

# Rotary Alumni 1210 Newsletter

March 2016

# Rotary Alumni 1210 Reconnect with New Members

Welcome to the 2nd newsletter of Alumni 1210: The Alumni Association of Rotary District 1210.

We are reconnecting with alumni sponsored by all 55 or so Rotary Clubs in District 1210.

## Can you help?

Do you know of any of our D1210 students who have attended a RYLA camp?



## Or

Do you know any Ex-Rotaractors or Ex-Interactors from District 1210, or who live in District 1210?



### Or

Were you a Group Study Exchange (GSE) Team Member or Leader?



Do you have the contact details for your Team Members?

#### Or

Do you know any Ambassadorial Scholars? Did your Rotary Club sponsor an Ambassadorial Scholar?



Please contact <a href="mailto:beverley@btinternet.com">beverley@btinternet.com</a> and help us to reconnect with D1210 Alumni.

#### **Ambassadorial Scholar Returns**

Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar Alumna Ann Syrett PHF returns to District 1210 Rotary Club of Newcastle-under-Lyme, 42 years since she first spoke to the Club. On Tuesday 12 April at 1.00pm Ann is speaking and her theme is "The Rotary Foundation – ever wonder what you get for your money?"



Ann was the earliest Rotary Scholar at Keele University from Oregon in 1973-74. Ann became a US Diplomat serving the State Department in many parts of the world until her retirement some three years ago. She comes to visit us after an interval of 15 years as a very active Rotarian in the British Virgin Islands.



# What is VSE? Vocational Study Exchange

Vocational Study Exchange (VSE) is a twoway exchange, involving living in Rotarians' homes sampling the culture of another country, whilst enabling personal development and fulfilling all the aims of vocational and cultural study, having a particular emphasis on vocational activities.

It is for a 2 week duration only, thus encouraging more applicants from the private sector, who may use their annual leave for the exchange, and is open to all candidates over the age of 18 but does not to have an upper age limit. The criteria used to select candidates to include the ability to demonstrate their vocational learning outcomes and benefit to Rotary.

## Vocational Study Exchange

A short term international vocational and cultural study exchange programme for professionals sponsored by District 1210 of Rotary International

## WE'RE FOR COMMUNITIES

ARE YOU?



#### **Information for Participants**

This once in a lifetime experience enables you to study your career or profession in another country. You will live with local families and hence simultaneously broaden your cultural understanding. You will be able to bring back new ways of thinking, a new raft of networks, leadership and team building skills as well as increased self confidence.

#### Information for Employers

Do you have an employee who would benefit from the opportunity to study their profession in another country? Would your business benefit from learning about how it is operated in that country? Will they benefit from enhanced communication skills, development of their creativity and learning about new methodology? Not to mention the PR your organisation will gain from participating in a programme that is part of one of the world's largest service organisations.

#### Who is eligible to apply?

Anyone who meets the following criteria can apply to take part in the Vocational Study Exchange:

Aged over 18.

Be in employment, a profession or self-employed Be available on the dates of travel (dates for the next exchange can be obtained from your local Rotary club or from the District VSE co-ordinator). Live or work in the District (covering most of Staffordshire, Shropshire and the Black Country. A full list of clubs can be found on www.rotary1210.org). Be able to demonstrate your learning outcomes ie how the exchange will benefit you, your employer and the wider community.



#### What is my commitment?

You must be able to travel on the dates of the exchange. You will need to take part in preparation work prior to travel and to make presentations to Rotary clubs on your experience on your return. You will be expected to behave in a professional manner and remain with the group at all times. Your travel expenses, accommodation and meals will be provided. You will need to provide adequate travel insurance and pay for personal expenses.





For further details or to apply, contact your local Rotary Club or.
The District 1210 VSE co ordinator at vseed 1210.org or visit the web site

Each visit will comprise of a Rotarian leader plus a team comprising up to 4 members.

The Learning Outcomes will be individual for each Team Member, dependent on their vocation and learning requirements, and set out by them as part of the process for selecting the team members.

We all have many learning points to bring back to the UK and there has been a really good exchange of information and views about how things operate in our different countries. Many of the differences relate to the cultures of our two countries and working practices reflect these.

Geoff Cooper VSE Team Leader Norway





## **Vocational Study Exchange first for Rotary International District 1210**



22<sup>nd</sup> August 2015 was an auspicious day for the District as the first Vocational Study Exchange team left for Norway. The exchange was for 2 weeks with District 2305, which is a large, mainly rural area north of Oslo, a very beautiful area. The Norwegian team come back to our District in May 2016.

A great deal of thought and planning went into the process through the hard work of the District VSE committee, led by D1210 District Governor 2017/18 Carol Reilly PHF. The 4 team members were selected to join team leader Rotarian Geoff Cooper of the Rotary Club of Stafford Knot.

