

he Bridge Volume 6. No. 03 October 2013 Vocational Services Edition A Paul Harris Fellowship for Chris Hadfield



In September the Rotary Club of Sarnia presented Astronaut Chris Hadfield with a Paul Harris Fellowship "in recognition of his tremendous achievements in communication, education and community awareness." He was also awarded an honorary lifetime membership in the club.

In a recent column, Peter Epp of Sun Media

### **Inside The Bridge This Month**

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commented that this award was well deserved. As we all know, Paul Harris honourees have achieved significant professional and personal accomplishments and made an outstanding contribution to the community. Epp made note of the Rotary motto of Service Above

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Autumn is upon us and the beauty of nature is showing in the changing colours of the landscape. October is Rotary's Vocational Month and this is the time that Rotarians share their vocation with others in our communities. What has your club planned for this month?

Membership in Rotary is based on a member's vocation, with each club striving to create a microcosm of its community's business and professional world. This unique feature provides the source for Rotary's historic commitment to vocational service, the second of Rotary's Five Avenues of Service. Through vocational service, Rotarians are expected to adhere to and promote high ethical standards in all their business dealings, recognize the worthiness of all useful occupations, and contribute their professional skills and expertise to addressing societal problems and needs. The club and its members share responsibility for

# FORGET!

### November is Rotary Foundation Month

It's October and in Rotary it's time to celebrate **Vocational Services**. DG Don has talked about it in his column and we have printed a letter from Kevin Webb of the Rotary Club of London Hyde Park on this topic. We'll look forward to reading about your creative ideas for celebrating this important Avenue of Service in your newsletters.

Next month, in November, we celebrate the Rotary **Foundation**. A great way to kick off that celebration would be to attend the Foundation meetings in Walkerton on October 26th and London on November 2nd. The Rotary Zone Success Seminar, also on the 2nd, is another opportunity to learn about the Foundation.

A number of clubs are planning events to call attention to **Polio Plus** and to do some fundraising for the cause. The Rotary International website always has good information and resources about **Polio Plus** and we have reprinted one of their articles about a significant donation received recently in India.

In November we also celebrate **Remembrance Day**, honouring our veterans and paying respect to those who have sacrificed their lives for our country. Many clubs will choose to be involved in those events and you may be looking for ideas for club meetings on this theme. The Stratford Reporter on September 15th had an interesting article about a guest speaker who spoke about the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Dominique Boulais, Deputy Secretary General of the War Graves Commission for Canada spoke about the work of this group. The Commission represents six Commonwealth countries whose soldiers gave their lives in the two world wars. There are over 1,700,000 war dead in 23,000 burial sites around the world. Canada alone has over 18,430 graves of our veterans that are cared for by the Commission.

For ideas about presentations on this theme and to gain a historical perspective, the Commission has a very informative web site that you might like to check out: www.cwgc.org. Or you might look up the Canadian Virtual War Memorial . Their address is (www.veterans.gc.ca). With these resources, you will have no shortage of ideas for speakers or presentations on Remembrance Day.

### Continued from Pg 1 Chris Hadfield....

Self and opined that Hadfield has "met that criteria and more."

Chris Hadfield was born in Sarnia and recently served as commander of the International Space Station. He sent back amazing photographs and videos of Earth, used social media to communicate with a captivated audience on Earth and "even played guitar in a music video that went viral".

Since his retirement, he has appeared at a number of functions where he educates young people about the importance of science and exploration and encourages them to strive for excellence.

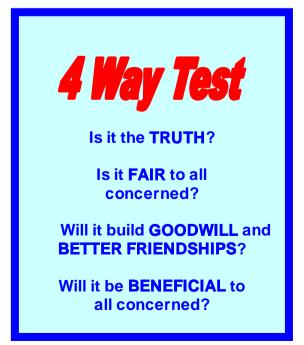
Epp states that Hadfield is "in good com-



pany". Four American astronauts were honorary Rotarians (Neil Armstrong, Alan Shephard, L. Gordon Cooper and Frank Borman). Other aviators have a Rotary connection too. Orville Wright was a member

of Rotary and Charles Lindberg was another honorary Rotarian.

Hadfield graciously accepted the award and commented that "Rotary is about service above self. At all times we should strive to put others" interests ahead of our own or at least on par with our own."



### **Vocational Services Month**

As you know, October is Vocational Services Month. We received this excellent letter from *Kevin Webb of the Rotary Club of London Hyde Park* and because it so well captures the essence of Rotary Vocational Service, we thought we would share it with you.

