

2025



The **STARLIGHT**

C H R O N I C L E S

NEWS LETTER

Rotaract 
Club of Najjeera

Quarter 1

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District Rotaract Representative's Message



*"United in Service,
Growing in Impact"*

**Abesage
Nahabwe**

District Rotaract
Representative

D9213 2025/26

As we step into October, a month dedicated to Economic and Community Development, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your efforts during Quarter One. Your commitment is making a difference in communities and fostering sustainable growth.

Looking ahead to Quarter Two, let's continue creating meaningful change and uplifting those around us. I encourage everyone to participate in the Rotaract Earth Initiative – Kenya Edition, a powerful chance to contribute to environmental conservation.

Also, please complete your Discon 101 payments before the early bird deadline — don't miss out!

Thank you for your passion and dedication. Together, we can achieve great things this quarter and beyond.

President's Message



"A Quarter of Purpose"

Turibamwe Elvin

Rotaract Najjeera
President

2025/26

In this inaugural edition of **Starlight Newsletter**, we begin a new chapter for our club. Over the past three months, Najjeera Stars have embodied purpose and passion through impactful service and engaging fellowships.

This Rotary year will be anchored on four core pillars:

- 1.** Membership – fostering growth and engagement.
- 2.** The Rotary Foundation (TRF) – deepening global impact.
- 3.** Projects – initiatives that are impactful and sustainable.
- 4.** Collaborations & Partnerships – building bonds with like-minded clubs, organisations, and brands.

These pillars will shape us into a beacon of hope and leadership. Every story of service will be celebrated because every act of service deserves to be remembered.

Community Service Project Feature

The DEAR Project: Inspiring Young Minds Through Reading



Every so often, we get the chance to pause from our daily routines and give ourselves to something bigger, a moment where service meets purpose. That was the spirit behind the **Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) Project**, organised by the Rotaract Clubs of Ntinda and Najjera. This initiative took us to **Bukoto Muslim Primary School**, where we spent a memorable morning reading, teaching, and giving back.

The DEAR Project is rooted in the belief that reading has the power to spark imagination, nurture confidence, and unlock the potential of young minds. At Bukoto, we engaged pupils through interactive reading sessions, short lessons, and motivational conversations. We also donated scholastic materials and hygiene items, ensuring the children not only took away knowledge but also received tools that would support their daily school journey. The excitement on their faces, their eagerness to learn, and the joy of discovery reminded us why service remains at the core of who we are as Rotaractors.



“

Reading and learning build confidence and inspire young minds to reach their potential.

– Brenda Luwedde

”

For me personally, what stood out most was the school's **special unit for blind children**. I had the honour of reading to them and engaging in a question-and-answer session afterward. Their confidence, curiosity, and willingness to participate deeply moved me. These students reminded me that true learning goes beyond sight it is about vision, courage, and the power to dream. The way they asked questions, laughed with us, and expressed themselves was proof that knowledge truly knows no barriers.

That encounter left a profound impact on me. It was more than just a reading exercise it was a lesson in resilience and inspiration. The blind students showed us that with encouragement and opportunity, every child can thrive. Their spirit challenged us to think beyond the moment and ask ourselves: how can we continue to support them? What more can we do to nurture such incredible potential?



As a club, we left Bukoto not just with fond memories but with a renewed commitment to do more. The DEAR Project reminded us that every act of service counts, no matter how small. By sharing books, offering encouragement, and simply being present, we planted seeds of hope in the lives of these children.

Looking ahead, we would love to return and build on this foundation especially to extend more support to the incredible blind students who left a lasting impression on our hearts. The DEAR Project may have been a single day, but its impact continues. It reminded us that service is not just about giving it is about connecting, inspiring, and walking alongside others as they pursue their dreams.

– Written by **Brenda Luwedde**

GAMES FACE OFF

Fundraiser



Fellowship, and Fundraising!

Over the weekend, Rotaract Najjeera came together for the first edition of the "Games Face-Off" fundraiser in support of our **M-HOPE project**. The event was a fantastic mix of fun, friendly competition, and club bonding.

We are grateful to all club members and friends of Rotaract Najjeera who joined in and made the event a huge success.

