

Rotary Participation in Commonwealth Summit Activities

Monday 12th March Attended Commonwealth Day Service at Westminster Abbey and Reception at Marlborough House

Tuesday March 13th Organised UK Directions and Linkages in Global Health: Beyond Polio Transitioning- a pre Commonwealth Summit event in association with Graduate Institute of Geneva and Wellcome Trust. Attended by Rt Hon Alastair Burt Minister DFID, and Dr Rainieri Guerra ADG WHO

Tuesday 20th March Attended the Pre-Committee of the Whole Meeting between Accredited Organisations and Senior Officials. I have been on the Working Group for Sustainability to ensure polio is included in the statement which goes to Senior Officials for consideration for the final communique

Wednesday 21st March Attended the Foreign Secretary's Reception at Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Saturday 24th March – CPRE Tree Planting at St Georges Park, Newham.

The Commonwealth Rotarian Peace Envoys have placed an order for 210 trees with the Woodlands Trust and these will be handed over to Newham Council. The Council has agreed to plant and maintain these trees at the King George V Park in Newham. Members from the Rotary Clubs of Tower Hamlets, Newham, Stratford and Westminster West have come together to support this project.

April 6TH recorded a video for social media for Royal Borough Windsor & Maidenhead for release on social media the week of the Summit, mentioned polio eradication, modern slavery and womens mentoring

April 12th Attended policy speech by Secretary of State at DFID Penny Morduant

April 13th Participated in the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative Meeting on Modern Slavery at the Liberal Club

April 13th Lunch meeting with Anoop Singh and Denis Gilhooly Commonwealth Medical Association to discuss Commonwealth Digital Health launch

April 15th Rotarians supporting the Youth Forum delegates Activity Day with the National Citizens Service and Rotary International sponsoring lunch for the delegates

April 16 – 18th Youth Forum, a Rotarian mentor Shirley-Pat Chamberlain and four mentees who participated in the pilot of the Commonwealth Womens Mentoring Scheme attended the Youth Forum and Shirley-Pat spoke on a panel and mentee Winnie Chekemoi from Nairobi was invited to stay an extra day to address the President Kenyatta and other African politicians. The President of Rotaract GBI and five other Rotarians attended the Forum

April 16th -18th I attended The Peoples Forum and had a speaking slot on challenges on access in polio programme, in the Universal Health Coverage session on 18th. Contributed an op-ed for the Ministers Handbook on polio eradication and post certification strategy.

Tuesday 17th April - Rotary in London and the Commonwealth - Drumming for Peace. This performance will be at the Queen Elizabeth II (QEII) Centre in Westminster and is called ***Rotary in London and the Commonwealth - Drumming for Peace***. A number of Commonwealth Forums are being held at this venue. London Rotarians and drummers representing the 53 Commonwealth countries are performing under the direction of Kevin Hathway who is a renowned professional percussionist and musical director. The music has been composed by young Commonwealth students from the Purcell School of Music under the direction of Alison Cox, Founder of The Commonwealth Resounds. The performances are being held at various times during the morning and further details will be provided by the CHOGM organising committee based in the UK cabinet office.

Tuesday 17th April 2018 – The Commonwealth Big Lunch. Rotary in London and the Commonwealth Resounds are bringing their performers and support teams together to celebrate their connections by hosting a Commonwealth Big Lunch during the lunch break at the QEII Centre. The Purcell School is arranging for a special Commonwealth Packed Lunch for its performers. Lunch may take place on Parliament Square where all the 53 Commonwealth Flags are fluttering in the wind. There will be approximately 70 performers and logistics supporters present for this event. The Commonwealth Big Lunch is being advocated by the Eden Communities Project with the aim of bringing people together to celebrate their connections between Commonwealth Day on 12 March and 20 April when the Commonwealth celebrations end. We will be joining people across six continents to celebrate community and build new connections.

Wednesday 18th April Attending Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative Reception at House of Lords hosted by Baroness Stern

Thursday 19th April 2018 Attended the Opening Ceremony of CHOGM 2018 at Buckingham Palace in presence of HM The Queen, and 46 Heads of States (compared with 30 in Malta in 2015). Attended Official reception for Heads of State at the St James's Palace hosted by the Secretary General.

Thursday 19th April 2018 – Peace Songs dedicated to Rotary in London and the Commonwealth.

The peace songs were composed by children and young composers, using poetry written specially for this event by Commonwealth poets. The young people will perform at St George's, Hanover Square ([2a Mill Street, W1S 1FX](#)) and are part of the Commonwealth Festival Choir and Orchestra. Guests of Honour include Mike Hodge who is the London Rotary District Governor and Dr Josephine Ojiambo who is the President of the Rotary Club of Westminster West. (We are also planning to invite Mr Vijay Krishnarayan from the Commonwealth Foundation). This event is being organised by the Commonwealth Resounds, Rotary in London and the Royal Society of St George. Proceeds from this event will go towards supporting victims of Hurricane Irma in Antigua, Barbuda and Dominica.

Friday 20th April Participating in Panel for Commonwealth Medical Association Digital Health Launch attended by Prime Minister of Sri Lanka and a number of Health Ministers

Friday 20th April 2018 – Tree Planting at Tower Hamlets. The Commonwealth Rotarian Peace Envoys have placed an order for 210 trees with the Woodlands trust and these will be handed over to Tower Hamlets Council. The Council has agreed to plant and maintain these trees. Members from the Rotary Clubs of Tower Hamlets, Newham, Stratford and Westminster West have come together to support this project.

Friday 20th April 2018 Guest of honour at **Sound, Image, Movement – the Commonwealth. The Peace Drummers** performance at St James's, Piccadilly ([197 Piccadilly, W1J 9LL](#)) as part of a very special, colourful concert for young people featuring light classical music, folk, jazz and world music created and directed entirely by brilliant school-age musicians from The Purcell School. The Concert was organised by The Commonwealth Resounds and the Rotary Club of Westminster West. Proceeds from this event will go towards supporting victims of Hurricane Irma in Antigua, Barbuda and Dominica.

Friday 20th 2018 Attended CHOGM press conference and the issue of the communique by the Prime Minister

Saturday 21st April Attended Commonwealth Birthday Concert at Royal Albert Hall to celebrate HM The Queen's birthday.

May 1st Attended one to one meeting with DFID Minister Alastair Burt to discuss polio and the CHOGM communique

Thursday May 10th Meeting with DFID Special Adviser Richard Parr to discuss CHOGM and future aid policy

Wednesday 6th June Meeting with Lord Ahmad, Commonwealth Minister to discuss post CHOGM actions, as the UK will have the Chair of the Commonwealth for next two years.

Judith Diment

Rotary Representative to the Commonwealth