

September 2025.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOLOLO-KAMPALA NEWSLETTER



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Over 800 young leaders from 90 schools gathered at Kyambogo for a day of energy, skills, and inspiration—proving the future is ready to lead



Meetings every Friday 6-7pm

kololo @rotaractclubofkololo



ABOUT OUR CLUB

The Rotary Club of Kololo-Kampala meets every Tuesday, 6-7 p.m at Hotel Africana.

Visit our socials to keep up to date with our activities and events:

 www.rotarykololokampala.org

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COLOUR YOUR WORLD

OUR STRENGTH IS HINGED ON OUR DIVERSITY



WORLD DAY OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY

FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Reader,

Here we are in September! The month when, according to the weather, Kampala can't quite decide if it's auditioning for a monsoon season or offering a free, city-wide car wash. But more importantly, according to the Rotary calendar, it's **Basic Education and Literacy Month!**

Now, before anyone starts nervously eyeing their old school report cards, let me clarify. This isn't about testing our knowledge of calculus or the periodic table (though if you can still recite it, please see me for a well-deserved glass of juice!). This is about championing the incredible power of reading, writing, and basic knowledge for everyone, from the tiniest tot to the wisest elder.

This month, we celebrate Rotary's global initiative to ensure that the simple act of opening a book isn't a privilege, but a right. We're talking about building a world where a child doesn't just look at words on a page, but sees entire universes. Where an adult can confidently read a medicine label, a business contract, or a bedtime story to their grandchild.

Our Club, the ever-zealous Rotary Club of Kololo-Kampala, has a fantastic history of turning this theme into action. From supporting local schools with much-needed resources to advocating for adult literacy programs, we understand that education is the ultimate tool for community transformation. It's the gift that keeps on giving, much like that one member's legendary (and slightly long-winded) stories during fellowship!

So, what can we do this September? strengthening community support by being the "class parents" for our entire community. Let's continue to find ways to back our teachers and schools., let us advocate for adult literacy because it's never too late to learn, ensuring every girl has the same chance to learn, lead, and succeed as every boy. It's just smart, plain and simple and provide learning resources.

I encourage each of you to bring your ideas, your energy, and your humour to this vital cause. Let's make this September a month where we not only talk about literacy but actively write a new chapter of opportunity for our community.

Here's to turning the page together!

Thank you for your unwavering support, partnership, and dedication to service.

Happy reading!

Sharome Kirabo Nakimera
Editor-in-Chief/ Public Image Director
Rotary Club of Kololo-Kampala



Message from the Rotary International President.



When I stepped into the role of Rotary International president, the moment came swiftly and unexpectedly. It got me thinking how the world can change in an instant, and how Rotary has the power to be a steady force for good in that change. This month, Rotary's Basic Education and Literacy Month, we have a clear call to action: to strengthen the foundation of learning in every community we serve.

Millions of people worldwide remain unable to read. Millions of children lack access to basic education. And yet, we know the solution: sustainable, inclusive, and equitable education, especially for girls and marginalized youths. Literacy is more than the ability to read and write. It is the key to human dignity, economic mobility, and peace. Every book opened, every classroom supported, and every teacher trained becomes a building block of peace.

This year, our message is *Unite for Good*. "Unite" speaks to the strength we find in each other. When we unite our talents and resources — not only among our clubs but across partners, organizations, and communities — we expand our reach. And when we do so consistently over time, we create lasting change. Rotary service cannot be measured only in annual goals. Our work in education must extend beyond a single year. Literacy projects take time to take root, grow, and bear fruit.

Now is the time to think boldly and creatively. New types of clubs can help us engage educators, students, and advocates in new ways. Let us use this month to welcome new members with a passion for education and empower existing ones to lead service projects that reflect local needs. Whether you're building libraries, distributing textbooks, or mentoring students, your actions matter.

Education is also peacebuilding. Every scholarship we provide, every early childhood program we support, every adult literacy class we fund is an act of peace. And Rotary has been building peace in this way for more than a century.

Let us not forget that the fight for literacy is not only about access, it's about equity. It is about ensuring every learner, regardless of background, has the opportunity to reach their potential. And it is about standing together — across borders, languages, and generations — to say that education is a right, not a privilege.

Let's *Unite for Good* by committing to literacy that lasts. Let's dream of a world where every child learns to read. And then, as people of action, let's work together to make that dream a reality.

