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## A Quarter of Progress and Purpose

Dear Readers,

Welcome to this Special Edition of the Siren Coffee Book as we conclude the first quarter of this Rotary year. In this edition, we celebrate our remarkable journey and achievements in service. Together, we have reached incredible milestones, and this is just the beginning!

This month, Rotary Club of Bwebajja focused on Basic Education and Literacy, showcasing our commitment and impact. We mobilized resources for Phase 2 of the Kitala Secondary School multi-storeyed classroom project and finalized preparations for the handover of a fully furnished Kyampagi Primary School. Additionally, we hosted distinguished educationist PP Annet Nanvonjo, who shared valuable insights into the new school curriculum. To wrap up the month, we collaborated with Rotaract & Interact D9214 to host a successful Mega Secondary Schools Career Fair.

In this special edition, we invite you to reflect on our accomplishments this year. We have increased our impact through initiatives like the Namayingo Impact Project and the Seedlings for Sustainability Campaign. Our reach has expanded with new member inductions, honorary additions, and the formation of a new club, RC Bwebajja MidCity in Formation, alongside increased media visibility. Our innovative buddy group system has enhanced member engagement by celebrating our "Friends of the Year" and recognizing outstanding contributions. We continue to adapt with hybrid fellowships and collaborations with Rotaractors and Interactors.

Dive into this edition for personal stories from our members that capture their unique journeys with the club, along with a treasure trove of pictures that embody our Coffee book spirit. Let us maintain this momentum as we look forward to even greater achievements in the months ahead!

Warm Regards, Editorial Team

#### **Editorial Team**





Rtn Annie Ninyesiga

Rtn Charlotte Atukunda





Rtn Evelyn Bageya

Rtn Rehema Nambooze



Rtn Ilona Mildred Ndagire



Rtn Joseph Ssuuna



Rtn Julie Nasimolo



UGANDA CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

#### UPGRADING ENTEBBE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FOR A BETTER PASSENGER EXPERIENCE

Entebbe International Airport's modified terminal building was opened to the public in January 2024 and all facilities are operational and running smoothly.

The imminent commission of a new 20,000 sqm terminal connecting to the current terminal will enhance terminal capacity to at least 3.5 million passengers per year.

The existing and ongoing upgrades being implemented are part of a 20-year National Aviation Master Plan aimed at catering to the growing traffic at Entebbe Airport and enhancing the passenger experience.





## **ABOUT US**

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...The heart of the Rotary Club of Bwebajja is not just in the service we provide, but in the powerful unity and collective energy of our members...

Rtn. Carol Namuddu Kirama, page 15



## A Dynamic History of Service and Vibrancy

Founded in February 2015 with a lively and dedicated group of 33 service-minded individuals, the Rotary Club of Bwebajja is more than just a service club. Known for its infectious energy and unique vibe, RC Bwebajja brings a sense of enthusiasm and community to everything it does, whether it's a project, fellowship, or fun activity. Situated along the Entebbe Road corridor in Uganda, the club has become a hub of changemakers, growing from strength to strength. This growth is partly fuelled by the dynamism of Rotary District 9214, to which the club belongs.

Mothered by the Rotary Club of Kololo, RC Bwebajja has proudly continued this legacy by mothering other clubs, including RC Bwerenga, RC Entebbe Base, RAC Bwebajja, Elite High SS Interact Club and is currently in the process of adding RC Bwebajja Mid City (information) to the list. Our journey reflects a family of clubs bound by service, friendship, and a shared commitment to creating lasting change.

With a thriving membership of 84, our Rotary family is stronger and more vibrant than ever. We're eagerly approaching the exciting milestone of 100 members—a testament to our shared passion for service, the bonds of fellowship, and the remarkable impact we are creating together. Every new member brings fresh energy, and our collective enthusiasm continues to propel us toward even greater achievements

## Leadership through the Years

The club's journey has been shaped by exemplary leaders, who have each contributed to its vibrant growth:

#### **Our Mission and Vision**

## Vision:

To be a leading Rotary club in Africa, dedicated to addressing the needs of the most vulnerable and creating lasting, positive change in communities.

## **Mission:**

Our mission is to uplift communities through diverse service projects, driven by the passion, expertise, and dedication of every member—from young professionals to seasoned leaders—working together to create meaningful, lasting impact.



