



FOCUS ON: INTERNATIONAL

District Chairman's Welcome



Welcome to the February edition of 1090Times. The focus for this edition is International, since one of the great things about Rotaract is that it is an international organization with clubs in over 150 countries and geographic regions.

Not only can we make a difference at home, but we can also get involved on an worldwide scale. With the terrible earthquake in Haiti dominating headlines in the past few weeks, raising money for charities such as Shelterbox really can make a difference to the people affected by this devastating disaster. Many of you have already been hard at work raising funds for Shelterbox and the DEC Appeal, and this really will help those who have lost everything. You can read more about Shelterbox and the work it carries out in this edition.

Raising money is not the only way that Rotaract can get involved with the international community. Since 1995, Rotaractors from Great Britain and Ireland have been carrying out projects abroad, helping to make a practical difference to those less fortunate than themselves. Two members from D1090 took part in last year's RGBI Overseas Project, Go Gambia, helping to bring clean water and hygienic treatment facilities to remote villages to this small country in Western Africa. Working with the local people, they have directly ensured a better standard of life for the population of Misira and Sambel Kunda. More information about the Overseas Projects is available on the [RGBI website](#).

As I said, Rotaract is an international organization with more than 7600 clubs in 158 countries across the world. Therefore there is the unique opportunity to learn about other cultures and establish relationships with people from all over the globe, perhaps by becoming a "Twin club" with another in a different country. This could be done through a penpal-type relationship, exchange visits, or joint projects, but whichever way it is done, it is a great way to share ideas and thoughts and be part of something significant. World Rotaract Week is coming up next month, so could you use that opportunity to make contact with another club in recognition of Rotaract's global status?

One of Rotary's chief objectives is for the advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through the world. Rotaract can be part of this, and in this edition you will read about some of the ways in which this can be done and is being done in this district. Whether it is a large or small connection, together we can help make the world a better place.

Happy Reading...

Eleanor

District 1090 Chairman 2009-10

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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, Rotary and my extended family

An unusual fact about me: I had dark hair once!

Contact Me: gregwilkinson at ntlworld.com

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Rotary International's Haiti Disaster Response

Rotary clubs and districts worldwide are mobilising resources to deliver urgently needed relief to the millions affected by Haiti's devastating earthquake.

District 7020, which includes Haiti, has flown in 55 planes filled with more than £50,000 of medical equipment and supplies into the cities of Pignon and Port-de-Paix to bypass logistical problems in the hard-hit capital of Port-au-Prince.

The United Nations estimates that more than half of the buildings in the capital have collapsed. About 200,000 people are dead and millions more homeless.

"Rotary had an incredible infrastructure established before the quake, which has made our relief efforts very effective," says Dick McCombe, past District 7020 Governor and Haiti liaison chairman. "We're flying in supplies through backdoor channels and doing things a lot of agencies can't do."

The district's Haiti Task Force, set up two years ago to administer all financial aid to the nation, is working with local Rotary Clubs to deliver aid to Port-au-Prince and those who have taken refuge in the countryside. McCombe says Rotary was in a good position to help in Haiti, with 33 projects already underway to provide water, sanitation, medical care, and education. "We changed from teaching children how to read to saving their lives," says McCombe.

"Rotarians are incredibly generous and are doing what needs to be done," says McCombe. "We are setting aside some of these contributions for long-term recovery."

Rotarian Claude Surena, head of the Haiti Task Force and president of the Haitian Medical Association, is sheltering more than 100 injured people in his damaged home in Port-au-Prince. His house has become a makeshift hospital and medical distribution centre.

Within the next two weeks, McCombe says, a barge will be hired to transport 20 to 30 tons of clothes, blankets, folding beds, and other items to Haiti from Nassau, Bahamas.

ShelterBox responds

[ShelterBox](#) has already delivered more than 3,300 containers to Haiti, with another 1,000 or more scheduled to be deployed.

"This is the largest, quickest, and most complex deployment in our history," says John Leach, head of operations for ShelterBox. "We organized across four countries to get ShelterBoxes to the people of Haiti quickly."

Each box contains a tent that houses 10 people as well as a stove, blankets, and other essential items. Doctors have been using supplies from the containers to treat the injured. Hospitals in the capital city are using the tents to provide emergency shelter for postoperative patients.



