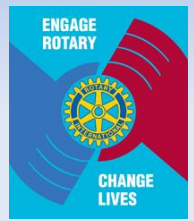


Governor's Newsletter



District 1210 February 2014

Dear Rotarians

It was 109 years ago this month that Paul Harris and three of his friends founded the first Rotary club. His goal was simple: to create a body of friendship in the midst of a city of strangers - a body of friendship with those who shared his values.

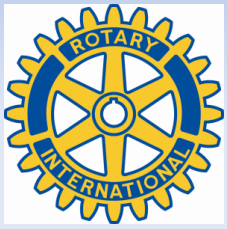
Over time, the philosophy of Rotary developed and matured, and Rotarian ideals expanded to include service, vocational ethics and international understanding. Paul Harris was fortunate in his lifetime to see the Rotary idea take hold and establish itself in dozens of countries around the world. Every week, in 34,000 communities, his vision lives on in every Rotary club meeting.

We often talk about Rotary as an extended family with all its branches and generations. We should value all youth service participants and alumni as important members of the Rotary family, particularly as we place a special emphasis on service to children and families. We know that it is essential for us to bring in a new generation of younger Rotary members. We've spent a lot of time talking about how to attract younger members to Rotary - but perhaps we haven't talked enough about why they don't stay.

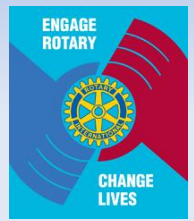
There are young people who do join Rotary but when they begin families they often leave. It is not hard to see why. These are busy people who are already spending more time than they want to away from their families. No matter how much they enjoy Rotary, they are not going to prioritise their Rotary service over their families.

Nor should we ever expect them to. This is why it is so important for us to find ways to welcome families into Rotary, so that Rotary and the family are never in competition for a Rotarian's time. Whether it's by planning service projects that involve the whole family, or being more flexible about meeting places and times, we need to make Rotary service a viable option for those with young children.

The family of Rotary is real. Children are going to grow up seeing their parents involved in community service, and being involved in service themselves. Not only is that a great thing for the family - it's a great thing for the Rotary club, which will be helping to nurture a new generation of active, service-minded young members.



Governor's Newsletter



District 1210 February 2014

At every stage of our lives and our careers, Rotary has something for all of us - a way to let us do more, give more, and be more. Rotary is big enough for us all.

Let me turn to a number of District administrative matters which will be emphasised at District Council at the end of the month.

We are now entering the District Youth Service competition season and I would urge you to support these events. I was at one of the music competitions recently and it was a wonderful evening.

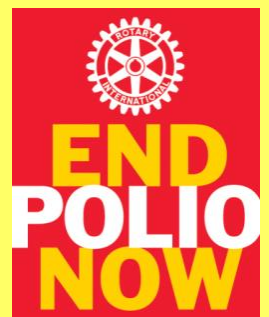
The District Sports Officers and I continue to review the way clubs are taking part in the District Sports competitions. The introduction of leagues for two sports will provide us with an opportunity to further review the competitions. One of the ideas that has been put to us is the introduction of leagues for all sports. This would replace a simple knockout arrangement and allow clubs to play more games of each sport. In addition we are examining a suggestion to remove the distinction between summer and winter sports. All sports would start in July and run through to the following June.

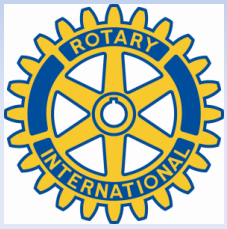
Can I remind everyone that details of the District Fellowship Trophy Competition were circulated recently and if your club has been involved in inter-club fellowship visits and scatter weeks you should consider entering.

Clubs are also reminded that the District is currently hosting a long term Youth Exchange student, Anni Micus. She is based with the Stafford Knot Club and she is available to speak at club meetings. She is an excellent speaker and well worth listening to.

