



POLIO ERADICATION CAMPAIGN



NEWSLETTER No 4 May 2009

“END POLIO NOW”

CONTRIBUTIONS by 15th May 2009

39 Clubs have contributed £34,015.84 District Donations are £17,827.24

Total £51,843.08

Many thanks for all the hard work. I know many other clubs are working towards raising funds for the “End Polio Now Campaign” Please send all contributions made out to **RFUK – Polio Eradication** to Keith Hammond at 6, Vauxhall Avenue, Derby DE22 4DZ

RIBI has received £487,316.96 from the Districts in RIBI by 31st March 2009.

RI President DL Lee announce at Edinburgh that \$75,000,000 has already been contributed to the Appeal

THE BILL and MELINDA GATES CHALLENGE

“The Rotary \$200 Million Challenge”

The Gates Foundation has awarded Rotary International \$355,000,000 for the “End Polio” appeal.

Bill Gates said, *“Rotary in particular has inspired my own personal commitment to get deeply involved in achieving eradication”.*

Rotary International will match part of this donation and RI has agreed to raise \$200,000,000 by June 30th 2012.

END POLIO NOW BADGES

These can be obtained from RIBI or from the Committee at a cost of £25 for 100. They are being sold at £1 each.

THE DISTRICT CHALLENGE

The Exchange Rate!

At the time of planning in April 2008 the exchange rate was \$1.80 and much more beneficial to us!! This means that at the present exchange rate there will be a shortfall as the dollar rate is now about 25% less than it was. At the current dollar exchange rate of \$1.43 to the pound we need the equivalent of £56 per Rotarian over the next two years to achieve our original target of \$160,000 from this District.

But now that RI has doubled the challenge **the District needs to raise \$320,000 by June 30th 2012.**

The “End Polio Now” Committee asks Clubs to consider the following:

- 1. To make fundraising for Polio Eradication one of their main priorities between now and June 2012.**
- 2. To rethink their Charity giving to take on board the new Challenge of \$200,000,000 from Rotary worldwide by June 2012.**

Further information:

Information can be found on several web sites:

RI: www.rotary.org several areas to look at under Rotary Foundation

www.rotary.org/endpolio

WHO www.polioeradication.org

RIBI www.ribi.org Under Rotary Foundation

THE STATE OF PLAY re POLIO CASES

1 In 2008 there were 1655 cases of which 1509 were in the four remaining endemic countries, namely India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria.

2. This year by 31st March 2009 there were **133 cases** in the four endemic countries and 59 cases imported to other countries from these compared with **256** and 10 cases at the same time last year. This is a promising reduction.

3. The number of Type 1 cases – the most virulent strain- continues to fall due to the use of newer vaccines. Type 11 has not been recorded since 1999.

FOR TALKS AND INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

Keith Hammond (Derby) Chairman 01332 347949
e-mail: keith.hammond@my365mail.co.uk

Tony Stimpson (Keyworth and Ruddington) DGE
01509 880122

e-mail: tonystimpson@btinternet.com

John Dain District Foundation Chairman
01283 712613

e-mail: johndain@vodafoneemail.co.uk

Group Representatives

Central: David Power (Nottingham) 0115 983 0400
e-mail: dbjpower@clara.net

Derwent: John Dain (Bretby) 01283 712613
e-mail: johndain@vodafoneemail.co.uk

Erewash: David Soul (Belper) 01332 840259
e-mail: david.soul@virgin.net

Peak: Jill Bethell (Drone Valley) 01246 413276
e-mail: jillbethell@doctors.org.uk

Sherwood: David Brown (Mansfield) 01623 632525
e-mail: dave.brown@tesco.net

Trent: David Curtis (Mapperley) 0115 920 3147
e-mail: david.curtis111@ntlworld.com

“END POLIO NOW”

1. Having gained so much over the last 21 years it is essential that we continue the drive to overcome the final hurdles in this campaign and achieve the promise that Rotary made of a world free from Polio. So, over the next few years the Eradication of Polio will continue to be Rotary International’s **number one priority.**

2. The **benefits** are more than just the end of polio! World wide \$1 billion will be saved annually in Polio Immunisation costs – money that can be used for other health projects. The infrastructure such as public health surveillance laboratories which have been developed over the last twenty or so years will remain and continue to bring Public Health benefit to local communities. Expanded immunisation programmes and more health screening will continue.

3. If we do not achieve our goal of a polio free world polio will return and it is estimated that over the next 40 years there could be 10,000,000 cases. Polio immunisation will have to continue in all countries including those that are polio free. This includes Great Britain and Ireland

THANKS FOR LIFE DAY

A NATIONAL PROJECT

Thanks for Life Day is planned around 23rd February 2010 – when Clubs are being asked to hold events to promote Rotary, increase membership and raise funds for the End Polio Campaign. In particular it is hoped that schools will be involved and that a **Purple Pinkie Day** can be held when the general public and primary school children will be asked to make a donation and in return receive a purple finger!

