



Bay Breezes

NEWSLETTER | December 2025 / January 2026

Meeting time : Tuesday 5:30pm for 6pm
Location : Atlantic Boat Club, Hout Bay Harbour

President : Adele Hayden | 082 807 0087
Secretary : Tim Smith 076 583 9875

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2026
Happy New Year!

Rotary 

Kicking Goals Across Continents

Here's to a new year filled with hope and meaningful impact!
2026 is full of opportunities.

JANUARY 2026 CALENDAR

JAN 2025	Time	Venue	Speaker / Event	Sergeant
6 TH	6PM	ABC	POT LUCK FUN FELLOWSHIP EVENING	CAROLYN
9 TH	10.30	DELISH	COFFEE MORNING	
13 TH	6	ABC	MEMBERSHIP SURVEY FEEDBACK AND RESULTS	MARCELO
20 TH	6PM	ABC	DISTRICT GOVERNOR VISIT & NEW MEMBER INDUCTION	ADELE
23 RD	10.30AM	DELISH	COFFEE MORNING	
27 TH	6PM	ABC	STUDENT SUPPORT SCHEME STUDENTS 2025 REVIEW AND FEEDBACK	KEITH
30 TH	5PM	TBC	FELLOWSHIP DRINKS	

Calendar subject to change

#TheCORAProject

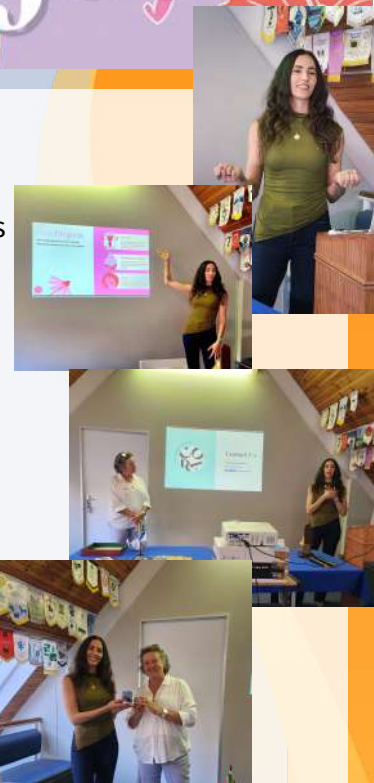
On Tuesday 4 November, The Rotary Club of Hout Bay had the pleasure of hosting Aurora Marcopoulos, founder of the Cora Project: Empowering Menstrual Dignity Across South Africa.

The CORA Project (CORA) is a women-led non-profit whose mission is to support menstruators from underprivileged communities in South Africa by providing them with the knowledge and resources to end period poverty.

Aurora grew up in Hout Bay and alongside her work with CORA she works at Finway International, a boutique wealth management company. Through both her corporate and non-profit work, Aurora is driven by connection, impact and her purpose, which is to empower.

In 2020, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Aurora and her sister saw a gap few were addressing: period poverty. While food insecurity and health dominated the headlines, many women and girls in South Africa were quietly struggling with something even more personal — the lack of access to menstrual products and education.

What began as a simple phone conversation — “Let’s help girls get pads” — soon became The Cora Project, a registered nonprofit dedicated to ensuring that everyone who menstruates can do so with dignity, safety, and confidence.



A Wonderful Evening with Sea Point Rotary and the Amy Foundation

Our club recently had the great pleasure of “raiding” the Sea Point Rotary Club — and what a welcome we received! From the moment we arrived, we were met with open arms and genuine hospitality at their beautiful venue, setting the tone for a memorable and meaningful evening of fellowship and learning. A highlight of the evening was an inspiring talk by Kevin Chaplin from the Amy Foundation, who shared valuable insight into the incredible work the Foundation is doing to uplift young people across South Africa.

