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Message from the President



Dear Fellow Rotarians

Our Rotary club is a voluntary organisation that belongs to the wider family of Rotary International and as such we need to adhere to certain requirements that emanate from this membership and support functions that are related. As you all know Polio eradication is the flagship project of Rotary and we had a chance to commemorate this project with a joint event of the Nicosia based Rotary clubs on the 24th of this month. We had the opportunity to hear the personal experiences of a fellow Rotarian PP Bashar Asfour from Lebanon, his fight against polio and the great

courage he has shown to fight the disease and to come out as a winner and lead a normal life despite the handicap.

The event was supported by 81 Rotarians and their friends a number that could be much higher considering the total membership of the Nicosia RCs. The only comfort for our RC is that we registered the highest number with 24 participants well ahead of the other clubs.

During October we had a planned family fellowship event on Sunday 6th of October to Kalopanayiotis and a great time was enjoyed by the participants. Our number of participants could be much higher. The absentees definitely missed a great day out in the country. Thank you to those who joined. Full cover of the trip is on another page.

On the 10th of October we supported a joint event led by the Nicosia RC and in particular PP Katerina Konaris to fund raise for the winter needs of refugees. The event was very well supported, and more than 150 persons participated, an excellent turnout. Congratulations to the organizing committee led by Katerina and acknowledgements to her for hosting the event in her beautiful garden.

The planned talk on Membership Engagement by PAG PP Emilius Tannousis on the 15th of October had to be cancelled because of the lack of response from our members old and new! We organised a last-minute fellowship at Murphy's on the day with about 10 Rotarians attending.

The monthly Board meeting took place on the 8th of October again with some notable absentees. Those present discussed at length the fundraising events we need to plan for this year to enhance the finances of our club. Without the necessary reserves we shall be unable to fund any of our projects.

In this context PP Panicos Nicolaides and I have undertaken to organize a 'curry night' and cook for you Indian food on the 5th November. We shall pay for all the food ingredients and do the cooking, but we still need your support to participate. The invitation and details of the event have been circulated.

As you know there are difficulties to find members to serve in the various posts to run the club and our Vice President Glafkos Georghiou PAG, PP will be shortly standing down as per the arrangement agreed with him when he accepted the nomination. I take this opportunity to thank him for his contribution and service to the club.

By December 2019 we should elect the team that will be running our club in the next Rotarian year and find a replacement for Glafkos

I would like to ask for an expression of interest from any of the members that wish and have time to serve the club in any of the positions of the Board. If you are interested, please send me an email with a copy to our secretary, by the 15th of November 2019 at the latest. This applies to the present incumbents of the posts as well.

I do have another request which I have mentioned many times and although we have seen some improvement it is still far from satisfactory. **When you get an invitation to attend a RC event PLEASE respond and let us know if you are attending or NOT.** This helps with the logistics of the event and saves us time in chasing you for a response. **Please help us.**

I hope you will enjoy our cooking on the 5th November. Have a good month ahead.

Family Fellowship Excursion to Kalopanayotis

Family Fellowship event to Kalopanayiotis took place on Sunday 6th October 2019.

Our Club organised the above event and those of us who participated had a very lovely and interesting time. Participants for the tour were George and Liana Psimolophites, George and Hara Koufaris, Andreas and Riki Gregoriou, Yiannis and Margarita Tomassides with their children Anastasia and Constantinos, Iacovos Costantinides and Demetris Pantazis

We hired a guide (Maria) who told us the history of the village and expanded on the history of the monastery of Ayios Ioannis o Lambadistis which is an UNESCO Heritage site.

Visiting the church of Panayias tis Skepastis was also impressive. Feeling energetic we were then taken on a nature trail to the Kykkos Neromylos where trading between the inhabitants of the nearby villages used to take place in the old days.

The whole tour lasted almost 2.5 hours.

Lunch was at the Panorama where we were joined by Takis and Nancy Klerides, Polys and Christina Michaelides and Akis and Soula Papachristodoulou.

The food was indeed of high standard and most enjoyable.

Most of all, the bonding between the members was evident and it is a pity we did not have higher participation. The logistics were arranged by our President Demetris Pantazis and Yiannis Tomassides was the official photographer for the day.





The Rotary Clubs of Nicosia Confirm their commitment to “End Polio”

With an emotional event, the Rotary Clubs of Nicosia Celebrated on Thursday October 24th the World Polio day. Rotarians, Spouses and Guests from the Rotary Clubs Nicosia-Lefkothea, Nicosia, Nicosia-Ledra, Nicosia Salamis, Nicosia-Aspelia and Kyrenia gathered at the Royal Hall to reaffirm their commitment to support the efforts of Rotary International to cross the finishing line and “End Polio”. The proceeds from the event will be donated to the fight against Polio.

