

Rotary Club of Karen

District 9212



Monthly Newsletter - September 2022

"Championing Basic Education and Literacy"

September was set to be a busy month. We are still amazed at how we pulled off 3 book donations and mentorship events. Literacy is a big deal to us - ever wondered where you'd be if you didn't know how to read?

Happy reading!
PR Team



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The Rotary Club of Karen marks Basic Education and Literacy Month

Literacy is inextricably tied to the strength of our society's future, it helps us make our way in the world. Unfortunately, many children lack access to learning resources to help them develop.

We joined the global Rotary fraternity in marking Basic Education and Literacy month this September. The Rotary Club of Karen, in conjunction with the Rotaract Club of Karen and Oxford publishers, provided Mentorship and donated books to two schools - Nkaimurunya Primary School and St. Mary's Primary School, Karen. We made a 3rd donation to one of our baby clubs, the Rotary Club of Ongata Rongai.



Our goal at The Rotary Club of Karen is to strengthen the capacity of communities, support children's basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy.

281 students received KCPE revision books donated by Oxford publishers and Sanitary towels were also distributed to the girls. However, this wasn't only about giving children opportunities to read, it was about encouraging them to dream big about their lives. Members of The Rotary Club of Karen, and The Rotaract Club of Karen held mentorship sessions with the children.



Our First Podcast Episode is Out!

This has been in the works for quite some time now, and we can't describe how excited we are to share with you our first episode of the Rotarians of Karen podcast.

We'll be having a series of candid conversations with both new and old members to share their personal accounts of their lives in Rotary. The idea is to demystify who we are; and what we do as a club; by being part of the global Rotary organization through authentic storytelling that brings to life the impact of selfless service for the community, and everything that makes being a Rotarian special. We want to inspire existing and prospective Rotarians to reach their highest potential of service to humanity through the conversations captured within the Rotarians of Karen podcast.

The intention is to do two podcasts per month. The Rotarians of Karen podcast will be shared on our social media platforms as well as the popular podcasting platforms; Spotify, Apple Podcasts, YouTube, and Google Podcasts too.

Check out our first episode where we hosted DGE Leonard Ithau and keep an eye out for the next one with our current President Lorraine Kirigia in a couple of weeks' time.



Click on the image to watch

Turning the Page on Inequality

Did you know out of the over 5 million Kenyans living with disabilities more than 3 million are children? According to the 2019 census report, children living with disabilities face a wide range of challenges like neglect, abuse, spousal separation, school placement, and medical attention challenges.

I think we can both agree that inequality is one of the most urgent challenges of our times. Across the world, inequality threatens human rights and dignity. This is why there wasn't a better time to have bold conversations about inequality than during this month's fellowship meetings.

Our guest speakers presented a range of perspectives on inequality challenges and how to progress. We hosted Mark Nyachieo, Head of Occupational Therapy Department, Karen Hospital, Joan Mwachi, Worldreader Regional Director, East Africa and Rotarian Wanjiku Wairia, Rotary District 9212 Chair - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee.



Rotarian Wanjiku Wairia, Rotary District 9212 Chair - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee.