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"There's hundreds of thousands of people that are injured. The walking wounded are everywhere," says Mark Pearson, one of three ShelterBox response team members in Haiti. "People are getting taken to hospital now, eight, nine days later."

The Rotary Foundation has established the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund, a donor advised fund primarily for U.S. Rotarians who want to donate toward recovery efforts. The fund has raised more than \$48,000 so far.

Around the world, Rotary clubs, districts, and Interact and Rotaract clubs have donated directly to ShelterBox. Other Rotarian relief efforts in Haiti include:

- The Rotary Club of Tocoa, Colón, Honduras, has chartered three flights to send 25,000 to 30,000 pounds of food to Haiti.
- A six-person team from the Rotary clubs of Inwood, Manhattan, and New York is working with Comprehensive and Response Service to establish a staging area in the Dominican Republic for bringing medical supplies into Port-au-Prince.
- Past District Governor Alfonso Leppes launched a campaign asking each of the more than 4,500 Rotarians in Chile to donate \$50 to the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund.
- Five Rotarian doctors from Venezuela are in Haiti as part of a search-and-rescue team established by their government.
- Rotary Clubs, with the help of Rotaract, came together in Reading, UK to collect donations from the public and raised an amazing £14,000 in just 2 days.

Internationality of Rotaract

It can be easy to forget that we are part of a larger organisation outside of our own clubs and district but we must remember that we are part of Rotary International and therefore we should be doing our bit for overseas aid and international understanding. We are after all part of an organisation that has over 1.2 million members in more than 200 countries and geographic regions. We are part of an organisation that does so much good throughout the world.

It was a single Rotarian, Tom Henderson, who came up with the Shelterbox idea. It was several Rotary Clubs who opened the corridor in Gaza to allow aid in. It is Rotary International working as one team to take that aid to those who need it most.

This ethos has certainly been shown in Rotary International and Shelterbox's response to the disaster in Haiti, and this is just one example of why I am proud to say I am a member of Rotaract and the Rotary Family.

I have an attitude of gratitude towards Rotary International, not only for providing me with so many amazing opportunities but also because it enables people around the world to make a difference. People of different race, creed and colour, for Rotary doesn't have any borders.

Members of the Rotary Family around the world are teaching the un-teachable, curing the incurable, giving peace to the world through the peace scholar program and giving opportunities to those who seldom get a second thought.

You are all part of Rotary International and you are the ones making a difference to the world, so thank you.

By: Lisa Hunter, Rotary International Rotaract Committee Member 2008-10



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Ending polio worldwide.



Rotary. Humanity in motion.
www.rotary.org

District 1090 International Service

With the recent Haiti disaster you should be more familiar with ShelterBox, but look further afield and you will discover that there is a broad range of projects that our District is keen to support, and here are a few of them.

Aquabox is a charity founded by the Rotary Club of Wirksworth in Derbyshire, which specialises in sending boxes to 3rd World disaster areas where there is a desperate need for clean drinking water, such as after severe flooding. The Aquabox has a single filter and purification tablets to treat 1100 litres of water. The box is also shipped with 4 survival blankets. Aquabox Gold is packed full of humanitarian aid items specific to the area/disaster.

The Rotaract Overseas Project Go Gambia 2009 can personally vouch for practicality of the system as they flew out an Aquabox with them last February. It filtered local ground water for the whole team during two weeks in the remote countryside, easily providing over 40 litres of safe drinking water daily for the Rotarians and Rotaractors.

Why not raise funds to sponsor a box? With prices from £50-£80, this is a great way for Rotaract to partake in an International venture. For more information on this visit www.aquabox.org.

The **Rotary Shoebox Scheme** originally started in 1994, was intended to provide children of Iasi, in north-east Romania with Christmas gifts. Since then, the scheme has become an RIBI International Project and every District in RIBI is involved in this popular Scheme.

Each year around 60,000 Shoeboxes or gifts are sent out to many different countries in Central and Eastern Europe. Toys are especially useful all year round for Birthday presents in the Orphanages, Homes and Hospitals. All age groups, including teenagers, have welcomed the boxes. In addition to Romania, Shoebox gifts have been delivered to Belarus, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Albania, Croatia and Kosovo. Find out more at www.rotaryshoebox.org

Moving on from 'box schemes', there exists a revolving loans program. Take Malawi which is a very poor county, and it's dire situation has been further amplified by the recent decline in world markets. However, funding in the form of 'micro' business loans can alleviate the situation by increasing the economic freedom of its people.