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**Charter President** 

#### **Celebrating Our Success**

We are immensely proud and grateful to be recognized for our commitment to innovation, service, and community impact every year. At the recently concluded 99th District Conference Assembly, we were honoured with multiple prestigious awards, including the highest accolade—**Best Club of the Year.** 

This recognition is a reflection of our collective passion, dedication, and hard work. It inspires us to continue our journey of transformative service, always striving for excellence as we grow, innovate, and uplift the communities we serve.



PP Judith Nyongereza (2022-2023)



AG Annie Ninyesiga (2023-2024)

## MESSAGES FROM OUR LEADERS



## It takes a team

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It is vital that we continue to seek out and recruit teammates in polio eradication, especially after the challenges our eradication efforts have faced this year.

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With World Polio Day on 24 October, I'm proudly rooting for Rotary as we team up around the world to End Polio Now.

I had the honor of attending a Strike Out Polio event in July at PNC Park, home of the Pittsburgh Pirates MLB team. The Rotary Club of DelmontSalem hosted the event, which raised \$1.3 million for PolioPlus.

Later in the summer, I joined members of our Rotary family in supporting the Más Millas Menos Polio (More Miles Less Polio) bike ride. Felipe Meza Chávez and his team rode all the way from Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, to One Rotary Center in Evanston, Illinois, to raise money and awareness. The ride took 12 days, and Felipe and his team collected more than \$100,000 to support the fight against polio. It was a joy to greet them as they arrived in Evanston.

And I was thrilled to see Team End Polio raise global awareness around the 2024 Paris Olympics. This world-class roster of athletes, global leaders, and polio eradication supporters came together to advocate for a world where no child has to live in fear of being paralyzed by polio. Some of the athletes on Team End Polio are polio survivors themselves, adding weight to their advocacy.

These are just a few examples of the many

ways Rotary has teamed up recently to End Polio Now. It is vital that we continue to seek out and recruit

teammates in polio eradication, especially after the challenges our eradication efforts have faced this year.

The Rotary world was heartbroken to learn about the tragic passing in August of Aidan O'Leary, director for polio eradication at the World Health Organization.

I knew Aidan and worked with him directly. He was a tireless advocate in the fight against polio and a kind, genuine man. We will remember him both for his advocacy and his warmth.

But where there is hardship, there is also hope. I feel hopeful whenever I consider the countless ways Rotary supports the fight every day to eradicate polio.

As people of action, we don't have the luxury of giving in to despair, even in the face of tragedy. The best way to honor Aidan's memory is by teaming up and reaching our goal to End Polio Now.

We made a promise to the children of the world and their families. It is incumbent upon us, together with our global partners, to end this threat once and for all.

There are so many ways we can team up to eradicate polio. You can donate to the End Polio Now campaign, join or initiate a PolioPlus Society in your club or district, or take inspiration from the fundraisers I mentioned above.

I encourage Rotary members around the world to continue to seek out new teammates, so that together, we end polio.

STEPHANIE A. URCHICK *President, Rotary International* 



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## Together let's continue being that beacon of hope



Happy new month Rotarians We have come to the end of the first quarter of our Magic of Rotary themed year.

It has been an absolute privilege visiting you in your clubs and seeing first hand your dedication, commitment and great work you are doing as we continue our commitment of making a positive

impact in our communities and in ourselves. From successful projects to meaningful partnerships and the friendships forever built, truly reflect our core values of service above self. Let us now look ahead with renewed energy and enthusiasm as there is lots more for us to achieve together.

Here's to many more days of hard work and service and in this month of October. Our theme, one of my favourites is the month where we focus on economic and community development. This is a beautiful theme which I truly believe when fully addressed has great potential in touching on all other areas of focus too in one way or another as we empower individuals and families to improve their economic circumstances and to achieve lasting and sustainable change.

I have seen the power of Rotary at work as I have visited your clubs and I have for instance seen a village being adopted and seeing the transformational change in the humblest of places. There are many stories like this and I look forward to seeing a lot more from you wonderful Rotarians.

I look forward to celebrating you all very soon. The District Conference is just around the corner and I look forward to meeting you all again to celebrate our achievements. Together let's continue being that beacon of hope...

Rtn. Agnes Batengas *District Governor D9214* 

## Celebrating 100 Days of Irresistible Impact



As we commemorate 100 days of the Irresistible Rotary year, I am filled with immense gratitude for the support and trust bestowed upon us by our members, buddy groups, board, Past Presidents, Honorary members, and corporate partners. Your dedication has fostered a remarkable sense of cohesion within our club, strengthening our bonds and empowering us to achieve significant milestones.

