



FEBRUARY IS WORLD UNDERSTANDING & PEACE DAY



February is very special in the Rotary Calendar because it includes the anniversary of the first meeting of Rotary held on February 23, 1905, now designated as the World Understanding and Peace day

"Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves."

- Paul Harris, 1914

Presidential Message

I am enthused and encouraged by your embrace of mental health initiatives throughout the Rotary world. More than 1,000 of you have responded so far to an ongoing survey by the Rotary Action **Group on Mental Health Initiatives, offering** your feedback on what Rotary can do to well-being improve the personal of members.

suggestions are The top illuminating. Rotary members are asking for fellowship, camaraderie, conversation. cohesiveness, and connection. They also want more recognition, validation, and integration. They are seeking more service opportunities, and thev want more wellness activities, including mental health efforts. speakers. awareness and education.



Gordon McInally
Rotary International
President
RY 2023-2024

Our members not only appreciate the greater focus on mental health, but they also believe that making more of the Rotary experience will materially improve their lives. I find it interesting that members are not asking anything dramatically new of their club — rather they want more of what we do best. For example, connection can be improved during meetings simply by assigning seating once each month to encourage people to speak with someone new. Here are some great ways that we can help achieve these results and make Rotary more appealing to those considering membership. First, we need to acknowledge the importance of increasing belonging in our clubs and to encourage Rotary members to make the most of every opportunity for new and stronger connections.

Presidential Message

Public health worldwide experts concerned about increasing levels Ioneliness — the U.S. surgeon general has even declared it an epidemic. Mental health experts agree that finding groups and hobbies clubs around common and interests is a strong way to create greater connectedness. This is what Rotary is all about. We need to make sure all of our members are fully engaged and that our better aware of this communities are inherent strength.

Second, if your club has found new ways to build connection, please share your stories with us at mindhealth@rotary.org so we can make them more broadly known within the Rotary world. Your good ideas might inspire others. Post your service project stories on Rotary Showcase.



Gordon McInally Rotary International President RY 2023-2024

And finally, I encourage you to share feedback from surveys like this with your club and bring forward your own ideas to improve your club experience and meet your peers' expectations. The journey we have begun is about more than mental health. It is about taking advantage of the full strength of our wonderful organization and helping all members feel that they are part of a community that cares deeply about their personal well-being.

Everything you do to strengthen connections in Rotary, with each other and the people we serve, also helps improve mental health. And everything we do to improve mental health helps strengthen those connections. Let's continue this virtuous cycle.

Zone 21B Rotary Public Image Coordinator Message

The relationship between mental health and peace is complex and deep. People living in peace generally lead less stressful lives, positively their mental health. impacting Providing a safe environment can individuals feel safer make and improve their mental well-being.

On the other hand, in conflict and uncertain environments, people often face higher levels of stress and may be exposed to traumatic experiences. These situations can negatively affect mental health and lead to psychological problems. Therefore, maintaining and improving mental health in situations of conflict and unrest can be more challenging.



In particular, children may struggle to cope with traumatic events experienced during war. Events such as bombings, armed conflicts, and the loss of family members can deeply affect children's mental health, leading to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, anxiety disorders, and other psychological issues. Additionally, children may be deprived of education during war, which can negatively impact their long-term development.

Zone 21B Rotary Public Image Coordinator Message

Women may be subjected to genderbased violence during war, such as sexual violence, rape, and abduction. These types of rape and assaults can hinder women's physical psychological and recovery. Furthermore, coping with the loss of family members and struggling with economic difficulties during war can also affect women's mental health.In conclusion, the effects of war on the mental health of children and women can be profound and long-lasting.



Therefore, psychological support and rehabilitation programs are crucial during the reconstruction of post-war societies. These programs can assist in the post-traumatic healing process and contribute to the healthy functioning of society.

These are the main reasons for the forum that we will organize in Belgrade in February to evaluate the relationship between Peace and Mental Health, the first information of which I gave you in my article last month. I hope this forum will raise awareness about this issue and give us the happiness of doing more for humanity.

CREATE A HOPE IN THE WORLD

PDG Güneş Ertaş PRPIC Zone 21B D2440 Turkish Rotarians in Belgrade

The Rotary Public Image Team of Zone 21B, under the patronage of RPIC Altan Arslan, successfully organized the Peace and Mental Health Seminar on February 12, 2024, at the Belgrade Crown Plaza Hotel, with the participation of Rotary International President Gordon McInally. Additionally, an Rotary Day was organized in the evening with the participation of nearly 400 Rotarians and their spouses.

Prior to the Seminar Day on February 11, participants enjoyed the taste of Serbian cuisine at the traditional restaurant named Ambar during the evening dinner, cherishing the spirit of Rotary Friendship. International Rotary President Gordon McInally and his wife Heather honored this evening.

On February 12, during the seminar opening, Rotary International President Gordon McInally addressed the participants, emphasizing the importance of Mental Health. Deputy Governor Serdar Kelahmet (District 2430) spoke about the positive impact of Rotary's Youth Exchange Project on Peace. Prof. Dr. Marija Jevtic (District 2483) delivered a presentation on the relationship between Mental Health and Climate Change, and Alexandra Ivanovic provided practical information under the title "Small Habits for a Better Day."

Two panels were held during the seminar discussing Peace Projects and the Importance of Mental Health, moderated by ARPIC Tanya Georgieva and Prof. Dr. Marija Jevtic. In the first panel, District Governor Ayda Özeren (District 2440), Past District Governor Nikola Bozic (District 2483), Polio Coordinator Past District Governor Sajid Pervaiz (District 3271), Rotaractors Dragana Dojcinovic and Tiana Ristic were panelists discussing Rotary's Role in Building a Peaceful World. In the second panel, Rtn. Darija Petovic Bambur, Rtn Dr. Tijana Antin Pavlovic, Rtn. Prim. Dr. Jovo Djedović (District 2483) were panelists discussing the Importance of Mental Health and Inner Peace.

The seminar saw the highest attendance of approximately 30 participants from District 2430. There was also participation from neighboring District 21A.

The Rotary Public Image Coordinators Team of Zone 21B, with Assistant Coordinators Maria Mastora (District 2475), Tanya Georgieva (District 2482), Ljiljana Lainovic (District 2483), Alaeddin Demircioğlu (District 2440), Cengiz Turgay, Mustafa Faruk Güler, Nisa Ildız (District 2430), and Past Corporate Communications Coordinator Günes Ertaş (District 2440), were fully present at this event in Belgrade.

You can access the full recording of the seminar and all presentations from the Zone website: www.rotaryzone21.org



DG Ayda Özeren D2440

The Peace and Mental Health Forum, which I had the privilege of attending, was a vibrant and inspiring event that filled me with tremendous excitement and renewed my hope for a better world.

One of the most striking aspects of this forum was the depth of experience and perspectives shared by the panelists. Each panelist offered a unique insight into peacebuilding and conflict resolution.

The speeches were filled with passion, wisdom, and real-life stories that resonated with everyone. Bearing witness to the determination and dedication to creating a peaceful world was a privileged experience.

Seeing strong examples of successful peacebuilding efforts from personal experiences and diverse communities emphasizes the need to celebrate our differences rather than fear them. The forum reminded me once again that our diversity is not a barrier but a source of strength that enriches Rotary. It was incredible to witness how we can overcome our differences and build bridges of understanding and acceptance.

The atmosphere was magnificent, with Rotary leaders from different backgrounds and perspectives coming together passionately under a common purpose. The lively discussions during coffee breaks were invaluable. It was in these moments that I realized we are not alone in our pursuit of peace. There were many individuals who share the same vision and actively work towards it in their communities. Connecting with them was a powerful reminder that together, we can create lasting change.

As I left the Peace Forum, I felt a renewed sense of hope and a reaffirmed belief in the importance of my role in supporting peace. The shared experiences, inspiring stories, and strong bonds of Rotary left remarkable imprints on my heart. I am now more determined than ever to advocate for peace and promote understanding both in my own community and beyond. The Peace Forum was a unique and inspiring experience that filled me with hope and gratitude. The connections made with like-minded individuals and the undeniable sense of unity have further fueled my commitment to being a champion of peace. Let us carry forward the spirit of the Peace Forum and work together to create a more peaceful and harmonious world.

Peace is possible with Rotary.



PP Cengiz Turgay D2430

My wife and I went to Belgrade a few days before this meeting to attend and even explore the city a bit. The city, with its iconic fortress, squares, streets, and welcoming atmosphere, greeted us warmly, allowing us to roam comfortably despite it being February.

The answer of PDG Altan Arslan, Rotary Public Image Coordinator of Rotary Zone 21B, to the question "Why Belgrade?" being "The iconic location of Belgrade, which has undergone many wars," determined the address of the forum.

Culturally connected to Turks for centuries, in this city; Belgrade's interest in the concept of Rotary Peace and the organization of this forum shortly after the opening of the Peace Center in Istanbul indicates that the topic of Peace is starting to be discussed in subcategories for Rotarians.

