

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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OCTOBER IS ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTH

Today: Dick Drew - upcoming need for international student from Russia

Next Week:

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary	Invocation
	Oct 10: Ken & Jo-Ann Knuttila	Oct. 6: Matt DeBruyn Oct. 13: Angie Edmonds

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Oct. 27	noon	District Governor Bill Robson's official visit	
Dec. 8	Noon	Meadow Ridge Rotary AGM	

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Last month, after confirming a full year without a single case of wild poliovirus, Nigeria was removed from the list of the world's polio-endemic countries. It was the last polio-endemic country in Africa. Today, only two countries – Afghanistan and Pakistan – harbor the world's final reservoir of endemic poliovirus. As this issue of The Rotarian goes to press, global cases of polio in 2015 number only a few dozen.

The scale of this achievement can hardly be overstated. Polio has existed for millennia; it has plagued humanity since our earliest civilizations. Today, because of Rotary's work and that of our partners, the end is in sight. We are counting down not in years, but in months.

And yet, our success is as fragile as it is monumental. We are moving forward, slowly, steadily, inexorably – thanks to colossal efforts that never cease. We continue to vaccinate hundreds of millions of children in vast synchronized campaigns; we constantly monitor environments to prevent new outbreaks. The sheer scale of the effort – the coordination, the cost, and the commitment – boggles the mind.

Some ask why such high levels of immunization and surveillance are still needed to combat a disease that is almost gone. The answer is simple: It is the only way forward. If we did anything less – if we allowed the virus any quarter – years of work would be undone. We know too well how easily polio could spread again. We know how quickly our decades of progress could be lost. And this is why the months ahead are so tremendously important. We need your voice – to raise awareness, to raise

funds, and to keep the momentum going. We need your strength to help fight this war until we have won.

On 24 October, we mark World Polio Day. I hope that on that day, all of you will take part in some way in our work to eradicate polio. I know that many of you intend to publicize this event on the club or district level; for those who have not yet made plans, there are still many ways to participate. Visit endpolionow.org for ideas, tools, sample press releases, and ways to donate. You'll also find the link to our livestream event; be sure to join in, and share it on social media.

This war of ours – which started as a war against polio but is also a war against hatred, against ignorance, against fear – this war will be won. It will be won soon. And when it is won, all of Rotary will have a story to tell – to the children, and the grandchildren, who will never see a leg brace or an iron lung, or know a world with polio in it.

Whether you are a Rotarian in Kano or Peshawar or Swat, in Seoul or Madrid or Chicago – you are a part of this story. Your part in it is one that only you can write. I ask you all to write it well – so that the story you will one day tell is one of which you will be proud.

K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran, President 2015-16

DG BILL ROBSON'S MESSAGE



Nearly 1.4 billion employed people live on less than \$1.25 a day.

Rotarians promote economic and community development and reduce poverty in under-served communities through training, well-paying jobs, and access to financial

management institutions. Projects range from providing people with equipment to vocational training. Rotarians work to strengthen local entrepreneurs and community leaders, particularly women, in impoverished communities.

October is Economic and Community Development Month and I am reminded of my visit to Uganda in 2011 where I met a young single mother who borrowed 100,000 shillings (US\$40) through a Rotary micro-credit program, bought a pregnant sow, and then over the subsequent two years turned that investment into a small piggery with a young boar, a sow, and five piglets. She had paid back her loan and in addition to that, by selling her piglets, she had opened a small village store with a wide variety of items for sale. Her "empire" was valued at more than 1 million shillings (US\$400). By western standards this may not seem like a fortune, but by Ugandan standards she was rich beyond belief. Her son would most likely have a much better chance at advancement in Uganda than he would have had previously.

This is a prime example of Economic and Community Development, but in itself is only one example of what we accomplish every day through Rotary.

I have now completed 21 club visits and will continue them starting October 1st in Abbotsford. I wish to thank the clubs I have visited so far for your hospitality and generosity. My wife joined me for a couple of weeks and we jointly visited 16 clubs and I have to tell you she was impressed with each and every club. My thanks again for making her welcome at your meetings.

Be a gift to the world!

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Mark led Oh Canada and the invocation.

Hey! How about everyone having a meaningful invocation ready for sudden use? It seems a shame to let an opportunity pass where a pearl of wisdom should drop each week. Our dear departed members Bob Shantz and Marco Terwiel always had one ready.



Alison Cuthbertson received a cheque of \$500 on behalf of Christmas haven. This is the 18th year the December 24th traditional Christmas dinner event will occur. It is great that they have no trouble raising the money from their many community partners or finding volunteers.



Libby Nelson was feted for her Duck Race work with a certificate of Appreciation. Thanks Libby!

The 4 way test program for grades 6/7 will soon be starting. Matt explained the program that he spearheads and has now introduced to his wintering grounds in California. This is a valuable program for the children, but also for the people who participate. Please sign up.

Oct 27 is the day our **DG Bill Robson** will come by. The executive should be prepared to meet with the DG prior to the meeting. Please try to attend. He will have an address all should hear and being a DG is a huge job worthy of the honour we can offer by our presence.

This was a business meeting and reports will soon be sent out. The time was pleasantly hijacked by Terry Becker's guests from Matamata in New Zealand (Lizette and David Hulme).

Lizette related with machine gun speed, and great passion her project called "Days for Girls."

In developing countries, girls often leave school at puberty limiting their career choices and largely condemning them to the brutishness of poverty. These reusable feminine hygiene kits produced by this small group can alleviate the inconvenience and the unhealthy efforts to alleviate the normal menstruation flows. Awesome! Oh for the day when all humans enjoy the right to education, opportunity and freedom.



The Matamata club is in a small town of 12,000 made famous by the Lord of the Rings movie as the location for the Shire. They are 49 members and they have a remarkable effect both locally and internationally with efforts at polio eradication, medical aid and developing nation schools.

A very inspiring group!



Happy & Sad:

Peter Boekhorst's oldest grandson turned 21. Bitter sweet for Peter as time is not being especially kind to any of us anymore. As they are, we once were. As we are, they will be. Oh, and Ineke will be back tomorrow so shore leave is over for Peter.

Angie Edmonds sadly reported the passing of Derek Podesta of the Haney Club.

Eric Mollema is off to Oxford as Sonja will be going to law school there. She is, after all, a small chip off the sizable old block.

Laura Cherrille as fine master, rifled though the pockets of all who missed the Duck Race wind up.

Betty Johansen won the 50/50 draw, but drew the King of Hearts. Does that mean she only just missed by a hair or is it just as big a miss as if she had drawn the 3 of clubs?

Submitted by Patrick O'Brien