Together, we can change lives, starting with the power of education. Together, we *Unite for Good*.

Francesco Areszgo
President, Rotary International, 2025-26

Message from the District Governor.



Education is the cornerstone of development; a pathway through which individuals and communities rise above poverty and create sustainable futures. In Uganda, significant progress has been made in expanding access to education through initiatives such as Universal Primary Education (UPE). Yet, challenges remain; making it evident that our continued support for basic education and literacy is both urgent and necessary.

Statistics remind us of the task before us, as 36% of Ugandans are still illiterate. While enrollment rates are high, many children do not complete primary school. Some leave early due to poverty, child labor, lack of access to proper menstrual hygiene or early marriages. Others attend school but struggle with poor learning outcomes - too often sitting in overcrowded or no classrooms, lacking textbooks, pencils, exercise books or being taught by overstretched teachers. According to recent reports, literacy and numeracy levels among Ugandan learners remain below the desired standards, threatening the nation's aspirations for growth and progress.

Rotarians in Uganda have witnessed these realities firsthand. Across our communities, we meet children eager to learn but held back by limited resources. We encounter adults who long to read, write and count but have never been given the chance. Literacy is more than the ability to decode or read words on a page - it is the ability to access opportunities, participate in civic life, and support families with dignity. Without it, cycles of poverty, unemployment and inequality persist. This inequality is worsened when one talks about digital literacy in a world that is becoming so digital. A survey presented at the, "Building the Future of Fair and Inclusive Digital Work in Uganda," Workshop held in 2024, highlighted Uganda's low ICT skills and literacy levels, revealing that a lack of knowledge or digital skills prevents 75% of Ugandans from accessing the internet.

An illiterate population is not an empowered population. This is why Rotary continues to place basic education and literacy at the heart of its service. Rotary clubs in Uganda have built classrooms, equipped schools with books and learning materials, provided scholarships to vulnerable children and organized adult literacy programs. These initiatives change lives - a book in a child's hands sparks imagination; a girl who stays in school delays early marriage; and an adult who learns to read opens new opportunities for work and self reliance.

Yet our work must go further. We need to champion teacher training, strengthen partnerships with government and civil society and explore innovative solutions like digital learning to bridge the Digital Divide. We must ensure that education is inclusive, reaching the rural child, the girl child, the refugee and the adult learner alike.

As Rotarians, we are uniquely positioned to make a lasting difference. Through our networks, resources and commitment to service, we can help build a Uganda where every child can read with understanding and every adult can write their own future. Supporting basic education and literacy is not charity; it is an investment in peace, progress and prosperity for our nation.

Let us, therefore, renew our commitment to this vital cause. Together, United for Good, we can light the lamp of knowledge in every corner of Uganda, ensuring that no child or adult is left behind.

#RotaryEyamba

Geoffrey Martin Kitakule
District Governor, 2025 – 2026
Rotary International District 9213

CALL FOR ARTICLES.

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Kololo-
Kampala's
Monthly
Newsletter.

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ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

TAIPEI, TAIWAN | 13-17 JUNE 2026

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Message from the President.

Dear Rotarians, Partners, and Friends,

As we reflect on the month of September, designated by Rotary International as **Basic Education and Literacy Month**, it is with a profound sense of purpose and accomplishment that I address you. This theme, which lies at the very heart of sustainable community development, has resonated deeply with our Club's activities and engagements throughout the past few weeks.

Our commitment to this cause was thoughtfully explored during our fellowship meetings, where stimulating discussions underscored the critical importance of improving educational access and literacy skills for all ages. These dialogues have reinforced our resolve to continue supporting initiatives that empower individuals and strengthen our community through knowledge.

The month proved to be exceptionally eventful and productive. A significant highlight was our Club Retreat and Hospitality, graciously hosted by Rotarian Betty Kyadondo at her home. This gathering provided a perfect blend of camaraderie and strategic focus. In a convivial yet purposeful atmosphere, we engaged in interactive sessions to evaluate our Five-Year Strategic Plan and lay robust groundwork for the Club's future growth and service impact. My sincere gratitude to Rotarian Kyadondo for her warm hospitality.