The Amy Foundation is a well-established non-profit organisation dedicated to youth development, focusing on equipping young people from disadvantaged communities with the skills, confidence and opportunities they need to thrive. Through programmes in education support, leadership development, arts, sport, entrepreneurship and life skills, the Foundation works to break cycles of poverty and create pathways to sustainable futures. Their work makes a profound difference in the lives of thousands of young people each year, and Kevin’s passion and commitment were evident throughout his talk.

Following the presentation, we enjoyed a relaxed and social evening around a braai, giving members from both clubs the opportunity to connect, share stories and strengthen the bonds of Rotary fellowship. As always, good conversation, laughter and camaraderie flowed easily. A heartfelt thank you to Sea Point Rotary for their warm welcome and generous hospitality, and to Kevin Chaplin and the Amy Foundation for taking the time to share their inspiring work with us. Evenings like these remind us of the power of connection, collaboration and service, the very heart of Rotary.



Funda Kunye "Paint It Forward" Fundraiser at Clay Café

The Funda Kunye "Paint It Forward" fundraiser, held at the Clay Café, was a truly delightful afternoon filled with creativity, connection and purpose. A wonderful group of ladies gathered to support an incredible cause, enjoying a relaxed and inspiring setting that perfectly captured the spirit of the event.

The afternoon unfolded with guests sipping wine, painting their chosen pieces and chatting away, creating an atmosphere of warmth, laughter and easy camaraderie. It was a reminder of how meaningful fundraising can be when it brings people together in such a joyful and creative way.

Most importantly, the fundraiser successfully raised much-needed funds for Funda Kunye, an exceptional NGO dedicated to making a real difference in the lives of children and families through education, support and community upliftment.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended, contributed and supported the event, and to the Clay Café for providing such a welcoming and beautiful venue. Events like "Paint It Forward" show how creativity, fellowship and service can come together to create lasting impact.



Happy Tummies Feeding Program

Rotary recently had the pleasure of welcoming Nadine, who joined us to share the inspiring work of her NGO, Happy Tummies. Her talk offered valuable insight into the organisation's mission and the meaningful impact it is making in vulnerable communities.

Happy Tummies is a non-profit organisation focused on addressing childhood hunger by providing nutritious meals to children who might otherwise go without. By ensuring that young children receive regular, balanced meals, Happy Tummies helps support healthy physical development, improved concentration and better learning outcomes. For many children, these meals make a critical difference to their wellbeing and ability to thrive.

Nadine spoke passionately about the challenges faced by families experiencing food insecurity, and how Happy Tummies works closely with schools, crèches and community partners to reach children who need support the most. Her dedication and compassion were evident, and her presentation reminded us of the powerful role that consistent nutrition plays in changing young lives.

We are grateful to Nadine for taking the time to share the story of Happy Tummies with us, and for the important work she and her team continue to do. Her visit was both informative and motivating, reinforcing Rotary's shared commitment to service, community upliftment and making a lasting difference.



CLUB AGM

by Carolyn Herrick

The Club's AGM took place on 18th November 2025. Past President Carolyn Herrick presented an overview of our club's many accomplishments during her 2024/ 2025 presidential year. Highlights were:

- Expansion of the Student Support Scheme to 20 students and addition of more student mentors.
- Growth of the Vision Testing Project to include Nowers High School, with screening of over 2,000 students in eight Hout Bay schools. 526 students received spectacles, 25% of those screened. 25+ Rotarians and friends of Rotary assisted in the schools.
- Continued Community Projects – e'Pap feeding for 700+ children in Hout Bay creches, plus Main Rd clinic patients; Mandela Day blanket & sandwich drive, Family Health Day in Sept/24 and Christmas Gift Bags for needy Hout Bay children and elders.
- New Projects initiated included: Ambulance Stretcher refurbishment for the Hout Bay Volunteer Emergency Medical Service, ABC for Life Literacy Programme – classroom refurbishment & supplies for expansion to Oranjekloof Primary.
- Raised over R50 000 through Cycle Tour marshalling to support our Youth Programmes such as RYLA (Youth Leadership Camp) and Adventures in Citizenship Camp.
- Hosted a Rotary Friendship Exchange of 12 Canadian Rotarians. The group subsequently offered to fund Rotary support for Ziyaad's Skate School.
- Club visibility within the Hout Bay community was increased with more social media posts, an updated website and several mentions in Sentinel news articles.
- Strong membership growth was achieved with 6 new members and one transfer during the year. Our club is now 32 members strong....and continuing to grow.