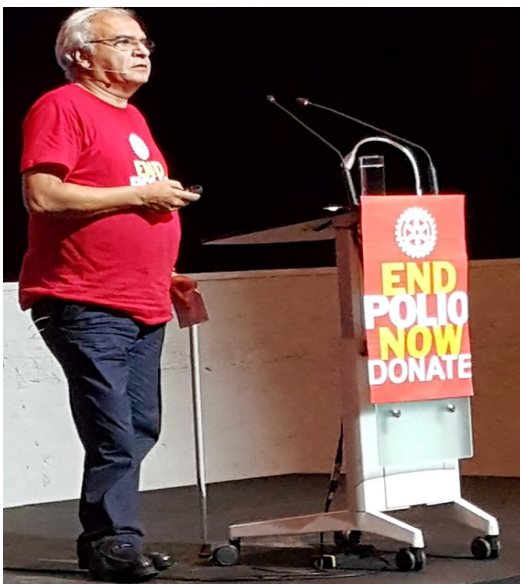
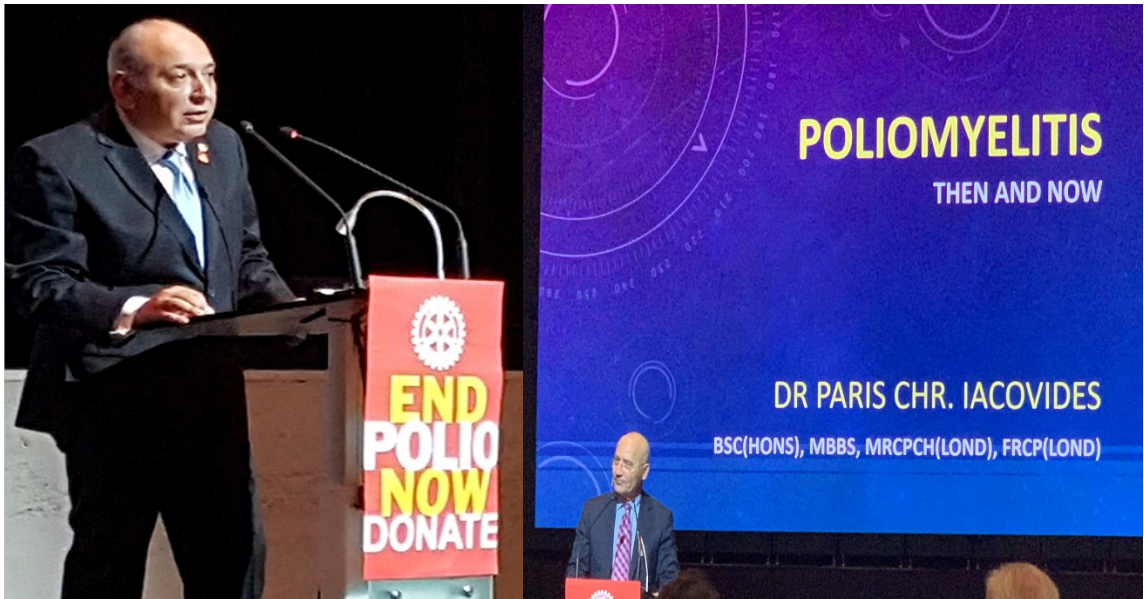
The event included Presentations from Consultant Pediatrician Dr Paris Iacovides on “Poliomyelitis, Now and Then”, from EPNZC and PDG Christina Covotsou Patroclou on the efforts of Rotary over the years to eradicate Polio and an emotional and inspirational speech from PP Bashar Asfour, a living example that Polio can be beaten. Polio is crippling and paralyzing disease which attacks the nervous system and leads to paralysis or even death. It may infect persons of any age but children under the age of five are more vulnerable. There is no cure for Polio, but it can be eradicated by mass immunization of children until transmission stops.

The first systematic efforts to eradicate Polio started in 1985, when Rotary launched “Polio Plus,” the first and largest internationally coordinated private-sector support of a public health initiative, with an initial pledge of \$120 million. Within three years, Rotarians had raised more than double their goal. More than 125 countries were at that time polio-endemic. The disease crippled an estimated 350,000 children every year. Meeting the challenge, the UN-hosted World Health Assembly in 1988 passed a resolution to eradicate polio, setting up the launch of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. The fight to end polio brought together Rotary International, UNICEF, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and governments of the world, with the support of many other philanthropists around the globe.

Since then, polio has been reduced by 99 percent. Millions of people are now walking who would have been paralyzed. The disease remains endemic in only two countries - Afghanistan, and Pakistan with only 88 cases of paralytic polio since the beginning of 2019. A failure to completely eradicate Polio in these areas may lead to the re-emergence of the virus with 200,000 new cases every year within the next 10yrs In Cyprus Polio has been eradicated since 1995.

To date, Rotary has contributed more than 1.9 billion dollars and countless volunteer hours towards the protection of more than 2.5 billion children in 122 countries. The finish line is in sight. But it is one thing to see it; it is another to cross it.

Rotarians are determined to do whatever it takes to eradicate polio once and for all. Special mention is in order to PDDG Iacovos Constantinides (Nicosia- Lefkothea) for leading the organization of the event and acting as Master of Ceremonies and all the other Rotarians for helping out. Not least special thanks to Christodoulos Ellinas PP (Nicosia – Aspelia) for hosting the event and cocktail that followed, free of charge, allowing the maximum contribution for the cause.





Programme of Events for November and December

Rotary club of Nicosia Lefkothea

Year Plan for Rotary Year 2019-20

Month	Month theme	Special Event/ Deadline	1st week	2nd week	3rd week	4th week	5th week
November	Rotary Foundation	2-8 World Interact Week	<u>5-Nov</u> Indian Dinner cooked by P Demetris Pantazis and PP Panicos Nicolaides	<u>12-Nov</u> Global Grants PDDG Iacovos Constantinides	<u>19-Nov</u> Governor of the Central Bank Joint Lunch led by RC of Nicosia Ledra	<u>26-Nov</u> TBA	
			<u>7-Nov</u> Board Meeting				
December	Disease Prevention & Treatment	By 1st Submit Changes in Membership	<u>3-Dec</u> Board Meeting	<u>10-Dec</u> Club Christmas Celebration	<u>17-Dec</u> TBA	<u>24.дек</u> Merry Christmas	<u>31.дек</u> Happy New Year

Thank you