The topic and concept of Peace have found their definition in Rotary, and significant progress has been made in both club and regional and zonal activities in this regard. When we also look at Mental Health; Mental health has been a frequently heard term in recent years. But what does mental health mean? Mental health, or psychological well-being, refers to a person's psychological, behavioral, and emotional state. According to the World Health Organization, mental health is defined as a state of well-being, a sense of competence, social integration, an ability to cope with emotions, and a good intellectual perspective. A state of well-being indicates that there is no disorder in a person's psychology and thoughts, and this good state can be sustained over time. Mental health can vary depending on a person's ability to manage stress, communicate with the environment and society, and be productive, based on their evaluations and behaviors. These differences can sometimes have positive effects on overall mood, while at other times they can lead to fluctuations in emotional disorders.

This emphasis was addressed by RI President Gordon McInally in his opening remarks at the forum, stating that the subject is indeed a difficult one from the perspective of mental health, but that it does not mean it won't be addressed, and that it is necessary to understand, research, and discuss the reasons for mental health deterioration.



Serdar Kelahmet, discussing the contribution of Youth Exchange programs to cultural understanding and agreement, emphasized the increase in connection and exchange with Africa through a program like ONE, thereby contributing to the understanding and sharing of cultures. In a panel discussing real-life stories emphasizing Peace, the perspective of a Rotarian who lost their parents in the aftermath of a war and the empathy established there perhaps presented a state of mind that we may never fully comprehend. Numerous activities organized in the region have been reported to address inter-community friction, migration, war, and religious and racial discrimination.

It was also emphasized that Mental Health is not only affected by this aspect but also by climate change and environmental changes, and the necessity of discussing and understanding these issues was highlighted. Among the examples were the large waves of migration and the problems they caused, the pandemic and its issues, as well as major natural disasters (such as floods and earthquakes) and the societal and personal problems they caused, all of which were conveyed by very valuable speakers.

The speeches can be watched at the following address: https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/kib4u98ijlsw8kkjx6vr4/h?rlkey=vanisa2mk6zfmcg2hfxxxl243&dl=0.

Through this occasion, we not only strengthened our friendships with our friends in the zone, but also attended a meeting and events hosted by another region, and culturally got to know the capital of a country. Furthermore, we gained valuable experiences on how these issues should be addressed in new generation projects.

We thank the Zone 21B Magic Team and especially PDG Ljiljana Lainovic, who coordinated the meeting, and Zone 21B Rotary Public Image Coordinator Altan Arslan for the successful meeting.

Thank you, Rotary.



Rtn. Mustafa Faruk Güler District 2430 Zone 21B ARPIC

Dear Rotary Family,

Rotary meetings held abroad not only provide opportunities to connect and network with people from different countries and cultures but also offer participants the chance to experience different cultures and gain new perspectives. Undoubtedly, this encourages personal and professional development and enhances participants' global thinking skills.

The peace and mental health forum held in Belgrade was a significant event where people could find support, acquire knowledge, connect with the community, and emotionally strengthen themselves. The moderation and topics were quite intriguing.

This event, which was also valued by Rotary International President Gordon R. McInally, coincided with the official visit of the International President of District 2483. We greatly enjoyed being together with Rotarians from Serbia and Montenegro.



Rtn. Orhan Uludağ District Secretary D2430

Returning to Belgrade, this time for the Rotary Peace and Mental Health forum, after recently being there for a tourist trip, was very exciting and exhilarating to be back with our Rotary friends.

This meticulously prepared meeting by the committee intrigued us all and provided us with the opportunity to listen to different perspectives on how youth exchange programs, peace camps, climate change, and mental health interact with peace, broadening our outlook. We had the chance to listen to how the "Power One" project coordinated by Rotarian Serdar Kelahmet from D2430 leads African children to become global citizens, and how PDG Sajid Pervaiz's Rotary friendship projects help develop and maintain peace between India and Pakistan. The Kotor Rotary Club's "Small Habits for a Better Day" project explained how, with the help of modern communication tools, it can be harmonious and effective in a broad perspective. Through the speeches of the panelists, we observed how the problems and solution practices of each country and society can vary regionally. While learning about the efforts and services of Rotary and Rotarians worldwide in the construction and maintenance of peace, we also learned how to overcome the challenges. It was emphasized in almost all speeches that the common point of all societies is the absolute need for peace. While trying to heal the wounds of the devastating earthquake that occurred in Turkey last year, we shared our experiences with a significant number of mental health problems encountered and dealt with by Rotary members in District 2430. In this sense, this forum was a great opportunity for all of us to share our experiences in different areas of mental health issues in the earthquake zone.

Despite the limited participation and interest shown by local Rotarians during the day, we had the opportunity to meet them and learn about the projects carried out in their region during the evening "Rotary Day" meeting. We extend our endless thanks to RPIC Altan Arslan and his team, and to the host District Governor Aleksandar Radojicic, for their courtesy in the successful organization of this forum.



DG Teoman Kaynar D2430

Hello dear Rotary Family,

We attended the Peace and Mental Health forum organized by Zone 21 in Belgrade. As Turkish Rotarians, we participated in this forum with 21 members.

The meeting lasted for a day. Most of our team arrived in Belgrade two days earlier. We had goals of getting to know Belgrade, engaging in cultural tourism, and visiting the Tesla Museum in Nikola Tesla's country, and we accomplished that. The beauty of the weather also added to the positive experience of Belgrade.

The venue for the forum was a large hotel and convention center located outside the city. A very comfortable environment was created. The forum began with opening speeches. The host clubs were from Rotary District 2483, which includes Serbia & Montenegro.

Our International President Gordon McInally and his wife Heather were also among the participants. The International President gave a brief speech emphasizing the importance and necessity of peace and mental health. The forum was conducted in two sessions. The morning session focused on Peace. Moderated by a Rotarian, a panel of Rotaractors and Rotarians discussed and answered questions, sharing their own experiences and thoughts. District Governor Ayda Özeren from District 2440 was also among the panelists in this session. She talked about how much Turkey needs peace, having been subjected to large migrations due to its geographical location. After a nice lunch, the second session was about Mental Health. Again, with a Rotary moderator, a panel group consisting of Rotarians and Rotaractors discussed mental health. It was said that every country in the world has its own mental health problems. Topics supporting diseases that start early in life, such as autism, were also discussed. Awareness projects were mentioned.

Positive solutions and support programs for mental health for young people were proposed and explained with examples. Our District Secretary Orhan Uludağ provided striking explanations about the work of the Mental Health platform members in our region, particularly their efforts in the earthquake zone, informing all participants at the meeting.



DG Teoman Kaynar D2430

On the same evening, a gala dinner with the theme of Rotary Day was organized. Rotary International Gordon McInally and his wife Heather also attended this dinner. Zone 21 B Rotarians, especially our host Rotary District 2483 Rotarians, our Serbian and Montenegrin friends, were beyond happy to be together with Governor classmates from Limassol with whom we took Rotary training together, including Sunsica Bulat (D-1913), Elizabeth Gila Kovacs (D-1911), Ovidiu Constantin Bunget (D-2241), and Andrej Bozic (D-1912). After a fabulous gala with music, the program ended.

The next day, after a forum day where we strengthened friendships, we left Belgrade. We returned to Turkey with QUESTIONS and solution thoughts that re-formed in our minds about peace and mental health. I thank the Magic Team, especially my dear Governor Altan, dear Nisa Ildız Çelebioğlu, Evrim Çelebioğlu, Cengiz Turgay, and Mustafa Faruk Güler, for preparing a wonderful forum for us in Belgrade. Hats off to the entire team.

With the hope of being together at the next meeting, I embrace you all with love.



Alaeddin Demircioğlu ARPIC 23-24 Zone 21B D2440

Dear Rotary Family,

It was a great pleasure and source of pride for me to be together with all the team and our Rotary friends who are interested in the Peace and Mental Health forum event we held in Belgrade on February 12th. Coming together with you, sharing rich experiences from different perspectives, and interpreting alternative possibilities for peace to be possible together was truly a meaningful experience. We are grateful to Rotary International President Gordon McInally for providing us with the opportunity to organize such a Forum and for his support.

I would like to thank our friends who supported us as speakers and added value to our event with their wise words and in-depth analyses on Peace and Mental Health. Each of your experiences and perspectives illuminated the participants and made our event unforgettable. All our friends who participated in our event added richness with your participation. With your views from different perspectives, you contributed to reaching a broader understanding of Peace and Mental Health. Thank you for your energy and participation.

We know that behind a seamless organization lies great effort and planning. I am grateful to RPIC Altan Arslan and all team members who showed great dedication and coordination in planning, organizing, and implementing the event. I would like to express our deep gratitude to our host friend Ljiljana, especially for her great efforts.

This event was a significant step in increasing awareness of Peace and Mental Health and emphasizing the power of coming together. It gave me great satisfaction to come together with you and share this moment. With the hope of achieving many more successful events together, I thank you once again.

Best regards, ARPIC Alaeddin Demircioglu



Nisa Ildız Çelebioğlu ARPIC 23-24 Zone 21B D2430

Dear Rotary Family,

We have left behind the Rotary Peace and Mental Health Forum, which we have been eagerly awaiting for a long time and which we, as the Corporate Communications Team (Magic Team) of Zone 21B, have endeavored to organize with great dedication. This forum, held in Belgrade, provided an interactive discussion environment where different perspectives were brought together and real-life glimpses into peace and mental health issues were presented to participants.