The day was organized by the Family of Rotaract and the Membership Committee, in partnership with Infinity Games and Concepts. Through games, laughter, and teamwork, we not only strengthened our club spirit but also raised much-needed funds to make a meaningful impact in Mitooma District.

Professional Leadership Development



Reflections from the First Annual PLD Nexus

On Saturday, 26th July, I attended the inaugural Annual PLD Nexus at UBFC (URSB Auditorium) in Kololo. I left inspired, challenged, and proud of what we achieved together as a family of clubs.

Under the theme “Empowering Connections, Shaping Leaders; A Nexus for Growth and Development,” the event brought together bright minds, meaningful conversations, and unforgettable energy. It was more than a fellowship—it was a true leadership milestone.

The collaboration between Rotaract Clubs of Kampala North, Kampala North Musical, Bwebajja, Kampala The Core, E-Club of Kampala North, and Rotaract Najjeera showed the power of intentional partnership.

We heard from a stellar lineup of speakers—Senior Rtn Tusu, Rtn Kalungi Richard, Rtn Alex Niyonzima, and Rtn Tom Ayebare—who unpacked leadership from diverse angles: professional growth, ethics, networking, service, and personal branding.



- ✓ **Network with intention**
- ✓ **Sharpen communication**
- ✓ **Build project portfolios**
- ✓ **Seek mentorship**

I walked away with greater clarity on positioning myself both as a Rotaractor and as a young professional.

What stood out most was the networking. I connected with Rotaractors from different clubs, exchanged ideas, and discovered new opportunities for mentorship and collaboration. The atmosphere truly lived up to the theme.

This first edition has set a strong foundation for future growth, reminding us why leadership development is central to our Rotary journey. I look forward to the next edition and encourage every Rotaractor to take part.

—Written by **Lydia Akiding**

Rotary Najjeera at 9 years



Valedictory Message

With Gratitude to Our Outgoing Leaders



Have you ever imagined how geese manage to fly thousands of miles without exhaustion? Their secret lies in the “V” formation—sharing the workload so no one bird carries the burden alone. That lesson of teamwork and shared purpose is the essence of my Rotaract journey.

My story began in January 2018, when a call from my high school friend Derrick introduced me to a small Wednesday gathering in Najjeera. What started as casual meetups quickly grew into the Rotaract Club of Najjeera, and on 15th March 2019, I was proudly inducted as a charter member. That moment marked the beginning of one of the most fulfilling journeys of my life.

Growth Through Service

From early responsibilities as treasurer, to exposure visits with bigger clubs, Rotaract sharpened my skills and gave me purpose. It even prepared me for my first formal job—proof that service opens doors beyond fellowship.



- ✓ **Growth through Service**
- ✓ **Leading through Crisis**
- ✓ **Serving Beyond the Club**
- ✓ **Connecting the Dots**

Leading through Crisis

My biggest test came in 2020, when I became Club President during the COVID-19 pandemic. With gatherings banned, we had to innovate digitally to keep the club alive. It was not easy, but it shaped my resilience. I learned one unforgettable truth: “You can’t do leadership alone; even the strongest need support.”

Serving Beyond the Club

Though I once thought I’d step back after presidency, service called me again. I went on to serve as District IT Support Officer, later as District PIME Chairperson. These roles stretched me, challenged me, and allowed me to see Rotaractors achieve remarkable milestones—including raising \$30,000 for The Rotary Foundation