Carolyn ended her remarks by stating that looking over our past year's accomplishments, we can all be proud to be members of the Rotary Club of Hout Bay.

The accounts were then presented by Treasurer John Herrick, followed by comments from Dianne Barclay who reviewed the financial statements for accuracy. Dianne noted that as all of her recommendations from prior years had been implemented, she is happy with the financial statements.

The nominations for 2026 / 2027 year were presented and it was noted that no nomination had been accepted for President-Elect. Secretary Tim Smith and Treasurer John Herrick agreed to continue in their roles. As Past President- Adele Hayden will serve as Vice President. Many thanks to all current and future office-bearers for their dedication to the Club.





ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

TAIPEI, TAIWAN | 13-17 JUNE 2026



Register and pay in full by 15 December 2025,
before prices increase, at convention.rotary.org.



Conference Announcement

**Piece by Piece:
Uniting Our Stories of Impact**

Save the Date!
1st - 2nd May

Evening Events

Thursday
Meet & Greet
Friday
Local Entertainment
Saturday
Grand Finale

Venue

Gene Louw
Primary,
Durbanville

Joint
Conference
with RotarAct

Register today!

A Record Year of Generosity: Rotary Members Make History

In 2024-25, Rotary members around the world came together to make history — raising more than US\$569 million to support life-changing service projects. This remarkable achievement reflects the power of collective action and the deep commitment of our global community.

2025 by 2025 Endowment Goal Achieved

Through the successful completion of our 2025 by 2025 Endowment campaign, we set out to raise US\$2.025 billion and surpassed that goal with an incredible **US\$2.050 billion**. This achievement secures Rotary's ability to keep Doing Good in the World for generations to come.

Your Gifts Making an Impact

Thanks to the generosity of supporters around the world, The Rotary Foundation awarded over

1,424

GLOBAL
GRANTS

468

DISTRICT
GRANTS

74

DISASTER
RESPONSE GRANTS

Better Together

- Renewed our agreement with the **Gates Foundation**, recommitting to the fight to end polio
- Awarded the **Programs of Scale grant** to an initiative that works to build peace in Colombia
- Partnered with Symbiosis International University to create a **Rotary Peace Center in India**

