



FOCUS ON: FOUNDATION

District Chairman's Welcome



Welcome to the second edition of 1090Times. It has been a busy couple of months for the district, not least because of the highlight of the RGBI year, the Banbury Camping Rally. I'd like to take this opportunity to offer my congratulations to Laura and her team for another fantastic event –

once again showing the other districts how things should be done!

The focus for this edition of the newsletter is Rotary Foundation, which is Rotary's own charity. It is one of the largest charities in the world, and in these pages you will find out more on what Foundation is, what it does and how Rotaract can get involved.

One of the programmes of Foundation is the Group Study Exchange, something that I was lucky enough to take part in this year, so I hope that after reading this more of you will be encouraged to consider applying.

Another aspect of Foundation that you will all have heard of is PolioPlus.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has given another \$225million towards beating this disease, and Rotary has been challenged to raise \$100 million in matching funds. Each Rotaract club is being asked to

raise \$100 a year for the next three years to help in the fight against polio and last year saw clubs across the district host a variety of events to help End Polio Now, including a 24 hour technology famine, quiz nights and the pirate disco, and I look forward to seeing all the weird and wonderful ways you choose to raise the money this year.

As extra motivation, RIBI is having a "Thanks for Life" week in February 2010 [20th – 28th], with the aim of increasing public awareness of the programme and raising £1million for polio eradication in that week alone. This will be an ideal opportunity to show Rotary that we care too and let's see if we can exceed the \$100 challenge!

If you'd like to see your PolioPlus events, or any other events past or future, included in this newsletter, please send us the details. It is after all your newsletter!

Happy Reading...

Eleanor

District 1090 Chairman 2009-10

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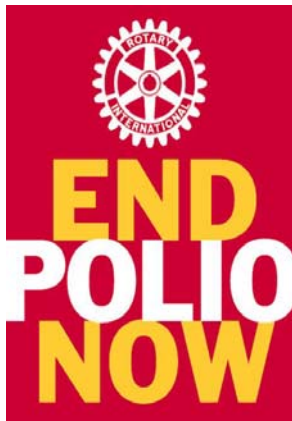
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The District 1090 Exec Team...working for you

Below you'll find all the details for your District 1090 Exec Team - who they are, what they do and how to get hold of them. As a team they are always interested to receive feedback from clubs and members throughout the district, they are also here to help you, so if you have any new ideas or would like help with anything to get in touch with someone.

As a team we all look forward to working together to take District 1090 from strength-to-strength.



Name: Eleanor Cracknell
Position in District: District Chairman

Rotaract Club: Langley & Iver
Number of years in Rotaract: 3.5 years

My Role: is to co-ordinate district activities, communicate with Rotary and Rotaract within the district and Rotaract in Great Britain & Ireland, and promote Rotaract throughout the district.

Special interests: medical history, musicals, martial art films

An unusual fact about me: On average, I drink 15 cups of tea a day!

Contact Me: [eleanor.cracknell at gmail.com](mailto:eleanor.cracknell@gmail.com)

Name: Jon Hoare
Position in District: Secretary & Past District Chairman

Rotaract Club: West Berks
Number of years in Rotaract: 8 years

My Role: is to take notes from the District Exec and Presidents Meetings, type them up and publish them as a record of the meeting. In my role as Past Chairman I offer guidance and support during the year to the DC and Exec.

Special interests: Hot Air Ballooning, Mountain Biking on and off road, Rally Motorsport & foreign travel

An unusual fact about me: Marmite is definitely not my mate

Contact Me: [jonhoare23 at hotmail.com](mailto:jonhoare23@hotmail.com)



Name: Sally Wooldridge
Position in District: Professional Development Officer

Rotaract Club: Wallingford
Number of years in Rotaract: 7 years

My Role: is to help and support Rotaractors within this District develop skills which will be of benefit to them in their workplace and careers.

An unusual fact about me: I was asked to join this years district exec while walking very quickly, as we were late for a meeting with a Mountie, through a wood after seeing an old steam donkey on the Sunshine coast of British Columbia, Canada.