In these 100 days, we have increased our net membership by at least 20 members, nurtured the Rotary Club of MidCity in Formation, completed 10 impactful projects, donated a minimum of USD 7,200 to The Rotary Foundation (TRF), and strengthened our commitment to youth development. Engaging fellowships with inspiring guest speakers and a strong public presence have further enriched our journey.

As we prepare to host our District Governor – Agnes Mungati Batengas on 17th October, 2024, we have every reason to celebrate our achievements, However, our journey is far from over. Our goal is to achieve 80 -100% of our targets by December 2024.

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and demonstrate once again, that we not an ordinary club in the District. We are

**Bwebajja!** 

However, our journey is far from over. Our goal is to achieve 80 -100% of our targets by December 2024. As a board, we need the support and continued dedication of every member to make this happen.

Let us strive to increase our TRF contributions, complete our pending projects, increase our corporate partnerships fund and ensure that our good work is widely recognized. By maintaining our teamwork and collaborative spirit, we can continue to be a force to reckon with in District 9214 and beyond.

I wish you a nice reading of this special edition, dedicated to our District Governor. Together, we shall create an even more impactful year and make Rotary irresistible!

Andrew Ssennabulya Irresistible President RC Bwebajja

#### **KEY MESSAGES**

### Secretary's Note: Celebrating a Quarter of Milestones



Fellow Rotarians,

As we close the first quarter of this Rotary year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the remarkable milestones we have reached together. These past three months have been a testament to the strength, dedication, and resilience of the Rotary Club of Bwebajja. We set out with ambitious goals, and I am proud to say that we have not only met but exceeded many of them.

Our club has successfully launched several key projects aimed at uplifting our community. From health initiatives to educational support and community development programs, each project has made a meaningful impact, thanks to your hard work and commitment. Every step forward, every small achievement, has been a collective effort, and for that, I sincerely thank each and every one of you.

Our partnerships have also strengthened during this quarter, creating new opportunities for collaboration and extending our reach beyond what we could achieve on our own. These collaborations are vital in ensuring that our efforts have a lasting and sustainable impact. The relationships we have built with other clubs, organizations, and community leaders are key to driving our mission forward.

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#### These past three months have been a testament to the strength, dedication, and resilience of the Rotary Club of Bwebajja.

Looking ahead, there is much more work to be done, but I am confident that with your continued passion and dedication, we will achieve even greater milestones in the months to come. Our journey is just beginning, and I am excited for all the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. Together, we will continue to make a difference.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support and service. Warm Regards,

Rtn. Daniel Bateeze Club Secretary, Rotary Club of Bwebajja

### A Note from Club Administration: Strengthening Our Bonds



The heart of the Rotary Club of Bwebajja is not just in the service we provide, but in the powerful unity and collective energy of our members. As we reflect on the first quarter of this Rotary year, I am overwhelmed by the passion, dedication, and camaraderie that each of you has brought to the table. This period has been nothing short of remarkable, with every project, event, and meeting serving as a testimony to the spirit of fellowship and teamwork that defines us as a club.

In these three months, we have witnessed growth—not just in numbers but in the strength of our bonds. Our meetings have been filled with lively discussions, innovative ideas, and solutions that address the real needs of our community. Our projects, whether big or small, have left a tangible mark on the lives we have touched, and this is all thanks to your unwavering commitment. Each of you has played an essential role in ensuring the smooth administration of the club's activities, keeping the wheels turning even when challenges arose.

As we look forward to the next quarter, let us remain committed to strengthening the bonds that tie us together. Our diversity in skills and perspectives is our greatest strength. We must continue to nurture this sense of belonging, not just for our current members, but for the new faces we will welcome into our fold. By embracing fresh ideas and fostering collaboration, we can expand our impact and continue making meaningful contributions to society.

Thank you for your hard work, dedication, and, most importantly, your heart for service. Together, we are stronger, and together, we will achieve even greater things.

