



International Travel and
Hosting Fellowship



Connections August 2025 ITHF now has over 1000 members

ITHF's MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE HELD STRATEGIC MEETING

The Chairman of International Travel and Hosting Fellowship's Membership Committee, Rotarian Andy Ullman organised a strategic meeting with his committee members at the just concluded Rotary International Convention in Calgary, Canada.

According to a member of the committee, Rotarian Samuel from Dubai, the committee strategic meeting gave a robust opportunity for the total review of ITHF'S membership structure.

At the meeting, issues like easy means of paying membership dues, seamless way of navigating the website of the organisation, and increasing number of members were looked into.

The tactical approach as to how members can use their professions to better the lots of ITHF was extensively discussed. It was resolved at the meeting that members who are regional vice presidents would be encouraged to do more in connecting with members through strategic relations and promotion of ITHF'S programs in order to increase the interest of members.

Issues like ITHF'S branding, promotional materials, and information technology were all discussed and addressed with a resolution on how to present it to the board of trustee of ITHF for consideration and eventual implementation.



Jean Henderson, Varghese Samuel, Sam Adeleye, Andy Ullman, John Henderson, Rosette Nabuuma, Leslie, Maria Matos

Virtual Tour Committee Update

Anyone who would like to volunteer to be on this Committee should contact Chair Ligia Corredor at lichalic3@me.com and Co-Chair Simmy Ahluwalia at simmy.ithf@gmail.com.

Sep 26 and 27 - Cambodia (to be confirmed)

Oct 24 and 25 - Coffee/ Connections

Dec 5 and 6 - Holiday session

Hello New Members,

Greetings and a warm welcome!

Thank you for visiting our booth in Calgary and taking the time to complete your application and join our community. We're delighted to have you with us!

We kindly request you to take a moment to review your profile information for accuracy. Since the data was entered based on the application forms submitted at our booth, there could be occasional errors in reading your hand-writing.

You can view and edit your profile by selecting **Profile → My Profile** from the menu.

Also, please upload your photograph. (Instructions for uploading your photo can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.)

A training session on how to navigate and use our portal effectively will be held in the last week of August. Details of the session will be shared in due course.

Should you need any assistance with using the portal, feel free to reach out to me directly at ithfzoom@gmail.com OR my WhatsApp number +91 96330 69336

Wishing you joyful and meaningful connections!

Warm regards,

Sivaprasad Pillai, ITHF Administrator

DO YOU HAVE A TALE TO TELL ABOUT MAKING A CONNECTION

Please share your tales with Sheila Hart, Editor of Connections at email: sheilahart@shaw.ca.

Articles should be no more than 250 words. Include a photo or two.

If your article is used in Connections, you will receive a one year membership in ITHF.

Long Range Planning—Uganda

The Uganda tour is being arranged by Andrew Ullmann and Rosette Nabuuma, and is planned for September 2026. Activities will include Gorilla tracking, chimpanzee tracking, visit to the source of the Nile River, boat ride on the Nile to see hippos, crocodiles, etc., visit to Murchison Falls, and a large game safari to see elephants, giraffes and other wildlife. There will also be a service component to the trip.



BRAZILIAN TRAVEL



Group limited in
25 participants

A STUNNING JOURNEY TO PERU + GALAPAGOS 2025

Experience the Majesty of the Andes & the Wildlife in Galapagos

Starting: October 6th, 2025 (in Quito Airport - UIO)

Finish: October 27th, 2025 (from Lima Airport)

Duration: 22 Days / 21 Nights

Itinerary Overview:

Language: English

1	06-Oct	Mon		arriving in Quito	Quito	La Casona
2	07-Oct	Tue	B	Quito tour	Quito	La Casona
3	08-Oct	Wed	B	Flying to Baltra LA 1411 08:44 11:15	Puerto Ayora	Hotel La Isla
4	09-Oct	Thu	B	Santa Cruz Island tour	Puerto Ayora	Hotel La Isla
5	10-Oct	Fri	B	morning boat to Isabela and tour Island	Isabela Island	La Casita de la Playa
6	11-Oct	Sat	B	boat tour to Santa Cruz, Darwin Center	Puerto Ayora	Hotel La Isla
7	12-Oct	Sun	B	boat tour to Española and San Cristóbal	San Cristobal	Galapagos Sunset
8	13-Oct	Mon	B	San Cristóbal tour	San Cristobal	Galapagos Sunset
9	14-Oct	Tue	B	fly to Lima LA1418 - 12:08 22:35	Lima Airport	Wyndham C. del Sol
10	15-Oct	Wed	B, L	fly to Juliaca LA 2147 - 08:55 10:30	Puno	Titicaca Lodge Peru
11	16-Oct	Thu	B, L	Titicaca Lake tour	Puno	Titicaca Lodge Peru
12	17-Oct	Fri	B, L	driving to Ollantaytambo, tour in Písaq	Ollanta	Sol Natura Hotel
13	18-Oct	Sat	B, D	Ollanta tour + train to Aguascalientes	A.Calientes	Taypikala Boutique
14	19-Oct	Sun	B	hiking Machu Picchu and explore the	A.Calientes	Taypikala Boutique
15	20-Oct	Mon	B	train to Ollanta + Chinchero tour	Cusco	Wyndham C. del Sol
16	21-Oct	Tue	B, D	tour in the city of Cusco	Cusco	Wyndham C. del Sol
17	22-Oct	Wed	B	tour in the city of Cusco	Cusco	Wyndham C. del Sol
18	23-Oct	Thu	B	fly to Lima LA 2237 - 14:40 16:10	Lima	Javier Prado
19	24-Oct	Fri	B	driving to Paracas, boat tour Ballestas	Nasca	San Isidro G Hotel
20	25-Oct	Sat	B, L	fly over Nasca Lines	Lima	Best Western Plus
21	26-Oct	Sun	B	Miraflores Tour & Lima city tour	Lima	Best Western Plus
22	27-Oct	Mon	B	fly back home LA8040 09:30 16:20		



