

# New Rotary - new year

## New Rotary Year

## Health & Environmental



**N**EVER mind being on holiday, club President Sarah Gardner outlined her plans for the new Rotary year at last week's club assembly.

Despite being on a family holiday in Dorset, and relying on rural wi-fi, Sarah described what she was hoping to achieve over the coming 12 months, when she takes over as President of Elthorne-Hillingdon Rotary on July 1st.

Many of the long-standing projects will be promoted including the paired reading at Northwood School, supporting the seniors' party at the Tudor Club in Eastcote and looking to grow Brunel Rotaract Club.

The environment will be another key area of focus over the coming 12 months, through the End Plastic Soup initiative, as well as working on other community projects.

In health, the club will be supporting the Covax scheme and supporting the Hillingdon Dementia Action Alliance. And Sarah will be continuing her work with her charity, Serving Our Superheroes, which has worked hard to help the vulnerable during the Covid pandemic.

## Health

- Mental health & domestic violence
- Dementia project
- COVID vaccine project
- Health roadshow
- VTT Midwifery Training in Uganda
- Support the India COVID appeal (TBC)



## The Covax Scheme

- We are fortunate in the UK to have rapid access to COVID-19 vaccination in safe conditions. But, of course most of the people of the world are not so fortunate.
- £6 represents the typical cost of a vaccine.



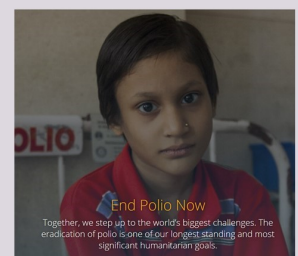
## Environmental projects

- End plastic soup
- Education
- Litter picking
- Tree planting
- Allotments / Community Gardens



### Continuing our regular projects

- Paired Reading (Improving Literacy at Northwood School)
- Interact Club for 15 -18 year olds at Northwood School
- Rotaract Club at Brunel University
- Volunteer at Tudor Dining Club – Norman – every Monday morning
- Provide Transport for Quarterly Seniors Party
- Support for the Michael Sobell Hospice – Bike ride - TBC
- RLYA
- Christmas Collections / Santa
- Shoe Box Scheme at Bishop Ramsey School- TBC
- Supporting the Rotary Foundation and End Polio Now
- Ickenham festival – TBC



# Helping West London to go international

**W**HILST conducting my own charity work, I came across lots of other people doing great working in the community and running other charities, which I hadn't previously been aware of, *writes Sarah Gardner.*

Often there are many unconnected charities working on their own, but we are stronger together. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought communities together and people have set up support in the community.

There is lots of great work going on under the radar.

Taking inspiration from the fact that Rotary is stronger together, I have set up a group to try and connect everyone to join forces and help those in need.

I have set up a network of contacts across West London.

*"I set up the group so that we could all help each other out and get help when and where it is needed."*

I have created a WhatsApp group, which is regularly expanding, where members can post requests for help. Others can post if they have items to donate.

## Dress a girl around the world.

A joint project with Serving Our Superheroes and Dress a Girl Around the world. Getting handmade new dresses to girls around the world.



The WhatsApp group includes the Salvation Army in Hayes, the London Community Kitchen, ShowerBox, One Nation, the Care4Calais project, Anika Food Charity, Tricky Periods, The Gurkha Centre, Olympic House, Heathrow Rough Sleepers, Ealing Community Aid, Helping the Homeless, Bell Farm Christian Centre, Dress A Girl, Hounslow Rotary Club, as well as various food and baby banks and individuals who are helping those in the community.

I am working closely with Mukesh Malhotra from Hounslow Rotary Club, who has links with a few churches in Hounslow who are helping refugees.

The group also connects the Elthorne-Hillingdon Rotary and Hounslow Rotary via Mukesh.

The group has been very successful and have been helping by swapping donations to get what is needed to those in need quickly.

They have been helping people all over West London and beyond, but recently it has gone international!

Through my charity Serving our Superheroes I have been in contact with the charity 'Dress A Girl'.

[www.dressagirlaroundtheworlduk.co.uk](http://www.dressagirlaroundtheworlduk.co.uk)

Dress A Girl aims to provide the very best new dresses and shorts made by volunteers to children living in poverty around the world.

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# Partnering with 'Dress A Girl Around the World' / contd

- From page 2

Since the pandemic many people in the UK have lost their jobs and families are struggling to provide for their family and clothing children who are always growing is increasingly more difficult.

Dress A Girl had been unable to send their dresses to Uganda this year due to travel restrictions and given the items instead to other organisations in the UK, such as Serving Our Superheroes.

I have accepted the donations and offered the dresses up to some local schools. I have also given them to two local charities, one being the Anika Food Bank, which is also part of the helping West London Group.

These dresses will help young girls in the UK.

