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Rotaract
Preconvention
Meeting 2009

19 - 21st June
Birmingham, UK

Will you be there?

Register today!

Rotaract Newswire

RI Rotaract Committee News

Chair Terry Phillips - Who is my Brother (or Sister)



The poem **Brothers** was written by the late Miles Martin and set to music by Carl Steubing. Both were members of my Rotary Club. I have sung this song many times at my church and have always found it very moving.

“Who is that man in garments quaint and rare?
Who is that man who speaks in rhythms alien to my ear?
Who is he? Who is he?
To him I am as strange as he to me;
and in his questing eyes I read a silent plea.
Who are you? Who are you?
How sad it is we do not watch each other;
but when he smiles,
At once I recognize – my brother!
I hope that he can see in me his brother.”

We have a great opportunity to meet our Rotaract brothers and sisters at the Rotaract Preconvention meeting in Birmingham, England. We are now about 7 weeks away. At this international Rotaract meeting we will bring together Rotaractors from around the world. We will meet old friends and make new friends. We have planned an informative two day program for all attendees plus several fellowship activities to share with your Rotaract Family. All attendees are invited to stay for the Rotary Convention which follows immediately after.

Rotaract and Rotary have brothers and sisters around the world that are not part of our organization. Some of them desperately need our help. Ending Polio Now is a key goal for our organization. When we achieve our goal of a polio free world, all our brothers and sisters around the globe will be free from this dreaded disease. Please help End Polio Now and send in your club's contribution to The Rotary foundation.

This is my last message to you as RI Rotaract Committee Chair. I am honored to have had this opportunity to serve and to make many new friends. I now have Rotaract brothers and sisters around the globe. Try to join us at our family reunion in Birmingham.

Linked in Rotaract and Rotary
PDG Terry Phillips, Chair RI Rotaract Committee



Help us to share the exciting and informative information contained within this newsletter—we want it to reach as many Rotaractors and Rotarians as possible but we need **your help**.

- Forward this newsletter to all your Club/District/Region/MDIO members
- Add the newsletter to your Club/District/Region/MDIO website
- Send this newsletter to the Rotarians in your sponsoring Rotary Clubs
- Send this newsletter to your Rotary District Governor
- Create a note on Facebook and link it to this newsletter



Make Dreams Real

Rotary Resource Groups

Each year, the RI President appoints resource groups to help clubs and districts address

specific issues in their communities but do you know that as Rotaractors you too can use these groups to help with your club programs and promotion?

For 2008-09, RI President Dong Kurn Lee has appointed five resource groups to support his emphases and reduce child mortality. These groups are:

Health & Hunger Resource Group

The Health and Hunger Resource Group supports Rotary club and district efforts to improve health in their communities, especially among children and mothers. It encourages projects that improve nutrition, reduce vulnerability to preventable and treatable diseases, and increase access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. Find out more at:

<http://www.rotary.org/en/AboutUs/RotaryLeadership/RIpresident/Pages/HealthandHunger.aspx>

Literacy Resource Group

More than 800 million people worldwide are unable to read or write; a lack of skills that makes them especially vulnerable to hunger, disease, and extreme poverty. Child mortality is also closely linked to literacy rates. The Literacy Resource Group connects Rotarians with the information and tools they need to actively promote literacy at home and abroad. It asks Rotary clubs to learn about literacy and education issues in their communities and help increase access to quality learning opportunities for those in need. Find out more at

<http://www.rotary.org/en/AboutUs/RotaryLeadership/RIpresident/Pages/Literacy.aspx>

Public Image Resource Group

The Public Image Resource Group provides information and support to Rotary clubs and districts to help them promote projects, share success stories, and explain what Rotary is and does through the media. Group members, many of whom are public relations and marketing professionals, particularly focus on assisting Rotarians, clubs, and districts in developing plans and initiating activities that will enhance the organization's local visibility and help implement Rotary's global public image campaign. Find out more at:

<http://www.rotary.org/en/AboutUs/RotaryLeadership/RIpresident/Pages/PublicImage.aspx>