This is what happens to children who receive Polio Immunisation on National Immunisation Days to show that they have been immunised.

Such a day is expected to attract massive publicity.

Considerable amounts of promotional material are going to be available from RIBI.

DGE Tony spoke about this in some detail at District Assembly

**PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE
FROM RIBI**

Posters
Leaflet about the Polio Eradication
Leaflets about the Appeal
Badges

AVAILABLE FROM DISTRICT

DVDs

We hold copies of 2 DVDs about Polio Eradication. Each Group representative has some. If you would like to borrow these please contact your Group Representative and return the DVD after use

Tony has a DVD of Bill Gates speech at San Diego which clearly demonstrates Bill's confidence that Polio can be eradicated worldwide with the help of Rotary. Further copies of this are being produced so that Clubs can borrow and show it. Please contact Tony Stimpson regarding these

District Concert for Polio

This important event was held at Royal Concert Hall Nottingham on **March 7th 2009** when the Nottingham Philharmonic Orchestra played a programme of Spanish music entitled "Siesta". It was an excellent concert but the Concert Hall was not full and so the proceeds are rather less than hoped. With an exit collection and a contribution from Nottingham Philharmonic Orchestra £1032 was raised. Many thanks to all who supported this excellent event!

AND FINALLY

Many thanks to all clubs who are raising funds, from an assortment of different projects, for Polio Eradication. We are grateful for the efforts that you are making.

The committee does appreciate that times are harder for fund raising due to the present economic difficulties and that you have local and international projects that you will want to keep supporting. We hope that you will continue to accept the challenge given to us to carry on with Polio Eradication high on the list of projects and that you will fund raise for over the next few years.

Achieving the aim of a polio free world is worth all the efforts that you will be making and will Make Dreams Real for millions around the world.

Quote:

"Eradicating polio will be one of the most significant public health accomplishments in history, and we are committed to helping reach that goal with Rotary as one of our key partners"

Bill Gates

Keith Hammond

**District "End Polio Now" Committee
Chairman**

STOP PRESS: A recent wild poliovirus outbreak in southern Sudan has spread into parts of Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda.

In response, Rotary is providing a total of US\$500,000 in emergency grants to UNICEF and the World Health Organization for immediate immunization efforts in the Horn of Africa. In January, The Rotary Foundation Trustees approved \$2.2 million in PolioPlus grants to support immunization activities there.

The outbreak requires urgent action by governments and partner agencies to make the region polio-free, health officials say. The emergency response is aimed at reducing the threat of the virus spreading to other polio-free countries, a process called importation. The emergency grants will support immunization activities in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda through May. Immunization rounds are also continuing in southern Sudan in an effort to halt the source of the outbreak.

"Polio importations highlight our global vulnerability to infectious disease, particularly where routine immunization is low and vulnerable children are missed," said Carol Pandak, manager of PolioPlus.

The government of southern Sudan has launched a polio eradication action plan, including the formation of an Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee, which is placing full responsibility and accountability for the outbreak response on state and district governments. President Salva Kiir Mayardit has issued a directive to all 10 state governors, requesting that they secure the support of nongovernmental organizations and traditional and religious leaders for the effort.

Leadership commended

Dr. Hussein Gezairy, director of WHO's Eastern Mediterranean region, commended the government of southern Sudan "for putting in place these important new measures to address this dangerous spread of disease. It is precisely this leadership which will help ensure the outbreak is rapidly stopped and will prevent further international spread. No child in southern Sudan need ever again know the pain of life-long polio paralysis."

The persistent outbreak in southern Sudan threatens the progress made by polio-free countries in eliminating the wild virus and preventing importations. Although outbreaks sometimes occur during eradication efforts, they do not lessen the feasibility of the eradication initiative. **Outbreaks do, however, highlight the critical need to stop polio transmission in the remaining polio-endemic countries, such as Nigeria and India, which have exported the poliovirus to other nations in recent years, health officials say.** The only other endemic countries are Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Large-scale outbreak response is now underway across the Horn of Africa, including Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, and northern Sudan. An immunization campaign was held in southern Sudan 27-29 April, targeting more than 2.9 million children under age five. The next campaign is scheduled for 26-28 May.

"Experience shows that where polio transmission has been stopped before, it can be stopped again," said Pandak. "A fast, large-scale, and high-quality immunization response and strong surveillance are absolutely critical to prevent the virus taking hold in the longer term."