



The Rotary Club of Pretoria East

Founded 28 March 1961

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

District 9400

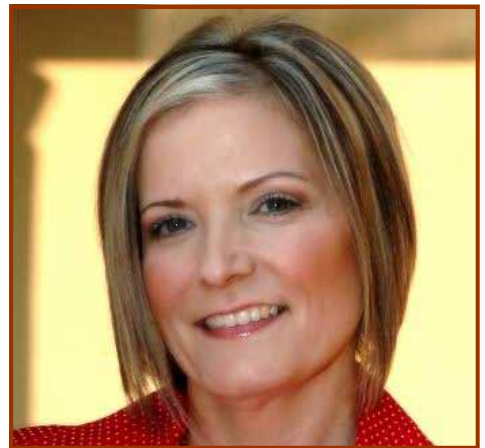
NOVEMBER 2010



President Cheryl's Message

Dear Fellow Rotarians

I am sure you will agree that October has been a very busy month for Pretoria East! We hosted an incredibly successful Membership & Vocational Evening on the 4 October. Thank-you to all Rotarians who invited a prospective new member to the evening. The Membership Committee will be keeping a close eye on developing these leads into new members. We also celebrated Vocational month by awarding two Vocational Awards to very worthy recipients. Congratulations to Mrs. Gorst-Allman and Mr. Tsebe for going the extra mile to promote their Vocations. Another positive spin off from this evening is the relationship built up with the media by the PR Committee. I am hopeful that this will lead to more exposure of our Club activities within the community.



Fundraising has gained momentum and the Christmas Light Project is moving along steadily. I was worried that it would be a dismal failure this year, but a huge thank-you to all Rotarians for the sudden spurt of sales. We have about a week left to sell lights so if there is anyone you know, who can still be approached, please do so. Navi Redd is also coming together and using the firm foundation laid last year, I am sure we will be able to double our ticket sales. An exciting and unexpected addition is the Golf Day to be arranged by Allen Joss with the assistance of Ernie Sterne. This will secure our Meerhof Kruger National Park trip for 2011. Tables for the Summer Fun Tea on 22 January 2011 have sold like hot cakes and my dream of selling 20 tables has already reached 19. The funds raised on this morning will be earmarked for Polio Plus and Foundation.

On the Project front we attended a very interesting presentation about the SOUNDS Project. This project has the potential to touch so many lives and open a new world to the young ones, by making literacy a reality. Even though we have encountered a slight hiccup with the training partner, the Project Committee is well on their way to solving this. Please remember the Meerhof Christmas Party on Tuesday 2 November 2010. This is always a moving experience and it would be special to have some new attendees this year. Make the effort – I assure you that you will not be disappointed.

We welcome Aiden and Rose Robertson into the Club. His induction is scheduled for 8 November so it would be great if we can have a full house to welcome them. We also say “Au Revoir” to Nicole Akpovi who is returning to Benin after seven and a half years as a Pretoria Easter. Her contribution to the success of our Club is appreciated and will be sorely missed. We wish her well with her new endeavours and Rotary activities back home.

Our Barnyard Fellowship on 7 November is around the corner and so far there is a great turnout. A little relaxation for the members before we enter the last phase of the year. Enjoy!

I sometimes ask myself why I became a Rotarian, especially when time is little and pressure is much. I then just attend a Business Meeting and am again reminded of the enormous good Pretoria East does within the community and become invigorated anew. What I alone can contribute is but a crumb. However, collectively all our crumbs make a beautiful cake for distribution amongst the needy and will **Build Communities and Bridge Continents.**

As always, Rotary Regards

President Cheryl



*Dit is die maand Oktober, die mooiste, mooiste maand!
 Dan is die dag so helder, so groen is elke aand,
 So blou en sonder wolke die hemel heerlik bo,
 So blomtuin-vol van kleure die asvaal ou Karoo.*

C. Louis Leipoldt

Yes, the month October is certainly a very beautiful month. The Jacarandas were magnificent yet again, in spite of no rain. Before we know it, it will be Christmas and New Year's Eve and the end of another year.

As usual, the Anns met at our house on the third Monday of the month. We had a good meeting and an enjoyable supper afterwards. Thank you to all the Anns who brought their delicious food and wine.

