



**MARTIN'S  
MONTHLY MESSAGE  
SEPTEMBER 2009  
DISTRICT GOVERNOR  
MARTIN GUDDE**



## ***Sad News***

Since the last newsletter, most of you would have heard the very sad news of the death of Assistant Governor Surya Varsani, at the young age of 39. Surya was full of enthusiasm for all Rotary matters.

He was Past President of Golders Green club, a major donor to the Foundation and the founder of the Paul Harris Society in our District. I am proud to be one of the founder members. One of his ideas was to have an RIBI trophy to be awarded annually to a District for the most per capita District giving to the Foundation Annual Programmes Fund (APF). I am pleased to say that the R.I.B.I General Council have agreed to this proposal and decided that it will be named the Surya Varsani Trophy.

Our thoughts and best wishes are with his wife Forum, his two young sons, and the rest of his family and friends.

He will be sorely missed, and never forgotten.



## ***New Appointment***

I have appointed Rotarian David Palmer of the Rotary Club of Barkingside to take over the position of Assistant Governor South East.

## ***Good News***

New clubs - we have four proposed Rotary Clubs, with potential members attending. ***THE FUTURE OF ROTARY IS IN OUR HANDS.***

The Clubs are, Surrey Quays, Pall Mall, Queensbury and Southall. There are more being organised as well.

One will be on a Sunday lunchtime, especially targeted for business and young professionals, who find it impossible to make weekday meetings.

If you know of anyone who would be interested in joining please contact Leonard Specterman (as per District Directory or web site).

***Congratulations*** to Rotary Club of Tower Bridge for getting their Charter.

**Congratulations** to our Web Master, Jonathan Nish, on our new District web site [www.rotaryinlondon.org](http://www.rotaryinlondon.org).

**Congratulations** to Michael Striesow, Rotary Club of Newham, who cycled from Lands End to John O'Groats and raised over one thousand pounds. He said "Would I do it again? - Probably not as I could never replicate the 12 days of good weather with no rain and no punctures - but I am looking for another challenge. Perhaps next year will see me doing a tour of Ireland."

### **The fourth plinth in Trafalgar Square-**

on the 28<sup>th</sup> August at 4.00 a.m. (yes in the morning) many Rotarians attended to support Rotarian Jasmine Morris from Hertford Shires Rotary Club who managed to get a slot and talk about "Thanks for Life/Purple Pinkie project", which will take place during the week of 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010. She was on Five Live Radio. You can listen and get all the information about Thanks for Life/Purple Pinkie project" from [www.ribi.org/thanks-for-life](http://www.ribi.org/thanks-for-life) and P.D.G Don Merritt also our own web site.

### **Feed the children - starts now**

For the next five Rotary meetings, a donation of 20p minimum per member, plus other donations, we will be able to feed 8000 children in District 9270, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. A very big thank you to all the Clubs that have already made a donation and pledges and to all the remaining Clubs that are participating in different ways to raise the money for this worthwhile project. Please make cheques payable to The Rotary Charity Fund (District 1130) send to Howard Segal, District Treasurer, (as per District directory)

### **District Conference**

Time approaches rapidly - Have you sent all your registration forms to David Smith (Conference Secretary)? He is eagerly awaiting to receive your completed forms. You can download from district web site.

**Please help David by not leaving this to the last minute.**

**Looking forward to seeing you all in Eastbourne.**

*Martin*