

## THE MADARAKATIMES

**JULY - DECEMBER 2023** 

ISSUE NO.: 001





District Governor's Official Club Visit



Ol Dorko Mosiro Primary School Project



Friend's Integrated Centre 'Maktaba' Project

## The Role we Play in Rotary

With boundless excitement and a deep sense of honor, I extend a heartfelt welcome to the debut edition of "Madaraka Times." In my role as both the Chief Editor and Public Image Directorforthe Rotary term 2023-2024, I am genuinely thrilled to embark on this narrative voyage alongside you.

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This newsletter transcends mere words on pages; it serves as a mirror reflecting the essence and commitment of our club, aligning with our 2023-24 mantra: embody presence, embrace daring, lead as pioneers, and embrace uniqueness. Within these pages, we'll weave vibrant tales of our club's unwavering dedication, showcase projects that leave lasting impacts, highlight activities sparking transformative change, and delve into events that bring us closer together. It's a platform not only to applaud our exceptional members but also to shine a spotlight on fellow Rotaractors charting their own distinctive paths, inspiring us all.

"The Madaraka Times Newsletter" stands vour gateway our sponsors and partners, connections that open doors to valuable opportunities in the business and professional realm. We firmly believe that united. can accomplish we more.

So, buckle up as we embark on a journey to explore, uncover, and revel in our distinct stories, our shared vision, and the indomitable spirit that distinguishes us as the Rotary Club of Nairobi Madaraka.

Rtn. Lydia Ndirangu
Public Image & Communications Director







MAY 1 <sup>ST</sup> 2023 - JULY 31 <sup>ST</sup> 2023	KSHS. 20,000   US\$ 200
AUG 1 <sup>ST</sup> 2023 - SEPT 30™ 2023	KSHS. 25,410   US\$ 220
OCT 1 <sup>5T</sup> 2023 - NOV 30™ 2023	KSHS. 27,720   US\$ 240
DEC 1 <sup>ST</sup> 2023 - JAN 31 <sup>ST</sup> 2024	KSHS. 30,030   US\$ 260
FEB 1 <sup>ST</sup> 2024 - MAR 31 <sup>ST</sup> 2024	KSHS. 33,340   US\$ 280
APR 1 <sup>ST</sup> 2024 - LAST DAY	KSHS. 34,650   US\$ 300



**REGISTER NOW** 

https://dca2024.rotary9212.org/















**ROTARY DISTRICT 9212** 

### **A Virtuous Cycle**

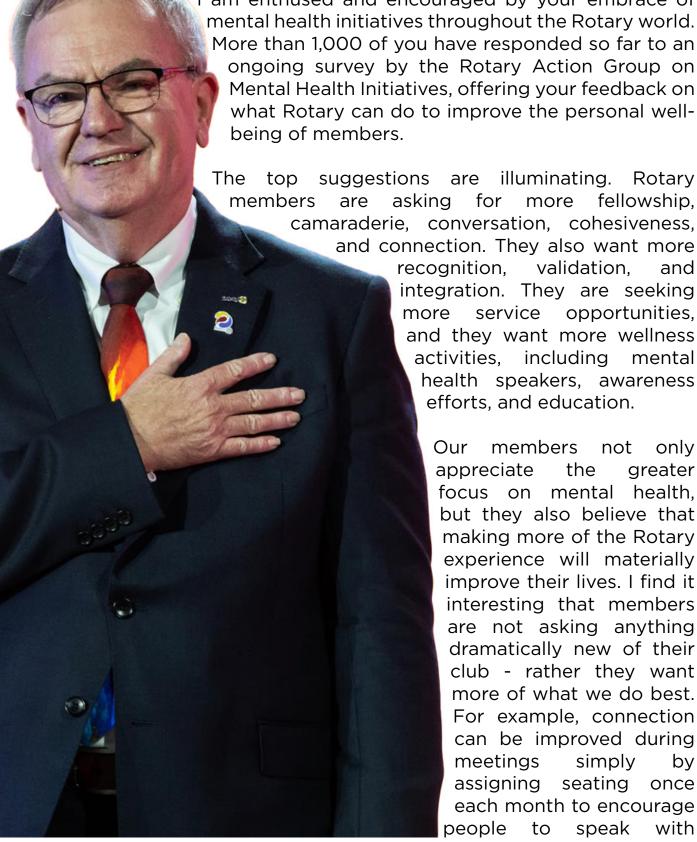
I am enthused and encouraged by your embrace of mental health initiatives throughout the Rotary world. More than 1,000 of you have responded so far to an ongoing survey by the Rotary Action Group on Mental Health Initiatives, offering your feedback on what Rotary can do to improve the personal wellbeing of members.

