ZIMBABWE • ZAMBIA • MALAWI • NORTHERN MOZAMBIQUE

NOVEMBER 2026 EDITION

THE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Creating Lasting Impact

Rotary International Theme, 2026–2027



IN THIS ISSUE

November 2026

04 **RI President's Message**
More Members, More Impact

05 **District Governor's Message**
Our Foundation, Our Legacy

07 **The PHF Challenge**
Launching 24 October 2026

08 **The PI Lens**
Behind Every Grant, a Story

10 **40 Days, 40 Nights**
On the Road with DG Samuel in Zambia

14 **Chililabombwe Metro Brings Clean Water**
to Fitobaula

17 **Menstrual Health Outreach Empowers 200 Girls**
in Lusaka

23 **Rotaract UNZA**
Growing a Greener Future at Libala

25 **Harare Central**
Turning Waste into Wealth

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Giving You Can See — Farai Gwaze, District 9210 Newsletter Editor, opens this issue on page 03.

ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

November is Rotary Foundation Month.

The District 9210 **PHF Challenge** launched on **24 October** and runs until midnight CAT on **31 March 2027**.

A MILESTONE TO WATCH

8 November brings DG Samuel's 40-day tour of every Rotary club in Zambia to a close.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Giving You Can See

FARAI GWAZE, DISTRICT 9210 NEWSLETTER EDITOR



Welcome to the November edition of the Rotary District 9210 newsletter, bringing together the work of our clubs across Malawi, Northern Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. November is Rotary Foundation Month, and this issue is full of what the Foundation, and the generosity behind it, looks like on the ground. Not cheques and handovers, but a tap running in a village, a girl who no longer has to miss school, a schoolyard with bins and young trees, and a grandmother building a home from plastic other people threw away.

RI President Yinka Babalola opens the issue by reminding us that impact scales with people, and that the change Rotary makes in the world begins with the change it makes in us. District Governor Sam then sets out the Foundation goals we agreed in Gweru, Midlands Province, and launches the District 9210 PHF Challenge, which runs until 31 March 2027. In this month's PI Lens, our District Public Image Chair asks why so much of our Foundation giving goes unseen, and hands every club a simple test: is your post Rotary Ready?

Our feature this month rides along with DG Sam on 40 Days, 40 Nights, his tour of every Rotary club in Zambia. More than 3,500 kilometres in, the long drives from Lusaka to Samfya in Luapula Province and from Mpika in Muchinga to Solwezi in North-Western Province are only half the story. The other half is Rotarians in Mansa escorting him out of town, and members in Mufulira following him all the way to Kalulushi to make sure he arrived safely.

The club stories answer Mwaka's challenge. In Chililabombwe, on Zambia's Copperbelt, a club chartered only in March handed over a borehole that now serves more than 600 residents of Fitobaula. In Lusaka Province, five club presidents pooled their Presidents' Fund to put reusable menstrual hygiene kits in the hands of 200 girls at Kabulonga Girls Secondary School, and the Rotaract Club of UNZA joined EcoHomes to bring waste bins and trees to Libala Secondary School. In Harare, the Rotary Club of Harare Central shows how plastic waste can fund Foundation giving and create livelihoods, with echoes reaching rural Buhera North in Manicaland.

This month's stories come from Zambia and Zimbabwe, but District 9210 is four countries strong. To our clubs in Malawi and Northern Mozambique: we want your Foundation stories too. Thank you to every club correspondent who sent us a story this month. Keep them coming, and send your best photographs with them. This newsletter is only as rich as what you share with it.

> **"The Foundation does not need us to boast. It needs us to show.**

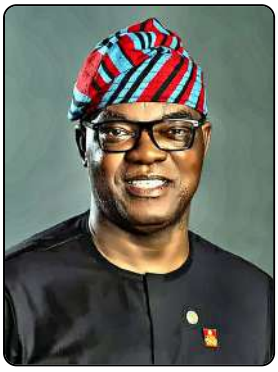
Yours in Rotary Service,
The District 9210 Newsletter Team

ROTARY AFRICA | SOUTH · RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

More Members, More Impact

YINKA BABALOLA, PRESIDENT, ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Change within ourselves is the first step toward the impact we seek to make in the world.



I remember my first encounter with Rotary. I saw a Rotarian on television. I was a teenager with my thoughts elsewhere, when suddenly my full attention was on this man. I did not know it then, but that moment would change my life.

That is the thing about impact. We often imagine it as something we create out there, in a community we visit or in a project we fund. But that impact is brought about through the change within us, as well.

Increasing our impact is the first pillar of Rotary's Action Plan and it asks us not only to do good but to do good that lasts and can be measured. It means choosing sustainable, needs-based projects over comfortable ones and asking honestly whether a project will still be serving people five years from now without us in the room.

When I say we must Create Lasting Impact, I do not mean impact that fades once the ribbon is cut or the well is dug. I mean the kind of impact that changes the person doing the work as surely as it changes the person benefiting from it. Rotary changes all of us. It changed a teenager watching a television broadcast. It has changed millions of Rotarians and Rotaractors since 1905. And it will keep changing people, long after this Rotary year, if we do the work now to make sure it can.

