

Hello District 1100.

In my first newsletter I talked about using Facebook as a tool for promoting, and for learning more about, Rotary. Some of you must have read it, as I now have a lot more FB friends! On my visits around the District I'm now meeting people I've only previously met 'virtually' and it's great to be able to talk to you in the flesh.

I have got off to a slower start than some of my predecessors but have now visited 13 clubs, either for a meeting or event, and September is looking pretty busy! I'm taking it as another indication some read the last newsletter, as I have received a number of invitations to events since. Thank you for this. It's important that I, and other members of the District team, attend your events to give us a clear view of what is happening around the District, which helps us to help you.

Looking ahead:

We may not be far into this Rotary year but now is a good time to be thinking about the next one, and the one after that. Does your club have a plan to guide it through the next few years? Do you know who will be your club President from next July, and who will succeed them? Are you involving your future leaders in your current planning? The Rotary system of changing club leaders annually can be disruptive if we start from scratch each year. Having succession planning as a key part of your strategy can make a club more effective. If you need help, talk to your Assistant Governor.

Help us to help you (it's what the District team is for):

The District team try to send information directly to relevant postholders but often clubs do not have a name recorded for that post. As a fallback, the information usually goes to the club Secretary – who can be forgiven for either not always passing the information onto the appropriate person, or for feeling grumpy about having everything piled onto them. (I've been a club Secretary)! If you hold a post in your club, check that it's recorded and, if not, ask your club Secretary to update the records.

Purple For Polio (P4P)

Summer is nearly over and we will soon, once again, have purple crocus corms ready to plant. If, like my club, you usually just chuck the bulbs in the ground and hope they grow (sorry ,F&D), why not start planning to be more ambitious and create a Rotary wheel? https://www.rotarygbi.org/media/2019/03/Crocus-Corms-Planting-a-Rotary-Wheel-or-Rotary-wording_2019.pdf

Have you heard about Passionately Purple gin, which is being marketed by Lytham Rotary? Bottles of this craft gin cost £35, from which £6.20 goes towards the End Polio Now

campaign, plus a further £12.40 from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Lytham are currently running a competition, where you could win a weekend in Paris or Bruges by photographing a bottle of the gin in a holiday or unusual setting. <https://www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/page.php?PgID=773726&ClubID=1166>

Community Matters

A couple of weeks ago, D1100 Community & Vocation Chair Bob Handley sent out his first newsletter to club Community leads (or Secretaries where not recorded!). However, this very interesting letter is on the District website for all to see. Read about getting involved with Playlist For Life, KidsOut, the Rotary Action Group Against Slavery, and more.

Data Management System (DMS)

Yes, I know it has its limitations and, yes, I know it goes wrong sometimes. There's been the odd occasion when it's made me want to throw my laptop through the window....BUT, on the whole it's a brilliant tool.

Need to find out which club in D1100 a Rotarian belongs to? Want to find out where and when a club meets? Need to e-mail all (or some of) the Rotarians in D1100 who hold a particular club post? DMS is your go-to tool.

We have two DMS gurus in the District who are great at helping if problems arise but if you're just starting out, your Assistant Governor can help. <https://dms.rotaryqbi.org/>

Coming Soon

All welcome:

Tuesday 15th October - District Council

Tuesday 29th October – The Rotary Foundation Information Evening

Both to be held at the usual venue, The Gables, Falfield.

By invitation only (but not sent out yet):

Saturday 23rd November - New Members' Meeting

I'll be back

When I said that at the end of the last newsletter I felt a little more positive about it. Why? My job is to support the clubs and their Presidents, so when Bradley Stoke President Peter Vernon said he was doing a charity abseil I couldn't let him do it on his own. On 21st September, I shall be jumping off a hospital in Bristol. Keep your fingers crossed for me, but at least I'll be in the right place if anything goes wrong!

Have a busy, successful and fun September. I look forward to seeing many of you over the next few weeks, and to following your activities on the ever increasing social media posts.

Best wishes,

Judy

District 1100 Governor 2019-20