> askina for more fellowship, are camaraderie, conversation, cohesiveness, and connection. They also want more recognition, validation. integration. They are seeking service opportunities,

and they want more wellness activities, including mental health speakers, awareness

efforts, and education.

members Our not only appreciate the greater focus on mental health. but they also believe that making more of the Rotary experience will materially improve their lives. I find it interesting that members are not asking anything dramatically new of their club - rather they want more of what we do best. For example, connection can be improved during meetings simply by assigning seating once each month to encourage people to speak with





someone new.

Here are some great ways that we can help achieve these results and make Rotary more appealing to those considering membership. First, we need to acknowledge the importance of increasing belonging in our clubs and to encourage Rotary members to make the most of every opportunity for new and stronger connections. Public health experts worldwide are concerned about increasing levels of loneliness - the U.S. surgeon general has even declared it an epidemic. Mental health experts agree that finding groups and clubs around common hobbies and interests is a strong way to create greater connectedness. This is what Rotary is all about. We need to make sure all of our members are fully engaged and that our communities are better aware of this inherent strength.

Second, if your club has found new ways to build connection, please share your stories with us at mindhealth@rotary.org so we can make them more broadly known within the Rotary world. Your good ideas might inspire others. Post your service project stories on Rotary Showcase.

And finally, I encourage you to share feedback from surveys like this with your club and bring forward your own ideas to improve your club experience and meet your peers' expectations. The journey we have begun is about more than mental health. It is about taking advantage of the full strength of our wonderful organization and helping all members feel that they are part of a community that cares deeply about their personal well-being.

Everything you do to strengthen connections in Rotary, with each other and the people we serve, also helps improve mental health. And everything we do to improve mental health helps strengthen those connections. Let's continue this virtuous cycle.

#### R. GORDON R. MCINALLY

PRESIDENT, ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

#### The District Governor's Message

# All Set For Watamu!

Hello Rotary Family,

As we bid adieu to the inaugural month of 2024, it feels like we've just embarked on this year's journey. Time has a way of slipping through our fingers, much like those ambitious gym resolutions many of us might have made at the beginning of the year. Ha!

The good news is that we are still fully on course to achieve our goals for the 2023/2024 year. I was happy to address you all during our mid-flight state of the district brief where we took track of our progress and laid out how to align to meet our goals.

Together, we took stock of our progress and strategically outlined the steps needed to align ourselves for goal achievement. As we step into the month of love, let our focus be directed towards the following key areas:

### February is Peace and Conflict Resolution/Prevention Month:

In the words of Ronald Reagan, "Peace is not absence of conflict. it is the ability to handle conflict by peaceful means". Through service projects and support for peace fellowships and scholarships, we address the roots of conflict-poverty, discrimination. ethnic tension, lack of education, and resource inequality. Your consistent contributions to the Rotary Foundation play a crucial role in these efforts. Making a difference has never been easier; use our Jenga Foundation Mpesa portal for Rotary clubs in Kenya or donate via My Rotary.

**Rotary Anniversary:** Happy Anniversary, Rotary! February



holds a special place in our hearts as we celebrate the 119th anniversary of our first meeting on February 23, 1905, in Chicago. Let's mark this milestone by spreading

Rotary ! Rotaract 10 Clean water Polio vaccines Vocational training & More to communities worldwide Weekly Challenge m Kifaru - Kes. 5,000/= Tausi - Kes. 100/= T Ndovu - Kes. 10,000/= Thui - Kes. 800/= T Nyati - Kes. 1,600/= ## Simba PHF - Kes. 80,000/= Dial \*835\*90# Rtn. Wambui Karanja +254 721 824891 Rotary 

awareness of our causes and the incredible impact we've made over the years.

Picture this: Hawaii-inspired shirts, sandy shores, and an unforgettable experience! The preparations for our 99th District



swing. Have you picked out your aloha attire for the DG's cocktail on day one? Register now at https://dca2024.rotary9212.org/, start planning your travel, and get ready for exciting events you won't want to miss!