That work starts with membership. Impact scales with people. Every hand we add is another hand that can dig a well, teach a child to read, deliver a vaccine, or simply show up for a neighbour in need. As we approach our 125th anniversary in 2030, our goal is to reach 1.25 million Rotarians and 125,000 Rotaractors worldwide. That is not a number for a banner. It is a measure of how much more good we can do together and how many more lives, including our own, Rotary still has the chance to change.

I have often challenged you to do better than your best. Growing our membership is where that challenge exists most urgently. Invite the colleague who keeps asking what Rotary is about. Welcome back the member who drifted away. Partner with the Rotaract club down the street. Every one of those conversations is a small act with lasting consequences.

We have 125 years behind us and a great deal of work still ahead. Let us build the kind of Rotary that keeps changing people the way it changed me, one member, one project, one act of service at a time. Together, let us Create Lasting Impact.

Yinka
President, Rotary International

1.25M ROTARIANS WORLDWIDE BY 2030

125,000 ROTARACTORS WORLDWIDE BY 2030

2030 ROTARY'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY

FROM THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR · ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

Our Foundation, Our Legacy: Create Lasting Impact

SAMUEL TAURAYI CHIKOWORE, DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2026–2027, ROTARY DISTRICT 9210



> **"What lasting difference will my generosity make?"**

Dear Fellow Rotarians, Rotaractors and Friends of Rotary,

Every contribution to The Rotary Foundation carries a possibility: a child protected from polio, a family gaining access to clean water, a mother receiving essential healthcare, or a young person finding new opportunities through education. When we give, we help turn those possibilities into realities.

As we observe Rotary Foundation Month, I invite every member of District 9210 to reflect on a question: What lasting difference will my generosity make?

Across Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe, our communities have enormous potential. They also face challenges that demand sustained commitment. Through The Rotary Foundation, we can combine our resources, knowledge and partnerships to deliver projects whose benefits continue long after a club visit, a presentation or a Rotary year has ended.

Our Foundation belongs to all of us. Its strength depends on our willingness to support it, and its impact grows when we connect our giving with thoughtful, accountable service.

Our Foundation Goals for 2026–27

At our District Team Learning Seminar in Gweru, we set ambitious Foundation goals for the 2026–27 Rotary year:

US$200,000
IN ANNUAL FUND GIVING

US$100,000
FOR POLIOPLUS

100
PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS

5 + 2
FIVE MAJOR DONORS AND TWO ARCH KLUMPH SOCIETY MEMBERS

60 · 90%
60 NEW GLOBAL GRANTS AND A 90% GLOBAL GRANT REPORTING RATE

Behind each target are people whose lives we hope to improve. Our responsibility is to turn these commitments into contributions, well-planned projects and measurable results.

FROM THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR · ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

The District 9210 PHF Challenge

24 Oct LAUNCH, WORLD POLIO DAY

US$500 MATCHED WITH 500 FOUNDATION RECOGNITION POINTS

31 Mar CLOSES MIDNIGHT CAT, 2027

The District 9210 PHF Challenge gives us a practical opportunity to act.

Launched on World Polio Day, 24 October 2026, the Challenge runs until midnight CAT on 31 March 2027. For each US$500 contribution towards your Paul Harris Fellow appointment or enhancement, the District will match it with 500 Foundation recognition points.

For a new contributor, this provides a pathway to becoming a Paul Harris Fellow. For an existing Paul Harris Fellow, it provides an opportunity to advance to the next PHF recognition level. The matching points support PHF recognition; they do not count towards Major Donor recognition.

The Challenge is open to Rotarians, Rotaractors and Friends of Rotary across our District and beyond. I encourage you to participate and to invite others to join you.

The recognition celebrates generosity, but the purpose reaches much further. Each contribution strengthens the Foundation's capacity to serve. The matching recognition points help us acknowledge that commitment while building fellowship around a shared cause.

If you have been considering becoming a Paul Harris Fellow, make this your moment. If you already wear the pin, let it inspire another act of generosity. If you are able to make a larger commitment, consider how your giving could help us achieve our Major Donor and Arch Klumph Society goals.

A Month of Action

I ask every Club President and Club Foundation Chair to make November a month of action. Explain the Challenge at a club meeting. Invite members to make a personal giving commitment. Share stories that connect Foundation support with the difference Rotary makes. Help every member understand how to participate, and recognise progress along the way.

Every gift matters. Where US$500 is beyond a member's immediate reach, encourage a personal giving plan and continued support within their means. We build a culture of generosity by welcoming participation at every level.

We must also honour that generosity through sound stewardship. Our grant ambitions require careful community consultation, sustainable project design, responsible financial management and timely reporting. When we account faithfully for the resources entrusted to us, we strengthen confidence in Rotary and prepare the way for further service.

Fellow Rotarians and Rotaractors, the goals we set in Gweru now call for action in every club and from each of us. Let November be the month when we renew our commitment to our Foundation and take a deliberate step towards fulfilling it.

Give with purpose. Take up the PHF Challenge. Together, let us Create Lasting Impact.