BRAZILIAN TRAVEL





BRAZILIAN TRAVEL

Program:

21 nights in Ecuador and Peru, visiting Titicaca Lake, Cusco, Machu Picchu, Nasca and much more.

Hotel program with personal assistance:

- 2 nights in Quito
- 6 nights Galapagos
- 1 night Lima Airport
- 2 nights in Puno at Titicaca Lake
- 6 nights at Sacred Valley, including Cusco and Machu Picchu
- 3 nights in Lima
- 1 Night in Nasca

Transfers by plane included:

- Flight ticket Quito/Isla Santa Cruz and return from Isla San Cristobal/Quito
- Flight Quito/Lima, next day Lima/Juliaca
- Flight Cusco/Lima

What's included:

- Boat – inside Galapagos (boat taxis aren't included)
- Transfers to attractions. Tickets to all mentioned attractions in the program.
- Local guide in Galapagos and Peru, speaking English.
- Hotel nights in Ecuador, Galapagos and Peru – 21 nights in total
- Flights Quito, Galapagos, Lima, Juliaca returning to Lima. Flight over Nasca lines.
- Tickets to all geological sites in Peru
- Train to Machu Picchu and Boat tour in Ballestas Islands (giant chandelier)

What's not included:

- food and beverages outside program
- anything not specified.

Price per person in a double or triple room:

Galapagos + Peru Program: starting from **US\$7.260,00** * (single supplement: 2,080.00)

* Ask for payment plans and method



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BRAZILIAN TRAVEL





BRAZILIAN TRAVEL



BRAZILIAN TRAVEL PRESENTS

AN AMAZING JOURNEY TO GALAPAGOS 2025

Discover the Enchanted Galápagos Islands, a Journey like no other

Imagine a place where nature reigns supreme, where wildlife approaches without fear, and each day feels like a new chapter of a living documentary. Welcome to the Galápagos Islands — one of the most extraordinary destinations on Earth!

Program:

8 nights in Equator, visiting Galapagos Archipelago.

Hotel program with personal assistance:

- 2 nights in Quito
- 6 nights Galapagos

Transfers by plane included:

- Flight ticket Quito/Isla Santa Cruz and return from Isla San Cristobal/Guayaquil

What's included:

- Boat – inside Galapagos (boat taxis aren't included)
- Transfers to attractions. Tickets to all mentioned attractions in the program.
- Local guide in Galapagos

Dates:

Starting: October 6th, 2025 (in Quito UIO Airport)

Finish: October 14th, 2025 (from Guayaquil GYE Airport)

Duration: 9 Days / 8 Nights

Language: English



BRAZILIAN TRAVEL





BRAZILIAN TRAVEL



BRAZILIAN TRAVEL



BRAZILIAN TRAVEL PRESENTS **AN AMAZING JOURNEY TO PERU 2025** Experience the Majesty of the Andes & the Mystique of the Incas

Brought to you with the soul and flair of Brazil, and designed for discerning travelers seeking cultural depth, comfort, and unforgettable memories.

Dates:

Starting: October 14th, 2025 (in São Paulo GRU Airport)

Finish: October 27th, 2025 (from Lima, last stop GRU Airport)

Duration: 14 Days / 13 Nights

Language: English

Program:

13 nights in Perú, visiting Titicaca Lake, Cusco, Machu Picchu, Nasca and much more.