Sunshine Rally of Love: February, the month of love, kicks off with our first Sunshine Rally in the Coast region at the Light International School this Saturday. Join us for a day filled with joy, games, and entertainment. The love continues with rallies in the Nairobi region on February 17th, followed by the Mt. Kenya and Western Regions in March 2024. This annual event, sponsored by clubs in Rotary District 9212, brings together thousands of children living with disabilities for a heartwarming day.

**Membership Growth:** Let's be intentional about growing our Rotary family to amplify our impact on communities. As we welcome new members, let's ensure they share our passion and commitment to our principles. Following due process in onboarding is key to fostering a vibrant and impactful Rotary community.

Wishing you all a February filled with love and peace.

We Are One!

Leonard Ithau District Governor 2023-24 Rotary District 9212

# President's Message

# Half Year of Creating Hope



celebration of leadership but also a testament to the camaraderie that binds us. Dressed in Caribbean attire, the night was filled with warmth and laughter albeit the cold Nairobi night The turnout was exceptional, drawing guests not only from our local membership but also from clubs as far away as Kampala, Uganda. Heartfelt gratitude for all that turned up and dressed up for a .

Commencing the year with renewed enthusiasm, we launched series а dedicated to exploring the essence of the Rotary Foundation. Led by our Rotary Foundation Director, Past President Peter Kanake, the "Journey to PHF Series: Becoming a Paul Harris Fellow (PHF)" has been enlightening which has translated in welcoming new PHFs and getting multiple PHFs. We've had esteemed speakers like Past President Henry Ndirangu and Past District Governor Kenneth Mugisha sharing their valuable insights on achieving PHF status and the significance of continued support for the Rotary Foundation.

August being Membership Month, we had the privilege of hosting Vice Chair of the District Membership Committee, Past President Anditi Ogada. Her insightful talk focused on building stronger connections within Rotary, reinforcing the bonds that make our club a beacon of service. Living up to our commitment as People of Action, the first half of the year saw us actively engaged in various impactful projects.

Our journey began in September with a visit to Ol Dorko Mosiro Primary School at the corner of Kajiado and Narok Counties. The school serves a noble mission, rescuing young girls and boys troubled and traumatising homes from issues such Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and early marriages,. Read about our heartwarming experiences in Rotarian Mogoi's vivid narrative, filled with the joy of playing with the children and the challenges faced during our visit.

In October, we were honoured to host District Governor Rotarian Leonard Ithau during our second project visit at the Friends' Integrated Centre in Kariobangi North, Nairobi . our first school of our Maktaba project which plans to equip 5 Libraries across the country with books and computers with the help of our Partners Rotary Club of Dundas Valley Sunrise. This visit showcased the progress we've made since initiating the Maktaba Project in 2019 and outlined our plans for expanding the project to create a more significant impact in the informal settlement. A highlight of the day was witnessing the District Governor dance with the young learners and his generous donation towards our ongoing painting project at the school.

Recognizing the importance of balancing hard work with moments of joy, we organized a 'Lost in the 90s' party—a unique blend of karaoke and DJ performances—to raise funds for our Mithu Water Project. This event not only added a playful touch to our activities but also successfully raised some much need funds towards progressing to the next stage of this water initiative.

Finally the cherry on top was our amazing partnership with LG Electronics East Africa where we transcended the boundaries of conventional partnerships in embracing our shared vision of a meaningful and better life for all as we raised **Kshs.6,000,000** that will go towards three impactful projects (OI Dorko Mosiro Primary School, Gathiga Childrens Home and Maktaba project)

Our achievement over the past 6 months reflects the power of collaboration and the strength of our shared vision for positive change and impact. Together we have not only sustained the legacy of Rotary Madaraka but have also elevated it to new heights and for that *Je tire mon chapeau!* 