Samuel Taurayi Chikowore
District Governor, 2026–27, Rotary International District 9210

GIVE WITH PURPOSE · TAKE UP THE PHF CHALLENGE

Rotary District 9210

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

Rotary

PHF CHALLENGE *Launch*



A DISTRICT COLLABORATION

Rotarians from across our district and beyond are invited to participate.

LAUNCH DATE
24 OCTOBER
World Polio Day

CONTRIBUTE
US$500
towards your Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) appointment or enhancement.

DISTRICT MATCH
500
recognition points for each US$500 contribution.

CHALLENGE PERIOD
24 OCTOBER 2026 to 31 MARCH 2027
Closes at 12 midnight (CAT) on 31 March 2027.

OUR PURPOSE

To strengthen The Rotary Foundation through collective Paul Harris Fellow contributions, and to build fellowship across our district as we **Create Lasting Impact.**

HOW IT WORKS

1. **You contribute US$500** towards your PHF appointment or enhancement.
2. **The District matches with 500 points** for each US$500 contribution.
3. **This enables you to attain PHF status or move to the next PHF level** (but not to Major Donor level).

Examples:
- A new contributor becomes a Paul Harris Fellow (PHF).
- A PHF becomes PHF+1, a PHF+1 becomes PHF+2, etc.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?
Open to all Rotarians, Rotaractors and Friends of Rotary across our district and beyond.

Let's increase our giving to The Rotary Foundation.

PUBLIC IMAGE · DISTRICT 9210

The PI Lens

Seeing Rotary differently. Telling our story better.

BEHIND EVERY GRANT, A STORY, AND IS YOUR POST ROTARY READY?

Asking a Rotarian or Rotaractor what The Rotary Foundation does will usually elicit a confident answer. Asking someone in the community, the kind of person who scrolls past our posts without a second thought, will often result in a blank look.

November, as Rotary Foundation Month, presents us with the right time to ask an uncomfortable question: why is so little of our district giving seen?

The Quiet Giver Problem

A lot of clubs are almost shy about making noise about Foundation giving. Publicising donations may be perceived as showing off, as if we are solely interested in congratulating ourselves. We raise funds, the grant is approved, a project somewhere changes lives, and the story stops at the club's front door.

People, however, cannot support, join, or trust a cause that is not consistently visible. The Foundation does not need us to boast. It needs us to show.

> **"The Foundation does not need us to boast. It needs us to show.**

Three Moves That Change How Foundation Giving Looks

1

Show the outcome, not the handover.

The funds presentation photo is the least interesting picture in the story. The interesting one is what the money did: a clinic opened to serve the community, a tap running with clean water, a classroom full of children. Lead with the result and mention the giving second.

2

Explain it in one plain sentence.

"Paul Harris Fellow," "global grant," and "Annual Fund" are everyday language to us and noise to everyone else. Pick one term per post and explain it simply: a Paul Harris Fellow is someone recognised for supporting The Rotary Foundation, which funds Rotary projects around the world.

3

Always add a face or a place.

A post that says only "Thank you to our donors!" and a dollar figure is a receipt. Increase impactful storytelling by using an effective post with a person, a place, or a real moment attached.

PUBLIC IMAGE · DISTRICT 9210

Now Test It: The Ready / Not Yet Challenge

During October, we held a PI workshop called "Is It Rotary Ready?", and it will be good to extend the lessons learnt there to the stories we tell. Check whether your post is READY, NOT YET, or needs a trip to the BRAND CENTRE. Take the last Foundation post your club shared, or the one you're about to share, and ask five questions.

READY | **NOT YET** | **BRAND CENTRE**

1. **Is the branding correct?**
   The current logo, used as intended: not stretched, recoloured, or swapped for an older version. The Rotary Brand Centre has templates and guidelines available for our use.

2. **Does it sound like Rotary, and like a human being?**
   Short sentences, real language, one clear idea. If it reads like committee minutes, it's NOT YET.

3. **Is there a real person or place behind it?**
   A genuine photo with context (and proper consent for any beneficiary) beats a generic stock image every time.

4. **If AI helped, was it used responsibly?**
   AI can help with a caption or tidying text, but an AI-generated image of a "beneficiary", an altered image, or a project that never happened destroys the Rotary brand. A human should always check the facts, the tone, and every image.

5. **Is there a clear next step or call to action?**
   Learn more, join us, send us your story. A good post tells the reader what to do next.

Mostly READY? Share it with confidence. A few NOT YETs or BRAND CENTREs? That is not failure. It is the whole point. Most posts are one small fix away from being great.

These questions are a taste of our hands-on workshop, "Is It Rotary Ready?", which covered Rotary branding, design, and the responsible use of AI. Keep an eye on future district communications for further details, and in the meantime, bring a post of your own to test.

💡 YOUR TURN, DISTRICT 9210

This November, pick one Foundation-supported project, and tell its story using at least one of the three moves above. Run it through the "Is It Rotary Ready?" challenge, then send it to the District Public Image Committee along with your before-and-after. We would love to share the best examples across the district.



The Foundation does remarkable work. Let's make sure people can see it, and that it looks as good as the work behind it. Show the Impact, Inspire the Giving!