Itinerary Overview:

1	14-Oct	Tue	-	Leaving from São Paulo	Lima	Wyndham C. del Sol
2	15-Oct	Wed	B, L	fly to Juliaca LA 2147 - 08:55 10:30	Puno	Titicaca Lodge Peru
3	16-Oct	Thu	B, L	Titicaca Lake tour	Puno	Titicaca Lodge Peru
4	17-Oct	Fri	B, L	driving to Ollantaytambo, tour in Pisaq	Ollanta	Sol Natura Hotel
5	18-Oct	Sat	B, D	Ollanta tour + train to Aguascalientes	A.Calientes	Taypikala Boutique
6	19-Oct	Sun	B	hiking Machu Picchu and explore the	A.Calientes	Taypikala Boutique
7	20-Oct	Mon	B	train to Ollanta + Chinchero tour	Cusco	Wyndham C. del Sol
8	21-Oct	Tue	B, D	tour in the city of Cusco	Cusco	Wyndham C. del Sol
9	22-Oct	Wed	B	tour in the city of Cusco	Cusco	Wyndham C. del Sol
10	23-Oct	Thu	B	fly to Lima LA 2237 - 14:40 16:10	Lima	Javier Prado
11	24-Oct	Fri	B	driving to Paracas, boat tour Ballestas	Nasca	San Isidro G Hotel
12	25-Oct	Sat	B, L	fly over Nasca Lines	Lima	Best Western Plus
13	26-Oct	Sun	B	Miraflores Tour & Lima city tour	Lima	Best Western Plus
14	27-Oct	Mon	B	fly back home LA8040 09:30 16:20		



BRAZILIAN TRAVEL





BRAZILIAN TRAVEL

What's included:

- Flights from Lima to Juliaca and Cusco to Lima.
- Flight over Nasca lines.
- Tickets to archaeological sites surround Cuzco e Sacred valley
- Train to Machu Picchu
- Van making all transportation to attractions
- Boat tour in Ballestas Islands (giant chandelier)

Our service: complete assistance guide speaking Spanish and English

Price per person in a double or triple room:

Whole Program: starting from US\$3.540,00* (only Peru trip)

Single supplement: USD1,290.00

* Ask for payment plans and method

What's not included: food and beverages; tickets to the attractions, when not nominated; anything not specified



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BRAZILIAN TRAVEL



KERALA - KANYAKUMARI SOUTH INDIA TOUR

A JOURNEY THROUGH 'GOD'S OWN COUNTRY'

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Cultural Immersion:

Visit iconic landmarks including Meenakshi Temple, Vivekananda Rock Memorial, and ancient churches of Kochi.

Backwater Bliss:

Experience a traditional houseboat cruise through the tranquil backwaters of Alleppey.

Hill Stations & Tea Estates:

Breathe in the fresh mountain air of Munnar and explore its lush green tea plantations.

Wildlife Adventure:

Boat safari at Periyar National Park with a chance to spot elephants and more.

Art & Performance:

Witness Kerala's classical arts like Kathakali and Kalaripayattu in their traditional setting.

Spiritual Serenity:

Enjoy sunrise and sunset at Kanyakumari – the confluence of three seas.

Rotary Fellowship:

Interact with local Rotary Clubs and participate in service project visits.

Local Flavours:

Relish traditional Kerala cuisine, including banana leaf meals and a curated cooking session.

Comfortable Stays:

Stay in premium resorts and hotels offering comfort, hospitality, and stunning views.

Comfortable Travel:

Private A/C coach with professional escort from arrival to departure.



Tour Dates: January 19 to January 30, 2026



Minimum Participants: 20 | Maximum Participants: 30



Registration Deadline: October 15, 2025



Accessibility: Transport for disabled individuals available with separate vehicles at extra cost.



