# Working with the media

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## Understanding the media

- \* What constitutes the media
- \* Who are they
- \* How many of them are there
- \* What are the programs
- \* What interests the media (what is news)

### Understanding the local media

- \* How many of them are there
- \* Who are they
- \* Who are the key players
- \* What programs of interest

### What is news

- \* Processes
- \* TV
- \* Radio
- \* Newspapers
- \* Internet

### What to do when approached

- \* WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO ON?
- \* Find out all about it
- \* Give yourself time to think
- \* Answering questions Vs getting the message across

### Preparation/What are you going to say

- \* Key messages
- Difficult questions
- \* Phrases to take control

### Dos & Don'ts

#### DO

- \* Get to your most important points first
- \* Avoid getting trapped into stating a critics position.
- \* Support statements and assertions with FACTS or third-party evidence wherever possible.
- \* Comment from the widest viewpoint possible.
- \* Make it personal.
- Try to mention Rotary at least once.
- \* Try to use the PREP method to arrange your thoughts and argument
  - \* Point
  - \* Rationale
  - Evidence
  - Point

## Dos & Don'ts

#### DON'T

- \* Say anything OFF THE RECORD.
- \* Let words be put in your mouth.
- \* Guess or speculate.
- \* Argue or attack the media.
- \* Use jargon.
- \* Feel you must limit yourself to answering only the questions asked.
- \* Get lulled into a false sense of security.

## **Developing relationships**

\* Do you trust someone you don't know?

## Other things to consider

- \* What to wear
- \* Empty pockets
- \* Sit forward and sit up straight
- \* Where to look
- \* Consider your audience

# Be yourself, be able to listen, be brief