



District 1100 Newsletter – January 2019

***Happy New Year to all Rotarians and friends in
District 1100***



I hope that you have all had a good Christmas, and that 2019 will be a Happy and Peaceful Year. I took a few days off from Rotary over the New Year period to spend time with my family, so the Newsletter is a little late.

We are now half way through the 2018-19 Rotary year – how time flies. I can hardly believe that this time last year I was preparing to go to San Diego for the International Assembly, and now DGE Judy is already in America.

The New Year is a time for making resolutions, and mine is to make the most of every opportunity I am given within Rotary to help Rotarians continue to enjoy what they are doing for Rotary and to think differently about how we can engage younger members to join the Rotary family. I am encouraged to hear of satellite clubs and groups starting and consideration being given to the formation of Rotaract Groups. There is still time to apply for a Membership Grant and there is still money in the 'pot'. Please consider having a discussion within your Club to see how you might make use of this initiative.

January is Vocational Service Month



This theme gives us the opportunity to use our professional skills to help others. I know of several Clubs and individual Rotarians who give time to schools, helping young people learning to read, mentoring others, engaging with technology projects, or helping with mock interviews. All are valuable and I am sure are appreciated by teachers and parents alike.

Conference is only 10 weeks away



If you have not already done so, it is time to book your place. I am aware that some Clubs leave it until after Christmas to book, so I would urge you to do so as soon as possible.

The Conference Team, led by PDG Jan Harris is working hard to make sure that it is an enjoyable and memorable event. As well as the opportunity to catch up with Rotary friends and have fun and fellowship together, we have a full programme of entertainment on both Friday and Saturday evenings. We are looking forward to our RIBI President Debbie Hodge joining us to hear the excellent range of speakers that we have been able to secure.



They include Talan Skeels-Piggins, World Champion 600cc Motorcycle Racer and professional Downhill Alpine Racing skier who does not consider himself disabled, but just a wheelchair user.

Other speakers include:

- **Professor Gordon Turnbull, who among other appointments is the consultant advisor in Psychiatry to the Civil Aviation Authority**
- **Tristram Elmhirst, a Cruise Enrichment Speaker on Forensics and Crime Scene Investigations**
- **Professor Owen Green, Rotary Peace Programme and Chair of the Management Board of the Peace Studies and International Development Department at Bradford University, one of only six Universities in the world delivering the Rotary Peace Scholarship Course.**

On the lighter side our speakers include Amanda Darling on Hearing Dogs, and Lisa Hunter from The Rotary Club of Maidenhead Bridge who gives us an insight into a successful Rotary Club for younger Rotarians.

Youth Competitions



January sees further heats for some of our Youth competitions, with District Finals in February and March, a treat to look forward to. District 1000 has also been asked to host the Regional Final of the Young Musician on the 24th March so please put the date in your diary, it should be a good event.

There is still much to do in the second half of this Rotary Year and I am looking forward to seeing and hearing about all that you are doing. You have given me some wonderful experiences of life in District 1100 and I thank you.



Joan D1100 District Governor 2018-2019