In his opening speech, Rotary International President Gordon McInally shared with us that the topic of "Peace and Mental Health," which is a subcategory of Rotary's 7 Focus Areas of "Preventing and Resolving Conflicts," holds personal significance for him as well. Participants from different regions, witnessing how Rotary Youth Exchange Programs contribute to peace through concrete examples in a striking presentation by GDB Serdar Kelahmet, collaborated on the topic after the session.

The panel moderated by ARPIC Tanya Georgieva, where Rotary's contributions to peace were discussed, featured panelists DG Ayda Özeren, GDG Nikola Bozic, GDG Sajid Pervaiz, Rtc. Dragana Dojcinovic, and Rtc. Tijana Ristic, who candidly shared their experiences and insights from their Rotary lives with us.

The second session highlighted the impact of climate change on mental health and emphasized the necessity of prioritizing mental health by expert psychiatrists and psychologists who are Rotary members. I believe the implementation of the project "Small Habits for a Better Day" by the Kotor Rotary Club is inspiring for other regions and clubs due to its practicality and effectiveness.



As we leave the forum behind, I once again questioned how crucial it is to prevent and resolve conflicts in our region and particularly how mentally devastating the earthquakes of February 6th last year were for our entire country. Rotary's existence is critically important for achieving, preserving, and spreading peace both nationally and globally.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the Zone 21B Public Image Team (Magic Team), led by Rotary Zone 21B Public Image Coordinator PDG N. Altan Arslan, for their efforts, and I hope to see even more participation in our next event.

With respect and love, ARPIC Nisa Ildız Çelebioğlu



Sertaç Gümüş ARPIC Zone 21B D2452

The first Peace and Mental Health Forum organized by the Rotary Zone 21B Public Image Team, under the leadership of 2430 District 2018-19 Past District Governor and RPIC for 2023-2026 Zone 21B N. Altan Arslan, took place on February 12, 2024, at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Belgrade.

The participation of over 80 delegates from various Rotary districts honored us, and the presence of Rotary International President Gordon McInally greatly contributed to increasing our motivation.

The event was further strengthened by the participation of over 35 Rotary delegations from Districts 2430 and 2440 in Turkey. Engaging, educational, and informative speeches and panels emphasized the importance of peace and mental health in people's lives, highlighting the significance of Peace and Conflict Resolution, one of Rotary's 7 Focus Areas for achieving world peace.

The Zone 21B Rotary Public Image Team, referred to as the "Magic Team" by RPIC Altan Arslan, demonstrated excellent performance in organizing and coordinating the Peace and Mental Health Forum. The forum concluded with a Gala dinner attended by approximately 500 participants.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to my Zone 21B Public Image Team (Magic Team) for organizing and hosting this forum, to PDG and ARPIC Ljiljana Lainovic for their significant role in holding the forum in Belgrade, to our moderators, panelists, and all friends who contributed to the value of this forum by sharing their views. Everyone who came together to support Rotary's efforts in peace and mental health has taken a hopeful step towards a better world.

As the forum comes to an end, participants have departed with new ideas and inspiration, laying an important foundation for future projects and initiatives.



This forum was a significant step in raising awareness about peace and mental health issues and mobilizing communities for a better future. The Rotary family will continue to make positive changes worldwide by coming together through such events.

As I conclude my remarks, I share my belief in the importance of adhering to the principle of "Peace at Home, Peace in the World," coined by the founder of our nation and our greatest source of inspiration, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. I emphasize the significance of instilling this principle in our children and reiterate the value of this cherished phrase:

"PEACE AT HOME, PEACE IN THE WORLD."



PAG MARIA MASTORA Zone 21B ARPIC D-2475

Ihad the incredible opportunity to participate in the Peace and Mental Health Forum in Belgrade., organised by our Magic Team, the Rotary Public Image Team Zone 21B, in collaboration with D2483.

I arrived on Sunday, February 11th.

From the moment I stepped into the Crown Plaza hotel, and entered the place where the Forum would take place, I felt the vibrant atmosphere of the coming event. I felt like within my family among my colleagues from the Public Image Team of the Zone. This is my Rotary family!!

Next day, February 12th, started the Forum.

The national anthems was the first emotional feeling.

The Master of Ceremony, our Ljiljana Lainovic - ARPIC was just perfect in her role.

Our PRIC Altan Arslan, coach and soul of Magic Team, has shown once more his ability to make us be, behave and work as a solid team.

The speakers and moderators were not only experts in their fields but also exceptional storytellers, touching our hearts. In the era we leave, the topics were just to the point. Positive Effect of Rotary Youth Exchange Programs on Peace by AG Serdar Kelahmet, Building a peaceful World by Rotary by ARPIC Tanya Georgieva moderating a team of very experienced rotarians and professionals, DG Ayda Ozeren, PDG Nikola Bozic, PDG Said Pervaiz, Etc Dragon Dojcinovic and Rtc Tijana Ristic. Climate Change and Mental Health by Rtn Prof. Dr. Maria Jevtic who continued as moderator with subject The importance of Prioritizing Mental health and wellbeing and participants rtn Darija Petovic Bambur, rtn Dr. Tijana Anton Pavlovic, rtn Prim.Dr. Jovo Djedovic and President. Alexandra Ivanovic.

Inspiring closing remarks by DG Aleksandr Radojicic and RPIC Altan Arslan

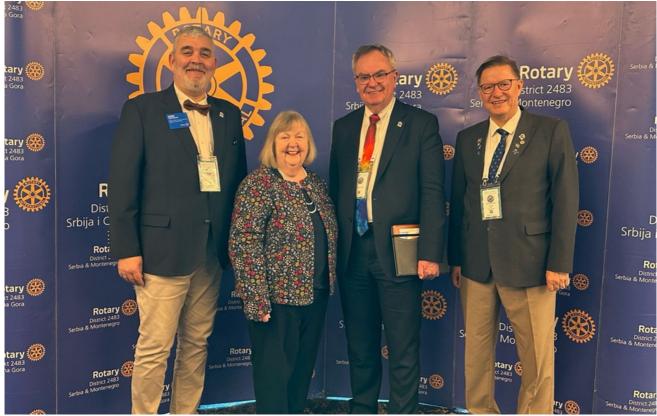
The forum was a melting pot of ideas, diverse perspectives, and shared passion for positive change for peace and mental stability.

Peace and Mental Health Forum provided a platform not only for learning and sharing ideas but also for building meaningful connections. It created further bonds for a shared commitment to serve above self.

Congratulations to the organizers of this remarkable event. I am grateful not only for the opportunity to have been part of this experience and look forward to the next one, but also to be part of this amazing Magic Team, our Rotary Public Team Zone 21B.









Peace & Health Mental Forum









Peace & Health Mental Forum







Peace & Health Mental Forum



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

Sun Never Sets in Rotary Event on 23-24 February 2024

SNSR- Sun Never Sets in Rotary is a phenomenal project to CONNECT INSPIRE SERVE, worldwide every year. Can every Rotarian of 1.4 million attend annual Rotary convention to touch base, exchange greetings with Rotary family, annually, - NO. Can we look at many successful projects through which Rotary over 119 years made a small difference, in someone's life, the joys that it added to your life, in all 7 Areas of Focus giving HOPE of living happily, peacefully, - NO.

Can we make the dreams of many Rotarians, donors and Rotary beneficiaries magical, - YES

How can we learn of the many Rotarians who can help us with stay, cultural immersion, maybe some urgent help with our travel, our kids?

SNSR makes lasting friendships of all Rotarians speaking many languages, from many cultures, truly international. SNSR facilitates participation and learning in 24 hrs relay Rotary birthday celebrations, year after year drawing on Rotarians everywhere, always on 23 rd Feb when 4 met at Chicago in 1905. Its always from 2 PM GMT 23.2.24 to 2 PM GMT 24.2.24, SNSR always has the same log in and PW for the year, so one can touch a button and wake up into the Rotary world somewhere in the universe. SNSR24 began in Turkey and concluded in RI president district. We are grateful to every District Governor from RI president Shekhar Mehta year SNSR22, RI President Jennifer Jones, year 23, Gordon McInally year 24. Fabulous support from DG has set the tradition of SNSR beginning somewhere in the Rotary world but always concluding in the RI president district.

Sun Never Sets in Rotary Event on 23-24 February 2024

The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

SNSR began in RID3232 when virtual platforms, digital connect and mobile access became the vogue, with the pandemic forcing people to stay at home, when Holger Knack was President RI. SNSR21 began as a magical tool to align all of us to enjoy friendships, share ideologies and projects on a virtual platform. Each slot had a program and tech coordinator who put together projects, culture, beauties of their districts and their programs. They say it helped them discover many lovely aspects of their own geographies and cultures. Take a look into SNSR website and drink in the beauty of the many instances captured SNSR21, many joined, all the 24 hrs went off seamlessly, just a gorgeous feel that can be recalled for everyone of us who saw the concept & hirth of SNSR, a little trickle that today is a beautiful flowing river traversing many lands.