With Gratitude,

Rtn. Carol Namuddu Kirama Director Club Services

## BUDDY GROUP OF THE MONTH NAMULANDA BUDDY GRO









Rtn. Joseph Ssuuna



Rtn. Illona Mildred Ndagire



Rtn. Frank Lwanga





Rtn. Wabwire Bujjunju Rtn. Mugisha John Mary Rtn. Kagaiga Miriam Gerald

Vianney



Rtn. Jacklet Rwabukurukuru



Rtn. Dinah Atuhairwe



Rtn. Lubwama Patrick







Rtn. Lawrence Onyango

Rtn. Esther Aganyira



Rtn. Josephine Tamale



Rtn. Tahiah Nabakooza





Rtn Rose Kabagyenyi

CP Barbra Nekesa





CP Bob Nsereko

Rtr Kizza Lubuuka Godfrey

**Rtr Hope** Tushemereirwe







CP Bwanika Benjamin

**Rtn Agetie Aikirize** 

AG Rita Gibson





Rtr Menya Ali



Rtr Kayale Shamim

THE SIREN 17

#### **INCREASING OUR IMPACT**

### Namayingo Medical Camp (July 26th – 28th, 2024)

In a bid to improve health access in the Namayingo community, the Rotary Club of Bwebajja hosted a medical camp offering free services to over 2,800 people. The camp provided vital healthcare, including general medical consultations, maternal health services, and distribution of mosquito nets. Additionally, we donated a water tank, clothing, and planted trees, contributing to both health and environmental sustainability. The total expenditure for this impactful project was UGX 26 million. This initiative has significantly improved health outcomes in Namayingo and highlighted the importance of preventative care and environmental conservation.



### Buzzi Impact Day (July 18th, 2024)

Led by our Buddy Group Buzzi, this project focused on maternal and child health. We donated 80 mama kits to expectant mothers at Kitala Health Center II and provided baby clothing. Tree planting was also incorporated to promote environmental awareness in the community. The project, which cost approximately UGX 3 million, addressed critical health needs and created a lasting impact for both the women and the environment. This initiative demonstrates our club's commitment to improving maternal health and supporting sustainable practices.



## Seedlings for Sustainability (July 1st, 2024)

In an effort to promote environmental conservation, the Rotary Club of Bwebajja launched the "Seedlings for Sustainability" initiative by planting 800 fruit trees across 10 schools on Entebbe Road. This project not only contributes to environmental sustainability but also provides a source of future nourishment for the students. The initiative, which cost over UGX 4 million, will have a lasting impact on these schools, improving both the environment and food security. This is a strong step towards creating a greener future for our communities.



## Buddy Group Kawuku in Mbarara (August 2024)

Our Buddy Group Kawuku led a humanitarian project in Mbarara, donating essential food items and a water tank to a local community in need. This project, with a total cost of over UGX 7 million, directly addressed issues of food security and water access, critical for the well-being of the residents. The donation of a water tank will ensure sustainable access to clean water, while the food items provided immediate relief. This initiative showcases our club's continued commitment to supporting communities across Uganda.



#### Schools Career Fair (September 28th, 2024)

The Rotary Club of Bwebajja held an Interact Career Fair at Kisubi High School, attracting over 800 students from various schools. The event provided a platform for students to engage with professionals from over 10 companies, offering invaluable career guidance and inspiration. The fair, which cost over UGX 7 million, aimed to empower students with the knowledge and skills needed to make informed career choices. By connecting students with industry leaders, this initiative fosters the next generation of professionals and leaders, creating a brighter future for all.



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- 5. Rtn Hadijah \$500
- 6. Rtn Rehema N \$600
- 7. Rtn Frank L \$420
- 8. Rtn J Vianney M -\$200
- 9. Rtn John V Mugisha -\$200
- Rtn Cathy K \$100 10.
- 11. Rtn Joe Ssuuna \$100
- 12.Rtn Julie N \$100
- 13.IPP Annie \$100
- 14.PE Hassan N \$30
- 15.PE Hassan Nyenje -\$30
- 16.PN Sylvia Nabakadde - \$30
- 17. Rtn Benjamin Wanda - \$30
- 18.Rtn Jane Kateera -\$30
- 19.Rtn Joyce Bakiire -\$30
- Rtn 20. Annet Nambatya - \$30
- 21.Rtn Ruth Nabibubbu -\$30
- **Rtn Protaze T \$30** 22.
- **Rtn Micheal Agaba** 23. - \$30
- Rtn Ronnie 24. Kasemire - \$30



**Ruth Katana** 



Mwesigye

**New Members** 



Ritah Nabandeke







Mutanda

Nambooze Rehema

Dr. Hadijah Namutebi



**JohnMary** 

Vianney







Robinah Nakitende



Nabagulanyi Florence



Joseph

Wabwire Bujjunju Gerald



John Kayinda

Dr. Juliet Ndibazza

Caroline

## **EXPANDING OUR REACH Amplifying Our Impact:**

## The Power of Public Image



Public image, or PR, is about sharing our story and inspiring others. In the past quarter, our PR department has made significant strides in enhancing visibility and engagement.