Day	Date & Weekday	Meals	Daytime Activities	Night Stay/(Hotel)
1	19-Jan-2026 (Monday)	Nan	Arriving Trivandrum/ Transfer to Hotel Trivandrum,	Meet and Greet (Vivantha)
2	20-Jan-2026 (Tuesday)	B, L, D	Exploring Thiruvananthapuram (Trivandrum): Discover the highlights of the capital city, including visits related to Rotary projects, showcasing their community impact.	Trivandrum South Rotary club (Vivantha)
3	21-Jan-2026 (Wednesday)	B, L	Engaging Experiences: Participate in a special Ministers' visit (subject to confirmation) and immerse yourself in the captivating illusions and entertainment at Magic Planet.	Trivandrum (Vivanta)
4	22-Jan-2026 (Thursday)	B, L	Journey to the Misty Hills of Ponmudi: Embark on a scenic day trip to Ponmudi, a charming hill station known for its winding roads and breathtaking views that truly capture your heart.	Trivandrum (Vivanta)
5	23-Jan-2026 (Friday)	B, L	Art, History, and Compassion: Experience the awe-inspiring Jadayu Earth Center, home to the world's largest bird sculpture, and visit Gandhi Bhavan, a sanctuary where over 1,200 individuals have found rehabilitation and hope.	Alleppy (Sterling Lake Palace, Alleppy)
6	24-Jan-2026 (Saturday)	B, L	Enchanting Backwater Cruise in Alapppy: Glide along the serene backwaters of Alapppy on a traditional houseboat. Witness the unique lifestyle of the region and enjoy views of lush paddy fields stretching along the waterways.	Kochi (Radisson Blu)
7	25-Jan-2026 (Sunday)	B, L	Exploring the Historic Charm of Kochi: Discover the cultural tapestry of Kochi with visits to the historic Mattancherry Palace (Dutch Palace), the ancient Jewish Synagogue, the iconic St. Francis Church, and conclude your day with a captivating Kathakali performance at a local theatre, showcasing Kerala's vibrant classical dance form.	Kochi (Radisson Blu)
8	26-Jan-2026 (Monday)	B, L	Scenic Drive to Munnar's Tea Hills: Enjoy a picturesque drive from Kochi to Munnar, passing through stunning landscapes, cascading waterfalls at Cheeyapara and Valara, and the scenic beauty of Neriamangalam.	Munnar (Nature Zone Jungle Resort)
9	27-Jan-2026 (Tuesday)	B, L	Immersed in Munnar's Greenery: Explore the sprawling tea plantations that carpet the hills of Munnar. Visit the Eravikulam National Park, home to the Nilgiri Tahr, and experience the scenic beauty of Mattupetty Dam and its surroundings.	Munnar (Nature Zone Jungle Resort)
10	28-Jan-2026 (Wednesday)	B, L	Adventure and Culinary Delights in Munnar: Embark on a refreshing trekking experience through the hills. Later, delve into the art of tea making with a visit to a Tea Museum and participate in an engaging cooking demonstration showcasing local flavors.	Munnar (Nature Zone Jungle Resort)
11	29-Jan-2026 (Thursday)	B, L	Journey to Thekkady's Wildlife Haven: Travel from Munnar to Thekkady via the scenic Gap Road, stopping at viewpoints to capture the beauty of the region, including glimpses of dams and plantations.	Thekkady (Green Woods)
12	30-Jan-2026 (Friday)	B, L	Wildlife Encounters in Thekkady: Experience the renowned Periyar National Park with a boat safari (subject to availability). Enjoy an opportunity to witness elephants in their natural habitat (if available), followed by a visit to a spice plantation and a captivating Kalarippayattu (traditional martial art) performance.	Thekkady (Green Woods)
13	31-Jan-2026 (Saturday)	B, L	Transition to Kanyakumari via Madurai: Begin your journey towards Kanyakumari, with a stop in Madurai to meet local Rotarians and visit the magnificent Meenakshi Temple, a vibrant example of Dravidian architecture.	Kanyakumari (Sparsa)
14	01-Feb-2026 (Sunday) B, L		Witnessing the Confluence in Kanyakumari: Experience the breathtaking sunrise at Kanyakumari Beach, visit the Vivekananda Rock Memorial and the Thiruvalluvar Statue by boat, reflect at the Our Lady of Ransom Church, enjoy a leisurely beach walk, and witness the mesmerizing sunset at the confluence of three seas.	Kanyakumari (Sparsa)
15	02-Feb-2026 (Monday)	B, L, D	Cultural Exchange and Farewell in Kovalam: Travel back towards Trivandrum, with a meaningful interaction with students at the NVKS School in Attoor. Enjoy a traditional lunch served on banana leaves, followed by a relaxing evening and a farewell dinner at the exquisite Taj Green Cove Resort Trivandrum.	(Taj Green Cove Resort Kovalam)
16	03-Feb-2026 (Tuesday)	B	Departure: After breakfast, you will be transferred to Trivandrum International Airport for your onward journey, filled with cherished memories of your Kerala and Kanyakumari exploration.	

Tour Package Rate:

USD 2,997 per participant sharing a double room.
USD 3,988 per person, based on single occupancy.

Contact for Registration and Queries

Sivaprasad S Pillai Administrator, International Travel and Hosting Fellowship (ITHF)
Email: pillai.sivaprasad@gmail.com Telephone: +91 96330 69336

Notes:

1.Meals:B- Breakfast, L,-Lunch, D-Dinner

2 Inclusions:

- Accommodation for 15 nights
- Daily Breakfasts on Day 02 to Day 16
- Lunch on Day 02 to 15(Lunch on Day 06 will be in the Houseboat).
- Dinner on Day 02 and Day 09. Farewell Dinner on day 15 at Taj Green Cove Resort, Kovalam
- An enchanting Day Cruise with Lunch aboard a traditional Houseboat in Alleppey.
- Services of a professional English-speaking Escort throughout your journey, from arrival to departure.
- All transportation and sightseeing as per this itinerary in a comfortable AC 35-seater Coach.
- All applicable toll charges, parking fees, driver's allowance (bata), fuel costs etc.,

3 Exclusions:

- Any meals not explicitly mentioned in the inclusions.
- International or domestic airfare.
- Any items or services not specifically listed under "Inclusions."
- Porterage at hotels and airports, personal tips, insurance, laundry services, alcoholic beverages..
- All expenses of a personal nature.
- Any additional costs incurred due to unforeseen natural calamities or events beyond our control.
- Any increase in government taxes/fuel costs that may lead to a rise in surface transportation costs.