…and as you tell your Rotary story this November, remember to #alwayschoosekindness

MWAKA ZAMCHIYA · District Public Image Chair 2026–2027

ON THE ROAD WITH THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR · ZAMBIA

40 Days, 40 Nights

3,500 Kilometres of Rotary, Resilience and Friendship

BY TILYENJI MWANZA

One man. One vehicle. More than 3,500 kilometres. Across Zambia, District Governor Samuel Chikowore is on a mission to visit every Rotary club in the country in one remarkable journey. But beyond the roads, club assemblies and official engagements, it is the people and unexpected gestures of kindness that are making this journey unforgettable.

3,500 KILOMETRES COVERED AT THE TIME OF INTERVIEW

40 DAYS AND NIGHTS, ZAMBIA ALONE

8 Nov THE 40-DAY MILESTONE

There is a particular kind of silence that settles in when you have been behind the wheel for hours. The music has played through several times, the scenery has changed countless times, and the road ahead seems to have no end. It is in those moments that the mind begins to wander. Thoughts turn to home, family, business and everything happening beyond the road.

For District Governor Samuel Chikowore, this has become part of life on the road.

At the time of the interview, he had covered approximately 3,500 kilometres since leaving home.

His mission is as ambitious as it is demanding: to visit every Rotary club in Zambia in one continuous tour, a journey he has aptly called 40 Days, 40 Nights. These 40 days and 40 nights are dedicated to Zambia alone.

When asked what inspired such an undertaking, his response was straightforward. It was all part of executing his responsibilities as District Governor. He had chosen to come into Zambia and conquer all the clubs in one go.

A simple explanation for what has turned out to be an extraordinary road adventure.

ON THE ROAD WITH THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR · ZAMBIA

Life on the Road

Consider the Lusaka to Samfya leg, from the capital to Luapula Province. The advice was to leave Lusaka at around 04:00 hours to make good time. But the Governor only got on the road at midday. What followed was a long drive along a highway dominated by heavy trucks, with the journey eventually ending at 22:00 hours. Ten hours on the road, with the clock ticking and Samfya still waiting.

Then there was Mpika, in Muchinga Province, to Solwezi in North-Western Province. More than 800 kilometres of road, undertaken without breaking the journey. No stopping over to divide the distance, just one long stretch behind the wheel. It was, by his own account, a journey that drained the energy out of him.

These are the less glamorous details of a Governor's tour that rarely make it into photographs and social media updates. The smiles, handshakes and club banners tell one story; the long hours of driving and the fatigue tell another.

THE ROAD IN NUMBERS

Lusaka → Samfya
Advised to leave at 04:00. On the road at midday, arriving at 22:00. Ten hours behind the wheel.

Mpika → Solwezi
More than 800 km, with no stop to break the journey.

Mansa
Rotarians escorted the Governor out of town.

Mufulira → Kalulushi
Members followed to check he had arrived safely.

> **"The smiles, handshakes and club banners tell one story; the long hours of driving and the fatigue tell another.**

DG Samuel admits that there are moments when the journey feels lonely. Thoughts of family and business naturally creep in, particularly when the road seems endless. Yet what keeps him going is the end goal: completing his mission of visiting all the clubs in Zambia, as required by his mandate.

His travelling companions are a phone with Google Maps and a playlist that keeps him company through the long stretches of road. The soundtrack includes music by Shingisai Siluma, Elton John and classics from the 90s, when, as he puts it, "music was still music". One provides the directions; the other keeps the journey lively. As for the food, Zambia has clearly been generous. Asked to name his favourite meal along the way, he could not settle on just one. There have simply been too many to choose from.

Two Conversations at Every Stop

But the road is only one part of this story. At every stop, the Governor has encountered clubs with their own personalities, strengths and challenges.

ON THE ROAD WITH THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR · ZAMBIA

01

Membership growth

Two issues, in particular, have consistently emerged. The first is membership growth. During the Presidents-Elect Learning Seminars, DG Samuel challenged clubs to embrace the principle of bring one, retain one. It is a call for members to take ownership of growing their clubs by welcoming new people while keeping existing members engaged. However, he has noticed some hesitation when it comes to committing to increased membership.

02

Giving to The Rotary Foundation

The second issue is giving to The Rotary Foundation. For the Governor, giving should never be a box-ticking exercise or an obligation fulfilled simply to meet a target. It should come from the heart, with contributions reflecting the aspirations of both the district and Rotary International.

These conversations give the club visits a purpose beyond ceremony. They are opportunities to challenge members, encourage growth and remind clubs of the responsibility that comes with being part of Rotary.

Yet the Governor has also gained his own lessons from the people he has encountered. One of his most interesting observations has been how much people across the country have in common. As he travelled through different parts of Zambia, he met people who spoke his language and noticed similarities in food and everyday ways of life. It made him appreciate how artificial some geographical boundaries can be.

Kindness Along the Way

The most memorable encounters, however, have come through the hospitality of fellow Rotarians.

In Mansa, Luapula Province, members of the Rotary Club of Mansa chose to escort the Governor as he was leaving town. It was a thoughtful farewell, the kind that makes a visitor feel less like a guest and more like family.

