

 <p>Rotary District 1070</p>  <p>Rotary Serving Humanity</p> 	 <p>Polio Ted visits the seaside</p>	<p>Take Off</p> <p>District Governor's Newsletter Flight 013</p> <p>September 2016</p>
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Polio Ted is travelling the length and breadth of our newly expanded district. In the picture he is enjoying the sea breeze at Sutton on Sea, when I was visiting our most north-easterly club, Alford and Mablethorpe who meet in Sutton.

District Governor's Visits

I have so far visited 53 of our 90 clubs, and am scheduled to visit the others over the next couple of months. I am constantly amazed at the variety of projects and social events among clubs, and by the different ways that clubs organise themselves. I aim to spread some of the new ideas around as I visit more clubs, helping all of us to participate more in Rotary Serving Humanity.

An important factor distinguishing Rotary from other organisations is our hands-on (or minds-on) service in supporting our communities. I see an enormous range of skills, experiences and abilities across clubs; let's be sure we are using all of those vocational skills in developing strong projects.

Please invite me to your events. I can't come to everything, but will do what I can.

District Conference – Nottingham, 17th-18th September www.rotary1070.org/district-conference

District Conference is a little over two weeks away now, and I look forward to welcoming many of you there. Not as many have registered as we would have hoped. I was expecting that the benefit of the accessibility of Nottingham: closer; shorter journey times; less time away from work, family, home; lower costs for all, would have been attractive to members, especially those who have not attended our district conferences before. It is not too late to register (though at this late stage your names will not be in the conference brochure). Registrations for the dinner dance, however, have now closed.

Conference weekend will feature a wide range of ideas for Rotary projects and activities, with excellent speakers supporting the theme of "Rotarians achieving Rotary service". We will celebrate Our Rotary Foundation's 100 years of supporting Rotary and explore the ways our own charity will continue to support us all. The programme includes entertaining speakers and some surprises. The House of Friendship will be amazing, with over 40 exhibits and activities on display. And there is no registration fee to visit that – just come along, sign in at the door, and enjoy!

Our Rotary Foundation

As you will know, this is Our Own Charity's centenary. I ask that you support Our Rotary Foundation generously this year. As well as a target of \$100 per member, how about ensuring that every Rotarian in your club donates some amount, no matter what size, personally to our own charity? **Every Rotarian Every Year.**



End Polio Now

This year to date there have still been only 19 cases of wild polio virus infections reported in Pakistan and Afghanistan, the same as a month ago. This means yet another month has passed with no more

Pakistani or Afghani children being paralysed. There have, however, been two cases in Nigeria which have caught us all by surprise, the whole of Africa having been free of infantile paralysis from polio for over two years. Occasional sporadic outbreaks have occurred before in various countries, and we have been able to suppress any spread very effectively. So the expectation is that this outbreak will rapidly be contained. It just underlines how we really must finish the job.

Polio Ted will join your club, if you wish, to help spread the message and to raise funds. I am sure you will have plenty of good ideas how he will be able to do that. If you'd like Polio Ted (or some of his brothers) to join you, let me know.



Our district is in the top three for ordering crocus corms, with over one third of a million due for planting in 1070 this Autumn. Don't forget to be sure to publicise your efforts – both when planting the bulbs and again when they flower. Tell people what all the purple is about.

Membership

A consistent theme as I visit clubs is membership. To achieve all we want in supporting our communities we need members. The more members, the more we can do. The latest Council on Legislation has recognised the need for Rotary to be more flexible in our approach to the way we organise ourselves, especially in aspects that impact our members such as flexibility in the format and frequency of meetings, even what counts as a "meeting". There are several different types of membership – corporate, associate, satellite groups. Clubs may now meet more or less frequently or even at variable times: for example, cancel the next meeting as it clashes with a community event; meet twice a week to provide more service and fellowship opportunities; meet only twice a month and supplement with service and social activities; meet on-line for one of the meetings each month. Clubs must amend their bylaws to implement changes - but that is in the control of the clubs. Our essential elements of who we are: business, professional and community leaders, remain unchanged, as do our values of fellowship, integrity, diversity, service and leadership.

There is a useful video on this topic at: <https://vimeo.com/169728720>.

A summary of the COL decisions can be seen at <http://bit.ly/2bx2x3b>.

Ask the DG

I will be holding the second of our "Ask the DG" conference calls this Friday, 2nd September, 5pm UK time. Last month, although fairly few Rotarians joined me on that call, I trust that those who did were pleased that I was able to answer their questions.

To join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone simply click on <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/815755093> at any time between 5 and 6pm. Some apps, I understand, only need the "join the meeting code", the digits at the end of the URL: 815755093. Or phone 020 3713 5011; the phone access code for September phone calls will be: 815-755-093.



A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "John".

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