Opportunity International is a charity with a difference. Instead of giving grants, the charity gives small loans: instead of giving a 'hand-out' it gives the poor a 'hand-up'; rather than creating a culture of dependency, it encourages individual entrepreneurship. The loans are repayable and the money is then recycled into new loans. A large proportion of women are now receiving business loans.

Check out **Rotary IMPACT** at www.impact.org.uk, which aims to provide medical help in the 3rd world to those who are unable to get to a medical centre. This takes the form of travelling surgical camps in Africa to the Lifeline Express Hospital Trains in India.

Other International projects are below, though there are many more besides!

- Rotaract Overseas Projects www.rotaract.org.uk/rotaract-overseas-projects
- Rotarians Ophthalmoscope Initiative www.sgrc.org.uk
- Rotary Life Box www.life-box.org.uk



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Building Communities - Bridging Continents

After taking the stage to the tune of "California, Here I Come," Rotary International President-elect Ray Klinginsmith announced the 2010-11 RI theme, *Building Communities -- Bridging Continents*, during the opening plenary session of the 2010 International Assembly.

Klinginsmith said he arrived at the theme after reviewing RI themes of years past. He noticed that only a few spoke to non-Rotarians.

"As a result, I decided to search for a briefly stated theme that would fulfil two objectives: the first to explain Rotary to non-Rotarians, and the second to validate our work for Rotarians," he said. "The words I have selected to describe Rotary's current mission and to highlight our achievements are what we do best: *Building Communities -- Bridging Continents*."

The president-elect described how his 50 years of Rotary experience have contributed to his focus on communities at home and abroad. For example, as a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar, he studied for a year in South Africa, becoming the first student from his small town of Unionville, Missouri, USA, to study abroad.

The timing of the theme announcement, which took place in the evening, was a break in tradition from past assemblies and a reflection of Klinginsmith's willingness to embrace change. He encouraged district governors-elect to re-examine traditional procedures that were no longer best practices and to begin new traditions where appropriate.

He also paid homage to Rotarians of the past who helped raise Rotary to a place of prominence on the world stage. He urged district governors-elect to meet the past RI presidents and other former officers in attendance to deepen their connection to Rotary's past.

District Governors-Elect also got their first glimpse of the 2010-11 presidential emphases during the second plenary session of the 2010 International Assembly. Polio eradication and outreach to youth and young adults top RI President-Elect Ray Klinginsmith's "to-do" list. Also featured are the Future Vision Plan's six areas of focus:

- Peace and conflict prevention/resolution
- Disease prevention and treatment
- Water and sanitation
- Maternal and child health
- Basic education and literacy
- Economic and community development



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D1090 - doing our bit for International Understanding

It's true to say that most clubs in District 1090 like to get stuck in to international aid projects and learning about other cultures...so here's a round up of what they've been up to!

Langley & Iver Rotaract: 2009 had quite an international flavour for Langley & Iver, with members taking part in projects overseas. The first was Nupur, who took part in Go Gambia, the Rotaract Overseas Project, in February. The team of 13, made up of Rotaractors from across the Great Britain & Ireland and their Rotarian leaders, headed out to two remote villages in The Gambia in order to bring clean water to the villagers and to provide facilities for the local clinic. Working with local labourers the team built a water tower, stand pipes, washhouse and clinic toilets, as well as rebuilding the wall surrounding the clinic to improve security and keep the animals out!

Next was Eleanor, who took part in the Group Study Exchange program to British Columbia. GSE is a program of the Rotary Foundation, with the aim of promoting international understanding and goodwill through personal connection. [See the October issue for more details!]

Finally, not wanting to miss out, we all went on a club trip to Berlin for a long weekend. Arriving on the anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, we got an idea of the horrors experienced by the country during the Second World War.

Caversham & Reading Rotaract

Over the last few months, Caversham and Reading Rotaract have entertained their taste buds with the wide variety of ethnic foods available on their doorsteps. They've enjoyed a Chinese meal at Furama, Indian at Chennai Dosa, Ethiopian at Risc, along with numerous trips to Thai 9 and the Warwick for some more oriental cuisine. They also celebrated a somewhat authentic St Andrews Day, complete with Haggis, neeps and tatties and other treats brought especially from Scotland. They look forward to enjoying a Lebanese meal sometime in the near future.