4. Other guidelines

- Airport pick-up and drop-off services during non-standard hours may attract additional charges.
- Sightseeing schedules are subject to adjustments based on time constraints and weather conditions.
- The content of this plan is subject to change, if unforeseen circumstances demand adjustments

Steve and Noko Yoshida's 10 Day Hiroshima Peace Tours May 11-21, 2026

Please view this lovely video about the forthcoming tour https://youtube/ErR_XTLVLDO



“OHO” ITHF Japan tour, 11-21 May 2026 with Noko and Steve Yoshida.

The tour is open to Rotarians, their adult family members and friends.

We call this our “OHO” (pleasant surprise) tour, ie., Oishi (delicious), Heiwa (peace) and Onsen (Japanese hot springs). In other words, you will delight in Japanese cuisine, relax at Japanese hot springs, and be inspired by the message of peace in Hiroshima and sustainable living on Osakikamijima Island. And there is more.

Hiroshima is the home of my ancestors. So it was natural that I would visit. But what I found changed my life. Such a beautiful city, lots of trees and greenery, the inspiring peace museum, 7 rivers flowing through it, friendly and kind people, we decided to spend time in Hiroshima every year. Then we made a discovery. An island called Osakikamijima nearby in Japan's Inland Sea. It is one the most beautiful spots in Japan.

We met many interesting people on the island, who taught us about sustainable living from the land and sea. About working and sharing together in harmony with nature.

We want to share what we learned with our ITHF friends. So this is not just a sightseeing tour, although we will visit temples, historical sights and stay at Japanese inns with onsen (spa). It is engaging a peaceful, happy way of life that is unique and inspiring.

Tour dates: 11-21 May 2026

1. 11-15 May 2026. Four nights. Hiroshima City. Visit Peace Museum. Be inspired by A-bomb survivor. Tour the Miyajima Shrine. Bus and ferry to Osakikamijima.
2. 15-20 May. Five nights Seifukan Onsen. Culture and people tours of Osakikamijima.
3. 20-21 May. One night. Hiroshima Airport Hotel. Beautiful Japanese garden and Koi fish lake. Farewell dinner.

Price: US\$4,450 per person, double occupancy. Single supplement, add \$1,000. US\$500 per person to reserve your space. \$500 refund deadline and full price due February 1, 2026. Space priority in order of deposit received. Group limited to 12 persons.

Included: Accommodations, breakfast and dinner, transportation, English speaking guide, all taxes and fees. For more information and to reserve your space contact: Carol Cartier, cartierca@hotmail.com

Still not convinced? Consider this:

1. Japan is spotless clean.
2. The Japanese are kind and polite.
3. The service is exceptional.
4. There is NO TIPPING.
5. This is a safe, civilized country.
6. When you see all the Japanese innovations and efficiencies, you will ask “why didn’t we think of that.”
7. The 2024 Nobel Peace Prize went to the organization of Hiroshima A-bomb survivors. You will meet one of them.

Check out this YouTube video:

<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyoutu.be%2FvD1Ft8JVEz8%3Fsi%3Dlv1xrbJcw83HdyXe&data=05%7C02%7C%7C69bf7c42ecc14fee086808ddc2f07049%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638881060130654423%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIlwLjAuMDAwMCIsl-IAiOiJXaW4zMilslkFOljoiTWFpbCIsIldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xadhmlgccLvXeCBu2OGw0YAqtsXfSJOQgBGPPXzG2ZE%3D&reserved=0>

Carol Cartier

109 Abbey Dawn Drive

Bath, Ontario

cartierca@hotmail.com

A Whirl Wind Tour is ITHF in Action

"Grace and I were pleased to host our ITHF Administrator Siva with Prasanna, Tanya Wolff and David Butler in Woodstock, ON recently.

After the Calgary convention Siva and Prasanna went west to High River AB and Kamloops BC before heading east to Ottawa and Kingston Ontario.

They next headed to Sarnia Ontario to visit Tanya and David, followed by a visit to Niagara Falls before stopping to visit us.

Their next destination is Amsterdam to see their daughter.

Their whirlwind tour is a good example of ITHF in action, taking the opportunity to visit a few days with several of our members here in Canada.

You can do likewise if you want to extend your stay in a distant land, with Rotary friends."