The Team Members were Anona Potts sponsored by the Rotary Club of Willenhall; Hywell Benbow hosted by the Rotary Club of Ellesmere in partnership with the Rotary Club of Oswestry; Preet Bhachu hosted by the Rotary Club of Walsall Saddlers and Ashley Lovell hosted by the Rotary Club of Darlaston. Grateful thanks to these Clubs for their support.

The vocational skills of the team members included a customer engagement officer for a Housing Association, a senior analyst for Ofsted inspecting Children's Social Care, a trainee tree surgeon and a trainee Primary School teacher, so a varied group!

Local Norwegian Rotarians hosted the team in their homes. Team members spent the larger amount of their time in Norway focussed on their vocational area, but there was also time for meeting local Rotarians, for cultural activities, time with the host families, fun and fellowship.

In preparation for their exchange the team produced a Presentation to use when in Norway. There were two opportunities to experience this presentation prior to their exchange within District 1210.

The whole team were very excited by the prospect of their visit to Norway, and of the opportunity to share their experiences with Rotarians and their Partners in Service on their return to District 1210.

Article by D1210 District Governor 2017/18 Carol Reilly PHF and Vocational Study Exchange Team Leader Geoff Cooper



## Our Newest Alumni 1210 presented with their Alumni Pin Badges

FROM left is **Anona Potts, Geoff Cooper**, District Governor Richard Green, D1210 District Governor 2017/18 Carol Reilly PHF, Sandra Davey, RIBI President Peter Davey, **Ashley Lovell, Hywell Benbow and Preet Bhachu.** 

# #ROTARYALUMNI

## Stay Connected to Rotary Internationa This year there will be several breakout sessions

## **Create Your Rotary Profile**

As Alumni of District 1210 you are part of the Rotary family and you can find many ways to stay connected to Rotary throughout your life.

Update your contact information and join the community by creating a Rotary Profile:

www.rotary.org/myrotary

And subscribe to Rotary Reconnect Newsletter and you will get the most relevant stories about alumni, Rotary events, and program opportunities! <a href="https://www.rotary.org/en/news-features/newsletters">https://www.rotary.org/en/news-features/newsletters</a>



This year there will be several breakout sessions specific to alumni and an alumni reception. Alumni may enjoy participating in the Rotaract Preconvention event as well. Non-Rotarian alumni can register for the RI Convention at a special reduced rate.

#### WHY ATTEND THE ROTARY CONVENTION?

It's your chance to connect with the Rotary family from around the world. You'll build new relationships and exchange ideas across cultures. You'll also be able to:

- Enhance your professional skills
- Learn about service opportunities
- Network with Rotary leaders and fellow alumni
- Explore Korea

Enjoy a variety of topics at alumni-focused breakout sessions and an alumni reception
Register today and get a <u>special discount!</u>

## Message from DG Richard Green



I'm very pleased to continue to give my enthusiastic support to the Rotary International District 1210 Alumni Association. Its members -you - are vital to the ongoing success of our aim in providing Service Above Self and having fun while we do it. We do know that you've all enjoyed your Rotary experience at RYLA, Group Study Exchange and in our latest new project, Vocational Study Exchange. (VSE) The team's trip to Norway was a huge success, and we're looking forward to greeting the incoming team for 2 weeks starting April 30th.

If you'd like to meet them, please let Beverley Ricketts know.

Planning for the next VSE is well under way. The team will be going to Germany in August 2016 and there are great opportunities for you to be a member of that team; if you're interested please let Beverley know and we'll put you in touch with the organisers.



If you'd like to know some more about what we're up to in Rotary please have a look at my Newsletter, which is in the form of a 6 minute YouTube video by clicking on the link: https://youtu.be/I7UOo9gEK6s

Happy Rotary! District Governor Richard Green



## Alumni 1210: The Alumni Association of Rotary District 1210

## Rotary Alumni Reconnect Week 2016-17 9<sup>th</sup> October (Sunday) to 15<sup>th</sup> October (Saturday)

Save the date in your diary – We are planning alumni 1210 events

- Contact us with your suggestions

# Rotary Alumni 1210

Newsletter

District 1210 England

## **Contact Details**

Co-chair: Bob Cliff bobandlesleyc@btinternet.com (RC Burslem)

Co-Chair: Beverley Ricketts beverley@btinternet.com
(Alumni 1210)

www.RotaryAlumni1210.co.uk email: alumni1210@btinternet.co.uk

## Membership Information

Alumni 1210 has not established any dues or financial commitment for membership.

The members will seek to inform other Alumni about the Association and encourage their participation. They request the assistance of Rotary clubs in this endeavour.

The Association plans to meet annually at a District Event although the officers will meet more frequently.