Yours in Rotary

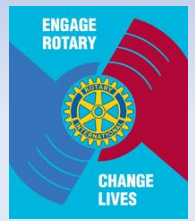
Barry





Governor's Newsletter

District 1210 February 2014



Club and District News

11 February - **District International Rally and Dinner - Park House, Shifnal - 6.30/7.00**
Tickets £12.50 Contact Steve Evans 01952 677436

21 February - **Re-visit the 60's and 70's (Disco and Hog Roast) -8.00 pm- RC of Uttoxeter**
Tickets £15.00 Contact Club Secretary

26 February - **Young Chef District Final - 5.30pm**
Wolstanton High School, Newcastle - under-Lyme

2 March - **Young Musician District Final - 4.00pm**
Wolverhampton Music school

3 March - **Youth Speaks (Intermediate) - 6.30pm**
Market Drayton

5 March - **Youth Speaks (Senior) - 6.30pm**
Market Drayton

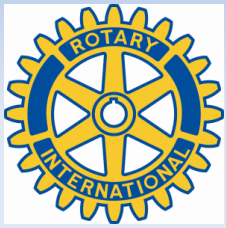
14 March - **An Audience with Queen Elizabeth (Dinner) 7.00/7.30pm - RC of Bilston and Wolverhampton West**
Tickets £30 Contact Ken Dolman 07968 052936

15 March - **Young Chef Regional Final - 10.00am/3.30pm**
Stoke on Trent FE College

15 March - **Village Water's Spring Ceilidh - 7.30 - RC of Shrewsbury Darwin**
Tickets £12.00 Contact Jeremy Taylor 01743 266862

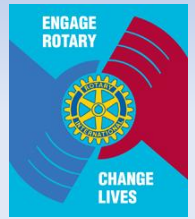
20 March - **Film Night 'Philomena' - 7.30 RC of Wolverhampton St George's**
Light House Cinema Wolverhampton Tickets £10.00





Governor's Newsletter

District 1210 February 2014



Club and District News (continued)

23 March - **Presidents Elect Training**

Mecure Hotel Penkridge

23 March - **Sunday Jazz Brunch - 12.00 noon - RC of Stoke on Trent South**

Keele Hall - Tickets £21.00 Contact Harry Mouat 01782 313874/321010

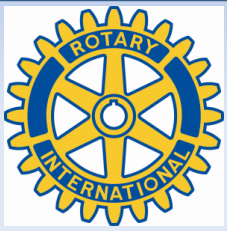
27 March - **Clare Teal/Midland Youth Jazz Orchestra - 7.45pm - RC of Walsall**

Methodist central Hall, Walsall

Tickets £15.00 Contact Fraser Wood 01922 627686

Please send any information you would like published to me at bpickenrotary@aol.com before 25th of the month for inclusion in next month's newsletter.





Governor's Newsletter



District 1210 February 2014

District Meetings and Events

15 February	RC of Blythe Bridge – Charter Night
16 February	RC of Stafford – 90 th Charter Lunch
26 February	Young Chef District Final
27 February	District Council Penkridge
28 February	RC of Sedgley & Wombourne – Charter Night
2 March	Young Musician District Final – Wolverhampton Music School
3 March	Youth Speaks (Intermediate) Market Drayton
5 March	Youth Speaks(Senior) Market Drayton
14 March	RC of Bilston – An Audience with the Queen
15 March	Young Chef Regional Final – Stoke on Trent
15 March	RC of Wrekin – Race Night
20 March	RC of St George's – Film Night
22 March	RC of Albrighton – Concert
22 March	Youth Speaks Regional Final – Maisemore, Gloucester
23 March	District Training - Presidents Elect Penkridge
23 March	RC of Stoke on Trent South - Sunday jazz Brunch
27 March	RC of Walsall Clare Teal and the Midland Youth Jazz Orchestra
29 March	Young Musician Regional Final – Ebbw Vale

Rotary Conferences

RIBI Conference, ICC Birmingham, 11 - 13 April 2014

<http://www.ribi.org/2014Conference>

RI Convention, Sydney, Australia, 1 – 4 June 2014

<http://www.riconvention.org>

District Conference, Conference Centre – Llandudno, 26 – 28 Sept 2014

www.rotary1210.org