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### **Dear Members and Friends of Rotary:**

October is Rotary Vocational Month when we celebrate the second object of Rotary. Vocational Service calls every Rotarian to:

- \* Aspire to high ethical standards in their occupation
- Recognize the worthiness of all useful occupations, and
- \* Contribute their vocational talents to the problems and needs of society

Visit our website (www.hydeparkrotary.org) to view an 18 minute video called the "Boys of 1905" showing the founding fathers of Rotary. You will also find a 2003 speech by Past RI President Cliff Dochterman called: "Vocational Service: Rotary's First Concept".



In this speech, PRIP Cliff quoted T. A. Warren, a British Rotarian in 1935, who stated this opinion: "The only unique feature of Rotary is vocational service; everything else that we do is repeated by some other organization. If we are unique, if we have a special message or mission in the

world that is unique to ourselves, it lies only in the realm of vocational service."

In all of our earliest days, Vocational Service was clearly the primary focus of Rotary.

Yours in Rotary, Kevin Webb Rotary Club of London Hyde Park

### **Rotary Youth Exchange**



This poem was contributed by Carol-Lee Martin, exchange student in Germany. Carol-Lee is the daughter of Rotarian Keith and Jenny Martin (Wiarton Rotary).

One goal. One dream. One wish. One ambition.

We are strangers, but finally we are family.

We are a population on our own.

We are over 8,000 kids, sharing one single dream.

From the beginning;

Leaving us questioning ourselves,

With the long and painful process,

The challenging selections,

The excitement,

The anxiety,

The preparation,

The self-doubt,

The departure,

And the arrival,

All leading us up to,

A new beginning,

A new life,

A new country.

We are strangers, but we are family.

We share one dream, and one hope.

We are Rotary Youth Exchange Students.

## **Rotary Scholarship Helps Change Lives**

What is more important in this world than education? •

We have been learning since the day we were born and I believe that our learning and unlearning process should continue for



the rest of our lives. When I lived in Brazil for a year after high school, the Rotary International program helped me to learn and educate myself in a way I never could have imagined. I learned to speak a

new language, to make new family and friends and to experience the world in a completely new and exciting way. Later, after four years of University Education I was able to reflect upon how important that experience truly was. It helped to shape my values and beliefs about the world in which I am a small but important part. My dream grew... I knew that I wanted to continue to educate myself, to learn new languages in order to glimpse into new cultures, to make connections with people and to live and experience new countries in a meaningful way, in order to change and better appreciate my own. I grew to firmly believe that living, studying and working abroad is an incredibly valuable experience and one that educates in a way that the classroom, a book, or a podcast never could.

Then, last year I received the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship! What an incredible gift this was. This scholarship allowed me to make a dream come true, to continue to live out my goals and values and do it in a structured, safe and meaningful way. With the grant that I received, I moved to San Salvador, El Salvador and was able to attend the University, live with El Salvadorian families, get involved with local people and projects and experience a taste of Latin American culture. I am passionate about social justice and peace issues, specifically focusing on education for youth and how different forms of popular education can help, support and strengthen communities who have experienced violence, trauma and loss. I was able to connect with some inspiring individuals in my time and learn first-hand about how they worked with their communities to create art, music, safe spaces and a brighter future.

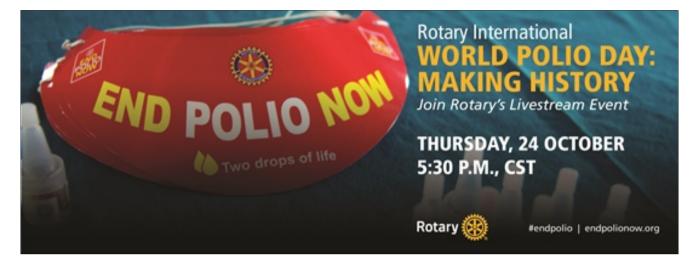
My goal, in living in El Salvador, was to watch, listen, participate and learn in a way that I could take home to my own country and communities. I received more in my time there than I ever could have imagined. Speaking Spanish was a great plus for me, as I was able to connect with families and individuals on a deeper level. I was also always in constant contact with Rotary members and although far away from my own family, I never felt like I was left alone. I am beyond grateful for this experience and wish that every young and passionate person could experience the same. I firmly believe that we are all one big family and we need to learn to break down the barriers that separate us and keep us from living in violence, anger and hate. We need to find ways to connect with people from across the world who are experiencing life in a contrasting way, in order to better learn and grow as a whole.