Furthermore, we have been privileged to welcome several prospective members throughout the month. It has been inspiring to witness their presentations, a requisite step toward their eventual induction into our Club. Their diverse backgrounds and shared enthusiasm for service are a welcome addition to our fellowship.

In a demonstration of our unwavering support for the next generation of leaders, the Club was proudly represented at the Charter Night of our Baby Club, the Rotaract Club of Kololo. The event was a resounding success, and I am delighted to report that through our collective efforts, we were able to raise over Ten Million Uganda Shillings (UGX 10,000,000) in support of their "Elimu Yetu" project. This generous contribution is a testament to our Club's dedication to nurturing youth-led initiatives that align with our core values.

As we move forward, let us carry the momentum of this productive month into our future projects. I thank each one of you for your active participation, unwavering commitment, and steadfast service.

MD James Africa Byekwaso

President, Rotary Club of Kololo-Kampala, 2025-26



EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

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THE ROTARY KOLOLO-KAMPALA RETREAT AND HOME HOSPITALITY.



PICTORIAL

A Night of Fellowship and Forward-Thinking: Club Retreat Ignites a Path for Growth.

The Rotary Club of Kololo-Kampala recently traded the formal setting of our weekly meetings for the warm and gracious hospitality of Rotarian Betty Kyadondo's home, for an evening that perfectly blended camaraderie with strategic purpose. This wasn't just a social gathering; it was a dynamic retreat designed to re-energize our commitment and chart a bold "Way Forward" for the club.

The atmosphere was a buzz with lively discussions as members, old and new, united to evaluate our Five-Year Strategic Plan. The interactive session proved incredibly fruitful, generating a clear and actionable roadmap for the year ahead. The collective energy was palpable, reflecting a shared dedication to taking our club to new heights of service and fellowship.

The retreat was a powerhouse of ideas. Here are some of the key resolutions and strategies that emerged from our collaborative discussions:

- 1 Strengthening Our Foundation:** A major focus was on member engagement and growth. Plans were set to increase recruitment, harness the strengths of our public relations, and ensure every visitor feels genuinely welcomed and valued. The idea of assigning members to reciprocate visits to clubs that have visited us was also highlighted as a key relationship-building strategy.
- 2 Empowering Our Members:** Recognizing that our strength lies in our people, we committed to enhanced training, both on new technologies and through the resources available at the Rotary Learning Centre. Furthermore, we plan to leverage committees more effectively, urging committee chairs and directors to "tick off their boxes" and regularly update the Rotary Central hub to ensure we are on track.
- 3 Strategic Project Execution:** To amplify our impact, we resolved to improve the scheduling and execution of projects. This includes forging strategic partnerships with other clubs to run larger initiatives and "graduating" our interaction with our Baby Clubs, like the Rotaract Club of Kololo, to more mature, collaborative levels.
- 4 A Culture of Accountability and Celebration:** A novel and exciting idea was introduced to keep motivation high: performance-based celebration! It was suggested that if the TRF (The Rotary Foundation) or Service goals are achieved, the club would mark this tremendous success with a bull-roasting event, a fitting reward for hard work.
- 5 Reigniting Our Rotary Spirit:** The club was celebrated for its core identity: a Service-Oriented and Rotary Contributing Club. There was a powerful call to action to get back to being a 100% PHF (Paul Harris Fellow) Club, inspiring members to become major donors. Our President was formally tasked with championing this cause, urging everyone to work on our weaknesses and build on our immense strengths.

The retreat was a resounding success, leaving members inspired and united. It was a powerful reminder that when fellowship meets purpose, great things are on the horizon. The Rotary Club of Kololo-Kampala is not just moving forward; we are charging ahead with a clear vision and a renewed spirit of service.

As the evening drew to a close, the feeling of optimism was tangible, a sentiment made possible by the wonderful hospitality of Rotarian Betty Kyadondo and the unwavering commitment of each member in attendance. This retreat was more than a meeting; it was a reaffirmation of our shared mission and the vibrant community that drives it. We carry the momentum from this gathering forward, not just as a club, but as a family of service, excited for the impact we will undoubtedly achieve together.



A VERY WARM *Welcome* TO OUR NEW MEMBERS.

