, strengthen bonds, and celebrate what makes each of us unique.

A highlight of the day was introducing our Ghanaian guests to South African favorites such as tripe, milk tart, and a traditional braai. In return, we shared dances, learning a few Ghanaian moves and teaching some of our own! The joy and energy in the room were contagious, reflecting the beauty of unity in diversity.

The celebration not only deepened friendships within the club but also fostered teamwork, belonging, and mutual respect. Everyone left with fuller hearts (and stomachs!), reminded that our differences truly are our strength.

# CLUB PROJECTS
# RC CLAREMONT

## Sensory Garden Project

Claremont is now in week six of building a sensory garden for children who have been victims of sexual violence at Karl Bremer Hospital in Bellville, Cape Town. This initiative is incredibly close to our hearts, as it aims to create a space of healing, safety, and joy for some of the most vulnerable members of our community.

So far, the focus is on transforming the space into a welcoming and secure environment. The members of the club painted the surrounding walls to brighten the atmosphere and repaired cracks with cement to ensure structural safety.

Over the next five weeks, their efforts will shift toward adding interactive and therapeutic features that bring the garden to life. A major task ahead is laying artificial grass, creating a soft, safe surface for children to run, sit, and play. Even more exciting are the sensory tools being prepared, including a music wall, a touch wall, and a variety of interactive elements designed to stimulate sight, sound, and touch.

Ultimately, the vision is to create a therapeutic sanctuary where children can heal, play, and reconnect with their surroundings.

This meaningful project has been made possible through the collaboration of Bellville Rotaract and Wynberg Rotaract, whose members have generously dedicated their time, creativity, and compassion to turning this vision into reality.

# CLUB PROJECTS
# RC CLAREMONT

## Africa United Forum

Claremont Rotaract was honoured to represent District 9350 at the first-ever Africa United Forum, where 20 Rotaract clubs from across Africa came together under Rotary's inspiring theme, "Unite for Good."

At the forum, they proudly showcased our South African Sign Language Workshops to an audience of over 200 attendees, including the Rotaract Africa President. Our presentation highlighted the importance of inclusion and accessibility, values that lie at the heart of Rotaract's mission.

Beyond the projects, the forum underscored the power of unity, networking, and mentorship across borders. It also provided valuable insights into upcoming initiatives such as the Fusion Summit and the Rotaract Africa Summit.

This experience was a true celebration of collaboration and service, a reminder that when we unite for good, our collective impact reaches far beyond our borders

# CLUB PROJECTS
# RC CLAREMONT

## Langa Chesire Homes Visit

On Saturday, 21 September 2025, Claremont spent a heartwarming afternoon at Langa Cheshire Homes, bringing fun, music, and laughter to the residents. The aim of the visit was to foster connection and uplift spirits through a day filled with games, karaoke, and shared joy. The residents enjoyed an afternoon of engagement, entertainment, and community bonding, and their smiles and energy made the experience truly special. Many expressed heartfelt gratitude for the visit, reminding us of the simple yet powerful impact of companionship and care. In addition to creating joyful memories, the visit also allowed us to identify areas where continued support could make a difference, helping to lay the foundation for sustained impact and future collaboration. In was a day of connection, compassion, and community, a beautiful reminder that service often begins with something as simple as showing up and sharing joy.

# CLUB PROJECTS
# RC EDGEMEAD

## Save A Fishie - Social Beach Clean up

On the 27th of September, Edgemead Rotaract, together with several other Rotaract groups such as Claremont, Stellenbosch and Blouberg participated in the “Save a Fishie” beach clean-up initiative at Milnerton Lagoon. The aim of the project was to remove litter and waste from the natural environment in order to protect the local reserves, marine life, and surrounding communities. Volunteers spent about an hour collecting trash and together removed nearly 100 kilograms of waste from the lagoon area. The clean-up benefited the local ecosystem by reducing pollution and promoting a healthier habitat for wildlife, while also raising awareness among participants and the public about environmental responsibility.