Thank you to everyone who made this experience possible for me and I cannot wait to keep this fire going for the rest of my journey! Gracias, paz y mucho amor,

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ERYNNE GILPIN, sponsored by the Rotary Club of London-Hyde Park, ON used her 2012-13 Ambassadorial Scholarship to study as a listening and independent vocational student, in the Graduate Studies program, 'Human Rights and Education' at the University of Central America, San Salvador, El Salvador.

### World Polio Day Live Global Update October 24th



### Where are we in the fight to end polio?

What have we accomplished? How can we make history together? Find out on World Polio Day.

To mark World Polio Day on October 24, Rotary

### Join Rotary for a Special Li∨estream E∨ent

and Northwestern University 's Center for Global Health will host a live-streamed global update on the status of the fight to end polio. If you are a supporter of Rotary's effort to eradicate polio, or simply want to learn more about it, you

won't want to miss World Polio Day: Making History.

### Featured guests include:

- ⇒ Dr. Bruce Aylward, World Heath Organization, assistant director-general for polio, emergencies and county collaboration.
- ⇒ Dr Robert Murphy, director of the Centre for Global Health at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine.
- $\Rightarrow Polio survivor and world-class Paralympian$ Dennis Ogbe.

**Don't miss this opportunity** to learn how you an become a part of history by helping Rotary and its partners End Polio Now.

- ⇒ Visit the World Polio Day: Making History Livestream page to add the event to your calendar
- $\Rightarrow Embed the Livestream video player on your website or Facebook page.$
- ⇒ Download a World Polio Day toolkit for sample social media posts and graphics
- ⇒ Add a World Polio Day: Making History photo to your Facebook page.

Share your support on Twitter:

- ⇒ Join @Rotary on World Polio Day for a live global update on polio eradication. #endpolio.
- ⇒ What is the status of polio eradication? Find our during a live event on World Polio Day. #endpolio.



# Club News

On Saturday September 28th, the Rotary Club of London South, celebrated the opening of the new Rotary Village at Scouts Canada located at 531 Windermere Road. The club raised \$30,000 to build 6 Adirondack sleep shelters for local and area Scouting groups.



The St. Thomas Rotaserver reports that on a recent official visit to their club, District Governor Don Moore, assisted by President Pat Martyn, bestowed Paul Harris "plus six" recognition upon Bill Horn. The editor commended Bill's commitment to the Foundation and offered congratulations on behalf of the club.

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Recently the Rotary Club of Thornbury and Clarksburg celebrated their 75th Anniversary! That's a lot of community service! The occasion was marked with a celebratory dinner at Lora Bay.



It's been a busy month for this club. DG Don Moore made his official visit to the club on October 3rd. After an "Oktoberfest"

meal and before the District Governor's remarks, guest Wanson Williams from the Redbank Primary School rose to thank the club for their donation of computers to the school. He said the gift of computers were very important to the children and in many cases has changed their lives. He presented Rotarian PDG Mike Atkins and current President Gerry

McGregor with certificates of appreciation and a school mug.

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The Rotary Club of Markdale kicked off a new event this month. On October 5th they celebrated **Oktoberfest** at the Markdale Golf and Curling Club. Begun in 1810 in Bavaria to celebrate the marriage of the Crown Prince, Oktoberfest events have spread throughout the world. Markdale will continue that tradition.

This event, held to raise money for a splashpad in the community, featured the music of the Grammy nominated John Gora Band. They played traditional polka music and other hits throughout the evening. The menu consisted of Oktoberfest sausages and sauerkraut on a bun and it appears there may have been some beer involved as well.

Project Chair Eric Robertson was very pleased with the results. Congratulations to Eric and his committee and we wish them every success in the future.

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### **New Member Induction**

Debbie Dietzel. Editor of the **Burton** Rotarian, reported that this month their club has a new member. They have inducted Joe Simpson from the IMA Brookwood Golf Club. Welcome Joe and congratulations to the Burton Club.

#### Passages

David Blackburn, Immediate Past President of the Stratford Rotary Club, passed away suddenly on Tuesday, October 8th. Only 54 when he left us. Dave was a committed Rotarian. He joined the club in 1994 and served as Club President in 2012. David came from a Rotary family: his father Glenn was a Paul Harris fellow and his mother Carolyn is a current member of the Stratford club. Club members honoured his memory with reflections about his vitality, his commitment to family and community and his willingness to mentor others.

# Happening in the District...

Has Your Club Registered for the Rotary Foundation Seminar Yet?

District Governor Don Moore has sent a reminder about the upcoming Foundation Seminars in **Walkerton** on October 26th and in **London** on November 2nd.