Mayda, Helen, Jenny and Edie attended the Benoni van Ryn morning of Sugar and Spice. It was held at the Benoni Country Club and many Anns from Benoni as well as other clubs attended. We even had an Ann from Middelburg. We enjoyed the friendly, welcoming atmosphere, the food and particularly the guest speaker, who spoke in an animated and enthusiastic way. Her topic was: 'How to ensure you stay active and positive while ageing.'

A big 'Thank you' to Susan Cross, who donated a whole wardrobe of clothes. We took some to Peas in a Pod and the Susan Strydom home. The rest we put aside for Irene Homes and the Cullinan Rehab Centre.

Peas in a Pod had four more girls admitted last month. The Anns very kindly donated more money towards uniforms.

The Irene Homes Tea Party will be held at 3 o'clock on Saturday, 30 October 2010 at Irene Homes. A very big 'Thank You' to all the Anns and Rotary ladies who so generously bought gifts for the ladies and will bring their delicious eats. You are all stars!!

I have ordered Rotary Ann badges for the Anns. They cost R35.00 a badge. I hope to hand them out at our next Rotary Ann meeting.

The Anns will wrap the Meerhof gifts at my house on Monday, 1st November at 18:30. All Anns are welcome. There will be a light meal afterwards.

The Meerhof Christmas Party is on 2nd November, at 18h00. Please bring a plate of finger eats and your own drinks for the fellowship afterwards.

Please remember that our next meeting will be held at Union Caterers on the 8th November. Our new Rotary Ann, Rose Robertson will join us after the induction of Aiden.

Please remember Ladies' night on the 29th November and the Christmas lunch at Niche on the 5th December at 12h00. Another busy month lies ahead of us.



Edie Jones

Many thanks to the Rotary Anns who so generously contributed to the school uniforms of our girls at Peas in a Pod. May God bless you Abundantly.

Kindest regards,
 Annali Swanepoel



The Rotary Club of Pretoria East recently presented two vocational awards to worthy recipients who have demonstrated that their vocations have gone beyond the call of duty, and are a lifetime commitment. We as Rotarians recognize their dedication and applaud them for their service to the community.

Ms Madeleen Gorst-Allman, Principal of St Paulus Pre- and Primary School has made teaching



her life's priority and has spent 22 years in front of class rooms, 7 of which have been as Vice-Principal, 3 as Principal of the Sacred Heart College and 6 as Principal of St Paulus.

In her lengthy career, Ms Gorst-Allman has consistently demonstrated that she has put the interests of the learners first, promoting the introduction of scholarships, expression of individual interests and encouraging community service.

Thanks to Ms Gorst-Allman's exceptional leadership skills, hundreds of pre- and primary school learners grow up with the knowledge that caring for one's fellow man is an essential part of living.

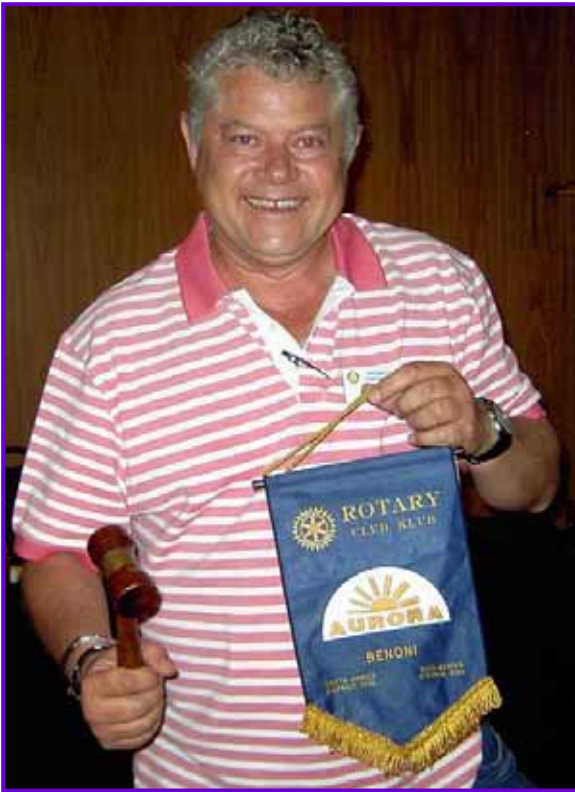
Our special thanks go to Ms Madeleen Gorst-Allman for her valuable support in chartering the St Paulus Interact Club. She was observed leading by example during a recent environmental clean-up in the Moreleta Spruit Nature Reserve.