In addition to its environmental impact, the event created a warm and social atmosphere. As the club’s first event, it gave the members a chance to introduce themselves while connecting with like-minded people from different groups who share the same passion for protecting the environment. Sharing breakfast with other Rotaractors and working side by side fostered a strong sense of teamwork, making the clean-up both meaningful and enjoyable.

# CLUB PROJECTS
# RC HOUT BAY

## SHAWCO Family Health Day

The SHAWCO Family Health Day was a powerful demonstration of community care and collaboration, providing essential health services to the people of Hangberg and Imizamo Yethu, Hout Bay.

The event offered a wide range of health programs, including dental care, psychological counselling, breast cancer screenings, and mental health support, addressing the physical, emotional, and mental well-being of community members.

Hout Bay club was honoured to be part of this initiative, helping to serve and support over 100 people throughout the day. Beyond receiving care, attendees also gained valuable education on mental health and wellness, empowering them to make informed decisions for their health.

It was an inspiring day of service and compassion, a reminder of the difference that collective action can make in strengthening communities.

# CLUB PROJECTS
# RC HOUT BAY

## Heritage Day

On the 27th September, Hout Bay hosted a vibrant celebration of the club's diverse cultures, embracing the spirit of The Rainbow Nation as the Rotaract Club of Hout Bay. The event featured interactive quizzes that educated and fascinated participants, showcasing the rich tapestry of South African heritage.

Through sharing and learning about each other's traditions, we strengthened our bonds and honored the unique cultural identity of our nation. Additionally, we welcomed 6 new more members to our club.

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"True socio-economic progress lies in investing in human capital and nurturing young minds to become future leaders."

- Goodreads

# CLUB PROJECTS
# RC STEENBERG

## Interact Dialogue

The Rotaract Club of Steenberg, in partnership with the Siseko Jokazi Foundation, hosted a Leadership Dialogue at Steenberg High School, bringing together youth from across Cape Town. The event inspired young leaders with valuable insights and fostered connection, growth, and a commitment to positive community impact.

Speakers and Topics:

- Lisa (Belleville Rotaract): What is Leadership?
- Rex (Blouberg Rotary): Servant Leadership
- Topolo (Steenberg Rotaract): What is Interact?
- Michael & Dominique (Steenberg Rotaract & Belleville Rotary):
- Panel Discussion - Siseko (Siseko Jokazi Foundation): The Importance of Service
- Phineas : Motivational Speech on Gangsterism & Personal Story
- Nasreen (Friend of Steenberg Rotaract, Ex-Interacter): What is Growth in Leadership?

# CLUB PROJECTS
# RC WINDHOEK

## Clean Up Day

The Windhoek Rotaract Club, in collaboration with SGX Distributors, joined the global World Clean-Up Day initiative on the 20 of September. Together with enthusiastic learners from St George's School, the team rolled up their sleeves to clean a local area in Windhoek, promoting environmental responsibility and community pride.

Following the clean-up, the team hosted a soup kitchen, serving children from the surrounding community. This transformed the day into more than just an environmental effort, it became an act of compassion and service to the people who call the area home. A heartwarming highlight was seeing local children eagerly join the clean-up, embodying the true spirit of unity, teamwork, and shared responsibility.

This initiative beautifully demonstrated how small acts, when done together, can create a lasting impact on both the environment and the hearts of those involved

**From all of us in Rotaract, we celebrate not just your special day, but the light you bring into our District, your club and community.**

| | |
|---|---|
| Aphelele Buso | 1st |
| Lungren Louw | 9th |
| Faith Phuza | 10th |
| Morgan Jander | 12th |
| Nwabisa Mbisholo | 12th |
| Josie Burness | 13th |
| Wendy Hopkins | 13th |
| Catriona Howard | 15th |
| Stuart van Wyk | 24th |
| Emma Pretorius | 25th |
| Carlynne Davids | 29th |

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"I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve."