Don't

The full day seminar will provide information about the Rotary Foundation and about Polio Plus. In addition certification of clubs to participate in District and Global Grants will take place. If your club wishes to be eligible for grants in 2014-15 it is mandatory that you have at least two members there who can sign on behalf of your club.

The cost of the program including lunch is \$35. You can register on the District website and payment will be collected by cheque at the door on the day of the event.

### **Rotary Zone Success Seminar**

A Rotary Zone Seminar is being offered on **Saturday**, **November 2nd** in Mississauga. Sessions will focus on **Membership**, Foundation and Public Image.

The seminar may be of interest to:

- \* Club and District PR Chairs, Membership Chairs or Foundation Chairs
- District Assistant Governors
- Club Presidents
  - Any Rotarian interested in having an interactive day of learning and discussion with experts from three of the key elements from the RI Strategic Plan.

Time:Registration at 8 am. Program starts at 9.

- **Cost:** \$25.00 (includes lunch). Pay at the door by cheque only. (Sorry: no cash or credit cards).
- Location: Delta Toronto Airport West, 5444 Dixie Road, Mississauga, Ontario

### How to Register:

Download the Registration Form from the District website and email it to Len Sherrnofsky (D7070events@gmail.com). Please register by October 25th to assure a lunch reservation.



### Just for the Fun of It....



Dear Dad: \$chool is great. I am making lot\$ of friend\$ and \$tudying very hard. With all my \$tuff, I \$imply can't think of anything I need. \$o if you

would like, you can \$end me a card, a\$ I would love to hear from you. Love,

Your \$on.

Dear Son:

I kNOw that astroNOmy, ecoNOmics, and oceaNOgraphy are eNOugh to keep even an hoNOR student busy. Do NOt forget that the pursuit of kNOwledge is a NOble task, and you can never study eNOugh. Love,

Dad

(Borrowed shamelessly from the Gateway Gazette produced by the Rotary Club of Wiarton.)

## **Rotary International News**



Indian philanthropist and businesswoman Rahashree Birla has announced a new gift of US \$1 million to Rotary to help eradicate polio. The gift brings her total contributions to the Rotary effort to more than \$7.2 million.

What's more, this gift will be matched twofor-one by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, resulting in \$3 million in new funding for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI). Through the <u>End Polio Now: Make History Today</u> fundraising campaign, the Gates Foundation is matching two-for-one every new dollar Rotary commits to polio eradication, up to \$35 million per year, from 2013 through 2018.

"Mrs. Birla's generous gift is deeply appreciated and could not have come at a more opportune time in our fight to end polio once and for all," says Ashok Mahajan, a former Rotary Foundation trutee and close friend of the Birla family. "Her generosity no doubt will inspire other private donoros to step up and help Rotary take full advantage of our innovative partnership with the Gates Foundation."

"Thanks to the efforts of Rotary and its partners, including India's Health Ministry, WHO (World Health Organization), UNICEF, CDC (U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), the Gates Foundation, and other organizations, India continues to be free of polio," says Birla, whose son Kumar Mangalam Birla, has transformed the Aditya Birla Group into a Fortune 500 global conglomerate. "Now we owe it to humanity to see that Nigeria, Afghanistan, and Pakistan also become polio free in the near future."

Source: www.rotary.org/

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### District Governor....

promoting vocational service. Each club should develop projects that allow members to use their business and professional skills. Members are expected to contribute to these projects and to conduct their own business dealings in accordance with Rotary principles. It's time for all of us to be RED (Rotarian Every Day! Not Retired Extremely Dangerous!)

Why not share some of your ideas with us? To stimulate your thinking some project ideas are:

- Classification Talks at meetings...remember some younger Rotarians may not have heard talks given years ago by more senior Rotarians.
- Tours of members' businesses
- Career fairs and career workshops for students
- \* Mentoring programs

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Create a vocational award program such as an essay competition on the meaning of the 4 Way Test at your local High School.

Forward your October Vocational Activities by email to Paula Lee, District Vocational Chair at: paula.lee@sympatico.ca.

I also want to announce that World Interact Week will be held from November 4th to 10th. For those of you who have Interact Clubs, this is your chance to show off what partnership you have with the youth in your community. For the rest of you, why not provide some information in your local schools or community about starting an Interact Club...Interactors become Rotaractors, and Rotoractors become Rotarians...These young people are the future of Rotary!

I want to thank those clubs who have shown me superb hospitality on my club visits! That is every one of you whom I have visited so far! You are amazing people! Your ideas and projects that you have for your communities and in other parts of the world are truly engaging. You have changed lives!