Then came the Rotary Club of Mufulira, on the Copperbelt. After his visit, members followed him all the way to Kalulushi to check whether he had arrived safely.

Think about that for a moment. The official engagement was over. The meeting had been held, fellowship enjoyed and the Governor had continued with his itinerary. Yet members still took the time to follow his journey and make sure he had reached his next destination safely.

It is the sort of kindness that stays with a person long after the kilometres have been covered.

> **“ It is the sort of kindness that stays with a person long after the kilometres have been covered.**

Asked what has touched him most during the tour, DG Samuel points to these experiences and the friendships formed along the way. He also speaks of the humility of Rotarians, particularly those who, despite their high standing in society, continue to serve with dedication and commitment.

It is a quality that has clearly made an impression on him. Titles and professional achievements may distinguish people in their everyday lives, but within Rotary, the commitment to service brings them together.

ON THE ROAD WITH THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR · ZAMBIA

The District's Governor

A Governor may arrive in a town with an official programme, a club assembly and a list of matters to discuss. But he also leaves with stories, memories and connections that no itinerary could have planned.

There have been no particular funny moments that he could recall at the time of the interview. Perhaps after thousands of kilometres, the most amusing stories are still waiting to surface. There have certainly been plenty of experiences, different towns, countless meals and the familiar sound of music accompanying him through the long stretches of road.

DG Samuel set out to visit every Rotary club in Zambia in one continuous tour. Somewhere between Lusaka and Samfya, Mpika and Solwezi, Mansa and Kalulushi, the journey became a reminder that Rotary is more than a network of clubs spread across towns and borders. It is a community of people connected by service, generosity and friendship.

And perhaps that is what he hopes will define his time in office. Not simply being remembered as a District

As 8 November approaches, the 40-day milestone draws closer. What began as a decision to visit all the Zambian clubs in one go is approaching a significant chapter in its conclusion.

It is easy to measure this undertaking in kilometres, days and club visits. But the more meaningful measure lies in what has happened along the way: the clubs challenged to think bigger, the members who opened their doors, the conversations that sparked reflection and the friendships that grew beyond formal engagements.

Governor, but as The District's Governor: a leader who made the effort to reach the clubs, meet the people, listen to their experiences and build relationships along the way.

The roads will eventually lead him home.
The kilometres will stop accumulating, and the demands of the tour will give way to the next chapter of his governorship. But the friendships made along those 3,500 kilometres will remain.

Forty days.
Forty nights.
Thousands of kilometres.
One mission.
Countless friendships.

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE · ZAMBIA

Chililabombwe Metro Brings Clean Water to Fitobaula

ROTARY CLUB OF CHILILABOMBWE METRO · FITOBAULA, CHILILABOMBWE, COPPERBELT PROVINCE, ZAMBIA

A newly drilled borehole is bringing hope, dignity and access to safe drinking water to more than 600 residents of Fitobaula, demonstrating the power of service and community partnership.



Residents and Rotarians gather around the new borehole at Fitobaula.

600+ RESIDENTS EXPECTED TO BENEFIT

3km TRAVELLED FOR WATER FROM SHALLOW WELLS

27 Oct HANDOVER DURING THE DG'S OFFICIAL VISIT

For the residents of Fitobaula in Chililabombwe, access to clean and reliable drinking water has long been a challenge. For years, community members had to travel distances of up to three kilometres to collect water from shallow wells. During the hot season, these wells would often dry up, leaving families struggling to meet their daily water needs. The reliance on shallow, potentially contaminated water sources also exposed residents to waterborne diseases, including the threat of cholera.

But on 27 October 2026, a new chapter began for the community.

In a powerful demonstration of Rotary's commitment to service, the Rotary Club of Chililabombwe Metro officially handed over a newly drilled borehole to the people of Fitobaula during the official visit of District Governor Samuel Chikowore of Rotary District 9210.

WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE · ZAMBIA

A Young Club with a Clear Purpose

The handover marked a significant milestone for the club, which was chartered in March 2026. In its early months, the club has demonstrated its commitment to identifying community needs and supporting practical, sustainable solutions that improve lives.

The District Governor was accompanied by Assistant Governor Manuel, who oversees the Chingola, Solwezi, Chililabombwe and Mufulira areas. Also present were Charter President Gilbert Mwamba and fellow members of the Rotary Club of Chililabombwe Metro, who joined community members to celebrate the occasion.

The Rotarians were warmly welcomed by residents, whose appreciation reflected just how important the new water facility is to their daily lives. For a community that has endured the difficulties of accessing water, the borehole represents more than a new source of supply; it represents hope, improved well-being and the possibility of a healthier future.

Speaking on behalf of the residents, Chitambe Ward Councillor Jeremiah Lukunde expressed gratitude to the Rotary Club of Chililabombwe Metro for responding to the community's need for accessible drinking water. The facility is expected to benefit more than 600 people, easing the burden of travelling long distances in search of water and reducing dependence on shallow wells.



Members and community at the handover of the Fitobaula borehole.



The pump plate reads: Donated by Rotary Club of Chililabombwe Metro.

