



THE SPOKESMAN

The District Governor's Newsletter – July 2019

Welcome to the new Rotary year and to the first of my monthly newsletters

"Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves" is the new Rotary International Vision Statement being introduced worldwide in 2019/20.

This identifies to the outside world what makes Rotary different from other organisations. And Rotary International President Mark Maloney's theme of ***Rotary Connects the World*** also reminds us that as an organisation we are unique in having members on the ground in 200 countries of the world – with accountability and transparency overseeing projects and fundraising for our Foundation.



In each of my monthly Newsletters, I will pick out one objective or goal we hope to achieve this Rotary year. The first, ***Increase our impact*** by doing a better job of measuring the results and outcome of the time and money we invest as Rotarians – which will give a basis for news stories around the world and in our own communities.

I have heard several times that ***"they"*** should be publicising Rotary so our organisation is in the public eye but unlike some other charities we do not spend half what we raise on advertising and administration. The ***"they"*** becomes ***"us"*** - so let's see what we in our eighty-five Clubs across the District can achieve – I challenge all Clubs to start posting reports on what is still the largest social media platform - Facebook – with photographs of Rotarians in action (but not presenting cheques), and every Rotarian to sign up to Facebook, and then "like" and "share" all these Rotary postings – if this is meaningless to you, ask for help from someone of a younger generation (maybe a child or grandchild). And to complement this Facebook publicity ensure your Club website is clear and up to date so prospective members looking for you know how to find you, and of course make sure someone responds to all enquiries.

District Council Information

For District Council on Thursday 18 July, the reports have been circulated to Club Secretaries. In addition these are now available on the District Website at <https://rotary1070.org/members-only/> for which the password is Rotary1070. Whether or not you are planning to attend, reading the report covering the avenues of service in which you are involved will keep you up to date with the support available from District.

District Membership Handbook

Each Club is issued with ten copies of the District Membership Handbook which not only contains details of Clubs and members but also a wealth of information including who does what on the District Projects and Support Teams. If you have not been issued with a copy, there will be a small supply at District Council on Thursday 18 July available at £2 each whilst stock lasts. If you are not attending, please ask your Club delegate to buy one for you.

District Assembly

Thanks to all those who organised and attended the District Assembly at Loughborough University investing your time to make Rotary more effective. And thanks to the Rotarian for this unsolicited comment: *"As always the few times I have attended the assembly I am just amazed at the number of members attending, the friendly atmosphere, the buzz and then when the speaker comes on the stage silence reigns. Absolutely love it."*

Rodney B Spokes

District Governor

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District Team 2019 / 2020