Mr John Kgwale Tsebe has not only chosen the Library and Information Services as a vocation, but as a way of life since 1975, having studied for two Masters Degrees in Library Services and Public Administration in the USA, and Library Manager, Theory of Information Science and the Application of Computers in LIS at the Wales College of Librarianship in the UK.

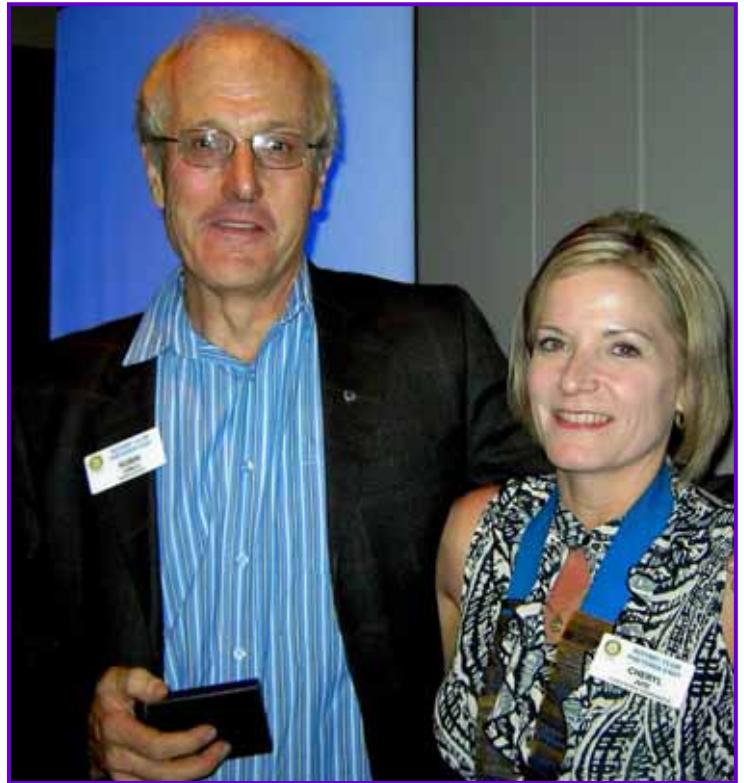
Mr Tsebe has served on the Senate and several Senate Committees of the University of the North; was the first Secretary General of the University's Broad Transformation Committee, addressing critical issues of transformation in Higher Education in South Africa; is a member of the South African National Heritage Council's Transformation Charter Task Team; has Chaired the Executive Committee of the Standing Conference of African National University Libraries in East, Central and Southern Africa for two consecutive terms from 1998 to 2002; has travelled the globe to encourage, develop and sustain global partnerships in the Library Information Services, published numerous articles and presented internationally at conferences. He has recently been appointed the Chairman of the Council for Directors of National Libraries of the World, where he will represent South African and the continent of Africa on this international platform.



We salute Mr John Tsebe for being such a vital part of one of Rotary International's main drives, namely Literacy.



Grant displaying the spoils from the visit to Benoni Aurora.



President Cheryl congratulating PP Robin on his 4th anniversary as a member of Pretoria East.

Farewell To Rtn Nicole Akpovi Olory-Togbe

It is with sadness that we have had to say "Au Revoir" to Rtn Nicole Akpovi Olory-Togbe who is returning to Benin after 10 years with the Benin Embassy in Pretoria.

Nicole joined the Rotary Club of Pretoria East 7 years ago, where she won the hearts of all the members with her charm and compassion for the underprivileged. Nicole participated in almost all the activities of the Club and even when her schedule was very full, she still found time to attend meetings regularly, elegantly attired in exotic outfits and her beaming smile.

On Monday, 11 October Nicole treated Club members to a traditional Benin meal. The evening was further enhanced by the presence of Mr. Claude Fassinou, Ambassador of the Republic of Benin together with his lovely wife, Mrs. Yolande Fassinou, as well as Mr. Eric-Alain Ategbo, PhD, Nutrition Manager, UNICEF, Niger.

Nicole will finally end her sojourn in South Africa on Thursday, 28 October, when she will fly home to flood-stricken Benin. Although she may be out of sight, she will remain in our hearts as a member of the greater-Rotary Family.

We wish you well Nicole, and God speed.



Rotary International's *Certificate of Organisation* recognises that the *Interact Club of St. Paulus, Pretoria* has been organised and sponsored by the Rotary Club of Pretoria East, date of admission 20 October 2010.

