

## **Governor's Newsletter**

District 1210 October 2013

#### **Dear Rotarians**

To all those, who, having attended the District Conference in York wrote, emailed or telephoned thanking the conference committee and myself for the programme I am delighted that you found so much to stimulate and challenge you and on the Sunday morning to entertain you. A mixture of speakers, from a range of activities, but never a dull moment all weekend. As I said in closing on Sunday morning we had listened to ordinary people doing the most extraordinary things.

The Gala Dinner on the Saturday evening was another first – a night of fun, fellowship and dancing amongst the Royal train carriages – again, from the messages we have received – a really good night.

As I wrote last month 24 October was World Polio Day. To those clubs who marked the occasion by holding a fund-raising event or simply undertook an event awareness thank you. It will not have escaped your attention that the End Polio Now campaign is one that is very close to my heart and I am very grateful to everyone who has responded so positively to the campaign. The bus adverts continue to be in use and it is not too late to make a small donation by texting POLO11 £3 to 70070.

Membership continues to be a pressing issue for Rotary in these islands. In the last twelve months over 1400 individuals ceased to be members. To put that into perspective the loss is almost the same as the number of Rotarians in District 1210. I know that I raise the subject at all of my club visits but it is an issue we have to address. I measure membership loss not by the number of empty chairs at our meetings but by the community activity we have withdrawn from in the last few years. The projects we no longer run and the service we no longer provide. That, for me, is the true measurement of membership loss.

On 16 January the District Membership, Development and Retention Committee, under the enthusiastic leadership of David Woolrich, will hold an evening at Penkridge devoted to the Membership issue and I hope that every club will be in attendance. I would also urge you to invite David to a club meeting where you can discuss the issues in more detail.



ENGAGI ROTAR



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The Rotary movement supports all sorts of different charities defined by the six pillars of service but Rotary itself has only one charity – The Rotary Foundation. The Foundation supports an amazing range of activity. This District is fortunate to have Ashley Gray to lead the Foundation team and Ashley and his colleagues will be holding the Annual Foundation Seminar on 11 November at Penkridge.

As you start to turn your attention to preparations for Christmas can I wish you well with your planning. Our efforts at Christmas are welcomed by all and I wish you well.

Yours in Rotary









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### **Club and District News**

3 November – 10k Race – Cannock Rotary Club Contact: Cannock Rotary Club

9 November – Charter Dinner – The Wrekin Rotary Club Wroxeter Hotel, Wroxeter Contact: Malcom Hallewell <u>lionshome@yahoo.co.uk</u>

9 November – Concert – Supported by Rotary Club of Wednesbury 7.00pm St Bartholomew's Church, Wednesbury

14 November – Charity Film Night – Wolverhampton St George's Rotary Club The Lighthouse Cinema, Chubb Building, Wolverhampton 'Love is all you Need' Tickets - £10.00 Contact: <u>cager768@aol.com</u>

24 November – Burns Night – Rotary Club of Telford Centre The Wroxeter Hotel, Wroxeter Tickets - £25.00 Contact: John Morris-Roberts dorohn@blueyonder.co.uk

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



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### **District Meetings and Events**

3 November	RC of Cannock 10k Race
7 November	RC of Cannock – Ethiopia Project
7 November	RC of Dudley Sports Evening Molineux Stadium
8 November	Wem Interact Club Dinner
9 November	Concert at St Bartholomew's Wednesbury
9 November	RC of The Wrekin Charter Dinner
11 November	District Foundation Seminar
14 November	RC Wolverhampton St George's – Charity Film Night
19 November	RC Wolverhampton St George's – Civic Breakfast
19 November	RIBI General Council
19 November	District AG/District Chairmen's Briefing
26 November	District Council, Penkridge
3 December	RC of Etruria – Big Breakfast
16 January	District Membership & Retention Forum - Penkridge
24 January	RC of Wednesfield – Burns Night
24 January	RC of Telford Centre – Burns Night
25 January	RC of Ellesmere – Charter Night
31 January	RC of Shrewsbury Darwin – Charter Night

#### **Rotary Conferences**

RIBI Conference, ICC Birmingham, 11 - 13 April 2014 <u>http://www.ribi.org/2014Conference</u> RI Convention, Sydney, Australia, 1 – 4 June 2014 <u>http://www.riconvention.org</u> District Conference, Conference Centre – Llandudno, 26 – 28 Sept 2014 www.rotary1210.org