Water Resource Group

Water is essential to human life, yet many people take it for granted. Today, 1.1 billion people – nearly 20 percent of the world's population – lack access to safe, clean drinking water, and 2.6 billion live without basic sanitation facilities. Contaminated water and inadequate sanitation exacerbate the spread of preventable waterborne illnesses, resulting in the deaths of about 6,000 people every day, the majority of whom are children. The Water Resource Group has been appointed to support Rotary's efforts to address this important global issue. Besides providing information to Rotary clubs and districts, it urges every Rotarian to become aware of water-related issues and participate in a water or sanitation project. The group also works to identify, facilitate, and develop guidelines for major Rotary water and sanitation efforts around the world. Find out more at:

<http://www.rotary.org/en/AboutUs/RotaryLeadership/RIpresident/Pages/Water.aspx>

Youth & Young Adults Resource Group

Right now, tomorrow's global leaders could be teenagers looking for a way to make a difference in their communities, high school graduates experiencing their first year of college a long way from home, and young professionals seeking opportunities for service. They're today's youth and young adults, and their actions will significantly shape the world's future – and that of Rotary – for years to come. Whether it's through Interact, Rotaract, Rotary Youth Exchange, or Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), Rotary's youth programs provide young people an opportunity to develop their character and embrace new experiences while exposing them to the organization's values of service, high ethical standards, and peace.

The Youth Services Resource Group provides guidance to Rotary clubs and districts on projects and activities that serve youth in their communities. The group also promotes information sharing and best practices within Rotary's four youth programs – Interact, Rotaract, RYLA and Youth Exchange. Find out more at:

<http://www.rotary.org/en/AboutUs/RotaryLeadership/RIPresident/Pages/Youth.aspx>

I hope you find these resource groups of use with your Rotaract activities.

Yours in the family of Rotary

Lisa Burnett

Who are the 2008-2009 Rotaract Committee?

Below are your representatives on the 2008-2009 Rotaract Committee, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact any of them.

Rotary Representatives



Chair: **Terry N. Phillips** (USA)
(Term ends 30 June 09)

Member of Rotary Since: 1978

Special Interests: Golf, travel - I've visited all but one of the US States and all but one of the continents of the world!

Email: tphilli1 [at] nycap.rr.com



Vice Chair: **Dong-Joon Lee** (USA)
(Term ends 30 June 2011)

Member of Rotary Since: 1984

Special Interests: Reading and Travelling

Email: rotary7230 [at] msn.com



Member: **Héctor A. Boffelli** (Argentina)
(Term ends 30 June 2010)

Member of Rotary Since: 1989

Special Interests: I enjoy reading and love to travel. I also enjoy training Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors, RYLarians etc about Rotary.

Email: beblo [at] sme.com.ar



Member: **Eva Brodehl** (Germany)
(Term ends 30 June 2011)

Member of Rotary Since: 2005

Special Interests: Helping people to maintain & improve their vision.

Email: eva.brodehl [at] gmx.net



Member: **Donald Craighead** (USA)
(Term ends 30 June 09)

Member of Rotary Since: 1978

Special Interests: Rotaract, networking and socialising

Email: dcraighead [at] iopener.net



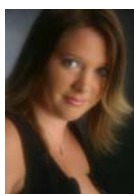
Member: **Michele D. Guy** (Canada)
(Term ends 30 June 2010)

Member of Rotary Since: 1991

Special Interests: Michele is passionate about friends, likes to help people as well as socializing and contributing to social events. She also likes to read the newspaper front to back

Email: mguy [at] courtscrane.com

Rotaract Representatives



Member: **Lisa Burnett** (England)
(Term ends 30 June 2009)

Member of Rotaract Since: 2000

Special Interests: Lisa enjoys swimming, Taebo boxing and visiting new countries.

Email: lisa [at] rotaract.org.uk



Member: **You-Sun Lee** (Korea)
(Term ends 30 June 2009)

Member of Rotaract Since: 2002

Special Interests: Travelling and meeting new people.

Email: yiyusun [at] hotmail.com



Member: **Mary Kathryn DeLodder** (USA)
(Term ends 30 June 2009)

Member of Rotaract Since: 2000

Special Interests: Spending time with my husband, recycling, fish keeping, Rotaract education

Email: mkdelodder [at] gmail.com



Member: **Lawi Sultan Njeremani** (Kenya)
(Term ends 30 June 2009)

Member of Rotaract Since: 2003

Special Interests: reading, music, volunteerism, travelling, and exposure to world cultures.