The Rotary Club of Kololo-Kampala is delighted to welcome our newly inducted members into the Rotary family. Your decision to join us is a celebration of commitment and service, and we are excited about the fresh energy, expertise, and vision you bring. To you we say: *Welcome home—your journey of service has just begun.*

At the same time, we extend a warm hand of fellowship to our prospective members. We see in you not just potential Rotarians, but future leaders of service who will help us deepen our impact in Uganda and beyond. We hope you will find in Rotary a place to grow personally, to serve meaningfully, and to join a fellowship that changes lives.

Every thriving organization understands the importance of renewal. For Rotary, this renewal comes through people, passionate individuals willing to give of their time, talents, and resources for the greater good.



Rtn. Sam Farouk Mukasa

- **Expanding Reach and Impact:** New members increase the hands and minds available for service, allowing us to take on bigger projects and extend our footprint in the community.
- **Diversity of Skills and Experience:** Whether from business, medicine, technology, education, or the arts, each new member brings expertise that strengthens our problem-solving capacity.
- **Sustaining the Spirit of Service:** As our senior members pass the torch, younger Rotarians ensure continuity of vision and action.

As one Rotarian remarked: *“Every new member is a seed. When nurtured, that seed blossoms into service, leadership, and impact that far exceeds what one person could imagine.”*

A larger, diverse membership base means the Club can:

- Scale up signature projects, from health camps to literacy drives.
- Increase visibility in Uganda, attracting partners and sponsors.
- Build a culture of mentorship where experienced Rotarians guide the next generation.
- Guarantee sustainability, ensuring Rotary’s presence remains strong in the decades ahead.

The Rotary Club of Kololo-Kampala is not just a gathering of professionals; it is a fellowship of people united by a passion to serve. Our newly inducted members strengthen that fellowship, and our prospective members give us hope for a stronger tomorrow.

We believe in you. We invite you to join us. Together, we grow. Together, we serve. Together, we change lives.



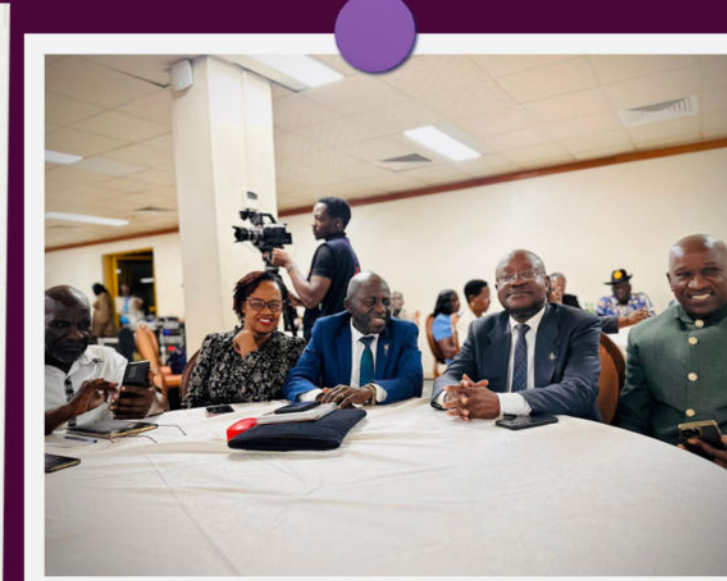
September is Basic Education and Literacy Month

Did you know?

Digital Literacy – Rotary is increasingly investing in bridging the digital divide, ensuring learners gain 21st-century skills.



Moments That Mattered – September in Pictures



Moments That Mattered – September in Pictures



Moments That Mattered – September in Pictures





TIPS ON ESTATE PLANNING AND SUCCESSION.

1 UNDERSTANDING THE KEY CHANGES IN THE AMENDED SUCCESSION ACT.

These are the foundational changes brought by the 2022 amendments to the Succession Act, which fundamentally modernized the law.

- **Gender Neutrality:** The law now uses gender-neutral language, affirming equal rights for men and women in inheritance matters, rectifying the previous discriminatory provisions nullified by the Constitutional Court.
- **Domicile:** A person may now, upon marriage, acquire the domicile of their spouse. Upon dissolution of the marriage, a spouse may acquire any other domicile of choice.
- **Language:** Derogatory terms like "lunatic" or "dumb" have been replaced with respectful terms like "person with mental illness" or "speech impairment."
- **Age of Minority:** The age of minority is now 18 years, aligning with the Constitution, which affects guardianship and provisions for minors in estates.

