

District 9210 March 2019 Newsletter



CYCLONE IDAI

Cyclone Idai which formed on 4 March 2019 and dissipated on 21 March 2019 ranks as one of the worst tropical storms on record to affect Africa and the Southern Hemisphere as a whole. Hundreds of people were killed and or missing, thousands are injured and affected by this storm that directly affected our district. Read about how Rotarians in our district are stepping up to the challenge and assisting wherever they are needed most.

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MARCH REMARKS BY DG HUTCHSON

March is Water and Sanitation month. I have heard people say water is life. That may not be 100 % correct but what I know is that without water there can be no life. This month we have witnessed the worst calamity in our district in living memory caused by Cyclone Idai. The biggest damage was caused by water. So water may not be life, after all.

Cyclone ravaged three out of our four countries. It started in Malawi what seemed like incessant rains for almost a week. A few days later we heard the Cyclone had hit Mozambique in Beira area and finally tracing its path into Chimanimani, Zimbabwe. There are untold stories of the devastation of our people. The flooding levels were unimaginable, engulfing villages and towns for weeks in Manicaland, the flash floods with mud and rocks running down the Chimanimani mountains swept away villages and anything in their path. It was pathetic. Many people lost their lives. It is estimated that a total of 1300 died in the three countries and thousands were displaced. Our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and our thoughts go to the survivors of the ordeal. In this time of need, it was heartening to know that the Rotary family stood by us and will continue to do so.

I have heard of reports in Zimbabwe where massive campaigns to assist the victims have been taking place. Clubs are busy fundraising and donating any usable item. Other districts in COSA (Council of Southern Africa) are on the ground of the devastated areas if not on their way to lend a hand to our district. All over the world, the family of Rotary has assured us of their support. They have shown us the true spirit of Service Above Self. The district has set up disaster response committees in all four countries to mobilise such support for the disaster.

In March, we also observe World Rotaract Week. Pres. Barry writes "Rotaractors are blazing the path for Rotary to be more relevant in this new century of service. And World Rotaract Week, which we're celebrating 11-17 March, is the perfect opportunity to get to know your local Rotaractors and talk to them about how your clubs can work together. If your Rotary club doesn't already sponsor a Rotaract club, know that you don't need to be near a college or university to do it. Community-based Rotaract clubs are a great option. And remember that Rotaractors are part of the Rotary family.



When Rotaractors are ready to leave their Rotaract club, we don't want them to leave that Rotary family behind. I'm asking all Rotarians to help them make the transition into a Rotary club or to start a new one: I'm happy to charter as many new clubs as we need to give everyone a place where they feel at home while making the world a little better. Service should be fun, it should be inspirational, and it should be open to all." During the cyclone disaster, Rotaractors have teamed up with the sponsor clubs to alleviate the suffering of the survivors.

Clubs in our district are already doing global grants in the water and sanitation area. With cyclone Idai, we now have to do more to provide potable water in the devastated areas. Let's start planning on water supply rehabilitation schemes/programmes in those areas using global grants. TRF is setting up a Disaster Relief Fund in April from which we can access funding for such mega projects in our area.

I hope that through this disaster, we can be the inspiration to the communities in the affected areas.



DG Hutch supporting Rotaractors Blood Donation Camp during Rotaract Week in Lilongwe

Cyclone Idai Pictures



Idai: Beyond The Storm

By Innocent Mukute (Past District Rotaract Representative)

Three of the four countries in our district have literally been in the eye of a storm as cyclone Idai swept through our communities. When Rotary heard about the news of the floods, we joined Miracle Missions and other partners here in Harare to mobilize food, clothing, blankets, tents, soap and other forms of relief to the affected communities some four hundred or so kilometers from Harare. Collected items were being trucked to Mutare city the capital of the affected province from where they would be flown to the affected areas which were not accessible by road. The distribution in Mutare was being coordinated by other well-wishers including Presbyterian Church, Miracle Missions and other organizations. A team of Rotarians and myself decided to head out to get a sense of how the distribution would go, where we could help and get as close as possible to the affected areas to get a sense of the situation.

