

IMMUNIZATION ACTIVITIES IN FOUR COUNTRIES TARGET MORE THAN 35 MILLION

Tens of millions of children in four countries in Asia and Africa have been targeted in immunization campaigns in the past week. Rotarians and health workers, as well as UNICEF and World Health Organization (WHO) representatives, government officials, and local leaders joined forces in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Nigeria, and Pakistan to ensure that the polio vaccine is carried to difficult-to-reach communities.

A team of 70,000 health workers and volunteers fanned across Pakistan in a door-to-door campaign during National Immunization Days (NIDs) on 2-5 September. Close to 150,000 vaccination centers were established throughout Pakistan and a total of half a million people, including the country's armed forces, were directly or indirectly involved in the mobilization, coordination, and execution of this massive campaign. Special immunization points were established at the borders with Afghanistan and Iran to prevent cross-border transmission of the poliovirus into neighboring countries.

Some 35 million children were targeted in the effort that was simultaneously launched at provincial and district levels throughout Pakistan. Rotary Foundation Trustee Fumio Tamamura and local Rotarians attended a launch near Islamabad, the national capital.

"The government of Pakistan procured 75 million doses of oral polio vaccine through the generous donations of our international partners in polio eradication," said Dr. Rehan Hafeez, national manager of the Expanded Programme of Immunization at the launch.

"We are now putting more emphasis on effective mobilization and monitoring of polio eradication activities," said Past District Governor Abdul Haiy Khan, chairman of the National PolioPlus Committee (NPPC) in Pakistan. "For example, in many parts of Pakistan, due to cultural and religious practices, male strangers cannot enter into homes to administer polio vaccine. So, we are trying to organize and request our government to engage more female health workers to reach such places, including high-rise buildings in cities."

In Nigeria, polio vaccine was administered to children on 7-10 September during Subnational Immunization Days (SNIDs) in four northern states. Benue, Kogi, Nasarawa, and Niger are among 10 polio-endemic states in Nigeria, where immunization activities have been slowed down because of concerns among some sections of the Muslim community that the oral polio vaccine may be harmful to children.

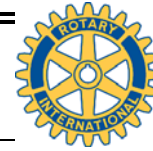
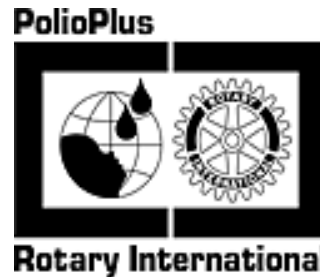
"Within recent weeks, the government, in conjunction with Rotary, WHO, and UNICEF has mounted a campaign to enlighten the [concerned groups] on the safety of oral polio vaccine," said Past District Governor Adedehin Adefeso, chairman of Nigeria's NPPC.

A flurry of activity by all the partners, including the federal and state governments, in the polio eradication initiative is now going on to ensure that the fears of all concerned are put to rest. More SNIDs are planned in the remaining polio-endemic states.

In Ethiopia's Somali region, nearly a million children were targeted during a week of Sub National Immunization Days that started on 5 September.

"With some of the highest child mortality rates and lowest immunization levels in the country, children in Somali region are very vulnerable to diseases like polio and measles," said UNICEF country director Bjorn Ljungqvist. "It is vital that we use these campaigns to target as many children as possible, and also use this opportunity to strengthen regular immunization and health services in the region."

Another three days of Subnational Immunization Days took place in Afghanistan on 2-5 September.



The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of
MeadowRidge Newsletter

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Web-site: www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Maple Ridge Library
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INVOCATION Sept. 23: Marco Terwiel Sept. 30: Craig Vernon

BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15-8:15	8:00-10:00
Oct. 9	Irena Shantz	Chad Reed
Nov. 6	Mary Robson	Gordy Robson

Call Peter at 604-465-3392 for assistance or e-mail peter.boekhorst@telus.net
The bingo proceeds for July 2003 were \$2,510.69

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Social at Vladimir's Bee Farm

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Membership Drive at La Trattoria

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Sept. 20	7:00pm	Evening of Improv	ACT
Sept. 21		Golf Tournament	Meadow Gardens Golf Club
Sept. 23	noon	Membership drive	LaTrattoria
Oct. 7	6:30pm	Sports Banquet	Meadow Gardens Golf Club

☞ **Next week noon Membership Drive at La Trattoria** ☞

☞ **There will be NO regular meeting** ☞

☞ **October 7: Sports Banquet, NO regular meeting** ☞

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$717 + 1/2 of today's sales, 19 cards, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!



Lend a Hand

LAST WEEKS MEETING

Mary announced on Wednesday that we have now sold 11 tables already. Tickets are still \$125 and we have less than one month to get this going, so sells those tables. Lindsay has the tickets in hand and you can leave your credit card with him to hold a table before all of the good ones are gone. Don't miss out.