From July to September 2024, initiatives like "Seedlings for Sustainability" and the Namayingo Impact Project received media attention, including three NTV appearances during the Rotaract NTV Youth Skills fest. Our Girl Child empowerment sessions at two schools also boosted our visibility.

We improved our website with timely updates and ensured domain fees were paid, enhancing user experience. Our social media has thrived with daily updates and a new initiative for members to showcase their businesses bimonthly. Participation in key events, such as the Rotary 5-a-side football tournament and the 100th DCA launch, showcased our strong PR presence.

Looking ahead, we aim to enhance member engagement, boost the Siren readership, and expand our online presence.

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We improved our website with timely updates and ensured domain fees were paid, enhancing user experience. It's vital for the world to know about us, and this responsibility lies with all club members. Thank you for your continued support as we enter another exciting quarter! Yours in Service,

Rtn. Joseph Ssuuna Director, Public Image Rotary Club of Bwebajja

## ENHANCING MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT.



At Rotary Club of Bwebajja, we foster camaraderie through six vibrant buddy groups: Buzzi, Janyi, Kawuku, Kakindu, Kasatiro, and Namulanda. Here members meet in a smaller group of between 12 to 15 members to avoid being lost in the crowd. These groups promote socialization, service, and growth as members work together to organize, fellowships, do small projects plus follow-up and bonding activities.

These small groups also nature leaders and there is a rotation every 2 years.

#### **Friends of the Year (FOYs)**

We team members into two for accountability purposes. These are selected considering how each can help the other in different aspects e.g mentorship and follow-up at a more personal level. This exercise was successfully carried out on 6th August.

#### **Home Hospitalities**

Members host fellow Rotarians for dinner and fellowship, strengthening bonds and promoting cultural exchange. This year Bwebajja as a club has so far been hosted by Rtn Hope Mukisa at her home in Namayingo and awaits more hospitalities from other members.

#### **Membership Recognition Awards**

We honor dedicated members in categories like Rotarians of the quarter and Year, Buddy group of the half and year, Leadership Excellence etc. By celebrating member achievements, we reinforce our values and inspire continued service. Join us in building a vibrant Rotary community!

## **MEMBER VOICES** My Rotary Journey so far



For over 10 years, joining Rotary was a dream rooted in my core. Finally, I became part of the world's largest service organization—a group often misunderstood as exclusive to the wealthy. However, as a member, I can confidently say that Rotary is for anyone dedicated to reaching out and supporting the underserved.

My journey began when I attended an out-oftown fellowship as a guest. It was here that Charlotte, our sponsor, convinced us that Rotary is not just about service, but also fun. Inspired, I joined the mentorship program, which led to my induction. Rotary has become a source of service, fun, love, and family for me. It brings together people from all walks of life to make a difference in the community. One unforgettable experience was the Namayingo Impact Health Project. Tens of thousands sought care at our health camp, and my team helped over 270 eye patients in three days. Seeing people leave with smiles, and hearing heartfelt thanks, moved me deeply—it's a reminder of why we serve.

Despite a few challenges, we pressed on. The very next day, I was out planting trees for another project, driven by Rotary's spirit of service. These experiences cemented my commitment to the ideals of Rotary.

Rotary has also been a pillar of support during my personal hardships. When I lost my father, the "Magical President" Andrew and the Rotary Club of Bwebajja stood by me, offering love and comfort. Their constant check-ins, messages, and financial support were a testament to the bond we share as Rotarians.

Rotary is truly my second family. Let's continue to embrace the ideal of service as we enjoy the journey together

Rtn. Joseph Makumbi RC Bwebajja

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Despite a few challenges, we pressed on. The very next day, I was out planting trees for another project, driven by Rotary's spirit of service.

#### **My First Four Months in Rotary:**

## A Journey of Unity, Service, and Growth



Joining the Rotary Club of Bwebajja four months ago has been transformative. From my first mentorship session, I was warmly welcomed into a community dedicated to making a difference. These months have been filled with meaningful projects, inspiring mentorship, and a deep sense of purpose.

The mentorship I've received, particularly from CP Gordians and senior members, has been invaluable. Their guidance helped me understand Rotary's mission and inspired me to contribute. My cohort, led by Gerald Bujjunju Wabwire and Rehema Nambooze, has been a constant source of motivation, and I'm grateful for their support. A highlight of my time was the Namayingo Health Camp. We provided medical care to underserved communities, and the gratitude we received was a powerful reminder of Rotary's impact. The dedication of my fellow Rotarians, from planning to execution, was inspiring.