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Everyone enjoyed our journey planning and the actual event. Several stayed on to grow and nurture SNSR. PRIVP Celia Giay, International Advisor says we must be Rotarians plus, so SNSR makes us take one step more. All the 4 years, RI president gave us a presidential message, carried in all 24 slots. RI President Gordon McInally gave us more HOPE with his promos as he shared SNSR event in in his presentations. First Lady Heather McInally rendered SNSR song in English. Lyric put together and set to music for SNSR23 by Celia and video by Sasi. SNSR song in Portuguese and Spanish for SNSR24. Hope to see the song, We are Rotary, we are One for SNSR25 in many more languages.

Sun Never Sets in Rotary Event on 23-24 February 2024

The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

Rtn. Murat, Turkey has put together SNSR website <u>SNSR began in RID3232 when virtual platforms, digital connect and mobile access</u>

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Sun Never Sets in Rotary Event on 23-24 February 2024

The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

We CONNECT, INSPIRE SERVE. 50 countries participated. A year's work, techies who kept awake 26 hrs, smiling, handing physical and virtual meetings, attendance at each slot planned for 1000 hoping that more than 1000 can watch on FB and You tube. We learnt that certain things do not happen. Maybe support from RI and Rotary Great Britain can help increase awareness of SNSR, so the efforts, the time become more meaningful for the Rotary world. SNSR is a great public image. SNSR can reach beneficiaries, donors and Rotary families across the world in the comfort of their living room with friends and family. Should we have DGE, DGN, DGND participating in the SNSR so we can leverage the strength of Rotary to replicate highly successful projects. District participation, our focus for SNSR24 will truly increase clubs coming in with their best projects. Good sustainable projects can be documented in SNSR, replicated, models created for access to global grants. Inviting participants and viewers to carry articles, maybe incoming DG can give 10 mins for SNSR recorded presentations in every District assembly, maybe in PETS and SETS of every district. Possibilities are many because SNSR is a Rotary program with about 20 in the core team and about 200 other Rotarians who own and carry the program forward. Dreams are many, inviting all of you to listen to our SNSR song, watch our Rotary podcast put together by Rtn Gwen Jones. With all of 1.4 million holding hands passionate about what we do, you can wake up to the world of Rotary where the SUN NEVER SETS, CONNECTS INSPIRES SERVES

Rtn. Vasanthi Ranganathan Event Coordinator, SNSR Core team, 919841080073, vasanthiranganathan@hotmail.com





Sun Never Sets in Rotary Event on 23-24 February 2024

The Journey in Doing Service Above Self













ARPIC
Alaeddin Demircioğlu on...

The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

RC of Denizli-Pamukkale D2440
GIVE HOPE TO CHILDREN WITH ROTARY

ARPIC Alaeddin

Demircioğlu

District 2420/2430/2440

"The "Give hope to children with Rotary" project, organized to support Pamukkale University Pediatric Oncology Unit, was carried out in cooperation with Pamukkale Rotary Club and Denizli Çınar Lions Club on February 12. The charity concert organized and the donations collected within the scope of this project were donated to patients treated in the pediatric oncology unit. "It is aimed to provide hope and support. The donations collected together with the concert revenue will be used to meet the air filter needs of the unit and to make the treatment process more effective. This project aims to benefit pediatric patients receiving oncology treatment, their families and healthcare personnel."





The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2452 Bahrain,
RYLA Bahrain Concludes Inspiring Month
of Impact for Young Leaders

The Rotary Clubs of Bahrain (District 2452), with the support of the Capital Governorate, celebrated the accomplishments of 50 young leaders at the conclusion of the inspiring Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) 2024 program on Saturday, February 3rd. Held at the University of Technology Bahrain (UTB), the graduation ceremony marked the culmination of a month-long journey of self-discovery, skill development, and impactful community service.

Guided by experienced Rotarian mentors and facilitated Britus International School educators, RYLA participants, who are high school students, honed their leadership skills through interactive workshops on communication, team building, project management, and social responsibility.

RYLA 2024 served as a testament to the power of collaboration between the Rotary Clubs, the Capital Governorate, event partners, sponsors like Qasim Mohamed Fakhroo & Sons and Spartan Fitness, and Al Sanabel Orphan Care Society, in nurturing the next generation of leaders.

The Rotary Clubs involved with RYLA Bahrain 2024 were the Rotary Clubs of Manama, Salmaniya, Seef Bahrain, Rotaract Club of Bahrain and Muharraq, and Interact Club of Britus.

RYLA 2024 leaves behind a legacy of empowered youth and impactful projects. It serves as an inspiration for continued investment in youth leadership development, ensuring young people have the necessary skills and resources to tackle future challenges and build a brighter future for Bahrain.

The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2452 Bahrain,

RYLA Bahrain Concludes

Inspiring Month of Impact for

Young Leaders









The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2452 Bahrain,

RYLA Bahrain Concludes

Inspiring Month of Impact for

Young Leaders









The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2452 Bahrain,
RYLA Bahrain Concludes
Inspiring Month of Impact for
Young Leaders









The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2452 Bahrain,
The Rotaract Club of Muhharraq
organized an Introductory
Learning Session for their
Members

Members of the Rotaract Club of Muharraq in District 2452, Bahrain participated in a learning session on Saturday the 9th of March 2024, conducted by PP Faisal Juma the Learning Facilitator Chair of Bahrain. The topics discussed were Rotary Basics, Effective Leadership Strategies, Club Communications, and the Value of Strategic Planning. The training room was kindly provided by the UNEECO group of companies.



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2452 Bahrain,
The Britus Earlyact students
participated in the Bahrain
School Eco

The Britus Earlyact students participated in the Bahrain School Eco summit on February 25, 2024. Britus Earlyact was established last year by the Rotary Club of Seef Bahrain in coordination with Britus International School to engage elementary school children in community service. Rotary District 2452 - Bahrain





Doing Service Above Self

The Journey in

District 2452 Bahrain, The Britus **Earlyact students** participated the **Bahrain** in **School Eco**







The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2452 Bahrain,
The Rotary Club of Manama's
Interact Club hosted a Charity
Padel Tournament

On Saturday the 24th of February 2024, the Rotary Club of Manama's Interact Club hosted a charity Padel tournament to raise awareness and funding for hygiene products for the migrant workers in Bahrain (District 2452). This is further to the Interact Club's Migrant healthcare checkup provided with the help of KIM's medical staff. During the event it was noticed that the migrant population did not have quality hygiene products.

A massive thank you to the Padel Club of Dilmunia and the community of Dilmunia for hosting the event. Also, our gratitude to our sponsors Fraser Suites, Gulf Hotel, Live and Taste, Kewalram company and Palace Entreprises for their generous help. The raised money will be used to provide sanitary items such as toothpastes, toothbrushes and soaps for migrant workers.





The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

RID 2475 - RC Thessaloniki East was awarded by the rescue team "Elite Rescue Team" for the donation to the team of a Rescue Training Doll.







The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

RID 2475 - RC Peristeri
Anthoupoli collected and
deliveredto the Parents and
Guardians Association of Persons
with Disabilities of Western Attica
ELPIDA food items for the needs
of children



RID 2475 - RC KIFISSIA KASTRI offered again this year clothes for people in need to Immortaliting, an organization that provides clothing and shower services to homeless people. The boxes were delivered to the kind driver by secretary rtn Vicky Katsari . Many thanks to Vicky Arali for giving the opportunity to donate once again.





The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

RID 2475 - RC VOULIAGMENI

offered to the 1st Elementary School of Florida fuel for heating. Apart from the School recognition letter sendl, RC Vouliagmeni received also recognition from kids!



EAAHNIKH JAMAOEPATIA
YTOYPTEIO DAJAEIAE, OPHEKEYMATON KAI
AOAHTIIMOY
DEPHOEPEIAH AUTOVITAI PIPOTOBAOMIAE
KAI AEYTEPOBAOMIAE EKTIAISEYIHE
AYTIKHE MAKEAONIAE
EKONYANI NEDELOBAOMIAE FAITAKE OADPINAI

Ταχ, Διεύθυνση: Λεωφ.Ελευ Ταχ, Κώδυκας: 53100 Φλώ Πληροφορίες: Καπουλίτο Τηλέφωνο: 23850-444 ΠΡΟΣ: Ροταριανό Όμιλ

\$

Θέμα: «Ευχαριστήρια επιστολή προς τον Ροταριανό Όμιλο Βουλιαγμένης»

Με την παρούφα επιστολή οι μαθητές και ο Σάλλογος Διδιακόντων του Σου Δεμοτικού Σχολείου Φλώρονας εκφράζουμε τις θερμές ενγαριστίες μας προς τον Ρεταριανό Όμιλο Βουλισμένης για την προφόρφά πεταθαίσευ θέρμανσης αξίας επισκοσίων ευρώ (700 C) στο σερλείο μας, με το οποίο θα καλύψουμε σημαντικό μέρος των αναγκών σε πετείλιου θέρμανσης.

Η αξείπαινη ευγενική σας χορηγία αποδεικνύει τη μεγάλη εναισθησία και το έμπρακτο ενδιαφέρον σας για τις ακρετικές περιοχές της πατρίδας μας.

Η επιστολή αυτή αποτελεί ελάχιστη ένδειξη εκτίμησης για την αξιέπαινη πράξη σας και προσβλέπουμε στην εθελοντική σας αρωγή και μελλοντικά.