At the time of receiving the bags Jacqui who runs the charity, Dress A Girl, mentioned that she had a whole room full of thousands of dresses that they couldn't get abroad due to the logistical issues.

So I set to action and asked if any of her connections on the group or Rotary connections were sending anything abroad and could help with the logistics.

Naz of Ealing Community Aid, who is also on the group, said she had a container going the next week to Syria as part of the One National charity which she is involved with. She said that she could take them.

I contacted Jacqui and arranged for Naz to collect the dresses ready



to go on the container, bound for Syria.

One Nation UK, which is based in High Wycombe sent a container load of goods to Syria on June 4th to be distributed amongst displaced Syrians who are living in refugee camps.

On the container, there are 400 dresses, various sizes ranging from 18 to 24 months to 5 to 6 years which have been supplied by Dress A Girl, and organised by Helping West London and Serving Our Superheroes.

This is a great example of how, working together, the dresses are getting out to those in need around the world, in spite of the pandemic causing logistical issues.

It shows that by working together we can achieve more.

The Rotary clubs of Elthorne-Hillingdon and Hounslow have created a great partnership and are helping so many people, not just in West London, but across the globe.

Through the charity Serving Our Superheroes, I have gained many contacts in the community, and by using these contacts formed a network of support which is helping people both locally and internationally.

Through Rotary and the Helping West London Group, we have managed to pull together enough stock for 1,000 washbags.

Mukesh from Hounslow Rotary has arranged for funds for the stock of toiletries to go to Serving Our Superheroes.

Dr Anika, who is also part of the Helping West London group, has already provided 1,000 dental kits.

Over the past year, Serving Our Superheroes has provided over 44,000 items to those in need during the pandemic.

We are now working on filling the washbags with masks and toiletries to go to people in need, which we will distribute over the next few weeks.

# Club Council highlights

The Rotary club's Club Council met on May 26th to plan ahead as we come to the end of the Rotary year.

Here were some of the key discussion points:

**COPYRIGHT:** In correspondence, Rotary Great Britain & Ireland stated that there had been fresh copyright infringements by clubs on their websites by publishing photographs which they did not own.

It was stressed to use copyright free sites to download pictures:

[www.pixabay.com](http://www.pixabay.com) [www.pexels.com](http://www.pexels.com) or [www.unsplash.com](http://www.unsplash.com)

**CLUB DONATION:** The London Air Ambulance wrote thanking the club for our £1,000 donation from the Christmas collections.

**FINANCES:** From the club's charity funds, the following commitments have been made:

- £1,300 from the quiz in February – raising money for Hillingdon HomeStart and Michael Sobell House at Mount Vernon Hospital.
- £677 for our RYLA candidate 2021.
- £500 from the quiz in May, split between Hillingdon Dementia Alliance and Creating Better Futures
- £430 which is allocated for our Rotary COVID\_19 Vaccine Appeal.
- The club currently has £272 in donations in lieu of the weekly meals. It is hoped that figure might be raised to £400 which, when added to the quiz money, would provide £450 for each charity.

It was agreed that the donations in lieu

of meals was discontinued after May.

Enthusiasm for this project has waned considerably since it started 14 months ago.

It was also agreed that the club would donate £500 to the District's India COVID-19 appeal, providing food and supporting families after hospital treatment.

**ROTARY GB&I BUSINESS MEETING:**

This was attended by Janet Tyas and Gillian Pearce, on behalf of the club.

The annual accounts were presented and discussed, GB&I subs will remain at £67 per person for 2021-22.

Changes to the by-laws allowed a change to a smaller governing council. Changes to the Rotary GB&I President's title to Chairman were discussed, and delegates voted to approve.

**RYLA:** The club has selected its RYLA candidate, who is James, a 24-year-old university graduate for the week-long activity camp in North Wales in July.

The other candidate interviewed was an 18-year-old living in Hounslow but who is attending the Global Academy in Hayes. He has been taken on by Uxbridge Rotary.

**ZOOM COOK ALONG:** Shally Bhalla has agreed to run a Cook Along on Zoom for up to 12 participants. Shally will set up the event on Eventbrite with a charge of £14 per person.

Half of the proceeds will go to the club, and this will be promoted on social media. It was suggested the proceeds should go to the COVID-19 appeal.

**FUTURE VENUE:** Uxbridge Sports Club is currently open from Thursday to

Sunday. What happens after June 21st remains uncertain due to the Indian variant of COVID-19.

Justin Tyas is keeping in touch with the Sports Club regarding holding face-to-face meetings there. It is hoped a fellowship meeting can be arranged there soon.

**FUTURE MEETINGS:** When future face-to-face meetings are possible, the club agreed that the first and third meetings in any month would be held on Zoom, and the second and fourth meetings would be face-to-face.

Any month with a fifth Wednesday would be dealt with on an ad-hoc basis.

