Rotaract District 9350

September 2025

ROTARACT NEWSLETTER

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." – Nelson Mandela

SEPTEMBER ROTARY THEME:
BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY

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

MESSAGE FROM DRR CHADWIN PETERSEN

Dear Rotaractors

We have now stepped into Spring, a season that symbolizes new beginnings and growth. Just as nature blooms, may this be a reminder for us as Rotaractors to embrace fresh ideas, new opportunities, and renewed energy in our clubs and communities.

We also begin this month's message with a word of devotion from Proverbs 19:21:"Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."This scripture reminds us that while we all carry ideas and plans in our hearts, not everything will run exactly as we imagine. Sometimes projects don't go the way we thought, or timelines shift, but that doesn't mean our efforts are wasted. Instead, it's a reminder that purpose is greater than planning. As Rotaractors, our service is most powerful when it is guided by impact, not just activity. If we stick to our purpose even when plans change, our efforts will still bloom into something meaningful.

We pause to extend our deepest condolences to our fellow Rotaractor, Clyde Muller who recently lost his grandfather. As Rotaractors, we are thinking of him, holding space for him, and surrounding him with the love and support of the entire District 9350 family.

Our District has truly been buzzing with energy this past month. We hosted an informative ClubRunner and MyRotary Masterclass session. This training was invaluable for our Club Executives, giving them the tools to manage their clubs more efficiently and strengthen their reporting. These resources are not just administrative; they are what enable clubs to grow, to function sustainably, and to showcase their impact. We also saw the success of the Collab event between Rotaract and Interact. This was more than just a fun day; it was about bridging the gap between our two structures, building relationships, and inspiring the next generation of leaders. With over 100 Interactors attending, some traveling from as far as Paarl, it was truly heartening to see so much enthusiasm and energy in one space. A special word of thanks goes to Kirstenbosch Rotary and Mr. O Ryan for their incredible support in making the day a success and for keeping both our Interactors and Rotaractors energized throughout the event.

Most recently, I began my DRR visits to clubs, which have already been a highlight for me. These visits allow me to connect more closely with Rotaract clubs, to understand your unique needs, and to celebrate their successes. My first stop was Stellenbosch Rotaract, who went above and beyond to make the visit meaningful. What stood out most was the visible involvement of the Stellenbosch Rotary Club in supporting their Rotaract Club. This is exactly the kind of collaboration and partnership we need more of across our district. When Rotary and Rotaract work hand-in-hand, our impact multiplies. Another exciting milestone was the online e-Charter Induction of the E-Club of SA. We are thrilled to officially welcome them into the Rotaract family and we look forward with great anticipation to seeing their unique contributions unfold.

As we step into the rest of September, let us carry this message: we are stronger when we work together. Our purpose is not just in the plans we make but in the collective action we take, the lives we touch and the bonds we build as Rotaractors. Continue to serve with passion and above all, let purpose guide your path.

Chadwin Petersen

SEPTEMBER: BASIC EDUCATION & LITERACY MONTH

This September, Rotary turns its focus to one of our foundational pillars: Basic Education & Literacy , an area of service that empowers individuals, strengthens communities, and underpins progress in multiple facets of life.

Why It Matters:

- Literacy is not just the ability to read and write, it opens pathways to economic opportunity, healthier lives, and active citizenship.
- Basic education helps bridge gender and social disparities, giving every child and adult the chance to reach their potential.
- Educational attainment is linked to better health outcomes, more civic participation, and stronger resilience in communities.

What We Can Do:

- Organize a book drive: gather new or gently used books for local schools, libraries, or literacy programs.
- Support or partner with adult literacy initiatives: tutoring, evening classes, or volunteer reading programs.
- Help teachers with supplies, training, or mentorship.
- Host reading events for children, or storytelling sessions in community centres.
- Highlight success stories: showcase clubs or individuals who are making impact in basic education or adult literacy.

How This Aligns with Rotary's Goals

By focusing on Basic Education & Literacy, we're channelling our efforts toward one of Rotary International's key areas of focus. Actions taken in this area reduce poverty, support community development, improve health, and promote peace.