Joel Wandurwa PREIDENT

#### **SPOTLIGHT**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



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VICTOR MUTO PRESIDENT ELECT



NJOKI NDUNG'U VICE PRESIDENT



WANJA MUGUONGO IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



PAULINE MWANGI CLUB TREASURER



BARBARA MAKOKHA SERGENT-AT-ARMS



GRACE GATWIRI
SECRETARY



NICHOLAS ODHIAMBO MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR



ANGELLAH TUSHEMEREIRWE VICE PRESIDENT

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#### **SPOTLIGHT**





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ROTARY FUNDRAISING DIRECTOR



CORRINE MBATI CLUB ADMIN DIRECTOR



**FUNDRAISING DIRECTOR** 

LYDIA NDIRANGU PR & COMMS DIRECTOR



MELISSA NANJAYA SERVICE PROJECTS DIRECTOR



AUSTIN MULEMA
PRESIDENT - RAC UON AFYA



## My Wild Ride at the Caribbean Extravaganza

Buckle up, because on August 5th, 2023, I found myself smack dab in the middle of the Rotary Club of Nairobi Madaraka's Caribbean-themed installation gala, and let me tell you - it was more than a party; it was a wild ride of epic proportions. As the beats dropped by the pool at the Royal Nairobi Golf Club, I was right there in the thick of it, soaking in the good vibes.

The man of the hour? None other than our main man, President Joel Wandurwa, being installed as the 12th president of the club. Talk about a celebration! The energy was electric as Joel took the reins, and being part of the cheering crowd, I felt like I was witnessing Rotary history in the making.

Yours truly was not just a spectator but a part and parcel of the event. I found myself in the midst of the action, installed as a board member and the president-elect of the club. Yeah, you heard it right – this party was my party, our party, and I was ready to ride the Rotary wave.

Ruth Munyi, our fabulous MC, had us laughing and cheering like old pals catching up at a reunion. She knew how to keep the party spirit alive, making the formalities feel like inside jokes among friends. And there I was, grinning from ear to ear, knowing that this Rotary family was now my extended family.

Joel Wandurwa, now officially the 12th president, brought an infectious enthusiasm to the night. His vision for the club had everyone nodding in agreement and excitement. As the beats of the DJ set the tone for the night, I couldn't help but feel a surge of pride – this was our time to shine.

The installation ceremony wasn't just a handover; it was a passing of the torch to a new era of Rotary excellence. Poolside vibes added a laid-back coolness to the proceedings, and I, as the president-elect, couldn't wait to dive into the upcoming year of service and camaraderie.

The DJ? Oh, he wasn't just playing music; he was orchestrating the soundtrack to our Rotary adventure. The poolside venue turned into a dance floor, and I was right there, moving to the rhythm, soaking in the Caribbean magic, and feeling like I was on top of the world.

The Caribbean feast? Let's just say, I wasn't just a spectator at the banquet table – I was devouring those tropical delights like it was my mission. The camaraderie over food and drinks was a taste of the Rotary spirit, and I felt like I belonged to a community that knew how to celebrate.

As the poolside party continued, I couldn't help but think, "This is my Rotary. This is our Rotary." The connections made,



the laughter shared, and the sense of belonging - it was all part of the magic that made the Caribbean extravaganza a night to remember.

In conclusion, if you missed the Rotary Club of Nairobi Madaraka's Caribbean bash, you missed out big time. Being inducted as a board member and president-elect wasn't just an honor; it was an invitation to a year of adventure, service, and non-stop fun. As we sailed into a new Rotary era under President Joel Wandurwa, the Caribbean-themed celebration wasn't just a party; it was a wild ride that left me craving more.

### Victor Muto

President-Elect Rotary Club of Nairobi Madaraka





























Once upon a time, nestled in the heart of Kajiado County, Kenya, there lay a hidden gem known as Oldorko Mosiro Primary School. This school had remained elusive, even on the mighty Google Maps.

The adventure began at the break of dawn, around 7.30am. A vibrant group of Rotarians, about 23 of them, huddled together in a Rosa bus, ready to explore the unknown.

After breakfast, a few photos here and there, we were on our way to the school which is 50km off Ntulele town. The road is earthen and quite uneven so we had to drive slowly to avoid getting stuck.

At long last, after traversing 50KMs from Ntulele town, we arrived at Oldorko Mosiro Primary School around 2pm. As if by destiny, members from the Rotary Club of Maasai Mara and Enkare Narok had also answered our call and gathered here. We were met with a jubilant reception, as the pupils, with their traditional Maa melodies and dances, welcomed us.