Why this matters for you: These changes ensure your family is protected under a fairer, more modern legal framework that aligns with constitutional values.

2 DISTRIBUTION OF AN INTESTATE ESTATE, KNOW THE FORMULA.

Delve into the specific formula the law applies if someone dies without a Will (intestate). Understanding this is the first step to realizing why a Will is essential.

The law provides a strict statutory formula for distributing the estate of a person who dies without a Will.

The amended Section 27 mandates distribution among a spouse, lineal descendants, dependent relatives, and a customary heir. The shares are fixed:

- **Standard Scenario:** Surviving spouse (20%), Lineal descendants e.g., children (75%), Dependent relatives (4%), Customary heir (1%).
- **No Spouse/Relatives:** Lineal descendants (99%), Customary heir (1%).
- **No Lineal Descendants:** Spouse (50%), Dependent relatives (49%), Customary heir (1%).
- **Protection for Minors:** 20% of the estate must be held in a trust for the education and maintenance of minor children or those above 18 but under 25 years and still studying.
- **Residential Holding:** Under Section 26, a surviving spouse and lineal descendants have a protected right to occupy the family home. This occupation is not considered part of their calculated share of the estate.
- If the intestate leaves no survivor other than a customary heir capable of claiming a share of his or her state, the inheritance is divided equally among the relatives closest in kinship to the intestate.
- The spouse who remarries before the deceased's estate is divided is entitled to the part he or she would have been entitled to under subsection (1).
- **Maintenance:** Section 36(7) of the Succession Act as amended provides that a person who evicts or attempts to evict a surviving spouse, lineal descendant or dependent relative who is entitled to occupy the residential holding or any other residential holding is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding 168 currency points which is UGX. –



- – 3,360,000/= (Uganda Shillings Three Million Three Hundred Sixty Thousand only) or imprisonment not exceeding 7 years or both.

3 CRAFTING A LEGALLY SOUND WILL: AVOIDING VOID WILLS AND INTERMEDDLING.

This is the cornerstone of estate planning: A valid Will. The amendments introduced stricter rules to prevent fraud and ensure authenticity.

The requirements for creating a valid Will are more stringent, and interfering with an estate is a severe crime.

- **Attestation Requirements (Section 50(c)):** For a Will to be valid, each witness must write their name and address on every page of the Will in the presence of the testator.
- **Void Wills (Section 47):** A Will can be declared void not only for fraud or coercion but also for undue influence, duress, mistake, or abuse of a position of trust or vulnerability.
- **The Crime of Intermeddling (Section 268):** It is a severe offence for anyone to interfere with the estate of a deceased person before the grant of Letters of Administration or Probate. Penalties include a fine of up to **UGX 20,000,000/= (Uganda shillings Twenty Million only)** or imprisonment for up to 10 years, or both.

Why this matters for you: A technically incorrect Will can be challenged and deemed void. Furthermore, family members should not distribute assets until formally authorized to avoid criminal liability.

4 ADMINISTRATION, CAVEATS, AND DEBTS: NAVIGATING THE PROCESS.

This covers the practicalities of administering an estate, the timelines involved, and important protections for the family.

The administration process has strict timelines, and new rules protect the family home from unauthorized debt.





TIPS ON ESTATE PLANNING AND SUCCESSION.



- **Timeline for Administration (Section 259):** An Administrator must wrap up the estate within a maximum of 2 years. An application to court is required for an extension.
- **Caveat and Petition Lapse (Section 255A):** A person who lodges a caveat (a legal warning to pause a grant) must within six months commence proceedings to prove their objection. Failure to do so causes the caveat and the original petition to lapse.

- **Protection from Debts (Section 279):** A crucial protection: any debt incurred by the deceased against the residential property during marriage without the written consent of the spouse is void and cannot be claimed from the estate.
- **Spousal Consent (Section 270):** Administrators must now obtain the consent of the surviving spouse and lineal descendants before disposing of any estate property.

Why this matters for you: These rules prevent the indefinite delay of estate administration and offer significant protection for the family's primary asset, the home.



THE NECESSITY OF COMPREHENSIVE ESTATE PLANNING.

For our final day, we consolidate everything into the overarching concept of estate planning, which is the proactive management of your assets for the benefit of your loved ones.

Estate planning is a holistic process that goes far beyond simply writing a Will. It involves preparing to manage your asset base in the event of incapacitation or death.

