



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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## NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

**Today:** Maple Ridge Mayor, Nicole Read - Truth and Reconciliation Commission

**Next Week:** Dr. Adrian Walton, Veterinarian - Pets

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary	Invocation
Nov. 22: Laurie Anderson		Nov. 17: Jim Michals Nov. 24: Eric Mollema

## CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Nov. 19	6 pm	Russian Borscht Night – Tickets \$25 Ineke Boekhorst / Dave Rempel	Samuel Robertson Tech. 10445-245 St.
Dec. 8	Noon	Meadow Ridge Rotary AGM	
Dec. 11	6:30 pm	Christmas Party at Patrick O'Brien	10328 276th St. Maple Ridge
Dec. 31	6:30 pm	New Year's Gala – Tickets \$95 Clint Callison / Mark Vosper	Meadow Gardens Golf Course, Pitt M.

# New Years Eve Gala

**Thursday, December 31st, 2015**  
**6:30pm**  
**Meadow Gardens Golf Club**  
**19675 Meadow Gardens Way**  
**Pitt Meadows, BC**

**The Rotary Club of Meadow Ridge**

Invites you  
to a night of live music "The Hits" plus,  
Theatrical and Comedy Skits  
A dinner buffet, midnight buffet, and  
champagne will be shared by all!  
Dress code is fun formal or come as your  
favourite Hollywood star

Get your tickets at Meadow Gardens Golf Club or:

**Co-operators**  
106-20690 Lougheed Hwy  
Maple Ridge, BC  
Phone: (604) 460-3650

**Ridge Meadows Hospice Society**  
102-22320 119th Ave  
Maple Ridge, BC  
Phone: (604) 463-7722

**Rotary**  
Club of Meadow Ridge

## Borscht Night

Incl. Traditional Siberian Food

**Thu, Nov. 19, 2015 at 6:00-8:30 pm**  
**Samuel Robertson Technical School**  
**10445 - 245 St., Maple Ridge**

**\$25.00**

For tickets see Dave Rempel or Ineke Boekhorst

## Christmas Plants for Polio Eradication!

**We are selling beautiful greenhouse grown 6" Cyclamen.**

These fabulous plants, are locally grown (Amsterdam Greenhouses), come with a handmade Christmas card for easy gift giving  
..... all you have to do is sign your name on the card!



This is the perfect gift for staff, associates, clients, friends, neighbours, hairdresser, teacher.....you name it!

Plants will be delivered Tuesday Dec. 8 or 15  
(or earlier/later, if you require)

**Only \$15 each or 3 for \$40 (tax included).**

**ALL proceeds to END POLIO NOW Campaign!**

**We will be at Ridge Meadows Hospital Nov. 27, 10am-4pm**

To order plants, please see Ineke Boekhorst

## A LETTER FROM OUR EXCHANGE STUDENT AMBER

How are you? I'm doing well, a little bit homesick lately, but that's completely normal. I've done a lot already. I get to go horseback riding (one of my passions), I've gotten to go sailing, I've visited one of the tallest buildings (in the picture), I've had the chance to go shoot some discs, and I've recently come back from visiting the capital Stockholm.



That was super cool. The people there were so much different than the city I live in (Höganäs). It was like walking down the streets of New York, with all the street performers, city life, and fashion. I also had the chance to visit the Abba Museum along with what is called the Vasa Museum, which is where they have almost completely preserved a huge boat from the older ages that had sunk and sat at the bottom of the sea for almost 300 years. It's quite beautiful and it really gives you the chance to see how the people lived back then. Definitely a must if you ever decide to visit Sweden!

The language is coming along really well and on good days, I'm able to understand about 55% of what people say and I'm able to speak about 45%. A lot of people are really impressed with my progress over just 3 months. I've had multiple times where I've told someone I come from Canada and their response was "Canada? You mean, you're not Swedish? Wow. That's amazing."

I recently found out that I have family in a town called Linköping, which is about a 3 hour drive away. So hopefully I can visit them and see what my true Swedish roots are like.

Yes, I'm going to school. The way school programs work here are much different than Canada. Here, they only have 4 main courses to choose from; Social Science, Natural Science, Technology, and Business. Once you pick one of these courses, all your classes are based on the course.

For example: I chose Social Science because I love the idea of learning how people socialize and how their minds work. I'm looking into possibly becoming a Psychologist. So all my classes are things such as: economy, psychology, communication, social studies, and math. It's going really well. Unfortunately, the grades don't count for me when I get home, but I still use the subjects as a great way to help me meet people and understand the language better. I have extra Swedish classes along with 2 other exchange students, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, which has definitely helped me a lot in the learning process. The more Swedish I learn, the more English I forget. So now I'm kind of just stuck in the middle haha.

I'm quickly starting to realize that the Swedish culture is not as outgoing as I thought. The people are super nice... Once you get to know them... But getting to that point is difficult. I, along with many of the other exchange students, had a hard time finding people to connect with. Many Swedes aren't very open to meeting new people or continuing on a conversation. Especially for someone as outgoing and bubbly as I am. I've found it very hard. But aside from how quiet they are, I haven't given up and I have made quite a few friends.