Mark Nyachieo, Head of Occupational Therapy Department, Karen Hospital

September Social Karaoke

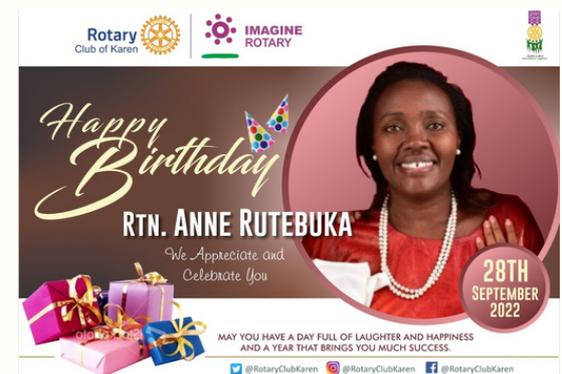
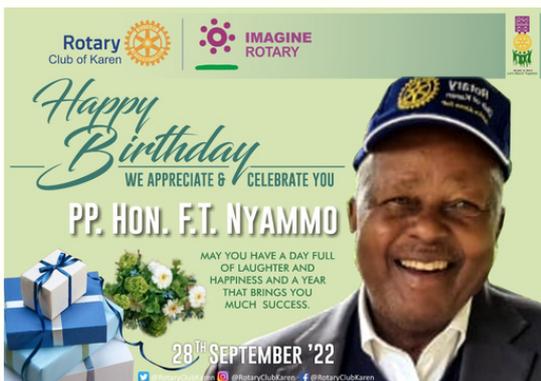
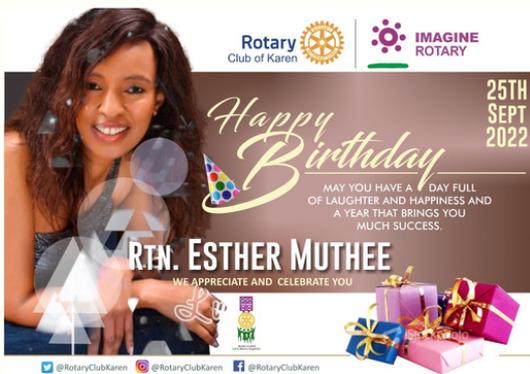
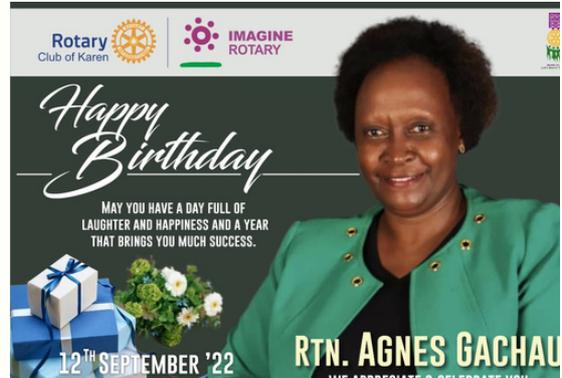
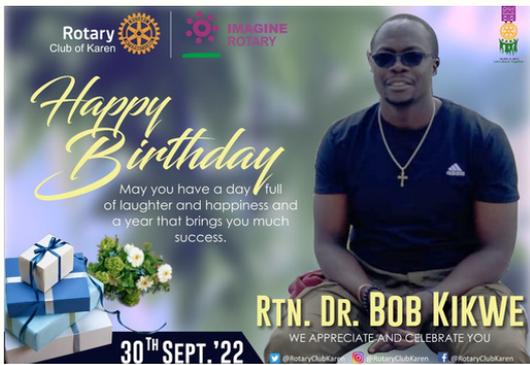
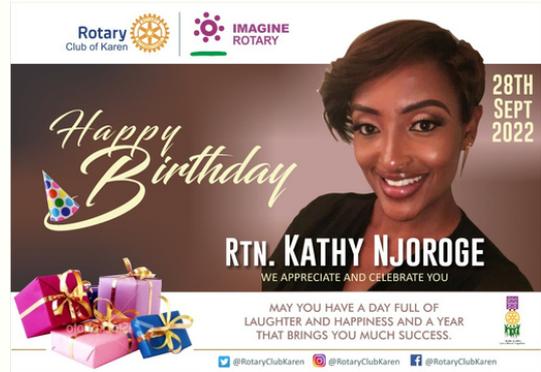
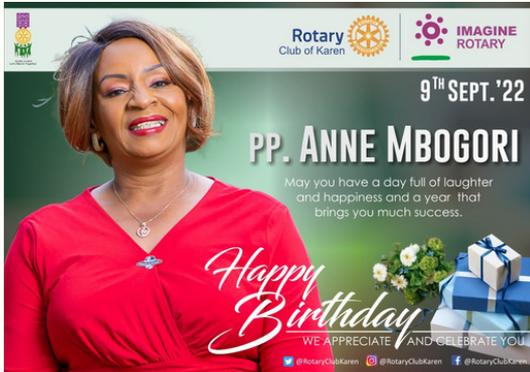
Midweek parties are it, especially if it is karaoke. The Family of Rotary Committee treated Rotarians to a ridiculously fun karaoke night at the Legend Karen with Anita Tate hosting. You should have seen Rtn. Helen Wacera singing her rendition of Red Red Wine.