Upon our arrival in Mutare we went to the receiving point at a Presbyterian Church where donations were coming in and being organized into grocery packs, etc. We also arrived at the same time with a group of volunteers who would be flown into the affected areas. Red Cross were among those already visibly present when we arrived. We were informed that instead of one central distribution point in Mutare which is about a hundred miles from the hardest hit area, four distribution points would now be set-up in the areas around or closest to the affected areas. So we decided to proceed to Wengezi, one of the new distribution points some 68km outside Mutare and about 80km from Chimanimani. When we arrived, Red Cross was already there, as was the distribution team and officials from the ministry of local government. We didn't witness dispatch at this point as it was still being set-up but we were impressed by how well coordinated the effort was, which was mainly driven by the local community. The coordinator promised to send us pictures the following morning when the first helicopter picks up a consignment and we have been updated regularly since. We also drove further to see for ourselves one of the bridges that gave in.

As we headed back to Harare, we were delighted to know that there was an efficient system to move relief from Harare and all over to the affected areas. Based on our interactions with those who had been inside Chimanimani, we got a sense that there was a pressing and recurrent need for food for the next couple of months.



There was also a need for more clothes (especially for babies), blankets and tents as a lot of people there lost everything. There would also be a need in the education sector like stationary and materials starting with the exam classes, and possibly food for the schools feeding program to ensure the children get are well nourished and also enjoy school. Then there is the infrastructure that needs to be built going forward, schools, clinics, ablution facilities, etc.

As a former Rotaractor one of the low hanging fruits for Rotaract would be partnering with supermarkets and doing a food collection drive of specific items that would make a grocery pack. Clubs could then partner with Miracle Missions for distribution or plan a Roadtrip as the areas are becoming more accessible by the day. I also imagined that global grants could be the way for Rotary Clubs to go, especially in dealing with long term needs like ablution blocks and helping rebuild or re-equip schools and clinics. From singing war cries as we packed tones of Mutare-bound donations at Presbyterian Church to personal interactions with some of the people who were part of the humanitarian efforts, it's been amazing to have a platform where all of our modest contributions have been pooled together to make an impact. Of course fellowship is always in the mix, on our way back we stopped over for the night at Juliusdale to debrief. Seeing the breathtaking scenery was just a reminder of how beautiful the Eastern Highlands are and a reminder that Chimanimani and places like Beira can return to be the paradise that it they have always been if we work together. Returning home to the news that Project 50-50, a district-wide Rotaract initiative I had been involved had been shortlisted for most Outstanding Rotaract Project award by Rotary International was a huge morale booster for the work that lay ahead.

Rotaract in Malawi

Rotaract in Malawi had been a thing of the past...most Rotaract alumni had settled into Rotary and didn't think Rotaract would ever be established again. This changed in July 2014 when an enthusiastic young lady approached the Rotary club of Blantyre to assist her with funds for a good cause. The Rotarians saw this as an opportunity for the rebirth of Rotaract in Malawi. A quest for funds turned into a conversation that would change her life and the country forever. In October 2014, the Rotaract club of Blantyre was chartered with 15 members. These young individuals were full of energy and set out to help those in need in their city. With very little knowledge of what Rotaract really was, they planned projects and immediately started fundraising for various initiatives.

In February 2015, another club in Lilongwe was born with individuals just as enthusiastic as those in Blantyre. However, there was very little knowledge about belonging to a district or what a district was. In May 2015, a member of the Rotaract club of Blantyre attended DISCON and shared information she learnt with her fellow club members. This was only the beginning.