Contact Me: [swooldridge at waitrose.com](mailto:swooldridge@waitrose.com)



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The District 1090 Exec Team...working for you

Name: Cheryl Jordan
Position in District: Social Secretary

Rotaract Club: Caversham & Reading
Number of years in Rotaract: 5 years

My Role: is to organise district social events, namely the District Christmas Party and ensure that all members are enjoying themselves. Hopefully this year's party will be as equally successful as last years.

Special interests: I am passionate about the arts and believe that I am a creative person. Art is something that I really enjoy teaching at school and is an activity that I would like to pursue on a more personal level. Hopefully over the summer break I will get to finish my canvas!

Contact Me: cheryljordan at tiscali.co.uk



Name: Lisa Hunter
Position in District: Publicity Officer

Rotaract Club: Maidenhead
Number of years in Rotaract: 9 years

My Role: is to co-ordinate all marketing and publicity related activities for the district, including producing the new district newsletter, managing the district website and managing the district brand image. I am also here to support clubs with all their publicity and membership needs.

Special interests: I enjoy swimming, Taebo boxing and visiting new countries.

An unusual fact about me: My Dad was once the Milky Bar Kid!

Contact Me: lisa at rotaract.org.uk

Name: Julia Hill
Position in District: Treasurer

Rotaract Club: Maidenhead
Number of years in Rotaract: 6 months

My Role: is to keep the books up to date and to collect and distribute funds. It is also my responsibility to collect the District subscriptions which are used to cover any running costs and fund any District events.

Special interests: I enjoy travelling and photography.

Contact Me: juhill82 at aol.com



Name: Greg Wilkinson
Position in District: Rotary Liaison Officer

Rotary Club: Reading Matins
Number of years in Rotary: 4 years

My Role: I chair the committee responsible for promoting effective links between Rotary and Rotaract in D1090

Special interests: boating (I have a cruiser on the Thames) and coming to terms with gradual retirement. I am retiring from my job as a Professional Coach and will maintain an interest in leadership development. Last year I took part in a Rotary team visit to Nyumbani Home, Kenya and am interested in international service where I hope to have more opportunities in the coming years.

An unusual fact about me: My partner is Terry Kenyon, Rotary District Governor this year.

Contact Me: gregwilkinson at ntlworld.com

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About Rotary Foundation



The Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of the Foundation who share its vision of a better world. Basically it is Rotary's own charity!

The mission of The Rotary Foundation is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.

Programmes of the Rotary Foundation

Through Foundation grants and programs, Rotarians and other contributors can help change the world. They can finance a well for a village that lacks clean water, improve the environment, or provide scholarships to educate the next generation. The grants and programs available to Rotarians allow them to realize Rotary's humanitarian mission throughout the world, including its number-one goal of eradicating polio.

PolioPlus

To eradicate polio, Rotarians have mobilized by the hundreds of thousands. They're working to ensure that children are immunized against this crippling disease and that surveillance is strong despite the poor infrastructure, extreme poverty, and civil strife of many countries. Since the PolioPlus program's inception in 1985, more than two billion children have received the oral polio vaccine.

Humanitarian Grants Program

- Disaster Recovery – Allows Rotarians to donate money in response to specific disasters. Funds are distributed to local committees to support recovery efforts. The program was created in 2005-06, and the Foundation currently administers four Disaster Recovery accounts: Hurricanes Stan and Wilma (Guatemala and Mexico), Hurricane Wilma (United States), the Earthquake in India and Pakistan, and Solidarity in South Asia.
- District Simplified Grants – Support the service activities of districts locally and abroad.
- Health, Hunger and Humanity Grants – Fund large-scale, two-to-four-year projects that improve health, alleviate hunger, or promote human development.
- Matching Grants – Provide matching funds for the international service projects of Rotary clubs and districts.

Educational Programs

- Ambassadorial Scholarships – The Foundation sponsors one of the largest international scholarship programs in the world. Scholars study in a different country, where they serve as unofficial ambassadors of goodwill. Since 1947, more than 47,000 scholars from 110 countries have received scholarships through The Rotary Foundation.
- Group Study Exchange (GSE) – Annual awards are made to paired Rotary districts to cover travel expenses for a team of non-Rotarians from a variety of professions. Rotarian hosts organize a four- to six-week itinerary of vocational, educational, and cultural points of interest. Since 1965, more than 57,000 individuals (almost 12,000 teams) from 100 countries have participated.
- Rotary World Peace Fellowships – Each year, up to 110 scholars are sponsored to study at one of the seven Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution for a master's-level degree.