DISTRICT CLUB RUNNER MASTERCLASS

The District hosted a successful ClubRunner & MyRotary Master Class on 16 August 2025. Representatives from various District Clubs were in attendance, and we are confident that our club executive teams are now equipped to elevate club records. A heartfelt thank you to Chris B and JJ for facilitating the workshop and generously sharing their expertise and insights with us.

District Rotaract Members attending the Club Runner Workshop

DRR VISIT – STELLENBOSCH ROTARACT CLUB

DRR Chadwin paid his official DRR visit to Stellenbosch Rotaract, one of the newer clubs in our District. His visit served not only as a chance to connect but also as a reminder of the power of these engagements in motivating and inspiring clubs. During his visit, he expressed his genuine excitement about the energy, creativity, and progress within the club. Between the innovative ideas being shared, the projects already taking shape, and the contagious enthusiasm in the room, he left with the assurance that Stellenbosch Rotaract is on its way to becoming a true powerhouse in the District. What stood out most was witnessing the strong partnership between Stellenbosch Rotaract and Stellenbosch Rotary Club. This collaboration is the "secret ingredient" that transforms good ideas into lasting impact.

DRR Chadwin pictured with Stellenbosch Rotaract Members

ROTARACT x INTERACT COLLAB DAY

On 30 August 2025, the District hosted a vibrant collaborative initiative at Norman Henshilwood High School, bringing Rotaractors and Interactors together to connect, learn, and share.

The day featured icebreakers, breakout sessions for club leaders, a SWOT analysis for members, and plenty of project exchanges and idea-sharing. Highlights included donating 30 stationery packs to Bellville Rotaract's Exam Pack Drive and 30 toiletry packs to Claremont High School's upcoming drive—alongside inspiring Interact projects ranging from primary school visits to cancer awareness campaigns. Team-building games, soccer, and a thought-provoking panel discussion rounded off the day, shining a spotlight on how Rotaract and Interact can better support one another.

While the ratio of participants leaned unevenly, the event offered valuable insights into bridging the gap and set the stage for even more impactful collaborations ahead.

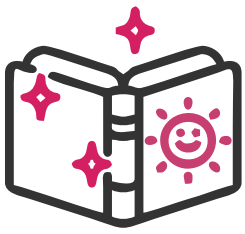
Rotaractors & Interactors in Attendance

E-CLUB SOUTH AFRICA

Who said you can't start a Rotaract club with friends from two continents? Well... we just did! We are thrilled to celebrate the successful founding of the E-Club of South Africa, founded by passionate people from across the word.

Our mission is simple yet powerful: to support and uplift the people of Cape Town with every resource, skill, and talent we have to offer. The E-Club of South Africa is ready to partner with organisations in Cape Town, extending a helping hand wherever it is needed. Together, we believe in creating meaningful change.

Warm greetings from the E-Club of SA Team !!



"Today a reader, tomorrow a leader"

- Margaret Fuller

CLUB PROJECTS
RC HOUT BAY

Women's Day Event

The club hosted a powerful Women's Day celebration focused on female empowerment. Discussions covered healthy social media habits, recognizing its potential downsides, embracing individuality, and fostering collaboration over competition. The event created a safe space for building meaningful relationships, supporting one another, and sharing knowledge.

Classroom Painting and Cleaning at Oranjekloof Primary School

In collaboration with Hout Bay Rotary and Silikamva Interact members, we rolled up our sleeves to clean and paint a classroom at Oranjekloof Primary School. This hands-on service prepared the space for an upcoming Rotary Literacy Project—an effort rooted in partnership, impact, and investing in future generations.

CLUB PROJECTS
RC BELLVILLE

Women’s Day Event

This project was centered around empowering and celebrating women during women's month. Our club donated 120 care packs to grade 11s of Bellville South High School, on the 28th of August 2025. The care packs included two packets of pads, a flower and a Happy Women's Day note. The aim was not only to donate pads but to also educate girls about female hygiene as a whole and to break the stigma behind having your period. Through this project we were able to educate girls on how to better take care of themselves physically and emotionally. This provided a space to share different stories centered around menstruation and support each other.

