

# DG's Newsletter- February 2010

Can I start by saying how impressed I have been by the efforts you have all made to support the people of **Haiti**? You have stripped money from your charity funds, from your members and from the public in order to provide Shelterboxes and water boxes in record numbers. Thank you all for your efforts. As we move away from the provision of immediate relief can I remind you that there will be a need to support the projects designed to help communities in the country get back onto their feet. Watch out for **Trade Aid** as they follow on from the emergency relief agencies.

We now move our focus on to the polio campaign, and especially **Thanks for Life** at the end of this month. I have seen and heard your plans for raising the public awareness of Rotary, telling the polio story and at the same time raising funds for the 'Gates Challenge' and seeking a membership dividend. You have plans in place to work with schools, for public displays and collections, for purple pinkie activities, for dinners and concerts, and for collections at our partner supermarkets and in town centres. Please do remember that the agreement with Tesco is that their permission to collect at the nominated stores is specifically related to Thanks for Life and that monies collected on 27<sup>th</sup> February should not be diverted to any other cause. Can I wish you well with your activities and when you donate the funds raised to our Foundation Officer John Dehnel for onward transmission to our Rotary Foundation, can I ask that you identify clearly the element that comes from Thanks for Life?

Po Lio, our bear, is still having adventures across the district and around the world. Please continue to help our little friend raise £1070 this year.



You will have seen notices about some forthcoming events and I hope that you will encourage your members to attend; all need your support:

- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm – Rotary Gala Concert at De Montfort Hall Leicester
- Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> March 1230 for 1pm – our own Foundation Lunch at Greetham Valley Golf Club. Come and hear Rotary World Peace Fellow Mable Nedziwe.
- Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March 11am onwards – RIBI Assembly Meet the Presidents for 2010-11 from RI and from RIBI. All are welcome to attend and please see your latest club mailing from RIBI for booking details.
- Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm in Bournemouth. Why not join me and the other delegates from 1070 at the RIBI Conference for dinner. There is a separate flyer attached to this newsletter.

So, as you continue with the great work all of your clubs are doing out there in your communities, across RIBI and internationally, do keep working to increase the public awareness of all that you do and please do seek new members. We have recruited well so far this year but we a losing members as well. However, remember my bottom line – ***please do enjoy your Rotary*** for, as you all know:

**The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands.**

**Yours in Rotary Service**

*Dick*