\$918.4
MILLION

\$1.132
BILLION

Building

The Rotary Foundation
ENDOWMENT

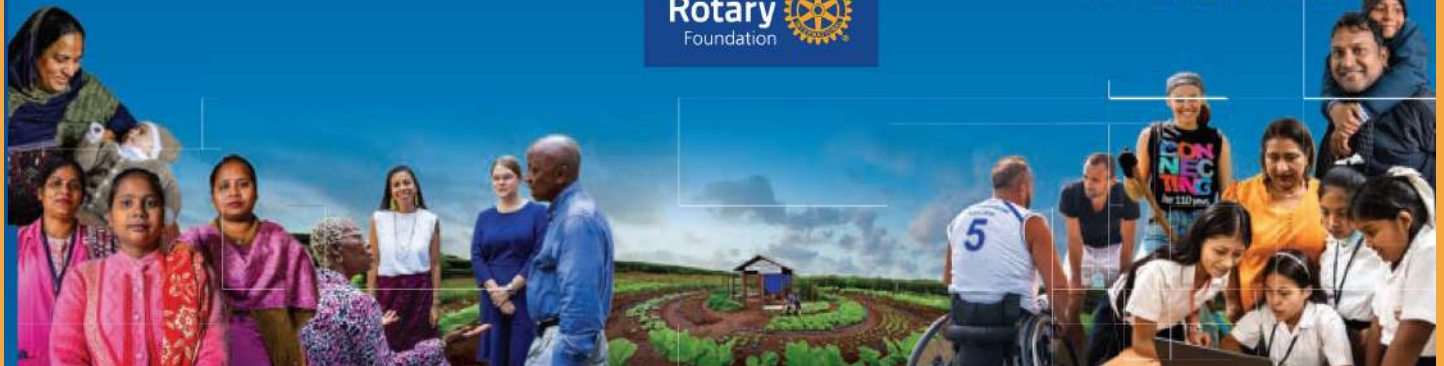
2025 by 2025

NET ASSETS

COMMITMENTS

GOAL US\$2.025 BILLION
TOTAL US\$2.050 BILLION

The
Rotary
Foundation



Rotary  presents
Club of Hout Bay

ON A FIRST NAME BASIS by Norm Foster

A Heartwarming Play starring
Dianne Richoz Barclay & John Herrick

Proceeds will go to the Rotary Vision Project,
providing spectacles for children in
Hout Bay Schools



5-7 MARCH | Thurs 19:30 Fri 14:00 & 19:30 Sat 14:00 & 18:00
Hout Bay Museum Hall, 4 Andrews Rd, Hout Bay

Tickets R250 - available on 

Don't Miss Out!

We're proud to support and cheer on two incredibly talented individuals who will be taking to the stage in an upcoming play. Their passion and dedication promise an evening of outstanding theatre and entertainment.

Tickets are selling fast, so be sure to book yours soon to avoid disappointment. Come along and support local talent. You absolutely won't regret it!

BOOK NOW



Bringing Christmas Cheer to Our Most Vulnerable Children

This festive season, the Hout Bay Rotary Club was privileged to be part of something truly special: a series of Christmas parties hosted in our local informal settlements for some of the most vulnerable children in our community.

This meaningful project was headed up by Marianne and Eli, whose dedication, compassion and tireless efforts ensured its incredible success. With the help of community members, children were carefully identified as those most in need, and each one was treated with dignity and love.

Every child received a personalised gift, thoughtfully wrapped and labelled with their own name — a small detail that made a world of difference.

The celebrations were filled with joy and laughter. The children were treated to hotdogs and icy treats, while games, singing and dancing brought the spaces alive with festive cheer. For many, this was more than just a party, it was a moment of feeling seen, valued and celebrated.

One of the most touching moments was seeing the pure delight on the faces of children who received their very first teddy bears. These simple gifts, tucked into colourful gift bags, were clutched tightly and treasured instantly. A powerful reminder of how small acts of kindness can have a lasting impact.

A huge thank you goes out to everyone involved — from the organisers and volunteers to the donors and community members who made this project possible.

Together, you helped create a Christmas filled with warmth, joy and unforgettable memories for children who needed it most.

This is Rotary at its best: serving with heart, bringing hope, and spreading kindness where it matters most.





Becoming Dr Ndinisa

My name is Thembelihle Ndinisa — or should I say, Dr. Thembelihle Ndinisa. I was born in Mpumalanga, in a small village called Glenmore, where I lived with my mom and completed part of my primary schooling.

Later, I moved to Cape Town to live with my grandmother, and I finished primary school at Oranjekloof Moravian Primary. At that stage, I thought I wanted to be a teacher — I honestly didn't realise how much potential I had, and academically I wasn't doing

very well. Everything changed in Grade 7, when I finally started taking school seriously. I attended Silikamva High School, and those were truly some of the best years of my life. That school shaped me. I learned who I was, what I was capable of, and I was surrounded by incredible teachers and a strong support system.