Other events include an international tea party where teas from all over the world were sampled and enjoyed. Hopefully sometime in the near future, Caversham and Reading will be organising a district event to celebrate the variety and versatility the world has to offer us.

Maidenhead Rotaract: Our club is passionate about exploring the international opportunities out there for us to get involved with as we believe this is a key part of being involved in Rotaract. Of course we do the normal international-theme meals like all the other clubs and have recently enjoyed a Moroccan evening, Spanish night and of course a firm favourite, Italian!

But we don't stop there, we have been talking to a variety of Rotaract clubs around the world including Italy, India, Brazil and Canada. We've even taken part in an international recipe calendar by submitting the recipe for Spotted Dick to be included in the charity calendar produced by the Rotaract Club of Toronto.

We are currently investigating twinning with a club in Germany, which is very exciting and we look forward to keeping everyone up-to-date on our progress. We are also waiting the arrival of Maverick Thoroughbred, the mascot of The Rotaract Club of Greater Louisville, Kentucky, so we can show him the sights of the local area! As a club we are also planning our own mascot tour of Europe and plan to send Boris Beafeater off on his travels soon!

Finally, we are planning a World Culture Party for 9th March for the whole of district to enjoy...



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Submit your Data by 1st May

Did you know that your club needs to report its current contact information to Rotary International (RI) every year? Having up-to-date contact information ensures that your club receives important communications from Rotary International.

The Worldwide Rotaract Directory only prints contact information for Rotaract clubs if it has been reported in the **last two Rotary years**. In this year's Rotaract directory only 2,603 clubs (1,235 less than last year!) out of 8,002 have reported contact information for 2008-09 or 2009-10 and therefore included it in the directory. That means **5,399 Rotaract clubs are either listed as "no officer details" or with last years contacts!**

Is your club info up to date?

One hint is that if your club has not received any communications from RI this Rotary year that may mean they do not have your club's correct contact info. Submit your club's contact information by [clicking here](#).

Are you looking for a new opportunity to get involved?

As we are now half way through this Rotaract Year, it is time to look forward to the next chapter in Rotaract and ask if you would like to take on an District Executive role for 2010-11.

Being involved in the District team opens you up to a wider view of Rotaract and Rotary; it gives you great personal experiences and a fantastic feeling of achievement. You will get to know more people in the organisation, as well as of course having great fun.

The Positions we are recruiting for are as follows:

- Chairman: Representing Rotaract in District Rotary Meetings & Conference; point of contact for the Presidents
- Vice Chairman: Supporting the Chairman and other team members
- Administrator: main role is to take minutes at Meetings and send out information to clubs and Rotarians.
- Treasurer: to look after the running of the District Accounts, prepare the annual budget etc
- Publicity Officer: help clubs with advice on how they can promote themselves better. Help raise the profile of Rotaract within the district through the newsletter & website.
- Membership & Extension Officer: support the development of new Rotaract Clubs in the district, and help existing clubs with ideas and advice on how they can increase their membership.
- Community Officer: this role involves promoting service projects in the local community
- International Officer: encouraging clubs to become involved in international projects, including PolioPlus and Shelterbox.
- Professional development officer: this role involves promoting personal and professional development in the district
- Social Officer: co-ordinate the district calendar, organise district socials such as the Christmas Meal

If anyone is interested or would like some more information about any of the positions please feel free to contact Eleanor at any time by phone or email. Please give these positions great thought; it could be a great opportunity for you.

Rotaract is an opportunity to...



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Experience Rotaract on a Global Scale

Do you want to strengthen your Rotaract club? Learn more about excellent Rotaract service projects? Build lasting friendships with fellow Rotaractors from around the world? If so, you'll want to attend the Rotaract Preconvention Meeting and discover how *The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands!*

Taking place in Montreal, Canada from 18th – 23rd June 2010 come along to discover the true internationality of the Family of Rotary, it's the event of the year so make sure you don't miss out!

What is the Rotaract Preconvention Meeting?