Doug Vincent, PDG 7080, Woodstock, ON 519.537.3753, United Nations Rep, Rotary Z24, Woodstock-Oxford Rotary, ON Canada

RCMP Federal Police Advisor



The Magic of Francis

Rotary connections never cease to amaze me. Francis met someone in ITHF who introduced him to a Rotarian in Niagara Falls who in turn put him in touch with me. Francis came to visit us in Kingston and the adventure began.

Rotarian Francis Wama, lives in Ghana, where he is making a difference.

Benjamin was 8 years old when he was taken from his home and forced to work in the fishing industry. Thanks to Francis, he now lives back home with his mother, and Benjamin's biggest wish is to continue his schooling.

Many Ghanaian children are trafficked from their home villages to live in meager conditions and work long hours every day. They are exploited by fishermen who eke out a meager living along the banks of Lake Volta, one of the world's largest artificial lakes, which was created by the construction of the Akosombo dam in the early 1960s.

The children are cheap labour. Their small, nimble fingers help release the fish from nets, and they can dive to untangle the nets from the tree stumps scattered throughout the lake. Diving is a dangerous job that often causes water-based diseases and sometimes death from drowning.

Traffickers go into vulnerable communities and pay parents to take their children, as young as 5 years of age, away to work in mining, farming, and cattle rearing. Girls as young as 12 are recruited for sex work. These children aren't paid, and they are often tortured or poorly treated.

Francis visits churches and schools and speaks at community engagements to educate people on the dangers facing children. He finds out where the children have been taken and, with his co-workers, recovers these children to bring them home. As this can be dangerous, they work with the police, immigration officers, and the social welfare department, who arrest and prosecute the traffickers.

My phone rang. Later, I saw that it was a call from Francis. I missed the opportunity. He had been on an island with seven rescued children, and he wanted me to meet them. But by then, it was too late, and they had already been taken to a social welfare office for counseling before they could relocate to their families and begin school.

Francis told me these children ranged in age from 9 to 17 and had been away from their families for 4 to 12 years. Imagine!

He told me he was soon to meet with the children he had rescued two years ago who were now with their families and doing well. I was privileged to say hello and wave to these children over WhatsApp. They were smiling and happy, as was their mother. It was heartwarming.

Francis explained that rescuing trafficked children is an initiative of an International NGO called Engage Now Africa and his own organization, the Zion's Aid Foundation. They supported children who were not able to attend school due to financial challenges. When he began his organization in 2014, he could educate a child for a year for \$100 US. The sad part was that some of these kids were very smart and would have been able to bring about change in their families, communities, and the nation if they had had the opportunity to go to school. However, many of them became street kids because they couldn't afford school fees or had lost their parents.

Francis struggled in his youth because his parents couldn't afford to send him to school. He was forced to work on farms and in construction to earn money to go to school. He feels very strongly that no child should suffer illiteracy through no fault of their own.

Francis partnered with Engage Now Africa to help children to go to school. It was through this work that he saw much child trafficking and came to understand the intensity and inhumanity of it all.

It's a huge task to bring these kids back home and meet their needs to keep them active in school by paying their school fees, feeding them, buying them books, and buying them school uniforms, among other things.

To date, he has helped 40 children finish school or attend college and university. Many of them are still in school, and he is always looking for support. He hopes that some of these children will be 'adopted' and helped through university. \$500 US will educate a child for an entire year.





Rotary
Rotary Club of Kingston, Ontario

REINTEGRATING TRAFFICKED CHILDREN



Speaker: Francis K. Wama
Secretary, Rotary E-club of Ghana.

Rotarian Francis will share how his organization has been working to ensure that children who have been trafficked to work on fishing boats and other vessels on the Volta Lake in Ghana are reintegrated into society and get the opportunity to continue their education.

