



ROTARY: MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Public Image and Rotary 2

The new brochures and postcards and short People of Action videos ([Rotary People of Action - YouTube](#)), are now in wide circulation. Have you seen them? The RIBI **public launch on**

radio, social media and printed media is planned in mid-March. You will hear more details at District Council on 8 March. In District we are developing around twenty next generation style opportunities ready to welcome potential new members generated by the campaign. Please ensure your club has planned how to ensure visitors feel they belong – and want to return.

RIBI Annual Business Meeting takes place at Torquay Conference (and online) on the afternoon of 7 April – after **Princess Anne's walkabout visit to Conference**. It will include important resolutions your club can vote on covering change at RIBI aimed to enable a structure where working Rotarians can take RIBI leadership roles within a Rotary for Millennials - an organisation designed for the 21st century. Changes include modernisation of Executive Committees, General Council, and changes to the Presidency and RI Director roles. **We will discuss at District Council on March 8. Please ensure your club attends and is briefed to decide your position and vote on 7 April.**

March is Water and Sanitation Month.

Without water there is no life. Water and Sanitation is one of our areas of focus. For ten years now our District has led RIBI in building dams in Africa – sand dams which provide clean water for life for £10 a head. This remains the most cost effective way to deliver clean water. Rotary has financed close on 60 dams in Kenya and with

many of them delivered food security and environmental improvement too. This has brought a lifetime of safe water to over 100,000 Maasai and Kamba people. Our partner, the small NGO – Excellent Development has just finished their 1000th dam. Rotary is building our first dam in Mozambique and investigating Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

Building Peace It was emphasised last weekend at our **Peacebuilder Conference**, led by RI President Ian Riseley, that our areas of focus, like water and sanitation, are building blocks of peace. Of many highlights at the Conference the message from Dr Ranieri Guerra, Assistant Director-General of the World Health Organisation (WHO) was powerful. For him and WHO the Plus in **Polio Plus** has a special meaning. The Plus for the world is the worldwide health infrastructure that Rotary has created and that WHO and others can use – and they are doing - '**Ebola was stopped because of the Rotary infrastructure**'. He commented that Rotary has funded half of the cost of Polio Eradication - \$1.5B directly and \$6.5B through its advocacy in persuading countries to invest. An advocacy that others did not achieve. 16 million infections have been avoided 1.5 million lives have been saved and as Bill Gates said '**Rotary is the heart and soul of Polio Eradication**'.

Youth Activities are at a peak Our District Young Chef and Musician finals last weekend, which I attended revealed some brilliant talent. Congratulations to all clubs who made entries and particularly to those which have entries going into the Regional finals. We should see more talent there and we still have **Youth Speaks, RYLA** and the **Technology Tournament** and the other youth competitions. Can you all consider **Youth Exchange** too – a real growth experience for our young people.

RI Presidents Environmental Tree Challenge

Reporting time is coming for Ian Riseley's tree challenge to every Rotarian to plant a tree before World Earth Day on April 22nd. I know several clubs have planted trees. It is not too late for your club or area and we still have the opportunity for clubs or areas to fund tree nurseries of 500 trees in Kenya – contact me if you wish to. I will be sending out the reporting forms and further opportunities during March.

Polio and Foundation Annual Giving

The clubs in our District raise £2M every year much of which goes to outside charities. As you consider how to invest your funds can you please put our one, and only charity – Foundation - at the top of our list through Annual Giving and Polio Plus donations at the top of your list. If we sent just 10% of the funds we raise to our own charity it would make a huge difference.

Rotary Club Central (RCC) and the

Presidential Citation Half of our areas have now completed RCC training. It is the system designed to help you manage your Rotary in a businesslike way and enable you to Showcase your projects. Some clubs are running their business meetings on it!! It also supports District, RIBI and RI to run professionally. If you have not completed training please talk to your AG. This years Presidential citation is pretty simple to achieve for most clubs and involves entering and reporting goals using RCC. So now is the time to start using it. Please do.



RIBI and RI Events

6-8 April RIBI Conference – Torquay

Last conference of the current style

Princess Anne will be joining us on 7th April

Information and booking

<https://www.rotarygbi.org/what-we-do/conference/2018-conference/>

21 Apr Stroke Awareness and Blood Pressure Monitoring Day

21-24 May Purple 4 Polio Grand Tour.

Cars start from Brooklands visiting other Districts' start points before ending up in Halifax. **Fundraise by being sponsored for your journey and enjoy a fun tour around England and Wales.** Entry is £35 per car.

Peter Kleyn is our representative.

Peter.kleyn@aol.com.

Information and booking

<https://www.rotarygbi.org/what-we-do/purple4polio-rotary-grand-tour/>

13 June Kids Out

It started in our District and we have events around the District. Please support them

**17 June Disabled Sports Day
Crawley**

Mid-June Rotary Ride for Prostate Cancer

23-27 June, Toronto – leading world speakers

Inspiration around every corner in Toronto

It is always the keynote event of the year in a fascinating city.

Information and booking

<http://www.riconvention.org/en/toronto>

Join the Rotary South party.

Book by 31 March for pre-registration discount.

Join us all at **District Council in Reigate - Thursday March 8.**

I look forward to seeing you.

James Onions, District Governor 2017/18

dg@rotarysouth.org.uk

CALLING ALL INCOMING PRESIDENTS...

Please remember to register yourself and your 2018/19 team for District Assembly/PEPS 2 on Saturday 21st April – venue is St Catherine's School, Bramley GU5 0DF – Plenary starts at 09:30 prompt – notices sent out on 6th February – any queries contact simoncrowther7@gmail.com

BE THERE!

Administration & Information

DISTRICT COUNCIL – MARCH 8th 2018

A reminder that the next District Council (which will seek approval of the 2018/19 Budget) will take place @ Reigate Baptist Church on Thursday 9th March 2019 meeting at 6.30 for a 7.15pm start.

Clubs are requested to notify the District Secretary of voting delegate names as well as any apologies

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

RIBI is awaiting final advice on the best way in which Clubs can meet the demands of this new legislation that comes into effect on 25th May 2018. It is anticipated that a full briefing and a "how to comply" sheet will be available in April and a full briefing will be given at District Assembly.



Meanwhile a copy of an explanatory document from the Information Commissioners Office IS in the Secretaries Dropbox folder.

Future Events

- * The RC of Midhurst & Petworth are holding a 50's Fun & Frolics event on Saturday 2st April 2018 – full details on the attached flyer

Bandy – Hefler Exchange Dates for 2018

The tour is 26th Sep for 12 days, 3 periods of four days. We are looking for 5 couples who would like to experience this wonderful opportunity to visit the members of Rotary clubs in Massachusetts .

Contact Chrissie Lawson - crtjlawson@hotmail.com

Email ETIQUETTE

Please remember to check who you is on the circulation list and what is contained in previous emails if you are replying or forwarding responses – check the content of previous emails in the chain- or preferably do not blindly "REPLY ALL" or forward long chains of correspondence – A quick check on what you are sending on can avoid later embarrassment !!