I have met my host Rotary Club, and I go to many of the meetings. It gives me a chance to speak to people that know a lot about Sweden and it also offers amazing food so that's always a plus. Unfortunately, the Rotary club here isn't as involved with the community as the clubs at home are, so although I've tried to offer up my services, they don't really have anything for me to get involved in.

I've also done my presentation. They seemed to really enjoy it. Afterwards, I had plenty of people come up to me and ask me questions about my interests and comment on how good it was along with complimenting my presentation skills. I think it went really well. Along with that, I also made Nanaimo Bars, as a little taste of Canada. Turns out, that the ingredients here are not the same as the ingredients back home... So it took me a few tries. But finally, at 1am, the morning before the meeting, I finished it and it turned out really well.

I am getting money from my club and although things are really expensive out here, it has definitely been a great help and has helped me with buying new shoes when needed along with all my transportation tickets to all the rotary events. My jacket is really full now and getting heavy. I'm excited to see what it looks like at the end of the year!



I have a councillor... He is a great man, but I haven't really had any issues to talk to him about. My host parents are amazing. They're very open and they remind me a lot of home. They're really understanding and are always helping me to learn how the culture works, including the language. They live in a beautiful house on the countryside, it's so out of the city that the buses only come every hour and they don't come on the weekends or after 6:30, which I'm still getting used to.

I do have Skype and luckily I've had the chance to skype my parents a few times. Because of the time difference (9hrs), they usually call me around 5am... But I have to admit, it's a great way to start the day!

Kindest regards,  
Amber



## LAST WEEK'S MEETING

### Rotary Moment

Tomorrow, Nov 11, being Remembrance Day, **Betty Johansen** told the story of a teacher who removed all the desks from her classroom and asked the students to answer the question of how they earned the right to use them. After a full day when none of the students gave her the answer she was looking for, she opened the door, and a number of veterans in uniform walked in with the desks, set them in rows and stood against the wall. The teacher turned to the class and said, *"You don't have to earn those desks. These guys did it for you. They put them out there for you, but it's up to you to sit here responsibly, to learn, to be good students and good citizens, because they paid a price for you to have that desk, and don't ever forget it."*

### Guests

**John Thompson**, a guest and co-worker at EPR of Betty Johansen

**Monica Hampu**, a guest of Ineke Boekhorst and chair of the Maple Ridge Community Foundation

### Happy and Sad



**Ineke Boekhorst** (together with **Dave Rempel** and **Deddy Geese**) attended the Wine Fest put on by the Langley Rotary Club, and got some great insights into how they run their very successful fundraiser. They had 29 Wineries participate, sold 960 tickets, and had over 1000 people in attendance. Our own wine fest is set for April 29, 2016.

**Eric Mollema** advised that he and **Adrienne Dale** and three other lawyers from John Becker's office have taken over the legal practice of Bob Shantz at his Maple Ridge location and will be carrying on business under the name of Centra Lawyers LLP.

**Betty Johansen** advised that when she retires at the end of this calendar year (and moves to Hope) her position as Chair of our Club Services Committee will be taken over by **Libby Nelson**.

**Patrick O'Brien** said that his family recently had to say goodbye to two of their pets (who had moved on to that pet shelter in the sky) but were replaced by a great "kitty cat" which they got from the SPCA pet shelter (here on earth).

**Monica Hampu** was happy to attend our meeting.

### Family Matters

Ineke advised that **Angie Edmonds** was recovering well from her recent operation; and that **Deborah Hyslop** (who is our Director of Youth Services) is now the branch manager of the RBC in Coquitlam and will therefore not be able to attend our Club meetings.

### New Club Directors

Ineke Boekhorst gave us notice that nominations will be called for at our annual meeting on December 8 for Directors of our Club for the 2016-2017 Rotary Year. Our Nominating Committee will be putting forward the following names to fulfill those positions:

President	- <b>Ineke Boekhorst</b>
President Elect	- <b>Angie Edmonds</b>
Past President	- <b>Mark Forster</b>
Vice President	- <b>Libby Nelson</b>
Secretary	- <b>David Riddell</b>
Treasurer	- <b>Walter Volpatti</b>
Club Service	- <b>Adrienne Dale</b>
Vocational Service	- <b>Matt Debruyne</b>
International Committee	- <b>Dave Rempel</b>
Community Services	- (not yet determined)
New Generations	- (not yet determined)
Sergeant-at-Arms	- <b>Jim Coulter</b>

### Announcements

- Cyclamens will once again be on sale for Christmas in support of the End Polio campaign. Those who do not wish to have them for themselves or friends are asked to purchase some for delivery by the Club to the residents of Hospice.

We will be selling these plants at the Ridge Meadows Hospital on November 27 between 10 am and 4 pm.

#### **Calling for volunteers!**

- New Years Eve Gala - we must sell tickets. Also, sponsors are needed for the entertainment and venue, etc.
- Russian Night - November 19 - to learn about (and eat) the trip to Russia (and Borscht). Silent Auction Items are needed.

### Guest Speaker

Due to an error on his calendar, our guest speaker missed the meeting but promises to attend in the future to speak to us.

### 50/50

At last - a luck winner of .... sorry .... the 4 of Spades.

[**Walter Volpatti**]

### More Punography

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.

This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.

All toilets in a London police station have been stolen. They say they have nothing to go on.

**Submitted by Laurie Anderson**