District involvement grew more and more as more members from all the clubs attended the Rotaract Africa Summit in Zimbabwe that year. November 2015 birthed another club in Blantyre which was chartered under the name Rotaract club of Limbe. This club became the 2nd university based club but slowly grew into a community based club. In 2016, Rotaract clubs in Malawi were well known in the country and also in the district. The District Conference took place in Malawi that year and rotaractors were able to join their counterparts in a project in Mangochi. In the same year the university based club, NRC, donated medical equipment to a health center in Chileka, Blantyre.

2017 was a great year for the Blantyre club as they completed their 1st major project of donating a maize mill to an orphan care center to help them to be self-sustaining. Their Lilongwe colleagues were not far behind as they also donated books and school materials to a primary school in their city in April 2018. This was topped up with rehabilitation of the school's library. As the years passed by Rotaract in Malawi aimed to make its mark in its District 9210. The Blantyre club managed to showcase 2 projects at the District Conference in 2018. The club not only won the award for most rotaractors at the conference but their president also won 'President of the Year'. The incoming District Rotaract Representative also happened to be from the Blantyre club. In the same year the Limbe club took the spotlight through donations of school uniforms in their area and by sending their president to the Rotaract Africa Summit.

Although the 4 clubs were unique and different they shared the same goal of '**service above self**'. The Blantyre and Lilongwe club joined hands in 2018 to fundraise for the district's project 50-50. The Limbe club also partnered with the Blantyre club in January 2019 to plant trees in the outskirts of their city. This year's district 9210 goal is '**inspire change**'. And it's safe to say the rotaractors in Malawi continue to inspire change in their community and most of all, in each other.



Water and Sanitation Story By The Rotary Club of Lusaka Metro

In appreciation of the “water and sanitation month”, The Rotary Club of Lusaka Metro, donated a hand water pump to Mbereshi Mission Hospital in Mwansabombwe a remote town the Luapula Province. This pump, once installed will be used at the mother’s shelter. Currently, mothers whose children are admitted at the hospital have to walk long distances to access clean water. With the able guidance of President Rachel and the coordinated effort of PDG Ravi and DGN Lucy; we believe that this initiative will go a long way in improving the quality of life of both patients and nursing mothers at the hospital

Another hand pump is soon to be installed at Open Arms Community School based in Lusaka. This school has over 300 learners.

The two pump were donated to Lusaka Metro through PDR Nyanthando who acquired them from the Rotary Club of Bombay Midtown



We remember all the lives that have been lost and affected by Cyclone Idai in neighboring, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Malawi. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

Kanyama/Matero/Chaisa Schools Health Project By the Rotary Club of Nkwazi

After the successful completion of the Ng’ombe Schools Health pilot Project, we received an invitation from the Rotary Club of Ipswich to once again partner with Healthy Kids/Brighter Future in extending the project to Kanyama, Matero and Chaisa compounds.

The further work involved in identifying schools and this project is firmly within the pipeline

This grant’s primary area of focus was Disease Prevention & Treatment. We, as the Rotary Club of Nkwazi implemented an innovative model of locally managed school-based healthcare - Partner schools designate teachers to undergo a 10-day training to become School Health Workers (SHWs). These teachers implemented health education programs and provided first line basic care and fast track referrals free of charge to local government health facilities.

We also trained Health Centre personnel and School Administration on how to run health education and properly manage school health programs.

Lastly, we worked with local Health Centres to provide school medical screenings and preventive services to 26,000 school children, including water and sanitation training. The project will build the foundation and support systems to ensure that the children continue to receive biannual screenings and treatment for years to come.

Words of Inspiration

Laugh. Laugh away your worries. Remember, you are one of the lucky ones. You managed to have a life, a long one. Many never get to this age, never get to experience a full life.



Bindura Wheelchair Handover by Harare Central

To commemorate World Rotaract Week (11-17 March 2019), Rotary Club of Harare Central dedicated the week to Rotaract Club of Harare Central. On Thursday 14th March, we invited the current Rotaract President, Pres Eve Mungoni to come and address our club meeting, where she updated us on what projects the Rotaractors have been doing this year.