At this meeting, participants will have the opportunity to exchange ideas on a wide range of Rotaract topics in interactive workshops and listen to interesting and informative speakers, all designed to support and enhance the Rotaract activities underway in your community. Keynote speakers will include the leaders of Rotary International.

In addition to the official program, there are social events specially planned for Rotaractors by local Rotaractors on the "Rotaract Host Organizing Committee." Their job is to make sure there is plenty of fellowship!

It is the only "OFFICIAL" Rotary International sponsored Rotaract event for 2010 and the only one where the RI President will address Rotaractors specifically at our own convention meeting. It's truly international, not regional!!

How much does it cost?

The Rotaract Preconvention Meeting is **included** in your registration fee for the RI Convention. BUT be sure to take advantage of the early registration discount!

- those who register prior to **31 March 2010** will pay **US\$100**;
- and those who register **on-site** will pay **US\$125**.

How do I register?

Don't forget that there are several things you need to do to ensure you're fully registered for the Rotaract Preconvention, including:

- Register with Rotary International - [click here](#)
- Book your hotel/hostel - [click here](#) (McGill University is the official Rotaract accommodation)
- Arrange your travel e.g. flights, train, car etc
- Buy your social event package (as detailed on www.rotaract2010.com)

Why should I attend?

There are many reasons to attend the Preconvention and Convention. First, it is a chance to see the world of Rotary and Rotaract in a whole new light. You know that Rotaract is an international organization, but when you attend a worldwide meeting, you really see that aspect of Rotaract differently. You will also learn more than you thought possible, get new ideas for your club, make lifetime friends, and have a BLAST. Its hard to do justice to the experience with words. Its something you have to experience for yourself!



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District governors-elect recall time as Rotaractors & Interactors

Four Rotary alumni who are now District Governors-Elect say they're proud of their youth programs experience, and they've been hooked on Rotary ever since.

Virgilio Farcon, Julia Gereda de Carlin, Rajyalakshmi Vadlamani, and Carlos Enrique Giraldo recall how their early Rotary experiences shaped them into the leaders they are today. Several were "raised in Rotary" by parents and other relatives who were Rotarians and encouraged them to get involved in Interact.

"I couldn't understand why my parents would like me to be involved until I personally experienced it, and it was my experience that caused me to move onto the next level," says Farcon, of District 3800 (Philippines). He recently passed down the tradition of participating in Rotary's youth programs to his eldest son, who is a Rotaractor.

Gereda de Carlin, of District 4450 (Peru), says she wanted to join Interact at a time when women were not allowed. A few years later, when the first Rotaract club in Peru was chartered, she became its secretary and later met her husband, another Rotaractor.

"For me, Rotary is a way of life, one that my husband and I have lived our whole lives," Gereda de Carlin says. "The Rotaract program showed us just how good Rotary is."

Vadlamani, of District 3150 (India), says she got started in Interact because of her father, a Rotarian, who sponsored her high school's Interact club. She became the club's charter president and led service projects to help elderly and indigent community members. She even met her husband through Rotary Youth Leadership Awards.

"To share our time rather than money is what Interact taught me. It is the time and compassion with which we do small deeds that is important," she says.

Giraldo, of District 4280 (Colombia), also was encouraged by his Rotarian father to join Interact and Rotaract. "Some of the most important elements of Rotaract and Interact are the fellowship and friendship. They make you feel welcome. That's not common among other organisations," he says.

All four agree on the importance of getting involved in Rotary at an early age. "It's what the family of Rotary is all about. When we involve children, there is almost a guarantee that they will be involved in Rotary, especially as leaders," Farcon says.



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Get Recognition for your club



Rotaract District 1090 is one of the most active districts in Great Britain & Ireland. As you all do so many excellent projects to help and support your local communities why not get recognition for it?