ση του Δ.Σ. του Ροταριανου Ομιλου Βουλιαγμενης αγορασθηκαν 865 Λιτρα Πετρελαι | βρισκεται στην δεξαμενη του Δημοτικου Σχολειου Ανω Καλλινικης του Ακριτικου ς της Φλωρινας. Το Πετρελαιο παραδοθηκε την Παρασκευη 10 Φεβρουαρίου 2017 ατ α FLORINA OIL Συμεων Ελενη & Σια ΟΕ η οποία το οποίο μικρο κερδος της το σε λιτρα και τα δωρισε και αυτα στο Δημοτικό Σχολείο Ανω Καλλινίκης





The Journey in Doing Service Above Self



RID 2475 - RC ATHINAI

On Saturday, February 3, President . and Members of RC Athiai visited Benaki Museum and, hosted by former Minister Pavlos Geroulanos, had the opportunity to travel through the admired collections it hosts, rescuing from oblivion and ensuring the momentum of immortality to integral relics of our historical presence.

The Benaki Museum has repeatedly served as a showcase for treasures of Greece to travel to museums abroad, highlighting the enormous role of a small number of people in a key geographical area called Greece, not only in weighty historical events, but also in the wider culture as a whole.







ARPIC Maria Mastora on... The Journey in

Doing Service Above Self



RID 2475 -ROTARACT. We designed and acquired, through Meta Spark Studio, the "rotaract frame" effect that we can use in our photos and video chats through Meta Social Media to enhance our public image.

We'd love to see it highlight your actions!

You can find it either by typing "rotaract frame" in the browse effect of the stories or via the links below:

https://www.instagram.com/ar/927584802040914/

https://www.facebook.com/fbcamerae.../tryit/927584802040914/



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

RID 2475 - DGE Nikos Margaropoulos completed his training in Orlando, USA, in a festive atmosphere and multicultural climate. Rotary International President Elect, Stephanie Urchick, announced that the theme of the rotary year 2024-25 is "The magic of Rotary" and invited all members to create magic in every action completed by changing lives around the world.







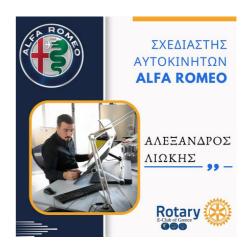


The Journey in Doing Service Above Self





The Journey in Doing Service Above Self



RID 2475 - ROTARY e-CLUB GREECE awarded during an online event, as professional of the Year, Alexandros Liokis, senior exterior designer of Alpha Romeo, while he was welcomed to the Club as Honorary Member.

Alexandros Liokis is a young and talented Greek scientist, who honours our country as he lives and works in Italy. With his innate talent combined with hard work and creativity, he has designed some of the most beautiful and elegant modern Italian automotive vehicles we see on the roads, filling us with pride as Greeks.

Alexandros has been involved in the design of many FCA and Stellantis products, including the Maserati Alfieri concept and the Alfa Romeo Tonale production prototype car, for which he was chief exterior designer.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that the event was also broadcast live on YouTube via the channel of Rotary e-Club Greece.

The event was attended and questions were sent to the speaker via ZOOM and YouTube by about 420 people from Rotary e-Clubs of Italy, members of the Alfa Romeo (Alfisti) and Maserati Clubs from Greece and Italy, friends of the special press and automotive, thus enhancing the public image of Rotary through the event

For those who wish to attend the event, it is available by following the link below: https://www.youtube.com/live/s0TiQWBleMM?si=GlpDfkcRxcZ0b8Zc





The Journey in Doing Service Above Self





The Journey in Doing Service Above Self



RID 2475 - RC ATHINAI

On February 6th 2024, President of R.C. Athinai rot. Anastassios Ballas, rot. Lisa Pentheroudaki together with members of the Club, had the honor of offering a solidarity meal to forty of our fellow human beings, sellers of "\$\Sigma XE\Delta IA"\$ magazine, the only Greek street magazine and a member of the International Network of Street Newspapers Papers-INSP), which represents 122 street magazines from 41 countries, with 14,000 homeless unemployed sellers with 6,000,000 readers worldwide. The Members of RC Athinai were welcomed by Mr. Alefantis, journalist and Founder of the magazine and after they had lunch with the "people in red vests", who come from socially vulnerable population groups (homeless, unemployed and, in general, people who have proven to live below the poverty line), listened attentively to their difficult daily lives and bent over their needs. Each of them individually, shared with us their own life story and revealed hidden stories from the "invisible routes of Athens". The thirst of these people for art, sports and knowledge sometimes exceeds the need for a warm clean bed. Mr. Periklis was the lucky winner of the evening who won the New Year's pie and a gift coupon for shopping in basic necessities. Thank you to all the "people in red vests", who reminded us that "the world exists only when you share it".







The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

RID 2475 - Rotaract Club Athinai-Lycavittos organized a visit to the Benaki Museum. They visited the section of Islamic Art, with rtn Dora Spahi as guide.

The exhibition was an opportunity to be introduced to the magic of Islamic art.









The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

RID 2475 - RC PATRA. We would like to thank our fellow citizen, Mr. Athanasios Diamantopoulos, who, through the RC Patra, donated to the non-profit Association for the care of people with dementia "Frontizzo" a bicycle for gymnastics, which will further strengthen the physical condition of the members of the Day Centre!



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

RID 2475 - RC ATHINAI.

On Saturday, February 10th, President of RC Athinai, wearing a red vest, stood next to the vendors of "SHEDIA", in the lively and colorful Athinas Street in Monastiraki, where the heart of the city beats loudly and distributed with them the February 2024 issue. "Shedia" was founded in February 2013 and is the only Greek road magazine and an official member of the International Network of Road Magazines. "Shedia", as is the case with all street magazines in the world, is not sold at the usual press outlets, but exclusively on the streets of the city by vulnerable population groups: homeless, long-term unemployed and, more generally, people experiencing poverty and social exclusion in their most extreme forms.



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self



RID 2475 in order to decentralize important activities of the District, organized on Sunday, February 11th, in Thessaloniki at Hyatt Regency Hotel, a Conference of the Institute for the Promotion of Youth Entrepreneurship (IΠΕΝ) . The Conference was included in the framework of the 32nd Money Show.(https://www.moneyshow.org/). The topic "Support and Development of the New Innovative Entrepreneurship", kept the interest of the attendees continuous, with the important contribution of rtn Giorgos Doukidis (R.C. Kifissia), University of Economics Professor, who secured notable speakers, emphasizing the support and development of startups. The event ended with the traditional cutting of the new year's pie of RID 2475. The prize won RC Larissa East President and AG Eleni Katsaouni.

The participation of Rotarians and friends of Rotary was beyond all expectations and the whole activity was very successful. DG congratulated and thanked PGs, GE, Leaders and Members who embraced the spirit and purpose of the whole event, honoring the District, even traveling many kilometers in order to attend and give a dynamic Rotarian "presence".





The Journey in Doing Service Above Self











The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

RID 2475 - RC VOULA PANORAMA

received a recognition letter and receipt for the food items they offered to the Center of Rehabilitation of Children with Disabilities (section of Voula).





RID 2475 - RC e-Club Greece and RC Santorini in the frame of Community Service Avenue, have jointly designed the creation of lending libraries to social structures which have this need. On February 16th, the first series of planned action that included 170 books of modern and classical literature by greek and foreign authors for the enrichment of the library of the Open Protection center of Elderly (KAPI) of Velos, Korinthia, was completed.



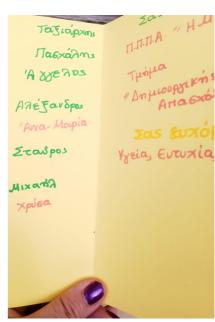
The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

RID 2475 - RC DIONYSOS delivered to MITERA Infant Foundation pharmaceutical material and carnival costumes for the young guests. The donation was accepted with great joy and many smiles by our young friends.

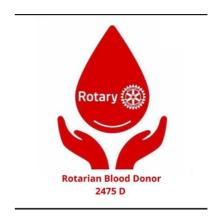








The Journey in Doing Service Above Self



RID 2475 - Greek Rotarians and Rotaractors celebrate the 119 anniversary of Rotary International with a Panhellenic Blood Donation.

The first volunteer of blood donation for the needs of the Blood Bank of our District was made by RID 2475 DG (2023 - 2024) Dimitris Bekos, confirming Aristophanes' saying:

"You must first become a rower before you take the helm"....

Thank you, DG Dimitris!







The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

RID 2475 - Our Participation to the Peace and Mental Health Forum organised by Rotary Public Image Team in Belgrade in collaboration with D2483 with full success. From D 2475 participated PDG and ICC and Task Force Zone 21 Maria Delivoria (RC Koropi), ARPIC Maria Mastora (RC Koropi) and AG Ioannis Samniotis (RC Iraklio-Candia)











The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

RID 21475 - RC ANOIXI SEMELI. On Sunday, February 25, 2024, members and friends of RC Anoxia-Semeli visited the Eugenides Planetarium.

On its huge circular screen, we watched a stirring 40-minute program entitled "We are stardust", which is the swan song of the Honorary Director of the Planetarium, Dionysis Simopoulos, with music by Vangelis Papathanasiou.