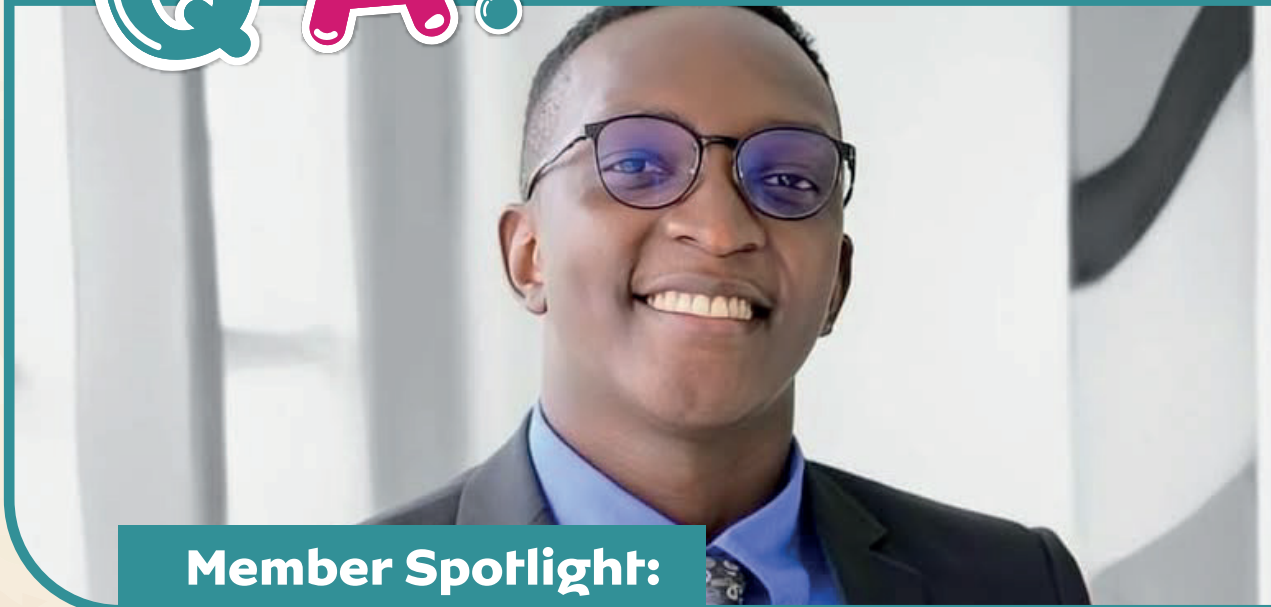


Connecting the Dots

Looking back over seven years, I see that purpose comes from doing. Like geese flying in formation, our strength lies in teamwork, sacrifice, and a shared vision. The dots only connect in hindsight, and I am grateful for every one of them.

Yours in Service,
Muhangi Jim Bakesi

**The story of the geese reminds us
that success is never solitary
—it is shared.**



Member Spotlight:

Edwin Obura
Marketing Lead
Faibanet Uganda

Q: Could you tell us a bit about yourself and your role as Marketing Lead at Faibanet Uganda?

I'm Edwin Obura, currently serving as the Marketing Lead at Faibanet Uganda, a fiber-to-the-home internet provider under the BCS Group. I am also the founder of Kabin & Set Digital, a social media marketing and branding company.

My Faibanet role involves marketing strategy development, campaign execution, and steering all brand and performance marketing initiatives. I work across teams to ensure our messaging resonates with Ugandan households, businesses and institutions while keeping things lean, creative and impactful.

Career Journey

Q: What inspired you to pursue a career in marketing, and how did your journey lead you to Faibanet?

I've always been fascinated by the motivations of people's actions and what informs their decisions on top of loving to sell things. I started my journey in creative direction and strategy through my own agency, Kabin & Set Digital, where we worked with local SMEs such as SWT Rice, PHL Naturals etc.

Faibanet approached me to lead their marketing, and it's been a thrilling challenge building the brand from the ground up in a very competitive market.

Q2: What has been the most defining moment in your professional career so far?

Getting into PwC Uganda is such a highlight. Working with super intelligent people in a systemised machine of business. I learnt so much on how a business should operate on top of working with multinational companies.

Day-to-Day Role

Q: What does a typical day as a Marketing Lead look like for you?

It's a mix of strategy and execution. Mornings are usually for marketing channel reviews, content development so think performance dashboards, creative drafts, campaign updates.

Afternoons are for meetings aligning with our onground team for activities like activations, followups with our partnerships ie Next Media, SMEs or our media buying partners. I also make time for deep work like writing persuasive copy direction, analyzing customer trends or refining our next move. So I am always reading a lot.

Q2: What key skills are essential to thrive in your position?

You need a good command of marketing principles with a sharp mix of creative thinking and commercial sense. Digital marketing expertise is a must, from paid media to analytics. Also soft skills like storytelling, team coordination and problem-solving under pressure.