Rotaract Presidential Citation

RI President Kenny encourages all Rotaract clubs to strive for a Rotaract Presidential Citation. To qualify a club must complete any four activities from the categories listed in the Presidential Citation Brochure available from www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/900a_en09.pdf

Your Sponsor Rotary Club President must sign the Rotaract Citation Form and submit it to the District Governor **no later than 31 March 2010.**

World Rotaract Week Recognition

During the week of 8-14 March 2010, Rotaract will celebrate the founding of the first Rotaract club on 13 March 1968. Rotaract clubs around the world are encouraged to partner with their sponsor Rotary clubs and increase community awareness of the program through performing the following activities:

- Making a presentation about Rotaract to a Rotary club that doesn't yet sponsor a Rotaract club
- Inviting Rotarians to attend a Rotaract club meeting
- Attending a Rotary club meeting
- Conducting a joint Rotaract-Rotary club project

Those that join this celebration and tell the world about Rotaract will receive recognition for their work from Rotary International. Interested clubs can download the World Rotaract Week Celebration Recognition Form from: www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/rotaweek_03.pdf **The submission deadline is 15 April 2010.**

RI Recognition of Outstanding Rotaract Projects

Each year, hundreds of Rotaract clubs submit details about their exceptional community or international service projects to Rotary International. In the 2008-09 Rotary year, eight clubs were selected by the Rotaract Committee to receive international and regional awards.

To learn more about developing a great community or international service project, download the Communities in Action publication from: www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/605a_en.pdf

To submit a project for the 2009-10 Rotary year (the projects should be completed when you submit it for review), download the Outstanding Projects Form from: www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/rotaract_outstanding_projects.pdf

Submit your project to RI no later than 1 February 2010



Rotaract is an opportunity to...

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Eastbourne Conference

Looking for fun and fellowship – this is a **weekend** you can't miss, yes, that's right **weekend!**

Do you want to strengthen your Rotaract club, learn more about Rotary and build lasting friendships with Rotaractors, and Rotarians from around District 1090? If so, you will definitely want to attend the Rotary District Conference in Eastbourne.

Head off down to the sunshine coast of Eastbourne, for the **weekend of 19th - 21st March 2010** and join members of the Rotary Family for a fun-filled weekend.

It will be a chance to hear some inspiring speakers, help raise money for Polio Plus with a Rotary/Rotaract Challenge, visit a beautiful city on the south coast and have a fun weekend away with some good friends.

Rotary District have very kindly offered a **discount to Rotaractors**, so just £30 gets you into all the conference sessions and to the Friday night's entertainment. With an eye to finances, a range of accommodation options are available, meaning that **the whole weekend could cost as little as £80.**

Further details on the programme are available on the conference website www.rotary1090conference.co.uk, and with an African theme, it promises to be a great weekend. On the Sunday will be your Chairman's address – a chance for us to tell Rotary what we've been up to over the past 12 months and show them why we are the best district in Great Britain & Ireland!

As if you needed more convincing, here's some more reasons to come along:

- Fun weekend away
- Meet with fellow Rotaractors and Rotarians from District 1090
- Listen to some truly inspirational speakers
- Support your Rotaract District Chairman as she addresses the audience!
- Help raise money for the Polio Challenge with a Rotary/Rotaract project
- Visit a beautiful city on the south coast
- Great value for money

Please help and support your Rotaract District and promote this great conference to your fellow club members. We want to see all clubs represented to show that the future of Rotary lies with Rotaract!

For details on how to book please see the conference brochure or contact District Chairman Eleanor. The **deadline for Rotaract bookings has been extended to the 15th February (Rotaractors only)!**



Rotaract is an opportunity to...



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World Rotaract Week Challenge

Please be involved in this year's world Rotaract week challenge. World Rotaract week will take place on the 10th-16th March 2010. A date I am sure you all have in your diary already!

This year Rotaract in Great Britain & Ireland are asking for all Rotaract clubs to run an event that raises money for the End Polio Now campaign. They are looking to unite as an organisation to meet the challenge set by Rotary International for each Rotaract club to raise a minimum of one hundred US Dollars, which is around £60 or €70.

The aim is for each club to raise \$100 each year over the next three years. It is believed if this can be achieved we could eradicate polio from the world. So please help to achieve this goal and join the world Rotaract week challenge.

Your End Polio Now event could be a charity car wash, a Purple Pinky day or any other event you can think of. This is a competition and a prize will be awarded to the club whom the RGBI Exec team deem, to have met the most criteria

The Rules:

The event must take place during World Rotaract Week (10th - 16th March), preferably on World Rotaract Day (13th March). We must have photographic evidence

The Judging Criteria:

- Innovation
- Amount of money raised
- How many club members participate
- The publicity gained (local paper, radio, TV) - evidence to be sent with entry
- Rotary club involvement

To enter the competition

Simply visit the RGBI website and download the entry form - [click here](#). If you have any questions or want more information please contact Natasha, RGBI Community Officer.