Zoom

Meeting ID: 831 3635 3758
Passcode: 248248

DATE: June 12 2025
TIME: 12:15 EDT, 16:30 GMT



New Members List

<u>Name</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Club</u>
Jay Murphy	USA	AZ	Phoenix	Rotary Club of Phoenix
Bernadette Kucharczuk	USA	PA	Williamsport	Jersey City - Golden Door
Dammar Rayamajhi	Nepal	Lumbini Zone	Rupandehi	Butwal Downtown
Jie Bai	United States	California	Los Altos	Los Altos
Mahan Aryal	Nepal	Bagmati Zone	Lalitpur	Rotary club of chandragiri
Attenayaka Hemasirige Kasun Shaminda	Sri Lanka	North Western Province	Hettipola	Panduinassnuwara
Maryline KESSI	France	Occitanie	Nimes	Dimbokro nzi-comoé
Maria Kidner	United States	Wyoming	Lander	Lander Rotary Club
Liz Barron	United States	Colorado	Colorado	Broadnpor District
Bonnie Venton Ross	Canada	Yukon	Whitehorse	Bugis Junction
Kenneth Leow	Singapore	Central Singapore Community	Singapore	Bugis Junction
Matthew Hulse	Belize	Cayo District	Belmopan	Belmopan
Daniel Sulger	United States	Florida	Alachua	Branford
Jill Bradford	United States	California	Ridgecrest	China Lake
Debbie Renton	United Kingdom	Scotland	North Berwick	North Berwick
CROSSIE COX	United States	South Carolina	Clemson	Clemson Sunrise
Terry Stephens	United States	Florida	New Smyrna	New Smyrna Beach
Miriam Fraser	Canada	Ontario	Ottawa	West Ottawa
George Malkemus	United States	California	Cotati	Rancho Cutati
Juanita Hodgson	Canada	Ontario	Singhampton	Collingwood South
Chip Jaeger	United States	Delaware	Bethany Beach	Southern Sussex Rotary
JOSEF MAROUS	Spain	Alicante	Denia	Denia
Esther Paegar	United States	Texas	Wylie	Sinkor
Prem Prakash	Norway	Rogaland	Stavanger	Stavanger International
Noreen Keleshian	United States	Colorado	Denver County	Denver Mile Hlgh
Mary Gichohi	Kenya	Nairobi City	Nairobi	Muthaiga North
Martha Lungy	Zambia	Copperbelt Province	Ndola	Ndoula
Gerald Paulus	United States	Arizona	Mesa	Mesa West
Bassey Edem	Nigeria	Abuja Federal Capital Territory	Abuja	RC of Abuja
Rick Lewall	Canada	British Columbia	Delta	Tsawnasien
Elizabeth Tubman-White	United States	Georgia	Conyers	Sinkor Mont. Liberia
hala jawad	Canada	Ontario	London	Global Passport
Peter Lattey	United States	California	Torrance	Redondo Beach
Ken Firmin	United States	Louisiana	Prairieville	East Ascension
Bala Naidoo	Canada	British Columbia	White Rock	Rotary Club of Burnaby Metrotown
Lilian Matovu	Uganda	Kampala District	Kampala District	Seeta
Carola Kupfer	Germany	Bavaria	Regensburg	Regensburg Millenium Passport
Wendy Lickacz	Canada	Alberta	Edmonton	Rotary Club of Edmonton

Joyce Smith	Canada	British Columbia	Nanaimo	Rotary Club of Nanaimo
Paulina Menchaca	United States	Florida	Lake Wales	Lake Wales Breakfast Rotary
Dean McHugh	United States	Wisconsin	La Crosse	Holmen Area
Lamin Keita	Gambia The	Banjul	Banjul	Banjul
Vincent Matovu	Uganda	Kampala District	Kampala District	Seeta
Michael Bell	United States	Washington	Olympia	Gateway of Thurston County
Rene-Paul Forler	United States	Pennsylvania	Hollidaysburg	Altoona Sunrise
Tracy McNew	United States	Montana	Libby	Kootenai Valley
Emmanuel Hernandez	United States	California	Diamond Bar	Global Action
Mildred Ryan	United States	Alaska	Juneau	Juneau Rotary Club
Michelle TABLER	United States	Alaska	Anchorage	Rotary Club of Anchorage East
Omowunmi Bakari	Nigeria	Lagos	Ikeja	Omole Golden
Randall Hentz	United States	Iowa	Nevada	Neveda
Precious Agyane	Ghana	Greater Accra	Accra	Accra Cantonments East
Melodie Jackson	United States	Arizona	Mesa	Mesa west
Mark Pruner	USA	CA	Clarksburg	clarksburg
Donald Brainard	United States	Florida	Dade City	Estes Park Sunrise
Timothy Elloway	United States	California	Magalia	Paradise
UKARA NELSON Odien	Nigeria	Lagos	Lagos	Beckley Estate
Dr.Sadiq Hasan	Canada	Ontario	Oakville	Passport club
Mark Jenkins	New Zealand	Auckland Region	Auckland	The Rotary Club of Downtown Auckland
Dwayne Lee	United States	Texas	Arlington	Rotary Club of Arlington Sunrise
Victor Odeh	Nigeria	Edo	Benin City	Benin Greenfield
Chris Markarian	United States	California	Yucaipa	Yucaipa
Ginette Thomas	Canada	Ontario	Kanata	West Ottawa
Francine Wijnbergen	Netherlands	Gelderland	Doetinchem	RC Leefklimaat (Environment)
Tom McCaughey	Canada	Nova Scotia	Halifax	Halifax Northwest
Bauke Boersma	Netherlands	Utrecht	Gemeente Utrecht	Utrecht-West
Frederick Blanton	United States	Virginia	City of Staunton	Skyline Connections
W.Wallicia Gill	United States	Virginia	Centreville	Centreville& Chantilly
KAREN Weiss	United States	Florida	DeLand	DeLand Sunset
Lars Gregersen	Denmark	Region of Southern Denmark	Arup	Aarup
Sherry Wells	United States	Michigan	Ferndale	E-Club de Esperanto - Brasil
Inge Yarborough	United States	California	Clayton	Rotary Club of Concord
Jennifer Coburn	Australia	Victoria	Ballarat	Ballarat East
Ralph Williams	Tanzania	Arusha	Arusha	Arusha
Deb Granda	United States	South Carolina	Conway	Myrtle Beach