But the highlight of the night has to be the successful auction we held. A single bottle of red wine donated by PP Gichu Wahome (President's guest), fetched an incredible KES 45,200! Thank you Madam President for leading a fantastic auction. This is a testimony of how much we can achieve with so little. Thank you to everyone who showed up. Fired Up and ready to keep on marching!



September babies

A big happy birthday wish goes out to all our September babies. May your new year be fulfilling!



President's Corner

Author and Associate professor Loshini Naidoo says, "if we can make a difference in the life of one person in a community, it is a small yet significant step in empowering a whole community."

The Club has made a great impact within our community. In all the service projects we undertake, we make sure that we are addressing each area of The Rotary Foundation's monthly focus. As Rotarians, we strive to empower our communities with great attention given to the seven areas of focus.



September was Basic Education and Literacy month, and The United Nations reports that the COVID-19 pandemic has deepened a global learning crisis. An estimated 24 million students (pre-primary to university level) may never return to school. In the past, we have put up libraries at Kuwinda, and Karen police stations. We have also worked with District 9212 to distribute millions of Shillings of books, throughout all the 47 counties, reaching children who would otherwise never have seen a textbook in their lives. This month we continued this work by providing mentorship and distributing books to Nkaimurunya, and Karen C Primary schools. In addition, we supported our grandchildren, RC Ongata Rongai by donating books from Oxford Publishers for their literary project.

The club through partnerships in the past has also delivered laptops to Karen C primary school. On environment, The club has planted over 5,000 trees within the Ngong Road forest. This has benefited the communities that work within the forest by creating job opportunities, thus growing them economically. They prepare the grounds for planting when we are ready to plant, and they weed and maintain the growth of the trees. Water and Sanitation is one area the club has invested heavily in through various global grants. These are just some of the areas the club strives to grow our communities.

Our PR team continues to innovate, and this month we have added another first; the Rotarians of Karen podcast which saw our very own DGE as the inaugural guest. We celebrate this great team headed by Lead Allister Lindsay. Well done!

October sees Rotarians worldwide mark Economic and Community Development month. We are excited to join Rotarians and Rotaractors worldwide to mark this special month. As a club, we are focused on developing partnerships, and we continue to grow these with corporates, and other Rotary Clubs locally and internationally as we empower, and grow the communities around us.

We shall join the world in marking World Polio Day on October 24th. This is a day that commemorates global efforts toward a polio-free future as well as the selfless sacrifices of those working on the frontline of the battle to eradicate polio, from every corner of the world. Rotary International has been at the center of the worldwide effort to eradicate polio, for over three decades.

Looking forward to another great month! What role are you playing as a Rotarian in the seven areas of focus? Are we always asking ourselves why we joined Rotary? You will get from Rotary what you put in, so roll up your sleeves, and Imagine Rotary! Imagine how much we can achieve when we March Together!

President Lorraine.

Quick Updates for You



Reminder about the upcoming DCA in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

2023 is fast approaching and we'd like you to accompany us to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for the upcoming 98th District Conference Assembly 2023 happening from 11 - 14th May 2023. [Click here](#) for more details.

Follow us on social media and stay updated



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**Click on the icons*

Check out photos from [Nkaimurunya Primary School visit](#).

Rotary
Club of Karen



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