

## PROGRESS WITH OUR YOUTH PROGRAMME

Also very exciting is our first month of really making inroads into the youth focus areas of Rotary with a submission for an exchange student and organizing attendance at a Rotary Youth Conference. Jonathan Greengrass, Foundation Officer 2015/2016 of the RC of Centurion, was instrumental in organizing the Rotary Youth Conference this year. It was held at Cornwall Hill College in Irene, Centurion on the weekend of 19 and 20 February. This year was the 4<sup>th</sup> successful year.

The conference was free to pupils attending and attendance should be at least 10 pupils per school, preferably from Grades 10 and Grades 11 although Grade 12 were also welcome. The target of 210 students was soon reached with learners from more than 17 schools attending the event



Rotary Club of Pretoria East has nominated Hoërskool Uitsig in Centurion which sent 10 learners (left). The teacher from Hoërskool Uitsig who accompanied the children has already advised that they must attend again next year.

The Wambaths Rotary Club in Bela Bela transported twenty students from two schools each day

This year's program boasted three excellent speakers, including Antoinette Sithole, Hector Peterson's sister, who talked on "Forgiveness and Reconciliation". This contribution could not be at a better time with all the talk of racism currently. She received a standing ovation and after concluding a 45-minute question time afterwards spent a further half hour having photographs taken with the students. Antoinette has already agreed to be available next year.

The Outgoing Rotary Peace Fellowship Scholar Chenai Kadungure gave an equally great presentation and finally there was an incredible essay on the Four Way Test by the student from Pro Arte.

Another organizer from RC Centurion, Doug Thistlewhite, confirmed that when he watched the groups and listened to the two presentations, he felt this country stands a good chance of success. On their own the learners all decided to shout together "We are the new leaders" – it was awesome. Beulieu College from Kyalami have requested a Youth Conference at their school as well next year