> **"A project's success is measured not only by what is delivered on the day, but also by the lives it continues to improve in the future.**

WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE · ZAMBIA

Owned by the Community

For families in Fitobaula, the significance of this intervention extends beyond convenience. Reliable access to a safer water source can support better hygiene, reduce exposure to water-related health risks and give residents more time for their households, education and livelihoods.

The handover also underscored the importance of community ownership in ensuring that development projects deliver benefits long after their launch. Residents, through their representative, pledged to maintain and protect the facility so that it continues serving the community for years to come.

That commitment is central to the idea of creating lasting impact. For the Rotary Club of Chililabombwe Metro, the Fitobaula borehole is a meaningful early achievement and a reflection of the difference that focused service, collaboration and community participation can make. It demonstrates how listening to local needs and responding with practical action can help build stronger, healthier communities.

As District Governor Samuel Chikowore's visit brought together Rotarians and community members around this important milestone, the occasion served as a reminder that Rotary's impact is most powerful when service translates into tangible change in people's everyday lives. In Fitobaula, that change can now be seen in a community with improved access to water and renewed hope for the future.

From travelling kilometres in search of water to having a source closer to home, Fitobaula's story is a reminder that lasting impact begins by addressing real community needs. For the Rotary Club of Chililabombwe Metro, this borehole is more than a completed project, it is a promise of service, partnership and progress.



A resident draws water in Fitobaula.

From travelling kilometres in search of water to a source closer to home.

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH · ZAMBIA

Menstrual Health Outreach Empowers 200 Girls at Kabulonga Girls Secondary School

ROTARY CLUBS OF MALUBA, LUSAKA CENTRAL, NKWAZI, KUSINTA AND PALISA · KABULONGA, LUSAKA, LUSAKA PROVINCE, ZAMBIA

On 25 September, 200 girls at Kabulonga Girls Secondary School in Lusaka received menstrual health education, practical training and menstrual hygiene products through an outreach programme designed to promote dignity, confidence and uninterrupted access to education.



Learners at Kabulonga Girls Secondary School raise their gift bags.

200 GIRLS RECEIVED KITS AND TRAINING

5 ROTARY CLUBS, ONE PRESIDENTS' FUND PROJECT

ZMW7,000 APPROX. CONTRIBUTED TO THE 200 KITS

The Menstrual Health and Hygiene Outreach Programme was organised by the Women in Global Markets Committee, led by Chairperson Salome Chulu, in partnership with the ACI Financial Markets Association, represented by President Mwaka Kopakopa, and five Rotary Club Presidents from District 9210: Ms Chanje C. Makayi of the Rotary Club of Maluba; Mr Furnwell Malake of the Rotary Club of Lusaka Central; Mr Moffat Zulu of the Rotary Club of Nkwazi; Ms Kabulo C. Ngoma of the Rotary Club of Kusinta; and Ms Tamara Nachizya of the Rotary Club of Palisa.

The initiative brought together representatives from the financial markets community, Rotary, civil society, the private sector and education.



Rotary Club of Lusaka Central President Furnwell Malake (left) at the outreach.

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH · ZAMBIA

More Than a Donation

Following remarks by Mwaka Kopakopa, President Chanje C. Makayi spoke on behalf of the five Lusaka-based Rotary clubs. She emphasised that menstrual health extends beyond the provision of sanitary products and is closely linked to health, dignity, confidence and education. With suitable products and sound hygiene knowledge, girls are better able to remain in school, participate fully in lessons and focus on their studies. She encouraged learners to ask questions, seek reliable information and never allow embarrassment to prevent them from obtaining support.

President Chanje also outlined Rotary's ambition to move beyond one-off donations towards sustainable menstrual health solutions. She highlighted the potential use of the Kabulonga Skills Development Centre adjacent to the school, funded by the Embassy of Japan in partnership with the Rotary Club of Lusaka Central, for the local production of reusable sanitary products. The Centre is equipped with eight sewing machines and an interlocker, along with a 3 x 1 classroom block and an administration office, and now needs to be operationalised. Once running, it could combine menstrual health support with practical skills development for women and young people at Kabulonga Girls and in the surrounding communities.



The five Presidents' Fund clubs and partners line up before the Rotary banners.

Through the Rotary District 9210 Presidents' Fund Project, the five clubs contributed approximately ZMW7,000 towards 200 reusable menstrual hygiene kits, directly benefiting 200 girls at the school.

Reflecting Rotary's longer-term vision of expanding menstrual health education, supporting local production of reusable sanitary products and building practical skills, the programme included an educational and practical session delivered by Pauline Nakazwe and the Whisper a Dream Foundation team, who provided menstrual health and hygiene training to the learners.

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH · ZAMBIA

> **Menstruation should never stand between a girl and her education.**

Partners Who Made It Possible

972 DISPOSABLE SANITARY TOWELS, SUNDA MANUFACTURERS

10 BOXES OF BISCUITS, SWISS BAKE

35 CASES OF DRINKS, TRADE KINGS

The programme was made possible by the generous support of several partners. In addition to the 200 reusable menstrual hygiene kits funded through the Rotary partnership, Sunda Manufacturers donated 972 disposable sanitary towels, Swiss Bake supplied 10 boxes of biscuits, and Trade Kings provided 35 cases of drinks and refreshments.