What sets the Rotary Club of Bwebajja apart is its unity and shared purpose. Every meeting and project reflects a strong sense of camaraderie. Despite our diverse backgrounds, we are united by a common goal—to serve and uplift others.

Our leaders, especially President Ssennabulya Andrew, leads by example, fostering a supportive environment where every member feels valued. Their leadership has inspired me to take on more responsibility and grow both personally and within the club.

Reflecting on these first four months, I'm grateful for the mentorship, the projects, and the unity I've experienced. I look forward to contributing more and growing alongside such inspiring individuals. Rotary has already become a significant part of my life, and I can't wait to see what the next months and years bring.

Rtn Mugisha John Mary Vianney Rotary Club of Bwebajja



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#### **My Rotary Journey:**

## A Lifelong Dedication to Service



My Rotary journey began during my early days at Lubiri High School as an Interactor, where the spirit of "Service Above Self" took root in me. That passion for service continues today as I actively volunteer in various fields—whether at mosques, community outreach, or fundraising initiatives.

As a financial advisor, building social connections is crucial. Seeking to expand my network, Rotary naturally became my focus. Beyond the professional benefits, I craved a circle of genuine, open-minded, and dynamic individuals who share my drive for service.

> Visiting different clubs confirmed that these incredible connections are found in Rotary, particularly in the mighty Rotary Club of Bwebajja. The warmth, passion, and energy of the members made it clear that this was the community I wanted to join.

A heartfelt thanks to my sponsor, Rtn. Daniel Bateeze, and my employer and corporate partner, UAP-Old Mutual Life, for making this smooth transition into Rotary possible. Together, we are ready to make a lasting impact!

Together, let's serve humanity.

Rtn. Rehemah Nambooze Member RC. Bwebajja

#### **Discover Your Path**

## Schools Career Fair: Igniting Futures

On September 28, 2024, the Rotary Club of Bwebajja, Rotaract Bwebajja, and District 9214 Interact Clubs hosted a groundbreaking Schools Career Fair at Kisubi High School. Bringing together over 500 enthusiatic students, professionals and industry experts. The day's activity was carried out at Kisubi high school where other schools like Elite High School, St. Mary's School Kisubi, Kitende Senior Secondary, Boston High school, and Trinity secondary school converged to explore diverse career paths.

kicked The fair off with inspiring keynote speeches from renowned professionals, Rtn. Mukasa Mbidde and Rtn Namutebi Hadija who inspired students by sharing their personal journeys, challenges, and successes. These motivational talks sparked excitement and curiosity among the students.

Industry experts from security, agriculture, aviation, banking, engineering, tourism, business, health care, technology and the media and entertainment fraternity shared valuable insights. Representatives from these sectors engaged in interactive sessions with attendees, providing valuable insights into their respective fields.

There were diver's exhibition stalls, these exhibition areas featured stalls representing various industries, the most captivating being the aviation stall that had its facilitators dressed as aviators and to spice this up, they brought in most of the learning aid the students used.

To crown the day's activities, the Permanent Secretary for Gas and Oil Mrs. Irene Bateba who was the days Guest of Honour delivered a captivating speech, emphasizing the importance of skill development and seizing opportunities.

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Rtn. Mukasa Mbidde and Rtn Namutebi Hadija who inspired students by sharing their personal journeys, challenges, and successes.

At the end of the session's students engaged in lively Q&A sessions, networking with professionals and peers. This enriching event empowered students to discover their paths and unlock their potential.

Sponsors and volunteers made this event possible, fostering a brighter future for Uganda's youth.

