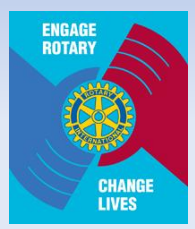


Governor's Newsletter



District 1210 Nov & Dec 2013

Dear Rotarians

I have deliberately held back with my newsletter this month as there were a number of events at the turn of the month that I wanted to attend and take the opportunity of commenting upon.

I have become increasingly concerned about the speed with which the formal reporting by the District Executive and District Officers is being dealt with at the District Council meetings. I have no desire to see the meetings prolonged and I wonder if the Council meetings as a forum for discussing detailed business have been superseded by the Zone meetings chaired by the Assistant Governors? Should the Council meeting be used as a vehicle for reporting on Rotary International activity together with a range of speakers discussing national, District and local club projects which other clubs could learn from?

Do we need four Council meetings or should we, as most other Districts have done, reduce the number to three each year? I would welcome any thoughts or observations you may have.

Also at the Council meeting I reported on the difficulty I have had in trying to identify the owner of a button which was found in the one of the buckets used to collect donations to the End Polio Now campaign at District Assembly last April. I have taken it to all of my 55 club visits but no one has claimed it! It has, however, given me the opportunity of asking for a donation to the End Polio Now campaign during my visit and I am grateful and amazed at the generosity you have shown to me. Contributions made by the members of 52 of the 55 clubs in the District totalled £3021.66. To all of those who contributed a huge thank you.



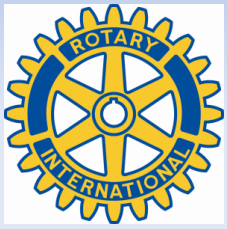
Rotary
Great Britain & Ireland

WE ARE THIS CLOSE TO ENDING POLIO.

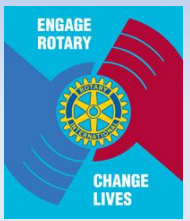
Donate £3 to vaccinate 7 children
by texting **POLO11 £3 to 70070** (UK only).
endpolio.org.uk

Helen Glover
Olympic and World Champion

Texts are charged at your mobile phone operator's standard rate. RFLUK (Charity No 1002059) will receive 100% of your donation. You must be 16 or over and please ask the bill payer's permission. For full terms and conditions and more information, please visit www.justgiving.com/info/terms-of-service



Governor's Newsletter



District 1210 Nov & Dec 2013

Whilst on the subject of giving can I thank you all for the efforts you have made and are continuing to make to raise funds for the disaster in the Philippines. As always Rotary has responded magnificently. A few years ago we hosted a Group Study Exchange Team from the Philippines and I can report that they are all safe and well. They have written to express their immense gratitude to Rotary and the United Kingdom for sending aid and help. They are overwhelmed that people are being so kind. *You Engage Rotary and you Change Lives and Perceptions.*

I have continued with my visits to all parts of the District to look at projects and activities being supported or run by local Rotary clubs. In Dudley I went to Pens Meadow School to look at a soft play area for children with learning difficulties. A grant of some £35,000 from Foundation together with monies from the Dudley Club and their twin club in France allowed this project to happen. Proof that Foundation can and will support local activity.

I have been to Newcastle under Lyme to visit the Charity shop opened by the Rotary Club of Wolstanton. Renting the shop for three months the members and their wives have stocked it with the usual things you find in a charity shop and whilst not quite 'money for old rope' they are confident that they will raise several thousand pounds for good causes over the next three months.

Before I close can I return to the District Conference at York. Those who attended will recall the charity collection taken on the Saturday morning. I am delighted to say that it raised £986.25 and I am told this is the highest amount that has been raised for a number of years. None of the speakers charged a fee for attending and we have agreed, therefore, to contribute equal amounts to Anti-Slavery International, *KidsOut*, Disaster Aid and Trauma Care at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

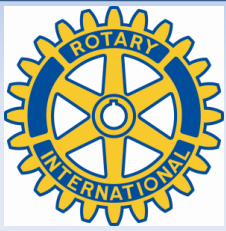
Christmas is a busy time for Clubs and Rotarians as we seek to raise funds. Can I wish you all well and every success to you.

Best Wishes to you all for Christmas and the New Year.

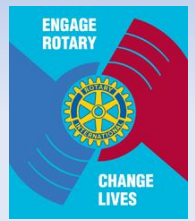
Yours in Rotary

Barry





Governor's Newsletter



District 1210 Nov & Dec 2013

District Meetings and Events

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
3 February	District Training Meeting
6 February	Young Chef Semi-Final (North)
8 February	District Officer Training – Penkridge
10 February	Young Chef Semi – Final (South)
11 February	District International Rally Park House Shifnal
14 February	RC of Stafford Knot – Medieval Evening
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

Club and District News

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.

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