Email: lawisultan [at] gmail.com



Member: **Krishnakumar Narayanan** (India)
(Term ends 30 June 2009)

Member of Rotaract Since: 1998

Special Interests: Travelling

Email: nkrishna [at] visteon.com



Member: **Juan Jose Martinez Rivas** (Mexico)
(Term ends 30 June 2009)

Member of Rotaract Since: 1996

Special Interests: Music - I have very eclectic tastes!

Email: juanjosevadeq[at]prodigy.net.mx

Multi-District Information Organisations (MDIOs)

Rotaract multidistrict information organizations (MDIOs) function as regional resource centers for Rotaractors. They comprise Rotaract clubs in two or more districts, within a country or across several countries. MDIOs are formed to disseminate information and facilitate communication among Rotaract clubs in the participating districts.

Rotaract MDIOs are excellent vehicles for communicating program updates, local and international news, and event bulletins, and for uniting Rotaractors from different clubs and districts within a particular region. MDIOs frequently offer Rotaractors information in the form of publications, Internet services, and direct links with RI staff.

Over the last 10 years, Rotaract MDIOs have been a driving force in enhancing communication & promoting Rotaract awareness & growth in many regions of the world.

So do you think your region could benefit from an MDIO? If so get in touch with Rotary International (rotarat@rotary.org) to find out how you can do this.

Also contact existing MDIOs to find out how they work t, use the link below for the list:
<http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/YouthPrograms/Rotaract/Pages/LinksToMDIOWebsite.aspx>



**END
POLIO
NOW**

Polio Challenge Update

Polio eradication has been Rotary's top priority since 1985, with more than \$1.2 billion contributed to the effort to date. This funding and the hands-on volunteering by Rotarians at immunization days has helped bring about a 99% decline in the number of polio cases and eradicated it from all but 4 countries.

However, whilst there are still people being infected by this terrible disease the world will not be safe from its debilitating effects.

The Gates Foundation has pledged a further US\$255 million to the challenge, taking the total donation from the foundation to US\$355.

But this does not come free, Rotary International must raise US\$200 million dollars by 30th June 2012 to match this grant.

The participation of Rotary clubs and individual Rotarians in

Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge remains crucial to its success. Rotary has raised nearly US\$73 million toward this amount. But Rotaractors around the world can do their bit too.

You have a unique opportunity to be involved in the eradication of polio and the chance to work together with others in the Rotary family to fulfill the Rotary commitment to the children of the world.

The 2008-09 Rotaract Committee are asking each Rotaract Club to raise US\$100 per year for 2008-09, 2009-10, and 2010-11 by doing some simple fundraisers. Rotaract clubs reaching the annual US\$100 goal will receive a certificate from Rotary International at the end of the year.

So what have clubs been doing to reach this goal?

The Rotaract Club of Maidenhead, D1090, UK organized a 24 hour technology famine in March this year. 6 members of the

club were sponsored to go without electricity, gas, phones, computers and all other mod-cons in aid of the Polio Challenge.

The club successfully raised over US\$970. But they are not stopping there as they're already planning their next polio fundraiser.

The RI Rotaract Committee are also giving Rotaract Preconvention Participants the chance to help raise funds for this cause by running a message of hope project in Birmingham, UK this June.

Preconvention participants will be able to submit messages that will be displayed on-screen at the end of the plenary sessions by donated US\$5 to the Challenge.



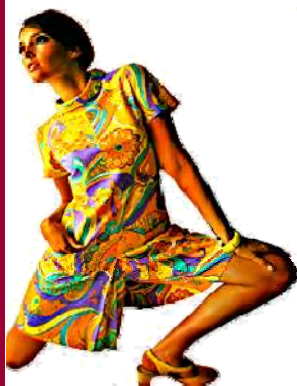
Birmingham is going **BIG**

With 12 weeks to go, Birmingham already had 16,112 people registered, that compares with Copenhagen's final total of 14,807 and Barcelona's 19,052. At the current rate, Birmingham could be the best attended Rotary convention in Europe in recent times.



So let's help break a record! I encourage every Rotaractor to attend the 2009 Rotaract Preconvention meeting taking place in Birmingham, UK from 18th - 21st June. Lets show Rotary the power of Rotaract by having the largest Rotaract attendance ever!