## 

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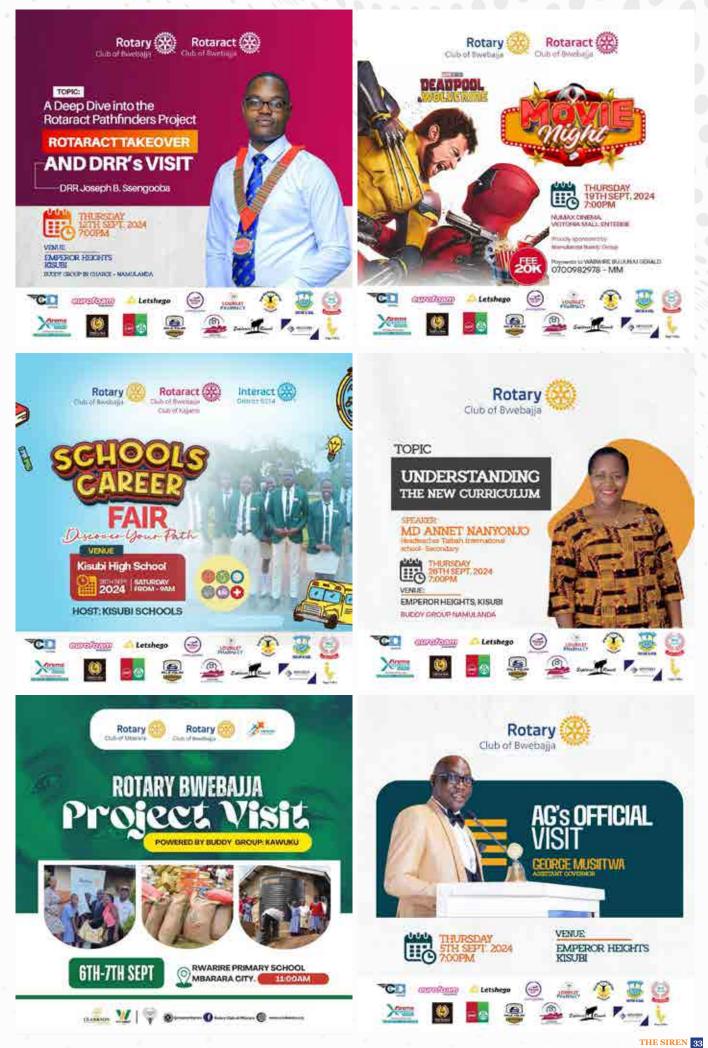
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SPECIAL EDITION 2024 - COFFEE BOOK

## All-Africa Rotary Institute, Mauritius 2024: A Magical Experience



The Rotary Zone 22 Institute, held from the 23rd to 28th of September 2024 at the picturesque Ravenala Attitude in Mauritius, was an unforgettable gathering of Rotarians from Zone 22 and beyond. With Uganda's delegation featuring current, future, and past District Governors, the event was a true celebration of Rotary's power to unite and inspire.

RI President Stephanie Urchick graced the event with her leadership and shared her incredible Rotary journey. Her message, centered on this year's theme "The Magic of Rotary," left delegates filled with hope and renewed purpose. The sessions were insightful, covering a range of topics that deepened our understanding of Rotary's global impact.

Beyond learning, the Institute offered ample opportunities for networking, fostering connections that will undoubtedly drive future collaborations. The food and fellowship were equally outstanding, with delegates enjoying an endless flow of drinks and sumptuous meals.

Our District 9214 shone brightly, being recognized as the second highest in membership growth within Zone 22. The crowning moment for our district came when PDG Emmanuel Katongole, an honorary member of RC Bwebajja, was announced as the next Rotary International Director for Zones 21 and 22. It was truly a magical experience, combining learning, fellowship, and a deep sense of pride in Rotary's power to drive lasting change.

AG Annie Ninyesiga RC Bwebajja

"Our District 9214 shone brightly, being recognized as the second highest in membership growth within Zone 22."



### HONORARY MEMBERS My Journey with RC Bwebajja



I first encountered the Rotary Club of Bwebajja during its formative phase, when it held its meetings on Wednesdays at Akright Stage. My initial connection came through a home hospitality event at PAG Charles Magala's house, where I met some of the members. They were a cheerful group, though their Rotary knowledge was still in its early stages. At that time, my engagement with them was brief, and I didn't dive too deeply into club matters.

A pivotal moment arrived when I was invited to a retreat at MD Dan's home. There, during a candid discussion about club dues, many members realized they were non-compliant, raising questions about their true standing in Rotary. Sadly, this led several members to leave, never to return. But this challenge became a catalyst for change. After much consultation, the club made a strategic decision to move its meeting day to Thursday, allowing me—whose own club RC Kajjansi met on Wednesdays—to become a more regular visitor. Soon after, I was appointed Assistant Governor, and my engagement with the club became more structured and purposeful. When I was later honored with an honorary membership, my bond with RC Bwebajja was cemented.

The club soon shifted its meetings to Cabana Restaurant, a more central and vibrant location. The famous "kimeeza" sessions at Cabana's veranda injected new energy into the club. Despite some lessthan-ideal circumstances, such as the semihygienic restrooms, nothing could dampen our spirits. The friendships were genuine, and the meetings, often accompanied by bottled drinks, were a highlight for many.