Highlights and Impact:
One of our main highlights was seeing how much the teachers are willing to work with Rotaract after hearing what we do. We were welcomed with warm hands which made the project run smoothly. Seeing smiles form on the girls' faces when receiving the care packs really warmed our hearts. Period poverty is a real issue in our country and seeing the smiles as well as hearing the thank you's inspired us to do more. One of the grade 11 pupil said, she truly appreciated the packs and will use the tips and advises shared on the day. The principal said she was grateful to have us do the project with her school and she hopes we can continue to build a relationship with the school.

CLUB PROJECTS
RC E-CLUB

Team Building

On 31st August 2025, the Rotaract E-Club of Cape Town gathered at Green Point Park for a lively team-building session aimed at strengthening bonds, enhancing collaboration, and sparking creativity for upcoming projects. The day included group activities, problem-solving challenges, and fun games that promoted trust, communication, and leadership skills. Members benefitted by gaining a deeper sense of unity and motivation to serve together.

One of the most memorable moments was seeing new members step out of their comfort zones and actively engage in the challenges, showcasing hidden leadership potential while building lasting friendships. The event left members feeling more connected, motivated, and inspired to serve their communities with renewed enthusiasm.

CLUB PROJECTS
RC STELLENBOSCH

Community Event

On 15 August, Rotaract Stellenbosch, in collaboration with the United Nations Association of South Africa, the Clum Collective, and Intostyle, hosted a vibrant community event in Stellenbosch. The day began with a clothing thrift-and-swap initiative promoting sustainability and conscious fashion, where the students and community eagerly exchanged items while discussing eco-friendly living. In the evening, we transitioned into a creative sip-and-paint experience, fostering connection, creativity, and social impact.

Many participants expressed their excitement at finding "new" pieces that felt fresh and stylish without the environmental cost of fast fashion. The evening's sip-and-paint added a creative touch, allowing attendees to unwind, connect, and express themselves artistically. A memorable moment was the sense of community that developed across different groups from students to young professionals, who left not only with thrifted clothing but also with new friendships. Feedback from participants highlighted how refreshing it was to have an event that combined sustainability, creativity, and social connection in such an accessible and enjoyable way..

CLUB PROJECTS
RC STEENBERG

Steenberg Rotaract carried two impactful initiatives, reminding us of the power of service and collaboration.

The club hosted a soup kitchen in the Wetton area, ensuring that those without food could receive a warm meal. In addition, in partnership with Constantia Rotary, the club donated funds to Steenberg High School's Women's Month event for Grade 11 and 12 girls.

Both projects brought visible joy to the community, from smiles of gratitude at the soup kitchen to the empowerment of young women at the school event. These efforts highlight Steenberg Rotaract's commitment to meeting immediate needs while also investing in future leaders.

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

Jamy Isaacs	1st
Earnestine van Zeeberg	4th
Tomás Bruce-Chwatt	5th
Roche Jeptha	8th
Phelokazi Thole	12th
Wanayi Jenje	16th
Nomaphelo Mambumbu	17th
Zachary Dawson	18th
Chrislonne Snyman	21st
Mpumi Ngwenyama	23rd
Allison Peter	24th
Rito Chabalala	24th
Abby Fraser	25th
Dino Fredericks	25th

"The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go,"

- Dr. Seuss

UPCOMING EVENTS

13 SEPT

- DRR Visit: Steenberg RC Club
- Hout Bay Rotaract & Rotary Family Health Day (Collab)
- Steenberg Rotaract 'Interact' Project - Steenberg High

20 SEPT

- DRR Visit: Waterfront Rotaract
- Windhoek Rotaract Clean-up

24 SEPT

- Hout Bay Rotaract Heritage Day

Dates and Events may change without any prior notice
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Pay Club Dues + UPDATE MyRotary & ClubRunner