Key components include:

- **A Valid Will:** The core document that expresses your wishes.
- **Trusts:** For holding and protecting assets for minors, students, or other specific purposes.
- **Guardianship Nominations:** Formally nominating a guardian for minor children in your Will.
- **Powers of Attorney:** To manage your affairs if you become incapacitated.
- **Life Insurance and Named Beneficiaries:** Ensuring liquidity and direct transfer of wealth.
- **Compilation of Assets:** A detailed list of all financial assets and liabilities.

For Unplanned Estates (where no Will exists), the process is complex and imperative:

- Get legal representation for the administration process.
- Collate the deceased's property and register the death.
- Select administrators and apply for a Certificate of No Objection to petition for Letters of Administration.
- Navigate the fixed distribution formula, which may not be ideal.



Why this matters for you: A comprehensive estate plan provides clarity, reduces family conflict, avoids legal pitfalls, and is the ultimate act of care for your family, ensuring they are provided for and guided according to your wishes.

Sharome Kirabo Nakimera
Simba Buddy Group

September is Basic Education and Literacy Month

Did you know?

Scholarships & Exchanges – Rotary provides thousands of scholarships each year and supports literacy through international exchange programs



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OVER 800 YOUNG LEADERS IGNITE CHANGE AT INTERACT RYLA 2025!

What happens when you mix over 800 of the brightest young minds from over 90 schools, a powerhouse lineup of speakers, and a mission to shape the future. You get an explosion of energy, ideas, and inspiration that could only be the Interact RYLA 2025!

Kyambogo College School transformed into the ultimate leadership hub, playing host to this year's monumental Interact Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA). The air wasn't just filled with the typical weekend calm; it was buzzing with the palpable excitement of hundreds of Interactors ready to innovate, adapt, and make their impact.

This wasn't just an event; it was a movement. A huge thanks to Rotary District 9213 and our incredible partners for pouring their energy and resources into making this year's Interact RYLA a resounding success. From the meticulous planning to the final high-fives, it was a masterclass in teamwork and vision.



Sharome Kirabo Nakimera
Vice Chairperson-RYLA Committee.

This year's Interact RYLA was all about turning theory into action. Our young leaders didn't just listen; they engaged, questioned, and practiced. A major highlight was the session on "Level Up Your Wallet" led by the phenomenal **Kyobuhoro Bathsheba** from Little Feza Builders. Forget boring lectures on finance! Bathsheba served up hands-on, practical tips on saving, smart spending, and building financial literacy from a young age. It was about empowering our youth to make savvy decisions today for a more secure tomorrow.

As the sun set on an unforgettable day at Kyambogo, the real work was just beginning. The end of Interact RYLA 2025 isn't a finale; it's a launchpad. The conversations may have paused and the speakers may have left the stage, but the seeds planted are already taking root in communities across the district. These young leaders departed with a mission. They are now our frontline ambassadors of innovation, our most agile adapters to change, and our most passionate creators of impact. They carry with them the practical tools to manage their futures, the communication skills to amplify their voices, and the leadership mindset to uplift those around them.

The true success of the Interact RYLA won't be measured in attendance numbers, but in the tangible projects these Interactors launch, the positive peer pressure they create, and the resilient, ethical leadership they demonstrate in their schools and communities. The torch has been passed. Now, we watch as they light the way.

The journey from Interact to Rotaract and beyond starts here. And if this event was any indication, the future is not just bright, it's brilliant, it's capable, and it's ready to lead.

The stage is set. The leaders are equipped. Let the impact begin.

PICTORIAL



September is Basic Education and Literacy Month

Did you know?

773 million people globally – including 250 million children – cannot read or write. Rotary works to change this through schools, teacher training, and literacy programs.

Your gateway to global markets

Our offices in Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and DRC are open for business. Talk to us today to get your goods from port to port with ease.

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Reach us on Tel: +256 414 346 221/2

Email: KampalaLiaisonOffice@kpa.co.ke



September is Basic Education and Literacy Month

Did you know?

Rotary clubs worldwide support education in practical ways—by building schools and libraries, supplying essential learning materials, training and mentoring teachers, and running adult literacy and vocational programs that uplift entire communities.



THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOLOLO-KAMPALA NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a monthly publication by the Rotary Club of Kololo-Kampala.