There can be no doubt that the 19 twelve-year-old Interactors understand and fully support Rotary's principal motto: ***Service Above Self***. Their enthusiasm and interest in the community is, to say the least, inspirational and heart warming. I believe the fact that their first community project, cleaning the Moreleta Spruit a week after their first club meeting in August 2010, reflects their commitment to make a difference!



Directly after the Moreleta environmental clean-up, they started collecting clothes for the less fortunate. At the end of September 2010 the result of this effort was unbelievable! Thanks to their enthusiasm, they can deliver boxes of clothes to MASCA (Crèche and Old Age Home), Berakah Educational Foundation, Cullinan Rehabilitation and Care Centre, Winterveldt HIV/AIDS Caregivers, Peas in a Pod and Vosspark Crèche in Sunnyside



Due to the very full end-of-the-year school schedule and the exams, a charter dinner will only be arranged at the beginning of 2011. Letters have been written to the parents thanking them for supporting their children and welcoming them into the Rotary family.

PDG Eben—October 2010

Distribution Of Hyundai Soccer Balls



The FIFA 2010 World Cup has come and gone, but the benefits to the children of our fair land continues.

Hyundai approached Rotary to assist them in distributing soccer balls to children in under-privileged areas and the Rotary Club of Pretoria East was privileged to be able to distribute 70 soccer balls in total to the Winterveldt HIV/AIDS After School Centre, the Meetse-A-Bophelo School, Berakah Educational Foundation and the Itumeleng Shelter at Child Welfare Tshwane Therapy and Adoption Unit in Sunnyside.



A sample of the white Jacaranda blooms in Herbert Baker that Mayda refers to.

Visit by PP Charles Keen of The Chelmsford Club, Massachusetts, USA

In 2005, the Middlesex Community College in Chelmsford, MA, USA was approached for assistance in providing a borehole at the Letebele Marishane Senior Secondary School in Ga-Marishane, as this impoverished and remote area is severely arid and there was no supply of water on the school property. The college approached the World Health Organisation, who in turn referred them to Rotary. The Dean of the college, Kent Mitchell, then contacted the local Rotary Club in Chelmsford, MA for assistance.

PP Charles Keen put out a general enquiry to all Clubs in and around the Limpopo/Gauteng area to partner with them in this project and our Club responded despite the fact that the area is 240 kms from Pretoria.

After a steep learning curve in the strategies required to drill a borehole at long distance, the project was finally completed in October 2007.

In the spirit of Rotary, our Club has stayed in contact with PP Charles Keen as well as the then Headmistress of the School, Pauline Mashilwane, resulting in a visit by PP Charles to South Africa in October this year, where he was hosted by Rtns Terry and Margaret Watkins.

During his visit to South Africa PP Charles visited various places of interest, including the Kruger Park, as well as some of our projects. His visit to the Berakah Educational Foundation in Mamelodi on his first day to hand out soccer balls resulted in some culture shock, but things only got better from there on.

We spent a day visiting with Pauline Mashilwane who is now a mentor to headmistresses at a number of schools in the Limpopo area, where she is loved by all who come in contact with her. It



was good to see that the borehole is still pumping water, albeit a bit slower at the present time due to the lowering of the water table after the dry winter months. Pauline introduced us to the new principal of the school and then took us to visit two other primary schools in the area before departing for Chief Marishane's Kraal where we met and enjoyed lunch provided by his two wives.

All in all we were fêted wherever we went and it was a very humbling experience.

During his last few days in Pretoria, PP Charles accompanied Rtns Clive and Bernard together with Mayda and Margaret to the HIV/AIDS Winterveldt project where we viewed the proposed toilet block project, including the current abysmal ablution conditions and the proposed new Eco Toilets we are working towards erecting.

In the evening PP Charles attended a meeting at Pretoria East where he was presented with a certificate of appreciation for his and his Club's participation in the Marishane project. An exchange of banners also took place.

It was wonderful to see first hand just how much difference we can make as Rotarians.

Report by Rtn Margaret Watkins

It's *Rocktober* for Rotaract!

It never ceases to amaze me how predictably the Christmas décor and end-year specials start to adorn shopping malls three months in advance, and this month was no exception. October is also a dramatic wake-up call for those busy with their degrees: it is the penultimate month of most students' academic years, and of course the calm before the dreaded exam storm (and for those busy with postgraduate degrees, an exercise in regret for all the months one could have pushed oneself harder to get the work done!) We wish all our members and guests who are heading into their exams the best of luck.

