



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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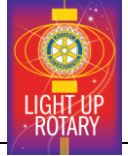
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## January is Rotary Awareness Month

**Today:** Urma Mollema - Her experience with judging the World's Beauty Pageant

**Next Week:**

### Happy Birthday

Jan. 20: Urma Mollema

### Happy Anniversary

### Invocation

Jan. 20  
Jan. 27

Ineke Boekhorst  
Peter Boekhorst

## CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue

## ROTARY'S INNOVATIVE TRIBUTE TO POLIO ERADICATION IN INDIA BREAKS GUINNESS WORLD RECORD



To eradicate polio in India, Rotary members displayed impressive coordination and commitment. So it should come as no surprise that Rotary members in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, were able to mobilize more than 40,000 people to create the world's **largest human national flag**. The tribute to the polio eradication effort qualified as a Guinness World Records-breaking achievement.

"What impressed me most was that all of Rotary was represented: Rotaractors, Interactors, and Rotarians," says RI President Gary C.K. Huang, who participated in the event along with his wife, Corinna, and other Rotary senior leaders. "They brought their classmates, friends, and co-workers. I think that says a lot about how important it is to the people that India is polio free."

Participants from all walks of life holding placards stood together on a local fairground to form the Indian flag. Their display broke the record set last year by the Sports Club of Lahore, which organized nearly 30,000 people to form the Pakistani flag.

After breaking the record, local Rotary members, who'd formed the blue wheel in the center of the flag, flipped their placards

over to create Rotary wheels, and other Rotary members unfurled a large banner reading "Keep India Polio Free." The organizers, led by District 3230, estimate that another 50,000 people showed up to watch on large TV screens set up outside the event.

Once the participants were organized, they had to hold up the placards for more than five minutes to enable the representative from Guinness to verify the new record. "The last 30 seconds, everyone started screaming [in encouragement]," says Huang. "I [felt] very patriotic, says Avanthika Iyer, a third-year student at Shasun Jain College in Chennai. "The five-minute period of holding the placard was difficult but made us happy."

Says Huang: "When I was told how many people had to participate -- 40,000 to 50,000 -- I didn't think it would happen. When I saw the thousands and thousands of people [gathered] for just the rehearsal the day before, I realized it was possible."

## LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Our only guest today was Irena Shantz.



**Walter Volpatti was awarded the New Membership Award** for introducing new members to the club.

**Past President Adrienne is the Rotarian of the month**, having hosted the Christmas party and arranged for the Whonnock school choir to come and sing.



**50/50 Draw - Jackpot at \$0.00 + 1/2 of today's sales, 52 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!**

We will be sending out a youth exchange student named Amber and receiving an incoming student. We need a family to host for the spring period (~3 months to end of June) and for a short stint at the end of August to mid-September while Nancy and Mike Murray are away (Patrick has tentatively agreed). The club has a stipend of \$150 per month.

Ineke updated us on the Nicaragua trip, likely to occur in the last week of February.

Dave Rempel, the king of the 50/50 draw, brought us up to date on a Russian trip afoot to inspect our programs there. Dave needs to hear from you by this weekend (18<sup>th</sup>) if you would like to go.

Bob Shantz had two ducks, modeling the finest in yellow plumage to the awes of the crowd. No doubt every duck in the river will be wearing yellow this season. Costs are not yet finalized on the duck purchase, but seem to be in line with estimates. We could still use a few more \$500 sponsors for the race, but the response has been good this year to our sponsorship requests.

**Doug Dyer, the president of the Rotary E-Club**, spoke to us enthusiastically about the mechanics of how e-Rotary clubs work.



E-clubs started in 2011 and Doug's club received their charter in 2013, joining 120 clubs worldwide. They have 32 members and have a weekly meeting put together internally.

Each Rotarian accesses the web through club runner to view and respond to the meeting at the time of their choosing. They have a good mix of members including former district governors and new members. Members go to district meetings and have occasional face to face cluster meetings. We can also do make ups through them at [www.rotaryclubcanada.ca](http://www.rotaryclubcanada.ca)

We can also support their projects which include the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, Shelterbox, plastic surgery for facial deformities, polio. They had the distinction of having the RI president at a meeting recently.

Doug thinks that this might be part of the solution to the membership problem. By allowing people more flexibility on time of attendance, perhaps more and younger people will also join.



## And now for the GRAND ANNOUNCEMENT:



Dave Rempel picked his sweetheart from 15 contestants to win the roughly \$800 pot in the 50/50 draw. There was much weeping and gnashing of teeth. Brian Bekar is leaving in a huff and won't be back for 5 or 6 meetings.

Dave, did we say that you have to rescue the money from the club bank account situated in a castle turret surrounded by a moat of lava and guarded by a fire breathing dragon?

Submitted by Patrick O'Brien

## SHELTERBOX CAMP SETS THE STANDARD IN MALAYSIA

Friday 09 January 2015



**During the last few weeks Malaysia has been hit by intense monsoon rains, which have caused the worst floods in decades and are set to continue.**

The first ShelterBox response volunteers arrived in late December and further teams have arrived to assist with the assessment and distribution of aid to people who have lost their homes in the floods.

One team, made up of Andrew Clouting (AUS) and Jack Bailey (UK), has just finished establishing a camp in the district of Gua Musang in the north-east of Malaysia, which contains 100 tents, mains water, kitchen and toilet facilities.

In creating the camp, the team worked with the local authorities including the local police, the Malaysian National Security Council (NSC) and the Special Malaysia Disaster Assistance and Rescue Team (SMART) to form a coordinated response and were able to put all 100 tents up in just three days.

As there has not been the need for this type of response in Malaysia before, the ShelterBox team members were able to pass on their knowledge and experience of creating camps and the best practice for managing them in the long-term.

SMART will take on the management of the camp and will use it as a case study to form a benchmark for camp standards in the future, monitoring its effectiveness for the life of the camp.

The teams are now focussing their efforts on the neighbouring district of Kuala Krai, where many villages have been destroyed.