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Group Study Exchange

Group Study Exchange is a program of the Rotary Foundation, with the aim of promoting international understanding and goodwill through personal connection. Teams of young professionals aged between 25 and 40 from two different countries exchange visits and for four to six weeks experience the way of life, customs, and vocational practices of another country, while sharing information about their homeland.



In Spring 2009, D1090 exchanged with D5040 in British Columbia, Canada, and I was lucky enough to be selected to take part, along with another member of your District Exec, Sally. The team consisted of 4 members plus our team leader Greg, the District Rotaract Liaison Officer, and was a mixed vocation group of a police officer, local government officer, nurse and archivist.

The exchange lasted for 30 days and during that time we travelled around BC, staying in 14 different places from cosmopolitan, bustling Vancouver to real cowboy country in 100 Mile House. We each spent around 6 days' worth of time on a variety of vocational placements, learning about the similarities and differences between our professions in the UK and in Canada. In addition we were shown the sights and infrastructure of the province from its government to its industry, its history to its healthcare systems. In a country heavily reliant on forestry, we learnt about the impact the collapse of the American housing market was having on Canada, the devastation caused by the pine beetle infestations and the difficulties caused by mill closures in the towns which grew up around them. We also saw the pioneering 'we can solve this' attitude of the Canadians in tackling these problems, the extreme beauty of this vast region and the immense warmth and hospitality of its people.

During the visit you stay with Rotarians in their homes, which gave us the opportunity to see the real Canada and experience the country from the point of view of the residents not the tourist guides. Because of this, we were able to do things that most tourists would never get to do, including taking part in a First Nations or native spiritual ceremony and as a complete contrast going to the rodeo. Both of these have enormous cultural significance to the areas that we visited and we were extremely privileged to experience these.

The GSE program truly does offer a once in a lifetime experience. It is not often that you get the chance to take a step back from your daily life, and the GSE is a perfect opportunity to reflect on what is important in life, who you are and what your values are, and to challenge yourself to try new things.



Rotaract is an opportunity to...



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Bowled over by Burnham Rotaract

How many Rotaractors does it take to knock over some skittles? As many as want to come!

Do you have some non-Rotaract friends or relatives who might enjoy coming along? Everyone is welcome (so long as they buy a ticket!!). There will also be a raffle and probably some silly games :)

For the uninitiated it is 10pin bowling but with only 9 pins, a wooden ball and a much shorter/wider lane.

Date: Friday 23 October

Time : 7.30pm for 8pm start

Tickets : £12 (includes cold finger buffet)

Venue : Seven Stars Pub, Knowl Hill



Please let us know at least a week in advance if you are interested in coming!

To book tickets contact Gaby on [poetryghost at yahoo.com](mailto:poetryghost@yahoo.com)

District Film Competition

The Rotaract Club of Langley & Iver invites you to take part in the District 1090 Short Film Competition.



The rules are simple: entries must be of your own creation, between 4 and 6 minutes long, and on a subject of your choice. They can be either an individual or a club entry, and the judges reserve the right to disqualify anything of a dubious or illegal nature!

The deadline for submissions is **1st November**, and submissions to be sent to Matt Evans (email Editor for contact details).

You will then be invited to a special viewing of the entries which will be voted on by a panel of expert judges, and the winner of the coveted D1090 Short Film Award chosen.

We hope that you are ready to get your creative juices flowing, and look forward to seeing your efforts!



Rotaract is an opportunity to...

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Club Corner: Caversham & Reading Rotaract Club

Fast Facts

Charter Date: 1974

Number of Members: 19

President 2009/10: James Ford

Charity of the Year: Helen and Douglas House

Website: www.rotaract.org.uk/caversham

Forming one of the largest clubs in District, Caversham & Reading Rotaract has a social calendar to match! With spontaneous evenings out on the town, trips to the cinema, Wii and DVD nights, not to mention karaoke, there's always something going on. In addition to these typical occasions other events have included a murder mystery night (where they discovered their new President is a murdering magician), a group outing to Thorpe Park, numerous meals and an authentic South African BBQ, to name but a few!