This month was also one for careful planning of our club's continuation after the December/January "death period." We have lost many members in the past over this time due to degree completions and job changes, and it is historically an uphill battle trying to build up club membership at the birth of each New Year. To address this problem, we held a Rotaract Information Day and Fellowship on 23 October at *Niche*, thanks to the kind hospitality of President Cheryl Jute. Eben Brümmer and I gave presentations about Rotaract in general and the activities our club has been involved in respectively, after which we got to know the 6 potential Rotaractors that attended as well as Rotarians Terry Watkins, Jenny Els, Clive Perkins and his grandson, Robin Jones and Eben. Our hope is that these potentials will be regular guests at our meetings and apply for membership to carry our club through to 2011 and beyond, and help bring about the necessary change that will see our club become one of the most successful Rotaract clubs in the country.



Prospective Rotaractors being addressed by Eben at the Rotaract Information Day

We have recently made some changes in our club committees that will help us to distribute managerial roles more effectively in our club, although several of these are temporary. Darshana Pema will now take over the position of secretary, Thokozani Dlongolo the Fellowship Committee, and Club Projects will now be mediated by Michael Ngake. Committee positions have been somewhat dispensable due to our small size, but this will change as our club grows and new members join. We have also designed and printed Rotaract T-shirts promoting our club, which should help to attract more members. Finally, we have updated our Facebook page (<http://bit.ly/RotaractPTA>) and we have created an email address for our club, rotaractptaeast@gmail.com.

Recently, two of our members attended the Rotaract Youth Leadership Awards at Warriors Adventure Camp in the Magoebaskloof. The camp theme was *Learn how to face your fears*. Michael and Phetho, who were part of the "twentysomething" age group, engaged in mental and physical teambuilding activities, developed their leadership and interpersonal skills, made use of networking opportunities and even walked over hot coals as an exercise in harnessing the power of mind over body. Better them than me.

Closer to home, our club has completed the project originally planned at *Peas in a Pod*: a large shadeport that was erected over a paved area between the main house and primary classroom, to provide shade for the girls there over the hot summer months. The classroom painting project at the shelter is also complete.



The secondary school classroom at Peas in a Pod recently painted by Rotaract

Our final project for the year is the *Literacy for Hope* project, of which the pilot project will be held on Saturday 6 November at Hazel Food Market, Pretoria. This book sale event will not only raise funds for the donation of books to *Peas in a Pod* and Child Welfare, but will also highlight the South African publishing industry, promote indigenous literature and raise awareness of the importance of literacy and a culture of reading as a therapeutic tool for the youth. This will be our club's main service project for the 2009/2010 year.

In closing, I wish to announce the unfortunate resignation of Vice President Lynnette Jones from our club due to commitments in her developing profession. On behalf of the club I would like to thank her for her two year long contribution to our club, good-natured humour and positive attitude. We wish her all the best in her future career and personal life, and hope that she will always strive towards serving our community.

Yours in Rotaract

Steven Hussey

Acting President, Rotaract Pretoria East



PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Capturing the Moment

Of all the photographs in the October edition it was decided that based on "Capturing the Moment" this had to be it.

Taken by Jenny at the Oktober Fees — Clive and Nicole sharing an Eisbein was something that needed to be recorded

The Backpage



As a bagpiper, I play many gigs. Recently I was asked by a funeral director to play at a graveside service for a homeless man. He had no family or friends, so the service was to be at a pauper's cemetery in the country. As I was not familiar with the backwoods, I got lost and, being a typical man, I didn't stop for directions. I finally arrived an hour late and saw the funeral guy had evidently gone and the hearse was nowhere in sight.

There were only the diggers and crew left and they were eating lunch. I felt bad and apologized to the men for being late. I went to the side of the grave and looked down and the vault lid was already in place. I didn't know what else to do, so I started to play.

The workers put down their lunches and began to gather around. I played out my heart and soul for this man with no family

and friends. I played like I've never played before for this homeless man.

And as I played the workers began to weep. They wept, I wept, we all wept together.

When I finished I packed up my bagpipes and started for my car. Though my head hung low, my heart was full. As I opened the door to my car, I heard one of the workers say, "I never seen nothin' like that before and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years."

Apparently I was still lost....

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