



John de Giorgio
Governatore 2017 - 2018

Malta, 01 marzo 2018

“Rotarians in the District change gear”

As we approach the last four months of the Rotary year, Rotarians in the District change gear. Most Clubs are focusing on the realisation of their projects while a small number of others are scrambling to action. Training events also take on a new level, particular for the Squad and Presidents of 2018-19 under the guidance of District Governor Elect Titta Sallemi. The SISD meeting for the 2018-19 Squad was held on the 24 February while the SIPE for Incoming Presidents is being held on the 10 March.

On the 3 March we have a training course which is new to our District and encourages Rotarians who do not usually frequent the District meetings to attend some basic training. These may be new members, prospective members or even members of long standing who are not close to the District. Bookings for this training course are being received in a steady stream indicating the interest in such activities.

March is also the month in which the RYLA takes place. This year the RYLA is being held between the 19th and 23rd March and for the first time in Malta. The programme is exceptional with significant elements of the training being done as team building exercises out of the class room and a complete focus on leadership. High quality external speakers include executive coach Nathan Farrugia, who among his achievements has run 27 marathon races in 27 consecutive days in 27 countries of the EU, marketing specialist Jonathan Chetcuti, Rotarian and Dean of the Faculty of Economy at La Cattolica University, Domenic Bodega. 67 participants will be attending.

In February I also had the pleasure of attending various Club events and inaugurations. The Rotary Club Bagheria organised the Pranzo della Comunità for 300 participants jointly with the Protezione Civile. The food was prepared and served by Rotarians as well as Rotaractors and Interactors. It was a wonderful service experience.

Five of the six Clubs in the area Nissena led by R.C. San Cataldo inaugurated their “Un Taxi per Tutti” project, the provision of a van to the Associazione Disabili San Cataldo at a cost of nearly €15,000 half of which was funded by a District Grant. A project of great impact in the community was matched with a high visibility for Rotary during the inauguration with involvement of all the community and the Comune.

I also had the privilege of attending the event in honour of the 60th anniversary of Rotary Club Palermo Est. the pleasure of hearing about many of the projects that the Club has undertaken was matched only by the long list of on-going projects.



The Club is testament to how a historic Club can continue to be relevant within the community and result in a growing Club.

We are also soon approaching the inauguration date for the global Un Albero per Ogni Rotariano project on the 22 April. Over three thousand trees had already been planted in our District by the end of January with more to come.

I have received a list of the number of trees planted by each Club and the Clubs planting the largest number of trees per capita will be recognised at the Congresso. Now is your chance to conclude this project in your own Club so that we can all go together with our families to the location in which the trees have been planted by each Club to enjoy a family festa.

We are also privileged to be hosting the Rotary International President Ian Riseley in Italy for the Presidential Peace Conference on Maternal and Child Health being held in Taranto 27 and 28 April. PDG Giovanni Vaccaro shall be a speaker at the event talking about the District project on this theme being carried out this year.

It is important that we have a good presence from our District. Despite the logistical difficulties of reaching Taranto, I urge members to attend this conference.

We still have lots of time to Make a Difference in our communities.

John