



District 1210 April 2014

Dear Rotarians

It is almost twelve months since I spoke to you at District Assembly and told you about our goal for 2013-14. I want to repeat again what I said then for it is as valid today as it was then.

Our goal in 2013-14 is to *Engage Rotary, Change Lives*. All of us know that Rotary has incredible potential to do good work. It's time to recognise how much more we could be doing and to start working out new ways to turn that potential into reality. We're going to do this by engaging Rotarians - by getting them involved, by getting them inspired, and by making sure that all Rotarians know just what a gift they have in Rotary, not just with new members, but with more involved, engaged, motivated members who will be the ones to lead us into our future

We need to make sure that Rotary itself will last - by committing to our goal of 1.3 million Rotarians by the year 2015. The goal is not just about bringing in new members. The goal is growing Rotary. The goal is making Rotary bigger, but with more involved, engaged, motivated members who will be the ones to lead us into our future.

Each of us has our own reason for joining Rotary - but I believe we all want to make a difference. We all want to be doing something meaningful. That is absolutely essential for us to remember when we talk about membership.

We're not just asking anyone to join Rotary. We're looking to attract busy, successful, motivated people who care. We're asking them to take their valuable time and give it to Rotary. So if they say yes, and they come and join our club, then we had better be showing them that their time in Rotary is well spent.

We have to make sure that *every* Rotarian, in *every* club, has a meaningful job - one that makes a real difference to the club and the community. When you are doing something meaningful in Rotary, Rotary is meaningful to you.







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In Rotary, we all have something to give. At every stage of our lives and our careers, Rotary has something for all of us - a way to let us do more, be more, and give more. Rotary gives our lives more meaning, more purpose, and greater satisfaction. The more we give through Rotary, the more Rotary gives back to us in return.

If your club were an orchestra how many of your members are at the front with the violins and the cello's, where all the action and fast movement tends to be.

Or how many of them have over the years drifted towards the rear, to the woodwind and brass sections were they have hidden themselves amongst the clarinets, oboe's and bassoons. The quiet part of the club that does not make a lot of noise and tries to stay hidden for fear they might be asked to do something and get involved.

The odd one will have made it right to the back and be firmly anchored in the percussion where they have the opportunity to bang on at regular intervals.

There is another group attending the concert – the music critics. They have opinions and observations on every performance. They sit with their fingers poised over the electronic keyboard, not intent on making music but dashing off an email about everything to everybody.

All of these musicians also have to be involved. They have so much to offer to ensure that your Rotary club can continue to serve its community.

There are a hugh range of projects available to clubs, add to them the huge range of individual club activity you are involved in – let no one tell you there is nothing to interest them.

Let no one tell you they tried it twenty years ago and it did not work. Tell them the time has come to try to try again. To again re-connect with our communities.

Tell them you want them to Engage Rotary and Change Lives.







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PDG Dr Fraser Dukes PHF

In the middle of April along with representatives from over half the clubs in the District I attended a luncheon in Wolverhampton at which Fraser received an RI Service above Self Award for his commitment and service over many years in the fight to eradicate Polio. Fraser has, for over twenty-five years worked tirelessly in the campaign to eradicate the disease and there can be few in the District who are not aware of the efforts he has made to ensure that we have kept the eradication message firmly in our minds.

An RI Service above Self Award is particularly special and fitting as only 150 such awards are made each year to Rotarians throughout the world.

Albrighton Satellite Club

Immediate Past District Governor Trevor Davies has been working very hard to try and establish a Satellite Club in Albrighton and an information meeting was held on 14 April. The number attending was fewer than expected but the response was positive. 12 non Rotarians in a mixed age group from early 20's to early 50's. They had never previously met but everyone present 'signed up ' to Rotary. Further meetings are planned.

Margaret Weale PHF - Rotary Club of Stafford Knot

I regret to have to inform the District of the death of Margaret Weale of the RC of Stafford Knot. Margaret served her club and the District with distinction. She drove the Young Chef Competition in its early years and never lost her enthusiasm for youth work and Rotary. I extend my sympathy to her family, friends and the Club.

National Final - Youth Speaks

The National Final of Youth Speaks takes place in Maidstone on 10 May. A team from Concord College has won through to the final and will be representing the District. I am sure all of us wish them every success.

Yours in Rotary











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Club and District News

A Bluebell Walk - 11 May.