Lessons & Insights

Q: What challenges have you encountered in your career, and how have you overcome them?

The biggest challenge has been building trust in a new brand in a space dominated by legacy telcos. We overcame it by deeply understanding our audience, simplifying our message and staying consistent. Another challenge in the beginning was doing more with less as marketing budgets were tight. But that constraint forces innovation.

Q2: What's one professional lesson you've learned that you wish you knew earlier?

Don't chase perfection, chase movement. DO DO DO! In marketing, it's easy to over-polish and overthink. If your strategy is grounded in sound research and insight, go for it. Success in marketing campaigns is a probability game, if the expected value is way greater than the downside, execute. Also, relationships matter as much as execution. Invest in the people that help you execute.

Don't chase perfection—chase movement. In marketing, progress matters more than overthinking.

Advice & Inspiration

Q: What advice would you give to young Rotaractors interested in pursuing careers in marketing or leadership roles?

Start doing while learning. Build something. Volunteer to handle social media for a cause. Launch a campaign, even if it's small. Marketing is a craft you learn by doing. And always be dependable, influence starts there.

Q2: How has being part of Rotaract influenced or supported your professional journey?

Rotaract has taught me how to work with diverse personalities and stay committed to community goals. These lessons directly translate to my professional life.

Personal Touch

Q: Outside of work, what hobbies or passions keep you inspired and motivated?

I am a biker so I love long motorbike rides. They help me reset and think clearly. I also enjoy reading, especially books on psychology, business leadership and great marketing stories. Recently, I've been diving into the works of Jonah Berger and Charlie Munger.

Q2: What's a personal mantra or quote you live by in your career?

"I want to know where I will die so that I never go there" - Charlie Munger. It reminds me that you can get so far in life by just trying to avoid the common man's traps.

We built trust by knowing our audience and staying consistent.

Fellowship Highlight



Outstanding Fellowship: Enabling Rotaractors' Transition



At a recent fellowship, Past District Rotaract Representative **Emmanuel Lukeera** spoke on 'Enabling Rotaractors' Transition.' He reminded us that Rotaract is a training ground for leadership, service, and professional growth, preparing members for Rotary. He urged Rotaractors to engage early with Rotary Clubs and for Rotarians to mentor and welcome them. Celebrating C.P Aaron Masinde and P.P Jimmy Muhangi—Najjeera charter members now transitioning to Rotary—he emphasized that former Rotaractors make the best Rotarians, and that collaboration and early support are key to sustaining the movement.

For Emmanuel Lukeera's full message on "Enabling Rotaractors' Transition," [click here](#)

The Corridor



Uniting for Good — The Corridor Clubs

July 1st, 2025 marked the start of the new Rotary year under the theme **“Unite for Good.”** In this spirit, 11 Rotaract Clubs—Kira, Bulindo, Namugongo, Sonde, Najjeera, Nsasa, Ntinda, Gayaza, Kyanja, Nangabo, and Kasangati—formed **“The Corridor.”** The initiative aims to strengthen unity, mentorship, and service impact across members, clubs, and communities.

So far, the Corridor has hosted mentorship sessions and joint fellowships, with Kira, Bulindo, and Namugongo leading the way in the first quarter. Members have benefited from training on Rotary Foundation, grants, communication, and professional growth, while also creating strong bonds and impactful service. With Sonde set to host in October, the vision remains clear: unity that goes beyond leadership transitions, ensuring lasting growth, collaboration, and service impact.

“Alone we can do little, but together we can do much.”

**– PHF Deogratius Opolot Obuje,
President RAC Kira**

The Road to Mitooma



On **10th Oct 2015**, Najjeera heads to Mitooma District. Beyond delivering medical services, menstrual hygiene education, and tree planting, the trip promises scenic adventure—Kitagata Hot Springs, Bunyaruguru lakes, and more.

At **Katanga Sub-County**, we'll host a medical camp; at Bitooma Primary, a menstrual hygiene program and tree planting. Members and partners are invited at **150k**.

Upcoming Events



Pictorial Section



Partners



Rotaract
Club of Najjeera

    **Rotaract Najjeera**

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