

PRESIDENTS UPDATE DECEMBER 2022

Dear Rotarians and Friends of RCKC,

December has been a month of festivities, with the Christmas and New Year celebration of the four clubs in North Cyprus , the start of RCKC's brand new project at Karsiyaka Primary School and our spectacular Christmas Market at Milli Park to name a few.

CHRISTMAS MARKET AT MILLI PARK

We kick started the month with our Christmas Market weekend at Milli Park on 3rd and 4th of December. We organised for the second year running a spectacular Christmas Market event which took place at the National Park of Alsancak Municipality, behind The Heaven Restaurant.

The Christmas Market had over 50 stalls, which consisted of handmade jewellery, organic food products, Christmas cakes, sculptured candles, Christmas cards and a wide variety of amazing hand crafts. I would like to say a special thank you to our member and foundation chair Imren Gurbasar for organising the booking of all the stalls collecting the money and organising each stall holders location for the weekend.

In addition to the stalls, we also had our popular Santa's Grotto and this year we also provided a bouncy castle for children to enjoy.

Food and delicious mulled wine provided by the Heaven Restaurant added to the festive feel. Through this event, RCKC brought together communities, cultures and faiths. Children, young and old all came together and enjoyed the festive good will and magic.

I would like to thank all our members, sponsors and volunteers who worked very hard throughout the weekend, we couldn't have done it without you.



RCKC PRE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MEAL

We held our annual pre-Christmas and New Year Meal at the magical Belapais Garden Hotel. We were joined by current and past members of our club, friends as well as Presidents and members of RC Liman, RC Sarayonu and RC St Hilarion. It was a great evening with delicious food and company. Our Board member and Chair of Training Denny Garmash added a special sparkle to our evening by sponsoring, Amil, a world-famous classical pianist to play piano for us throughout the evening. Thank you, Denny.





ANNUAL AGM

On 10th December, we held our clubs annual AGM meeting and our President Elect Olgun Topalcik presented his proposal for his new board for Rotary Year 2023-24. The proposed board was approved by all members and Olgun then gave us a presentation on his planned vision and activities for his year. We also identified our president nominee for the Rotary Year 2024-25 Terim Erdemlier. I would like to congratulate both Olgun and Terim and look forward to working with them in the future, delivering great projects which will benefit our community.

Following on from the AGM meeting all members enjoyed a great fellowship get together at Merit Park Hotel.



KARSIYAKA SCHOOL PROJECT

After many months of planning and seeking permission to deliver our school-based projects from the Ministry of Education, we have finally started our project of delivering afterschool English Lessons for year 4 and year 5 students at the Karsiyaka Primary School.

The first session began on Tuesday the 13th of December for the year 4 students and the first session for the year 5 students began on Thursday 15th of December. In addition to providing additional English Lessons, we have also purchased a Robotic Lego for the school children. Working with the Robotic Lego improves a Childs ability to follow instructions, be more creative as well as improve their computer skills while having fun.

We are now planning the development of a Learning Pollination Garden at the school with training materials specifically designed for primary school students on the importance of Pollination.

We are very grateful to “Jessic Friends of Karsiyaka Schoolchildren”, who have sponsored this project.



PINNING OF NEW ROTARACT MEMBERS

On 17th of December Rotaract Club of Kyrenia Cosmopolitan Pinned 9 new members. We are very proud of the achievements of our Rotaract team and would like to welcome all our new Rotaractors.

Well done President Havva and her team, we are looking forward to working with you on many joint projects.



JOINING OTHER ROTARY CLUBS IN THEIR PRE CHRISTMAS-CELEBRATIONS

This month, members of RC Kyrenia Cosmopolitan joined other clubs in the North in celebrating each clubs pre-Christmas events. The first of these events were hosted by RC Liman on 13th December, with a wine and cheese event in a beautiful location in the old town of Lefkosa, the second event we attended was on 20th December, hosted by RC Sarayonu which was a meal, again in a very beautiful venue in the old Town of Lefkosa and the third event we attended was hosted by RC St Hilarion at a very rustic and beautiful bar with live music, in the old town of Kyrenia. We enjoyed each one of these events, enjoying fellowship with members of the other clubs and further building on our good relations.





DONATION TO THE FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

On 28th of December, RCKC donated 7,440.00 TL to the Forestry Department, to be used in planting pine, eucalyptus and cypress saplings in the Mersinlik Forest which was devastated by wild fires in June 2022. Through our donations we have donated 744 saplings towards the re forestation of the fire damaged area.

The environment is one of Rotary's seven areas of focus and RCKC is continuing with our Ongoing environmental projects.



President Ayten Benoit, PP Ben Benoit and Forestry Department Manager Mr Salih Gunes

SANTAS GROTTO AND GIFTS TO THE KARSIYAKA SCHOOLCHILDREN

On the 30th of December, which was the last day of school year before the New Year break, RCKC decorated a Santas Grotto, provided Santas outfit and donated 170 gifts to be given to all the schoolchildren at Karsiyaka Primary School. It was a joy to see the happy faces leaving the Grotto.



And so, we have reached the end of 2022, it has been a very busy, exiting, challenging and inspiring six months into my presidency, I look forward to my next six months as president of this vibrant club, with enthusiasm and joy. My ending quote for December is

“You can’t give your life more time, so give the time you have left, more life.”

Thank You
Ayten Benoit
President 2022-23
RC Kyrenia Cosmopolitan