The Swinging Sixties is coming to back to Birmingham, UK, **in just over 1 months time**, so don't leave it too late to party on down and get your registration in today! Let your hair down, put on your flower-power hipsters and practice saying the words "groovy" at the Rotaract Preconvention Party Program – register today at www.brum09.com



A groovy swinging sixties party program has been organised for you by Rotaract in Great Britain & Ireland and includes:

- Indian Theme Night with bollywood dancers, an Indian 2-course buffet and disco until 1am
- A Swinging Sixties Club Night with 6 different bars to party in and a Champagne reception
- A traditional English pub crawl around the city canals with some great discounts on drinks
- An evening visit to the Snowdome for some indoor fun on real snow
- An afternoon visit to Cadbury World, uncovering a world of chocolate delights

Don't miss out on the biggest party Birmingham has ever seen and get your registration in today – visit www.brum09.com.

The Preconvention meetings give you an opportunity to meet Rotaractors from all over the world, to share ideas and cultures and make friends from every continent in the world. By staying on for the Rotary Convention you get to meet Rotarians interested in the future of Rotaract willing to listen to your ideas and opinions.

Speakers & Workshops

The RI Rotaract Committee have planned a great preconvention program that includes speakers from all over the world, including a special address by Rotary International President D.K Lee, presentation of the Rotaract Outstanding Projects and an update on the status of Rotaract around the world.

They have also planned some interesting and inspiring workshops so Rotaractors from around the world can share ideas, best practices and discuss topics that are affecting their clubs and districts. Some favourite workshop are making a return including focus on the DRR, how to organise effective international and fundraising projects, as well as some new workshops for this year such as how to kickstart a struggling club, how to create new Rotaract Clubs, how to implement district training and open forum discussions where you set the agenda.

Mary Kathryn DeLodder says she comes to Preconvention "because it helps me to understand the truly global nature of the Family of Rotary. It is amazing to meet Rotaractors and Rotarians from around the world and know that you have something in common with them all. Also, the opportunities for fellowship, both during the Preconvention events and in the evenings, are amazing! It is where memories are made."

- To register for the party events visit www.brum09.com and pay online
- To register with Rotary International - this can now only be done on-site

The whole of the Rotary International Rotaract Committee looks forward to seeing you in Birmingham.



Upcoming Events

Many Rotaract multidistrict groups organize their own conferences, seminars, or meetings at which Rotaractors come together to discuss issues of importance beyond the district level. Here is a list of the upcoming ones (that we are aware of):



European Rotaract Convention (EUCO) 2009

This meeting, to take place in Istanbul, Turkey, 29 April-3 May 2009, is hosted by Rotaractors from District 2420. The organizers are expecting hundreds of Rotaractors from around Europe to attend. Learn more at www.euco2009istanbul.org.

Rotaract in Great Britain and Ireland (RGI) Conference 2009

This meeting, to take place in Cardiff, Wales, 1-4 May 2009, is hosted by Rotaractors from District 1090. Rotaractors from all across Great Britain and Ireland will be attending to share ideas and have a good time. Learn more at www.rgi2009.org.uk.



United States, Canada, and Caribbean (USCC) Rotaract Conference 2009

The conference, to take place in San Jose, California, USA, 16-19 July 2009, is hosted by Rotaractors in District 5170. The conference theme is "Get Connected" with passionate Rotaractors to solve problems and accomplish club goals. The organizers are expecting over 150 Rotaractors from around North America and the Caribbean to attend. Learn more at www.uscc2009.org.

Interota

Interota, a worldwide Rotaract meeting held every three years, is organized and sponsored by Rotaractors. It provides Rotaractors with a forum for sharing ideas, concerns, and experiences with other Rotaract club members around the world. Participants are also treated to sightseeing and other cultural events throughout the weeklong event.

Although Interota is not an official Rotary International meeting, the RI Board of Directors recognizes its value and supports the event by approving its program content and by ensuring representation of RI leadership. The next Interota meeting will take place in 2011 in Cairo, Egypt.

New Generations Email



Rotary International have started producing a New Generations e-newsletter each month.

New Generations is a monthly e-newsletter designed to inform program participants and Rotarians about news and developments in Interact, Rotaract, and RYLA and to give you ideas on how to get more involved with these programs in your communities.

The RI Rotaract Committee would like to encourage as many of you as possible to subscribe to this e-newsletter to hear about the success stories from around the World.

To be added to the distribution list for the e-newsletter, please click on this link: <http://visitor.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?m=1101424972933&p=oi>

When the web page has loaded enter your email and click on submit. On the next page select New Generations_Rotaract from the list and complete the other information, following the instructions on the screen.