

DG VERITY SWAN

It is a great pleasure and honour to visit Enniskillen Club today. This club has a great history and record of club activity. I would like to thank Rotarians John Trimble and Kenny Fisher for their generous donations to Project Ciara. I would also like to thank the Rotarians and friends who attended the recent conference in Dublin.

Communication is a two way process and I really enjoy being asked questions, if I cannot answer them I will find somebody who will. I too like to ask questions and my favourite one is - Have you ever been asked to join Rotary? On most occasions the answer is No, however, I am delighted that during my visit to the Townhall today I asked the question to the Chairman Alex Baird, and his response was "yes I have, it does not suit me just at present, but I will certainly give it my consideration in the future".

Engage Rotary Change Lives

Rotary International President Ron Burton charged his District Governors to go out and enthuse members of Rotary and those not yet involved in our great organisation. President Ron said "this is an incredibly exciting time to be a Rotarian – probably the most exciting time since Rotary was founded, more than 107 years ago. We are closing in on our great goal of a polio free world. We are working harder than ever, with more partners than ever, to be sure that we keep the Rotary Promise."

RIBI is in a period of transition in terms of governance and it is really important that as a group we the DG's represent our District's well. Our District is unique as it is the only international District with two jurisdictions and two education systems. We should be proud of that fact.

One of our prime tasks in 2013/2014 is to maintain our support for the End Polio campaign which is in its final phase. This year we are also working hard at all levels to maintain this.

Each avenue of service has much to offer –

The New Grants Programme of Rotary Foundation formerly known as Future Vision will enable clubs to increase funding for local community projects as well as overseas. I would now like to inform the Club that our recent application for funding has been successful.

The International Programme known as the Ciara Project is designed to bring further assistance to Kenya, and as I said earlier this club have been a magnificent support to this project, and will continue to do so.

Our Youth Programme, while maintaining the Youth Leadership programme are also developing and embarking on other projects to encourage further participation by our young people.

Within the Vocational area, greater emphasis in some clubs is being put on identifying the skills and abilities of their members in order to enhance their club programmes. It is a great exercise for club members to share these attributes to make the world a better place through participation in the five avenues of service.

Our organisation is recognised and respected worldwide, one woman was quoted as saying in Central Africa – ***when the Rotarians come – the children stop dying***. I was speaking to a lady in Dublin recently and she told me “we should shout our successes from the rooftops”. There are so many successes to recall and so many challenges to face as we ensure by our actions that future generations will recognise Rotary International as a force for good in the world. Much is expected of us as individual Rotarians working in our clubs, whether at local national or international level. I can see that the Rotarians from this Club have already risen to the challenge and will continue to do so in the future.

So Rotarians – in every way Engage Rotary Change Lives