Afterwards, we departed for Flisvos, where a lunch was waiting for us at the Palaio Faliro Sailing Club.





RID 2475 - RC HERAKLION EL GRECO proceeded to a new humanitarian action, on February 19th, to the Nea Alikarnassos prison, where members of RC delivered essentials and clothing for the care and needs of the prisoners.

This donation represents the ongoing commitment of our Rotary Club to undertake humanitarian actions at every opportunity. Through its initiatives, our Club seeks not only to provide practical assistance, but also to show its humanity and solidarity to every member of our community.

Our Club expresses its thanks to all those who contributed to this initiative and reaffirms its commitment to continue to serve the community with love and dedication.



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self



RID 2475 - RC PSYCHIKO organised on February 18th a guided tour to the National Archaeological Museum in presence of more than 30 rotarians and friends.











The Journey in Doing Service Above Self





RID 2475 - RC DIONYSOS offered clothing and food items to Center of Rehabilitation of Children with Disabilities (section of Penteli).



RID 2475 - RC ILIOUPOLIS

In the context of the ongoing voluntary effort of our RC's members, for six years (2018 - 2024), another donation of medicines was made to the Social Pharmacy of the Municipality of Ilioupolis, on Friday, February 23, 2024.

These medicines are given exclusively to needy citizens of our Municipality, according to the criteria of social services. They can also be given to other Social Pharmacies of neighboring municipalities with which our Municipality cooperates, depending on their needs and the type of medicine. It should be noted that these donations are repeated about 6 times a year.

The Journey in Doing Service Above Self



RID 2475 - ROTARACT.

On Sunday 18/02/2024, RID 2475 Rotaract with organizing Club, RC Kifissia-Kastri, held a Professional Development Seminar with subject: "After Hours: Mental Health & Career". The speakers were qualified professionals, whose presentations provided the theoretical and practical background for the recognition of mental health in the professional environment. Warm thanks to the Rotarians and Rotaractors, presenters and participants, as well as to the Connect Athens team for the excellent cooperation. The ensuing discussion between presenters and participants was proof that we achieved our goal, we started the dialogue on the importance of mental health!

We hope that in the coming years we will organize seminars of a similar level and with even more participants!

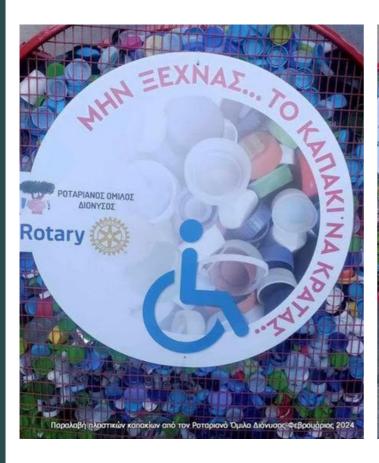


ΣΕΜΙΝΑΡΙΟ ΕΠΑΓΓΕΛΜΑΤΙΚΉΣ ΑΝΑΠΤΥΞΉΣ ΜΕΤΑ ΤΟ ΩΡΑΡΙΟ: ΨΥΧΙΚΉ ΥΓΕΊΑ & ΚΑΡΙΕΡΑ



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

RID 2475 - RC DIONYSOS delivered, on February 15th, 5 large bags filled with lids, which were collected in collaboration with NOE restaurant. The plastic caps/lids were offered to the Panhellenic Association for the Prevention of Road accidents and support of people with special needs "LOVE LIFE CARE" for the purpose of purchasing a wheelchair.







The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

RID 2475 - The Rotary Presidential Peace Conference was held in London on Friday and Saturday 9th and 10th of February, in the presence of President Gordon McInally, with the participation of 700 delegates from more than 50 countries. In the packed hall of the IMO (International Maritime Organization), the attitudes, institutions and structures that create and maintain peaceful

societies were presented. High-level speakers described behaviours that make violence less tolerable when institutions are more sensitive to society's needs and support nonviolent conflict resolutions. Representatives of RID 2475 were A.R.C. and PDG Dora Kemou and her husband P.A.G. Nikos Kemos.







The Journey in Doing Service Above Self



RID 2475 & RC ALEXANDROUPOLIS & RI Disaster Fund. On February 28th took place the delivery of three playground equipment for the 9th Kindergarten of Alexandroupolis, which were placed in the school yard.

The delivery took place in presence of Alexandroupolis Major Yannis Zamboukis, Deputy Mayor of Technical Services and Urban Planning Ioannis Jaitidis, members of RC Alexandroupolis and a representative of the 9th Kindergarten.

This action was achieved with the support and financial assistance of Rotary International's Disaster Fund for fire-affected areas, RID 2475 and RCAlexandroupolis.

The implementation was carried out in cooperation with RC Alexandroupolis and Municipality of Alexandroupolis.

The project was designed and supervised by a certified civil engineer and specialized crew.

The three new game instruments are durable and carry a certificate of conformity from an accredited inspection and certification body, as well as a special mark of suitability for operation and safety.

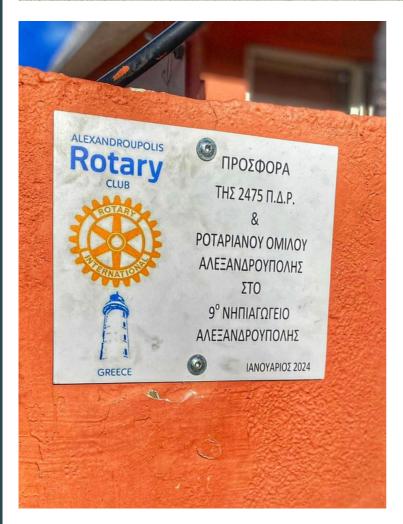
A handover protocol was signed and the young pupils offered to Rotary Club and the Mayor a collage as a recognition for the construction of the playground



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self











District 2482

ARPIC Tanya Georgieva on...

The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria,
Rotary club of Popovo - Charity Ball

On February 3rd, Rotary Club Popovo in partnership with Municipality of Popovo and Black Sea Regional Vine and Wine Chamber celebrated the holiday of wine growers and winemakers.

A charity dinner was an essential part of the event. The best wines - red, white, and rose were tasted and announced by Jury consisting of wine technologists representing the Black Sea Regional Vine and Wine Chamber.

In the category "White Wines" First and Second Place were awarded to Petar Frankov. Third place was awarded to Hristo Hristov - both from Popovo.

In the category "Rose" First and Third Place were awarded to Stefan Zafirov, second place - to Boyan Bobev.

In the category "Red Wines" First place was awarded to the wine of Ilia Simeonov, Second place - to Iva Zlatkovic - representative of the twin town of Popovo, Negotino, Republic of North Macedonia. Third place was awarded to Hristo Hristov.

This year, the first place for fruit wine was awarded to Ivan Ivanov. This is a new category.

In the competition for the best homemade meze, first place was awarded to Nuhhan Eredzhebov, second place was awarded to Ivan Ivanov, third place - Boyan Bobev.

Special guests of the event - a delegation from the twin town of Popovo, Negotino, Republic of North Macedonia, and the father and son duo Fiorentini from Modena, Italy, presented and briefly talked about their activities in the field of viticulture and winemaking.

The manager of the Black Sea Regional Vine and Wine Chamber, Dr. Petio Bozhakov, welcomed all attendees on behalf of the holiday.

https://www.facebook.com/ArtPopovo

The Journey in Doing Service Above Self



The manager of the Black Sea Regional Vine and Wine Chamber, Dr. Petio Bozhakov, welcomed all attendees on behalf of the holiday.

The charity auction that took place had a cause - support for talented children students at Popovo Art School of Fine Arts and their teacher - Iskra Hadjivanova. During the auction, the awarded wines from the contest, as well as 7 paintings by young artists from the city, were sold. Everyone who wanted could donate additional money to the specially placed for this purpose donation box.









The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria,
Rotary club of Sofia Breast cancer prevention and early
diagnosis in sparsely populated
areas

One of the most important projects of Rotary club Sofia is related to the prevention and early diagnosis of breast cancer.

The campaign included 18 municipalities. The examinations took place mainly during weekends. Due to the great interest, additional days were announced - Monday, Thursday, and Friday.

A total of 2250 women, age group 30-70 years, were examined by specialists.

After the examinations, women who were suspected of having deviations from the norm were referred for further specialized examination with equipment or for further monitoring.





The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria,
Rotary club of Svishtov Support and joy for Day Center for
Children with Disabilities, Svishtov

The team of the Day Center for Children with Disabilities would like to express heartfelt thanks to the members of Rotary Club Svishtov and Rotaract Svishtov! Together, the two clubs provided funds for the purchase of materials for the March campaign. These wonderful young people, the Rotaractors, contributed with their labor, along with the children! Thank you! Joyful red-and-white days ahead!











The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria, Rotary club of Asenovgrad -

Recognition for local producers in Tracian valley - Rotary Club Asenovgrad supports Bulgarian producers by tradition.

Rotary Club Asenovgrad traditionally provides support for local agricultural producers. At the festival of Vine growers and Wine makers, we presented one of the awards of the contest for the best homemade wine. The award, an oak barrel, was received by the youngest participant in the contest, Rumen Pergelov from the city of Perushtitsa.