RC Brewood Tickets £5.00.Chillington Estate 10.00 - 12.00

Contact:

 John Pegg
 01785 840404

 Malcolm Astbury
 01902 850393

 John Taylor
 01902 851913

 Father Malcolm Lockley
 01902 791923



The little Classic Car & Bike Show - 3 May 10.00 - 17.00

Organised by the RC of Bilston & Wolverhampton West. A fun day out for all the family at Penn Hall school, Vicarage Road, Wolverhampton

Admission £5.00. Children under 12 years Free

Walk for Your Charity - 18 May 2014

The Rotary Club of Uttoxeter are organising a charity walk with a difference.

Each walker or group of walkers choose the charity that they wish to support. They get the sponsorship, they collect the money, they pass it to their chosen charity, and they get the credit. The Rotary Club just organise the event.

The walk is being held in the private Wootton Lodge Estate, near Alton Towers - not accessible by public footpath.

There are two circular walks. One is approximately 2.5 miles and the other approximately 5 miles. Keen walkers could do both! The shorter walk is all on tarmac and would be suitable for families with pushchairs. The longer walk is mainly on tarmac, but part of it is on well-maintained stoned forest roads and has some steeper gradients. Both walks initially follow a common route passing through beautiful woodland with lakes and streams, with the longer route then climbing up through forests to reach open pastureland providing wonderful long views to the south.

It's an opportunity to raise some funds for your favourite charity. Maybe get a few friends together and raise more money as a group. You can get more information and a registration form from our **Walk for YOUR CHARITY** website at www.uttoxeter-rotary.org.uk/walk





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Club and District News

Kids Day Out - 11 June 2014

There is now an opportunity to give up to 300 disadvantaged or disabled children/young adults a day of fun and enjoyment at Westport Lake, Stoke on Trent.

Rotary are working alongside Stoke on Trent City Council offering a range of fun activities suitable for all. The cost is £10 per person attending with each child having a carer who will take full responsibility for the child's safety. Each child will receive a T Shirt and packed lunch which is included in the £10 cost. A Rotarian from each club is requested to attend to support their nominations - in a non care role.

Having listened to those clubs in the north and west of the District who have said that Drayton Manor Park is too far this is an opportunity to enjoy a day out more locally. If you have contact with a school or club whose young people may be eligible now is your opportunity to Engage Rotary, Change Lives. I do hope that clubs will support this new venture.

To find out more contact Rotarian Fay Boulton at fay.boulton@talktalk.net

Best Foot Forward - Saturday 12 July 2014

RC Wolverhampton Venue Aldersley Leisure Village

Young and old, able-bodied and those with disabilities, with wheelchairs, with pushchairs, will all be able to clock up circuits of the track - knowing that they will be releasing funds for the benefit of local charities. They can spend as long as they like over the 12 hours of the event and return as often as they choose.

In addition voluntary and community groups can use the event as a means of fundraising for their own causes.

For further information contact:

Mike Boyce 07976 612276 Paul Lockley 01952 587500

or visit www.wolverhamptonbestfootforward.com

www.facebook.com/wolverhamptonbestfootforwar

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.





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District Meetings and Events

3 May Classic Car Day, RC Bilst

3 May District Assembly, Harper Adams University

10 May Choir Concert, RC Wellington

10 May Bluebell Walk, RC Brewood

11 May Charter Dinner, RC Stafford Knot

15 May 75th Charter Dinner, RC Stone

16 May Zone Dinner/Dance, The Lindens

17 May District Quiz Final, The Lindens

20 May District Council, Mecure Hotel Penkridge

21 May Community Concert, RC Wellington

22 May Golf Day, RC Ironbridge

23 May Frog Race, RC Darlaston

23 May President's Night, RC Ironbridge

5 June Choir Concert, RC The Wrekin

7 June Golf Day, RC Wolverhampton St George's

8 June Kids Day Out, Drayton Manor/Westport Lake

11 June Medieval Evening, RC Stafford Knot

14 June Golf Day, RC Wellington

16 June 50th Charter Night, RC Wednesfield

18 June 60th Charter Dinner, RC Church Stretton

18 June Charity Ball, RC Walsall

20 June Circle Walk, RC Stone

21 June Visit of RIBI President to the District

23/24 June District Handover Dinner, Port Vale Football Club

27 June Workshop and Concert, RC Ironbridge







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District Meetings and Events

28 June Charity Bikeathon, RC Wolverhampton St George's

6 July Young Innovator Competition, Bromsgrove

6 July Carnival, RC Sedgley and Wombourne

11 July Golf Day, RC Bridgnorth

12 July Wednesbury Carnival, RC Wednesbury

12 July Best Foot Forward, RC Wolverhampton

19-20 July Burntwood Wakes, RC Burntwood

30 July Classic Car Run, RC Bridgnorth

7 August Gardeners Question Time, RC Aldridge

Rotary Conferences

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

http://www.riconvention.org

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

www.rotary1210.org