As well as their own events, the club has a strong presence within the District and we have supported events run by other clubs in the District, especially where fancy dress is involved, for which we've won a number of prizes! Similarly, the club enjoys strong links with its parent Rotary Club with members attending joint BBQs and even a President's Meal where we got to see the food cooked right in front of our eyes!

It's fair to say the club likes to embrace the branding statement of Rotaract in GB&I as being 'an opportunity to...' and sure enough its members have embraced the opportunity to try out a diverse array of new and fantastic things! This year, a strong focus on professional development has seen members enjoying windsurfing lessons and listening to fellow members describe their job roles. A lesson in falconry and other things are in the pipeline! One area where the club has really got involved has been underground; thanks to the interests of one member. At the start of the year, some members even donned hard hats and literally crawled into a mine to eat croissants and cereal. You can bet we were thrilled when our efforts paid off and our club won the District 'Breakfast in the most Unusual Place' competition!

The club remains strongly involved in the local community, not only just their charity choice for the year, Helen and Douglas House, a local hospice for terminally ill children. To this end we have helped out our parent Rotary Club as well as others in the area with a whole host of events, including church fetes and the Pangbourne riverside fete in June. Club members have also helped out at the Reading Half-Marathon; packed bags at Asda, assisted in street-side charity collections and donated blankets to the Salvation Army! If this wasn't enough, in July we assisted with marshalling and providing water at the annual Cancer Research UK 'Race for Life', and even got ourselves a shout-out on national radio! Coupled with charity pub-crawls, quizzes, not to mention the annual Christmas tin collection for the Salvation Army (which last year netted over 600 tins of food), its fair to say the Club provides a big contribution both locally and nationally.

Looking to the future the Club are currently planning a charity tea party, organising a bowling event as part of the ongoing District competition, and of course more mine trips!



Rotaract is an opportunity to...



Upcoming District Events

Below lists some of the events coming up in District 1090 that all clubs are invited to attend. If you would like more information or to buy tickets please contact the clubs directly.

If your club is organising an event and you would like to extend an invite to the rest of District 1090 please email everyone using the D1090 yahoo group and we'll automatically include it in this newsletter!

Date	Event	Location
13th October 09	Outgoing GSE Team Dinner	Holiday Inn, Maidenhead
23rd October 09	Skittles Challenge	7 Stars, Knowl Hill
31st October 09	High Wycombe Rotaract's Haunting Halloween	West Wycombe Village Hall
6th November 09	District Bowling Challenge	Calcott, Reading
14 November 09	District Film Festival	Burnham Resource Centre
28th November 09	Maidenhead Rotaract's Charity Bond Ball	Winter Hill Golf Club
12th December 09	District Christmas Party	Prezzo, Reading

High Wycombe's Haunting Hallowe'en

With Hallowe'en fast approaching, High Wycombe Rotaract is organising yet another party...

The event will be held at West Wycombe Village Hall on Saturday 31st October starting at 7:30pm until 11:30pm.

It promises to be a fantastic evening, where everyone from District is invited to join in with the fun and games for only £10 per person. This will include: a disco with karaoke; a light supper of jacket potatoes, with sausages, chilli and/or cheese, followed by dessert; competitions for His and Her Best Dressed, scariest Jack O'Lantern and spookiest photograph; a raffle and a Rotaract bar!

Many people will attend in fancy dress to get in to the spirit and in hope of winning Best Dressed, though this is not compulsory, but for those who do, a free drink is available from the bar.

The purpose of the event, as well as having fun, is to raise money for Helen and Douglas House; a charity which provides hospices for children and teenagers.

Overall, it will be a great evening to meet and catch up with old and current friends, make new ones, eat, drink and party... all for £10!

For more information, please contact Nikki Whibley at [nikwhib at gmail.com](mailto:nikwhib@gmail.com)