The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria, Rotary club of Asenovgrad -

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The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria, Rotary club of Samokov -

Rotarians support Maternity Ward in Samokov

Rotary club Samokov has reached it 20th anniversary. Rotarians from all over Bulgaria celebrated together the day.

A charity ball was part of the fest. The noble cause was to support the Regional hospital in the town.

In February, Hristina Bardrska, president of Rotary club Samokov, handed over the sum of 18,000 BGN to Dr. Krasimira Kovachka, head hospital. This is a great support for the project "Lend a hand for a new-born life" in support of the Maternity Ward.

We heartily thank all donors supporting our causes!



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria, Rotary club of Samokov -

The Path to a New Start Giving a chance is a noble act. Both kids and adults do need it!

The great project of Rotary Club Samokov "The Path to a New start" is worth 70,000 BGN. It is dedicated to providing support to the Center for Rehabilitation and Integration of Children and Adults in the town of Samokov.

The project has been financed with fundraising at the Spring Charity Ball 2021 and a District Grant. It has been managed by presidents of Rotary club Samokov and their teams in three consecutive years - Ekaterina Vadadzhiyska 2021/2022, Vladimir Vasiliev 2022/2023, and Hristina Bardarska 2023/2024.

We would like to thank our partners Samokov Municipality and the Center for Rehabilitation and Integration of Children and Adults for their dedication, commitments, and professionalism!







The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria, Rotary club of Sevlievo -

Our Partners – Together for Sevlievo

We, the Members of the Rotary Club Sevlievo, are recognised in our community. Our activities are highly valued by the people in the town. Rotarian Projects are run in partnership with other organizations and civic associations, and with Sevlievo Municipality.

Traditionally, we shared wonderful moments at the winter festival with our partners – the Business Association 21st Century! We had many guests and it turned out to be a great

celebration!





The Journey in
Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria, Rotary club of Sevlievo -

Our Partners – Together for Sevlievo







The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria, **Rotary club of Russe- Dunav** Rotary **Festival** with Cause. Raised **Funds** for Campaign. Reducing road trauma among children bicycles riding and scooters in Ruse. Health and life prevention of children are among the priorities of Rotary.

Four Rotary clubs in Ruse united their efforts in a campaign to reduce road trauma among children riding bicycles and scooters. They organized the traditional Trifon Zarezan Fest to raise funds to implement the project.

The Head of the Regional Education Inspectorte Rositsa Georgieva, representatives of institutions and deputies, members of other Rotary clubs were among the guests. Everyone supported the multigoal project of the Rotarians - for students to learn the rules of riding two-wheeled vehicles, to adhere to them, and to be able to provide assistance to those injured in accidents, which would lead to a reduction in incidents with bicycles and scooters.

Presidents of the Rotary Club Ruse Danube Viktor Slavov, Rotary Club Ruse Emil Kehayov, and Rotaract Club Ruse Preslav Penchev stated that the mutual efforts of the Rotarians would cover as many children and students in Ruse and nearby villages as possible.





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Traditionally, the festival began with the blessing of vine branches and pruning of vines, and continued with a tasting of homemade wine produced by the Rotarians. Guests at the event appreciated the fine drinks and ranked the wine of Kodruts Kainaru from Rotary Club "Danubius" – Giurgiu first. The winemakers received certificates and awards.

Guests also participated in an auction, with items provided by sponsors. The auction raised funds for the cause.

The Rotarians received support from several companies that provided funds, items for the auctions, and beverages, namely Winery "Levent," Winery "Raynov and Sons," "Delicacies Veleev" – Elena, the meat processing company "Nadezhda – M" – Byala, Party group entertainment, and others.



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria,
District Team Training Seminar A Flying Start

On February 17 and 18, 2024, in Sevlievo, the traditional seminar for training the district team, which will serve together with DGE Margarita Bogdanova during the 2024-2025 year, was held.

A flying start was given to the activities of District Committees, Assistant Governors, Secretariat Members. Interesting and fun, useful, charged with positive energy – that's how the participants felt about the event.

DGE Margarita Bogdanova introduced the presidential theme for the year - The Magic of Rotary. This theme is significant also because from now on, the annual Rotary theme will be discontinued.

Why Magic?

Because the positive change that Rotarians bring to people's lives seems as if it was made with a magic wand. Water - where there was none. Education for people who without Rotary would not have the chance to read and write. Reducing child mortality, a chance for a longer life.

We bring together nations where centuries-old hatred exists. Suddenly they understand that they don't even remember the reason for their enmity and hatred.



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria,
District Team Training Seminar A Flying Start

Is this magic?

It seems magic to those whose lives we've changed. We know that this positive change is the result of the united efforts of more than a million Rotarians. This includes personal time, professional skills, volunteer work, our Foundation, to which we donate annually.

We, the Rotarians in District 2482, are real magicians too. We provide free medical exams for children, women, and men. We provide access to better education and healthcare for people in our communities. We create opportunities for talented children and youth to shine.

We Create Opportunities.

We Create Magic.

DGE Margarita Bogdanova presented the goals for the year - well defined, with a clear message. They will be presented to all Rotarians attending PETS in Hisarya at the beginning of April. Believe us all the goals are achievable and measurable. It is very important to keep the speech as simple and clear as possible.

Presenting the team is part of the tradition at the start of new district officers journey at district level. Young people, with knowledge and skills, professionals – this is how we can describe them.



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria,
District Team Training Seminar
A Flying Start

The second part of the meeting was informal. We formed 7 teams, and in a rotation, "visited" experienced Rotarians. Each of them "had a case to solve," and every group of "visitors" added to the previous one to achieve the best solution. Simultaneously, we received and created knowledge, experience decision-making, teamwork in action. Wonderful, interesting, and fun. There is so much new to learn. This method has a precise term, world café.

In the Third part, we started the annual plan by committees. Let this part remain slightly secret. It needs to be smoothed out and budgeted to turn into a ready product that will gain the attention of every Rotarian in the district and inspire them for active participation. The program has practical value and reveals the team's level of preparation.

With immense gratitude to DGE Margarita Bogdanova – for the creativity, the team spirit, the trust.









The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria, Rotary club Haskovo

Traditions and Glory for the young football players!

Every last Wednesday of February, we organize an event in honor of the World Day Against School Violence, also known as Pink Shirt Day.

Thanks to the collaboration with Ivan Vazov Secondary school of Mathematics, St. Kliment Ohridski Secondary schools and Geo Milev Language school, last week we met with student at the age 13 - 18 and talked to them about violence - what is violence, how to deal with it and why it is important.

We conducted a survey on the topic - over 90 children shared their views on the issue of bullying in school. We introduced institutions they can turn to for physical and psychological violence or cyberbullying. Together we discussed the forms of violence.

During the event we put the children in a hypothetical real-life situation of violence, examined their reactions and helped them find the most appropriate way to handle the situation.

We are infinitely happy and satisfied with the final result! We met wonderful, thinking, capable, knowing and standing up for their position young people. The Rotaractors were charged with optimism and faith in future generations.

These children are the future of humanity and we are glad that they recognize the importance of this problem!

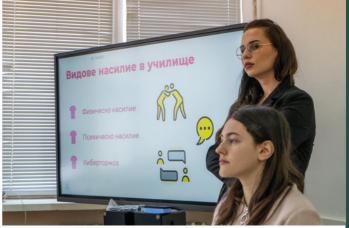


The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria,
Rotaract club Dobrich
Rotaract and Dobrich Students
Against Violence











The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria, Rotary club Haskovo

Traditions and Glory for the young football players!

On the occasion of the National Day of Bulgaria, the Traditional Football Tournament, organized by RK Haskovo, was held for the 28th time in a row!





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The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria, Rotary club Harmanli

Poetry, history, memory

Rotary Club Harmanli – our dreams came true! We made a historical tour in the heroic times of the Liberation.

On the eve of the Great Date for Bulgaria, March 3, Rotary club Harmanli organized a festive recital with the participation of children from all schools of Harmanli Municipality.

Our friends from the Regional Branch of the "Sixth Horse Regiment" presented to the guests and children uniforms of an opalchenetz (resistance fighter), a general, a chetnik (member of rebel squad), etc.

The highlight of the recital was the actor Stefan Tsirkov, who recreated for all of us two of the most fascinating poems related to the Liberation - "Epic of the Forgotten" by Ivan Vazov and "Contribution to European History" by Ivaylo Balabanov.

Harmanli Rotary Club would like to thank all the school principals and all the children who took part! The president of the club Dr. Stefka Zdravkova awarded all the participants with certificates of appreciation!

TOGETHER WE CAN DO MORE!



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria, Rotary club Harmanli

Poetry, history, memory









The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria, Rotary club Haskovo

Traditions and Glory for the young football players!











The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria, Rotary club Pleven Centrum Rotarians in Pleven provide air purifiers to kindergartens in the city.

Kindergarten "Sun" was the first one to receive a purifier as part of the Cleaner air for our children campaign. The funds were raised at the club's Christmas celebration.

Representatives of businesses, public organizations and citizens took part in the campaign.