Our distinguished guest this week was our own Marco Terwiel regaling us with tales of his trip to the frozen north. Between May and June Marco was experiencing a whole new culture and environment. He went up to relieve the one doctor in the town for holidays. It seemed like an opportunity for an adventure to him and from his accounts it certainly was.

Some of his research before he left and once he arrived revealed the following facts:

The NWT spans over 3 time zones and has the geographical center of Canada inside its borders. The total population of the territory is 27,000 of which 23,000 are Inuit and the remaining 4,000 are comprised mostly of Caucasians. The people are disbursed amongst 24 communities the largest of which is the capital city of Uuvit boasting a total population of 5,000. The smallest communities have a mere 18 souls. The temperature in January is around -32 and +13 in July. In January there is no sun and in June there is no night. People in Nunivik do not count days but rather "sleeps". The population density works out to 1 person per 100 square kilometres where Ontario for example has 110 people per square kilometre. The tallest tree in the area is approx. 45" tall and hence the squirrels in the NWT are referred to as "ground squirrels". There are no roads, just pure flat wilderness.

The medical issues that Marco ran into were largely genetic in nature in part due to the inbreeding in the smaller communities of 18. Some examples were Artic Itch, which is brought out by the sun, so in the days of the midnight sun they have to wear a 60-block sun block. Also he saw several cases of "seal finger" where natives have cut their finger while cutting a seal and because of the circumstances have suffered severe infection that left untended could cost them more than a finger. Trichinosis was also another common ailment as the worms in the Artic animals have adapted to their frozen environment so that unlike here, freezing does not kill them, and the meats they eat, walrus, polar bear, and seal are usually infested with worms. Hypothermia was also a big problem, but no small wonder with temperatures dipping to -72 degrees with the wind chill factor.

The living conditions also were interesting. Rent in a small apartment, also shared with a med student and his wife, was \$2,800/month. A carton of orange juice rings up at \$10.75 each and if you had a mind to you could make a fortune taking up a few cases of Crown Royal, which sells for \$250. There are no liquor stores in the area, yet alcoholism is prevalent as is "smoking" good old BC pot, which is delivered to the area twice daily by plane. A hotel room would cost you \$135, not too bad you might think, but it comes with an assigned roommate, and not one who necessarily was traveling with you

There are no hospitals and all major problems are flown out to Winnipeg for treatment. Where Marco was there was supposed to be 7 nurse practitioners and 4 physicians. During Marco's stay he was the only doctor. All in all a true adventure for our adventurous doctor and we are certainly glad to have him back safe and sound. Anyone else want to take a trip to an undeveloped part of the globe and give us a good story for the Newsletter?? No takers?? Ah come on be a sport!

Submitted by Debi Pearce

THE BIG QUESTION

- Number of people who died of hunger in the year to 11 September 2001: 24,000
- Number of children killed by diarrhoea in the year to 11 September 2001: 6,020
- Number of children killed by measles in the year to 11 September 2001: 2,700

- Number of people who died of hunger since 11 September 2001: 17.5 million
- Number of children killed by diarrhoea since 11 September 2001: 4.4 million
- Number of children killed by measles on since 11 September 2001: 1.9 million

Total Cost to

- extend access to clean water and sanitation to over one billion people in the 50 poorest countries provide oral dehydration therapy for children with severe diarrhoea,
- immunizing 1 billion children in the developing world against measles, tuberculosis, diphtheria, whooping cough, polio and tetanus,
- providing basic health care and nutritional needs of the world's poorest people,

\$25 billion dollars a year.

- Money that should have been spent on the war against poverty since 11 September 2001: \$50 billion
- Number of lives that would have been saved since 11 September 2001: 60 million

- Money spent on war against terror since 11 September 2001: \$350 billion
- Lives saved = ???

Submitted by Marco Terwiel

HOW TO PROPOSE A NEW MEMBER

Every Rotarian has the privilege and obligation to seek qualified members.

In this way, all club members can help their clubs achieve a full representation of the business and professional life of the community. Membership is the means to accomplish Rotary's mission and goal.

Summary of Membership Provisions for New Members:

General Qualifications — Rotarians are adults of good character and good business or professional reputation, who hold or have held an executive position with discretionary authority in any worthy and recognized business or profession.

Active Membership — Active members must meet the above qualifications, as well as live or work within the club's locality or surrounding area.

Honorary Membership — People who have distinguished themselves by meritorious service in the furtherance of Rotary ideals may be elected to honorary membership.

Classification — Each active member of a Rotary club is classified in accordance with the member's business or profession. A classification describes the principal and recognized activity of the firm with which an active member is connected or the member's principal and recognized business or professional activity.

The club shall not elect a person to active membership from a classification if the club already has five or more members from that classification, unless the club has more than 50 members, in which case, the club may elect a person to active membership in a classification so long as it will not result in the classification making up more than 10% of the club's active membership. Retired members require a classification but are not included in a club's total number for each classification.