**SHOWCASE:** The club showcase evening on May 21st was attended by two potential members. One is a possibility, the other one only wants to be a friend of the club.

**SATELLITE CLUB:** Randeep Reehal is receiving support from the District Membership team with plans to establish a satellite club. Randeep will provide regular reports on progress.

**SHAKESPEARE SHOWCASE:** Joan Greening suggested that the Shakespeare evening is repeated next year, following its successful staging in May, and this is combined with a membership event.

**HANDOVER MEETING:** The handover meeting BBQ will take place on Saturday June 26th, starting at 12.30pm. Gillian Pearce will issue the formal invitations.

**Next Club Council Meeting**  
7.30pm on Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>

# Ratty celebrates World Environment Day

**A**T last week's club assembly, President-Elect Sarah Gardner gave an extensive view of what she would like to achieve next year.

Among the areas Sarah intends to focus on will be health, promoting Covax vaccines, empowering girls and embracing the new area of focus the environment, as well as continuing with the projects which the club normally does.

Janet Tyas reminded us to ask local schools for supporting the competition for the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow. The aim would be to review the submitted pictures and send the best two forward.

Brenda informed us that the lady who we supported through the Lendwithcare micro finance scheme has paid back the money which the club loaned her.

She is currently a new scheme with the charity, which has benefited to the tune of £1 million from Rotary clubs across Great Britain and Ireland.

June 5th was both World Environmental Day and Rotary End Plastic Soup Action Day, so Ratty was out on Sunday litter picking on the banks of the River Thames at Marlow with Marlow Bridge Rotary Club.

It is important to ensure that we are not polluting our water sources because water and the flora and fauna within it help to provide 80% of the world's oxygen and absorbs carbon.

So my contribution to reducing waste was to pick up a bag of rubbish, did you do anything e.g. use a reusable bag.



*Gillian*

# ROTARY *Diary*

The Government's roadmap for the easy Covid rules, saw most mixing rules lifted outdoors from May 17th, with indoor mixing of up to six people or two households. On June 21st, it is hoped there will be further relaxation of the rules with all legal limits removed on mixing.

With Rotary club meetings, there is uncertainty when we will return to Uxbridge Sports Club, which is currently open from Thursday to Sunday. Wider advice is expected shortly from Rotary in Great Britain & Ireland. For the new Rotary year, the club is planning for bi-weekly face-to-face club meetings, but it is unclear exactly when these will start.

**June 9th: Online meeting: Club meeting - talks from Michael Sobell Hospice & Home Start, with virtual cheque presentations. (7.30pm).**

**June 10th: District 1090 Council meeting, via Zoom, (7pm).**

**June 13th: Rotary social walk @ Rickmansworth Aquadrome (10am).**

**June 16th: Online meeting: Club committees (7.30pm).**

**June 20th: Rotary social walk @ Ruislip Lido (10am)**

**June 23rd: Online meeting: Club Council (7.30pm).**

**June 26th: President's Handover: celebration with BBQ @ Sarah Gardner's (12.30pm).**

**June 27th: Rotary social walk @ Rickmansworth Aquadrome (10am).**

**June 30th: Online meeting: Club meeting (7.30pm).**

**July 2nd: District Governor handover, via Zoom, 7pm.**

**July 4th: Rotary social walk @ Ruislip Lido (10am).**

## Club officers

**President:** Gillian Pearce

**President-Elect:** Sarah Gardner

**Immediate Past President:** Dave King

**Secretary:** Norman Jones

**Treasurer / Executive Secretary:** John Greening

**Membership:** Justin Tyas

**Projects:** Mike Udall

**Speaker secretary:** Janet Tyas

**Community:** Sarah Gardner

**Youth Service:** Joan Greening

**Rotaract:** Stuart Kasozi

**International:** Brenda Udall

**Interact:** Joan Greening

**Rotary Foundation:** John Greening

**Public Image/Webmaster:** Dave King

**Equality & Diversity/ Rotary Central:** Gillian Pearce

**Safeguarding:** Gillian Pearce

**Attendance:** Justin Tyas

**All online meetings will take place at 7.30pm using the App Zoom.**

**Doors open at 7.15pm for a Rotary social.**

**Please input the code:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84521382186>

## Rotary club charity fund donations

**Sort code:** 40-45-08

**Account no:** 51165364  
(HSBC Uxbridge)

**Ref:** Your name

**Email John Greening when you have made your donation:**

[john.greening@btinternet.com](mailto:john.greening@btinternet.com)

**Each month, club members are donating, on a voluntary basis, their dinner meal money to a good cause**



**Want to know more about Rotary?**

Call Justin on **07806 743116**

Email: [jj.tyas@virgin.net](mailto:jj.tyas@virgin.net)



The Rotary Club of Elthorne -Hillingdon *usually* meets every Wednesday evening at Uxbridge Sports Club, in Park Road, Uxbridge,