- Albert Schweitzer

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# HONORABLE MENTIONS

Honorable Mentions are a token of gratitude to recognise those who have gone above and beyond in supporting the work of Rotaract. This acknowledgment is for Rotary Clubs who have contributed to our efforts in service. It's our way of saying thank you to those who continue to believe in the power of collaboration and the impact we can make together. As the year continues, we look forward to connecting and working alongside even more clubs, strengthening the partnership between Rotary and Rotaract across our District:

- Kirstenbosch Rotary
- Stellenbosch Rotary
- Cape Town Rotary
- Hermanus Rotary
- Pinelands Rotary

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## 01 NOV

- Cecilia Forest Walk: Synergy for Sustainability (Week 2)

## 08 NOV

- DRR CLUB VISIT - HOUT BAY ROTARACT
- End Polio Event Ball
- Zeekovlei Environmental Education Centre: Synergy for Sustainability (Week 3)

## 10 NOV

- DLT Meeting Via Google Meet - 18:30

## 12 NOV

- DLT Meeting Via Google Meet - 18:30

## 17 NOV

- DLT Meeting Via Google Meet - 18:30

## 20 NOV

- Rotaract Africa Summit- Benin (departure)

**Dates and Events may change without any prior notice**

**subscribe to our Facebook, Instagram and WhatApp channels for updates**

**Rotaract District 9350**

https://www.facebook.com/Rotaract9350

**@Rotaract9350**

https://www.instagram.com/rotaract9350

**Pay Club Dues + UPDATE MyRotary & ClubRunner**

# Synergy For Sustainability

Rotaract District 9350 | NATURE CONNECT

- **Interpretative Hike – Constantia Nek (25 October 2025 : 9AM)**

  One of the easier hiking routes (approx. 4 hours), with rest stops along the way to explore local vegetation, medicinal plants, and contribute to citizen science through iNaturalist observations.

- **Cecilia Forest Walk (1 November 2025 : 9AM)**

  A guided walk with mushroom foraging and interactive activities designed to engage participants in fun, hands-on learning about ecosystems.

- **Zeekoevlei Environmental Education Centre (8 November 2025:9AM)**

  Includes dragon boat rides on the vlei while learning about the critical role of wetlands, plus a guided walk in the nature reserve featuring tracking and birding. A range of other activity options will also be available on the day.

- Each Saturday has only 60 spots available, so early registration is essential.
- Fruit, a snack and juice will be provided to participants.

REGISTRATION LINK - https://forms.gle/vdq5EvejY4mG8JRZ9

Rotaract District 9350 | Rape Crisis Cape Town Trust | THUTHUZELA CARE CENTRE – Turning Victims Into Survivors

# SENSORY GARDEN GRAND OPENING!

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING A SPECIAL SPACE FOR CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND A WELLNESS SPACE FOR STAFF.

DATE: 22 OCTOBER
TIME: 13:00 PM

KARL BREMER HOSPITAL,
THUTHUZELA CARE CENTRE M5

*For more information please contact: +27 21 918 1983*

Rotaract Club of Claremont

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE

# HALLOWEEN BASH

Pull through for a night full of vibes, music, and good food on sale. Come dressed up and ready to have a good time with great people. Don't ghost us, bring your crew, your energy, and let's make memories that'll haunt us (in a good way)!

OCTOBER

FRIDAY 31 18:00-23:00

Venue: TBC
Ticket: R50pp or R90 for 2!

Contact: Afaaf (074 891 7832)

BIG NEWS !!!
Oom Piet's Christmas Party is back.
The event will run from 3 - 7 December and then from 10 - 13 December.

All volunteers must arrive by 6 pm sharp. Our Rotaract Club will be arranging volunteers to play the characters for each evening. We will be asking our I nteractors to assist.

The following characters are available: Elves, Mr Plod, Big Ears, Cinderella, Micky and Minnie, Elsa, Snow White, and Clowns.

If you would like to attend/volunteer or need more information, please reach out to Rotary Club of Durbanville

Thank you!