On Saturday 16th March together with our Rotaractors, we concluded this year's wheelchair handover in partnership with Rotary Club of Fresno, California, in Bindura 87km away from Harare. We dedicated the event to them, as they supported us throughout this project. We handed over 15 wheelchairs to people living with disabilities. This was a thank you to Harare Central Rotaractors for being there with us throughout this wheelchair project. They were truly hands on, and always present assembling and distributing the wheelchairs at every handover we had. We ended the day with fellowship at Mazowe Dam, which was enjoyed by all.

Complied by Harare Central Public Relations Committee



Rotary Club of Highlands Medical Books Donation

The Rotary Club of Highlands recently donated several medical books to three health institutions, namely Mount St Mary's Mission Hospital in Hwedza, St David's Bonda Mission in Manicaland and Kwekwe General Hospital. The books sourced from the USA will be used at Nursing Training Schools at these health institutions



Rotary eClub of D9210 send out their first Youth Exchange Student



Youth Exchange Student Baraka Homodza well received by the Rotary Club de Goiania Rio Araguaia



Cyclone Idai Disaster Relief Project at Highlands Presbyterian Church in Harare



Soon after news of the devastation caused by Cyclone Idai reached Harare, the Rotary Club of Msasa forged a partnership with Miracle Missions, Harare Helps, ONE Hope Initiatives and The Eat Out Movement to provide much needed assistance to the areas affected by Cyclone Idai in the Manicaland Province. The initiative which was well supported by several clubs in Harare became the spotlight of the Zimbabwean response to the disaster. Over 1000 volunteers from all walks of life converged upon the Highlands Presbyterian Church to sort, label, pack and load countless boxes to send to Chimanimani and Chipinge. About forty 30-tonne trucks were fully loaded with food, clothes, medical supplies, pots, toiletries and other necessary items. The initiative has been a testimony to the Zimbabwean spirit, with people laying aside their political, religious, tribal and racial differences to come together and assist others in their greatest time of need.





Rotary Branding **By PDG Lee-Ann Shearing**

Recently I have in one way or another been exposed to a fair number of clubs whose time has come to re-order club banners or who want to produce new club shirts or other items of club regalia, or a new club brochure or flier.

Too many clubs are still using the old logo even when they are ordering new stock. It is far too easy to just use the same vendor who has all the old material and just simply press the re-order button.

I want to encourage ALL clubs in our beautiful District 9210 to review all their club insignia and update as far as possible to the new consistent branding that Rotary has in place.

Where can you find all these new branding concepts you may ask? Go to www.rotary.org, sign in (or sign up if you do not have an account already) to My Rotary, go to the top of the page and go into the Manage tab, find Brand Centre and click! The Brand Centre will ask you to re-sign in. This is necessary in order that our branding is safeguarded and protected, ensuring that it is Rotarians who are utilising the materials therein.

It is not enough to just change from the mark of excellence (our Rotary wheel) to the new logo, we also need to change the way we advertise our own club logo's. Below this article I give you examples of the correct way to publicise your club logo.

To help you with correctly using the Rotary brand I suggest you download a copy of the voice and visual identity guideline. This will ensure that you get it right all the time.



Correct Rotary Logo



Club (of/at) Location

Optional Text Here

Correct usage of logo for Club logo

Good luck in your re-branding exercise and if you need any assistance at all please feel free to contact me on leeandy@zol.co.zw

'Til next month!

CALENDAR

11-17 MARCH 2019

WORLD ROTARACT WEEK

APRIL

**MATERNAL AND CHILD
HEALTH MONTH**

24-28 APRIL 2019

DISCON MANGOCHI

24-30 APRIL 2019

WORLD IMMUNIZATION WEEK

MAY

YOUTH SERVICE MONTH

31 MAY 2019

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION
OF APPLICATION FOR PEACE
FELLOWSHIP TO DISTRICT**

JUNE

**ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS
MONTH**

**RI CONVENTION
HAMBURG**



Harare MPRLS 9 & 16 March 2019