The school's participation was coordinated by Mrs Rose Kamungoma Phiri of the Guidance and Counselling Office, who represented Kabulonga Girls Secondary School and worked closely with the organisers throughout the programme.

The programme demonstrated the value of partnerships that combine menstrual hygiene products with education, practical knowledge, open dialogue and sustainable solutions. For the 200 girls reached, the initiative provided immediate support and reinforced a clear message: menstruation should never stand between a girl and her education.



The educational and practical session on menstrual health and hygiene.

> **As Rotary Club Presidents, we are proud to have supported this initiative and look forward to building sustainable partnerships that deliver lasting impact for women and girls.**
>
> THE FIVE ROTARY CLUB PRESIDENTS

KABULONGA GIRLS SECONDARY SCHOOL · IN PICTURES

A Day of Learning, Laughter and Dignity



The hall, with Rotarians and partners seated at the front.



The volunteer team behind the outreach.



Learners show the peace sign.

> **“ For the 200 girls reached, the initiative provided immediate support.**

KABULONGA GIRLS SECONDARY SCHOOL · IN PICTURES



Rotarians and volunteers with learners outside the hall.



A volunteer shares a moment with a learner.



Addressing the learners.



A learner speaks at the microphone.



Remarks from the ACI Financial Markets Association team.



Refreshments for the learners, with drinks and snacks provided by partners.

KABULONGA GIRLS SECONDARY SCHOOL · IN PICTURES



The hall standing and singing together.



Rotarians seated among the learners.



Guests seated in front of the learners.

> **“Menstruation should never stand between a girl and her education.**

ENVIRONMENT · ROTARACT · ZAMBIA

Growing a Greener Future

ROTARACT CLUB OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA · LIBALA, LUSAKA, LUSAKA PROVINCE, ZAMBIA

Rotaract Club of UNZA partners with EcoHomes to promote environmental sustainability at Libala Secondary School.

10 WASTE BINS DONATED TO LIBALA SECONDARY SCHOOL

The Rotaract Club of the University of Zambia (UNZA), in partnership with EcoHomes, took a step towards promoting environmental sustainability through a community initiative at Libala Secondary School in Lusaka.

Recognising the importance of environmental conservation in sustainable development, the initiative sought to encourage responsible waste disposal while raising awareness about the need to protect the environment. The donation of 10 waste bins provided the school with practical resources to support proper waste management and encourage learners to take greater responsibility for maintaining a clean school environment.

However, the initiative went beyond waste management. Through tree planting, the club and its partner also contributed to promoting greener surroundings and highlighting the importance of trees in supporting biodiversity, improving environmental quality and building resilience to climate change. Combining waste management with tree planting reinforced the message that environmental sustainability requires both responsible everyday practices and a long-term commitment to protecting natural resources.

> **“Creating lasting impact does not always require grand interventions. Sometimes, it begins with 10 waste bins, newly planted trees and a community willing to work together.**

ENVIRONMENT · ROTARACT · ZAMBIA

The partnership with EcoHomes demonstrated the value of collaboration in addressing environmental challenges. By bringing together organisations with a shared interest in sustainability, the project showed how collective action can translate environmental awareness into practical solutions that benefit local communities.

Schools are important spaces for nurturing environmental responsibility among young people. By supporting initiatives such as this, the Rotaract Club of UNZA hopes to inspire learners to adopt sustainable habits and become advocates for environmental protection in their homes, schools and communities. The initiative also reflects the club's broader commitment to youth participation in sustainable development and community service.

This project aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities and SDG 15: Life on Land. It also reflects Rotary's commitment to environmental protection as an important area of focus and reinforces the principle that meaningful change often begins at the community level.

SDG 11
Sustainable Cities and Communities

SDG 15
Life on Land

For the Rotaract Club of UNZA, the experience was a reminder that creating lasting impact does not always require grand interventions. Sometimes, it begins with 10 waste bins, newly planted trees and a community willing to work together towards a common goal.

Through continued partnerships and service initiatives, the club remains committed to promoting environmental awareness, encouraging youth leadership and contributing to a more sustainable future.

Together with our partners and communities, we are not only improving waste management and planting trees; we are planting the seeds of lasting change.

ENVIRONMENT · ZIMBABWE

Turning Waste into Wealth

Community Action for a Cleaner Zimbabwe

BY RTN MARY MAKONI, ROTARY CLUB OF HARARE CENTRAL · HARARE, HARARE METROPOLITAN PROVINCE, ZIMBABWE



From left: PP Tember, Rtn Rutendo, PP Mabel and Rtn Mary promoting recycling in a high density suburb

2% OF WASTE REPORTEDLY RECOVERED BY MUNICIPALITIES

US$40 RAISED FROM PLASTIC WASTE IN ONE HOUSEHOLD

9 WARDS IN THE BUHERA NORTH CLEAN-UP

Waste management in Zimbabwe, particularly in urban areas, has become a growing cause for concern. Several factors have contributed to this challenge, including the limited capacity of municipalities to manage waste, failing infrastructure, population growth, changing consumption patterns, the proliferation of fast-food outlets, and other socio-economic pressures.