The start of the initiative was in 2019. The first purifiers were donated to "Hristo Botev" Primary School in Pleven. Since the covid pandemic, all primary schools in the city have been equipped with such devices.

After feedback from schools that the purifiers were extremely useful, the campaign was extended to kindergartens.

The first kindergartens to receive air purifiers have been chosen based on their location - mainly at points in the city with the greatest traffic and pollution. These are the kindergartens Slantze, Shtastlivo detstvo and its affiliate, Shturche, Sinchets and Children's Nursery "Happy Childhood".

The delivery of the purifiers to the Slantze took place in the presence of Pleven Region governor Violeta Ieremieva, the deputy mayor Elina Dimitrova and members of Rotary Club Pleven Centrum.



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria,
Rotary club Veliko Tarnovo
The children's department at
Veliko Tarnovo Regional
Hospital has been completely
renovated.

The project is valued at over 600,000 BGN – entirely from fundraising.

The "Firefly" project for the complete renovation of the Pediatrics Department at the regional hospital in Veliko Tarnovo is officially finished. Its value exceeds 600,000 leva, which were entirely collected in a fundraising campaign.

The initiators are the "For the Goodness" foundation, Rotary Club Veliko Tarnovo, and the "America for Bulgaria" foundation. These three organizations attracted many local, national, and international donors, and volunteers, as supporters.

We have received support from "Ikea – Bulgaria", "Overgas", "Extrapack", Zora Store Chain, "Bulgare" Ensemble, "Baumit – Bulgaria", "Corado", "Kronospan Bulgaria", "Investbank", "Grand Masters Building", "Alumina Elite", "GROE Bulgaria", "Arexim Garden", "Prestige 96", "Daniel Standard". The names of companies and individuals who supported the project are displayed on special plaques in the central foyer of the department.

The event marking the official end of the project was attended by the Minister of Labor and Social Policy, members of parliament, the regional governor and deputy regional governor, and the deputy mayor of Veliko Tarnovo.

13 hospital rooms have been completely renovated. The premises have been fully reconstructed – plumbing and electrical installations have been replaced, a new air conditioning system has been installed, new equipment has been provided, walls are decorated with beautiful and inspiring paintings, and the floor is covered with antibacterial flooring. Separate sectors have been designated for infants, young children, and adolescents. Parents staying with their children have been provided kitchenette boxes with appliances. Each room is equipped with plasma TVs.





The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria,
Rotary club Veliko Tarnovo
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A new waiting area and a restroom attached to it have been constructed in the department. The doctors' offices, intensive care unit, and procedural rooms have been renewed. The main entrance, foyer, and reception office have a new and modern look.

The only hospital school in Bulgaria has been organized in the Pediatric department. The large space has been turned into a magical children's corner. The room is enclosed with glass showcases, visible from all sides. There, children can study and play in a friendly environment, totally different from the hospital setting.

The "Firefly" project aims for every children's department in hospitals in Bulgaria to have a standard where the child-patient is at the center of the treatment. Creating such an environment, as in the department in Veliko Tarnovo, is just the first step.

A greeting address to the director of the hospital was received from the Minister of Health, Prof. Dr. Hristo Hinkov.



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

District 2482 Bulgaria, Rotaract club Veliko Tarnovo

Books for the kids in the Pediatric Department of Veliko Tarnovo Regional Hospital

Members of Rotaract Club Veliko Tarnovo provided books for children to the completely renovated pediatric department at the regional hospital. The books were handed over by the president and vice-president of the club - Mariy Stoyanov and Plamena Penkova. The Rotaractors received the books from Maria Ivanova-Georgieva – a former member of the Rotaract Club Sofia Vitosha-Izgrev.

Rotaract Club of Veliko Tarnovo initiated renovation activities in the pediatrics department back in the 2021/2022 year, through "For the Little Heroes" campaign. The young Rotarians hope that the new conditions in the department and their donation will make the hospital stay for the little patients easier.

The activity of Rotaract Club of Veliko Tarnovo is focused on organizing humanitarianoriented campaigns for the benefit of society. Traditional initiatives of the Rotaract Club of Veliko Tarnovo include "Buy and Donate", "With a Flower in Hand Against Reproductive Problems", "It's in Your Blood to Save Lives". Annually, the Rotaract Club of Veliko Tarnovo organizes and conducts new campaigns for the benefit of society.



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

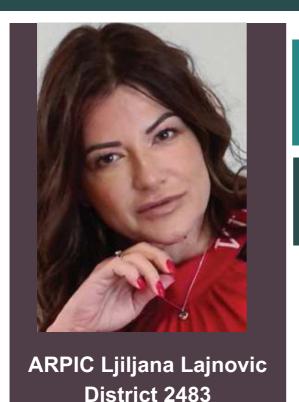
District 2482 Bulgaria, Rotary club Panagyurishte

Rotary AWARDS for 2023 were received by Nadezhda Kovacheva, Ivan Harkov, and Momchil Poptolev

Rotary Club of Panagyurishte presented its AWARDS for 2023 at a special event. This year, the awards were given to Nadezhda Kovacheva – winner in "The Voice of Bulgaria", Ivan Harkov - world champion in sambo, and the athlete Momchil Poptolev - champion of Bulgaria and holder of a new decathlon record for juniors.

The awards have been presented for the 15th year by the local Rotarians. The "In Glory of Panagyurishte and Bulgaria" awards were established by Rotarians in Panagyurishte in 2008 and are awarded for empathy and assistance in solving local community problems, as well as for achievements in glorifying the region and Bulgaria. The award is moral and is in the Rotary spirit to promote high ethical standards in all professions and to help build goodwill and peace around the world.





ARPIC
Ljiljana Lajnovic on...

The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

February 13, 2024
GLOBAL GRANT GG2343274- Hearts of Europe: YEARS OF ASCENT







The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

KINDERGARTEN "BAJKA"
BELGRADE-February 13,
2024
GLOBAL GRANT GG2343274Hearts of Europe: YEARS OF
ASCENT





The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

FESTIVAL "KNOWLEDGE FOR FUTURE" PRIMARY SCHOOL "MILOŠ CRNJANSKI", BELGRADE, February 12, 2024









The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

FESTIVAL "KNOWLEDGE FOR FUTURE" PRIMARY SCHOOL "MILOŠ CRNJANSKI", BELGRADE, February 12, 2024









The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

PEACE AND MENTAL
HEALTH FORUM
Belgrade, February 12th

The inaugural Peace and Mental Health Forum, organized by the Rotary Zone 21b Public Image Committee in Belgrade, marked a significant milestone in Rotary's commitment to global peacebuilding. Attended by over 80 participants from 15 countries, including the esteemed presence of Rotary International President Gordon McInally, the event fostered a rich exchange of ideas and insights. Highlighting the transformative impact of Rotary Youth Exchange programs on fostering peace, the forum's centerpiece was a compelling panel discussion titled 'Building a Peaceful World by Rotary.' Distinguished panelists, including DG Ayda Ozeren from Turkey, PDG Sajid Pervaiz from Pakistan, Dragana Dojcinovic, and PDG Nikola Bozic from Serbia, alongside our board member and Youth Director Tijana Ristic, offered invaluable perspectives on the pivotal role Rotary plays in advancing global harmony and understanding.

"I am absolutely delighted and incredibly proud that Belgrade had the honor of hosting this groundbreaking forum. It's a moment of immense pride for our city to serve as the backdrop for such vital conversations on peace and mental health. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to ARPIC PDG Ljiljana Lainović and her team for their tireless dedication and remarkable efforts in orchestrating this event. Their hard work and commitment have truly made a profound impact, and I'm grateful for their contributions to advancing Rotary's mission of fostering global understanding and peace."



The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

PEACE AND MENTAL
HEALTH FORUM
Belgrade, February 12th







Rotaract 2420/2430/2440

ARPIC Nisa Ildız Çelebioğlu on...

The Journey in Doing Service Above Self

REM ROTARACT EUROPEAN MEETING

We attended the Rotaract European Meeting (REM), which took place in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, on 25-28 January 2024. REM is a gathering that takes place twice a year (one in autumn and the other in winter), where European Rotaract clubs get to know each other and their projects. More than 400 Rotaractors from 40 countries attended REM Sofia, members met each other, and workshops were held on Stem Cells Donation, Safer Spaces in Rotaract, Inclusivity and Harassment Prevention. As Bostanci Rotaract Club, we exchanged products and flags with Kardzhali Rotaract Club. We gave Turkish coffee, black tea, baklava and hazelnuts from our traditional food and beverages as gifts.

REM was a very productive organization for us to examine the dynamics of clubs in Europe. We had the opportunity to talk face to face with other clubs about the projects we could do.







What's **Popping'...**

Watch out for the...



About the event

2024 Rotary International Convention - Singapore Join the Rotary family in Sharing Hope With the World as we come together in Singapore for the 2024 Rotary International Convention, 25-29 May.

Visit convention.rotary.org to register and pay before 1 June 2023 and enjoy limited-time savings for Rotary's biggest event of the year.

In Singapore, we'll take ideas built upon hope and turn them into action as we discover new ways to create lasting change in our communities. We'll enjoy opportunities to renew relationships made at previous conventions

and create new ones together as we set our course toward a better future.

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