When I was still in Grade 8 and 9, Silikamva didn't offer Physics, so for a moment it felt like I had to abandon my dream of becoming a doctor. But then — I don't know who made the decision or who fought for the change but Physics was added as a subject. And honestly, that moment changed my life. I am forever grateful to Silikamva for playing such a huge role in the title I hold today. In 2019, my matric year, I had the honour of being Head Girl. Something that still surprises me because I've always been an introvert and public speaking was not my thing. It still makes me nervous today, but I've grown so much. Like many matrics, I applied to almost every university because I was terrified of not getting accepted. I did get accepted to universities in Cape Town, but none of them offered the degree I wanted. The University of KwaZulu-Natal was the only place that accepted me for Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB).

Did I know anyone in KZN? No. Had I ever been there before? No. But it offered exactly what my heart desired. So I packed my bags, left Cape Town and the grandmother who raised me, and started a new chapter. I am so grateful for the support I received from Rotary, my family, and my friends. Without them, the journey would have been much harder. Six years of medical school sounded like a lifetime, and honestly, it wasn't always easy. It wasn't the "best years" that people often describe. But I grew, I learned, I struggled, I succeeded, and through all the good and bad moments, I fought my way to the finish line.

Today, I hold the degree I once only dreamed of. I don't usually like talking about myself, but I am truly proud of this girl — proud of who she is, proud of how far she has come. Next year, I will be starting my medical internship in Mpumalanga, returning to the same province where my journey began. Am I ready? Not completely. I am scared, but I am also excited. Excited to finally see my own patients. Excited to grow even more. Excited to serve. I would like to thank every single person who helped me along this journey. From teachers to mentors, friends to family, Rotary to everyone who believed in me — ngiyabonga.



The Hout Bay Rotary Club rounded off the year in true festive style with a wonderfully joyful Christmas party held at Dario's Restaurant. From the moment guests arrived and were welcomed with a glass of champagne, the tone was set for a truly special evening.

We were treated to the most delicious food, beautifully prepared and enjoyed in a warm, festive atmosphere. The evening was filled with laughter and friendly competition as members took part in a lively quiz night, alongside exciting auctions, generous spot prizes, and some truly fantastic items up for grabs.

Adding to the magic of the night was a surprise visit from Father Christmas himself, who delighted everyone with his incredible jokes and infectious festive cheer. He was accompanied by not one, but two very mischievous elves, much to the amusement of all in attendance.

It was a lovely evening of connection, celebration and gratitude, as well as a chance to reflect on the year that was and to enjoy one another's company before the festive break.

A very special thank you goes to Dario and Rosella, as well as to all the wonderful waiters and staff at Dario's Restaurant, for their warm hospitality, excellent service and for making us feel so welcome throughout the evening. Our sincere appreciation also goes to the Christmas Committee, whose hard work, attention to detail and festive flair ensured the evening ran seamlessly and was such a memorable success.

Thank you to everyone who contributed, attended and helped make this celebration so special. We already look forward to the next one!







November/December 2025 Photos





Christmas Party 2025 Photos



Birthdays



January 1 : Athol
January 22 : Carolyn

NEW ZOOM LINK FOR 2025 FOR WEEKLY MEETINGS: Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82462683356?pwd=2TYjUfplzKzN6uOzVU7W3hUeAg6b4K.1>

Meeting ID: 824 6268 3356
Passcode: 569941

RCHB Vision Statement: We unite to take action that contributes to lasting change in our Hout Bay community and beyond, and in ourselves.

RCHB Mission Statement: We focus on improving lives in our Hout Bay community, primarily by providing programmes for youth from early childhood through to young adult, and other support for those in need.

Walt Disney: "The greatest moments in life are not concerned with selfish achievements but rather with the things we do for the people we love and esteem, and whose respect we need."

**Thank You
For Reading!**



President: Adele Hayden
Treasurer: John Herrick
Secretary: Tim Smith
Club Services : Michele Grant

Vocational: Keith Bull
Community: Ralph Tobergte
Youth: Marianne Marsh
Public Image : Janice Grant

Membership: Ali Rice
International: Hans Kuhn
Foundation: Carolyn Herrick