After pleasantries here and there, and a warm welcome from the teachers and pupils, we were led to sit as our leadership observed Rotary meeting protocol. We had brought gifts, generously donated by our club members, including dry foodstuffs, diapers for some young mothers, and much-needed clothing. Books, too, found their way to the eager

hands of young learners.

The principal then took over the meeting and introduced his staff. We were also able to meet some parents who'd come for a Parents, teachers meeting. He then narrated the extraordinary story of Oldorko Mosiro Primary School.

This institution provides sanctuary for children escaping early marriages, female genital mutilation, forced labor and parental cruelty. Amongst these brave souls was a nine-year-old girl who had recently fled an impending early marriage. With a heart full of courage, she had escaped her home in the dead of night, running 12 kilometers to the school. The head teacher and his staff had embraced her, protecting her even when her father arrived the following day, desperate to reclaim her. The young girl, with her infectious smile, welcomed us to the school, her non-uniform attire signaling her urgent need for assistance.

The whole school is a close-knit

community. Those students who were fortunate enough to have parental support came together, pooling their resources to assist their fellow students who had been rescued from dire circumstances. They once gifted 25 pairs of socks to their friends.

Sounds amazing, right? And it really is. But the school is in dire need of support from well-wishers to keep running. Food, water, proper fencing to keep elephants that destroy the vegetation at bay. They need a system that ensures they can keep going even during holidays so the kids running away from home don't have to go back there when schools have closed.

The principal said that if they can keep the children safe just one extra day, it makes all the difference for them. Wouldn't it be amazing if it weren't for just one day though?

The Oldorko Mosiro community is quite the lot. They made us food. All the almost 30 of us. That even in this hardship they still had it in their hearts to offer us sustenance. We enjoyed the meal. And sang, and danced and interacted with these amazing teachers, parents and children. Our hearts were full.

After some serious deliberation between the school board and Rotary Madaraka Board to truly assess the needs of the school, it was time to leave. Just a little after 5 Pm. I won't even get into the details of that trip on the earthen road back to Ntulele, then to Narok where we were to have fellowship and induct two new members.

Okay, okay, maybe I will. Remember our Rosa bus? And A.G. Ashley's Pajero? Well, it rained on our way back and both vehicles got stuck in mud for about 3 hours. No, don't feel sorry for us. We actually had the most amazing time bonding and getting to know each other as we waited for the truck that would pull our bus out of the mud.

They say the best way to know someone's character is observing them during adverse situations? This crew showed tenacity and grace and all-round good vibes.

We got rescued, eventually. At around 9 Pm and took the rest of the trip to Narok. No. no. the fellowship couldn't take place at midnight- we are not those people. So, we rested- those who did. Others went for swallowship- and on Sunday at 10:30 am, we inducted our newest members; Mogoi Ayienda and Grace Mugo to the club before driving back to Nairobi. We would like to thank everyone who made this trip possible. Starting from the leadership of our AG Ashley Myers, Our President Joel Wandurwa and the organizing committee that dedicated their time and resources into making this trip possible, and a success. Our gratitude extends to the Rotary Clubs of Nairobi-Langata, Nairobi-Ridgeways, Maasai Mara, and Enkare Narok for collaborating with us on this service.

Mogoi Ayienda Member

Rotary Club of Nairobi Madaraka

































## **Empowering Joy: LG, Rotary, And Rotaract Unveil Festive Charity Campaign**

In a momentous collaboration, LG Electronics has joined forces with the Rotary Club of Nairobi Madaraka and the Rotaract Club of UoN Afya to launch a charitable initiative aimed at spreading holiday cheer to the most vulnerable in our community. The official launch of this heartwarming campaign took place this morning at the LG offices situated at 14 Riverside Drive, Nairobi.

The campaign encourages LG consumers to make a difference in the lives of those in need through their purchases of LG appliances marking a significant step towards creating a positive impact during the festive season.

Under this innovative initiative, customers of LG can actively participate by voting for one of three preferred projects/charity cause, with each vote translating into a generous contribution of KES. 5,000. The funds collected through this voting mechanism will be channelled directly into three impactful charity projects carefully selected by the collaborating organizations. Confirm if each project gets a contribution.