One of the major challenges has been the inconsistent collection of waste by local authorities, although the recent introduction of Geo Pomona has greatly improved waste collection in low-density areas. For years, many residents have resorted to illegal dumping and open burning of waste, practices that pose serious risks to human health and the environment.

Zimbabwe also has a very low recycling rate. Municipalities reportedly recover only about 2% of waste, leaving much of the burden of collecting and sorting recyclable materials to the informal sector. Plastics, paper, metals, and fabrics are among the materials collected by informal waste pickers, who play a critical role in keeping communities clean while generating livelihoods from discarded materials.

Yet, what is often regarded as waste is a valuable resource and part of a multibillion-dollar global recycling industry. With the right support, waste management can become a powerful tool for environmental protection, income generation, and community development.

ENVIRONMENT · ZIMBABWE

Rotary in Action: Turning Plastic Waste into Opportunity

Recognising this potential, the Rotary Club of Harare Central, through its Environment Champion, Rotarian Mary Makoni, has been promoting the collection of plastic waste and aluminium cans as a fundraising initiative. The proceeds are intended to support the club's Foundation Giving project.

One Rotarian who has embraced this initiative is Past President Mabel Hungwe, who has managed to raise US$40 from plastic waste generated just in her own household! Her achievement demonstrates that meaningful contributions can begin at home and that materials often discarded as rubbish can have real economic value.

Going a step further, Past President Mabel has trained two widowed women to collect and sort plastics so that they, too, can earn an income from waste. This initiative highlights how a simple environmental intervention can create economic opportunities, particularly for women who may face financial challenges.

Value in Waste

Among the women whose lives have been positively impacted by waste recycling is Gogo Milcah Sinoya, whose work has been championed by The Recycling Lady. Through her involvement in waste recycling, Gogo Sinoya has managed to purchase a piece of land and is now building a home in Mabvuku, Harare. Her journey is a powerful illustration of how waste can become a source of income, dignity, and economic independence.

Gogo Sinoya firmly believes that there is value in waste and encourages others to explore recycling as a livelihood. "It is money one makes without putting a lot in the business, just commitment and hard work. You say we are saving the environment, but I say we are creating opportunities for income generation."

> **"You say we are saving the environment, but I say we are creating opportunities for income generation."**
>
> GOGO MILCAH SINOYA, MABVUKU

Her testimony challenges the perception that waste collection is merely a means of keeping the environment clean. It is also a viable economic activity that can empower individuals, support families, and transform lives.

ENVIRONMENT · ZIMBABWE

Schools and Interact Clubs Lead the Way

Rotarian Mary Makoni also runs a plastic-free competition every year among schools as a fundraising initiative. The programme encourages learners and schools to take responsibility for their environment while contributing to a broader culture of waste reduction and recycling. Through these activities, environmental awareness is being translated into practical action. Schools become centres of change, teaching young people the importance of reducing plastic waste, separating recyclable materials, and protecting the environment.

Interact clubs are also being encouraged to collect recyclable waste as a way of generating resources for their own community projects. This approach allows young people to develop leadership skills, embrace environmental responsibility, and learn how local challenges can be addressed through innovative, community-driven solutions. By linking recycling to fundraising, these initiatives demonstrate that environmental action can be both sustainable and financially rewarding.

Beyond the City: Buhera North

Waste management initiatives are not limited to towns and cities. Across Zimbabwe, rural communities are also taking steps to address the environmental challenges associated with waste. In Buhera North Constituency, Manicaland Province, for example, a community initiative brings together nine wards to participate in environmental clean-up activities. The programme seeks to promote cleaner surroundings, protect public health, support livelihoods, and prevent livestock deaths caused by animals consuming discarded plastics.

Plastic pollution is not only an eyesore. When improperly discarded, plastic waste can contaminate the environment, threaten wildlife and livestock, and undermine the health and well-being of entire communities.

By mobilising residents across nine wards, the Buhera North initiative demonstrates the importance of collective responsibility. It recognises that environmental protection requires the participation of communities, local leadership, and other stakeholders working together towards a common goal.

> **“Waste is not just a problem; it is an opportunity!”**
>
> RTN MARY MAKONI

“The experiences of the Rotary Club of Harare Central, Past President Mabel, Gogo Milcah Sinoya, participating schools, Interact clubs, and rural communities demonstrate what is possible when people take practical action. Households can separate recyclable materials. Schools can compete to reduce plastic waste. Community groups can organise collection and clean-up campaigns. Women can establish income-generating activities through recycling. Rotary clubs can mobilise communities and channel proceeds towards service projects, polio or the Foundation,” explained Rtn Mary.

Show the Impact, Inspire the Giving. Send us your club’s story for December.

Rotary
District 9210

Creating
Lasting Impact

Have a Story for the December Issue?

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Every story in this edition was written by a Rotarian, about Rotarians, for the district.

Rotary District 9210 | People of Action

#AlwaysChooseKindness #D9210Serves #ServiceAboveSelf

Rotary District 9210 | Rotaract District 9210 | Interact District 9210