My deepest gratitude goes to RC Bwebajja for making every fellowship a joyful experience, anywhere and anytime.

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Even in this imperfect setting, RC Bwebajja began to achieve remarkable milestones. Dedicated members became Paul Harris Fellows, and under Charter President Gordians' leadership, the club won its first DCA Award for contributions by first-time givers to The Rotary Foundation in its charter year. Friends like No. 10 and PP Miriam breathed new life into the Anns and Andys' dinner, while visionaries like PAG Mo introduced ambitious projects, including a futuristic geriatrics project. It was also in Bwebajja where the "Happy Shilling" concept was born, a fundraising idea that has since been adopted by other clubs in different forms.

Collaborations with other Rotary clubs fueled Bwebajja's growth. Projects such as building a school in Kayunga and early childhood structures at Kyampagi Primary School in Kyotera exemplified the club's community spirit. The Rotaract Club of Bwebajja was birthed and it thrived, becoming a dynamic force in its own right. When I needed a personal assistant during my tenure as District Governor, the choice was clear: Past President JB Ssengooba of the Rotaract Club—now DRR—proved to be the perfect fit, a testament to the vibrancy and resourcefulness of the club.

RC Bwebajja continued to leave a lasting impact through projects like the joint effort with RC Kyotera, which raised over 100 bags of cement for a church floor in Isingiro. Today, the upgraded Nyamuyanja Health Centre stands as a model of excellence, while projects such as the Ngongolo grant and the Tricycle Village Ambulances continue to touch lives. The club's contributions to mega medical camps in Bushenyi, Kamuli, Mubende, Ssembabule, and Namayingo further underscore its commitment to service.

Membership has steadily grown over the years, and with President Andrew at the helm, reaching 100 members is within sight. The inclusion of more honorary members has been a welcome boost, with each contributing in their unique way. PDG Ur's dedication remains unmatched, and the generosity of RIDE Emmanuel has made a profound impact, with more to come.

My deepest gratitude goes to RC Bwebajja for making every fellowship a joyful experience, anywhere and anytime. The club's journey has been inspiring, and its future holds even greater promise.

PDG Peace Godfrey Taremwa Rotary Club of Kajjansi (Honorary Member, RC. Bwebajja)



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## Friends of Bwebajja My Journey with RC Bwebajja

When you mention service, fun, and friendships in Rotary, the Rotary Club of Bwebajja instantly comes to mind—even if you woke me up from a deep sleep at 2am. My journey with this remarkable club began during the Opportunity Year 2020/2021 under PP Anne Nambatya's leadership. I got even closer to RC Bwebajja during the Change Maker Year when President Michael graciously asked me to emcee his installation. At our charter as Kampala Morning Stars, PAG Mo served as the Assistant Governor of the Mother Club, RC Bukoto.



Fast forward, and Bwebajja became more than just a Rotary club for me—it became home. Its members are more than Rotarians; they are family. The warmth, the smiles, and the genuine hospitality will have you eagerly wondering when your next visit will be. And somehow, every new member they induct feels like they've been part of the family forever—plugging into the club seamlessly, as if Bwebajja has a secret recipe for friendship.

At RC Bwebajja, I've experienced the true essence of the Object of Rotary. I've made lifelong friends who are now family, and the support I've received—both personally and for my consultancy business—has been extraordinary. This club truly lives and breathes community impact, and it's no surprise that serving others is part of their daily routine.

The Buddy groups are truly a force to be reckoned with, keeping me deeply connected and engaged. I started with the Kasatiro group and now proudly belong to the Buzzi family. What truly sets RC Bwebajja apart is its unmatched creativity, constant innovation, and the way it nurtures leadership growth in every member.

As a member of D9213, if I had the chance to choose a club beyond my district, Bwebajja would be my obvious choice. Whether they'd accept me, well—that's a story for another day (hahaha!).

Keep soaring, keep impacting, and keep working your magic, RC Bwebajja!

CP. Samuel Ngambwaki RC Kampala Morning Stars (D9213)



#### SEPTEMBER CALENDAR BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH







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Rtn Mugisha JohnMary Vianney Rtn Nabagulanyi Florence Ar valite management officer Banker



**Rtn Ruth Katana** Business kody





Farmer



**Rtn Robinah Nakitende** Nurse



Rtn John kayinda Rtn Dr. Hadijah Namutebi Police Officer







Rtn Apollo Newton Mwesigye Rtn Ritah Nabandeke Lowyer



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