The chosen projects include the Gathiga Children's Home Project, championed by the Rotaract Club of UoN Afya, which aims to provide support and care to children in need. The Maktaba Digital Literacy Project, led by the Rotary Club of Nairobi Madaraka, focuses on transforming education through digital literacy. Additionally, the Oldorko Mosiro Primary School Project, a joint initiative by the Rotary Club of Nairobi Madaraka, addresses critical aspects of Water and Sanitation (WASH) alongside Basic Education and

Literacy.

Rotary Club of Nairobi Madaraka President, Rotarian Joel Wandurwa, expressed excitement about the campaign, highlighting its potential for creating lasting and sustainable impacts in the communities where

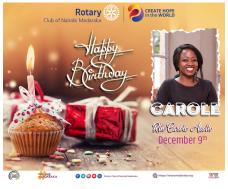
these projects are being implemented. He emphasized the significance of the partnership with LG Electronics, stating that it allows the clubs to extend goodwill and service to the less fortunate members of the community.

The launch event was not only a reminder of the spirit of giving during the festive season but was also a testament of the commitment of the Rotary Club of Nairobi Madaraka, Rotaract Club of UoN Afya and LG to make a positive and enduring impact on those in need in our communities. The collaboration signifies not only a celebration of the festive season but also a commitment to fostering unity, compassion, and service throughout the year. As we embark on this charitable journey, the collective efforts of LG Electronics. Rotary Club of Nairobi Madaraka, and Rotaract Club of UoN Afya embody the true spirit of the season— sharing, bringing joy and making a meaningful difference in the lives of those who need it the most. Together, we can turn the simple act of purchasing home appliances into a powerful force for positive change, creating a brighter and more hopeful future for our community.



#### HALF YEAR BIRTHDAY BABIES































#### HALF YEAR BIRTHDAY BABIES

































#### OUR GALLERY

















































































### **GALLERY**



























































































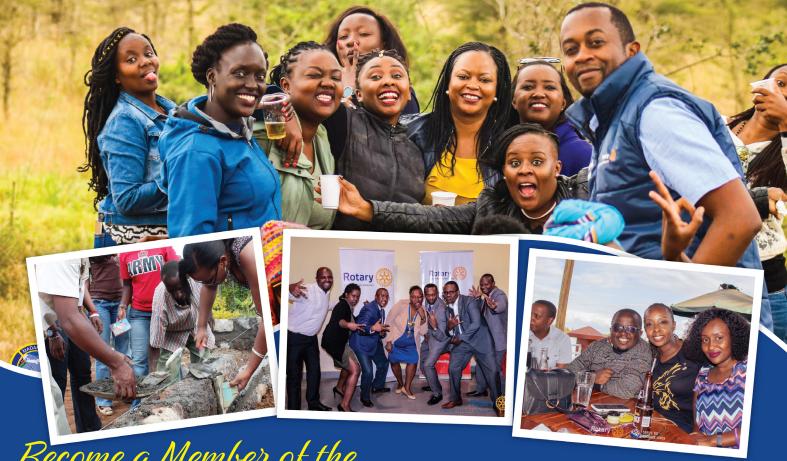












# Become a Member of the ROTARY CLUB OF NAIROBI MADARAKA

#### Are you?

- 1. A fun, young professional living or working in Nairobi?
- 2. Willing to use your skills and talents to make a difference in the community with other like-minded volunteers?
- 3. Committed to attend Club Weekly Meetings, Projects and Events?
- 4.Able to pay an Annual Club Membership fee of 3. Have your proposer/sponsor fill out an application Kes.20,000?

#### Below is the procedure to becoming a member of the Rotary Club of Nairobi Madaraka

- 1. Attend at least 4 Rotary Club Meetings (either online or physical), 1 Club Project, and 1 Social Event within a span of THREE months.
- 2. Have your proposer/sponsor take you through Rotary Basics. If you dont have a proposer/sponsor, one will be assigned to you.
- form for you to be a member.
- 4. Your proposer/sponsor returns the application form to the board for approval.
- 5. Pay your Annual Club Membership Fee.
- 6. Pre induction training or session before the formal induction.
- 7. Have a Formal Club Membership Induction Ceremony.

For more details contact President Wanja +254 720 923 723 and check us out on













Join us
Every Monday, 6.30pm to 8pm
Royal Nairobi Golf Club
Muchai Drive, off Ngong Road

www.rotarymadaraka.org/