The deadline date for entries is: April 1st 2010

Polio has no cure. It is a crippling and potentially fatal disease and children under the age of five are at greatest risk. However Polio is easy to prevent by vaccination that costs just 50p.

£1 saves the lives of 2 children



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Club Corner: Langley & Iver Rotaract Club

Fast Facts

Charter Date: 1975

Number of Members: 8

President 2009/10: Tim Cunniff

Charity of the Year: Crossroads Slough & Shelterbox

Website: www.rotaract.org.uk/langleyandiver

Langley and Iver is currently one of the smaller clubs in the district, but we are still a very active one! Publicity definitely features heavily in our plans for the year as although good things do come in small packages, it would be good to have a few more members.

In 2008/9 we had another successful year in terms of our fundraising, raising over £2000 for our chosen charities Taplow Traffic and Polio Plus, which also helped us in gaining a Presidential Citation. This year we have again chosen a local charity and an international one, and are well on the way to raising another good sum for these equally worthy causes. We are working very closely with this year's local charity Crossroads, and have helped them with a number of their own events and we hope to continue this work over the year.

We have in the past been actively involved in the community, helping at the local schools clearing the play area from rubbish and painting classrooms. Recently these links have broken down so we are working to improve them again. However, we work closely with our sponsoring and neighbouring Rotary clubs, helping at many of their community events including Moonraker, the Uxbridge Autoshow, Heathrow Family Day and Gala Opera Nights.

The relationship with our sponsoring club is growing ever stronger, and coming up in March we have the next round of the Rotary/Rotaract Challenge, which this year is the ever-popular skittles. We have won the Challenge Gauntlet for the past 4 rounds so we have a reputation to maintain!

Socially, we have quite a varied calendar, including the old favourites of quizzes, cinema trips and Sunday walks often involving stopping at the pub! Other events have been trips to Didcot Railway Museum, ice hockey matches and the theatre, and of course attending the many events organised by other clubs. Also, last year we went for a long weekend to Berlin, and there are plans for further trips to Yorkshire and Riga, so we keep ourselves busy!

Coming up on the 27th February, we have the latest in the "Best... disco in the world, ever!", with the theme this year being the jungle - yes it is that time again to dress up in costume and party so we hope to see lots of you there!



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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
5th February 10	District Ten-pin Bowling Challenge	Tenpin, Maidenhead
9th February 10	Bourne End & Cookham Rotaract's Charter Presentation	Little Marlow
27 February 10	Langley & Iver Rotaract's Jungle Disco!	Burnham Resource Centre
6 - 7 March 10	Moonraker Challenge	Chiltern Hills
9 March 10	Maidenhead Rotaract's World Culture Party	The Rose PH, Maidenhead
19 - 21 March 10	Rotary District Conference	Eastbourne
10 April 10	District PR & Marketing Seminar - Part 2	Theale Village Hall
23rd April 10	Burnham Rotaract's St George's Day Party	TBC
30th April 10	Maidenhead Rotaract's Joint Cheese & Wine Quiz	Hollyport Memorial Hall
8 May 10	High Wycombe Rotaract's May Ball	TBC

Rotary Celebrates 105 years of Service

On 23 February, Rotary will celebrate its 105th anniversary. On that day, we also mark World Understanding and Peace Day, for in Rotary, part of our mission is working for peace – not through military might, but through our humanitarian work. Members of the Rotary Family understand very well that the causes of war and strife are often the same: poverty, inequality, deprivation, and a lack of hope.

Rotary works to restore that hope by bringing health, education, and the promise of a better future. We do this through the locally based club and district projects for which we are known, and through larger projects run internationally and with the support of our Rotary Foundation – projects that support schools, build wells, improve quality of life, and bring us ever closer to our goal of a polio-free world.

The years that we have been working together through PolioPlus have been years of steady determination, of lessons learned, of confidence built. Where government representatives and health organizations have been refused entry, Rotary has been allowed in, because our local service and our international reputation have earned us the trust of others. Through our work, we have helped build bridges of cooperation between governments and communities. With every one of those bridges, and with every drop of polio vaccine, we come closer to the better, healthier, and more peaceful world that we know is possible to build.

Glenn E. Estess Sr., RI Foundation Trustee Chair

