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More Rotary education and community projects

It is interesting to observe the cycle of the Rotary year which starts with the Presidents finding their way, settling their teams and their ideas then, despite the disruption of the summer period, moves to fund raising and project work.

We are now at a stage where many of these projects have started to form well, with some already concluded, while, of course, the historic multi-year projects continue in parallel. As a result the focus on the Club visits in the first half of the year has shifted to project inaugurations. This is a period of great satisfaction given my strong belief in the service mission of Rotary. This is all undertaken while maintaining the fellowship aspect of Rotary which is so important.

At the same time, the continuity that is represented by the Rotary wheel and has been so fundamental to the success of the organisation continues to roll on and the next set of District and Club leaders continue their training and preparation.

We also have a number of interesting upcoming events. In a bid to improve training to new and prospective members, we shall be holding a novel training event on the morning of the 3 March at Caltanissetta covering themes such as the values and objectives of Rotary, the structure of the organisation, the fundamentals of Rotary service, project ideas and funding opportunities, communications. I would encourage all of you who do not usually attend many District conferences to do so and for the Club leaders to encourage participation by members and prospective members.

The 23 February marks World Rotary Day and this should be an occasion for all Clubs to showcase the work of Rotary among their community helping with nurturing a greater awareness of Rotary, which is one of our strategic objectives and a prerequisite for a Club to obtain the Presidential Citation.

The RYLA being held in Malta between the 19 to 23 March has been very well supported with 54 participants meeting for a very interesting programme focused on leadership with an excellent line up of speakers including Prof Domenico Bodega who presented so well at the District ECR training last October.

Our zone is also proud to host one of the six Presidential Peace Conferences being held around the world. The conference, on the subject of Maternal and Child Care is being held in Taranto between the 27 and 29 April and will be attended by the Rotary International President, Ian Riseley, as well as Rotarians from all over Europe.

The 22 April sees the inauguration of the tree planting projects that our Clubs have taken up so enthusiastically. I would recommend that each Club organises an event on that day to launch the project among their community aiming at gaining the visibility for Rotary.



We are also working hard on concluding the arrangements for the 40th District Congress being held at the Westin Dragonara Resort I St Julian's, Malta between the 15 and 17 June. More details can be found in this edition of the Magazine.

Two other significant events occurred in January which I would like to recognise: the presentation of our own District's PDG and Incoming Rotary Board Director Francesco Arezzo di Trifiletti and Anna to the Rotary International Assembly in San Diego and the induction of the first female member into Rotary Club Malta.

While all this is happening, I urge you to strengthen your Clubs further. The nature of Rotary is such that we need to constantly feed it with a new stream of members and train and motivate existing members to work further in favour of the ideals of our organisation.

Buon Rotary.

John