Zaheer Lakhani	Canada	Alberta	Edmonton	Mayfield
Donna and Skip Brewster	United States	California	Los Gatos	Rotary Club of Los Gatos
Elba-Gloria Rangel-Erazo	United States	Maine	Rockland	Rockland Rotary Club
Darrell Limkeman	United States	Iowa	Bloomfield	Ottumwa
Virginia Chapman	United States	Washington	Vancouver	Greater Clark County Vancouver WA
Laura Lease	United States	Florida	Winter Haven	Rotary on the Ridge
Herb Klotz	United States	Pennsylvania	Allentown	Allentown West
David Wood	Canada	Ontario	Cornwall	Rotary Club of Cornwall
Evette Tai	United States	California	Los Altos	Los Altos Rotary Club
Etienne Perret	United States	Maine	Camden	West Bay of Camden
Doris Grimm	Spain	Madrid	Madrid	Madrid-International
Lee Halsted	United States	Michigan	Howell	Highway M-36
Sidikat Fasina	Nigeria	Lagos	Lagos	Rotary club of Surulere South
Godiya Zamani	Nigeria	Lagos	Lagos	Rotary Club of Surulere South
Ric Spearin	United States	Arkansas	Little Rock	Little Rock Afterhours
Dr M. Samm Pryce	United States	Michigan	Milford	Milford
Valerie Gerhart	United States	Michigan	Beulah	Benzie Sunrise
Ana Canobra	Chile	Los Lagos	Puerto Varas	Entre volcanes puerto varas
Alicia Hannon	United States	Maryland	Upper Marlboro	Rockville, MD
Manish Mehta	United States	Michigan	Ann Arbor	Ann Arbor North
Alka Khanolkar Khanolkar	United States	Texas	Corpus Christi	South Side Corpus Christi Club
Wendy Jones	United States	Michigan	New Baltimore	Anchor Bay
Carolyn Christison	Canada	British Columbia	Parksville	Rotary Club of Qualicum Beach
Yumiko Fukushima	Japan	Okayama Prefecture	Okayama Shi	Okayama west
Pat Wolfram	United States	Oregon	Portland	Wilsonville
Liz Barfield	United States	Oklahoma	Norman	Norman Club
Sunil Sharma	India	Uttarakhand	Dehradun	Doon Shivalik Hills
Kristin Norell	United States	Washington	Richland	Columbia Center
srini namasivayam	United States	Texas	Frisco	Naperville Sunrise
Becky Hanenkrat	United States	Washington	Brush Prairie	Battle Ground
Michael Humble	United States	Washington	Colville	Colville
Robin Hollingsworth	United States	Kentucky	Franklin	Franklin, KY
Harry Van Camp	United States	Wisconsin	McFarland	Rotary Club of Madison South
Cindy Vawter	United States	Arizona	Kingman	Kingman Route 66
KATHERINE Pentz	United States	Arizona	Kingman	Kingman Rt. 66
Deanna Brenneman	Canada	British Columbia	Parksville	Rotary Club of Qualicum Beach
Gonda Lekx	Canada	BC	Qualicum Beach	Qualicum Beach
Nicole Moss	United States	North Carolina	Hampstead	Coastal Pender Rotary

Joan Ballweg	United States	Wisconsin	Verona	Madison wi
Christopher Wiseman	United States	California	San Francisco	San Francisco Rotary Club
Michael Reiss	United States	Illinois	Palatine	Palatine
Susana Navarro	United States	Tennessee	Knoxville	knoxville
Jennifer Williams	United States	Nebraska	Lincoln	Rotary #14
Stephen Simpson-Hunt	United States	Pennsylvania	Pittsburgh	Dormont-Mt Lebanon- Castle Shannon
Aeiko Mitchell	United States	Florida	Navarre	Pensacola-Seville
Michelle Skemp	United States	Wisconsin	La Crosse	Rotary Club of La Crosse
Tema Frank	Canada	Alberta	Edmonton	Edmonton Glenora
Merlyn Hough	United States	Oregon	Eugene	Rotary Club of Springfield, Oregon
Sharon Lynch	United States	Illinois	Des Plaines	Rotary Club of River Cities
Maggie Crawford	United States	Washington	Stevens County	Spokane 21
Patricia Heasler	United States	Arizona	Tucson	Catalina