

**Rotary**  
Ireland



THE ROTARY FOUNDATION



## District Governor's Newsletter – July 2017



### July is Handover Month

As your District  
Governor for the  
Rotary year 2017/18

I am proud to take up  
the challenge of  
leading Rotary Ireland  
with the motivational  
theme of



Please join me at  
The Rotary Ireland  
Conference  
September 28th-  
October 1st 2017, in  
the heart of County  
Down @ the La Mon  
Hotel & Country Club,  
Castlereagh, Belfast.

We have a fantastic  
programme planned to  
interest, entertain and  
stimulate you and your  
partner, more details  
and booking form at  
[www.rotaryconference.ie](http://www.rotaryconference.ie)

Events are planned for  
Shandon Park golf  
club; 15 minutes from  
the Conference hotel;  
[Northern Ireland's  
premier Garden &  
Shopping Centre  
Hillmount & National  
Trust Mount Stewart.](#)

### Welcome to the New Rotary Year!

There are many reasons to come to Rotary as there are Rotarians – maybe even a few more. Through Rotary, we are *Making a Difference* in the world; and the more involved we become, the more of a difference Rotary makes to each of us. Rotary challenges us to become better people: to become ambitious in the ways that matter, to strive for higher goals, and to incorporate Service Above Self into our daily lives.

A new Rotary image for Growth called Rotary 2 (*the new Rotary*) is being promoted by all the 26 District Governors across Rotary: Great Britain & Ireland.

My “Ask” is a minimum of 8 Satellite Clubs (1 per Zone) by December 2017. We must also, continue to look for new members for our existing clubs, as our membership is still below 2000, with a 2500 target.

Congratulations to all the new Club Presidents, who took up their posts on the 1<sup>st</sup> July, I look forward to working collectively with you all as we take on these challenges together.

In the year ahead, our clubs will have the support of an array of online tools, including a refreshed [Rotary.org](http://Rotary.org), a simplified Rotary Foundation grant application process, an improved My Rotary experience, and a rebuilt Rotary Club Central.

As we strengthen our clubs, we have two specific challenges: our gender balance and our average age. To keep our clubs strong, we need to build a membership that reflects the communities we serve and that will continue to develop knowledgeable Rotarians for generations to come.

Through the rest of 2017, I am continuing our celebration of the

centennial of The Rotary Foundation, our own and only charity.



Eradicating polio is the ultimate in sustainable service. It is an investment that will yield not just a long-lasting but a permanent benefit, on a global scale. It is and must remain one of our key priorities until the job is done. We have committed to raise every year for the next 3 years, \$50m (\$150m over the 3 years). Two for one matching from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will give us \$450m for polio eradication activities.

To celebrate the centennial I ask every Rotarian, who has not already done so, to become a Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member by pledging £65/€80 annually.

The enrolment process is simple; application forms are available for download [“HERE”](#) (login required)

Over the next 12 months I look forward to meeting with you all as I deliver my key messages and track progress against our key goals. For 112 years, Rotary has made a difference to more lives, in more ways, than we can ever count or will ever know. Today each of us bears a torch, its flame lit by Paul Harris, that has been passed forward from generation to generation.

In closing I want to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of IPDG Gerry and his team who gave generously of their time & commitment in the past year.

Yours in Rotary

*Garth*

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